



# THE OBSERVATION POST

The official publication of the  
**National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc**  
South Australia & Northern Territory Branch

National Patron: General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK AC(Mil) CVO MC (ret'd)  
SA/NT Branch Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia



## PINGAT JASA MALAYSIA

On Sunday 26 May, we held a very special award ceremony in which a long overdue *Pingat Jasa Malaysia* (Malaysian Service Medal) was presented to Major Ansel Mathews (ret'd).

The medal was presented to Ansel by our State President Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM (ret'd), assisted by Vice-President Don Cameron.

The Malaysian Service Medal (*Pingat Jasa Malaysia*) was established on 3 March 2004, and is awarded by the King and Government of Malaysia in recognition of 'distinguished chivalry, gallantry, sacrifice or loyalty' in contributing to the freedom and independence of Malaysia.

Congratulations Ansel on this recognition at long last!





**NOTICES**

**COMMITTEE  
2024**

Paul Rosenzweig OAM  
*President, Secretary  
Public Affairs Officer*

Don Cameron  
*Vice-President  
Ceremonial Officer*

Paul Bayliss

Jenny Cameron  
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Vicki Crannaford  
*Assistant Treasurer*

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Beverley Dubois  
*Minutes Secretary*

Jeff Hiscock

Mal White  
*Merchandise Officer*

**THANK YOU**

*We thank Tony Zappia MP and the staff of his Makin Electorate Office for their generous assistance with all our printing needs*

**BRANCH UPDATES  
'KEEPING IN THE LOOP'**

In memory of the late Captain Aileen Ryan, RAANC who very much wanted to 'keep in the loop', as she would say, we have changed the title of this 'updates' section of our newsletter.

We welcome Dato Ahmad Tejuddin Abdul Majeed as a new corresponding member. He is a retired Malaysian Police officer, with 36 years' service, who first served as Platoon Commander, Platoon 1, Alpha Company of the 11th Battalion, Police Field Force in Kelantan.

Our 'Badge of the Month' feature continues to look at some insignia from the East Timor campaign, featuring badges and brassards of the United Nations.

Please advise Paul Rosenzweig if you wish to remember a particular veteran and place a tribute at our Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day commemoration on 30 August.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

*Commemoration: Friday 12 July  
End of the Malayan Emergency (1960)*

*July meeting: 1115h Friday 19 July  
Maid of Auckland Hotel,  
followed by lunch*



<https://www.facebook.com/MaidEdwardstown>

*Commemoration: Monday 22 July  
Sarawak Day / Hari Sarawak (1963)*

*Commemoration: Sunday 11 August  
End of Confrontation (1966)*

*August meeting: 2024 Annual General Meeting  
1115h Friday 16 August  
Maid of Auckland Hotel, followed by lunch*

*Commemoration: Sunday 18 August 2024  
Vietnam Veterans Day*

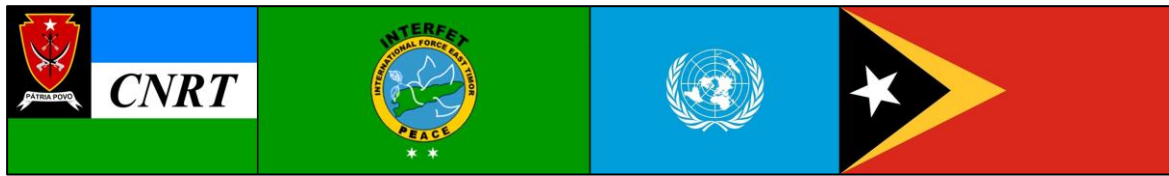
*Commemoration: 1100h Friday 30 August 2024  
Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day Service*



Visit our Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/NMBVAAadelaide/>



Visit our Website:  
[https://www.nmbvaa.org.au/sa\\_nt.php](https://www.nmbvaa.org.au/sa_nt.php)



## ANZAC DAY The East Timor Deployments, Part 2

Brigadier Rob Atkinson AM RFD (ret'd), Royal Australian Army Medical Corps, served four times in East Timor, and has kindly compiled some recollections of his service in East Timor under warlike conditions. He continues to reflect on his first deployment under INTERFET.

There was not a lot happening at the hospital surgically, so I was asked to go on a forensic mission to look for mass graves as part of the UN accumulating evidence for potential crimes. I am not a Pathologist, but had experience with bones, so was the best there was available at the time.

Our digging party dug, and I examined the bones. Apparently, Timorese are often buried with their dogs. So somewhere in UN film footage with me indicating that this skull belongs to a member of the canine family.

We popularised the 'bone phone', digital photos, X-rays, wounds etc as Telstra ran the local communications. Common now, not so then. This enhanced our ability to triage at a distance – or 'force multiply' in military jargon.

I had to go across country at one stage, as we had a medical unit run by New Zealanders. The trouble was that it was the Wet Season, and there is a mountain range running along the middle of the country.

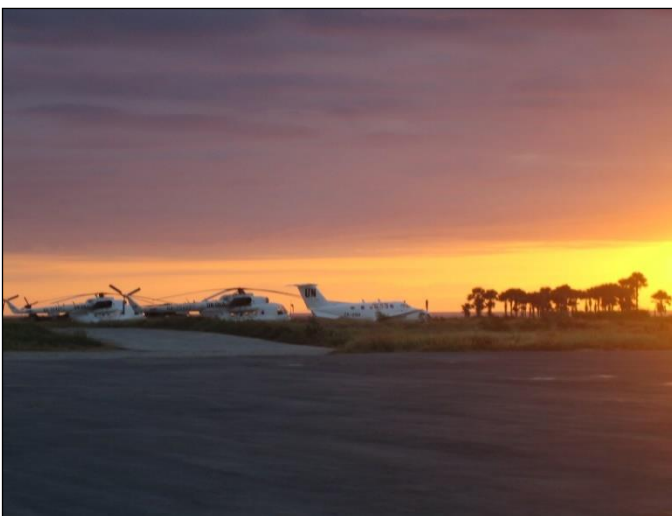
The UN helicopter was a giant, and Russian. Off we went, up valleys with the rotors very close to the cliffs. Then the clouds closed in, and back out the valley we came and waited, landed, and then tried again.

We finally popped through to the other side and reached our destination.

I observed the pilots, in fact three, with one sitting on a bench between the front seats. They were my age. There are old helicopter pilots, there are bold helicopter pilots. There are no old bold helicopter pilots. They were good, and I felt certain they flew during the Soviet war in Afghanistan.

Finally, my 6 weeks were up and the six were important, and doable, as my civilian commitments, Public Teaching hospital, colleagues covering, etc were on hold back home.

I would be replaced by another Reservist for a short duration deployment.



*Russian UN Helicopters.*

A Reservist could repeat the mission as I did after a timely interval at home, and this made the process sustainable. It was a hard sell to the ADF who, understandably, want Surgeons and other specialists for 6 to 12 months.

If you're busy for 6 weeks you are exhausted; if you're not busy, you get easily bored and concentration drops off in the tropical environment.

We left on a UN South African C-130 transport plane fitted with rows of passenger seats. There were not many on board. We took off and then went down. I had a small window and noticed the waves in the bay getting closer, and we went past a cargo ship level with it.

"Brace yourselves gentlemen we are going in".



*Australian Defence Force Journal, no 154 (2002).*

Then suddenly we went up, just past the feet of the huge Jesus statue in Dili, and then away. The loadmaster came back and I asked was there a problem or was it a photo opportunity. A photo opportunity was the answer.

You could have warned us at least.

We had a day or so in Darwin, and then back to our separate civilian lives. It was an interesting and precious day relaxing, where we were suspended between two worlds.

The next missions to East Timor were different, as time and circumstances had changed.

In particular, the UN Military Hospital had moved away from the Museum and was set up at Dili Airport. A huge number of refugee tents surrounded the area for those who sought safety.

The circumstances were not lost on me, and I published a Paper in the *Australian Defence Force Journal* (May/June 2002, no 154) on Military Operations Other Than War (MOOTWA), on how to prevent conflict and provide sanctuary.

During these deployments we performed Clinics in the mountains. I recall two of us with this huge queue, which I think went down the valley, into the mist and over the next mountain. On the way home our bus was held up on the mountain-side in the mist. It was a little concerning, when suddenly appeared a digger, and a wheelbarrow full of dirt with a Timorese kid sitting on top. They disappeared back into the mist. Roadworks apparently, winning the hearts and minds of the locals pretty effectively.

As an aside, my friend and Orthopaedic colleague in Jakarta with the Indonesian Military (TNI) has done similar missions in the mountains unarmed. It was a different time of course, however we were always armed.



*A wet day at the office.*

One time we did a practice night casualty evacuation from a town in the mountains. To set this up, I was sent along to implement. First, I flew in a Blackhawk helicopter (Sikorsky UH-60), just the pilot and I. We zoomed along riverbeds at zero feet. I am sure she was demonstrating her skill, and for me it was a magic carpet ride.

I was deposited on the 'village green', and observed the take-off along with many locals. As the helicopter left, kids ran out and dived into the downdraught and flew like superman. The parents were laughing, so obviously it had been done before.

The pilot returned in daylight for the 'night' evacuation due to pressing circumstances. No point in taking unnecessary risks.

The lessons of Timor were dengue and malaria, and the unsung hygiene people were key to prevention.

Missions take their toll, and I asked a colleague were there any ghosts he wanted slaying. He had caught haemorrhagic dengue and almost died. He was donating to a school that had been trashed and burned during his mission. I was able to send photographs of kids in uniform and the school rebuilt.

Ghost slayed.



## ABORIGINAL VETERANS' COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

Friday 31 May 2024

Beverley and Lynette attended this commemorative ceremony to honour the military service of their late husband and father, 7106 Staff-Sergeant Clive Lewis Dubois (1942-2017).

Clive enlisted in the Australian Regular Army on 26 April 1962, and took his discharge in Adelaide on 26 April 1986. He passed away on 28 May 2017, aged 74. His memory is honoured by Beverley, two children and four grandchildren.

The Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander War Memorial stands on Victoria Drive, adjacent to Torrens Parade Ground. It commemorates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who served in the Australian military in war and peace.

The Memorial was dedicated on Sunday 10 November 2013 by Her Excellency the Honourable Quentin Bryce AC CVO, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, and Marjorie Anne Tripp (formerly WRANS).

Clive attended this dedication ceremony in 2013 – pictured right wearing his medals and the WW2 medals of his father. SX21245 Roy Plenty Dubois from Alice Springs enlisted at Fort Largs on 1 July 1942 and served until 8 January 1946.

From March to July 1965, Clive had served with 'C' Company, 3RAR at the Serikin fortified patrol base in Sarawak.

In addition to overseas deployments during Confrontation, Clive's military service included postings with 2RAR and 3RAR, as a Corporal with the 42nd Battalion, Royal South Australian Regiment (42RSAR), as a Sergeant with the Adelaide University Regiment, with the District Support Units in Melbourne and Adelaide, and with 2 Training Group at Ingleburn where he qualified for appointment to Staff-Sergeant.

Clive became a member of the NMBVAA on 27 April 1998, and was a member of the Branch Committee from 2011 until his passing in 2017.

Duty First || Lest we Forget



*A path leading to the monument contains the names of indigenous Service personnel.*



*Clive's grandson Luke at the 2018 commemorative ceremony, wearing his grandfather's miniature medals.*



## BRANCH MEETING Friday 21 June 2024

We received another thank you from Mary Murray, sister of the late Aileen Ryan RAANC:

*Thank you so much for sending me photos from Aileen's funeral as well as our visit to Government House.*

*I intended writing to say how touched I was to see the 2 page tribute to Aileen in the recent Association Newsletter. Jenny Cameron sent me a copy and I in turn have sent copies to Brian Lindsay in Queensland and interstate relatives who couldn't be at her funeral.*

*It is Aileen's birthday on Monday 17th and she would have been 98. She was such a character and we miss her, but she lived a long and interesting life; she was very proud of her time served in the Australian Army and the many experiences and friends she made during that time.*

Thanks Mary, it has been our pleasure to honour Aileen and her military service.

### KING CHARLES III

Last month we marked the King's Birthday – even though 'Charles Philip Arthur George' was actually born in Buckingham Palace on 14 November 1948.

In Australia, until 1936, the King's Birthday celebration was held on the actual birthday of the monarch.

After the death of King George V (whose birthday was on 3 June), it was decided to keep the date in June to allow the public holidays to be more evenly spaced through the year.

As sovereign of the United Kingdom, King Charles III is the Head of the Armed Forces.

New designs featuring depictions of The King have begun to appear on British, Commonwealth and Overseas Territories medals and awards. So too, new designs are now appearing on British officers' ceremonial swords – bearing the Tudor Crown and the 'CRIII' Royal Cipher of King Charles III.



*The 1897-pattern Infantry and Royal Marines ceremonial officer swords have the traditional guard which is a nickel-plated three-quarter basket hilt, pierced and etched with a scroll pattern that incorporates the Royal Cipher of the sovereign, King Charles III. The grip is in black fish-skin, bound with silver-plated copper wire.*

*New corresponding member Dato Ahmad Tejuddin Abdul Majeed, a retired Malaysian Police officer, pictured with Prince Charles in 2017.*





## A NEW BRITISH CAMPAIGN MEDAL 'The Wider Service Medal'

The crowned effigy of King Charles III wearing the Tudor Crown will appear on a new service medal to be introduced by the United Kingdom.

The Wider Service Medal will be awarded to personnel who have delivered crucial operational impact where the physical risk to life is lower than traditionally required for an operational campaign medal.

A Tudor crown has been included in the medal's design to symbolise the monarch's central role and inspiration for government, armed forces and the Civil Service said the Ministry of Defence.

The new medal will recognise service by Royal Air Force pilots, supporting ground crew and Army personnel aiding the UK's NATO air-policing deployments in Estonia and Romania.

Royal Navy personnel deployed on the UK's continuous at-sea nuclear deterrent will also be eligible for the award.

The medal is primarily intended to recognise operational service that does not generate a campaign medal and also does not count towards the Accumulated Campaign Service Medal.

It will be awarded to those who have accrued 180 days of aggregated service on eligible operations.

This means a 'standard' deployment of 6 months, with two weeks rest and recuperation, would not qualify for the medal.

The usual RAF air-policing deployment is about 5 months, with 4 months' operational duty. As such, few will qualify with a single deployment unless they do two full tours.

In announcing the new medal, the Ministry of Defence said the medal is set to recognise personnel who fulfil crucial operational roles, but are not necessarily exposed to physical threats.



*The reverse design of the Wider Service Medal features a Tudor Crown, symbolising the Sovereign, directional arrows depicting reach across the world, and a laurel wreath that symbolises service and achievement. The image is circled by text that reads "For Wider Service".*

*The ribbon colours reflect the joint cross-Government nature of operations (purple), on land (green), at sea (dark blue) and in the air (light blue).*

*On the obverse, the crowned effigy of the sovereign faces right, as it does for Bravery awards such as the George Medal and King's Gallantry Medal, and other British service medals such as the Accumulated Campaign Service Medal, General Service Medal 2008 and non-operational service medals such as the Nuclear Test Medal.*

Subsequent qualifying service of 180 days will result in the award of a bar to the medal – up to a maximum of three bars.

The Wider Service Medal recognises the wide range of roles personnel play in ensuring success on operations, whereby personnel are increasingly deployed or used to deliver operational impact but not necessarily in roles that expose them to physical risk.

It also recognises the ever-changing nature of warfare, underlining the importance of operations which deter adversaries in a pre-war world.



## 2024 ANNUAL DINNER

Friday 28 June 2024

We held our Branch annual dinner at the Himalayan Kitchen in Melbourne Street to mark the anniversary of the reformation of the SA Branch in 2010.

It was also an opportunity to honour service and sacrifice during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation (particularly those who remain buried overseas) and to remember fallen comrades and absent friends.



<https://www.facebook.com/The.Himalayan.Kitchen>

*The night's after-dinner entertainment started off in a fairly subdued way with singing bowls all round, but soon descended into a cacophony of drums and trumpets.*





## No 604 SQUADRON, AAFC

### COMMAND HANDOVER PARADE Wednesday 1 May 2024

In a ceremonial Command Handover Parade at Hampstead Barracks, Jordan Box was formally farewelled by the Cadets of No 604 Squadron, and Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig OAM assumed command of the squadron. The Squadron's Cadet Executive Officer CUO Juliana Therese Buerano was the Banner Bearer, and the Banner Escorts were armed with innocuous .303" SMLE rifles.



*The incoming Commanding Officer of No 604 Squadron FLTLT(AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig (right) and outgoing CO SQNLDR(AAFC) Jordan Box, with the Parade Executives and 604 Squadron Banner Party.*

*The Parade Commander was Cadet Sergeant Tanvita Naik (far left): she has supported three Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day services – in 2021, 2022 and 2023.*

*The Parade Warrant Officer was Cadet Sergeant Katarina Czechowicz (far right): she was a member of the Catafalque Party member for the 2023 Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service.*

*Banner Escort Leading Cadet Aishwarya Srikanth (second from right) was the opening speaker at our 2023 service.*

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

On the Commanding Officer's parade on Wednesday 8 May, FLTLT(AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig presented three Duke of Edinburgh Awards (one Gold and two Silver). And then on Wednesday 22 May, two further Awards were presented (one Gold and one Silver) by Wing Commander (AAFC) Siobhan Forrester, Officer Commanding 6 Wing. Members may recall Siobhan as a past Commanding Officer of 604 Squadron. Most of these recipients have supported our Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service – as Cadets, and two have returned as AAFC staff members – and counted their service to our Branch towards the sections of their Award. Congratulations to you all!



## No 604 SQUADRON, AAFC



*Congratulations to a family of recipients who received their Duke of Ed badges and certificates on Wednesday 8 May: Aircraftman (AAFC) Andrzej Czechowicz (Gold Award) and Cadet Sergeants Gustaw Czechowicz and Katarina Czechowicz (Silver Award).*

*As a Cadet Corporal, Andrzej was a Catafalque Party member for our 2021 Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service, and he returned as a staff member for our 2023 service. As Cadet Corporals, Gustaw and Katarina were members of the Catafalque Party for our service in 2023.*



*Wing Commander (AAFC) Siobhan Forrester, Officer Commanding 6 Wing, presented the Gold Award badge of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award to LAC(AAFC) Kshitij Sapdhare on Wednesday 22 May.*

*Cadet Sergeant Sapdhare was the Catafalque Party Commander for our 2021 Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service. He returned the following year as a Cadet Under Officer to again be Catafalque Party Commander, and he then he attended our 2023 service as a staff member.*



## BADGE OF THE MONTH

### Nepali Army

The Nepali Army, also called the 'Gorkhali Army', is the land service branch of the Nepali Armed Forces.

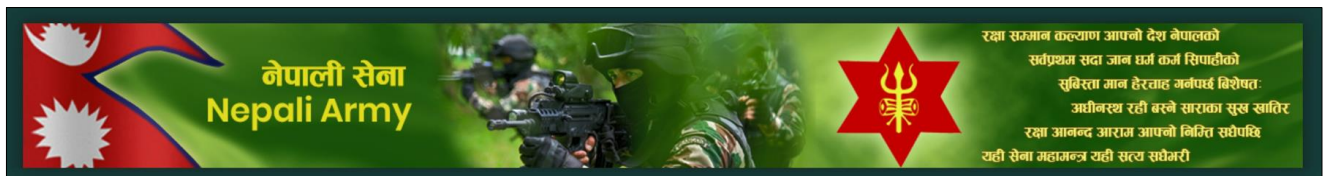
The formation sign of the Nepali Army is a solid red 6-pointed star hexagram. The hexagram was introduced in Nepal at the end of the 19th century as a symbol of the armed authority of the King, and continues with this meaning today.

The star is charged with a *Trisula* ('trident') – a divine symbol, and one of the principal symbols in Hinduism, associated with the deity Shiva.

The three points of the weapon have various meanings: for the Army they might represent "past, present, and future", or "creation, preservation and destruction".

The motif on the Nepali Army emblem depicts Shiva's trisula combined with a *Damaru*, a small two-headed drum used in Hinduism, created by Shiva to produce spiritual sounds by which the whole universe is regulated.

*Right: the Nepali Army emblem at the base of a Gorkha soldier standing vigil at the Military Memorial Park at Chhauni in Kathmandu.*



During the monarchy era the military force of Nepal was titled 'Royal Nepalese Army', and was under the direct control of the King of Nepal.

Following the 2006 Democracy Movement, on 18 May a Bill was passed by the Nepali Parliament curtailing royal power – the "Army Act, 2063" (2006 AD). Upon the abolition of the 240-year-old Nepalese monarchy, the army was renamed 'Nepali Army'. Its motto is: "Better to die than to be a coward".



*The Nepali Army emblem on 'NA-035', an Aerospatiale SA-316B Sud Alouette III.*



*The Nepali Army emblem on 'NA-014', a Short SC.7 Skyvan 3M-400.*



### **NUTUP anak TUBOK** **Pingat Perwira Negeri**

Lieutenant-General Stephen Mundaw (ret'd) and fellow members of the Sarawak Veterans Association recently called on former Iban Tracker Nutup.

General Mundaw and his team were doing their rounds to 'track the trackers' – they visited three former Trackers in Song, and seven in Kapit.

General Mundaw said Nutup is still fit and cheerful, although he is suffering some hearing loss.

During Confrontation in 1966, Nutup was attached to 9 Platoon, 'C' Company of the 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (4RAR).

He was originally armed with a 12-gauge shotgun, which was apparently as tall as he was. The Platoon Commander of 9 Platoon, Lieutenant Rod Curtis, gave permission to have the shotgun swapped for an M16 rifle, a much shorter and lighter weapon.

In November 2021, Nutup was one of thirteen surviving Iban Trackers and Sarawak Rangers recognised by the Sarawak State Government for their service during the Emergency (1948-1960), Confrontation (1962-1966) and the Communist Insurgency (1968-1989).

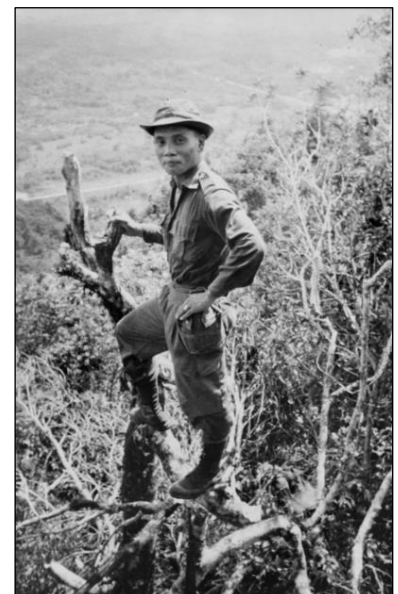
Nutup and his fellow awardees were presented with the **Pingat Perwira Negeri** ('Medal of the Defender of the State').

The state award ceremony held in Sibu on Wednesday 3 November 2021 honoured the country's 'unsung heroes' who defended Malaysia's sovereignty and security.

The recipients (pictured right) were: Engkang Sigaw, Gani Dugu, Ipoh Unggat, Jalin Maragan, Jampong Meng, Lebak Melintang, Lulut Aloh, Mangai Balah, Melintang Leng, Nutup Tubok, Ribut Barau, Unyat Chupong and Das Kumpang.



*LTGEN Stephen Mundaw (ret'd) and fellow members of the Sarawak Veterans Association with Nutup anak Tubok (centre).*



*Tracker Nutup during his service with 4RAR in 1966: a picture taken from the internet on display in his home (left) and the original image held by the Australian War Memorial (right).*





## UPCOMING EVENTS



### 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Friday 16 August 2024

Our Guest Speaker will be Glenn Docherty, Mayor of the City of Playford. Glenn was first elected to Playford Council in 2003, at the age of 19. He was re-elected for a second term in 2006, and became Deputy Mayor. In 2010, Glenn Docherty was elected as the third Mayor of the City of Playford.

### Playford's Royal Connections

The modern City of Playford has its origins in the original councils of Munno Para and Elizabeth, which amalgamated in 1997.

Although the City of Elizabeth no longer exists today, the term 'Elizabeth' in the context of Adelaide is widely recognised as the historic municipality and its distinct community.

The township of Elizabeth was established on 16 November 1955. It was a critical part of Premier Tom Playford's plan to make South Australia an industrial power house. Elizabeth was to be a satellite city in the northern metropolitan fringe of Adelaide, between the townships of Salisbury and Smithfield.

It was characterised by affordable, quality housing, built by the SA Housing Trust, and new factories – to lure tens of thousands of migrants from post-war Europe to sunny Australia.

In November 1955 Queen Elizabeth II agreed to have the town named after her, and it was inaugurated by the Premier Sir Thomas Playford.

The original Elizabeth Town Centre, with open-air malls, has progressively expanded since the 1960s and now comprises a single storey undercover mall.

The Royal connection continued with the naming of the two main access roads: from the south, Elizabeth City Centre is accessed from Main North Road via the Philip Highway and then by Elizabeth Way.

On the eastern side of the modern Elizabeth City Shopping Centre is the Windsor Building, named for the Royal Family.

Queen Elizabeth II was the fourth monarch of the House of Windsor. This dynastic name had been adopted by Royal Proclamation on 17 June 1917.



*The Windsor Building, on the eastern side of Elizabeth City Shopping Centre, with the nearby Clock tower.*





## Playford's Royal Visit

A highlight in the life of this young community was the 1963 Royal Visit.

On the morning of Thursday 21 February, Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh visited the city, and Queen Elizabeth II unveiled a sculptured fountain in Windsor Green at that time.

The fountain and its precinct were designed by architect Geoff Shedley, the chief designer for the South Australian Housing Trust who was responsible for most of the original major buildings in Elizabeth.

Shedley created the fountain, and the town square area it was located in was named 'Windsor Green' for the Royal Family. The fountain was called 'Fire and Earth': it featured a young virgin representing the plains and scrubland, and a mother and child to show what the city had become.

These were located near the clock tower and the old council chambers.

Her Majesty officially 'unveiled' the fountain by turning a gold tap to set the flow running. "*May this town, and its people, prosper and develop in the years to come*", Her Majesty said.

At a later time however, in about 1997, Windsor Green was covered with asphalt and the fountain was put in council storage where it would stay for the next 20 years.

In 2017, Playford council decided to reinstate Windsor Green and the Fountain, as part of a \$274 million renewal program for the region.

The refurbished 'Windsor Fountain' became the centrepiece of a new retail, commercial and entertainment precinct bringing jobs and growth to the City of Playford.

Mayor Glenn Docherty said re-establishing Windsor Green and the Fountain was building on Elizabeth's civic heart. A key part of the symbolism, next to the mother and child, is a phoenix, the mythical bird that rose from the ashes – a mythical bird signifying future and rebirth, which ensures a long life for the city.

The fountain features double-sided vertical granite slabs representing an open book, along with two life-size figures and a child, which represent life and family.

Facing the pool are two seagulls in flight, magpies (the emblem of SA) and a wedge-tailed eagle. Under the birds are a koala, possum, emu and kangaroo.

On the sculpture's reverse are two figures. On the left is Hermaphrodite, a figure of Greek mythology.

On the right is a mother and child symbolising growth, population and, along with the rising sun, symbolic of continual rebirth.



*Playford city's fountain, originally dedicated by Queen Elizabeth on 21 February 1963.*



*Windsor Fountain, with Windsor Green in the background, looking towards Elizabeth City Shopping Centre.*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS DAY Friday 30 August 2024

Our Branch Padre Major Quentin Castle will officiate at our annual service. Please take your seats by 1050h and turn your mobile phones to silent.

The Air Force Cadets of No 604 Squadron will again provide the armed Catafalque Party, Honour Guard and a Squadron Banner Party.

The ceremony will be followed as usual by a reunion and light lunch at Hilton RSL. We anticipate lunch will comprise a main meal plus salads and dessert for a reasonable price. Drinks at your own expense.

**NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INC**  
South Australia & Northern Territory Branch  
The President and Committee of the SA/NT Branch NMBVAA have pleasure in inviting  
**Veterans, Spouses, Family and Friends**  
to attend the  
**2024 Malaya and Borneo Veterans Day Service of Commemoration**  
at the West Torrens War Memorial Gardens, Hilton on Friday 30 August 2024, starting at 1100h

*honouring those Australians and members of Commonwealth forces who served during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia, in Singapore, in Ubon, on the Malay-Thai border, on the Malay Peninsula post-1966, with Rifle Company Butterworth, and in East Timor and Timor Leste*

<b>Dress:</b> Business Dress / equivalent with full-size medals	<b>RSVP:</b> Vice-President Don Cameron, Ceremonial Officer 08 8264 2858    0430 401 939
<b>Tribute:</b> Private wreath, tribute or poppy optional	<a href="mailto:wildcanven@adam.com.au">wildcanven@adam.com.au</a> by Friday 16 August
<b>Reunion:</b> From 1200h at Hilton RSL	



## MERCHANDISE

Our Malaya & Borneo scarf has proved to be very popular and the first couple of batches sold out very quickly. We now have more stock on hand, so while it's still Winter, get in quick if you are interested.

They are very high quality, and good value at \$33 each, plus postage if you need it mailed to you.

We now also have stubby coolers available, in the colours of the *Pingat Jasa Malaysia*, available for just \$10 each (see the new design below).

We also have lapel badges, bullion blazer badges and other memorabilia.

Proceeds from the sale of our merchandise go towards our donations to the Bau district schools and the 'Sarawak Defenders Historical Trail'.

Please contact Mal White: [malwhite@mail.com](mailto:malwhite@mail.com)

New stubby coolers are now available for just \$10 each.

The design includes the Queen's Crown NMBVAA badge denoting the service of veterans during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, and a map showing the Areas of Operation on the Malay Peninsula, in Sarawak and Sabah, and East Timor/Timor Leste.

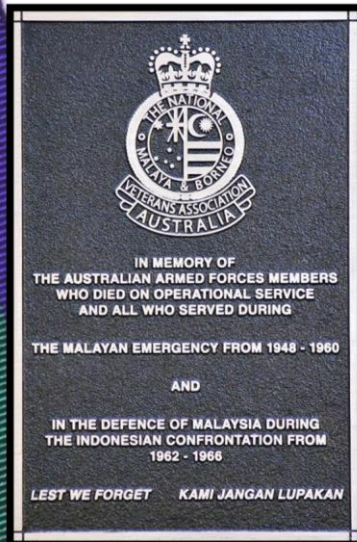




## COMMEMORATION

### Malayan Emergency, 1948-1960

#### Sacrifice during the Malayan Emergency



During the prescribed period of the Malayan Emergency, from 16 June 1948 to 31 July 1960, 39 Australian servicemen lost their lives overseas.

A further ten died on operational service in Malaya and Singapore in the period immediately following the closing date for this campaign, but before the prescribed start date for Confrontation. These deaths are not listed under 'Malayan Emergency' in the Rolls of Honour in the Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial, although some are listed under the title 'Southeast Asia, 1955-1975 (FESR, SEATO)'.

Of the 49 Australian fallen from the Malayan Emergency and immediately after, two were buried at sea, one was lost in an aircraft crash in the South China Sea, and two have no grave identified.

The remainder were buried in a variety of places: 28 have graves in the Taiping (Kamunting Road) Christian Cemetery in Perak, 6 in the Penang (Western Road) Cemetery, 2 in the Kuala Lumpur (Cheras Road) Civil Cemetery, and 6 in Kranji Military Cemetery in Singapore.

None of the 42 who died during the Emergency are at rest in Australia.

### THANKS DIGGER

Virtual Museum and Commemoration Centre

<https://www.facebook.com/ThanksDigger> | [ThanksDigger@gmail.com](mailto:ThanksDigger@gmail.com)

### THE MALAYAN EMERGENCY 16 June 1948 to 31 July 1960

On 31 July 1960, the government of Malaya officially declared the Emergency over.

We honour the 39 Australians who lost their lives on operational service during the prescribed period of the Malayan Emergency between 16 June 1948 and 31 July 1960.

We also acknowledge a further seven who died in the period immediately following the closing date for this campaign, but before the prescribed start date for Confrontation. Additional to these are three naval personnel who died while serving with the Far East Strategic Reserve.

Of the Australian fallen from the Malayan Emergency and immediately following: one was buried at sea in Malayan waters; one was lost in an aircraft crash in the South China Sea; and one has no grave identified. Of the three FESR members who died overseas, one was buried at sea off Hong Kong and one was lost at sea and has no known grave.

There are 42 Australian fallen from the Malayan Emergency who remain buried overseas – 36 have graves in Malaysia and 6 remain buried in Singapore.

The formal end of armed hostilities came with the 'Agreement between the Government of Malaysia and the Communist Party of Malaya to Terminate Hostilities' which was signed in Haadval, Thailand on 1 December 1989.

The sacrifice of these 49 Australians, among some 1,800 Malayan and Commonwealth troops who died on operational service during and immediately after this 12-year conflict, was not in vain, serving to uphold the sovereignty of the Federation of Malaya allowing the successful attainment of independence on 31 August 1957, self-governance in Singapore on 3 June 1959, the creation of Malaysia on 16 September 1963, and the early development of Malaysia and Singapore as independent nations.

Lest we Forget

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA  
AND  
THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA TO TERMINATE  
HOSTILITIES**

The Government of MALAYSIA and the Communist Party of Malaya, consistent with their common objective for peace, hereby agree to the following :-

**ARTICLE 1 - CESSATION OF ARMED ACTIVITIES**

Upon the signing of this Agreement, the Government of Malaysia and the Communist Party of Malaya shall cease all armed activities forthwith.

3.2 Members of the Communist Party of Malaya and members of its disbanded armed units, who are not of Malaysian origin, may be allowed to settle down in MALAYSIA in accordance with the laws of MALAYSIA, if they so desire.

**ARTICLE 2 - DISBANDMENT OF ARMED UNITS, DESTRUCTION OF ARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND BOOBY-TRAPS**

The Communist Party of Malaya shall disband all its armed units, destroy its arms, ammunition, explosives and booby-traps in Malaysia and Thailand.

**ARTICLE 4 - PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE BY THE MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES**

With regard to Article 3, the Malaysian authorities shall assist members of the Communist Party of Malaya and members of its disbanded armed units in order to help them to start their peaceful life afresh.

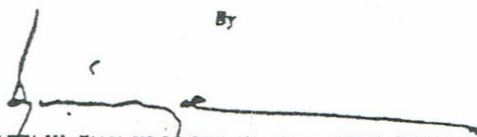
**ARTICLE 3 - RESIDENCE IN MALAYSIA**

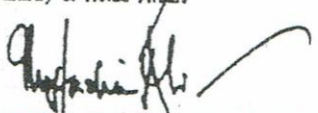
3.1 Members of the Communist Party of Malaya and members of its disbanded armed units, who are of Malaysian origin and who wish to settle down in MALAYSIA, shall be allowed to do so in accordance with the laws of Malaysia.

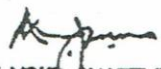
SIGNED ON 2 DECEMBER 1969 IN HAADY'AI, THAILAND


Government of Malaysia

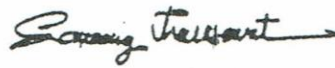
By

  
DATO' HJ. WAN SIDER BIN HJ. WAN ABDUL RAHMAN  
SPECIAL DEPUTY, PARLIAM. ADVIS. OFF.  
Secretary-General,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

  
GENERAL TAN SRI HASHIM BIN MOHD. ALI  
PENG. PIMP. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT.  
Chief of Defence Forces


  
TAN SRI MOHD. HANIFF BIN OMAR  
PENG. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT. BINT.  
Inspector General,  
Royal Malaysia Police

  
GEN. CHAVALIT YONOCHAIYUDH  
Deputy Director  
Internal Security Operations Command

  
POL. GEN. SAWAENG THERASAWAT  
Director-General  
Royal Thai Police Department

Communist Party of Malaya


By


  
ONG BOON HUA @ CHIN PENG  
Secretary-General

ABDULLAH C.D.  
Chairman

RASHID MAIDIN  
Central Committee Member

Witnessed By Representatives of  
The Government of The Kingdom of Thailand

  
ANEK SITHIPRASASANA  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Interior

  
LT. GEN. YOODHANA YAMPHUNDU  
Director  
4th Region Internal Security Operations Command



### MALAYAN EMERGENCY Roll of Honour – July

Honouring the sacrifice of the 49 Australians who died on operational service during the Malayan Emergency, 16 June 1948 to 31 July 1960, and in the period immediately after.

1/3542 Private James Neville Metcalf,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment:  
4 July 1957

O52768 Flight Lieutenant  
Dennis St George Greaves Oates,  
Base Squadron, RAAF Butterworth:  
10 July 1959

A218384 Leading Aircraftman  
William Patrick Duffy,  
Base Squadron, RAAF Butterworth:  
26 July 1959

A312178 Aircraftman John George Lawson,  
Base Squadron, RAAF Butterworth:  
26 July 1959

2/8409 Lieutenant Clive William Bridge,  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment:  
28 July 1961

*Lest we Forget*

### CONFRONTATION Roll of Honour – July

Honouring the sacrifice of the 26 Australians who died during the general period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia, 24 December 1962 to 11 August 1966.

213347 Signalman Kenneth Charles Johnson,  
208th Signals Squadron (Commonwealth):  
3 July 1965

342550 Corporal Peter John West,  
Assault Pioneer Platoon, Support Company,  
4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment:  
2 July 1966

3411676 Sapper Reginald Nevill Bridgland,  
22 Construction Squadron,  
Royal Australian Engineers:  
31 July 1966

*Lest we Forget*



#### 1/3542 Private James Neville Metcalf (1934-1957)

Private James Metcalf from Bulimba, Queensland was born in Brisbane on 14 December 1934. He was originally a National Serviceman who completed his training with the 11th National Service Training Battalion.

He subsequently enlisted in the Australian Regular Army and was posted as a rifleman to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. Metcalf embarked with 2RAR in the MS *Georgic* in Brisbane on 8 October 1955, and sailed for Malaya.

The battalion disembarked at Penang on 20 October 1955 and was assigned to the 28th Commonwealth Independent Infantry Brigade Group, a formation which had only just been created – on 16 September 1955.

The brigade comprised units from Australia, New Zealand and the UK – three infantry battalions (Australia contributing a rotating battalion group), and a British field artillery regiment with an Australian field artillery battery.

Private Metcalf was killed near Perak whilst on operational service in Malaya (motor vehicle accident) on 4 July 1957, aged 22.

He was buried with military honours in the Taiping (Kamunting Road) Christian Cemetery in Perak.

His name is located at panel 2 in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial.

Private Metcalf is one of 50 Australian fallen from the Malayan wars – 42 from the Emergency and 8 from Confrontation – who remain buried overseas.

*Lest we Forget*



**A218384 Leading Aircraftman William Patrick Duffy (1939-1959)  
A312178 Aircraftman John George Lawson (1938-1959)**

Whilst on operational service in Malaya, Leading Aircraftman William Duffy and Aircraftman John Lawson of Base Squadron, RAAF Butterworth died on 26 July 1959 (accident-ground), both aged 20.

Duffy was born in Islington in Newcastle, NSW on 4 April 1939. Lawson was a Victorian, born in Yallourn on 2 October 1938.

They were returning to base from a dance in Penang at 2.30 am when their motorcycle ran off the road and crashed into two guide stones.

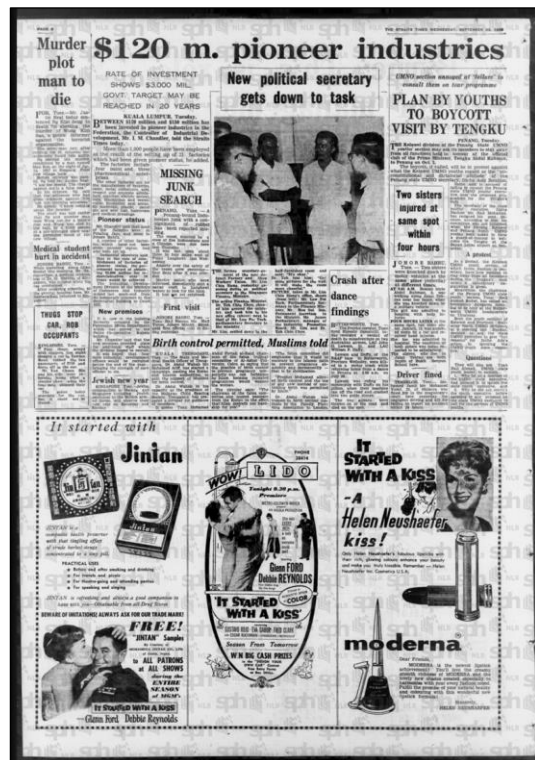
Lawson was driving and Duffy was the pillion passenger. *The Straits Times* of 30 September 1959 reported, "The two airmen were thrown to the road and died on the spot".

They were buried in the Penang (Western Road) Cemetery in Malaya.

They are both honoured in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial (panel 2).

They are among the 50 Australian fallen from the Malayan wars – 42 from the Emergency and 8 from Confrontation – who remain buried overseas.

Lest we Forget



On 30 September 1959, *The Straits Times* reported that the Province Coroner for Province Wellesley, Tuan Syed Hussain Jamalullail, had recorded a verdict of death by misadventure.



### 3411676 Sapper Reginald Nevill Bridgland (1947-1966)

Sapper Bridgland, a Driver with 22 Construction Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers, died on 31 July 1966 while on operational service in Sabah in North Borneo on Operation 'Granite', aged 19.

On 16 April 1964, 7 Field Squadron Group, RAE had made the first deployment to Borneo to carry out construction tasks. They were followed by 1 Field Squadron, 24 Construction Squadron, 21 Construction Squadron and then 22 Construction Squadron – each on six-month tours, through to late 1966. Their task was to work on the isolated Keningau-Pensiangan Road, with associated roading and infrastructure including airstrips and camps. Engineer stores, RAEME and other groups supported the project for 30 challenging months under insecure conditions. Ultimately, 100 kilometres of main road was constructed through rugged mountains. Four RAE members lost their lives in Sabah – two of them from 22 Construction Squadron.

Bridgland had first been drafted as a National Serviceman (1 July 1965 intake, army number '3787083'), and enlisted in the Regular Army. On 8 April 1966, he emplaned in Perth for Singapore, and they then flew to Jesselton on 10 April.

On 31 July 1966, Sapper Bridgland went with a detachment to Tenom railhead to load stores in their International Mk 3 4x4 cargo truck. During the return to Keningau, Sapper Bridgland was a passenger in the back of the truck when it was involved in a motor vehicle accident on the Tenom-Keningau Road: Bridgland was killed after the truck overturned on an embankment.

He was evacuated to Tenom Hospital, Sabah but was pronounced dead on arrival. Sapper Bridgland's body was transferred by air to Labuan on 1 August, then to Changi in Singapore on 2 August 1966.

A memorial service was held on 4 August at the Mt Vernon Crematorium in Singapore where he was cremated, and the ashes were later returned to Australia.

Church services were held for unit members in Pandewan (6 August), Lankuku (7 August), Tampison (8 August) and Keningau (10 August) in his memory.

Sapper Bridgland's body was cremated in Singapore. He is commemorated in the Victorian Garden of Remembrance in Melbourne.

Lest we Forget



*During the 2022 liaison visit to Sarawak, Paul and Don were successful in acquiring a Sabah flag, something we have been trying to achieve for a long time. Five Australians lost their lives on active service in Sabah in 1964-66: one a member of 1 Special Air Service Squadron, and four of them members of the Royal Australian Engineers serving on Operation 'Granite'.*



*The name of Sapper Bridgland is commemorated on the Roll of Honour for Confrontation (panel 3) in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial.*



*Sapper Bridgland is commemorated on the SA/NT Branch plaque in the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching which was unveiled on 29 August 2016.*