

QUEENSLAND

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RSL NEWS

**THE BOMBING
OF DARWIN**
75TH ANNIVERSARY

**RSL
COMMUNITY
LINK**
FROM HUMBLE
BEGINNINGS
TO STATE-WIDE
COMMEMORATION

**PUSHING
THROUGH
ADVERSITY**
ADAPTIVE SPORT GETTING
VETERANS BACK
ON TRACK



RETURNED & SERVICES
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH



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COVER IMAGE:

Veterans are using adaptive sport for mental and physical rehabilitation.

Photo: Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association



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STATE CONGRESS – QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED AND ANSWERED

My fellow League members,

I would like to begin by wishing you all a very Happy New Year. As I write this article we are on the cusp of Australia Day; my point being that time is not standing still for us. In a few short months we will gather in Brisbane for the 2017 Annual State Congress, and I want to spend some time informing you of what we will be discussing. As with last year there will be an open forum where questions will be asked and answered. We will also be holding facilitated workshops on the topics of: the future of the League in Queensland & Membership; and Governance & Welfare (what is welfare/what isn't).

These are important issues for us to discuss, debate and agree on. The State Board has implemented changes to our business rules around some of these issues. Traditionally, proposals are developed at the Sub Branch level, passed through District and presented to the Board for decision. In discussions with the Charities Compliance Manager, State Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, we are instituting a business rule that requires

all proposals to be subject to review before the State Board accepts or rejects any proposal.

An important part of the review will be a test against the Objects of the League to ensure that monies being spent are spent on charitable activities. We must ensure this is the case at State Board, District Board and Sub Branch levels to ensure we remain compliant with the requirements of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC).

While this subject may be seen as a 'governance' issue, the reality is that the subject also has a 'welfare' aspect that needs to be addressed. The expenditure of money on buildings is, for example, not regarded as 'welfare expenditure' by either the ATO or the ACNC. What occurs inside a facility may be assessed as 'charitable work' and for this reason we must ensure we understand how the expenditure of funds relates to the promotion of the Objects of the League.

I anticipate that we will develop a template that can be used at all levels to assist us in

understanding our obligations in this very important area. The only other point on the forthcoming State Congress is that this year we will 'live stream' the business sessions so that the wider membership can have access.

Turning to other issues, we began the New Year by helping Billy Bruce celebrate his 100th birthday on January 2. The party was organised by a large number of people, including the community of Nebo, Bill's family and RSL members from Pioneer Fitzroy Highlands (PFH) District – a special thanks to John Edwards, Deputy President of PFH, for all he did to make the day a great event.

A highlight during the day was when Billy recited *The Man from Snowy River*, without missing a word. On February 17 we celebrate the 100th birthday of Allan Skerman, in Mackay. The executive will endeavour to attend such milestone birthdays wherever possible.

In the next few weeks, many of us will be getting ready and attending the various District Annual General Meetings. We should be using these opportunities to discuss issues such as Governance

and Membership. We all need to understand that the issue of Governance does not just reside at the State Board level. All levels of the League have a responsibility to ensure we are operating at the highest levels of Governance. As the State Secretary writes in his column (see page 7): *We all have an obligation to do whatever we can to encourage new members to join.* Again, this will be a very significant issue at the State Congress.

In closing, we have a very busy period ahead. You are all encouraged to become involved in the lead up to the District AGMs and the State Congress. These meetings and congress are your opportunity to become involved in the running of the League in Queensland.



Stewart Cameron CSC
State President
RSL (Queensland Branch)

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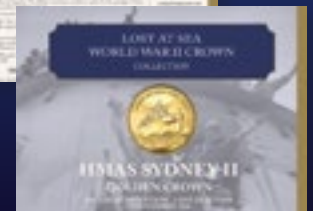
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19th November, 1941. Patrolling the waters off Western Australia, the Light Cruiser *HMAS Sydney II* engaged the German Auxiliary Cruiser *Kormoran*. Disguised as a merchantman, the *Kormoran's* act of deception resulted in the loss of the *HMAS Sydney II* and all 645 lives aboard. Writ large in the Anzac legend, the loss of the *Sydney II* brought the treachery of war perilously close to the homefront. 75 years after the sinking of the *HMAS Sydney II*, the heroism of those brave sailors is commemorated in a tribute destined to become a treasured family heirloom. A crown coin has been released to honour the *Sydney II*, her crew and the families who ensured their story would never be forgotten.

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A YEAR OF TWO HALVES

Welcome to this first edition of *Queensland RSL News* for 2017. This year holds a lot in store for our organisation, not only as we continue to reflect on the centenary of the League – with RSL (Queensland Branch) recognising its official centenary – but with growth and development of the League in Queensland building momentum.

From where I sit, this year will be a year of two halves. We will be working diligently in the first six months of the year in what I refer to as the 'build' phase, followed by an intense second-half of the year that will see us move to 'delivery' mode.

As our members would know, along with Stewart Cameron and the Board I have been spearheading the strategic direction of the organisation since I took on the role of CEO just over a year-and-a-half ago.

The main driver behind this significant change is to ensure we are adaptable as an organisation into the future, as the needs and wants of veterans continue to evolve.

Following on from the initial business assessment and review periods we have seen in this time, we are moving into the stage where we will build the necessary platforms.

The 'build' phase will see us working intensely behind the scenes of RSL (Queensland Branch) to establish the platforms we need to deliver on our plans.

"THIS YEAR'S WORK IS ABOUT BUILDING THE RIGHT PLATFORMS AND PUTTING THE RIGHT TECHNOLOGY IN PLACE SO THAT WE CAN EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY ADAPT TO WHAT MIGHT BE NEEDED IN THE FUTURE. ESTABLISHING A VERSATILE AND ADAPTABLE PLATFORM NOW WILL ENSURE THAT IN 5, 10, 20 YEARS, WE ARE MORE ABLY PREPARED TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF VETERANS, WHATEVER THEY ARE AND WHEREVER THEY ARE LOCATED."

This phase follows a very considered planning period, where we worked to establish a strategy to reset the foundations of the League.

Throughout this period, we launched new enterprise resource planning (ERP) software, which allows us to integrate our many business units and automate a number of office functions, starting with finance and human resources.

With this ERP in place, we are building on its capabilities and

will ultimately be able to link in with the work our Veteran Service Officers undertake at the coalface to ensure they can deliver the best level of service to our veterans.

Once the platforms are in place, we will move into 'delivery' mode in the latter half of the year, which will involve a much greater, long-term, practical approach to implementing the strategy. The benefits of this planning work will be evident to our members as we expand and

improve on our services.

This year's work is about building the right platforms and putting the right technology in place so that we can efficiently and effectively adapt to what might be needed in the future. Establishing a versatile and adaptable platform now will ensure that in 5, 10, 20 years, we are more ably prepared to address the needs of veterans, whatever they are and wherever they are located.

The investment in this process as a whole is significant, but it is strategic. We have worked to ensure our income streams are firm and we will continue to invest in areas that make RSL (Queensland Branch) sustainable. What is most important – being here for our veterans and their families – is at the core of everything we are doing.

I look forward to bringing you more updates throughout the year on our progress and what our work means for our members and the wellbeing of the wider Defence community.



Luke Traini
Chief Executive Officer
RSL (Queensland Branch)

MAINTAINING RELEVANCE

January marked one year since I commenced with the Returned and Services League (Queensland Branch) as the State Secretary. During that time, I have been fortunate to witness the excellent work carried out by the League in charitable service to the military family, directly through welfare support and assistance to veterans engaging with DVA, and indirectly through the Mates4Mates program and our multi-million-dollar investment in PTSD research.

In the course of the year, I have also had the opportunity to meet many members of the military family who are not members of the League. It gives me great pride, as I'm sure it does you, that as a genuinely charitable institution the League in Queensland supports all members of the military family, regardless of whether they are a member of the League; however, the consistent feedback from many of the younger veterans and their families is that the League is no longer relevant for them.

A headline analysis of our 35,000 members highlights the impact of this perception. The average age of our members is 68, and only 14 per cent are under the age of 50. The size and demography of our membership is important for three reasons.

The first is that the vast majority of our welfare effort is delivered by members, and our analysis shows that once the average member reaches the age

"AS A MEMBER-BASED ORGANISATION WE NEED THOSE YOUNGER VOICES WITHIN THE LEAGUE TO ENSURE THE DIRECTION OF THE LEAGUE REFLECTS THE WISHES OF ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, RATHER THAN ONE SPECIFIC DEMOGRAPHIC."

of 75 they become a net user of welfare rather than a contributor, driving the requirement for a large proportion of younger members to provide that volunteer effort.

The second reason is that as a member-based organisation we need those younger voices within the League to ensure the direction of the League reflects the wishes of all veterans and their families, rather than one specific demographic.

The third reason is that to generate a genuinely strategic effect, the League needs to have a membership of sufficient size to capture the attention of politicians at both state and federal level, enabling us to shape and influence policy in support of the military family and the ADF.

The League has not always had a membership so heavily consisting of those over the age of retirement, and it can be revitalised if we have the desire to do so. In the 100-year history

of the League, it is only the past 20 years that has seen such a demographic divide develop in the membership, which some observers will note has paralleled the decline in relevance for younger generations.

The League today is a substantially different organisation operating in a completely different world than the one it was founded in a century ago. While our charitable objectives are enduring, RSL (Queensland Branch) is now a very large and modern business, purposed to generate funding for those charitable works. The State of Queensland has grown sevenfold in population; however, communication is now instantaneous and any town can be reached in a single day of travel. Most importantly, society has completely changed. Our organisational and governance structures, however, remain almost exactly

as they were a century ago, and are a fundamental barrier to us growing in relevance to all generations, which is essential if we are to survive and thrive as an organisation.

I would like to strongly encourage you to participate, through your Sub Branches, in the work currently underway to modernise our organisation through changes to our constitution. I understand that change can be confronting for some, however, continuing with 'more of the same' is clearly not going to position the League for the future, and effectively means that those members currently in their 60s and 70s will have no one in the League to support them in their later years. We must be a better organisation than that. I encourage you to research how modern and effective charitable and membership-based organisations operate, and then to be an open and constructive part of shaping the League to ensure our relevance for current and future generations.



Scott Denner
State Secretary
RSL (Queensland Branch)



FRUIT CAKE INTACT

Having just read of Brian Cunningham's Christmas cake and its fate (*Queensland RSL News*, Edition 06, 2016), I was reminded of my experiences in this area. I posted to Singapore in the early 1960s for two years, and fared much better. My elder brother was (excuse the term) a corporal "nasho basher", his term at that time. My mum and brother's wife would bake a fruit cake in the tin, which had a fitted lid. The spare room on top of the cake was filled with rock cakes, lid on and sealed with Sellotape. They then hand-sewed a pre-prepared calico over the tin; it was duly addressed and off into the post. No problems with little vermin and kept really well in the tropics. I wonder how much originality has been lost over the years.

Len Eaton

6/1195 Signelman now retired

A SPOT-ON MAGAZINE

I was given a copy of *Queensland RSL News* by a mate who lives opposite my mining claim; we are both sapphire miners at Rubyvale, Queensland, and he's an ex-Vietnam veteran. We always have a beer at the end of each day, and I noticed a printed copy of the *Queensland RSL News* and asked him if I could take it home and read it.

I was very impressed at the quality of the printing in the magazine, the beautiful layouts and the well-written stories and photos; the quality of each printed page, so sharp and very clear. It was an eye to behold.

I was a letterpress and offset printer for over 34 years, as I did artwork and paste-ups, negs, making offset plates, the printing, folding and trimming of the printed work.

Your *Queensland RSL News* is just pure quality from start to finish; the photos, stories and information are spot-on. All your staff should be congratulated for such a high-quality publication. Keep up the fantastic work and all staff should get a pat on the back.

John A Hartley

COMMANDER FELDT'S MEDALS

I noticed a photograph of Commander Eric Feldt on page 50 of the latest *Queensland RSL News* (Edition 06, 2016). I am a member of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland (RHSQ) and as an ex-RAAF member I am particularly interested in military history. The RHSQ has Commander Feldt's medals in its collection (above).

Dr Graeme Nicholson

A PUZZLE SOLVED

This may be one of those funny coincidences that make life interesting.

I served in Vietnam during 1971 as an artillery forward observer (FO). As an FO, I was able to fire any guns that were within range. This included not only Australian artillery, but also US artillery. This latter was usually land-based, but also included the guns from US warships off the coast when they were on station on the gun line.

To assist with using US warships, a US Marine, termed a Naval Gunfire Liaison Officer (NGLO, pronounced NOGLOW), was attached to the artillery regiment.

On one occasion, the NGLO and I flew out to a US destroyer off the coast to have a meeting. I recall little of the meeting, but the experience of landing and taking off on and from the deck of a destroyer that was steaming at 20-something knots has never left me.

Unfortunately, I never recorded the date nor the name of the ship. I have thought about the flight from time to time, and recently asked my marine NGLO friend with whom I have remained in contact if he recalled the name, but he doesn't.

You may imagine my interest, therefore, when I belatedly picked up Edition 05, 2016 of *Queensland RSL News* and came across the letter from Peter Johnson on page 9. I couldn't imagine there were many flights like that so, after all these years, it began to look like my missing bit of puzzle had been provided to me. All that needed to be done was to check whether I was on operations on July 16, in which case it was not my flight, or not.

I have just checked, and the unit log shows that I came off operations on July 11 for Rest and Convalescence Leave and returned to operations on July 23. Therefore, I believe it is almost certain that I was on that helicopter with Peter Johnson.

Greg Gilbert

SALUTING THE COASTWATCHERS

Many thanks for the article 'Coastwatchers of New Guinea'. As a very young patrol officer in Papua New Guinea, I had the privilege of knowing many of these men, usually my superiors. People like Alan Roberts, Keith McCarthy, Bob Cole, Frank Jones, Malcolm Wright and others were among many whose exploits are largely buried in the archives. The Bougainville coastwatchers, who forewarned the Americans at Guadalcanal, deservedly gained the admiration and respect of Admiral Halsey through the ubiquitous American PR system. Jack Read and Paul Mason not only reported regularly, but, in Read's case, spent 18 months in occupied territory, evading constant Japanese searchers until withdrawn. On the north coast near Aitape, villagers showed me where the coastwatcher had his camp, literally within a few hundred yards of a large Japanese camp. Every six months or so, he would walk down to the Sepik River to meet his replacement and head off for a well-earned break.

Not mentioned in the article are the Papua New Guinea policemen, without whom little could have been achieved. Sergeant Yauwika was more than Read's shadow; he would enter Japanese camps collecting intelligence of numbers and equipment as targets for bombing raids. On New Britain towards the end, Sergeant Simogun, working with Malcolm Wright, recruited and trained the guerrillas that kept the Japanese locked up in Rabaul and unable to plant food gardens. Many years later, Simogun would become a member of Papua New Guinea's parliament and a minister.

On one occasion during my time in the RAN, I was able to show two PNG parliamentarians around the War Memorial in Canberra. The older one became highly excited at seeing what must be one of the Memorial's least striking paintings – a scene depicting the paratroop drop on Nadzab in, from memory, 1943. He pointed to a spot on the side of a mountain. "When that was happening," he said, "I was right there." He had been a radio operator with a coastwatcher party sanitising the drop site.

Michael O'Connor AM

REUNITED WITH FRIENDS

Thank you for your assistance in tracking down my friends Bob and Sandy May. My wife actually found their home number on some obscure website on Sunday evening of December 4. I rang them, and what a fantastic surprise for all of us. We caught up with them for a long day on Wednesday, January 7.

However, I just received a message from Bob, who advised me that he and Sandy have just heard from a number of their friends in both Queensland and NSW that my notice appeared in the *Queensland RSL News* (Edition 06, 2016). The system works! Thank you once again for a fantastic job.

Steve Jeffery

EXPERIENCES IN THE PACIFIC

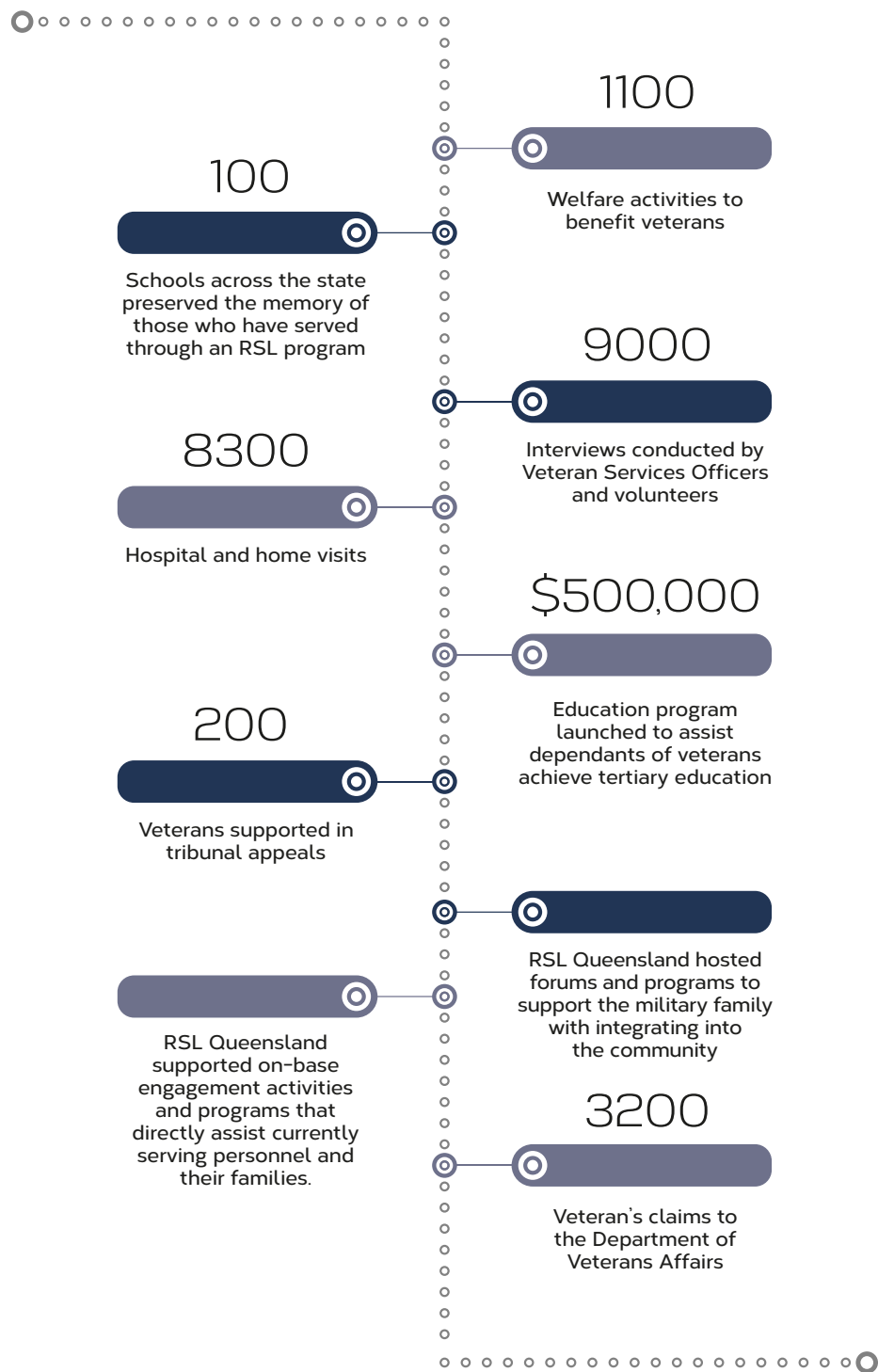
I wish to submit two submissions in respect of the subject: 'Turning the tide of the Pacific War', which affected me personally in 1955.

On receiving written confirmation from Headquarters of the then Australian Government's Department of District Administration and Native Affairs, based in Port Moresby, Territory of Papua and New Guinea, that I had been appointed a Cadet Patrol Officer in the said Administration and that the letter contained the necessary documents for travel to Port Moresby at the stated date and time by QANTAS Airways.

On arrival at Port Moresby, I was met by Mr Kevin Atkinson, the District Commissioner of Bougainville District, who advised that he had two jobs to be done by me forthwith, because he had found out that I had previous experience in one of them, namely Army ceremonial drill to be taught and practised with the Royal Papua and New Guinea Police Guard of Honour, to be chosen in respect of the "very short notice" visit to Bougainville by the then Governor-General of Australia, Field Marshall Sir William Slim, Commander-in-Chief, 14th Army fighting the Japanese in Burma.

The second job was the commencement of the building of a war memorial to the coastwatchers mentioned in many fields of active, secret and sacrificial service to the Allied forces, civilians, policemen, priests and government officials living and working for themselves and said Allied forces in Bougainville, New Britain and their adjacent islands. The place chosen was the harbour shores of Sohano and Buka Passage, which formed a peninsula on which Sohano Sub-District was based. It has one of the finest views out to the Pacific Ocean, displaying different colours of the ocean, reefs, plantations, village settlements, Chinese stores and private homes, with beautiful flora and fishing spots; a sort of Pacific paradise.

Ian R Milton



2016 IN NUMBERS

2016 proved to be a year of many challenges and successes, but for RSL Queensland it was a year of growth and giving, with the development and implementation of a number of new veteran support programs, increased funding to ongoing issues in the wider Defence community and an unprecedented level of engagement across the state. Here we look at some of the key highlights of RSL Queensland's work in the Defence community in 2016.

VETERANS AND FAMILIES SEARCH ONLINE FOR PTSD ANSWERS

RSL Queensland has recently launched an online portal dedicated to providing information and resources around Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), in response to significant demand from current and former serving personnel, as well as their families, who are seeking information on the physical and psychological disorder.

It was identified that more than 18,000 internet searches about PTSD were made across Australia in September last year alone, with nearly 3000 of these searches originating in Queensland.

“As RSL Queensland evolves and upgrades its services to meet the needs of the modern veteran, we are finding a new and younger community looking for connection and information,” RSL Queensland Chief Executive Officer Luke Traini said.

“Many of the people looking for answers are also veterans’ families – spouses, parents and children – who are often the invisible victims of PTSD. They are on the frontline, supporting their loved ones with incredible strength and dignity.”

The new RSL Queensland online portal provides information about the symptoms of PTSD, as well as a range of support and referral programs, and will be continually updated as fresh findings come to light from research that has been funded by RSL Queensland and is being undertaken by the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation.

RSL Queensland and the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation teamed up to



undertake the world’s first comprehensive study into the medical and psychological health of Vietnam veterans, and that yielded ground-breaking results about the physical symptoms of PTSD. The current \$5 million clinical study is looking into the mental health challenges faced by contemporary veterans as they return to civilian life, including anxiety, depression and other psychological issues.

The research results are expected to lead to a better understanding and treatment of all people suffering PTSD across Australia. In the meantime, veterans and their loved ones needed to be able to find and access support easily; the online PTSD portal aims to let servicemen and women and their families know that they are not alone, and that we can help them find the support they need.

View the PTSD online portal at www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/PTSD

THE RIPPLE EFFECT

PTSD’s ripple effect reaches far into our communities, so we need to make it easier for our veterans and their loved ones to reach out and get help. The RSL Queensland website features a powerful documentary made by Griffith University researcher Kym Melzer, titled *The Ripple Effect*, which tells the personal stories of wives, daughters and other people living with someone suffering PTSD.

Ipswich teenager Marissa Josephs knows first-hand how hard it can be to live with someone with PTSD. Her mother, Andrea, a veteran of East Timor, has the disorder.

“Mum was very different to my friends’ parents, and I was embarrassed by that,” Marissa said.

“I think I knew about her mental health issues before she did, even though it was hard for me to understand what she was going through. I had to step in to support my sisters – cooking dinners, helping them with their homework, keeping them quiet when she had her dark moments.”

Marissa said the turning point for her family came when her mother opened up about her illness.

“Mum didn’t want us to know that she had weaknesses. But when she sat us down and explained what she was going through, it brought us closer together.”

RSL QUEENSLAND HELPS AMBERLEY FAMILIES CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

As part of our increased engagement with currently serving personnel and their families, RSL Queensland supported the Amberley Christmas Treat, a fun day out for families at Wet'n'Wild theme park on the Gold Coast, in December.

Over 1150 Defence family members attended the event, and were treated to Christmas presents in between the fun of the water slides. Andrija Caton

and her children Tahlia and Elize (pictured) found time to drop by the RSL Queensland tent to find out how we help.

Warrant Officer Chris Preston stated that, "RAAF Base Amberley members appreciated RSL's support of the day, with the funding provided used to supplement ticket costs and the purchase of presents for the children.

This enabled the Defence



members of the busy base to enjoy some family time during the festive season. The success of this event would not be possible without the valued support from the RSL."

The event was a great opportunity for RSL Queensland to engage with RAAF Base Amberley personnel and their families in a fun and relaxed environment.



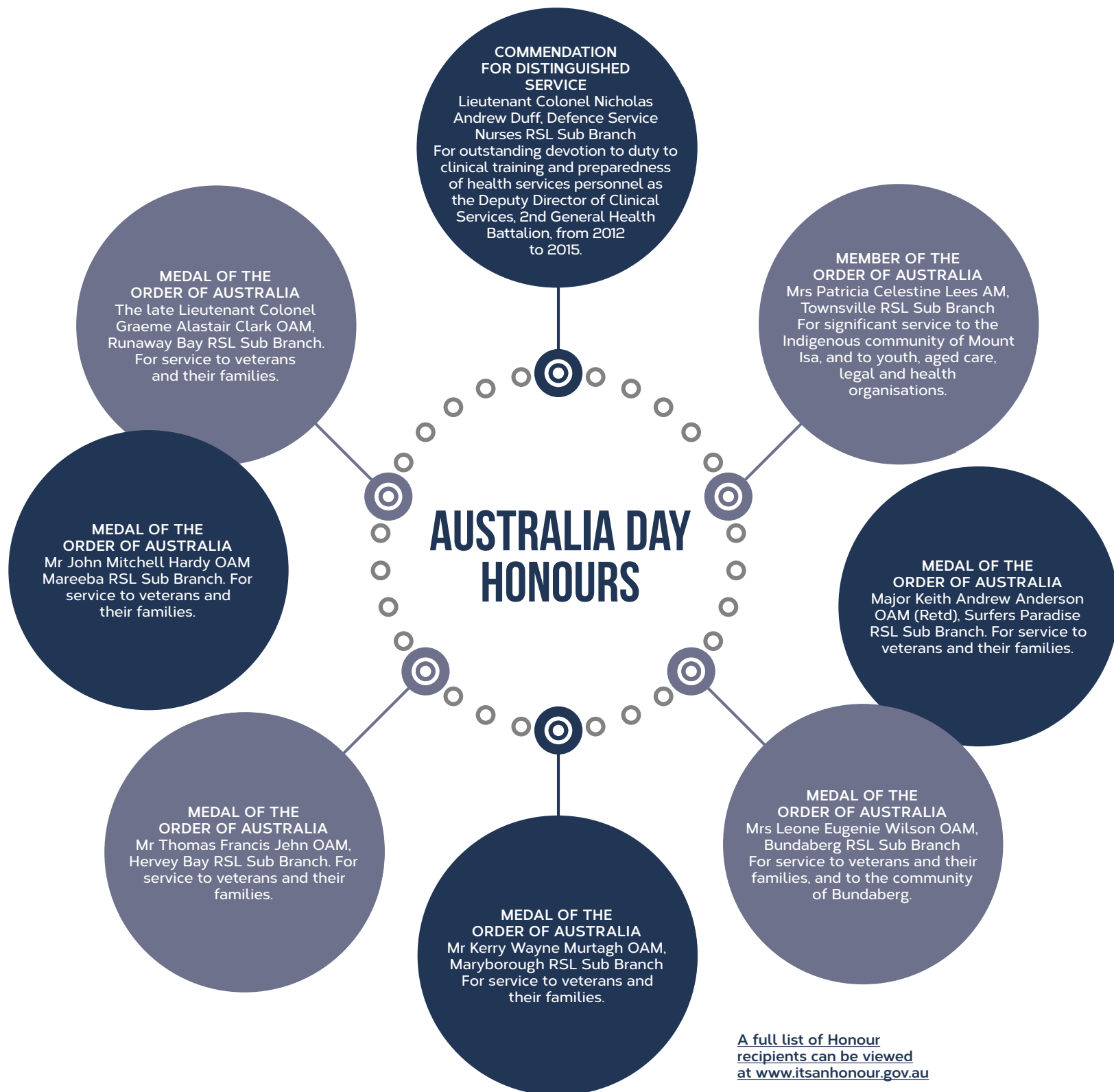
KOKODA BARRACKS FAMILY AFTERNOON

Kokoda Barracks at Canungra held its annual 'Welcome to Kokoda Barracks Family Afternoon' on January 20 to familiarise members and their families on Defence and community matters and assist them to settle into their new environment. The day

was attended by around 200 personnel from the barracks.

RSL Queensland was proud to support the event on base by providing information and answering questions on how the League can assist currently serving personnel and their families now and into the future.

RSL Queensland attended the Kokoda Barracks Family Afternoon in Canungra, where SGT Kate McLoughlan was provided an opportunity to connect with currently serving Defence Force members and their families.



RSL MEMBERS HONOURED FOR SELFLESS SERVICE

While every member of the RSL has provided service to their country, there are many who continue their service through working tirelessly, and often thanklessly, in the community, whether it be with veterans or

other groups in need. These members demonstrate great devotion to the veteran community and, in doing so, uphold the values of the League.

This year, a number of those who have dedicated their life to this

service were recognised through the Australia Day Honours List, announced by Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove on January 26. The Australia Day Honours List provides national and formal recognition for many Australians

across the nation who have made a significant difference to their communities.

RSL (Queensland Branch) congratulates the above members who were recognised for their service to the community.



COMING FULL CIRCLE

✍️ Kylie Hatfield



Veteran Paul Warren's past is well documented: his book, *The Fighter*, details his Muay Thai fighting career, turning points that led to him joining the army, and the events of July 18, 2009, which changed his life forever. But in the years since, Paul's goals to help other veterans overcome their physical and mental challenges through sport have – and continue to – come to fruition.

PAUL Warren's enlistment in the Australian Army didn't come until he was 27 years old and had a career as a professional athlete already under his belt. But when his military career was cut short weeks into his first deployment, the life lessons learnt through sport provided a solid foundation for his mental and physical rehabilitation.

Starting off in the sport of boxing as a 10-year-old, Paul transitioned to Muay Thai fighting seven years later,

and martial arts quickly became a lifestyle. His drive and determination saw him selected for a national team at the age of 17, and a year later he entered the ring believing he was ready to take on the world, only to be taught a tough and painful lesson from a much older, more experienced fighter.

"I was a kid with an ego and not so much ability. I was learning resilience from a very young age, I think; some days you have it [resilience], some days you don't, and you don't get to choose

which one sometimes," Paul said.

Over the next 10 years, Paul travelled to Thailand multiple times to train, and continued competing, earning two state and two national titles.

"I learnt a lesson from a really young age: if you really want something and you work hard enough, you'll get it."

But Paul's fighting career wouldn't last forever. He was forced to retire from Muay Thai fighting after a serious injury required a lengthy rehabilitation. Drawing on his years of

“I WAS HAPPY [TO BE DEPLOYING]. I THINK THAT’S ONE THING THAT THE MAJORITY OF SOCIETY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND. NO ONE IS PUSHING US ON THE PLANE TO GO OVERSEAS, THERE’S PLENTY OF PEOPLE THAT HAVE TRAINED FOR THIS AND ARE WILLING TO GO.”

resilience, he began to work through the rehab; but not being able to train or run for months left Paul feeling depressed, having lost the life that he had known for so long.

During his down time, Paul turned to watching news and documentaries on the military activity in Iraq and the Middle East, and saw a lot of similarities between his fighting lifestyle and military service.

“As a fighter, I think you definitely sacrifice a lot of things, like relationships, jobs; you just do whatever you have to, to work around the number one focus. You sacrifice a lot, and that is who you are. There are a lot of aspects of that, which also fit into the army life, including discipline and courage,” Paul said.

“I think I made my decision on what my next move would be after watching a documentary. I thought, ‘That’s what I want to be a part of’. So, I started my next journey, which was moving into the Defence Force.”

With no family history in the military and without knowing anyone

else in the Army, Paul was keen to cut his own path and enlisted in Toowoomba, opting to go into infantry instead of the Special Forces Direct Entry he was offered due to his fighting background.

“I think I learnt from fighting that you don’t just jump in at the top level; you need to work your way up. I got told it would be a six-month wait [for infantry], but they were on the phone to me about three days later asking if I could come next week.”

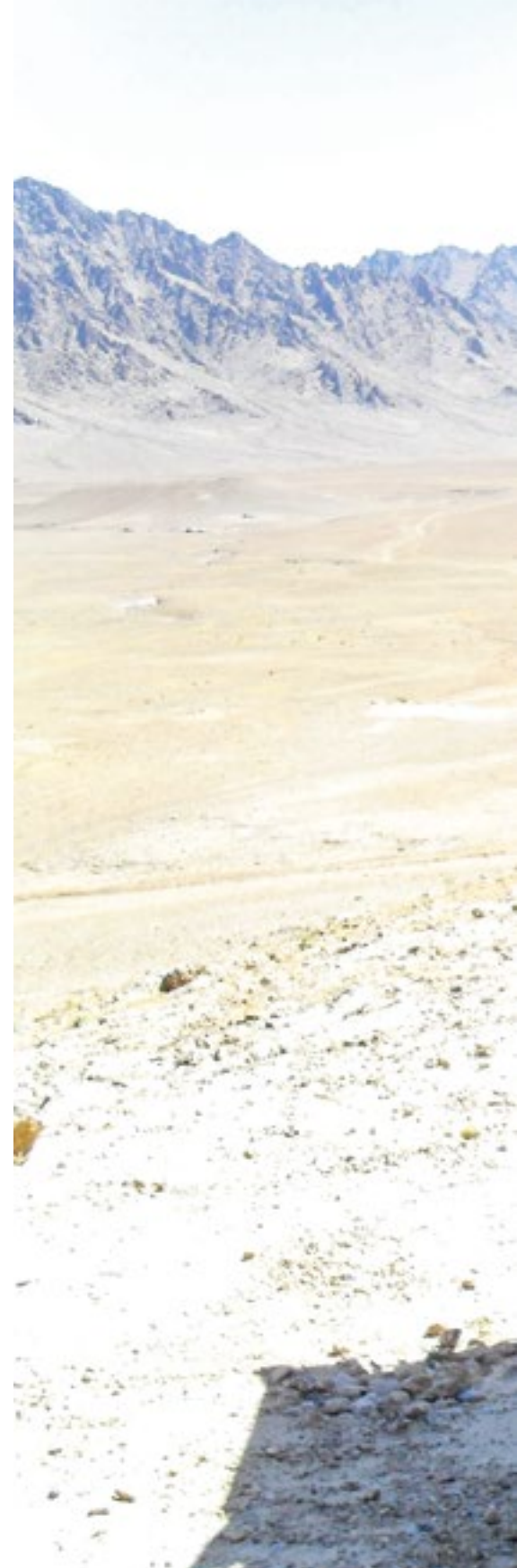
Following training stints at Kapooka and Singleton, Paul was posted to the 1st Battalion in Townsville in late 2008. Adjusting to the Army environment quite well, Paul found it refreshing to be training with a group of like-minded people, and quickly made life-long friends.

“I don’t think you’ll ever have friends like you do in the Defence Force – going through adversity together brings you together; it forms tight-knit bonds between your teams and the people you work with,” Paul said.

Having recently met his now-wife, Dee, Paul got the news that he would

be deploying, just six months into his placement.

“I knew that 1RAR was deploying, but we got told so many times we weren’t going. In the back of my mind my plan was to keep fit and be ready to go. In the end, I got four weeks’ notice. But that’s what we joined up for, that’s what we wanted. If you look at an athlete, they don’t train just to sit on





the bench, and we're no different.

"I was happy [to be deploying]. I think that's one thing the majority of society may not understand. No one is pushing us on the plane to go overseas, there's plenty of people who have trained for this and are willing to go. When you hear, unfortunately, about casualties and people killed in action, society says, 'We shouldn't be there,

pull them out'. But there are plenty of people who do want to go."

With the full support of his new partner, Paul deployed to Afghanistan in early June 2009 and spent a lot of time out on patrols with his new team. Spending so much time together made getting to know the team easy, and being part of the team ultimately saved Paul's life.

ABOVE:
Paul before he
lost his leg in an
IED blast in
Afghanistan.

Early on July 18, 2009, Paul's team were added to a mission to do a coordinate search, looking for a known improvised explosive device (IED) maker in the area.

"There was never any doubt in our mind, through that first four or five weeks, that IEDs were the big threat. Vehicles were getting blown up all the time. It was more IEDs during that period in 2009 than small arms fire or getting shot at."

Following clearance from the engineers, Paul and his team set up to cover the guys who went in. Paul was lying behind a Mag58 machine gun, confident there were no tell-signs that there was anything in the ground.

"I was covering for probably two hours. No one keeps perfectly still for two hours lying behind that sort of weapon. I'd got up, moved a little bit, but in the end, I triggered something that was buried underneath us.

OPPOSITE. CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Paul in the gym at the Mates4Mates Family Recovery Centre in Townsville; Paul has used physical activity to aid his mental and physical rehabilitation; Paul during a discus qualifying heat at the 2014 Invictus Games in London (Department of Defence); Dee and Paul with their children on their wedding day; Paul as the 2016 Invictus Games team captain and New Zealand vice-captain Jason Pore with their teams on the gym floor (Department of Defence); Paul competes in the 4 x 100m Mixed Relay at the 2014 Invictus Games (Department of Defence); Australian Army soldier Corporal Dan Keighran VC (right) presents Paul with his team shirt during a training session at Gallipoli Barracks in Brisbane before the 2016 Invictus Games (Department of Defence); Paul arrives at Royal Air Force Brize Norton in London as part of the 2014 Australian Invictus Games team (Department of Defence).

"I'm comfortable saying that now, because I think as part of your rehabilitation you have to own that injury or that event."

Paul recalls being blown into the air, surrounded by dust, then hitting the ground hard. He couldn't hear anything other than a ringing in his ears. Trying to crawl back to the guy closest to him, Paul realised he wasn't moving far, and looked down to see his right leg was gone.

"But that definitely wasn't the biggest loss. The bloke I was trying to get back to had been killed instantly. Ben Ranaudo, a 22-year-old private from Melbourne, was one of the fittest blokes I knew, who did everything with a smile on his face. He was unfortunately killed instantly that day."

While Paul credits his team's swift actions for saving his life, and the many doctors and surgeons in Afghanistan, Germany and back home in Australia for getting him through, the physical aspect of his injury hasn't been the toughest.

"Just the replaying of that event in my mind, and the leg being a constant reminder that Ben was dead, was pretty rough," Paul said. "I still have my good and bad days, but I'm a lot more comfortable with it now, and I try to honour Ben any chance I get. That gets me by a little bit.

"But that mental health side is definitely tougher than the physical, I find."

For Paul, he will always be going through rehabilitation.

"It will never end, mentally or physically. There's always something I want to do better; there's always something I can do better. I can be fitter, I can run better.

"We're not learning about recovery with mental health, but about being aware that it's a constant in your life. You're going to have good and bad days, and you need to focus on what you can control and how you can push on through those days. Rehab is here forever."

Identifying with his competitive edge, developed through years of high-

level sport, it was inevitable that Paul would return to the outlet that fed his physical and mental state for so many years. Not only has Paul personally participated in adaptive sport on an international level, he is now also actively encouraging the movement as an answer for a lot of young veterans.

Paul competed in the inaugural Invictus Games for Defence personnel in London in 2014, and was captain of the Australian team at the subsequent international competition in 2016; an honour that he didn't initially feel worthy of, but is now very thankful for.

"To lead out the Australian team in front of that crowd was one of the best things that's ever happened to me," said Paul.

"You go home [from the Invictus Games] feeling inspired. People like us, we don't sit around and feel sorry for ourselves. We do need motivation and inspiration every now and then, and you come home from an event like that and you can't help but feel very inspired; you come home feeling very confident to get in there and keep improving."

Paul believes that the gym or sport environment could be an answer for so many veterans looking to pick their lives up but are unsure where to start.

"People who join the Defence Force here in Australia, they are physically active, competitive people that like to be challenged. So why should that change because I have PTSD or because of my circumstances? In my mind, you need to get back into the gym and keep searching for improvement," said Paul.

"My fighting career was the same – I was never the world champion or anything, but it's exciting because it's always [about] looking for improvement. I think being an amputee is exactly the same; it's that constant search for ways to improve to find out what you can do better."

Paul also credits the ongoing support of his wife and kids for helping him come to terms with his mental health struggles, acknowledging that a turning point was the birth of his first child,

and he now focuses on being a good role model for his children.

"My kids and my wife are everything to me, so they're not going to see Dad sitting at home on a pension; I'm not going to be that role model for my kids, I refuse to be that. They need to see Dad going to work every day and hopefully achieving things," said Paul.

Now working as a Liaison Officer at the Mates4Mates Family Recovery Centre in Townsville, Paul has also taken on an ambassador role with RSL (Queensland Branch), and is using his own story to encourage others to give sport a go.

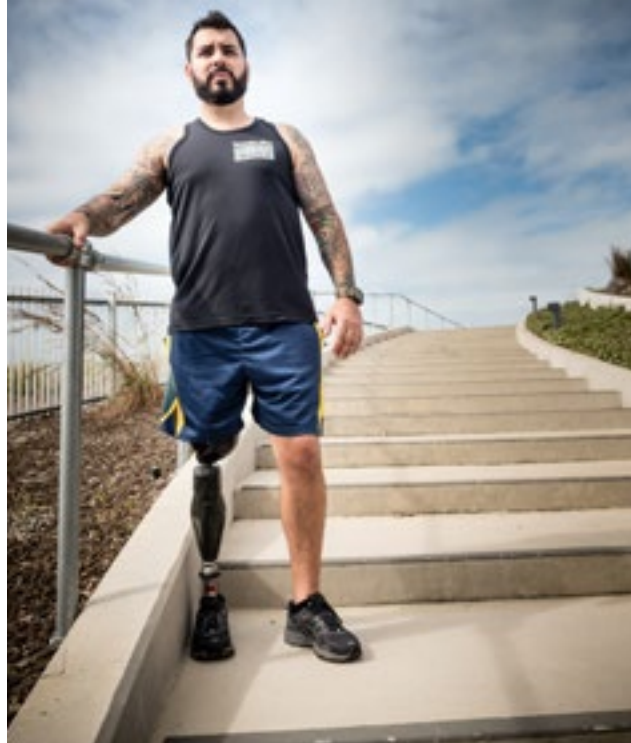
"Losing both my job as an infantry soldier and my fighting – two things that were with me and made up who I was – was painful and hard to get past. But getting back into the gym and getting that confidence back again helped get me through," said Paul.

"We need to get people confident both physically and mentally, to get them back into jobs. We need to encourage them through the gym and through some counselling to get out and do a bit better for themselves. That's what it did for me."

Paul uses the gym and the adaptive sport program of wheelchair basketball at the Mates4Mates centre in Townsville as examples of how this can be effective, with positive results coming from mixing currently serving with others who have been out of Defence for many years.

"When they're sitting on the sidelines with a busted knee or surgery, that's when the mental health stuff sets in, because they get taken out of their team, they get a bit depressed, put some weight on. We can keep them involved through that process in sport, and have a chance to be preventative with mental health, before this stuff sets in," said Paul.

"That's where I see it as exciting; it's about learning and improving. My time for competing is probably going to come to an end over the next few years, but I'd like to stay involved, maybe in coaching. I'm passionate about this stuff." ←



ADAPTIVE SPORTS KICKING NEW GOALS IN VETERAN HEALTH

The success of the Invictus Games over the past three years has seen a wave of interest in adaptive sports, with wounded, injured and ill servicemen and women taking up the challenge to better their lives through sport.

 Kylie Hatfield

THE Invictus Games concept has been such a success, as it uses the power of sport to inspire recovery, support rehabilitation and generate a wider understanding and respect for wounded, injured and ill servicemen and women around the world. An international stage of adaptive sporting events for those who have suffered physical and mental wounds as a result of their service has brought together allied nations in competition and support, with their abilities – rather than their disabilities – front and centre.

In response to the rapid interest and growth of adaptive sports internationally and here in Australia, RSL (Queensland Branch) and the Australian Defence Force (ADF) have joined forces to develop an adaptive sports program for current and

ex-serving men and women.

This program has stemmed not only from our responsibility to look after our military family, but also because we know that leading a healthy, active lifestyle is not only good for physical rehabilitation, but it can lift your mood and improve your emotional state, leading to better quality relationships and a higher level of resilience.

“We are working to facilitate positive transitions from Defence to civilian life, and help people to maintain the culture of activity and fitness that is core to Defence life well beyond their military careers,” RSL (Queensland Branch) State President Stewart

Cameron CSC said.

“We want to increase public awareness of the strengths and challenges of our current and ex-serving men and women, to encourage their support of the transition and rehabilitation process as well.”

Adaptive sports are those that cater specifically to people with physical or emotional injuries. The RSL/ADF adaptive sports program will initially feature the individual



sports of wheelchair tennis, track and field, power lifting, archery, indoor rowing and swimming; and the team sports of wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, road cycling and sitting volleyball. Many of these sports are features of the Invictus Games program, providing an incentive for participants to work toward international competition if they desire.

“Our goal is to foster wellness and wellbeing in our military family. We appreciate that different people have different levels of fitness and varying motivators – for some it may just be the boost they need to get off the

couch and leave the house; others might aspire to compete for their country,” Stewart said.

Phil Thompson is an example of someone who embraced sport and all it has to offer, and now works to encourage others to do the same. Having competed at the inaugural Invictus Games in London in 2014, Phil returned as a coach for the second Games, held in Orlando, Florida, in 2016.

“I had the opportunity to speak to the likes of Prince Harry [at the Invictus Games], but, more importantly, other wounded, injured and ill veterans from around the world.

ABOVE: Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association makes it possible for anyone to participate in a variety of sport, including waterskiing.

RIGHT: Phil Thompson trains for the basketball event he competed in at the 2014 Invictus Games. (Department of Defence)





“WE APPRECIATE THAT DIFFERENT PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF FITNESS AND VARYING MOTIVATORS – FOR SOME IT MAY JUST BE THE BOOST THEY NEED TO GET OFF THE COUCH AND LEAVE THE HOUSE; OTHERS MIGHT ASPIRE TO COMPETE FOR THEIR COUNTRY.”

I got to have a good chat to them and learn best practices for what we can bring back here and create that network,” Phil said.

“I think it’s very important that there’s a life cycle with wounded, injured and ill veterans; you can’t just sit in one spot, you need to create or be involved in all different levels, otherwise you won’t develop.”

While there are many rehabilitative and inclusive options for the wounded, injured and ill available these days, Phil believes adaptive sports breaks down barriers like few other activities.

“Sport is so amazing, there is no wrong door. There is no injury you can come to me with that I can’t find something for you. There was a veteran with no legs and no arms [at the Invictus Games], and they competed in archery. There’s nothing you can’t do.

“Adaptive is the word, because it is tailor-making a sport for an injury. You don’t have to be missing your limbs

ABOVE & RIGHT:

A new partnership between RSL (Queensland Branch) and Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association will make it possible for injured veterans to access physical rehabilitation services, including gym-based training sessions.

to play these sports. It comes under wounded, injured and ill. You can be able-bodied, but you want to play wheelchair rugby; that’s great, we’ve got it for you.”

Age is another factor Phil says is no barrier to participation, which makes adaptive sports an ideal direction to ensure the integration of generations across the RSL.

“Sport resonates with the youngest person, who might be 17, and the oldest person. The other week we had a 60-year-old playing wheelchair basketball with an 18-year-old. There is no age gap – it is bridged when you get out on the court as equals,” Phil said.

But the adaptive sports program is



not just for those who have served, or who have an injury or illness as a result of their service. The program is based on the core belief that we have a wider responsibility to look after our mates.

**“THE BENEFITS
EXTEND BEYOND
THE OBVIOUS
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FOSTERING
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SPIRIT, ENGAGING
RELATIONSHIPS
AND SKILL
ENHANCEMENT.”**



Training buddies, coaches and mentors from all walks of life are invited to be part of the program, and family and friends play a crucial support role.

The benefits extend beyond the obvious physical and mental rehabilitative results, with the program fostering community spirit, engaging relationships and skill enhancement, and the interest of a whole new generation of current and ex-serving Defence Force personnel in the RSL.

RSL (Queensland Branch) has taken another step towards assisting veterans to get into sport, and therefore improve their health and wellbeing, by partnering with Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association. The partnership will encourage ex-serving Australian Defence Force members

ABOVE:
The Comets
compete in
the Women's
National
Wheelchair
Basketball
League.

with physical and/or mental injuries to engage in fitness, rehabilitation and sport programs delivered by the state's leading adaptive sporting body. This includes accessing Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association's Bowen Hills gym and rehabilitation centre in Brisbane, and services such as home programs and personal training.

Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association Acting CEO Kelli Chilton said the partnership would improve injured veterans' awareness of and access to the association's fitness and adaptive sport programs, which benefit hundreds of Queenslanders with a disability each year.

“We have already seen an increase in the number of injured servicemen and women taking part in our social

sport programs and competitions in recent years, thanks to some of the work we've already been doing with RSL (Queensland Branch),” Mrs Chilton said.

“The success of para-athletes, such as Paralympic gold medallist and soldier Curtis McGrath, together with the international Invictus Games movement, is helping to open injured veterans' eyes to the possibility of living an active, healthy life.

“This partnership will help remove some of the barriers to sport and fitness for injured ex-service personnel, and give them a chance to reconnect with their community and achieve their personal best in life.”

Find out more about the RSL Adaptive Sports program at www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Adaptive-Sports. ←



A STITCH IN TIME: BEHIND THE CHANGI QUILTS

February marks the 75th anniversary of the Fall of Singapore, described as “the worst disaster and largest capitulation in British history”, as 30,000 troops surrendered and 7500 Allied troops were killed. The famous Changi quilts were made to alleviate boredom, boost morale and pass information to men in other camps. Here, the full story of the Changi quilts is told.

 Australian War Memorial

Changi Prison

When Singapore fell to the Japanese on February 15, 1942, thousands of Allied troops, who had either been part of the Singapore garrison or who had retreated down the Malay peninsula in the face of the Japanese advance, surrendered to the Japanese. Japanese military code assumed that its soldiers would fight to the death (which explains why so few of their soldiers were captured alive before the final months of the war), and they were totally unprepared for the task of housing and feeding so many prisoners.

In the event, they used many of the prisoners as slave labour on the construction of the Burma-Thailand railway, on airfields and dockyards, later shipping them to Japan to work in the mines and in ship-building. The prisoners were poorly fed and generally had no medical supplies, although their own doctors were able to improvise some drugs and equipment. The International Red Cross supplied both food and medical parcels to the prisoners, but with a few rare exceptions these were stockpiled by the Japanese for their own use or were simply not distributed. A third of

the prisoners of war died in captivity, although the death rate varied widely in different camps. The main causes of death were disease and starvation, which were the result of Japanese neglect.

Also interned in Singapore were civilians (non-Malays/Chinese), who had not been able to obtain shipping berths in time to escape or who, in some instances, had made a decision not to leave. The majority were associated with the British colonial administration of Malaya and Singapore or with the colonial (white) administration of plantations and



ABOVE: Japanese guard riding on improvised trailer pulled by prisoners bringing rations into camp. These trailers were constructed by the prisoners and had to be hauled using man power. (AWM: ART25059/Murray Griffin)

tin mines. Many of them had wives and children, and although most of these had been evacuated by the time Singapore fell, a group of about 400 women and children remained at the time of the surrender.

Together with the civilian men, the women and children were crowded into Changi Prison, a building designed to hold about 600 inmates and now accommodating about 2400. The

women and children occupied one wing of the building until 1944 when they were moved to another Singapore camp at Syme Road. For the purposes of the Japanese administration, children were deemed to be all female children of whatever age and male children up to the age of 12. Twelve-year-old boys were automatically transferred to the male section of the prison, regardless of whether they



ABOVE: A few of the types of people encountered in the Changi Goal prisoners of war camp. Extreme left: an Australian, talking to, or trying to sell something to a British Artilleryman. On the extreme right is a member of the Netherland East Indies Forces, probably a Eurasian from Java. (AWM: ART26521/Murray Griffin)

had relatives there or not. Internees were permitted to run schools for the children during the first few years of captivity, although the subjects were limited. The teaching of history and geography was not allowed.

The internees were, in some respects, fortunate to be housed in Changi Prison. It was a modern (six-year-old) “model” prison building, which boasted an efficient sewerage system and flushing toilets. Its main problem was that it was expected to house three times the number of people for which it was designed. Because of this, hygiene and sanitation were always matters of concern. Dysentery was a problem among the internees, as was malaria, because of the lack of mosquito nets. Drugs were available to treat these two diseases, but they were not supplied by the Japanese.

During the first year of captivity at least (when the quilts were made),

food was adequate, if basic, by Asian standards, but probably not by European ones. The overall death rate of civilian internees was not high, but increased as the years went by due mainly to malaria, conditions of over-crowding, and the effects of malnutrition, which caused or gave pre-disposition to diseases such as beri-beri and tuberculosis.

Male and female internees were able to see each other, but were not allowed to communicate. The Japanese, however, allowed the two groups to give concerts to each other and in this way family messages could be passed in “family code” through a play script or a song.

The women in Changi Prison were a diverse group. The majority came from the British colonial administration of Malaya and Singapore, as wives of officials, or as teachers, missionaries and medical personnel. There were also a number of Eurasian children of white fathers, and even some of their Asian mothers. The British were the major group represented, but there were also women from the Netherlands colonial administration of the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia), Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. There was even a Spanish circus performer.

The immediate problem faced by the women, food and shelter of a sort having been provided by the Japanese, was how to administer themselves. In most non-labour camps the Japanese left administration and organisation to the internees or prisoners of war themselves and, with the exception of spot checks for illicit items such as radios (possession punishable by death) and diaries, liaised with only a few prisoners who were nominated or elected by the camp inmates. The work of a camp administrator was often arduous and, in the case of the Changi women, required enormous tact and strength in dealing with a diverse group of women from different social backgrounds. Many of the “upper class” British wives felt it was beneath their dignity to take their turn cleaning

drains or queuing for food, and had been accustomed to being waited on by “native” servants. The administrator also needed to have a good head for politics and negotiating with the Japanese.

The making of the quilts

During 1942, mainly between March and August, three signature quilts were made by the women interned in Changi Prison (these are referred to as the British, Australian and Japanese quilts). The making of them was the idea of a Canadian internee, Mrs Ethel Mulvany, who had been a Red Cross representative in Singapore and had been chosen to be the camp Red Cross representative for the Changi women. Judging by the quilt squares Mrs Mulvany made, she was also a skilled embroiderer. (Mrs Mulvany later claimed that the British quilt had actually been made for the Canadian Red Cross, but research into the labelling of the British quilt has not revealed any evidence of a prior label relating to Canada. By the time she made the statement, she was seriously mentally disturbed as a result of her captivity, and making claims about her role in personally saving all the wounded of Singapore, together with claims of atrocities committed by the Japanese in Changi Prison that cannot be substantiated in any way).

The making of the quilts was designed to alleviate boredom, to boost morale and to pass information to men in other camps that the women and children were alive. Mrs Mulvany’s initial idea was that only the wives of soldiers should contribute squares, because their husbands were not interned in Changi Prison with the civilian men and could not know the fate of their families. She was herself the wife of a British soldier. However, there proved to be too few military wives in the prison to make up enough squares for even one quilt and so it seems that all the women were given the opportunity to contribute a square, some contributing more than one.

In a shrewd political move, Mrs



Mulvany secured the permission of the Japanese commandant to pass the quilts – ostensibly made for the “wounded” as stated on the back of each quilt – to Changi hospitals, by making a quilt for the wounded Japanese. In the event, the Japanese quilt, also containing the signatures of the women who had made it, was passed with the other two to the hospitals and eventually given to an Australian medical officer.

Each woman who wanted to make a square was given a piece of plain white cotton (provided from various sources, including flour bags and bed sheets) and was asked to put “something of herself” into the square, together with her signature. From the evidence of Sheila Allen, who made the map of Australia square on the Australian quilt, it seems that it was possible to nominate the quilt on which the square was to be placed. This may explain why there are no Australian names on the British quilt, for instance, and why some of the names on the Japanese quilt are

ABOVE:
Mrs Ethel
Mulvany.

“THE MAKING OF THE QUILTS WAS DESIGNED TO ALLEVIATE BOREDOM, TO BOOST MORALE AND TO PASS INFORMATION TO MEN IN OTHER CAMPS THAT THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE ALIVE.”

“WHILE THE JAPANESE TOLERATED THE WORD ‘GAOL’ (THE COMMANDANT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN FAMILIAR WITH THE WORD), THE ‘V’ FOR VICTORY, AND THE ‘THUMBS UP’ SIGN ON THE SQUARES, THE WORD ‘PRISON’ WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE, SO THAT WHEN MRS MULVANY AND A DUTCH INTERNEE CAME TO ASSEMBLE THE SQUARES THEY HAD TO UNPICK THIS WORD. THIS CAN BE SEEN CLEARLY ON TWO OF THE SQUARES ON THE AUSTRALIAN QUILT.”

duplicates of those on the other two quilts (not enough women may have volunteered to contribute squares for the Japanese quilt).

While the Japanese tolerated the word “gaol” (the commandant may not have been familiar with the word), the “V” for victory, and the “thumbs up” sign on the squares, the word “prison” was not acceptable, so that when Mrs Mulvany and a Dutch internee came to assemble the squares they had to unpick this word. This can be seen clearly on two of the squares on the Australian quilt. The squares were machine-stitched together and the edges then over-embroidered in red. Very few of the contributors saw the completed quilts.

The work of nine known Australian women is represented on the Australian quilt: Dr Margaret Smallwood, Sheila Allen, Judy Good, Helen Latta, Vera McIntyre, Betsey Millard, Nea Barnes, May Watson and Eunice Austin-Hofer. It is likely that a quilt was made for the Australian Red Cross not because there were many Australian internees, but because Mrs Mulvany assumed the Australian Red Cross would play a major part in supplying aid to Singapore, and to prisoners of war in Asia generally. The aid was supplied, but the Japanese blocked the distribution of Red Cross parcels from Australia.

Subject matter and style

The design and sewing skills shown on the quilts are varied. Virtually all women in this period would have been taught embroidery skills, whether they had any aptitude for it or not. Many brought embroidery threads and patterns with them into the prison, and during 1942 the Japanese allowed Mrs Mulvany to spend a day each month outside the prison to obtain supplementary supplies of food, drugs and materials, if she could find them in Singapore.

Some of the squares are obviously the work of skilled embroiderers, while others are quite crude, consisting, for instance, of a flower cut from a

piece of floral print fabric roughly applied with button-hole stitch. Some of the embroidery has clearly been copied from commercial patterns. Examples of these can be seen in the images of characters from the two pre-war Disney feature cartoons, *Snow White* and *Pinocchio*. Many of the contributors put a lot of themselves into their squares, while others confined their efforts to more traditional floral motifs. The meaning of many of the messages that are obviously included in the squares is now lost to us. Some would have been private messages only comprehensible to the couples themselves. Squares showing small children and children's toys such as bears probably refer to children in the camp. Mrs Uniake's Dungie and Dungetta (on the Australian quilt) refer to her son and daughter in prison with her. The British quilt shows a mother rabbit with a baby rabbit wearing a blue ribbon collar to indicate that a son had been born in prison. The dogs on the Australian quilt may refer to “Judy”, a small terrier who was a pet in the prison for some time. Other women have embroidered the “address” of the cell they were occupying and a representation of its appearance.

In contrast, the quilt made for the Japanese contains very little of the personality of the makers and no messages. The designs used on the quilt were chosen to appeal to the Japanese and include a greeting in Japanese (“Banzai!” - possibly supplied by the commandant, although two Japanese women married to Englishmen were interned in Changi), floral motifs, representations of the rising sun, Mount Fuji, a Japanese bridge and a tea ceremony.

Although many of the squares appear to have messages, there were, as previously stated, not many women who had husbands in the military camps to whom the messages could be passed. A large number of the female internees came from the Colonial Nursing Service and were single, although some may have had

romantic connections with soldiers before the fall of Singapore. Many of the contributors may not have been trying to pass on a message, but simply used the opportunity of making the square as a way of passing time and producing, in some cases, a patriotic statement. The making of the quilts was a carefully considered and coordinated exercise and there is no evidence they were made as objects of resistance. Every effort was made by Mrs Mulvany and the few women who assembled the finished quilts to ensure they would be acceptable to the Japanese so they could be passed to outside camps. It would also appear that Mrs Mulvany hoped the quilts would be preserved in the longer term, as the back of each quilt has embroidered instructions recommending that it be dry-cleaned.

The fate of the quilts after the war

The quilts for the Australian and Japanese wounded eventually came into the possession of a British medical officer, Colonel Collins. There is no evidence that they were ever really intended for, or used by, the wounded. Collins in turn passed them to an Australian medical officer in charge of the hospital at Kranji, Lieutenant Colonel RMW Webster, of 2/9th Field Ambulance.

Webster brought them back to Australia: he presented the Australian quilt to the Australian Red Cross, as requested on the back of the quilt, and gave the Japanese quilt to his wife. Mrs Webster donated this quilt to the War Memorial in 1968. The Australian quilt has been permanently lent to the Memorial by the Red Cross, so that it can be properly preserved. The quilt for the British Red Cross was taken to England after the war and can currently be viewed at the British Red Cross UK office at Moorgate, City of London.

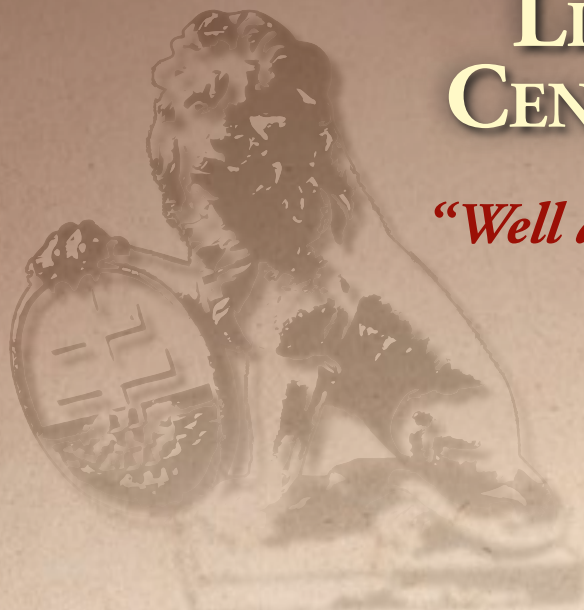
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LIONS OF YPRES CENTENARY WATCH

*"Well at least they'll remember
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IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Rob Skoda
— VETERAN SERVICES MANAGER



Rob Skoda, an ex-Flight Lieutenant in Ground Force Defence, Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), enlisted at 20 years of age and served for 12 years. Rob, originally from Western Australia, now lives on the Gold Coast with his wife and two children, and joined RSL (Queensland Branch) in 2016 as Veteran Services Manager. This is Rob's story of his time in service, and insight into how the RSL strives to continue providing the best support to our veterans and their families.

 Christina Underwood

Where it all began

In 2000, Rob enlisted as an Officer Cadet at the Australian Defence Force Academy. He then went on to specialise in Ground Defence and graduated as a Flying Officer from the Royal Military College, Duntroon, in 2004. Rob was posted to No. 3 and then No. 2 Airfield Defence Squadron at RAAF Base Amberley in Queensland. Rob went on to act as a Rifle Flight Commander, leading teams to secure airfields for operations.

Life as a Ground Defence Officer

Rob worked up the ranks to Flight Lieutenant and served in several overseas operations, including deployments to the Middle East, a humanitarian deployment in Pakistan and assistance work in Papua New Guinea. In 2006, Rob took a team of 64 into Timor-Leste on the first night of Australia's commitment to help restore the island nation's confidence, peace and security.

"I remember when we were in Timor-Leste, there was a group of teenagers huddled together and praying. I will never forget seeing something that peaceful right in the middle of the chaos."

In 2010, Rob led the Force Protection team in Tarin Kowt, Afghanistan,

as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), a NATO-led security mission established by the United Nations Security Council.

In 2012, Rob discharged from the Air Force. In reflecting on his time in service, Rob said, "I miss the good times... the challenge and excitement, knowing that you're making a difference. But you realise that the good times were when you're actually doing the toughest things."

Keeping the services close

After discharging, Rob moved on to new challenges, but couldn't resist the opportunity to link back to the services and help his fellow mates. Rob joined RSL (Queensland Branch) as Veteran Services Manager in May 2016.

In explaining what he loves about the RSL, Rob said, "There is so much value in what we do for veterans and their families. We support clients with complex issues – from processing claims, helping them to find employment and helping them manage financial concerns. We're a place where you can actually deliver the organisation's aspirations and really help people as a result."

What's next for Veteran Services?


It's an exciting time to see what's in

store for 2017. Rob shared a sneak peek of two areas of focus for the year ahead. The RSL will partner with aligned organisations to reduce homelessness among our veterans and their families and will also focus on programs that help veterans to build resilience and a solid future for their families, including working with financial services.

"The ultimate goal is to help veterans and their families, so they have an opportunity to lead proud and independent lives," Rob said.

"There is no need too small"

In Rob's words, "We have a really good mission and the team is 100 per cent aligned to it. For our Veteran Services Officers (VSOs), their day is focused on helping veterans with their claims and their welfare. There is no need too small; they will always go the extra mile to help our veterans."

An integral part of RSL's mission is to employ people who truly understand what it means to be a veteran and empathise with their needs. Rob is a perfect example: with his own personal service experience, he is able to relate to fellow veterans and work with his team, the VSOs, to ensure services are aligned to the needs of the military community. 

ROAD RUNNER PATROL



A day out and about in Vietnam on the Road Runner Patrol proved to be a much different experience than the jungle for a platoon of Diggers.

✍ Brian Cunningham | ✍ Cathy Rodwell

“AS HE WALKED UP AND DOWN, HIS VOICE BECAME LOUDER AND MORE STRIDENT. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT HE WAS SCREAMING INSULTS AT HIS MEN.”

December 1968

One of the tasks we performed several times between operations out in the jungle was called Road Runner Patrol. A platoon of Diggers would load into three Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) at our base at Nui Dat in order to escort a convoy of trucks northwards along Route 15 through our province – Phuoc Tuy province. We would then hand the convoy over to the Americans at the border of our province and the Yank province – Bien Hoa province. Most times, we would then need to wait a while to link up with a different Yank convoy to escort it southwards back through our province.

On one Road Runner Patrol, our platoon was parked by the side of the

road on the outskirts of Baria, the capital of Phuoc Tuy province, waiting to connect with a convoy from the nearby port at Vung Tau to escort it to the northern border of our province. As we waited, all of us were either standing up in the open hatches of the three APCs, or were sitting on top of the APCs.

Before mounting an APC we always cleared our weapons, meaning we always made sure there was no round in the firing chamber. That was a precaution against accidental discharges ricocheting off the walls inside the APC.

About 15 metres from us, a group of five young ARVN (Army of the Republic of Vietnam – our allies)

soldiers were standing at attention inside a walled-off courtyard. Our APC was parked directly in front of the open gateway, so we could easily see all that was happening on the parade ground within the high walls.

An ARVN officer was walking up and down in front of the row of five young soldiers. He seemed to like the fact that he had us for an audience. As he walked up and down, his voice became louder and more strident. It was obvious that he was screaming insults at his men. That was nothing new to us, because we had copped the same abusive treatment when we were recruits.

Enjoying ourselves as we watched the goings on, we began to laugh. That seemed to encourage the ARVN officer



to show us just how important he was. He continued screaming insults at his men until he had worked himself into a state of frenzy. Whatever he was saying was certainly having an effect on the young soldiers. They seemed to be absolutely terrified of him.

The ARVN officer unexpectedly pulled his sidearm from its holster, aiming the pistol at the head of one of the young soldiers. There was an immediate loud noise from many weapons being cocked. The ARVN officer looked around and nearly fainted when he saw that all of our weapons were aimed at him. He dropped the pistol as if it had suddenly burned his hand. Then, with his arms raised above his head, he began to talk

rapidly in Vietnamese. It appeared that he was pleading with us not to shoot him. The group of young soldiers began laughing as their officer turned and fled into a nearby building. A few minutes later the convoy from Vung Tau arrived, and we moved off.

At the border between Phuoc Tuy and Bien Hoa provinces, we passed an unusual sign which was set back a few metres from the edge of the road. Through the trees, about 30 metres beyond the sign, we caught a glimpse of a building and a few Vietnamese children. As a kid I had spent time in two orphanages, so that particular sign tugged at the old heart strings and typified the mess Vietnam was in. The sign proclaimed a simple, but sad

message: S.O.S. Please Don't Shoot At Orphans' Village. Undoubtedly, neither the Sisters of Mercy who ran St Vincent's Orphanage at Nudgee where I stayed for a considerable period, nor the Red Cross workers at the Margate Children's Home where I stayed for a shorter period, would ever have dreamed of displaying such a sign.

Road Runner Patrols were a good break from the hard work on operations. They lasted only seven or eight hours, then we returned to our base at Nui Dat, knowing we could have a shower – even if it was with just one bucket of water – enjoy a few beers and, if we weren't on sentry duty that night, sleep in a dry bed under a mosquito net. ¹⁴

ABOVE:
Army of the
Republic of
Vietnam Recruits
Sign of the
Times – 1968.

**“THE SIGN
PROCLAIMED
A SIMPLE, BUT
SAD MESSAGE:
S.O.S. PLEASE
DON'T SHOOT
AT ORPHANS'
VILLAGE.”**



Major W. M. Lean of Base Records (AWM: DAX2203)

CONVEYING THE NEWS

James Malcolm Lean MBE carried out extraordinary work during the First World War, with his office at times receiving 100 letters a day from distressed families seeking word on their loved ones. In this excerpt from her book, *The Man Who Carried a Nation's Grief*, Carol Rosenhain paints the picture of Lean's grim task during this time.

 Carol Rosenhain

GIVEN the wartime need for security, information concerning troop movements was shrouded in the tightest secrecy, adding to the substantial delays already imposed by the primitive lines of communication on the dissemination of news to soldiers' relatives in Australia. In the haste to mobilise for war, little thought had been given to the means by which news of casualties would be conveyed, particularly in situations that involved battles fought in remote terrain or in

which losses were unexpectedly heavy. Historically, wars had generally been fought on defined battlefields, the soldiers either on horseback or on foot and largely involved in hand-to-hand combat. Battlefield casualties were confined to the areas of battle and the remains of the dead were collected and removed at the end of the battle or on the cessation of hostilities. However, modern warfare was waged on an industrial scale, which not only killed soldiers in their thousands, but not uncommonly obliterated them,

leaving little trace. Accounting for such casualties was unprecedented. While the Gallipoli campaign did not involve the mass artillery destruction of the Western Front, over 700 men fell on the day of the landing — a casualty total that would soon be overshadowed by the massive losses of the Western Front, but which nonetheless found military authorities woefully underprepared. Base Records was no exception. As described, at the time of its inception, the staffing of Base Records could only be described



ABOVE:
Portrait of the
file room of the
general office,
Base Records.
(AWM: DAX2211)

RIGHT:
Group of
women typists
at the Defence
Department Base
Records office.
(AWM: H02334)



as skeletal and the systems and processes of its day-to-day functioning were rudimentary and untested. As a department in its infancy, its staff had little understanding of the difficulties they would encounter, the scale of the workload or the tact and sensitivity that would soon become an essential element of their contact with soldiers' families.

With the arrival of casualty notifications from the landing at Gallipoli, the immediate task of Base Records staff was to inform the next of kin of their loved one's fate. The press had provided valuable assistance by introducing Base Records to the public, describing its role and outlining the correct protocols for members of the public keen to enquire into the plight

of a relative. Families were reminded of the requirement to provide the soldier's number, rank, name, battalion and location (as far as could be ascertained) so that correspondence could be immediately and efficiently addressed. Following the landing, Base Records was overwhelmed with letters, initially as many as 1000 a day, all of which required a response. It was a sensitive and complex task of immense proportions. Given the fact that Base Records was a new department with a novice staff, it was inevitable that mistakes would be made. The information the department received from overseas concerning the status of individual soldiers was minimal and often incorrect. Initially, until the bulk of AIF forces moved to the Western Front, this information was routinely generated by an Australian administrative base in Egypt known as the Intermediate Base. Information released by the Intermediate Base was regarded as reliable and, initially at least, was not subjected to a rigorous process of clarifying and cross-checking by Base Records before it was conveyed to families. This would change as the war progressed and Base Records learned not to trust the raw information that often arrived by official means.

Amid the general chaos of the overcrowded beach and the broad dispersion of units throughout the rugged terrain, soldiers at Gallipoli who failed to answer their unit's daily roll call were automatically classified as 'wounded' unless another soldier could verify a death or explain an absence. This information was then channelled through the lines of communication to the Intermediate Base in Egypt before being cabled to Base Records in Melbourne. Consequently, there was a substantial degree of hearsay and misinformation concerning the fate of the large numbers of men who were initially reported as wounded.

Base Records could only act on the information it received and, accordingly, responded diligently, fully confident that information supplied

by overseas authorities, particularly the Intermediate Base, was correct. However, the information conveyed in the cables was sparse, listing only the names of those identified as 'killed' and 'wounded in action'. Additional details were not forthcoming until the arrival of the English mail months later and even then the information provided by AIF Headquarters in Horseferry Road, London, was often minimal. Soldiers initially identified as 'wounded', but whose whereabouts were unknown were automatically upgraded to 'missing and wounded' after a period of time and subsequent investigation.

Then, often as much as 12 months later, a formal Court of Enquiry would be convened and, in many cases, these soldiers would be finally declared 'killed in action'. The paucity and inconsistency of information made life very difficult for those at Base Records. It was clearly an agonising process for families, who often had to wait a year or more for a clear determination of their loved one's fate. Captain Lean and the members of his department made a commitment in all of their correspondence to pass every piece of information they received to the families or next of kin. However, information received by Base Records was often compromised. As a consequence, in the early months of the war when information was limited, they bore the brunt of bereaved families' frustration. Relatives often believed that they were the victims of obfuscation and inefficiency by a department that had fed them misinformation or denied them important details. The brevity of information supplied by Base Records only exacerbated this frustration, particularly as information from different sources could prove conflicting. Subsequently, thousands of families contacted agencies such as the Red Cross Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau and individuals including the Minister for Defence and the adjutants of divisional headquarters seeking further information.

In an attempt to mollify anxious

families, Base Records occasionally made the mistake of including reassuring statements, which went beyond the available information. While this may have provided initial solace for families, in raising false hopes, it served only to deepen their grief when the harsh reality of death was eventually revealed. This piecemeal dissemination of information and the lack of reliable facts tormented the parents of No. 438 Private Edward Fleming.

In their search for additional details, his parents not only wrote regularly to Base Records, but also addressed their pleas for information personally to the Minister for Defence, Senator George Pearce, the Salvation Army and the Red Cross Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau. Private Fleming, a miner, enlisted on 30 August 1914 in Hobart at the age of 19. He left Australia on 20 October 1914 aboard the *A2 Geelong*. On 2 March 1915 he boarded the *Devanha* in Alexandria as a member of the 12th Battalion on its way to join forces amassing for an attack on the Dardanelles. Following the landing at Gallipoli he was initially reported 'wounded'; then, as information filtered through, he was declared 'wounded and missing'. Finally, following a Court of Enquiry on 20 May 1916, he was declared 'killed in action'. According to his unit's field report, Fleming died on the day of the landing — 25 April 1915.

However, Edward Fleming's unfortunate parents were the early victims of a communications system struggling to cope with the magnitude of its task. Their longing for news, amid fears of the worst, was reflected in the volume of correspondence they directed to different parties in a bid to ascertain the truth of their son's fate. Their hopes were initially buoyed by an official telegram from the Secretary for Defence dated 15 June 1915:

REGRET SON E.R. FLEMING WOUNDED, NOT REPORTED SERIOUSLY. NO OTHER PARTICULARS AVAILABLE. WILL IMMEDIATELY ADVISE ANYTHING

FURTHER RECEIVED

This prompted the soldier's mother, Mrs Beatrice Fleming, to write to the Minister for Defence, Senator Pearce, on 30 August 1915. Senator George Foster Pearce had previously served as Minister for Defence for two brief periods between 1908 and 1909 and from 1910 to 1913. On 17 September 1914 he was again appointed to this difficult portfolio and diligently steered the nation through the war for seven years until 21 December 1921. His name and commitment to Australia's support for the British Empire were widely known and in the early days of the war anxious families directed much correspondence to his office. In spite of her limited literacy, Mrs Fleming was among them, writing:

Dear Sir

As I can not get any information of the where abouts of my son Private E. R. Fleming who was reported wounded about the 15th June. I am afraid that the wounded must be of a material that would anger him from writing as he all way rote home regularly before being wounded and I have not hear from him since I would like to no if you could kindly give me any information were and how he his and I would also like to mention that I have received a wire today to say that my younger son A. W. Fleming has been admitted to the hospital with Enteric and I would like to mention that I have change my address and had some trouble before receiving the wire. My present address is Mrs Beatrice Fleming C/O Mr A. G. Genders Esq. Norwood, Tasmania.

Trusting that you can let me no something about my oldest son, I am very anxious about him.

Thanking you will oblige

Yours Beatrice Fleming.

All such enquiries received by the Minister for Defence were redirected to Captain Lean at Base Records. Lean responded to Mrs Fleming on 13 September 1915. While he was hampered by the lack of available information on Fleming and his unit,

"AS A DEPARTMENT IN ITS INFANCY, BASE RECORDS' STAFF HAD LITTLE UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIFFICULTIES THEY WOULD ENCOUNTER, THE SCALE OF THE WORKLOAD OR THE TACT AND SENSITIVITY THAT WOULD SOON BECOME AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF THEIR CONTACT WITH SOLDIERS' FAMILIES."

“IN AN ATTEMPT TO MOLLIFY ANXIOUS FAMILIES, BASE RECORDS OCCASIONALLY MADE THE MISTAKE OF INCLUDING REASSURING STATEMENTS, WHICH WENT BEYOND THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION. WHILE THIS MAY HAVE PROVIDED INITIAL SOLACE FOR FAMILIES, IN RAISING FALSE HOPES, IT SERVED ONLY TO DEEPEN THEIR GRIEF WHEN THE HARSH REALITY OF DEATH WAS EVENTUALLY REVEALED.”

Lean did his best to allay Mrs Fleming's fears, assuring her — unwisely as it transpired — that all would be well. Despite this, the response from Base Records reflected the clarity of its correspondence to anxious families as Lean attempted to cut through the emotional layers of Mrs Fleming's letter to ensure that each concern was addressed:

Dear Madam

In acknowledging receipt of your enquiry dated 30th ult. I beg to inform you No. 438 Private E.R. Fleming 12th Battalion is not reported as having been seriously wounded and in the absence of further particulars, it may be assumed that he is making satisfactory progress towards again becoming fit for active service. Any later information will be transmitted to his father Mr E. Fleming resident of



E.R. Fleming

Launceston who is shown as next of kin. If you will forward me the regimental number and name of your younger son and the unit to which he is attached I will then be able to afford you some information which may have come to hand concerning him.

Yours faithfully

J. M. Lean.

Lean was quick to remind Mrs Fleming of the necessary protocol and that information would be directed to her husband as next of kin. This reminder generally fell on deaf ears where mothers were concerned, as they took up the pen more readily and more vigorously than fathers. Mrs

Fleming persevered and wrote again to Base Records on 15 November 1915.

In spite of Mrs Fleming's failure to adhere to the established lines of communication, Captain Lean was clearly also becoming anxious over the fate of this soldier. Reassuringly, he advised Mrs Fleming that he would initiate steps to determine her son's whereabouts, telling her on 22 November 1915 that he would cable authorities in Cairo to seek further information on her son's condition and location. A response was obviously also directed to Mr Fleming and he replied in a letter to Base Records on 25 November 1915.

On the same day, 25 November 1915, Mrs Fleming again wrote to Senator Pearce from her home in Norwood, Tasmania. Her scribbled, handwritten letter, with its numerous errors, expressed both her despair and anguish.

The matter was duly referred to Base Records which now sought answers for Senator Pearce and two very distressed parents. The chain of communication had clearly broken, allowing information to be conveyed directly to Fleming's next of kin by the 'Hobart authorities' (Headquarters 6th Military District) without first filtering through Base Records. Captain Lean's next letter described his efforts to ascertain the truth while also representing some form of damage control.

Mrs Fleming was reminded again by Base Records on 29 November 1915 that all correspondence concerning her son would be directed to her husband. In spite of this, she addressed further correspondence to Captain Lean on 28 February 1916. Events and enquiries had clearly precipitated the letter. The tone and formatting suggests that she had sought assistance to compose a letter that would be taken more seriously.

Again, a lack of liaison between disparate military headquarters is evident as Base Records had no inkling of the cessation of Fleming's allotment. Protocol demanded a response and accordingly a reply was generated by Base Records to Mrs

Fleming on 3 March 1916. While offering no additional news of her son, Captain Lean addressed the issue of the allotment, also conveying the reassuring impression that Base Records had affairs in hand.

By 4 December 1916, the agony of uncertainty and the grim practicalities of pursuing a pension saw Mr Fleming request formal verification of his son's death. While his earlier correspondence with Base Records had been reasonably coherent, the anxiety of waiting and the realisation of the family's loss appear to have undermined his confidence and affected his clarity of thought.

On 7 December 1916, Base Records wrote to the Fleming family confirming the awful truth of their son's fate, which they had waited almost 18 months to learn. After so much misinformation and delay, of hopes raised and then dashed, the statement of Edward Fleming's death was finally communicated, although not formally declared:

Dear Sir

With reference to the communication of the 4th inst. on the subject of a certificate of report of death of your son No. 438 Private E. R. Fleming 12th Battalion, I am directed to inform you that as there is no definite official report of this soldier's death, this Department is not in a position to issue the usual formal certificate. Looking, however:

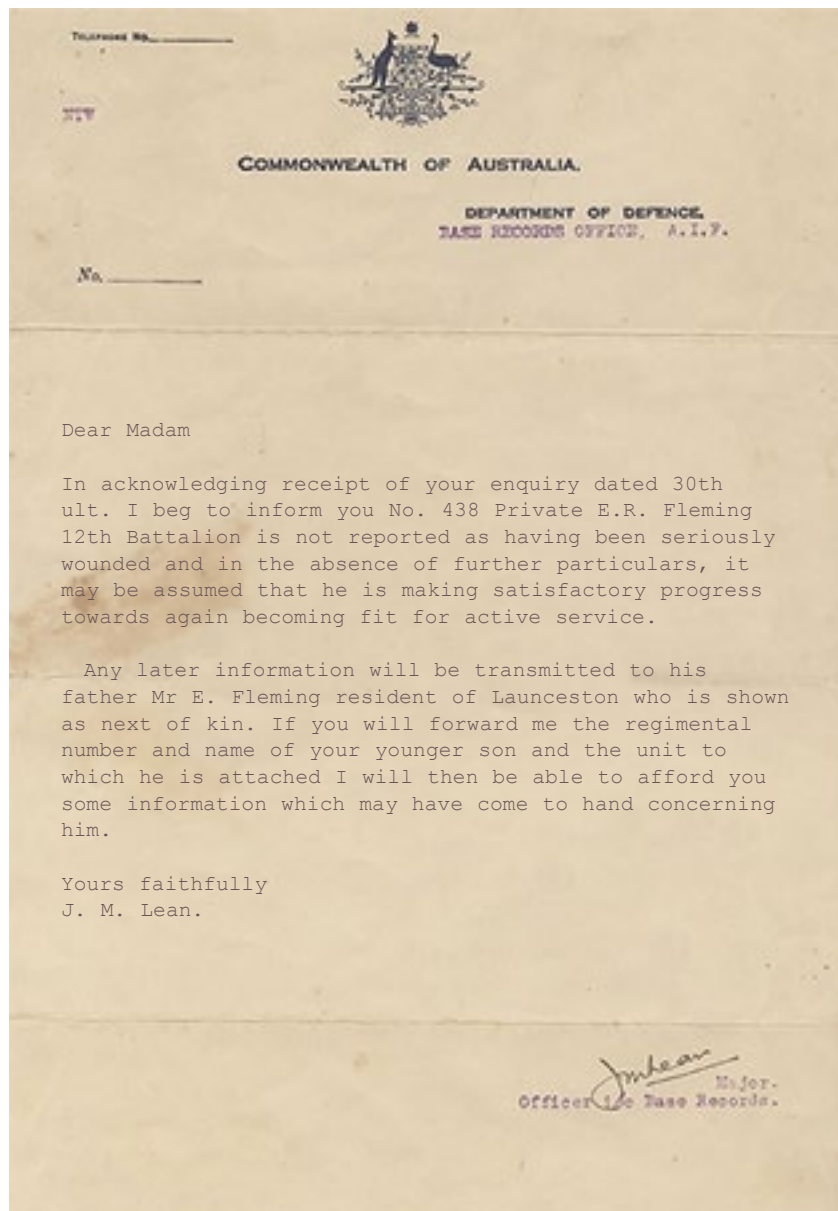
- 1. To the length of time which has elapsed since this soldier was reported missing vis, 25th/28th April 1915;*
- 2. That Private Fleming's name has not appeared in any list of prisoners of war to this date;*

The Military Board is regretfully constrained to conclude that this soldier is dead and that his death occurred between the 25th/28th April 1915.

Yours faithfully

J. M. Lean.

With death intimated, but not yet confirmed, Base Records moved to another phase of its management of the deceased soldier's affairs. This



Base Records next contacted the Flemings on 27 June 1921, sending them a form known as Circular A. This was issued on behalf of the Graves Services Unit, which was established in the aftermath of the war to scour the battlefields for unmarked graves. Thousands of Australian servicemen remained in Europe in the post-war years to assist in the search for missing comrades. It was a gruelling and grisly task, and those who participated did so out of loyalty to their mates. They were keen to ensure that their comrades lay in a recognised burial place and that their families would finally know where their loved ones rested.

The Graves Services Unit hoped to identify remains, exhume bodies and reinter these in newly developed military cemeteries.

But Mr and Mrs Fleming were to learn no more of the fate of their son. All that remained of a young man's great adventure were a few meagre possessions. In declaring Australia's support for the empire to the 'last man and the last shilling', then Leader of the Opposition and later Prime Minister Andrew Fisher had unwittingly committed a raw volunteer army and inexperienced Australian administration to a conflict characterised by unimaginable carnage. The magnitude of casualties, the primitive lines of communication and the heavily censored newspaper reports meant that Australian families received only fragmented details of the fate of their relatives in those early days of the war.

This is an edited extract from *The Man Who Carried The Nation's Grief* by Carol Rosenhain, published by Big Sky Publishing. RRP: \$29.99, available now. For your chance to win a copy of *The Man Who Carried The Nation's Grief*, turn to page 82. ←

"THE MAGNITUDE OF CASUALTIES, THE PRIMITIVE LINES OF COMMUNICATION AND THE HEAVILY CENSORED NEWSPAPER REPORTS MEANT THAT AUSTRALIAN FAMILIES RECEIVED ONLY FRAGMENTED DETAILS OF THE FATE OF THEIR RELATIVES IN THOSE EARLY DAYS OF THE WAR."

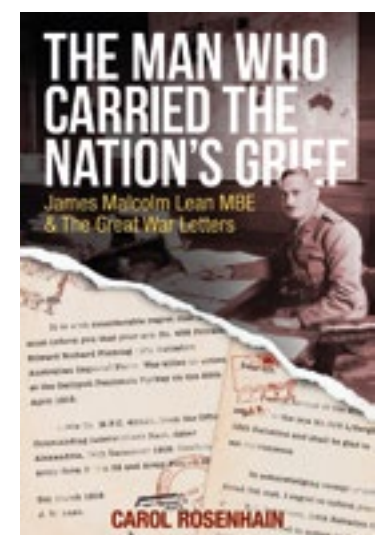
involved forwarding his effects to his next of kin. Much to the despair of families, death in the field often yielded no personal effects. In this case, Mr and Mrs Fleming were informed by Base Records in Form No. 2 that they would receive some of their son's belongings.

Courts of Enquiry were established to investigate the circumstances in which a soldier was missing, presumed dead, but without the discovery of remains to verify the man's fate. The court sought and collated statements from those present at the time of the soldier's last sighting.

These statements enabled them to examine the likely circumstances of death and pass a final determination allowing a death certificate to be

issued. Almost three years after their son's death, Mr and Mrs Fleming finally received formal notification in an official Base Records Form No. 3 which simply stated:

Dear Sir
It is with considerable regret that we must inform you that your son No. 438 Private Edward Richard Fleming 12th Battalion Australian Imperial Force. Was killed in action at the Gallipoli Peninsula Turkey on the 25th April 1915.
Cable No. M.F.C. 48628, from the Officer Commanding Intermediate Base, dated Alexandria, 14th December 1916.
Confirmed by Army form B 104-52 and Army Form B 2090A
5th March 1918
J. M. Lean.



What was left of a
Douglas Dive Bomber
in one of the RAAF
hangars following the
first air-raid on Darwin.
(AWM: 026977)

THE BOMBING OF DARWIN:

75th Anniversary

February marks 75 years since the bombing of Darwin, when the largest town in the north of Australia and a key defensive post was attacked by Japanese forces in a series of air raids. In the largest Japanese attack since Pearl Harbour, 188 planes were launched from Japanese land bases and aircraft carriers, with the total number of casualties remaining uncertain.

DURING the Second World War, the Japanese flew 64 raids on Darwin and 33 raids on other targets in Northern Australia.

On February 19, 1942, 188 Japanese planes were launched against Darwin, whose harbour was full of Allied ships. It was the largest Japanese attack since Pearl Harbour on December 7, 1941, and followed a reconnaissance flight on February 10, 1942. On that day, there were 27 Allied ships in the harbour and approximately 30 aircraft at the Darwin Civil and RAAF airfields.

The *USS Houston* convoy departed Darwin on February 15, 1942, followed by a Japanese flying boat, which later engaged in an air strike. The *USS Peary* returned to Darwin on February 19 after an encounter with a possible Japanese submarine. On February 19, 1942, there were 46 ships packed into Darwin Harbour.

From the first raid on February 19, 1942, until the last on November 12, 1943, Australia and its Allies lost about

900 people, 77 aircraft and several ships. Many military and civilian facilities were destroyed. The Japanese lost about 131 aircraft in total during the attacks.

At the time, there were many rumours alluding to the Australian Government's suppression of information about the bombings – it was thought that reports of casualties were intentionally diminished to maintain national morale.

Local sources estimated that between 900 and 1100 people were killed. For many years, government censorship limited coverage of the event to protect public morale in the southern states of Australia.

What led to the attacks?

During the 1930s, Japan invaded and occupied large parts of China. By 1941, Japan also controlled Indochina (a federation of French colonies and protectorates in South East Asia). In December 1941, Japan bombed the Americans at Pearl Harbour and



“MANY EXPERTS TODAY BELIEVE THAT THE JAPANESE PLAN WAS TO WIPE OUT AS MUCH OF AUSTRALIA’S AND THE ALLIED FORCES’ AIR AND SEA DEFENCE IN ORDER TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE RESOURCE-RICH COUNTRIES OF SOUTH EAST ASIA.”

ABOVE:
Japanese bombs landing inland and along the foreshore of Darwin Harbour during the first air-raid. (AWM: 0012953)

RIGHT:
The ruins of the Post Office after the first Japanese air-raid. (AWM: 044607)

BELOW:
Mitsuo Fuchida.



entered the Second World War. Within 10 weeks, Japan controlled Hong Kong, Malaya, Singapore and the Australian territory of New Britain (Rabaul).

Darwin, the largest town in the north of Australia, was a key defensive position against an aggressive Japan. Australia developed Darwin’s military ports and airfields, built coastal batteries and anti-aircraft guns and steadily enlarged its garrison of troops. Darwin was seen as a key port for the Allied ships, planes and forces defending the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia and East Timor).

Defences were planned, and an anti-submarine boom net was constructed

across Darwin Harbour. The net, supported by floatation buoys, was six kilometres long – the longest floating net in the world. Warning of approaching ships or submarines was given by submarine indicator loops that lay on the seabed and ASDIC (sonar) devices fitted to ships.

At the time, many Australians believed that the Japanese planned to invade Australia. Many experts today, however, believe that the Japanese plan was to wipe out as much of Australia’s and the Allied Forces’ air and sea defence in order to gain control of the resource-rich countries of South East Asia and establish strong defences against any counter-attacks from the USA, Australia and any European powers in the region.

and military personnel. Most of the 1066 women and 900 children went by sea, with the first group leaving Darwin on December 19 aboard the *Koolinda*. The troop carrier *Zealandia*, *USS President Grant*, *Montoro*, and *Koolama* also evacuated civilians, with the last ship sailing on February 15, just before the bombing of Darwin. Others left by plane, road and train.

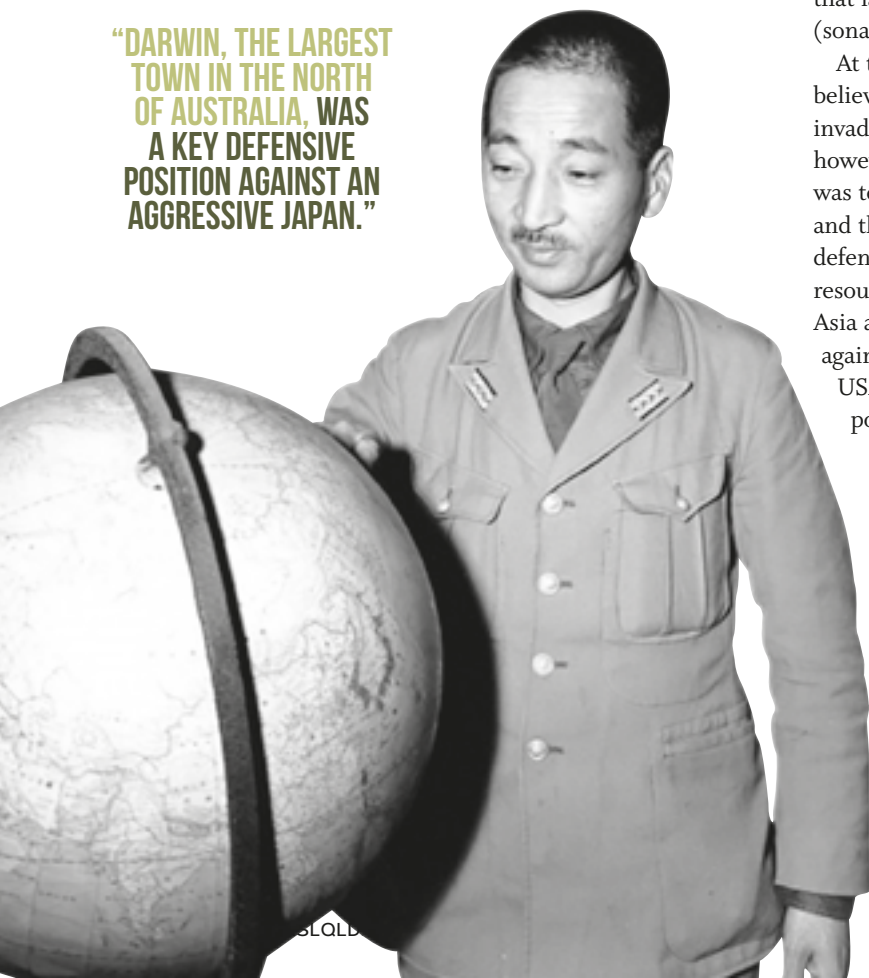
Civilians were evacuated on short notice, often less than 24 hours, and were allowed little luggage. Ships were hot, overcrowded and short on food and water supplies. They were continually on the watch for enemy mines and, at night, blacked out to avoid detection.

The first attacks:
February 19, 1942

The Japanese first attacked Darwin on the morning of February 19, 1942. This was the first time since European settlement that mainland Australia had been attacked by a foreign enemy.

This first attack (and the one that was to follow later that day) was planned and led by Mitsuo Fuchida, the Japanese commander responsible for the attack on Pearl Harbour. It was the largest Japanese attack since Pearl Harbour.

“DARWIN, THE LARGEST TOWN IN THE NORTH OF AUSTRALIA, WAS A KEY DEFENSIVE POSITION AGAINST AN AGGRESSIVE JAPAN.”



Official evacuation:
December 16, 1941
– 15 February 15, 1942
On December 16, 1941, an official order was issued by the Administrator to evacuate women and children from Darwin. The evacuation was primarily organised by the ARP (Air Raid Precautions), with assistance from police



The Japanese attacked with around 188 planes that had been launched from Japanese land bases and aircraft carriers in the Timor Sea. The Japanese fighters strafed land targets and shipping. Dive bombers attacked the ships in the harbour, the military and civilian aerodromes and the hospital. The dive bombers were escorted by fighter planes to protect them from Australian and Allied planes. Eight ships were sunk and most of the others were damaged by bombs or machine gunfire.

The only air defences the Allies had were 10 fighter planes that engaged the Japanese planes. Only one Allied

fighter survived the first attack, with the Japanese suffering only one or two losses.

The first attack lasted approximately 40 minutes. The land targets included the Post Office, Telegraph Office, Cable Office and the Postmaster's Residence, where postal workers were killed.

The second attack began an hour after the first ended. Heavy bombers attacked the Royal Australian Air Force Base at Parap and lasted about 25 minutes.

The two raids killed at least 243 Australians and Allies. Almost 400 were wounded. Twenty military aircraft were destroyed, eight ships at

anchor in the harbour were sunk and most civil and military facilities in Darwin were destroyed.

There is debate over the number of Japanese aircraft shot down during the air raid on February 19, 1942 – some sources report that two aircraft were shot down, while others state four aircraft were destroyed.

Darwin after the first attack

With much of the town destroyed and hundreds of people killed and wounded, Darwin's remaining population feared that the Japanese were about to invade.

There was widespread panic and

ABOVE:
Shell craters made by Japanese bombs often made a safe refuge for our troops when subsequent attacks occurred. (AWM: 013184)

BOMBING SURVIVOR RECALLS ATTACKS FROM THE GROUND

Queensland veteran Basil Stahl was on the ground in Darwin when the Japanese attacked on February 19, 1942, during the first raid. Now living on the Sunshine Coast, the 94-year-old RSL member is preparing to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the military event.

As a 19-year-old, Basil was tasked with surveying the area around the coastal town when it suddenly became a war zone. On the oval of the Larrakeyah Barracks when the first raids hit, Basil recalled,

"It landed 500 yards from us and I had a camera so I have a picture of one of my friends in the hole.

"There were 188 planes, including Zero fighters flying over and they bombed everywhere – they did what they wanted to do and we had no defence except an old .303 rifle and a Lewis gun.

"We still can't figure out how the old barracks is still standing after 60-odd air raids. [During one of the raids] they were also dropping things called daisy cutters, which were smashing the hospital windows," Basil said.

Basil watched events unfold during the anticipated attack, which enabled military forces to evacuate civilians to places like Alice Springs.

"We knew they were going to bomb and were putting trenches and sandbags around.

"They previously bombed Pearl Harbour and Singapore had fallen; there were only 1600 troops in Darwin at the time.

"They bombed the Post Office and killed nine people and many people died at the wharf and in the harbour. I have a map of where all the boats were attacked. The *USS Peary* went down, which killed at least 80 people," Basil said.

To mark this year's 75th anniversary of the bombing of Darwin, the Darwin City Council has established a Civilian Memorial Wall in Bicentennial Park to honour and remember those who lost their lives or were impacted by the bombings.

Travelling to Darwin each year as a tribute to those who lost their lives and fought in the raids, Basil will return again this year to attend the commemorative service where, at 9:58am, a WWII air raid siren will sound to mark the precise time of the first attack.

"It's part of our history. I first went to the 50th anniversary and have been going ever since, but there are not many of us left. We had 62 in my unit at the time and I am the last known survivor," Basil said.

"All wars shouldn't be there, but that is human nature, they are still going on everywhere and they never stop – it goes on through history."

After the bombing of Darwin, Basil helped map the north and worked on surveying the bush track, which is now the Stuart Highway, running from Darwin in the north, via Tennant Creek and Alice Springs, to Port Augusta in South Australia. He left Darwin in April 1943 and went to Dutch New Guinea before joining General MacArthur and going to Borneo, where he was attached to the American Army survey unit.



ABOVE LEFT:
Basil Stahl on the north south road after the raid on Darwin in March 1942.



ABOVE:
Three of Basil's mates in the first 500lb bomb crater on February 19, 1942.

ABOVE:
Members of a RAAF Spitfire squadron race to their planes to take off on an interception flight against Japanese raiders. (AWM: 014491)



RIGHT:
Aerial view of damaged wharf and sunken ship in the harbour following the first air-raid. (AWM: 027334)

about half of Darwin's remaining civilian population fled. Many servicemen also left their posts and fled in the confusion and panic. Three days after the attack, 278 servicemen were still missing. The majority of women and children had been evacuated previously under government orders during December 1941 and January 1942.

Order was restored to the town within a few days. The military

defences were eventually rebuilt and strengthened.

Although these first two raids were the largest, the Japanese were to undertake many more raids on Darwin and other northern Australian towns over the next 20 months.

Sourced from the Australian Government: <http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/japanese-bombing-of-darwin> ←

MATES 4 MATES

ISSUE 01, 2017

MEET A
MATE:

Jethro
Thompson

New

HORIZONS for
Mates4Mates
family

**EXERCISE
PHYSIOLOGISTS**

set Mates on
the path to
rehabilitation

**DAWSON'S
RIVER
RETREAT 2017**

CEO UPDATE



WELCOME to 2017. I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year, with safe travels, family fun and generally good times.

This coming year is already shaping up to be a massive one for Mates4Mates. Thanks to the ongoing support provided by RSL (Queensland Branch), our initiator and Foundation member, we're able to continue providing help where it's most needed.

We'll continue to work closely with the Veterans Services Team and the staff at Anzac House throughout 2017 in our joint commitment to rebuilding the lives of injured current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members and their families.

While there is often discussion in the media about the number of Ex-Service Organisations (ESO) working in isolation to support the veteran community – and some confusion regarding what we all do – I think we can agree that we are all working towards the common good.

From my perspective, it does not matter if people belong to more than one organisation and it does not matter which organisation provides the help. What does matter is that if somebody needs help, they get it.

Mates4Mates works with a number of ESOs and service providers to ensure that support is readily available to those who need it.

We ensure staff are aware of which organisations provide services that are complementary to what we do, so we can recommend Mates seek out other ESOs where necessary. This includes working closely with the likes of RSL (Queensland Branch), RSL (Tasmania Branch), various RSL Districts and a number of RSL Sub Branches, Legacy and the Bravery Trust.

In 2017, as Mates4Mates continues to grow, we remain committed to helping those in need and working collaboratively with others who share our passion for the cause.

Simon Sauer AM, CSC
CEO Mates4Mates <

DAWSON'S RIVER RETREAT 2017

FOLLOWING the success of the 2016 retreat, Mates4Mates is again offering Mates and their children the chance to join the five-day Dawson River Retreat in rural Central Queensland. Dates have been selected around school holidays, with the first taking place in early April. The retreat will see participants engage in team work, basic survival and problem solving skills along the tranquil banks of the Dawson River. To be eligible, children must be 14 years and over. For more details or to register interest, visit mates4mates.org/events or email admin@mates4mates.org. <

"Time and time again you hear about the benefits of equine therapy, but until you actually experience it – the connection you make between yourself and the horse – words don't do it justice."

- Equine therapy participant

EQUINE THERAPY 2017

THE Equine Therapy Program has already kicked off for 2017, with a highly successful couples course in Victoria's Yarra Valley in January. The program is available for Mates with PTSD and through carefully graded activities and group work, participants develop the ability to focus on the present and reduce emotional escalation. This in turn allows participants to better deal with anxiety, fear and frustration and develop healthier patterns of communication. Mates only and couples programs are planned for the Hunter Valley, NSW, South East Queensland, Cairns, Qld, and the Yarra Valley, Vic, throughout 2017. For more details visit mates4mates.org/events or email admin@mates4mates.org. <

MEET A MATE: Jethro Thompson

SEVENTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD John 'Jethro' Thompson, a Vietnam veteran and a regular at the Mates4Mates Family Recovery Centre in Brisbane, likes a challenge.

In December last year, there was a collective gasp among the crew of the tall ship *Tenacious* when he unexpectedly slid out of his wheelchair, 15 metres above deck, while scaling the ship's mast.

"It was a moment of excitement for everyone. I'm sure, but I'm pretty good at keeping calm in precarious situations like that – I've had a bit of experience in that regard," Jethro said with a grin.

In May 1967, due to a breakdown in orders, he accidentally stood on a landmine, suffering horrific injuries that would change his life forever.

"The blast killed two and wounded six. I lost my left leg in the explosion, blew my fingers off, sustained abdominal injuries, the whole kit and caboodle," Jethro said.

"I had 40 days in an American hospital in Vietnam and over a year in rehab in Australia, but I survived and slowly started to come to terms with my condition."

Jethro then endured losing his first wife to cancer in 1975 and became a "house dad" to his young children, despite his debilitating injuries that made the simplest of tasks difficult.

After marrying his second wife, Pearle, in 1978, Jethro moved from Victoria to Queensland

where he undertook volunteer work for the RSL as a Welfare Officer.

"I heard about this mob called Mates4Mates through the RSL and I must admit I wasn't sure about it all, with all the different activities and equipment. But I thought I'd better check it out before I started bagging it," Jethro said.

"I went to a Monday night barbecue meeting and talked with younger veterans and I really felt like sharing my experiences was helpful to them."

Jethro is an enthusiastic participant in Mates4Mates activities, including his first experience of Equine Therapy in January and last December's five-day



voyage on the tall ship *Tenacious*, specially designed to accommodate people with disabilities.

"It was very satisfying that I could be part of a team. I wasn't pushed aside, I helped set sails and I even steered the boat for an hour, which was pretty hard work for me with my physical injuries," Jethro said.

"My slight mishap while climbing the mast was no big deal really. I had an additional harness on that stopped me from falling – it was just a minor miscalculation on my weight distribution on the chair.

"It all added to the adventure anyway! I'd really like to take my 15-year-old grandson on the next sailing trip. It would be a fantastic experience and a real bonding moment I reckon." <

"I went to a Monday night barbecue meeting and talked with younger veterans and I really felt like sharing my experiences was helpful to them."

1300 4 MATES (1300 462 837)

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NEW HORIZONS FOR MATES4MATES FAMILY



UP until a few months ago, Brent New's last memorable experience at sea was not something he preferred to dwell on; a border protection deployment for a month as part of his duties in the Army.

"I never wanted to join the Navy, too many confined spaces, and that deployment confirmed that sea legs

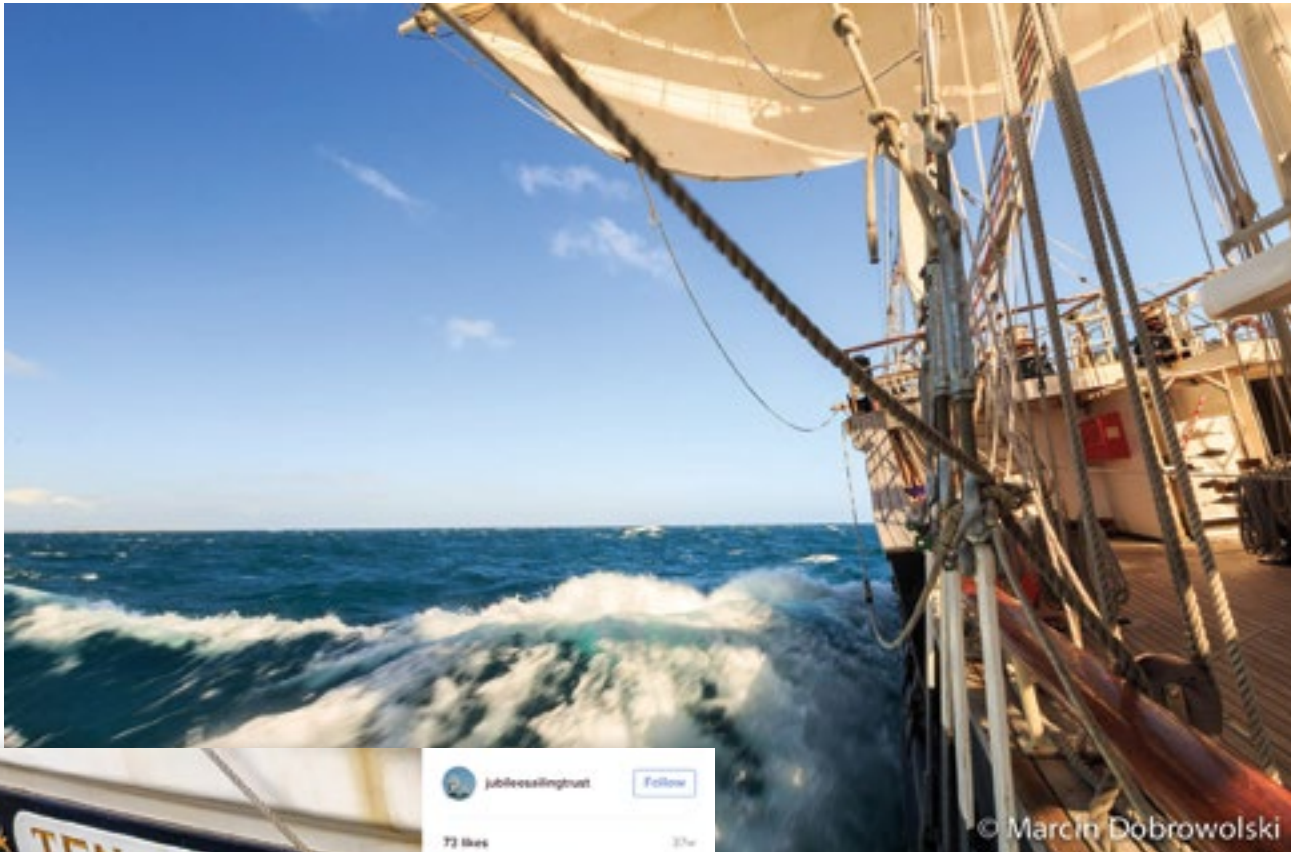
was something I certainly had no major desire to develop," Brent said.

After he discharged from the Army in 2003, Brent found the transition from “military grade” thinking to civilian life an insurmountable challenge.

"I got very angry and stressed over little things, like being late," Brent explained. "If I was stuck in traffic I would lose it, because being late when you are in the Army is a big deal and back then there was nothing and no-one to help me re-program my thought processes to how a civilian might think in those situations."

"It all built up over the years to the point where I was self-medicating with alcohol and drugs, just trying to quiet my mind."

Eighteen months ago, Brent reached rock bottom. In his family's words, he had a meltdown and was admitted



"I wanted to do something the whole family could participate in and being aboard a magnificent sailing ship with my mum, dad and sister was just too great an opportunity to miss," Brent explained.

As part of its Adventure Challenge program, Mates4Mates invited the New family to join 20

to hospital to treat a psychiatric illness, later diagnosed as PTSD.

"I get pretty emotional remembering the night he came over to our place," his mum Maree recalls. "He sat on the couch, showed us a DVD about the effects military training can have on people and from behind where I was standing I could see the tears streaming down his face and then he handed us a suicide note.

"To see the man he is now, it's an amazing turnaround. He's confident, outgoing, talkative and caring. He's like the son we used to know before he joined the Army," Maree said, who served in the Army from 1974 to 1981.

As evidence of his transformation, in December last year 38-year-old Brent was not only embarking on another sea voyage to confront unknown challenges and hurdles, it was something he was eagerly anticipating. So much so, he decided to bring his whole family.

other ex-service personnel, many also bringing their partners, on a five-day voyage from Sydney Harbour down the east coast of Australia.

The brainchild of the UK-based Jubilee Sailing Trust, the voyage was aboard the 589-tonne tall ship *Tenacious*, one of only two sailing vessels of its kind in the world, designed specifically to accommodate people with physical and psychological injuries.

"For most of us, an ocean cruise is simply a nice way to spend a sunny day but for these men, women and their families, it's an experience of recovery and hope. In some cases, it could very well save or significantly change a life," explains Mates4Mates CEO Simon Sauer.

"The power and serenity of the ocean has been identified in our recovery program as having a lasting, positive impact on our members, to the point where it's

"It all built up over the years to the point where I was self-medicating with alcohol and drugs, just trying to quiet my mind."

brought some of them back from the brink and onto the road to recovery," Simon said.

This was no relaxing cruise according to participants, as everyone was expected to pitch in and work as a team, from cleaning decks to rigging sails, even keeping watch at all hours of the night.

"As a family, we got the midnight to 4am slot one night aboard," explained Brent's father Stan, who served 20 years in the Army.

"I also did mess duties for the first time in 25 years, which was a bit of a shock to the system. But it was just great to all be working as a team and seeing some of the Mates develop confidence and really come out of themselves.

"On the last night of the voyage, many got up and spoke about their issues and experiences and that was a pretty emotional moment for everyone, especially those who brought partners, who would not normally get to hear their loved ones talking openly like that," Stan said.

"I think one of the greatest weapons against psychological trauma is a conversation and Mates4Mates gives people with a common background the chance to share experiences in a language civilians don't understand.

"In my 20 years with the Army, up to 1992 when I discharged, I wasn't even deployed to Tasmania. But the Army today is a different kettle of fish, with lots of deployments and lots of men and women exposed to things that can cause lasting issues in their lives.

"That's where Mates4Mates steps in and does a lot of good things. I can't speak highly enough about what they do and what's it meant for our family in particular," he said.

For Brent's part, he is establishing a new business, is a proud advocate for developing positive life strategies and an equally proud member of the Mates4Mates family.

"Mates4Mates has so many amazing activities, but at its core it's about understanding that everyone's the same – same fears, anxieties and challenges – and the importance of having a safe place to share those experiences," Brent said.

"I still think I'm better on land than at sea though; I did the Big Battlefield Bike Ride

"The power and serenity of the ocean has been identified in our recovery program as having a lasting, positive impact on our members."



last year and Dad I are keen riders together.

"I certainly don't have the road rage I used to if I'm running late, although my biggest stress on the bitumen now is trying to beat the old man on two wheels over 40km kilometres!". <



Exercise

PHYSIOLOGISTS SET MATES ON THE PATH TO REHABILITATION

By Brett Taylor
Physical Rehabilitation Manager

DID you know that Accredited Exercise Physiologists (AEPs) are allied health professionals who have undertaken a four-year university degree and can help with common conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and arthritis?

AEPs have the knowledge to work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, health services, community health centres and in private practice – including the Mates4Mates Family Recovery Centres.

Recognised by Medicare, the Department of Veterans' Affairs and other health funds, AEPs can prescribe treatment to help people with injuries, persisting pain, chronic disease, depression and weight management.

How do AEPs help?

Accredited Exercise Physiologists play a standalone role in rehabilitation and are not to be confused for physiotherapists or fitness professionals. They possess extensive knowledge and experience in health behaviour change counselling and are generally tasked with improving postural stability, decreasing muscular imbalances and re-establishing neuromuscular control.

Can an AEP help you?

The AEPs within each of the Family Recovery Centres understand the physical rehabilitation needs of our Mates and the need for a systematic and individualised approach to each injury or condition.

During an initial consultation, each Mate is assessed specifically for their condition/s in a non-invasive manner, with goals set between the AEP and the Mate to aid in the rehabilitation process.

The ultimate goal of our Exercise Physiologist and the Physical Rehabilitation and Wellness service teams is to



provide each Mate with strong individualised care and attention, which in turn builds confidence, leading to less anxiety and fear associated with movement.

In time, Mates are able to attend group physical training sessions and Rehabilitation Adventure Challenges with the support of their AEP.

Commonly treated conditions by an AEP include:

- Diabetes and pre-diabetes
- Cardiovascular disease
- Obesity
- Different forms of cancer
- Depression and mental health conditions
- Arthritis and osteoporosis
- Chronic respiratory disease and asthma
- Musculoskeletal injuries
- Neuromuscular disease.

Not sure if an AEP is right for you? Check in with your local Family Recovery Centre for further information on how they can help. <



MATES 4 MATES

Supporting Injured
Defence Force Mates.



Physical Rehabilitation & Wellbeing Services

Individual and group physical rehabilitation programs and complementary therapies for injured Defence Force Mates.

Mates4Mates also offers a range of services to immediate family members

TO DONATE OR FOR HELP CALL 1300 462 837

mates4mates.org



WEST GO

Western Queensland has a strong tradition when it comes to military service and commemoration. Decades later, and the communities in the west of the state are not only still providing recruits to the Australian Defence Force, but are maintaining their responsibility to the veterans who settled there and continue to live in some of the most remote areas of Queensland.



DEMOGRAPHIC and geographic challenges faced by RSL Sub Branches around the state are unique to their region. This formed the basis for a fact-finding tour of western Queensland by RSL (Queensland Branch) State Secretary Scott Denner, Veteran Services Manager Rob Skoda and District Support Services Manager Deanna Romain, who undertook a 10-day tour to engage with the Sub Branches in more rural communities.

"I felt that the Sub Branches in, not Western District specifically, but in the west of Queensland more generally, often don't get people to them, so the tour was about getting the people from State Branch who are responsible

for service delivery out there and meeting with the people who use their services," Scott said.

"I grew up in a country town in Western Australia, so I empathise with rural communities and wanted to get into those towns in western Queensland and develop an understanding of what is happening."

The tour incorporated visits to Barcaldine, Blackall, Charleville, Cloncurry, Longreach, Mount Isa, Roma and St George, and while the cenotaphs and historically significant sites were indeed moving, it was the people at the Sub Branches and within the communities that really made an impact.

"The fantastic thing was how welcoming the people were," Scott said. "They went out of their way to make us feel welcome. They were very engaging and clearly have a very strong work ethic within the RSLs; because they are so small they really do work together and all play their part."

"It's the people in the RSL in those towns that is the important thing, not the building or the club. It's the people of the Sub Branch who are doing the work."

This engagement extends beyond the Sub Branch environment and well into the local communities, with many of the Sub Branches visited having strong links and regular involvement with the schools in their area to encourage awareness of the history and significance of commemoration.

"The Sub Branches are far more a focus of the community than they are in the larger cities, where we've got so much more going on. In the small towns, the RSL is a more essential part of the community," Scott said.

While the community spirit is alive and well, a key understanding from the tour was the tyranny of distance and the challenges this places on the Sub Branches and the veterans who live both within close proximity to the towns and those who live much more remotely. With distances of 300km and more being travelled by some veterans to their nearest Sub Branch, there

**"WHILE THE
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were opportunities identified for RSL (Queensland Branch) to both extend services now as well as lobby for the provision of resources in the future.

An outcome that will be rolled out in the coming months is a 'pop-up' clinic, where highly trained Veteran Services Officers (VSOs) will visit the rural communities to provide additional support and advice to veterans and to Sub Branches, particularly around Department of Veterans' Affairs claims.

"It's often hard to train a volunteer up to the level that's needed to assist people with DVA, particularly in a small Sub Branch, and many of these



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:

The Surat War Memorial is the only one of its type in Queensland, similar to a Cross of Sacrifice in war cemeteries; Members of the Barcaldine RSL Sub Branch were very welcoming of the touring party; Images and names of local war heroes are honoured in Surat Memorial Park; Military history is on display throughout western Queensland, including at Barcaldine; Bomb shelters still stand near the Charleville airfield; Memorials throughout towns in western Queensland, such as in Charleville, are a reminder of their strong ties to military history.



OPPOSITE:

A statue of grazier and soldier Edgar Towner stands tall in Blackall.



“AN OUTCOME THAT WILL BE ROLLED OUT IN THE COMING MONTHS IS A ‘POP-UP’ CLINIC, WHERE HIGHLY TRAINED VETERAN SERVICES OFFICERS (VSOs) WILL VISIT THE RURAL COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND ADVICE TO VETERANS AND TO SUB BRANCHES, PARTICULARLY AROUND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS’ AFFAIRS CLAIMS.”

are small Sub Branches. Rob Skoda will work with his team of VSOs to arrange the pop-up sessions a few times a year,” Scott said.

For the veterans who live even more remotely, where a visit to their local Sub Branch involves a day-long round trip, opportunities exist for RSL (Queensland Branch) to develop technology that will assist in service delivery, as well as lobby government for greater resources, particularly with regard to the National Broadband Network (NBN) rollout.

“In western Queensland and the rural areas, the internet has the potential to provide even more opportunities for them than it does for people in the city, because it breaks down that tyranny of distance,” Scott said.

“I think there is a great potential for change over the coming years when we see what happens with the technology, with opportunities to digitise a lot of our services and provide services remotely to veterans, if we can get the right bandwidth into those towns and the outlying stations.

“And that is something we can really work to agitate with government, to ensure veterans in those areas are able to access the services everyone else takes for granted on the eastern seaboard.”

While this tour was fruitful in terms of gaining a greater understanding of the challenges faced by veterans and Sub Branches in the remote areas of Queensland, the learning won’t stop there. Another engagement and fact-finding tour of western Queensland Sub Branches is planned for later this year.

“The reality is, that with 240 Sub Branches, we’re not going to be able to visit them all, but I want us to make sure we’re visiting enough that we can get a feel for what’s going on in rural and regional Queensland,” Scott said. “It is vitally important that we know what is really going on out in the Sub Branches and their communities, so we can connect what we do with them and their needs.” ←

HIGHLIGHT REEL

- Barcaldine RSL Sub Branch has developed a new memorial that incorporates more recent military operations and provides an appropriate point for reflection on the service and sacrifice associated with conflicts, both historic and modern.
- Blackall RSL Sub Branch has developed an excellent memorial park, in coordination with the regional council, and works closely with the school in this small rural town.
- Charleville RSL Sub Branch was a fantastic demonstration of the community mindedness of the members and their partners, with very strong support to schools and aged veterans. A tribute that summed up the community’s pride moved the visitors, with framed photos of those currently serving in the Australian Defence Force who are from Charleville taking pride of place on the wall of the RSL Club.
- Cloncurry RSL Sub Branch revitalised the remembrance activities of the town on ANZAC Day and is effectively working with other local membership-based organisations to enable a strong future for the RSL in the region.
- Longreach RSL Sub Branch has conducted a very proactive rollout of the RSL Community Link program into the schools in the town and has a comprehensive visiting program in local nursing homes and retirement facilities.
- Mount Isa RSL Sub Branch has developed a strong relationship with the local Army unit and is actively engaging younger veterans. The Sub Branch also provides an excellent example to other Sub Branches finding the increasing costs of maintaining a premises a challenge, as they have transitioned from ‘club’ ownership to utilising the local ‘Buffs’ club.
- Roma RSL Sub Branch has broadened its appeal and has a strong cohort of younger members, due not only to the leadership and good spirit of the senior members, but also the activities, such as trekking, shooting and triathlon. Sub Branch members are supporting.
- St George RSL Sub Branch conducted nursing home visits to veterans in the lead up to Christmas, and is focusing on effectively transitioning from a ‘club’ owning Sub Branch to a ‘traditional’ Sub Branch.



RSL ANZAC APPEAL **WE'RE HERE FOR THEM**



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ROOTS OF PROGRAM FLOURISHING TODAY

COMMEMORATION of our fallen has always been a significant part of the RSL's role, with members joining with the wider community for over 100 years to honour those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. But a program developed over 20 years ago by a small Sub Branch took the commemoration a step further, and today hundreds of school students around the state join the RSL Community Link program to honour the fallen.

Founded at Bribie Island RSL Sub Branch in 1995, the RSL Community Link commemorative program was born to engage youth through research and remembrance of the lives of those who have served Australia throughout military conflicts. The brainchild of Sub Branch committee member and WWII veteran Walter Scott ('Scotty') Barrett, the program's aim was to create a social partnership between the RSL, the wider community and the next generation, to enrich the local community with understanding and pride for their local servicemen and women.

"What better monument could we provide than an emotionally moving parade of living, breathing descendants and young volunteers, representing a deceased veteran on ANZAC Day in a combined school and citizens'



remembrance contingency?" Scotty said at the time.

Wanting to ensure that those who served and passed away were not forgotten, Scotty's hope for RSL Community Link was that their names would continue to be spoken. This vision is fulfilled as people of all ages represent deceased veterans at commemorative services by wearing a Veteran's Memorial Plaque, including the service details of the veteran.

Passing away in April 1996, Scotty may have hoped for, but could never have imagined, the full extent of the RSL Community Link program

LEFT:
RSL Community
Link founder
Scott Barrett.

OPPOSITE:
Scott Barret
(left), Alan
Robinson and
Bill Gilmour.
(Photo courtesy
of Dontell
Communication,
Bribie Island)

**"WANTING
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today, with over 100 schools across the state actively participating in an RSL Community Link school project. Scotty's work was carried on by fellow Sub Branch members Alan Robinson and Bill Gilmour, and RSL Community Link is now a nationally recognised program, managed by RSL (Queensland Branch) to ensure its continued growth.

Providing hundreds of school students and family members with the opportunity to honour and represent men and women who have served in the Defence Forces, current President of Bribie Island RSL Sub Branch, Lawrie Leonard, understandably feels a great sense of pride that the program began at the Sub Branch, with the impact it has had on the youth of their community evident.

"RSL Community Link is a great project where I have always enjoyed engaging with the youth, because they are our future," Lawrie said. "We want decent citizens who will make us great, and they will. I look at them and think we are in good hands.

"The program is the link between the community, ourselves and the future, with the youth stepping up. [RSL Community Link] helps give students an understanding and respect for servicemen and women within our community."

The engagement with schools through RSL Community Link has fostered strong ties to the community, which remain an ongoing tradition on Bribie Island, and regular presentations at local schools encourage students to participate in the program and gain a greater understanding of the sacrifice of others.

"Military history is part of our tradition and our national heritage, and the students take pride in the things they learn and in representing local heroes," Lawrie said.

"Those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice who don't have relatives to remember them are also represented through RSL Community Link, and that is a good thing, as remembrance is so important and no one is forgotten."



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

RSL Community Link gives people of all ages the opportunity to attend remembrance services as the personal representative of an Australian or Allied service veteran who has passed away, no matter when or where they served or when they died. School students often undertake the project as part of their curriculum studies, researching a veteran and then representing them.

RSL Community Link projects can be run all year round, with ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day being significant days of commemoration, when students and family members can honour deceased servicemen and women through representation.

Over 100 schools in Queensland now have an active RSL Community Link school project. While some students can represent their own relatives, schools and Sub Branches also have the option of undertaking a tailored RSL Community Link project, honouring local deceased veterans or a specific veteran group. Current WWI Centenary Projects available include:

The Queensland-born Indigenous WWI Project, which honours 27 identified Indigenous soldiers who were born in Queensland and died during WWI;

The WWI Nurses Project, which honours the 25 members of the Australian Army Nursing Service who died during WWI and are commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission;

The Brisbane 2nd Light Horse WWI Project, which honours 34 soldiers of the 2nd Australian Light Horse Regiment who were born in Queensland, enlisted in Brisbane and died during WWI.

These projects can be established once and repeated each year with a new cohort of students.

For more information about RSL Community Link projects and how your Sub Branch can engage with your local schools and community groups through the program, email communitylink@rslqld.org or phone 07 3634 9444.

BRIBIE STUDENTS HEAD TO NATIONAL MARCH

WHILE there are hundreds of commemorative services held around the country on ANZAC Day in recognition of the military service of our countrymen and women, there is arguably no greater stage than the service and march held in our nation's capital, Canberra. This year, students from the community of Bribie Island will converge on Canberra to participate in the commemorative activities in honour of their local war heroes.

In a bi-annual tradition that has carried on for 20 years, the Bribie Island RSL Sub Branch will again take close to 50 school students from Bribie Island State School, Banksia Beach State School and Bribie Island State High School to Canberra to attend the Dawn Service and to march on behalf of their deceased relatives as part of the RSL Community Link program.

President of Bribie Island RSL Sub Branch, Lawrie Leonard, said that marching right behind the colour party was a unique experience for the students involved.

"Each year they attend and represent RSL Community Link and the Bribie Island RSL Sub Branch in the ANZAC Day procession. The parade in Canberra stretches forever; it's big and absolutely moving, and it's an enjoyable excursion for the students that will live in their memories," Lawrie said.

In 2015, Jessica Spink from Banksia

Beach State School participated in the Canberra trip with younger sister Emily. Through the RSL Community Link program, Jessica and Emily were able to represent their great-great-grand uncle, Cecil Arthur James Amos, at the Dawn Service and in the march, while their brother Nicholas marched at Bribie Island. Cecil served in the Australian Army during WWII, and passed away in 1973. Through his nieces and nephew at several generations' distance, Cecil is not forgotten and his name continues to be spoken.

Jessica remembers the experience of representing her great-great-grand uncle Cecil well.

"It was a truly humbling experience to be able to honour his memory and remember the sacrifices that were made," Jessica said.

"I was filled with feelings of such pride to be able to honour not only my own family, but all the men and women who fought for our country.

The marches continue to bring all generations together and allow us a moment every year to unite and remember the past, and bow our heads in respect for those who sacrificed their lives to make our lives better."

Over the years, Lawrie has seen how students have been moved by their participation in the commemorative events, but said that the tour as a whole is also about new experiences and personal growth.

"Some have never been outside the state and experienced cold weather, so I often hope it is going to be freezing

to see them all rug up!" Lawrie said.

"On their return, the students display their photos and present to their schools about their experience, and we recognise them for their contribution with the presentation of appreciation certificates given to each honourable ambassador who marched."

While commemoration is the focus of the trip, the students also visit the Australian War Memorial, Parliament House, the Museum of Australian Democracy and Duntroon Military College during their visit to Canberra. ←

"THE MARCHES CONTINUE TO BRING ALL GENERATIONS TOGETHER AND ALLOW US A MOMENT EVERY YEAR TO UNITE AND REMEMBER THE PAST, AND BOW OUR HEADS IN RESPECT FOR THOSE WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES TO MAKE OUR LIVES BETTER."

RIGHT: The Bribie contingent in the 2010 Canberra march.

OPPOSITE: The 2010 ANZAC Day Parade, Canberra. (Photo: Department of Defence)





MAR.

THIS MONTH IN AUSTRALIAN MILITARY HISTORY

03.03
1885

Sudan contingent departed Sydney

New South Wales' offer to send a contingent to the Sudan was a demonstration of the depth of imperial sentiment in colonial Australia.



01.03
1901

Naval and military forces of the States transferred to Commonwealth control

With Federation, State and Federal authorities began planning for the establishment of Federal military forces.

01.03
1942

HMAS *Perth* sunk in Sunda Strait

Having survived the Battle of the Java Sea, HMAS *Perth* and the US Cruiser *Houston* were sunk in a battle against Japanese forces off the western tip of Java. 353 of *Perth's* crew were killed in the battle.

03.03
1942

◀ Broome and Wyndham bombed

The Japanese air raid on Broome came when the port was crowded with refugees. About 70 people are thought to have been killed. Japanese attacks on Wyndham focused on the town's aerodrome.

04.03
1942

◀ HMAS *Yarra* sunk south of Java

Yarra was escorting a convoy of three ships from the Netherlands East Indies to Fremantle when they were attacked by the Japanese. All four ships were sunk and only 13 of *Yarra's* crew survived.

07.03
1942

Japanese occupation of Java complete

Allied forces offered little resistance to the Japanese invasion of Java; the former Dutch colony fell to the Japanese 16th Army on March 12.



11.03
1845

First Maori War

British troops based in Australia were sent to suppress an uprising by Maoris who were unhappy at the continuing expansion of European settlement in New Zealand's North Island.

11.03
1917

Baghdad occupied

Members of the 1st ANZAC Wireless Signal Squadron attached to Lieutenant General Stanley Maude's force of two British Army Corps and one Indian Cavalry Division occupy Baghdad.

12.03
1900

Australians arrive at Bloemfontein, South Africa

Members of the NSW Mounted Rifles, under Lord Roberts, reached Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, under Roberts' strategy of taking the war into the Boer Republics.

13.03
1943

Japanese reconnaissance flight over Darwin

In addition to the 64 air raids on Darwin the Japanese made numerous reconnaissance flights over northern Australia.

14.03
1942

Horn Island bombed

Horn Island was the main tactical base for Allied air operations in the Torres Strait. The island was subject to nine Japanese air raids during WWII.

15.03
1940

▶ First two women from the Voluntary Aid Detachments organisation enlist in the AIF

Most Voluntary Aids transferred after August 1942 into the new Australian Army Women's Medical Service. Over 200 Voluntary Aids served in the Middle East and Ceylon during WWII.



<div>16.03</div> <div>1942</div> <div>Darwin bombed</div> <div>Darwin was subject to 64 Japanese air raids during WWII.</div>	<div>17.03</div> <div>1917</div> <div>Australians occupy Bapaume, Western Front</div> <div>Originally the objective for the first day of the Somme campaign, Bapaume was occupied by the 5th Division after fighting rearguards from the German retreat of early 1917.</div>		<div>17.03</div> <div>1942</div> <div>General MacArthur flies to Darwin</div> <div>General MacArthur was appointed to command the newly created South West Pacific Area. Australia became the base from which he would launch offensive action against the Japanese in the Pacific.</div>
<div>18.03</div> <div>1915</div> <div>Allied fleet attempts to force the Dardanelles</div> <div>This was the second Allied attempt to force a naval breakthrough of the Turkish defences in the Dardanelles.</div>	<div>19.03</div> <div>1916</div> <div>► Sir John Maxwell withdrawn from Egypt, leaving Sir Archibald Murray in command</div> <div>Murray ultimately led Allied forces, including the Australian Light Horse, in the war against Turkey in the Sinai and Palestine.</div>		<div>20.03</div> <div>1916</div> <div>ANZAC Corps land in France</div> <div>With Gallipoli behind them, the bulk of Australia's forces were now sent to France where the terrible fighting on the Western Front awaited.</div>
<div>20.03</div> <div>1917</div> <div>Lieutenant F.H. McNamara, VC</div> <div>Lieutenant F.H. McNamara, originally from Rushworth, Victoria, becomes the first Australian airman to win a Victoria Cross for rescuing a downed comrade in Palestine.</div>	<div>20.03</div> <div>2003</div> <div>▼ Iraq War</div> <div>Australian military forces, as part of the US-led coalition, commence operations as part of the invasion of Iraq.</div>	<div>21.03</div> <div>1918</div> <div>Final German offensive of WWI begins</div> <div>The Germans hoped to split the Allied forces around Amiens and drive towards the English Channel. After initial success their advance was turned into the retreat that eventually led to the end of WWI.</div>	<div>21.03</div> <div>1942</div> <div>Air battle for Port Moresby begins</div> <div>The Japanese had hoped to occupy Port Moresby, however their defeat in the Battle of the Coral Sea thwarted the planned naval attack and invasion against Port Moresby.</div>
		<div>22.03</div> <div>1942</div> <div>Japanese aircraft bomb Katherine</div> <div>This was the only air raid against Katherine in WWII; one man was killed.</div>	<div>26.03</div> <div>1917</div> <div>▼ First Battle of Gaza begins</div> <div>This was the first Allied attempt to capture this major Turkish centre. The Allied strength included two Australian Light Horse Brigades and the ANZAC Mounted Division under Major General Harry Chauvel.</div>
<div>29.03</div> <div>1941</div> <div>Battle of Matapan, Greece</div> <div>HMA ships <i>Perth</i>, <i>Vendetta</i> and <i>Stuart</i> were among 13 Allied ships involved in the battle, which saw the loss of five Italian ships and 1230 men.</div>	<div>31.03</div> <div>1921</div> <div>Formation of the Australian Air Force</div> <div>Negotiations between army, navy and Defence officials from 1917 to 1921 resulted in the Australian Air Force being formed, with approval to use the 'Royal' prefix granted on August 13.</div>		

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



RSL pays tribute to the Angel Carriers in PNG

James Ume was one of around 55,000 Angel Carriers who helped support allied troops in Papua New Guinea and one of the final 'Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels'. He recently died at 101. A headstone was unveiled at Vanapa Village in Port Moresby, PNG, as a tribute to his life, while two remembrance plaques sponsored by RSL (Queensland Branch), Brisbane North RSL District, Kedron Wavell RSL Sub Branch and the Kedron-Wavell Services Club were unveiled during a ceremony. The Angel Carriers were instrumental in helping Australians navigate the terrain over PNG's Owen Stanley Ranges through tracks like Kokoda during WWII.



Surfers Paradise appoints first female patron

Former Australian Army servicewoman Thelma Marshall was recently appointed as the first female patron of the Surfers Paradise RSL Sub Branch. Thelma, 96, was a Private and Corporal with her unit, which was part of the Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers near Albury. Thelma joined Surfers Paradise RSL in August 1965 and was the Secretary of the Women's Auxillary for seven years.



RSL National Servicemen's Sub Branch celebrates 20th anniversary

RSL National Servicemen's Sub Branch celebrated its 20th anniversary on November 11 and held a dinner to honour the achievement. Attendees included members, wives, official guests and members of the National Servicemen's Memorial Pipes and Drums.



Gayndah pays tribute to local war hero

The Gayndah Aerodrome was named the 'Ted Kirk Field' as a tribute to the former RAAF serviceman and his dedication to the community in November. The community event included a RAAF historic flypast of the C-17A Globemaster aircraft, an unveiling of a commemorative plaque and a range of guest speakers, including Gayndah RSL Sub Branch President Boyd Baker. There was also a memorial address, which shared the history and highlights of Ted Kirk's life, including his service to the Defence Force during WWII. Pilot Ted Kirk received an OAM for his services to the cattle industry.

Hervey Bay volunteer honoured

Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch volunteer Don Duffus was presented with an OAM by RSL (Queensland Branch) State President Stewart Cameron CSC at their Christmas Diggers lunch in November.



Grant preserves memory of local heroes

Nanango RSL Sub Branch received funding from the Federal Government to construct cabinets that now house its collection of military memorabilia, honouring and preserving the memory of local servicemen. Maranoa MP David Littleproud met with members of the Sub Branch to view the result of the funding.

↑ Maranoa MP David Littleproud with Ray Forster, Councillor Ros Frohloff and Nanango RSL Sub Branch President Robert Stevens. (Photo: Michael Nolan/NRM)



Hervey Bay commemorates Battle of Somme

The Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch commemorated the end of the Battle of Somme with a historical re-enactment at Freedom Park on November 18. The 9th Battalion WWI Re-Enactment Group participated in a re-enactment of troops leaving the trenches to a smoky-filled night, with around 400 attendees watching on. The commemoration was supported by the Hervey Bay RSL Pipe Band and Delta Company 9RQR as Catafalque Party, with an address made by French Representative Gaelle Caresmel.



Plaque honours WWI veteran

WWI veteran and Military Medal recipient Frederick Charles Aylott was buried in a family plot without a headstone. Thanks to support from RSL (Queensland Branch) and funding from RSL Moreton District, a plaque was organised as a dedication to Frederick's life. A poppy service was held to mark the occasion, with attendees including relatives, a guard party from 2/14th Light Horse Regiment, the Mayor of Ipswich Paul Pisasale and RSL members from Ipswich and Esk.



Peace campaigner remembered

2015 ANZAC Peace Prize recipient Fred Hyde AM (third from left) has been remembered following his passing in November 2016. Fred was honoured with the award for his service to the community and dedication to others, having worked for decades to support orphaned and abandoned children in Bangladesh. Family members were joined by Local and State Government representatives and members of the RSL in paying their respects to Fred.

C OMMUNITY



Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch continues support of Queenslander Challenge

Kedron-Wavell RSL Sub Branch are again participating in the WWI Queenslander Challenge this year, which commemorates the men and women of Queensland in WWI. The challenge launched in 2014 to coincide with the centenary of the start of WWI, and will continue until 2018 with four walks scheduled each year.

↑ *Ilan, Andrea and John embarked on the WWI Queenslander Challenge as part of the Kedron-Wavell RSL Sub Branch team.*



Centenary raffle won by local supporters

Macleay Island RSL Sub Branch ran an RSL Centennial Raffle, which was drawn at the end of 2016, with local business owners George and Sophie Economou winning first prize. The raffle raised funds for the work the Sub Branch does within the Macleay Island community and celebrated the centenary of the RSL in 2016.



Redcliffe supports naming of new vessel

Representatives of the Redcliffe RSL Sub Branch attended the naming of the Redcliffe Volunteer Coast Guard vessel, *RSL Redcliffe*, by the Prime Minister the Hon Malcolm Turnbull in January. The Redcliffe RSL Sub Branch supports the Redcliffe Volunteer Coast Guard for their contribution to the community and is proud to sponsor the vessel.



Students and veterans linked in Hervey Bay

Hervey Bay RSL Sub Branch Deputy President John Beattie attended Yarrilee State School to present an RSL Community Link project kit to the Principal at the December assembly. Soldiers from the Hervey Bay/Maryborough region who fought in WWI and never came home will be honoured and remembered by the students.



Banyo RSL wraps up for Christmas

Fourteen junior members of the Banyo RSL Citizens Auxiliary participated in a gift-wrapping station at Taigum Square Shopping Centre in the lead up to Christmas, which enabled them to engage with the public, learn flexibility and develop skills to work under pressure.

Fred Taylor Bursary awards

Walkerston/Pleystowe RSL Sub Branch presented the Fred Taylor Memorial Bursary to students from local schools for their research into a WWI veteran at last year's Remembrance Day ceremony. The students received Certificates of Appreciation and cheques for their research into veteran Alan Edward De Joyne Garraway as part of the Bursary.





RSL member celebrates 102nd birthday

Toowong RSL Sub Branch helped member William 'Len' Carroll celebrate his 102nd birthday in January, joining with his family to recognise the milestone for the Sub Branch's oldest member.

→ Toowong RSL Sub Branch President Kerry Gallagher joined with Len's children Bob, Margaret and Ken, and son-in law Graham to celebrate Len's 102nd birthday.



Christmas celebrated by veterans around the world

The Maleny RSL Sub Branch highlighted how veterans around the world celebrate Christmas through a photo presentation as part of the Maleny Uniting Church interactive Christmas display, which provided community groups the opportunity to promote their causes.



Members celebrate Sub Branch birthday

The Burleigh RSL Sub Branch celebrated its 78th birthday on January 11, with members joining together to celebrate the occasion.


RSL Bowls Tournament places Queensland in the winning seat

The 50th National RSL Bowls Tournament was held at Marion Bowls Club in Adelaide recently, with the Queensland team placing first in the Dr Sydney Kranz Memorial Trophy event and second in the Jack Hamilton VC Trophy event at the state-based competition.





A MATTER OF THE MIND FOR YOUR HEART HEALTH



Saint Valentine's Day may be a commercialised holiday stuffed full of 'heart' shaped chocolates, but it's also a great excuse to start a conversation about your heart health. The Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation team are here to set the record straight on a few matters of the heart, and the unexpected ways you might be at risk.

OUR mind and our heart can often be at odds with each other when it comes to making decisions, but when it comes to our health they're surprisingly in sync. The Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) is conducting research to better understand the mind-heart connection, with the ultimate goal of improving the health of the veteran community. In partnership with RSL Queensland, GMRF's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Initiative conducted a comprehensive study into the psychological and physical toll of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) on a cohort of 300 Vietnam veterans.

The study findings, which are due to be released shortly, paint a clear picture. Contrary to its long-held perception as a 'head issue', PTSD has a significant toll on physical health, and the heart is at particular risk. Initial results of the Vietnam Veteran Study revealed participants who had PTSD reported four times more heart attacks in the past. Added to this, their blood pathology results showed higher triglyceride and lower high-density lipoprotein levels (the 'good' cholesterol), both of which contribute to an increased risk of heart disease.

PTSD Initiative Lead Investigator of the cardiac disease sector, Associate Professor David Colquhoun, was ahead of his time when it came to recognising the intrinsic link between mental wellbeing and heart health. Dr Colquhoun, a clinical cardiologist for over 30 years, was part of a *Heart Foundation Australia Expert Guide* published in 1997, which clearly identified psychological factors, such as depression and social isolation, as contributing factors to the risk of heart attack – independent of physical health issues.

"We were 10 years ahead of the Americans with this study," Dr Colquhoun said. "The results from the trials of more than 9000 patients over a six-year period proved that certain psychosocial factors, such as depression, are as significant as high blood pressure, diabetes and elevated cholesterol in contributing to cardiovascular disease."

“CONTRARY TO ITS LONG-HELD PERCEPTION AS A ‘HEAD ISSUE’, PTSD HAS A SIGNIFICANT TOLL ON PHYSICAL HEALTH, AND THE HEART IS AT PARTICULAR RISK.”

If you're at risk of heart disease, the good news is the damage is often reversible. Lowering your low-density lipoprotein (the 'bad' cholesterol) by even just one millimole can decrease your risk of heart attack by 25 per cent, decrease your risk of stroke by 20 per cent and give you an overall 10 per cent reduction in risk of death. Check out the tips on page 73 to find out how you can improve your heart health. According to Dr Colquhoun, while there are well-documented ways to decrease your risk of heart disease from a physical point of view, the psychosocial factors still remain widely unacknowledged.

“It is often not appreciated by my colleagues that depression is as important as high cholesterol or high blood pressure in causing heart attacks and strokes. I have had a long-standing interest in depression and other psychosocial factors in their own right,



WHAT IS A HEART ATTACK?

Your heart is a muscle that pumps blood around your body. To do this, it needs a continuous supply of oxygen. A heart attack is when an artery that supplies blood to your heart partially or completely blocks, stopping blood flow to an area of the heart. As a result, the heart muscle begins to die. Without early medical treatment, this damage can be permanent. Heart attacks may be referred to as a myocardial infarction (MI), acute MI, coronary occlusion or coronary thrombosis.

Warning signs of a heart attack include:

- Pain, pressure, heaviness or tightness in your jaw, neck, shoulders, chest, back or arms;
 - Shortness of breath;
 - Nausea, dizziness and/or a cold sweat;
 - Indigestion-like pain.
- Have regular GP check-ups and ask your doctor if you have any questions about your health. If you experience the above warning signs, remember, it's always okay to call triple zero.

but specifically as a cardiologist.

“I'm proud to be involved in the PTSD Initiative to help better understand the health issues facing the veteran community. The Vietnam War may have officially stopped decades ago, but many of our Australian veterans are still suffering. Their lives have been destroyed as a result of the psychological trauma,” Dr Colquhoun said.

Dr Colquhoun hopes the results of the PTSD Initiative study will enable future researchers to establish novel therapies for veterans with PTSD. The study will also be used to form the basis of a GP education kit to better equip doctors to better address the psychological suffering associated with PTSD, as well as the various physical

manifestations, such as heart attacks, strokes, liver disease, respiratory disease and sleep disorders.

“There is no point just describing and analysing our veterans' misery. As doctors, we need to do something about it, but we can't do anything if we don't understand the problem. If we can identify the reasons why these things are happening in our patients with PTSD, we can open new vistas for therapy,” Dr Colquhoun said.

Medical research saves lives, but it takes time and money. By supporting the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation you can be a part of innovative research to improve the health of our communities. For more information on their work, visit www.gallipoliresearch.com.au.

TIPS FOR A HEALTHY HEART

THE PHYSICAL

- Exercise regularly. Choose the stairs instead of the lift, walk to the shops... even incidental exercise is better than nothing. Half the risk associated with obesity can be reduced by walking or other exercise for 30 minutes a day.
- Quit smoking. Smoking is a major cause of heart attack, stroke and cardiovascular disease. If you smoke, talk to your doctor or pharmacist about options to help you quit.
- Improve your diet. Choose healthy options, avoid salty food, eat more fish and limit your alcohol intake.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL

- Take stock of your mental health. As part of our Vietnam Veteran Study, participants were asked a series of questions aimed at screening for depression and anxiety. Consider the following questions:
 - During the past month, have you often been bothered by feeling down, depressed or hopeless?
 - During the past month, have you often been bothered by little interest or pleasure in doing things?

If you answered yes to either of these questions, Dr Colquhoun recommends visiting your GP as well as going to www.phqscreeners.com to complete the PHQ-9 screening test for a more comprehensive assessment of your risk of depression.

- Get a canine companion. Studies have shown that dog owners exercise more regularly, have lower stress levels and even live longer. (Note, however, that owning a pet is a bonus, and not a substitute, for the above advice!)

“THE STUDY WILL BE USED TO FORM THE BASIS OF A GP EDUCATION KIT TO BETTER EQUIP DOCTORS TO BETTER ADDRESS THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SUFFERING ASSOCIATED WITH PTSD.”

CARDIAC CARE

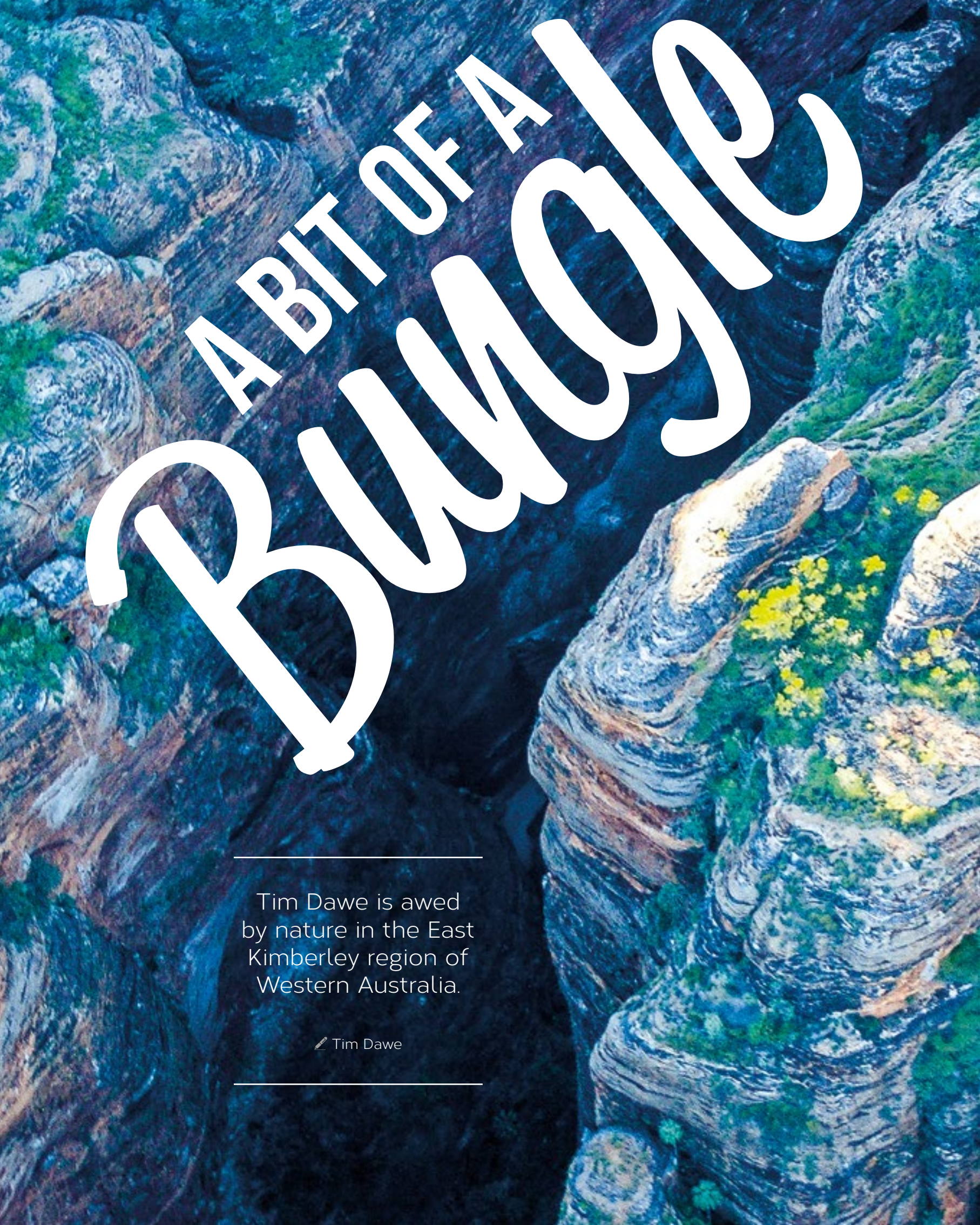
The Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation is based at Greenslopes Private Hospital, which offers the most comprehensive cardiac service on Brisbane's south side.

Greenslopes' highly trained doctors and nurses are ready to assist with cardiac emergencies in the 24/7 Emergency Centre, and will transfer any urgent cases directly to the hospital's state-of-the-art operating theatre complex.

Patients who receive treatment at Greenslopes Private Hospital have access to the latest technology and techniques for all acute cardiac conditions. A dedicated Coronary Care Unit offers private, modern rooms, while the Healthy Hearts cardiac rehabilitation program helps patients return to their previous lifestyles through exercise and education.


For the full range of cardiac services, specialists and facilities, visit www.greenslopesprivate.com.au.





A BIT OF A *Bungle*

Tim Dawe is awed
by nature in the East
Kimberley region of
Western Australia.

 Tim Dawe

“IT’S not the *Bungle Bungles*,” snipped Steven, his vowels marking him as another Kiwi supporting the tourist industry here in the East Kimberley region of WA. “It’s the *Bungle Bungle Range*, or just *the Bungles*.” Good luck changing that!

No one knows how this extraordinary domed rock formation got its name; possibly bundle-bundle, a Kimberley grass. Well-known by Aboriginal people for millennia, it took a chance remark to a visiting TV crew in 1983 to introduce Australians, and the world, to these orange and black-banded beehives of rock, now a much publicised icon of WA. In rapid succession the range was incorporated within Purnululu National Park (sandstone in Kija language) in 1987, then a World Heritage Site in 2003.

Purnululu is a tourist magnet; a “must-see” for visitors to the East Kimberley. Some intrepid 4WD drivers pull off the North West Highway past Halls Creek through Mabel Downs station. Many others take in the sights from a round-trip flyover from Kununurra, 300km north. We opt for the added experience of an overnight stay at a (luxury) bush camp. Excitement climbs as the 10-seat Cessna flies over grassy Lissadell and rocky Texas Downs cattle stations. The first sight of the Bungles is astonishing. A commentated flight is well worth it. But, as with most sightseeing, it’s best up close and personal. I’m here for two days of exploring.

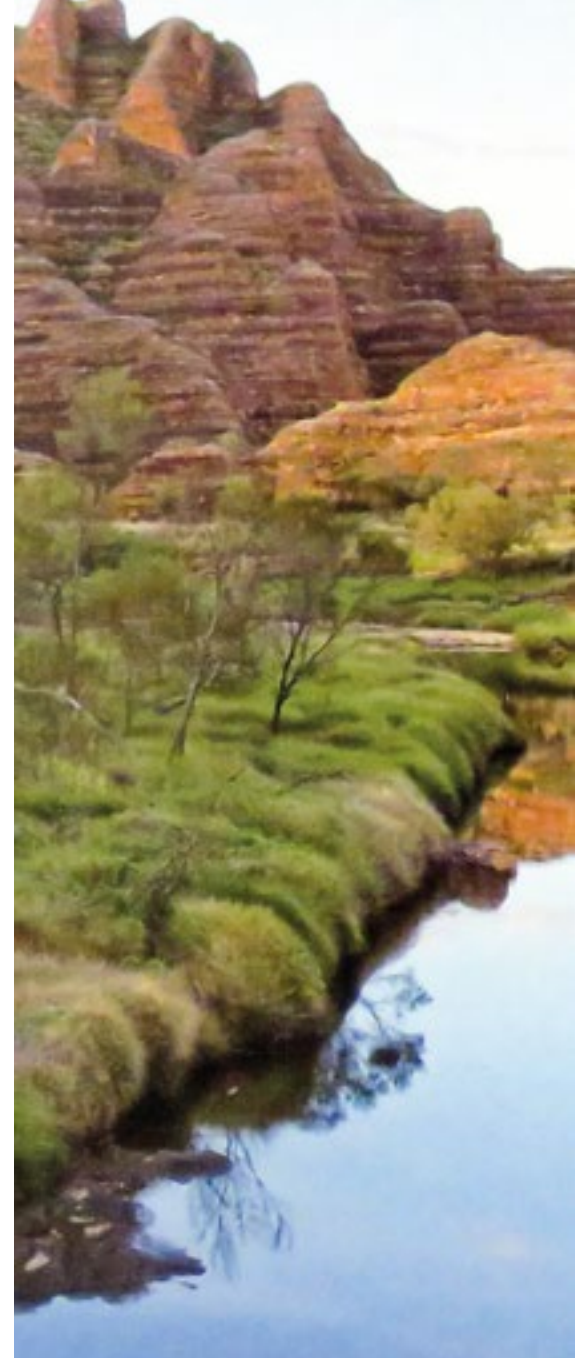
After 90 minutes of low-altitude flying filled with frantic photographing, we’re on the ground at the tiny airstrip of Bellburn, south of the range. Tour



ABOVE:
Markings of a
huge waterfall,
where
unimaginable
torrents have fallen
for millions of years.
(Photo: Tim Dawe)

guide Bruce is on hand to welcome us aboard his 4WD bus. An unexpected itinerary change sees us rush along the western escarpment to the range's northern tip for two gorge walks "before the light fades" – leaving a slow start for tomorrow's adventures. Mini

Palms Gorge is an easy-to-hard 5km return walk with parts of its soaring sides glowing orangey-red in slanting sunlight. Large *Livistona* palms shrink; it's the lack of light causing these palms to be mini. Incredibly, palm trees survive sticking to the sheer rock face,



splaying a network of roots looking for sustenance. The walk ends at steps to a high platform with backward views of our trek and no-go space beyond the barrier ahead. "It's not really sacred," Bruce grumbles.

A little farther north is shorter Echidna Chasm. We enter rock-hopping, hands and feet, as the chasm lives up to its name, narrowing to squeeze-through gaps separating perpendicular sides soaring 200m – with large boulders wedged overhead. It's dark and claustrophobic, yet rewarding, with some open areas, cul de sacs, grand sweeps and gobs of conglomerate rock. There's only one way out and we take it; inside, dusk turns into outside day, that's turning into dusk.

Our bus returns along the 30km-long western escarpment, racing the sunset.



I marvel at nature's colour palette from gold, orangey-red to mauve. It's dark as the bus bumps into the bush camp alongside the wide Bellburn creek bed. I join other guests on the decking awaiting the dinner gong. Someone pokes the fire in the large metal pot; instantly flickering sparks join a host of stars.

The guffaws of tipsy travellers fade as my thoughts turn to the little-known war waged near here; it's the story of Aboriginal man, Jandamurra. Known as "Pigeon" to his masters, he was a skilled horseman, marksman and much-

valued police tracker. His good mate, unusually, was an Englishman, named Richardson. "Outstanding" Pigeon was forced by his tribe to choose between the settlers and the Banuba culture. In killing Richardson he spectacularly sealed his fate, immediately becoming a legendary resistance fighter for his people. For three years as a "magical immortal" he led an armed guerrilla insurgency against settlers and their police. Cruelly betrayed, he was shot dead in 1897, his head cut off as a trophy for a disbelieving and outraged colony. He was 23.

This crab-shaped range is a deeply dissected massif from the Devonian Period, 360 million years in the making through geological uplifts, the odd meteor and water erosion. And on everyone's lips: how are these odd striped shapes formed? First, sand blown from the interior formed sand dunes, then successive deposits of gravel created a 7km-high sandstone plateau. Twenty million years of erosion left remnants as beehive-shaped karst of great beauty and cultural significance. Why the stripe banding? The dry red layer is

ABOVE:
After the wet.

**OPENING
SPREAD:**
A deeply
dissected massif.
(Photo: Tim Dawe)

The Domes Walk provides the best views of the beehive structures. (Photo: Tim Dawe)



“FROM THE LIGHT, A GROUP OF ANT-SIZE PEOPLE WALK AROUND THE WHITE SANDY PERIMETER AND START TO SING — A JOYOUS TEST OF THE ACOUSTICS.”

iron oxide, while the moist dark layer contains blue-green algae that provides a protective coating.

Late-starting day two is all about Cathedral Gorge. It's the highlight. We walk along Piccaninny Creek's smooth grey rock bed with its avenue of beehives, veering off to a sandy creek bed to enter the gorge. The winding passage is breathtakingly beautiful: towering walls of golden rock, glimpses of more behind, reflective water pools, ledges and potholes, and giant slabs of broken-off rock marking huge waterfalls. Nothing prepares for the grandeur of this stupendous natural amphitheatre. Entering this cathedral today is akin to a 13th-century peasant's awe entering Chartres Cathedral. We sit at the far end under the rocky hood looking back to the nave over the altar of a small pool. All this, created by unimaginable torrents of water. From the light, a group of ant-size people walk around the white sandy perimeter and start to sing – a joyous test of the acoustics. It's a reminder

that the Sydney Symphony Orchestra will perform here soon. For most, it's a time for personal reflection on time, the awe-inspiring power of nature, and the smallness of man.

Our return via Domes Walk provides the best views of these beehive structures, whether it's close up, in clumps, distant placements or angled vistas. There're curious weathered shapes of heads and elephants. Whenever the hardened casing is broken, whatever colour the band, out pours pure white sand.

Low sweeps on our homeward flight reveal more of this tiger-striped massif adding scale and context to our walks within it. It's sunset and it's aglow. From the improbably ancient to the recent, we circle the man-made crater of Argyle Diamond Mine and cross the man-made sea of Lake Argyle before landing in Kununurra. The East Kimberley is a wild wilderness of great beauty yet to be discovered by the world's tourists. And if you do come to this region of WA, however you want to call it, you must visit the Bungles. 14

FACT FILE

- www.avair.com.au
- www.aptouring.com.au/standard-items/campaign-pages/sydney-symphony-orchestra
- www.westernaustralia.com



Double-barred finches.

“I CAN FEEL SAFE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!”

One lucky supporter's life changed forever on December 23, 2016 after receiving a phone call from RSL Art Union General Manager Tracey Bishop, letting her know she was the first prize winner of our \$4 million Golden Treasure and the new owner of an entire apartment complex in Bilinga on the Gold Coast. Ms Livingston* had some trouble accepting the life-changing news as Tracey described the prize. She is now the owner of five apartments, including a spectacular penthouse, over \$300,000 worth of furniture and state-of-the-art electrical

appliances and a Christmas tree and gifts worth nearly \$6000.

Plus, as a bonus for her \$80 purchase, she will receive an additional \$90,000 gold bullion as her book buyer's prize. Liking our Golden Treasure so much, Ms Livingston had bought two lots of extra tickets, and it was her lucky last bonus ticket that won her first prize!

“You're telling me I'm a millionaire?” Ms Livingston exclaimed. “I will have a heart attack!”

As the reality sank in she exclaimed, “I'm moving to the Gold Coast!”



The win means Ms Livingston is now looking forward to being able to help her daughter and use the win to continue to support charity, while being free from financial worries.

It was wonderful to bring

some good news to a recipient so deserving before Christmas. Congratulations to Ms Livingston and all the winners in Draw 341.

**Name changed for privacy reasons.*



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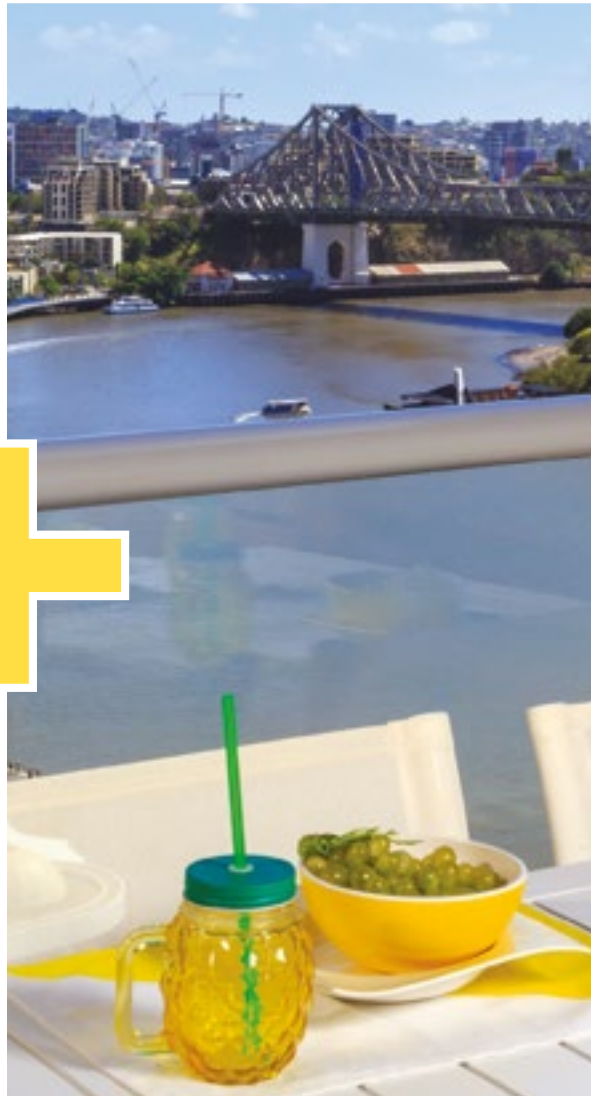
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home from the moment you move in with a total of \$129,083 worth of quality furniture and state-of-the-art electrical appliances included.

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Explore each apartment in more detail at rslartunion.com.au

Draw closes 28th February 2017
Drawn 8th March 2017

DRAW 343



ORDER ONLINE: rslartunion.com.au

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THREE STUNNING QUEENSLAND APARTMENTS

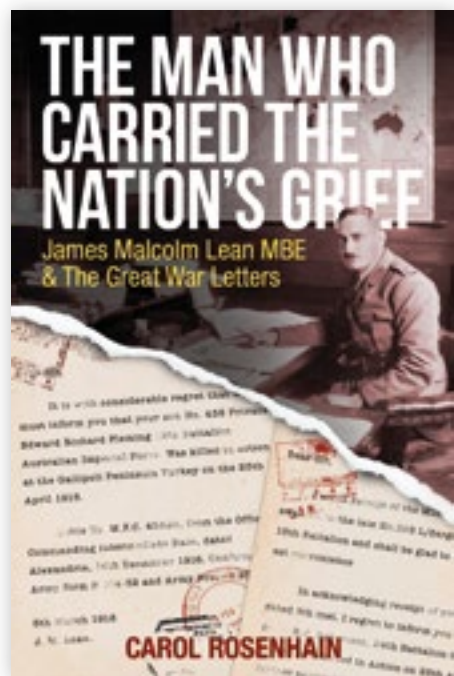
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75607. SA Permit No M13233. First Prize Value \$2,002,470. Close: 8pm (AEST) 28/02/17. Draw: Public draw 10am (AEST) 08/03/17 at ANZAC HOUSE, 283 St Pauls Terrace, Fortitude Valley, QLD 4006. Prizes of Australia (Queensland Branch). Proceeds are for the purpose of veteran welfare and support in Australia. Winners notified by Registered Mail. Results published in public notices of 'The Australian' and





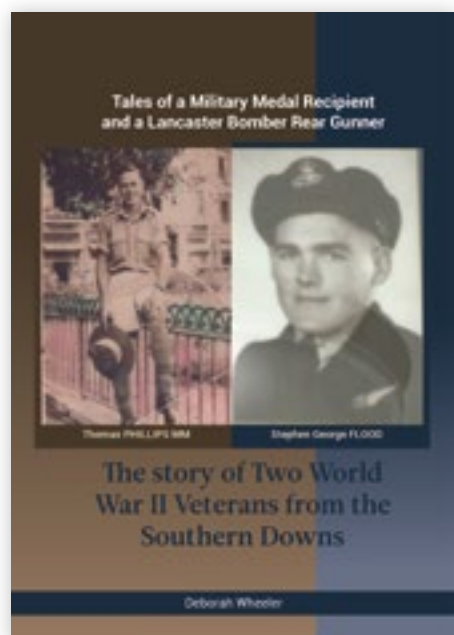
THE MAN WHO CARRIED THE NATION'S GRIEF

The Man who Carried the Nation's Grief describes the extraordinary work of James Lean, whose office at times received over 100 letters a day from distressed families searching for information on their loved ones during WWI.

The letters selected by author Carole Rosenhain are quoted verbatim in all their rawness; showing the families' grief, anger and disbelief, together with the devastating wounds that would often never heal. The chain of correspondence between Lean and the families would often last well beyond the Armistice of 1918.

The Man Who Carried the Nation's Grief is published by Big Sky Publishing (RRP: \$29.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *The Man Who Carried the Nation's Grief*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'The Man Who Carried the Nation's Grief') or post to 'The Man Who Carried the Nation's Grief', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes 17 March, 2017.



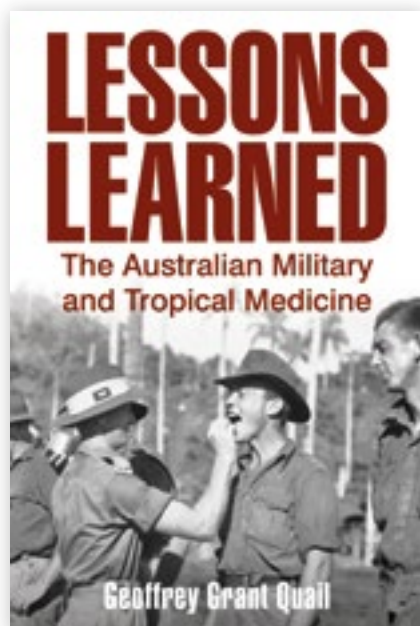
TALES OF A MILITARY MEDAL RECIPIENT AND A LANCASTER BOMBER REAR GUNNER

Deborah Wheeler's *Tales of a Military Medal Recipient and a Lancaster Bomber Rear Gunner* explores the life story of two men from the Southern Downs, who served their country with honour during WWII.

Tom Phillips was an ambulance bearer with 2nd/3rd Field Ambulance, posted to North Africa and New Guinea. Tom was awarded the Military Medal, and after the war he returned to Australia, settling near Kilarney.

Steve Flood was an air gunner with 467 RAAF Squadron and posted to the United Kingdom, where he flew 30 missions, including over Berlin. Following the war, he returned to Australia and settled on the Granite Belt near Stanthorpe.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Tales of a Military Medal Recipient and a Lancaster Bomber Rear Gunner*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Tales of a Military Medal Recipient and a Lancaster Bomber Rear Gunner') or post to 'Tales of a Military Medal Recipient and a Lancaster Bomber Rear Gunner', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes 17 March, 2017.



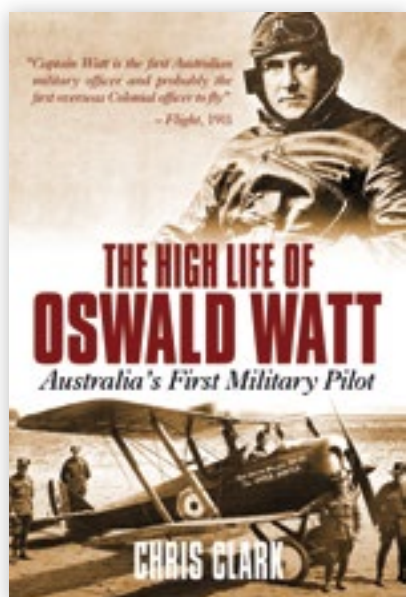
LESSONS LEARNED

Historically, prolonged campaigns have been frequently lost or won because of the greater fitness of one of the combatant armies. In the 20th century, infection was still a major problem, leading to withdrawal from Gallipoli, and the near defeat of the Allies due to malaria early in the Second World War's Pacific campaign. Malaria emerged again as a major problem in the Vietnam War.

Many Australian campaigns have taken place in tropical locations; a substantial amount of scientific work to prevent and manage tropical diseases has therefore been conducted by the Army Medical Corps' medical researchers – particularly in the Land Headquarters Medical Research Unit and the Army Malaria Institute. Their work extends well beyond the military, greatly improving health outcomes throughout the world. *Lessons Learned* recognises the efforts of both individuals and the Army's Tropical Disease Research units since Federation in helping the Army succeed in battle.

Lessons Learned by Geoffrey Grant Quail is published by Big Sky Publishing (RRP: \$34.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *Lessons Learned*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'Lessons Learned') or post to 'Lessons Learned', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes 17 March, 2017.



THE HIGH LIFE OF OSWALD WATT

'Father of the Flying Corps' and 'Father of Australian Aviation' were two of the unofficial titles conferred on Oswald 'Toby' Watt when he died in tragic circumstances shortly after the end of WWI. He had become the Australian Army's first qualified pilot in 1911, but spent the first 18 months of the war with the French Air Service, the Aéronautique Militaire, before arranging a rare transfer to the Australian Imperial Force.

For the first time, *The High Life of Oswald Watt* by Chris Clark, attempts to establish the true story of Watt's life and achievements, and provide a proper basis for evaluating his place in Australian history.

The High Life of Oswald Watt is published by Big Sky publishing (RRP: \$29.99).

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN one of four copies of *The High Life of Oswald Watt*, email your name, address and contact number to editor@rslqld.org (with the subject 'The High Life of Oswald Watt') or post to 'The High Life of Oswald Watt', PO Box 629, Spring Hill Qld 4004. Competition closes 17 March, 2017.

QUEENSLAND RSL NEWS WINNERS

Edition 6, 2016

ALLENBY'S GUNNERS

L Tyrrell, Atherton
D Melloy, Woombye
N Habel, Torquay
B Stevenson, Benowa

AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE

K Wilson, Somme
J Noack, Browns Plains
R Walford, Mudjimba
R Youngman, Burpengary

LETTERS FROM TIMOR

R Pauline, Atherton
M McAuley-White, Chermide West
A Scholtz, Labrador
J Lakey, Taigum

WHISKY TANGO FOXTROT

B Barrett, Gold Coast
A Harris, Buddina
P Thomas, Bluewater
G Sutton, Coomera

FRANK SULLY EXHIBITION

An exhibition of works by Frank Sully, featuring paintings of cityscapes shaped by the heavy bombings of the city of London after WWII, will be on display at Lift Gallery, 926 Maleny Montville Road, Balmoral. Opening hours are from 10am to 4pm Wednesday to Sunday. For more information, phone 07 5435 2303.

THE 40TH BRISBANE MODEL TRAIN SHOW

The Australian Model Railway Association Queensland Branch Inc. presents the 40th Brisbane Model Train Show, to be held from 9am-4pm on Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7, 2017, at The Marquee, Brisbane Showgrounds, Bowen Hills. The show will celebrate the "centenary of the wonderful little trains that helped win WWI". For more information, visit www.brisbanemodeltrainshow.com.au.

SALUTE TO SERVICEWOMEN

- BUNDABERG EXHIBITION AND REUNION

One hundred years after four Australian Army nurses were awarded military medals for "courage under fire", a series of events are being organised by Bundaberg and District Ex Servicewomen's Association in partnership with Elements Art, which will salute all women who have served Australia in the Defence Forces. The program of events includes an exhibition open to the public Saturday, July 8 and Sunday, July 9, and a reunion for ex-servicewomen and their guests, which will be held from Friday, July 14 to Sunday, July 16. A luncheon on Saturday, July 15 will include a special viewing of the exhibition. The Salute to Servicewomen commences with wreath laying at War Nurses Memorial and concludes with a community service at the Australian Servicewomen's Memorial on Sunday, July 16. The reunion also marks Bundaberg Ex-Servicewomen's 50th anniversary.

For information on Salute to Servicewomen, visit www.exservicewomen.org or contact the association via bundy.eswa@gmail.com. Alternatively, phone Secretary Leone Wilson on 07 4159 4134 or President Jenny Waldron on 07 4157 4621.

WHO KNEW THOMAS HINTON?

A call out to readers who have information about Thomas Albert Hinton, who served in the 25th Battalion during WWI. He was a private and his service number was 6411. Thomas came from the Bundaberg region and enlisted in South Kolan. His mother's maiden name was Jensen. If you have any details, please contact Rod Haynes on 0476 877 089.

SEEKING MEDAL INFORMATION



I wondered if someone could shed some light on this badge, which was in my late father's possession - S.E. Duffill QX 23375. He served in a number of battalions and theatres of war during WWII. So far, investigation has revealed that it is of Dutch origin in regard to the Dutch East Indies. The question is whether it was a medal granted to him or perhaps just a souvenir. Dad served on Merauke in Dutch New Guinea (west of Papua) during 1943-44 in the 62nd AIF Bn. (In June 1944,

the unit was disbanded, with officers and men being transferred to the 2/15th Bn. 9th Division.) Contact Lynette Dyne via kenlyn5@bigpond.com.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOMBING OF DARWIN

On February 19, 1942, Darwin experienced the first international raid on Australian soil. This year is the 75th anniversary of the air raids. The Bombing of Darwin Day Commemorative Service will be held at The Cenotaph on The Esplanade in Darwin on Sunday, February 19, from 9.30-10.45am. It is a free event and open to the public.

SYMBOLIC SLEEP-OUT

Currumbin RSL's ANZAC Day Dawn Service is an iconic Queensland event, and has again joined forces with major supporting partner National Trust Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary to offer a symbolic sleep-out within the grounds of the sanctuary, providing an opportunity to get a glimpse, albeit a safe one, of what Diggers experience during service. One hundred per cent of profits from ticket sales are being donated directly to veterans' welfare. Tickets include access to the sanctuary, with a night-time wildlife tour, 'Critters Craft' for the kids, plus the chance to get up close and personal with the koalas.

There is also a formal part of the evening, including a short documentary, discussions with modern-day veterans and an outdoor cinema screening of the film *Gallipoli*. The following dawn you will be woken early and guided to the Dawn Service along the foreshore at Currumbin Beach, where you will be sitting with a bird's eye view of the service proceedings. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.australiamembers.com.au or call Currumbin RSL Sub Branch on 07 5534 7999.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT FOR RESEARCHER

In light of the RSL's national centenary last year, and the centenary of the formation of RSL (Queensland Branch) in 2017, we are seeking expressions of interest from any historian and/or member who would like to undertake detailed research into the history of RSL (Queensland Branch) for documentation and future reference.

The project would suit someone with good research and writing skills, with a keen interest in the history of the RSL. Limited documentation exists at ANZAC House, however, the task would also require research at external facilities, such as libraries and open access Government records.

Those interested should email a summary of their relevant experience, skills and availability to rs queensland@rslqld.org by Tuesday, February 28.

MEDALS AND MEMORABILIA FOUND

- WWI medal of 206 Donald Alexander
- Wooden box in name of NX410 Eric Benjamin Bailey
- WWII medals issued to VX37419 Cyril Armadale Ball
- WWII badge of WRAAF W316626 Laraine Barkley
- WWI medal issued to Captain Francis W. W. Broughton
- WWII medal issued to VX57858 Alexander Bullock
- WWII medal issued to 152295 Alfred Francis Campbell
- WWI medal of 18928 Reginald Campbell
- WWII medals and papers of VX120178 William Heath Carrick
- WWII medals issued to Q265200 John Ezra Clark
- Australian Service Medal with 'Somalia' Clasp issued to R141379 P. J. Connors
- WWI medal issued to 1832 Roy Cyril Cook
- WWII medal issued to 424157 Brian Patrick Curran
- WWII medals of QX19662 Ray Earle Davidson
- WWI medal issued to 1807 James Richard Davis
- WWII DSM of P/JX237129 James Gallagher (Royal Navy)
- Australian Service Medal issued to 8095180 G. J. Goodwin
- WWI medal issued to 5220 Allun Grant
- WWII medal issued to QX47782 John Green
- WWII medals of 97900 Esme Guleksen
- Replica medal set including AASM Iraq
- WWI medal issued to V90867 Keith Bertram James
- WWII medals issued to QX24681 Leonard William Johnson
- WWI medal issued to 2172A Horace David Lawler
- WWII medal issued to V380219 Thomas Leslie Lawler
- WWII medals of QX13516 Richard William Ledger
- WWII medals issued to QX13254 Caleb Arthur Martin
- WWII medals issued to QX39866 Thomas Bathurst Martin
- WWII medal issued to 68892 Richard Francis McLaren

2RAR NATIONAL REUNION

To be held in Brisbane from May 17-21, 2017, this reunion is for everyone who served in 2RAR or 2/4RAR. No requirement to be an association member to come to the reunion, and families and New Zealanders are also welcome. Registrations are essential. Visit www.2rar-association.net.au for details and to register.

1 FIELD SQUADRON GROUP RAE

Reunion of 1 Field Squadron Group RAE will take place at Twin Towns Services Club at Coolangatta on August 25-27, 2017. Contact Robin Farrell on 07 4661 7791, info@1fieldsappers.org or PO Box 703, Warwick, Qld, 4370.

REUNION FOR FORMER SERVICEMEN IN PNG

A reunion and commemoration service to honour the 75th anniversary of the Kokoda Campaign will be held on August 8, 2017, on the Gold Coast. Australian servicemen on duty in PNG between 1940 and 1975 (or later) and their partners are invited to catch up with mates over two days at Broadbeach-Surfers Paradise. The main events will be a Monday dinner and then a Tuesday service, immediately followed by the reunion lunch. For more information, contact Kev Horton on 0418 750 189 or Greg Ivey via iveygj@gmail.com. For more details, visit www.soldierspng.com.

Q CLASS SHIP COMMISSIONING

All Q class ex-crew and partners are invited to celebrate the 75th anniversary (1942) of the commissioning of the ships: *Quadrant*, *Queenbrough*, *Quiberon* and *Quickmatch*. Celebrations will be held in Penrith, NSW, from March 16-17, 2017. For further details, contact Bryan Burdett on 03 9877 4443 or burdettbryan@yahoo.com.

86 TRANSPORT VIETNAM ASSOCIATION

86 Transport Vietnam Association Inc. is holding their 8th National Reunion at Maroochydore on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, from Friday, April 21 to Wednesday, April 26, 2017. The association invites

all 86 Transport veterans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the deployment of 86 Transport Platoon to Vietnam. Find out more and access the registration form at www.86transportvietnam.com, or contact the reunion secretary, Ron Kratzmann, via kratzyra@bigpond.com.

27 INTAKE RAAF APPRENTICES

A 45th anniversary reunion of the 27 Intake RAAF Apprentices will be held on the Gold Coast in 2018, and the organiser is seeking all original members of the intake, which formed in Wagga Wagga in January 1973. Contact Martin 'Dutchy' Holland on 07 5522 2255.

30 SQN RAAF 75TH ANNIVERSARY

No. 30 SQN RAAF will commemorate the 75th anniversary of its formation on March 9, 2017. To mark the occasion a Bloodhound missile static display and plaque will be unveiled at RAAF Base East Sale, followed by an evening function. Past members and associates of all iterations of 30 SQN are warmly invited to attend. To register your interest, contact 30 SQN via eslabcp@defence.gov.au. Further details will be communicated as they become available.

10TH INTAKE NATIONAL SERVICEMEN 50TH ANNIVERSARY

We would like all National Servicemen called up for National Service in October 1967 to join us for a reunion in Sawtell, NSW, from October 1-8, 2017, for a 50th reunion of our conscription. Accommodation is available at the Sawtell Beach Holiday Park, 5 Lyons Road, Sawtell (02 6653 1379, 1800 200 555, or info@sbhpbk.com.au). Overseas service not a requirement. Contact Peter Beauchamp on 0418 751 812 or pbeau1@bigpond.com for further information about the reunion.

- Vietnam ID Tags of 217557 Brian Phillip McRobert
- WWII medal issued to NX96830 Stanley Vincent Mellor
- WWII medals issued to Q142643 Richard Thomas Moate
- WWII medals issued to 75826 Neville N.L. Morley
- Steel locker in name of L/Sgt R.G. Morris
- WWII pay book of NX150433 John Patrick Murphy
- WWII medal issued to TX4993 Andrew Herlihy Leo Nelson
- WWII medal issued to QX55712 Bruce Hamilton Page
- WWI medal issued to 7023 Charles Fredrick Phillips
- WWI medals issued to 2217 Alfred George Redden
- WWII medal issued to QX13594 Reginald Tudor Renwick
- WWII medal issued to NX26683 Cyril Roy Robinson
- WWI medals of Montague Rogerson (British Army)
- WWII medal issued to QX5424/435210 John Richard Sampson
- WWI medal issued to 322 Thomas Sellers/Sellars
- WWII medal of 153102 Geoffrey Norman Simpson
- WWI Memorial Plaque of 2967 Archibald Allan Stokes
- WWII medals of A315806 Ryland Spencer Thomas
- WWII medals of VX33314 Victor Albert Thompson
- WWII medals issued to VX62280 William Herbert Tyrell
- WWII medal issued to QX9152 Colin Henry Underhill
- WWI medal issued to 7162 Francis Herbert Webster
- WWI medals and pay book issued to 6361 William Wiley
- WWII medal issued to S67643 Rayburn Keith Williams
- WWI medals of Wood C.W. and Wood D.F. (British Army)

MEDALS AND MEMORABILIA LOST

- WWII DSO of 70300 Richard Ashley Atkinson DSO DFC & Bar
- WWII medals and log book of 426489 Leo George Bange
- General Service Medal with Borneo Clasp issued to 469364 Robin Eric George Blackburn (British Army)
- WWI medals issued to 3756 Sydney Thomas Burnell

- WWI and Third Anglo-Afghan medals of 77518 John Condon (British Army)
- WWI medals issued to 5679 Sydney Roy Cooper
- WWI medal issued to 3483 Ernest Griffin
- WWI DSO medal issued to Major Douglas Rawson Harris
- Vietnam medals issued to 860619 Gregory Charles Jabs
- WWI medals issued to NZ 12/778 Joseph Edward Kelly
- Vietnam medals issued to 1200855 David George Kidd
- WWI medal issued to 2416 John William Laycock
- WWI medals and items of 1676 Percy Linwood
- WWI medals issued to 6388 Andrew Madden aka William Lake
- WWI medals issued to 2515 Stephen Madden
- WWII medals of QX500388 Mervyn Marlowe
- WWI medals of 1979 John William Martin
- WWII medals of New Zealander Herbert Athol Martin
- WWI and WWII medals issued to 6499 Robert James Mays
- WWI medals issued to 231 Charles Henry Merlehan
- WWI medals issued to 323 Alexander Edward Merlehan
- WWI medals issued to 32853 Charles Ernest Mills
- WWII medals issued to QX10016 Percy Robert Peachey
- WWI medals issued to 1549 Arthur Edward Plewman
- WWI medals of 468 Archibald Robinson
- ASM 45-75 clasp SE Asia, Defence Force Service Medal, Aust Defence Medal of R106330 Henry Schuurman
- WWII medals of SX9470 Wilfred Carlstan Jurs White
- WWII medals issued to 414329 Cyril Douglas Whittaker
- WWI medal issued to 3133 Victor Mark Whitty
- WWII medals of QX40729 Ronald John Williams
- WWI medals of 4533 William Thomas Woodward MM
- WWII medals issued to W/1180 Kenneth Theodore Charles Wrigley

Contact Steve Eaton OAM for medals lost and found on 07 3634 9444 or email steve.eaton@rslqld.org.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Abel	Lindsay	124455	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
Aburn	Frank	FX100739	Ipswich Railway Sub Branch Inc.
Adams	George	175517	Tully Sub Branch
Adams*	Robert	A32435	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Ainsworth	Kenneth	59649	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Allison*	Alec	–	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Allom	Brian	B5427	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Anderson	Cecil	QX44432 (Q122907)	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Atkinson	Reginald	78237	Unattached List Sub Branch
Avey	Arthur	124610	Mareeba Sub Branch
Baker*	Trevor	A41032	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Balsdon	William	2548718	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Banbrook*	Margaret	VF509666	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Banger*	Ivan	144389	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Bargman	David	137622	Nerang Sub Branch
Barnes	Robert	38653	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Bartram	Peter	22425805	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Bates	Jean	174741	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Batt	Raymond	368740	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Baynes	Launa	P680	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Beaton	Alan	VX128443	Unattached List Sub Branch
Bedson	Eileen	W14705	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Behrendorff	Allan	QX47413	Maryborough Sub Branch Inc.
Beilby	Hilda	100607	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
Beith	Ian	A29126	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Bennett	Leslie	QX52309	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Bennett	Rex	N463424	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Berridge	Robert	1/3685	Gatton Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Bevan	Ronald	402216	Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc.
Biddle	William	A13038	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Bishop	Allan	QX52763/ QP8661	Unattached List Sub Branch
Bishop*	Doris	94175	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Black	Douglas	79642	Tully Sub Branch
Boileau	Peter	3/757891	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Boll	Alan	2412851	Logan & District Sub Branch Inc.
Bolton	Margaret	QFX46799	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Bond	Leslie	150121	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Bone*	Roydon	433460	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Bonis	Robert	2/411773	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Borradale	Rex	1201555	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Borthistle	John	NX119253	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Boston	Roy	170894	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
Bosworth*	Donald	QX51090 (Q102586)	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Bourke	Leslie	Q145979	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Bowman	Kevin	150509	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Boxall	Christopher	CS948985	Atherton Sub Branch Inc.
Boyd	Gwen	101428	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Boyd	Robert	45574	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Boyle	Brian	QX48443	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Brady	Kenneth	QX57940	Unattached List Sub Branch
Bramley	George	–	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Bridgett*	Elver	VF508000	Runaway Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Broadfoot	William	B4665	Kilcoy Sub Branch Inc.
Brooks*	Lawrence	442972	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Brown*	John	a25779	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Bryden*	Harold	124141	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Buckley*	Edward	032128	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Bull	Cecil	414893	Unattached List Sub Branch
Burdell	John	15203	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Burgess	Frederick	D/JX760782	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Burgess	Leonard	PA2104	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Burley	Jack	S/7052	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Burns	John	POX113511	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Burraston	Paul	R57833	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Burrell	Ian	38685	Gladstone Sub Branch Inc.
Burrowes	George	4102	Gladstone Sub Branch Inc.
Burrows	George	1727960	National Servicemens Sub Branch Inc.
Busst	Ian	VX11682	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Bustin	George	QX57981	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Butler	Noel	QX53112	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Butteress	John	VX91252	Holland Park-Mt Gravatt Sub Branch
Camm	Leslie	QX18900	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Campbell	Colin	QX48199	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Campbell	Lloyd	NX23799	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Carey	Alva	V31601	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Carseldine	Vernon	QX19683	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Casey	John	10059	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Casey	Darrel	QX33612/ 440568	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Cason	Raymond	QKM5249	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Cassidy	Richard	NX109559	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Castledine	Esma	QF141876	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Chalmers	Thomas	QX42944	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Chapman	Alan	B3390	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Charters	Arthur	33751	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Christie	Lionel	51005	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Clark	Graeme	1200925	Runaway Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Clarke	Ian	39851	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Clarke	Phil	SX18488	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Clements	Kenneth	VX87722	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Cluff	Russell	A22943	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Collins	Eric	214099	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Cook	Arthur	14477337	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Cooney	James	A14246	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Counsell	Donald	168196	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Coyle	Edward	R103995	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Crawford	Bruce	859846	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Croker	Robert	3757578	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Culverwell	George	81588/ NX164531	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Cumming	Donald	A311405	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Cummins	John	11400071	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Cunnington	Elva	QF272900	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Curry	Paul	QX43446	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Czapla	Jan	30002847	Ravenshoe Sub Branch
Dalrymple	Alexander	QX50627	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
D'Arcy	John	75771	Runaway Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Darley	Harold	D/ MX802378	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Davis	David	Q28578	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Deegan	Archibald	H2364	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Delahunty	Joseph	QX17102	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Dennison	William	1825308	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Desbrowe-Annear	Harold	438888	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Dick	Ian	2/737948	Leyburn Sub Branch Inc.
Dillon	Enid	NFX178892	Kawana Waters Sub Branch Inc.
Doorey	Laurence	-	Nundah-Northgate Sub Branch Inc.
Douglas	Ronald	QX21491	Unattached List Sub Branch
Dowd	Gilmer	11077	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Dreghorn	Eric	QX53776	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Dreher	Richard	JX651816	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Drury	Leonard	143363	Logan & District Sub Branch Inc.
Duncombe	Cecil	nx205920	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Duncombe	Gordon	NX147658	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Dwyer	Michael	435869	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Dwyer*	Donald	B4025	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Eadie*	Joyce	2106219	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Eames	Ronald	a116284	Salisbury Sub Branch Inc.
Eaton	Les	QX23757	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Edds	Ralph	1/726454	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Edgar	Arthur	QX23457	Dalby Sub Branch Inc.
Edmonds	Michael	123340	Charters Towers Sub Branch Inc.
Edmonds	Robert	1/707299	Babinda Sub Branch
Edwards	David	O58647	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Eggleston	Stephen	115949	Sarina Sub Branch Inc.
Eggleston	Stephen	55828	Sarina Sub Branch Inc.
Ellacott	Douglas	A14976	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Ellis	Barrie	A216934	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Ellis	Edward	19192557	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Ellison	Charles	V96936/ VX124112	Dayboro Sub Branch
Emms	David	555414	Yarraman Sub Branch Inc.
Eroshkin	Victor	137533	Tiaro Sub Branch Inc.
Ewers	Mervyn	33020	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Fairweather*	David	823256	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Fallick	Keith	NX120283 (N170711)	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Farley	George	15388	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Farley	Mervyn	435846	Forest Lake Sub Branch
Farley	Mervyn	Q210464	Forest Lake Sub Branch
Fenwick	Pearl	QF144278	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Ferguson	Francis	A132921	Beaudesert Sub Branch Inc.
Ferris	Del	429228	Kenmore/Moggill Sub Branch
Finlayson	Gavin	QX54924 (Q122986)	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Fitzgerald	Hazel	QF270778	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Flanders	Douglas	NX168014 (N444678)	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Flello	Leslie	N3811	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Flowers	Richard	1/700014	National Servicemens Sub Branch Inc.
Foster	Sydney	61160	Yandina/Eumundi Sub Branch Inc.
Francis	Ronald	A11518	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Francis*	Leonard	CK/ X790923	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Fraser	Kevin	128760	Ayr Sub Branch
Freney	John	123443	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Fulton	William	14608098	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Gadischke	Ruby	101973	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Gallagher	Kevin	1/3686	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Gallagher	Gregory	R50732	Yeronga-Dutton Park Sub Branch Inc.
Galvin	Eric	256341	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Gampe	Norman	426973	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Garbett	William	425434	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Gardner	John	2243270	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
George	Roy	Q144886	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Gilbert	Philip	PK9731115	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
Gilbert	George	NX504563	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Gilbert	Norman	V155917	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Gilbert	William	77705	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Gilmore	James	426085	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Glancy	James	QX14764	Unattached List Sub Branch
Gleed	Kenneth	22993986	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Gleeson	Thomas	VX136328	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Gordon	Harold	163963	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Gordon	Marjorie	-	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Gray	Alice	NF451305	Sunnybank Sub Branch Inc.
Green	Thomas	76253	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Greenup	Cedric	QX863	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Greenwood	Robert	26547	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Greenwood	Ronald	NX503133	Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc.
Griffin	James	44984	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Groccott*	Ray	433590	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Guilfoyle	Dennis	-	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Gunn	John	22009033	Gordonvale Sub Branch
Gwydir	Daniel	QX49105	Cunnamulla Sub Branch
Hablethwaite	Peter	S8854	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Hall	Peter	1920734	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Handley	Gordon	QX54250	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc
Hanrahan	William	VX61881	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Hansen	Leonard	B2345	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Harkess	James	1573401	Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist Sub Branch Inc.
Harris	Harold	1/19720	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Harris	David	A219519	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
Harris	Bruce	N3086	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Harris	Lilian	94329	Mudjimba Sub Branch Inc.
Harrison	Phillip	425302	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Harrison	Charles	NX92481	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Harrison	Keith	VX62096	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Hartigan	Francis	QX21465	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Harvey	Roy	QX32486	Maryborough Sub Branch Inc.
Hawker	William	V395492	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Haydon	Dallas	H2352	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Hayes	Patrick	21339	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Heales	Ronald	VX118775	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Healy	John	3045175	Deception Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Heard	Keith	Q155112	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Heilbronn	Keith	426876	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc
Heilbronn	Keith	Q113979	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc
Henderson	Lloyd	33924	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Hensher	John	6921434	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Hienekamp	Achmad	98024	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Higgins	Clement	V165150	Gladstone Sub Branch Inc.
Hodge	Gerald	1660806	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Hodgson	Frank	QX34434	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Holdsworth	Isabel	2138004	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Holland	Charles	VX68413	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Holland*	Charles	NX207517	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Holle	Ernest	3711	Herbert River Sub Branch Inc.
Holmes	Elizabeth	101215	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Holt	John	22409806	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Horne*	Victor	Merchant Navy	Manly-Lota Sub Branch Inc.
Hull*	Margaret	EXW/ 297735	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Hume	Robert	QX58344	Gatton Sub Branch Inc.
Hunt	Sidney	SX2400	Logan & District Sub Branch Inc
Hunter	William	QX36325	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Hutton*	Geoffrey	1710462	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Ivan	Andrew	2386050	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Izatt	Douglas	D/ MX754032	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Jackson	Cecil	PM6684	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Jaunet	Veronica	WF466089	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Jeanes	Reginald	Q102188	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Jeffrey	Robert	1/721372	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Jeffrey	William	QX53153 (Q126199)	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Jenkin	Herbert	VX83818	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Johannsen*	Robert	57766	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Johnson	Arthur	2/718517	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Jones	Richard	R49975	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Jones	Allan	171204	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Jones	Frank	14309151	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Jones	Ian	401696	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Jones	John	1540964	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Jones	Richard	B4024	Unattached List Sub Branch
Joyce	Patrick	B4698	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Kahn	Harry	3496	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Kamp	Lloyd	QX58376	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Kearney*	Harry	NX86352	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Keele*	Larry	AF15924607/ 555666333	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Kelly	Charles	NX72011	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Kelly	Jean	VFX92329	Salisbury Sub Branch Inc.
Kelly	William	124263	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Kelly	John	VX90108	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Kenley	Bruce	PM3681	Unattached List Sub Branch
Kerr	Eric	QX47924	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Kerr	Raymond	QX6739	Unattached List Sub Branch
Kiely	Keith	1/1243	Charters Towers Sub Branch Inc.
Kilner*	Lionel	-	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
King	Thomas	411352	Westpac Sub Branch
Kingsman	Norman	QX23273	Banyo Sub Branch Inc.
Klenner	Oscar	72243	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Knowles	Kim	W63445	Lowood Sub Branch Inc.
Kricker	Allan	A121473	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Lacey	Stan	O/1596703	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Laing	Wallace	QX29859	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Lambert	Leonard	QX45257	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Lamberton	Eileen	94124/ QF265313	Nundah-Northgate Sub Branch Inc.
Lansley	Keith	2/45344	Bayside South Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Latter	Alfred	A12084	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Laundy	James	19070588	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Law	Alfred	NX207654	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Lawler	Anthony	318029	Ipswich Railway Sub Branch Inc.
Lawrance	Ramon	1/701354	Wondai Sub Branch Inc.
Learmonth	Gilbert	QX44717 (Q125024)	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Leddy	Leslie	NX220698	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Lee	Edwin	VX87275	Kilcoy Sub Branch Inc.
Lehrke	Karl	A312652	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Leschke	Basil	312570	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Lever	Joseph	CJ/ X204460	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
Lewis	John	PJX350262	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Leyland	Robin	385898-2/161372	Nerang Sub Branch
Livermore	George	B3975	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Lochridge	William	44450-50	Mareeba Sub Branch
Lock	Trevor	R38756	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Luxton*	Robert	B2112	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Lynch	Frederick	VX80441	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Lyne	Irene	VFX92764	Unattached List Sub Branch
Mackay	Donald	434890	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc
Mackay	Donald	V270346	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc
Mackenzie	Donald	VX137057 (V300038)	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Mackereth	Gordon	441153	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
MacKinnon	Allen	1/709701	Tully Sub Branch
Magrath	Alexander	VX131926	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Maher	Keith	VX131444	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Mahoney	James	R53014	Esk Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Mark	Lorna	NF460405	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Marshall	John	R336374	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Martin	Robert	125007 (QX61888)	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Martin	David	411164	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Masterman	Nigel	141477	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Matchett*	John	440318	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Matt*	Honor	VFX127014	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Matthews	Norman	A22549	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Matthews	William	VX77860	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Maxfield	Frank	NX150323	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Maxwell	Bruce	QX22264	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Mayer	Garry	2788815	Maleny Sub Branch Inc.
McCabe	Annie	2096945	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
McCartney	William	6471598	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Mccormick	John	411156	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
McDonald	William	A12026	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
McIlveen	Thomas	23651137	Gladstone Sub Branch Inc.
McInerney	Keith	81741/45191	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
McIntyre	Archibald	-	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
McKay	Ronald	1733724	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
McKendrick	James	1823462	Carlyle Gardens Townsville Chapter of North QLD District
McLachlan	John	QX45849	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
McLean	Cyril	77368	Emu Park Sub Branch Inc.
McLean	Donald	QX33878	Sandgate Sub Branch Inc.
McLean	Joseph	QX9531	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
McLeod	Kenneth	QX4550	Unattached List Sub Branch
McMartin	Duncan	14326412	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Mcnamara	John	2/766301	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Meehan	James	A110597	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Melville	Cyril	NX115466	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Menzies	Douglas	QX61187	Farleigh & Northern Beaches Sub Branch
Merrett	Gerry	VX85872 (V12752)	Harlaxton Sub Branch
Michael	Alan	Q100876	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Miles	Keith	160101	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Miller*	Margaret	N218547	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Milton	Dudley	42575	Unattached List Sub Branch
Mitchell	Thomas	VX122540	Sandgate Sub Branch Inc.
Monks	Reginald	-	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Moore	Barry	18623	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Moore	Henry	QX60012	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Moreau	Louis	SX22147	Nerang Sub Branch
Morrison	Desmond	F5031	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Morrison	Frank	22978	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Morton	Gordon	124790	Unattached List Sub Branch
Mott	Gabrielle	QF268452	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Muir	Peter	3786858	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Murphy	John	VX143972	North Gold Coast Sub Branch Inc.
Murray	Gordon	A24920	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Murray	Leith	PA3496	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Nelms	John	QX51716	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Nelson*	Keith	203951	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Neville	Robert	403365	Runaway Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Nicholls	Francis	1754	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Nield	Ronald	444332	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Niles	Joseph	169091	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Niles	Joseph	431227883	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Nix	Douglas	4384 (NX3365)	Mudgeeraba-Robina Sub Branch Inc.
Nord	Eric	NX135577	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Nowlan	Ronald	64543	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Oates	Kenneth	NX141126	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Oats	Lionel	N195815	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Ockenden	Robert	424002	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
O'Connor	James	426147	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
O'Donnell	Thomas	QX58680	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
O'Keefe	Brian	17830	Yeppoon Sub Branch Inc.
Olds	John	SX39206	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
O'Rourke	Garry	1738497	Barcaldine Sub Branch Inc.
Osler	Colin	170128	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Parkinson	Henry	Q/KX15711	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Pattison	Noel	A11945	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Pattison	Nancy	105095	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Peacock	Kevin	QX41648	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Pearce	William	CJ/X344914	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Pemberton	Archie	-	Kilcoy Sub Branch Inc.
Penman	William	NX205633	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Percival	Jack	A115461	Wondai Sub Branch Inc.
Perkins	Frederick	163328	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Perrins	Maxwell	B5013	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Perry	Noel	NX174583 (N446365)	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Perry	Ronald	242798	Unattached List Sub Branch
Petersen	Reginald	132775	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Petersen	Reginald	QX56855	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Philip	Keith	39061	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Pike	George	8214	Glasshouse Country Sub Branch Inc.
Pinch	Ronald	439788	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Pincott	George	R62466	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Politsch	Noel	1200630	Yarraman Sub Branch Inc.
Pooler	Colin	R46438	Kawana Waters Sub Branch Inc.
Porrett	Walter	14816211	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.

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Potts	John	MERCHANT NAVY	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Potts	John	NX41435	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Power	Ronald	5619328	Beenleigh & District Sub Branch Inc.
Powers	Kevin	A15594	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Pulham	Robert	NZ445276	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Pullen	Robert	R59331	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Pyne	Harry	QX55288	Ravenshoe Sub Branch
Rae	George	4094043	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Rae	Malcolm	432263	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Ramsey	Douglas	43240	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Regazzoli	Boyce	77815	Herbert River Sub Branch Inc.
Reis	Bevan	1/729761	Moura Sub Branch
Reuter	John	QX18408	Gatton Sub Branch Inc.
Reynolds	Thelma	QF269872	Charleville Sub Branch Inc.
Richards	Sydney	S9575	Maryborough Sub Branch Inc.
Richards*	Keith	R27664	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Rischin*	Lewis	S8099	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Rittmeister	Maxwell	NX93531	Gladstone Sub Branch Inc.
Rix	Alan	16373	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Roberts	Evan	23595603	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Robertson	Afton	150447	Moura Sub Branch
Robinson	George	14230372	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Robinson	Thomas	22356469	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Robinson	Alwyn	35975	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Rockett	Rosemary	44587	Wondai Sub Branch Inc.
Rodgers	Peter	A218636	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Rowlands	John	1/706418	Walkerston-Pleystowe Sub Branch Inc.
Royal	Edward	414163	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Rush	Andrew	T14029904	Burleigh Heads Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Russell	Noel	161264	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Ryan	Cornelius	137467	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Sallaway	Raymond	A12590	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Sampson	Ivan	3/3091	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Sampson	Joan	QF144844	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Saunders	Stanley	V225371	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Savage	Richard	CJ/X701258	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Sawyer	Douglas	5506387	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Scarrott	Lawrence	VX120609	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Schneider	Ernest	QX8416	Sarina Sub Branch Inc.
Schulz	Stanley	1/707854	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Scott	Robert	151900	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Scott	Walter	1145225	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Scott	David	QX22310	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Scott-Brown	James	VX95471	Unattached List Sub Branch
See	Roy	B/5406	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Seibold	Arthur	A405085	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
Sergeant	Colin	B5407	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Serman	Hugh	VX38687	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Sharkey	Thomas	150363	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Shaw	Edwin	QX59791 (Q267276)	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Shaw	Robert	QX37646 (Q6179)	Maryborough Sub Branch Inc.
Sheehan	Maurice	1727424	Goondiwindi Sub Branch
Silcock	Reginald	A1524	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Simmonds	Glendon	S10476	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Sinclair	John	1850220	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Slatter	Jack	22764	Nundah-Northgate Sub Branch Inc.
Slatter	Fredrick	151721	Banyo Sub Branch Inc.
Sloan	William	Q133090	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Smart	Jean	WF96138	Gladstone Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Smith	Edward	T/88965	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Peter	1731503	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Allan	O/N 46346	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Earle	1707	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Darcy	QX52470	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Francis	QX63500	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Frank	1517	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Moya	98929	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Dudley	SX19731	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Smith	Robin	2207039	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Smith*	Harold	V65810	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Snell	Ronald	24005	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Snow	George	249437	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch
Solomon	Raymond	SX31244 (S11965)	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Sonntag	Ronald	454929	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.
Spencer	Oliver	QX36164	Maroochydore Sub Branch Inc.
Spread-borough	Ronald	123576/ QX38158	Mt Perry Sub Branch Inc.
St Leon	Sylvester	NX48939	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Stanley	Geoffrey	NX136990	Redlands Sub Branch Inc.
Stein	John	2787618	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Stephenson	Edwin	VX26056	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Stewart	Charles	14442785	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Stewart	Hugh	2/781102	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Stewart*	Dougal	PX4/404501	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Stukoff	Ury	1/72305	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Sullivan	James	A1196	Goondiwindi Sub Branch
Sullivan	John	27773	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Swanson	Donald	CM/ X502607	Redcliffe Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Taylor	Ian	VX88018	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Taylor	John	NX206277	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Taylor	Geoffrey	R66970	Maryborough Sub Branch Inc.
Templeton	Ronald	163258/ A2725	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Thackrah	William	A52858	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Thomlinson	Isaac	14549943	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Thompson	Leonard	172303	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Thompson	Ronald	151034	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Thomson	Richard	1821252	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Thornber	Veronica	WR1550	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Thring	Neville	1201727	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch Inc.
Thring	Leslie	1704829	Yepoon Sub Branch Inc.
Tibbett	Betty	QF268706	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
Tickle	Graham	439537	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Tilcock	David	23824792	Nanango Sub Branch Inc.
Tolley	Barry	53714	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Tolnay	Michael	2791373	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Torr	William	1700366	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Torrens	Ronald	1202991	Mary Valley Sub Branch Inc.
Townsend	George	15030	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc.
Trebilcock*	Nanette	VF518194	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Trembath	Keith	121317	Coorparoo & Districts Sub Branch Inc.
Tringham	James	72347	Tewantin/Noosa Sub Branch Inc.
Truan	Gene	523085	Sandgate Sub Branch Inc.
Tucker	Colin	QX12058	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Tunney	Conway	151266	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Turner	Billy	1200366	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Turner	Ronald	LSFX882156	Cronulla Sub Branch
Turpin*	Jack	150529	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Tutte	Michael	57855	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Tuttle	Frank	B4932	Bundaberg Sub Branch Inc.
Tyers	Peter	QX8397	Unattached List Sub Branch
Underwood	Herbert	QX39573	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Van Opdenbusch	Josse	14299	Gladstone Sub Branch Inc.
Vass	Alan	NX506627	Bribie Island Sub Branch Inc.
Vella	Leonard	442376	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Vernon	William	B4678	Townsville Sub Branch Inc.
Victorsen	Arnold	QX34604	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Walker	Ronald	138243	Caloundra Sub Branch Inc.
Wallace	Robert	VX87681	Mudgeeraba-Robina Sub Branch Inc.
Wallis	Valentine	VX79003	Unattached List Sub Branch
Wallish	Robert	VX146997	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.
Walters	Desmond	0216120	Southport Sub Branch Inc.
Walters	Henry	15763	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Want	Ernest	166135	Hervey Bay Sub Branch Inc.
Ward	Neil	A5411188	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley Sub Branch Inc.
Warren	Stuart	14060970	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Warrian	Robert	Q229235	Injune Sub Branch
Watkinson	Elton	27741	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Webster	John	R25542	Gaythorne Sub Branch Inc.
Weinert	Leslie	-	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
West	Ivy	QF142875	Ayr Sub Branch
Weston	David	1/712758	Ipswich Sub Branch Inc.
Weynton-Howard	Avis	108208	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Wheatman	George	D/ SM927598	Currumbin/Palm Beach Sub Branch Inc.
White	Graham	1200454	Logan & District Sub Branch Inc
Whiteley	Ronald	Q48623	Unattached List Sub Branch

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Sub Branch
Whittaker	James	QX18299	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Whymark	Malcolm	NX61333	Wynnum Sub Branch Inc.
Wildish	Alexander	2670754	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Inc
Wilkins	Roy	QX4619	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Willems	Louis	S33515	Pine Rivers District Sub Branch Inc.
Williams	Joseph	22100912	Cooroy-Pomona Sub Branch Inc.
Williams	Ross	5410751	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Williams	John	RAN48526/ 288026	Nerang Sub Branch
Willis	Henry	1/992	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Willis	William	R37080	Greenbank Sub Branch Inc.
Wilmer	Quentin	1734432	Gympie Sub Branch Inc.
Wilshaw	Albert	7897479	Unattached List Sub Branch
Wilson	Peter	1728334	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Wilson	Keith	Q12629	Sherwood-Indooroopilly Sub Branch Inc.
Wilson	Archibald	0042	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Wilson	Harold	146414	Bowen Sub Branch Inc.
Wilson	Kevin	NX81086	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Wilson	Colin	QX60937 (Q272561)	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch Inc.
Winter	Robert	3/2918	Toowoomba United Sub Branch Inc.
Wiseman	Lloyd	29260	Nambour Sub Branch Inc.
Wolno	June	WR/2968	Ex-Servicewomens Sub Branch
Woolnough	Thomas	13471	Sandgate Sub Branch Inc.
Wray	William	76226	Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch Inc.
Wright	Raymond	R35100	Surfers Paradise Sub Branch
Wylie	James	QX15556	Coolum-Peregian Sub Branch Inc.
Zollner	Alfred	QX55005	Ayr Sub Branch



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