



# The Listening Post

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 3

MARCH—APRIL 2010

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Ambulance and Hospital Cover Changes.

Nasho's War Memorial site

- **VALE**  
Bill FRENCH  
111 LAA Bty  
AATTV  
16 AD Regt  
RAA

Colour Patches

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## ANZAC 2010 Edition

The Australian and New Zealand troops who stormed ashore at Ari Burnu (now ANZAC Cove), on the 25th April 1915, were the finest troops ever assembled by the Australian Imperial Force and the New Zealand Expeditionary Force...their ill-fated campaign is legend and foundation of our national identity.

The adversity faced at Gallipoli is well known, and just surviving the almost unbearable conditions was in itself, an incredible mark of courage. There were also many acts of self-sacrifice, heroism and tenacity that defied the imagination, and some were honoured with the Empire's highest military honour—the Victoria Cross.

It's simple wording .....  
"FOR VALOUR" was personally

chosen by Queen Victoria for whom the medal is named.

The VC is the only Imperial bravery medal available to all ranks.



**ANZAC COVE  
GALLIPOLI**  
Ari Burnu

The ANZACS were awarded 10 VC's. Eight to Australians, one New Zealander serving in the AIF and one New Zealander.

They lived and fought at a time and place, and in conditions we can barely comprehend. However, one thing shines through these decades since they set a standard we can all aspire to. The ANZAC Spirit.

There are no longer any surviving WW I veterans in Australia.

In 1939, The Torch was passed to our fathers, uncles and aunts who formed the 2nd AIF, the RAN and the RAAF with no less bravery and courage and again confirmed the ANZAC Spirit all over the world.

Since then, that Spirit has been called to action in Korea, Malaya Borneo, Viet Nam, Somalia, Namibia, East Timor, Solomon Islands, Iraq, Arabian Gulf and Afghanistan.

**Lest We Forget Ed.**

## BORNEO M I A's Identified



Following on from the previous edition of *The Listening Post*, it has been confirmed that the two Australian SAS soldiers, who were lost in Borneo during the Indonesian Confrontation in 1965, have been positively identified in Sarawak and will be returned to their families and accorded a full military funeral

as it should be so..... the lack of publicity that still surrounds these men and the whole era is shameful..... It did happen, and these men in particular, deserve to be given the proper home-coming, as all other MIA's have been, albeit, some 45 years after they went-missing.

**Maj Gen Hughes** will be

present for the service for Lt Hudson and Tpr Moncreif at Pearce RAAF Base WA, and Qld President **Allen Edwards**, will represent the NMBVAA Inc at Lutwyche in Brisbane for Lt Hudson's funeral on 16.4.10.

**Lest We Forget**

**Ed.**

# ANZAC Day 2011 NEW ZEALAND



Traditional Jade Carving

The idea of attending the ANZAC Day 2011 services in NZ has been thought about, and discussed from time to time, over the last couple of years. To date a number of members from Brisbane and Adelaide have indicated that they would like to pursue the idea further.

There are a number of packages available that cover the likes of travel, accommodation, car hire and tours on the market which may suit some members.

The main idea is to arrive in NZ a couple of days prior to ANZAC Day, meet up with the Malaya Veterans' Assoc. members there, and attend the traditional NZ services. The MVA is the equivalent of the NMBVAA Inc and is a very strong ex-services organization.

There are a number of Kiwis in the NMBVAA Inc, and others who are married to some of our members here. No doubt their "local knowledge" would be of great benefit to

those making the trip. If you would like to be part of this, bearing in mind that a basic package would be worked up using Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide as the start point, is the first step to be made for a "Group Booking".



**Registration of Interest** details next edition.

Ed.

## Montevideo Maru

Tragedy

## SANDAKAN MEMORIAL ANNUAL SERVICES

Will be held in Canberra on 28 May 2010.

# SANDAKAN MEMORIAL SERVICE

The National Sandakan Commemoration Ceremony will be held **Friday, 28 May 10** at the Sandakan Memorial in the Australian War Memorial at 1100 hrs. Following the service, there will be a session entitled "Sandakan Conversations" at the Canberra Services Club Manuka from 3.00 -5.00 pm chaired by Prof. Richard Braithwaite, son of one of the 6 survivors of the

atrocities by the Japanese. Guest presenters will be June Healy, Jenny Nyman, Bill Young and Eric McDonald. At 6.00 pm, the annual SANDAKAN Lecture will be presented also at this venue by Prof. Braithwaite. If you are interested in attending these functions, or, would like to receive the Sandakan Families News Letters, contact Eric McDonald

by phone 02 6289 6063 or email [Eric.Mcdonald@dva.gov.au](mailto:Eric.Mcdonald@dva.gov.au)

Stained glass memorial at Sandakan Airport, Sabah.

*I. Davenport.*



# Little One - Pauline Kane



Pauline Kane did not survive birth on the 4.1.1959. She was buried in the Christian Cemetery, Kamunting Road, Taiping, Perak.. Over the years, her grave site had become lost in time. Thanks to the efforts

of the 3 RAR Padre, in conjunction with Australian Army Lt Col Steve Campbell Paine, her tiny grave has been found and properly marked. A memorial service prepared by the 3RAR Padre, is to be held in Taiping on 3 March 10, with family members and ADF personnel in attendance. **From: Bill Adamson WA**

Members attending the annual services in Ipoh and now at Kamunting Road, will be pleased with the work of the OAWG that has seen this cemetery recognized as an official War Graves site. There are also graves of New Zealand and British service personnel located there that have now been recovered.

# The National Servicemen's Assoc of Australia



The Memorial to all Australian National Servicemen will be dedicated at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra on 8 Sep 2010. The Fountain and surrounds is situated on the Eastern side of the main entrance in it's own precinct.

## Lest We Forget

Work on the site began just after ANZAC Day 2009 and completion will be prior to ANZAC Day 2010. The memorial honours the 212 National Servicemen who died on Active Service in Malaysia and Viet Nam and commemorates the 287,000 men called up from 1951—1972 for service in the RAN, the Australian Army and the RAAF. The history of National Service will be told on plaques in

the surrounds. The water represents the RAN, the sandstone plinth represents the Army and the sky reflected in the polished black granite represents the RAAF. The view from the seating is down ANZAC Parade, over Lake Burley Griffin to Parliament House and the Brindabella Ranges. The designer is Richard Johnson. The Dedication Service will commence at 1130 hrs in the presence of Her Excellency, the Governor General, Ms Quentin Bryce AC. The parade will assemble from 0900 hrs and step off at 1000 hrs.



**NASHOS**  
get a War Memorial site in Canberra.

*NH Moulder*

## Montevideo Maru and LARK Force Services

The annual Remembrance Service for this, Australia's greatest maritime loss of life will be held at Trawool, near Seymour in Victoria at 1030 hrs on Sunday, 25 July 10. A full programme is available from the National Secretary. A recent Foxtel documentary is available as a 2 dvd set from the Montevideo Maru Memorial Committee, PO Box 173, Neutral Bay NSW 2063 at a cost of **\$40.00**.

The 2/22nd Bn, 8 Div, AIF, was raised on 22 July 1940 and formed up at Trawool, Victoria embarking for New Britain on 17 April 1941, disembarking at Rabaul on 26 April 1941 to form LARK Force by joining up with local New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, a Coastal Battery, a Anti-Aircraft Battery, elements of the 2/10 Field Ambulance and 17th Anti-tank Battery and later supported by 24 Sqn RAAF. The main task was to defend the aerodromes at Lakunai and Vunakanau

Jap bombing from 1 January '42 caused severe damage and by 22 Jan, 22 Sqn was virtually destroyed. Both sites were blown up and the remaining elements of LARK Force withdrew to the Blanche Bay area to engage the Jap landings. The US Submarine "Sturgeon" sank the Montevideo Maru with the loss of 1061 Australian and civilian POW's on 1 July 1942, en route to Japan.

**"LARK Force" Memorial** Rabaul, PNG. *Ed.*



## D V A Notes

**AMBULANCE** and **HOSPITAL** Cover changes are proposed to begin from 1/7/2010 for all eligible Gold and White card holders. The new arrangements will put in place a single arrangement, with each State and Territory, being paid the same amount, in the jurisdictions, The changes will apply to **EMERGENCY** and to **non-emergency cases**—with the exception of the Royal Flying Doc-

tor Service which is funded by the Federal Government. Private ambulances in WA and TAS will be negotiated separately. There will be no reduction in services. At present, there are different payment and billing arrangements in every State and Territory, making for a very cumbersome and error prone system for DVA to administer.

Minister Griffin has written to each State and Territory about the current **HOSPITAL** arrangements. Given the context of the current health reform now underway, the Federal Govt intends to extend the existing Hospital Services Arrangements until 30/6/12. Enquiries can be made to DVA : Ms Judy Daniel in Canberra Ph: 02 6289 6418 or email to : judy.daniel@dva.gov.au **Ed.**



**Health Care**



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**For DVA and Membership Enquiries.**

[www.nmbvaa.com](http://www.nmbvaa.com)

## Letters to the Editor

The first Australian National Flag was unfurled on 3 September 1901. The design was the result of a world-wide competition to secure the need for a National flag, an ensign for the RAN, and a suitable ensign for the Merchant Navy. Prize money of 200 Pounds was set. Over 32,000 entries were submitted and the 5 eventual winners shared the prize money ! Mrs A Dorrington from WA, Mr EJ Nuttall from VIC, Mr I Evans from VIC, Mr L Hawkins from NSW, and Mr W Stevens from New Zealand. All were almost identical designs. In the upper hoist was the Union Jack, immediately below was the six pointed Federation Star, representing the six States of the Commonwealth of Australia. In the fly of the flag were the five stars of the Southern Cross.



It reflected our Heritage, our Unity within the Commonwealth of Australia, our place in the universe, and our Independence. In 1903, King Edward approved the design for the Australian flag and the Merchant Navy. Formally called the Commonwealth Blue Ensign and the Commonwealth Red Ensign. In 1908, the Federation Star became seven points to include the Territories of the Commonwealth and to conform with the star in the Crest of the Australian Coat of Arms.  
**From: John Balabouhin Qld VP**  
**Answer re "How many verses in Advance Australia Fair".....**  
**There are 5 verses.**



Australian Army Colour Patches  
FARELF and 28 Brigade