



The

OBSERVATION POST

The official Newsletter of the SA & NT Branch

2014, 50th Anniversary of Embarkation and Deployments

NATIONAL PATRON MAJ GEN J C HUGHES AO DSO MC
SA & NT BRANCH PATRON DR ANDREW SOUTHcott MP

JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2014



Notices

VALE

Capt Paul McKay RAR
 Herbert Clatworthy RAAMC
 3 RAR Medic '63-64 &
 102 Fd Bty RAA '64-65

HOSPITAL

Di Davies

RAP

Nil Return

Welcome to.....

Stuart McAlpine

It's a boy...

Congratulations to Di and Allan Davies on the safe arrival of a new grandson, Stuart. Both mum and he are doing well.....

RAR SA

Dining commences at 1800 hrs every Friday, except public holidays. Menus change every week

Points of Interest

- A & TSI MEMORIAL
- USS Zumwalt
- DVA Stats
- Bunning's BBQs
- Malaysia Tour
- Branch Meetings
- HMAS Voyager D04

G-G

General Peter Cosgrove has been announced as the next Governor General commencing in June 2014. The general is a former CDF, commanded the international force in the relief of East Timor and has served in Malaysia, SVN, UK, India and the US. He was also Australian of the year in 2001, retiring in 2005.

MEMBERSHIP

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE FROM 1 JANUARY FOR THE 2014 YEAR .
 fwd \$20.00 to
Mrs Jenny Cameron
SA & NT Treasurer
21 Gordon Ave
ST AGNES SA 5097

SA & NT Meetings

2014

Commencing at 1100 hrs on Fri, 21 Feb 2014, at Hilton RSL, followed by lunch at the Hilton Hotel for those members wishing to do so.

Meetings will usually be completed by 1300 hrs.
Visitors very welcome.

RAAF CENTENARY

The RAAF will celebrate 100 years of service on 1-2 March '14 at Point Cook, the home of the RAAF. The first flight of a military aircraft was by a Bristol Boxkite on the 1st March, 1914.....Whilst the RAAF was established in 1921, the beginning is traced back to the 1914 Boxkite. The RAAF is the second oldest military air force in the world and has operated over 200 types of aircraft to date. The fifth

generation of military aircraft are about to be put into service with the EA-18G Growler electronic warfare aircraft and the C27-J Spartan battlefield heavy lifters. The first Australian F35-A Lightning II (Joint Strike Force) planes are nearing completion and pilots are training to readiness by the end of this year. The air show will include the true classics; Spitfire, Mustang etc....

From 1939-45, 215,000 personnel, 6,200 aircraft and 61 squadrons made up the RAAF. During WW2 there were 9,870 who lost their lives, with more than 55% of those over Europe.

On 14 Aug 1953, aircraft A94-101 a Sabre jet, piloted by FLTLT Scott broke the sound barrier over Port Phillip Bay in a dive at 670mph from 10,000ft (1,078km/h).

RAAF News

ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WAR MEMORIAL

On Sunday, 10 November, 2013, the first, and only, War Memorial dedicated to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have served in the Australian armed forces since the Boer War, was dedicated and unveiled at Torrens Parade Ground in Adelaide. The larger than life statues depict an Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander soldier and service woman, in uniform. The ceremony included a *Smoking Ceremony* and representatives

from the Canadian Aboriginal Nations were in attendance. After the ceremony, refreshments were available and a full concert programme was presented by various local Aboriginal and interstate artists with dances and songs. The pathway leading to the Coolamon and memorial is made of red brick pavers which have been inscribed with the names of the known Aboriginal servicemen and women who enlisted in Adelaide..

In lieu of wreaths, it was requested that a book tribute be placed. Clive Dubois did so on behalf of the SA & NT Branch. Members in attendance were; Bev Dubois, Beryl and Dave Kearns, Jenny and Don Cameron and Brian Selby.....

**DVA STATS****As at September 2013.....**

Gold Cards issued: 171,189
Annual Costs: \$20.1 Mil
White Cards issued: 49,113
Annual costs: \$ 2.1 Mil
VEA Pensions: 284,216
Disability Pensions: 104,389
Special Rate: 28,926
Intermediate Rate: 764
EDA: 7,914
General Rate: 66,785
War Wodow/ers: 85,469
Service pensioners: 142,932
Total Annual Expenditure:
\$11.33 Billion.....

MALAYSIA TOUR

The time to confirm your intent to be part of, and book your passage, for the 50th Anniversary Tour to the Malaysian Peninsula and Sarawak **is NOW.** The availability of flights and all accommodation are fast running out. **For your convenience,** **Harvey World Travel at Marion Westfield** has a very attractive deal and can reserve seats and accommodation while you wait. Contact **Sally Holt** between Tuesday to Saturday to make an appointment to book.....

Phone 08 8358 1949 or email sally.marion@harveyworld.com.au
Penang group depart 23 Aug.....
Ipoh group depart 28 Aug and all meet in Ipoh 29 Aug.....
All depart Ipoh for Kuching on 2 Sep. **Sandakan and Kota Kinabalu** are other ports to consider. **From Ipoh**, day trips to Batu Caves Cameron Highlands and the service at Taiping are easily arranged as required once there. **Accommodation** in Ipoh is at the Syuen Hotel. Overnight stay in KL is at the Concorde Inn.....

MALAYSIA TOUR

In Kuching, the main events are a reunion with former Iban Trackers and Royal Malay Ranger soldiers who worked with 3RAR and 4RAR between '64-'66. Trips to Bau, Stass and other positions will be arranged once in town.....
Summary.....

Group 1; ADL—Penang via KL depart 23 Aug 14
Group 2; ADL—Ipoh via KL o/night depart 28 Aug. Arrive Ipoh 29 Aug
All depart Ipoh for Kuching via KL 2 Sep 14....
Return home on 8 Sep from Kuching for some members

Accommodation in Kuching is at the Kuching Hilton. Each hotel rate includes a full breakfast..... Shopping is a highlight in all sites. In Ipoh, the night markets include local dining and bargain bartering is the way to go. Tailor made shirts, slacks, suits and all manner of ladies apparel are excellent value.

It is not difficult to have larger items sent by post and the service is very reliable. There is ample time for small trips/tours to be chosen.....

Your passport must have a minimum of 6 months before expiry. No visas are required. International air travel and other domestic air travel is suggested with Malaysian Airline Systems. Vaccinations are not necessary however, malaria is active in parts of Borneo. Travel insurance is also recommended. Some credit card providers will provide cover at no cost if fares and accommodation are paid with their card.....

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 day and RIFLE Coy Butterworth
Annual fees are:
\$20.00 Ordinary,
Associate and Social.

\$15.00 RAR subs.

\$5.00 Junior members.

Those already members of the RAR Association do not pay the above subs of \$15.00 .

Nor do Juniors

Everyone is very welcome

I don't have an attitude
I have a personality you can't handle..... DS

KEEP CALM
and **Stay Deadly.....**

FREE FEED

BRANCH MEETINGS & EVENTS

We need some volunteers to man the bbq stand at the Bunning's Warehouse Modbury. The task is not arduous on the grey matter..... A couple of hours for a shift is what the deal is between 0900 and 1500 hrs (roughly).....

Dates are:

19 Feb, 23 Apr, 19 Jun, 13 Aug and 16 Oct. No experience nec.

Contact Jenny Cameron at 0430 401 939 or 8264 2858

These are major fundraisers.

SA & NT Branch meetings are open to all members and visitors as has always been the procedure. The North South split with venues will not be continued in 2014. The decision to conduct meetings on a monthly schedule has been firmed up for 1100 hrs on the 3rd Friday of each month at Hilton RSL. The first meeting will be on Friday, 21 February. If a public holiday falls on a meeting date, the meeting will be held the day before on the Thursday.....

In addition to the scheduled Branch meetings, we have several formal services to attend:

- * Banka Is Massacre, 16 Feb.
- * ANZAC Day, 25 April.
- * 50th Anniversary service in Sydney, 24 –25 May.
- * Aboriginal Veterans' Service, 30 May.
- * Korea Veterans' Day, 27 Jul.
- * Merdeka Day in Ipoh, 31 Aug.
- * Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day, 31 August.
- * Remembrance Day, 11 Nov.

Jangan kita lupa.....

HOMOGRAPHS

ANNIVERSARY

VOYAGER

Same spelling but with different meanings.....

The bandage was **wound** around the **wound**..

He could **lead** if he got the **lead** out..

They were too **close** to **close** the lid..

The dump had to **refuse** **refuse**...

A **wise** **guy** is not a **wise** **man**....

A **slim** **chance** can also be a **fat** **chance**.....

The annual Hat Dich service will be conducted at the RAR HQ, Beatty St, Linden Park on 19 February at 1100 hrs, commemorating the 45th anniversary of the battle. NMBVAA Inc members and friends are very welcome to attend. Decorations, medals and awards to be worn, coat, tie. Light refreshments after the service. A wreath will be placed on behalf of SA & NT.



10 February 1964

50th Anniversary

HMAS Voyager D04

Off Jervis Bay NSW was cut in two by HMAS Melbourne R21 at 2056Z

Lest We Forget

VETERANS' SA

A reception to acknowledge the work of the SA Veterans' Advisory Council, hosted by the SA Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Jack Snelling MP, is on 19 Feb in Parliament House.

Representatives from the SA ESO groups are invited, including the SA & NT Branch of the NMBVAA Inc. The SA Minister is our direct link to the Federal Minister and our advocate for all matters that impact the veteran community in South Australia.

42,582 applications for tickets to the 100th anniversary of the **Gallipoli** landings were received by the Centenary committee. The process of selecting and providing the tickets has begun and the successful applicants will be contacted in due course.

Preference is given to surviving WW1 war widows as members of the official party, and direct descendants, outside of the ballot. There are 400 places for school children and their chaperones.

A new dedicated pathway linking the SA War Memorial on North Tce to Torrens Parade Ground is the SA government commitment to marking the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings in 1915.

The Premier also advised that the Walk Way was part of a suite of initiatives pledged to support the nationally coordinated events and milestones of the Centenary events.

\$3 Mil has been allocated.

50th ANNIVERSARY TOUR

Former members of 3RAR, 4RAR and 111 Bty RAA are advised that the **cut off date** for responding to the tour to the Peninsula and Sarawak in August-September is set as Friday, 4 July 2014.

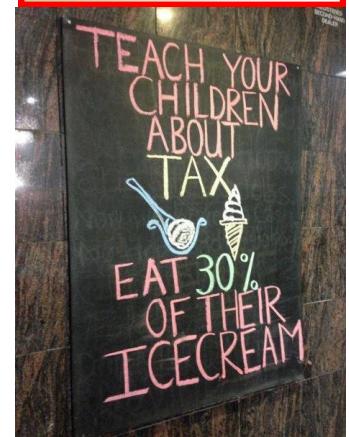
The broad itinerary, travel and accommodation details were included with the recent *The Listening Post* news letter.

There are three elements to the tour; early trip to Penang, the Ipoh-Taiping stay and the Kuching reunion with former Iban Trackers and Royal Malay Ranger soldiers who worked with 3 RAR and 4 RAR.

Those making the tour will be able to visit Batu Caves, Cameron Highlands, Bau, Stass, Sandakan and Kota Kinabalu as some ideas.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMBARKATION

The cut off date for members to register for the functions in Sydney on 24 and 25 May is 4 April 14. Details have been published with the RAN, Army and RAAF and specific ESOs. The commemoration service is on 24 May at 1100 hrs and the 50th Anniversary Dinner is on 25 May at 1800 hrs at Rose Bay RSL. A final General Information package is available for all who have responded.....



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TO

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FARELF colour patch
FAR EAST LAND FORCES
worn by 111 Bty RAA



17 Gurkha Div colour patch
worn by 111 Bty RAA



HMAS Sydney unloading 7 Fd Sqn RAE
at Jesselton, Sabah, June 1964.



Main (single) line between Singapore
and Prai 1964.



Thai-Malay border Area of Ops, 64-66,
for 3RAR, 4 RAR and 111 Bty RAA with
17 Gurkha Division Infantry companies



HMAS Parramatta F05
Joined with HMAS Yarra F07 to escort
HMAS Sydney to Sabah and
Butterworth, May / June 1964.....

ASSOCIATION AIM

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

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.

THE NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO
VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA
INCORPORATED

NOTES AND PICS

Retired US Army
Armoured Corps
driver



EVERY ESO should have one..... Fido

Printed with Best Wishes from
Dr Andrew Southcott MP
Federal Member for Boothby
and SA NT Branch Patron



Opposite.....
The USS Zumwalt has commenced sea trials. The ship is made of composite materials that include similar properties to the stealth aircraft making it almost invisible to radar detection !!....it is the next generation of very high speed ships armed with long range missiles and ultra high tech capabilities.....

USN



This RAF Typhoon pilot
got up close to the rear
door cavity of a RAF
C130 during a photo
shoot at 10000 ft
"Yes, that's close
enough Sir"....

RAF News

