



MAY—JUNE 2012

LISTENING POST

The only official News Letter of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc

PATRON MAJ GEN J C HUGHES AO DSO MC



NOTICES

VALE

Vern McTye, Tas

RAP

Geoff Howard ? SA

HOSPITAL

Nil Return

SUPPORT FOR VETERANS

The Federal government has put \$12.3 billion into overall funding for the Australian veteran community in the recent 2012/13 budget delivery.

This funding will go towards strengthening support for our veterans to provide quality care and services for those who have served, and are currently serving the nation. The actual breakup is \$6.8 billion for pensions and income support, and \$5.5 billion for health services.

The response to the review of Military Compensation Arrangements will provide \$17.4 million over 4 years to implement 96 of the 108 recommendations of the Review.

In response to the obvious mental health needs of the veterans community, an extra \$373 k will be added to the existing funds to continue with

“Operation Life” suicide prevention until 2015/16.

61 service personnel have been reclassified for service in Tonga during 2006 from peacetime to non-warlike for Operation “Quickstep”.

There are additional MCRA payments and a reassessment of the criteria for granting of the Repatriation White Card. Around 6000 former ADF members with chronic health conditions accepted under the SCRA Act 1988, subject to a successful needs assessment showing long-term treatment needs will receive the White Card for specific conditions and the supplementary pharmaceutical payments.

Full report at www.budget.gov.au and Ph: 02 6277 7820 .

A total commitment of \$83.5 million over 7 years has been committed to marking the ANZAC Centenary commemorative program. The program will run from 2014 to 2018. It will include other significant military engagements and reflect upon the service of all our servicemen and women, past and present, in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations in which we have been involved.

The funding will deliver many important events and initiatives during the commemorative period and ensure that our nation fittingly commemorates the ANZAC Centenary.

*The Hon W Snowden MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs.*

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Annual Subs
- Federal Budget & DVA
- Singapore Trip
- Bush Etiquette

NB: Pics from Brisbane of ANZAC Day may be published if possible next edition.

Ed.

ANNUAL SUBS

Members are reminded that all annual subs are due for renewal from 1st January. Payments can be sent directly to the Branch Treasurers. Amounts payable vary in each Branch. If you are unsure of the fee, contact your Branch Treasurer.

DVA NOTES

There is a sting in the detail of the Federal Budget that impacts DVA....\$10 million has been removed from the funding for 2012/13. This translates into the reduction of staff levels by 90 spread over the States. It is believed that there will be no forced redundancies, volunteers only.

Veteran Aged Care reform measures to include more home care packages and residential care packages are being anticipated to rise from around 60,000 to 100,000 to include increases in dementia cases. \$27 million to AWM funds to refurbish the WW1 galleries.

ANZAC DAY 2012 MELBOURNE



Lead by Reg Poole
VP NMBVAA Inc.



Victoria members on the
march in the wet



Memorial plaque

NATIONAL LIAISON

- UK— Owen Marshall
- Malaysia— Brian Selby
- NZ— Allen Edwards
- FESR— Reg Poole.

EGG PLANT

There are three types of egg plants; white, yellow, purple, all have the same nutrients. Proven benefits include the ability to lower cholesterol, vitamins A B B1 B2 C and P. Egg plant ranks first in the T12 vegetable table of ability to lower blood pressure.

Chee Woh

ANZAC DAY 2012 LONDON



These pics are of the combined
Ex-service and serving personnel



Australian and New Zealand
on the march in London.

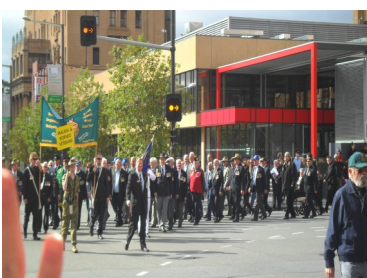


UK Memorial plaque

Things you didn't know.....

- Most overweight nation **Nauru**
- Most time zones.....**France**
- Most likely to disappear under water.....**Maldives**
- Most lakes.....**Canada**
- Least likely to meet a neighbour.... **Mongolia**
- Most diverse country....**India**
- Most citizens living abroad... **Malta**
- Most languages spoken... **PNG**
- Smallest country..**Monaco**
- Least peaceful nation..**
- Somalia**
- Most oxygen is produced by **Siberia**
- Most people in prison....**USA**
- Most desolate...**Libya**
- Country with NO farms.... **Singapore**
- Almost entirely treeless..... **Haiti**
- Almost entirely covered by jungle.....**Suriname**
- World's youngest population. **Niger**
- Land of no rivers..... **Saudi Arabia**

ANZAC DAY 2012 ADELAIDE



The march in Adelaide had very
pleasant weather again this year



RAN Cadets were the national
flag bearers and a Army Cadet
carried the identification sign.



64 formed up behind the
Banner

SINGAPORE



David Troedell has recently taken a trip to Singapore and took the time to do some sightseeing around the historic military installations that are well preserved and open to the public. Guided tours are recommended.

The huge 15 in Guns are examples of the defences which were in place against the Jap invasion from Malaya to the North and a suspected sea born invasion in 1941.

Military Terms
Navy: Sea time
Army: Ops, Bush, Field,
RAAF: ??
**** **** **** ****
Navy: AFT Stores
Army: Q Store
RAAF: Westfield Malls
**** **** **** ****
Navy: Hot Packs
Army: Rat Packs
RAAF: A La Carte
**** **** **** ****
Navy: Shore Patrol
Army: MPs
RAAF: Chaperones
**** **** **** ****
Contributions welcome.....



AUSTRALIAN BUSH ETIQUETTE

In General.....you should

Not take an open stubby to a job interview.
If drinking directly from the bottle, use one hand only.
When decanting from the box, tilt the plastic cup so as not to bruise the wine.
It's tacky to take an Esky to any church.
Always identify people in your paddock *before* you shoot at them

Never allow your dog to eat at the table no matter how good he is. Even if you live alone, deodorant is still a good investment. Extensive use of deodorant will only delay bathing a few days. If you have to vacuum the bed, it's time to change the sheets. Refrain from yelling at the movie screen, tests have proven that the actors cannot hear you.

Livestock is a poor choice for a wedding gift.
Kissing the Bride for more than 5 seconds is a no no. Though uncomfortable, socks should be worn to a wedding. For the Groom, ditch the tracky and wear a suit, sox and shoes. When sending your girlfriend (walking) to get petrol, it's *not* a good idea to ask for a slab also.
A. Davies

DID YOU SERVE with any

Australian or, Allied Armed Forces, post WW2, during the **Malayan Emergency** from 1948—60 or, during the **Indonesian Confrontation** from 1962—66, and since then in **East Timor** or, with the **RAR Rifle Company Butterworth ?** If so, you are very welcome and eligible to join the NMBVAA Inc. Branch details are shown on page 4 for all enquiries.....

MEN'S HEALTH PEER EDUCATION

DVA created a new form last year; D1302 Men's Quick Health Check. It can be completed online, saved and printed. A Health Information Guide is attached.

Veterans' Health Week 2012 will run from 22nd to 28th October. The theme is Social Inclusion with the key messages being; Learn; Work; Engage; Have a Voice.

Arthritis is an umbrella term for more than 120 medical conditions

that effect the musculoskeletal system. 25% of people in Australia have arthritis. There are a range of brochures. Information and educational programs available at Arthritis SA

Diabetes is a chronic disease with no known cure. However, Type 2 diabetes can be prevented. Specific tests will determine if you have or, are liable to contract the problem.

Prostrate cancer is a disease which can go undetected for many men. The worst case is that diagnosis may be completed too late.... If you are over 50, annual checking is necessary, and there is now a blood test which can also be utilised. Your GP is the first call to make and then follow the trail from then on....it is in your own best interests and without doubt for your families peace of mind.
DVA

WORLD'S LARGEST NON-MILITARY ARMY

The largest armed, non-military standing Army, is the United States. It is in a position to never be over run by any nation on Earth. Some states for fire arms licences held are; Wisconsin 600,000 Michigan 650,000 Pennsylvania 750,000

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

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- COMRADESHIP for those who served in Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore, Ubon, the Thai-Malay Border, Brunei and Timor during WW2, the MALAYAN EMERGENCY and the INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION post WW2.
To ASSIST members in times of need.
To REMEMBER with Pride, Respect and Gratitude, those who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty and to ensure those who fell are represented on ANZAC Day in Australia and Remembrance Day abroad.
To PROMOTE the Association and it's Aims.
To STRENGTHEN TIES with Malaysia and Singapore.

THE NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ESTABLISHED JUNE 1995

- 1 1945 9 Div AIF invades Tarakan. 5 day battle.
2 1945 Berlin falls to Soviets.
3 1917 2nd attack on the Hindenburg Line at Bullecourt begins by 2nd Div AIF. 7000 casualties.
4 1915 Gaba Tepe attacks on Gallipoli fail.
4 1942 Battle of The Coral Sea begins.
6 1917 Cpl GJ Howell VC 1 Bn AIF at Bullecourt
6-11 1969 WO2 R Simpson VC Kontum Province SVN.
7 1945 Germany surrenders to Allies at Reims.
8 1945 Germany surrenders separately to Soviets.
8 1915 2nd battle of Krithia on Gallipoli fails.
11 1945 Wewak captured by 6 Div AIF.
12 1917 Lt RV Moon VC 58 Bn AIF at Bullecourt.
12 1945 Cpl JB Mackey VC 2/3 Pioneer Bn Tarakan.
13 1943 Germans & Italians surrender in Tunisia.
14 1943 Japs sink Hospital Ship "Centaur".
14 1956 2 Bn RAR commences attack at Sungei Siput Malaya.

ASSOCIATION AIMS

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Confucius said....
"Young lady going camping
should be cautious of
evil intent"...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

86% of Australia's electricity is produced by burning brown coal....On a per capita basis, Australia is the world's greatest polluter for production/usage of electricity. Argument for not pursuing the development of solar, wind and wave power cannot be sustained in the 21st century. We have some of the most appropriate and sustainable technology on Earth for solar power development.....can you believe Germany utilizes more solar power than any other country to date.

TPI News

Canada has more oil sands reserves than Saudi Arabia has oil...the problem is that to mine and convert sand to oil, produces so much pollution that Canada is now the world's worst polluter and destroyer of natural habitat. The space so far destroyed is larger than Spain in area and the need to use clean water in the process, releases millions of litres of polluted water straight back into the Canadian landscape with no penalties being applied. Science Today

Texting for Seniors is now at the point where abbreviations can be very helpful or, not so.....e.g.
ATD at the doctor
BYOT bring your own teeth
BTW bring the wheel chair
CBM covered by medicare
CGU can't get up
FWIW forgot where I was
GHA got heartburn again
OMSG oh my, sorry gas !
LMDO laughing my dentures out
IMHO is my hearing aid on
FYI found your insulin
WAIT who am I talking to
LOL living on Lipitor
GGPBL gotta go pacemaker battery low
BFF best friend fa**ed
SGG sorry, gotta go

Did YOU KNOW.....?!!

The use of palm oil and it's derivatives, including palm sugar, is the subject of debate in many countries now. The knock on effect now showing up the huge tracts of deforestation which has caused much loss of life for fauna and for humans, a way of life eons old Burning the jungle has created the worst pollution in SE Asia over Indonesia and Borneo. The lack of remedial assistance by the plantation owners and governments is shameful. The re-housing of the affected local ethnic peoples is no where near their needs.