

Australian Peacekeeper

AUTUMN 2013

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Australian Peacekeeper

MAGAZINE

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Australian Peacekeepers Magazine is published quarterly by K R Publishing (ABN 70 953 274 004) for and on behalf of the Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association (ABN 59 558 194 094) © 2011. All rights reserved.

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Australian Peacekeepers Magazine attempts to provide insight into the experiences of peacekeepers, Defence members and war veterans and the issues that confront them together with encouraging informed debate regarding issues dealing with but not limited to Commonwealth compensation, pensions, superannuation and occupational health and safety that affect peacekeepers and their families. We welcome input from members and would love to feature personal experiences in each issue. Please email the editor with any stories you would like to see printed. The views expressed in the articles are those of the particular author and not those of the Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association (APPVA). The APPVA will not be legally responsible in contract, tort or otherwise for any statement made in the articles in this publication.



4 C130 Hercules

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Front Cover:

A patient is transferred from an ambulance onto a No. 37 Squadron (37SQN) C-130J Hercules during an Aero- Medical Evacuation conducted by RAAF Base Richmond's No. 3 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (3AMES) during 4XHHQVODQG UHFH crisis.



From the President's Desk

Election Year Brings No New Direction

As Australia rolls through another election year, it is evident the Labor Government in the lead-up to the Federal election.

Declines in funding, while ex-service groups and veteran advocates struggle with an ever increasing demand for assistance from particularly the younger veteran community, appears to be ongoing into the future.

The Government (and in turn DVA) have taken advantage of the hundreds of volunteers who work tirelessly to deliver welfare and advocacy services by making them do more with less resources and putting their hands in their own pockets to often fund their travel or administration such as phone calls or internet access.

Paid advocates also work outside normal expected employment hours, being on-call afterhours and again managing with ever decreasing budgets in the face of increasing demand.

As funding continues to decrease across 2013, it is evident the Labor Government has neglected to identify an increase in mental health which is being detected through the veteran welfare system. This is placing a heavy burden on limited funding opportunities available to them.

Neglecting to provide adequate funding to cope with current demands has seen a decline in vital resources such as paid practioners, voluntary practioners reducing hours and limiting services to veteran's within their local government areas.

Defence personnel discharging every year since 1 July 2004 when the MRCA legislation was introduced.

Within the APPVA, we are currently seeing an increase of members, both current and past, enquiring about entitlements and welfare support. Ex-Service Organisations rely heavily on government funding to provide such assistance across the veteran's community at no additional cost to the veteran or the broader community. This funding needs to be restored – not increased – restored.

On a further note the Australian Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Veterans' Association continues to consult with the Australian War Memorial (AWM) Council, the Australian Greens and key politicians regarding honouring the names of those peacekeepers on the Roll of Honour at the AWM.

Sadly, shortly after receiving a petition for nearly 20,000 signatures, the AWM Council voted to maintain the status quo. While Defence in particular strives to be seen as an organisation of equality, the lack of support from the Service Chiefs as members of the AWM Board indicates they are content to continue discriminating against the families of 48 fallen peacekeepers.

Equally as sad is the National RSL and the Victorian State Branch has clung to 1940's thinking despite intense media and public interest and a petition sitting at 35,000 signatures. It highlights that key RSL leaders are content to relegate our key ESO to irrelevance with the younger veteran community because of a lack of compassion and understanding while clinging to out-dated views.

There are many good people working hard across RSL State Branches and who agree the 48 peacekeepers should be honoured on the Roll – we encourage them to take this as a motion to their respective State Congresses and seek change.

They should not be looked at differently. They should be given the same respect as the other 102,000 Australians who should not be looked at differently.

It is noted that the AWM Board voted in 1989 to include the peacekeepers but the move never went ahead. We call for the Board to resurrect their 1989 motion and act on it.

The dangers associated with such peacekeeping operations should be remembered in the same way within the AWM balustrades as all other operations. We will continue to consult with the Council of the Australian War Memorial on this issue. In fairness, there are Council members who do understand this issue.

The Council is due to meet in March 2013 regarding this issue from this meeting, given their entrenched position focused on continuing discrimination.

Allan Thomas,
National President,
Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association



From the Editor's Desk

Welcome to the Autumn 2013 edition of the Australian Peacekeeper.

are heading out of Timor Leste – the end of nearly 14-year presence in our northern neighbor. Of course the Defence Cooperation Program will continue into the future, as will training support from the Australian Federal Police.

Therefore it is very appropriate this edition runs a number of Timor articles – not looking back but looking forward at Timor's future as the United Nations mission concludes and the International Stabilisation Force (ISF) disbands.

Many ADF and AFP members have served there since the turbulent years of the referendum, the violence that followed and the move to independence. The sudden return to violence in 2006 bought a swift response from Australia at the request of the Timor Government and the formation of the ISF under Operation ASTUTE.

Following the end of Australia's involvement in Timor Leste under Operation Astute, the ADF contribution to the United Nations Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) – Operation Tower – has also ended.

From peace-keeping and security operations through to nation building and reinforcing the political process, the ADF has worked alongside the security forces and government of Timor-Leste as part of the UN commitment.

This week saw the 10th Anniversary of C130 operations in the Middle East. For many serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and across the Middle East Area of Operations, the C130H and

J models have been a familiar ride.

Sadly the aircraft has bought our fallen out of theatre as

This edition pays tribute to the decade of operations and the hard work of the crews, including the ground crews, maintenance staff and loadmasters. It is noted that over summer the C130's were in use across Australia assisting

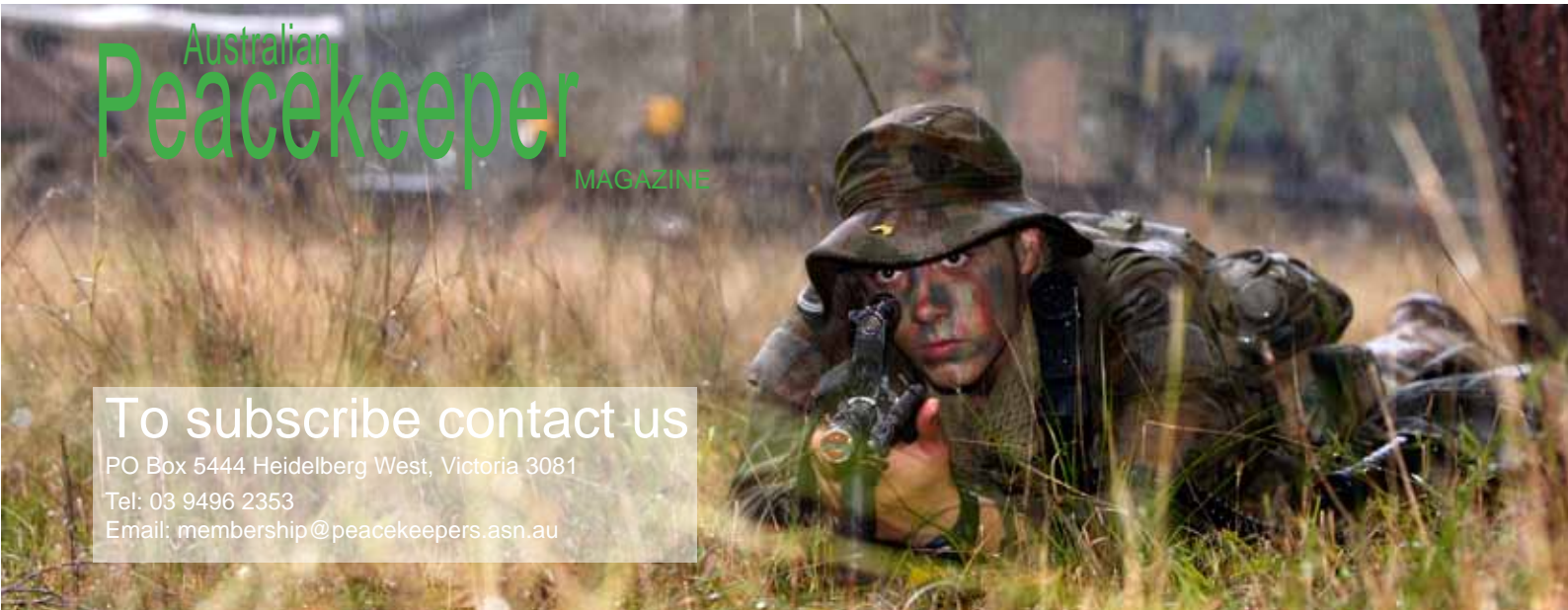
With the date of the Federal election announced, we're giving the respective Veterans' Affairs spokespeople from the three parties the opportunity to write an opinion piece on the subjects of their choice. This edition sees the Veterans' Affairs spokesperson for the Australian Greens, Senator Penny Wright, offer her perspective on the commemoration of the peacekeepers on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial.

It is equally pleasing to see the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project has received Deductable Gift Recipient status after many years of lobbying.

It is also hoped that this represents a dynamic shift in the recognition of Australia's peacekeepers – especially after nation's six-decade support of peacekeeping operations formed the central theme to the Government's bid for a seat on the UN Security Council in 2012.

Until next time –enjoy the Autumn edition of the Australian Peacekeeper

Phil Pyke
Editor



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C130 Hercules Celebrate a Decade of Middle East Service

aircraft arrived in the Middle East Area of Operations (MEAO) to support Operation Bastille in the Persian Gulf.

Since that date, a continuous deployment of Hercules transport aircraft of the H and J models has supported Defence Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as

Over the decade, RAAF Hercules C130 have transported 220,200 passengers and 43,000 tonnes of cargo in the 4600 missions in conditions ranging from well below freezing to more than 50 degrees Celsius.

More than 1000 Air Force personnel have been deployed to provide direct support to the Hercules detachment at various bases around the Middle East.

The initial deployment in Iraq in 2003 set an exceptional record. Accounting for only three per cent of the total Coalition C-130s in theatre, RAAF Hercules carried 16 per cent of the total C-130 loads, and achieved a mission success rate in excess of 98 per cent.

“The success of this deployment could not be guaranteed without the support of the entire Air Force team, whether it is from our air load teams or intelligence personnel, from logistics to health services to administrative support,” said Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Geoff Brown, AO.

“Equally, our partners in industry can be proud of this anniversary, as their expertise and support has delivered the capability which has made our work possible.”

Air Marshal Brown expressed his gratitude to the families of those Air Force members who have been deployed over the decade.

“Ten years of continuous C-130 deployment represents more than a thousand Air Force members being deployed, people within our local community.”

“On behalf of the wider Defence organisation, I offer my heartfelt thank you to those who have made personal achievement – possible.”

Today, the deployment consists of two C-130J Hercules based at Al Minhad Air Base in the United Arab Emirates, and a detachment of around 50 personnel.

Opposite top: A Royal Australian Air Force air cargo specialist prepares to load pallets onto an Australian C130 Hercules at Multi National Base - Tarin Kot.

Opposite below: A Royal Australian Air Force C130 Hercules lands at Multi National Base - Tarin Kot, winter.

Milestone missions by the C130 contingent include:

‡ Airdrops and support to Australian units in Iraq in 2003, including a mission on April 14 when an Australian & Al Asad Air Base, following its capture by Australian Special Forces units.

‡ The Hercules was an angel of mercy during Operation Baghdad Assist in April 2003 with urgent medical supplies sent into Baghdad for Iraq hospitals. The aircraft landed at Baghdad International Airport to deliver the supplies

‡ September 2006 saw C130 Hercules aircraft from the detachment in the Middle East used to evacuate Australian citizens from Cyprus to Turkey under Operation Ramp, following the outbreak of hostilities in Lebanon.

‡ In 2010, a detachment of Air Force Hercules formed a vital part of Operation Pakistan Assist II, providing relief

The Hercules C130J Model at a Glance

The Royal Australian Air Force operates the Hercules C-130J transport aircraft, under No 37 Squadron, based at RAAF Base Richmond, near Sydney.

The Lockheed C-130 Hercules is a four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft designed and built originally by Lockheed, now Lockheed Martin. Capable of using unprepared runways for takeoffs and landings, the C-130 was designed as a troop, medical evacuation, and cargo transport aircraft.

medium to long-range transport with an excellent short dirt runway capability, allowing it to perform:

- ‡ tactical or strategic transport duties;
- ‡ troop transport;
- ‡ special forces insertion;
- ‡ parachuting (both static-line and free-fall);
- ‡ airdrop of stores and equipment, including four-wheel
- ‡ search and survivor assistance, including airdrop of Air-Sea Rescue Kits (life rafts, radios, water, emergency rations);
- ‡ disaster relief, delivering necessities domestically (eg,

earthquakes, 2005); and

‡ medical evacuations, whether as a result of military action (eg, Timor, 1999), terrorist bombings (eg, Bali, 2002 and 2005) or natural disasters (eg, Boxing Day 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami).

The C-130J Hercules, introduced in 1999, has:

- ‡ 2 tone grey paint scheme;
- ‡ six-blade propellers;
- ‡ three crew – two pilots and a loadmaster;
- ‡ O D U V M U H W B K B H F D S D R Q W W L Z P R U H cargo pallets than a C-130H;
- ‡ X S G D M H L G R Q Q G O D F R V N A S I L J K W I B B W X U
- ‡ ¿ J K W H U V W \ O H F R Q W U R O V R Q W
- ‡ two head-up displays (HUDs);
- ‡ four large multi-function displays;
- ‡ ¿ Y H P R Q R F K U R P H G L V S O D \ V
- ‡ head-down display;
- ‡ W U D I ¿ F D Q G J U R X Q G F R O O L V L R C
- ‡ stick pusher to prevent inadvertent aircraft stall; and
- ‡ compatibility with night-vision goggles and electronic F R X Q W H U P H D V X U H V Q R W U R X W

The C130 Hercules is now the main tactical airlifter for many military forces worldwide with over 40 models and variants serving with more than 60 nations.

Sources: RAAF website/Lockheed Martin



Above: Sergeant Adrian Sullivan and Warrant Officer 21¿FHU *UHLJ 6NHYLQJWRQ /RDGPDV 6TXDGURQ ZLWK PDUNHU ÀDUHV WR containing French yachtsman Mr Alain Delord for his rescue in seas off Tasmania.

%HORZ \$ & - VLWV RQ WKH ÀLJKWO Air Base in the United Arab Emirates.

Opposite: C130: No. 37 Squadron (37SQN) C-130J Hercules A97-448 runs its engines in preparation for take off during an Aero-Medical Evacuation conducted by RAAF Base Richmond's No. 3 Aero Medical Evacuation Squadron (3AMES).



In late January, The Australian Defence Force responded to an Emergency Management Queensland request for services in the city of Bundaberg to aeromedically evacuate up to 131 patients from a local hospital. To assist this evacuation, the Royal Australian Air Force dispatched a pair of C-130J Hercules, carrying aeromedical evacuation personnel from RAAF Bases Richmond and Williamtown, to transport patients to Brisbane.

The ADF stood up a Joint Task Force 637 under the command of Brigadier Greg Bilton, Commander of 7 Brigade based at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera in South East Queensland.

Four Australian Army Black Hawks aircraft and crews from Townsville and Air Force transport aircraft supported Queensland, in the vicinity of Bundaberg and Maryborough to assist civilian authorities with emergency evacuation of residents.

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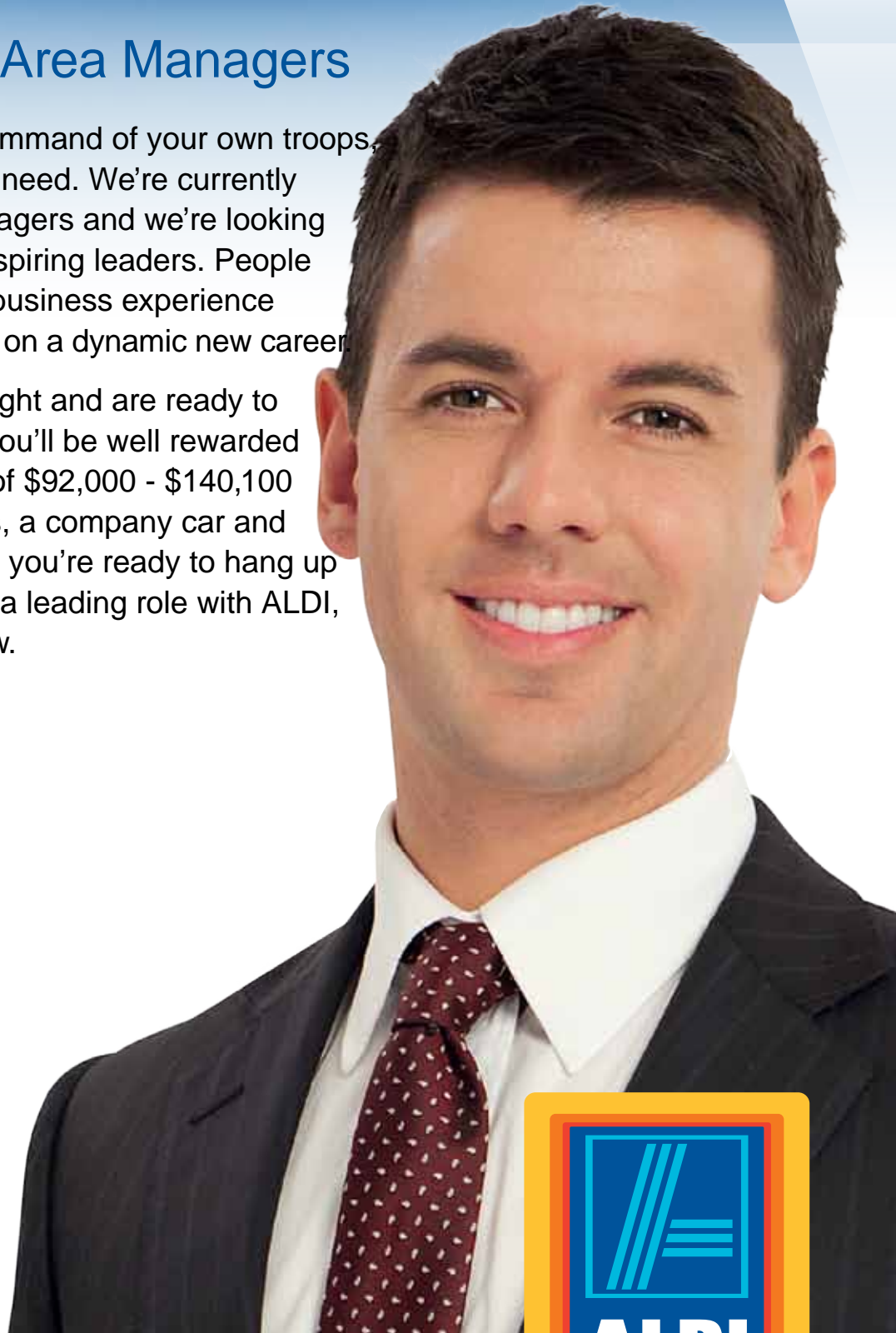
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SOTG Partnered Operations

As operations change in Afghanistan, the Special Operations Task Group (SOTG) continue to work with their Afghan National Security Force counterparts in partnered patrols.

In these series of images by ADF photographer Corporal Chris Dickson of the 1st Joint Public Affairs Unit, Afghan special police from the Provincial Response Company – Uruzgan (PRC–U) with members from the Special Operations Task Group continue to conduct partnered missions across southern Afghanistan as part of the transition of security responsibility from ISAF to Afghan control.

The PRC–U is a special police unit whose

members are recruited, trained, equipped and assigned to respond pre-emptively or in the event of critical incidents threatening public safety that exceed the capabilities of the Afghan uniformed police.

PRCs specialise in counter terrorism, counter narcotics, opposing organised crime and intelligence gathering operations.

SOTG comprises members of the Special Air Service Regiment, 1st and 2nd Commando Regiments, Special Operations Engineer Regiment and a variety of supporting units from the Australian Defence Force.

2SSRVLWH WRS 2Q ERDUG GXULQJ WKH ÅLJKW

Opposite below: SOTG and PRC-U members leave the gate of Camp Russell in Tarin Kot in preparation for a mission in the Uruzgan province.

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Entering the CH-47 Chinook

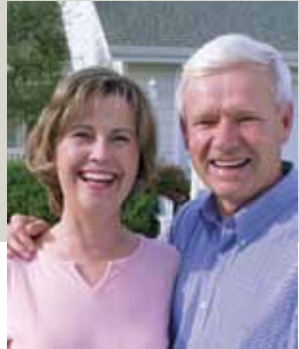


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Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra
Printed by Focus Press, 12-15 Dunlop Street, South Strathfield, NSW, 2136

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All Peacekeepers should be included on Roll of Honour

The original idea for the War Memorial's list was based on equality

Should peacekeepers be listed on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial? At the moment, some are and some aren't. This is not a new issue, as I shall show,

Recently Sarah McCarthy and Avril Clark presented the Australian War Memorial Council with a petition, signed by 17,800 people, calling for the inclusion of peacekeepers on the Roll, and on November 28 the Senate overwhelmingly passed a motion to the same effect.

The bronze panels of the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial list 102,000 names of Australians who have died in the 20th century. The idea for the Roll of Honour came to Charles Bean during World War I, at a time when he was shocked by the carnage on the Western Front. Bean wanted a list of names, by town of origin, so that we could remember the dead as individuals, not as an undifferentiated mass.

There was to be a long gestation period. During the 1920s and '30s the War Memorial wrestled with the question of who should be included. Any member of the Australian services who died after enlistment for overseas service - whether or not they actually made it overseas - would be included.

100,000 dead whose names we see today include those who died as a direct result of enemy action, those who died of sickness, and those who died accidentally. Ninety-four of those on the World War I roll committed suicide.

Merchant seamen were included, most notably merchant seamen who died off in a rush, in the 1950s. Like the War Memorial itself, it was expanded to include World War II. The promise that merchant seamen would be included was abandoned, and administrative practicality (rather than any policy change) dictated that the dead would be listed by military unit rather than under the name of their home town.

In January 1988 Sarah McCarthy's father, Captain Peter McCarthy, died while serving as an unarmed military observer with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation in southern Lebanon. McCarthy was on a routine patrol. He and a Canadian observer had driven up a hill that provided extensive views of the coastal area between Tyre and the Israeli border. On the way up, they had nearly been forced off the road by an Israeli armoured personnel carrier. Coming down early in the afternoon, they hit a landmine. McCarthy was killed, the Canadian seriously injured.

die: General Robert Nimmo had died in 1966 while commanding UN military observers in Kashmir, while three Australian police had died in Cyprus (one, like McCarthy, killed by a landmine). But McCarthy's death forced the War Memorial to face the question of whether peacekeepers should be added to the Roll of Honour.

The Roll of Honour had steadily been expanded to include Vietnam. By the 1980s, with Vietnam fading into the past, only McCarthy's death reminded everybody that peacekeeping, too, could be dangerous.

The War Memorial's council set up a subcommittee to investigate the matter. The committee consulted widely: the Chief of the Defence Force, General Peter Gration, commented on the importance and the dangers of peacekeeping. The committee recommended including peacekeepers on the Roll of Honour, and in 1989 the council resolved to add a further bronze plaque, headed "Peacekeeping Operations", to the Roll. It was all settled, except that nothing happened. Presumably through bureaucratic inertia, the bronze plaque headed "Peacekeeping Operations" never saw the light of day.

And eight years later, when the council revisited the issue, a more restrictive policy was adopted, whereby only those peacekeepers who died on operations deemed "warlike" by Defence and Veterans' Affairs would be added to the Roll.

Central to Bean's concept of the Roll of Honour was the question of whether they were a coward or a hero, however they had met their death, they had all ultimately lost their life, and in that they were equal. The same, surely, is true of those who have died serving for Australia in multinational peacekeeping operations.

However they died, and however Australia has chosen to classify the operation in which they died, the fact of their death should award them equal treatment at the War Memorial. It is time for the Memorial's council to go back to the decision it already made, in 1989, and include all peacekeepers on the Roll of Honour.

Dr Londey teaches in the school of cultural inquiry at the Australian National University, and is a member of the team Humanitarian and Post-Cold War Operations.

Printed with acknowledgement to the Canberra Times 14 Dec 12.

Read more: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/opinion/all-peacekeepers-should-be-included-on-roll-of-honour-20121213-2bcsd.html#ixzz2JpgmJYby>



Avril Clark and Sarah McCarthy meet with media after presenting the Chairman of the Australian War Memorial with a petition run under Change.org to recognise peacekeepers on the Roll of Honour.

Forces Join for Peacekeeper Recognition

In a statement of support for 48 deceased peacekeepers, the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (VVAA) and the Australian War Memorial (AWM) have urged the Australian War Memorial Council, Defence Service Chiefs, Government and the Australian public to support the inclusion of Australian Peacekeepers who have died in the service of their country, while providing security and stability to the International community from war, famine and belligerent operations.

Both National Presidents, Ron Coxon (VVAA) and Allan Thomas (APPVA), urged the Australian War Memorial Council, Defence Service Chiefs, Government and the Australian public to support the inclusion of Australian Peacekeepers who have died in the service of their country, while providing security and stability to the International community from war, famine and belligerent operations.

Driving force behind the Australian War Memorial, Charles Bean, wanted Australians to remember those who served and died for Australia. Equal in death was Bean's intent but modern operations have seen those who die on peacekeeping (non-warlike), humanitarian and post armistice operations not treated equally along with their families.

Both organisations remain concerned on reports that those who die by placing a criterion of being killed in combat. Research has been conducted by the APPVA, suggesting that a very large number of those on the Roll of Honour did not die as a direct result of combat. Many died in Australia and overseas from disease and accidents in World War 1 and WWII but are listed on the Honour Roll.

"To undertake such an invasive and insensitive criterion would open a huge can of worms and could only be seen as an attempt to further exclude these 48 members," stated Mr Thomas.

"There should be no question as to how these people died serving Australia overseas. In questioning this, Defence remains insensitive to the families of peacekeepers which it can be criticised as not engaging in the same way as the families of those killed on war-like operations have been."

Mr Thomas said the families of deceased peacekeepers were never informed that their loved ones would not be commemorated at the Australian War Memorial, which he describes as "an appalling injustice."

"Peacekeepers who have died on operations overseas should have their names on the Roll of Honour, as those before them are listed." Mr Coxon said.

"We support the inclusivity of Peacekeepers who have been killed overseas. This is a very simple decision to make in the favour of those who served our country, their families and friends, to be forever remembered in the nation's capital"

Meanwhile the organisers of Change.org, have indicated since Channel 10's "The Project" went to air on in early February, the petition has seen a spike in signatories from 20,000 to almost 33,000. The petition can be found at:

<http://www.change.org/en-AU/petitions/war-memorial-council-recognise-my-son-and-other-fallen-peacekeepers-equally>

Peacekeepers Deserve Recognition

An Opinion Piece Senator Penny Wright Veterans' Affairs Spokesperson – The Australian Greens

One of the key skills in politics is changing minds. One of the core goals of any passionate parliamentarian is to change policy for the better. The best moments are when

The campaign to have peacekeepers recognised on the Honour Roll at the Australian War Memorial is just such a cause and I feel privileged to be a part of it.

The Australian Greens believe that we need to properly care for and respect all veterans who risk their lives to serve our nation. We must also recognise and honour the importance of promoting international peace and security.

On a personal level, the current failure to recognise peacekeepers on the Roll of Honour simply makes no sense to me. It is unfair and unjust.

I have learnt much while I have been working on this issue. I know that both peacekeepers and their families feel peacekeeper service is not properly acknowledged or valued by Australians. When peacekeepers die in service they feel their deaths are somehow less important or meaningful.

“warlike” or “non-warlike” often appears arbitrary, ignoring the actual circumstances in which peacekeeping missions occur. The facts are simple; peacekeepers are called to serve – that’s the very nature of their work. Peacekeepers who die Australia in situations of danger and risk should be honoured.

On November 28 last year, I made a speech in the Senate, dedicated to all the peacekeepers who have fallen in the service of our country. I wanted to ensure there is a record in the Australian Parliament of those who have died on our behalf in the

praiseworthy pursuit of preventing war.

It was an emotional day. As I read the name of each man and each woman into Hansard, the Senate fell silent.

I was privileged to share that day with Peter Pridue, who lost his son Beau just over a year earlier. Peter told me, ‘if they are wearing the Australian armed forces badge on their shoulder and the Australian uniform and they are killed overseas or at home, they should be recognised. Otherwise it feels as if his life doesn’t mean anything.’

Thanks to the work of APPVA and many others, I sense that change is coming. Australians are becoming increasingly aware of the important, varied and courageous work that Australian peacekeepers do, on the world stage, in our name.

Over 34,500 people have now signed the Change.org petition started by Avril Clark calling on the Australian War Memorial council to recognise peacekeepers on the Honour Roll.

In November last year, the Senate unanimously supported my motion along the same lines.

Through this campaign, I have had the opportunity to speak to many inspiring and dedicated people and my respect for the important work of peacekeeping and peacemaking continues to grow.

Our peacekeepers do us proud. As minds change, so too will policy. I very much look forward to celebrating with you all on that day.



Paul Copeland (father of deceased Timor peacekeeper Beau Pridue), Paul Copeland (APPVA) and Senator Penny Wright.

Families Matter in AWM Challenge

At the centre of the ongoing challenge to have peacekeepers recognised at the Australian War Memorial (AWM) are the often-ignored families of the peacekeepers who have died in service of this nation.

While the AWM Board quickly moved to again exclude the families by immediately voting to maintain the status quo to keep the 48 peacekeepers off the Roll of Honour, despite the 17,000 signature petition, the mother of one peacekeeper will ensure this issue is never off the public radar.

Most APPVA members would be aware of Avril Clark and her national campaign under Change.org to have her son Jamie properly recognised on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial. Private Jamie Clark of 3 RAR died while deployed on a patrol in the Solomon Islands 2005.

Together with her husband Peter, Avril has been working tirelessly with the APPVA National Committee to get proper recognition for all peacekeepers and peacemakers who have died on operations.

As a token of the APPVA appreciation and in recognition of Avril's and Peter's efforts on our behalf, the National Executive voted to grant the Clarks Honorary Membership of the Association.

On Wednesday the 19th of December Perth based members got together with Avril to express the appreciation R I W K \$ B 3 9 \$ D Q S U H V H Q W U Q L J F I D W Q R U D Membership.



\$ERYH 7KH & ODUNV UHFHLYH WKHL
APPVA Western Australian based members.

Below: Avril Clark celebrates at the opening of the Jamie Clark kindergarten at the Gifu Primary 6FKRRO QHDU +RQLDUD ZLWK /LHXWH &RPPDQGLQJ 2I¿FHU RI &RPELQHG 7D the Solomon Islands. Building of the kindergarten was funded by the Clarks, in commemoration of Jamie, who was killed nearby while on patrol with 3RAR on 10 March 2005.



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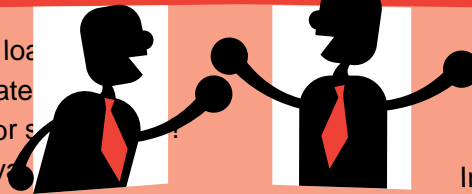


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Supporting the Broader Afghanistan Mission

The Bushmaster vehicle convoy stops at a construction site on the side of a road 30 minutes from Multi National Base-Tarin Kot in Uruzgan province, Afghanistan.

Soldiers from 7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (7RAR) Task Group (TG) Other Government Agency Platoon One (OGA 1), commanded by Lieutenant Patrick Rooney, leave their vehicles and fan out around the site. They search the area to ensure it's safe and then form a protective perimeter.

When Lieutenant Rooney deems the area safe, Captain Daniel Kennedy-Stiff and Sergeant Daniel George, both from the Managed Works Team Four (MWT 4), leave the vehicles to meet with an Afghan building contractor who is building a concrete culvert on this stretch of road.

After an update on the project, the MWT 4 and OGA 1 teams travel to the next stop on their mission route, a section of a 14 km stretch of road which will soon undergo improvement.

After stopping to inspect the road surface, the Bushmaster convoy returns to Multi National Base-Tarin Kot.

Captain Kennedy-Stiff who is the project engineer with the MWT 4, said his unit's role was to supervise and manage construction projects in Uruzgan province, which are L G H Q W D Q G X G G E V \$, D Q W K H I S D U W R H Q W Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

"Our unit is a part of the military and civilian staffed Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT)," he said.

"After AusAID and DFAT inform us of what projects we're to manage, we conduct a scoping study to determine the feasibility of the project."

"If it's deemed feasible, the project is then submitted to Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 for approval, then when we're given the go ahead, we put together a design brief F R Q V L R R K R Z G H V L J C V H F L ; F D W S R D R W construction."

Captain Kennedy-Stiff and his team then brief local contractors on the project and begin a tender process.

"As part of the process we assess the contractor's previous work, construction methodology, technical capacity and overall ability to achieve a successful outcome," Captain Kennedy-Stiff said.





"The complexity of each project determines how long it takes for the construction to be completed.

During the construction phase of a project, MWT 4 and PRT personnel conduct regular site visits to ensure contractors maintain construction quality and adhere to project timelines and work standards.

MWT 4 and PRT personnel could not perform these visits alone, as they do not have the suitable protected mobility or combat power to safely travel to work sites.

This job is for the personnel from two 7RAR TG OGA platoons.

Lieutenant Patrick Rooney said the daily focus of the OGA platoons was to support the MWT 4 and PRT.

"We provide them mobility and protection to and from the project sites," Lieutenant Rooney said.

"The MWT 4 and PRT submit their requests to move outside Multi National Base-Tarin Kot and we receive them as an operational task.

"The area we will be moving to and the known threats determine how we structure our force for the mission."

The detailed planning process enables Lieutenant Rooney and his platoon to provide the PRT and MWT a secure setting for their visits to work sites and meetings with contractors.

Captain Kennedy-Stiff said the support from the OGA platoon soldiers was crucial for him and his team to

complete their missions.

"The security they provide almost creates a safe work environment similar to how we work back in Australia," Captain Kennedy-Stiff says.

"Without them we could not get our job done."

With both teams working together, Lieutenant Rooney says they are both helping the Afghan people in more than one way.

"I can really see the job we are doing is making a difference," Lieutenant Rooney said.

"By supervising the construction and providing security at these sites, we are at the forefront of helping the Afghan Government achieve its goals."

Opposite top: Managed Works Team project engineer, Captain Daniel Kennedy-Stiff (centre) discusses a construction project with an Afghan contractor (right), through the assistance of an interpreter (second from left), while Sergeant Daniel George (left), the Managed Works Team civil supervisor, listens to the conversation.

Opposite below: 7th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment Task Group Other Government Agency Platoon One soldiers in an overwatch position, as Afghan National Police pass their location, during a patrol with the Managed Works Team in Uruzgan Province.



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Hawkei - A New PMV Option

Thales Australia have delivered the latest Hawkei vehicle to the Australian Defence Force as part of Project LAND 121.

The Hawkei was selected in December 2011 as the preferred vehicle for development and testing under the Manufactured and Supported in Australia option of Project LAND 121 Phase 4.

As a protected mobility vehicle, the Hawkei combines protection, mobility and support. Over 2012, the Government allocated \$38 million for further development and testing of the Hawkei which will see Thales supply six prototype Hawkei vehicles and one trailer for testing and evaluation.”

The delivery of the Hawkei prototype vehicle and trailer is an important milestone for Project LAND 121 Phase 4.

The Hawkei demonstration model was manufactured at Thales’s Bendigo facility, which has been producing Bushmasters since 2003, by a team of 50.

Seven Hawkei vehicles are to be delivered by June 2013.

Over the next year these vehicles will undergo an extensive testing program, including communication system integration testing, reliability growth trials, survivability testing and user assessments.

Project LAND 121 Phase 4 is a \$1.5 billion project that seeks to provide up to 1300 protected and unprotected light vehicles for the Australian Defence Force.

Thales’ liaison variant offering under the Manufactured and Supported in Australia (MSA) option for the Land 121 Phase 4 Protect Mobility Vehicle – Light. The MSA option is one of three options being considered for the Land 121 Phase 4 Protect Mobility Vehicle – Light that will replace a number of older vehicles.

Minister for Defence Stephen Smith and Minister for Defence Materiel Jason Clare announced in December 2012 the Federal Government had taken the next step in the \$7.5 billion Project Overlander.

This will provide the Australian Defence Force with around 7,500 new vehicles, along with their associated modules, trailers and through life support, over the next decade.

The project includes the procurement of Rovers, Unimog, Mack and S-Liner trucks and their associated trailers and modules.



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Lending a Hand Across the Pacific

Political differences were placed aside when the Australian Defence Forces supported a Whole-of-Government response to Fiji following the devastation caused by Tropical Cyclone Evan on the islands in mid-December.

A Royal Australian Air Force C-17A Globemaster departed RAAF Amberley on Wednesday, 19 December 2012 to deliver 20,000 kgs of AusAID relief supplies to Fiji.

The relief supplies include hygiene kits, shelter and tarpaulins for 720 families, water containers for 1,600 families and blankets for 3,100 people. The hygiene kits include toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, sanitary kits and laundry detergent.

A Royal Australian Air Force C-130J Hercules left Amberley on Thursday 20 December 2012 with supplies for Apia, Samoa, which also suffered wide-spread damage.

and Futuna. It struck Samoa on Thursday, 13 December 2012 and the Fiji Island group on Monday, 17 December 2012.



Top: Fijian military personnel unpack the Aid packages donated by AusAID and delivered by a Royal Australian Air Force C-17 Globemaster.

%HORZ /HIW &DSWDLQ ,VLP HOL , \$UP\ /RJLVWLFV WKDQNV 0U -RKQ 'D &RXQVHOORU 3DFL F IRU \$XV\$, ' DG Nick Tickner No. 36 Squadron Pilot for their efforts to get the aid to Fiji after Cyclone Evan



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Border Protection Operations Honoured

awarded the Operational Service Medal for their service on Border Protection operations with Operation RESOLUTE.

The Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, and the Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Ray Griggs, attended the presentation ceremony held at HMAS Coonawarra in Darwin in mid-December.

The Australian Operational Service Medal – Border Protection was established to properly recognise members of the Australian Defence Force and civilians involved in all forms of operational service, including border protection operations since 1997 and those who continue to be involved through Operation RESOLUTE.

Minister Snowdon highlighted the importance of the new medal in recognising the men and women who protect our borders.

“This award provides worthy and just recognition for all of those involved in border protection operations, from Navy, Army, Air Force and civilian authorities.”

It replaced the Australian Active Service Medal and Australian Service Medal for future designated operations

– thereby eroding a key issue of recognition relating to war-like and non war-like service and will have both an AF and civilian variant.

The Operational Service Badge will accompany the Operational Service Medal. It serves a similar purpose to the current Returned from Active Service badge as it will recognise those who have returned from operational service – including peacekeeping operations.

The Operational Service Medal will be awarded to ADF members for service on operations recommended and approved as warranting recognition.

Each declared operation will be recognised by the standard medal with a unique ribbon for each operation in the same way as the United Nations Medal is awarded.

The Operational Service Medal – Border Protection ribbon will have a green stripe.

The civilian Operational Service Medal will have the same medal design but with its own unique ribbon. Clasps will be issued to denote separate operations.

Return from Active Service badge from Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Ray Griggs AO, CSC, RAN and Warrant Officer, Cairns, North Queensland.



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Eye On The Gulf

Leading Seaman Brad Sharman conducting drills on HMAS Anzac's S-70B-2 Seahawk Mag-58 machine gun in the East Area of Operations.

Since the commencement of Operation SLIPPER in 2001, Australia has maintained a maritime contribution to operations in the MEAO.

Currently this consists of a Major Fleet Unit, the Anzac & O'Donnell between US-led Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) Combined Task Forces (CTFs) 150 (counter terrorism), 151 (counter-piracy) and 152 (Gulf maritime security).

CMF patrols more than 2.5 million square miles of international waters to conduct both integrated and

coordinated operations with a common purpose; to increase the security and prosperity of the region by working together for a better future.

CMF is working to defeat terrorism, prevent piracy, reduce maritime environment as a safe place for mariners with legitimate business. HMAS Anzac is conducting maritime security operations across the Combined Maritime Forces' area of operations. HMAS Anzac's mission allows her to undertake maritime interdictions and counter-piracy operations, including activities under the command of CTF 150.

HMAS Anzac entered the MEAO in July 2012 and was replaced by HMAS Toowoomba in January.



Seaman Aircrewman Kevin Boer and Brad Sharman celebrating 'Sentinels' 5000th airframe hour while on HMAS Anzac's S-70B-2 Seahawk over International Waters in the Middle East Area of Operations.

Civilian Skills Benefit Afghanistan Operations

For Wing Commander Terry McLennan of Warwick, his Reserve role, while deployed on Operation SLIPPER in the Middle East Area of Operation (MEAO), is really an extension of his civilian occupation with John Holland Pty Ltd.

Leaving the permanent Air Force after a 12 year career, Terry joined John Holland four years ago, working as an onsite project engineer.

“I joined John Holland as a project engineer while studying my undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Southern Queensland,” Terry said.

Being deployed to the MEAO since August 2012, Terry has been responsible for Australian Defence Force facilities and infrastructure across the Middle East and Afghanistan.

His responsibilities cover maintenance of base facilities, minor new works, such as hard-standing areas, as well as capital and infrastructure works across locations in the United Arab Emirates, Iraq and Afghanistan.

“I also have technical control over the engineers based under the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Tarin Kot,” Terry said.

“They are undertaking projects such as reconstructing 14 km of road in Uruzgan, rebuilding the Radio and Television Afghanistan building in Tarin Kot after an insurgent attack, building ablutions in detention centres also in Tarin Kot and developing a solid waste management site for the town of Tarin Kot.”

Additionally, Terry is overseeing the move of the Trade Training School, currently operated under the PRT at Camp Holland, into Tarin Kot as well as working with the transition and redeployment team.

“My main effort in the last couple of months has been the deconstruction of Australian infrastructure

at Camp Holland as part of the remediation of the Multi-National Base,” Terry said.

The current deployment is the third for Terry into the MEAO, with previous deployments with Reconstruction Task Forces 2 and 3 into Afghanistan during 2007 and 2008.

“The current deployment is the third for Terry into the MEAO, with previous deployments with Reconstruction Task Forces 2 and 3 into Afghanistan during 2007 and 2008. at Tarin Kot which, being gravel back then, required constant maintenance unlike the all-weather concrete runway now.”

“I joined John Holland as a project engineer while studying my undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Southern Queensland,” Terry said. Holland under the C17 project at RAAF Base Amberley. Terry’s additional experience in construction since then has enabled him to deploy again with the ADF, bringing a range of civilian skills into the operational zone.

He says undertaking the deployment was made easier with the support of John Holland Pty Ltd as his civilian employer.

“Once I was aware of the opportunity to deploy, I spoke with my human resources manager. They were very supportive as John Holland Pty Ltd has previously signed with the Cadet, Reserve Employer Support Division under Defence to be recognised as a supportive employer.”



Timor Operation Rekindles Family Connection

For Richard Mousaco of the Royal Australian Navy, a deployment to Timor Leste gave him the opportunity to rekindle family connections.

The Communications Information Systems sailor from Narre Warren, Victoria is currently deployed to Timor Leste and will be one of the last of the Australian contingent to leave the nation as the ADF returns home this year.

Able Seaman Mousaco said he found it surreal to be deployed as part of a multi-national mission to a country where he has an active family history and where the majority of his family still resides.

"I never thought I would be deployed to a place where I have so much family history and where my grandmother's house was literally just around the corner from where I am based," Able Seaman Mousaco said.

"Australia is my home, I am proud to serve in the Royal Australian Navy, but you can't forget your heritage and I think you can't see where you are going if you don't know where you came from."

"So when the opportunity to deploy to Timor arose, I jumped at it because there are not too many people who get the chance to serve on operations to their family's own country", he said.

In a one-hour break from operations, AB Mousaco cut a beaming smile as he embraced his great aunt, two uncles and a number of other direct relatives who live in the family home bordering the hillside of the dusty and humid Timor Leste capital city.

He could not help but laugh as an endless stream of young cousins jostled for the best position for a photo with the "uncle" dressed in a uniform that is held in high

"It has been surreal to check out the area where my father grew up. I have only been

here once when I was about seven years old in 1992 – and from what I can remember it's all changed a lot. My mum and dad's family were Timorese business owners, who ended up in Portugal following the Indonesian take over in the 1970s.

"Mum's family were heavily involved in sandalwood and dad's family were coffee growers. It's good to see that like the rest of Timor my family is continuing to rebuild this house and are positive about what the future will bring."

AB Mousaco said his family moved to Australia in the mid-1980s so they could be closer to their homeland in the hope that they would be able to get back there one day and continue family bonds.

The Navy sailor said he has thoroughly enjoyed the role as the Australian commander's driver before returning to Australia in late January.

"It has been fantastic and something I will truly never forget. It's a great feeling to be helping out another country – in my case; this is a lot more personal and gives me great satisfaction."

"Family aside, I have had some truly memorable experiences like meeting the Australian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister as well as the PM and President of Timor Leste and our Chief of the Defence Force."



Marley Mousaco, Able Seaman Communication Information Systems sailor Richard Mousaco and Jose Mousaco at the family's

Working on Final Timor Mission

the forefront the Australian Defence Force's operations in Timor Leste to bring troops and equipment home.

The 30-year-old Australian Army Lieutenant deployed to between various stakeholders and the Joint Task Force 631 Headquarters.

He said his tasks included liaison with the ADF's Timor Leste Aviation Group and any external agency that required Aviation support including an infantry company, the US Marines and the Government of Timor Leste.

"My primary role was to liaise with the three Australian Army Black Hawks and the two Toll Bell 212 Helicopters that collectively provided a complete around-the-clock aeromedical response capability in all weather conditions," he said.

"My other duties include watchkeeping tasks at the Joint Task Force Headquarters. I have had the pleasure of working with some great people and hopefully I have made some lifelong friends."

enough, Wayne also donated his few hours of spare time on a Sunday afternoon to assist a local orphanage.

"The most memorable moments have been the interaction with the kids from the local orphanage, the Balibo history side – there are some awesome sights from the air here.

"In my spare time I have been exercising a lot, exploring parts of Dili and contacting my family back home. I can't

wait to get home and see my partner Melissa and two boys Ethan (5) and Finn (2) – it'll be nice to be home to be dad again," Wayne said.

"I love what I do but I can't wait to get home and I couldn't imagine being with any other employer. I would just like thank all the family including my parents Grahame and Debbie (Cooroy) and Mel's mum Lyndal who have assisted Mel on the home front during my time here," he said.

Wayne joined the ADF in 2009 and follows in the footsteps of his grandfather who was in the 2/15 Field Regiment and taken prisoner and sent to the infamous Burma Railway.

He is currently posted to the 5 Aviation Regiment in starting a private pilot's licence when he returns from Timor.

"I want to become a helicopter pilot but I wasn't successful with an organisation that is diverse both in personnel and vocation," Wayne added.

Timor Leste began an exciting new chapter in its history when the Australian-led International Stabilisation Force (ISF) ceased security operations on 22 November.

After more than six years of supporting the East Timor security forces, the ISF role has changed to the deployment of its people and equipment to Australia and New Zealand. ISF troops started to depart East Timor in late November and bases will be remediated for handover by mid-2013.





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Opposite: Wayne spends Sunday afternoon playing board games and doing craft with local children from an
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Timor Leste



Timor Leste or East Timor as we Australian's know it is our newest nation neighbour. The 640km north west of Darwin this undiscovered Coral triangle. Fields of untouched coral reef stretch out from soft sandy beaches.

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The capital of Dili offers a taste of Portugal in the tropics with restored colonial buildings, waterfront promenades and relics of old forts mixed with new developments that point in the direction of a bright prosperous future.

A lively port town of whitewashed buildings and beachfront or late night beer at funky bars. Always laid back but never sleepy Dili remains active from dawn till late at night. The

catch of the day early in the morning is a popular meeting place. People smile and say "Bom Dia". Along here water front stalls sell papaya, mangoes and coconuts.

Dining in Dili takes on many modes with local style Portuguese, Chinese, Italian Pizza, Japanese, Thai and due to the areas reputation for abundant variety. Curry and rice remains a local favourite though, strong locally grown organic coffee and great bread rolls help start the day. Markets and old churches and the aroma of sandalwood add a spicy blend to this old city, just miles away from Darwin. So close yet so different.

Yachts from around the world compete in the Darwin to Dili yacht rally. The 2013 race will start on the 13th July at Darwin Harbour and attracted adventures from all over the yachting globe. (www.sailtimorleste.org)

Other events hosted by East Timor include the Tour de East Timor across the country where competitors sweat to win prizes up to US\$100,000. Mountains up to 10,000feet make this a tough event.

7 K HL & LL W 13 H D FHD U D W K R Q W D D U N Q L V K H V in front of the picturesque and historical 'Palacio de Governo' on Dili's foreshore. The event includes a full (42km) marathon, a half (21km) marathon. The half and full marathons are timed, registered and accredited as an IAAF standard race: it is able to be used to qualify for further IAAF marathon and for world records. www.dilimarathon.com/en/

0 R V S H R S G R I H R W K G L Y I S Q J V N Q R U P N D H V N Q G Q V as this is not to be missed. A grade all the way. Fluorescent that's why you are usually the only ones at your chosen dive spot. Some are just 15minutes from Dili, there is even one right off the pier downtown. The coast drive 45 minutes to Dollar Beach, winds past sandy coves, natural U R F N S D R G O H H S K L Y L Q J O D K H V D H R Y H U dive sites within a short range of Dili. Most are accessible walking in from the beach, some only 10metres from shore with steep drop offs into deep water. Reef fringe the entire north coast of East Timor with beaches of shiny white sand, perfect for a sunbake or swim. This wonder-world of diving is a magnet for marine life from the smallest shrimp to the monstrous whale shark, all can be spotted in East Timor especially in the north as migrating whales, dolphin tuna and all species in-between ride the corridor current above a massive trench.

Australian soldiers swear the beaches of East Timor are better than Bali. This is long and sandy and undeveloped.

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Australian soldiers swear the beaches of East Timor are better than Bali. This is long and sandy and undeveloped.

A coral garden and a coconut canoe hopping to offshore islands, offer in East Timor. World class surf can be found.

With animals including the rare badak jawa a species of one horned rhino, monkey, deer, crocs and buffalo there is a need to sustain National Park – Nino Konis Santa, in 2008. Stretching from mountain jungle to sea, it is home to the famous civet cats known for their unusual role in coffee production. Plans for 12 more protected areas are under design to secure a solid future in the tourism market.

Mt Mundo Perdido (The Lost World) is a famous bird sanctuary with over 100 or more rare species calling this home. New species are still being discovered. Hiking to Mt Ramelau the highest mountain can take you through forest, past wooden hut villages. Many spend a night at the peak where a statue of Virgin Mark looks over the country. The mountain is also home to the spirits of the ancestors. A very special place.

Everywhere you go people wave at you, it is like the golden years before the discovery where tradition is real, not a show. Traditions that reach back thousands of years like hand woven textiles that come with distinct local styles from the many different districts. Community collectives operate throughout the country so money spent by travellers in these districts goes a long way to preserving the culture.

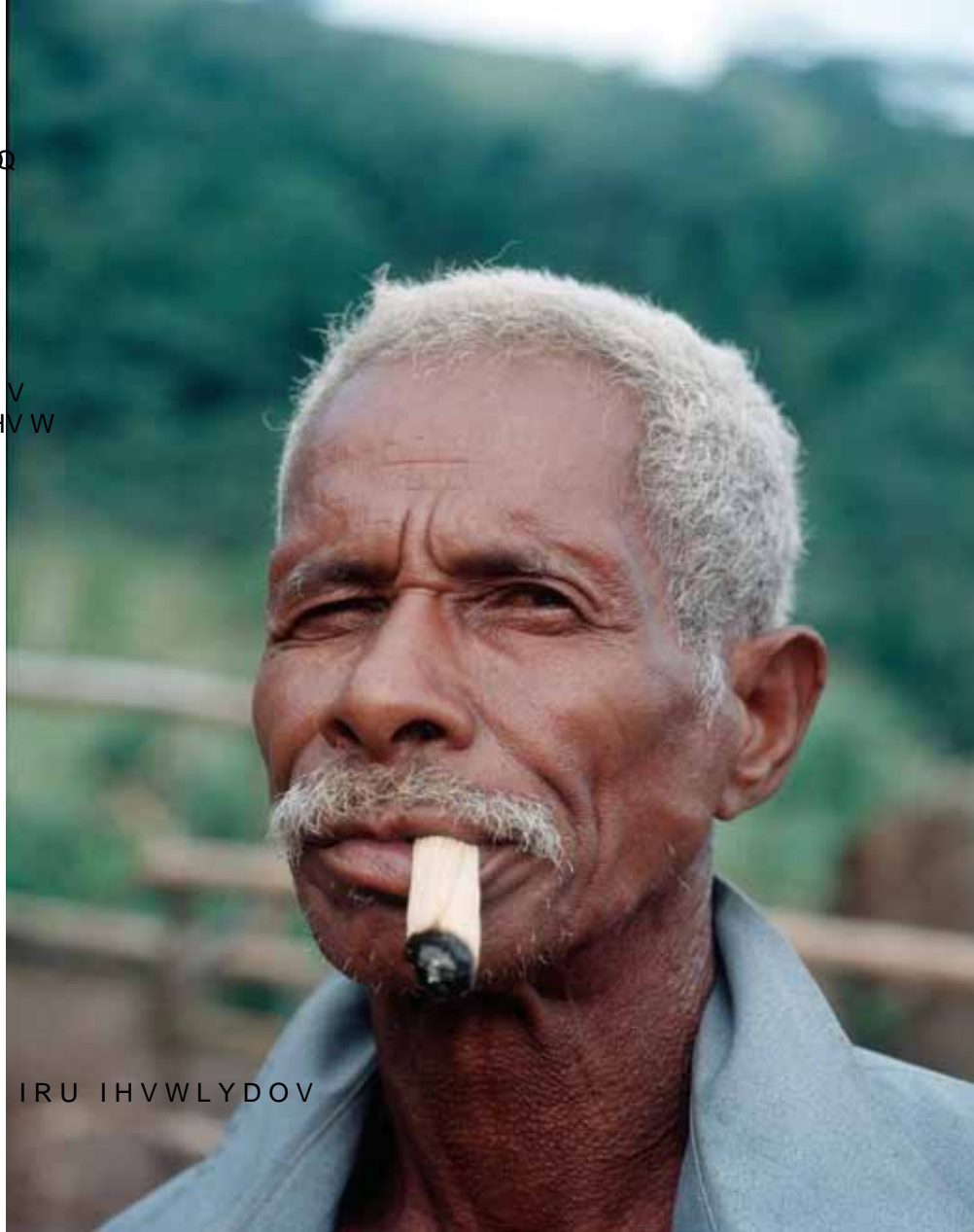
One of the friendliest countries in the world invites you to come and visit, stay in a hotel or a pousada with a family, get into the warm water or take a relaxing walk along a tropical beach.

Come to East Timor where people share a vision of optimism for the future and are working strongly towards it. Australians can be part of this just by going there. Tourism should help move the country forward to even greater self-reliance.

Motorbikes can be rented, cars hired, bicycles ridden, group tours, day trips, scuba dives and extreme sports are all here. Take a local bus or join an expedition. The choice is yours.

New adventures, friendships and beauty await in our welcoming northern neighbour. Relaxing Dili offers accommodation to suit any budget. Find a bed in budget backpacker lodge or a high level resort. To save money travel during week days, get a local sim card from Timor telecom to book dives, local calls are cheap.

Expats work here in large numbers for the United Nations in various roles adding to the cosmopolitan atmosphere of



this surprising town. With 20 main languages, Tetum Prasa being the largest along with Portuguese, the Asian/Euro blend mixed with the international guests keeps daily life interesting.

For further information on travel to Timor-
www.tourismtimorleste.com



ADF Contribution to UN Mission in Timor-Leste Ends

Following the end of Australia's involvement in Timor Leste under Operation Astute, the ADF contribution to the United Nations Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) – Operation Tower – has also ended.

This conclusion precedes the end of UNMIT operations in the country on 31 December 2012.

The ADF has contributed to UNMIT and all of the preceding UN missions dating back to 1999 with more than 5000 ADF members having served with UN missions in Timor-Leste.

Commander Joint Operations Lieutenant General Ash Power said the ADF had made an important contribution to the UN-led effort in Timor-Leste.

"The Australian Defence Force committed troops to each phase of restabilising Timor-Leste," Lieutenant General Power said.

"From peace keeping and security operations through to nation building and reinforcing the political process, the ADF has worked alongside the security forces and government of Timor-Leste as part of the UN commitment."

Lieutenant General Power said the Operation Tower personnel worked hard to achieve their mission.

Lieutenant General Power said the Operation Tower personnel worked hard to achieve their mission.

"The ADF personnel monitored Timor-Leste's security environment and provided advice on restoring and maintaining security on a daily basis.

"Today Timor-Leste is safe and peaceful, and its security forces can maintain this environment. This is in part due to the work of our personnel deployed on Operation Tower," he said.

Lieutenant Colonel Goodwin said a comprehensive civil military program helped break down barriers and assist local communities.

"Part of our role involved an extensive mentoring program for the F-FDTL on peace keeping operations, human rights and rule of law," Lieutenant Colonel Goodwin said.

"This mentoring has assisted the professional development of the Timor-Leste Defence Force (F-FDTL)."

Lieutenant Colonel Goodwin said Operation Tower personnel also facilitated medical clinics to remote areas and were involved in language and computer technology training in schools and colleges.

Four ADF members have been placed annually with the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) since 2006.

Joint Task Force 631 Padre, Captain Stephen Bennett, interacts with locals on a walk outside of Forward Operating Base



Gympie Girls See End of Timor Operations

GYMPIE'S Krystelle Watts and Kylie Grimes were working away from home in tropical climes over Christmas – with the Australian Defence Force in Dili, Timor Leste.

The Gold City pair were deployed to Operation ASTUTE in the dusty and humid Timorese capital where they are assisting the return of Australian personnel and equipment after Australia's 14 year involvement in this neighbouring nation.

The two Australian Army Reserve Signallers work in the Communications Centre for Australia's Joint Task Force and celebrated Christmas at the "HPOD" or Helicopter Point of Departure before returning home in early 2013.

If being from the same home city was not enough, the pair also shared a room in the basic temporary accommodation where the mod-cons include a simple bunk bed and mosquito net for comfort.

Krystelle said the pair met while they both were posted to 7 Combat Signals Regiment (7CSR) at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera.

"It's so funny. We met years ago and swapped stories about Rainbow Beach and having awesome pies down there and then when I arrived in Timor a few months ago, so did Kylie," she said.

"We both work in the communications section at Camp Phoenix, we are rooming together, end up beside each other at PT (physical training) most days and often share our meals around the same table."

Kylie added that it had been amazing to share the experience of their deployments overseas with someone so close to home.

"It is really interesting when we get chatting because we N H H;SQ G LVOKL QCFR P P R Q HE R VZ K QWRD P H V Nash State High School for example – but didn't bump into each other in the playground!" she said.

"We both really love Rainbow Beach so we often chat about our memories from there – it's such a beautiful part of the world."

The pair both readily admits they were enjoying something that many people are not able to experience.

"Stelle" studies at university in Canberra where she is posted to 143 Signal Squadron and Kylie works as a dental hygienist in Brisbane when not parading as a radio operator at 7 CSR.

Timor Leste began a new phase in its long and often turbulent history when the Australian-led International Stabilisation Force (ISF) ceased security operations on 22 November.

After more than six years of supporting the Timor Leste security forces, the ISF role has changed to the

redeployment of its people and equipment to Australia and New Zealand.

ISF troops started to depart Timor Leste in late November and bases will be remediated for handover by mid-2013 – closing yet another chapter on Australia's relationship with Timor.



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contribution to Operation ASTUTE.

Above: Signallers Kylie Grimes and Krystelle Watts, both from Gympie, will spend Christmas on 2SHUDWLRQ \$6787(LQ 'LOL 7LPRU /H



Farewell to Timor Orphanages

For many Australians and New Zealanders who have served in Timor Leste since 1999, regular contact with local orphanages has created a great bond of friendship between the military and some of Timor's most disadvantaged children.

In a last Australian Defence Force hosted event, about 40 children were hosted at Camp Phoenix in Dili for a

Operation ASTUTE Padre Stephen Bennett said the Christmas party for children of the St Bakhita and St Clara

"Australian Defence Force personnel have been unbelievable in their ongoing emotional support through visits, interaction and donations of their own personal items to help make a difference to the lives of these children over the years," Padre Bennett said.

"A lot of people, right back to the start of the International Stabilisation Force (ISF) in 2006, have been maintaining a continuous connection to provide these children with hope for the future and improve their quality of life.

"Many of these kids will grow up with a very fond appreciation of the ADF, but most importantly, they'll remember the kindness and compassion of strangers and hopefully follow that philosophy in their adult lives.

"This is a legacy we are leaving behind that we can all be very proud of."

Personnel from the ISF have hosted the children on several occasions during the past year with others donating their limited spare time to volunteer at the orphanages.

The emotional support often involves craft activities, making cards with the kids, playing soccer, board games, colouring-in, painting and making bracelets.

The Christmas Party at Camp Phoenix gave the children an opportunity to sing Christmas carols with the visiting Forces Entertainment Tour that included Rob Farnham, Amber Nichols and comedian Doug Chappel.

Santa Claus, plenty of face painting, a soccer game and a

One of those involved in the festivities was Army Reserve Signaller, Krystelle Watts, who said being involved in the Christmas celebrations for the children is a memory she will treasure forever.

"It was just so heart-warming to be involved in Christmas for the local orphanages particularly just to see their smiles when I was painting their faces—they were just so excited.

a special time of the year."

Australian troops started to depart Timor-Leste in late November 2012 and bases will be remediated for handover by mid-2013.

Australia's Defence and Police engagement with Timor-Leste will continue through the Defence Cooperation Program and Australian Federal Police support to Timor-Leste's police forces.

Through an aid program, Australia is strongly committed to its partnership with Timor-Leste to provide ongoing assistance to support the Government of Timor-Leste to achieve greater prosperity.



St Aidan's

FRQÀGH explore

from Kindy to Year 12

FACT: Girls who attend all-girls' schools are more than six times as likely to earn degrees in maths and science subjects.

St Aidan's endeavours to create a stimulating and positive learning environment and a focus on striving to achieve.

**TOURS AVAILABLE
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

11 Ruthven St Corinda Brisbane
Qld 4075 Australia

For more information phone

P: 3373 5928 or email our registrar

E: registrar@staidans.qld.edu.au

A School of the Sisters of the Sacred Advent
CRICOS NO. 01194K



Girls who attend a single-sex school will perform better in science and mathematics than their cohorts in co-educational facilities, according to research conducted by British academic, Alice Sullivan. Sullivan also concluded, "women who had attended single-sex schools were more likely than co-educated Z R P H W Q R D L V Q K H L W K T X D V O L ; E D W H R L Q D P D O H G R P ; G D S U L L I V A n, Joshi & Leonard, 2010, p. 25 6 X O O E R D Q O X W H F R Q ; U P K H view that single-sex environments can actually reduce the tendency of students to behave according to gender-typical stereotypes or norms".

"Put simply, girls in single-sex environments are not D I U D L S H V F L H Q Z D V H F G W S L ' G D S Q V O L F D Q Girls' School Principal Karen Spiller said.

"Fewer than 10 percent of engineers in Australia are women however, St Aidan's is bucking this trend. We are putting our time and money into programs designed to get our girls interested in pursuing a career in maths or science.

"For example, the School's national and international reputation in science and engineering is bolstered through continued student participation in the annual

Australian Space Design Competition. The team from 6 V \$ L G D W K V H D V F R R S J U S W D I R H W K M K L U G time. Three St Aidan's students represented Australia at the International Space Settlement Design Competition in the United States in August."

Mrs Spiller invites Defence Force personnel who are relocating their families to Amberley to visit St Aidan's and meet with her and support staff.

"The team at St Aidan's will be only too happy to show you the incredible facilities we have on offer to educate your girls," she said.

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

11 Ruthven St Corinda Brisbane
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Tasmanian Midlands becomes APPVA Battleground

Every two years in Tasmania, military re-enactors and militaria buffs gather in historic Campbell Town to polish their brass and show off their latest acquisitions under The Midlands Military Meet & Rendezvous.

The two-day event in mid-November sees militaria displayed and traded, battles re-fought both on and off the operations strut their stuff across the local Showgrounds. Not to be outdone, the APPVA Tassie Branch decided to enter the fray by engaging all comers via that old military cliché that an army marches on its stomach.

“And what better to replace hard rations than a fresh sausage sanger complete with grilled onions and sauce?” asked APPVA Tas President, Mike Romalis.

“With the overall plan of attack decided, the Tassie Branch decided to maximise its chances of success by bringing in some force multipliers. First off the rank were our comrades in arms the Greater Hobart RSL Sub-Branch and their Ladies Auxiliary.”

Past masters of barbecues and looking after hungry diggers, the Auxiliary Ladies applied their culinary planning skills and cooking expertise to execute a catering plan that any self respecting WO Caterer/SAM/SUPO would trade

“But we knew that even with the Ladies Auxiliary we might also enlisted the Partner’s of Veterans Association (PVA). Newly formed as a separate branch in this state, the ladies of the PVA were not going to any prisoners, and so it proved on the day.”

Day one of the APPVA Tas two-phase operation started with members and supporters assembling from both the north and south of the state. BBQs and sausages were delivered by the northern contingent, while local businesses were supported through the purchase of perishable items including fresh bread and ice.

“Checking the great forecast for the day, we also realised goffers would be in great demand, so bottled water and soft drinks were brought in by the esky load. By 1000h we were up and barbecuing,” said Mike.

“While numbers were slow to start, as military displays and battles were fought on the nearby showground, the opposition adopted wave tactics at the end of each activity in a determined attempt to swamp us with their superior numbers. The decisive point on Day One occurred about 1215h. With the queue stretching for over 20 metres and both BBQ deployed, the decision was made to commit the reserve!”

“Rising from their information stand and abandoning their serving point while a resupply run was made to the IGA for more goffers and ice. This aggressive reinforcement broke

the opposition’s determination, and once they realised no one was going to miss out we were able to serve them at our leisure.”

Day two commenced with coffee and blood shot eyes due to the 40’s Swing Dance on the Saturday night, but the \$339\$DWHDDQGXSSRZWHUHWHUWIRQKQHTD through Sunday lunch.

“An early morning resupply of fresh bread, goffers, ice and LPG made sure that we were fully armed for Phase Two,” Mike said.

“As it turned out however, we had broken the opposition the previous day. They abandoned their wave tactics completely, and instead we had a steady stream of customers which were well within our battle hardened expertise.”

“By 1330h any credible opposition had evaporated, and by 1430h we were able to commence clean up operations having fully expended our sausage and onion allocation.”

The Midlands Military Meet & Rendezvous presents a great opportunity not only to raise some funds for APPVA members to meet, greet and network with a wide range of ex-serving and serving members, as well as a great cross-section of the general community.



Oliver Breeze and Jason Ames-Smith undertake "turning and burning" duties at the Midlands Military Meet

Lending a Hand in Time of Need

(D U O D Q X D M D Z D Z L O G W U H H M U K U R O R K W K Tasmania, devastating the small town of Dunalley with more than 60 homes, businesses, the police station and RSL Sub-Branch destroyed.

\$ V W K U M S B V W L W D V Q R O V Z K H O U G L Q U H E U X I D D V threatened the homes of several APPVA members, one Z K R S U H V H G H S O R V W B H L G G O M Y K L Z L O G is burning into inaccessible country behind Hobart and crews from around the State and the mainland are working around the clock to beat the coming warmer weather.

In a show of support, APPVA Tas Branch organised a working bee to help clean up some of the aftermath of the ' X Q D O Q U H K H U R Z Z L O Q H O S V M X U V D O H G M D P L Q W B G H S L O R H I Y U H Z R D R C C G X E E I Z V K V I R P R I

(D W K A H U H Z R K D G H H G R Q D W W M K H \$ \$ W R V B W K H L U Veteran's Retreat at Interlaken.

Over the weekend of 2/3 February, local Army Reserve units started their year with the annual mandatory training. : L W K K H S S U R Y B R P D Q Q L Q F J H U L W B I O , Q W R V K \$ 3 3 9 \$ 7 D V 0 H P E H U V K L S : 2 I Q I F H U E I U L H I H G members of the two local battalions about our activities and support for soldiers.

Similar briefs will occur in the next few weeks for local Navy and Air Force Reserve units.

Plans are already underway for another Computer Gaming event as well as a Veterans' Community Dinner in the middle of March.



Avenue of Honour for Afghanistan Heroes

The banks of Lake Tinaroo in the Atherton Tableland in Queensland will be commemorated with an Avenue of Honour for Australian soldiers in Afghanistan.

Recently the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, announced \$100,000 in funding towards the construction of an Avenue of Honour on the lake shoreline.

"The Australian Government is proud to support the construction of this Avenue of Honour, one that will ensure we never forget those who have given so much for our country in recent times," Mr Snowdon said.

The Avenue of Honour will follow the path of fallen Private Benjamin Chuck's Gun Carriage and will symbolise the Australian Army and was killed in June 2010 with two fellow Commandos when a US Black Hawk helicopter crashed on return from Kandahar Province in Afghanistan.

Construction of the Avenue is expected to be completed in mid-2013 and will complement other memorials to Australia's Afghanistan war dead, including at the Australian War Memorial.

Mr Snowdon said that Private Chuck's family met with and raised the construction of the Avenue of Honour with Prime Minister Gillard late last year.

"Prime Minister Gillard, along with myself, realise the important contribution Australian troops have made in Afghanistan, we value their courage, commitment and sacrifice."

Once complete, the Avenue will be lined with vibrant Flame trees, which will lead to a sculptured memorial paying tribute to our fallen soldiers in Afghanistan. Individual commemorative plaques will be a prominent feature, each one acknowledging those who have tragically lost their lives in the Afghanistan campaign.

"Private Chuck, along with every other Australian soldier who has served for our country, is deserving of our ongoing gratitude and respect," Mr Snowdon said.

MoU supporting ADF members signed

Closer cooperation and improved support services for current and former Australian Defence Force members were pledged under a new Memorandum of Understanding signed in Canberra in early February between Defence and Veterans' Affairs.

Minister for Defence Science and Personnel and Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, joined the Minister for Defence, Stephen Smith, Chief of the Defence Force, General David Hurley and the Secretaries of the Department of Defence, Dennis Richardson and the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Ian Campbell, at the signing of the MOU for the Cooperative Delivery of Care and Support to Eligible Persons.

The new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been developed to better co-ordinate the delivery of care and support services between Defence and Veterans' Affairs.

Mr Snowdon said Veterans' Affairs and Defence are both strongly committed to delivering the best possible outcomes to all Australian Defence Force (ADF) members, past and present, and their eligible dependants.

"While both Departments have a long history of providing quality care and support, this MOU formally recognises that the provision of quality care and support to ADF members, and their dependants, is a shared responsibility and commits both Departments to a closer and more integrated working relationship," Mr Snowdon said.

The MOU sets out the key principles governing the cooperative delivery of care and support and establishing effective governance arrangements designed to ensure that the support arrangements remain effective.

It also introduces the concept of the 'Support Continuum', the structure of systems that extends across both Defence and Veterans' Affairs to deliver the seamless care and support service members and their dependants, deserve.

"Having the various systems and processes that support and care for ADF members, and their dependants, as a single continuum, Veterans' Affairs and Defence are able to ensure that the delivery of care and support remains effective and adapts to individuals changing needs," Mr Snowdon said.

The MOU also strengthens the ties between Defence and DVA, with services and support tailored better to the needs of members at any point during or after their ADF career.

"This is another example of the work being done to ensure the best possible outcomes for our servicemen and women, and their families, now and into the future," Mr Smith said.



Supporting a Lasting Tribute to Peacekeepers

Following much lobbying across many areas of the peacekeeping community, the Australian Peacekeeping Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status by the Australian

This DGR granting means donations towards the construction of the memorial will be tax deductible.

In announcing the status change, The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, said Australia can honour the giving generously to the construction of the Peacekeepers Memorial.

"The memorial will be a reminder for all Australians of the hard work undertaken by our peacekeepers in many of the world's troubled areas, such as Rwanda, Cambodia, the Middle East, Mozambique, East Timor, the Solomon Islands, Iraq and Afghanistan," Minister Snowdon said.

More than 66,000 Australians have served as peacekeepers in over 50 United Nations (UN) peace operations. This year marks 65 years since Australia's contribution to the Indies, now Indonesia, in 1947.

Mr Snowdon said peacekeepers are a diverse group of men and women who are not only members of the defence force, but also the Australian Federal Police, state police agencies and civilians.

"Our peacekeepers' contribution to world peace and stability is something all Australians can be proud of and this memorial will stand as a lasting tribute to their efforts."

In 2006, the Australian Government provided \$200,000 to the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project Committee towards the construction of the memorial.

Once built the memorial will occupy its place on Anzac Parade in Canberra alongside our other national memorials.

The lack of DGR status has meant the project has stalled for a number of years – an unintended consequence of the Australian Charities Commission investigation into not-for-profit

It is also hoped that this represents a dynamic shift in the recognition of Australia's peacekeepers – especially after nation's six decade support of peacekeeping operations formed the central theme to the Government's push for a seat on the UN Security Council recently.

For more information on how to donate to the project visit the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project website at www.peacekeepingmemorial.org.au

Information on Australian Peacekeepers and current deployments around the world is available at www.defence.gov.au/adfvc/peacekeeping/aipo.htm

Afghan Army Takes on Insurgency

1st Lieutenant Cari Butler

TARIN KOT, Afghanistan –

A major Afghan National Security Forces operation to clear insurgents from the southern Afghanistan province of ruzgan during Nov. 4-20, 2012 once again demonstrated ANSF's ability to operate independently. Kalak Hode VI, of six successive operations designed to repair Afghan security forces to operate independently before the 2012

According to Maj. Gen. Abdul Hamid, the Afghan National Army's 05th Corps Commanding General, the operation resulted in the discovery of 43,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, and more than 700 kilograms of explosives.

Additionally, approximately 500 improvised explosive devices were found and rendered safe.

"We are proud of our army; we have shown the ability to perform independent operations in three southern provinces successfully. We had a few casualties but our enemy had many," Hamid said.

"I share my deep condolences with their families; they were the security and for prosperity of this country."

Compared to previous Kalak Hode operations, coalition forces provided limited support, says Australian Lt. Col. Coalition Advisory Team.

He said Afghan forces provided a higher percent of the support and logistical assets in this operation versus previous Kalak Hode operations. Madden said one of the highlights of the operation was the successful participation of the Kandahar Air Wing's aircraft and crews in the clearing mission.

"One of many success stories is the Kandahar Air Wing, which was able to conduct seven to eight separate missions including aero-medical evacuations, ammunition and logistic resupply, and an Afghan air assault. (It) shows that the ANSF can plan and execute a reasonably complex operation in their own backyard," Madden said.

combined effort and cooperation of the police, said Afghan the 404th Zone Maiwand.

"Currently we have to work together shoulder by shoulder," Ahson said. It doesn't matter if you're ANP, AUP, ANA, or ISAF, we should all work together to solve the insurgent issues or problems that we have in this country right now."

Looking For a Fair Go in an Election Year

David Jamison AM.

National President Defence Force Welfare Association

Spokesman for the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations (ADSO)

The beginning of 2013 heralded the early announcement of the 14th September as the election date.

campaigning”, the Prime Minister’s announcement has on Australians. Whatever your political persuasions, the next few months are going to be agony. I think the policy debate from here on will be distorted by electioneering and faced by both existing parliamentarians and candidates for

Our challenge is to convince the various political parties to address our policy objectives in positive ways with iron clad commitments. We already have one from the Coalition on the DFRB/DFRDB indexation objective and will work hard to get extended at least to DFRDB invalidity recipients under 55 and those in the current MSBS scheme. Action from the Government is also needed on this aspect. Although the responsible Ministers still refuse to acknowledge this broken commitment, there is a group of Government parliamentarians who do and advise us they are working on a “solution”.

This group, led by Dr Mike Kelly (Minister for Defence Materiel) has very little time to make good on their promise and the May budget will reveal whether this has also been standing wrong perpetrated on the nation’s service men and women.

In the coming months, the Fair Go Campaign will focus mainly on indexation and the restoration of the parity of the Veteran Disability Pension to the Age Pension that existed prior to the 2009 budget changes.

There are a number of other issues ADSO will be seeking commitment and action on;

‡ Proposed Australian Military Covenant. The call to develop an “Australian Military Covenant” follows on from an understanding of the uniqueness of military service and is a way of spelling out the mutual obligations between the Nation and its service men and women. The proposed Australian Military Covenant is an instrument designed to articulate the, to date, largely unwritten mutual obligations between the Nation and the members of the Australian Defence Force. It will promote greater awareness and understanding within the general community of the demands placed on ADF members as well as the community’s expectations of the ethos and standards demanded of its Australian Defence Force members. Acceptance of this proposal will also help in the campaign for Peacekeepers who have died in service of Australia to be adequately recognised by the Australian War Memorial

- ‡ Other Military Superannuation Issues;
 - ‡ Removal of taxation of military superannuation in line with the provisions for most other Australians over 60.
 - ‡ DFRB/DFRDB commutation issues;
 - ‡ a) Use of up to date life tables;
 - ‡ E U H F W L ; R D L V Q L M R X Q D V L V R I L D W W M K H application of inappropriate life tables;
 - ‡ Removal of MBLs for MSBS members
 - ‡ Removal of offsetting of MRCS compensation income support payments against age based military superannuation income support payments.
 - ‡ G ([W H Q R M K S H U D Q E X I D W V R O P E H U V of the ADF reserves.
- ‡ Outsourcing of Medical Care for ADF Members. We are closely monitoring the new “outsourced” medical care arrangements for ADF members with the objectives that quality and timeliness of services to ADF members will not be diminished.
- ‡ Removal of FBT Reportable Disadvantages on Conditions of Service relating to families of serving ADF personnel.
- ‡ Preservation of the privacy of former ADF members under the new National Archives arrangements for the release of records
- ‡ Jet Fuel Exposure. We welcome the study into this matter but believe there needs to be a widening of the scope to include other categories of ADF members such as petroleum operators etc who worked with aviation turbine fuels and chemicals with either identical or similar characteristics to those used for deseal/reseal programs.
- ‡ Military Court of Australia (MCA). We continue to strongly oppose the provisions of the Bill that would provide for the trial of serious service offences in the MCA by judge or federal magistrate alone.
- ‡ Better Support for Reservists Returning from Operational Deployment.
- ‡ National Consistency of Education Curricula to ease the burdens resulting from the imposed geographic mobility of Defence families.

Unfortunately, we can’t just hunker down for the duration of the election lead-up. We will have to be engaged in the political policy debate to try to help achieve justice for our comrades.



& R X U D J H

Help in a natural disaster

Although summer is seen as a time of relaxation, it's also the peak season for natural disasters in Australia. Many DVA clients.

If you're affected by a natural disaster, the australia.gov.au website has a wealth of essential information on its Emergency and Disaster Assistance page, including how to contact your State Emergency Services (SES) for immediate help and Centrelink to check your eligibility for the Disaster Recovery Payment.

Information about making claims on your Defence Service Homes Insurance policy can be found on the DSH website.

emotional support during or after a natural disaster can contact the Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) on 1800 011 046.

VVCS group programs

Dates for the 2013 Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) group programs are now available on the VVCS website.

The courses cover a range of health topics for current and former servicemen and women, peacekeepers and their families, and are held across the country.

Learn how to get a better night's sleep, manage anxiety and stress or achieve a smooth transition to civilian life. There's even a residential program for couples to work on their wellbeing and enhance their relationship.

New payments to help older students with unexpected expenses

Some 1300 recipients of DVA education allowances will receive extra support in March. If you're receiving a payment under the Veterans' Children Education Scheme (VCES) or the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme (MRCAETS) you'll be eligible for the new Income Support Bonus.

The Income Support Bonus will mainly be paid to those aged 16 and in secondary or tertiary education, but some students under 16 will also be eligible in certain circumstances. The payment of \$105 will be paid twice a year, in March and September. It's tax free and will be indexed in line with CPI.

For more information visit the Income Support Bonus page on the DVA website.

A promising year ahead for DVA in social media

A wide range of DVA services, information and commemorative milestones were promoted through DVAAus on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Flickr accounts last year, much to the interest of its followers.

DVA also registered record levels of interaction with its followers by posing questions, responding to questions

and resolving queries.

The DVAAus audience is growing by the day, with the number of followers on Twitter having doubled and DVA's Facebook users having tripled in the last 12 months.

In order to continue providing you with useful information, tell us what you'd like to see on DVA's social media channels—send an email to internal.communication@dva.gov.au

Why not 'like' the DVA Facebook page or 'follow' DVA on Twitter now?

Men's Health Peer Education: could you be a volunteer?

What is Men's Health Peer Education?

The Men's Health Peer Education (MHPE) program was funded as part of the supplementary package of support provided by the Australian Government in response to the

The concept for the Men's Health Peer Education program came from the veteran community. It is based on a Tasmanian pilot conducted in 1999 by the Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia (Tas). The pilot was in response to the recognition that Vietnam veterans experienced a higher incidence of certain conditions, including coronary heart disease, prostate cancer, high alcohol consumption and related conditions and diabetes.

Following the pilot project and national consultation with veteran communities, the MHPE program was set up to raise awareness about men's health issues by encouraging all members of the veteran and ex-service community to share the responsibility for managing their own health and well being. To achieve this aim, the program trains volunteers from all age groups to provide health information to members of the veteran and ex-service community.

What does a volunteer do?

After attending a training course run by the DVA, the volunteer agrees to share this health information with others. This can be done via many channels: for example, giving a talk on a health issue at a local community group or ex-service organisation meeting; setting up or working with 'Men's Sheds', running a stand at a community expo; or personally chatting to a person, such as with a mate at a barbeque.

The range of ways to spread the word on men's health is quite diverse. How the volunteer chooses to do this is up to their own personal style and what they feel most comfortable doing.

It is also up to the volunteer to decide on their own time commitment. Some may predominantly 'work' one day or night per week, while others may opt to 'work' when events come up (for example, setting up a stall at an air-show and manning it for the whole weekend).

The MHPE Volunteer must sign a Volunteer Agreement, agreeing to abide by the MHPE Volunteer Code of Conduct and Roles and Responsibilities and to share health information with others.

If you're interested in becoming a Men's Health Peer Education (MHPE) volunteer and would like to learn more about the program, visit the MHPE web page or phone 133 243 (1800 555 254 from regional Australia) and ask to speak to the MHPE Coordinator for your state or territory.

Visit the DVA Flickr page to see photos of the MHPE annual workshop held in Adelaide in November 2012.

Australian Memorial Planned For New Zealand

Forged on the shores of Gallipoli, peacekeeping operations in the Solomon Islands and Timor Leste and war-like operations in the Middle East and Afghanistan, New Zealand and Australia share a unique relationship.

Recently Prime Minister Julia Gillard announced plans to build an Australian Memorial in Wellington, New Zealand, to be completed in time for the Centenary of ANZAC on 25 April 2015.

The Australian Memorial will be located in Wellington in the National War Memorial precinct, a park being developed by the New Zealand Government as the centrepiece of New Zealand's Centenary of ANZAC commemorations in 2015.

The memorial will commemorate the shared efforts of both countries in both war and peace, and will complement the Australia-New Zealand Memorial opened on Canberra's ANZAC Parade in 2001.

Australia and New Zealand share an extraordinary U H O D W L R Q U E I S J Q W K I O R R E G D W W O R L D H O D G V Gallipoli and in the trenches of France and Belgium during the First World War.

Australia and New Zealand have fought alongside each other in the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps in D O P R O V U F R Q A I D O V S H D F H N H R S H Q D W L R Q V including up to Afghanistan.

And our shared and continuing ANZAC story has been strengthened by the modern social, economic, cultural and sporting links of today.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Centenary of ANZAC, The Hon Warren Snowdon, recently approved the Memorial design V X E P L A W X I G W U D O E I Q W H F P R X U N S O D L N E D Greer.

It will comprise of 15 columns made of rugged Australian red sandstone, symbolic of the Australian 'red centre' and surrounded by eucalypt trees to represent the Australian landscape.

Interpretative material on the columns will address the shared ANZAC wartime experience, but the memorial will also commemorate our shared experience of indigenous history, settlement, immigration, culture and other links.

Amongst the columns is a central plinth, providing a focus for commemorative ceremonies.

The Australian Government has funded the \$5 million cost of the memorial, which will be completed in time for the Centenary of ANZAC on 25 April 2015.



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Peacekeeping: Lessons from Cambodia

By Geraldine Doogue

The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), led by Australian Lieutenant General John Sanderson (later Governor of Western Australia), took over the running of Cambodia after years of civil war. UNTAC's job was to rehabilitate the country, run elections (as opposed to just observing them), safeguard human rights and begin economic and psychological rehabilitation, all in a country with almost unimaginable levels of violence.

Retired General Mike Smith, Director of the Security Sector Advisory & Coordination Division in the UN Support Mission in Libya, highlights the importance of John Sanderson's leadership for many of the successes achieved in Cambodia. However, ultimately the job was left undone when the UN decided it was time to go.

'No provision had been made for the disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration of the three coalition armies. No plan was evident for the creation of a viable defence force, and the Khmer Rouge was able to become more active.'

Cambodia served as a valuable lesson in the evolution of peacekeeping. The importance of staying around for U H E X L O B S D Q W M K J U E W U R V I S H D E V D F K L H Y H G became clear to many. Smith says seeing Cambodia after UNTAC made him determined that if he could make changes in peacekeeping process, he would. 'I knew that if ever I was in a position of authority I would ensure that such practices were not repeated. Years later in East Timor, I remained conscious of this lesson.'

The change in peacekeeping activities from concentrating R Q L Q W H U W B Q D W U H D F R Q A D M H B P E R K L D V E H H S U R I R X C H D F H N H H C R Z G M D Z L W F R Q A L F that isn't limited to controlling a known zone around E R U G Z U W L G H Q W E R P E O M D Q W U D F R V Q A M F is constant, erupting everywhere. Civilians are displaced within their own country, by their own countrymen. When a society is torn apart like this, from within, an extraordinary level of anxiety, fear, lawlessness and terror pervades communities and people. It can seem uncontrollable. It certainly produces despair, which peacekeepers encounter and need to counter in themselves at times and in those they serve.

Modern peacekeeping has changed because modern Z D U I B D F K D Q J H F C R Q L M U K E D W M M G E L R K W K L Q W V Z B S V D U L * H I Q H B D U Q H K O Z K R U V G H V F U W K B G I z F R K P V G H U C K U H H Z E Q R D E N W L Q Z K L F R O G P K I V M H W U D L V Q H U C E V K F X V D O V know how to keep peace, keep combatants apart, prevent I X U W F R H Q U L D F O V K H B G S H D M F R Q G L M Z L R L C F V lasting peace can be built.

This requires our men and women on the ground to work with locals and civilian authorities to rebuild ravaged and

exhausted communities through battles that are not ours D Q W R [S O L G H W O M D D W X Q F W L R R Q L C P U W K W look like. Clearly this takes soldiers and police beyond traditional training.

Prime Minister Julia Gillard, in her anniversary message to peacekeepers, wrote of her gratitude 'that our nation is served by men and women of such courage and compassion, who continue to make the world a better place.'

But the daily dramas of constructive peacekeeping are not the stuff of evening news bulletins. Heroes don't emerge in the same emotionally satisfying way. Goodies and baddies are harder to identify. The achievements are slowly-built competence in the communities concerned, results that hopefully keep them off the front pages. Our gratitude is thus muted.

6 R W K F K D O C L P Y Q G H D Q D U U D W R X S C H F H N H H S L W K B D W X S H I D F H N H J S B K S D O L F O W K S R S X O D U L P D J L Q D W X W Q K H D F U L Q G B R Q V F L H Q W L R X they bring to bear on this noble work.

Geraldine Doogue is civilian patron of the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project. She presents ABC RN's 'Saturday Extra' and ABC's 'Compass' programs.

Additional research by Sophie Townsend.

Use with full acknowledgement to The Interpreter – the publication of the Lowry Institute for International Policy 28 November 12



For members of 17 Construction Squadron, the day of awarding of the UNTAG Namibia Honour Distinction Award is set for May 11.

The Association is keen to reach as many former members from the Namibia era as possible.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/305711446895/>

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