

THE VOICE

February 2011 Edition

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Xmas Luncheon Report

The annual KVAA Inc. Christmas luncheon was held on 1st December at what is rapidly becoming our 'traditional' venue, namely *Batman on Collins*, just across from the Spencer Street railway station. Also becoming a 'tradition' is Alan Evered doing his MC bit, and doing it well. *[Editor - Alan is available for weddings, parties...anything]*.

A few events of note: the usual drawing of the raffles saw members of the Executive and Committee or their wives winning with alarming frequency. Given that the process was done in the open, rigging is not suspected. *[Editor - and that I won nothing as usual doubly proves the point.]* It was just one of those things. Hint to the rest of you: buy more tickets next year!

Santa made his usual appearance accompanied by his oversized gaily-clad elf helper. Eagle-eyed attendees may have noticed that the usually bouncy Santa clomped about with a distinct limp. This was due to an accident while parking the sleigh on the roof in which poor old Santa was stomped on by the clumsy Donner. Needless to say, when he returned to the North Pole, Santa dined on roast reindeer for the next few weeks. Donner kebabs anyone?

Congratulations to the five members of the KVAA Inc. who completed 25 years with the organisation in 2010 (Ron Christie, John Duson, Keith Langdon, Arnold Stephens and Ian Stroud), all of whom received a Twenty Five Years Certificate and Pin.

Those of you who regularly peruse the Life Membership column on page 2 – and who amongst us doesn't? – will have noticed that it has expanded by one from the last edition. Congratulations to Allan Murray on his elevation to this distinguished company.

All in all, the 2010 Xmas luncheon topped off an excellent year for the KVAA Inc.



"Here, Vic. Let me help you with that present." Many hands offering to make light work. Vic is suitably dubious.



"Alright! Alright! You win. I am ticklish." John Duson confesses his awful secret to Gwen Brooks.

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.

Korea Veterans Assoc. Sunshine Coast Inc.

Korea War Veterans Association of NSW

Australian Korea Veterans Association Inc.

Allied Associations

Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Inc.



Life Members

Jim Boxshall
Rev. Burne Brooker†
John Brownbill RFD KSJ
John Burke†
Bill Campbell†
Victor Dey OAM
John Duson
Athol Egeberg
Mick Everett†
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†
Allan Murray
Ray McKenzie†
Don McLeod†
George Mitchell†
Bill Murphy
Ormond Petherick
Jack Philpot
Arthur Roach
Ivan Ryan
Joe Shields†
Gerry Steacy
Doug Wilkie JP

†Deceased

Directory

Patron

Major General J C Hughes AO DSO MC FAIM Dip FP

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Tom Parkinson 03 9350 6608

Secretary

Alan Evered

Phone: 03 9874 2219

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Treasurer

Gerry Steacy

Phone: 03 9741 3356

Email: steacy32@bigpond.com

Committee

Peter Brooks, Ron Christie, John Duson, Keith Langdon,
Allan Murray, Allen Riches, Arthur Roach, Ivan Ryan, Bernie Schultz

Appointments

Chaplain: John Brownbill RFD KSJ 0418 359 085

Editor: Geoff Guilfoyle 03 9546 5979 Email: Geoff_Guilfoyle@aanet.com.au

Publicity: Allan Murray 03 5962 6197 Email: kvaainc@bigpond.com

KSEAFA & Kindred Korea Veterans Organisations: Alan Evered (Liaison Officer)

Pensions: Charlie Slater 03 9355 7264

Delegates

General Committee: Alan McDonald Veterans' Affairs: Ivan Ryan 03 726 6053

Geelong: Arthur Roach 03 5243 6113 West. Australia: John Southorn 08 9531 2008

New South Wales: Merv Heath 02 4343 1967 Queensland: Harry Pooley 07 3200 0482

Tasmania: George Hutchinson 03 6275 0762 South Australia: John Bennett 08 8556 7288

Albury-Wodonga: Rocky Camps 02 6024 7241 or 0408 690 820

Correspondence

The Secretary, PO Box 2123, Rangeview, Victoria 3132

Website

www.austkoreavets.asn.au

Merchandise Available

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----|----------------------------------|---------------|----|
| KVAA Inc. pocket badge | \$10.00 | \$ | Kapypong battle print | \$ 5.00 | \$ |
| KVAA Inc. lapel badge | \$10.00 | \$ | RAN print: Ships in Korea | \$ 5.00 | \$ |
| KVAA Inc. windscreen decal | \$ 5.00 | \$ | Tie (with KVAA Inc. logo) | \$20.00 | \$ |
| Korean War bumper sticker | \$ 2.50 | \$ | Korea Veteran caps | \$10.00 | \$ |
| Korean War map (laminated) | \$ 6.00 | \$ | Car number plate surrounds (set) | \$10.00 | \$ |

TOTAL . . . \$___.____

Please put a check beside each article requested and insert the dollar total.

Surname: Given Names:

Address: (Please Print)

State: Post Code:

Cheques or monery orders should be made out to:

The Treasurer, KVAA Inc., 1 Kent Court, Werribee 3030, Victoria

President's Report

Welcome to a New Year. With further 60th anniversary events continuing into 2011, we must always be prepared for interviews, photo opportunities, etc., if and when the opportunity arises. The South Koreans are forever grateful for our (UN) assistance and remembering all anniversaries is one of their ways of saying 'Thank You.'

On Monday, 6th December, our Treasurer, Gerry Steacy, entered hospital for a quadruple bypass. Discharged on the 14th, he is recuperating extremely well, thank God.

On 13th December 2010, along with Tom Parkinson and Alan and Nicole Evered, Edna and I visited the Fountain Gate Secondary College (our adopted school) who were holding their presentation night. From year 7 to year 11 a large number of Academic, Subject Excellence, Citizenship and Education Awards were presented. Our association sponsored student, Brodie Ryan, and we wish her well in her future studies. Fountain Gate S.C. has 1200 students from 40 countries and a very dedicated staff. An outstanding evening.

On Thursday, 13th January, the funeral service was held for Captain Barbara Ann "Babs" Probyn Smith, a member of our Association for many years. She served her country in Japan-Korea and Malaya with great distinction and in doing so earned a lifetime of respect and admiration for her work in the medical field. She had many stories to tell about the sick and wounded soldiers (both UN and enemy) she tended.

One story involved a young Canadian soldier Babs nursed and grew rather fond of. He was repatriated back to Canada and they lost contact for over 40 years. After Gerry made some inquiries, Babs received a phone call from this (now not so) young Canadian. He thanked her sincerely, as he believed she had saved his life. Babs will be truly missed.

From those of us who are lucky enough not to be involved in the floods devastating the eastern half of the country, we send our prayers and best wishes to all who have suffered. We hope and pray that you can regain your normal lifestyle as quickly as possible.

A Message from Yujin Ko

Yujin Ko made her first appearance in the August 2010 edition of The Voice talking about her involvement in the Peace District Project. (Website: <http://www.unpeacezone.com>. To leave a message, click on Mail Box). Here she is again with an update/summary which, unfortunately, arrived too late for inclusion in December's edition.

Hello again,

This year has been particularly meaningful to me because I did something for my country as a high school student, participating in the campaign for the world's first *Busan Special Peace and Culture Zone for the United Nations* which commemorates the 60th anniversary of the Korean War.

In a group with my school friends, I led a cross country march and field trip to promote the United Nations Peace Zone. We also began writing thank you letters to the veterans who fought in this country for our peace.

I also designed my own webpage: www.UNpeacezone.com in the hope of making more people to become aware of and appreciate the sacrifices that the Korean War veterans' made 60 years ago.

Last November, Korea successfully hosted the prestigious G20 Summit. We Koreans felt so proud and deeply moved including myself that our country has transformed completely from the heap of ruins that remained after Korean War into a country with major economic power in 2010.

However, that festive mood was devastated by North Korea's attack on one of South Korea's residential islands, Yeonpyeong Island, on Nov. 23. As I mentioned in the last email, we are still trying to cope with this situation. However, all Koreans continue to appreciate the precious freedom that was protected by the veterans' efforts and sacrifices during the Korean War. We are awake and remain determined to protect our country as a peaceful place for ever.

Thank you again for your help in keeping this country's freedom and peace. We Koreans will never ever forget your honorable spirit!

I wish you and your loved ones Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!

Sincerely,
Yujin Ko

* * *

Nazi Television

In 1935 Germany became the first country to have a regular television service – named *Fernseh*, meaning 'far-seeing'. Broadcast from Berlin, the filmed programmes were shown three days a week at a definition of 180 lines, and the German actress Ursula Patzschke became the first television announcer. In 1936 live pictures of the Berlin Olympics were transmitted, but with only partial success. Broadcasting continued until the transmitter was hit during an Allied bombing raid in 1943.

Source: *Book of Facts*, Reader's Digest (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 1994

Xmas Luncheon Photos

KVAA Inc. Christmas Luncheon, Batman on Collins, 1st December 2010



(continues on Page 6)

Two Messages from the DVA

Queensland Floods

I wanted to give you an overview of how DVA is responding to the floods and also seek your help in letting us know of any members of the veteran community who may need assistance.

We have a small coordination team headed by myself, Leanne Cameron (Director, Client Access) and Craig Gould. We have a single point of contact with Centrelink as they are on the ground in the Recovery Centres.

We have analysed the numbers of veterans in the areas most affected which is about 11,000. However only around 215 of these are currently in the claims or review process. We are managing decisions and mailouts so that we are not giving any additional burdens to people who are affected.

We are also aware that there may need to be temporary acceptance of proof of identify or replacement of lost documents.

Defence Services Housing Insurance Services has assessed the number of possible claimants from the flood areas and have the assessors ready to go into locations once given the go ahead from the local authorities.

We are aware that aids and appliances may have been lost or damaged and again have processes in place for priority replacement.

At this time of year there is not generally much elective surgery but again we are aware of where there are travel bookings and have put in place alternative arrangements where needed.

VVCS is available for counselling and have checked that counsellors are on board and available.

This is not a definitive list, but we wanted to give you an overall summary of what we are doing. There are now individual cases emerging and I encourage you to let your members know that they should ring the Department so we can do whatever we can to assist.

Alison Stanley, Deputy Commissioner Queensland Department of Veterans' Affairs
Telephone 07 3223 8737 Fax 07 3223 8304
alison.stanley@dva.gov.au

Also from the DVA...

Any ex-navy personnel who have been issued with the Malaya Pingat Medal, which is now classified as a campaign medal, is entitled to a service pension; if they have a partial DVA pension related to disability 50% or over which will bring them to 100% with the Gold Card and free travel.

Long ago, when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it is called golf.

Scam Alert!

I am writing to alert you that members of the veteran community have again been contacted by recent scammers.

Several incidents have been reported to DVA in which members of the veteran community have been approached via mail or telephone by individuals claiming to be from private organisations or government agencies offering a range of goods and services, and asking for personal information including banking details.

These approaches are false and I feel it is timely to remind members of the veteran community to exercise caution when releasing their personal information.

We are not aware of any monetary loss to veterans as a result of these incidents at this stage but I ask you to urge your members to be careful about releasing personal information.

Veterans, war widows or widowers are encouraged to contact DVA if they have any concerns or if they feel they have been targeted by a scam. The Department can be contacted on 133 254 (for metropolitan callers) or 1800 555 254 (for non-metropolitan callers).

The Government's Scamwatch website, found at (www.scamwatch.gov.au), contains useful information to help you be aware of potential scams that circulate around our communities, and how to protect private information.

Your sincerely
Ian Campbell
Secretary, Department of Veterans' Affairs

Firepower Kills...Sometimes.

In 1898, during a period of rising tension between the British Empire and the Boer Republics of Southern Africa, the British decided to impress upon the uncouth burghers the power and effectiveness of modern military technology. They staged a demonstration of artillery fire. A flock of 100 sheep were led on to a hill. A battery of the Royal Artillery then proceeded to shell the hill with some of Her Majesty's best for fully 20 minutes. When the smoke cleared it transpired that all of the sheep were completely uninjured. Adding insult to injury, there were now in fact 101 sheep on the hill, for a pregnant ewe had delivered during the bombardment. The British attempt to teach the Boers a lesson had failed. Or perhaps not, for the Boer War broke out a few months later.

Source: Jay Stone, *Strategy & Tactics* magazine No. 112.

Xmas Luncheon Photos (continued from Page 4)



Crossing the Log

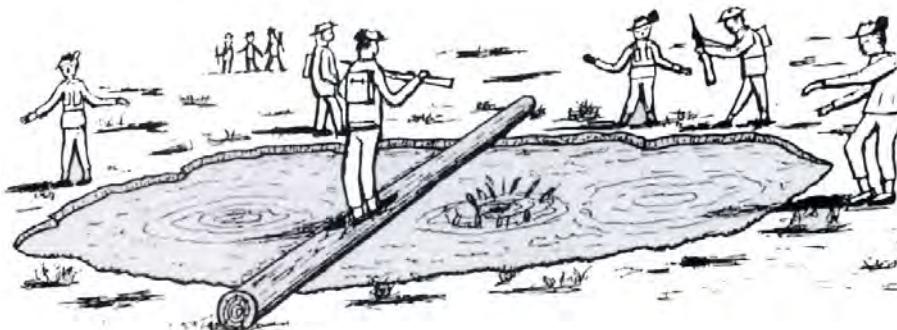
by Ernie Holden

Way back in October 2009, I mentioned Ernie Holden's book, *Mates, Mortars and Minefields*. With the permission of the author, I'll be featuring snippets from the book as an occasional series in future editions of *The Voice*. This initial story takes place in mid-September 1952 at the Glenfield training camp, south of Sydney, near the Georges River. The sketch is by the author. Copies of the book are available directly from the author on (02) 96239392. Cost \$20 + \$10 p&p anywhere in Australia. It is also available for \$40 from Dymocks.

Part of our bush training involved crossing a narrow log over a water obstacle, under battle conditions. There was a large body of water that was very muddy, about two and a half feet deep and very cold as it was September. There was a log about twelve-inches diameter placed across this 'pond' and our training was to walk across the log from one side to the other.

We moved one soldier at a time, with full gear on and carrying our rifle in front of us, complete with bayonet in position. It was made harder, because the soldiers were allowed to jeer, taunt, yell and throw rocks into the muddy water and also splash the cold water onto the individual who was crossing. The only thing they were not allowed to do was push or touch us.

There was about 50 of us at a time doing this exercise and at first, I stood back and watched the grand performance, as many were distracted and fell into the cold muddy water. Those that fell off, had to return and try again. I learnt in the army not to be first in a queue and definitely not to be the last and after about 30 had crossed the log it was my turn.



and was waving his hands close to the side of my face and making a lot of noise. I kept going like a horse wearing blinkers and got back to *terra firma* at the other end of the log. I was one of the few who didn't fall in.

To this day I use that focus method continuously no matter what I am doing; driving the car; flying my radio-controlled model aircraft; working as a 'Lolly-Pop' person getting young children across school crossings or anywhere where I need total concentration.

Subscription Reminder!

For those who haven't yet filled out and/or returned the renewal form from last issue of *The Voice* (and there are still a few of you – no names, but we know where you are and where you live!) could you do so ASAP. Your subscriptions are what keep us going, financially speaking. Don't forget, if you renew before the end of the February 23rd General Meeting, you'll go into the draw to win \$50.

Please submit your renewal direct to:

The Treasurer, KVAA Inc. Gerry Steacy, 1 Kent Court, Werribee Vic 3030.

Mea Culpa! (A Never Ending Series)

Yes, it is the latest instalment of the *Oops, I Goofed Show* starring the Editor. After last edition of *The Voice* we received this missive from Charles Donnolley, a member from Queensland:

I am probably not the first to contact you in reference to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Trivia as published in the latest issue of The Voice. The Arlington National Cemetery is located in Arlington, Virginia, just across the Potomac River from Washington D.C. Unless there has been a massive exhumation, transportation and reburial of the honoured fallen, to which the former estate owner Confederate General Robert E. Lee would no doubt not raise an objection, it is still there or else it was the last time I visited.

Well done, Mr Donnolley, for spotting the *deliberate* mistake. And your prize is a trip for two to... Um, OK, so it wasn't a deliberate mistake and there is no prize. Sorry. The piece should have read *Arlington, Virginia*. In my defence could I just say that there is an Arlington in Texas, so I was only wrong by 2,000 kilometres.

Donations From Members in 2010

To all members of the KVAA Inc. who have so generously donated funds to the Association from across Australia and overseas, a sincere thank you to each and every one of you. It proves the Association's strength is solid, and that comradeship with the ranks remains equal to that forged during the Korean War. May we all grow stronger as the year progresses. (Gerry Steacy, Treasurer, KVAA Inc.)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Allan Allen | Clem Conlan | Ian Gilmore | Leslie Jordon | Kevin Onley | Gilbert Sheppard |
| Allan Anderson | David Connolly | Leslie Glover | William Jubb | Robert Palmer | Noel Slaven |
| Victor Anderson | Graham Connor | Albert Goach | Bernard Kaye | Tom Parkinson | Allan Smith |
| Merv Andre | Charles Cornell | Stanley Goldsmith | John Kear | Arthur Parson | Desmond Smith |
| Keith Arkinstall | Kenneth Costley | Kevin Gray | Ronald Kennedy | Dawn Pennington | Ellis Smith |
| Bruce Askew | Robert Coucaud | Hedlel Green | Francis Kenny | Stanley Phillip | Robert Smith |
| Ronald Attrill | James Craven | Ronald Green | Dong Ud Kim | Joseph Phillips | Reuben Standish |
| Bryant Attwood | William Crump | Anthony Guest | Brian Kimmings | Jack Philpot | Gerry Steacy |
| Robbie Auhl | Ken Darkin | Geoffrey Guilfoyle | Ronald Land | John Poole | Albert Steines |
| Shirley Baldwin | Lawrence Date | Maureen Guilfoyle | Douglas Landy | Harry Pooley | Ted Stewart |
| Brian Bartlett | Frank Davis | Grace Halstead | Denis Lehmann | William Prentice | Edward Stirling |
| Ivan Beckett | Victor Dey | Harold Harman | Norman Lewis | Ronald Privlige | James Studd |
| Thomas Beecham | Gordon Dickson | Kevin Harper | Michael Littleton | Clifford Proctor | John Suttie |
| Keith Bell | Frederick Drake | Jack Harris | L. Longmore | Norma Proctor | John H Taylor |
| William Bemrose | Donald Duncan | Keith Hasler | William Longmuir | Lindsey Rainbow | John N Taylor |
| John Bennett | John Dunlop | Kevin Hatfield | Alan Lonsdale | Alan Reekie | John Thompson |
| Sydney Bennett | John Duson | Peter Hay | Ray Maley | Allan Riches | Norman Thornton |
| Ronald Benton | Valda Dyke | Ken Hayes | Cecil Malone | Ron Ridley | John Trembath |
| Gordon Bidgood | Melva Earle | John Hazleton | Bartley Marley | Donald Ridgway | Norman Tupper |
| Geoff Binder | Malcolm Elliot | Mervyn Heath | Rodger Marshall | Arthur Roach | Diane Wadsworth |
| William Bourke | Paul Ereaut | Ernest Hebbard | Lewis Martin | Donald Robertson | Clarence Walker |
| William Boswell | Allen Evans | Jim Henderson | Alfred Matthews | Paul Robinson | Ronald Walker |
| James Boxshall | Alan Evered | John Hennington | Frank Matthews | Michael Robson | Brian Wallace |
| John Boyer | Kevin Fary | Brian Hewston | Ralph Mayer | Jack Roebuck | Lawrence Walsh |
| John Brady | Keith Faulks | Stanley Hislop | Alan McDonald | Michael Rodan | Harry Watson |
| Brian Buckley | Wally Fawkner | Kevin Hogan | Bruce Meehan | Noel Rooney | Peter Webb |
| Colin Burgess | Vince Fazio | Arthur Holland | Norman Meek | Mervyn Ruby | Douglas Wikie |
| Maurice Butterworth | Gerard Fenning | Barbara Hortle | Neville Melville | Lorraine Sands | S. Wilkinson |
| Bruce Campbell | Clarence Flentjar | Clarence Houge | Leonard Merkins | Don Scally | Edmond Williams |
| Mervyn Campbell | Max Folan | Graham Howard | John Miller | Thomas Scandolera | Joseph Wilson |
| William Casey | Frederick Ford | Lawrence Hubbard | David Mitchell | Bernie Schultz | Richard Woodham |
| Peter Cerda-Pavia | Douglas Franklin | Jim Hughes | Muriel Mitchell | Ed Schunemann | Thomas Young |
| Joseph Charlton | Vince Frawley | Alan Hunter | John Moller | Alexander Scott | John Xueaeb |
| Douglas Charman | Maurice Gathercole | Murray Inwood | Joy Mooney | George Sewell | |
| Ronald Christie | Kenneth Gibbons | Maurice Jennings | John Murrells | Ray Shelton | |
| Collinetter Cogley | Jim Gillman | Stanley Johns | John Nicholas | Gerry Sheppard | |

Total: \$3,844

Well done, everyone!

Recruiting for the Australian Armed Forces

How to get the right person for the job... Put 100 bricks in some particular order in a closed room with an open window. Send 2-4 candidates into the room and close the door. Leave them alone and come back in three hours to analyse the situation.

If they stack and count, then re-stack and recount, then re-stack and recount the bricks: assign to accounting.

If some of the bricks are missing: assign to pay corps

If they've done nothing useful except make a huge mess with the bricks: assign to engineers

If they arrange the bricks in a strange order: assign to clerks

If any of the bricks are broken and one candidate dobs them in: assign the dober to MPs and the rest to electrical and mechanical engineering

If they make the bricks into a wall and insist on knocking it over with their heads: assign to infantry

If they insist on throwing the bricks at each other in the belief of hardening up: assign to armour

If the candidates are throwing bricks in no particular direction: assign to artillery

If they've already knocked off for the day: assign to RAAF

If they're staring out the window: assign to Navy

Finally, if they are all sitting around talking to each other and drinking coffee and no bricks have been moved...congratulate them and send them to Duntroon for officer training.

Battle of the Sexes

My wife sat down on the couch next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked, "What's on TV?" I said, "Dust."

My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds." So I bought her a scale.

When I got home last night, my wife demanded that I take her someplace expensive... So, I took her to a gas station.

My wife is standing nude, looking at herself in the bedroom mirror. She is not happy with what she sees and says to me, "I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment." So I do. "Your eyesight is damn near perfect."

My wife asked me, "How many women have you slept with?" I proudly replied, "Only you, darling. With all the others I was awake."

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and I notice she keeps staring at a drunken man sitting alone. I ask, "Do you know him?" "Yes," she sighed. "My old boyfriend. I'm told he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and hasn't been sober since." "My God!" I exclaim, "who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

* * *

The wife wanted to do some shopping during the day, so at breakfast she asked her husband for \$100.

"Money, money, money!" he shouted. "Every day of the week you want more money. If you ask me, I think you need brains more than you need money."

"Perhaps so," his wife agreed, "but I asked you for what I thought you had the most of."

* * *

Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.

* * *

She was sick, and her husband, who was fixing her a cup of tea, called out that he couldn't find the tea.

"I don't know what could be easier to find," she answered. "It's right in front on the pantry shelf in a cocoa tin marked *Matches*."

* * *

God may have created man before woman, but there is always a rough draft before the masterpiece.

After God created Adam he said, "I can do better than this." And so he made woman.

In the beginning, God created the earth and rested.
Then God created Man and rested.
Then God created Woman.
Since then, neither God nor Man has rested.

A husband and wife are shopping in their local grocery store. The husband picks up a case of Budweiser and puts it in their cart.

"What do you think you're doing?" asks the wife.

"They're on sale, only \$10 for 24 cans," he replies.

"Put them back, we can't afford them," says the wife, and so they carry on shopping.

A few aisles further on along the woman picks up a \$20 jar of face cream and puts it in the basket.

"What do you think you're doing?" asks the husband.

"It's face cream. It makes me look beautiful."

Her husband retorts: "So does 24 cans of Budweiser and it's half the price."

On the PA system: "Cleanup on aisle 5. We have a husband down."

* * *

Q: What is a man's idea of helping with the housework?

A: Lifting his legs so you can vacuum.

Q: How many men does it take to open a can of beer?

A: None. It should be opened when she brings it.

Q: How do you know when a woman is about to say something smart?

A: When she starts a sentence with "A man once told me..."

Q: If your dog is barking at the back door and your wife is yelling at the front door, who do you let in first?

A: The dog. He'll shut up once you let him in.

Q: Why is a Laundromat a really bad place to pick up a woman?

A: Because a woman who can't even afford a washing machine will probably never be able to support you.

Q: Why do men die before their wives?

A: They want to.

Q: Why do women have smaller feet than men?

A: It's one of those "evolutionary things" that allows them to stand closer to the kitchen sink.

Q: What is the difference between men and Government bonds?

A: Government bonds mature.

Q: Why is psychoanalysis a lot quicker for men than for women?

A: When it's time to go back to childhood, he's already there.

Q: How are men like noodles?

A: They are always in hot water, they lack taste and they need dough.

Treasurer's Annual Report

for the year Ending 31 December 2010

I have the pleasure to submit the year 2010 Treasurer's report. It was a productive year in the handling of the normal KVAA Inc. accounts and functions. Events and functions include: sponsoring refreshments at ANZAC Day, three BBQ's after General meetings, 90 members attended the Korean Church Service, 12 members attended the Korean picnic, attendance at the plaque dedication at Warne Ponds, 114 members and guests attended the rededication of KVAA and 77 Squadron RAAF plaque ceremony at Point Cook RAAF Base (including refreshments at RAAF Base Williams Officers Mess). The year-end Christmas Luncheon was successful with 116 attending. Service Awards in 2010 were issued to 12 members for 10 years, 25 for 15 years, 14 for 20 years, and 5 for 25 years service. A Life Membership Certificate was presented to Allan Murray. The KVAA also donated \$1000 to the Heidelberg Repatriation Centre to help in the construction of the Kapyong and Maryang San Bridge.

The year's accounts show a net profit of \$6,534. The Current Assets, non current assets and Equity resulting in the total members fund is \$36,809. Cash flow from operating activities is \$29,708. Reconciliation of cash assets is \$68,859 (includes \$351 depreciation). The Wellington Premium Fund is 13997 Units. The overall Premium Income Fund Annual report since the interim report of 30 June 2010 confirms the net assets of \$265,305,000 and as 31 December 2010 remains the same. The Fund remains at 13,997 units at 35.1¢ per unit. KVAA received an ex-Payment of one cent per unit on 29 Oct. 2010, which totalled \$139.00 (this is not an interest payment). Wellington Income Fund is continuing in marketing to upgrade the total fund.

A special thank you goes to all those members who have assisted the Association in its endeavours and a sincere appreciation to those that donated \$3844.00. The spirit of KVAA Inc is strong.

In conclusion and for your approval, on behalf of the KVAA Inc. Committee and Executive, I submit the financial report of the KVAA Inc. for the financial year ending 31 December 2010.

Gerald Steacy (Treasurer KVAA Inc.)

KVAA Inc. 2010 Accounts

Korean Veterans Association of Australia
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the Year Ended 31 December 2010

| | 2009 | 2010 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Income | \$ | \$ |
| Interest received | 24 | 3,281 |
| DVA grants | 3,680 | 5,181 |
| Subscriptions | 9,688 | 9,903 |
| Merchandise | 2,332 | 1,901 |
| Raffle ANZAC Day | | 689 |
| Entrance fee ANZAC Day | 3,112 | 1,244 |
| Miscellaneous | 4,476 | 3,669 |
| Total Income: | <hr/> 23,312 | <hr/> 25,867 |
| Expenses | | |
| Auditor's remuneration | 770 | 770 |
| Bank fees and charges | 45 | 20 |
| Depreciation - other | 387 | 351 |
| Donations | 326 | 1,000 |
| Fees & Permits | | 41 |
| Functions and outings | 9,062 | 6,380 |
| General expenses | 2,004 | |
| Insurance | 1,010 | 1,010 |
| KVAA jackets & polo shirts | 2,429 | |
| Materials & Supplies | | 2,532 |
| Postage | 2,857 | 3,461 |
| Printing & stationery | 1,425 | 1,608 |
| Subscriptions | | 360 |
| Telephone | 832 | 1,458 |
| Travel and accommodation | 333 | 13 |
| Total Expenses: | <hr/> 21,480 | <hr/> 19,333 |
| Profit from ordinary activities before income tax: | 1,832 | 6,534 |
| Net profit attributable to the association: | 1,832 | 6,534 |
| Total changes in equity of the association: | 1,832 | 6,534 |

Wyndham Accounting Services prepared this financial report in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, examining on a test basis of evidence supporting the amount and other disclosures in the financial report. The policies do not require the application of all the Australian Accounting Standards.

Stalin's Tank Designers

The relationship between Soviet tank designers and the Stalin regime was unique. During the 1930s, a design team worked on the development of an airdropped tank for airborne maneuvers. A prototype was worked up, but disintegrated when it was air-dropped into a body of water. A second model was then constructed and this time the NKVD strapped the designer and his assistant in the vehicle for the trial. They were able to survive the test, but the vehicle and the idea behind it were soon discarded. On another occasion, Stalin was shown a clay model of a proposed heavy tank with three turrets. After examining it for a few minutes, Stalin, walked over to the model, ripped off one of the turrets to the dismay of the designers and commented, "Why make a tank into a department store?"

Source: R. L. DiNardo, Strategy & Tactics magazine No. 106.

Out & About



On 17 November 2010, Bill Bailey, KVAA member from Arana Hills, Queensland (left), joined other veterans to turn the first sod on the site of the future Korean War memorial on the Gold Coast.



A short piece by Deborah Morris about the Korean War appeared in the *Frankston Standard* on 8th November 2010. Titled *Worst of Times Recalled* and sub-titled *Veterans gather to share memories, beers and more than a few white lies*, it features an interview at the Frankston RSL with KVAA Inc. members, Dick Prentice and Ron Benton, who recount some of their experiences in Korea.

Benton, who spent 30 years in the navy, was a petty officer on the frigate, *Murchison*, and took part in Battle of Han River in late Sept. 1951.

Prentice, ex-naval airman ordinance, found himself in the battle against an even more implacable foe than the communist Chinese and North Koreans, namely the infamous Cyclone Ruth when it struck Sasebo, Japan.

Providing the sub-title for the piece, Prentice finished the interview with the not untypical remark for a veteran that he and Benton were going inside to "have a couple of quiet ones, while telling some lies about what heroes we were."



Also in the News...

The *Whitehorse Leader* on 17 Nov. 2010 had a small piece on the \$3,000 Federal Government grant to the KVAA Inc. for a photocopier. It featured a photograph of Committeeman, Keith Langdon, and Secretary, Alan Evered, with MP Mike Symon.

KVA member, George Coleman (right), presenting a *Certificate of Appreciation* to Alan Scott, President of the Altona RSL for he and his member's help with the Korean War Memorial Plaque dedication last year.

Breaking News...

Australia Day, 26th January: KVAA member, John Hennington of Finlay, NSW, has been awarded the Order of Australia Medal for Services to Veterans and their families. Many of you will have met John at our Christmas Lunch and Awards day in December 2010. Also, Major General Mark Kelly AO (current DVA Repatriation Commissioner) has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for Distinguished Command and Leadership in Action. Congratulations to both men.

* * *

List of Management Terms

- Delegate: *Pass the buck.*
- Pending: *What the hell do we do with this?*
- Delayed: *Forgotten.*
- Urgency: *Panic.*
- Extreme Urgency: *Blind Panic.*
- Frank and open discussion: *Flaming row.*
- Analytical projection: *Guess.*
- Forecast: *Guess*
- Long-range forecast: *Wild guess.*
- Scheduled: *Hoped for.*
- Deficiency analysis: *Pointing the finger.*
- Ambitious: *Ruthless*
- Strategy: *Low cunning.*
- Shrewd: *Devious*
- Profit: *Profit*
- Profit before tax: *Loss*
- Deficit: *Staggering loss.*
- Industrial by-product: *Our waste.*
- Environmental pollution: *Other people's waste.*
- Pilfering: *Theft by the employee.*
- Fringe benefit: *Theft by the executive.*
- Executive termination payment: *Golden handshake*
- Supplementary statistical information: *Padding.*

Notices

Vaccination Prior to Overseas Travel Costs

Early in 2010, Gordon Blake, Chairman, Queensland State Advisory Council for the Australian Veterans' & Defence Services Council, approached the Deputy Commissioner in the Queensland Consultative Forum regarding Gold Card holders being required to pay for medical vaccinations prior to overseas travel. Before 1st Aug 2010, the DVA did not provided coverage for medical vaccinations for DVA clients travelling overseas. These were privately incurred expenses.

The DVA has now released a new Business Line where it states that as from the 1st August 2010, all Gold Card holders are eligible for all required vaccinations to be covered under the Gold Card arrangements. Any Gold Card holders that may have incurred charges from 1st August 2010 can to seek reimbursement via the DVA. A fact sheet covering this is likely to be issued shortly.

If anyone has any questions, they should contact their nearest DVA office.

Korean War Xmas Video

Another in the 'better late than never' category... Paul Hodge of Paul Hodge Productions has put together a 3½ minute Christmas video consisting of a photo slide show backgrounded by music and sound effects. It can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeDOQqgBDoQ>, and downloaded, if you have the software, from the same location.

Scholarship Program 2011

This scholarship program is designed to provide higher education in Korea at Hankuk University. There are only 2 places available and a number of conditions. The major benefits are: all admission and tuition fees, and on-campus housing, will taken care of by Hankuk University. For an application go to: <http://international.hufs.ac.kr> (Notice for Prospective Students). For further details: <http://international.hufs.ac.kr>

Application Submission Deadlines: 18 Feb 2011

Little Angels DVD

For those of you who attended the event, or missed it and would like to know what the justifiable fuss was about, *The Little Angels* concert held in Melbourne in November last year is available on DVD. It is available from the Secretary and costs \$10 plus postage. Good value.

An Invitation from Mark Ahn

There are over 20 clubs and organisations within the Melbourne Korean community and some of them are actively involved in community programs in the wider multicultural community. Early 2010, the Victorian Parliamentary Republic of Korea Friendship Group was established by State parliamentarians. To celebrate the birth of this Friendship Group and to farewell of the year 2010, we held a memorable End-of-Year party under the auspices of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Melbourne (KCCIM) on the 17th of December 2010. Members of most of the clubs and organisations within the Melbourne Korean community attended, as did the Honourable Bruce Atkinson, MLC. Noticeable was the lack of any Korea War veteran, perhaps due to lack of knowledge of the event or because of health or transportation reasons.

This year marks the 50th year since official diplomatic relations were established began between Australia and South Korea. A ceremony to mark this event will be held later in the year, to celebrate and strengthen the relationship between the two countries and the growing economic, cultural and political bond. I invite you all to attend it with your families and children and their children. I also encourage you and your children or grandchildren to join some of Korean community clubs and organisations. There are clubs to teach Korean language, painting, music, games and sports. If you are interested in business between our nation or know of someone who is, the KCCIM will be there for you too.

Gamsahamnida (Thank you).

Mark Ahn

Member of Victorian Multicultural Business Advisory Council

President of Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Melbourne

Telephone: 03 9572 2323 / Mobile: 0413 609 307 / Email: mahn@bigpond.net.au

Editor: Details of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of formal diplomatic relations will be published in The Voice closer to the date, as hopefully will other events of possible interest to veterans and/or their families.

* * * *

Mail Overload

A young soldier left home to join the army. He told his girl friend that he would write every day, and he did. After about six months, he received a letter from his girl friend that she was marrying someone else. He wrote home to his family to find out who she married. The family wrote back and told him. It was the mailman.

Useless Facts

The English term ‘cop’ comes from **Constable On Patrol**.

At their nearest point, Russia and the United States are less than four kilometres apart.

Canada’s coastline is six times longer than that of Australia.

The Philippines consist of 7,100 islands.

The world’s stupidest domesticated animal is thought to be the turkey. [*Editor - And here I was thinking it was the Australian politician*].

If California was a country, it would boast the fifth largest economy in the world.

The official name for the city of Bangkok, Thailand is (deep breath here): “Krung thep mahanakhon bovorn ratanakosin mahintharayutthaya mahadilok pop noparatratchathani burirom udomratchanivetma hasathan amornpiiman avatarnsa thit sakkathattiya-visnukarmprasit” or “Krung thep” for short, which translates as “City of Angels.”

It is 7,000,000,000 miles to Pluto and back (so pack a lunch if you’re planning to go there.)

The only place where a flag flies all day, never goes up or is taken down, and does not get saluted, is on the Moon.

For every person on Earth, there are 200 million insects.

It takes 17 muscles to smile and 43 to frown.

Source: Campbell, Guy & Devins, Mark, *The World's Most Amazing Planet Earth Facts*, Egmont Books, London 2002

WWI Factoids

In the early part of the conflict, the German Army had considerable success in smuggling arms to its ally Turkey; the guns were shipped across neutral Rumania inside beer barrels. This practice continued until one day when a larcenous Rumanian railroad employee attempted to wet his whistle.

The famous “Taxis of the Marne” which, with the aid of a few trucks and buses, transported thousands of reinforcements from Paris to the Battle of the Marne in September 1914, patriotically had their meters running during the entire operation.

During the Battle of Passchendaele (31st July-6th November 1917) during World War I, the British Army incurred 370,000 casualties and expended 4,283,550 shells to secure 45 square miles of water-soaked Belgian countryside. This averaged out to a cost of 8,222 men and 95,190 shells per square mile, or 83 men and 961.5 shells per square mile per day.

The Spy Who Wasn’t

Mata Hari, who was executed by firing squad in France in October 1917, is probably the most famous spy of all time. She is renowned for her beauty, her numerous military lovers, her provocative oriental dancing, and, above all, her espionage. Yet in fact she was not oriental, or even a spy. Mata Hari was the stage name adopted by a plump, middle-aged Dutch divorcée named Mrs Margaretha MacLeod who had left her alcoholic Scottish husband in the Netherlands East Indies (now Indonesia) and opted to become a dancer in Europe.

The evidence of her alleged espionage on behalf of the German Kaiser is based merely on her being mistaken for a known German agent, Clara Benedix, by the British in November 1916. In that month Mrs MacLeod was arrested in Falmouth, Cornwall, on board the *SS Hollandia* while she was on her way to Holland. The police released her when they realised the mistake.

Later, she was arrested in France and charged with having been in contact with German intelligence officers in Madrid. At her trial in Paris her lurid lifestyle was used to damning effect. It was only in 1963, when the secret files relating to her case were released, that the legend was reassessed.

Source: *Book of Facts*, Reader’s Digest (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 1994

Canoe Warfare

On 7 December 1942, six canoes manned by Royal Marines were launched off the Gironde estuary by the submarine *HMS Tuna* to begin *Operation Frankton*. The objective of the operation was to penetrate 90 miles up the estuary to sink Axis shipping in Bordeaux harbour. Upon launch at 8:00 p.m., one canoe aborted because of hull damage. A second was sunk in a tidal race at the estuary mouth, and a third in another race some miles in. A fourth was detected by a German patrol boat soon thereafter and sunk as well. Defenses were alerted, because *Tuna* had been picked up by radar at the mouth. The two surviving canoes travelled for several nights, hiding in islands and marshes by day. They covered 70 miles on their night journeys and finally reached the target harbour. At 11:00 p.m., they began placing 18 limpet mines and, by 5:00 a.m., they were clear – scuttling their canoes and attempting to escape overland. Nine hours after they were set, the mines exploded and sank or badly damaged six vessels, including a 15,000-ton tanker. One canoeist drowned in the tidal race, two escaped overland to Gibraltar in a five-month journey, and the rest were captured by the Germans and executed.

Source: *Strategy & Tactics* magazine No. 86.

Only One Way Down

In the First World War, no Allied pilot was ever equipped with a parachute, though by 1918 German pilots were regularly saving their lives with them. The reason was that a parachute which the user opened had not been invented, and the type then used was stowed separately from the pilot and hauled from the aircraft by the pilot's weight as he jumped.

In certain circumstances – if, say, the aeroplane was in a spin or in a steep dive – the line or the parachute might foul some part of the structure. So, rather than have a parachute that could not be relied on to open in every emergency, the Allied authorities preferred to have none.

Source: *Book of Facts*, Reader's Digest (Australia) Pty. Ltd., 1994

The Korean Blues

by Private B. McMaugh

8 Section, 3 Platoon, A Company, 1 RAR Korea
Written in Korea 1954

Sure the mountains of Korea
Are the worst I've ever seen
And I'm sick and tired of paddy fields
And daily Paludrine

There is dust upon my Bren gun
And there's grit inside the bore
My worries are fair dinkum
Like the bumpers on the floor

Oh there's silence, deathly silence
From beds around the wall
We're too tired to curse the army
We're too tired to curse at all

Sure my feet are sore and blistered
And my back feels like its broke
As I sit here on my bedroll
With a dennae in my poke

Sure, I beg you, Lord up yonder
In that blue Korean sky
Take me home again to Aussie
Cos I feel I'm gonna die

Take me back to the Land of the Gumtree
Away, far away from Korea
For I long for a sight of the Harbour Bridge
And the taste of an Aussie beer

Oh to hear the voice of an Aussie girl
Or see a Kings Cross cop
Instead of these endless mountains
With out bunkers at the top

But I guess when home in a city pub
While we spend our hard earned pay
We'll think anew of times we had
And agree – them were the days

Editorial Disclaimer

Articles in *The Voice* are printed on the understanding that, unless stated, they are the original works of the contributors or authors. The editor reserves the right to reject, edit, abbreviate, rewrite or re-arrange, any item submitted for publication. The view of contributing authors are not necessarily those of the Association, the editor or publishers of *The Voice*.

Chaplain's Corner

This is actually more the **Editor Masquerading As The Chaplain's Corner**. We've had a few requests for the somewhat irreverent version of *Grace* provided before the meal at the 2010 Xmas Luncheon by the Chaplain. I actually reprinted it in the February 2008 edition, but who apart from me and obsessive hoarders, who actually keeps editions of



The Reverend John Brownbill RFD KSJ

The Voice going back that far. Here it is (write it down people, I'm not going to do this again next year):

In good food, good wine and good fellowship, and for those who made it possible, we give thanks...

*O'Jesus Christ, O'Lord Divine,
who once turned water into wine.
Forgive, we pray, those foolish men,
who seek to turn it back again.
Bless us, this food, and all who serve us,
and from indigestion, Lord, preserve us.
Amen.*

One of the more ill-conceived headlines from WWII was the one in *The Mirror* in London, proclaiming: "The 8th Army Push Bottles Up Germans in North Africa."

Farewells

Thomas Beecham, 34051, 2RAR,
in November 2010

Barbara (Babs) Probyn-Smith (Capt. RAANC),
on 8 January 2011

Lemuel Allen Medwin, 6492, 3RAR,
on 1 February 2011

The Ode

They shall grow not 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