

AMC LSI Association of Vic

Armed Merchant Cruiser/Landing Ship Infantry

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ANZAC DAY Monday 25 April 2016

ANZAC Day is a remarkable opportunity to honour and remember the men and women who served this country for the freedom we enjoy today. It's also a time to reflect on the impact of war, conflict and peacekeeping operations in Australia's history.

For safety and public awareness, the organisers have provided the following March Protocol and check list:

- ♦ The Order of March starts earlier this year at 8.35am with Vietnam Veterans leading the march.
- ♦ **9.45am** Step-off time for HMAS KANIMBLA, MANOORA, WESTRALIA, ASSAULT and DEMS. Please be at assembly point (see page 2) in Flinders Street by **9.00am**. (Depending on how quickly the Vietnam Vets move, we may be asked to step off earlier—so don't be late!)
- ♦ All WWII veterans participating in march will ride in vehicles provided for them. Ring Chris Harvey before **27/3/2016** to book this service (see page 8).
- ♦ Veterans can request a RACV vehicle to pick them up from home preceding the march. Ring Chris Harvey before **14/3/2016** to arrange this service (page 8).
- ♦ Veterans to fill out Medical Identification Card (page 8) and carry in their pocket.
- ♦ Veterans wear medals on their left hand side
- ♦ Descendants wear medals on right hand side.
- ♦ Descendants should be old enough to march the full distance (1.8 Km) without assistance.
- ♦ Descendants are not to join or leave the march other than at the Assembly or Disposal points.
- ♦ Marchers should form up 6 abreast, unless otherwise advised by a March Official.
- ♦ When approaching the Eternal Flame; hats off, right hand over your heart, and 'eyes right' until your unit passes the Eternal Flame.
- ♦ Attire should be neat and tidy out of respect to the fallen (torn denim, sporting attire, dirty joggers etc are not appreciated).
- ♦ Carrying pictures & pushing prams will not be permitted.

Dawn Service Shrine of Remembrance

Commences 6am
 Forecourt
 (assemble from 4.30am)

Reunion HMAS Kanimbla, Manoora, Westralia, Assault 25 April 2016

After marching, we gather at the KANIMBLA, MANOORA & WESTRALIA AMC/LSI Memorial Tree (located behind the Shrine) to remember our deceased shipmates.

Following that, we cross St Kilda Road for a Reunion at 11.30am

Gateway Deli Bistro

312 St Kilda Road
 South Melbourne
 (near Victoria Barracks)



Street entrance

If you're marching or would like to attend reunions in Sydney or Canberra, contact:

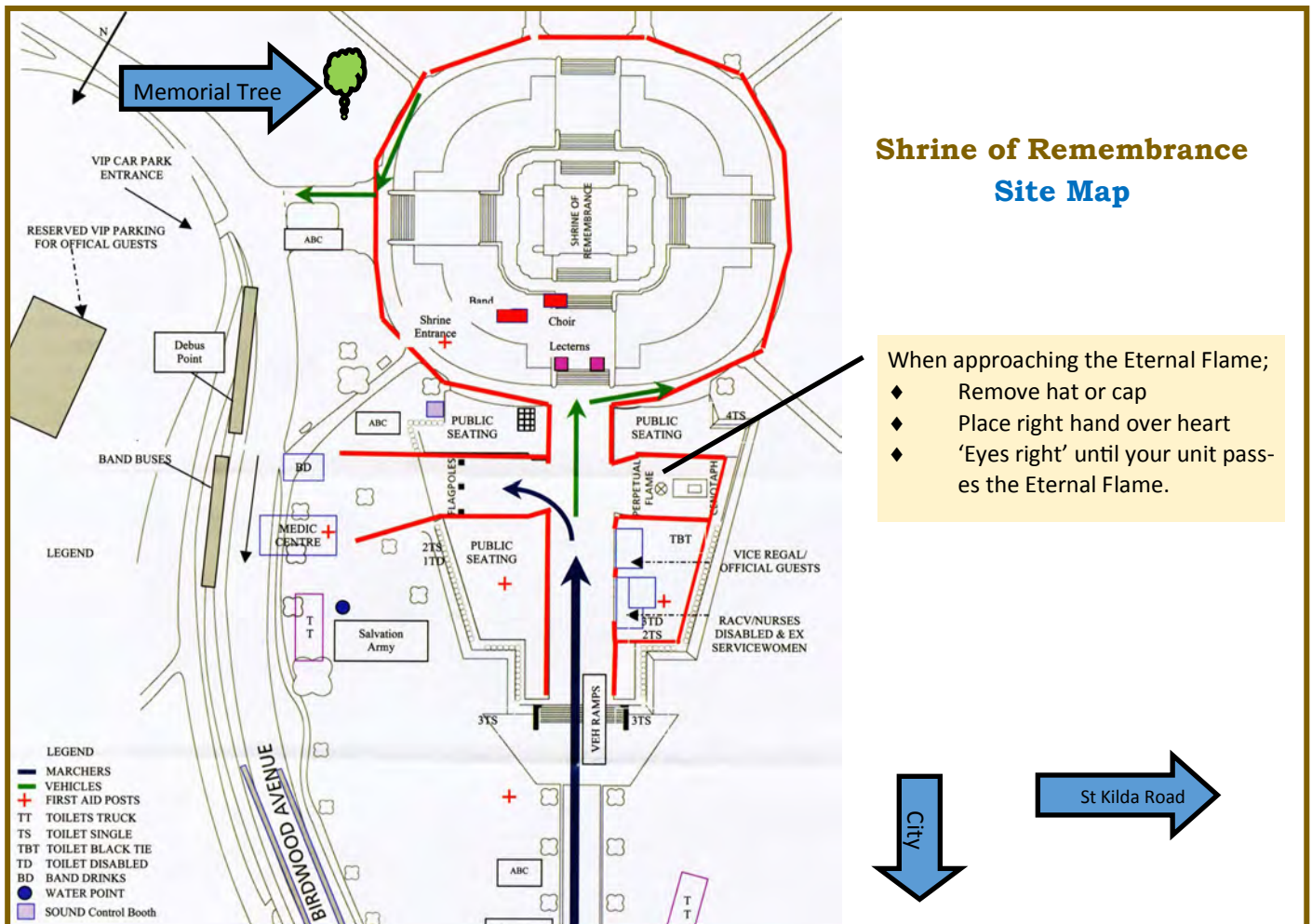
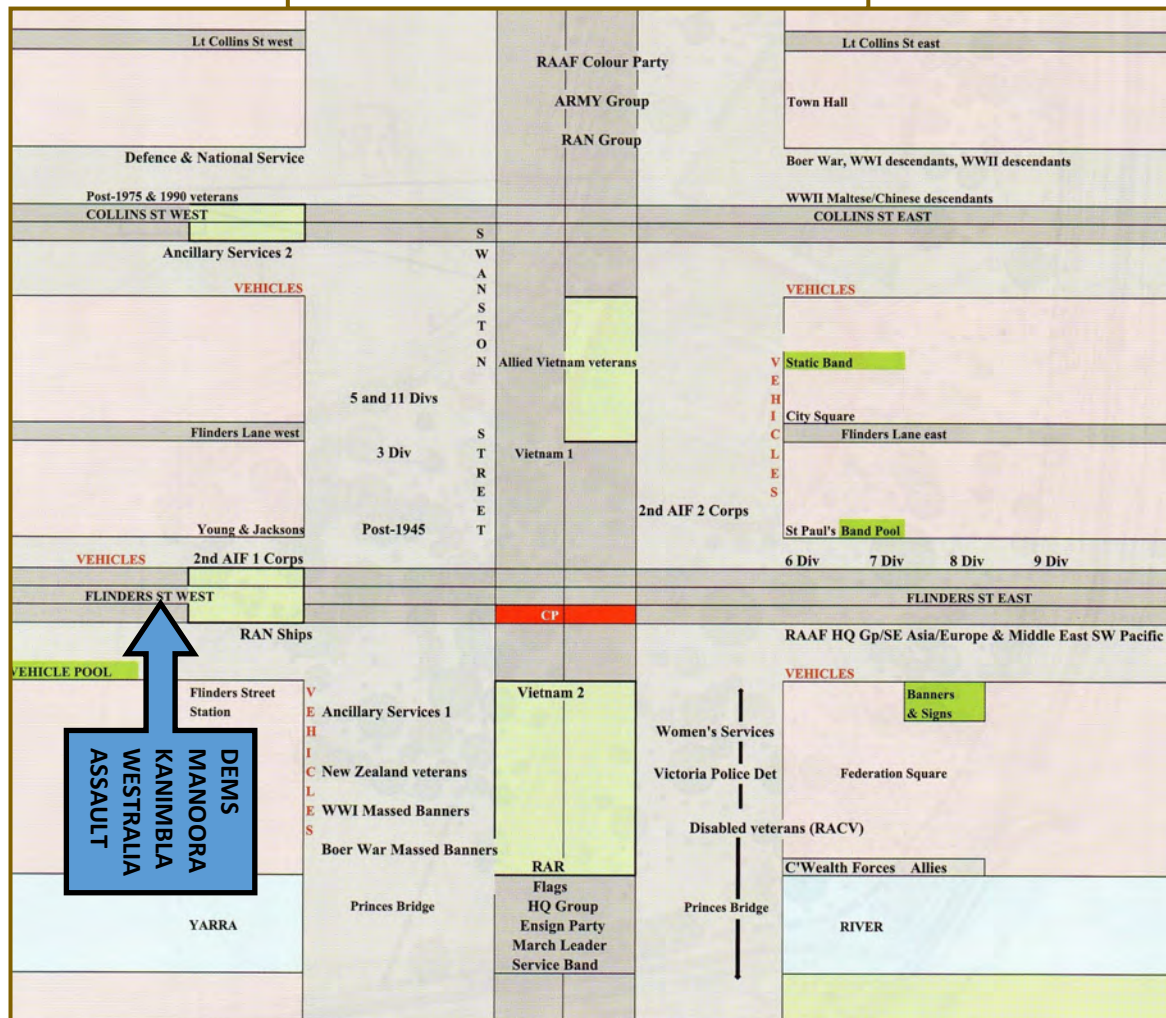
SYDNEY George Hinton, President
 AMC/LSI Assoc NSW
 Phone: (02) 9796 7232

ACT WO2 Paul Lyddiard
 Mobile: 0412969110 or
 Steve Trood, Mobile: 0413 881 020



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15th December 2015 Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony

On Tuesday 15th December 2015 we conducted our annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Remembrance to honour and remember those who served on HMAS Kanimbla, Manoora, Westralia and Assault. Though it was mid week, it was a 'packed house' in the Shrine's sanctuary with 40 descendants & veterans attending.



We are profoundly grateful for the attendance of veterans whose presence humbles us. It was a special effort by 96 year old Leading Stoker Wally Cumberland who was accompanied by his son Neil and daughter-in-law Helen. Norm Tame brought along his brother, Allan, who flew in from Western Australia on a one day visit.

After the ceremony we gathered at Bentleigh RSL for a Xmas Lunch Get-Together.

The beautiful couple, Jack & Phyl Austin, drove all the way from Hastings to join with us. Amazing!



Hiram Ristrom Wally Cumberland Bruce Candy

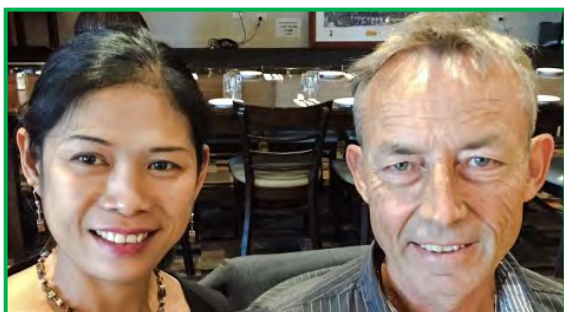


We were thrilled to have 3 generations of the Luttrell family join us:
Back Row, Tas Jnr with his mum Deb
Front Row: Elizabeth & Tas Luttrell with friend Marion

Brave Margaret Dixon & Klaenna Pearson drove from Werribee to the city, then on to Bentleigh. Awesome ladies!



Anne & Geoff de Vallier, son of Malcolm de Vallier former President of HMAS Westralia Assoc. Always great to see you.



Hiram Ristrom Jack Quick Tas Luttrell Harry Peers Neil Morris
Nev Phillips

Jack was brought in by his good friend Peter Lockwood. Harry, with the help of his daughter Nikki, escaped hospital for the day. Neil was accompanied by his wife, Renate. Nev got in under his own steam.

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Tribute to Douglas John Pain 15 Feb 1924 - 20 Nov 2015



Many Ex-service men and women assembled on 26 November 2015 at the funeral of Doug Pain as their last tribute to a shipmate, Stoker Douglas Payne, service number W2485.

Doug joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1942, at a time when Australia was actively engaged in World War Two. Although Doug was employed in a protected industry, he eventually managed to join the Army, and then transferred to the Navy. He joined up at Williamstown, commencing his Navy service at HMAS LONSDALE II. Then off to Flinders Naval Depot, better known today as HMAS CERBERUS. On completion of Doug's initial recruit training, he was selected for specialist training in support of the amphibious operations at HMAS ASSAULT, Nelson Bay. ASSAULT was the Establishment where some 2,00 Australian and 20,00 American troops were to become proficient at moving troops from ship to shore under war like activities, a very important role to say the least. Doug's next posting was to Madang, where he contributed to a range of activities. Madang was one of the largest holding areas for allied warships during the Second War.

Whilst at Madang, he posted to HMAS Westralia and then returned to Madang. Doug was awarded the Pacific Star, War Medal 1939-1945, Australian Service Medal 1935-1945 and Australian Service Medal 1945-1975. He was demobilised in May 1946 and returned to Rochester where he rejoined Victoria Railways and continued in their employ until his retirement.

Doug is survived by his wife Betty, father of Elizabeth, Andrea and John, father-in-law of Penny, Ted and Kylie, Grandfather of Michael Jnr, Andrew, Matthew, Liam and Eliza.

We know the time comes to each of us, when the Supreme Commander calls us from our earthly service but, however we may be prepared for this, we feel sorrow when there is another gap in our ranks.

Doug was one of a long line of sailors who served their Sovereign, and their country. Doug, and his shipmates, made a valuable contribution to the great traditions of the Navy. A Contribution that Doug continued to make, after his war service until just before his death. He was passionate about the HMAS Assault Association and the wellbeing of his shipmates.

There is no fear now, as he embarks on the unknown sea, for he is in the care of the Great pilot. We who remain wish him a safe voyage and firm anchorage, in that final harbour, where storms and tempest are no more.

By Cmdr Terry Makings AM RAN Rtd

Tribute to PO Aubrey Grant (Mick) Garrioch PM 1638 2.10.1917–25.10.2015

P.O. Aubrey Grant (Mick) Garrioch passed away after a short stay in hospital on October 25th, 2015. He had just had his 98th Birthday. Mick had a love of boats and the sea from the time he was a small boy. From Sea Scouts he joined the Reserves in 1936 at Lonsdale, reported for duty on 30th August 1939, and was assigned to DEMS.

His first ship was SS Hurunui. She was torpedoed and sunk south of Iceland on 14th October 1940. Mick was then assigned to SS Panama, leaving her when she got back to Australia.

Mick was at RAN Base Melville at the time of the bombing of Darwin, and on two occasions dived into the water to rescue men who had been concussed by the explosions. In 1943 he joined HMAS Shepparton, which was doing survey work north of Australia and in the Indian Ocean. Early in 1946 he joined HMAS Kanimbla and was there until mid 1947, when he was discharged as medically unfit.



"Home is the sailor, home from the sea"
By Lee Molesworth, DEMS Rep

Tribute to Captain Cecil Donald 27.3.1919—15.8.2015

A Mariner of the 20th Century

Donald was born in the country and had a love of the sea from a young boy. At the age of 17 he commenced his apprenticeship with the AUSN Co. In 1938 he joined HMAS CANBERRA for Naval training. The war years were spent on several ships: HMAS KANIMBLA, BALLARAT, AUSTRALIA, SYDNEY III, WARRAMUNGA & TOBRUK.

Post war years 1945—1958 with E & A.

In 1958 he joined the Torres Strait Pilot Service where he spent the next 30 years piloting ships through the reef. Retirement followed in 1988 and many years spent travelling by all modes of transport.

Donald spent his life doing what he loved the sea always remained and his interest in all ships.

By daughter, Pip Gordon



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Pincher was a diminutive King Charles Spaniel who lived a very comfortable high society life with his kind mistress. He even accompanied her on a winter holiday to Egypt in 1915 where she visited the camp of the Australian Expeditionary Force at Maadi. It was during this visit that, for reasons known only to Pincher, his affection transferred to Sergeant Thomas Borlase of the 7th NSW Light Horse Regiment. Pincher's mistress graciously gave him up to Thomas and they became inseparable. Two weeks later Sgt Borlase received orders to proceed to the Dardanelles.

On 15/5/1915 Pincher and his new master landed ashore at Gaba Tepe, Gallipoli. Outside his master's immediate comrades there were few who knew of Pincher's presence in the trenches. He intuitively knew what was expected of him - he never barked. When danger was threatened his master would cover him with anything available and he knew not to move until he was released.

Someone who was aware of Pincher's presence was Major W..... who happened to hold Sgt Borlase in high esteem on account of his distinguished service during the Boer War. However not all the officers thought the same and consequently an order was sent to remove the dog from the front line and have him shot. When the search party approached Borlase for the dog he responded, "You needn't worry, the poor little wretch is in his grave". Unbeknown to them it was merely a temporary cover-up! However a few days later another officer spotted Pincher alive and well. For the second time the little spaniel was condemned to death. The Major sympathetically urged Borlase to use his ingenuity again to save his dog.

Before the warrant could be issued, military men and scores of friends whom Pincher had befriended by now sent a message down the line that a great lot of Australians would have to go before the dog went! Borlase had an idea and with the coast clear scuttled off with Pincher along the trenches—returning a while later with no dog. So when the NCO appeared with Pincher's death warrant, Borlase was able to take his colonel oath that the dog was gone.

Pincher was indeed his mascot - for two hours later a shell burst over the trench and Sgt Borlase was buried under the debris receiving serious injuries to the head, hip and hand. He was conveyed to the clearing hospital on the beach whereupon a mate brought him a bundle just prior to him boarding the hospital ship HS Neoralia and transported to Malta. At St Andrew's Hospital, Malta, the wounded Sgt Borlase clung to life while his little bundle enjoyed the well earned freedom of the wards. The nurses adored him and he was allowed to sleep at the foot of his master's bed.

Later they both voyaged to England with Pincher forming part of a kitbag in a cupboard, safe and silent.

Sgt Borlase was admitted to the Australian Aux Hospital No1 (Harefield House, Middlesex) on 7/10/1915. Harefield House was a large manor and grounds donated by Ex-pat Australian Charles Billyard-Leake to the Australian Government to be used as a wartime hospital during WWI.

Two Adelaide nurses, Sisters Kathleen and Milli Uren were charged to attend Sgt Borlase. You can imagine their surprise when Pincher's hide 'n seek game got foiled when they lifted the coat belonging to patient Borlase from the floor to reveal guess who? Pincher immediately extended his doggy paw shake and instantly won the nursing staff over. From that time onwards, while his master convalesced, Pincher assumed the office of "Rat-Catcher in Chief" to the Red Cross Hospital. At the appointed hour he'd punctually appear for meals and at regular intervals check in on his master's progress.

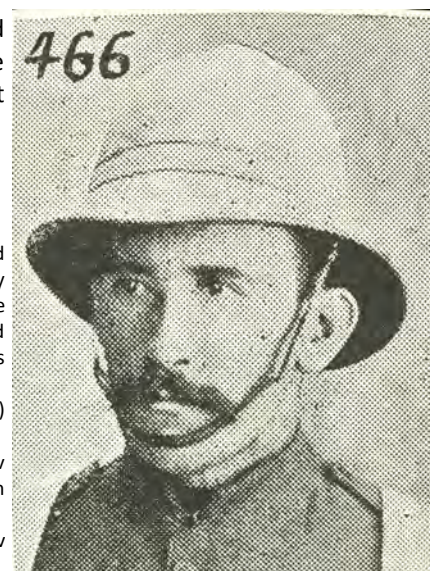
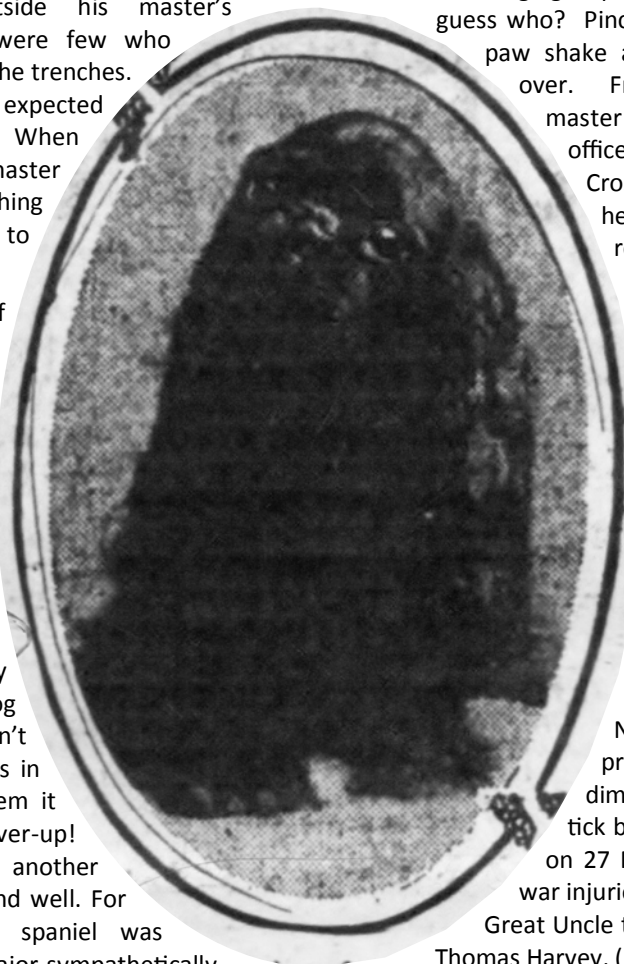
On two occasions the hospital was visited by royalty; Queen Alexandra, also the King and Queen Mary. They listened with genuine interest in Sgt Borlase's story and kindly offered to care for his dog—but Borlase would not be separated from his loyal companion.

Sgt Borlase's fighting days were over. On 7/11/1915 he and Pincher departed aboard HMAT Runic for Australia. Borlase returned to the NSW bush and Conese Station with his precious bundle. Sadly, in mid 1917 the diminutive Pincher was taken down by a tick bite and passed away. His master died on 27 March 1920 as a consequence of his war injuries, aged 52. Thomas Harvey Borlase is Great Uncle to Marika Borlase (Artist) and to Chris Thomas Harvey, (President of AMC/LSI Assoc of Vic).

Sgt Thomas Borlase was a keen horseman, man of the land and a highly decorated soldier earning a DCM (Distinguished Conduct Medal) for defence of Eland River Post during the Boer War in August 1900.

Lest We Forget

All personal effects and photos were tragically destroyed in a fire. These two photos were retrieved from the internet. Sources for editorial:
'The Washington Post' (DC) 19 Sept 1915,
'The Bathurst Times' 6 Nov 1915, 'The North Western Courier' 12 Nov 1915.
'The Mail' (Adelaide) 6 Nov 1915.





VALE



With much sadness our committee informs the passing of the following Veterans:

AB Geoff (Bluey) Wilkinson passed 23/2/2016 Vic

STO Bill Henderson passed 16/2/2016 Vic

AB Stan Hale passed 20/11/2015 Vic

STO Doug Pain passed 20/11/2015 Vic

AB Peter (Tiddley) O'Connor, passed 27/9/2015 Vic

LIEUT CMDR Don Dykes passed 15/08/2015 NSW

OS Wal Mead passed 6/5/2015 NSW

Lest We Forget

If we have omitted your loved-one, please contact us so we can publish their name in our next newsletter.

MERCHANDISE for SALE

Cap \$25.00 + P & H

To Order:

Phone 0412 390 686 or

Write 1/129 Surrey Rd,
Blackburn Vic 3130



Caps will be available for purchase on ANZAC Day.

Our Newsletter is distributed to over 350 recipients across Australia.
If you'd like to advertise in our paper, costs are as follows:

1/8 page \$25

¼ page \$50

½ page \$100

1 full page \$200

For enquiries, please email: amclsivic@gmail.com

Donations

We wish to thank and acknowledge the following generous donations received since our last newsletter:

Stan & Nancye Price

Ken Ray

Shirley Davey in memory of Frank Davey

Loris Marhood in memory of

Fred Marhood

Keith Overton

Brian Sullivan

Keith Krause

Binnie Wilson

Ray O'Keefe

Hiram Ristrom

Robert Parsons

Joan Stirk in memory of Harry Stirk

Shirley & Frank Birmingham

If you wish to donate to AMC/LSI Assoc of Vic you can either

Send a cheque to
1/129 Surrey Rd
Blackburn Vic 3130

or

Transfer funds to Westpac Bank

Account No. **42-2541**

BSB No. **033-070**

In Description Box please state
"donation" & your name.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



November

**Brian O'Shannassy Ray Winter Bryan Peters Neil Morris Roy Cummings
Tas Luttrell Arthur Edwards Cedric Bowerman**

December

**Bob Worthington Reg Dorward, Harold Wilson Ozzie Gray Keith Tonkin
George Hinton 'Rocky' Gardner Bob Elliot**

January

Nev Phillips Robert Parsons Max Kenner Bill Tattersall Leon Beech

February

'Uki' Macartney Bruce Collett Clarrie Bridge Martin Marks Derek Self

And, to those we may have missed—please let us know—and we wish you a "Very Happy Birthday"

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This newsletter has been a collaboration of help & inspiration from Chris Harvey, Mary-Beth Hosking, Mac Hay, Robbie Lewis, Lee Molesworth, Cmdr Terry Makings AM RAN Rtd, Pip Gordon, Marika Borlase, John Meehan, Lieut Col Marcus Thompson, Judy Gade for photos & RSL Muft March mag 2016

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I'M AN AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER

By Lieutenant Colonel Marcus Thompson, Australia Day 2004 Iraq

I've fought on the ground, in the air, and on the sea.
You'll know me by my courage and mateship.
And pride in my country – young and free.

I went to Gallipoli as a youngster,
With thoughts of nationhood fresh in my mind.
It was there my fighting spirit became known to the world
As I bled at 'The Nek' and Lone Pine.

I lost my horse at Beesheba,
And the Emden gave me a fright.
But I handled myself pretty well – so I'm told,
Having proven my ability to fight!

I spent two stinkin' years in the trenches of France,
Getting bashed by the gas and guns.
But my spirit shone through at Bullecourt and at Ypres,
And at Villers Brettoneux we beat back the 'Hun'.

I saw York win the Medal of honour.
I stood with the Brits at the Somme.
Together we brought the Kaiser to his knees.
And the "War to end all Wars" was won!

It wasn't long before I was back in the fray,
When Hitler and Tojo came to the fore.
I wore blue for the first time and went to the sky,
And fought high above England's shore.

I went in the bag in Singapore.
And I got left behind in Crete.
But my spirit didn't waiver
'Cause I've never had thoughts of defeat.

I danced with the Nazis in North Africa,
I beat Rommel at Tobruk and Alamein,
Then Lavarack and Monty set me on the Vichy French,
And I walked through Damascus – again!

I headed south to defend my homeland,
And got to New Guinea in the nick o'time.
As 'Raggard Bloody Heros' in the mud of 'the Track',
My mates and I held the line.

I fought Mao Tse Tung at Kapyong.
And I met Ho Chi Minh at Long Tan.
I kicked Guetteres out of East Timor,
And I helped rid the World of Saddam.

I served in Cambodia, Somalia and Rwanda
When those nations say the eyes of hell.
I restored law and order in the Solomons,
And I came running when the Twin Towers fell.

'Cause there's nothing more important to me than freedom.
My sunburnt country I love through and through.
And even though I'm not the biggest kid on the block,
I've never backed away from a blue!

You see, I'm an Australian Soldier.
Where there's a job to do – I'm there!
'Cause my blood, sweat and tears are a small price to pay
To Advance Australia Fair.

Transport Request—ANZAC Day march participation

It is a request of the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council that all WW2 Veterans avail themselves of the transport facilities provided.

- Vehicles will be pre-located in Flinders, Swanston & Collins Streets. Veterans wishing to use transport will be directed by Marshals to waiting vehicles.
- Signs identifying Unit will be provided to drivers for display in the vehicle's window.
- Take care to remove all personal items from vehicle when alighting at the Shrine.
- Veterans with walking frames should endeavour to leave them with relatives or carer. If to accompany veteran in the vehicle, the walker must be of the folding variety.

If you haven't been contacted already, ring Chris Harvey on 0412 390 686 to book your vehicle before 27 March 2016.

RACV Transport Request RACV "pick Up from Home" Service to precede the march

ANZAC House will arrange for an RACV vehicle to pick up a veteran at his/her residence, convey him/her to the City Area, thence to the Shrine where they will be given a seat to view the march. After the Commemoration Service the vehicle will deliver the member to the Association reunion, or home, **not both**.

The RACV will contact each member who books this service to make detailed arrangements.

The RACV will not deliver veterans to Unit Association assembly areas for transfer to Victorian Military Vehicles Corps vehicles to participate in the march.

Veterans who have difficulty in getting into, or out of military vehicles should use this RACV service. **They are welcome to leave their seats and go to the city end of the Shrine Forecourt to join their Association for the final stage of the march.**

If you haven't been contacted already, ring Chris Harvey on 0412 390 686 to book this service before 14 March 2016.

To be retained by member.
Carry in top left hand pocket.



ANZAC Day 2016
Medical Identification Card

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Brief Medical History: _____

Allergies: _____

Medications: (name, dosage, and frequency) _____

Next of Kin:

1. Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone Home _____ (Mobile) _____

2. Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone Home _____ (Mobile) _____