

QUEENSLAND

RSL NEWS

© EDITION 03, 2018

PIECING — TOGETHER THE — PUZZLE

**RSL SUPPORT PROVES
LIFE-CHANGING FOR
DYLAN RUSHBY**

**CONSTITUTION
VOTED
DOWN:
WHAT NEXT?**

**BACK TO
SCHOOL
FOR RSL
NEW
EDUCATION
PORTAL
LAUNCHES**

**ANZAC
DAY 2018
ANZAC SPIRIT
ALIVE AND WELL
THROUGHOUT
QUEENSLAND**



RETURNED & SERVICES
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND BRANCH)



SUPPORTING
our defence family



RETURNED & SERVICES
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH

rslqld.org

RSL NEWS STAFF & ASSOCIATES

Returned & Services League of Australia
(Queensland Branch) ABN 79 902 601 713

State President

Stewart Cameron CSC

State Deputy President

John Strachan OAM

State Vice-President

Ewan Cameron

Administration

PO Box 629, Spring Hill, Qld, 4004

T: 07 3634 9444

F: 07 3634 9400

E: reception@rslqld.org

W: www.rslqld.org

Advertising

Peter Scruby

E: massmedia@themediaworkshop.com.au

Editor

RSL (Queensland Branch)

E: editor@rslqld.org

Content Coordinator

Meagan Martin | iMedia Corp

Graphic & Editorial Design

Rhys Martin | iMedia Corp

Printing & Distribution

Fergies Print & Mail

W: www.fergies.com.au

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Front Cover



COVER IMAGE:
Veteran Dylan Rushby
with his beloved dogs
Sascha and Oden.
(Photo: Jannah Dryden)



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WHY THE NEW CONSTITUTION IS IMPORTANT

My fellow League members,

As I write this article, we are just weeks from our 2018 State Congress in Cairns, which incorporates our Annual General Meeting. As with last year, we will stream the proceedings of the Main Business Sessions so members not in attendance can follow the proceedings. We will also publish the recording on our website after the event.

This year, we have very important business to conduct. We need to decide on our future, and to that end a new State Constitution is being presented for your approval. I cannot stress the importance of this vital piece of work. By the time you read this edition of *Queensland RSL News*, we will know the outcome of this decision.

While there has been some discussion and – can I suggest – some misunderstanding, on what the proposed new Constitution will mean, the reality is that the new Constitution has four main themes which will directly benefit the membership.

First, the new Constitution gives members the power to elect the entire State Board of RSL Queensland. Currently, members can only elect one Director each year: this year you will decide on who will be the State President. Next year you will decide on the Vice President. Yes, District Presidents are elected, however, these men and women are elected as a District President, not as a Director. They are automatically appointed to the Board by their election as a District President.

Through this process, most of the membership is disenfranchised in the election of the 10 Directors who gain Board

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membership through being a District President. For example, only North Queensland members have a say in the election of the North Queensland District President, however, on election, that District President becomes a Board member representing all other nine Districts.

This applies equally across the other Districts. Each District President represents their District outside the boardroom, however, within the boardroom each Director owes their duty to RSL Queensland. The District President cannot represent their District in the boardroom – to do so is to introduce an unworkable conflict of interest. The new Constitution gives you the power to elect your entire Board.

Second, moving to a skill-based Board will enable Directors to use their experience and advice to help the Board stay informed during discussions. Yes, the Board can seek briefings from senior management, however, ultimately the Board is accountable at both an individual and collective level in terms of decisions.

We need financial investment

advice, legal advice, accounting advice and so on: these skills exist within the membership, but not the Board. To ensure our future, we must look at ways to create new income streams beyond the Art Union, otherwise we run the very real risk of not being able to sustain ourselves into the future.

This issue has been the subject of much discussion between the current Board, and I can tell you that on three occasions every Director of RSL Queensland (the State President, Deputy President and Vice President, plus all 10 District Presidents) has committed themselves to the new Constitution. We all understand the need to introduce specific skills into the Board.

The third change being introduced with the new Constitution is the formal establishment of a State Council made up of the 10 District Presidents and the three other Directors. This body will make representation on behalf of you on League matters. This is not new, I am sure you have all been briefed that we established this concept in late 2015: we formally established

a District President's Meeting, which is the first meeting on every Board meeting day.

At this meeting, District Presidents bring forward issues for the Board's consideration and for wider information purposes. There is, however, no formal Constitutional cover for this arrangement. The new Constitution enshrines this concept to ensure we listen to members' views and concerns.

The fourth and final change is a change to the organisational structure, where we formally separate the State Secretary from under the CEO so they report directly to the State President and Board on all veteran services matters. This change is of vital importance: we exist as a charity providing support to the wider veteran community.

We operate in a far more complex and regulated environment than in the past: we need a Board of experts focused on our future and a State Council focused on day-to-day operations. The current Board cannot stress the importance of having the new Constitution accepted at the AGM. I hope that by the time you read this article, our members have reached the same conclusion.



Stewart Cameron CSC
Former State President
RSL (Queensland Branch)

CONSTITUTION VOTED DOWN: WHAT NEXT?

Dear members,

At the 2018 Annual General Meeting, the motion to adopt the draft RSL Queensland Constitution (2018) was not carried.

The adoption of a new Constitution for RSL Queensland is essential – both for us to modernise as an organisation and meet our obligations under the Directions Notice issued by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). It will enable RSL Queensland to improve its governance and deliver a skills-based Board of Directors.

To ensure the new Constitution incorporates all amendments, RSL Queensland will appoint a Project Team, which I will lead. This team will work through the following phased approach to draft revisions to the 2018 Constitution:

1. Engagement with membership: Over the coming months, RSL Queensland will distribute explanatory materials to fully engage you, our membership, Sub Branches and Districts, on changes to the Constitution and seek your feedback on the draft document. This will be accompanied by feedback sessions in all Districts by the State President, C&A Committee Chair and Company Secretary in the lead up to the postal ballot.

2. Drafting and amendments to the Constitution: Feedback can be provided by emailing 2018Constitution@rslqld.org, visiting our website at www.rslqld.org/2018Constitution or via your District. Your feedback will be reviewed by an external counsel, with amendments drafted into a final copy of the 2018 Constitution.

3. Adoption of the Constitution: The Board will accept the revised draft 2018 Constitution and put it to a postal vote by Sub Branch Delegates as soon as possible. Auditors, BDO, will act as returning officers for this vote.

We strongly encourage all members to view and provide feedback on the draft Constitution – either during the Project Team's upcoming engagement tour or by emailing 2018Constitution@rslqld.org.

Further information, including dates and the redrafted Constitution, will be provided in the RSL Runner and at www.rslqld.org/2018Constitution.

To make sure you don't miss important updates in this process, please ensure your email address in our membership database is correct. If you do not already receive the RSL Runner, email memberships@rslqld.org to have your email address added.



MORE INFORMATION

FOR MORE DETAILED,
UP-TO-DATE TIMINGS, VISIT
WWW.RSLQLD.ORG/2018CONSTITUTION



*Tony Ferris
State President
RSL (Queensland Branch)*

SUPPORT THROUGH THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Dear members,

In the last edition of *RSL News* (Edition 02, 2018), I provided some detail around the status of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) investigation and our application for a Private Binding Ruling from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). As I attended District AGMs and spoke with members and those active in their Sub Branch administration, it was evident to me that there is a genuine concern among some Sub Branches that they may be ill-equipped to manage modern requirements and implications of governance compliance.

The concern from Sub Branches is that they are required to comply with statutory regulations and financial reporting, along with any governance compliance, without the appropriate expertise to do so, and that the perceived additional paperwork required to remain compliant takes time and resources away from your main cause: helping veterans.

I want to allay concerns by assuring all our members that State Branch wants Sub Branches to remain vibrant and active contributors to their local community. However, being considered a charity is a very valuable status and it comes with obligations, and that is to govern correctly. This requires a commitment to meet the taxation and charitable compliance requirements placed on all Australian charities by the Commonwealth Government.

We want to support our Sub Branches through this seemingly

“I WANT TO ALLAY CONCERNS BY ASSURING ALL OUR MEMBERS THAT STATE BRANCH WANTS SUB BRANCHES TO REMAIN VIBRANT AND ACTIVE CONTRIBUTORS TO THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY.”

complex process to ensure that you can focus on what you do best. To this end, we have been liaising with the ACNC to ensure we have an effective model for RSL Sub Branches, and these discussions are ongoing. We've also been working with the ATO on communication to our Sub Branches who are participating in the ATO's tax program about changes that are like to occur in that area in the short term, with communication due to be sent out to the relevant Sub Branches in the coming months.

While remaining compliant under the ACNC's requirements may at first seem like a significant amount of work at a Sub Branch level, the fact is that with some guidance and understanding of the requirements, it can become a quicker and clearer process. That's where State Branch can help.

To ensure that we can best support our Sub Branches to meet their obligations, we have taken pre-emptive steps to bolster our resources. We appointed Audrey Dawson to the role of Sub Branch Compliance Services

Manager in April to lead our Sub Branch Finance and Governance Program Team, which works to ensure we have the resources and capability to support Districts and Sub Branches in relation to their charitable status, governance and financial viability. Audrey's team has evolved the previous 'taxation' process in relation to the conduct of annual charitable status reviews and is currently developing and rolling out a series of initiatives and additional support activities aimed at assisting Sub Branches to meet their obligations, including:

- Training and awareness programs and materials in Governance, Financial Basics and Charitable Activities;
- Opportunities to streamline and standardise Sub Branch compliance, reporting and conduct of committee meetings, AGMs, policies and processes, etc;
- Providing standard formats to help improve Sub Branch record keeping.

In addition to these areas of assistance, support for Sub Branches who require specific

assistance, for example financial distress and viability assessments, will also be made available. This makes sure that we always look to protect those volunteers who act in Committee roles and who take on greater responsibilities, particularly around financial dimensions such as solvency.

Rest assured that we are working hard to provide the Districts and the Sub Branches with the support they need to attain a consistent level of understanding and awareness, and strengthen and implement good governance, compliance and financial management practices and processes. You will continue to see new training programs and new ways to reduce your administrative compliance requirements throughout the year.

As I've said before, remaining accountable is likely to require a level of intensity previously unseen in the League's proud history. However, we are committed to ensuring the charitable status of Sub Branches is kept in place, and that volunteers can continue to do their great and crucial work at a local level.



Luke Traini
Chief Executive Officer
RSL (Queensland Branch)

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PUBLIC AWARENESS OF OUR LEAGUE

REGARDING the Marketing team article in *Queensland RSL News* Ed 01, 2018: I have been pondering public awareness of our League. Why do members of our great organisation not wear their badges?

All members partake in the great comradeship we experience at our Sub Branch meetings, but when we go out into our towns and cities we do not know each other as we don't wear our badges. I do – I wear mine with pride, knowing I am helping do my part for my community. Many people ask what badge I am wearing, which is amazing as it should be easily recognised.

Our great organisation is nationwide and that should not happen. My question to fellow members is: where is our pride in our name? In addition to supporting each other, we support the elderly and many other organisations, including schools, hospitals and churches.

Be proud of that badge. You are not saying “Look at me,” you are saying “I am only one of the RSL members that can – and do – come to your aid.”

If Sub Branch Presidents were to suggest to members that wearing their badge could help, it may also get younger members of our community to attend meetings. I am now in my 90s and my family has a long military history. I look forward to seeing our RSL being carried on by the young people. Please wear your badge and a smile.

Derrick R Mumford
Nerang RSL Sub Branch

ESCAPE FROM TOL MASSACRE

I SAW in *Queensland RSL News* that a group of Rabaul residents and historical society members gathered to commemorate the 76th anniversary of the Tol and Waitavolo massacre. My late husband, Gunner Frederick George Brooks was at the Tol massacre, but as the Japanese soldiers approached decided not to surrender and crawled into the jungle and hid, although he was starving and sick with malaria. He met up with Frank Holland (I think) and eventually got to the coast, where he boarded the MV *Lacatoi* and then escaped to Cairns.

Lillian Coyne
Bauple

THE MANY MEANINGS OF ANZAC

I WAS very interested to read the article ‘The Meaning of ANZAC’ in *Queensland RSL News* Ed 02, 2018. The author provided a thoughtful mix of facts, quotations and personal observations before suggesting readers reflect on the “many different meanings of ANZAC Day”.

Dr Brendan Nelson describes it as a day of “commemoration not celebration”. The Vice Chief of our Defence Force sees it as a day for “gratitude, respect and, most importantly, thoughtful reflection”.

While I don't agree with the suggestion that the Gallipoli landings were more historic than our Federation, I fully support the conclusion that “our Defence Force... has helped shape our country”.

Greg Ivey
Maroochydore Sub Branch

HOW MANY B24s LOST TO FRIENDLY FIRE?

HAVING briefly mentioned (*Queensland RSL News* page 10, Edition 01, 2018), the armament used by the American crews of the B24 (Liberator), I often wondered how many were shot down by friendly fire. Two of the .5" guns were positioned in each of the following positions: nose turret, mid upper turret, belly turret, tail turret and one in each of the waist gun port and starboard – a total of 10.

In the 1939-45 war, the Americans flew on their daylight bombing missions in large formations, flying closely together and, when possible, with a fighter escort. All guns are air tested, as I presumed, while the formation was assembling. Now, say there were 100 planes in the formation, there could be more than 100 stray .5" bullets flying from them, or through them.

My experience of the waist gun was that there was no way of locking it in a safe position, it just hung free, causing a hole in the tail. I remember on at least three of the 32 air patrols over the Atlantic we came back with a bullet hole in the tail.

The difference between the American Browning and the English Browning was when firing ceased, in the English version, the bullet held in the breech block and was held clear of the barrel. In the American gun, the bullet was still held by the breech block, but inside the barrel. So, after a short burst, the barrel was very hot and cooked the cartridge, causing it to fire the bullet still left in the breech.

John Chambers

Former Warrant Officer (RAFVR) 751137

CORRECTION

In the Last Post section of a recent edition of *Queensland RSL News* we incorrectly included the name Leo Goodall. It was not Leo that passed away, but his brother. We apologise for this error. It was based on incorrect information we received.

SOUTHERN HEADSTONE IRONY

FURTHER to the Mailbox of Edition 02, 2018 of *Queensland RSL News* regarding the most southern headstone, there is a headstone of 20389 Private Sydney Mott at Cockle Creek Cemetery at the southernmost point of Tasmania. It indicates he was a member of the 2/2 (engraving unclear) New Zealand Forces and died in 1920(?). The Mott family was well known in this region of Tasmania and it would seem this Australian chose to serve with the New Zealand Army. It is ironic that we have an Australian veteran buried at the southernmost point of New Zealand and a New Zealand veteran buried at the southernmost point of Australia.

JR Ryan

Captain (Rtd)

LOOKING AT LIFE AFTER SERVICE

I WAS interested to note that ADF members facing discharge are not being prepared for life after service. I am amazed that this is so, as when I was awaiting discharge from the RAN in 1985 I was given about a month pre-discharge training to prepare me for life outside.

It consisted of two weeks of on-the-job training and a business case at UNE. These were my choice of training. There was also a two to three-day seminar advising how to prepare resumes, interview presentation and financial advice.

Although this was a broad-based event, it gave me some insight into my prospects. I agree that employers do treat ex-service people indifferently. However, I thought there was now an employment group that helped locate jobs for ex-members.

It would not surprise me if previous governments have slashed these opportunities to save a few bucks. I wish all ex-service members good fortune in life after their service to – at times – an ungrateful country. It is a pity the ADF does not appear to be giving members the support needed for them to succeed on the outside. I would be pleased if the ADF can prove I am wrong in my comments.

Ray Godfrey

LCDR RAN (Rtd)

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

The ADF offers various support services for members transitioning into civilian life, including the Career Transition Assistance Scheme (CTAS). Some benefits of the CTAS include job preparation workshops, approved absence leave to source new roles, career transition training, career coaching and CV assistance. Find out more at www.defence.gov.au/dco/transition RSL Queensland also recently launched an Employment Program that supports ex-ADF and their partners into meaningful employment opportunities. See www.rslqld.org/employment



PIONEERING VETERAN LEADS BRISBANE SERVICE

ARMY veteran Lorraine Hatton (pictured right) spoke at the Indigenous Veterans' Ceremony in Brisbane on Thursday, May 31 to honour Australia's Indigenous service men and women. During her 20 years of service, Lorraine paved the way for female service personnel in the Royal Australian Corps of Signals (RA Sigs).

She was the first female RA Sigs Sergeant to deploy overseas as a communications manager (Indonesia and the Middle East) and the first woman deployed to set up communications infrastructure in an active war zone (Afghanistan). Lorraine said the Indigenous Veterans' Ceremony made it clear that Indigenous people were and remain an important part of our military history.





“Over the years, we’ve put aside our cultural differences over a shared love of this country,” Lorraine said. “It is important that the stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander veterans are included and remembered. We hope younger generations will see their history and be proud of what we’ve achieved.”

Prior to the Vietnam War, many Indigenous service personnel fought and died for a country that did not recognise them as citizens.

RSL Queensland State President Stewart Cameron CSC said Indigenous soldiers were legally excluded from military service until 1949.

“We don’t know exactly how many joined the armed services before 1949, as many used false names and backgrounds to enlist, but we estimate at least 2500 Indigenous soldiers fought in WWI and WWII,” Stewart said.



RSL RUNNER

Do you currently receive our monthly member e-newsletter, the *RSL Runner*? It’s another great way to keep up-to-date with the work of RSL Queensland. If you are not on the *Runner* email list and would like to receive it, please email memberships@rslqld.org to have your email address added to your profile.

FORMER ADF MEMBERS WANTED FOR STUDY

THE Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation has launched its latest study investigating transition out of military service. The purpose of the study is to trial a questionnaire that will help assess reintegration and psychological adjustment to civilian life.

They are seeking former members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to complete an online survey about reintegration and mental health. The survey will take approximately 45 minutes to complete. To be eligible for participation, you are required to have served in the regular ADF and

to have discharged between 2000-2018. They are also unable to recruit those who are currently hospitalised for a psychological condition at this time. There will be no cost or reimbursement associated with participation.

If you would like more information or are interested in participating, please visit bit.ly/GMRF-ReintegrationStudy or contact Principal Investigator Dr Madeline Romaniuk on 07 3394 7657 or romaniukm@ramsayhealth.com.au.

This research is made possible by RSL Queensland.





INNOVATION NETWORK INCORPORATES MEMBER IDEAS

RSL Queensland has been looking at new ways of engaging with our members and better incorporating your ideas and experiences into our work. With this in mind, we established the Innovation Network, a group of members of varying ages and experience from around Queensland.

In January 2018, we approached District Presidents asking for nominations from each District to be

part of the group. The first workshop was held on March 24, during which members provided valuable feedback on our key 2018 projects and engaged in lively discussions about how to enhance this work.

Going forward, the Innovation Network will collaborate digitally using tools such as Facebook Groups to share insights and ideas. These ongoing conversations will enable members to

offer suggestions to help us shape new RSL Queensland services and initiatives.

This will ensure we can continue supporting our Defence family with the right services, at the right time and in the right way, now and in the future.





UNITS STILL AVAILABLE IN WARHAVEN

ARE you a member of our Defence community seeking independent living accommodation in Cairns? We still have space available within Warhaven, our revamped, resort-style housing complex.

Warhaven is designed for current and ex-serving members of both the Australian Defence Force and Allied Forces and their immediate family, including spouses, war widows and children. The medium to long-term accommodation currently houses residents of all ages, ranging from late 30s to over 90-year-olds.

For more information or to submit an expression of interest, visit www.rslqld.org/warhaven, phone 0427 630 956 or email accommodation@rslqld.org.

INVICTUS GAMES TICKETS SYDNEY 2018 ON SALE

TICKETS are now on sale for the Invictus Games in Sydney from October 20-27, 2018. The Games will showcase the healing power of sport as 500 competitors from 18 nations contest 11 sports across eight days of fierce competition.

International swimming champion Ian Thorpe OAM called on Australians to buy a ticket and be in the stands to support our wounded warriors.

"It's hard to put in to words how much having the community – on your home turf – cheering for you can push you to achieve your best in competition," Thorpe said.

"But it's not all about crossing the finish line first; these Games challenge perceptions and change lives, and the best way people can get involved and show their support is to be there."

Thorpe was speaking at the official launch of ticket sales at Mrs Macquarie's Chair, located on the road cycling course for the Games. He was joined by Corporal Sonya Newman and Jeff Wright, who were members of the 2017 Australian Invictus Games Team, Chief Delivery Officer of Invictus Games Sydney 2018 Michael Hartung and Minister for Veterans' Affairs New South Wales the Hon David Elliott MP.

>>Tickets start from \$20 and can be purchased at www.invictusgames2018.org



Pilot Officer Jesse Costelloe, left, takes part in the power lifting strength and conditioning training session at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra in April.

ANZAC APPEAL GOES DIGITAL

ON April 24, RSL Queensland hosted the annual ANZAC Appeal Ambush in Brisbane, with uniformed RAAF personnel and RSL staff converging on the streets of the CBD to sell merchandise and raise funds.

RSL Queensland strives to stay up-to-date with modern technology and was excited to go completely cashless for the first time this year. The 'tap and go' terminals were a huge success, with positive feedback received by the public.

RSL Queensland has organised the event since 2011. All money raised in the Brisbane appeal is distributed to RSL District offices to fund welfare programs, while money raised by Sub Branches stays with them.



OPERATION PTSD SUPPORT

AS part of our ongoing support to Defence families, RSL Queensland is partnering with Operation PTSD Support to increase the number of respite opportunities available for partners.

Held in May, the first partner retreat for 2018 enabled 31 partners of current and former serving personnel with mental health challenges to relax and make new connections. Retreats provide an understanding environment, with an opportunity for participants to build their own support networks, while having fun.

"It is important to me to have contact with women who understand me and my situation," said Lisa, who attended the retreat.

"These kind of events are vital, as most days I feel so alone, because any support is too far away or hard to come by. The retreat provided

fun, relaxing and educational times. Without funding, it would've been difficult for me to go, so that is a vital part," Lisa said.

The retreat offered everything from yoga and dancing to meditation and educational visits from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

"The tears, laughs, all of the many hugs we shared and the friendships I have now made was an experience you can only get going to one of these retreats," said Sue, another attendee.

"I hope that I have helped just one person – just listening to her story, letting her know that I'm there for her, I care and knowing we are all helping one another."

The next two retreats will be held in Townsville from August 10-12 and in Rainbow Bay from November 14-19. Those interested should contact Donna Reggett on donna.reggett@me.com.

RSL PRESENTS BEST AND FAIREST AT ARMY RUGBY

RSL Queensland is proud to support Australian Army Rugby and once again presented the Best and Fairest awards at the Inter-Brigade Rugby Union Competition (IBRC) at Ballymore Stadium in Brisbane on April 20. The IBRC is the Army's premier competition for selection in the Australian Army Rugby Union (AARU) men's and women's teams.

Wet and stormy weather made for muddy conditions on the field, but didn't affect the great vibe in the stadium. Two men's and three women's teams competed for the 2018 cup.

RSL Queensland State Vice President Ewan Cameron presented the Best and Fairest awards for each game, awarding winners an RSL merchandise pack and \$100 Rebel Sports voucher. Winners included Stephen Chesworth (10 FSB), Jade Batten (Recruit Development Wing, 1 RTB Kapooka), PTE Maddie Burton (2 GHB) and Simone Spencer (1 DIV).

On Saturday, April 21, the men's cup final was played as a curtain raiser to the Reds and Chiefs game at Suncorp Stadium. Despite storms and rain all afternoon on the Friday, each game played on in the mud, and there was a great vibe in Ballymore Stadium.

RSL Queensland State Vice President Ewan Cameron presented Stephen Chesworth (10 FSB) with a Best and Fairest Award.



RSL Queensland State Vice President Ewan Cameron presented Jade Batten (Recruit Development Wing, 1 RTB Kapooka) with a Best and Fairest Award.



BACK TO SCHOOL FOR RSL

LEARN MORE AT
RSLEDUCATION.COM.AU



Delegates at this year's State Congress got the first glimpse of RSL Queensland's new education portal – RSL Education.

 Anita Jaensch |  Matilda Dray



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Educational resources for students from Prep
to year 12



RSL
EDUCATION



**“RSL EDUCATION
HAS BEEN
DEVELOPED AS A
COMPREHENSIVE
EDUCATION TOOL
FOR TEACHERS
AND STUDENTS
FROM PREP TO
YEAR 12.”**

RSL Education has been developed as a comprehensive education tool for teachers and students from Prep to Year 12. Conceptualised and written by qualified education professionals, it aligns with the Queensland curriculum, providing reliable, accurate information and practical opportunities for school children to learn about Australia’s Defence history and current challenges facing our Defence family.

“We’re a 100-year-old organisation founded by and made up of veterans,

so we’re in a unique position to share information about past conflicts, how we commemorate service and sacrifice, and the challenges that face serving members, veterans and families today,” State Secretary Scott Denner said.

“In previous generations, most children would have had a direct family connection to the ADF through the service of a parent or grandparent, however, many children today are unaware of the realities of Defence service. This is where RSL Queensland can add an extra layer of understanding – linking classroom activities with

lived experience through the thousands of veterans who are RSL members.”

RSL Education will provide students and teachers with engaging and age-appropriate videos, animations, slideshows and self-driven research projects that will bring the story of Australia’s Defence history to life. The first stage of the portal – to be launched publicly in term three – will focus on commemoration. Future modules will explore the impact Australia’s involvement in the conflicts of the past century has had on society, and on the health and wellbeing



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of those who have served in the Australian Defence Force.

The portal builds on the strong foundation of the Community Link program, which was used in more than 100 schools across Queensland. The transition to a modern, digitally delivered platform will make these educational resources accessible to all Queensland students, regardless of whether they live in a densely populated urban area or in a more remote community. It will also give smaller Sub Branches opportunities to connect with their local schools,

without a costly financial outlay.

RSL Education facilitates connections between Sub Branches and schools by indicating where teachers and students might benefit from talking with their local RSL Sub Branch.

“RSL members have firsthand experience of the conflicts, peacekeeping operations and disaster relief operations Australia has been involved in. Talking with veterans gives students an opportunity to gain a far deeper understanding and appreciation of the human element of events that are



**“FOLLOWING THE
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AND INTRODUCE IT
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CONFIDENCE.”**

otherwise just dates in history,” Scott said. “In this way, we hope to forge even closer ties between Sub Branches and their local schools.”

RSL Education has been shaped in consultation with RSL Queensland’s Innovation Network, which comprises RSL members drawn from all walks of life.

“Many members of our Innovation Network are themselves parents, so they’ve been able to provide valuable feedback that has helped refine the

portal’s design and content,” Scott said.

Following the State Congress, the RSL Education engagement team will provide training and materials to Sub Branches to enable them to use the portal and introduce it to schools with confidence.

“State Branch will be giving it a big promotional push, but we hope Sub Branches will get behind this resource and promote it strongly to their local schools too,” Scott said.

Learn more at rsleducation.com.au ↗



RESEARCH TO DIRECT FUTURE INITIATIVES

Results of research into the life and challenges of the Defence Family in Queensland have unearthed the extent of need across the community, with the findings enabling RSL Queensland to advocate effectively on behalf of the Defence Family and address the areas of greatest need in this community.

THE Defence Family – defined as current and former serving members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and their spouse, partner or carer – experiences a variety of challenges across four key stages of their Defence career, including the transition into the ADF, in service, transitioning out and ex-serving.

Each stage of the journey is underpinned by emotions and needs that impact both the individual and their families, with RSL Queensland CEO Luke Traini anticipating that the research findings will help drive the future direction of programs to support the Defence Family.

“The Defence Family Research Project has been an extensive and unprecedented program of market research that will provide a basis for analysing our services and programs,” Luke said.

“This research aims to help us at RSL Queensland continue to make a positive contribution to the lives of those in the Defence Family.”

The extensive research project included interviews, focus groups and survey participation, incorporating the experiences of current and former serving members of the ADF, their spouses and carers, as well as the general public, and key industry and government stakeholders, to paint a picture of the Defence landscape in Queensland.

The results of the research indicate that the total Defence Family in Queensland is approximately 264,260 people, making up seven per cent of the total adult population of the state. In addition, a further 480,000 people have a connection to Defence through another immediate family member or friend, extending the reach of the Defence Family quite significantly throughout the state.

Key findings from the research indicate that across the areas of health, employment, personal relationships and finance, those in the Defence Family experience greater challenges, which ultimately reduces their perceived quality of life. And while everyone has needs, the research found that nine in

10 Defence members have at least one need that is currently unmet.

The research identified that 63 per cent of Defence members have at least one medical or physical condition; four in 10 see finances as a key challenge in their life right now; one in five admitted that they struggle with personal relationships; while for 15 per cent, employment is a significant challenge in their life.

“The research has shown us that there are challenges across all stages that impact everyone in the Defence Family, and we will work through the key issues to assess how RSL Queensland can better serve our Defence community,” Luke said.

“As a result of the research findings, we may start to see new services piloted and rolled out later this year.”

RSL Queensland engaged market research agency Colmar Brunton to undertake this significant research project into the Defence community and their needs. The research was undertaken between August 2017 and April 2018. ←

HOW BIG IS THE DEFENCE FAMILY IN QUEENSLAND?

21,928
In service

174,730
Ex-service

67,602
spouses and carers



Approximate Total
264,260*
7% of total adult population

An additional **480,000** people have a connection to Defence through another immediate family member or friend.

*Numbers include reservists. In service number is actual; ex-service and spouse numbers are approximations based on research, with a margin of error of +/-4.38%.

WHICH SERVICE DID THEY SERVE IN?

67% *Army*



19% *Air Force*



17% *Navy*



3% of our Defence family served in more than one service.

WHO ARE OUR DEFENCE FAMILY?



19%
female



81%
male

68% aged over 50

32% aged under 50

ARE THEIR NEEDS BEING MET?

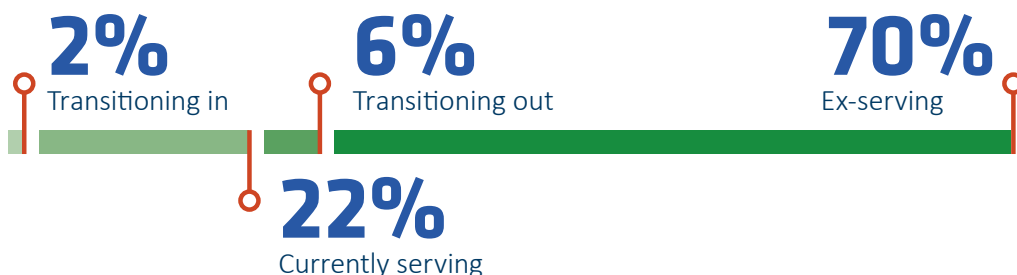
100% say they currently have a need

9 in 10 Defence members



have at least one unmet need

WHAT STAGE OF THEIR DEFENCE CAREER ARE THEY CURRENTLY AT?



WHAT ARE THE KEY AREAS OF NEED?

Physical and Mental Health

42%

suffer from at least one mental health condition or need general mental health support

63%

have at least one medical or physical condition

Employment



15%

say finding employment is a significant challenge

61%

of spouses of those currently serving are struggling to find work

Financial Planning and Assistance



Many are struggling with income levels and managing and planning for their financial future.

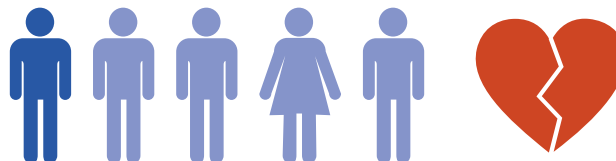
4 IN 10 OVER **1/3**

see finances as a key challenge

said that DVA claims are a major issue in their life

Relationships

1 in 5 struggles with personal relationships



WHICH GROUPS HAVE THE GREATEST NEEDS?

Families



34%

have children under 18

57%

need emotional support for their children

Transition out

Those transitioning out are **MORE LIKELY** to face challenges with finances, family situations, employment, personal and community relationships than at any other stage.

33% are currently **UNEMPLOYED**

81% Did not find ADF PROGRAMS USEFUL

ANZAC DAY 2018

Growing attendance at ANZAC Day services and marches across the state once again reflects the significant place the ANZAC Spirit has in our community. Thousands of people gathered at dawn for gunfire breakfasts, midday services, marches through town streets and the odd game of two-up, all in the spirit of commemoration.

It is the continued commitment and dedication of RSL Sub Branches and community volunteers that helps make these commemorations successful. RSL Queensland thanks all these hard-working members for their efforts and the contribution they make to preserving Australia's cultural heritage.



▲ Agnes Water-1770

Over 500 people attended the ANZAC Day service held by the Agnes-Water/1770 RSL Sub Branch, which was the perfect opportunity to unveil new plaques on the Wall of Remembrance honouring past service members of the Sub Branch.



▲ Barcaldine

The traditional ANZAC Day march completed the commemorations held by the Barcaldine RSL Sub Branch, which included a dawn service, gunfire breakfast and main service at the RSL Lawn Cemetery.

▼ Bulimba

The Bulimba RSL Sub Branch ANZAC Day dawn service included a special presentation of thankfulness to Korean War veterans, with Mr Kim, a North Korean refugee who was assisted by Australian troops at age nine, presenting Dianne Warren, daughter of Korean War veteran Nev Hankison, with a plaque of thanks to all Korean War veterans.



▲ Blackbutt

"When you go home, tell them of us, and say, for your tomorrows these gave their today." For 100 years the Blackbutt RSL Sub Branch has led the community in commemorating the sacrifices made by our service men and women.

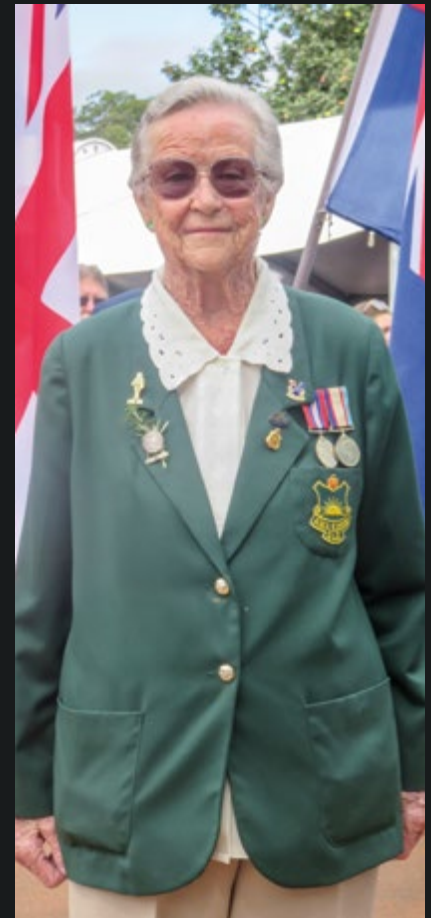




► **Brisbane**
Soldiers from 1st Signal Regiment during the 2018 ANZAC Day commemoration ceremony, held at St Stephen Cathedral in Brisbane: Private Jess Sami, left, Signaller Mitchell Cox, Corporal Brendan Hangan, Private Leif Hansard, Signaller Jamie Newton and Signaller Samuel Mayer.



◀ **Caloundra**
106 Army Cadet Unit provided the Catafalque Party for the wreath laying ceremony at the Memorial Garden, hosted by Caloundra RSL Sub Branch.



▲ **Burleigh Heads**
The ANZAC Day march held by Burleigh Heads RSL Sub Branch was led by ex-service woman Phyllis Ahearn, who has been a member of the Sub Branch for 24 years.

► **Biloela**
The cenotaph at the Biloela RSL Memorial Park, complete with new footpath, sandstone blocks and lighting, was a fitting centrepiece for the ANZAC Day service hosted by the Biloela RSL Sub Branch.





► Calliope

The largest crowds ever turned out to support the ANZAC Day march organised by Calliope RSL Sub Branch, with veterans Stan Colman (passenger) and George Robertson (back seat) being driven through the procession by Bill Blows in his vintage military Jeep.



▼ Pentland

A small but proud community in Pentland, North Queensland, were joined by 4th Regiment, Australian Army Artillery from Lavarack Barracks to commemorate ANZAC Day, with the unveiling of a mosaic mural marking 100 years since the end of WWI.



▲ Capella (Emerald)

Emerald RSL Sub Branch unveiled an Honour Roll, honouring those who enlisted from Capella and district, who died while serving our nation in war and whose names have not been previously listed. Lt Col Garratt Plunkett, Lincoln White holding Benjamin White, and WWII veteran Col Randles were in attendance.



◀ **Carmel College**
Carmel College arts student Madelyn Arnold was inspired to create a sea of poppies, calling the art installation The Poppy is for Sacrifice, to coincide with the school's ANZAC Day commemorations.

▼ Centenary Suburbs

The Centenary Suburbs RSL Sub Branch held its inaugural ANZAC Day dawn service this year, with approximately 1000 people attending, despite the rain.



▲ Childers

Leading the Childers ANZAC Day march were Coleen, Teena and Pat from the Australian Red Cross.

► Cleveland

During this year's ANZAC Day parade at Cleveland, Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation President Nigel Allsopp and Redland RSL President Ian Grey presented several donations to honour animals who served.





▲ Dogs Queensland

Organised by the Forest Lake Sub Branch and Dogs Queensland, The Sentinel watches over the attendees at the ANZAC Day dawn service at the Dogs Queensland Sportsground.



▲ Currumbin

The ANZAC Day commemoration at Currumbin continues to grow in attendance, with the community drawn to the moving and theatrical elements throughout the service.

▼ Cooroy Pomona

Local students were involved in the ANZAC Day commemorations held by Cooroy-Pomona RSL Sub Branch.



◀ Esk

Members of the Esk RSL Sub Branch followed the Brisbane City Brass Band and the 2nd/14th Light Horse Troop in the ANZAC Day march, which also included Scouts and Guides, local school children and members of the local community.



▲ Forest Lake

WWII Veteran Cyril Kretschmann was driven through the ANZAC Day march held by Forest Lake RSL Sub Branch in a 1931 Ford Model A Coupe, with approximately 5000 people lining the streets.



▲ Hervey Bay Kokoda

Hervey Bay RSL & Services Memorial Club President Ray Eustace, left, and Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch President Brian Tidyman, right, sponsored Urangan State High School student Jakob Gillespie to trek the Kokoda Trail and presented him with wreaths to lay at a memorial on the Kokoda Trail on ANZAC Day.



▲ Hervey Bay

The Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch held its ANZAC Day services at the Light Horse Memorial, Freedom Park, with 9RQR serving as Catafalque Party.



◀ Kingaroy-Memerambi

Kingaroy-Memerambi RSL Sub Branch held an ANZAC Day service at Kingaroy State School, attended by Sub Branch and District President Don Davey, Warrant Officer Dale Young, State member for Nanango and Queensland Leader of the Opposition Deb Frecklington, Sub Branch events committee representative Barry Krosch and Neville Young, father of WO Young.



▲ Mudgeeraba

Former Cavalry RSM and current protocol officer at Mudgeeraba-Robina RSL Sub Branch, Doug MacDonald, served as a lone guard at the Cenotaph in Elsie Laver Park, Mudgeeraba, for the ANZAC Day service.

▼ Queensland Police Service

The Queensland Police Service decorated one of its patrol cars for ANZAC Day and took photos at Nundah Memorial Park before officially hitting the road. The car carries 30 photographs of Queensland Police constables granted leave to join the Australian Imperial Force and the British Expeditionary Force during WWI, who were killed in action or died of wounds or illness. The Ode is displayed on the bonnet of the car.





▼ Magnetic Island

The senior leaders of Magnetic Island State School, Ned Smith and Jasmin Roesler, recited the poem Sir, written in 2006 by Damian Morgan, at the Magnetic Island RSL Sub Branch ANZAC Day dawn service.



▲ Malanda

Large crowds and community participation added to the spirit of the ANZAC Day service held by Malanda RSL Sub Branch, with local schools, emergency service personnel, charitable and youth organisations involved in the commemorations.



▲ Mossman

ANZAC Day commemorations hosted by Mossman RSL Sub Branch services were well attended, and commemorations throughout the Douglas Shire included a service at Mossman State High School.



▲ Redcliffe

A 40,000-strong crowd lined the streets for the Redcliffe RSL Sub Branch ANZAC Day march, which included a tribute to Simpson and his donkey. Other highlights included a riderless horse, fly pasts of Hornet fighters and Tiger helicopters and armoured Army vehicles providing street blockades.



Longreach

◀ Local school students participated in the ANZAC Day service held by Longreach RSL Sub Branch, which was well-supported by the local community.

▶ Horses featured throughout the ANZAC Day march in Longreach.

▼ Veterans were driven through a grateful community during the ANZAC Day march in Longreach.



▼ Salisbury

7th Combat Service Support Battalion (ARA) supplied the Catafalque Party for the Salisbury RSL Sub Branch dawn service, which was well supported by the community.



▼ Surat

Attending the Surat ANZAC Day service were Peter Macbeth from Surat Fire and Rescue, left, Surat RSL Sub Branch member Rod Gray, Sub Branch Deputy President Loren Clanchy, David Schefe and Hailey from the 11th Light Horse Roma, Sub Branch President Mick Clanchy, Sgt Mark Perske from Surat Queensland Police Service, Cameron Hockey from Surat Fire and Rescue, Jarryd Davies from Surat Queensland Police Service and Sub Branch Secretary and Treasurer Ed Sims.





► Navy Cadets

Twenty-one Australian Navy Cadets from training ship TS Moreton Bay participated in ANZAC Day commemorations at Redcliffe before posing for a photo with official speaker Commodore Allison Norris. The group spontaneously looked left as three Army Tiger helicopters flew overhead.



◄ Pandanus Park

On the banks of the Normanby River, Pandanus Park offers a place for younger veterans to relax in bush camping surrounds. At Pandanus Park on ANZAC Day were Captain Cremin and Lance Corporal Tucker of the Engineer Support Regiment, with President of Pandanus Park, Peter Hannah.



▲ Seachange Arundel

Seachange Arundel held an ANZAC Day service attended by the local community, with Mike Wicks presenting a poem he wrote for the occasion. At the service were Barry Daily, left, Private K Seymour, Private N DeVoogo and Corporal Clitch from 6RAR, and Mike Wicks.



▲ Nundah Northgate

Large crowds again attended the ANZAC Day dawn service at Nundah Historic Cemetery, held by the Nundah Northgate RSL Sub Branch. An increasing number of veterans participated in the march, with local school and community support keeping the ANZAC Spirit alive.



Toowong

► The Catafalque Party stood guard at the Cenotaph during the moving ANZAC Day dawn service at the War Memorial, Toowong Cemetery. The rain did little to deter the crowds, with hundreds in attendance.

▼ Sapper John Murrell with explosive detection dog Elvis and Janie McCullagh, left, Karon Lamb and Lisa Whiteley in WWI nurse costumes at Toowong.

▲ 'To Our Brave Men Who Fell in the Great War'. The ANZAC Spirit was well and truly alive at the ANZAC Day service at the War Memorial, Toowong Cemetery.





◀ Tweed-Coolangatta

Over 1000 local school children participated in the ANZAC Day march hosted by the Tweed-Coolangatta RSL Sub Branch, which was led by ex-service and currently serving women.



▲ Springsure

RAAF members from 65 SQN Townsville joined with the local community during the Springsure RSL Sub Branch ANZAC Day commemoration services.



▲ Woodgate Beach

Guest Speaker Maj Christopher Brown OAM (Ret) delivers a speech at the Woodgate Beach RSL Sub Branch ANZAC Day service, which was supported by 9RQR Bundaberg who supplied the Catafalque Party.

▼ Wynnum Croquet Club

Play during the Cross Tasman International Croquet match, held at the Wynnum Croquet Club, was suspended for a special ANZAC Day service.



◀ Tewantin

Shania Oreb from Good Shepherd Lutheran College played *The Last Post* on violin at the Tewantin RSL Sub Branch ANZAC Day service.



MARATHON EFFORT IN MEMORY OF PA

Each year on ANZAC Day, Sally Cameron pays tribute to her Pa by running from Runaway Bay on the Gold Coast to Coolangatta/Tweed on the NSW border in what has now become a tradition and an honour.

 Sally Cameron

I ONLY knew him as Pa. Growing up he taught me chess, cricket and fishing with my brother. The older I got, the more important ANZAC Day became to me.

My grandpa sold poppies and badges and marched in his local parade in Leongatha, Victoria, and we would often meet at the RSL for family dinners. In the last few years of his life, my family would take him to the ANZAC Day morning service at Runaway Bay, where he proudly wore his medals. Mum also wore my great-grandfather's medals, as three of my great-grandfathers served in France in WWI.

Pa passed away in 2014. In 2016, I decided to honour him on ANZAC Day by running from Runaway Bay to Coolangatta/Tweed – approximately 42km; the distance of a marathon. I set off after the Runaway Bay dawn service and, after stopping at each of the cenotaphs along the way, arrived in time for the Coolangatta/Tweed morning service. This was going to be my way of doing something for Pa on ANZAC Day.

This ANZAC Day was the third year of the run, and six of my friends

completed the marathon distance alongside me, with a dozen more joining us along the way. We stopped at the cenotaphs at Southport, Surfers Paradise, Burleigh, Currumbin and Elephant Rock. Each year the group gets bigger and, as much as my friends do this for me, they too have relatives who have served or are serving today.

I wore a photo of my Pa, his medals and his father's medals on my singlet while I ran.

My brother Andrew and our Pa were close, and in 2003 Andrew transcribed Pa's war diary.

My Pa was Francis William Henry Lane (VX106711). He spent several years from enlistment in June 1941 until June 1945 at training camps in Victoria and Queensland. He attended the Marconi Wireless School in Sydney during 1943, achieving over 80 per cent, and became a wireless and Morse code signaller.

He met his future wife Mary, my Gran, while in Sydney and they became engaged just prior to going to the Canungra Jungle training school in early 1944.

Pa became an instructor at Canungra before being posted to the 31st

Battalion, 7th Division, at Petrie, Brisbane, in July 1944. The unit moved on to Cairns in preparation for overseas duty. Finally, on June 9, 1945, Pa's 25th birthday, he embarked with his regiment on a troop ship heading for Balikpapan, an oil port in Borneo. They were part of a large convoy of cruisers, destroyers, LCI-700 and other landing ships carrying approximately 25,000 troops. This turned out to be the last major offensive in the Pacific.

According to Pa's war diary, they arrived on July 1 to find "...dozens of huge oil tanks on fire and at 7am the cruisers and destroyers opened fire". The 31st Battalion landed the next day and moved inland, which was Japanese-occupied, coming under heavy fire. Pa was one of three signallers in B Company. Advancement was slow, despite heavy bombing from Allied forces.

The roads were mined in places by remote control, which required defusing. Pa wrote: "I had the job of defusing about 50 bombs. Some had electric wires connected to them and I did those first. The others had trips that had to be cut. Several Bren gunners covered me while on the job, they got several snipers hiding".



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Sally Cameron and Mary-Anne at the Currumbin cenotaph; Sally with fellow runners in front of the Burleigh Heads cenotaph; Sally with her grandpa, Francis, at the Runaway Bay ANZAC Parade; Sally and fellow runners at Surfers Paradise RSL, a young Francis William Henry Lane in uniform.

RIGHT: Dropping the pace momentarily to do a phone interview with Gold Coast ABC radio while running through Main Beach.

BELOW: Pounding the pavement along Miami Beach.



"I'LL CONTINUE TO ATTEND THE DAWN SERVICE WITH MY CHILDREN AND HOLD OUR HEARTS AS WE LISTEN TO THE LAST POST AND REMEMBER PA AND THE ANZACS, BEFORE SETTING OFF DOWN THE ROAD TO RUN WHAT IS NOW A TRADITION AND AN HONOUR."

The fighting continued with small advancements and the positions were held by July 13, despite the unit suffering 46 fallen and 123 wounded in action. The Aboriginal trackers were invaluable, Pa wrote: *"Bob picked up fresh Japanese foot marks several hundred yards out. We connected the phone and reported the news back to CHQ. Bob went forward and found the Japanese in ambush position around a bend in the track. We called in the artillery."*

The jungle was thick, and heavy rain made patrols difficult. Finally, on August 15, news came that Japan had surrendered, but the Japanese commander there did not actually surrender for another three weeks.

On September 17, Pa wrote: *"I was in a party of 25 who went out to the Dutch man's POW camp and disarmed the Japanese guards. There were 52 Dutch POW'S and three boys. As I handed one of them a parcel of goodies, I asked 'how old are you?' He said '17 years'. I guess he weighed about four stone, just skin and bone."*

Amazingly, Pa met that same Dutch lad 52 years later, on a bus trip

in New Zealand, when he recognised the Aussie bloke who helped save his life.

During the trip back home on the HMS *Implacable*, with 3500 diggers, the Pommy Colonel announced: *"There will be no 2up or playing cards on board for money". He was booed and 2up schools covered the deck in two minutes. The colonel soon changed his mind, which got him three cheers."*

Pa arrived back in Sydney on November 19 and discharged from the Army on December 14, 1945.

Living in today's world, it is hard for us to comprehend what our great-grandfathers and grandparents went through during those years of war. I'll continue to attend the dawn service with my children and hold our hearts as we listen to the Last Post and remember Pa and the ANZACS, before setting off down the road to run what is now a tradition and an honour.

Thank you to my family and friends, the running community and local community, Runaway Bay RSL Sub Branch and Currumbin RSL for their support. ←

ANZAC

AN INHERENT LEGACY


With three generations of military heritage preceding her, high school student Cobey Smith knows a thing or two about the ANZAC legend and appreciating family legacy and sacrifice.

COBEY'S father Sean is currently serving with 3rd Brigade in Townsville, her grandfather Stephen served with the Army from 1959-83 in Borneo and Vietnam and her great-grandfather fought with the Chindits during WWII.

For a school assignment, Cobey was asked to write about what ANZAC Day meant to her. Her grandfather was astounded by the maturity and high degree of reflection displayed in her assignment.

Here is an excerpt from her essay.

WHAT ANZAC DAY MEANS TO ME

 Cobey Smith

ALTHOUGH the meaning of ANZAC today inspires us to be and become better, it often means something different to every person.

ANZACs often joined the Army for what they thought would be an adventure, a chance to see the world, or, they could have just simply felt that it was the right thing to do for the freedom of their country.

Even though many soldiers were only a few years older than I am today, they still rose up to the challenge and fought until the end, despite the overbearing sense that urged them to run. These common ideals were – and still are – what gives us the heroic examples of mateship and coming together that make up a critical part of our Australian identity today. ANZAC is a legacy, something that every Australian inherits, no matter your background.

The emotional and physical turmoil they would have had to go through is unimaginable for my generation. We are still young ourselves, still finding our identities, and some of us would be the same age as the ANZACs would have been, but they didn't get a chance to finish finding their identities, so they have become a part of ours.

When we study the landing of Gallipoli in our history lessons, for what seems to be the 10th time it has been taught to us, our teachers try to connect the ANZACs with us by comparing our vocabulary with theirs. They use these words like sacrifice, mateship and courage but they always sound... refurbished. Aged.

They somehow make us feel like we should be in a different time. Mateship, when you look it up, means the same as friendship, but they don't. When you try to describe the relationships between the ANZACs with the word friendship it just doesn't feel right.

We can all remember hearing the Ode at our ANZAC Day services, but the one that has always stayed with me is the one read at the Canberra dawn service. It was freezing, yet there were thousands of people there, remembering.

When the Ode was read, this sense of coming together ran through my body and as everyone around me stood taller, prouder, I knew that they felt it too. We may be strangers, but we had a connection that ran deeper than anything I had ever felt. Mateship. For just a moment, we were all mates.



Cobey Smith, right, with her grandfather Stephen Smith, grandmother Dorothy Smith and her sister Larni Smith.

PIECING TOGETHER THE PUZZLE

For young veteran Dylan Rushby, reaching out to the RSL proved life-changing. The 31-year-old had been struggling physically and mentally in recent years, but has now regained control of his life and credits the support of his RSL Advocates and Wellbeing Program for his transformation.

✍️ Kylie Hatfield | 📹 Jannah Dryden





WELLBEING IN FOCUS

RSL Queensland's Wellbeing Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) aim to stabilise the lives of veterans and their families by discussing their situation and preparing a case plan, which breaks down the challenges into separate action points that are more manageable for veterans to accomplish.

"Veterans need time to process their situation and find where they are at; they will work through the challenges at their own pace until they're ready for the next step," said Kathleen Davis, RSL Queensland's Wellbeing Coordinator.

"We're not there to impose anything on them; we listen, offer alternatives and support."

The relationship takes a long-term approach, with the VSO staying involved with the veteran and/or family for as long as needed.

"This could mean we are in contact for two weeks or six months; as long as the veteran participates in the program we will continue to support them," Kathleen said.

If you or someone you know needs the support of a Veteran Service Officer for advocacy or wellbeing support, contact 07 3634 9444.

PENSIONS AND WELFARE IN FOCUS

RSL Queensland's Pensions and Welfare Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) aim to support veterans and their families by assisting in the development and submission of claims and appeals to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, as well as providing emergency crisis support where eligible.

Navigating the processes on submitting claims, working out the merit of the claim and applicable legislation, as well as ensuring the claim has the best chance of success is essential in supporting the veteran through what can be a challenging period in their lives.

A successful DVA claim can assist in rehabilitation, medical support and potential compensation, assisting veterans in moving forward in their lives. DVA is the determining authority on whether the claim is successful or not, however, an Advocate can walk the veteran through the submission, assist in their understanding of the process and the potential merit of the claim, optimise their opportunity for successful outcomes and advise on resources available inside and outside of DVA that can assist their journey.

GROWING

up on his grandfather's property in Kyogle in northern New South Wales, Dylan lived for adventure and the outdoors.

"I was always pretty active, running around the Border Ranges, camping, fishing, all that sort of stuff, and I played sport my whole life," Dylan said.

This lifestyle drew Dylan to the Australian Defence Force, where he enlisted in the Australian Army at 21, while attending agricultural college in Emerald, Queensland.

"The Defence Force seemed like a pretty good challenge; something to be proud of," Dylan said. "My grandfather was in the Royal British Army. My grandfather is my hero; he was my father figure growing up."

After training at Kapooka, Dylan was posted to 1RAR, 1st Battalion in Townsville, and thrived on the military lifestyle. But almost two years in, in 2009, Dylan had to watch his mates deploy, while he remained at the Battalion.

"A couple of days before deployment, they turned around and said I couldn't get a passport, because I wasn't recognised as an Australian citizen.

"I don't know my dad, and my mum wasn't a permanent resident when I

was born. The rules were changed I guess, and my family didn't know that I wasn't automatically an Australian citizen. I had an Australian birth certificate, so nobody knew.

"I was obviously quite upset that I didn't get deployed, especially for reasons that were out of my control. My family were pretty upset as well."

Dylan applied for citizenship, while fighting the early impacts of depression. Then, in 2010, he injured his back while in service, which saw the beginning of his downward spiral to mental and physical breaking point.

"I wasn't sent to a specialist, so I didn't know what was wrong or how bad it was, but I just couldn't keep up with the work anymore. I'd sort of had enough."

Dylan discharged in 2012 after five years in the Army, but was yet to face his greatest challenges. The physical pain he was experiencing made finding work difficult, while he didn't recognise his symptoms of depression for what they were.

After leaving the Army, Dylan moved back to Emerald, and eventually back to Kyogle, however, just prior to starting a new job, Dylan's back pain flared up, making work impossible and leading to financial difficulty and eviction from his rental property.

"When I knew there was something



“IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING DYLAN WITH ACTION POINTS FOR HIM

TO WORK THROUGH AT HIS OWN PACE, KATHLEEN ASSISTED DYLAN WITH FINANCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, AND ARRANGED FOR HIS DOGS TO BE REUNITED WITH HIM.”



ABOVE: Dylan during his service days with mother, Jane Wallbank and grandfather, George Rushby. LEFT: Dylan's grandfather, George Rushby, was his father figure and hero growing up.

seriously wrong with my back, I went and saw Bruce McKenzie and Jack McDonough at the Kyogle RSL Sub Branch, and they directed me from there, putting me in touch with a doctor and physio and all of that,” Dylan said. “I had no idea where to go, but they really helped me out.”

Eighteen months ago, Dylan moved back to Cairns to be closer to the mates he served with, but returned to Kyogle in September to pick up his dogs.

Dylan decided to extend his stay by a few weeks, however, during this visit Dylan's back pain flared up again.

“It went really bad – worse than it had ever been in my life. I ended up spending a few months down there and one month was particularly bad; I couldn't even drive five minutes to the doctors without being in tears. I screamed in pain just getting out of the bed.”

With the cost of his motel in Kyogle and rental in Cairns, Dylan's savings were decimated, while his mental health spiralled out of control. Managing to return to Cairns as soon as he could, Dylan had to leave his dogs in Kyogle, which added to his stress.

“I went to the doctors quite regularly and they put me in touch with a counsellor, and then I reached out to the RSL up here and John Lay, my Advocate, has helped me so much.”

While Dylan was not medically discharged at the time, he has had a change of mode of separation, and is working through claims processes with John. But John identified additional needs in Dylan and put him in touch with Kathleen Davis, RSL Queensland's Wellbeing Coordinator.

“At the time I was pretty well broken; I was really depressed, really lost. I spoke with Kathleen and she is



"I WASN'T SENT TO A SPECIALIST, SO I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS WRONG OR HOW BAD IT WAS, BUT I JUST COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH THE WORK ANYMORE. I'D SORT OF HAD ENOUGH."

wonder woman, you know, absolutely amazing," Dylan said. "Kathleen has done so much for me. It gets me a bit emotional talking about how much she has done for me."

Starting with a non-intrusive conversation about Dylan's situation, Kathleen prepared a case plan based on areas they identified as being a priority to help Dylan gain some control over his life. Breaking the bigger picture down into manageable goals has helped Dylan work through his challenges.

"I was completely overwhelmed and lost and felt on my own; I didn't know where to start, what to do or where to go. But Kathleen, through this plan, broke it down for me.

"It was like putting the pieces of a puzzle together; I could focus on one piece at a time and put it in place. I felt less overwhelmed by the whole situation when looking at it this way.

"I've gone from being a broken person with nothing, to feeling challenged and moving forward again. I have direction and purpose. I'm not the person anymore who rang up and was absolutely at the bottom of the barrel."

In addition to providing Dylan with action points for him to work through at his own pace, Kathleen assisted Dylan with financial and emotional support, and arranged for his dogs to be transported back to Cairns to be reunited with him.

"My dogs – Sascha and Oden – are my babies, they give me purpose. I was away from them for about three months, and it's so easy to slip back into depression without them, because they keep me grounded; they keep me busy," Dylan said.

"When I'm struggling, they help me so much; they come and check on me all the time and hassle me. They force

me out of bed every morning because they need to be fed and played with. They give me that purpose.

"I've had them since they were puppies and they were there when I was at the bottom of the barrel; they helped me through some hard times and are very special to me. For the RSL to help get them back home, that meant the world to me," Dylan said.

Feeling as though he had lost his sense of purpose and pride after discharging from the Defence Force, Dylan credits his experience with the RSL for turning his life around, and his message to other veterans – young and old – is to reach out when you need support.

"VSOs can help in so many different ways; they can work with you on your pensions and claims and provide emotional and financial support. They will put structures in place to support your pathway to recovery.

"Kathleen probably feels like she hasn't really done much, but even that little bit is priceless. I wouldn't have been able to do any of the things I have done if it wasn't for her. Kathleen and the RSL, they have saved my life, basically," Dylan said.

"It's hard not to get emotional when talking about someone who has changed your life. I mean, how do you thank someone like that? I could never thank her enough." ←

MATES **4** MATES

Issue 03. 2018

Magazine.



Make Your Mark

The Invictus Games are coming. Are you ready?

It's all about the family.

Meet our Mate
Gary McMahon.

Dan Keighran VC
on the challenge of

Kokoda



Troy Watson CEO's Message

As we head to print I've now been with Mates4Mates for close to four months. Since my first update I've taken the opportunity to listen to a wide variety of stakeholders, Mates and family members in my trips to the three Centres across the country.

During these discussions, I've been continually impressed by the strong purpose and people involved in the organisation

across all levels. The word I have heard most regularly is 'sanctuary' – we are a safe place, free from judgement and expectations. The transition from, and life after, defence can be difficult for many reasons, and every individual has their own story to tell. I've been pleased to see that at Mates4Mates your story doesn't define you. Whether you have or haven't served, whatever your rank, category or corp, has no bearing on your engagement with us and that's been incredibly encouraging to hear and see. It is an attitude and ethos I am committed to upholding into the future.

I've been working closely with our staff and supporters to build and tap into the knowledge required to set a strong strategic direction for Mates4Mates moving forward. We are a strong organisation, with lots to give, and provide an essential service to those who

have served our country. A measured strategic plan will give us the opportunity to build on our current areas and services in the near future.

Finally, thank you to all the Mates and family members for sharing their stories with me over the past four months. I look forward to meeting many more of you as I spend more time in the Centres and extend myself to our outreach programs. I am honoured to be part of this organisation and be in a position in some small way to support our defence family – we should all be excited about the future for Mates4Mates.

-Troy

Queensland Reds Partnership

On 21 April, Mates4Mates was able to launch our new partnership with the Queensland Reds at their ANZAC Round Charity match against the New Zealand Chiefs. We were out in force selling 50/50 raffle tickets and spreading awareness about the work we do.

Partnering with the Reds has been an excellent opportunity for Mates4Mates to align with such a strong, Queensland sporting team that truly embodies mateship and team spirit; values echoed in the work we do in supporting veterans and their families on a day to day basis. Mark Melrose, Queensland Reds Head of Operations commented on the partnership, "...In 2018 the St George Queensland Reds played the Chiefs in our ANZAC round to celebrate the history of our defence forces. With this it was only natural to partner with a charity that also supports our defence forces and their families. Mates4Mates do amazing work for the men and women suffering from their experiences in conflict. Queensland Rugby is grateful to Mates4Mates for everything they have done and do."



Entertainment Book



We are once again fundraising with the Entertainment Book! There are thousands of valuable 2-for-1 vouchers and up to 50% discount offers for many of the best restaurants, cafés, arts, attractions, hotels, travel, shopping and much more in your local area. Best of all, you can now choose the style of membership that suits you with hard copy or online books available.

This year 20% of every sale is donated to Mates4Mates. Funds raised from the sale of the Entertainment Book will go towards our core delivery of services across the country.

FRCs in Townsville, Brisbane and Hobart now have hard copy books available to purchase, or alternatively you can go online and order yours today. Thank you for choosing to support our Mates and their families.

**To get your subscription
head to: mates4mates.org**

Meet a Mate *Gary McMahon*

By Ayla Manicaros



Left to right: Jack, Gary and Cody McMahon on the Aussie 10 Peaks Trek.

Nearly two and a half decades of dedicated military service, six postings and multiple trips and exercises overseas saw veteran Gary McMahon leave the Australian Defence Force (ADF) with a wealth of knowledge and a hunger to bring his vast lived experience into the civilian workforce.

But like the story of many veterans who exit the ADF, Gary's expectations of life after service in terms of finding work and beginning a new career, did not follow the path he anticipated.

"For the first twelve months, the frustration of not being able to get a job [was difficult]. I wanted to keep going but I couldn't find work that allowed me to keep going," he said.

At one point, Gary submitted over 40 resumes for jobs where his service history and skillset would have been advantageous, but didn't receive a single phone call. Unfortunately, this disconnect between a veteran's expectations of a career after their service and the reality of finding employment is often a difficult one to come to terms with.

For Gary, he experienced a degree of marginalisation across many different jobs and industries post-service, a factor that both exacerbated and smothered his struggles with undiagnosed mental health issues.

"It was getting very hard. I thought I was 10-foot-tall and bullet proof and to face [my mental health] was hard. My physical injuries

were catching up too, I couldn't sleep, and it kept biting me," he said.

Gary didn't find Mates4Mates until some 20 years after leaving the Army.

"When I first came here [Mates4Mates] it was like an instant 'yeah, I think I belong.'"

It was the first ex-service organisation he'd come across where he could relax and be himself, whilst still enjoying a strong sense of comradery amongst other members.

This sentiment is echoed from a family perspective when speaking with Gary's eldest son, Cody McMahon who is a registered Mate himself.

"[at Mates4Mates] it's the same group of people with a similar mindset and it comes together really well," he said.

"When he started coming to Mates4Mates it all turned around for him, so I thought I'd support him, join in and do some of the activities."

"[Dad] went a really long time with undiagnosed mental health and being really sick."

Initially, Cody's involvement only extended to the occasional PT session however this grew with time and even saw his younger brother Jack become a registered member.

"[Mates4Mates has been] huge for us as a family. We're not constantly feeling like dad is on his own. It takes the pressure off a bit," Cody said.

In 2016, Gary, Cody and Jack embarked on a 50km hike across the top ten peaks of Australia's mainland glaciers: a trekking challenge offered by Mates4Mates. Weeks of training preceded the 72-hour slog which ultimately brought the family together in a culmination of exhaustion and elation: a moving experience for an individual but made incredible when done as a family.

"It was good to see [Dad] really having a good time again, being happy. For me and Jack to be there as well, it was incredible," Cody said.

Both their individual and family involvement with Mates4Mates has remained important for the McMahon family. Gary is a friendly face at morning PT sessions, affirming the important role that Mates play in each other's rehabilitation.

"Everybody here is at a different point on the same journey... But once they reach a point [where they are comfortable within themselves], they feed back to other guys who are just at the beginning. And you see it all the time," Gary said.

Brisbane Family Recovery Centre Manager, Marc Diplock, sums up the vital contribution Mates like Gary have on the organisation to both staff and fellow Mates.

"We recognise the importance of offering social engagement for our Mates and their families. Mates like Gary are the true face of the organisation and play an integral part in shaping the familiar, supportive culture that exists within our Family Recovery Centres," Marc said.

Kokoda

with Mates4Mates and ADA

By: Dan Keighran VC and Jen Cochrane



Dan Keighran with the ADA participants at the beginning of their Kokoda adventure.

"It was after my last deployment to Afghanistan in 2010 that I wanted to do more for veterans' welfare. I started to see more and more of my mates being affected adversely by their service." Dan Keighran

Each year, over 5,000 Australians walk the Kokoda Track to honour the courage, mateship, endurance and sacrifice of our soldiers and pay tribute to the thousands of Australians who fought to save our country. This year, Mates4Mates teamed up with Australian Defence Apparel (ADA) to send 16 people to complete the gruelling trek, to build friendships, learn about our war history, and, hopefully, be part of the recovery journey for those veterans who are struggling with mental or physical wounds.

During my time in the Australian Army, I had the opportunity to deploy around the world on operations, including Rifle Company Butterworth, Malaysia, Operation Citadel in East Timor, Operation Catalyst in Iraq and Operation Slipper in Afghanistan. It was after my last deployment to Afghanistan in 2010 that I wanted to do more for veterans' welfare. I started to see more and more of my mates being affected adversely by their service.

In early 2011 I didn't know what that support would look like, I just knew I wanted to try and help. I'd had a friend that had attempted to take his own life in the months post Afghanistan, another that had experienced several close calls such as IEDs detonating within metres of him, and a third that had endured life changing spinal injuries due to an IED detonation that killed two of his patrol.

I served for 11 years in Brisbane in the 6th Battalion, before I discharged from full-time service to take up a position as an Army Reservist, then as a driller and blaster in the mining industry. In 2012 I was awarded the Victoria Cross for Australia – the first and only Victoria

Cross awarded to a soldier from the Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR) in its proud history.

As a Victoria Cross recipient, I am privileged that I am afforded the opportunity to take on roles like Ambassador at Mates4Mates. I've been supporting Mates4Mates for several years now and am proud to be an Ambassador. I truly believe in their holistic approach to supporting the needs of modern day returned servicemen and women.

I'm also a proud Ambassador for ADA who were influential in creating what has become the iconic visual image of the Australian 'Digger' and have been a defence manufacturer since 1912.

ADA's support to Mates4Mates involves a financial contribution that helps fund the Kokoda challenge, whilst also designing and sourcing a range of garments for use by Mates4Mates staff and those involved in the various events and activities. CEO Matt Graham said ADA and Mates4Mates aligned due to the passion both organisations have for supporting former and current ADF members.



Left: Dan tackling the track with the team.

Right: Dan Keighran making a hair raising creek crossing.



“Our business is committed to supporting returned and current servicemen and women through organisations like Mates4Mates.”

Of the 16 people that trekked Kokoda this year, four were ADA employees who were chosen through an internal competition. Staff were asked to respond with why they would like to represent the company on this trek and what it would mean to them. Their submissions showed the respect they have for our Australian Defence Force and the honour they held this challenge in.

As ADA selected their participants, Mates4Mates began their process to find Mates and family members to head to Papua New Guinea (PNG). Mates and their family members who applied to go to Kokoda took

and ensure they are ready to commit to this physical challenge.

The group selected were very diverse, from different age groups, different states around the country, but what bound them together was their shared desire to grow and improve during the trek.

After trekking for almost 100km, in some of the toughest conditions, the group completed their trek stronger than ever before. The outcomes for many of the team has been described as lifechanging.

Army veteran Dave was very open about the place he was in before trekking Kokoda and the profound impact it's had on him.

“I found myself in a pretty dark place and self-destructive spiral [and] eventually realised

“[Going into Kokoda] I hoped to see the absolute exhilaration of both my son and his mother achieving this challenge together and I did. I hoped to share this exhilaration with others and I did. I hoped to begin new friendships with others in meeting this challenge and I did. I hoped to be able to reflect on the challenges our servicemen had to endure during their service to our country and PNG and I did that! And I wanted to feel humble that I was given this opportunity and I did,” she added.

Above all else, Kokoda brought a group of strangers together on a journey of a lifetime. It was one of the most physically and mentally demanding treks anyone could face, but together the team completed the challenge.

I may be biased as I am employed by ADA and was part of the team that participated in the 2018 Mates4Mates Kokoda Rehabilitation Adventure Challenge, however I would like to thank ADA and Glenn Azar from Adventure Professionals publicly for supporting Mates4Mates. Kokoda is a once in a lifetime opportunity, walking in the steps of Australians that endured so much during the Second World War and as such it is a special accomplishment. I was honoured to walk the track with four other ADA employees, and ten Mates.

“It was one of the hardest things to do to reach out to Mates4Mates, but now it's save me and [Kokoda] has been the greatest part of my journey thus far,” Dave, Army Veteran.

part in a two-day selection process, where they were physically challenged to test their strength and determination. Participants were also encouraged to share their personal stories – why they were here, what they've battled, what they hope to get out of the trek. This process is a longstanding tradition at Mates4Mates as it allows participants to experience a bit of what Kokoda will feel like

I was destroying everything I valued,” he said.

“It was one of the hardest things to do to reach out to Mates4Mates, but now it's saved me and [Kokoda] has been the greatest part of my journey thus far,” he added.

Another participant, Di, who is a mother of a veteran said it was great to experience the trek with her son.

“I wanted my son to achieve a major challenge and then reap the benefits,” she said.



#MakeYourMark Down Under

for Invictus Games Sydney 2018

Invictus contribution

It will be Game On Down Under when Australia welcomes competitors and their family and friends for Invictus Games Sydney 2018.

Sydney will host more than 500 competitors and around 1000 family and friends for the eight-day event being held from 20 to 27 October 2018. The Games will feature competition in eleven sports with events being held across Greater Sydney, including Sydney Olympic Park and on and around Sydney Harbour.

But the Invictus Games is more than a sporting event- it is a celebration of achievement, determination and resilience.

Invictus Games Sydney 2018 provides an opportunity for long-term impact for the defence community through raising awareness of programs and services in the areas of education, health and wellbeing, employment, adaptive sport and encourages greater collaboration and co-operation amongst the ex-service and serving community across the generations.

As we race towards the opening ceremony, we're encouraging you to 'Make Your Mark

Down Under'. There is a role for everyone in Invictus Games Sydney 2018 and 'Make Your Mark Down Under' enables you to get involved and show your support for our wounded warriors, no matter where you are or what you do.

A fantastic way to 'Make Your Mark' is to attend the Games in October and cheer on our competitors loudly and proudly from the stands.

Invictus Games Sydney 2018 CEO Patrick Kidd OBE hopes to see as many Australians there as possible.

"This is a moment in time for us to all come together as a nation and actively demonstrate our support for our defence community," said Kidd, who served for over 25 years across the British and Australian Armed Forces.



Don't miss your chance to be inspired by unconquerable spirit and entertained by eight days of fierce competition. Be there to let our wounded warriors know you're behind them.

Tickets are available now at
www.invictusgames2018.org



Hats Off to Our Graduates!

By: Jen Cochrane and Leone Orton

After a year of hard work and dedication, a group of partners of Mates, each graduated with a Diploma of Leadership and Management. In completing this scholarship program with Churchill Education, these happy graduates juggled their studies while supporting their partners, juggling family responsibilities, and work. This scholarship program was the second program offered especially for Mates4Mates by Churchill, to help veterans and their families gain tertiary qualifications.

Two of the graduates spoke about their experience and how the qualification has helped build their confidence and give them real-life qualifications to tackle the business world. Anna Douglas started the course just three weeks after giving birth to her daughter, Heidi. After having children, Anna became a stay-at-home mum to support both her children and her veteran husband.

"At the moment, in this phase of my life, I'm mainly at home with the children. My husband is also at home so, you know, I try and keep everything going there. But for myself it's nice to have an outlet, especially to stimulate my mind, to get me back in those ways of thinking I did have when I was working. This connected me back to those days in terms of the type of challenge I had back then," she said

Upon graduation, she said it was exactly what she needed.

"It's really reignited that in me to just keep going and no matter how tough it seems or how much it seems like you're really not giving your best, you still are, and you can still do it. The course has confirmed that for me that I can still do it and I can still keep going with it," she added.

Fellow graduate, Shannon Thomas was driven by the same circumstances as Anna to start studying.

"Because I had put my career and studies on hold when I had a family and Tim joined the Army and now that Tim was out of the Army and he was on the road for recovery I felt it was time to get back to my path to where I was heading [before]," she said.

Her husband, Tim, said the impact the course has had on Shannon and her personal growth has been undeniable.

"It's great to observe Shannon going through an education that has really just boosted her confidence in so many ways," he said.

What's next for Shannon?

"Well in a little bit of time when my kids are settled in their high school I'm hoping to start up my own business and this course has given me the confidence and skills to do that," she said.

Congratulations to all of the graduates! We can't wait to hear about your future successes.

Do you want to start studying? Churchill Education are specialists in Recognising Prior Learning (RPL) for ex-serving members and their families.

5 Quick Facts about RPL through Churchill Education

- Churchill has helped thousands of ex-defence personnel through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). This is the process of matching vocational experience with nationally recognised qualifications – which can be pivotal in career transition and progression.
- An experienced military assessor will make the process easy. If there is information required about on the job experience, the right questions will be asked to minimise time wastage.
- Evidence of your work experience can be flexible, including photos, samples of work and most importantly a personal/ phone interview.
- Australian Quality Training Framework recognises prior learning, current competency, and skills at a national level that employers recognise.
- Most experienced ADF personnel receive qualifications through RPL with Churchill Education without any further study.

Could you get qualified too?

Good news! Churchill will be visiting Mates4Mates Brisbane each fortnight, kicking off on Thursday 17 May, from 9am to 12pm to help our Mates look at translating their experience into qualifications. For those not in Brisbane, don't worry! We can book an over-the-phone appointment for you through your local FRC reception.

More information:
churchilleducation.edu.au

AUSTRALIA'S
Greatest
MATE
MATES 4 MATES



Dr Harry Cooper OAM
Veterinarian.



Jessica Smith
Paralympian.



Craig Lowndes
Australian Supercar champion.

Australia's Greatest Mate competition launches in July.

Are you ready to put your great mate in the running to win?

Major
sponsor:



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RECOGNISING AUSSIE NURSES

A bronze statue at the cenotaph in Cleveland, featuring a wounded soldier being comforted by a nurse, is the proud result of one man's mission to pay tribute to the many Australian nurses who served in various conflicts past and present.

✍ Jeffrey Stephenson

THE lack of recognition for Australian nurses who enlisted in various conflicts throughout the world drove Redland RSL Sub Branch President Alan Harcourt to resolve what he believed to be a major oversight.

Alan made it his mission to help rectify the dilemma when mapping out projects a few years ago. He's now proud to point to the finished product at the Cleveland cenotaph, where a bronze statue featuring a wounded soldier being comforted by a nurse stands as a central theme.

The memorial was officially opened in November 2017 and has since attracted hundreds of people, proving a huge attraction at recent ANZAC Day commemorations.

"It's a wonderful result and there's a remarkable amount of detail," Alan said. "Once the design was completed and ready to go, we went to the RSL committee, who quickly gave the go ahead."

The work – carried out by JH Wagner in Toowoomba, renowned Australia-wide for soldier statues and memorials – took nine months and cost \$55,000 to complete. More than half of the cost came from a grant from the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation community benefit fund.

Chris Wagner used his son Logan and niece Letitia as models. He procured uniforms used in a television mini-series for the sculpture. The result is lifelike, reverent and magical.



"I was always of the opinion that nurses were not recognised in any shape or form, so I made it my job to sort it out. Now it's the central theme of our display," Alan said.

Lighting will soon be installed to finish the project and illuminate the display at night. Alan said the memorial "fitted in nicely", with this year being the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI.

Mr Harcourt, who is in his sixth year as president and will most likely seek a third three-year term, has two other projects in mind.



"I'd like to see more recognition coming the way of the Merchant Navy and the Land Army. They're the two I'd like to see come to fruition before I'm kicked out." ←

ABOVE: The bronze statue, featuring a nurse comforting a wounded soldier, was officially opened at the Cleveland cenotaph in November 2017.

LEFT: The statue is the brainchild of Redland RSL Sub Branch President Alan Harcourt.

SUN RISES ON BRISBANE STREETS TO MARK ANZAC CENTENARY

As part of its Streets of Remembrance project, Brisbane City Council has placed the Australian Defence Force Rising Sun badge and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) badge on streets that share the same names as people, places or events of historical significance to the ANZAC campaign from 1915.

 Anita Jaensch

THEY began appearing in my neighbourhood a few years ago. Their presence seemed obvious and, after a while, it seemed they had always been there.

But a recent article in our local newspaper started me thinking again about the Rising Sun badges that mark certain local street signs – Gallipoli and ANZAC Roads in Carina Heights, Kitchener Street in Coorparoo, Combles Road and Bovelles Street in Camp Hill, Elliott Road in Hamilton and Bapaume Road in Holland Park among them.

The practice of naming streets, towns and other locations after people and places that were significant to WWI is not limited to Brisbane. Place names such as Amiens, Passchendaele and El Arish carry echoes of the far-flung battlefields that Queensland's Diggers had left behind them, at least physically.


But Brisbane City Council's Streets of Remembrance project is a significant and visible mark of respect for the memory of our ANZACs. Since 2015, commemorative signs featuring the Rising Sun have been installed twice a year – on ANZAC and Remembrance Days – on streets that share the names of people and places of significance. Last year,

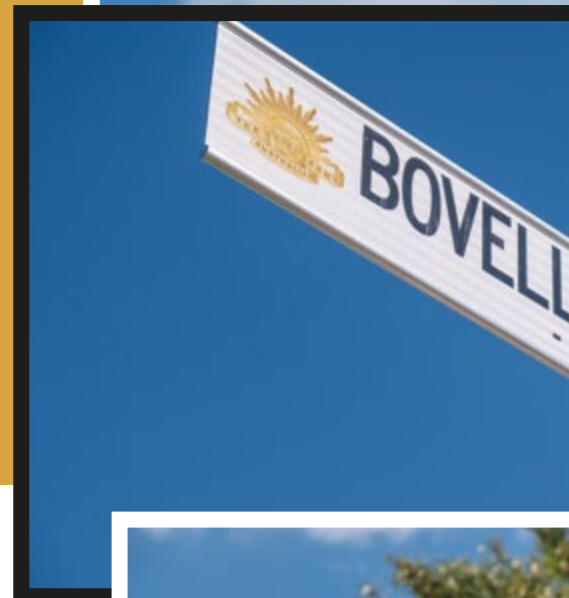
the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) badge was included for the first time.

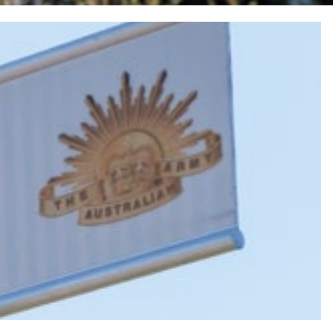
Brisbane City Council Chairman for Infrastructure Cr Amanda Cooper said Brisbane City Council had installed badges on 664 signs in more than 230 streets across Brisbane so far.

"A map of all Streets of Remembrance locations and historical research about each street name is available on Council's website and I encourage all residents to take a look and learn more about Brisbane's rich history," Cr Cooper said.

With school-aged children, it has been an opportunity for me to spark their interest – and rekindle my own – in exploring the history of WWI, particularly with names that don't immediately spark a connection, like Combles Road. (Combles is a village in the Somme district of Northern France that was recaptured by the Allies during the Second Battle of Bapaume in 1918.)

And I have to admit to being surprised to see just how many street signs are in my neighbourhood, once you begin looking out for them. Clusters of streets intersect and diverge, all bearing golden Rising Suns and reminding us of what was sacrificed so long ago. 





During this year's ANZAC Day round of installations, 23 additional streets received commemorative badges, including:

- Beatham Street, Sandgate
- Blamey Street, Kelvin Grove
- Borella Street, Sandgate
- Cartwright Street, Windsor
- Cartwright Street, Taigum
- Corbie Street, Ashgrove
- Dalziel Street, Enoggera Army Base
- Dalziel Street, Nundah
- Hamel Street, Camp Hill
- Hamel Road, Holland Park West
- Joynt Street, Hamilton
- Lowerson Street, Lutwyche
- Mactier Street, Fig Tree Pocket
- Marne Street, Albion
- Marne Road, Alderley
- Orsova Road, Yeronga
- Sadlier Street, Kedron
- Somme Street, Ashgrove
- Storkey Street, Windsor
- Towner Street, Enoggera Army Base
- Towner Street, Sandgate
- Vaux Street, Ashgrove

“BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL’S STREETS OF REMEMBRANCE PROJECT IS A SIGNIFICANT AND VISIBLE MARK OF RESPECT FOR THE MEMORY OF OUR ANZACS.”

GOALS
OF THE

OUR
EYES
PAST

The desire to see his late grandfather in colour led Wes de Mezieres to an interesting pastime, shedding new light on war photography.

 Anita Jaensch

HAVE you ever looked at a black and white photo and wondered what colour the subject's eyes were?

It was that urge that started 27-year-old Wes de Mezieres hand colouring photos.

"I started colouring old war pictures of my grandfather, who I never met," Wes said. "He was French and fought in the South African Army in WWII."

Posting those initial photos online garnered a tremendous response and kickstarted his passion. "The images have gone viral a few times and altogether have about four million views between Reddit, Imgur, Facebook and Instagram," he said.

Of course, hand colouring monochrome photos is not a new art form. Hand colouring dates back to the birth of photography – back then, it was the easiest way to get a colour photo. It persisted until after WWII, when the widespread availability of colour film made it all but obsolete. But a new group of artists are bringing colour to the past, with the help of image editing software like Photoshop.

Wes explains that it is a time-consuming process, even using digital tools.

"It takes between two and 10 hours really, depending on how much restoration is needed, how detailed the picture is, how many colours. A simple portrait would take two hours, but I've also had sleepless nights painting and shading."

Unlike earlier hand colouring methods, which could result in obviously inaccurate colours, digitally recoloured photos can be hauntingly realistic, bringing past moments into sharp focus.

Visit www.facebook.com/colourhistory for more of Wes's amazing artwork. ←

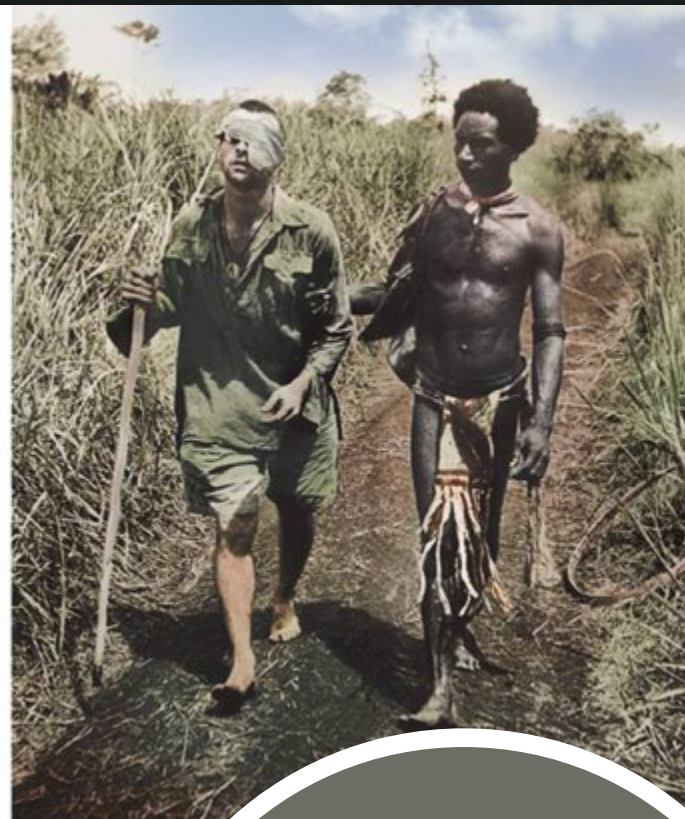


Australian WWII POWs just released from Japanese captivity. Singapore, 1945.



Australian carrying wounded mate with a smile. Gallipoli, 1915.

Papua New Guinean local assists wounded Australian soldier. WWII, 1942.



WIN

A HAND-COLOURS PHOTO

For your chance to win an A3 framed photograph hand coloured by Wes de Mezieres, select your favourite image from his collection and email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'hand-coloured photo'). Competition closes July 30, 2018.



US soldier meets kangaroo. Australia, WWII, 1942.



A LIFE OF SERVICE

For many members of the RSL, the name Vic Reading is synonymous with dedication, selflessness and cheeky humour. Vic's contribution to the cause was recently immortalised, with the naming of the newly refurbished Pension and Welfare Centre at Redcliffe RSL in his honour; a fitting tribute to one of the RSL's true contributors.

 Kylie Hatfield



Admitting that having the refurbished Pension and Welfare Centre named in his honour – along with being granted Life Membership of the Redcliffe RSL Services Club – brought a tear to his eye, Vic said it was “up there” among the greatest moments of his time in the RSL.

“It is something that I know I’ve got while I was living; that something has been named after me, while I’m still around to see it and appreciate it,” Vic said.

The honour reflects a lifetime of combined service in the Australian Defence Force and the RSL, which is filled with experiences, achievements and memories.

Growing up in Brisbane, Vic undertook his panel-beater apprenticeship with the Brisbane City Council Department of Transport prior to joining the Australian Defence Force. Vic’s commendable military career began upon enlistment at the age of 22 in 1964, when he undertook Recruit Training at Kapooka, then to the Infantry Centre, Depot Company at Ingleburn, NSW, which he described as some of his best months in the military.

“I’ve always said to my wife, the best part of my Army career was the three or four months I spent at the Infantry Centre, where you go from being a Recruit to becoming a Private in Infantry,” Vic said. “I just loved it, it taught me so much.”

Vic was then posted to 2RAR before transferring to the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME) and posting to Northern Command Workshops at Bulimba. This would be the first of several postings in RAEME, where he served as a tradesman and subsequently in regimental, instructional and administration roles.

Vic spent some time at 301 Field Workshops at Bulimba, where he became the Regimental Duty Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO), instructing on drill, weapons and promotions on the regimental side

of the workshops. In July 1968, Vic undertook his Sergeant Qualification Course at RAEME Training Centre, topping the course.

“Just after that, I went to Canungra and did the Jungle Training Centre. I did the course there and was sent to Vietnam,” Vic said.

Serving as the Regimental Duty NCO at 102 Field Workshops, Vic spent a year in Vietnam before returning to 1 Base Workshop Bulimba, on promotion to Sergeant in a Regimental Posting. In April 1973, Vic was posted to RAEME Training Centre as an Instructor, again instructing on drill, weapon handling, military law and RAEME in the field.

“We used to put a workshop into the field, so laying out a big workshop and putting it out in the field; I instructed on that as well.

“I ended up spending from 1973 until 1982 at RAEME Training Centre, getting posted to Admin Wing, Vehicle Wing, Corps Training Wing, Armoured Wing, Electrical Wing and Field Wing; all the wings of the centre.”

In 1974, Vic was promoted to Warrant Officer Class 2.

From there, in 1982, Vic was posted to 2-Base Workshops at Moorebank, near Sydney, as the Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM). Then in 1985, he was posted to 3-Base Workshops in Broadmeadows, Melbourne, again as the RSM – but he had his sights set on returning to RAEME Training Centre.

“I wanted to go back to RAEME Training Centre as the RSM of the school, but, unfortunately, that was never going to happen,” Vic said.

In 1986, while considering getting out of the Army, Vic was offered the position of Assistant Quarter Master at RAEME Training Centre, managing the logistics of the Corp receiving their Royal Banner, which was to be presented by the Duke of Edinburgh.

“For six to nine months I did the logistics side of that, roaming around all the areas and making sure we had everything we needed... all the logistics. That was 22 years by that time, so I got discharged and came home to Brisbane.”

But not before being offered, and declining, the opportunity to be put forward as a Prescribed Service Officer (PSO).

“My Commanding Officer at RAEME Training Centre happened to be my Platoon Commander in Vietnam, and he said, ‘Would you consider being put up for PSO, Victor?’ I said, ‘I don’t think so, sir’. At least they offered; but I chose to come back to Brisbane, because I knew Helen wanted to come back.”

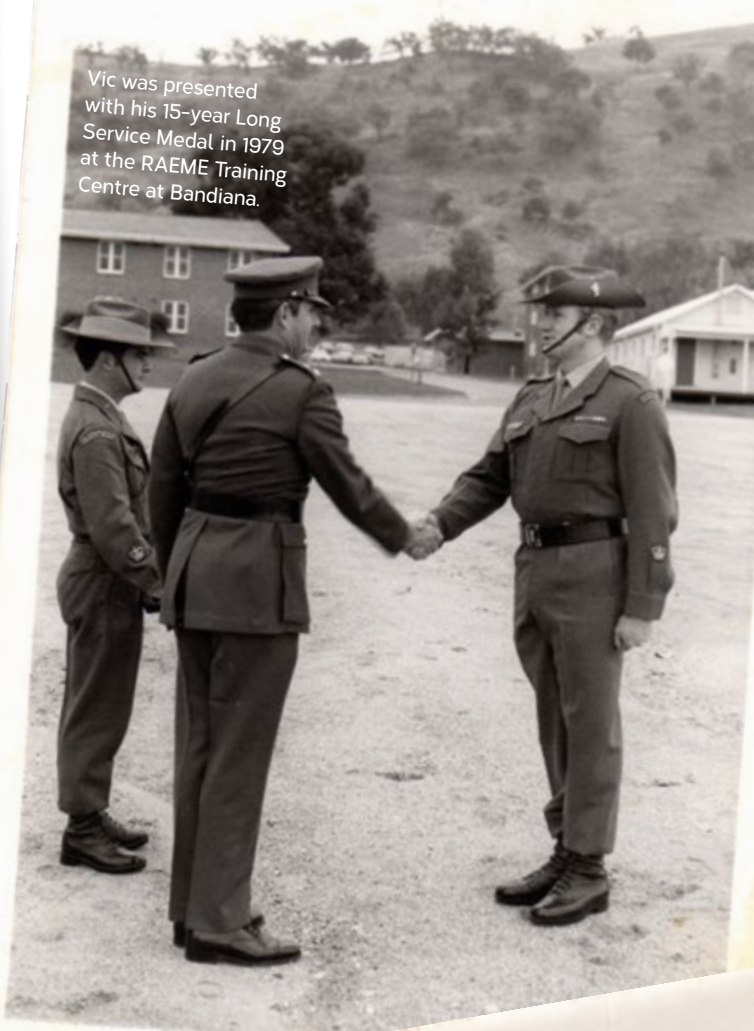
Having married four months before enlisting, Helen has supported Vic throughout his military career, relocating and raising their daughter.

“Everybody said, ‘Oh, your marriage will never last now’ [after enlisting].





Vic and Helen on their wedding day on 6 June, 1964.



Vic was presented with his 15-year Long Service Medal in 1979 at the RAEME Training Centre at Bandiana.



Vic set several state records in athletics, this one in U/19 long jump, at Lang Park (now known as Suncorp Stadium).



17-year-old Vic with his sister, Shirley.



Helen has been by Vic's side throughout his military career and service to the veteran community.



ABOVE:
Vic served as Director of the Board and State/Company Secretary of RSL Queensland, where he often represented the organisation in an official capacity.

"IT [THE NAMING] TOOK MY BREATH AWAY; I LITERALLY HAD A TEAR IN MY EYE. I TURNED TO THEM AND SAID, 'WHY, WHAT HAVE I DONE?' THEY SAID, 'TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION; YOU'VE ALWAYS HELPED US AND LOOKED AFTER YOUR DISTRICT'."

But from June 6, 1964 until now, I'm still married to the same lovely lady and have a beautiful daughter. So, there you go. It does work."

While based in Sydney and Melbourne, Vic would commute to Wodonga at every chance to visit his family, where Helen was working and their daughter attended school. But when they returned to Brisbane for his sister's funeral in 1986, Helen convinced Vic to purchase a house at Bribie Island, where they have lived ever since.

"If I hadn't gone to Bribie, I don't know, I guess I might not have been in the RSL, because, as it was, the guy who talked me into joining was at Bribie," Vic said.

After discharging from the Army, Vic found work as a kitchenhand at Prince Charles Hospital and then as a janitor at the newly opened Bribie Island State High School, where he remained for 14 years until he retired in 2003.

"It was a time when I didn't want any responsibility. They were looking for cleaners, but I didn't get the job as the cleaner, I got the job as the janitor, which was better as it was more money

and working straight hours instead of split shifts."

In the meantime, Vic's interest in giving back to the veteran community was growing and he got involved with the Vietnam Veterans Association on Bribie Island, of which he served as President from 1996-97. Vic also re-joined the RSL, after joining the Cannon Hill RSL Sub Branch originally in 1970 and being a member of the Wodonga RSL Sub Branch in Victoria while based there.

"I made the mistake of joining the Vietnam Vets, and I say 'mistake' because there were some really good guys there and one of them said, 'Come and join the RSL', and that started my long commitment to the RSL," Vic said, with his trademark tongue-in-cheek humour.

Joining Bribie Island RSL Sub Branch in 1995, Vic was on the committee within a month and has served on an RSL committee in some capacity ever since.

"I just wanted to be involved in it, it was interesting. When I first joined it was mainly just Sub Branch work. Then the President at Bribie at the time was a guy called Billy Gilmore. We were going to South East District meetings; Billy was the delegate and he wanted an alternate delegate to come with him. I went as the alternate delegate, and I just got more and more interested."

Vic was involved in the formation of the Brisbane North District of the RSL in 1998, serving as one of the inaugural Vice Presidents before taking on the role of Deputy President. Throughout this time, Vic also served on what was called the Administrative Committee, which worked closely with the RSL (Queensland Branch) State Council, as it was known then.

"Then in 2005, I became the District President, which put me onto the Board of RSL Queensland in my own right, which was still called State Council then. And then in 2011, we formed the new constitution and became Directors," Vic said.

While undertaking his role as a

Director, Vic was also the appointed State/Company Secretary from 2014 until 2016, and again the Company/Board Secretary from 2017 until earlier this year, when he retired from the Board of Directors of RSL Queensland.

Despite stepping down from his long-held position, Vic remains a member of the C&A Committee and Chair of the Lotteries Committee, as well as a recent addition to the Board of Redcliffe RSL Sub Branch, where he is now a member.

"I have worked with some great and dedicated Board and Committee members, and it has been a fantastic learning curve understanding this icon that is the RSL," Vic said.

But it is not just those serving on boards and committees that have touched Vic during his tenure, with RSL staff and, of course, the veteran community having helped shape his experiences.

"The staff that work at ANZAC House should be thanked; they made my term as a Director for the 13 years I served in the role such a pleasant time, and I always knew I could enjoy their company.

"And over the years I have had the pleasure and privilege of meeting many wonderful members, both women and men, of the military family; I've enjoyed their company, shared stories and been moved by them."

While the Pension and Welfare Centre at Redcliffe RSL Sub Branch being named in his honour is certainly a deserved acknowledgement for his contribution to the RSL and the wider veteran community, Vic also lists being the District President and subsequently a Director of RSL Queensland, and being awarded his Life Membership of the RSL, as other high points of his years of involvement.

"It [the naming] took my breath away; I literally had a tear in my eye," Vic said.

"I turned to them and said, 'Why, what have I done?' They said, 'To show our appreciation; you've always helped us and looked after your District.' And that was it." ←

THE BAINBRIDGE Brothers

The five Bainbridge brothers will forever be immortalised on a badge presented to their mother, Josephine, in acknowledgement of their service during WWII.

THE badge features five stars – one for each of her sons – standing side-by-side and is inscribed with the words: *To the Women of Australia.*

Fred Bainbridge and his brothers, John George, Gunner Walter, Sapper John and Henry James, all enlisted at different locations throughout Queensland, with Fred serving in the 26th Australian Infantry Battalion in New Guinea and North Bougainville.

“It was the 25th of March ‘45 and I was shot in the left shoulder at 10am in an ambush. I don’t know anything except it was an ambush and I remember hitting the ground, and then they woke me up to say they were going to put me on the barge,” recalled Fred.

“It was 10 hours between getting shot at 10am and getting seen at 6pm. When I got to the hospital they said, ‘you’re next’ and I don’t remember nothing except a couple of seconds of them cutting into my shoulder and then I woke up the next day.”

A member of the Bundaberg RSL Sub Branch for over 50 years, Fred was the only one of the brothers to be wounded in service, with all five boys returning home, much to their mother’s relief.



“When we got home, she said ‘for six years there was a tear in my eye every time I’d see the postman’, because she didn’t know,” Fred said.

The badge, known as the Female Relatives’ Badge, was issued to the wife or mother, or other female relative, of Australians on active service abroad in WWII. Each star on the badge

represents a husband, son or relative in service, with Josephine’s five stars surely being unique.

“She said she felt proud to wear it. She only wore it on ANZAC Day, and my wife wears it on ANZAC Day now,” Fred said.

“All these years, we’ve never really seen anyone else wear one; no one really knows about the badge.” ←

ABOVE: Fred Bainbridge and his granddaughter Bailee Baldwin holding some of the medals he received in WWII. (Photo: Mike Knott/ NRM)

A BOY AND HIS BLACK LAB: *Paws for Hope and Understanding*

When out in public with his beloved owner, Pozer the black Labrador is on a mission: stay as close as possible to Trae's left leg. The devoted dog provides a protective barrier from the everyday bumps and knocks that cause his owner agonising pain and sometimes require surgery.

 Matilda Dray

"POZER IS THE FIRST FULLY TRAINED THERAPY DOG TO GRADUATE FROM FOREST LAKE SUB BRANCH'S PROGRAM PAWS FOR HOPE AND UNDERSTANDING."

SIXTEEN year-old Trae Norbury suffers from a rare medical condition that causes excess bone growth. He has already undergone more than 30 surgeries during his short life.

According to his mother Holly, having a service dog has been hugely positive for her son.

"Pozer has allowed Trae to build confidence in crowds and independence in all public places," Holly said.

"Trae has had the prosthesis in his leg replaced four times from falls or bumps, as it is extremely fragile. This has led Trae to be very protective of it; often choosing not to participate in things for the risk it exposed him to."

Pozer is the first fully trained therapy dog to graduate from Forest Lake Sub Branch's program Paws for Hope and Understanding (PHU).

The Sub Branch established PHU in June 2017 to help veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injuries. The program trains assistance dogs to help Defence and emergency services personnel transition from combat or high stress

environments to general society.

After hearing about the program, Holly approached the Sub Branch to see if they had a dog available for her son. There was no veteran assigned to Pozer, so his training was adapted to suit Trae's requirements.

Because of his condition, the bones in Trae's left leg have been replaced with an internal growing robotic prosthesis. Medically, he is considered an above-the-knee amputee, but with his own foot and hip joint.

Growing up, Trae spent months in hospital being poked and prodded by medical staff, together with extended periods of recovery that caused loneliness and affected his mental health.

"Trae is a true battler and does not spend his days walking around with a chip on his shoulder, feeling like he is owed something," Holly said. "He is an inspiration and never gives up, facing every challenge head on with a smile that is truly infectious."

Trae also started swimming to help with his rehabilitation and now swims competitively at a national level. He recently competed in the Para

Commonwealth Games swim trials on the Gold Coast, where Pozer sat beside him on the pool deck while he swam and helped his owner manoeuvre through the crowds at the complex.

Pozer's support helped Trae achieve three final swims that ranked him fourth in Australia in those events.

"I truly believe there will be many more chapters to write in the journey ahead for both Trae and his special black lab, Pozer," Holly said.

Eight veterans with PTSD have now entered the program and six dogs have begun training. PHU is still seeking more suitable veterans to assist and three more dogs to train, so if you know someone who would benefit, see the inset box for contact information.

While the program is only in its infancy, Forest Lake RSL Sub Branch President Bob Richards said the response from veterans and the community has been encouraging and at times overwhelming. He said the program was presented to the South Eastern District in 2017 and was well received. Member for Oxley Milton Dick MP also tabled the program in



PUP TO HELP WITH PTSD?

Do you know a veteran with PTSD who needs a service dog?

Contact the Paws for Hope and Understanding program via Forest Lake RSL Sub Branch President Bob Richards on 0412 747 529 or 07 3818 3837 during office hours (ask for Sharron).

Eligibility is based on Department of Veterans' Affairs recommendations.

You can also donate to the cause – contact PHU for more information.

Federal Parliament.

“We also have support from the Keith Payne Unit at Greenslopes, which is recommending PTSD veterans to our program,” Bob said.

The Sub Branch is also backed by several organisations, such as the Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation, Dogs Queensland, United States War Dogs Association,

Queensland Police Service, RAAF Dog Handlers Association and RSL Queensland.

“Our patron for the program is Dawn Fraser AO, MBE. We also have a list of sponsors that provide harnesses, food, training facilities, etc. to assist with this program. We are constantly looking for sponsorship as the program continues to grow at a rapid rate,” Bob explained. ←



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY COVENANT PROPOSED

A proposal for the introduction of an Australian Military Covenant requesting the government to formally affirm the unique nature of military service by an Act of Parliament is currently being discussed with the Australian Government.

 Graeme Mickelberg

THE demands of military service are significant, and the effects of service are many. The human effects are often complex, lasting and life-altering, making the lives of many serving and ex-serving members, and that of their family members, very difficult. Sadly, for some, these difficulties can be overwhelming.

After enlisting in the Australian Defence Force (ADF), a person places his/her life, liberty and security in the hands of the state. They are subject to military law and must obey orders from their superior officers. Failure to obey orders may result in legal consequences.

In no other calling, occupation or profession does the state have the power to accept or demand the surrender of these individual rights. In this respect, military service is unique, and the reciprocal obligation it places on the state is inescapable and enduring.

A further key difference that contributes to the unique nature of military service is that those who serve in the ADF do so on the understanding that sustaining their conditions of service is the responsibility of

their chain of command and the government. This is a unique situation in that in most other forms of employment the remuneration and workplace conditions of employees are subject to established industrial relations legislative requirements and conventions.

“AFTER ENLISTING IN THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE (ADF), A PERSON PLACES HIS/HER LIFE, LIBERTY AND SECURITY IN THE HANDS OF THE STATE... IN NO OTHER CALLING, OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION DOES THE STATE HAVE THE POWER TO ACCEPT OR DEMAND THE SURRENDER OF THESE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.”

On page four of Edition 2, 2018, of *Queensland RSL News*, State President Stewart Cameron wrote, “Many in the wider community do not – and cannot – appreciate what servicemen and women have been through and we should not expect them to understand. This is what separates us

from the wider community: we served.”

This is the case, however, there are good reasons to take steps to enhance community understanding, including that of the Federal, State and Territory Governments and public servants that administer legislation affecting serving and ex-serving members and their families.

The introduction of an Australian Military Covenant is a proposal presently being discussed with the Australian Government. The proposal, which has the support of RSL National, Legacy and the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations, requests the government to formally affirm the unique nature of military service by an Act of Parliament and to restate a commitment to support and sustain the needs of serving members and ex-serving members and their families.

The intention of the Covenant is not to secure financial advantage for veterans over other Australians, but to focus the attention of those responsible for considering, drafting and passing legislation to ensure that serving and ex-serving members and their families are not unreasonably

ABOVE:
The Australian Military Covenant proposal requests the government to formally affirm the unique nature of military service by an Act of Parliament and to restate a commitment to support and sustain the needs of serving members and ex-serving members and their families. (Photo: Department of Defence)



disadvantaged in the same way the needs of other Australians are taken into account, including, for example, older persons, disabled persons and Indigenous and Torres Strait Islanders.

Additionally, an Australian Military Covenant would provide a foundation for the ongoing delivery of services to serving and ex-serving members and their families by Federal Government departments and, where relevant, by State and Territory departments and agencies responsible for delivering services to veterans on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Enacting an Australian Military Covenant in 2018 would be an appropriate way to affirm a shared commitment that represents the unbreakable bond of identity, loyalty and commitment from which the ANZAC spirit has evolved and that has sustained Australian men and women in the defence of Australia since Federation¹. ↩

¹ The United Kingdom has a military covenant, however, the terms of the UK Covenant and the approach to its implementation are the result of variables and considerations not relevant in the context of Australia.

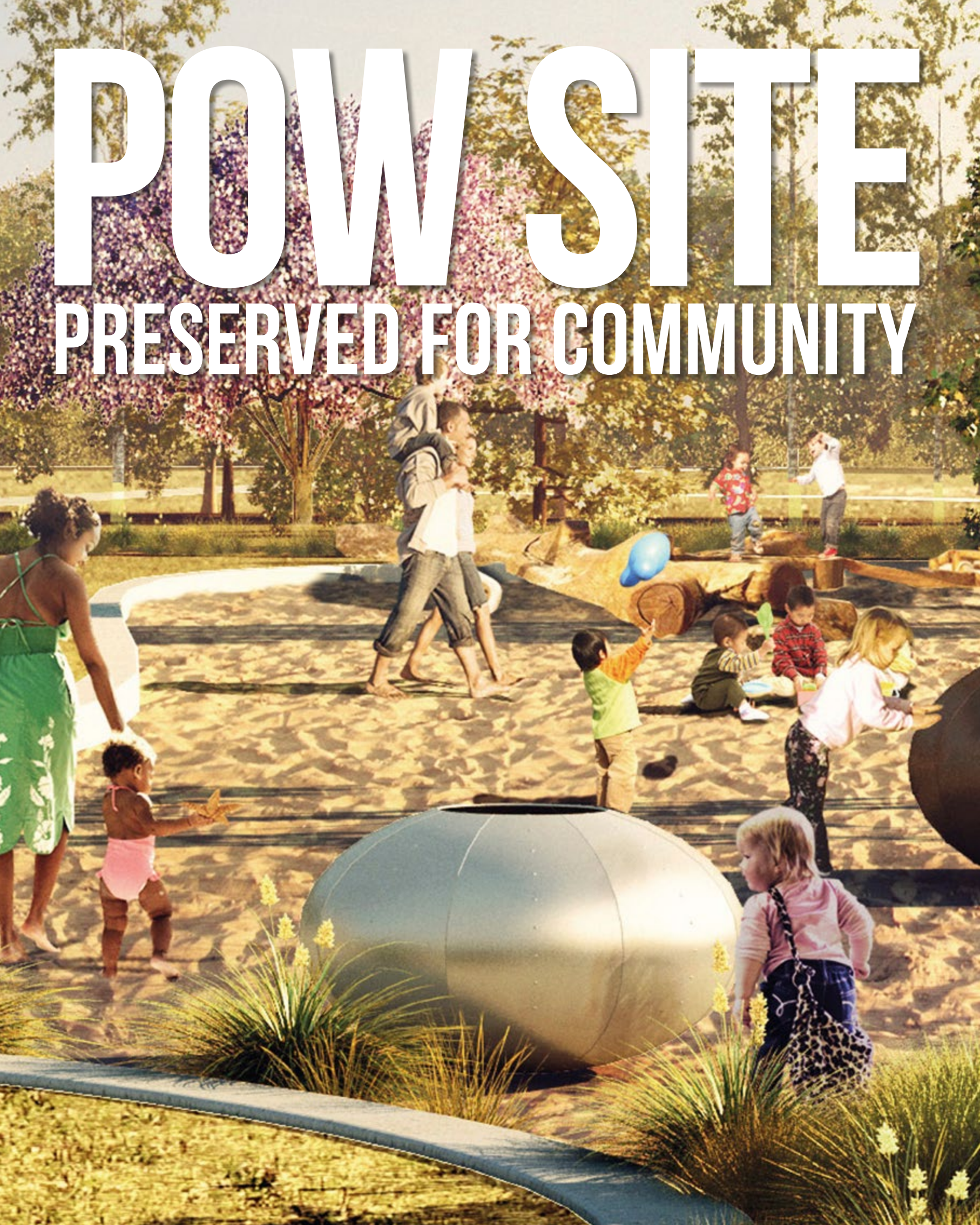
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graeme Mickelberg is a former career infantry officer having served in 2/4 RAR, 8/9 RAR and 3 RAR. He is active in promoting matters affecting serving and ex-serving members and their families and for greater unity of purpose by ex-service organisations. He is a member of the Kenilworth RSL Sub Branch and of Legacy and the Defence Force Welfare Association.



POW SITE

PRESERVED FOR COMMUNITY





A site of Australian military significance near the heart of Brisbane is undergoing redevelopment works as part of a plan to preserve the site and provide green open space for the community.



OPENING IMAGE:
The Witton Barracks district park will provide the community with an engaging landscape for respite, recreation and community activity.

TOP:
The original Witton Barracks' Parade Ground.

ABOVE:
The western (central) cell block passage.

RIGHT:
The role of Lambert Road has been reconsidered as a shared zone to create an urban arrival plaza for the park.

WITTON Barracks, located in Indooroopilly, was integral to Australia's military intelligence during WWII, with a purpose-built facility to collect intelligence information from Japanese Prisoners of War (POWs).

Witton Barracks, also known as the former Combined Services Detailed Interrogation Centre, served as the base of the joint Australian and United States intelligence unit during the war, with the defence buildings built in 1942-43 consisting of cell blocks bordering a POW exercise yard. The three cell blocks originally contained five cells each. A Quartermaster's store and office and a motorised transport cover were added to the site in 1959-60 and remain part of the facility.

The Witton Barracks site was sold by the Australian Defence Force to the Brisbane City Council in 2016, with maintenance and preservation work being undertaken, while community consultation helps to shape the future of the site. A current plan for development sees green open space for community use throughout the site, with a museum experience enabling the public to enter a cell block building to view this preserved site of significant military history.

Current maintenance work at the site is being undertaken to upgrade some community facilities and refurbish historic buildings. While a long-term plan for the community use of the site is still being finalised by Brisbane City Council, the vision is to "provide the community with a truly engaging landscape for respite, recreation and community activity."

Brisbane became an important supply base for the war in the Pacific after Japan entered WWII in December 1941. US General Douglas MacArthur, formally appointed Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the South-West Pacific Area (SWPA) theatre on April 18, 1942, moved his General Headquarters (GHQ) SWPA from Melbourne to Brisbane on July 20, 1942, to prepare for a counter-offensive against the Japanese. The Imperial Japanese Navy had lost a number of aircraft carriers, and therefore much of its offensive strength, in the battles of the Coral Sea (May 1942) and Midway (June 1942). During September 1942 the Imperial Japanese Army would be defeated for the first time in the Pacific War, at Milne Bay and on the Kokoda Track in Papua. As a result of these land battles, Japanese prisoners were sent back to Australia from September 1942. The first Japanese documents had been captured in an Australian commando raid on Salamaua, New Guinea, on June 29, 1942.

The prisoners at the Interrogation Centre were held under tight security. The POWs



ABOVE:

The Lambert Road Precinct is envisaged as a vibrant public space at the park's entry and at the critical intersection of a number of active land uses.

LEFT AND BELOW:

The existing heritage buildings of the Barracks Precinct encompass the Parades Grounds, which has great potential to perform as an intimate and landscaped public plaza.





ABOVE:
The Open Space area is imagined to provide a unique active play destination, with active play equipment presenting as a beacon to the Lambert Road Precinct.

BELOW:
It is proposed that the underpass section of the park will house an internal road and on-site car parking that aligns with the future bridge path. This section may also be adapted to include a distinct urban play environment.

in the cell blocks were guarded by troops from the Australian 1st Garrison Battalion and were sent to the Interrogation Centre from the Gaythorne POW Transit Camp.

A small, dirt exercise yard was located within the barbed wire enclosure. There was only one Entry Point into the Prisoners' Compound. POWs were marched through one barbed wire gate into a small holding pen. They remained inside this pen until one gate was closed and locked. Then the other gate was opened to allow them to either exit or enter the Prisoners' Compound.

The presence of Japanese POWs so near to Brisbane homes was kept a secret from locals. Once interrogation was completed, the POWs were returned to Gaythorne

“WHILE A LONG-TERM PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY USE OF THE SITE IS STILL BEING FINALISED BY BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, THE VISION IS TO ‘PROVIDE THE COMMUNITY WITH A TRULY ENGAGING LANDSCAPE FOR RESPITE, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITY’.”

prior to being placed on a train and sent to POW Camps in New South Wales or Victoria. POWs of other nationalities were also questioned at the Interrogation Centre. These included German crew members of the blockade-runner *Ramses* (a cargo ship attempting to deliver rubber from Japan to German-occupied France), scuttled in the Indian Ocean on November 28, 1942, and the submarine *U-168*, sunk in the Indian Ocean on October 6, 1944. Interrogation of captured Indonesians, or translation of documents written in the Malay languages of the Indies, was undertaken by the Netherlands East Indies Forces Intelligence Service (NEFIS).

In its first month of operation, the Allied Translator and Interpreter

Section (ATIS), which was a polyglot unit including Americans, Australians, Canadians, British, Chinese, White Russians and East Indies Netherlanders, processed 1000 captured Japanese documents, translated 90 and interrogated seven prisoners; the first Japanese POWs (captured at Normanby Island near Milne Bay) reaching Brisbane on September 30, 1942. The ATIS released its first spot report on November 1. By December 27, 1942, Allied units in New Guinea had sent back 1100 documents for translation, and during the war the ATIS produced research reports on various topics, including war crimes.

Source: Queensland Heritage Register, <https://environment.ehp.qld.gov.au/heritage-register/detail/?id=650030> ←





MYSTERY SOLVED FOR ART UNION WINNER

When we phoned the first prize winner of Draw 354, Madeline Jones* of Merrimac on the Gold Coast, her reaction to winning this spectacular \$3.3 million prize did not disappoint!

Receiving the news on her way home from work, Madeline was in shock as RSL Art Union General Manager Tracey Bishop explained the magnitude of the prize and the life-changing possibilities it could give her.

As a student and full-time worker, Madeline was under pressure to perform in her

studies, while supporting herself and meeting her mortgage repayments, stating “I just started studying for a degree this year. I didn’t know how I was going to do that and work full time, but I think you’ve just solved that mystery for me”.

As the owner of a brand-new complex featuring three fully furnished villas in Bundall on the Gold Coast, Madeline has a world of options ahead of her. Only purchasing her home last year, Madeline now has the option to live in her apartment, while

receiving an estimated \$145,600 a year in rental income as the landlord of three luxury villas. Or perhaps make the move and live in the fully furnished Gatsby inspired executive villa, or, sell the three villas and live a stress-free life of luxury.

The news just gets better! On top of this \$3.3 million prize, Madeline also receives an additional \$40,000 in gold!

After receiving the news, Madeline was eager to share the news with her sister.

“I’ll call my sister first to tell

her the news, she’s been through a lot with me recently. She lives in Adelaide, so I’ll fly her up!”

With a \$2000 travel voucher included in the prize, Ms Jones will be happy to know there’s enough for a few family visits.

Congratulations to Madeline and the other winners of Draw 354. From all of us here at RSL Art Union, thank you for your support and we wish you the best of luck in our current lottery.

**Name changed for privacy reasons.*

WIN TWO ABSOLUTE BEACHFRONT VILLAS



TICKETS
ONLY
\$5

\$3.7 MILLION
FIRST PRIZE

Draw 357 gives you the opportunity to win your own slice of paradise, with not one, but TWO absolute beachfront villas on the Gold Coast, valued at a life-changing \$3.7 million!

**DRAW
357**

Draw opens 8am AEST Wednesday 20th June 2018
Draw closes 8pm AEST Tuesday 31st July 2018
Drawn 10am AEST Wednesday 8th August 2018

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY

RSL Art Union No. 357 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, under licence No. Close date: 8pm (AEST) 31/07/18. Draw Date: Public draw 10am (AEST) 08/08/18 at ANZAC House, 283 St Pauls Terrace, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006. Promoter: Vic Reading, Locked Bag 4032, Fortitude total number of tickets available is 3,400,000. Winners notified by registered mail. Results published in The Courier Mail and The Australian on 10/08/18. Please note that \$20,000 gold bullion is a contribution our selected supplier and is not redeemable for cash. Some items shown in pictures are for display purposes only. Any rental estimates provided are for informational purposes only. Entrants must be 18 years or

VISIT US: 230 Pacific Parade, Bilinga QLD 4225

Display open 20th June – 31st July from 9am – 5pm (AEST), seven days a week.



EACH VILLA
INCLUDES:



326 SQM



5



3



2



AC

These homes epitomise coastal living with a design that takes full advantage of their absolute beachfront position through sweeping ocean views from the living, kitchen and master bedroom of both beachfront villas, while the flawless architectural design and exquisitely styled interior make the house feel like a real home. It's easy to see how \$232,500 of state of the art furniture and electrical appliances have been injected into the villas.

Bilinga, often seen as the hidden gem of the Gold Coast, offers not only a pristine patrolled beach, but a laidback family-friendly atmosphere, with local cafes, restaurants, bars and boutique shops to enjoy.

If you win this prize, you could choose to live in your favoured villa, while renting the other villa out for an estimated \$78,000p.a., rent both out for \$156,000p.a., or sell them both for millions!



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29819 (by permission of Queensland Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation), ACT Permit No.R18/00067, VIC Permit No. 10192/18, NSW Permit No. GOCAU/2019, SA Permit No. M13488. Valley QLD 4006. Proceeds are for the purpose of veteran welfare and support in Australia. Prizes drawn in order of value: 1st prize \$3,737,250, 2nd prize \$10,000 gold & 3rd prize \$5,000 gold. The for rates, water & body corporate fees for the first 12 months. Selling costs and market variations apply when selling gold bullion. Travel is in the form of a voucher and must be booked directly with over. WA residents not eligible to enter. Full terms and conditions are available at www.rslartunion.com.au.



JULY.

THIS MONTH IN AUSTRALIAN MILITARY HISTORY

01.07
1916

First day of the battle of the Somme

This was the worst single day in the history of British arms, with 60,000 men killed or wounded. The battle then continued for four months and resulted in more than 1,200,000 casualties on both sides.

01.07
1942

Sinking of the *Montevideo Maru*

Australia's worst maritime disaster. The *Montevideo Maru* was carrying more than 1050 Australian prisoners when it was sunk by the American submarine USS *Sturgeon*. None of the prisoners survived.

01.07
1945

7th Division landed at Balikpapan, Borneo

The landing at Balikpapan was the largest and final Australian amphibious landing of WWII.



02.07
1950

No. 77 Squadron, RAAF, flies first combat mission in Korea

No. 77 Squadron was the first Australian unit committed to the war in Korea.

02.07
1993

Death of Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop

Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop gained fame for the medical services he rendered to his fellow prisoners of the Japanese on the Burma-Thailand railway during WWII.

03.07
1900

Leeuw Kop, South Africa

Four hundred Imperial Bushmen in action at Leeuw Kop, South Africa.



04.07
1918

Battle of Hamel, France

The Battle of Hamel was the first set-piece operation planned and conducted under Lieutenant General Sir John Monash. It came to be regarded as a model for later Western Front battles.

05.07
1945

Death of Prime Minister Curtin

Prime Minister John Curtin led Australia through the darkest period of WWII, when the threat from Japan was at its greatest. He died in office in 1945.

07.07
1942

Horn Island bombed

Horn Island was bombed by Japanese aircraft nine times during WWII.

09.07
1941

Damour taken

Damour was the main military base and administrative centre for the Vichy French forces in Syria. The Australian victory opened the way to Beirut and led the Vichy French to seek an armistice.

10.07
1911

Formation of the RAN

In its original form, the Royal Australian Navy consisted of the battlecruiser *Australia* and several cruisers, destroyers and submarines. When the new fleet arrived in October 1913, the day was declared a public holiday.

12.07
1965

Last 3RAR ambush of Malayan Emergency

The last ambush conducted by the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, was mounted from Malaysia against targets at Babang in Kalimantan.



| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>13.07 1953</p> <p>HMAS <i>Tobruk</i> begins a two-week patrol of the northern part of Korea's east coast This was the <i>Tobruk's</i> last patrol before the war in Korea ended in late July 1953.</p> | <p>15.07 1940</p> <p>Volunteer Defence Force formed The Volunteer Defence Force (VDC), composed mainly of WWI veterans, was formed for home defence by the RSL.</p> |  | |
| <p>19.07 1916</p> <p>Battle of Fromelles 5533 Australians were killed or wounded in this battle, most on the night of July 19–20. Fromelles was the first battle for the Australians on the Western Front.</p> | <p>20.07 1943</p> <p>HMAS <i>Hobart</i> torpedoed HMAS <i>Hobart</i> was torpedoed off San Cristobal, Solomon Islands. Seven officers and six ratings were killed in the attack. Though badly damaged, the <i>Hobart</i> was able to reach Espiritu Santo the next day.</p> | <p>21.07 1942</p> <p>Japanese forces land at Buna and Gona Buna, Gona and Sanananda were to become the scenes of heavy fighting over the period November 1942 – January 1943. Gona was the first to fall to the Allies and Buna was the second.</p> | <p>22.07 1917</p> <p>Australian Army Nurses win the Military Medal Sisters Cawood, Deacon and Ross-King, and Staff Nurse Derrer, won Military Medals for rescuing patients trapped in a burning Casualty Clearing Station at Trois Arbes, France.</p> |
| <p>22.07 1938</p> <p>Australian National War Memorial opened at Villers-Bretonneux, France This memorial lists the names of 11,000 Australians missing from the fighting around Villers-Bretonneux.</p> |  | | <p>22.07 1942</p> <p>Beginning of the battle of the Kokoda Trail, New Guinea Stopped from reaching Port Moresby by sea, the Japanese were forced to try and take the town by land. The Owen Stanley Range, via the Kokoda Trail, became the scene of heavy fighting.</p> |
| <p>26.07 1945</p> <p>Japan issued with ultimatum to surrender With the Japanese Government divided on whether to fight or surrender on the terms set out in the Allied ultimatum, the matter was left in the hands of the Emperor, who surrendered on August 15.</p> | <p>26.07 1950</p> <p>Australian troops committed to Korea Acting Prime Minister Arthur Fadden announces the commitment of Australian ground forces for service in Korea.</p> | <p>27.07 1942</p> <p>Formation of the Australian Women's Land Army With many male agricultural workers leaving their farms to enlist, Australia required rural labour to produce food and other materials for the war effort. Women's organisations responded by setting up 'land armies' in each state.</p> | <p>30.07 1942</p> <p>Port Hedland, Darwin and Horn Island bombed by Japanese aircraft Many towns and airfields in northern Australia came under Japanese aerial attack during 1942–43. Darwin was the most heavily bombed Australian city in the war.</p> |
| <p>31.07 1962</p> <p>Advance party of the AATTV arrives in South Vietnam Colonel Ted Serong, Commander of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV), flies into Saigon. The arrival of "the team" signalled the beginning of more than 10 years of Australian involvement in the Vietnam War.</p> | <p>31.07 2009</p> <p>Iraq War Australian combat troops cease operational role in Iraq.</p> |  | |

*All content included in this calendar of Australian Military History has been sourced from the Australian War Memorial.



WELFARE TRAILER HELPS REMOTE VETERANS

Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch secured a DVA grant to construct a trailer to help welfare officers provide local and remote veterans with advocacy, information and social outings. Several local businesses and individuals helped build the trailer, with the Sub Branch acknowledging the support of AJ Bush & Company. It was named the Bob Maher Trailer after a Sub Branch member who was instrumental in helping the organisation focus on welfare, veterans and their families. The vehicle is also available for use by all Sub Branches in the South Eastern District and will be displayed on important commemorative days, with staff available to answer questions from the community.

BATTLES OF CORAL-BALMORAL COMMEMORATED

More than 60 people attended a service on May 19, organised by Malanda RSL Sub Branch to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the battles of Coral and Balmoral in Vietnam. Vietnam veterans Bruce Craven from Mossman and Roger Colclough from Dimbulah took part in the service and local school children recited a poem titled *The Final Inspection and the Dedication of Purpose*.



DISTRICT PRESIDENT IN BATON RELAY

Gold Coast District President Patrick Fairon participated in the Queens Baton Relay at Upper Coomera recently, in the lead-up to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.



CHERYL IS A SWEETIE

Volunteer Cheryl Barrett is always working hard behind the scenes at Redcliffe RSL Sub Branch. On ANZAC Day, Cheryl kept close watch over the young cadets who provided the flag party, giving them bottles of water and lollies to ensure they were well hydrated and had the energy required to stand at attention for such a prolonged period of time.





AUCTION PROMOTES CAIRNS VETERANS

On International Women's Day, Cairns RSL Sub Branch raised \$2000 to help local veterans by auctioning off several local veterans in the process of transitioning out of the Defence Force. Cairns RSL Sub Branch Pensions, Advocacy and Welfare Director Katherine Young – who is also the Sub Branch's first female board member – said the auction aimed to bridge the gap between employers and the veteran workforce.

"With attributes like discipline, loyalty, work ethic, timeliness and their ability to work in a team, veterans should be valued for their tremendous work ethic and integrity alone," Katherine said. "They are team players and know how to get the job done – these are attributes that cannot easily be taught, but are essential to business success. If more businesses across the country understood these values, there would be a fight to recruit them into their business."

The veterans who volunteered their time were Matthew Payne, left, Timothy Bell, Andrea Wheeler and Fiona Gallacher.

COMMEMORATIVE TILE CEREMONY

A dedication ceremony was held at Geebung-Zillmere Bald Hills-Aspley RSL Sub Branch on March 8. During the ceremony, French Veterans President Ray Mastorgio presented Sub Branch President Gary Lancaster with a commemorative tile on behalf of the French Veterans, TDM and The Foreign Legion. The tile reads: "France will always remember the involvement of the Australian Armed Forces and their sacrifices in liberating the French Nation in WWI and WWII and will be forever grateful to the Commonwealth of Australia and to its men and women who fought in France". It will be added to a memorial wall commemorating Australian conflicts and supports. Ray thanked Gary and the Sub Branch for their continued support. Pictured: Daniel Lorentz, left, Jean-Jacque Kratochvil, Gary Lancaster, Ray Mastorgio, Jose Calvo and Louis Pinotti.



NERANG REOPENS CENTENARY DISPLAY AND EDUCATION CENTRE

With 2018 marking 100 years since the armistice of WWI, Nerang RSL officially reopened its WWI Centenary Display and Education Centre. Government representatives, veterans, school students and the public gathered in Bischof Pioneer Park to view memorabilia, research pieces and the student-led battle scene re-enactments in the centre's replica trench. The display is run by Sub Branch volunteers, who guide visitors through the displays, explain the historical background and often share personal stories.

Mark Swain from Nerang RSL Sub Branch said local students helped with some displays and memorabilia was gratefully sourced from local families. The centre is open until November 9, 2018 – operating as a free public display on Thursdays and Fridays (9am to 2pm) and Sundays (9am to noon).

C OMMUNITY



RELAY REMEMBRANCE WALK

Thanks to help from the Armistice Centenary Grant, Cooktown RSL Sub Branch held a relay Remembrance Walk in honour of the 174 men and women from Cook Shire who enlisted during WWI. The 30km walk traversed from Lion's Den Hotel in Helensvale to ANZAC Park in Cooktown. Teams were comprised of six walkers, who each covered at least 5kms, with five people walking the entire distance. RSL members from as far away as Mareeba participated. Each walker wore a race bib with a nominated WWI enlistee whose life they had researched. Participants received an RSL medallion, with plaques for category winners. Five new people joined the Sub Branch because of the walk and community members sought information about everything from medals to welfare issues.



LAST POST CEREMONY FOR CPL COLIN BOWMAN

In attendance at the Last Post Ceremony, held at the Australian War Memorial on March 2 for their Uncle CPL Colin Bowman were great nephew Ray Bowman, left, nephew Ray Bowman (SSgt Ret), nephew Lawrie Bowman (WO2 Ret), niece Minnie Bowman and nephew Fred Bowman WO2 (Ret). Colin was one of many prisoners of war captured after the capitulation of Singapore. He died as a POW in the notorious Camp 4, known as the worst POW camp in Japan.

WELFARE GRANT FOR TABLELANDS LADIES

A group of ladies from the Tablelands Veterans' Partners' Support Group travelled to Cairns Aquarium thanks to a welfare grant provided by Far Northern District. The group consisted of veterans' wives, partners and war widows from the five Sub Branches located on the Atherton Tablelands. The ladies thanked those involved and look forward to future adventures.



YOUNG WRITER DRAWS ON CHILDHOOD SPENT ON AIR FORCE BASES

Jessica Grimsley, a 22-year-old with Asperger's Syndrome, has finished writing and self-publishing *The Unwanted Heroes* – the first book in a series she hopes will improve the quality of life for her parents. Her father, Mark, is a veteran and member of Hervey Bay Sub Branch, while her mother Kelly acts as his full-time carer. Mark served in the RAAF between 1985–1992 and 1996–2005 and deployed to Kyrgyzstan in 2002 as part of Operation Slipper, before being medically discharged.

A Tae Kwon Do black belt and enrolled nurse, who's been writing since she was 11, Jessica draws on experiences of her childhood growing up in Air Force bases across Australia. Passionate about the challenges faced by returning war veterans, she lives on Queensland's Fraser Coast with her family, beloved German Shepherd and assistance dog-in-training.

As a child, Jessica was shy, anxious and had few friends. She started writing to express herself and escape from her loneliness.

"It is my belief that Jessica can be an inspiration to other young people with Asperger's Syndrome and those children who grow up seeing their parents suffer due to their health issues from their time in the military," Kelly said. "The process of her writing and self-publishing has increased the bond between her and her father and they are both extremely supportive of each other." You can buy Jessica's book on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



GIVING BACK TO NAVY CADETS

Australian Navy Cadet unit, Training Ship Pioneer, thanked local Sub Branches for their ongoing support. Every year, the RSL Grant Fund allows Defence Force Cadet Units to apply for funding to purchase equipment to support units in their operations. The area extends across the Pioneer-Fitzroy-Highlands area, of which Mackay is part.

Over the past few years, Walkerston-Pleystowe Sub Branch sponsored TS Pioneer, providing funds to re-equip the unit with new communications gear for its land and maritime operations. In 2017-18, thanks to sponsorship from the Sub Branch, the unit received funding to replace \$1600 worth of power boat accessories. TS Pioneer Cadets CDTLS Adam Brazier and CDTLS Tyra Barry are pictured with Walkerston-Pleystowe Sub Branch members Theo Morrow and President Noel Wales.



BEARS FOR SCHOOL PROJECT

Redbank Plains RSL Sub Branch is helping young people learn more about the history of the ANZACS through its Bears for School Project. The Sub Branch worked with the local community to find sponsors to purchase 17 bears for primary and secondary schools, Air Force Cadets and after school hours care services.

Forging **A NEW PATH FOR YOUR** *treatment options*

If you have a severe or chronic ailment and the prescribed treatments don't seem to be working, what do you do? You could try alternative therapies, lifestyle changes, or simply limit the impact on your quality of life as best you can. While these might work for you, there could be another option you may not have considered – one with the potential to not only improve your own health, but also the health of countless others. Clinical trials are the all-important “gatekeepers” between what is developed through medical research and the treatments you have access to today.



A VETERAN'S EXPERIENCE OF CLINICAL TRIALS

FORMER Air Force Aircraft Maintenance Technician Gerry Reu had picked up a few aches and pains from his nine years in the Defence Force. He experienced chronic pain in his knees and back, and mild hearing loss from working around jet engines. He described his issues as “inconvenient, but not anything terminal”. That changed in 2006, when the impact of his military service well and truly caught up with him.

Over breakfast one morning, Gerry's daughter noticed an odd mark on his shoulder and insisted he get it checked. Not long after, his doctor was breaking the news – Gerry had a level 4 metastatic melanoma.

Gerry's case was just one of a growing multitude. The Australian Government estimates there will be 14,320 new melanoma cases diagnosed this year – contributing to a total of 138,321 new cancer cases. Melanoma is of particular interest to the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF), as it is one of the identified health conditions known to occur

frequently in our veteran community.

“When I was in the Air Force, I was always out on the tarmac. The sun would reflect off the concrete and it would roast you,” Gerry said. “Even if you're careful, it's the worst possible situation for your skin. Sun safety was not emphasised in those days. But these days, I was doing checks, the doctors were doing checks, the plastic surgeon was doing a lot of work. I was amazed the melanoma had gotten so bad, yet everyone had missed it.”

Within a month of diagnosis, Gerry was in for surgery and it seemed the tumour had been successfully removed. It wasn't long, however, until he was back in the doctor's office being told another melanoma had been discovered. The melanoma was spreading rapidly, and Gerry was having bad reactions in his liver and blood to the treatment available. It appeared that the options had been exhausted. His prognosis was measured

in months, with a terminal end.

It was at this point, earlier this year, that Gerry was offered an unexpected opportunity. He was referred to a doctor who offered him consideration to determine if he was eligible for an ongoing clinical trial conducted by the GMRF.

“When I thought of clinical trials, I just thought of the ‘human guinea pig’, but when I was given sufficient written data I realised it is 100 per cent opposite to what I presumed. I find it exciting to be on this trial. To find something that has the potential to change the whole aspect of things is truly wonderful,” Gerry said.

By their very nature, clinical trials are experimental and offer no guarantees. Gerry's trial is still in the early stages, however, there is an indication at this moment that the treatment is decreasing the size of his cancer. While he hopes for a positive outcome for himself, he knows this trial has the potential to have a much broader impact.

“The real potential of the trial, in my mind, is for the future. I am 68 years old now. The benefit I receive may be relatively short-lived, because of my age. If I get to 78, I think that's not a bad innings. The younger ones, the three- or five-year-olds like my grandkids, are the ones who will really benefit from this research.”

This is the power of clinical trials. Because medical research was developed to the point of testing in a clinical setting, Gerry now has access to innovative cancer treatment and is contributing to a possible advancement in treatment for all cancer sufferers.

“THE MELANOMA WAS SPREADING RAPIDLY, AND GERRY WAS HAVING BAD REACTIONS IN HIS LIVER AND BLOOD TO THE TREATMENT AVAILABLE. IT APPEARED THAT THE OPTIONS HAD BEEN EXHAUSTED.”





WHY ARE CLINICAL TRIALS SO IMPORTANT?

THE medication prescribed to you by your doctor is the result of years, or even decades, of comprehensive testing in preclinical and clinical settings. Through the data generated from clinical trials, we answer important scientific questions and gain a better understanding about new treatments to ensure they are safe to use and can contribute to improved health outcomes for patients.

Based at Greenslopes Private Hospital, the GMRF operates a Clinical Trials Unit, which manages and coordinates multi-centre national and international clinical research trials.

The trials GMRF is working on have relevance to the veteran community and include testing treatments into illnesses such as liver disease, prostate cancer, lung disease and melanoma. The unit's driving purpose is to deliver clinicians and patients with options to access new and emerging treatments in an effort to advance medical care for all.

Many of the treatments tested by the Clinical Trials Unit have become the new Standard of Care, significantly improving how an illness is treated. As a result of some of these clinical trials, medication has been registered on the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme, providing subsidised prescription medication to the public.

WHY CONSIDER INVOLVEMENT IN A CLINICAL TRIAL?

While treatments for serious illnesses such as melanoma have improved dramatically, there is still only so much

“THE TRIALS GMRF IS WORKING ON HAVE RELEVANCE TO THE VETERAN COMMUNITY AND INCLUDE TESTING TREATMENTS INTO ILLNESSES SUCH AS LIVER DISEASE, PROSTATE CANCER, LUNG DISEASE AND MELANOMA. THE UNIT’S DRIVING PURPOSE IS TO DELIVER CLINICIANS AND PATIENTS WITH OPTIONS TO ACCESS NEW AND EMERGING TREATMENTS IN AN EFFORT TO ADVANCE MEDICAL CARE FOR ALL.”

they can do, and many patients find that they get to a point where nothing is working for them. As you decide, with the help of your doctor, whether to join a clinical trial, it's important to understand what is involved. Some benefits of participating in a clinical trial include:

“THE REAL POTENTIAL OF THE TRIAL, IN MY MIND, IS FOR THE FUTURE. I AM 68 YEARS OLD NOW. THE BENEFIT I RECEIVE MAY BE RELATIVELY SHORT-LIVED, BECAUSE OF MY AGE... THE YOUNGER ONES, THE THREE- OR FIVE-YEAR-OLDS LIKE MY GRANDKIDS, ARE THE ONES WHO WILL REALLY BENEFIT FROM THIS RESEARCH.”



WHAT ARE CLINICAL TRIALS?

Clinical trials investigate the effectiveness and safety of novel treatments and interventions for a range of illnesses and medical conditions. The trial involves volunteers undergoing tests for treatments such as drugs, vaccines, medical devices or preventative and educational strategies, to determine if it is of greater benefit than the treatment options already available. Clinical trials in Australia are tightly regulated and governed by national ethics guidelines and codes of conduct. Participants of trials are well-informed on the objectives, potential risks and what is expected of them.

- Early access to new treatment – The treatment you receive in a clinical trial may be more effective than existing, standard treatments, or fill the void if no treatment is working for you.
- Expert medical attention – Doctors and care teams must closely monitor health-related changes in clinical trial participants. They are required to be alert to problems such as side effects. You may receive more one-on-one care and have more check-ups, as required by the trial.
- Trial costs covered – While there

may still be costs associated with your treatment, the research company is required to pay the trial-related costs.

- Advancement of health care – You can make a difference for generations to come. What researchers learn from your experience on trial can benefit you as well as future patients.

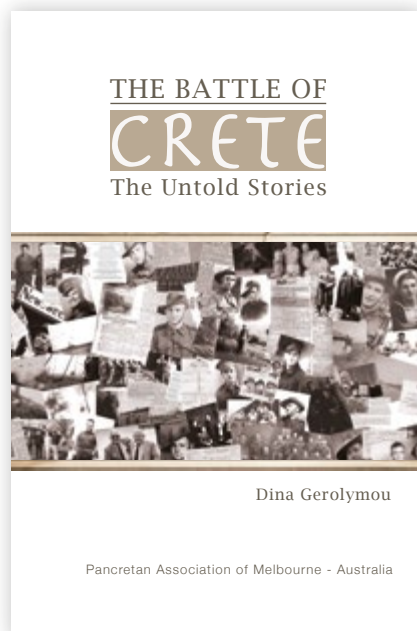
Although clinical trials can provide the latest, most advanced treatment, they are not without risks. Risks can include possible side effects and uncertain outcomes, as there is no guarantee the treatment will work

better than existing treatments.

There's a lot to consider when it comes to participating in a clinical trial, but the outcomes could be life-changing, both for you and for others who may suffer from the same health condition in the future. If you have a severe or chronic ailment that isn't responding to standard treatment, it could be worth considering a clinical trial and starting the conversation with your GP.

To find out more about the research and clinical trials conducted by the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation and how you can get involved, visit www.gallipoliresearch.com.au.

WIN



THE BATTLE OF CRETE: THE UNTOLD STORIES

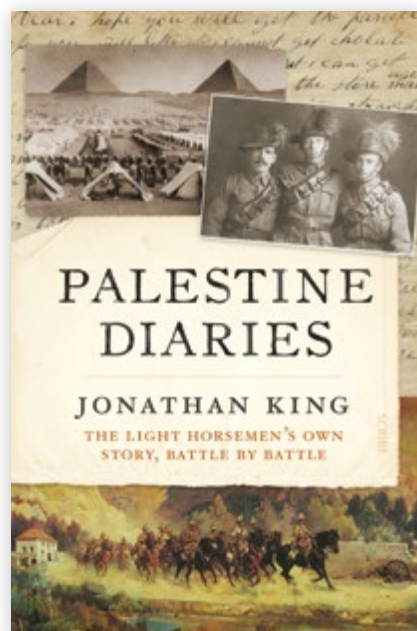
“The German officer pulled out his Luger and shot Norm right between the eyes. These are the stories that will never be told,” said the 93-year-old WWII veteran fighting back tears. Yet, the Pancretan Association of Melbourne – Australia embarked on a journey to gather material on Australian servicemen who fought in the battle of Crete in 1941, to tell stories kept hidden for decades.

After years of determined and consistent efforts to bring to the fore eyewitness accounts and personal stories of Australian servicemen of WWII, these stories were collected into a book.

It contains the profiles of 66 veterans, including personal narratives, photographs and letters never published. The book also includes the stories of veterans’ descendants, who shared their childhood memories, making the book a living testament to Australia’s commitment to freedom and democracy.

The Battle of Crete: The Untold Stories by Dina Gerolymou is published by the Pancretan Association of Melbourne – Australia (RRP: \$30.00). Visit www.pancretan.com.au to purchase a copy.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *The Battle of Crete: The Untold Stories*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject ‘The Battle of Crete: The Untold Stories’) or post to ‘The Battle of Crete: The Untold Stories’, PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes July 30, 2018.



PALESTINE DIARIES

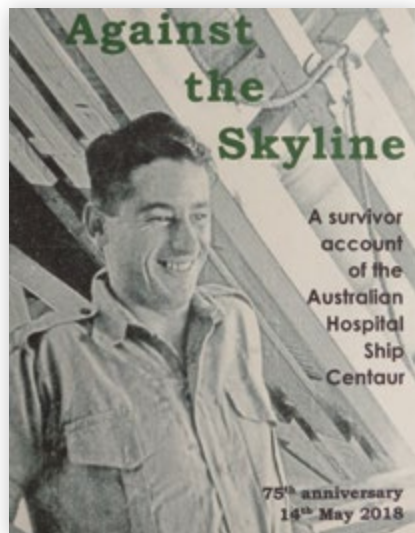
The third instalment in Jonathan King’s acclaimed WWI centennial trilogy. Culminating with the cavalry charge at Beersheba on October 31, 1917, *Palestine Diaries* is the story of Australia’s Light Horsemen of WWI, told in their own brutally honest words — day by day, battle after bloody battle.

One hundred years after that now-legendary battle — widely considered the last great cavalry charge — Dr Jonathan King argues that the breathtaking achievement of the 4th Light Horse Brigade should become the cornerstone of our national identity.

The soldiers in these pages were the first to achieve incredible victories for their new nation — ahead of the Western Front and unlike the defeats of Gallipoli. These young Australians helped demolish the centuries-old Ottoman Empire by driving the Turks from the strategic Suez Canal across the Sinai and up through Palestine, Jordan and Syria to be first into the enemy stronghold of Damascus — a victory that would not only change the course of the war, but would also plant the seeds of the modern Middle Eastern conflicts.

Palestine Diaries by Jonathan King is published by Scribe Publications (RRP: \$39.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Palestine Diaries*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject ‘Palestine Diaries’) or post to ‘Palestine Diaries’, PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes July 30, 2018.



AGAINST THE SKYLINE

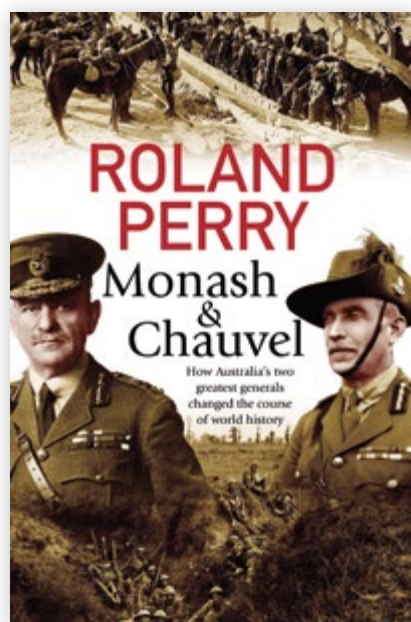
This book tells the story of the Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur*, which was torpedoed by the Japanese in 1943 off the Queensland coast, through the eyes of survivor Private Frederick Chidgey.

A tragic event in Australian maritime history, the sinking of the brightly lit hospital ship outraged a nation. The discovery in 2009 of the ship 2000m under the sea finally laid to rest rumours that the *Centaur* was armed.

Mudgee resident and Pte Chidgey's grand-niece Leanne Wicks has edited the account and also included poetry about the AHS *Centaur* from 1943 to the present day. This publication is timed to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the sinking on May 14, 2018.

Against the Skyline is compiled and self-published by Leanne Wicks (RRP: \$30.00). Contact leannewicks.poet@gmail.com to purchase a copy.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Against the Skyline*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Against the Skyline') or post to 'Against the Skyline', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes July 30, 2018.



MONASH & CHAUVEL

Monash and Chauvel: How Australia's two greatest generals changed the course of world history, tells the story of the emergence and dominance of these brilliant Australian soldiers, who commanded the two most effective armies in defeating the Germans and the Turks in the Great War.

Monash & Chauvel is a gripping narrative history that follows the extraordinary campaigns of the two most outstanding battlefield commanders of WWI across all the Allied armies.

John Monash commanded the Australian forces on the Western Front at the most critical time of the war, 1918. In the war against the Ottoman Empire in the Middle East, Harry Chauvel led the 34,000-strong Desert Mounted Column.

By the end of the war, Monash and Chauvel had brought a distinctly Australian sensibility to their areas of operation, involving flexibility, innovation and a deep respect for the troops they led, which was in turn reciprocated by their men.

Monash & Chauvel by Roland Perry is published by Allen & Unwin (RRP: \$34.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Monash & Chauvel*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Monash & Chauvel') or post to 'Monash & Chauvel', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes July 30, 2018.



QUEENSLAND RSL NEWS WINNERS

Edition 3, 2018

COURAGE IN THE SKIES

I Edie, Nome
B Voysey, West End
H Turner, Boronia Heights
L Crompton, Bongaree

LIFE BEYOND WAR

D Houghton, South Toowoomba
B Peak, Clear Mountain
C Read, Black Mountain
T Graham, Annerley

THE LITTLE STOWAWAY / NEVER FORGET AUSTRALIA

D Skinner, Charters Towers
D Hamburger, Noosaville
M Olsen, Yeppoon
W Marthick, Marryburn

THE SEVENTH CIRCLE

D Battison, Morayfield
W Shennan, Toogoom
C Thorpe, Bellara
R Butler, Ingham

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

ARMISTICE DAY FUN RUN ON WOODGATE BEACH

Would you like to run 20km along Woodgate Beach in Childers on November 10 for an Armistice Day Fun Run? Your fellow runners will include 20 people travelling from Vignacourt, France. Contact Robert Maisey via robert.maisey@bigpond.com or 0409 625 873.

MEMORABILIA FOR 2RAR MUSEUM

Have you or a relative served in the 66th BN 2nd AIF, 2AR, 2RAR or 2/4RAR? Do you have images, gear, medals, maps, photographs or movies from service in these units that form the lineage of today's 2RAR (AMPHIB)? Are these items sitting in boxes or a trunk not seeing the light of day, with the possibility they could be thrown out by your family if you passed? The unit has served in places including The Dutch East Indies, Japan, Korea, Malaya, South Vietnam, Malaysia, Rhodesia, Cambodia, Somalia, Rwanda, East Timor, The Solomon Islands, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Timor Leste. The 2RAR Museum is interested not just in operational service, but also in the Battalion's daily life, exercises, sport, special activities, parades, ETVCC and BN balls during its time. The 2RAR Historical Collection would like you to consider donating these items for display and to be preserved as part of the collection. They are seeking copies of digital images or scanned copies if you don't want to part with the originals. Remember, negatives and photos are slowly degrading. These items will be available to view and be appreciated by all who visit the historical collection. The museum is funded by donations, sponsors and grants, and those who would like to be a 'friend of the 2RAR Historical Collection' can contact the curator. The museum is looking to completely upgrade and refurbish the Historical Collection display soon. If you would like to visit or donate to the collection, please also contact the curator CPL J Harrison on 0419749198 or 2RAR.Museum@gmail.com.

NEW EXHIBITION AT ARMY MUSEUM SOUTH QUEENSLAND

From July, a new exhibition will replace 'Animals in War' at the Army Museum South Queensland at Brisbane's Victoria Barracks on Petrie Terrace in Brisbane. The next exhibition will feature unique artefacts and photos of Queenslanders' involvement in the events and battles that led to the conclusion of WWI in 1918. Tours (Wednesdays only) by individuals or groups must always be pre-booked by contacting Bev Smith on 0429 954 663 or visiting www.armymuseumsouthqueensland.com.au. The price of \$15 per person includes the exhibition, an escorted tour of historic Victoria Barracks, a Devonshire tea served in the original Officers' Mess, souvenir booklet and group photo.

ARMISTICE CELEBRATION IN BLACKBUTT

Several Armistice Celebration events will commemorate the centennial of the end of WWI in Blackbutt from November 10-11.

Saturday, November 10

- Armistice Country Fair: 8am - 3pm. Between Nukku Nook and Blackbutt Hall. Phone John on 0408 010 932
- Street Parade: 9.30am
- Armistice Centenary Ball: 6.30pm for a 7pm start, Saturday, Blackbutt Memorial Hall, Bowman Rd. Formal dress - medals optional, 1918 period dress optional. Entertainment by Cool Nights Big Band. Hot and cold supper. Entry by pre-sold tickets only (\$47). Booking enquiries to Blackbutt RSL Sub Branch on 07 4163 0383, Trish on 0408 624 116 or Wally on 0499 896 515.

Sunday, November 11

- Remembrance Day Service: 10.45am. Corner of Coulson and Hart Street.

- Community Sausage Sizzle: 12pm. Blackbutt RSL with the assistance of Blackbutt-Benarkin Lions Club.

BRITISH WAR MEDAL FOUND

A British War Medal has been found with the following engravings: *773 SPR GA Bolton 2 TUN COY A.I.F* GA Bolton was a Sapper (private in the engineers) 2 Tunnelling Company Australian Imperial Forces and would have served as follows: required to have either entered as an active theatre of war overseas between August 5, 1914 and November 11, 1918, and to have completed 28 days mobilised service. The medal was also awarded in the event of death on active service before the completion of the prescribed period. Contact tpconsulting@outlook.com.au



AUSTRALIAN DAMBUSTER PILOT LES KNIGHT DSO

An international three-day event is being organised to celebrate the life and remember the sacrifice made by Australian Dambuster pilot Les Knight DSO. Les sacrificed his life for his seven-man crew, while averting a disaster for a Dutch village. He steered his doomed Lancaster bomber away from the frontier village of Den Ham and managed to climb to 1000 feet to give his crew just enough time to bail out. Five crew escaped with the help of the local Underground and families, who put their own lives at great risk. These five crew members (Woollard, Hobday, Sutherland, Kellow, Edward Johnson) all managed to get safely back home. The other two crew (O'Brien and Greyston) were captured straight away and spent the rest of the war in POW camps.

September 2018 marks the 75th anniversary of Les Knight's death and organisers are hoping to unite children of his crew and introduce them to children of the Underground and the families who took such huge risks. Organisers are seeking help to trace family members of: Wireless Operator Bob Kellow (potentially in Canada), Rear Gunner Harry O'Brien, Flight Engineer Ray Greyston and Bomb Aimer Edward Johnson. If you know the whereabouts of these men, contact Melvin Chambers via info@rememberingdambusterlesknightdso.org, his Facebook page 'Remembering Dambuster Les Knight', Twitter @Dambusters75 or online at www.rememberingdambusterlesknightdso.org.

DO YOU KNOW DONALD STANLEY JAMES?

Do you know Donald Stanley James: DOB 23.04.1946, Royal Australian Infantry Corps, 4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (Service Number 1732724)? His old passport and two medals have been found. Please email editor@rslqld.org.

HONOUR BOARD AT TOOWONG CEMETERY

Permission has been granted for Friends of Toowong Cemetery to mount an Honour Board at the front of Canon Garland Place near the Stone of Remembrance. The group wants to honour the men and women who reside in the cemetery and have served in any form. Please email president@fotc.org.au to check if the person already exists on the database. The group will respond either confirming or asking for details to complete the project.

MISSION TO HONOUR ROCKHAMPTON DIGGERS

A group of people whose fathers fought in the Battle of Gorari in 1942, during the Papua New Guinea campaign, aim to install a monument at the village of Gorari with the names of the 133 Australian Diggers who were tragically killed. The group behind the memorial push are trying to track down the relatives of the Rockhampton men who died in the battle to invite them to the unveiling ceremony later this year. The Rockhampton Diggers killed in action were: Acting Corporal Robert Mather on 09.11.42, Private Duncan Charles McLachlan on 09.11.42, Corporal Peter Esplin on 10.11.42 and Private John Donald Terrance Burke on 12.11.42. Died of wounds: Acting Sergeant Thomas Norman Cotgrave House on 11.11.42. Contact John Tannock via jctann@skymesh.com.au.

NASHOS WA SEEKS PHOTOS

Nashos WA is looking for platoon and section photos to add to its website www.wanashos.wikidot.com. Email your images to nashoswa71@gmail.com.

SEEKING PAST STUDENTS OF NEWTOWN STATE SCHOOL

If you are a past student of Newtown State School in Toowoomba, who served for Australia during times of conflict, you are invited to contact the school to have your name added to the honour board. The board currently names 206 past male and female pupils who served in WWI, WWII and in more recent conflicts. When contacting the school, please include a certified copy of your service/discharge papers and forward to The Principal, PO Box 6280, Clifford Gardens, 4350 or principal@newtownss.eq.edu.au.

CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE CRUISE

Travel Masters will operate a cruise for the Centenary of Armistice Day in the Mediterranean from October 11-20, 2018. It will feature onboard speaker Professor Jay Winter, an authority on WWI. For more information phone 07 5554 2777.

DO YOU KNOW BERNIE?

Do you know Bernard Richard Botham, who answered to 'Bernie'? Stevan Coll is looking for his long-lost shipmate, who served alongside him in the destroyer escort, HMAS *Yarra* (DE45) in 1966-67. The two friends were stokers together in *Yarra*. Over the years, they went to different ships and lost touch with each other. Bernie discharged from the RAN as a Petty Officer, Service Number R62614 (possibly in March 1971). His Vietnam service was in HMAS *YARRA* and HMAS *Sydney*. Stevan found an article from July 2017 in the *Warwick Daily News*, where he and two other veterans presented rugby league player Shane Webcke with his father's Vietnam service medals at a function. This may indicate he lives in Warwick or may be an RSL member in that town. If you have information about Bernie, please contact Stevan A Coll, OAM, CPO, RAN (Rtd), 30 Rhapsody Close, Shoalwater WA 6169, phone 0438 894 292 or email stevan47@live.com.au.

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.

RETURN TO CORAL AND BALMORAL

50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Coral-Balmoral, a heroic Australian battle and operation. At the request of several veterans, Walter Pearson of JCP Tours will organise a 12-day tour from August 9-20 to commemorate this historic event. For more information, phone 0424 177 590 or visit www.jcptours.com.au.

RAEME RES/CMF REUNION

The RAEME Res/CMF Reunion will be held at 11am on August 19 at Sherwood/Indooroopilly RSL Sub Branch. Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP by August 12. Phone John Parfitt on 07 3376 1778 or email lparfitt@bigpond.net.au

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 |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|--|
| Albion | Mervyn | A16479 | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Alcorn | Anthony | 2776590 | Rollingstone Sub Branch Inc. |
| Allen* | Sidney | 150964 | Finch Hatton Sub Branch Inc. |
| Anderson | James | 2/735319 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Andrews | Philip | R243571 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| Armstrong | John | R271995 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Ashton* | Richard | QX6761 | Yandina/Eumundi Sub Branch Inc. |
| Baillie | Ernest | - | Sarina Sub Branch Inc. |
| Baker | Bernard | 213918 | Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc. |
| Barker | Noel | 1730829 | Yeppoon Sub Branch Inc. |
| Barnes | Trevor | 2707060 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Barnewall | Reginald | 3110016 (NX96541) | Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc. |
| Beever | Florence | vf516583 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Begeda | Durshan | 163590 | Gympie Sub Branch Inc. |
| Bell | Ronald | QX47351 (Q125552) | Glasshouse Country Sub Branch Inc. |
| Biddle | Ronald | 2721633 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Bilsborough* | Errol | 113578 | Logan & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Blaik | Donald | 156232 | Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc. |
| Blake* | Douglas | R106487/112433 | Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Bock | Rosa | QFX60465 | Ex-Servicewomens Sub Branch |
| Boland | John | QX60461 | Cairns Sub Branch Inc. |
| Boland* | Richard | 125411 | Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Bool | Malcolm | 440894 | Sandgate Sub Branch Inc. |
| Booth | John | 23462696 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Borrie | John | R36535 | Tamborine Mountain Sub Branch Inc. |
| Bowmer* | Robert | NX123796/2173860 | Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc. |
| Brennan | Ivan | QX47233 (Q136308) | Gympie Sub Branch Inc. |
| Brittain | Noel | 1/713269 | Gordonvale Sub Branch |
| Bromley | Raymond | 2290728 | Sarina Sub Branch Inc. |

| Last Name | First Name | Service No. | Sub Branch |
|--------------|------------|-------------|--|
| Brooke | Rosalie | QF269382 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Brown | Darcy | S5741 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| Burnett | Ramsden | QX35361 | Miles Sub Branch |
| Byrne | Francis | 3/10366 | Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cahill | William | 1/706243 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| Callaghan | Donald | 2/9100 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cameron* | Peggy | 100935 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| Camp | Leslie | Q116489 | Cairns Sub Branch Inc. |
| Campbell | Douglas | 166058 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cane | Bruce | 16807 | Esk Sub Branch Inc. |
| Carnegie | William | 23285732 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Carr | Joseph | 137021 | Sunnybank Sub Branch Inc. |
| Carty | Kevin | 1202572 | Wynnum Sub Branch Inc. |
| Case | Reginald | A12160 | Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc. |
| Chalk | Ronald | QX108678 | Goodna Sub Branch Inc. |
| Chester | Ronald | 761365 | Southport Sub Branch Inc. |
| Chipperfield | Daisy | VF509544 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Christie | Robert | R52853 | Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc. |
| Clark | Ronald | Q102682 | Sunnybank Sub Branch Inc. |
| Clarkson | Leslie | 3/723186 | Cairns Sub Branch Inc. |
| Clifford | Raymond | NX22506 | Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Coe | George | 3453858 | Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc. |
| Collins | William | 173861 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Colville* | Robert | 575209 | Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc. |
| Conlon | Stanley | 135832 | The Gap Sub Branch |
| Conquest | Bryan | 1/32685 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cook | Kenneth | NX178033 | Burleigh Heads Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cooper | Derek | B4649 | Redlands Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cox | Geoffrey | R51724 | Warwick Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cox* | Mervyn | 12084 | Sandgate Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cranwell | Barry | 155381 | Cairns Sub Branch Inc. |
| Crawford | Richard | A113517 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |

| Last Name | First Name | Service No. | Sub Branch |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|--|
| Crotty | Kenneth | 1/701164 | Bray Park-Strathpine Sub Branch Inc. |
| Curtis | Eileen | NF454128 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Cusack | Vincent | 1/706588 | Redlands Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dally-Watkins* | Robert | 2/3772 | Mary Valley Sub Branch Inc. |
| Daunt | Graham | 1201205 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dawson | Jack | 438385 | Southport Sub Branch Inc. |
| Debnam | Charles | VX121341 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dellar | Stanley | 864009 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dobson | John | R51150 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dolan | Gerard | 1/704649 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| Douglas | John | 2184510 | Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc. |
| Downing | Donald | 3/712011 | Ipswich Railway Sub Branch Inc. |
| Downs | Ronald | VX111476 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dunlop | Mark | R110713 | Edge Hill/Cairns West Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dunn | Francis | T103142 | Runaway Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dunstan | James | QX39493 (Q1501) | Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc. |
| Dutton | Mary | 2048020 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Easton | Lyndon | 1900329 | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Edey | Terence | 148050 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Edmunds | Eric | 2/708209 | Beachmere Sub Branch Inc. |
| Edwards | Ray | A61066 | Proston Sub Branch |
| Edwards | Michael | 400760 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Edwards | Roger | 26710 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Essenhigh | Donald | 15217 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Fairhurst | Richard | A15134 | Ipswich Sub Branch Inc. |
| Farrugia | Daniel | 6832 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Foley* | Charles | 212687 | Forestville Sub Branch |
| Ford | Wilfred | NX126239 | Redlands Sub Branch Inc. |
| Frampton | Stanley | A116485 | Burleigh Heads Sub Branch Inc. |
| Fraser* | Robert | 181703 | Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc. |

| Last Name | First Name | Service No. | Sub Branch |
|-------------|------------|--------------------|--|
| Friend | Leonard | 154535 | Nambour Sub Branch Inc. |
| Fulton | Gerald | 101133/R49006 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Gamble | Leonard | 25647 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Gibbs | Lorna | W23997 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Godwin | Robert | QX52044 | Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc. |
| Goldsworthy | Reginald | 124744 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Goodfellow | Harry | QX30133 | Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc. |
| Goodger | Hugh | A110717 | Ipswich Railway Sub Branch Inc. |
| Greenhalgh | John | A15570 | Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc. |
| Greenwood | Edward | 1202300 | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Greetham | Brian | 311497 | Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Gregory | Ernest | QX52799 | Redlands Sub Branch Inc. |
| Gregory | Harold | B12857 | Sandgate Sub Branch Inc. |
| Griffith | John | 27245 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Griffiths | Clifford | 438621 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Groom | Keith | 46325 | Ipswich Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hall | Clive | 78213 | Laidley Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hallam | John | 2786661 | Maryborough Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hamilton | Clyde | NX175565 (N463117) | Kalbar Sub Branch |
| Hammond | Josephine | F2/1578 | Mackay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hankinson | Margaret | F1164 | Bulimba District RSL Sub Branch |
| Hanrahan | Keith | 435392 | Malanda Sub Branch |
| Hansen | Kevin | A225260/2783670 | Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc. |
| Harding | John | NX155647 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Harker | Richard | 36703 | Southport Sub Branch Inc. |
| Harman | Ray | 1/1681 | Wynnum Sub Branch Inc. |
| Haste | Brian | 4313 | Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hawley | Kathleen | W13943 | Ipswich Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hayward | Matthew | A23501 | Ipswich Sub Branch Inc. |
| Healing | Walter | QX33224 | Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hemming | Leigh | 1732039 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hemming | Frank | QX54884 | Unattached List Sub Branch |
| Heyward | John | A222516 | Ipswich Sub Branch Inc. |

| Last Name | First Name | Service No. | Sub Branch |
|------------|------------|-------------|--|
| Hicks | Ian | 183458 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hillhouse* | James | 171077 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hilliard | Charles | 5411552 | Carlyle Gardens Townsville Chapter of North QLD District |
| Hobson | Richard | QX56038 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Holcombe | Alan | 422560 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Holland | John | 8/59739 | Greenbank Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hooper* | Raphael | Q1922463 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hordern | Jack | 61250 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Horne | Edgar | 144343 | Southport Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hryb | Walter | A54672 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| Hulme | Terence | 23145027 | Redlands Sub Branch Inc. |
| Jelly | Ronald | 58245 | Greenbank Sub Branch Inc. |
| Jen | George | a15725 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Jensen | Darryl | 1107425 | Carmila Sub Branch |
| Johnston* | Mervyn | QX26213 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Jones | Esther | N443630 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Jury | Clifford | QX34759 | Redlands Sub Branch Inc. |
| Kelk | Kathleen | F1/11181 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Kennedy | Ewen | 526074 | Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Kerr | Ronald | 215296 | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Knowlman | Donald | 440927 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Krause | Neville | 15048 | Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Latter | George | 1/708809 | Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Lilley | George | 61243 | Ipswich Sub Branch Inc. |
| Lindsay | Margaret | W13549 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Liston | John | 61440 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| MacDonald | Duncan | 4023052 | Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc. |
| Mallon | Derran | 161597 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Mansell | Joseph | NX206386 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| March | Cyril | FX588876 | Maryborough Sub Branch Inc. |
| Marchant | J | NX136972 | Mackay Sub Branch Inc. |

| Last Name | First Name | Service No. | Sub Branch |
|------------|------------|-------------------|---|
| Marshall | Henry | NX134150 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Martin | Roy | 151723 | Maryborough Sub Branch Inc. |
| Mason | Denis | 2311818 | Cairns Sub Branch Inc. |
| McArthur | Elizabeth | VF516513 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| McBride | Neil | 3/744942 | Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc. |
| McCaffrey | John | QX18285 | Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc. |
| Mccarthy | T | 150424 | Mackay Sub Branch Inc. |
| McDonald | Graham | 59810 | Mareeba Sub Branch |
| McDonnell | Geoffrey | 1732668 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| McGaw | Richard | 11148 | Laidley Sub Branch Inc. |
| McGilvery | Keith | 79308 | Gayndah Sub Branch Inc. |
| McGrath | Walter | 50029 | Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc. |
| McIlwain | Max | 38741 | Logan Village Sub Branch |
| McInnes | Robert | A221746 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| McKean | R | VX116108 | Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Meredith | Clarence | N265566 | Nerang Sub Branch |
| Meteyard | Arthur | 124680 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Midgley | Arthur | 170302 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| Moroney | Harold | QX114183 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| Morris | Gordon | QX63419 | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Morris | Kenneth | 124259 | Mackay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Morrison | Leonard | 26526 | The Gap Sub Branch |
| Murray | Malcolm | VX140253 | Burleigh Heads Sub Branch Inc. |
| Murrell | Barbara | 110902 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| Neilsen | Rex | A12842 | Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc. |
| Neven | Colin | A13233 | Emu Park Sub Branch Inc. |
| Nimmo* | David | - | Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc. |
| O'Brien | Francis | PM5733 | Atherton Sub Branch Inc. |
| O'Brien | John | - | Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc. |
| O'Brien | Derek | 4080446 | Redlands Sub Branch Inc. |
| O'Keefe | Eveleen | QF142007 | Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc. |
| O'Reilly | Bernard | A19806 | Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc. |
| O'Sullivan | Ronald | QX7494/ VX4305 | Rathdowney Chapter of Beaudesert Sub Branch |

| Last Name | First Name | Service No. | Sub Branch |
|--------------|------------|----------------------|--|
| Otto | Owen | A18659 | Deception Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Parker* | Stanley | 2325835 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Patterson | Joseph | 1/711275 | Greenbank Sub Branch Inc. |
| Pattinson | Keith | 39775 | Sunnybank Sub Branch Inc. |
| Pemble-Smith | Frank | SX30290 (S112569) | Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc. |
| Petherick | Victor | A47564 | Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc. |
| Pickwell | John | 0114604 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| Pilcher | Jack | Q222659 | Charters Towers Sub Branch Inc. |
| Poor | Gregory | 12314 | Nanango Sub Branch Inc. |
| Purton | Frederick | 1652320 | Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc. |
| Radcliffe | Norman | A316349 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Ramm | Lawrence | QX45445 (Q105052) | Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc. |
| Ramsay | Harry | 44237 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| Reinke | Douglas | 28940 | Mundubbera Sub Branch Inc. |
| Reugebrink | Bertus | 123437 | Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc. |
| Richmond | Henry | 1733041 | Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Robertson | Thomas | 22651928 | Greenbank Sub Branch Inc. |
| Rodgers | Ronald | 132809 | Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc. |
| Rogerson | Alan | QX48406 | Richmond Sub Branch Inc. |
| Ryan | Terence | QP35007/1581 | Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc. |
| Saxon | Douglas | VX69988 | Southport Sub Branch Inc. |
| Schwarten | James | A1450 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Scott | Andrew | - | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Scott | Alexander | QX46660 | Emu Park Sub Branch Inc. |
| Sewell | Alfred | 14846827 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Shiells | Laurence | A116092 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Short | Stanley | Q111997 | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Silver | Gordon | 6/705554 | South Arm Sub Branch |
| Sinnott | Michael | 22341297 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Skeates | Benjamin | P/JX145516 | Mount Isa Sub Branch Inc. |
| Skinner | John | 23673210 | Runaway Bay Sub Branch Inc. |

| Last Name | First Name | Service No. | Sub Branch |
|------------|------------|----------------------|---|
| Slater | Darrell | QX46600 | Roma Sub Branch Inc. |
| Smith | Alan | 217043 | Springwood Tri-Service Sub Branch Inc. |
| Smith | Betty | 101772 | Unattached List Sub Branch |
| Solomon | Dudley | 134274 | Nambour Sub Branch Inc. |
| Speight | Gerald | PM6309 | Monto Sub Branch Inc. |
| Stanners | Alan | 138826 | Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc. |
| Stansfield | Stephen | 159591 | Beaudesert Sub Branch Inc. |
| Stoffell | Rex | VX51409 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Studders | Kevin | 17867 | Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc. |
| Sullivan | Geoffrey | 173016 | Pittsworth Sub Branch |
| Sullivan | Terence | QX52687 | Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc. |
| Sutton | Arthur | QX61857 (Q122551) | Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc. |
| Swifte | Dean | A36383 | Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc. |
| Taylor | Cleaters | QX58065 | Holland Park-Mt Gravatt Sub Branch |
| Thomas | Walter | A32801 | Ipswich Sub Branch Inc. |
| Thorne | Norman | 78757 | Caloundra Sub Branch Inc. |
| Tippett | Raymond | 312513 | Warwick Sub Branch Inc. |
| Travers | Joan | NF409503 | Forest Lake Sub Branch |
| Tribe | Ark | 324322 | Mary Valley Sub Branch Inc. |
| Walker | Douglas | 429294 | Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc. |
| Webber | Peter | 2785050 | Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc. |
| Wells | Raymond | 223112 | Oakey Sub Branch Inc. |
| Wheeler | Gordon | QX62558 | Cairns Sub Branch Inc. |
| White | Frank | 325181/ 58828 | Dayboro Sub Branch |
| White | Douglas | 2/723492 | Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Wood | Peter | VX134956 | Townsville Sub Branch Inc. |
| Wormald | Paul | S5181 | Mackay Sub Branch Inc. |
| Wright | Edward | 22318494 | Airlie Beach-Whitsunday Sub Branch Inc. |
| Wright | Harry | 36167 | Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc. |
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