

THE VOICE

April 2014 Edition

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KVAA Inc. Internal Changes

(and some other boring but IMPORTANT matters)

The President of any organisation is usually the public face of that group. Few in the general public have probably heard of the KVAA Inc., but of those few who have, they would associate it with the name Vic Dey. He is the 'glamour boy' of the KVAA. Think Alan Ladd or Errol Flynn. The rest of the Executive is 'oh, that guy' and the Editor is the third man from the left in a crowd scene.

However, much of the day-to-day work is carried out by the National Secretary, in this case, Alan Evered (and the power-behind-the-throne, wife Nicole. A sort of 'two for the price of one' deal). After years in the job, Alan is taking the rest of 2014 off, partly to dig up old fossils (insert joke to the effect that if he's after old fossils, all he need do is attend a monthly Committee meeting), and also for family reasons. But don't despair, he hasn't abandoned us entirely; he's simply moved to the Committee where he can assist the new National Secretary. Speaking of which, congratulations (commiserations?) to John Moller OAM JP who steps into the role.

An Aussie, an Englishman and a Scot walk into a KVAA Inc. Committee meeting...

If this sounds like the beginning of a joke, is isn't.

We have two 'retirements' from the Committee. After many years of sterling service, Keith Langdon and Ivan Ryan are dropping out and Ron Kennedy (an Aussie) is returning after a nearly 10 year absence. Joining him are out-going Secretary, Alan Evered (an Englishman) and Don Scally, everyone's fourth favourite Scotsman (after Billy Connelly, Sean Connery and Johnny Walker).

In the December edition of *The Voice* I credited the section *Two Poems* to coming via John Munro. A grievous mistake picked up by hundreds of *Voice* readers. The credit should have read: John Munro (not to be confused with John Monroe).

Due to Anzac Day being on the 25 April, the monthly KVAA Inc. Committee/General Meeting will instead take place a week earlier, on 16 April. Same time, same location, just a different date.

Speaking of Anzac Day... Here are the details for the event this year:

Form up time is 11am on the west side of Swanston Street (opposite the City Square). As usual, a bus will be provided to ferry those who march to the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre in Little Collins Street for the usual after-event get-together.

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
 Allen Riches
 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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John Moller AOM JP

Phone: 03 9589 3816

Email: secretary@kvaas.org.au

Treasurer

Gerry Steacy

Phone: 03 9741 3356

Email: steacy32@bigpond.com

Committee

Ron Christie, John Duson, Alan Evered, Ron Kennedy, Allen Riches, Arthur Roach, Don Scally

Appointments

Chaplain: John Brownbill RFD KSJ 0418 359 085 **General Committee:** Alan McDonald

Pensions: Charlie Slater 9355 7264 & Ian Donald (Welfare Office, Bentleigh RSL) 9557 4547

Veterans' Affairs: Ivan Ryan 03 726 6053

Editor: Geoff Guilfoyle Phone: 03 59976240 Email: editor@kvaas.org.au

Delegates

ACT: Colin Berryman OAM 02 6258 2463, 040 896 2415, or jacol57@bigpond.net.au

Albury-Wodonga: Paul Shimmen 02 6041 3211 **Geelong:** Arthur Roach 03 5243 6113

New South Wales: Merv Heath 02 4343 1967

Queensland: Harry Pooley 07 3200 0482 and Kelly Frawley (Kilcoy) 07 5497 1790

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

Western Australia: John Southorn 08 9531 2008

Correspondence

The Secretary, PO Box 2123, Rangeview, Victoria 3132

Website

www.kvaas.org.au

Merchandise Available

KVAA pocket badge	\$10.00	\$	Kapypong battle print	\$ 6.00	\$
KVAA lapel badge (undated)	\$10.00	\$	The Hook 1953 battle print	\$ 6.00	\$
KVAA lapel badge (1950-57)	\$ 5.00	\$	RAN silk print: Ships in Korea	\$15.00	\$
KVAA windscreen decal	\$ 5.00	\$	Tie (with KVAA Inc. logo)	\$20.00	\$
KVAA beer (stubby) holders	\$ 5.00	\$	Car number plate surrounds (set)	\$10.00	\$
Korean War map (laminated)	\$ 6.00	\$	Woollen scarf (see <i>Notices</i> section)		
Korean War bumper sticker	\$ 2.50	\$			

TOTAL . . . \$_____ + \$2 pp = \$_____

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

Surname: Given Names:

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Cheques or money orders should be made out to:

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

President's Report



Vic Dey, National President, KVAA Inc.

With the passage of so much time since the Korean War, ageing is something we cannot ignore or control, whether we be veterans or their wives or widows. The death of a loved one is something we all have to bear and I'm sure all member of this Association join will me in offering condolences to out Patron, General Jim Hughes (and his family) on the passing of his wife, Jan, and also to our Chaplain, John Brownbill, who recently lost his wife, Elaine.

Another loss and particular friend of mine has been Ian "Robbie" Robertson, married to Maiko since 1952 and who also leaves behind three lovely daughters and their families.

Lest we forget.

To all who have lost a loved one, Legacy has been a wonderful organization (since 1923) looking after and caring for descendents of ex-servicemen and women, so it was indeed a pleasure and privilege attending their luncheon at the Melbourne Town Hall and watching the New President being Installed.

As you are aware there are a number of Memorial Services during April. Our Association will try and cover all the invitations sent to us. Those we have already accepted are: from the Premier of Victoria, Dr Denis Napthine, for the Anniversary of Anzac Day Luncheon on April 11th; from the State President of the RSL, Victorian Branch, for Tuesday 22nd April to mark the 99th Anniversary of Anzac Day, and Thursday 24th April will see us at our adopted school, Fountain Gate Secondary College, for their annual Anzac Day Memorial Service.

So, wherever you are around the World, may your Anzac Day be whatever you wish it to be, I trust that it will be both rewarding and enjoyable for you. Take care and God Bless.

Laurence Ryan MIA

by Ian Saunders

Regular readers of The Voice will know Ian Saunders as the 'go to' man for information on Australia's MIAs in Korea and a driving force behind keeping the topic in the public arena. In this short piece he outlines MIA Laurence Ryan's possible last moments. For more information: www.ausmiakoreanwar.net.au

The following is a dossier that I have created on Lieutenant Laurence Ryan (3/37672, 3 RAR, MIA 13 July 1952) based on Australian Korean War Diaries and AWM original documents:

On 12 July 1952 members of 1 Pl A Coy 3RAR manned a Fighting Patrol 'OBOE' for an assault on enemy trenches at Pt115 – GR CT 128156 planned for 2205 hrs that evening. As a prelude, air strikes were made onto Pt115 and Pt133 with artillery, mortar and tank fire under Plan 'Flossie' onto those and four other nearby positions.

At 2110 hrs 'OBOE' Patrol leader, Lt. Ryan + 25 moved through an A Coy outpost - GR CT 137152 and soon after, for the purpose of providing a firm base for the Fighting Patrol's return, Ambush Patrol 'SUGAR' of 1 x NCO + 10 moved into position at GR CT 133155.

Patrol 'OBOE' reported it was 'in position and ready' as scheduled at 2200 hrs on GR CT 129156 from where they advanced to arrive on the objective as pre-planned at 2205 hrs. The Patrol encountered heavy resistance with an end result of 3 MIA and 10 WIA.

One of the MIA, Lt. Ryan, was last seen seriously wounded lying in a shell crater at the objective – GR CT 128156 by Pte R.S. Dean who attempted to carry him from the position but was unable and went to enlist aid. On his return with Pte V.A. Dey, though both looked for several minutes until being told to pull back, Lt Ryan could not be found. He was listed MIA along with fellow Patrol members Pte's Lord and Wallace who became MIA at the same time. Without specific reference it is assumed at the same location also.

Further Comment: Soon after the action, an intercepted Radio message from the enemy at Pt115 stated they were holding 1 x KIA and 2 x WIA. Due to his last seen condition it was assumed that Lt Ryan was the KIA however later POW hearsay evidence (see below) stated he was shot whilst trying to escape from a POW camp indicating it may have been Pte's Lord or Wallace who were KIA. Without further evidence it is difficult to state what the case was. Lt. Ryan, Pte's Lord and Wallace are MIA presumed KIA, 13 July 1952.

POW hearsay evidence: From the Investigating Officer's Report 62E/1563 by Lt. B.J. Falvey 2/35015, the following relevant extracts were obtained in the interrogation of 2 Australian POW's on 6 November 1953.

"3/463 Major P.J. GREVILLE, 1 RAR, states :- (1) Informed by Chinese interrogator that Lt RYAN had died while undergoing an operation. (2) Was not allowed to see the grave. (3) That Pilot Officer GUTHRIE of the RAAF may be able to assist with information. (4) Pilot Officer GUTHRIE states : Never came in contact with the officer personally. However Lt. LANKFORD, R.N. gave him the following information. "Lt.

(continues on Page 9)

Treasurer's Annual Report

for the year Ending 31 December 2013

I have the pleasure to submit the year 2013 Treasurer's report. The year 2013 was a productive year with all accounts regarding the handling of the normal KVAA Inc. functions paid.

- Sponsoring refreshments at ANZAC Day.
- Three BBQ's after General meetings.
- 98 members attended the Korean Church Service.
- The yearly Memorial Ceremony held at Point Cook RAAF Base was shortened because of the weather and non-entrance to the Chapel. However, the tour of the RAAF Museum followed by lunch at the Werribee RSL was enjoyed by all.
- 14 members attended a Korean War Memorial reunion held in Canberra in October.
- Heidelberg Repat Hospital held a memorial service with 12 KVAA Inc. members and five students from Fountain Gate Secondary College in attendance.
- Members attended several Memorial Plaque dedications for those who went missing in action (MIA) during the Korean War.
- 119 attended the annual Christmas and Awards Luncheon. Service Awards in 2013 were issued to 6 members for 10 years, 21 for 15 years, 38 for 20 years membership of the KVAA Inc.
- A Life Membership Certificate was presented to Allen Riches.

Wellington's *Premium Income Fund Annual* reports their total assets on 30 June 2013 as \$21,196,000. KVAA received no payment in December 2013. Wellington entered into an agreement with Asset Resolution Ltd. (ARL) for the sale of \$90.75 million in assets in exchange for 830,532,768 shares. The shares have been transferred to the share holders at 1 share per unit. KVAA has 13996 shares with ARL at 3.6 cents per share. ARL is completely independent and is not related to Wellington Capital Ltd. or any of its Directors. Wellington is continuing to strive to maximise the *Premium Income Fund*.

- The year's ordinary activities net profit was \$679.
- Current Assets: \$40,706
- Non current assets: \$1,525
- Equity: \$42,231
- Total members fund: \$42,231
- Cash flow from operating activities: \$36,447.
- Depreciation \$381.00 (including all equipment)
- Reconciliation of cash: cash assets \$36,081 / Wellington \$13,996 units.
- Total reconciliation of cash \$26,284.

A special thank you goes to all those members who have assisted the Association in its endeavours and a sincere appreciation to members that donated a total of \$4,712.75 in 2013.

For your approval, on behalf of the KVAA Inc. Committee and Executive, I submit the financial report of the Korea Veterans Association of Australia Inc. for the financial year ending 31 December 2013.

Gerald Steacy (Treasurer, KVAA Inc.)

KVAA Inc. 2013 Accounts

Korean Veterans Association of Australia

Income and Expenditure Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2013

	2013	2012
Income	\$	\$
Interest received	61	271
DVA grants	5,331	5,321
Subscriptions	13,260	13,260
Merchandise	1,102	1,128
Miscellaneous	7,784	6,416
Other Income	210	
Total Income:	27,749	26,397
Expenses		
Auditor's remuneration	902	770
Bank fees and charges	92	140
Wreaths and Plaques	814	2,277
Depreciation - other	381	823
Donations		919
Fees & Permits		43
Functions and outings	10,379	3,748
Hire of Plant & Equipment	500	450
Insurance	1,060	1,010
Materials & Supplies	1,366	1,973
Postage	4,348	2,702
Printing & stationery	1,574	2,620
Rent on Land or Buildings		1,620
Sundry expenses	4,200	332
Telephone	1,468	1,611
Travel and accommodation	14	
Total Expenses:	27,070	21,038
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax:	679	5,359
Net profit attributable to the association:	679	5,359
Total changes in equity of the association:	679	5,359
Opening retained profits:	35,486	30,127
Closing retained profits:	36,164	35,486

Wyndham Accounting Services has prepared this financial report in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, examining on a test bases 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.

A Brief History of 2RAR

South West Pacific 1945

2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, had its origins as 66 Aust. Inf. Bn., which was raised on 16 October 1945 at Labuan in Borneo before joining 34 Aust. Inf. Bde. on the island of Morotai in the Molluccas archipelago of Indonesia. Volunteers for the Battalion came mostly from men of the 9th Division, 2nd AIF.

Japan 1946-1948

The Battalion participated in the occupation of Japan as part of 34 Aust. Inf. Bde. from February 1946 to December 1948. Stationed at Hiro during this time, the 66th Battalion also temporarily garrisoned Tokyo and Ebisu as part of its occupation duties. On 23 November 1948, the 66th Battalion became the 2nd Battalion, The Australian Regiment.

Australia 1948-1953

In December 1948, the unit returned to Australia and was located at Puckapunyal in Victoria. The Battalion became the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment on 10 March 1949 with approval being given to add the prefix 'Royal' to the existing title. 2 RAR remained at Puckapunyal until March 1953 as part of 1 Indep. Inf. Bde. Gp. It was responsible for the training of recruits from southern states; and later, recruits for the Battalions fighting in Korea.

Korea 1953-1954

On 5 March 1953 the Battalion embarked for Pusan, Korea on MV *New Australia* and arrived on 17 March 1953. A soldier named Private G. Belville stowed away onboard because he had been posted out of the unit a few days before. He was fined five pounds and taken back on strength. In 1957, on graduating from OCS, he served as an officer in the Battalion for a short period. He was killed in action in 1966 as a Captain serving with the Army Training Team in South Vietnam.

On 21 March 1953 detachments from 1 RAR, 2 RAR and 3 RAR paraded together on the 1 RAR parade ground at Camp Casey. This was the first occasion in which all the Battalions of The Royal Australian Regiment had paraded together and on this occasion all were on war service.

In April 1953 the Battalion moved into the line, as part of 28 Britcom Bde/1 Comwel Div., relieving a French Battalion. It was noted that artillery and mortar reports became more timely and accurate from the rifle companies after mortar fire had damaged C Company's beer ration in early May 1953.

The Hook

On 9 July 1953, 2 RAR relieved the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment around 'The Hook' feature, the left flank of 1 Comwel Div. The Battalion was subjected to intermittent artillery, mortar and infantry attacks leading up to the battle of 'The Hook' on 24, 25 and 26 July 1953.

Coinciding with attacks on 7 US Marine Regt., on the Battalions left, 2 RAR was heavily attacked with artillery concentrations and infantry during the night of the 24th and the early hours of the 25th. The reserve company from 1 Durham Light Infantry (DLI) came under command 2 RAR at midnight. The enemy objectives were the features 'Boulder City' in the US Marine Sector and 'Point 121' in the 2 RAR Sector. All attacks were repulsed with heavy enemy casualties by the morning of the 25th and the reserve company from 1 DLI was withdrawn.

The enemy resumed heavy attacks on the Marines and the 2 RAR sector during the night of the 25th. D Company, 3 RAR came under command at 0100 hours and again a company from 1 DLI was warned but did not move up. These attacks were again beaten back with severe enemy casualties and major attacks ceased by the morning of the 26th. For its performance under these attacks 2 RAR won the battle honour 'Samichon'.

Australia 1954-1955

The Battalion sailed for home on 6 April 1954 on MV *New Australia*, arriving at Brisbane on 16 April 1954 and moved into Enoggera Barracks. The Jungle Training Centre had recently been re-established at Canungra near Brisbane and 2 RAR was the first unit to pass through this reactivated centre.

Colours were presented to the Battalion at Victoria Park, Brisbane, on 28 September 1955 by the Governor-General Field Marshal Sir William Slim, GCB, GMG, GCVO, GEE, OSO, MC, KStJ. The Battalion then became the first regular unit in Australia to receive the Queen's and Regimental Colours. After receiving the Colours the Battalion marched through Brisbane, its last public appearance before proceeding

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overseas again.

Malaya – First Tour

The Battalion was the first Australian unit to serve in Malaya since World War II. It was also the first time Australian troops became members of an overseas, operational part of the British Commonwealth Far Eastern Strategic Reserve. 2 RAR embarked in Brisbane in October 1955 and moved to Penang as part of 28 Comwel Ind. Inf. Bde. It is noteworthy that the formation in which the Battalion served had the longest title in any Commonwealth Army: 28 British Commonwealth Independent Infantry Brigade Group (North Malaya Sub-District).

The Battalion entered operations on 3 January 1956 in the Kulim area. B Company had the first successful contact with the Communist Terrorist (CT) enemy during 'Operation Deuce'. During this operation a party of Sarawak Rangers were attached as scouts and proved very valuable. This operation concluded for the Battalion on 30 April 1956 when it was relieved by a Battalion of the Malay Regiment.

2 RAR immediately participated in a 28 Comwel Indep. Inf. Bde. operation called 'North Shark' at Kuala Kangsar in the state of Perak. Extensive use was made of Auster aircraft from 1907 LL/AOP Flt. dropping supplies and mail, recon and liaison. Operations were continued at Sungei Siput from 27 October to 2 December 1956.

The unit was withdrawn from 'Operation North Shark' for rest and retraining at Minden Barracks and was based at Penang. On 4 February 1957 the unit returned to 'Operation North Shark' relieving the 1st Battalion, Royal Lincolns. Again Auster aircraft provided support against the 13/15 Indep. P1 (CT). The unit also participated in 'Operation Rubberlegs' from 7 March to 17 March 1957. On 1 August 1957, 2 RAR moved back to Butterworth for rest and retraining and remained at Butterworth/Penang until late October 1957.

During this tour official approval was received for the 2 RAR flag to be black, with the numbers to be in the upper hoist canton and The Regimental Crest in the centre.

On 31 October 1957, the Battalion returned to Australia and marched through Sydney to a ticker-tape welcome from 100,000 spectators. 2 RAR returned to barrack life at Holsworthy, again as part of 1 Indep. Inf. Bde. Gp.

In mid-1960, after a major reorganisation of the Army, the Battalion became a Pentropic unit. It was reorganised on tropical establishment again in June 1961 to prepare for its second tour of Malaya.

Malaya – Second Tour

The Battalion was the first to serve two tours of Malaya. It joined 28 Comwel. Indep. Inf. Bde. Gp. at Terendak Camp near Malacca in October 1961. During this tour it hunted the remnants of the communist terrorists on the Thailand/Malaysia border. The Battalion returned to Brisbane and Enoggera Barracks in August 1963 without suffering any loss of life. The unit then served as part of the 6th Task Force, 1 Division.

Vietnam – First Tour

2 RAR remained at Enoggera until it embarked for operational service in South Vietnam on 19 May 1967. On that day the unit sailed on the troop carrier *HMAS Sydney* to relieve the 6th Battalion serving with the 1st Australian Task Force at Nui Dat in Phuoc Tuy Province.

During this tour, two companies of New Zealand Infantry were placed under command and 2 RAR became an ANZAC Battalion. Soldiers of 2 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) took part in 23 operations in Phuoc Tuy and Bien Hoa Provinces and maintained constant patrols and ambushes throughout their area of operations. Nine of these operations were conducted wholly by the NZAC Battalion. Others were staged with 3 RAR, 7 RAR with armour, artillery, engineer, aviation and SASR support.

The Battalion's most successful operation was Operation 'Coburg' that took place in the area of the border between Bien Hoa Province and Long Khanh Province north west of Phuoc Tuy Province. This was a Task Force operation, the first in strength outside Phuoc Tuy Province. This Task Force relieved the 199th Inf. Bde. (US) with the aim of denying the Viet Cong (VC) access to the area and sites from which they could direct rocket fire into the huge American bases at Long Binh and Bien Hoa.

During the operation, the enemy launched the Tet Offensive. The number of contacts with the enemy rose sharply and instead of local force VC, the unit began to meet well trained main force troops of the 274th VC Regiment. 91 Viet Cong or North Vietnamese were killed and over 80 weapons captured. In this first tour the ANZAC Battalion killed 187 enemy, inflicted a further 60 confirmed WIA casualties, captured 12 prisoners and 190 weapons. The Australians and New Zealanders had 28 soldiers killed during the tour.

4 RAR relieved the Battalion on 1 June 1968. On its return from Vietnam on 13 June, the Battalion again

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The Spirit of Anzac

No author credited

From the memoir of an anonymous British sailor present at the start of the campaign who recorded what he witnessed...

The “Spirit of Anzac” was born on April 25, 1915, when under withering fire from a well-entrenched enemy, Australian, New Zealand and other allied troops landed on the beach at Gallipoli in Turkey. It was the start of a long and bloody campaign that militarily ended in failure, but won for the Australians, through heroism, reckless courage, self-sacrifice and fierce determination, the admiration of their allies and enemies.

The Australian troops forming the covering party, to the number of some 1500, were embarked in British battleships on April 24, at Mudros. As the men came on board they were detailed-off to certain places on the quarter deck and batteries of the ship by ship’s officers, all allotted places having been previously painted on the decks. Each battleship took about 500 men and destroyers took the remainder, about 250 apiece.

The fleet sailed as convenient for arriving off the pre-arranged rendezvous before dawn. Each ship was darkened and must have been invisible at a short distance. The troops were given a final hot meal just before the fall in. Then each section fell-in in perfect silence and order on their allotted squares.

Each battleship had four tows, consisting of one picket boat, one launch, one sailing pinnace, one cutter and a lifeboat. They were all slung ready for lowering on arrival at the rendezvous. The covering party consisted of twelve tows, two tows each side assembled alongside three battleships. Each set of four tows embarked 500 Australian troops apiece. When embarkation was completed, the battleships proceeded towards the landing point followed by the tows.

The moon had barely set, and as we moved in expecting every moment to hear gunfire from the shore, only the throbbing of engines broke the silence. Soon the high cliffs of the Gallipoli Peninsula loomed clear ahead. It might well have been an uninhabited island we approached, but we knew that somewhere beyond the escarpment, Turkish soldiers were concealed. What kind of reception would we get?

A solitary light blinked at us from high on a ridge. “The Turks are up early” said an Australian soldier.

I believe it was a setting star we saw, while others maintained it was a warning signal.

It was evident that currents were carrying the tows well to the northward of the prearranged disembarking points. However, there was nothing for it but to continue towards the looming black cliffs several hundred feet high and seeming unscalable in the pre-dawn half light.

We began sounding a few hundred yards off the beaches. The soldiers, keyed to a pitch of intense excitement, urged us on.

Suddenly a single shot rang out, echoing among the hills. Then the blue and red flame and splutter of a machine gun and a hail of bullets spattering the water. The order was given to slip, no need for silence now!

The boats pulled for the shore and soon the sound of shouting troops told us they had beached.

Meanwhile, the grey dawn had become daylight, and we in the picket boats backed out and ranged alongside the nearest destroyers which came up dead on time and in perfect station, line abreast. They all had transport lifeboats alongside rapidly filling with troops eager to get ashore, and as soon as sufficient were loaded, we took them in tow and rushed them towards the beach, slipping them in as near as we could and returning for more until the destroyers were empty.

Looking shorewards we could plainly see the Australians scrambling over the ridge like monkeys, carrying everything before them. Rifle fire was unceasing, an incessant crackle and bullets sending up little fountains of spray all around the boats disembarking the troops.

Heavy shrapnel fire came from our right flank, causing many casualties amongst beach parties, boats, crews and the destroyers close in.

Taking stock, we realised that we had landed the troops at least a mile north of the chosen place, but according to many it was a blessing in disguise. It certainly saved many casualties in the early phases as the rugged cliffs to the north’ard screened us from much of the Turkish fire, while to the south near Gaba Tepe it was, in contrast, low lying land with, as we afterwards discovered, the sea shallows heavily staked and wired. Certainly the Turks never expected us to land where we did in the face of a precipitous climb.

My own immediate orders ceased with the clearing of the destroyers, so I set about running inshore, rounding up empty boats and towing them alongside incoming troop laden vessels and rushing them to the beach again.

About 11am we began landing stores, a wireless plant, stretcher parties, doctors and medical gear. The casualties seemed to me appalling, but perhaps not when one thinks of the feat accomplished. The wounded seemed undaunted.

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The Spirit of Anzac (continued from Page 7)

I shall not forget the spirit of those Australians, some of them hit many times who could yet grin, joke and damn the enemy.

Shrapnel from the concealed batteries was our worst trouble. Covering warships closed-in and shelled them, but it only kept them quiet for ten minutes or so at a time.

Snipers, cleverly concealed in the cliff side, gave us a lot of trouble. They were real sharp-shooters and caused many casualties on the landing day. Early in the forenoon observation balloons put in an appearance and so did heavy calibre shells from the enemy's battleships in the Narrows. A wag, a captain of Marines, later named these big shells 'Christians Awake' from their unpleasant habit of coming over at sunrise.

I know that the Gallipoli campaign ended in failure as in the military circumstances it was, I think, bound to do, but nothing can dim the heroic endeavours of those who fought – soldiers and sailors. The conduct of young midshipmen in charge of open boats under heavy fire, youngsters not long in their teens earned the highest praise from all, none more than the Australians who they helped to put ashore.

So much has been written of the Australians, of their fighting qualities and endurance, that it seems but re-iteration to mention it here. I must say, however, that the naval men who took part in the landing operations on Gallipoli Peninsula on that fateful April 25, will never forget the valour under fire of those untried soldiers who, facing a well entrenched enemy, never flinched nor ceased to mourn the many short time Australian messmates who fell that day.

Source: *Navy News* Vol.20, No.7, 22 April 1977

A Brief History of 2RAR (continued from Page 6)

occupied an area of Enoggera Barracks prior to establishing itself at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville in June 1969.

Vietnam – Second Tour

On 15 May 1970, 2 RAR officially relieved 6 RAR and resumed the title of ANZAC Battalion with New Zealanders again under command. In a successful twelve months of operations against the enemy, including 0440 and 0445 VC Battalions, the unit killed 110 enemy troops and captured 23 for the loss of 13 soldiers killed. 4 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) took over operational responsibility from 2 RAR in May 71. The Battalion returned to Lavarack Barracks where it linked with 4 RAR on 15 August 1973.

Re-Raising of 2 RAR

As a result of the 1994 Defence White paper 2/4 RAR was unlinked on 1 February 1995 to form 2 RAR and 4 RAR. The officers and soldiers of 2/4 RAR formed 2 RAR and remained part of 3 Brigade in Samichon Lines.

United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR)

In 1994 the Australian Government approved the commitment of Australian troops to provide humanitarian support to the UN forces deployed in Rwanda. 'A' Company were deployed to protect the Australian Medical Support Force, and the Commanding Officer, Operations Officer and other key personnel were attached to the UN mission Headquarters. This deployment also drew on elements of Support Company, Administration Company and the Battalion Headquarters.

A Company returned in February 1995 and was replaced by B Company. During the second deployment there was serious unrest at the Kibeho Displaced Persons camp during April 1995. Action by the Rwandan People's Army caused considerable loss of life amongst the local Rwandan population but fortunately no casualties to B Company.

B Company returned to Australia when the Australian commitment ended in August 1995.

Best Selling Lies

Before 1992 and the collapse of communism in the U.S.S.R., the ironically named Komsomolskaya Pravda was the largest circulating newspaper in the world. At its peak, in May 1990, the official youth paper of the Soviet Communist Party sold an extraordinary 21,975,000 copies every day. Why ironically named? Pravda means 'truth', something that appeared only rarely in the paper which was essentially concerned with propaganda.

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

Man Power Lost As Obesity Grows

As men get fatter their bones and muscles get weaker, a Deakin University study has found. A research team with Deakin's School of Medicine measured the BMI (body mass index), fat, muscle and bone density of 1329 men aged 25-96 in the Geelong region during 2001-06 and of 900 men of similar ages five years later. They found that a 1.2% increase in BMI was driven by a 9% increase in body fat and that muscle mass had dropped by 0.9% and bone mass by 1.6%.

"Obesity in men is clearly on the rise," said Professor Julie Pasco, lead investigator of the study. "But an even more alarming finding is that while body fat has increased, muscles and bones have deteriorated. Obesity is bad enough as it increases the risk for diseases such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. However we are now seeing that the musculoskeletal system (bones and muscle) could be affected too."

While the changes in muscle and bone mass found in the study are relatively small compared to the increase in body fat, they foretell serious problems for the future as the population ages.

"During ageing, bone loss leads to osteoporosis and muscle loss leads to a condition known as sarcopenia which makes people physically weak, less mobile and more dependent," Professor Pasco said. "When sarcopenia occurs in the face of obesity, fat infiltrates the muscles, which further weakens muscle strength and performance. The public health challenge is to identify ways to modify the environment and change behaviour at a population level to combat the obesity epidemic and address these undesirable changes in body composition."

The findings are part of the Geelong Osteoporosis Study that has been monitoring the health status of Geelong residents for more than 20 years. It is a population-based health study conducted by Deakin University's Epidemiology Unit for Healthy Ageing, in Deakin University's IMPACT Strategic Research Centre based at Barwon Health. This new research is published online in the journal *Obesity*.

Peddle Power

In 1886, the modern bicycle, called the *Pioneer*, was developed. It was soon used in military operations since it was cheaper than horses, easily repairable in the field, required few spare parts, and took up less baggage space. Variations would eventually be foldable and, at only 15 pounds, highly portable. It could carry more supplies and equipment than a regular soldier and was faster than a horse on flat, unbroken ground.

In 1897, to prove the effectiveness of bicycles, British Lieutenant Moss and his 25th Bicycle Infantry Corp. travelled 1900 miles in 34 days at an average of 55 miles per day, at one third the cost if the same trip was made by a horse-mounted regiment. It being cheaper, during the Boer War (1899-1902), the British government shipped bicycles to South Africa instead of horses. They were used primarily for reconnaissance.

In WWI, an estimated total of 500,000 bicycle troops were used by the various combatants, many equipped in the latter stages of the conflict with machine guns. Bicycles were deployed in huge numbers in an official military capacity – usually reconnaissance or courier duty – in every conflict of the 20th century. The last use of the military bicycle was in Afghanistan in 2001 when the U.S. military employed them in particularly mountainous regions. In 2003, the Swedish disbanded the world's last remaining bicycle regiment.

Offing Popov

Jail is one of the lesser risks a spy runs. In the late 1950s, Colonel Peter Popov, an officer in Russia's military intelligence service, the GRU, was discovered to be a double agent working for the West. His penalty – later leaked and officially recorded as a dreadful warning to Western intelligence agencies – was savage. He was tossed live into a furnace in front of an audience of his GRU colleagues in 1959.

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

Laurence Ryan MIA (continued from Page 7)

RYAN was imprisoned in an annex to Camp No.2 and was shot whilst attempting to escape."

Summary:

- a) Lt. Lankford told PO Guthrie that Lt. Ryan was imprisoned at Camp 2 (Pin-Chongi-Ni) in an annex.
- b) A Chinese interrogator had identified Lt. Ryan to Major Phillip Greville who "was not allowed to see the grave " because he would not respond to Chinese interrogations concerning their enemies military plans and locations. (Maj. Greville told me such when we met in 2009.)
- c) Lt. Lankford and Ron Guthrie were both POW's at Camp 2 Pin-Chong-Ni post January 1952 until Armistice and both of them endured unsuccessful escape attempts.

This circumstantial evidence tends to imply that Lt Ryan was buried in the vicinity of Pin Chong-Ni, Camp 2.

Donations 2013

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.)

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The First *HMAS Australia*

The Dreadnought battle cruiser, *HMAS Australia*, was completed on 21 June 1913, a total of 20 months after her launching at Clydebank, Scotland. Later that month she commissioned and hoisted the flag of Rear Admiral George Patey, whom she was to take out to Australia to become the first FOCAF. He was knighted onboard *Australia* by HM King George V before she left Portsmouth.

Compared to vastly improved battle cruisers already designed and under construction, *Australia* was inadequately armed and ill-protected with armour. However, on arrival in Australia, she almost immediately proved a worthwhile investment for her country. Her presence on the Australian Station at the outbreak of WWI, deterred Admiral Graf von Spee from bringing his powerful cruiser squadron into our waters. After her involvement with the occupation of German New Guinea and Rabaul, she proceeded to the western entrance of the Panama Canal to help deter von Spee from moving through those waters.

Following service as flagship of the North American and West Indies Station, she was sent to join Beatty's battle cruiser fleet in the North Sea. She operated in this force as flagship of the 2nd Battle Cruiser Squadron until a collision in fog with the *New Zealand* put her out of the ensuing Battle of Jutland, and subsequent destruction of many British cruisers. After more than three years of uneventful service in the North Sea, in November, 1918, she had the honour of leading the port wing of the Grand Fleet at the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet.

At war's end, she refitted at Portsmouth, then welcomed aboard J. S. Dumaresq as first Australian born Commander of the Australian Fleet, before sailing for home. *Australia* spent most of the last months of her peacetime service in the area around Westernport Bay, training young sailors, before paying off at the end of 1921. While lying in reserve in Sydney, she was doomed to be included in the British total under the new restrictions of the Washington Treaty. Consequently, on 13th April, 1924, she was taken out of Port Jackson and ceremonially sunk at the edge of the continental shelf.

Source: *Navy News* Vol.46, No.9, 5 June 2003

Notices

The Spirit of Australia

A Collection of Short Stories by “Warrie” George Mansford

The Man from Snowy River is part of Australia's folklore as he embodies that indomitable spirit, that will to have a go, a determination not to be defeated and that Australian larrikinism that we crave for. Within the Defence family, George Mansford is just as well known, and for the same reasons. Mention George “Warrie” Mansford and instantly the conversation becomes animated and stories are recounted about a man who rose from Private soldier to Brigadier but who never lost his humble beginnings. George Mansford is one of those rare men, whose word is binding, a man who is not afraid to speak his mind but does so only after very careful deliberation, a man who will never leave a friend behind and, in country terms, I would ride the river with George Mansford anytime, anyplace.

George Mansford has proudly served his Nation in Korea, Malaya and South Vietnam. He leads from the front, calls a spade a shovel and was a tough soldier and commander. He laughs often and loudly but he has known sorrow during his life.

This collection of stories and verse encapsulates the Australian spirit, from the bush to Canberra, to distant lands, presented with the vitality and richness of George's many experiences and escapades, and of those with whom he served. I hope that it rekindles the reader's patriotism and inspires them to research our Nation's proud history.

I am sure that this collection of George's short stories and poems, will give you a far greater understanding of George Mansford than any character description can. George truly epitomises everything Australian and I am honoured to have George Mansford as a friend.

Neil Weekes, AM, MC Brigadier (Retired)

For all general enquiries or anyone interested in purchasing a copy of “The Spirit of Australia” please contact Jeannette Bartlett direct on gmansfordspiritofaustralia@gmail.com or on 0417 515773.

PAY ON LINE BANKING DETAILS (\$30.00)

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George Lyon Mansford

2/68 Pacific Drive, Banksia Beach, 4507 QLD.

All profits from the sale of the first printing of the book will be donated to the following organisations:

- Legacy
- The Royal Australian Regiment Association (Memorial Walk)
- Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (Memorial Grove)

A Message From Ron Nolan

My name is Ron Nolan. I served with 3 RAR in Korea 1951 - 1952 as a Rifleman. After retiring in June 1980 my wife and I lived at Enoggera until Oct 2010 when we moved to Kippa-Ring, a suburb of the Moreton Bay Region at the center of the Redcliffe peninsula, approximately 27 kilometres from Brisbane. I am a member of 3 RAR Association and spent some time on the Board. I would like to contact any Korean Vets living in this area, and I wondered if your association put out a newsletter and if so would you be prepared to insert a small para advising that I am living at: 4 Regency Street, Kippa-Ring and my phone is 07 3203 1230.

Seeking Rob Johnson

Received via the KVAA Inc. website. A fellow named Mick is looking for Robert John Johnson (515870) who served with 3RAR and the Royal Australian Artillery in Korea and then with the 4th Field Regiment in Vietnam (1970-71). If you know Rob Johnson or know of him, you can contact Mick via email on mjr2226@gmail.com or let the editor know and he'll contact Mick.

Scarves for Sale

With the approach of spring, a young man's fancy turns to... Oh, wait, wrong poem – and wrong season. Winter is on the way and most of the men reading this parted from their youth many decades ago. Time to rug up, and what better way than with a woolen scarf (with colored vertical stripes, representing the nations who served under the U.N. in the Korean War).

Did I hear you inquire: “Where can I get one.” Glad you asked. Our Vice-President, Tom Parkinson, can help you. Just call him on 9350 6608 or at the Pascoe Vale RSL on 9354 6364.

The cost of the scarf is \$35 plus \$5.20 p&p.

Here's your chance to make a fashion statement and help our organisation at the same time. Hurry, we have limited numbers.



“He's always been a bit of a panic merchant.”

Humour

*Warning: the following may be offensive to sensitive souls of Scottish descent.
On the other hand...reading it won't cost you a farthing.*

- A Scotsman won the lottery...yet had a very long face. When asked why, he replied, "Aye, it grieves me to think of the dollar I wasted on the second ticket."
- A Scotsman complained to a magazine that if they didn't stop printing Scottish jokes, he wouldn't borrow their magazine to read anymore.
- The following was seen on a poster outside a Kirk in Arbroath: DRINK IS YOUR ENEMY. Adjacent to this was another poster which said: Love your enemy.
- Sign at a Scottish golf course: Members will refrain from picking up lost balls until they have stopped rolling.
- Question: How do you disperse an angry Scottish mob? Answer: Take up a collection.
- Question: Why do all Scots have a sense of humour? Answer: Because it's free.
- In Scotland they had to take pay-as-you-leave buses off the streets – they found two men had starved to death in one of them.
- A Scotsman wanted to impress his girlfriend so he took her for a ride in a taxi. The trouble was, she was so beautiful he could hardly keep his eyes on the meter.
- Angus called in to see his friend Donald to find he was stripping the wallpaper from the walls. Rather obviously, he remarked "You're decorating, I see," to which Donald replied, "Naw. I'm moving house."
- Have you heard about the lecherous Jock who lured a girl up to his bedroom to see his etchings? He sold her four of them.
- Report from a Glasgow newspaper: *Two taxis collided in Maryhill last night. Three people were seriously injured. The other seventeen escaped with minor injuries.*
- There was the Scotsman who married a girl born on February 29 so he'd only have to buy her a birthday present every four years.
- Have you heard about the Scotsman who gave a present of fifty pounds each to an Englishman, an Irishman and a Welshman...? Nor has anyone else.
- Why are Scotsmen so good at golf? They realise that the fewer times they hit the ball the longer it will last.
- Recent historical research has revealed why Scotsmen wear kilts. In 1317, Sandy McNab won a lady's tartan skirt in a raffle.
- A Scotsman went on a week's holiday to London taking with him a shirt and a five pound note. When he returned home he hadn't changed either of them!
- There was a Scottish baker who tried to economise by making a bigger hole in his doughnuts. He discovered, though, that the bigger the hole, the more dough it took to go round it.
- At an auction in Glasgow a wealthy American announced that he had lost his wallet containing £10,000 and would give a reward of £100 to the person who found it. From the back of the hall a Scottish voice shouted, "I'll give £150."
- Scottish preacher to his congregation: "I don't mind you putting buttons in the collection plate, but please provide your own buttons. Stop pulling them off the church cushions."
- Another Scottish preacher is said to have prayed thus after a particularly unproductive collection: "We thank you Lord that the plate was returned safely."
- Why are so many Scottish churches circular? So nobody can hide in the corners during the collection.
- "I hear Maggie and yourself settled your difficulties and decided to get married after all," Jock said to Sandy. "That's right," said Sandy, "Maggie's put on so much weight that we couldn't get the engagement ring off her finger."

The Truth About Bagpipes

There are many theories about the bagpipes, otherwise known as the missing link between music and noise. Some say they were invented by a Scotsman who trod on his cat and liked the noise. Others claim that they are based on the noise made by a dying octopus. The truth is, however, that they were given to the Scots by the Irish as a joke – but the Scots haven't seen the joke yet!

Question: Why do bagpipers walk when they play?
Answer: They're trying to get away from the noise.

Question: Why do pipers like to march as they play the bagpipes?
Answer: A moving target is harder to hit.

MacTavish visited London for his annual holiday and stayed at a large hotel. However, he didn't feel that the natives were friendly. "At 4 o'clock every morning," he told a friend, "they hammered on my bedroom door, on the walls, even on the floor and ceiling. Och, sometimes they hammered so loud I could hardly hear myself playing the bagpipes."

Out & About

Kelly Frawley & Spyder

The photo below shows one of our two Queensland Delegates, Kelly Frawley, posing with his pride and joy, a 2008 Can Am Spyder, which as you all know is a...um...very fine piece of engineering. A very futuristic looking, um, cut-down Formula One racing vehicle? A motorised skateboard with a front shield and outrigger? A bicycle with training wheels for first-time adult riders? Oh, what's that? It is a motorcycle. With four wheels? Yeah, right, pull the other one Kelly.



Redcliffe Memorial Wall Unveiling

A memorial wall honouring those who served their country in all conflicts and all services was unveiled at the Redcliffe RSL Sub-Branch on 22 February. Present as the keynote speaker was outgoing KVAA Inc. Secretary, Alan Evered (pictured at wall), who said of the Australian contribution to the Korean War, "Australia like many other countries was not wholly prepared for the Korean War. The Army needed to raise a volunteer force in order to reinforce our Battalions to full strength. Despite deficiencies, Australian troops distinguished themselves by getting on with the job-in-hand. 77 Squadron RAAF had pilots who had only 8 hours flying experience in the Meteor jet fighter as, at that time, there was no operational training facility in Australia. The RAN struggled to support two naval vessels on operations only five years after WWII. Despite these early setbacks, by the end of the War some 17,000 Australian men and women had served in Korea."



Plaques which had previous been mounted inside the RSL on a memorial arch were also moved to the new wall. Among them was one which paid tribute to soldiers missing in action in Korea and also to the 4-legged and winged Diggers (horses, dogs and pigeons) who served alongside them.

Voyage of Life

by Ramon J. Mason ex 3RAR & 1RAR

I've never been a sailor, but have sailed in many a ship,
No voyage has been a failure, but always a hard trip,
Worship was the first one; my mother forced it on me,
But today I'm pleased to say, we've parted company.
Hardship was the next one, it's lasted most of my life,
Never harder believe me, than when I took a wife,
Friendship was a good one, it lasts forever and a day,
Mateship is the best one; you'll treasure it in every way.
Courtship needs to be entered with a clear clinical mind,
Courtship leads to relationship, which is a long hard grind,
Relationship is partnership when you and your spouse,
Enter into ownership, when you purchase a house.
Membership is one you can enter at any stage,
Then you become a bowling member in your old age,
Of all the ships one sails in during their lifetime,
It's for sure the last one will be made of pine.

One Huge Scary Army

North Korea today is the most militarized nation on earth, with about 9.5 million active, reserve and paramilitary personnel in service out of a population of about 24 million. The Korean People's Army (KPA) is the collective name for the five branches of its military: ground force, naval force, air force, special operations force, and rocket force. According to the US Department of State, North Korea deploys the world's fourth-largest standing army, with some 1.2 million personnel under arms. That's about 20 percent of all men aged 17 to 54 in the armed forces, giving them the highest percentage of military personnel *per capita* of any nation in the world, with approximately one enlisted soldier for every 25 citizens.

Source: *Strategy & Tactics* magazine, Nov.-Dec. 2012

A good speech should be like a woman's skirt: short enough to arouse attention and just long enough to cover the essentials.

The Middy & Dicky Front

A series of cartoons in *Navy News* by Leading Cook Ames of *HMAS Creswell*



THE MIDDY A series of cartoons by Leading Cook Ames, at H.M.A.S. CRESWELL.

This is a Tuit

Cut it out and use it wisely

- * Everybody needs this.
- * It is indispensable.
- * It is not a triangular tuit.
- * It is not a rectangular tuit.
- * It is not an oblong tuit.
- * It is a round tuit.



For years people have been saying:
 "I'll do it as soon as I get a round tuit."
 Now you will have no more trouble
 getting all those extras done.
 You have finally got "a round tuit".

Editorial Disclaimer

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"I couldn't find any rum for the Bombe Alaska, Chief, so I hit it with 'metho' instead!"

Farewells

- Donald B. Davie MM, 4158, 3RAR
on 17 October 2013
- Fergus Joseph Gibbon, 24149, 3RAR
in September 2013
- Norman W. J. Glenn, 32324, 3RAR
on 8 November 2013
- Ian (Robbie) Robertson, 331932, 3RAR
on 23 February 2014
- Kevin T. (Doc.) Watson, 52109, 3RAR
on 7 January 2013

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