



THE OBSERVATION POST

THE ONLY OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NMBVAA INC
SA & NT BRANCH.....2014, 50th ANNIVERSARY OF EMBARKATION



2014, 50th
Anniversary of
Embarkation

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

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2014



Notices

VALE

Nil Return

HOSPITAL

MajGen Jim Hughes AO DSC MC

Dave Kearns SA NT

Laraine Edwards QLD

Ben Thurlow VIC

Michael Priest TAS

WELCOME

John Meers

VETERANS' HEALTH WEEK

13-19 October 2014

**Plympton-Glenelg RSL
was the venue for info
and sessions regarding
Men's health issues.**

**Wednesday, 15 October
1200-1400 hrs
Meals
Guest speakers
\$5.00 donation goes to
Dogs for Diggers**

Courage

Mateship

Pride

'TIS THE SEASON

2014 is almost finished...

In Iran and Iraq, we have seen some of the most horrific atrocities in history carried out by people who have no regard for humanity other than their own kind...

There is no acceptable explanation for these despicable muslim jihad extremists who are also residents among us....



**Merry Christmas
To all our Members,
Families and Friends**

We again have our Armed Forces in harm's way in the Middle East.

For the first time, some of the Arab states are also engaged in the containment of these murderous extremists.

There can be no doubts remaining that Australia has been far too generous and trusting with our permission to enter the country.

"We have to go back again to finish the job" ... !!!

Aust Defence Minister Johnston

CARDS

SA & NT Christmas Lunch

Holiday Travel

SEASON'S GREETINGS

We have received Christmas and New Year greetings from;
The Australian War Memorial
Dept of Veterans' Affairs SA NT
The Minister for Veterans' Affairs
SA Minister for Veterans' SA
War Widows Guild SA
Penang Veterans' Association
Sarawak Veterans' Association
Sarawak Tourism Board

Sunday, 14 December, 2014

Club Marion,
Sturt Rd Marion
1200 hrs for 1230 hrs
A-la-Carte Menu

Family and Friends very Welcome

Confirm with Clive Dubois by
30 November, 2014.
Ph: 08 8298 4057
E: kent702@bigpond.com

*If you are traveling long distances by road this year, take care and take breaks on the way.....
there are no conceivable reasons to try and drive straight through.
The destination isn't going to move away and there are some great truck stops along the major highways in every State and the NT. Good deals for motels are also available.....*

Points of Interest...

- Anniversary Tour
- Cutting **RED TAPE**
- MBVD in SA
- NMC AGM Results
- Penang and Sarawak Veterans
- Director, Veterans' SA
- RSL SA Virtual War Memorial

NATIONAL AGM

The national AGM was conducted in Melbourne on 24 Sep 2014, and members were elected as;
President: Owen Marshall
Vice Pres: John Lynch
Secretary: Ben Thurlow
Treasurer: Ben Thurlow
Committee members are the current State Branch Presidents.
Patron: MajGen JC Hughes AO DSO MC

NATIONAL NEWS

The national news letter
The Listening Post
will be produced by NHQ as from the December 2014 edition.
Doug Prendergast is the editor and we wish him well in the task.
Member's articles and pics with descriptions are requested for publication. Original pics will be returned to the sender. Submit items via the SA NT Branch.

MBVD 2014

This year, the commemoration was delayed till 19 September due to members making the trip to the Peninsula and Sarawak for the 50th Anniversary Tour.

Again, the Branch Padre made sure that the weather was very kind....4th consecutive year...
The after the service function was hosted by Hilton RSL and our thanks to the West Torrens Council for funding assistance.



ANZAC CENTENARY

On 1 November, 2014, the first of the Australian commemorations for the 100th Anniversary of ANZAC was conducted at Albany WA. This is the date in 1914, that the first of the Australian and New Zealand troops embarked on 10 ships, escorted by 3 RAN ships, for Egypt, from that port. The Australian Light Horse Regts were onboard and destined for glory in the Sinai and Libya.

Contrary to his version, Lawrence of Arabia was not the first to Damascus; Riding day and night, over 450 miles of sandy desert, in 12 days, 12,000 Australian Light Horse soldiers were about to commence the last and greatest ever use of massed cavalry in our history. The 10th Light Horse stopped to at Barada Gorge. Overlooking Damascus city. The Turks and Germans were

destroying all arms and ammo before they attempted to evacuate. At 0400 hrs, 1 November 18 the 10th LH began the advance into small arms fire from the defending Turks. At great speed, they charged the city walls, overwhelming the Turks and continued into the city centre....the city capitulated, however, the defending Turkish commander, Mustafa Kemal, of Gallipoli fame, escaped.....these LH soldiers

CONTINUED

included some survivors from the slaughter of The Neck and Lone Pine on Gallipoli where the Light Horse was decimated by the three poorly planned charges in 1915... Mustafa Kemal and his staff were also the defenders there. The LH men now in Damascus made it quite clear that this victory was not only for them, but, for the LH men who had been lost in 1915... *Lawrence made no mention of the Australians in his account of the battle.....*

There were 50,000 horses sent to Egypt and Europe in WW1.

The majority of the horses were Waler, a large, strong, durable horse bred for the cavalry and also suitable for artillery units. Of those 50,000 horses transported, only one of them was returned after the war. The order was given that the horses were to be handed over to Egyptians for their use.....such was the disgust at this wrongly conceived demand, many LH men euthanized their mounts rather than hand them over to a life of utter cruelty as beasts of burden. No charges were laid.....

This breed of horse was in continual service long after WW1 and was the mainstay of all Australian horse drawn Artillery Regiments till the mechanisation of these units in 1939.....

The only horse returned home was "Sandy", the mount of General Sir William Bridges, the first C in C of the AIF who was KIA at Gallipoli, and the head is preserved at the AWM in Canberra.

The Charge at Beersheba is another story to be related in a future edition*Ubique....*

APPOINTMENT

Director Veterans' SA
COL Rob Manton (Ret) has been appointed as the Director of Veterans' SA after the retirement of Bill Denny AM BM. Rob graduated from Portsea in 1981. He served in the UK, the UN and Iraq. His first Corps is Artillery and then Army Intelligence. He is also an advisor to the UN regarding the safety of civilians in conflict areas.

We wish him well in the new task.

Ubique.....

NM & AFC ADELAIDE

BRIG. Rob Atkinson AM RFD FAMA has been elected as the President of the Naval, Military & Air Force Club of South Australia.....Rob is a Viet Nam veteran and was CO of the Australian 1 Field Hospital SVN at Nui Dat.....



THIS is innovation.....

DVA

Veteran's Health Week 2014 was conducted in Adelaide from 13-19 Oct at several venues: **Plympton—Glenelg RSL** held a healthy cooking event on 15 Oct with medic guest speakers and made visitors very welcome to be there. SA Men's Health Peer Group members were also there to answer questions and to provide ?"How to" access suggestions for personal requirements with Medical, DVA and Mental health needs.

GET WELL

MajGen Jim Hughes AO DSC MC is recovering from a badly damaged femur ...and Laraine Edwards in Brisbane recovering from illness...

SA & NT Branch

MEMBERSHIP

In addition to

Ordinary Membership, our Branch includes..

Associate Membership for Family and friends over 18 years of age.

Social Membership for those interested in joining and helping us, and also

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, 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.

PENANG AND SARAWAK UPDATE

The decision has been taken, on behalf of NMBVAA Inc members, to adopt schools in the remote ulu areas around Bau, Stass and Serikin in Sarawak. The plan is to provide funds to a school in each area on a annual schedule to purchase writing materials, exercise books, and if needed, mats to add a degree of comfort for the children. The Sarawak Education Dept will oversee the purchases. There are several independent checks that will make sure the objectives are achieved. The schools are unlike any we are familiar with....remoteness and a diverse group of children can be

Orang Asli, Iban and Dyak origin. There are no other such funding programs in action originating from Australia for this purpose. A long overdue bond has been confirmed with the Penang Veterans Association after the recent 50th Anniversary Tour to the Peninsula and Sarawak, and a partnership proposal has been tabled for the PVA and NMBVAA Inc to design a suitable war memorial to commemorate the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation to be sited near the Penang War Memorial Cenotaph...

A Australian National Flag and the SA State Flag were presented to some surviving Royal Malaysian Ranger soldiers and Iban Trackers who were with 3RAR and 4RAR in 1964-66 during the Indonesian Confrontation. The flags were donated by Dr Andrew Southcott MP member for Boothby and SA NT Patron, and the member for Mitchell, Corey Wingard MP. Very generous hospitality from the Sarawak Tourism Board at the Kuching Hilton saw 14 members sit down to lunch. Tentative plans for a memorial in Kuching are in the pipeline.....*Bagus*



Wedge tail Eagle over the Flinders Ranges South Aust.

50th Anniversary of Deployments Tour

In August and September, members from SA & NT visited several sites of significance to Australian Army deployments during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation on the Peninsula, Sabah and Sarawak. Poppies provided by SA RSL were placed on 2RAR grave sites at Taiping on the Peninsula, at Bau, Stass and Bukit Knuckle in Sarawak and at the site of the POW camp at Sandakan in Sabah. A reunion was also held with surviving Iban Trackers and Royal Malay Ranger soldiers in Kuching who worked with 3RAR and 4RAR during the Indonesian Confrontation

Story and pics attached.....

BORNEO SCHOOLS

Confirmation has been received from the Bau District Education Dept that the first three schools are **SK Serabak, SK Stass** and **SK Suba Buan**. The next step in the protocol chain is to confirm the method of funds transfer; at this time we will tx electronically to a preferred account with the Sarawak Tourism Board as one of the checking elements to ensure correct dispersion for us.....

RSL SA

The 10th Bn AIF was one of the first Australian Infantry units formed at the outbreak of WW1. Raised in SA, it was the first AIF unit to land at Gallipoli two members; L/Cpl Philip Robin and Pte Arthur Blackburn are believed to have pushed further inland than any other Australians. L/Cpl Robin was KIA on 28 April and later as a commissioned officer, Arthur was awarded the VC at Pozieres.....

The SA NT Virtual Memorial was launched on 8 August . It is the major Centenary of ANZAC initiative by RSL SA. The digitised memorial serves as a source of accessible statistics in the animated displays. Potential contributors can contact Sharyn Roberts on 08 8100 7300 or email at sharynr@rslsa.org.au Site access is via; www.rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au

To WAR, or, WHAT ?

IF it LOOKS like a WAR,
IF it SOUNDS like a WAR,
IF it SMELLS like a WAR,
IF it WALKS like a WAR,
IF it TALKS like a WAR,
IF it SHOOTS like a WAR...
IT's A WAR.....!!!!

DO NOT PULL that string...



Disgraceful Order

It is outrageous that a former serviceman has been ordered to remove the Australian flag from his front yard **in Darwin**..... the "Body Corporate" has unbelievably taken the stance that "It is required to Keep the Peace"how unpatriotic can these people be to even consider such a directive; those foreigners who protest about flying our flag should seriously consider their stupidity Don't need their baggage here..

TPI News

Every year, the increase of the 2.7% we have been denied amounts to a loss of approx \$3,300 to the TPI Special Rate and approx \$1200 to the 100% General Rate while all other DVA disability pensions also suffer a pro-rata loss. We want indexation parity restored between Veteran's disability pensions and the Age and Service invalidity pensions. We only want Justice. Indexation parity is needed to align DVA with increases in community incomes.

Selling the Farm

The French owned resorts of **Club Med** have been sold to a Chinese group.....true...

Post 2017 Commodores will be built in Germany and are the current Opel Insignia, sold in the USA and China as the **Buick**

The Waldorf Astoria New York with 1,413 rooms, has been sold to a Chinese insurance group for US\$1.95 billion...

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE
TO**

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All original pics and documents will be returned to the sender..... **Ed.**



Malaysian Army Recon Regt scout car and returning 111 Bty RAA patrol, Thai-Malay Border 1965.



77 Sqn RAAF Borneo

111 Bty enroute to China Rock

ASSOCIATION AIMS

COMRADESHIP for those who served in Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore, the Thai-Malay Border, Brunei, the MALAYAN EMERGENCY, the INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION, Deployments post 1966 and with the Rifle Company Butterworth.....

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**

NOTES AND PICS

In Memoriam

2 November 1950
Korea

LtCol C H Green DSO
CO 3RAR
Died of Wounds

Uliga ij-ji Anhdolog



A last great Act of Defiance or, suicidal tendencies....???

****ANNUAL Subs****

Due from 1 January

Please fwd \$20.00 to
Jenny Cameron
21 Gordon Ave
St AGNES SA 5097

Terima kasih...

Printed with Best Wishes from
Dr Andrew Southcott MP
Federal Member for Boothby
Terima kasih



A disappearing feature of our heritage....traditional fish & chips shops.....(UK)....



A high cube capacity trailer would be very helpful here....



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