



# OBSERVATION POST

THE OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER OF THE SA & NT BRANCH

PATRON: DR ANDREW SOUTHCOTT MP

ANZAC EDITION 2012

## Notices

## ANZAC TRADITIONS

### VALE

Lofty Hayes RAA

Pippa Nyman (RAA)

Sandy McHutchison

RAEME

Col. B L Nyman RAA

### HOSPITAL

John Smith RAF

Ceduna SA

Deidre Nelmes

SA

### Welcome to :

Cassie Hartszenberg

ARMY

Clive Currie RAR

Dennis Price RAR

Mike McClelland

Johannes

Hartszenberg RAAF

Nathan Price RAA

Clive Dubois RAR

Ian Lockett RAR

**WHAT** does ANZAC mean to you and your family? There are quite a number of answers that are very appropriate and in some instances, personal in nature.....the direct link to that era of our history no longer exists, there are no living veterans in Australia, or, in New Zealand.

The legacy of those men and those women does exist in several tangible ways. The original concept of the modern day RSL began as the idea of men who had been returned to Australia after action in the deserts of Mesopotamia and in the disaster of Gallipoli. The carnage of the Somme, Belgium and France had only just begun, no one could foretell the horrors yet to be seen and experienced from 1916–1918. On the Somme alone, over 1 million casualties would be suffered by the Allies, mainly Australian, NZ, Canadian and British troops.

The impact of Gallipoli on the Aus-

tralian Army can be seen in the context of the destruction of the Light Horse Regiments accounting for the bulk of the 8000 men who were KIA, or, WIA in a 9 months window, and those Regiments never being reformed again.

The impact on the families of the men who would never come home became apparent, very noticeably to some men with compassion and empathy, and who had seen first hand what *the Great Adventure* had really become.....these families included hundreds of children, who now had no fathers and no means of financial support. There was no Welfare System to help and no concept of one in the foreseeable future.

The idea of a mutual support society had been born and it manifested as The Returned Soldier's and Sailor's Imperial League of Australia in 1916/17 in Sydney.

The men who started the RSSILA had a vision that was unique in the world. Nothing elsewhere comes close to this organisation. At the end of WW2, the name changed to include the RAAF as *Returned Soldier's, Sailor's and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia*. In recent times a likeness of a WW2 service woman has been added to the image. The organisation name is now the *Returned and Services League* and it is still unique in the world. The desire to never forget the men and women who were lost is evident in every country town and city in Australia...memorials pay tribute to the wars Australia has always volunteered to be of assistance with, from the 1898 Boer War, WW 1, WW2, Korea, Malaya, Malaysia, Borneo, SVN, Somalia, PNG Bougainville, the Gulf, East Timor, Iraq and now Afghanistan. The seeds of patriotism, **page 3..**

## Points of Interest

• 111 & 110 BTY  
REUNION

• ANNUAL SUBS

### STOP PRESS

On This Day.....

Letters to the Editor

## PADRE'S STOLE

The Padre's stole that will be used at all official ceremonies was blessed and consecrated at a ceremony conducted by our Padre, Capt Quentin Castle on Sunday, 4 December 2011. The first official use was at the inaugural Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day on 31 August 2011. The next official use will

ANZAC Day, possibly 21 April, at a semi formal lunch function. Details will be firmed up and members advised in the meeting minutes after the 17th February Branch General Meeting. Stay on the net and put the date in your diary. The idea will be a first for the Branch and add to the list of events we have in SA.

## IDEAS WANTED

The idea has been put that we could consider having a couple of luncheons during the year at venues where a meal is available and also consider incorporating a particular anniversary of an event that was of some importance between 1948 and 1983 in Malaya? Over.....

## SPRING GULLY SA

**Adelaide** jams and condiments manufacturer *Spring Gully Foods* is now making and supplying Dick Smith Foods with a range of genuine Australian contents jams and honeys in Woolworths and IGA supermarkets. The contracts will allow additional employment and validate the investment in a purpose built warehouse by Spring Gully. The products are now on the shelves in 800 stores around Australia and include the jams raspberry, strawberry, sweet fig, orange marmalade, apricot and all have NO ADDED SUGAR.



Indonesian Regulars captured by 3 Bn RAR patrols emerge from the j after a fire fight near Malacca. The Indonesians were attempting to infiltrate the local population to carry out sabotage and terror tactics on the Peninsula 1965/66.



Troops from 3 Bn RAR boarding a RAF Belvedere for deployment during "Operation Claret" to a position near the Sabah — Sarawak border area 1965.

AWM

## BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER

*The 2012 Dinner details will be confirmed later in the year and it is tentatively set for 27 October.*

## DONATIONS

**John Franklin has donated \$200.00 and Roy Sims \$80.00 to the Branch Funds.**  
*Terima kasih Gentlemen*

## NEW ERA IN SOLDIER CARE

The new *Lone Pine Soldier Recovery Centre* has been opened in Robertson Barracks Darwin NT. It is a purpose built facility that specialises in the care of soldiers and support for their families including rehabilitation and transition. The soldier recovery centre delivers world's best practice for all the necessary elements associated with medical and rehabilitation phases to return to unit, or to move into another role.

The centre is named after the Battle of Lone Pine on Gallipoli. There are two other recovery centres in Queensland: 3 Brigade in Townsville and at 7 Brigade in Brisbane. All are able to deliver the necessary care from under the one roof to ensure continuity, timeliness and supervision during what can be a very stressful period for both the soldiers and their families.

DVA

## ANZAC BISCUITS

The makers of ANZAC Biscuits, UNIBIC, went into receivership in January and it seemed that this iconic biscuit would disappear into the black hole where so many other Australian goods have gone.....we will probably never know just how close it was, however, a group of the former company managers and staff have formed a company to continue the brand.....I wonder what the original Diggers would say...?

## VETERANS' RACE DAY

### BALAKLAVA CUP

Wednesday 11 April  
 Raffle Prizes of  
 a Holiday for two to Penang  
 valued at \$3000.00  
 A Balaklava Cup Package  
 for two  
 and a  
 Balaklava Cup Day Package  
 for two  
 Tickets are \$20.00 and are  
 available from TPI House  
 Phone: 08 8351 8140

## ANNUAL SUBS

Annual membership subs are due for payment from 1st January. In SA & NT, the fee is \$15.00 plus \$10.00 RAR membership. If you are already a separate member of the RAR association, the \$10.00 is not applicable. Junior sub is \$5.00. Payment can be sent to the Branch Treasurer, Jenny Cameron, 21 Gordon Ave, ST AGNES SA 5097

## MEETING DATES CHANGES

### SA NT Branch dates for 2012 :

17 February  
 20 April  
 \*\* 22 June \*\*  
 \*\* 24 August AGM \*\*  
 12 October  
 27 Oct Annual Dinner  
 7 December Christmas Lunch  
 All Committee at 1200 hrs.  
 Branch General at 1300 hrs.  
 31 August  
 Malaya Borneo Veterans' Day

Guest speakers are attending some of the Branch meetings commencing on 17 February with Dr Taryn Cowain, head of Ward 17 at RGH Daw Park. A tour of RAAF Edinburgh is being arranged for later in the year for members and it is planned for a visit by a representative from DVA SA to bring everyone up to date with the changes in legislation and benefits procedures.

Ed.

The major Christmas Raffle Prize for 2011 was a statuette of a '60's era digger wearing patrol order webbing, carrying a 7.62 SLR. (Avail RSL HQ) Mark Pudney, CO of 604 Sqn won it and has presented it to the Branch to be used as a Dining In table centre piece.  
*Banyak baguslah !*

## NOSTALGIA



**2/9 LAA Bty RAA** in action at Gili Gilli Milne Bay PNG 1944.



**2012 RE-UNION NOTICE**  
**111 & 110 Batteries RAA**

*Details on Page 4*



**AVRO Lincoln 1 Sqn RAAF**  
Selatar Malaya '56

One aircraft from this squadron flew over 200 bombing missions. The Squadron was credited with the elimination of the large CT camp in Kluang which had a great impact on the CT capabilities for several years.



**HMAS "Sydney"**

South China Sea enroute to Borneo and Malaya, May 1964. This voyage was the first time that the "Sydney" transported the Army and RAAF into a hostile theatre, after being converted to a Troop Transport Ship. The first port of call was Jesselton with RAE then Butterworth with RAA and RAAF units and reinforcements.

## MALAYA & BORNEO COMMEMORATION 2012



These pics show the site where the Commemoration of the 2012



Malaya & Borneo Veteran's Day will be held on 31 August 2012



West Torrens War Memorial for Boer War WW1 WW2 Korea Malaya Vietnam Gulf

## DVA NOTES

**Dave Kearns** and **Brian Selby** have completed a 3 day course specifically organized and run by DVA SA. There were 8 other attendees from various ESOs in SA and Tasmania. The course, "Men's Peer Health Education" is being run in all regions of SA, the aim being to establish accredited men and women within the veteran community to be available for some advice in the event of personal problems arising unexpectedly.

The premise is not as a diagnostic source, but, to be a first line of immediate help for veterans and their families should a mental health, or, other health matter become apparent, with information on "who to contact" and "where to go to". There are now 27 accredited members able to be contacted in the SA and Adelaide metro areas  
**Dave Kearns 08 8252 2819**  
**Brian Selby 08 8387 1672**

## ANZAC (PG 1)

national pride, service pride and life long mates were born about 0600 hrs at Ari Burnu, we call it ANZAC Cove, on the 25th April 1915.

It is now only 3 years till the 100th Anniversary. Whatever your connection may, or, may not be, as a ex-service organisation the NMBVAA Inc is made up of men and women whom have carried the same traditions begun 97 years ago, albeit, adapted to the times and places deployed in. *Baguslah !*

## SA & NT MEMBERSHIP

In addition to

**Ordinary Membership** our Branch includes.....

**Associate Membership** for Family members over 18 years of age.

**Social Membership** for those interested in joining and helping us, and **Junior Membership** for family and friends under 18 years of age.

**Ordinary membership** is for ex-service personnel, and those currently serving in the ADF, who have served in the prescribed areas during WW2, the 1948-1960 Malayan Emergency, the 1962-1966 Indonesian Confrontation and all service post 1966 to the present.

**Annual fees are:**

**\$15.00** Ordinary, Associate and Social.

**\$10.00** RAR subs.

**\$5.00** Junior members.

Those already members of the RAR Association do not pay the above subs of **\$10.00**.

Nor do Juniors *Ed.*



*Forgive your enemy, but..... Remember the bastard's name.....Amen.*



ALL CORRESPONDENCE  
TO

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Fromelles trenches 1916



VC Corner Australian Cemetery Fromelles  
holds 5533 Australian soldiers KIA

ASSOCIATION AIMS

**COMRADESHIP** for those who served in Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore, Ubon, the Thai-Malay Border, Brunei and Timor during WW2, the MALAYAN EMERGENCY and during the INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION.

**To ASSIST** members in times of need.

**To REMEMBER** with Pride, Respect and Gratitude, those who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty and to ensure those who fell are represented on ANZAC Day in Australia and Remembrance Day abroad.

**To PROMOTE** the Association and it's Aims.

**To STRENGTHEN TIES** with Malaysia and Singapore.



THE NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS  
ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED  
ESTABLISHED JUNE 1995

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**FOOT NOTE**

The assistance to print this news letter is gratefully acknowledged to the office of Dr Andrew Southcott MP, SA & NT Branch Patron.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

4/2466 Ron Brown ex 1, 2, 3, and 4 Bn RAR is looking for mates he served with. Contact via his mobile phone 0417 109 500.

Storing memories is not the problem.....remembering them is !

The correct way to treat a good bottle of wine is;  
open it and allow it to breath.....if it appears to be having trouble with breathing...give it mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.. **Barb C.**

A bio-fuel developed at Qld Uni of Technology is to be trialed by the US Navy and QANTAS. **Adel News**



LOOKING FOR.....

David Gist at the Australian War Memorial is trying to locate a former member of 2 Bn RAR, 2/782503 Simon Paul WHITEHEAD. Served SVN from May '67 to June '68. Anyone able to assist is requested to contact David Gist Assistant Curator Military Heraldry and Technology at the Australian War Memorial Ph: 02 6243 4494 during business hours.

**Ed.**

**\*\*REUNION 2012\*\***

the 2012 Reunion for 111 and 110 Batteries RAA is being held in Geelong from 28 Oct—2 Nov at the \*\*\* *Mercure Geelong*. \$745.00 double, \$675.00 single and \$372.50 pp twin share. Includes breakfasts and free car parking. 25% Deposit to the *Mercure* is non refundable.

**Contacts** Wal Waterfall, Ian Bell armyreunion110-111@hotmail.com *Mercure* ph 03 5223 6200 and quote ARM 281112 to book your accommodation no later than 1st May 2012....

**Edward Gardiner said.....**

***"It is not what you take, but, what you leave behind that defines greatness".....***

**DID YOU KNOW.....**

The deepest man-made hole is in Russia..the Kola Super-deep Borehole at 12,262 m, or, 7.62 miles.

**Siberia** contains more than 25% of the world's forests.

The smallest island country is Pitcairn at 1.75 sq miles.

The full name of Los Angeles is El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de Los Angeles de Porciuncula.

More than half the coastline of the United States is Alaska. **Dave Kearns**