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RSL NEWS

EDITION 04, 2018

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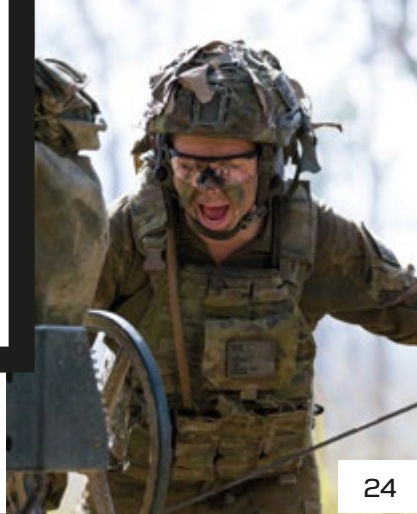


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Front Cover



COVER IMAGE: Veteran Kimberley is back on her feet again thanks to a partnership between RSL Queensland and The Salvation Army that's providing accommodation and support for Queensland's homeless veterans.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS ENCOURAGED

Friends and fellow members,

Welcome to my second report as President of RSL Queensland. First, I want to thank the membership for entrusting me with the role of caretaker of this fine organisation for the next three years. I intend to do everything I can to ensure members feel confident their organisation is in good hands.

To say I was humbled and overwhelmed by your congratulations is an understatement. I feel very honoured to be working with you all in the position of President. I am incredibly proud of this charity, the work we do and the veterans we help.

In the past, RSL Queensland has received some criticism for what it does or does not do. It is important for us to tell our story and quiet the critics by highlighting the many ways we support the Defence community. All volunteers, members and staff should feel proud of this great organisation and the part they play in it.

At the recent Annual General Meeting (AGM), you voted for a change in leadership. I have made a commitment to keep members informed about what is occurring in your RSL. I propose to show transparency from state Board meetings and advise you of developments and activities within our organisation. One of the ways I will do this is via my new blog, From the President, where I will provide regular updates at www.rslqld.org/From-the-President.

“I BELIEVE THE PREVIOUS DRAFT CONSTITUTION WAS PART WAY THERE AND, WITH A FEW AMENDMENTS, CAN BE THE DOCUMENT TO TAKE THE LEAGUE FORWARD. THE ISSUES DISCUSSED AT THE AGM NEED TO BE WORKED INTO THE DOCUMENT, SO YOU HAVE COMFORT AND CLARITY ABOUT THE DOCUMENT GOVERNING YOUR CHARITY.”

During the AGM, some important motions were raised and discussed by the membership. These motions related to the Constitution of RSL Queensland. RSL Queensland is currently under a Directions Notice from the regulator, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), which requires us to do certain things to maintain our charity status.

I understand the anxiety about revising the Constitution, but I am certain that if we have proper consultation, include members in its construction and communicate openly about the entire process, we can achieve a Constitution you will be proud of.

The ACNC has advised us that we need to improve our procedures – for the sake of both

the charity, our members and the veterans we assist. We can help achieve this by producing a Constitution that is relevant and current.

I believe the previous draft Constitution was part way there and, with a few amendments, can be the document to take the League forward. The issues discussed at the AGM need to be worked into the document, so you have comfort and clarity about the document governing your charity.

With this occurring, RSL Queensland requires your timely and collaborative input. Members and delegates can provide feedback on the Constitution in several ways:

- Use the feedback form at www.rslqld.org/2018Constitution

- Email 2018constitution@rslqld.org
- Written submissions via your District

I will also lead a Project Team that has been appointed to work on further changes to the Constitution. Input from members and consultants will be made available regularly to members, to ensure you are up-to-date on trends and changes with the document.

I would also like to thank outgoing President Stewart Cameron for his many years of hard work and dedication to RSL Queensland, together with Roy Cunneen, who stepped down after two years in the position as an appointed Board Director.

Finally, I encourage you all to sign up for our monthly email newsletter, the *RSL Runner* by providing your email address to the membership officer in your Sub Branch. I will provide regular updates on League matters through the *Runner*, as it provides the most timely way of communicating with you all.



Tony Ferris
State President
RSL (Queensland Branch)

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KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2018 SO FAR

As we are now well into the second half of 2018, I want to take this opportunity to provide you all with an update on a couple of the key achievements that the team at State Branch have been able to deliver so far this year.

But, before I go into detail, I want to take you back to the first edition of *Queensland RSL News* from 2017. In my column, I wrote about building the right organisational platforms and putting the right technology in place so that we can efficiently and effectively adapt to what might be needed in the future. I wrote about the need to be versatile and adaptable, while making a strategic investment in technology.

After some 18 months in the so-called 'build' and 'delivery' stages of RSL Queensland's digital transformation, the benefits of this planning work have become evident. Exciting new programs have come to fruition – a result that would not have been possible two years ago, before this foundation work was undertaken.

Two key achievements that have recently been delivered are the RSL Education Program and the Lotteries Transformation Program.

In the last edition of *Queensland RSL News*, we introduced you to RSL Education, our new comprehensive education

“INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL REVIEWERS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY HAVE NEVER SEEN A SYSTEM LIKE THE ONE THAT HAS BEEN BUILT FOR RSL ART UNION IN ANY OTHER CHARITABLE ORGANISATION, WITH THE LOTTERIES TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM GIVING RSL QUEENSLAND THE OPPORTUNITY TO REIMAGINE THE WAY IT RUNS TODAY, AND HOW IT WILL RUN IN THE FUTURE.”

portal for teachers and school students, which was launched to schools in mid-July. The delivery of this important education tool, which provides opportunities for school children to learn about Australia's Defence history and current challenges facing our Defence family, was made possible thanks to the technological foundations laid in the 'build' stage.

Delivering our community and school-based commemoration program digitally enables us to reach more people across our vast state, without a costly, ongoing financial outlay. I encourage Sub Branches to engage with their local schools about RSL Education, as the curriculum-

based teaching tools also provide opportunities for students to learn directly from our veterans.

The other key achievement I want to highlight here is the Lotteries Transformation Program, an ongoing project that will revolutionise the RSL Art Union organisation model, from ticket issuing and transaction processing, to data collection and analysis, with greater digital interaction and engagement throughout each step of the ticket-buying process.

Independent external reviewers have indicated that they have never seen a system like the one that has been built for RSL Art Union in any other charitable organisation, with

the Lotteries Transformation Program giving RSL Queensland the opportunity to reimagine the way it runs today, and how it will run in the future. This enables the organisation to take advantage of opportunities that were not possible two years ago and to evolve so that revenue can increase.

Currently, RSL Queensland is solely reliant on the revenue of the Art Union to enable us to deliver our services to veterans. While work is underway to diversify our income streams, there is still potential for growth in the Art Union and we are now in a better position to maximise that growth, enabling us to better deliver the services and support our Defence Family needs.

I would like to thank and congratulate our staff for their contributions to the development and delivery of these projects, and I look forward to bringing you, our valued members, more great highlights of our work at State Branch.



Luke Traini
Chief Executive Officer
RSL (Queensland Branch)

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WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE BIG THINGS IN 2018

At the recent State Congress in Cairns, I discussed with Sub Branch delegates the sheer volume of activity RSL Queensland conducted throughout 2017 in support of the Defence family, and how 2018 is shaping up to be an even more significant year of achievement. We discussed plans to enhance our current capabilities and deliver a range of new programs focused on meeting the needs of our Defence family identified by the Defence Family Research Project.



Scott Denner
State Secretary
RSL (Queensland Branch)

Wellbeing Program

Veteran Homelessness Program

Welfare Financial Application

Advocacy and Claims

Current Capabilities

Within the Operations group, we will continue to focus on helping veterans as and when they need us through our directly delivered programs and those developed in conjunction with our partner organisations.

Since July 2017, our **Wellbeing Program** has assisted 147 veterans and/or families. Referrals come by telephone or email to our Wellbeing Officers from a number of sources, including Sub Branches, District offices, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) or our own Veteran Services Officers (VSOs).

In the case of one of our clients – a single veteran with mental health challenges, who had lost contact with his children – our program supported him through family relationship mediation to reconnect with his children and provided financial assistance, so he could move into accommodation where his children could stay over.

Meanwhile, in partnership with the Salvation Army, our **Veteran Homelessness Program** has supported 94 veterans and their families (if partnered) in the 12 months since it was launched at the 2017 State Congress. You can read more about the program and hear from veterans we have helped on page 40 of this edition of *Queensland RSL News*.

In the first half of 2018, we funded 122 **Welfare Financial Applications** from veterans, families and dependents, assisting with household utility accounts, affordable removalist costs, rates, registration, vet accounts, doctors and dentist accounts. As part of this program, we increasingly provide financial counselling to improve the ongoing resilience of the veteran and their family.

Our **Advocacy and Claims** support continues to grow and deliver essential services to support current and former serving Defence personnel accessing the support they need through DVA.

There is no doubt the process for navigating the three Acts of Parliament that govern the support provided by DVA is complex, and that using the knowledge of an RSL Advocate empowers current serving personnel and veterans to achieve optimal compensation, medical support and rehabilitation services.

In addition to the fantastic support provided by volunteer Pensions and Welfare Officers based in Sub Branches, VSOs employed by RSL Queensland conducted the following activity throughout the 2017 reporting year:

- 3798 primary claims
- 98 appeals
- 2996 further client interviews
- 5305 hospital visits

The volume of primary claims supported by VSOs is growing by approximately 25 per cent per year, due to the large number of younger veterans who take Queensland as their discharge location, and a range of demographic and qualification changes affecting volunteers.

Employment
Program

RSL
Education

Innovation
Network

2018 PROGRAMS — AND — INITIATIVES

New Initiatives

In September 2017, we launched a six-month pilot **Employment Program** in Townsville. We received 81 client referrals, and, to date, 35 clients have secured roles, 24 clients are continuing in the program and 22 clients have been referred to other appropriate services (including the RSL Scholarship Program and DVA).

Based on the success of the pilot, the program was launched across Queensland in April 2018. Since then, a further 150 ex-ADF members and partners of ADF members have entered the program.

As part of the program, we worked in partnership with Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation and several leading companies to develop an education tool for employers. This tool will support employers in understanding Defence culture, so they can build a workplace that empowers and gets the best from the veterans they employ.

Our underlying aim with the Employment Program is for organisations to engage veterans not as an act of charity, but because veterans make fantastic employees.

We shared a first look at our new **RSL Education** website, which went live in mid-July with a launch at Bremer State High School, near Ipswich. The new online portal for Queensland school students and teachers has rich digital content, with videos, animations and projects bringing Australia's Defence history to life.

We are encouraging students and teachers to visit www.rsleducation.com.au to find information about past conflicts, how we commemorate service and sacrifice, and the challenges facing serving members, veterans and their families – today and in the past.

In addition, this year we created the **Innovation Network** to engage more fully with members and incorporate your ideas and experiences into our initiatives to help us shape our future services, membership and programs. The first workshop was held on March 24 and we've been collaborating digitally since then, using tools such as Facebook Groups to share insights and ideas and obtain valuable feedback from the grassroots of our organisation.

Defence
Family
Research
Project

Brand
Refresh

Projects Underway

At the State Congress, I discussed with delegates two substantial new projects for 2018.

The first was a more thorough discussion of the results of the **Defence Family Research Project**, which we also shared in the previous edition of this magazine. The report will influence how we structure ourselves and tailor our service offerings to best meet the needs of the Defence family in Queensland. You will see the impact of that research on the services we deliver over the coming years.

Second, we discussed the RSL Queensland **Brand Refresh** – a significant project underway to strategically define our brand purpose and visual identity, what RSL stands for in the mind of the public and how we can continue to represent veterans and their families for the next 100 years.

A Brand Blueprint was developed with insight from the Defence Family Research Project, member input through the Innovation Network and many interviews and workshops.

I shared the draft Brand Blueprint and video manifesto and we sought feedback from delegates, before we finalise our brand position and roll it out into the community.

I would like to particularly thank those of you who have carried out the countless hours of volunteer activity in support of the Defence family so far this year and look forward to sharing more success stories about your League as the year goes on.

WEARING THE RETURNED FROM ACTIVE SERVICE BADGE

I HAVE seen quite a few members wearing the Returned from Active Service Badge (RASB) incorrectly. This often happens during parades, such as ANZAC Day.

In my belief, the RASB is issued to Australian Defence Force personnel who have rendered warlike service. The badge enables individuals to display their involvement in warlike service when wearing civilian attire. It is worn when the wearing of service awards is not appropriate or possible.

Conversely, it should not be worn when wearing service awards. The RASB is only worn by the person to whom it has been issued. Family members and others, who wear a deceased person's awards on appropriate occasions, do not wear the RASB.

I understand that members like to display their awards and badges on their jackets during commemorative occasions, but it should be done correctly. I hope this is helpful to anybody who is a little confused about wearing the RASB.

John Schrader

Former Army Warrant Officer

DUTCH WAR CROSS

FURTHER to my enquiry in Edition 01, 2017 regarding the Dutch War Cross in my late father's possession and noting the Cross worn by the late Tom McLucas in Edition 01, 2018, I would like to pass on information I received from Australian ex-servicemen, descendants of Dutch servicemen and merchant marines.

In addition to Dutch servicemen, the Cross was also awarded to Australian servicemen who served in the Dutch Territories during WWII. In this instance, it was classified as a 'Foreign Award,' with only one bar reading:

- OOST – AZIË – ZUID – PACIFIC
- 1942 - 1945
- (English translation: EAST – ASIA – SOUTH – PACIFIC)

The picture of the Cross depicted in my earlier correspondence was shown with three bars, which represent:

- The Aerial Operations 1940-1945 clasp
- The Dutch East Indies 1941-1942 clasp
- The East Asia South Pacific 1942-1945 clasp

Correspondence received from one veteran in Bundaberg of the 26th Battalion (stationed at Tana Merah between Lae and Merauke for one year), was that Queen Wilhelmina

(Dutch Queen during the war) offered the Australian soldiers payment, which was declined by the Australian Government, so she issued the Cross to those men.

As part of my late father's service (SE Duffill), he was on Merauke in Dutch New Guinea during 1943-44 in the 62nd Btn. (later the 2/15th Btn.) Thanks to all who responded.

Lynette Dyne



RSL CLUBS AND VETERAN SUPPORT

I HAVE been a long-standing member of the RSL and will continue to be so, but I am quite naive about the benefits of belonging. Apart from a free 'gun fire breakfast' on ANZAC Day, participating in the march and enjoying a few social drinks at slightly reduced prices afterwards, I often vaguely wonder what other benefits there may be?

It's understood there is an opportunity for comradeship, a funeral benefit, an advocate service and the *Queensland RSL News* publication.

Recently, when our battalion's association decided to have a 50-year anniversary celebration luncheon for local members, the RSL club wanted \$500-\$600 to hire a room, which was unaffordable.

It puzzles me that the Sub Branch office in RSL clubs seem located in a tiny, remote, out-of-the-way room, while the remaining ambience is glittering with gaming machines, large screen TVs featuring horse racing or other sports, bars, entertainment and dining ventures. Where's the solemnity and respect when the *Ode* is read at 7pm, when large, iridescent screens adjacent to the eternal flame flash the latest Keno numbers?

It seems to me a lot of money is made by 'social club' activities under the banner of the highly esteemed RSL logo, but I wonder how much the actual RSL benefits from all this?

My bet is that the general public would assume the RSL is a powerful, wealthy – albeit worthy – organisation, and patronage basically supports ex-servicemen for worthy causes. But I'm sure they would like to know how the RSL benefits from this? I read that the main source of RSL Queensland revenue is from RSL Art Union ticket sales. One would assume this source of revenue would pale in significance to profits made by the RSL clubs?

I stand to be corrected if my assumptions are incorrect.

James Finnigan
The Gap

CHILDREN NAMED IN TRIBUTE TO WWI

I ENJOYED Anita Jaensch's article in Edition 3, 2018 of *Queensland RSL News* about Brisbane street name commemorations and wondered if you are aware that WWI-related locations and significant figures were commemorated also in personal names?

A search of the online birth registrations in Queensland between 1914 and 1918 finds there are some names that clearly meant a great deal to parents. For example, eight sets of parents used the name Gallipoli between 1915-18. In 1916, David and Rebecca Glanford named their daughter Gallipoli Rebecca Glanford.

While my research is by no means comprehensive, the most prevalent names I found were Kitchener (147 uses), Verdun (110 uses, mainly in 1916-17), Joffre (65) and Dardenelles (41 uses, for both male and female names). Other names included Krithia, Mons, Flanders, Egypt, Gaba-Tepe, Somme, Poziers [sic], Bapaume, Polygon, Menin, Aisne, France, Belgium, Ancre, Lusitania, Rabaul, Foch and Petain.

This is interesting, and informative of the strength of feeling in the citizenry at that time.

Bob Beveridge

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

James, In Queensland, the majority of RSL clubs are separate commercial entities, which are not owned or operated by the Returned & Services League.

The Returned & Services League – comprising Sub Branches, Districts and RSL Queensland – exists to provide wellbeing and welfare assistance to the Defence community. RSL clubs are licensed entertainment venues that may or may not provide some of their proceeds back to local RSL Sub Branches.

Of the approximately 240 Sub Branches in Queensland, 45 have a relationship with an RSL club. Of those, approximately 17 Sub Branches own and operate a gaming venue as you described.

This means that across the state, a club's relationship with a Sub Branch can be vastly different. In some cases, the club entity leases a Sub Branch-owned property to operate its gaming venue and the Sub Branch co-exists in the building to carry out its welfare and commemorative activities. In other cases, clubs may assist the Sub Branch with the organisation and costs associated with commemorative activities, such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day.

As you correctly state, the majority of RSL Queensland's revenue comes from the RSL Art Union. No revenue from RSL clubs is given to RSL Queensland for the support we provide to the Defence community.

NEWS



STATE CONGRESS

Thanks to all the Sub Branch Delegates, partners and special guests who attended our State Congress in Cairns from June 22-24. It was an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow members, hear about the work of our organisation and discuss its future.

Guest speakers included The Honourable Darren Chester MP, Minister for Veterans' Affairs, The Honourable Amanda Rishworth MP, Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Wing Commander Sharon Bown (Ret'd) and then National President Robert Dick. The State Council of Auxiliaries also held its AGM on June 22.

During his address, Mr Chester said there was a need for more partnerships with governments, ex-service organisations, community members, and corporate and business sectors to work together to achieve practical outcomes for the ex-serving community.

He also spoke about the 2018-19 budget, which announced a new \$100 million initiative for the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) as it continues its transformation to a more customer-friendly organisation. The total funding allocated to DVA is now approximately \$11.2 billion per year, which



RSL Queensland State President Tony Ferris



Outgoing RSL Queensland State President Stewart Cameron



WELCOME TO NEW PRESIDENT TONY FERRIS

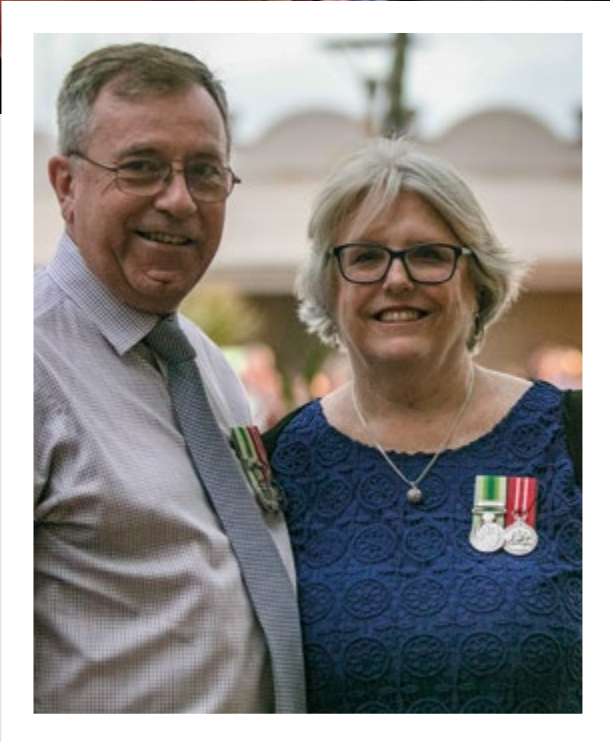
RSL Queensland members elected a new State President at the recent State Congress. Our new State President, Tony Ferris, served in the Royal Australian Air Force from 1979 to 1985. He joined the RSL in 2010 and was elected Sunshine Coast Region District President in 2014.

Thanking outgoing President Stewart Cameron for his many years of hard work on behalf of veterans and Defence personnel, Tony said he looks forward to continuing to modernise RSL Queensland.

“The RSL is only as strong as its members and I urge current and former Defence members to get involved at this exciting time in our long history,” Tony said.

It is important that RSL Queensland members are fully informed of developments within State Branch. In his blog, From the President, Tony will provide regular updates on governance, membership and operational matters that members should be aware of.

Visit www.rslqld.org/From-the-President



assists approximately 288,000 veterans and their families.

As we mentioned in the previous edition of this magazine, the motion to adopt the draft RSL Queensland Constitution (2018) was not carried. A Project Team has begun the process of modernising our Constitution. This will include engaging with members, drafting amendments and putting the revised document to a postal vote by Sub Branch Delegates.

We strongly encourage members to view and provide feedback on the draft Constitution. Feedback can be provided by emailing 2018Constitution@rslqld.org, visiting www.rslqld.org/2018Constitution or providing written submissions via your District.

FREE RSL CONCERT FOR ARMISTICE CENTENARY

With the centenary of the Armistice of WWI coming up on Sunday, November 11, RSL Queensland is looking ahead at how to commemorate this important occasion. Plans are still being finalised, but will include:

- A Remembrance Day ceremony in ANZAC Square on the morning of Sunday, November 11.
- A free concert at the Riverstage in Brisbane. When peace was declared at the end of WWI, global celebrations erupted, and this concert will pay tribute to those outpourings of relief and joy.
- As usual, Sub Branches will be invited to submit their ceremony

details to be published on the RSL Queensland website and in *Queensland RSL News* in the lead-up to the day.

- A primary and secondary schools competition enabling students to commemorate the sacrifice of our soldiers.
- Special commemorative pins and pens will be released as merchandise.
- A handbook distributed via District Secretaries in late August, with information about how Sub Branches can mark the occasion. We will continue to share more details about these plans in the coming months.



INVICTUS GAMES JUST MONTHS AWAY

The countdown is on to the Invictus Games in Sydney from October 20-27, with the Australian team named in June. Australia will field 72 athletes in this year's Games – its largest team ever.

The majority of these (32

athletes) are from Queensland. Some team members are directly supported by RSL Sub Branches around the state and all are indirectly supported via funding given to Invictus Games Sydney from RSL Queensland and Mates4Mates.

We will introduce you to the Queensland team in the October edition of *Queensland RSL News*. “Training for events like the Invictus Games gives the athletes the opportunity to overcome their physical and mental hardships and focus on what they can

achieve post-injury, reflecting their inherent fighting spirit,” said Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, when the team was announced.

Purchase tickets at www.invictusgames2018.org.



MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) has launched its latest study investigating Mental Health First Aid training for families of ex-service personnel with a mental health condition.

GMRF is seeking family members of ex-service personnel to complete a 12-hour Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training course (across two days) and complete six questionnaires at three time points. The training course will be free of charge and involves gaining skills in providing initial support to adults experiencing mental health problems or crises.

For more information, visit bit.ly/GMRF-MHFA or contact the Veteran Mental Health Initiative Team on 07 3394 7578 or EvansJustine@ramsayhealth.com.au.

ENGAGING QUEENSLAND KIDS IN THE CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE



November 11, 2018 will mark the Centenary of the Armistice that brought the carnage of WWI to an end.

For young people, who are used to the immediacy of the internet, it can be hard to imagine a war where horses were ridden into battle, where tanks and submarines were new technology and the Air Force was barely thought of. So, RSL Queensland is engaging Queensland school children in the commemoration by running two competitions – one for primary school children

and one for secondary school children.

IMAGINING THE PAST

A century ago, people were both happy and relieved when the Armistice was announced; they gathered on the streets, sang and cheered. What would it have been like to be there, among the crowds, on that day?

We're asking primary school children to create an artwork – using pencils, pens, paints or even collage – to illustrate the theme of “War is Over”.

CAPTURING THE PAST

Every man or woman who has served in Australia's Defence Force has a story to tell, and each story helps us understand what it means to serve. But, too often, these stories remain untold.

We are asking secondary school students to interview a Defence veteran – of any age and from any conflict, peacekeeping mission or disaster relief operation – about their experiences in the ADF, and then to tell their story in an article, podcast or video.

GREAT PRIZES FOR SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

In each age group, 10 District winners will be selected as finalists for the state-wide judging.

From the 10 finalists, an overall state winner in each age group will be chosen. The two winning students will receive \$250 for themselves and \$1000 for their school.

Visit www.rsleducation.com.au for more information.

HELP WITH SUB BRANCH COMPLIANCE



RSL Queensland's Sub Branch Compliance Services team (formerly the Charities Compliance Team) is expanding its services to include training for Sub Branches on areas such as governance and charitable expenditure and activities, together with legal, insurance and risk issues.

Compliance Specialist Yvonne Cruse is pictured training the Sunshine Coast District Sub Branches at Kawana Surf Club. The training was well-received, with Sub Branch members able to ask questions and provide feedback for future sessions.

This training is part of several new programs being established to help Sub Branches reduce their administrative compliance and enable them to focus on their financial sustainability.

HEADING TO 100 YEARS OF DEFENCE INSURANCE

The Defence Service Homes Insurance Scheme (DSHIS, more commonly DSHI) will turn 100 years old in 2019.

DSHI provides comprehensive home building insurance policy benefits for qualifying Australian Defence Force (ADF) veterans, serving members, war widows, widowers and dependents. Cover is also available to support services to the ADF and veteran community, such as welfare officers and DVA staff.

As part of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, any profits made by DSHI are retained by DVA and used to improve the services and benefits provided to veterans.

A P T
IMITATING
(ARMY) LIFE





It's lunch time on a film set in the Gold Coast bushland. A group of actors – including *Vikings* star Travis Fimmel – are sitting around, casually chatting with Army veterans working as movie extras. The men are talking about muzzle etiquette and the correct technique for holding a rifle.



OPENING IMAGE:
First official behind the scenes look of Travis Fimmel as Major Harry Smith in *Danger Close: The Battle of Long Tan*. Photo by @jasinboland.

ABOVE: Wrap party for the *Danger Close* movie crew. Instagram photo by @nicholas.hamilton, repost by @extra-specialists.

CENTRE: Director Kriv Stenders holds the final slate for the filming of *Danger Close*. Instagram photo by @krivstenders.

RIGHT: Shoot day 22 of 40 – the set of 1st Australian Task Force base, Nui Dat. Instagram photo by @krivstenders.

QUEENSLAND'S Defence community was buzzing when it learned the movie *Danger Close* – based on the infamous Battle of Long Tan during the Vietnam War – would be filmed on the Gold Coast earlier this year. For local veterans, it presented an opportunity to help enhance the movie's authenticity – whether as an extra, a volunteer or even by loaning wartime memorabilia to the filmmakers.

Directed by Kriv Stenders and produced by Martin Walsh, John Schwarz and Michael Schwarz, the movie stars Travis Fimmel as Major Harry Smith, who commanded 105 Australian men from D Company, 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR) and three New Zealanders in a four-hour battle on August 18, 1966.

On that day, D Company found themselves trapped in a rubber plantation, under attack by an estimated 2500 battle-hardened Viet Cong (VC) troops. When it was over, 18 Australians were dead and between 245-800 Vietnamese (245 bodies were officially counted on the battlefield, however, more bodies were found after the battle and the official toll was never adjusted. VC tactics were to remove the dead from the battlefield, so no accurate counts could be made by the Allies).

Danger Close was shot over 40 days, from May 28 – July 6, in various Queensland locations, including Kingaroy, Gilston and Pimpama and is likely to be released around ANZAC Day 2019.

REAL-LIFE SOLDIERS ADD EXTRA SPECIAL TOUCH

Army veteran Lukas Woolley is involved in Extra Specialists, the organisation established by fellow veteran Shaun Barry and contracted to source real-life soldiers to play extras in the movie. Lukas pointed out numerous benefits of getting



veterans involved, including their work ethic, camaraderie, military experience and professionalism.

“Their willingness to work and the attitude with which the work was conducted made the experience very enjoyable for everyone,” Lukas said.

“The Australian Army has an inbuilt pride in our forefathers and a lot of people were involved because of the historical significance rather than to get their head on camera. It was a huge honour, even to lay a sandbag.”

Extra Specialists organised 25 former or current-serving members of 6RAR aged from 19-33 to play extras. Another 40 veterans also volunteered – helping build the set and filling 25,000 sandbags.

“Soldiers don’t seem to be very star struck by celebrities. It was a pretty relaxed environment and I think the actors enjoyed how non-celebrity the feeling was. A lot of our guys bonded well with Travis Fimmel, Luke Bracey and Lincoln Lewis,” Lukas said.

For the veterans involved, the experience gave them a sense of community similar to the Army.

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE FOR VETERANS

One of the veterans selected as an extra was 27-year-old Jack Barden, who served in the Army for four years – including a tour in Afghanistan – and was medically discharged in 2014. Leaving the Army was a tough experience for Jack, which was further amplified when his father passed away from brain cancer.

He battled substance abuse, before discovering a love of traveling that helped him out of this low point. In 2017, he spent almost six months trekking over 2600 kilometres through Norway to raise money for veterans and inspire others to overcome their injuries.

“The idea of the trek was to show that physical and mental health issues are not a setback in life – they are an opportunity for self-progression and growth,” Jack said.

Now working as a bar manager in Vancouver, Canada, Jack was visiting



ABOVE: Shoot day 23 of 40 – The *Danger Close* movie set replicating the 1st Australian Task Force Base, Nui Dat. Instagram photo by @krivstenders

RIGHT: Army veteran Jack Barden said working as an extra on the set of *Danger Close* was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Jack served in the Army for four years – including a tour in Afghanistan. He is pictured being interviewed about veterans working on the set with actors. Photo by Extra Specialists.



Australia when the opportunity to get involved in the movie came up. For him, the people and atmosphere on set were the highlight.

“It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience,” Jack explained.

“There was a lot of banter, which is really similar to what you get in the military. Everyone got along well. Even the actors would sit with you at lunch and have a good gasbag. Having that

crew around lifted up your spirits.”

As an extra, Jack spent a lot of time cleaning up after mortars were fired, running around as mortars were incoming and – he laughs – “a lot of fake smoking!”. After serving in the ADF and trekking across Norway, “Playing Army was pretty easy. We got pampered every morning by makeup girls – it was so much fun.”

“It was also great to know that the

RIGHT:
A paulownia plantation near Wooroolin, Queensland, was chosen as the location of the rubber plantation in Vietnam where the Battle of Long Tan took place. Instagram photo by @krivstenders

BELOW:
Major Harry Smith of D Company, 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR), in front of a blackboard briefing foreign press representatives on the Battle of Long Tan. (AWM: CUN/66/0709/VN)

BELOW RIGHT:
Retired Lieutenant Colonel Harry Smith SG MC, left, on ANZAC Day 2018 in Wooroolin with actor Travis Fimmel, who played him in *Danger Close*.

culture or community we had in the Army is still alive in people. I hadn't had it since I left the military. It was a breath of fresh air."

EARLY MORNINGS AND COLD RAIN – SIMILAR TO ARMY LIFE

Twenty-five-year-old Nathan Barnes took leave from the Army Pay Corps at 7th Brigade in Ennogergera to spend 14 days playing a soldier in 12 Platoon Delta Company. Prior to transferring to the Pay Corps, he spent four years in the infantry and deployed to Afghanistan in 2014.

"The Battle of Long Tan is pretty significant to Australia and the Vietnam War. I thought it would be cool to be part of it and help tell the story," said Nathan.

"When some of the Vietnam veterans that were actually in the war rocked up [on set] it was really good to listen to their stories and their interpretation. Getting to talk to them, you feel a connection. They thought we were doing a pretty good job."

As well as their military knowledge, Nathan believed the values of discipline taught in Defence made



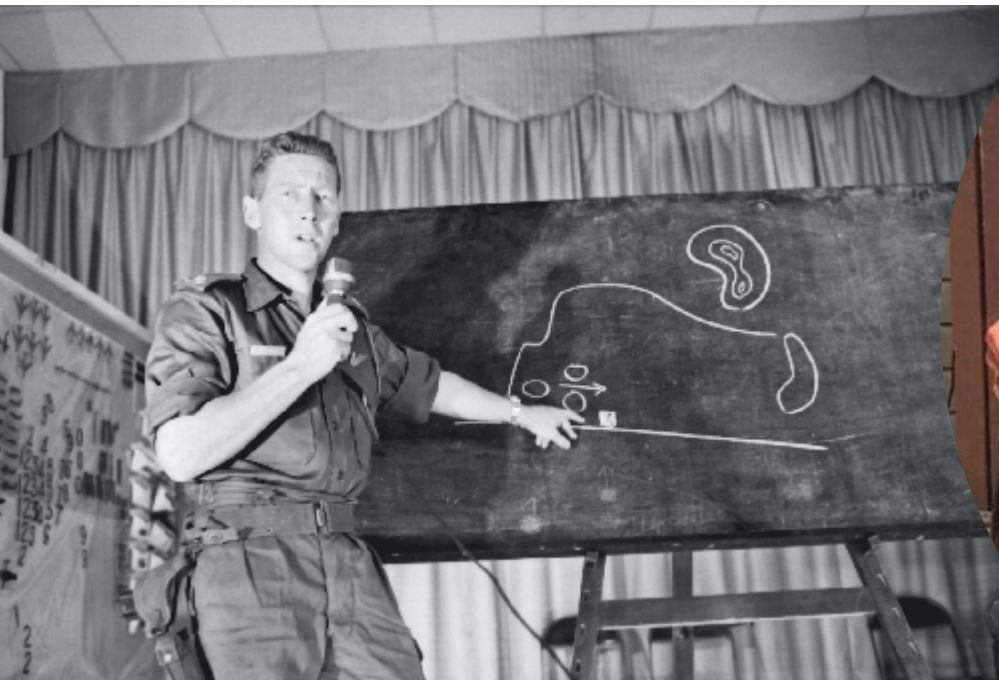
them ideal extras.

"If we got asked to do something we would just go up and do it. We wouldn't complain," he said.

The most challenging aspects were early morning shoots and getting cold during the fake rain scenes, but Nathan said it was similar to the Army and, overall, the experience was a lot of fun.

MOVIE BASED OFF BOOK BY COMMANDER

Retired Lieutenant Colonel Harry Smith SG MC – now 85 years old and living on the Sunshine Coast – was the commander of D Company, which fought in the battle. In 2005, he wrote





the book *The Battle of Long Tan: As Told by the Commanders*, on which *Danger Close* was based.

“I am very pleased the iconic battle of the Australian Vietnam War is being made into a movie for the public screen, albeit 52 years down the track,” Harry said.

“It will show the courage and determination of my soldiers. I am extremely proud of my former soldiers, over half being national servicemen, and the way in which they fought off an enemy regiment that was known by ATF HQ to have been in the area.”

Although he didn’t have a lot of involvement in the movie, Harry visited the film sets in Wooroolin and Pimpana and met Travis, who played him in the movie, and Emmy Dougall, who played Little Pattie.

Harry said the Vietnam War was an unwinnable war and a waste of life on both sides, describing his most vivid memory of the battle being “The enemy assaulting us in suicidal waves and my soldiers mowing them down, thousands of tracer bullets in the air, and most of us surviving”.

HUEY FLIES AGAIN

Caloundra RSL Sub Branch added further realism to the movie by loaning producers an original helicopter that flew in the Battle of Long Tan.

The A2 – 1022 was one of two Iroquois helicopters “Hueys” that helped evacuate casualties and resupply ammunition during the battle. The chopper was lovingly refurbished by a group of Sub Branch members and has been the centrepiece of Caloundra RSL Memorial Garden for years.

“We were delighted to assist with this project,” Caloundra Sub Branch President Pat Horgan said.

“It provided some authenticity to scenes involving close-ups of the aircraft, because it was so well restored. A number of our veterans, including two of the original aircrew at Long Tan, were also able to visit various scenes of the production.” ←



ABOVE LEFT: Long Tan and Vietnam veterans visited the *Danger Close* movie set on the Gold Coast, Queensland. Pictured are Bob Grandin (pilot at Long Tan), left, Les D’Alton, Laurie Drinkwater (Long Tan), Rick Brittain, Alan ‘Blue’ Parr (Long Tan) and Ian Atkinson. Photo by @jasinboland.

ABOVE: Members of Caloundra RSL Sub Branch visited the *Danger Close* movie set (back L-R) Bill Wigggett, Richard Marman, Warren Duff, Quentin McCutcheon, Trevor Smith and Max Baxter and (front L-R) Isabelle Wigggett (Bill’s wife) and Cathy Stamp (Assistant Sub Branch Secretary).

LEFT: Caloundra RSL Sub Branch added further realism to the movie by loaning producers the A2 – 1022, one of two Iroquois helicopters “Hueys” that flew in the Battle of Long Tan.



A NEW HOME FOR THE LONG TAN CROSS

The Long Tan Cross has been moved to its new permanent position in the Vietnam Gallery of the Australian War Memorial (AWM), which reopened to the public on Friday, August 17.

 +  Australian War Memorial

ABOVE: The Long Tan Cross was returned to Australia in November 2017 and unveiled on December 6, 2017 at the Australian War Memorial's Captain Reg Saunders Gallery in an official ceremony attended by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. The cross has now been moved to its permanent position in the AWM's Vietnam Gallery.

THE new home for the cross is a space dedicated to reflection and remembrance, and features a short film to tell the story of its journey from a simple monument to a powerful symbol.

The battle of Long Tan was fought on August 18, 1966. A total of 105 men from D Company, 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR) and three New Zealanders from an artillery forward observation party from New Zealand's 161 Field Battery, encountered a force of more than 2000 Viet Cong soldiers.

During the battle, 17 Australians

were killed and a further 25 were wounded, one of who later died of wounds. This was the highest number of Australian casualties incurred in any one engagement of the Vietnam War. The losses on the Vietnamese side were at least 245 dead, an estimated 350 wounded and three captured.

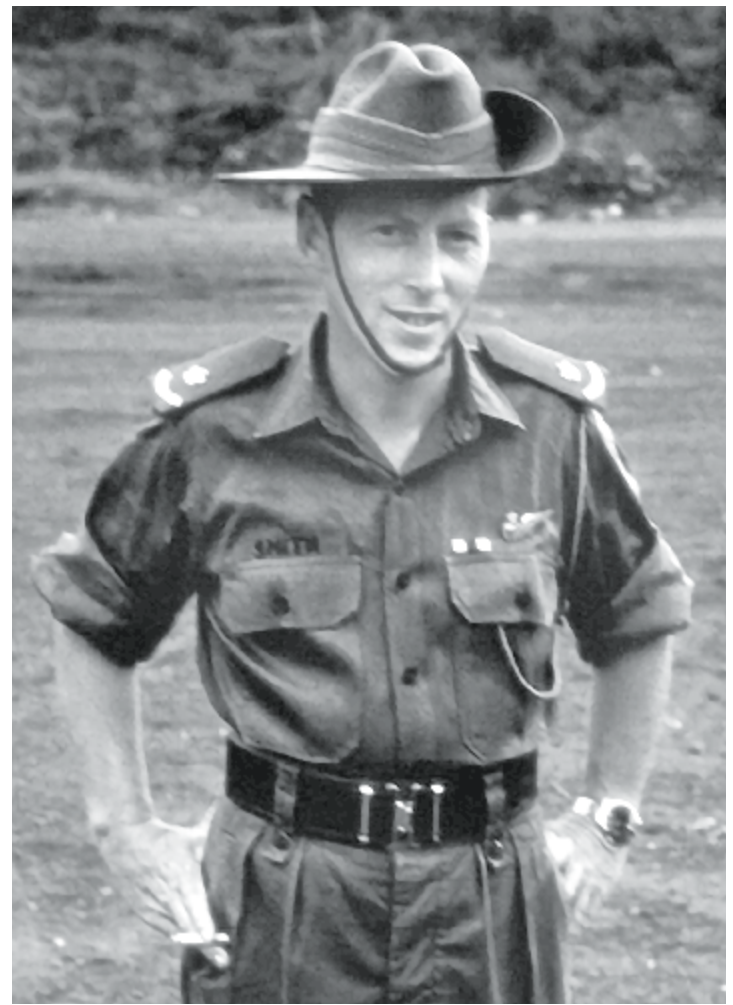
Erected almost 50 years ago by members of 6RAR in memory of those who died during the battle of Long Tan, the cross was recently gifted to Australia by the Vietnamese government.

For retired Lieutenant Colonel Harry Smith SG MC, who was the commander of D Company, which

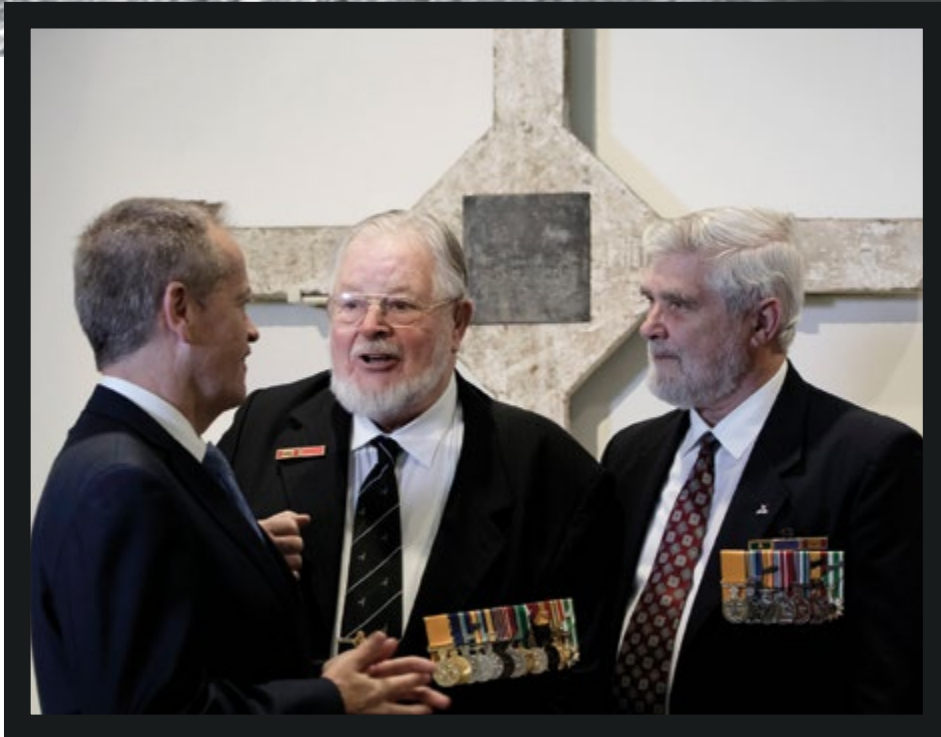
fought in the battle, the news of the Long Tan cross being brought back to Australia couldn't have been more welcome.

"I've always said that's where I think it should be... It was wonderful when it was here in 2012 [on loan]. Now it's here permanently, that's absolutely outstanding," Smith said.

The AWM marked the 52nd anniversary of the battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Veterans' Day in August, with a program of moving tributes honouring the 60,000 Australian men and women who served our nation throughout the Vietnam War. ←



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The original memorial dedication service was held in Vietnam on August 18, 1969 on the site of the battle of Long Tan (AWM: P04665.815); Major Harry Smith after being awarded an MC for his actions during the battle of Long Tan (AWM: P02354.003); The cross was flown into the site by helicopter (AWM: P04665.785); Leader of the Opposition Bill Shorten speaks with Long Tan veterans Adrian Roberts, centre, and Dave Sabben at the unveiling of the cross in December – Long Tan veteran Peter Dinham was also at the unveiling.



EXERCISE DIAMOND

STRIKE

Queensland RSL News editor Matilda Dray was given the rare opportunity to join 7th Combat Brigade in action during Exercise Diamond Strike at Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area near Rockhampton. It provided her with a glimpse of the strength and tenacity required of Australian soldiers.

WORK



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AUSTRALIA
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JOHN PARKER
PARADE



ABOVE: Australian Army soldiers take notes as they are given a safety brief prior to a live fire event at Shoalwater Bay during Exercise Diamond Strike 2018.

RIGHT: Australian soldier Gunner Ryan Keam, right, fires an M777 lightweight towed howitzer.

HAVE you ever seen an anti-tank missile in close range? As a civilian, it wasn't something I had ever been privy to.

That changed on May 31, when I participated in the first overnight immersion exercise offered by the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

I was one of 25 representatives from 10 organisations that support the ADF, including Mates4Mates, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation and Defence Force Recruiting. It was a great opportunity to understand what life is like for our Defence personnel and why our help is important.

My experience over the 24 hours reaffirmed that while the Army life is certainly not for me, I have great respect for what they do. Many soldiers had been sleeping on the ground at Shoalwater Bay for at least three weeks and hadn't showered or spoken to their families.



During our stay, we were escorted by Brigadier Anthony Rawlins, Commander 7th Combat Brigade, Lieutenant Natalie Huntsman, Liaison Officer to Commander 7th Combat Brigade and other representatives from the brigade, who acted as drivers and subject matter experts.

Brigadier Rawlins began by thanking

our organisations for their support.

"The work you do in all of the respective fields sustains not only the soldiers in the field, but their families. Which is very important. Without a solid baseline unit – being the family unit – there really is no military capability," Brigadier Rawlins said.

He explained that 7th Brigade was



“THE WORK YOU DO IN ALL OF THE RESPECTIVE FIELDS SUSTAINS NOT ONLY THE SOLDIERS IN THE FIELD, BUT THEIR FAMILIES. WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT. WITHOUT A SOLID BASELINE UNIT – BEING THE FAMILY UNIT – THERE REALLY IS NO MILITARY CAPABILITY.”

currently in the readying phase of the force generation cycle, with the first contingent recently deployed to Iraq. Exercise Diamond Strike was preparation for Exercise Hamel 18, the brigade’s major certification event.

“It’s in conventional war fighting, so it’s not the sort of stuff you do overseas in Iraq or Afghanistan. It’s if we went to a place like North Korea, the South China Sea or Ukraine, where we are up against a conventional enemy who

has similar or overmatched capabilities against us,” Brigadier Rawlins said.

Being a live fire exercise, safety was paramount – both for us and the soldiers participating in the training exercise. Brigadier Rawlins reminded us that last year an Australian soldier, 21-year-old Stuart Redden, was killed by a falling free branch in a freak accident as he drove along in an armoured vehicle.

Brigadier Rawlins praised his brigade

on multiple occasions and highlighted the value of employing ex-Defence members.

“The reality is, this is a pretty amazing workforce; that I am certainly proud of, and the whole organisation is proud of. If they come out of service and they’re looking to work with your organisation, snaffle them up. You’re definitely going to get more than the average sort of a worker,” Brigadier Rawlins said.

ABOVE: United States Marine Corp snipers watch for targets along with an Australian Army M1 Abrams Tank.

BELOW:
Australian soldier
Gunner Claudia
West fires an
M777 lightweight
towed howitzer.

RIGHT (L-R):
Twenty-five
representatives
from 10
organisations that
support the ADF
participated in
the first overnight
immersion
exercise offered
by the ADF on
May 31; Brigadier
Anthony Rawlins
escorted the
group during
their stay; The
group was driven
around the
military training
area in Protected
Mobility Vehicles.

According to the ADF, a heavy focus of Exercise Diamond Strike for 2018 was technological advancement. This included using digitisation to improve situational awareness, speed of decision and rates of execution, particularly in a contested electromagnetic spectrum environment. This was also the first time 7th Combat Brigade had used its M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks during combined arms training and live fire.

The 7th Brigade was also supported by a company of United States Marines, who demonstrated the anti-tank missile known as a Javelin, which costs \$1.2 million to shoot.

The sun had just started to rise over the bushland as a group of us gathered on top of a hill to watch the live fire exercise. We were instructed to put on double ear protection, but, as you

can imagine, the sound of the Javelin connecting with its target was still discernible through our ear muffs and the reverberations rocked our bodies and echoed around the surrounding hills.

The night before, we had slept on stretchers in a makeshift city constructed from shipping containers for urban warfare training. Brigadier Rawlins and the other soldiers slept on the ground outside next to the trucks



– trained to always be at the ready in case of an enemy attack.

We opened our rat packs (as I learned they're called) and one of the soldiers gave us an entertaining lesson on the tastiest items in the packs (the jam biscuits), those we should try to exchange (tinned cheese) and innovative recipe ideas for getting gourmet in our camp kitchen.

I use the word 'kitchen' loosely, as we sat on the bare ground to prepare

our food – surely to enhance the authenticity of the experience. It may not be particularly gourmet, but I can attest to the fact that if you heat up a packet of savoury mince and top it with instant mashed potato and tomato ketchup it does make a fairly decent shepherd's pie.

At 3:30am, a soldier yelling the word "Reveille" woke us from our slumber.

The Reveille is a signal, historically signalled by a drum or bugle, sounded

early in the morning to awaken military personnel and alert them for assembly.

There was no pressing the snooze button allowed that morning! We were given 15 minutes to jump out of bed, pack up our gear and form up beside the Protected Mobility Vehicles (PMV).

After quickly eating some breakfast from our rat packs (I chose muesli, powdered milk and water), we climbed into the PMVs. For the next nine or so hours we were driven around the training area to watch and talk to soldiers operating a range of military equipment from small arms to armoured vehicles, in a realistic warfighting environment. We climbed on tanks, met US Marines, scrambled into bunkers, learnt about explosives and watched artillery teams prep for training exercises.

It was both interesting and eye opening, and an experience few people outside the military get to observe in a first-hand capacity. ←

“A HEAVY FOCUS OF EXERCISE DIAMOND STRIKE FOR 2018 WAS TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT. THIS INCLUDED USING DIGITISATION TO IMPROVE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, SPEED OF DECISION AND RATES OF EXECUTION, PARTICULARLY IN A CONTESTED ELECTRO-MAGNETIC SPECTRUM ENVIRONMENT.”



WHAT'S IN A RAT PACK?

Have you ever wondered what is in an Army ration pack these days? It is vastly different from the Diggers' days of bully beef and hard tack biscuits. Now, the packs are carefully curated to provide soldiers with a balanced and reasonably tasty assortment of food. One pack is designed to be eaten over a 24-hour period, although soldiers say it usually lasts longer. Apparently, Australia's rat pack contains more treats than those from most other countries.

“IT MAY NOT BE PARTICULARLY GOURMET, BUT I CAN ATTEST TO THE FACT THAT IF YOU HEAT UP A PACKET OF SAVOURY MINCE AND TOP IT WITH INSTANT MASHED POTATO AND TOMATO KETCHUP IT DOES MAKE A FAIRLY DECENT SHEPHERD’S PIE.”







AWAKENING

A BETTER SENSE OF SELF IN TIMOR



The long-term effects of a thrilling career in the Australian Army, including the Special Air Service Regiment, have had a hold on Wayne Douglas, but through Timor Awakening, a renewal and rehabilitation program for veterans, he found a new perspective on life.

 Kylie Hatfield

 Veterans Care Association
and Michelle Dupont

HAVING been around the military all his life, it was somewhat inevitable that Wayne Douglas would enlist in the Australian Army. After serving for nine years, Wayne took a five-year break before going back into the Army, with his career spanning infantry, military intelligence and, eventually, the Commandos and the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS).

Serving in military operations in East Timor and Somalia, as well as a number of peacekeeping missions and other deployments, Wayne thrived in the military environment and found the SAS suited him well.

“The SAS was very good. It is very outcome-focused; it’s not as structured as the regular Army. You pretty much hit the ground and have to make it work with your own resources,” Wayne said.

“It suited me a lot more and allowed me to do things that I would never have been capable of doing in the regular Army.”

During his brief deployment to East Timor with the SAS in 1999, Wayne worked ahead of the Army’s arrival to undertake intelligence work. But his experience was beyond what he could have imagined.

“I found myself out in remote areas working with rebel groups and doing a whole lot of functions that I guess no-one had pre-thought we would be doing,” Wayne said.

“I enjoyed being operational with the SAS and the responsibility that was given to me.”

But Wayne was not immune to the challenges often faced by those who see active service, with the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) having an impact on all areas of his life.

“There were problems; I just didn’t know it was PTSD. To me I just thought I was overworked, stressed from the pace of operations and so on,” Wayne said. “In the end, when I was able to, I took long service leave to try and deal with the problem, and never went back.

OPENING IMAGE:
Timor Awakening forges lasting relationships between Australian and Timorese veterans.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
Timor Awakening shows veterans how the Timorese people have not only dealt with their situation, but have prospered; Veterans on Timor Awakening are welcomed as guests of honour at villages they visit...; and embraced as friends; Wayne’s son Scott Douglas arriving at Dili airport for last year’s Timor Awakening.



“But it took a number of years before I started to realise that the common factor in the issues was me. Other people probably knew, but it was a while before I recognised that in myself.”

Wayne discharged in 2002 and worked in the corporate sector in the Middle East and in Australia, with staff into the thousands under his management. Despite securing and succeeding in executive-level roles, the demons of his past experiences were never far away.

“I got very good jobs, but keeping them was the problem. Eventually the symptoms of PTSD would take its toll on relationships,” Wayne said.

“Signs of PTSD are not as evident in

the military as they are in the civilian workplace. If you started showing the same characteristics in the workplace as you did in the military, you’d be in HR and out on the street so quick you wouldn’t have time to blink.”

Wayne retired in 2012 and, having settled in Brisbane with his wife and young family, began the process of dealing with his PTSD.

“Having PTSD is like having a crack in your soul. You tend to hang on to things, you’re unbalanced in the way you conduct yourself and you’re less able to see the other side of things,” Wayne said.

“While inside you’re dealing with the problems that put you there, the effect it has on your work and personal





TIMOR AWAKENING

Program Director Michael Stone is accepting expressions of interest for upcoming Timor Awakening experiences. Visit www.timorawakening.com to view photos, videos and testimonials, and download the Expression of Interest form.

relationships is like kryptonite. And you don't want to talk to anybody about it; your family know only too well, but you think they're wrong.

"But when you come to terms with the fact that you've got PTSD, then you can start to do things to make it better."

Wayne connected with RSL Sub Branches and Mates4Mates and participated in several programs aimed at dealing with PTSD, with the aim of building structure in his life after he left the workforce. Through these programs, he was introduced to the Timor Awakening experience, where he found the change he was looking for.

A veteran wellbeing program supported by RSL Queensland, Timor Awakening takes veterans of any era on a tour through what is now Timor Leste to experience how the people and the country have rehabilitated and reflect on their own journeys. Facilitated by Veterans Care Association, veterans who participate in the program are supported before, during and after the adventure.

"Timor Awakening was really the

ABOVE:
Michael Stone recounting history in Bazartete during the October 2017 Timor Awakening.

RIGHT:
"...if we look at what other people have dealt with and are now happy and smiling, it does have an effect on you."

best of all the programs I participated in. It was multi-layered; I got the physical activity with walking on the tour, there was the psychological support with counsellors there with us and it has a spiritual thread through it," Wayne said.

Having the opportunity to return to where he served and see how the Timorese people have not only dealt with their situation but have prospered, has had a significant impact on Wayne and filled him with a sense of pride for the contribution he made almost 20 years ago.

"It's just incredible what they've done in the amount of time. They've got a really good relationship with the Indonesians, who they've just forgiven. It's incredible, they have just gotten on with life.

"It has had an enduring effect on me. You realise just how insignificant your problems are. We get so wound up with first world things, we tend to think we've got some big problems, but if we look at what other people have dealt with and are now happy and smiling, it does have an effect on you.

"More than that though, I felt more

welcome, more appreciated for my service there than I ever have. I've never felt that sense of pride in my job like I did over there in Timor Leste."

But it is the relationships built during the experience that Wayne credits as the difference in the success of this program.

"While you're in the military, you've got this family unit, but when you leave, you're a fractured lot of individuals. Programs like Timor Awakening bring you in with a whole group of people, where you create a bond," Wayne said.

"It's ongoing; we get together, before the next program departs we all catch up, meet the new group of veterans





CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:
Participants were treated to a traditional welcome at the village of Betano; A group therapy session at the October 2017 Timor Awakening; Scott and Wayne Douglas with Timorese Veteran Brigadier Maunana; A Betano villager greets participants with the flag of Timor Leste.





VETERANS CARE ASSOCIATION

Veterans Care Association was founded by RSL life member, Chaplain Gary Stone, to empower veterans to support other veterans and their families. Giving practical, direct support to wounded, injured and ill veterans, Veterans Care Association connects veterans to complementary health services and supports their journey to good health and vitality. The Veterans Care pastoral team are all veterans and RSL members. With a vision to raise the level of holistic health and wellbeing in the wider veteran community, Veterans Care Association aims to achieve this through providing pastoral care and holistic health education. Find out more about Veterans Care Association at www.veteranscare.com.au

going on the tour and find out what has been happening over there.

“And it’s that knit of relationships that actually supports you when you go through hard times.”

Wayne participated in two Timor Awakening programs in 2017, one being a special tour for Commandos, and he credits these experiences with strengthening his relationships with his family.

“I’ve got an adult son, Scott, who was in Infantry and did two tours of Afghanistan. Scott joined me on the second Timor Awakening last year, and the experience fostered a bond between Scott and I that we didn’t have before.

“Your wife and your family suffer with the symptoms of PTSD along with you. You can’t tackle it on your own; you have to tackle it with the people around you as well.”

This is a sentiment Wayne’s wife Anna knows all too well. Having met Wayne in 2008, Anna wasn’t aware of his military experiences or initial stages of PTSD, but has been by Wayne’s side throughout his journey to heal.

“I spend most of my time as his

carer, looking at ways to help him manage his PTSD so he can integrate into the family as a father and husband to the best of his ability,” Anna said.

“One of the main differences for me, since he came back from Timor Awakening, is that his willingness to integrate into the family and contribute to family life has definitely been enhanced. Their ability to connect to their family is stronger because they come back grateful for the experience, after they’ve seen what has happened to these other people.”

Managing the household with three young children, Anna, like Wayne, found the support around the tour to be of great comfort.

“I got a phone call while Wayne was away. The person up there told me what was happening and how Wayne was going; not any detail, but just to touch base. There were photo updates on Facebook groups with what was happening each day and we could track their journey with a GPS tracker. And then we all meet afterwards to welcome them back,” Anna explained.

“The kids could see exactly what dad was doing and we could integrate the

whole family into the experience in a way, even though we didn’t go.”

Since participating in Timor Awakening, Wayne is managing his PTSD, feels more settled and has found his relationships are benefiting from his new-found perspective.

“I’ve still got PTSD; it still creates issues for me,” Wayne said. “But if I can make the relationships with my family and my friends and other people work better, then my life is happier for it.” ←

ABOVE: “Programs like Timor Awakening bring you in with a whole group of people, where you create a bond.”

RSL Queensland Veteran Services Officer Xanthe, left, and Wellbeing Coordinator Kathleen are helping provide support to veterans in need.



TACKLING VETER

HOMELESSN

A partnership between RSL Queensland and The Salvation Army is providing safe, stable accommodation for Queensland's homeless veterans.

✍ Anita Jaensch and Matilda Dray

ONE of the most fundamental needs we have is for a roof over our heads, but, sadly, some veterans are lacking just that. With some estimates indicating there are approximately 400 homeless veterans statewide, RSL Queensland joined forces with The Salvation Army Queensland to make sure Queensland's veterans have somewhere safe to call home.

Since launching in late 2017, the partnership has helped 94 veterans find secure, stable accommodation.

RSL Queensland State Secretary and General Manager Operations Scott Denner said the partnership allowed RSL Queensland to provide the best possible assistance to veterans in need.

"Sometimes the best way to help our Defence family is to work with an organisation that is an expert in providing complementary services – in this case, The Salvation Army," Scott said. "But stable accommodation is only part of the solution. By combining our experience and expertise with that of The Salvation Army, we can tailor solutions to each veteran's unique circumstances and focus on overcoming the root causes that have led to them becoming homeless."

To that end, RSL Queensland has adopted a case management approach, linking veterans with medical, financial and other assistance to get their lives back on track. It supports homeless veterans with up to four weeks of emergency accommodation in suitable premises, payment of the bond on new rental accommodation, help with buying clothing and other essential items, and payment of immediate medical expenses, including primary dental care.

The program isn't limited to veterans living rough on the streets. It also aims to reach veterans who do not have

access to stable, secure accommodation or who are moving between short-term lodging options.

"They may be couch surfing or living in their car, staying with family, or living somewhere unsuitable like a squat or illegal campsite," Scott said. "And while our initial focus is on finding veterans a home, we also want to help them create stability and an environment where they can thrive, not just survive."

The Salvation Army Operations Manager, Accommodation and Housing Services Queensland, Chris Deighton, said homelessness can be a complex issue stemming from multiple factors.

"The lack of affordable and appropriate housing, coupled with multiple presenting issues, can spiral towards homelessness for many people," Chris explains. "Despite this, when appropriate supports are positioned alongside the person's journey, opportunities present themselves for people to thrive in life."

"People come with their own lived experience, skills and abilities and sometimes just need the space to explore what works best for them and to re-engage or learn new skills. Multi-agency support, such as the RSL and Salvo's partnership, provides extensive expertise and opportunities specifically targeted for veterans."

Collectively, RSL Queensland and The Salvation Army Queensland have more than 230 years of providing support and assistance to those in need within the Queensland community. They also share an interest in supporting the Defence family, with Salvation Army representatives – known as "Sallymen" – supporting the Australian Defence Force at home and on overseas deployments.

Tracey's Story

As she speaks, Tracey often reaches up to touch the small golden pendant that hangs around her neck. It's obviously a keepsake that holds special significance.

After her stepfather Andy passed away last August, Tracey had a small portion of his ashes sealed inside the bullet-shaped pendant.

"Because Andy and I were in the Army, it meant something significant to us," she said. "This year, instead of working at ANZAC Day like I've done for so many years, I went to the Dawn service in town and I felt so proud, because I had him with me."

Tracey had followed her stepfather into the Army, serving for 23 years before she made the difficult decision to discharge to be closer to her three boys. Over the past three years, she took her skidsteer licence – and gained five other machinery tickets – and helped her mother nurse Andy through terminal cancer.

"They had a big property out there [Mount Tarampa]," she said. "I was also looking after 10 acres, 23 dogs, two horses, a cat, two birds... It wasn't always good, but it kept me busy."

But after Andy passed away, the situation became difficult.

"On November 5, I packed what I could in my car and I left. And after that I literally stayed in my car, lived in my car."

Tracey reached out to RSL Queensland early this year and has been working with Wellbeing Coordinator Kathleen and Veteran Services Officer Xanthe to get back on track.

"You know, if I hadn't had Kathleen and Xanthe to help me through it all, I don't know where I would have been now."

**“TRACEY REACHED
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KATHLEEN AND
VETERAN SERVICES
OFFICER XANTHE TO
GET BACK ON TRACK.”**





Kimberley's Story

Kimberley and her seven-year-old daughter were living in their car when she walked into Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch looking for assistance. The Sub Branch immediately sprang into action and put her in touch with RSL Queensland's wellbeing and homelessness programs.

"From the time that I approached those guys [the RSL] they have been amazing for both my daughter and I. They were able to get us into emergency accommodation the day that I approached them," Kimberley said.

Kimberley served in the Army for almost 10 years, before being medically discharged with a severe shoulder injury sustained while playing representative rugby league, an approved ADF sport. She had a full shoulder reconstruction, but, unfortunately, it left her with debilitating pain.

"I suffer from anxiety and depression every day, because I know what I'm capable of and I can't. I put up with the pain every day to make sure that my daughter has a mum who can go out and go to the beach – just simple things that a seven-year-old should be able to enjoy."

Kimberley was assigned a Wellbeing Officer,

Cassandra, who followed up on outstanding areas of her case plan. RSL Queensland's Wellbeing Coordinator Kathleen, who worked closely with Kimberley, said her sense of pride and determination are remarkable.

"It's not uncommon for there to be glitches in everyone's lives and this was just a short period in Kimberley's life that she was going through, and we were going to be there with her," Kathleen said.

"I think Kimberley touched so many people's hearts and everyone could see a sister or a mother or an aunty. They could relate to her and her sense of pride – a sense of pride imparted from the ADF."

The RSL helped Kimberley get back on her feet – not only with accommodation assistance, but also with food assistance, vehicle registration and a Sub Branch Advocate, who helped secure the Department of Veterans' Affairs payout she was entitled to.

Now that she has stable accommodation and financial resources, Kimberley is in a much better place to move forward and decide what her post-Defence life will look like for her and her daughter. And Kathleen has no doubt it will be a hugely successful one.

"There are people that care and that has been probably the biggest thing," Kimberley said.

**"I THINK
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QUEENSLAND DIGGER DIGITISED

The predecessor to *Queensland RSL News* has gone digital and is now available online.

✍ Simon Miller, Library Technician, Queensland Memory, the State Library of Queensland

The Queensland Digger – the magazine now known as *Queensland RSL News* – has been digitised thanks to the State Library of Queensland. It was part of the project QANZAC100: Memories for a new generation, and all 398 issues spanning 1925-1962 will be available online via the State Library's One Search catalogue.

During the years *The Queensland Digger* was the official journal of RSL Queensland, the organisation was known as the Queensland Branch of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers Imperial League of Australia

(Queensland Branch) and Allied Organisations (RSSAILA). The journal includes narratives and remembrances, Sub Branch reports, articles, and information about war pensions, housing and soldier settlements. The journal changed its title to *Vigilance* in 1962, and the RSSAILA also changed names several times before settling on Returned & Services League of Australia Limited (RSL) in 1990.

A quick look at a couple of issues will give us some idea of the range of topics covered over the years.

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6, OCTOBER 1925

This edition of *The Queensland Digger* features a cartoon on the front cover in which a soldier settler struggles to raise a crop in Beerburrum. The State President's Foreword deals with the same issue:

"The tragedy of Beerburrum is still with us. It is wrong; it is unjust; it cannot and must not be tolerated. Seven years of blighted life and effort represents the Repatriation of these, our Soldier Settlers. The failure of whatever prospect of a crop they might have had has been caused through a late frost. This is the last straw – they are on the bread line, down and out, destitute, disillusioned, and tired in mind and body."



VOLUME 20, NUMBER 6, JUNE 1944

The cover for Volume 20, number 6, June 1944, shows two soldiers wading through a swamp in New Guinea. In the feature article, though, the magazine defends service personnel in the face of a proposed Royal Commission on the problem of alcohol.

"The drink problem in Queensland to-day, which

is arousing anger in many quarters, is of considerable interest to soldiers, who are frequently targets for criticism. "Military drinking" has been especially singled out for condemnation.

To keep the record straight, it should be realised that soldiers on service in New Guinea get no liquor at all. In most camps around Brisbane the troops are rationed to two glasses of beer a day, though there is always the ingenious individual who manages to get quite a number of chits from his non-drinking mates. Most of the pitiful tales about young soldiers who slid down the abyss to eternal damnation because of a wet canteen are plain balderdash. These men would probably have slid the same way even more rapidly if they had not been in the Army and under discipline in their drinking and other habits."



READ OLD ISSUES ONLINE

Visit <http://onesearch.slq.qld.gov.au> and search *The Queensland Digger* to read currently available issues. Over time, all 398 issues spanning 1925-1962 will be available.

MATES 4 MATES

Issue 04. 2018

Magazine.



*The power
of mateship:*
Australia's Greatest
Mate 2018

Social Connection

Tailoring programs
across our Family
Recovery Centres

Tassie Adventure Challenge

Expressions of
Interest now open!

Photo: Mates trek across Maria
Island as part of the Tassie Adventure

Troy Watson CEO's Message

We are fast approaching the tail end of 2018 and with it comes a renewed sense of confidence in the part Mates4Mates

plays for our veteran community and their families. Looking to the future of Mates4Mates, the next six months is going to be an important milestone in our journey.

July saw the successful launch of our inaugural awareness campaign, Australia's Greatest Mate (read more about it on pages 4-5) which achieved a reach that spanned from Broome to Hobart, Perth to Darwin and everywhere in between. Mateship takes on many different forms and the nominations we received have highlighted the importance of friends and family relationships, and the vital role they play in the support we offer to our Mates and their families.

Corporate partners with a social conscience and a drive to further support the veteran community are highly regarded by myself and I hold the importance of collaboration close to my heart. Invictus Games Sydney is a partnership where our ethos aligns so perfectly and hence Mates4Mates will be supporting the Invictus Games 2018 as a Social Support partner and a Community Support Partner.

I would also like to personally acknowledge the many RSL Sub Branches throughout Queensland and Australia for their ongoing and generous support to our programs and services. Through our founding partner, RSL Queensland, we have forged great working relationships with many of these Sub Branches and it is integral for us to be accessible to injured veterans and their families where ever they may live. RSL Sub Branches throughout the country are a touchpoint for many Mates and potential Mates.

A special thanks to all of the RSL Sub Branches who have shown recent support through donations. We also welcome the opportunity to build new relationships with Sub Branches so please get in touch with us.



Troy

Rehabilitation Adventure Challenges

As part of our Rehabilitation Adventure Challenges we offer a number of multi-adventure activities that include Hiking, Cycling and Kayaking. Expressions of Interest (EOI) for eligible Mates and family members are now open for our 8-14 December Tassie Adventure trip.

EOIs close: 14 September 2018

Visit mates4mates.org to download the forms and apply today!



RETURNED & SERVICES
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
EST. 1915

Mates4Mates supports current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members, and their families, who are wounded, injured or ill as a result of their service. We are an initiative established by RSL Queensland.

If you would like to contribute to our magazine please contact the Mates4Mates Partnerships and Engagement team via marketing@mates4mates.org or call **1300 462 837**.

The Importance of Social Connection

Written by: Ayla Manicaros

When we think of support services for veterans and families, the spotlight is often placed on psychological and physical rehabilitation services.

When we sat down with our Family Recovery Centre (FRC) Managers to unpack how Mates4Mates utilises social connection, it became apparent that developing an effective weekly timetable of social connection activities requires FRC's to tailor programs: there really isn't a one-size-fits-all model. It is this individualised and methodical approach to gathering feedback from Mates and families, developing strong grassroots plans and implementing engaging programs that has resulted in over 5,000 social connections across Australia from January to July 2018.



[The most important aspect] was feeling that they had a safe and secure place to come, be valued and welcomed.

Stephen Knox

Stephen Knox, the Tasmania Manager, talks about their processes for developing social connection activities, "We want to be responsive. Whenever a Mate comes up with an idea, we discuss it as a team, [look at] the logistics and resources required and then we try and produce that." The Hobart FRC sought feedback from members 18 months ago in an effort to find out what they valued, what meant most to them and what the barriers for engagement were. Feedback called for simple, regular and repeatable social connection activities which is now the model used to host

'Toastie Tuesday and Thursday's' at the Centre and a number of outreach coffee and barbeque catch ups.

In Townsville, Manager Denis Devantier explains that the scope of activities for them is vast, ranging from centre-based barbeques through to external activities like "Mini Mates" and ongoing school holiday programs. He points out that within their region, the nine-to-five work week puts a strain on families being able to access social connection, which forms the basis of curating engaging school holiday programs for the whole family to enjoy.

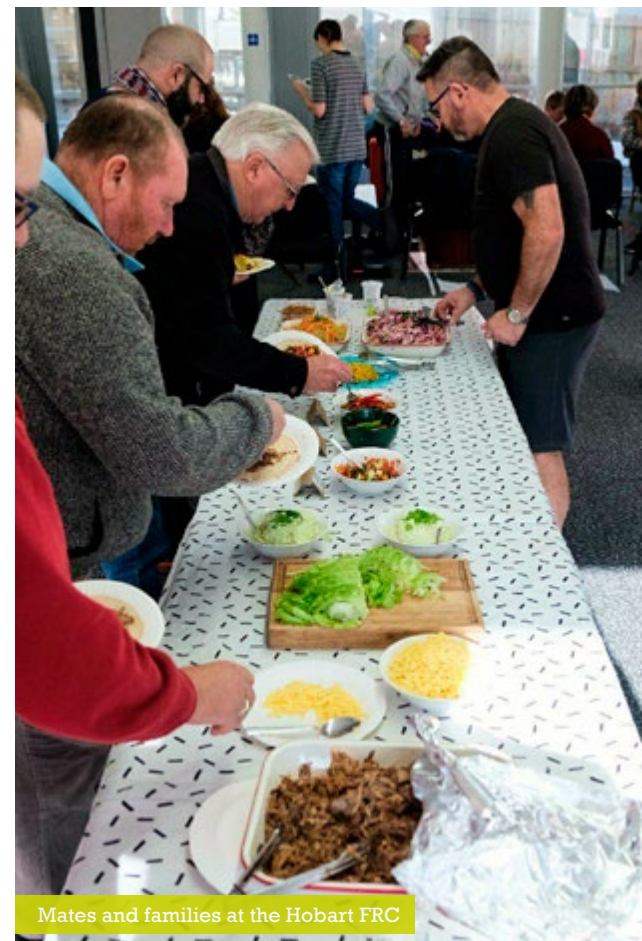
Marc Diplock, Brisbane and surrounds Manager, echoes this focus on evolving programs to include a greater focus on family engagement, "[it is] just as important to engage with the family as it is with the veteran". Marc notes that the Brisbane FRC has developed a strategy around timetabling activities to roll one into the next. This opens the door for Mates and families to try something new and connect with members who have different interests. An effective example is their Friday morning PT sessions, followed by a community breakfast and a mid-morning group bike ride that is adjusted for all ability levels.

With many Queensland and Tasmanian Mates and families living far from our Brisbane, Townsville and Hobart FRC's, Mates4Mates have developed an Outreach model to implement social connection in the wider communities. Give us a call on 1300 462 837 to find out more today.



The school holiday activities are massive. Family engagement is the main reason why we got them up and running [and] why so much effort goes into keeping these activities fresh and interesting.

Denis Devantier



Mates and families at the Hobart FRC

Mateship

Australia's Greatest Mate wrap up

By: Jaclyn Puglisi

July saw the launch of our inaugural search for Australia's Greatest Mate, to find and identify the greatest mate across four categories. As a nation, Australia truly embodies mateship in everyday life transactions. The response was overwhelming and the nominations were extraordinary. This demonstrated the true power of mateship and how it plays an integral role in what we do at Mates4Mates.

We reached the furthest points of the country, right through the centre, over to the west and back through to the major cities, raising awareness and support for Mates4Mates and what we do to support Australian veterans and their families.

We could not have achieved this without our corporate supporters donating prizes, and lending a hand to the campaign, sharing far and wide with their networks.

APN Outdoor provided digital billboard spaces across Queensland and ARN 97.3 had us on radio throughout July.



One of our major sponsors, APN, provided digital advertising throughout Queensland

Thanks to our sponsors:





"Ten weeks ago, my husband saved my life. I suffered a stroke and [he] recognised the stroke... I don't know what I would [do] without him."

Nominee, TAS



"My brother has been my idol since I was a child and if it wasn't for him helping me get through hard times and always having my back and being my best mate, I don't know where I would be today."

Nominee, QLD



"My mate is compassionate, understanding, patient and always makes me see the positives in life."

Nominee, WA



"From a simple support when you're feeling down, to knowledge sharing and watching your back when you're sleeping on the side of a remote highway for a project, he's always there."

Nominee, NSW

Backing our campaign was a stellar line-up of Ambassadors and now, great mates of ours. Our Ambassadors went above and beyond to amplify the campaign and helped us to reach different audiences and gain new supporters and followers.

Craig Lowndes OAM, helped us launch the campaign with a community BBQ along with his nominee for Australia's Greatest Mate, his wife Lara Lowndes.



I am in awe of the responsibility undertaken by servicemen and women within the Defence Force and the difficulties some face when they transition back into civilian life, so I was really proud to join Mates4Mates in launching "Australia's Greatest Mate" in 2018.

Craig Lowndes OAM
Australian Supercar Legend



Thanks to our Ambassadors

Jessica Smith



Liam Wright

Angus Scott-Young

Tara Pitt



El Roland



Jack Wilson

Stay tuned!

Winners across the four categories will be announced in the next edition of the Mates4Mates Magazine.



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Visit: www.mates4mates.org

Dr Harry Cooper OAM



Meet a Mate

By Ayla Manicaros

Matt Payne



Matthew was just 19 when he was crushed by two, two-tonne fuel bladders whilst working on a landing craft in East Timor in 1999.

Despite this initial injury, Matt went on to dedicate 18 years of his life to the Australian Defence Force, six years as a Marine Specialist in the Army and twelve years in the Navy as a Marine Technician before being medically discharged in 2017. In the face of his extensive physical injuries, adjustment disorder and depression, Matthew has drawn inspiration from, in his words “the true role models” in veteran athletes who represent Australia.

“

I felt human. I felt like I was me again.

— Matt Payne

Matthew was shortlisted for the 2017 Invictus Games, represented Australia in the 2018 Warrior Games in Colorado Springs and will again be representing Australia at this year's Invictus Games in Sydney. In 2016, when his pain levels were at their worst, exercise was almost impossible, Matthew found himself turning to alcohol as a coping mechanism. It wasn't until one of his Rehabilitation Managers prompted him to apply for the Australian Invictus Games Team that he found a focus and a turning point.

At the selection camp for the 2018 Invictus Games Matthew revelled in the

atmosphere surrounded by prominent sporting legends like Peter Rudland, Gary Wilson and Garry Robinson, “It made me think, ‘what’s my excuse?’. Seeing what they’re doing and what they’ve gone through really made it hit home that I should give it more of a crack and try harder.”

His proudest moment to date was in June this year at the Warrior Games when Three-star Lieutenant General and organiser of the Games, Gina M. Grosso personally commemorated Matthew for his dedication to sport at the Games' Closing Ceremony. “When I was over there I became who I used to be. Before my injuries affected me. I was outgoing, friendly, cheerful, encouraging and supportive. I felt human. I felt like I was me again, and for her to actually recognise the person I was... It made me look back on the years I've been affected by my injuries and mental health and it made me think ‘I wonder what I could've been if I was never injured’.”

Matthew continues to train for Invictus in October, supported lovingly by his wife and three kids and says dedicated family, friends and team mates have been integral to his journey, “it makes me want to try better. To become that person I once was.”

Remembering

The Battle of Crete

By Andreas Leonakis & Ayla Manicaros



Main stream circles may not know of the events of 20 May 1941 or the story of The Battle of Crete, let alone the “incredible bond” and everlasting relationship that was formed between the ANZAC, Greek and Cretan people. But one man, Andreas Leonakis, is determined to continue the memory of these groups through education and underlying this, honour his father who fought as a 16 year old patriot in the conflict 77 years ago.

The Battle of Crete was an important historical event that helped change the course of the war and has had a direct bearing on the freedoms we enjoy today.

Andreas has recently completed his third annual journey from Brisbane, Queensland, along the New South Wales border to Wallangarra and back, totalling 600 kilometres in the name of keeping the Cretan history alive. For the third year in a row, Andreas has integrated a fundraising aspect into this monumental journey helping to raise funds for injured veterans and their families. Since his departure on 21 May Andreas has raised over \$6,200 for Mates4Mates.

Andreas has expressed that in 2021, on the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete, he will be walking the length of Crete, in Greece.

Townsville Pop-Up Cafe

Written by: Jaclyn Puglisi



Peter Castle was medically discharged after 20 years of service in the Australian Army as a Corp Caterer. He struggled to make the transition from a high tempo military environment to civilian life and had only been discharged for a few months when he came on board to set up a Pop-Up Café at the Townsville FRC.

Holly Higgins, Townsville FRC Liaison Officer, helped to get the idea off the ground as she could see the potential right in front of her. “I believed in the idea of having a social space where people could come and be together, with free coffee, low cost quality food, all working together to help bring people together,” said Holly.

“It was exciting to give Mates a way to give back [to Mates4Mates], to help out and to build on our community here at the Centre,” she added.

“

There’s a real sense of belonging and mateship amongst the team which is what the café is all about.

Peter Castle

The café space enables Mates to work and help out for 8 weeks, in whatever capacity they feel confident in doing. “I’m glad I took this challenge on as there have been other Mates, who like myself, were [sitting] at home feeling like they had lost their purpose,” said Peter. “The environment [Mates4Mates] has been great to [help me] get back into what I love doing. I’ve also passed on new skills to other Mates who hadn’t done anything like this before. There’s a real sense of belonging and mateship amongst the team which is what the café is all about,” Peter added.



Mates left to right: Ramon Fenton, David Sterritt and Peter Castle



Mate, Peter Castle



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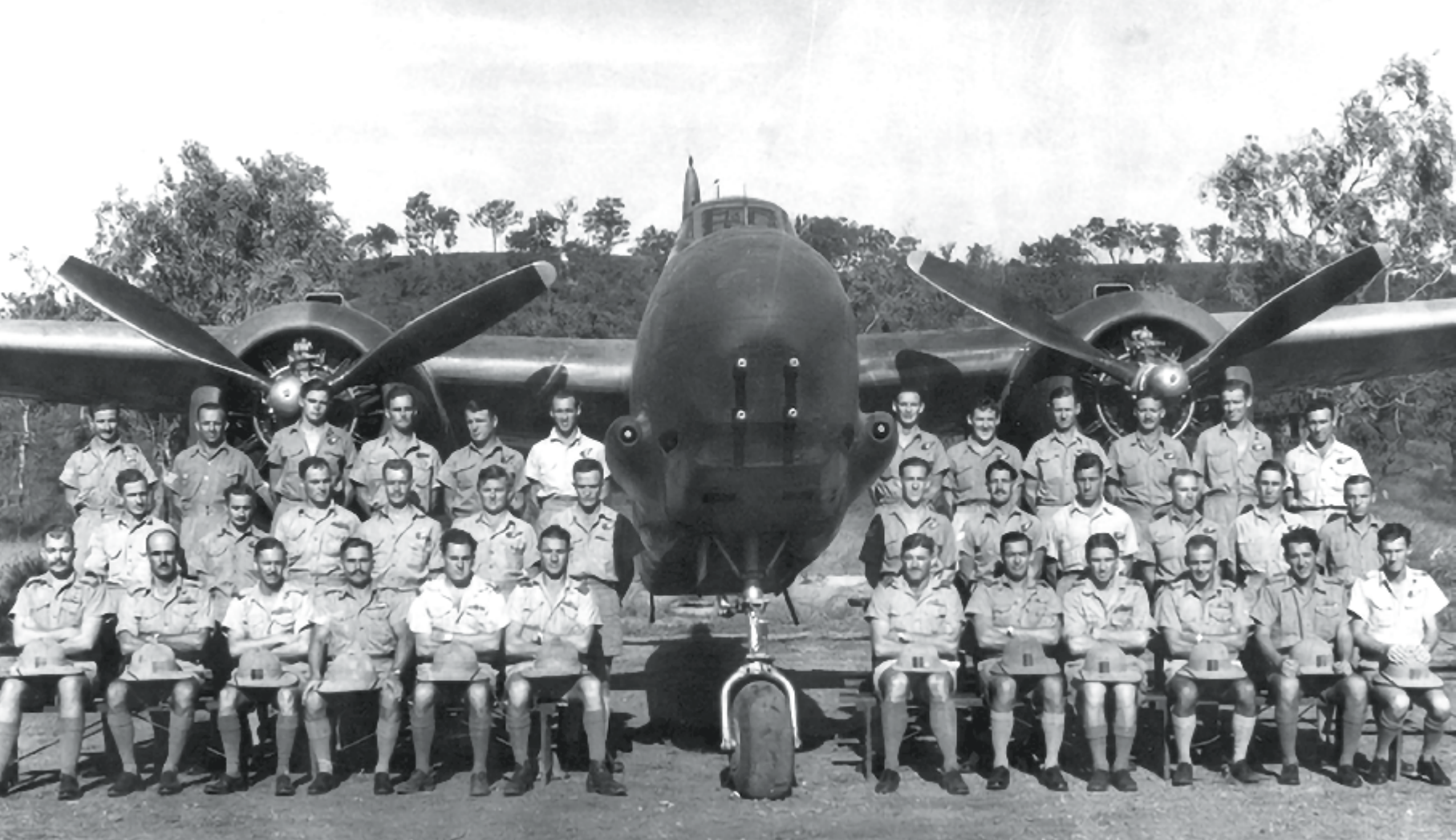
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Visit: www.mates4mates.org



THE EXPERIENCE OF ONE BLUE ORCHID

A blue orchid was a member of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) during WWII. This story is an extract from an unpublished manuscript, *The Experience of One Blue Orchid*, by AG (Tony) English.



THE original manuscript of *The Experience of One Blue Orchid* by Tony English was entrusted to my care for a period of time by Tony's nephew, Lloyd Smith. The manuscript is now held in safe custody by the English family. Tony's story has been adapted to share his personal recollection on the submarine bombing in Sydney Harbour in 1942, 76 years ago.

When Billy Hughes was Australia's Prime Minister, the Federal Government actively set out to persuade young men to join the armed services. For Tony, his military journey started in 1937 when, at the age of 17, he enlisted in the Citizen's Military Forces, colloquially known as the Militia or the Army Reserve.

At his own admission, Tony's reasons for joining the armed services were not entirely patriotic, as a pay packet of seven shillings and sixpence was indeed an incentive to get involved in the weekly parades.

Tony joined Signals, which involved one evening a week attending the Kelvin Grove Barracks doing drill and learning Morse Code. Although there were no rifles or ammunition, when

OPENING IMAGE:
Portrait depicting Flight Lieutenant Claude Robert Sladen 1765 (later Squadron Leader, DFC), 22 Squadron RAAF, at the controls of a Boston aircraft, with bomb release and gun firing switch depicted. (Roy Hodgkinson – AWM: ART21712)

ABOVE:
Members of No. 22 Squadron RAAF in front of a Boston A20G aircraft. (AWM: P09691.003)

WWII broke out, anyone in the Militia was immediately called up and sent to the Enoggera Barracks, where they waited to be called to action.

When everyone went home, life went on for Tony until he was again called up when the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) began recruiting. Tony enlisted, and his job was to provide initial training to the first cohort of recruits.

It wasn't long before Tony applied to join the Air Crew and, while he was accepted, he had to wait until he was called up. It was February 1941 before Tony was eventually called up for service to do his training at North Shore in Sydney.

Here, the trainees were allocated as pilots, navigators and wireless air gunners. Tony was assigned as a trainee pilot, although a progress check resulted in him not making the grade. While qualified to be a wireless operator, he really wanted to be a navigator, and so his military journey continued.

After spending time flying on Hudson and Catalina aircraft in Canada, Tony returned to Australia, where he married his sweetheart,

Betty. He joined 22 Squadron, a new squadron of Boston twin-engine bombers based at Richmond, 39 miles west of Sydney.

Tony felt privileged to be a part of a crew and to have a captain who was probably one of the most experienced pilots in the Australian Air Force. The captain was Claude Sladen, who had been a pilot in the peace-time Air Force for 12 years. It turned out that Claude had chosen Tony to be his navigator, although he never understood why.

For many months, 22 Squadron was based at Richmond – getting used to the Boston bomber and undertaking training. The four-person crew consisted of the pilot, who sat on his own in the cockpit, a navigator, who sat on his own up in the nose, and two wireless air gunners in a rear cockpit.

Their only means of communication with each other was through the intercom. Their duties included submarine patrols out of Sydney, which took them a long way north and south.

They practised gunnery and bombing and looked forward to the rare treat of flying with Claude. Claude was a fitter and turner by trade, and when one of

RIGHT: The Naval depot ship *Kuttabul*, which was damaged by a Japanese torpedo during the raid on Sydney Harbour by Japanese midget submarines on May 31, 1942. (AWM: 042975)



the Boston bombers crashed and was written off, he retrieved two guns from it. He installed one in the tail, which could be operated from his cockpit, and the other up in the nose, which Tony was supposed to work.

However, the way Claude threw the plane around, there was no way Tony could overcome the gravity force to even use the front machine gun. It was supposed to be some sort of a deterrent, even if he had nothing to fire at.

While Tony was based at Richmond, the most dramatic event that happened was the attack on Sydney Harbour by Japanese midget submarines.

At the time, Betty was living in a small flat close to the base. One afternoon, Tony and Betty took the ferry over to Manly and returned by train over the Harbour Bridge.

The heavy American cruiser *Chicago* was in the harbour, sitting broadside onto the heads. Without realising how close he was to the truth, Tony said to Betty, "What a lovely target for a submarine".

That night, submarines sneaked into the harbour and fired torpedos at the *Chicago*. By that time, the tide had swung the cruiser around, so it was bow on instead of a broadside on. The torpedos went past it and hit the Australian Naval Depot vessel the *Kuttabul*.

Later that night, Tony was at the Richmond Base picture theatre when 22 Squadron was ordered to report to their aeroplanes, where they waited without being sure what they were doing. At first light, they took off to try to locate the submarines in the harbour.

That morning, there were several Bostons cruising around the harbour, although the water was quite murky, which limited visibility. The only things the crew could see clearly were the lions and other animals in Taronga Park Zoo.

They were out near the heads at probably 1000 feet when they were recalled to base. However, Claude had a different idea; he decided to put the



RIGHT: USS *Chicago* in Sydney Harbour at the time of the attack by Japanese submarines. (AWM: P00279.004)

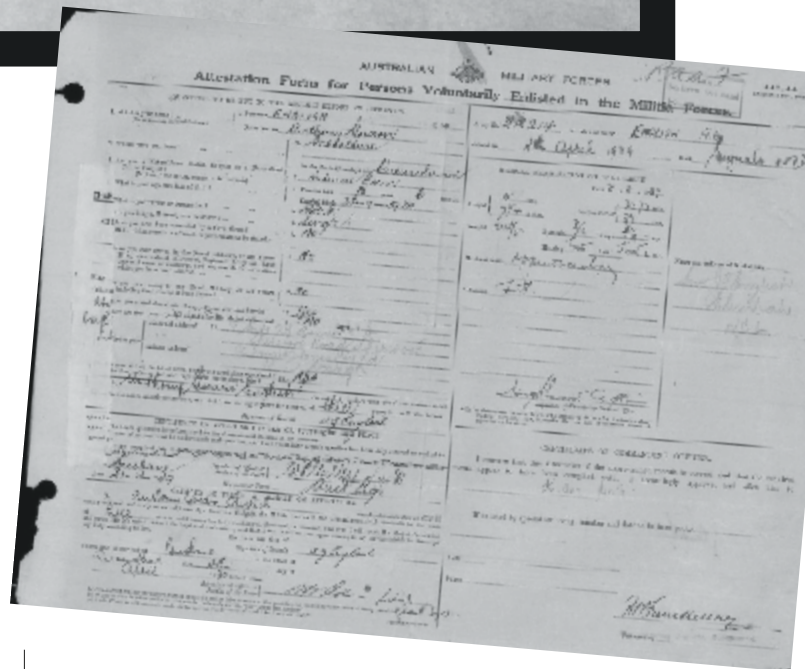
nose down and went right along the harbour.

They were virtually on the water and Tony was able to look out and see Garden Island on the same level as himself. While the crew, including Tony, were urging Claude to fly under the Sydney Harbour Bridge, Claude wouldn't, saying, "Hell, I'm in enough trouble already. I'd better not get into any more".

Back at the base, the job was to find the mother submarine. As it happened, every available aeroplane was out looking for it, although the furthest one out was about 40 miles.

After this event, Tony continued to serve as a navigator in the RAAF for the remainder of WWII. He discharged after six years, finished his correspondence course in accountancy and started work as an accountant.

Flight Lieutenant Claude Sladen was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his role in WWII. ←



ABOVE: Anthony English's Attestation Form for Persons Voluntarily Enlisted in the Military Forces.

Karen Guest is a supporter of the RSL and the work they do in the community. For more information, visit www.karenguest.com.au or www.facebook.com/KarenGuestAuthor

WINGED VICTORY SOARS FOR ARMISTICE CENTENARY

A novel idea born out of a need to boost finances has proved not just beneficial for Clayfield-Toombul Sub Branch, but is also benefiting a dozen other Sub Branches across the state.

 Anita Jaensch

SHE stands proudly, etched in antique bronze on a black background, her sword lowered slightly. Against the pale lapel, the Winged Victory makes a striking statement.

On the table in front of her is a selection of other beauties: a miniature representation of a so-called Dead Man's Penny on a field of poppy red; a golden Pacific Star on the 'mud over blood' colours of the 39th Battalion; a silver laurel wreath on a deep indigo blue. They represent long hours of research and design by the Clayfield-Toombul Sub Branch, which has been producing at least two bespoke badges for ANZAC and Remembrance Day for the past four years.

Sub Branch President Bill O'Chee said designing badges began as a way to improve the Sub Branch's finances.

"We looked at how little we were receiving and decided we needed to improve both our fundraising locations and our margins," Bill said. "At that point, our gross was just under 50 per cent of the sale price, and we could see this would erode over time. We decided the price per badge needed to go up to \$10, but the only way to do that was to produce something that respected each person's donation."

Although there were those who doubted people would buy \$10 badges, the strategy proved successful – these days Clayfield-Toombul only sells their own badges. Last ANZAC Day alone saw them sell 1800 of them.

"Too often we think we're selling badges, but the

reality is that nobody needs a badge. People buy badges because they want to donate money. It's the values they support, it's an emotional response," Bill said.

"It's about deepening the connection to what the badge means for our donors. We simply aim to produce the most beautiful Remembrance Day and ANZAC Day badges in Australia.

"For the Centenary of Armistice, we wanted to do something really special. At the Australian War Memorial, they have the original Winged Victory from Marrickville that had been pulled down because it was deteriorating. They had a new one cast and it's that one that we've reproduced in minute detail on the badge."

After seeing how their badges improved their own finances, Clayfield-Toombul has made it possible for other Sub Branches to purchase their badges on consignment. They already have a dozen Sub Branches that have taken the opportunity to buy these special pieces.

"The wholesale price is \$4, which means \$6 goes directly to the Sub Branch. And because Sub Branches that buy from us pay nothing up front and pay only for what they sell, that takes all the financial risk out of selling these badges," Bill said. "It's been good to improve our own finances, but the thrill of seeing other Sub Branches making a good return makes it really worth it for us."

To order badges for Remembrance Day, contact the Clayfield-Toombul Sub Branch Secretary at clayfieldtoombulrsl@gmail.com ←



SACRIFICE & SALVATION

A story of service

Following a long line of military service, Jock Kelly almost suffered the same fate as his father and grandfather before him. Instead, he experienced a courageous display of mateship, endurance and sacrifice that saved his life and allowed him to witness his own son follow in the family footsteps.

 Jock Kelly

“THEN I COPPED ANOTHER THREE ROUNDS IN MY BACKSIDE. MY BODY REELED IN PAIN AND I REMEMBER LYING THERE BY MYSELF AGAIN, WONDERING WHAT TO DO. I THOUGHT — THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FATHER AND I WAS GOING TO END UP IN THE SAME SITUATION; DEAD IN COMBAT.”

I COME from a military heritage, as my father and grandfather both served in the Royal Scots. My grandfather, Andrew Kirkwood Kelly, was gassed to death in WWI, aged 52 years, while my father, William Robertson Kelly, was killed in action at Kohima Burma in 1944, aged 29 years. I believed I was destined to serve.

I served in Vietnam from February to May 1969 as a Warrant Officer Class 2, as part of the Australian Army Training Team based in Pleiku. When I was sent to Vietnam, I was about the same age as my father was when he was killed.

I completed acclimatisation training in Pleiku prior to being posted to the American Special Forces. Those posted with me were Keith Payne VC, Brian Walsh, Mick Gill and Ray Simpson (Simo). We were split into three company groups and I was with Mick Gill.

During the first months, we went on a few minor operations under the command of Captain Martin Green, US Special Forces. Then, on

May 2, 1969, we were inserted into the Ben Het area, which had been a French military outpost on the border junctions of Cambodia, Thailand, South and North Vietnam. This was a well-known supply route for support from north to south Vietnam as part of the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

We had rotating company positions, which meant we had one company leading and two in the rear position. The first fatality was on May 6, 1969 when Mick Gill was killed while leading.

On May 7-8, I took the lead position with Brian Walsh. We had occasional contact with the North Vietnamese soldiers and we knew they were fresh as their uniforms were new and their bodies showed no wear and tear.

Brian and I alternated between one up and then down positions. On May 11, it was my turn to be upfront. For some reason, the Montagnard (mountain people) we were travelling with stopped.

I asked the interpreter why and went

forward to investigate. As I moved forward, I was shot in the leg and fell to the ground. The Montagnards ran away as they no longer had a leader. I do not blame them as two of their own had been killed.

I was left lying on the ground thinking about what to do. I could see a radio that one of the Montagnard had dropped and I crawled over to it. As I got closer, I could hear voices coming down the hill.

Captain Martin Green was telling them to move forward. When they were several steps away I warned them not to come any closer as I was under enemy surveillance. Captain Green kept coming and was shot dead.

Then I copped another three rounds in my backside. They went straight through me. I was in a bad place and knew I had been seriously wounded. My body reeled in pain and I remember lying there by myself again, wondering what to do. I thought – this is what happened to my father and I was going to end up in the same



situation; dead in combat.

I reached the radio and got through to Simo. I can still remember his words today as clear as a bell: "I am coming in Cobber". It was a strong Aussie accent and I knew he meant it.

I guided him in – telling him which areas were clear and he arrived with a small group of Montagnards, who provided security. Simo sat between me and the enemy and opened fire and called the Montagnards to move forward to collect me.

The medic, whose name was Hoffman, gave me morphine to ease the pain, then Simo started pulling back when I was out of the area. Our CO and 2IC had come to visit the troops and they were back a further two kilometres.

The 2IC, Peter Rothwell, called for DUSTOFF. They knew the helicopter could not land, so they started hacking the bush to create a pad for the helicopter. As I was hoisted up into the helicopter, the load master was shot and killed extending his

hand and I was thrown into the bush again, landing on the 2IC. The casevac mission was aborted.

I was carried back another two kilometres through rugged, undulating country. They carried me on a stretcher down the hills and dragged me backward up the hills. Another DUSTOFF was ordered, and they made me a cup of cocoa while we waited, before loading me into the helicopter with four or five Montagnards.

I remember mumbling that I was alive as I was evacuated back to the American hospital at Pleiku. During the first night, they attended to the first of my many dressings. The hospital was situated at the end of the runway and that night the North Vietnamese mortared the hospital. I remember the nurses, with their flak jackets and helmets, and as the bombs hit nearby a nurse upended my bed to give me some protection.

It was a rough night. They wanted to move me to another hospital, but I was suffering dysentery and, with half my

backside missing, I was held there for four days. I remember waking up one morning to find a note pinned to my ward clothing that read, "WO2 Kelly, destination Japan, AMPUTEE".

I was shocked to see this and asked what was going on. They said I was off to an American hospital to have my leg removed. I explained that I was Australian, and my leg was staying on.

I managed to get a flight to Cam Ran Bay with Major Bill Brighton, however, I was offloaded again due to my dysentery. I was placed in an Australian hospital for a few days. My next flight was to Malaysia, where I was offloaded again due to my condition.

Finally, I was evacuated to Richmond Airbase by Caribou, which was filled with stretcher cases. One of the soldiers had lost both legs and as we went up in the air space he screamed in pain. I realised how lucky I was, compared to him, as I was not too badly injured. We were taken to 2nd Military Hospital at Ingleburn, which

**ABOVE
(CLOCKWISE
FROM TOP
LEFT):**
Jock Kelly's
grandfather
Andrew
Kirkwood Kelly;
Jock Kelly's
father William
Robertson Kelly;
Jock Kelly.



became my home for 14 months.

My wife was relocated from Muswellbrook to Ingleburn and had a married quarter opposite the hospital. I was there for three months and in August 1969 I was allowed to go home for a week.

As a result of my time at home, our daughter was born nine months later. I asked for leave when my wife gave birth to our little girl, which I was granted with a walking escort.

I was in my wheelchair and remember ending up at the Ingleburn RSL. I finally returned to the hospital, hours after the expected time – I was AWOL celebrating the birth of my new baby. After 14 months in hospital, I was finally released to normal duties.

My first posting after release was to school cadets for 12 months, as I was still doing physiotherapy. I was then posted to Sydney University Regiment for two years. At the end of that posting, I was declared physically fit and posted to 3RAR.

A few years later, I was posted to Army Apprentices School Balcombe as a Warrant Officer Class 1. At the same time, my son Stuart graduated from Portsea Officer Training as an Officer in RAE.

He was the top student of his year, and there is a photo of him with the Reviewing Officer. It was a proud family moment, as we were both in uniform, with a history of four generations of military service in the family. In 1979, I was appointed RSM

ABOVE (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT):

Jock Kelly at Kapooka training; Jock in Vietnam; Jock and his son Stewart at Stewart's graduation from Portsea Officer Training as an Officer in RAE.

QUR, followed by four years as RSM 4th Training Group.

I liked Adelaide, so I purchased a block of land and built a house. Later, I discharged and joined the Reserves, becoming RSM of Adelaide University Regiment. My full-time job until 1998 was as security staff working at Moomba Gas and Oil Fields.

At the age of 59, I was finally declared Totally Permanent Incapacitated. I was also drinking a lot and life was catching up on me. I started thinking about the two guys who died getting me out of the battlefield and remembering a swag of

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Martin Kelly – or Jock Kelly as he is more commonly known – usually stands back from the crowd. He has a light-hearted humour, which is surprising once you hear his story.

Jock is proud, unassuming and instantly likeable. He talks to everyone and is open and friendly. If questioned, he is happy to share the incredible story of his service life.

Jock recently joined The Gap RSL Sub Branch and is instantly recognisable, with his one working eye, a hearing aid and a direct manner of speaking. He was born in Scotland in 1930 and migrated to Australia in 1960.

After becoming an Australian citizen, Jock joined the Australian Army and eventually deployed to Vietnam. While working with the US Special Forces, he was seriously wounded and awarded a Purple Heart.

things that happened, along with the soldiers I had killed, who were just like me and had families. I thought “Why?”

I was put in a psychological ward in Adelaide for a few months and tagged “prone to suicide”. It was a sad and troubling time for my family and it took its toll on my wife, who died in 2013 after 44 years of marriage.

Today, I live at The Gap in Brisbane surrounded by family and friends. My son and daughter have been staunch supporters of me throughout all of this. I will never forget the mateship, endurance, courage and sacrifice that was made so that I could live. I will never forget those gone before me and those who still suffer silently. 14

VIETNAM VETERANS MUSEUM GETS \$5M BOOST

The Federal Government has given \$5 million to the National Vietnam Veterans Museum to put towards plans for a state-of-the-art Vietnam War museum on Victoria's Phillip Island.

LOCAL volunteers aim to complete the Phillip Island Vietnam Veterans Museum by 2023, to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the withdrawal of the last of the 60,000 Australian troops from Vietnam.

The National Vietnam Veterans Museum, which started as a mobile exhibition almost two decades ago, has collected more than 20,000 artefacts from the campaign, receives an average of 15,000 visitors annually and provides a 'spiritual home' for Vietnam veterans across Australia.

“OUR TASK NOW IS TO DELIVER THE DREAM AND PRESENT OUR VIETNAM VETERANS IN A LIGHT THAT DOES THEM AND THEIR FUTURE GENERATIONS JUSTICE, AND REINFORCES THEIR PRIDE IN THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE.”

The group hopes the project will draw on the millions of tourists who already visit Phillip Island each year.

Museum chairman Kingsley Munday said the funding, which will be used to buy more land, preparation and for infrastructure such as roads, water, sewerage and access, was welcome news for the local Phillip Island veteran community.

“This museum is a cathartic place for veterans to remember, talk and reflect on a time and place that so



significantly impacted their lives,” Kingsley said.

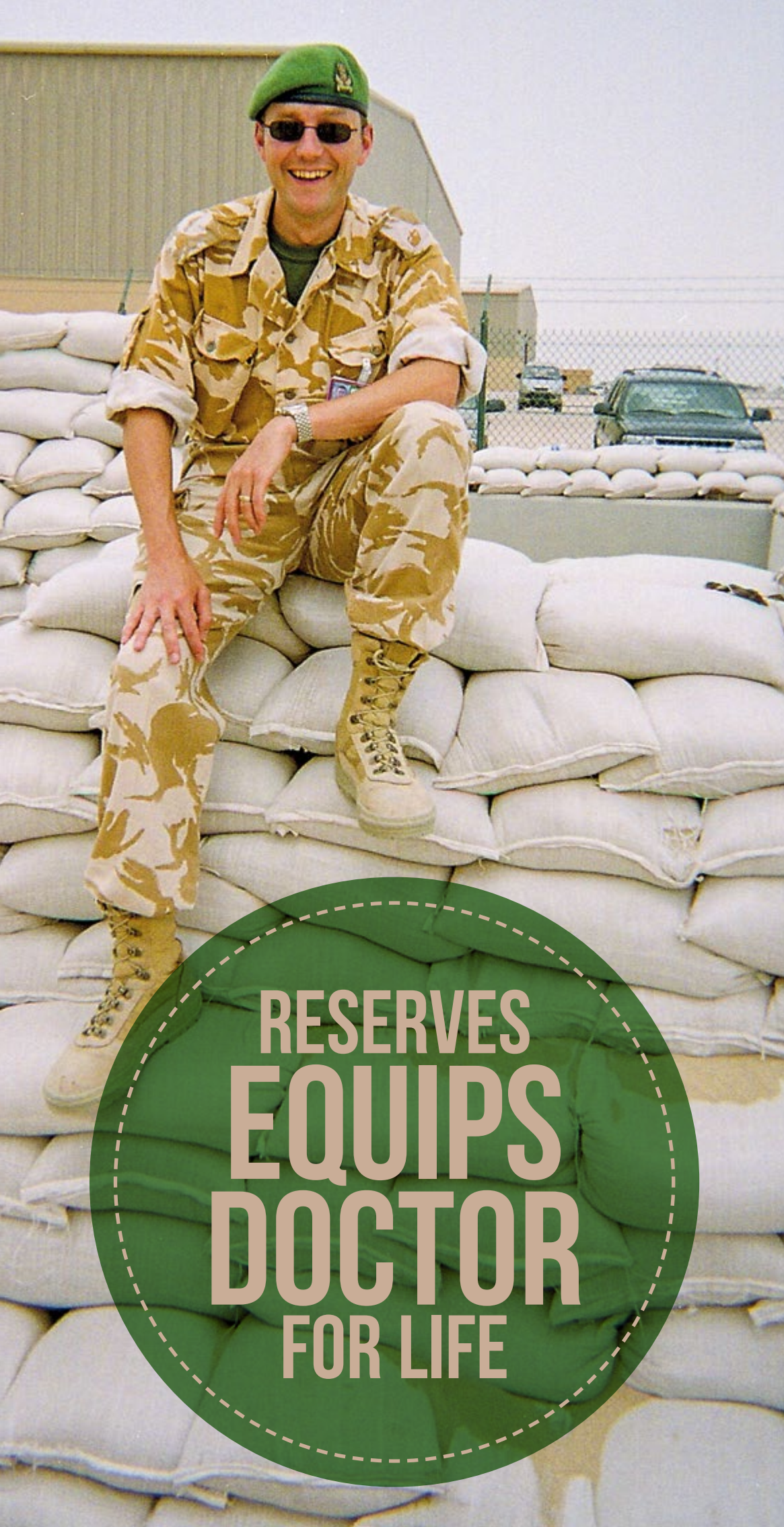
“Our task now is to deliver the dream and present our Vietnam veterans in a light that does them and their future generations justice, and reinforces their pride in their service and sacrifice.”

Federal member for Flinders, Greg

Hunt said the investment would help the museum continue to educate the public and provide a fitting tribute to veterans of the war.

“This injection of funds will provide the museum with the capital to undertake necessary works to see their new museum site go from conception into reality,” Mr Hunt said. ←

ABOVE:
An artist's impression of the Phillip Island Vietnam Veterans Museum.



For RSL member Dr Graham Hay-Smith, active service in the British Army Reserves helped shape other areas of his life, from his family to his career.

✍️ Kylie Hatfield

BRITISH ex-pat Graham

Hay-Smith's experience as a Naval Cadet in school and subsequently on a Naval tall ship sold him on a life in the armed forces.

"That's where it all started for me; my plan was to join the Royal Marines straight after school, but my commission was delayed for a year, because I was only 17 and very scrawny," Graham said.

Landing a lucrative job in a successful bank in London and studying at Oxford University, Graham enjoyed the lifestyle and income, ultimately turning down the commission when it came time.

"I wrote to the Admiralty and said, 'thanks for that commission, but I'm happy in the city'. I'd joined the Reserves as a rifleman by then, so that was the start of a 27-year Reserves career.

Pursuing his side-interest in the Reserves, Graham connected with the Oxford University Officers' Training Corp (OUOTC), which proved a life-changing decision, as he met a young recruit named Peggy, who he later married.

"I was a 2nd Lieutenant teaching a map reading class and Peggy and her friends were my students. It's fair to say that she was terrible at reading maps,

RESERVES
EQUIPS
DOCTOR
FOR LIFE



LEFT: Graham and Peggy draw on their military service experience when assisting veterans and the Defence community at the Moreton Day Hospital.

so a lot of quality time was spent.”

Graham and Peggy were both members of the OUOTC for the next few years while completing study, with Peggy also doing a stint with the Intelligence Corp in Hong Kong.

“When I was still a student, I went to Hong Kong as an attachment, just before the handover,” Peggy said. “We were there to look at terrorism, espionage, sabotage and subversion; concepts or concerns around the handover. It was very interesting.”

Peggy left the service when she completed her first degree, but later continued her education to become a lawyer, working in family law in England.

Meanwhile, Graham continued study to complete a Masters Degree in International Relations and rose through the ranks in the competitive banking industry. His experience in the Reserves somewhat mirrored his industry experience.

“On the advice of a mate of mine, I joined the Intelligence Corp. It made sense at the time, as I was a financial analyst working in the city, so started training as an analyst in intelligence in the Reserves,” Graham said.

“I did all the normal intelligence

training and started in a platoon that supported the United Kingdom Special Forces (UKSF), I became the Officer Commanding of the Company, whose main role, among others, was to provide intelligence support to UKSF.”

Approaching his mid-20’s, Graham realised his career in finance was not one he wanted to pursue long-term and left the industry to re-train in medicine, becoming an ophthalmologist – a specialist surgeon in eye disease. Graham credits his service experience for maintaining stability during this period of change, and throughout his career, with unique skills learnt through the Reserves being transferrable.

“I went from being a banker to a medical student, and had no executive role in life, but I still had a Reserve executive role that kept me sane. Even as a consultant surgeon later in my career, where I would be up against bureaucracy, I could go away from work and run a unit in the military, where I could make things happen,” Graham said.

“That resource was very helpful throughout my medical career as well. I think it gave me a lot of management

skills, which I wouldn’t have if I’d just trained as a doctor.”

With the importance of the Reserves increasing at the time, and with his medical training, Graham drifted into specialist intelligence and joined the Technical Intelligence Staff Officers, known as TISO. At the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Graham eventually became the Chief of TISO.

“That was just the best thing that you could do, because it involved science and explosives. As a unit, we spent a bit of time

looking into things like Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), from more of a scientific point of view.”

Six months after Peggy gave birth to their first child, and while Graham was still in training as a surgeon, his military career was about to reach what he describes as its high point, when his Company was part of the first compulsory mobilisation of the British Army Reserves since the Korean War.

“It was all quite bizarre; the paperwork was all from the 1950s and 1960s, which had all come off typewriters and been photocopied. The mobilisation paperwork hadn’t been updated and it was all very cold-war stuff,” Graham said.

“We were one of the first Companies mobilised because of our specialist role, and I was one of the first 11 mobilised, even ahead of the Company, because of my specialist skills.”

“I remember Peggy dropping me off at Heathrow Airport, with several hundred pounds of excess luggage as I had both my kits (for desert and temperate) and a whole heap of other stuff. I got on the plane and thought, ‘what have I bitten off here?’”

Based at a multi-national

“I WENT FROM BEING A BANKER TO A MEDICAL STUDENT, AND HAD NO EXECUTIVE ROLE IN LIFE, BUT I STILL HAD A RESERVE EXECUTIVE ROLE, WHICH KEPT ME SANE. EVEN AS A CONSULTANT SURGEON LATER IN MY CAREER, WHERE I WOULD BE UP AGAINST BUREAUCRACY, I COULD GO AWAY FROM WORK AND RUN A UNIT IN THE MILITARY, WHERE I COULD MAKE THINGS HAPPEN.”



ABOVE:
Dr Graham Hay-Smith was part of the first compulsory mobilisation of the British Army Reserves since the Korean War when he was deployed to Iraq.

INSET:
Peggy Ekeledo-Smith served in the Oxford University Officers' Training Corp, where she met Graham.

headquarters serving alongside UK, US and Australian troops, Graham feared his Reserves training would be inadequate for the task ahead.

“Some of my service writing skills were somewhat limited, and my acronym and jargon dictionary was a bit bare; it was difficult for the first few weeks, but then it didn’t matter because other nations didn’t care about British service writing, and I was not going to start writing American. And after a couple of weeks, I realised nobody there had actually done this before; nobody had invaded a Gulf State nor been off looking for WMDs, and it turned out that I was actually quite well-equipped.

“That was a really interesting part of my life. Mobilising a Company to take off to Iraq was a high point, and actually being in Iraq was a high point, even though it was quite challenging,” Graham said.

Returning home after seven months in the Gulf, Graham completed his specialist surgical training at some of the most prestigious teaching hospitals in London. As his career as an ophthalmic surgeon progressed and Peggy worked as a partner in a law firm, they started to crave a different pace of life for their family, which now included three children.

“We were busy, our life was manic and was happening around us. We thought, ‘another 30 years of this?’ We wanted to spend more quality time together,” Peggy said.

A visit to Australia to explore a private practice that was for sale sealed the significant, life-changing decision for them.

“When we came out to visit Australia, it was slower, and it was nice. The climate was warmer, and the outdoors lifestyle would give us and our children a great quality of life,” Peggy said.

“And then we looked at the business on offer, which was Graham’s specialty; he could be his own boss and I could run an office. I could see how that would be great for us to be in control of things.”

Graham and Peggy emigrated to Australia in 2013, settling in North Brisbane and taking over operation of the Moreton Eye Group. Seizing on an opportunity to expand, they have been

working behind the scenes to establish the new three-theatre Moreton Day Hospital at North Lakes.

“There was one practice with three clinics and a single theatre. We are now modernising the Moreton Eye Group clinics and the Moreton Day Hospital has general operating theatres, which can cover much more than just eye surgery,” Graham explained.

Graham treats a number of veterans at his clinic and feels a connection with his patients over their shared service.

“A lot of my regular patients are Vietnam era veterans and I think my own experience in a war zone helps me relate to them. I get some who are happy to talk about their service and some still struggling with issues generated by their service. I like to think I have some insight into what they are going through and how to best help them.

“I also do some Garrison Health, where I treat current ADF members and people trying to join the forces to resolve eye problems that might otherwise exclude them from service.

“I take great pride in my military service and having that connection with my patients.”

It is this sense of connection that drew Graham to join the Clayfield-Toombul RSL Sub Branch after a chance meeting at an ANZAC Day dawn service.

“I had my British medals on and was wearing my Intelligence Corps tie and had Oxford University cuff-links on, and another fellow who had also been to Oxford and had some similar looking medals eye-balled me and said, ‘why don’t you come to the local RSL?’ So, I did,” Graham said.

“And that has been very nice. There is a bond with people; even though you don’t know them, there is that immediate click with people who have had a few similar experiences in their time.

“If you’ve been into a war zone then you have a unique viewpoint on life, which is always going to be slightly different to people who have never seen that or had that viewpoint.” ←

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM EXPANDS TO INCLUDE EX-DEFENCE



Sixty members of Queensland's Defence family will have access to exciting new educational opportunities, thanks to the expanded RSL Queensland Scholarship program.

RIGHT: Montana Francis was awarded an RSL Queensland Scholarship in the veteran dependent category. She comes from a strong military family – her father served in the Navy, her mother served in the RAAF and her grandfather served in the Navy in Vietnam. The family is pictured with Joan Hughes, CEO of the Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust.

IN 2019, up to \$720,000 worth of scholarships will be available for 20 veteran dependants, 20 Defence partners and – for the first time – 20 ex-Defence members.

Since the program was established in 2016, 95 scholarships with a total commitment of almost \$1 million have been awarded. The aim is to help those in the Defence family gain qualifications that will increase their employability – which can be difficult given the dynamic nature of service.

“This obviously has consequences for the individual’s ability to gain work,” RSL Queensland State Secretary Scott Denner explained at the recipient ceremony on June 20.

“Labour force statistics show that people with higher educational achievements are more likely to be employed.”

BUILDING ON ADF SKILLS

While careers in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) provide personnel with a diverse range of skills and expertise, scholarships allow recipients to develop and extend these skills or obtain new skills to secure meaningful civilian employment.

Thirty-one-year-old Matthew Jones*, who served in the Air Force as an Airfield Defence Guard for seven years and deployed to Afghanistan, was one of the recipients of the ex-Defence Force pilot program.

Matthew suffered numerous injuries during his career and was medically discharged. His injuries, combined with qualifications that didn’t translate to the civilian world, made transitioning from Defence hard.

“The adjustment to everyday living and modifying activities has been a huge challenge for me,” Matthew said.

“My RSL Queensland Advocate Steve referred me to the pilot program. Steve has been such a positive force not only in my life, but for my wife and many other veteran friends. He is always available – which is far more important than it sounds – polite, respectful and professional.”

Matthew is using his scholarship to

“MATTHEW IS USING HIS SCHOLARSHIP TO COMPLETE A BACHELOR OF LAW – A CAREER THAT ISN’T IMPACTED BY HIS PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS.”

RIGHT: Georgia Gard, whose husband serves in the ADF, received a partner scholarship that is enabling her to pursue a family friendly career.



complete a Bachelor of Law – a career that isn’t impacted by his physical limitations.

“This scholarship has taken some of my financial pressures away and given me some hope. It has also increased my focus and desire to complete the study I had started. I am very thankful to RSL for the opportunity.”

DEFENCE PARTNERS RECOGNISED

RSL Queensland has long recognised the tremendous contribution partners of current and former ADF personnel make to the stability of Defence families. The partner scholarships support upskilling, retraining or degree qualifications for those re-entering the workforce, relocating or changing careers.

“Families are a stable, supportive pillar for current and ex-service personnel. RSL Queensland places great weight on providing support and building resilience in Defence families and recognising the sacrifice and contribution of partners,” Scott said.

Over a six-year period, Georgia Gard



gave birth to two children and moved her family five times to follow her husband's postings with the Australian Defence Force. She thought her career would never recover, but a scholarship of up to \$4000 a year for up to three years is enabling her to study a Certificate III in Education and will greatly enhance her employment opportunities.

"The RSL Queensland Scholarship program has supported me in pursuing a family friendly career that fits perfectly with the unique demands of service life," Georgia said. "I thought I'd never get my career back on track, but the financial and moral support enabled me to accelerate my studies

and transition into paid work more quickly than I thought possible."

SUPPORT FOR VETERAN DEPENDENTS

Scholarships are also available to children of Australian veterans via the Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust on behalf of RSL Queensland. These scholarships focus on supporting students who have overcome challenges and demonstrated their determination to complete tertiary education and pursue their career goals.

Although scholastic merit is reviewed, the RSL Queensland Scholarship program also focuses on

providing support to those who have shown determination and 'grit', and who would not otherwise have the ability to gain tertiary qualifications.

"We are hugely proud of our scholarship recipients, many of who have already gone on to achieve their educational and career goals," Scott told those at the ceremony.

"We hope and expect that all of you here today will also be successful in achieving your dreams."

The 2019 RSL Queensland Scholarship program is now open across the three categories – see below for more information. ←

** Name changed for privacy reasons.*



TOP LEFT: Kerri-Ann Welch served in the Army for five years and was awarded an ex-Defence scholarship.

BOTTOM LEFT: Sheridan Warne, centre, received a veteran dependent scholarship and is pictured with her family at the recipient ceremony. Sheridan's late grandfather served in the Army in Vietnam.



2019 RSL QUEENSLAND SCHOLARSHIPS NOW OPEN

Applications are now open for up to 60 RSL Queensland Scholarships across three categories in 2019:

- Partner Education and Training: Up to \$4000 a year for up to three years. Applications will remain open until filled or until the 2020 scholarship round opens.
- Ex-Defence: Up to \$4000 a year for up to three years. Applications will remain open until filled or until the 2020 scholarships round opens.
- Veteran Dependant: Up to \$4000 a year for up to three years. Applications close on October 31, 2018. Visit www.avcat.org.au to apply.

Strict eligibility criteria apply, and ongoing eligibility criteria exists for successful recipients.

Email partnerships@rslqld.org to obtain guidelines and application forms or visit www.rslqld.org for more information.



MEET A MEMBER

What is your service history?

I joined the Royal Australian Navy in February 1997 as a cook, serving on various bases around the country and on HMAS Sydney before discharging in January 2005.

When and why did you join your local RSL Sub Branch?

I joined in 2007, as I was missing the mateship and finding it hard to make friends in civvy street.

How have you been involved with your Sub Branch over the years?

I took on the role of Sub Branch Secretary in 2009 and love it. Recently, I have also taken on the roles of Sub Branch Social Coordinator and School Liaison Officer. I have also attended seven State Congresses as alternate delegate and delegate. Even though I am a mum of three young children, I always find time to give to my Sub Branch and our members.

What Sub Branch activities are you particularly passionate about?

As a Sub Branch, we are not only about caring for our veterans, but also their families, as they have also served their time. We organise various activities - monthly coffee catch-up mornings for all veterans and families, an Australia Day breakfast and annual luncheon for members and families, family social outings from putt putt to barefoot bowls days, social outings for members and their partners, such as bus trips or visits to the museum. We also hold an annual Remembrance Dinner for members and their partners.

What role does your Sub Branch play in the lives of veterans?

We welcome any veteran, whether

they are a member of our Sub Branch or not. We have offered welfare assistance and financial assistance to veterans and their families. We have cooked meals for families who need a hand during hard times, we have offered household assistance to members also. But, most important, is that NO Veteran should ever feel that they are by themselves. The Sub Branch is here to help, to listen, no matter how big or small.

What role does your Sub Branch play in the local community?

Last year we purchased 29 Community Link projects kits, which have been welcomed and loved by our schools. I attended one school's ANZAC service last year and they used our kit during the service. I had one girl come up to me and say, "Miss, I never knew that one mum could lose three boys in the one war". She had tears rolling down her face and so did many others, who proudly marched with the names of local WWI Diggers on their chests. As a Sub Branch, we are passionate about involving and teaching/bringing awareness to the schools. We have over 30 schools in our area and we provide support to all. Some schools have a great relationship with members of our Sub Branch and ask for the same veterans to attend their school at various times throughout the year.

What should RSL's top priorities be over the next five to 10 years?

To be more involved with the younger veterans. I think there are too many ex-service organisations out there with the same purpose. There has been a lot of damage done to the RSL name and a lot of younger veterans see it as a



Melanie Annand


Age: 41

Sub Branch: North Gold Coast

“I DON’T WANT TO HAVE TO READ AGAIN THAT ONE OF OUR VETERANS HAS BEEN TURNED AWAY FROM A HOSPITAL THAT RSL QUEENSLAND DONATES A LOT OF MONEY TO AND TOLD TO GO BACK TO THEIR LOCAL HOSPITAL AND GO THROUGH THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM.”



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: Melanie Annand with Sub Branch member Robyn Williams; Attending the Helensvale High School ANZAC Day service were (left to right) Chaplain Long Bradley, Mathew Ardley, Councillor William Owen-Jones, Melanie Annand, Mark Boothman MP, Megan Roderick, Head of school, Karen Lindsay, Executive Principal with senior student leaders; Melanie Annand wheeling a veteran in the ANZAC Day service organised by North Gold Coast RSL Sub Branch at Upper Coomera; Melanie Annand laid a wreath on ANZAC Day in memory of all those who have been lost to suicide in the past year; Melanie speaking with guests at the Helensvale High School ANZAC Day service.



club for mates. Not [a place] to help them and to advocate and help lobby the government for changes where veterans are concerned. A majority of veterans see the RSL as having a lot of money and not spending enough where it is needed. I don't want to have to read again that one of our veterans has been turned away from a hospital that RSL Queensland donates a lot of money to and told to go back to their local hospital and go through the mental health system. When a veteran finally admits that they need help they don't want to be brushed to the side. Mental health, poverty and rehabilitation are major issues for veterans that the RSL needs to do something about.

What do you hear as the top three issues on RSL members' minds?

That the RSL board is only there for themselves, the RSL isn't the voice for veterans anymore and some members don't welcome or see younger veterans as veterans – the old boys' club.

What is your greatest achievement?

Serving my country and being a mum of three children. I am very lucky to have such a loving and supportive

partner and family, who allow me to be able to do the volunteer work I do.

Which talent would you most like to have?

To be able to surf, as I love being on the water. That would be the ultimate for me.

What is your most treasured possession?

My grandfather's WWII map of Papua New Guinea [made] from his parachute and his squadron's flag. I recently had them both framed and they are now displayed proudly in the entrance of my house. ←

IF YOU KNOW AN RSL MEMBER of any age who we should FEATURE IN OUR NEW 'MEET A MEMBER' SECTION, please email editor@rslqld.org.



A LIFETIME OF DEDICATION TO OUR YOUTH

Former Royal Navy member John Foley has dedicated much of his civilian life to helping young people as a school photographer, mentor and volunteer with literacy program Story Dogs.

✍ Allan Howard and Matilda Dray

JOHN Foley was just 16 when he joined the Royal Navy, later training and serving as a photographer for the Royal Navy's Air Branch. He was loaned to the Royal New Zealand Navy in 1953 as a photographer, before leaving in 1957.

Following his service, John dedicated much of his personal and professional life to photographing young people.

"I've been a school photographer for most of my civilian professional life or worked in associated fields. First as a kid's photographer after leaving the Navy and raising five children by my first wife," John said.

Marrying for a second time, to a lady with seven children, John and his late wife Marlene moved to Australia in 1988. Over a period of 10 years, John regularly visited 15 schools in his District of Mudgeeraba and Robina as school liaison for his RSL Sub Branch.

"It seemed natural that I could help my local RSL best this way and it was a unique privilege," said John, now 86.

"I enjoy working in schools, with students of all ages, and with their dedicated teachers. One of my most satisfying Sub Branch roles was

mentoring Year 10 and 11 students to apply for RSL Queensland's former Youth Development Program grants."

John has been a guest speaker for ANZAC Day ceremonies at local schools and in 2013 was awarded the McPherson Medal for his service to the community. On his 80th birthday, Clover Hill State School honoured him as their Community Patron and on his 85th birthday the school dedicated the John Foley Performing Arts Centre in his honour.

"Clover Hill School is not alone in this District in embracing the spirit of ANZAC at every opportunity and, hopefully, the legacy of service to our nation, of so many men and women, will be preserved through the efforts of students and volunteers."

Since retiring as school liaison, John has been volunteering with Story Dogs, a not-for-profit reading support program helping children become confident, lifelong readers. Every Friday morning, he dresses his neighbour's four-year-old Maltese cross Poodle Ruby in a nylon jacket, straps her into a car seat harness and takes her to Clover Hill State School in Mudgeeraba.

"Ruby loves people, especially

kids. She lies patiently on a rug-covered table, listening to primary students read to her from selected story books," John said.

"When children read to a dog, the outcomes are amazing. It's a non-judgemental setting, the children's focus improves, their literacy skills increase and their confidence soars. The accepting, loving nature of dogs gives this program its magic and helps children relax, open up, try harder and have fun, while reading to a friendly, calm dog."

Story Dogs also operates in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory, with 361 volunteers helping over 1815 children each week. John would love to see more retired military men and women volunteer with the organisation. ←

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: John Foley playing with his latest digital camera; Attending ANZAC Day 2014; John acting as the ANZAC Day speaker at sea, aboard *Radiance of the Seas*; John and his neighbour's four-year-old Maltese cross Poodle, Ruby, with Gayle Alessio OAM, the Principal of Clover Hill State School, where he volunteers; John with the Royal New Zealand Navy in 1953.

INTERESTED IN STORY DOGS?

John would love to see more retired military personnel volunteer with Story Dogs. If you are interested, visit www.storydogs.org.au or phone 0411 536 355.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Strengthens community

A Brisbane RSL Sub Branch is broadening the traditional image of the ANZACs and cementing its connection with its local community in the process.

 Anita Jaensch

A DRAGON winds its way through Brisbane's southern suburbs, sheltering Sunnybank in the shadow of its ridged spine*. There, among streets named for local ANZACs, lies an RSL Sub Branch that is forging strong ties with its local community – particularly the ethnic communities that also call this suburb home.

Sunnybank RSL Sub Branch President Hugh Polson says what began as a response to the growing multiculturalism of the area has brought unanticipated benefits to the Sub Branch.

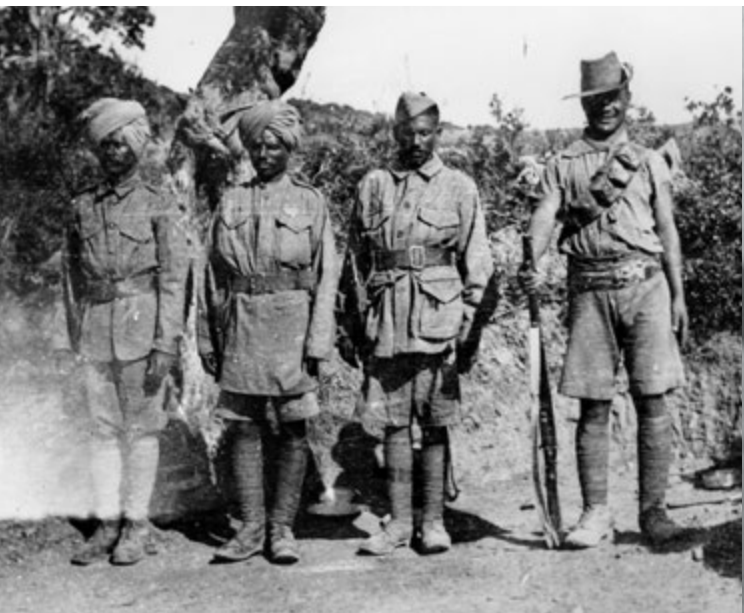
“About seven years ago, we realised it was essential for us to reach out to the growing number of multicultural groups in our area if we were going to successfully embrace our wider community,” Hugh says. “Together with members of the Chinese community, we formed a committee to raise the necessary funds to build a memorial to Australians of Chinese heritage in our Veterans’ Memorial Garden. We held a competition with Griffith University’s Architecture Faculty, which attracted some 90 entries, and, from those, a winner was chosen.”

The memorial – one of only two memorials in Australia dedicated to veterans of Chinese-Australian heritage – is stunning in its simplicity. A sinuous curve of stainless steel embraces a bowl filled with white stones, mounted on a granite plinth bearing inscriptions in both English and Chinese.

“ALTHOUGH THE POPULAR IMAGE OF THE ANZACS HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN ANGLO-SAXON, RECENT RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT THE ANZAC FORCES WERE FAR MORE MULTICULTURAL THAN MANY IMAGINE.”

CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT: Sunnybank RSL Sub Branch recently unveiled a memorial to Australians of Chinese heritage in its Veterans’ Memorial Garden; Private William Edward (Billy) Sing became renowned on Gallipoli for his abilities as a sniper, shooting a confirmed 150 Turkish soldiers, and probably as many as 201, from a position at Chatham’s Post (AWM: P03633.006); Caleb James Shang was the most highly decorated Chinese Australian soldier who served in WWI – he was decorated with the Distinguished Conduct Medal twice and received the Military Medal (Photo: Cairns Historical Society); Group portrait of three Indian troops and a Gurkha (far right), at Walden Grove, Gallipoli Peninsula; Members of the Sunnybank community at the unveiling of the memorial to Australians of Chinese heritage; The three-tonne Indian-Australian memorial is crafted from solid Indian granite.







ABOVE: Fiji High Commissioner Jogesh Punja, left, Honorary Consul of India, Brisbane, Archana Singh, Chair of the Australians of Indian Heritage War Memorial Committee (AIHWMC) Surendra Prasad OAM, monument designer Bianca Archer, Commander 1st Division, Major General Paul McLachlan AM CSC, AIHWMC Member Rashpal Singh and President of the Sunnybank RSL Sub Branch Hugh Polson at the unveiling of the Sub Branch's Indian Heritage Memorial in November.



INSET: The cover of a booklet put out in 1916 for schoolchildren, to commemorate the first ANZAC Day. Within the Queensland coat of arms, six servicemen are depicted: A British soldier, a New Zealander, Australian Army, Australian Navy, French and Indian. They were the Allied combatants in the Gallipoli campaign.

Each year, it is re-dedicated in a moving memorial service that brings the Chinese and Defence communities together.

“Afterwards, the Chinese committee hosts a dinner to raise funds to maintain and enhance the memorial garden, and to provide seven \$1000 bursaries to local schools,” Hugh says. “There were 210 guests at our dinner the other night.”

Although the popular image of the ANZACs has traditionally been Anglo-Saxon, recent research has shown that the ANZAC forces were far more multicultural than many imagine. In fact, it is estimated that about 218 Australians of Chinese heritage served

in WWI. Perhaps the most famous of these is Billy Sing, the renowned Gallipoli sniper.

“We have a painting of Billy Sing, which was commissioned by the Heritage Bank and presented to us at one of the fundraising dinners. We brought it out the other day for the memorial service,” Hugh says.

In November last year, Sunnybank RSL unveiled a second memorial – this time, in honour of Australians of Indian heritage. The result of a second Griffith University design competition and a close collaboration with the local Indian community, the three-tonne memorial is crafted from solid Indian granite.

Hugh shows me a picture he has uncovered during his extensive historical research. Within the Queensland coat of arms, six servicemen are depicted.

“Interestingly, you’ve got a British soldier, a New Zealander, Australian Army, Australian Navy, French and Indian,” he says. “They were the Allied combatants in the Gallipoli campaign. How about that? That was the cover of a booklet put out in 1916 for schoolchildren, to commemorate the first ANZAC Day – isn’t it something?”

But the Sub Branch’s plans for their Memorial Garden aren’t yet complete

and, once again, they are working together with the local community to realise them.

“We’re enhancing our garden and the main feature of that is what we’re calling the ANZAC Art Project,” Hugh says.

“It will be six panels that tell a story from this end to that end of the garden – the first panel will be ANZAC, the second panel will be WWI, then WWII. Then, on the other side of our main memorial will be Korea, then South East Asia – Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam – and then the last one will be the Middle East – Afghanistan and Iraq.”

Sunnybank RSL approached six local secondary schools – Sunnybank State High School, Stretton State College, St Thomas More College, Runcorn State High School, the Islamic College of Brisbane and Calamvale Community College – to design a panel each. Each school’s art students are working collaboratively on the concept for their panel, with the schools’ Heads of Art collaborating to ensure consistency and theming across the whole project.

Although they applied for one of the State Government’s Lasting Legacies grants to fund the project, the application was unsuccessful. But the Sub Branch is pressing ahead.

“We had to,” Hugh explains. “We wanted it finished for November. Because of the money side of things, it might not happen by November, but it will happen.”

He smiles.

“You know the real beauty of this project? Those kids will help us to perpetuate the ANZAC tradition. They will bring their grandchildren to this place and say, ‘Look what grandma or grandpa did! I was involved in this.’”

(* The ridge that runs from Holland Park through the Sunnybank area is seen as the backbone of a dragon by the local Chinese community – a sign of good luck.) ←

MATESHIP



MURIEL QUINN CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

Ex-servicewoman Muriel Quinn celebrated her 100th birthday on May 19 and was presented with a certificate of appreciation by Far Northern District President Peter Sterling and Cairns & District Ex-Servicewomen's President Marion Hayton.

Muriel joined the Air Force shortly after WWII broke out and served as a transport driver at RAAF Richmond. While travelling to RAAF Amberley for her new posting, she was one of three girls who fell from the train when it suddenly jerked. After five weeks in hospital, Muriel was discharged towards the end of the war. After discharge, Muriel took over the lease of the Cairns City Council kiosk at ANZAC Park and remained there until she retired.

BRISBANE NORTH ANNUAL BOWLS DAY

Brisbane North District Council of Auxiliaries held its Annual Bowls Day on July 8 at Kallangur Bowls Club, with about 70 professional and amateur bowlers. Around \$2000 was raised for Diggers' Day in September.



DEFIBRILLATOR DONATED TO GRACEMERE & DISTRICT

Gracemere & District RSL Sub Branch President Cos Cameron accepted the donation of a First Aid AED Defibrillator from the District Veterans Welfare Fund, presented by Pioneer-Fitzroy-Highlands District Vice President Phil Luzzi. Gracemere & District Sub Branch is currently thriving, performing various welfare activities, including a monthly 60s and Better morning tea, weekly Friday night meals for members and the community, a darts competition and fortnightly country and western music nights. Activities are made possible thanks to the support of a dedicated team of stalwart volunteers.

RIMAU COMMEMORATION

TS Krait Naval cadets formed the Catafalque Party at the Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch commemoration service for Operation Rimau at the Krait Memorial in Dayman Park, Urangan, on July 8. Sub Branch President Brian Tidyman led the service and Chaplain Jeffery Jarvis led the prayers before the 60-strong crowd.





BULIMBA'S BRIAN LAING RECOGNISED

Bulimba District RSL Sub Branch Past President Brian Laing was presented with a certificate acknowledging his 30 years of service at the Sub Branch's June meeting. Over those years, the Vietnam veteran served in three different Sub Branches. In 1984 he joined the Vietnam Services RSL Sub Branch and while President was a driving force in its amalgamation with Cannon Hill District in 2001.

In 2017, the name was changed to Bulimba District RSL to become more inclusive. Over the years, Brian served as President, Secretary and Treasurer of the various Sub Branches, Welfare Officer and South East District Delegate. He was heavily involved in organising ANZAC Day services in Bulimba and the Morningside dawn service. Brian was also awarded a Griffith Australia Day award for his service to the community and nominated for a Queensland Day award for his service to ANZAC Day.

WELFARE BUS FOR HERVEY BAY

Federal Member for Hinkler, the Hon. Keith Pitt, right, congratulated Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch on its successful application to the Veteran and Community Grants program for funding towards the purchase of a new bus.

"Reducing social isolation is an important part of the work the Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch does and a new bus will make this job easier," Mr Pitt said.

Sub Branch President Brian Tidyman, left, said the funding meant the organisation could replace its current bus, which was nearing the end of its life.

"The new bus will allow us to continue transporting veterans and community groups to social and commemorative functions, which is the only way some of them are able to attend these events," Brian said.



BURNETT HEADS MEMORIAL PARK COMMITTEE

Ex-RAAF members John Wilson OAM, left, Ken Graham, Shirley Watson, Roy Eggmolesse, Vern Eggmolesse and Leone Wilson OAM visited the Burnett Heads War Memorial on ANZAC Day 2018.

Four are also members of the Burnett Heads Memorial Park committee, which in 2016 received a grant from the Queensland Government and Bundaberg Regional Council – plus considerable donations from the community – to carry out a \$26,000 refurbishment of Burnett Heads War Memorial. On July 23, the memorial was rededicated at a service marking the centenary of the Battle of Pozieres.

The small seaside town is undergoing a facelift and, once complete, Burnett Heads Memorial Park will be the envy of the region with space, shade and a prime position in the centre of town. The park also contains a tribute to RN mariners who died off the coast in July 1945.



ALLAN WALKER RECOGNISED FOR 50 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP

North Gold Coast RSL Sub Branch President Ken Golden OAM recently presented a Certificate of Recognition to Allan Walker for his 50 years of continuous membership. Allan joined Oxenford Coomera Sub Branch in 2006 and was elected Treasurer – a role he held for three years. He was also fundraising coordinator for seven years. When the Sub Branch relocated and changed its name to North Gold Coast Sub Branch, Allan was elected as Vice President, a role he held for five years. He has also been the Sub Branch internal checker, due to his keen eye for numbers and accounting background. In 2015, aged 92, he stood down from the committee. Allan recently celebrated his 95th birthday and was surprised and delighted to be recognised for his 50-year membership.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR NOEL WALES

Walkerston/Pleystowe RSL Sub Branch President Noel Wales was presented with Life Membership by Pioneer-Fitzroy-Highlands District Deputy President John Edwards at their June Sub Branch meeting.



11TH BERT DOWNES MEMORIAL GOLF DAY

S Glenn and B Canning from Toowoomba won the two-person Ambrose at Esk RSL Sub Branch's 11th Bert Downes Memorial Golf Day on June 24. Bert was a Sub Branch member, who served in Vietnam with 105th Artillery Battery and died 12 years ago. Around 75 people enjoyed the day, including a field of 54 players from as far afield as Brisbane, Caloundra, Toowoomba and the Lockyer Valley.

Funds raised went to the Sub Branch's welfare program, which currently assists 18 widows in the Brisbane River Valley.

FIRST VETERANS' SUICIDE MEMORIAL

Goodna RSL Sub Branch unveiled a Veterans' Suicide Memorial on June 23 in memory of combat-related suicides and the families they left behind in Australia and New Zealand. They believe they are the first RSL in Australia to erect such a memorial, which was made possible by Veterans Pension Officer Phil Allen and Sub Branch members.



C OMMUNITY



TWENTY-FIVE YEAR REUNION FOR OPERATION SOLACE

A 25-year reunion was held in Sydney recently for Operation Solace – a peacekeeping mission that provided humanitarian assistance in Somalia in 1993. The operation was commanded by the now Governor of New South Wales, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd). As part of the reunion, the group marched together on ANZAC Day and gathered at the Governor's residence.

During the gathering, Governor Hurley said his time in Somalia had greatly influenced his Army career and he would not have made the journey without those under his command. Liz Hann, the mother of Lance Corporal Shannon Macliney – the only casualty of the operation – thanked the battalion for supporting her after Shannon's passing.



ROSE GARDEN AWARD

The Queensland State Rose Garden won the Garden of Excellence Award at the World Federation of Rose Society at the 18th World Rose Convention in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation opened the Queensland war animal rose garden within the grounds in October 2017 and extended its congratulations to Toowoomba and the rose garden team.



MOUNT ISA DONATES ANZAC DAY FUNDS TO COMMUNITY

Mount Isa RSL Sub Branch recently made donations to Mates4Mates, Legacy, Apex and Leichhardt Lions Club, thanks to money raised on ANZAC Day from the sale of memorabilia, two-up and donations by the public.

RSL social member Carl Sorrenson, centre, is pictured presenting a cheque to Legacy representatives Arthur and Beryl Dennis.

NIGEL ALLSOPP PRESENTS AT SANDHURST MILITARY ACADEMY

Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation President Nigel Allsopp, right, is pictured with Lt Col DuBaree outside Sandhurst Military Academy in England, where he was a guest lecturer for staff and students in June.



ROB EADE COMPLETES REMEMBRANCE RIDE OZ

After two years on the road, Vietnam veteran Rob Eade and his red cattle dog Ginge completed their memorial Remembrance Ride around Australia on June 17. During the ride, Rob recognised 587 service men and women and 26 dogs by placing a flag at their birthplace, enlistment town, resting place or memorial.

The trip began at Collie in Western Australia on June 18, 2016 and finished with a ceremony at Kings Park War Memorial in Perth, where Rob lay a final flag for 35 fallen military service men and women and 26 dogs. His trip was self-funded, with assistance provided along the way by people and Sub Branches.

Rob drove a motorised trike towing a trailer and stayed at caravan parks, motels and cottages on his journey. His Facebook page – Remembrance Ride OZ – records an account of his journey, and an article published in the *Sound Telegraph* newspaper also pays tribute to his journey.

During the ride, Rob and Ginge, centre, paid a visit to Calliope Sub Branch in August 2017 and was pictured with, left to right, President Daryl Turner, Robyn Marshall, Deputy President Roy Marek and Secretary Darryl Saw.

A LIFE WELL LIVED

Vietnam veteran Burnett Joyce, right, is pictured with his wife Louise, who recently completed the book *Sale-O and Smokos*. The two-year project includes photos and stories documenting their family history.

It was written to commemorate their 50th annual bull sale on their property “Gyranda” in 2017. The 240-page full-colour production includes anecdotes, stories and ‘bad’ poetry, woven around hundreds of photos depicting their lives – all done with a touch of humour. Burnett spent two years in the Army and returned to “Gyranda” after serving in the Vietnam War. Copies of the book can be ordered through aljgyranda@bigpond.com.





GAZEBO MEMORIAL IN TOWNSVILLE

Carlyle Garden Townsville Chapter of RSL North Queensland District recently completed a Gazebo Memorial project. The structure will serve primarily as an enduring memorial and, second, for the enjoyment of residents of Carlyle Gardens Retirement Resort.

President Gary Hanson, OAM, left, is pictured with resort manager Sue Stevens and North Queensland District President Bill Whitburn OAM following a dedication on May 11.

NATIONAL TRUST AWARDS TO ARMY MUSEUM SOUTH QUEENSLAND

Army Museum South Queensland received two awards at the 2018 National Trust Heritage Awards in Brisbane. Captain Adele Catts accepted a High Commendation award in the Interpretation and Promotion Category and the Achievement Award for a Volunteer Group.

The barracks tour and exhibitions were developed to showcase the military heritage of early Queensland. The tours have involved over 30 volunteers – tour guides, a tour coordinator, catering, exhibition installation and military history interpretation and promotion. Museum volunteers are pictured below.



HENRY DALZIEL HONOURED BY HIS SON AND GREENSLOPES

David Dalziel recently visited Greenslopes Private Hospital for a morning tea to honour his father, Victoria Cross recipient Henry 'Harry' Dalziel, who died at the hospital on July 24, 1965. The Henry Dalziel VC Dialysis Centre at Greenslopes was opened and named in his honour in 2003. David is pictured with Louisa Moloney, the Dialysis Clinic Manager at Greenslopes Private Hospital. During the visit, David spoke with staff and viewed the machines, one of which is also named in his father's honour.

RIDE FOR WOUNDED HEROES

Anthony Rafter, centre, took a break at Oakey RSL during his Ride for Wounded Heroes from Maryborough RSL to Burleigh RSL. The ride also honoured his grandfather, who fought in WWII. Anthony said it was a great opportunity to highlight Oakey's long connection with the Defence Force and showcase the Australian Army Flying Museum. He is pictured with, left to right, Sonya Steinmuller, Phil Richards, Oakey RSL President Trevor Steinmuller, General Manager Mel Flynn and John Eather.



QUILT OF VALOUR FOR WWII VETERAN

Quilts of Valour Australia presented a handmade quilt to a 100-year-old WWII veteran, who lost his home, two dogs and war medals in a house fire. Arthur James Robert Jackson (Bob) was a rear gunner on a Lancaster Bomber, 460 Squadron, Bomber Command in the RAAF.

Since 2012, Quilts of Valour Australia has given around 1500 quilts to Defence personnel touched by war and to the immediate families of fallen soldiers. Bob's quilt was made by Chris Ebstrom of Little Mountain.

Vicki Venables from Quilts of Valour Australia is pictured with Salisbury RSL Sub Branch President Tony Stevenson and Bob at a morning tea in his new retirement home.



CAPTAIN COOK COMMEMORATED AND SYLVIA CELEBRATED

Cooktown's annual commemoration of the landing of Captain Cook brings the best out of Cooktown RSL Sub Branch. They have hosted the street parade for three years, and this year also celebrated the 100th birthday of Sub Branch member Sylvia Geraghty (nee Parsons). Sylvia was a sheet metal worker for the Air Force during WWII and has 67 years continual RSL membership. Needless to say, she was the queen of the parade, with the whole community coming out to wish her a happy birthday.



PRIME MINISTER OPENS ANZAC MEMORIAL IN MARYBOROUGH

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and Fraser Coast Mayor George Seymour visited Maryborough recently to officially open Walk with the ANZACS – Gallipoli to Armistice.

The \$5 million complex was funded by three levels of government and includes an arbour of weathered steel columns, soaring up eight metres high, representing the landscape of ANZAC Cove and the cliffs of the fateful shore.

The trail then leads through the park, with statues and audio tracing the journey of ANZACS through The Great War. The tribute was inspired by Duncan Chapman, Maryborough's famous son, who was the first Allied soldier to step ashore at Gallipoli.



UK WAR HORSE MEMORIAL AT ASCOT

Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation President Nigel Allsopp attended the United Kingdom's War Horse memorial opening at Ascot Racecourse in England in June. Nigel laid a wreath at the opening and spoke at the reception.

The bronze statue took four years to make and is dedicated to the millions of horses, mules and donkeys that died during WWI.





Researching THE HEALING POWER OF COMPASSION



New research at Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation will explore the science of compassion and the role it might play in the recovery of returned service personnel struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder.

RIGHT now, doctors and scientists at the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) are developing and testing new treatments and interventions for a range of serious illnesses impacting our veteran community. These are cutting-edge, innovative treatments, but they don't always come in the form you might expect. This is certainly the case for one of our latest studies exploring the therapeutic benefits of compassion.

When you think of compassion, it may be in terms of a vague concept of kindness or caring, but there is growing evidence to suggest there is significantly more science behind this powerful emotion. While everyone may have a differing understanding of what compassion is, in the context of therapy it is considered to be the sensitivity to suffering in self and others, with a commitment to alleviating and preventing it.

Thanks to Medibank's 'Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund', researchers at GMRF are exploring the science of compassion by working on improving the adaptive coping skills of returned service personnel struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Feelings of shame and self-criticism can be common among former service personnel, as they struggle to reconcile deployment experiences. When compounded with PTSD, the effects can be devastating. Shame has been proposed as a significant contributing factor in suicide risk for this group.

The GMRF Veteran Mental Health Research Unit will trial the use of Compassionate Mind Training for veterans and their partners in what will be the first study of this approach to involve partners of our ex-service population. Compassionate Mind Training is a skills building off-shoot of Compassion Focussed Therapy (CFT), which was developed specifically for individuals with high levels of shame and self-criticism, and has been used successfully to reduce distress symptoms in a variety of psychological and medical conditions. It has also been shown to have protective benefits, such as increased acceptance of self and others, and self-soothing following trauma exposure.

Measurements of life satisfaction, happiness and immune functioning are some of the indicators of wellbeing shown to increase following CFT.

GMRF clinical psychologist and project researcher Dr Sarah Hampton is investigating whether quality of life, relationship satisfaction, PTSD symptom severity and psychological distress symptoms will improve as a result of participating in the pilot study. Groups will participate in two sessions per week for six weeks, learning strategies to calm highly charged emotions and to more strongly engage feelings of warmth and self-reassurance. During the sessions, Dr Hampton says participants will learn ways to work with potential feelings of guilt and shame with compassion.

"Practising compassion towards

oneself is particularly effective because the veteran may feel they do not deserve self-care or kindness and this can be a significant block to PTSD recovery. There is increasing evidence that compassionate behaviours, such as the giving and receiving of affection, kindness and care, stimulates feelings of warmth, calmness and contentment, which can naturally help regulate difficult emotions such as fear, anxiety, anger, stress and shame."

"We want to cultivate an attitude in veterans that says, 'I'm worthy of compassion,'" Dr Hampton says.

While the concept of compassion can be vague, the Compassionate Mind Training program certainly is not. The program includes evidenced-based techniques and strategies grounded within Professor Paul Gilbert's CFT framework, which uses compassion as an integral part of rehabilitation. Participants of the program will be educated on the three primary emotion systems: threat, drive and soothing.

- Threat System – Directs our attention to threatening situations and motivates us to engage in a response that will protect us. This system is linked to a variety of physiological changes in our brain and body that prepare us to take action. Undoubtedly, this system plays a crucial role for our Defence Force personnel in the duties they perform.
- Drive System – Evokes feelings such as excitement, joy and anticipation to help and energise us to pay attention to and pursue resources and opportunities.
- Soothing System – Provides a source of safety and reassurance, and directs our mind to recuperate from the threat and drive systems. The ability to rest and digest can help balance the otherwise dominant role that the threat and drive systems would play in our lives. Soothing is also related to a part of our nervous system that regulates and calms our threat systems.

Herein lies the issue for many

"THERE IS INCREASING EVIDENCE THAT COMPASSIONATE BEHAVIOURS, SUCH AS THE GIVING AND RECEIVING OF AFFECTION, KINDNESS AND CARE, STIMULATES FEELINGS OF WARMTH, CALMNESS AND CONTENTMENT, WHICH CAN NATURALLY HELP REGULATE DIFFICULT EMOTIONS SUCH AS FEAR, ANXIETY, ANGER, STRESS AND SHAME."



Principal investigator of the study,
Dr Madeline Romaniuk.

GMRF clinical psychologist and project
researcher Dr Sarah Hampton.



ex-service personnel. During deployment, the threat system has been running at a heightened state for an extended period. The soothing system, on the other hand, is often not activated frequently enough to maintain balance. The evidence on which CFT is based suggests that receiving care, affection and support not only stimulates the soothing system, but also plays a role in down-regulating the threat system.

Another crucial feature of the GMRF pilot study is the involvement of partners of ex-serving personnel who themselves report high rates of mental health challenges. From her clinical experience, Dr Hampton has seen several veterans who, while they may be reluctant to seek professional help, have a strong desire to learn more ways to connect emotionally with their partners to improve their relationships.

“Partners undertaking therapy together learn a common language and strategies, they hold each other accountable and help each other when the treatment has finished. Our veteran/partner groups will be learning compassionate communication, such as expressing appreciation, asking for what we need and responding to criticism.”

Principal investigator of the study, Dr Madeline Romaniuk, wanted to bring together research and practice when developing this project. She noticed the lack of interventions aimed at both veterans and partners available in current clinical practice, despite scientific evidence demonstrating that partner involvement in mental health treatment leads to greater outcomes.

“It is very hard to change old habits or implement meaningful changes in your life if your other half is not on the same page. We want to give veterans and their partners the opportunity to learn and develop adaptive and healthy ways to manage difficult emotions, behaviours and communication patterns together.”

As researchers unpick the complexity of PTSD and associated psychological scars of war, programs that increase the participants’ understanding of their reactions to trauma and strengthen their sense of self-worth have shown to have a compounding effect on wellbeing.

“The potential benefits of compassion-based therapies are well documented, and yet there has been very little research done in the veteran space, until now.” Dr Romaniuk says.

For more information about this study, visit www.gallipoliresearch.com.au



COMPASSIONATE MIND TRAINING

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS:

Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation



Veteran Mental Health Initiative

Research to restore lives

This project is sponsored by

Medibank's Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund

medibank
For Better Health



VETERANS AND THEIR PARTNERS

COMPASSIONATE MIND TRAINING: PILOT STUDY

GMRF has launched its latest study investigating Compassionate Mind Training for ex-service personnel and their partners.

They are seeking couples willing to attend 12 sessions of Compassionate Mind Training within a small group. The training will occur twice a week for six weeks and each session will be two hours in length. The program will be held at Greenslopes Private Hospital in Brisbane. Participants will also be asked to complete 11 questionnaires on three occasions to help determine if this training improves compassion, psychological symptoms, general wellbeing and relationship wellbeing.

To be eligible for participation, you are required to:

- Be ex-service personnel with a current partner;
- Have a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder;
- Be able to attend the training sessions with your partner.

GRMF is unable to offer you a place in the study if you are currently hospitalised for a psychological condition or currently engaged in another group therapy program. There will be no costs or reimbursement associated with participation.

To find out more about the training, or to register your interest, please visit bit.ly/GMRF-CTU. Alternatively, you can contact the study coordinator, Dr Sarah Hampton, on 07 3394 7916 or via hamptons@ramsayhealth.com.au.

FROM CARAVANS TO RICHES

A \$2 MILLION STORY TO WARM YOUR HEART

AT 78 years of age, Michael Wilson*, a \$10 VIP supporter from Gaven on the Gold Coast, should have been told to expect the unexpected. Cheerily receiving a call from RSL Art Union's Kate Watman on the morning of July 11, there was no way to know that he had won Draw 356 and was now \$2 million richer. Mr Wilson's ticket number 1,047,901 was drawn and as a result he was posed with the life-changing \$2 million question – would you prefer a luxury townhouse in Sydney's inner-city suburb of Lilyfield or \$2 million in gold?

During the call, the Gold Coast local revealed that although he currently lives in a caravan in his daughter's backyard, Queensland is his home and he wouldn't like to move as far as Sydney. He already knew that he would choose the \$2 million gold, with the dream to purchase a home in a nearby retirement village and finally put his feet up in comfort.

Mr Wilson is taking the win in his stride, and understandably so. Mr Wilson shared that although he had been retired for 14 years, there was never enough money available to enjoy his retirement. Now, with the financial means



to indulge his love of travel and speed boats and move into a home of his choosing, Mr Wilson can well and truly start to live out his life to the absolute fullest.

Mr Wilson's prize does not end there. As a \$10 book buyer he will receive a further \$30,000 in gold, plus a \$2000 travel voucher to

spend as he pleases.

Congratulations to Mr Wilson and all the winners of Draw 356. From all of us here at RSL Art Union, thank you for your support.

**Name changed for privacy reasons.*



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**DRAW
359**

Draw opens 12.01am AEST Sunday 26th August 2018
Draw closes 8pm AEST Friday 12th October 2018
Drawn 10am AEST Friday 19th October 2018

BUY YOUR TICKETS

RSL Art Union Draw No. 359 (also known as Draw 359L) is conducted by Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) ABN 79 902 601 713 of ANZAC House, 283 St Pauls Terrace, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006. Promoter: Vic GOCAU/2051, SA Permit No. M13525. Close date: 8pm (AEST) 12/10/18. Draw Date: Public draw 10am (AEST) 19/10/18 at ANZAC House, 283 St Pauls Terrace, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006. Promoter: Vic \$10,000 gold bullion & 3rd prize \$5,000 gold bullion. The total number of tickets available for AU359 is 3,450,000 which may include a maximum of 724,500 bonus tickets. Entrants must be 18 years or over. WA only. Selling costs and market variations apply when selling gold bullion. Travel is in the form of a voucher, is not redeemable for cash and must be booked directly with our selected supplier, subject to their terms

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\$5

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beach

Wake up
TO SYDNEY'S
NORTHERN BEACHES



This stunning North Curl Curl house offers prime Sydney beach real estate and epitomises luxury beachside living with five bedrooms, three bathrooms and light-filled open-plan living, kitchen and dining areas. Plus, there's a spacious backyard with your own swimming pool to enjoy.

Perfectly positioned in North Curl Curl, you can discover the relaxed Northern Beaches lifestyle by taking a stroll to some of Sydney's best surf spots or a coastal walk to the rock pool.

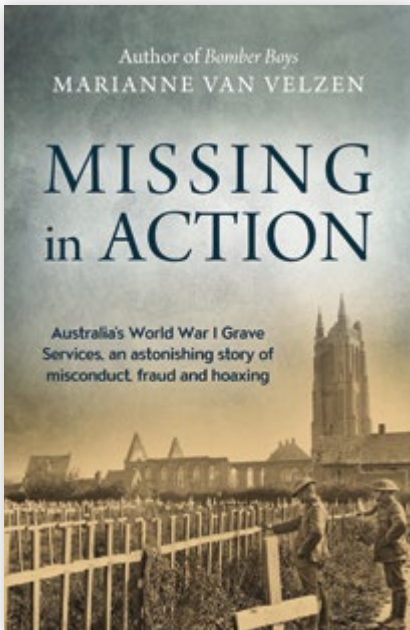
🏠 392 SQM 🛏️ 5 🍷 3 🚗 2 ❄️ AC 🏊 POOL

TODAY **RSLartunion.com.au** or **1300775888**

Valley QLD 4006, under licence No. 29819 (by permission of Queensland Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation), ACT Permit No.R18/00101, VIC Permit No. 10365/18, NSW Permit No. Reading, Locked Bag 4032, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006. Proceeds are for the purpose of veteran welfare and support in Australia. Prizes drawn in order of value: 1st prize \$4,085,821, 2nd prize residents not eligible to enter. Winners notified by registered mail. Results published in The Courier Mail and The Australian on 22/10/18. Some items shown in pictures are for display purposes and conditions. Information correct at time of printing. For up to date details and full terms and conditions please refer to www.rslartunion.com.au.



WIN



MISSING IN ACTION

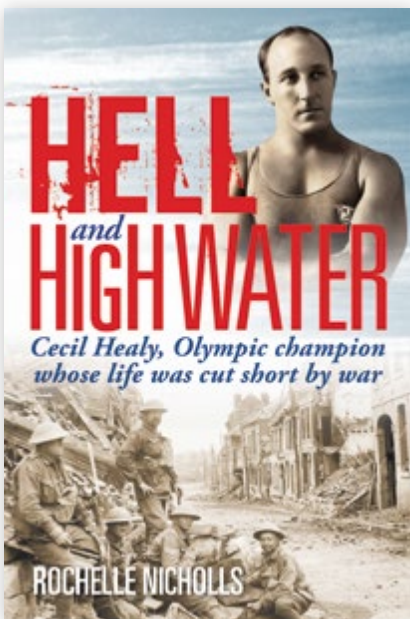
By the end of WWI, 45,000 Australians had died on the Western Front. Some bodies had been hastily buried mid-battle in mass graves, others were mutilated beyond recognition. Often, men were simply listed as 'Missing in Action' because nobody knew for sure.

Lieutenant Robert Burns was one of the missing and, now the guns had fallen silent, his father wanted to know what had become of his son. He wasn't the only one looking for answers. A loud clamour rose from Australia for information and the need for the dead to be buried respectfully.

Many of the Australians charged with the grisly task of finding and reburying the dead were deeply flawed. Each had his own reasons for preferring to remain in France instead of returning home. In the end, there was a great scandal, with allegations of 'body hoaxing' and gross misappropriation of money and Army possessions leading to two highly secretive inquiries. Untold until now, *Missing in Action* is the compelling and unexpected story of those dark days and darker deeds and a father's desperate search for his son's remains.

Missing in Action by Marianne van Velzen is published by Allen & Unwin (RRP: \$32.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Missing in Action*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Missing in Action') or post to 'Missing in Action', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes September 24, 2018.



HELL AND HIGHWATER

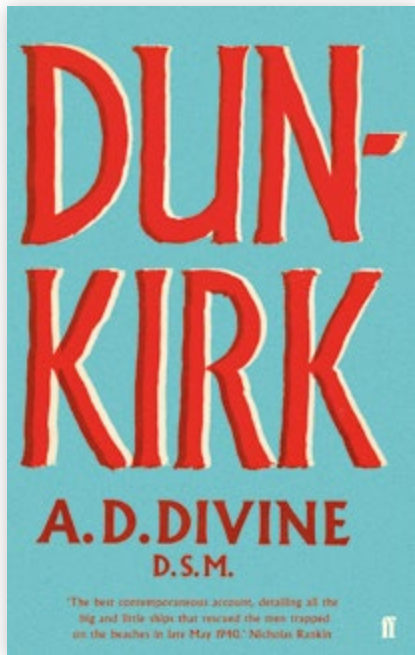
The golden boy of Australian swimming and captain of the lifeguards on Manly Beach, Cecil Healy was the poster-boy for all that was decent in Australia before WWI. Powerful, bronzed and daring, his fearlessness made him a leader in the embryonic surf-lifesaving movement, and his unique crawl stroke captured swimming records across the globe. Healy became the darling of the Olympic movement in 1912, when he allowed a disqualified rival to swim and take the 100 metres freestyle title, sacrificing almost certain victory for fair play and honour.

But Cecil Healy's seemingly perfect life was beset by darkness and secrets. His repressed sexuality and inner demons drove him to acts of recklessness that would culminate in his supreme sacrifice on the battlefields of France. As WWI raged, the Olympic champion refused to remain protected behind the lines. His death on the Somme in 1918, charging a German machine-gun post, embodies the tortured self-destructiveness that still drives many male sportsmen to both glory and disaster.

Cecil Healy remains the only Australian Olympic gold medallist to have given his life in the theatre of war. This book chronicles both Healy's glittering sports performances and the torment behind this great, lost Olympian.

Hell and Highwater by Rochelle Nicholls is published by Big Sky Publishing (RRP: \$34.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Hell and Highwater*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Hell and Highwater') or post to 'Hell and Highwater', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes September 24, 2018.



DUNKIRK

Originally published in 1945: “AD Divine’s *Dunkirk* is the best contemporaneous account, detailing all the big and little ships that rescued the men trapped on the beaches in late May 1940.” - Nicholas Rankin

This is the story of Dunkirk and of the men who planned it (insofar as it was planned) and of the men who carried it out, and of their ships. Mr Divine, who was himself with the small boats, writes with the authority of direct knowledge. He had the assistance of the men who were intimately concerned with planning and organising the operation.

This is the true story of Dunkirk from its almost nebulous beginnings to the astonishing triumph of its end.

Dunkirk by AD Divine OBE is published by Allen & Unwin (RRP: \$24.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Dunkirk*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Dunkirk') or post to 'Dunkirk', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes September 24, 2018.



QUEENSLAND RSL NEWS WINNERS

Edition 3, 2018

AGAINST THE SKYLINE

H Teale, Manly
T Bruce, Bargara
J Sparksman, Allora
L Rooney, Burpengary

MONASH & CHAUVEL

D Clapperton, Tarong
B Dennis, Caloundra
M Herbert, Caloundra
F Archer, Loch Lomond

PALESTINE DIARIES

C Thompson, Carina Heights
G Unsworth, Pelican Waters
J Tranter, Thornlands
G Munro, Bridgeman Downs

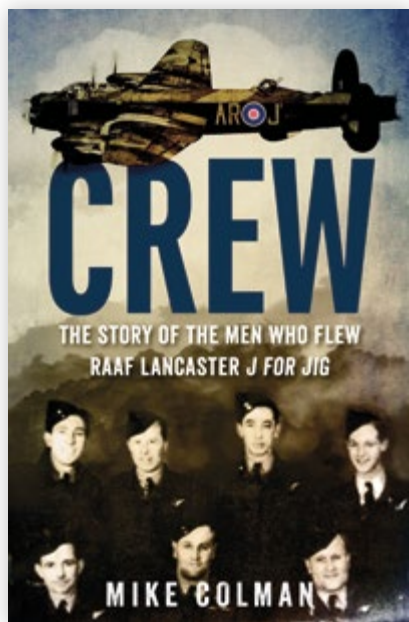
THE BATTLE OF CRETE

G Allan, Calamvale
M Hurley, Urraween
T Bohn, Riverview
L Thompson, Runaway Bay

HAND COLOURED PHOTO COMPETITION

C Chant, Runaway Bay

* Winners' books will be sent to the address supplied in the weeks following publication of the magazine.



CREW

On the evening of February 24, 1944, RAAF Lancaster bomber J for Jig took off from an airfield in Lincolnshire. On board was a crew of seven young men – five Australians and two Scots – whose mission was to bomb factories in Schweinfurt, Germany. But J for Jig never reached its target. It was shot down in the night skies over France.

This book is about the seven lives on that aircraft – who they were, what they did, who they loved and who they left behind. Some were to die that night, while others were to survive, withstanding incredible hardships and adventures as prisoners and evaders in a war that was far from over.

Crew brilliantly recreates J for Jig’s final mission, but, more than that, in telling seven individuals’ stories, Mike Colman has captured the achievements, loss and the enduring legacy of the generation that fought in WWII.

Crew by Mike Colman is published by Allen & Unwin (RRP: \$32.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Crew*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Crew') or post to 'Crew', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes September 24, 2018.

COMMUNITY CONNECT

BATTLE OF MILNE BAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

The 76th Anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay Memorial Service will be held in Nundah Memorial Park at the corner of Buckland Road and Bage Street in Nundah on Sunday, August 26 at 10am. For further details contact Nundah Northgate RSL Sub Branch on 07 3256 7887 or email nu07770@bigpond.net.au.

ARCHIVAL AUDIO FOOTAGE

Do you have archival audio footage from a broadcast completed in a plane over Brisbane in 1947? The broadcast launched an appeal for £30,000 to complete the original home for returned servicemen, now known as Fernhill in Caboolture, which is undergoing a major redevelopment. Bolton Clarke is hoping to find the footage and use it as part of a living wall and website for the redevelopment of Fernhill. If you have any information, contact Pete Dillon via 07 3248 6907 or pdillon@boltonclarke.com.au.

ARMY MUSEUM SOUTH QUEENSLAND "1918" EXHIBITION

Victoria Barracks on Petrie Terrace in Brisbane has been the scene of many historical events since 1864. A visit includes an escorted tour of the Army Museum South Queensland's "1918" exhibition, which opened in July. Australia's involvement in the closing events and battles of WWI is displayed in unique artefacts, rare photos and a diorama. Pre-bookings are essential. Tours are only available on Wednesday mornings. Contact Bev Smith on 0429 954 663 or visit www.armymuseumsouthqueensland.com.au. The price of \$15 per person includes the exhibition, an escorted tour of the barracks, Devonshire tea in the original officers' mess, a souvenir booklet and group photo.

CONTACT WITH VIETNAM VETERAN

Musical writer Bob Bishop would like to renew contact with a drummer/Vietnam veteran who was living around Gracemere at the end of 2014. Bob hopes to collaborate on musical arrangements about Australia's involvement in WWII around 1945. It could be described as 'The Sullivans set to music'. If you have any information, email funchickfried@hotmail.com.

WWI DISCHARGE PAPERS FOUND

Opening the back of a vintage frame uncovered an unexpected treasure. The discharge certificate of WWI veteran Private Frederick Charles Cox in immaculate condition! Frederick (service number 517) enlisted on February 9, 1915 and served with the 19th Australian Infantry Battalion. He was wounded and returned to Australia on January 10, 1918 and was honourably discharged on September 3, 1918. We would like to return the papers to Frederick's family members. Please contact editor@rslqld.org if you have any information.



OLD DOG TAG FOUND

An old dog tag has been found under a house in Brisbane. The tag reads 'AUST 1813248 CLARKE BT N REL A POS'. If you are the owner of this identification tag or know the owner, contact Skip on skipthestumper@yahoo.com.au or 0433 698 333.



IF GAMBLING IS A PROBLEM, CALL GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS

Is gambling costing you more than money? Family, friends or quality of life? Do you gamble longer than you had planned? Are your finances unmanageable due to gambling? Gamblers Anonymous is a self-help group that may have the answers for you. If you require further information, contact 0467 655 799 to find a meeting in your local area or view the meetings list at gaaustralia.org.au.

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNIT

Do you know the name of a book published in the 1990s about a WWII Queensland University Student Unit based at Currimundi fitness camp? Helen Callaghan's family is looking for a replacement copy. Contact hcallaghan1964@outlook.com if you have any information.

TOOWONG RSL AND WESTS BULLDOGS FESTIVAL OF RUGBY

Toowong RSL Sub Branch and Wests Bulldogs have banded together to hold a Festival of Rugby to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Remembrance Day on Sunday, November 11. After an 11am service at the Cenotaph at Toowong Memorial Park, Wests Bulldogs Rugby Club will host three rugby matches throughout the afternoon: 12pm - Under 13s, 1.30pm - Under 16s and 3pm - Golden Oldies. All money raised will be donated to Mates4Mates. For more information, contact 0419 703 334 or secretarytoowongrsl@bigpond.com.

LOST MEDAL - DAVIS

A lost medal has been handed in to Gaythorne RSL Sub Branch. The name inscribed is L. W. A. Davis - 0102304. Contact Secretary Greg Butterfield on 07 3355 4655.



THREE MEDALS LOST – NEWCOMB

Simon Newcomb OAM OAL has lost three medals, including his Order of Australia, Australian Defence Medal and Centenary of National Service 1951-1972. The medals are grouped together on a bar, with his OAM citing "For service to the sport of rowing in Queensland through administrative and coaching roles". The medals (being original) have Simon's name engraved around the outside edge of the medal.



JOIN THE RAAFA

The Kawana Waters branch of the Queensland Division of the Royal Australian Air Force Association (RAAFA) conducts branch meetings on the second Saturday of each month at Kawana Waters Life Saving Club. The association aims to promote and maintain the welfare and benefits of serving and ex-serving men and women of Her Majesty's Air Forces and Allied Air Forces and their dependents. Activities include monthly meetings, monthly subsidised lunches, interesting bus tours and social activities. If you would like to become a member, contact Secretary Lance on 07 5443 2775.

SEEKING INFORMATION ON EVENTS FROM VIETNAM WAR

If you have information about either of the following events, please contact Robert O'Connor on 0418 742 219 or robertoc@lrv.net.au.

- Circa April 1968. Area: Nui Thi Vai mountains. Incident: Firefight with VC. A group of seven diggers were surrounded and pinned down by a considerably larger force of VC on the plateau of one of the peaks. All soldiers were eventually choppered off by a RAAF Huey. Shortly after lift-off, the helicopter came under fire from the VC. The pilot took violent evasive action, causing the unfortunate last man aboard to fall out of the machine. Fortunately, he grabbed the door mullion on his way out of the cargo bay, where he stayed for a minute or so before climbing back on board. Units involved: Infantry, engineers, RAAF.
- Circa July/August 1968. Area: Duc Thanh (?). Incident: Village search. This involved a Vietnamese family of four. Around 500 villagers were secured in a wired compound when the distressed family were brought into the open section to be assessed by a medical team. The father had a severe foot condition. One Digger from among the onlookers came forward to help the man and his family (a girl around 12 and a boy around 10) move to the medical team for treatment. Units: Infantry, engineers, medical corps, civil affairs.

50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY REUNION BATTLES OF CORAL AND BALMORAL

The next 'Red Rat' reunion of the 1st Australian Task Force South Vietnam 1966-72 will be held on Phillip Island from November 15-19, 2018, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Battles of Coral-Balmoral. It will take place at the BIG 4 Phillip Island Caravan Park at 24 Old Bridge Drive, Newhaven, Victoria. For more information on the reunion, phone John Verhelst on 0437 212 121 or Bob Sutton on 0400 825 386. For caravan park bookings, phone 03 5956 7227, email info@phillipislandcpk.com.au or visit www.phillipislandcpk.com.au.

HEADQUARTER 1ST AUSTRALIAN LOGISTIC SUPPORT GROUP (1ALSG)

A reunion of the Headquarter 1st Australian Logistic Support Group will be held in Ballarat from November 8-11, 2019. For event and accommodation details, contact Tony Brown on 0428 852 736 or tonyl1raye13@bigpond.com.

REUNION FOR EX-RAAF PERSONNEL WHO SERVED IN A GEMS UNIT (MTRS/GSE/GEMF/MEOMS)

A reunion for South East Queensland ex-RAAF residents, who were a mustering or officer that served in any Ground Equipment Maintenance Unit in the RAAF, will be held on October 27 from 3pm at Jets Leagues Club at 15 Downs St, North Ipswich. Partners are welcome. For more information, phone Jacko on 0413 700 298 or (after 6pm) 07 3294 0803.

1 FIELD SQUADRON GROUP – THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS QLD. INC.

A reunion for 1 Field Squadron Group will be held at Twin Towns Services Club in Tweed Heads, NSW, from August 23-25, 2019. The cost is \$175 per person and will include a meet and greet on Friday, a memorial service and evening banquet on Saturday and a luncheon on Sunday. Contact Jim Weston on 0419 260 463 or james.weston5@icloud.com.

NEED HELP?

Are you looking for someone, something or seeking information? Are you in need of help from your local RSL community? Would you like to make contact with an RSL contributor? Email your request to editor@rslqld.org

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Abbott	John	151930	Runaway Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Abraham	Tom	0113720	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Allchin	Richard	R37843	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Allen	Reginald	29012	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
Anderson	Ronald	A316006	Tamborine Mountain Sub Branch Inc.
Anderson	Sidney	1703731	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Andrews	John	114091	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Astill	Margaret	OF269874	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Ayton	Lindsay	N204342/ NX149050	Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc.
Badke	Bevan	A11023	Blackbutt Sub Branch Inc.
Baker	Edward	OX48109 (Q151442)	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Baker	Margaret	VF388005	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Barnes	Albert	NX151523	Centenary Suburbs Sub Branch Inc.
Barnes	Brian	R54833	Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc.
Bartkus	Charles	1733268	Emu Park Sub Branch Inc.
Beattie	Frank	19955	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Beck	Raymond	163834	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Bennett	John	022182	Kenmore/Moggill Sub Branch
Berg	Mercy	OFX59302 (Q267994, OX59302)	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Broadley*	David	NX203774	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Brooks	Frederick	126888	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Brown	Eric	52862	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Browne	Peter	1/706043	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Bullpitt	Cyril	Q76371	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Burrow	Alexander	OX43849 (Q122320)	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Busk	Athol	35924	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Butcher	Kenneth	276731	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Butler	Kurt	8269848	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Butler	Adrian	A14788	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Carter	Clayton	PA3899	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Cheesman	John	R292911	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Cherrie	Keith	12445	Goodna Sub Branch Inc.
Chu	John	W63846	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Clarke	Percy	WX26285	Banyo Sub Branch Inc.
Clews	James	OX18752	Mackay Sub Branch Inc.
Colborne	Colin	1/702108	Proserpine Sub Branch Inc.
Comber	Peter	39398	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Cook	Michael	A17402	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Creevey	Stephen	1/859803	Kingaroy/Memerambi Sub Branch Inc.
Crilly	Brian	4/1918	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Crocker	Edward	36219	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Cruse	Reginald	OX54274 (Q123999)	Yeronga-Dutton Park Sub Branch Inc.
Currie	Stanley	NX156777	Burleigh Heads Sub Branch Inc.
Daley	Kevin	151360	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Davie	John	1736241	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Dickson	James	2/4711	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Dooley	Ian	A224931	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Douglas	Leonard		Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Dunne	Stephen	1202273	Nanango Sub Branch Inc.
Dutney	Herbert	OX33643 (Q90952)	Ipswich Railway Sub Branch Inc.
Earthy	Edward	26525478	Nerang Sub Branch
Eaton	Godfrey	1733790	Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc.
Edgar	Thomas	R330457	Stanthorpe Sub Branch Inc.
Egeberg	Hazel	F1/201	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Eggert	John	F4281	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Erwin	William	314664	Goodna Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Evans	Paul	303387	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Fairbank	Ralph	R55196	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
Fawcett	John	NX46565	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Fedrick	Robyn	F18224	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Fennell	John	R58309	Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc.
Ferguson	Lily	QF217598	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Fountain	Gerald	14757	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Fulton	Matthew	A218008	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Gablonski	Dennis	1/723014	Gatton Sub Branch Inc.
Galea	Joseph	R54100	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Ganley	Bartholomew	3/10260	Unattached List Sub Branch
Garrard*	Leslie	NX176479 (N464439)	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Geedrick	James	1982	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc.
Gilbert	Thomas	3135788	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Gill	Victor	R4992	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Goeldner	Ronald	1/710363	Yeronga-Dutton Park Sub Branch Inc.
Golding	Russell	S113551	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Goldsworthy	Eric	A212868	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Gorsch	Reginald	OX50206	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Gosney	Thomas	76577	Nanango Sub Branch Inc.
Greig	Allan	A116494	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Gulson	Peter	1/400539	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Gunn	Robert	1/710226	Yeronga-Dutton Park Sub Branch Inc.
Hall	Leslie	145880	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Ham	Hazel	QF272906	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc.
Hamilton	Robert	342646	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Harbison	John	B4428	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Harris	Michael	136499	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Harrison	Geoffrey	1517748	Manly-Lota Sub Branch Inc.
Harrison	Joseph	646488	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Hart	Kathleen	QFX53957	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Harvey	Harry	Q1101	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Harvey	James	434917/ QX40628 (Q101979)	Yeronga-Dutton Park Sub Branch Inc.
Heath-Eves	Richard	RA11837922	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Hickey	Noel	1/2102	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Hill	Ronald	170291	Sunnybank Sub Branch Inc.
Hilton	Roy	1/722412	Toowong Sub Branch
Holcombe	Tommy	R12399	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Hollis	Kenneth	1721368	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Holroyd	John	R38733	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Horne	Douglas	QX45772 (Q137251)	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Howlett	Keith	2/768535	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Hunter	Judith	W18987	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Hunter	Noel	1/711603	Gayndah Sub Branch Inc.
Hyde	James	A15446 (43975)	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Isaac	Edward	311340	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Jackson	Thomas	12452	Maleny Sub Branch Inc.
Janson	Laurie	1/706897	Herbert River Sub Branch Inc.
Jarrett	Richard	157263	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Johnson	Kenneth	1495300	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Johnson	Neville	A22584	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Johnston	Norman	QX58553	Coolum-Peregian Sub Branch Inc.
Jones	Henry	5411582	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Jordan	Norman	QX36186 (Q302075)	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Jordan	John	O33142	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Juillerat	Donald	14699	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Keast	Neil	A312830	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Kelly*	Michael	3112654	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Keppel	Frank	V340132	Goodna Sub Branch Inc.
Kincade	Harold	3/86645	Longreach Sub Branch Inc.
Knowles	David	62984	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Kopp	Garry	R55707	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Lawler	Thora	QF270485	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Lawson	Kenneth	T/14073423	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Leader	Ronald	174853/ 22773122	Boonah Sub Branch
Lee	Reginald	R601175	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Leftwich	Robert	414577	Kenmore/Moggill Sub Branch
Leighton	Charles	QX29311	Biloela Sub Branch Inc.
Lemcke	John	412154	Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc.
Lilienthal	Victor	424620	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Lockwood	Roy	4040560	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Magdalinski	Sidney	P50589	Tin Can Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Maguire	Brian	2136856	Stanthorpe Sub Branch Inc.
Maizey	Stanley	235023	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Mathias	David	D/JX570223	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Mayfield	Maurice	CJ/X808916	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Mcarthy	Brian	150424	Mackay Sub Branch Inc.
McGlinchey	James	14704667	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
McKay	Enid	NF460808	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
McLean	Kenneth	PM5296	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
McVety	Victor	14921189/ 33645	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Milliner	Brian	A114246	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Monaghan	William	O2069	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Morgan	Peter	218084	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Morgan	William	3507562	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Moss	Monald	QX59177/ A11216	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Murray	John	A22779	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Murray	Winifred	93982	Cairns and Dist Ex-Servicewomen
Nagle	Douglas	28647	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Newman*	Edwin	R46323	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Nobbs	Charles	118493	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
North	Marian		Cairns and Dist Ex-Servicewomen
O'Brien	Neil	NX154176 (N220028)	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
O'Brien	John	3790644	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
O'Brien	John	2728518	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
O'Halloran*	Russell	122948	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Oliver	Violet	102624	Mackay Ex-Service Women Sub Branch Inc.
Opassi	Mario	R62680	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Page	James	CJ/X721852	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Patterson	Graham	1709211	National Servicemens Sub Branch Inc.
Perrin	Timothy	214293	Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc.
Phillips	Albert	QX50593	Farleigh & Northern Beaches Sub Branch
Poustie	William	A13560	Innisfail Sub Branch Inc.
Power	John	A219612	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Proud	Robert	R35859	Burleigh Heads Sub Branch Inc.
Quinn	John	VX504014	Esk Sub Branch Inc.
Rek	Jerzy	250820208	Mackay Sub Branch Inc.
Richards	Sydney	A218282	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Richards	Manson	2411938	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Riley*	Stanley	A217675	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Robb	Peter	A223868	Goodna Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Robbie	David	NX78306	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Roberts	David	2789781	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Robinson	Herbert	NX160847	Kingaroy/Memerambi Sub Branch Inc.
Robinson	Roy	A17570	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Rosenberg	Hal	3/104555	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Ryan	Peter	223563	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Ryan	Terence	A120257	Forest Lake Sub Branch
Saunders	Kevin	1/722035	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Saywell	Maurice	A110211	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
Schellbach	Olive	QF270977	Maryborough Sub Branch Inc.
Schmidt	Hilary	QF269425	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Schmitz (Smith)	Joseph	R51378	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Schols	Henricus	290602182	Stephens Sub Branch
Schuster	Benedick	QX49861 (Q122027)	Burleigh Heads Sub Branch Inc.
Scorse	John	35400	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Seymour	Patrick	A117398	Herbert River Sub Branch Inc.
Shanahan	John	2/718894	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Sherrington	Thomas	QX43754	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Sherwood	Trevor	14330	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Silk	Barry	214831	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Simmons	Stephen	13029	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Slingsby	Robert	QX29153	Nerang Sub Branch
Smaldon	Thomas	151331	Toowoomba United Sub Branch.
Small	Edna	QFX61065	Ex-Servicewomens Sub Branch
Smith	Mavis	94104	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Lindsay	31193	North Gold Coast Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Harold	414268	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Souvlis	Constantine	W15037	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Stevenson	James	Q102369	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Stroud	Dennis	NX69376	Charters Towers Sub Branch Inc.
Struthers	Margaret	QF272322	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Styles	Stanley	B4449	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Swindells	Edward	3509501	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Taylor	Richmond	44198	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Tengdahl	Walter	78969	Sandgate Sub Branch Inc.
Thomson	Ian	14517	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
Toft	Mark	R118489	Ipswich Railway Sub Branch Inc.
Tranthen	Graeme	513969	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Tremelling	Raymond	4714050	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Truesdale	Patricia	F12462	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Tyler*	Cedric	616761	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Underhill	James	BV196	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Varidel	George	78758	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Voevodin	Walter	QX44283 (Q146599)	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Von Hein	Pauline	W14586	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Walker	Noel	132960	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Wanchap	Brian	6304NS	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Wardrop	Robert	R303482	Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc.
Ware	Robert	QX56244	Sarina Sub Branch Inc.
Webber	William	19097962	Dalby Sub Branch Inc.
Webster	Alexander	A25197	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
West	Cecil	1/707334/ Q16763	Proserpine Sub Branch Inc.
Wheeler*	William	2140473	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Whitchurch	Frederick	QX58637 (Q272510)	Toowong Sub Branch
Wilkins	Austin	VX502760	Bayside South Sub Branch Inc.
Wolff	Bernard	171839	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.



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