



# The Listening Post

National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc

Summer Issue 2017

## President's Address



I was reminded the other day it is only 6 weeks to Christmas" where has the year gone one might ask. Well for our Association it has been a great year in many areas.

Of most significance is the appointment of our National Patron His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Gosgrove AK MC (Retd). A man who knows first hand what veterans have experienced and in some cases continue to suffer the effects of their service.

We anticipate meeting with Sir Peter in the future as his time permits.

I would like to stress how important it is to remember August 31 our National Malaya & Borneo veterans day and ask that you make sure the executive in your state holds a service on that day if at all possible.

This year services were held in Victoria, SA and Qld, hopefully all states will hold a service in 2018.

Recruiting of new members is continuing and goes well for our long term future, remember the person you spoke to during your day to day activities could well have served, so ask them you never know.

You would be aware that a tri service campaign is under way to erect a memorial at the AWM to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation. More information will be given out soon as we approach the design stage.

The design of course is controlled by the AWM but we will see the choices in due course. Get behind this campaign when you can.

We now have our Merchandise on our web site together with an order form so you can obtain items much easier. Again I ask that you view the items and purchase what you wish as the profits from sales greatly assist our association.

We now have a very strong group in WA as you will see in this edition of Listening Post, it just goes to show what can be achieved if the effort is put into recruiting.

I will take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a great 2018. Remember at this time of the year we should all reach out to someone who may feel alone.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Listening Post.

All the best and stay well, assist those in need when you can; it gives one a good feeling.

Owen Marshall  
National President

Merchandise available to order online [www.nmbvaa.org.au](http://www.nmbvaa.org.au)

Support your association with the purchase of Bumper Stickers, badges, caps, shirts and other items. Detail online on our website.



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## NEW SOUTH WALES / A.C.T BRANCH

### Membership

The recent advertisement in the VetAffairs newspapers has attracted quite a few enquiries from around NSW mainly with the ACT remaining quiet.

Maybe we will find amongst these and existing NSW members the people who will get together and form a stand-alone NSW Branch. Being such a large and populous State (compared to the ACT anyway), it is almost impossible to assemble a group to take on the task.

If anyone is interested in taking this on please call Ian Davenport on 0427 225670 for an insight into the requirements and possible start-up funding.

### RAE Nasho reunion

President Ian and Secretary Maureen attended a reunion of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Construction Squadron RAE National Servicemen who served in Sabah Malaysia in 1966.

This reunion is held every two years in a City somewhere in Australia on a rotational basis. The first reunion was held in 1997 in Perth where our Squadron was based. This was the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conclusion of our compulsory two-year service.

Bendigo was the location for 2017 with a trip to the Murray River and paddle steamer ride to a winery incorporated into the three-day event. Members of 21 Construction Squadron who also served in Sabah out of Puckapunyal also join our group to socialise reminisce.



RAF Avro Vulcan bomber lands at RAF Butterworth, Malaysia, c 1965. The presence of these strategic bombers was a considerable deterrent to the Indonesians during the Confrontation period. (Picture & attributes from Wikipedia)



2019 we return to WA for the Third reunion to be held there and 2021 is, at the moment, scheduled for Canberra.

### Seasons Greetings

With 2017 rapidly drawing to a close we wish all members a happy, Holy and safe festive season leading in to a great 2018. Let us remember those who have left us in 2017 and before and cherish our time in this great country we have fought to protect.

N.S.W / A.C.T



Contact

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## Victorian Branch August 31 Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day.

The Day went very well and we were blessed with magnificent weather.

Each year we hold this service at the shrine to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation.

On the day we were very pleased to have in attendance many special guests including the Consul general of Malaysia Mr. Westmoreland Palon and his wife, the Shrine life Governor Lieutenant Colonel David Ford and the British Consul General.

We were very privileged to have a fly past by aircraft from point Cook an honour indeed.

## VICTORIAN BRANCH



Trevor Warner and John O'Regan leading the Veterans



Marching to the flame.

The fly past made the day even more special and our appreciation is greater than words can say.



Mr. Westmoreland Palon, the Consul General of Malaysia (Melbourne) and his wife.



Lawrie Wilson, the wife's of Ben Thurlow and Vern Joseph, Ben Thurlow



Lawrie Wilson delivering the Ode

Victoria



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## QUEENSLAND BRANCH

### Celebration to Commemorate

The 57th Anniversary of the  
Cessation of the Malayan  
Emergency

And

The 51st Anniversary of the  
cessation of the Indonesian  
Confrontation with Malaysia



The last day of winter shone brightly on the veterans and families of the former members of the Royal Australian Navy, The Australian Army and the Royal Australian Air Force that attended the celebration of the end of hostilities in the Malaysian Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation of Malaysia at the Royal Australian Regiment National Memorial Walk at Enoggera, Brisbane on 31 August 2017.

Approximately 100 attended including former members of the New Zealand Armed Forces to gather again with the Aussies as sons of ANZACS.



The welcome by the MC, Alan Price, the offering of the prayer by Salvation Army Major Garry Craig and the mounting of the Catafalque Party provided by the Commanding Officer of the 8th/9th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (8/9 RAR) and under command of Corporal Jeff Hines, commenced the formal proceedings and Alan Price presented an address reflecting on the families and how they accompanied, experienced and endured military life. He especially explained the division of loyalties and love between the

soldier, his military responsibilities and his family.

The reading of the Honour Roll by David Brewer (Aus) and Meagan Humphries (NZ), the Chaplain's address, the laying of wreaths, the reading of the Ode by Allen Edwards followed by the Last Post, silence and Rouse played by the Army Band, Bne bugler contributed to the solemn ceremony.



Picture from the Malaysian War Museum



Queensland



Contact

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S.A & N.T BRANCH

## MBV Day Ceremony

The 2017 Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day commemoration service was conducted at 1100 hrs on Saturday, 26 August in the Hilton War Memorial Gardens. Adelaide Memorial on Saturday 26th August 2017.



The Honour Guard was formed by the Cadets from 604 Sqn AAFC for the 7th consecutive service. VIPs, members and family enjoyed a lunch at the Hilton RSL sub-Branch.



Don Cameron VP SA NT, PLTOFF Dennis Medlow, 6 Wing AAFC Chief Flying Instructor - Gliding, and PLTOFF Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP 604 Sqn AAFC Brian Selby (SA/NT State President) on the right.

S.A / N.T



Contact

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NMBVAA Social Group Luncheon

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA BRANCH



Held at the RAAF Association Club, Bull Creek. Two guest speakers were our NMBVAA Member, Mr Fred Lynch, (Korean & Malayan Veteran) an Mr Louie Tan (DVA Accredited Exercise Physiologist who conducts various fitness programs with our local veterans.



**Rear Row (L-R)** Allison Cains, Bob Cains, Ken Mutton, Neil Postma, John Sargeant, Woody Woodford, Brenda Huscha, Myke Stanbridge, John Crossland, Janet Mutton, Darrel Fragall. **Front Row (L-R)** Helen Sargeant, Dapheney Woodford, Sylvia Fragall, Maria Stanbridge, Gita Foulds, Hugh Ritchie, Steve Lucks, and Ed Harkin. **Absent from photo**, F.Lynch, L.Tan, Y. Ritchie, B.Weir, J.Huscha, P & R.Griffiths.



103 Bty RAA, attached to 26 Field Regiment RA, Malaya 1962-63

Training on newly delivered 105mm Howitzers. Photo courtesy John Crossland



103 Bty RAA, attached to 26 Field Regiment RA, Malaya 1962-63

Western Australia



Contact

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## TASMANIA BRANCH

### Certificate of Appreciation

Selected and presented to the Tasmanian Branch of NMBVAA Inc. in 2017 by the Lord Mayor of Hobart for Service to the Veterans Community. Hobart Tasmania.



Collected by Barb Challenger and Margret Hughes, two of our long standing members, with 44 yrs between them.

### Tasmanian Branch Moving Home & Other News.

The Tasmanian branch will cohabit with the Claremont RSL.

Christmas Lunch will be held on the 6th December.

Our New Patron for Tasmania is Mr. Scott Bacon MHA.

Elected at the AGM on the 20th October all positions on the Committee will stay the same, all elected unopposed.



Tasmania



Contact

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## MBV Day Ceremony

RAAF Museum, Point Cook Fly Past in Melbourne on August 31 2017



Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne.

*Is this not the most magnificent site, CT-4 Trainers and Winjeels.*

These pilots gave of their time for us and we will always be grateful for that it topped of the best service one could hope for. Respect for those lost was as it should be a high honour to them.



No. 1 Squadron flying crew leaving their Lincoln bomber after a mission over Malaya.



No. 77 Squadron RAAF Sabres lined up on the tarmac at Butterworth in 1960. The first Sabre operation of the Emergency took place on 13 August 1959 when pilots dive-bombed communist camps and supply dumps near the Thai-Malay border. By the time Australian Sabres arrived, however, the Emergency was all but over and their operational role was limited. (Image courtesy of Kevin Stapleton)