

THE VOICE

April 2009 Edition

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Spirit of ANZAC Prize 2009

The Spirit of ANZAC competition, sponsored by the Victorian State government, was created to inspire Year 10 students from across the state to learn more about the history and legacy of Victoria's veteran community. Students entering the competition were asked to reflect on how values such as courage, initiative and mateship, displayed at Gallipoli and on other fields of battle where Australians have served, have helped unite and strengthen Victorian communities. The recipients of this year's prize were selected from a shortlist of 27 finalists by a panel chaired by Major General Jim Barry, National President of the Defence Reserves Association. The ten winners will undertake a study tour to significant sites of the Korean War and the Gallipoli Campaign of World War One.

The first stop of the tour is South Korea where the students will participate in an ANZAC Day dawn service in Seoul followed by visits to significant sites including Kapyong, Maryang San and the war cemetery in Busan. The group will then travel to Turkey where they will undertake a detailed study of the Gallipoli campaign.

At a reception for the winners, their families and veterans of the Korean War, the Premier, John Brumby said, "All this year's winners will get to see parts of the world they have never seen, and develop a more personal understanding of our history and of the sacrifices made by our veterans."

The study tour is being lead by Liz Beattie MP. Accompanying the group are two representatives of the veteran community:



Vice President, Tom Parkinson, with two of the finalists.

Major General Peter Haddad AO (Retired), who served in Vietnam, and Chaplain John Brownbill RFD, who served as a platoon commander in Korea with 3RAR. The tour begins in late April so expect a full report in the June edition of *The Voice*.

Associate Member

International Federation of Korean War Veterans
Korea & South East Asia Forces Association of Australia
Sister with Korean War Veterans Association Australian Chapter
Twinned with the South London Branch British Korean Veterans Associations
Twinned with the Korea Veterans Association of Canada

Affiliated Associations

Association of Queensland Korea Veterans Inc
Australia & Korea Veterans Assoc. Sunshine Coast Inc
Korea War Veterans Association of NSW



THE VOICE

Life Members

Jim Boxhall
Rev. Burne Brooker
John Brownbill RFD
John Burke†
Bill Campbell†
Victor Dey OAM
John Duson
Athol Egeberg
Mick Everett†
Jim Farmer JP
J F Frawley OAM BEM†
Stan Gallop
Olwyn Green OAM (Hon)
Des Guilfoyle†
John Holford
Neville Holl†
Murray Inwood
David Irving
Ron Kennedy
George Lang OAM
Dennis Lehman
Kenneth Mankelow
Bruce Maxwell
Alan McDonald
Ian McDonald†
Ray McKenzie†
Don McLeod
George Mitchell†
Bill Murphy
Ormond Petherick
Jack Philpot
Arthur Roach
Joe Shields†
Gerry Steacy
Doug Wilkie JP

† Deceased

Directory

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Major General J C Hughes AO DSO MC FAIM Dip FP

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Secretary

Alan Evered
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Treasurer

Gerry Steacy
Phone: 03 9741 3356
Email: steacy32@bigpond.com

Committee

Peter Brooks, John Duson, Keith Langdon, Allan Murray,
Allen Riches, Arthur Roach, Ivan Ryan, William Young

Appointments

Chaplain: John Brownbill FD 0418 359 085
Editor: Geoff Guilfoyle 03 9546 5979 Email: Geoff_Guilfoyle@bigpond.com
Publicity & Ceremonial: Allan Murray 03 5962 6197 Email: kvaainc@bigpond.com
KSEAFA & Kindred Korea Veterans Organisations: Alan Evered (Liaison Officer)
Pensions: Doug Wilkie JP 03 9496 597 817

Delegates

General Committee: Alan McDonald
Veterans' Affairs: Ivan Ryan 03 726 6053
South Australia: C L (Skip) Constable 08 8263 5828
Western Australia: John Southhorn 08 9581 2008
New South Wales: Merv Heath 02 4343 1967
Queensland: Harry Pooley 07 32000482
Tasmania: George Hutchinson 03 6024 7241
Geelong: Arthur Roach 03 5243 6113
Albury-Wodonga: Rocky Camps 02 6204 7241

Correspondence

The Secretary, PO Box 2123, Rangeview, Victoria 3132

Website

www.austkoreavets.asn.au



Vic Dey
President, KVAA Inc.

President's Report

The General Meeting in February confirmed the nominations for KVAA Office Bearers as listed in *The Voice* with a couple of changes to the committee. My thanks to the retiring member whose efforts have served us so well in the past, and I extend a warm welcome to the new Committeemen.

The MIA list in the last issue of *The Voice* did not name those MIAs whose families have already been contacted. My thanks to Laurie Price who discovered two nieces of Peter Chalmers. So we have made a little progress but there is still a lot of work to do.

In February, the Executive and Committee hosted a number of functions for Colonel George Gadd OBE who is the International President of the IFKWVA and Major-General Kook-Bohn Jeong who is their Secretary-General. Mrs Jeong was also in attendance.

On Tuesday 24th, we met them at the airport, transported them to their hotel, and then on to the Shrine of Remembrance for a short memorial service followed by a tour of the building itself. Following this we met up with our Patron at the RACV Club for drinks and a chat. The Executive

(continues on page 10)

KVAA Inc. 2000 Accounts

Korean Veterans Association of Australia Income and Expenditure Statement For the Year Ended 31 December 2008

	2008	2007
	\$	\$
Income		
Interest received	1,340	71
DVA grants	3,327	3,862
Subscriptions	8,975	8,530
Merchandise	2,886	1,108
Bells raffle ANZAC	1,253	1,170
Entrance fee ANZAC Day	780	80
Miscellaneous	4,126	3,235
Distribution from trusts		1,089
Total Income:	22,688	19,145
Expenses		
Auditor's remuneration	770	770
Bank fees and charges	85	1,130
Depreciation - other	607	957
Donations	400	
Functions and outings	8,928	9,763
General expenses	1,261	1,125
Insurance	1,010	990
KVAA jackets & polo shirts	1,323	832
Postage	3,423	2,114
Printing & stationery	2,525	1,919
Subscriptions	576	583
Telephone	1,597	932
Travel, accommodation and conference	3,715	420
Total Expenses:	26,220	21,535
Profit (loss) from ordinary activities before income tax:	(3,533)	(2,390)
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities:		
Net profit (loss) attributable to the association:	(3,533)	(2,390)
Total changes in equity of the association:	(3,533)	(2,390)
Opening retained profits	25,908	28,297
Net profit (loss) attributable to the association:	(3,533)	(2,390)
Closing retained profits	22,375	25,908

Can anybody remember when the times were not hard and money scarce? - Ralph Waldo Emerson

ANZAC Day Changes

To all those who are attending the ANZAC Day march in Melbourne, note that both the time and place have changed this year. Instead of the usual muster point at the corner of Collins and Swanston Street, this year it will be at **the corner of Flinders and Russell Street** (by the old Forum Theatre) and at the slightly later time of **1100 hours**. [Melways 1B Q9]. The march starts at 11.25 hours and, as usual, is followed by a reunion at the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. A bus service will be provided from the Shrine to Stella Maris.

ODD SPOT

The “eternal” flame at a war veterans’ memorial in Bulhead City, Arizona, U.S.A., did not live up to its name, lasting little more than a month before being turned off. The reason? A \$1400 gas bill. A public outcry has resulted in the flame being restored.

From *The Age*,
13th January 2009

Did You Know... that during combined operations manoeuvres at Singapore in 1938, a determined landing party from the heavy cruiser Norfolk succeeded in capturing the Raffles Hotel and heroically liberated its entire bar.

KVAA Inc. Events 2009

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January 28 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre, 600 Little Collins St. Melbourne. |
| January 31 | Korean picnic: time & venue to be advised. |
| February 25 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre followed by BBQ. |
| March 25 | Annual General Meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| March 29 | St Paul's Cathedral: Memorial service 1400 hours followed by refreshments at the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| April 22 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| April 25 | ANZAC Day parade. See notice above. |
| May 27 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| June 21 | Korean Church service: 10am at the Korean Church of Melbourne |
| June 24 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| July 26 | Cease fire parade: Gather 1230 hours at the Shrine of Remembrance. Service: 1330 hours followed by refreshments at Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| July 29 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| August 26 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| Sept. 30 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre followed by BBQ. |
| October 28 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| Nov. 25 | General meeting: Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. |
| December 2 | Christmas luncheon and long service awards. Details to be announced in <i>The Voice</i> .
No general meeting in December. |
| Note: | Committee meetings: start 1000 hours at Stella Maris. General meetings: start 1100 hours.
Dates are subject to change; however, members will be duly notified. |

KVAA Inc. Treasurer's Report 2009

TREASURERS' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2008
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 25 MARCH 2009

I have the pleasure to submit the year 2008 Treasurer's report that was audited by Wyndham Accountants Pty. Ltd. [see page 3]. The year 2008 was a productive year in the handling of the normal KVAA Inc. accounts, which covered the following functions: sponsored refreshments at Stella Maris after ANZAC Day; St Paul's Cathedral Memorial Parade; the 27 July Cease Fire Remembrance Parade, and the Christmas and Awards Luncheon at Batman's Hill on Collins which 162 members attended. For the year 2008, 29 members received their 10-year certificates and pins, 77 members their 15-year certificates and pins, and 3 their 20 year awards. Life Membership Certificates and lapel badges were presented to John Duson and Ken Mankelow.

Additionally, the KVAA sponsored three BBQ's after three General Meetings which were well attended and enjoyed by all; donated four trophies to the Annual RSL Golf Tournament; 70 members and wives attended the Korean Church service and luncheon, 12 members went to the Korean picnic, and 30 members attended a wreath laying ceremony at Point Cook RAAF Base, the day also including a guided tour of the RAAF museum and finishing with lunch at the Sergeants' Mess.

The President and Ray Kelsey, as guests of the Korea Veterans Disabled Organization, attended various functions in Korea. Three members, as guests of the Korean Ministry of Patriots and Veteran Affairs in Korea, took part as honour guards for the dependents of KIAs at the UN Cemetery in Busan, and these three members also participated in the 11th of the 11th Turn toward Busan ceremony.

In the opinion of the Committee, an increase in 2010 of the membership subscription should be considered. The subscriptions for 2009 will remain at \$20.00 per member. With all the expenses paid in full, the net profit (loss) attributable to members of the Association amounted to (\$3533.00). The Current Assets, Non Current Assets, and Equity resulting in the total members fund, is \$28,442. KVAA Inc. cash assets are \$21,209.00.

Because of mismanagement, MFS (our previous term deposit investors), was taken over by Octavis. Within the year, a company called Wellington purchased the premium funds from Octavos with full intention of paying off the debt incurred by MFS and keep the premium fund intact. The total funds were frozen for 360 days which means nothing could be drawn out and no interest paid for that period. The two letters sent off in an attempt to withdraw our funds, failed. Wellington gave the more than 10,000 investors the choice of the fund's administrator continuing to maintain the fund or the fund go into receivership with a payout of between 3 to 45 cents per dollar. The Committee studied the situation and recommended we stay with Wellington even though it could take from 3 to 5 years to restore the fund to normal. The good news is that, as of 24 March 2009, the large debt incurred by MFS will be paid off and quarterly payments will continue sometime in the future. The KVAA Term deposit total at this stage is \$13,997.00 compared to last year's balance of \$13,802 – a difference of \$195.00.

Before concluding this report, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all members who so generously donated, in total, \$2091.50. It shows a great spirit within KVAA Inc. and assists the Association in many ways. Also many thanks to those members and ladies who gave so freely of their time when needed. Without this support, the Association would suffer. Special thanks go to all members, Committee members, and the Executive who have supported me throughout the year.

Wyndham Accounting Service has prepared this financial report in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. The procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amount and other disclosures in the financial report and evaluation of significant accounting estimates. The policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

In conclusion and for your approval, on behalf of the KVAA Inc. Committee and the Executive, I submit the Financial Report of the Korea Veterans Association of Australia Inc. for the financial year ending 31 December 2008.

Gerald P. Steacy Treasurer KVAA Inc.

Humour



Alternative Careers for Retired Veterans...

KVAA Committeeman, Peter Brooks, has always fancied himself as an antipodean Fred Astaire. In fulfilment of a lifelong dream, he has now opened his own dance academy for single women under thirty. Peter, pictured with his assistant, Second Hand Rose, is now taking enrolments. His instructional booklet, *Two Left Feet to Twinkletoes in 200 Easy Lessons*, isn't available at any good book shops anywhere.

Mess With the Men

The first woman recruit in the Army reported for duty and was told that although her quarters would be in a separate building, she was to mess with the men. It wasn't until weeks later that someone finally told her that meant to eat her meals with them.

Restoration of DFRDB Widows Pension

Restoration of DFRDB Widows [Spouse] Pensions cancelled on remarriage pre-1977 for Australian Defence Force Personnel

From the inception of the contributory DFRB/DFRDB Superannuation Schemes until mid 1977 widows or widowers of Australian Defence Force Personnel who were killed in Australia or overseas were granted a pension from the contributory Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefit Fund. Until 1977 the Commonwealth Government Legislation required that if a spouse remarried the pension be cancelled.

In 1977 a Federal Government policy change meant that widows/widowers pensions were no longer cancelled on remarriage. However, those spouses who had lost their partners before this date did not have their pensions reinstated, unless there was a compelling case of financial hardship.

Following strong representation to and subsequent support from senior Government Ministers of the last Coalition Government [The Hon. Mal Brough, The Hon. Nic Minchin and The Hon. Bruce Billson], the Pre 1977 DFRDB Spouse Pensions have been reinstated prospectively, on application, with effect 1 January 2008.

The term used by the present Government through Comsuper is 'Reversionary Pensions'. Regrettably, it is a term that not many understand.

This initiative covers the widows of all Australian Defence Force personnel who contributed to the DFRB/DFRDB Scheme and who died as a result of natural causes, accidents, disease or in other circumstances in peace in Australia or overseas as well as all those who lost their lives on Active Service.

It is stressed that the reinstatement of DFRB/DFRDB pensions will only be made prospectively from the date of application. Contact:

Comsuper
DFRDB Scheme
PO Box 22
Belconnen 2616
Tele: 1300 001 887

Who *REALLY* Started the Korean War

The truth will shock you

by Geoff Guilfoyle

Most readers of *The Voice* have at least a general outline of how the Korean War started and who started it, and most of you will point the finger at Kim Il Sung of North Korea. Well, you are WRONG! As any number of left-wing journalists and historians could tell you (and will if you let them): it was all the fault of the perfidious United States. Yep, you read that correctly.

So how do I know this, given the shameless propaganda the United States (abetted by lackey Western Governments) poured out during and after the war to blind the public? How was I able to penetrate the veil of lies? Why, via the *Internet*, of course. According to all good conspiracy theorists everywhere, that's where the truth is. The North Korean government maintains an official website (www.korea-dpa.com). So here for the first time in *The Voice*, straight from the North Korean government, is the way the Korean War really came about and its general course.

[A word of warning. English is clearly not the first language of whoever put this piece together. Apart from a few very minor corrections of punctuation for the sake of clarity, I have otherwise left it as written (in all its tortuous hilarity). In fairness to the author/s, their English is far better than my Korean (and far funnier) and I've read far worse examples by those native to the English language. On the other hand, given the paranoid nature of communist dictatorships, anyone who speaks and writes fluent English is automatically suspect. All the good writers in English in North Korea are probably languishing in the Gulags; those who weren't executed, that is.]

THE GREAT WAR FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE MOTHERLAND - KOREAN WAR

While the Government of the Republic tried to build a new nation and to unite all the people, the imperialist Yankees since the first day of the occupation of South Korea, started to prepare the war with the mission of destroying the Democratic People's power in the northern part.

Specially due to the serious U.S. economical crisis that started in 1948, they used the Korean War to evade the problems.

The U.S. started to recruit South Korean soldiers: At the beginning they were only 5 brigades, that in June of 1950 became 150,000 troops.

Just in 1949, the imperialist Yankees provided more than 105,000 rifles, more than 2,000 machine guns, more than 50 million bullets, cannons, 5,000 trucks for military use, 79 ships for war use, 20 fighters, etc... to the puppet South Korean Army. In 1949 the U.S. finished the preparation of the aggression plan to the northern part of the Republic, and forced the South Korean soldiers to make continuous attacks along the parallel 38.

So just in 1949 the northern part of the republic had to defend from 2,617 attacks.

In January of 1950, the U.S. and the puppet government of South Korea signed the "Mutual Defence and Help Treaty South Korea-U.S" where the U.S. took all the power and control of the South Korean troops to use them to serve the U.S. imperialism and interests...

There you have it. The wicked South (puppet of the U.S.A) on their orders of their imperial masters (the aforementioned U.S.A) made 2,617 incursions or attacks across the border into the peaceloving North. In response the aforementioned peaceloving North was forced to take up arms.

In the counterattack, the units of the KPA liberated Seoul just in three days after the war started, giving strikes and demolishing the moral of the U.S. troops. Surprised about the victorious advance of the heroes of the Korean People's Army, the Yankee imperialists introduced a big number of sophisticated weapons and high-tech advances. At the same time, the U.S. used his power of votes in the Security Counsel of the United Nations to

(continues on page 8)

Who REALLY Started the Korean War (continued from page 7)

approve a 'resolution to use troops from the satellite countries (under the U.S. influence) and force them to fight under the false U.N. flag...

Conventional history has this as the initial unprovoked attack by the KPA on the unprepared and undermanned army of the South. But now we know better, don't we, comrades.

In one month and a half of counterattack, the KPA liberated more than the 90% of the Korean land and more than the 92% of the people, assessing mortal strokes to the enemies and rounding them in a little zone between the Kiongsang South and North Provinces.

In the month of September of 1950, the situation was very hard. The desperate enemies started a counterattack using the forces in the Pacific ocean, the forces in the Mediterranean Sea, the troops from their "satellite countries" and even the war ships in "reserve".

In the middle of September of 1950 they started a big operation in the zone of Inchon with more than 50,000 troops, more than 300 war ships and around 1,000 fighters. Also along the Raktong River they introduced another 200,000 troops and a great number of cannons and tanks. In front of this political-military situation, the Great Leader Kim Il Sung organized the tactical temporary retreat to organize the troops for the final and definitive stroke against the U.S.

The aggressive imperialist Yankees when they got into the northern part of the Republic, they executed, burned and buried alive hundreds of patriots and innocent inhabitants.

During their temporary occupation of the northern part, only in the Luangie province they killed more than 120,000 innocent people, and in the Sinchon district they killed more than 35,000 that represented one quarter of the total population.

But no one of this atrocities made the Korean people to change their desire. From the ends of October until November of 1950, the units of the KPA defeated the enemies in the North of the Chongchon River and in the oriental sector they stopped the enemy advance in the Juangcho and Buson mountains, the Sangjin lake and Orang River.

After this hard attack from the KPA, the enemies said that they'll occupy all Korea before the 25th of December.

Then, the Great Leader, Kim Il Sung, in the middle of November, ordered all the front to start the offensive and in December they liberated all the northern part plus some zones of the South...

Bravo, the KPA, though I do believe that the North Koreans may have received a smidgin of help from the Chinese Peoples' Liberation Army (PLA). Just an army or two. Hardly worth mentioning.

The Imperialist Yankees demonstrated the cruel nature of their war, using the most barbaric methods like the "Cleaning Operation", the "Strangle Operation" and also using bacteriological and chemical bombs violating the international war treaty. But no one of this horrible acts reduced the power of the Korean people, but multiplied their strength to annihilate all the aggressors.

In the middle of June of 1951, the Korean War was mainly focused on the Parallel 38.

The enemies discharged in the line 1211 a middle amount of 35,000 bombs and missiles per day, using all their technical equipment in combat. In the 1211 line, the rocks disappeared and all off them were transformed into sand, all the trees burned and even the people said that the squirrels looked for the soldier's chest for protection.

As you do when you are a communist squirrel under enemy fire. The cowardly imperialist squirrels of the South would flee at the first shot.

The Imperialist Yankees finally were forced to kneel down in front of the Korean people and the invincible Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The 27th of July of 1953, the Great War for the Liberation of the Motherland (Korean War) finished with the historic victory of the Korean people.

(continues on page 9)

LOSSES OF THE U.S. IMPERIALISM

405,000 Soldiers of the Yankee imperialism

12,224 Fighters/bombers and other planes

564 War Ships

3,255 Tanks and armoured vehicles

7,695 Cannons of different calibres

925,152 Light weapons

The losses of the U.S. combat materials during the three years of Korean War, are equal to the 230% of the money used during the 4 years conflict in the Pacific Ocean during the Second World War.

In the Korean War, the myth of the U.S. invincibility became into ashes.

In his book "From the Danube to the Amrok", Clark, that was Commandant of the "United Nations" forces wrote:

"What I won following the instructions of my government, is my shame of being the first North-American Commandant that signed the Armistice Treaty, that represents the document of our defeat".

Well, I can't speak for you; but, I'm convinced. Those figures on U.S. combat losses are particularly plausible. Then again, I also believe that Wilfred Burchett was an independant journalist of the highest integrity and not a communist propagandist; that Kim Il Sung was the greatest political genius of the 20th century; that the people of North Korea love his son and successor, and that the country has abundant food and yearly grain surpluses. Oh, and I also believe in Atlantis, the tooth fairy, and that airborne swine regularly fly over the house where my pink elephant lives.

Seeking Unity

As most of you know, the Korean War veteran community is split among a myriad of often competing organisations. As recommended by IFKWVA and carried at the Annual General Meeting [Moved G. Steacy, Seconded J. Duson] it was proposed that *the KVAA Inc. undertake the task to establish an understanding that will attempt to unite the Associations of Korea Veterans throughout Australia into a solid body of veterans. This understanding is established to work with KSEAFV to provide all Korea Veterans' Associations the opportunity to support the interests of all our veterans.*

The KVAA Inc. is the single largest organisation of Korea Veterans in Australia and is travelling pretty well in terms of membership and finance. So why bother seeking unification? Firstly, these other associations might be smaller, some considerably so; however, overall, they represent the greater number of veterans. Secondly...

Consider this: a 17 year old raises his age to get into the army and arrives in Korea in 1953 just in time to see some action before the ceasefire. This 17 year old will turn 73 this year. He is the youngest possible 1950-1953 veteran, and there can't be more than two or three of him Australia-wide. Most veterans are into their mid to late 70s. Some are much older. Five years from now most will be in their 80s and in much diminished numbers – and far less active than now. Amalgamation will not only be desirable, it will be a necessity.

And it will be **too late**. A few hundred members Australia-wide in 2014, few of whom are fit and active enough to run the association, will not an effective organisation make.

Amalgamation this year (or the next at the latest) will ensure that the KVAA Inc. (or successor organisation) will carry a lot more clout politically than it does at the moment, and will continue to do so as the membership declines, which it must inevitably do. Most things fade from memory over time. Let's try to make sure the Korean War and its veterans don't.

President's Report (from page 3)

and our guests then had an informal dinner.

The following day, Colonel Gadd and Maj-Gen Jeong joined us at both our Committee and General Meetings. This was followed by a BBQ and, in the evening, an official dinner. Of course, discussions on numerous topics took place throughout the visit, particularly on ways of forging a more direct link between the IFKWVA and the KVAA Inc.

Unfortunately I missed the official dinner being admitted to hospital that afternoon with cellulitis. It ended up being a two week stay. I thank the Executive and members who attended our guest's needs during the evening and then on the Thursday arranged for them to fly to Canberra. We are hopeful of an improved and progressive relationship with the IFKWVA.

My thanks to all members who contacted me during my stay in hospital with visits, phone calls and emails. Your inquiries about my health are deeply appreciated. To the Ministers and the congregation of the Korean Uniting Church of Melbourne, sincere thanks you for your prayers and the beautiful box of flowers. Your concern is something I will never ever forget.

Anzac Day is fast approaching, a time to remember old comrades and a time for reflection. Wherever you are across the globe, may your Anzac Day be everything you wish it to be.



Maj-Gen Kook-Bohn Jeong, Alan Evered, Vic Dey, Gerry Steacy, Colonel George Gadd and Tom Parkinson at the RACV Club

29th February Dinner

A dinner to honour Major General Jeong, Secretary General, and Colonel George Gadd, President, of IFKWVA, was held at Batman Hill-on-Collins on Wednesday 25th February. After the loyal toasts to Queen Elizabeth II and the President of the Republic of Korea, followed by Grace delivered by Tom Parkinson, the meal commenced during which there was much 'chatter' at the various tables. After dinner, Mrs Jeong was presented with a beautiful record of Australia and Colonel Gadd and Maj. Gen. Jeong each received medallions (pictured) to commemorate their visit. There to celebrate the evening with our guests were:

Mr & Mrs Kim Young Sup
Mr & Mrs Kim Dong OP
Peter & Gwen Brooks
Ron & Val Christie
Alan & Nicole Evered
Jim & Coral Farmer
Keith & Elaine Langdon
Alan & Marie McDonald
Allan & Sylvia Murray
Gerry & Elaine Steacy
Tom & Sharon Parkinson
Bernie & Christine Shrubsole



Ihm & Kook-Bohn Jeong



‘Ave a Cuppa Tea by Chas Cornell 1999

Work in the West was scarce, that year. Back there, in the Fifties.

I’d been an aimless knockabout, needed a job and swiftly.

With pockets almost empty, enough for a meal or two.

On passing a Recruiting Centre, heard “Ere we could do with you.”

I was Green, but this friendly Sergeant, with a manner, loud and clear,

Sort of got my attention, so I stopped to lend an ear.

“There’s a stouch on, in Korea, bloke like you could have a spree.

Think of the travel, in Asia, ‘ere ‘ave a cuppa tea.”

“Pity you’re just 18 today lad, we’ll need your parents permission.

We’ll feed, clothe & train you, but this aint no welfare mission.”

I was a little desperate, but really not quite willing

To give away my wandering ways, to take the good Kings Shilling.

“Sorry to disappoint you mate, Mum’s down in the old South West,
she cant sign no papers today, so we’ll have to give it best.

I could see his wheels a turning, as he pondered this dilemma.

“Always trust your Sergeant lad, we’ll have you, this ack emma.”

“Your name just rung a bell. Frank in the Provost Cor.

He could be your guardian, it’s quite within the law.”

In a flash he seized the telephone, I could hear both voices clear.

“I think I’ve got your brother Frank, could you sign him in right here?”

“Keep the bugger there,” I heard. “I’ll be over in a flash.”

Before I knew what happened, we’d both signed the line with dash.

Perth, Karrakatta, all a whirl, issued slouch hat & khaki suit.

Training out at Guildford, a bushy raw recruit.

On to Vic & Puckapunyal, Cor training in the Infantry.

Firing live ammunition, the adrenalin flowed in me.

A year of this then off to Japan, land of the Rising Sun.

With me, the big fit bushy, just itching to fire his gun.

Hiro & Haramura, mountains & mad Colonels,

Work & play both night and day, could fill many journals.

Being short of Machine Gunners, the Army form ran true,

“We need four volunteers, you, you, you & you.”

We lumped them over mountains, studied their working parts,

The added weight to our normal gear, very nearly, broke our hearts.

Prepared, we sailed for Korea, the UN’s first real do,

They called it a Police action, fateful words, those two.

Though many were lost or battered, I never suffered much harm,
Despite Mountains, Snow & Whizbangs. In the land of the Morning Calm.

Then home, to good old Aussie, a wiser man, for sure,

I’d been & seen & done that, helped to fight the Forgotten War.

Now age has honed my wisdom.

I’m fairly healthy and I’m free.

But bear with me, if I’m nervous

WHEN OFFERED A CUPPA TEA.

Notices

Support for Veterans Hit by Victorian Bushfires

The Department of Veterans' Affairs' Deputy Commissioner in Victoria, Mike O'Meara, today encouraged veterans affected by the bushfires to contact the Department for information on how to access support and services. Mr O'Meara said the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) was available to support veterans and their families affected by the disaster.

People receiving DVA payments and concerned about those payments should call the Department to discuss their circumstances. Callers in metro areas can ring 133254 and regional callers can ring 1800 555254, for the price of a local call. Veterans who have their property insured with Defence Service Homes Insurance and whose property has been affected by the bushfires are encouraged to contact their local customer service officer on 1300 552662 to discuss the assistance available under their policy.

All Veterans' Affairs Network offices in Victoria are open. Offices are located in Bairnsdale, Morwell, Bendigo, Wodonga and Frankston. Veterans can call 1300 551918 to reach their local office. They may be able to provide more local specific information to assist veterans in need. The VVCS (Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service) is available to assist veterans and their families in crisis situations and provides supportive, confidential counselling to veterans and their families who need support. The VVCS can be contacted on 1800 011046, 24 hours a day.

The Australian and Victorian Governments, along with a number of charitable and community organisations, are offering a range of support services which offer personal, emotional, psychological and financial help to those affected. The Victorian Government, through the Department of Human Services, is a central information point for people affected by the fires. It has set up a Bushfire Information Line and those requiring assistance can phone 1800 240 667.

Story Writing & Art Competition (SWAC) 2009

Opening Date: 1st April 2009 Closing Date: 31st July 2009

Entries are now invited for the 2009 Victorian Veteran Community Story Writing & Art Competition (SWAC). This competition is open to eligible members of the ex-service community **who reside in Victoria** including veterans, widows, and children of veterans who are over 18 years. Entries may be: story writing, poetry, art, craft or photography. Novice through to experienced levels welcome.

There is a special 2009 writing category on the various roles undertaken by women during wartime, entitled: *Women and War*. (Maximum 1,500 words).

For entry forms call the SWAC Co-ordinator on 1300 132515 or country residents 1800 555254. Alternatively, e-mail: Swac@dva.gov.au or download the form from www.dva.gov.au/vic/services/swac/form.htm

For those who prefer snailmail the address is:
GPO Box 87A, Melbourne VIC 3001

Free Food & Drink!*

(*conditions apply)

Calling all Korean War naval veterans! The Premier of N.S.W. is holding a reception for Korean War naval personnel in August/September 2009. Invitations will be sent using contact data held by the State Office of the Naval Association of Australia. To ensure you are on the list send contact details and the name of the ship you served on to:

Peter Ashpole
State Secretary
Naval Association of Australia
Level 4
ANZAC House
245 Castlereagh Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Or you can contact him via:
E-mail: naansw@bigpond.com
Fax: 02 9261 1034



Bataan Reunion

The National President of the HMAS Bataan Veterans Association, Joe Flaherty, invites all members to the 2009 reunion at Caloundra, Queensland from Thursday 3th to Sunday 6th, September.

Further details on the itinerary & accommodation are available.

Ex-crew of HMAS Bataan are invited to join our Association.

Contact:

The National Secretary
John F. Laughton
36 Tamarisk Road
Narre Warren Vic 3805.
Phone: 03 9704 7799
Mobile: 0417 336 423
Email: johnfl@aapt.net.au or
jlaughton@swiftdsl.com.au

The Deep Dark North

If anyone is questioning just how politically and economically bankrupt the communist regime of North Korea is, then this revealing photograph will banish any doubts. The cropped night-time satellite photo of North and South Korea and part of north-eastern China shows numerous city lights that typically give some indication of population density. It was taken in October 2000 by a Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) satellite at an altitude of approximately 450 miles (720 km). The huge city complexes of Seoul and Pusan are very obvious. It's hard not to notice that North Korea is nearly completely dark. Even though North Korea has an estimated 22 million people, their presence is invisible in this photo. The only speck of light is found at Pyongyang, the capital of the North. Probably the lights from Kim Jong Il's palace, the residences of his leading generals, and a few showcase public buildings. No one else can afford the lightbulbs, assuming any are available, and anyway, electricity is severely rationed.



'Tex' and the MMG

Chas 'Tex' Cornell spent his service in Korea with the MMG Support Company of 3RAR. The four scenes below, part of a series by Bev Cornell, are full colour paintings (rendered here in not so glorious greyscale, unfortunately) based on this time. Bev Cornell is related to Chas by marriage (being married to him). And, yes, Chas is the author of the poem on page 11. A talented couple.



MMG Section



The Medics



MMG Pit



The Sentry

THE VOICE

Application for Membership (Please Print)

Surname:		Given Names:	
Address:			
State:	Postcode:	Phone No.:	
E-mail:		Mobile:	
Next of Kin:		Relationship:	
Address:			
State:	Postcode:	Phone No.:	
Service Number:		Unit:	
I served in:		From:	To:
I am entitled to the following campaign awards:			
Subscription:	\$20.00	OFFICE USE ONLY <hr/> Date Received: <hr/> Received By: <hr/> Receipt No.: <hr/> Remarks: <hr/>	
Pocket Badge:*	\$10.00		
Lapel Badge:*	\$10.00		
Donation:*	\$		
*Optional	TOTAL: \$		
Signature:			

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Last Post

**They shall not grow old
As we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them
Nor the years condemn
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them
LEST WE FORGET**