

THE VOICE

April 2012 Edition

Contents:

President's Report	1
Life Members	2
Directory	2
Merchandise Available	2
Tricky Questions	3
Carbon Tax Compensation Info	3
Notices	4
The Naval Battle for Gallipoli	5
Notices II	6
Was it a Real Victory?	7
The Picket Line	7
Treasurer's Annual Report	8
KVAA Inc. 2011 Accounts	8
Performance Appraisal Terms	9
Military Humour	9
Notices III	10
Chaplain's Corner	11
Growing Old	11
Notices IV	12
Out & About	13
Ben O'Dowd Tribute	14
Farewells	14
Editorial Disclaimer	14
The Ode	14

President's Report



Vic Dey, National President, KVAA Inc.

While I acknowledge that every memorial ceremony and/or service is always important to the ex-service community, it is practically impossible to attend and then write up a summary for publication of every event. March 2012 was a productive month and April will be even busier.

Highlights include: On 7 March at the Shrine of Remembrance, author (*The Korean War*) and retired foreign correspondent for *The Age*, Cameron Forbes gave an interesting, fact-filled talk about the political giants of the day such as Mao, Stalin, Truman and MacArthur, up to and including the Korean War. On 16 March I attended a reception at Anzac House in honour of Mike O'Meara on his retirement as Deputy Commissioner of the DVA Victoria. Mike was very much admired by all ex-service organizations. This was evident in the number of people attending to pay their respects.

Coming up are a number of pre-Anzac Day events.

Monday 16 April will see us at the Premier's Luncheon to commemorate the 97th Anniversary of Anzac Day. On Monday 23 April, Northern Health will hold their Anzac Day observance, a small but significant ceremony as many of the patients are ex-service men and women, or widows of ex-servicemen. A number are wheelchair bound but come along to the service regardless. Tuesday 24 April will see a number of veterans at the Fountain Gate Secondary College for the school's Memorial Ceremony, after which our Korean War plaque will be dedicated and blessed in their Memorial Garden.

And then we arrive at another Anzac Day. I trust that where ever you are across our vast nation, your Anzac Day is all that you wish it to be.

[Editor's note: for Melbourne readers, Page 12 has muster details for this years march. Those in other States, consult your local RSL.]

Associate Member

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

Affiliated Associations

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

Allied Associations

Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Inc.



Life Members

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

†Deceased

Directory

Patron

Major General J C Hughes AO DSO MC FAIM Dip FP

President

Victor Dey OAM
 Phone: 03 946 72750
 Mobile: 040 987 8864
 Email: blueydey@bigpond.net.au

Vice-President

Tom Parkinson 03 9350 6608

Secretary

Alan Evered
 Phone: 03 9874 2219
 Email: evered@optusnet.com.au

Treasurer

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

Committee

Ron Christie, John Dusan, Keith Langdon,
 Allen Riches, Arthur Roach, Ivan Ryan

Appointments

Chaplain: John Brownbill RFD KSJ 0418 359 085 **Pensions:** Charlie Slater 03 9355 7264
General Committee: Alan McDonald **Veterans' Affairs:** Ivan Ryan 03 726 6053
Editor: Geoff Guilfoyle 03 9546 5979 Email: Geoff_Guilfoyle@aanet.com.au

Delegates

ACT: Colin Berryman OAM 02 6258 2463, 040 896 2415, or jacol57@bigpond.net.au
Albury-Wodonga: Paul Shimmen 02 6041 3211 **Geelong:** Arthur Roach 03 5243 6113
New South Wales: Merv Heath 02 4343 1967 **Queensland:** Harry Pooley 07 3200 0482
South Australia: John Bennett 08 8556 7288 **Tasmania:** George Hutchinson 03 6275 0762
Western Australia: John Southorn 08 9531 2008

Correspondence

The Secretary, PO Box 2123, Rangeview, Victoria 3132

Website

www.austkoreavets.asn.au

Merchandise Available

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

TOTAL . . . \$ _ _ _

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

Surname: Given Names:

Address: (Please Print)

State: Post Code:

Cheques or money orders should be made out to:

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

Tricky Questions

Do judges & lawyers do jury duty?
 Do pigs pull ham strings?
 Why do donuts have holes?
 What is a male ladybird called?
 How fast do hotcakes sell?
 Why are Softballs hard?
 Is the fear of flying groundless?
 Why are boxing rings square?
 What's the opposite of opposite?
 Is it possible to be totally partial?
 Can fat people go skinny-dipping?
 What would you use to dilute water?
 Can you grow birds by planting birdseed?
 Should vegetarians eat animal crackers?
 When people lose weight, where does it go?
 Why did kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
 Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?
 Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
 Are there seeing eye humans for blind dogs?
 Have ex-locomotive engineers been derailed?
 What was the best thing before sliced bread?
 Why are things typed up but written down?
 What do you call a female daddy long legs?
 Can a guy named Nick have a 'nick' name?
 How do you handcuff a one-armed man?
 Does peanut butter really have butter in it?
 Did they have antiques in the olden days?
 Do Lipton employees take coffee breaks?
 Do one legged ducks swim in circles?
 Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
 If you try to fail and succeed, what did you just do?

Carbon Tax Compensation Info

The imminent arrival of the Carbon Tax will see around 350,000 in the veteran community receive a compensatory payment to offset the cost of living impact.

- A nine month up-front advance lump sum will be paid in June 2012 called the *Clean Energy Advance*.
- From March 2013, an ongoing supplement called the *Clean Energy Supplement* will be paid.
- All service pensions (full and part), disability pensions and war widow(er)s will receive both the *Clean Energy Advance* and the *Clean Energy Supplement*.
- Veterans on a disability and service pension receive both payments.
- Payments will also be made to Wholly Dependent Partners and Permanent Impairment payees under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*.
- Payments will also be made to partner service pensioners who receive Family Tax Benefit.
- Payments will also be made to partner service pensioners who receive Family Tax Benefit.

Table

	Upfront (9 month advance paid June 2012)	Ongoing Assistance (from March 2013)
Service pension (Single)	\$250.00	\$13.50 per fortnight
Service pension (Partnered - each)	\$190.00	\$10.20 per fortnight
War Widow(er)s	\$260.00	\$13.80 per fortnight
Seniors supplement (Single)	\$250.00	\$13.50 per fortnight (paid quarterly)
Seniors supplement (Partnered - each)	\$190.00	\$10.20 per fortnight (paid quarterly)
10%-100% disability pension	\$132.00	\$7.40 per fortnight
EDA rate	\$206.60	\$11.50 per fortnight
Intermediate rate	\$253.40	\$14.10 per fortnight
Special rate	\$374.40	\$20.90 per fortnight
Carer Payment (single) (paid by Centrelink)	\$250.00	\$13.50 per fortnight
Carer Payment (partnered) (paid by Centrelink)	\$190.00	\$10.20 per fortnight
MRCA wholly-dependent partners	\$260.00	\$13.80 per fortnight
MRCA permanent impairment	\$132.30	\$7.40 per fortnight
MRCA Special Rate DP	\$374.40	\$20.90 per fortnight

Notices

HMAS Anzac D150-D59-F150 & HMAS Tobruk D37-L50 Reunion

All personnel who served on above ships are invited to participate in the National Reunion at Frankston, Victoria on 18th October - 23rd October 2012 and attend a Passing Out Parade at *HMAS Cerberus*. All replies regarding membership and/or the reunion to:

John "Rebop" Golotta. (President)
22 Troedel Street, Pearcedale,
Victoria, 3912.
Phone (03) 5978 7808
Mobile 04417399168
Email: hm.anzac@bigpond.com

Korea War Veterans Memorial Reunion

Where: Canberra, ACT 2602

When: 19th 20th & 21st October 2012

October 2012 sees the gathering of veterans, family and friends, for the annual commemorative service and functions in Canberra. For information packs and bookings please contact Ms Wendy Karam on 0418 124677 or email: wendykaram@yahoo.com.au

Seeking William Myers

Seeking William Ingram Myers, Korean War, 3RAR, previously of Port Pine and Coleraine. If you know of him or know someone who has contact with him, contact Robert A. Rollason, 60 Crooke Street Bairnsdale, Victoria 3875 or (03) 5152 2524.

Looking for Next-of-Kin

The men listed below have been posthumously approved for the award of the Commendation for Gallantry for their service during World War II and to date their award has not been claimed. If you are related to any of these men, or know of someone who may be related, please contact the Directorate of Honours & Awards' telephone enquiry line on 1800 111 321.

Private Joseph Bell
Sergeant Joseph Kenneth Bell
Private Thomas Stephen Cumming
Sergeant Clifford Edmund Danaher
Private Victor Lawrence Gale
Private Howard Frederick Harvey
Major Alan Mull
WO2 Matthew Wallace Quittenton

Subscription Raffle Winner

The winner of this year's *Early Renewal of Subscription Raffle* is Kim Dong Up from Glen Iris in Victoria. The raffle was drawn at the March 2012 Executive Meeting.

Shrine of Remembrance Talks

Australia's Lost Generation of WWI

Presented by historian, Ross McMullin

12:30 pm, Monday 30 April 2012

In evaluating the impact of the Great War, Australians have tended to focus on the collective impact of all the casualties. There has been less focus on the individuals of exceptional talent and potential who did not return. Australians today don't know the stories of these special identifies whose loss was a national deprivation.

The Battle of the Coral Sea: May 1942

12:30 pm, Wednesday 9 May 2012

1942 is remembered in Australia's history as being among the darkest of World War II. Australia's mainland came under attack within months of Japan entering the war. Securing Australia's sea lines of communications was pivotal to keeping Australia in the fight. The *Battle of the Coral Sea* was one of several important naval battles and the precursor for the *Battle of Midway*.

Documentary Screening of The Forgotten

5:30 pm, Thursday 31 May 2012

Join Associate Professor Glen Stasiuk for the screening and discussion of his documentary *The Forgotten*. Glen explores the role played by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in war. These proud "Black Diggers" have continued a warrior tradition that stems back through the ages.

The Other Anzacs

12:30 pm, Wednesday 6 June 2012

By the end of The Great War, forty five Australian and New Zealand nurses had died on overseas service and over two hundred had been decorated. These were women who left for war on an adventure, but were soon confronted with remarkable challenges for which their civilian lives could never have prepared them. Peter Rees takes us into the hospital camps, the wards and the tent surgeries on the edge of some of the most horrific battlefronts of human history.

Trauma, Memory and Madness

12:30 pm, Wednesday 13 June 2012

Join war historian Jen Hawksley from the University of Wollongong to discuss aspects of her research into Australian parents who were institutionalised after losing their son(s) during the First World War and returned soldiers who were treated in hospitals for shell shock and other war-related psychological conditions. Jen will conceptualise an unprecedented national trauma at the microcosm of the individual patients, their families and the doctors who tried to treat a generation permanently scarred by war.

The Naval Battle for Gallipoli

Early in 1915 the Russians requested action from the British and French to relieve some of the pressure on the Eastern Front. The Russians had suffered serious reversals and were looking for assistance against the Turks. Although the Western Allies were reluctant to divert assets from the trenches in France, it was decided to make a demonstration against the Turks. This decision led to the Gallipoli campaign, which was designed to force the Turkish Straits, capture Constantinople and establish maritime communications with Russia.

Initially, the demonstration was planned to include 75,000 British troops from France, the Australian and New Zealand forces of the Egyptian garrison, with attacks on Turkey from Greece and Bulgaria. However, the British Army balked at diverting ground troops, and Greece and Bulgaria remained neutral. The only alternative was a naval assault conducted by British and French warships. In February 1915 this was approved.

The force gathered in the Mediterranean was the most formidable ever collected in that part of the world. It consisted of a number of old battleships, two semi-dreadnoughts, a battlecruiser and the modern British dreadnought *Queen Elizabeth*. The older ships carried 12-inch guns; the *Queen Elizabeth* had 15-inch guns. Many of the older vessels were obsolete and were destined for the scrapyard within the next fifteen months; still, the force could effectively bombard the Turkish forts protecting the Dardanelles.

Attempts were made early in March 1915 to silence the Turkish guns, but minefields hampered the warships' ability to close the range against the Turks and British minesweepers were somewhat reluctant to sweep for mines under fire. By March 18, sufficient preparations had been made to conduct a major bombardment. Admiral de Robeck, the British commander, had just taken command two days before, but he was confident that his combined Anglo-French force would be successful.

He arranged his ships in three lines, anticipating that he could first clear the forts protecting the entrance into the Narrows, a part of the straits at the southern end of the Sea of Marmara. The width of the Narrows, just 1600 yards, made it the key to Constantinople. At 11:25 A.M., Admiral de Robeck began the engagement.

The Turks, augmented by some German sailors, manned several old forts on each side of the straits. Many of the guns were obsolete, or of low calibre, and the defenders possessed only a few armor-piercing shells. The two forces duelled for two hours, but by 1:45 P.M., Turkish fire slackened. At that time, the Admiral ordered the French line to retire and the third line to move forward. While withdrawing, the old French battleship *Bouvet* was rocked by a tremendous explosion. It capsized and sank within two minutes, taking down 670 of its crew. The British thought that the ship had been struck by a lucky Turkish shot and failed to take precautions against mines. For two more hours the bombardment continued. As Turkish fire died, several minesweepers were ordered forward, but withdrew under renewed Turkish fire after clearing just three mines. The Allied warships maintained their fire, edging closer to a more effective range.

At 4:15 P.M., *Inflexible* suffered an explosion. The damage was severe, but the battlecruiser was able to withdraw to safety. Five minutes later, near the same area, the battleship *Irresistible* was wracked by another explosion. That both ships had actually struck mines was unguessed by either commander. In fact, the *Irresistible* hoisted a signal indicating it had been hit by a torpedo and began drifting toward the Asiatic shore. Its crew was rescued, leaving a small salvage party to rig a tow.

Even by this time, mines were still not suspected. The area had been swept early in March, and a seaplane observer had reported it clear as recently as 17 March. The mines cleared by the British trawlers earlier in the engagement were thought to have floated down from the Narrows and were not believed to be from a new field. Nevertheless, the Turks had indeed managed to sow a minefield unnoticed. A line of twenty mines had been planted at night in an area where British warships had been seen manoeuvring in early March. The mines were planted parallel to the shoreline, making detection more difficult.

The Allies hoped that *Irresistible* could be towed to safety. The old battleship *Ocean* was directed to close and pass a tow line, but unfortunately also struck a mine. At the same time, a Turkish shell destroyed the ship's steering gear, putting it out of control. Soon, *Ocean* was also drifting toward the Asian side. The remainder of the Allied fleet withdrew.

One other ship, the French *Suffren*, had been damaged by gunfire, adding to the carnage. By the next morning both *Ocean* and *Irresistible* had been sunk. The final Allied losses were three old battleships sunk and three other major warships severely damaged, with little progress toward the Narrows to show for it. A second operation was planned, but enthusiasm for another major bombardment soon diminished.

The continuing difficulty with mines and the unacceptable ship losses had taken their toll. By April, the decision had been made to commit ground forces to an amphibious landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula instead.

After the 18th, the Turks were significantly weakened and short of ammunition. One last push might have cleared the straits and gained the Narrows. Instead, the Allied armies landed at the tip of Gallipoli and were bottled up in the fiasco that was the Gallipoli.

Notices II

Shrine of Remembrance Exhibitions

Japan's Entry Into The Second World War

20 January – June 2012, Shrine Visitor Centre

Japan scored a series of stunning victories in the six months after declaring war in December 1941, a time when thousands of Australians died and many more became prisoners of war. This exhibit commemorates Australia's darkest days – from Pearl Harbour to the battle of the Coral Sea in May 1942, when the tide of the war in the Pacific began to turn.

Lieutenant Colonel and Helena Cass

24 February – May 2012, Shrine Visitor Centre

Accounts of Cass's service over two wars, in South Africa, and at Gallipoli, Krythia and Fromelles during the WWI. Includes stories of Cass and his wife, Helena, a Canadian war nurse, and uses Cass's personal photographs, letters, diaries, uniforms and medals.

Kokoda: Australians in New Guinea, 1942

8 June – September 2012, Shrine Visitor Centre

It has been 70 years since Australia fought a series of costly battles between July to November 1942 against Japanese forces in Papua and New Guinea. The Kokoda Trail (or Track) winding through the Owen Stanley mountain range, was the setting for a campaign which many believe is Australia's defining episode of WWII.

R.A.N. Battle Class Social Club

Annual National Reunion - Albury 2012

An invitation to all ex-naval personnel and families.

When: 18-21 October 2012

Where: Albury, NSW

Venue: Quality Hotel on Olive
579 Olive Street, Albury

Cost: \$155.00 per couple inc. full buffet breakfast.
\$60.00 per head - Registration & Sat. Dinner Dance
(including pre-dinner drinks).

Program:

(Additional costs for events other than Saturday night dinner)

Thursday 18th Oct.: Meet & Greet with buffet meal at night

Friday 19th Oct.: Day Bus Trip

Evening reception at Government House

Saturday 20th Oct.: Free day - Dinner Dance at night

Sunday 21st Oct.: Cenotaph Service, Lunch,

Farewell Drinks & Finger Food at Night

For further information on Membership or Reunion:

Geoff (Wiggy) Bennett

13A Illira Way, Blackmans Bay, Tasmania 7052

Tel: (03) 6267 9931 or 0417 592 123

Email: benhun@bigpond.net.au or chjoemon@southcom.com.au

Revisit Korea 2012 Attendees

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea received 86 applications (not including companions) for the "Revisit Korea 2012" program. Congratulations to the following 17 veterans who are returning to Korea this month. All are "first-timers" except for Tom Parkinson.

Alfred Argent, Douglas Beutal, Ken Dickeson, Ronald Green, Milton Griffin, John Fry, John Goldsmith, Thomas Harwood, William Murfet, Tom Parkinson, Anthony Perriman, Graham Perry, Roland Rawnsley, Alan Renton, Ian Richards, Jack Spooner and Stanley Starceвич

Kapyong Memorial Service

3rd Battalion,

The Roal Australian Regiment

invites you to join with us in a ceremony of remembrance and recognition of those veterans who served in this most significant battle for peace and freedom.

When: 28 April 2012 at 10.00am

Please be seated by 9.45

Where: The Queensland Korean War
Memorial
Cascade Gardens Broadbeach
Gold Coast, Queensland

Medals may be worn.

Please indicate if you wish to lay a wreath.

Wreaths will not be available on site.

RSVP ASAP

For further information e-mail:

juromo@bigpond.net.au

or contact Alan Evered

Found Medals

I am searching for the following person. I have a set of medals which belong to him which were found by a member of our Club, which I would like to return to him. Please have him or a family member email me for collection.

David Christie OAM
(drwet51@bigpond.com.au)

Name: Roger Kenneth Smith

Born: 19/02/45, Staffordshire England

Service: Army, 218534, Sapper

Unit: 30 Terminal Squadron

(14 Jan. 1970 - 30 June 1970) &

17th Construction Squadron

(1 July 1970 - 7 Dec. 1970)

Was It a Real Victory?

by Barry Taylor

On 22 April 1951, the Chinese launched their fifth offensive of the Korean War. The first blow fell on the 1st Marine Division in the so-called Iron Triangle then smashed into the 7th Marines. The ROK 6th Division on the Marine left collapsed forcing the Marines into a retreat. Just 25 miles further, west, however, another battle was taking place, one that would pass into legend. Here, the Commonwealth 29th Brigade was holding a position along the line of the Imjin River, just 30 miles from Seoul, the only force between the Chinese and the capital. Ordered to hold fast, the Brigade was isolated and cut to pieces but seriously blunted the enemy offensive in the process. Historian Barry Taylor explores why the Brigade remained in place...

Was the British Commonwealth 29th Brigade really ordered to remain in a known untenable position on the Imjin? Since the Korean War ended, the gallant last stand of the Gloucesters has been argued over and analyzed in service messes from Aldershot to Bragg. One question that has never been resolved is whether the United Nation's I Corps headquarters fully appreciated the difficult position of the 29th Brigade. And the fault – if it can be called that – may lie with a combination of personalities and misunderstandings.

According to journalist and author Max Hastings in his book *The Korean War*, the initial mistake was to assign the British a position on the Imjin without ordering them to dig in. There was also the problem of equipment. The British 25-pounders were good, fast guns but lacked killing power. There was a desperate need for heavier metal, but the Gloucesters' American artillery liaison officer had been withdrawn days before, leaving the brigade with no means of calling in 155mm fire.

The British also lacked sufficient automatic weapons to withstand the sort of attrition tactics they faced. Most Brits were armed with bolt-action Enfield rifles, and their Sten submachine guns lacked range. Above all, there was too little in the way of close air support – the British apparently ranked very low in priority with the U.S. Air Force.

As a British officer under American command, Brigadier Brodie also could not have the ease of communication he could expect with his own fellow countrymen. According to Hastings, a British officer at brigade HQ would say later that he did not think the Americans at higher headquarters understood until much too late how desperate was the predicament of the 29th Brigade. The usual British habit of understatement, in fact, may have contributed to the situation. When Brigadier Brodie informed Corps headquarters that his position was “a bit sticky,” the Americans, used to more direct and emphatic speech, may have simply not grasped that this was British for “critical?”

Whether it was a failure to communicate or not, Brodie was twice told by his American superiors that he could not withdraw his brigade, and he felt he had no choice but to obey orders. The strain, knowing his brigade was being shot to pieces, must have been almost intolerable. There is also the question of national pride. Being British in a largely “American show,” Brodie was no doubt determined to “keep his end up?”

What manner of soldiers were the Gloucesters? They belonged to no more than a slightly better-than-average British infantry regiment. By no means were the 1st Battalion's ranks filled with proven heroes – it had the usual share of disgruntled, time-serving professionals and shaky draftees who were anxious to go home. Yet, if anything, this “average” makeup makes their gallant stand all the more valid.

The British have always had a tendency to turn their defeats into victories – witness, for example, Dunkirk – but some authorities have continued to argue that, official propaganda to the contrary, Imjin was no real victory for the United Nations and the Commonwealth Brigade.

Source: *Military History* magazine, April 1991

The Picket Line

The *Battle of the Philippine Sea* (19-21 June 1944) came to be called the “Great Marianas Turkey Shoot” by US sailors. That was because of the large number of Japanese aircraft shot down by anti-aircraft fire. Throughout 1942-44 the USN vastly increased the anti-aircraft armament of its warships, making it expensive for an air strike to penetrate the wall of flak. US crews were also adept at damage control, thereby salvaging warships that might've been written off in other navies. Added to that was the increasingly superior US utilization of new technologies such as radar. It had been available in one form or another since the start of the war, but it took a couple years to figure out how to use it efficiently. By mid-war the USN began to setup screens of radar-equipped “picket” destroyers outside the main body of the fleet to detect incoming enemy aircraft, giving the carriers time to scramble fighters for interception. As a result, the Japanese attacked at the Philippine Sea using tactics that might've worked in 1941-42 but stood little chance in 1944.

Source: *World at War* magazine #20 Oct.-Nov. 2011

Treasurer's Annual Report

for the year Ending 31 December 2011

I have the pleasure to submit the year 2011 Treasurer's report. The year 2011 was a productive year in the handling of the normal KVAA Inc. accounts and functions.

- Sponsoring refreshments at ANZAC Day.
- Three BBQ's after General meetings.
- 80 members attended the Korean Church Service.
- 18 members attended the Korean picnic
- 25 Members attended a Memorial Ceremony at Point Cook RAAF Base and a tour of the RAAF Museum including a luncheon at RAAF Base Williams Sergeant's Mess.
- 12 members attended a Korean War Memorial reunion held in Canberra in October.
- 30 members attended a Korean War Plaque dedication service held at Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo.
- The KVAA presented Fountain Gate Secondary College with a Korean War Plaque.
- Members attended the yearly service at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital.
- 70 members of the NSW's Association are now members of KVAA Inc.
- The annual Christmas and Awards Luncheon was successful with 122 in attendance.
- Service Awards in 2011 were issued to 10 members for 10 years, 30 for 15 years, 14 for 20 years, and 24 for 25 years service.
- A Life Membership Certificate was presented to Allan Murray.

The year's ordinary activities net profit (loss) is (615). The Current Assets \$33,465 – non current assets is \$36,194 – Equity \$36,194 – total members fund is \$36,194. Cash flow from operating activities is \$27,342. Reconciliation of cash is \$27,858 (cash assets \$13,861 – Wellington \$13,997 – includes \$755 depreciation). The Wellington Premium Fund is 13,997 units.

The overall Wellington Premium Income Fund Annual Report of 30 June 2011 confirms their net assets of \$224,978,000.00 (retained losses of \$104,340). The KVAA Inc.'s fund remains at 13,997 units at 27 cents per unit (27x13,997=\$3,499.25). The KVAA Inc. received an ex-payment of 1 cent per unit in December 2011, which totalled \$139.96 (this is not an interest payment). The Wellington Income Fund is continuing to upgrade the total fund.

A special thank you goes to all those members who have assisted the Association in its endeavours and a sincere appreciation to those that donated \$3432.00. A special thanks to the Korean Society for a generous donation. This proves the spirit of KVAA Inc is strong and long lasting.

In conclusion and for your approval, on behalf of the KVAA Inc. Committee and Executive, I submit the financial report of the Korea Veterans Association of Australia Inc for the financial year ending 31 December 2011.

Gerald Steacy (Treasurer KVAA Inc.)

KVAA Inc. 2011 Accounts

Korean Veterans Association of Australia

Income and Expenditure Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2011

	2011	2010
Income	\$	\$
Interest received	3,328	3,281
DVA grants	3,431	5,181
Subscriptions	8,932	9,903
Merchandise	4,806	1,901
Raffle ANZAC Day		689
Entrance fee ANZAC Day		1,244
Miscellaneous	3,325	3,669
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income:	23,882	25,867
Expenses		
Auditor's remuneration	770	770
Bank fees and charges	92	20
Depreciation - other	755	351
Donations	500	1,000
Fees & Permits		41
Functions and outings	8,048	6,380
Insurance		1,339
Materials & Supplies	5,221	2,532
Postage	3,796	3,461
Printing & stationery	2,306	1,608
Rent on Land or Buildings	360	
Subscriptions		360
Telephone	2,519	1,458
Travel and accommodation	70	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenses:	24,437	19,333
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax:	(615)	6,534
Net profit attributable to the association:	(615)	6,534
Total changes in equity of the association:	(615)	6,534

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

Performance Appraisal Terms

(and their real meanings)

Outgoing personality	Always going out of the office
Great presentation skills	Able to bullshit
Good communications skills	Spends lots of time on phone
Exceptionally well qualified	Made no major blunders yet
Work is first priority	Too ugly to get a date
Does lots of overtime	Miserable home life
Active socially	Drinks a lot
Family is active socially	Spouse drinks, too
Independent worker	Nobody knows what he does
Quick thinking	Offers plausible excuses
Careful thinker	Won't make a decision
Very careful thinker	Thoroughly confused
Uses logic on difficult jobs	Gets someone else to do it
Uses resources well	Delegates well
Very creative	Finds reasons to avoid doing work
Expresses themselves well	Speaks English
Expresses themselves VERY well	Can string two sentences together
Fastidious attention to detail	A nit picker
Stern disciplinarian	A total jerk
Uses time effectively	Clock watcher
Conscientious and careful	Scared
Has leadership qualities	Is aggressive with a loud voice
Unusually good judgement	Lucky
Character above reproach	Still one step ahead of the law
Strong adherence to principles	Stubborn
Career minded	Back stabber
Loyal	Can't get a job anywhere else
Judgement usually sound	Lucky
Is a team player	Can't make a decision on their own
Consults co-workers often	Can't make a decision on their own
Alert to company developments	An office gossip
Keen sense of humour	Knows a lot of dirty jokes
Happy	Paid too much
Enjoys Job	Needs more to do
Well organised	Needs more to do
Hard worker	Usually does it the hard way
Will go far	Is related to one of the bosses
Should go far	(Away from us)
Highly competent	Actually knows what they're doing
Competent	Gets work done if supervisor helps
Average employee	Not too bright
Great value to the organisation	Turns work in on time
Keeps excellent records	Covers up embezzlement well
Is the 'hands on' type	Sexually harasses co-workers

Military Humour

Airborne Jump School

After enlisting in the 82nd Airborne, I eagerly asked my Recruiter what I could expect from jump school.

"Well", he said, "it's three weeks long."

"What else", I asked.

"The first week they separate the men from the boys", he said.

"The 2nd week, they separate the men from the fools."

"And the third week?"

"The third week, the fools jump."

Old Salt

Their sailor son was on his first leave at home. "You see, dad and mom," he declared, "I've got so used to sea that when I drink water now I have to put salt into it."

Go to the End of the Line

An army sergeant told a private to go to the end of the line. The private did, but then returned.

"I thought I told you to go to the end of the line," barked the NCO. "Why did you come back?"

"Because there's already somebody there!"

Co-eds Required

Following duty overseas, the officers at the base planned a welcome home party and dance for the unit. Being an all male combat force, they decided to request co-eds from some of the surrounding colleges to attend.

The Captain called the nearest college and was assured by the Dean that he could arrange to send over a dozen of their most trustworthy students.

The Captain hesitated, then said, "Would it also be possible to send a dozen or so of the other kind?"

Notices III

War Memorial Council Changes

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, announced on 10 March the retirement of General Peter Cosgrove AC MC (Ret'd) as Chairman of the Council of the Australian War Memorial. General Cosgrove was on the Council for nine years, spending four of them as Chairman.

The Council has elected Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Ret'd) as the new Chairman. Rear Admiral Doolan is currently the National President of the Returned and Services League, and an ex-officio member of the Anzac Centenary Advisory Board.

The Council of the Australian War Memorial comprises of up to 10 part-time members and includes the Chiefs of Navy, Army, and Air Force as ex-officio members. As part of the continuing legacy of commemorating Australia's wartime service, the Council is responsible for the corporate governance of the Australian War Memorial.

Changes to the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs

On 1 March 2012, the DVA implemented the following internal changes:

- A Client and Commemorations Division, led by Major General Liz Cosson (ret'd), AM, CSC, has been established to provide a direct focus on veterans and their families. It will look at policy development and future planning. The Division will also administer preparations for the *Centenary of Anzac* in 2015 and a *Century of Service* during 2014-2018.
- The current Services Division, led by Ms Judy Daniel, has been renamed the Health and Community Services Division and will offer end-to-end policy through to service delivery elements. Importantly, a dedicated Mental and Social Health Branch will be established within this Division to focus on prominent social and mental health issues within the ex-service community.
- The existing Support Division, under Mr Sean Farrelly, is renamed the Rehabilitation and Support Division. This Division will also be the home for a new Case Escalation Branch. With the service-related deaths of the last decade and the increase in veterans who have eligibility under multiple Acts, our environment has become more complex. This new Branch will focus solely on more sensitive and complex cases to ensure they are handled appropriately by the Department.
- While the delivery of client contact services will continue to rest with the Deputy Commissioners, their program design will be generated by Ms Cosson's Division. This will promote national consistency of both strategy and policy related activities.

Korean War Memorial Service

The annual Korean War Memorial Service is on **24 June at 10am**. Each year, Melbourne's Korean community conducts a memorial service at the Korean Church of Melbourne, followed by light refreshments. Although primarily a sombre occasion, it is also a memorable one due to the excellence of the choir and musicians. Please note, the Korean Church Secretary requires the names of attendees. It is most impolite to just turn up on the day. If you plan to attend please advise Alan Evered on 03 9874 2219 or 0412 521 488 or at evered@optusnet.com.au

**Korean Church of Melbourne,
23-27 Glendearg Grove, Malvern.
(Melways 59 C10)**

Seniors Legal Service

Seniors legal Service a free service offered to those over 60 by *Seniors Rights Victoria* who advise older Victorians on a range of legal issues associated with ageing. There are 2 clinics in the Melbourne west:

Western Region Health Centre,
215 Nicholson Street, Footscray, 3011
Open every 2nd Wednesday from 10am-12.15pm.
Booking are essential and can be made on 9362 8181

Doutta Galla Community Health Services,
3-5 Matthews Avenue, Niddrie, 3042
Open every 2nd Tuesday from 9.15am-11.30am.
Booking are essential and can be amde on 8378 3500

New Korean War Website

Bert Kortegaard has setup a Korean War specific web sites which contains many works by Australian contributors, as well as those of the US. It can be found at: <http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/contents.htm>

Revisit Korea 2012 Attendees

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea received 86 applications (not including companions) for the "Revisit Korea 2012" program. Congratulations to the following 17 veterans who are returning to Korea this month. All are "first-timers" except for Tom Parkinson (who is paying his own way).

Alfred Argent, Douglas Beutal, Ken Dickeson, Ronald Green, Milton Griffin, John Fry, John Goldsmith, Thomas Harwood, William Murfet, Tom Parkinson, Anthony Perriman, Graham Perry, Roland Rawnsley, Alan Renton, Ian Richards, Jack Spooner and Stanley Starcevich

Chaplain's Corner



John Brownbill

The Wonder of Mateship

I recently found an article among my papers headed: *Diggers Best in Korea*, an article by General Van Fleet, the former commander of the 8th Army in Korea. He went on to say *inter alia* that "I never met the like or equal of the Australian digger" and "the digger had something not in textbooks."

Now, that's praise indeed.

And it set me pondering as to what that hidden "something" is, which sets the Australian serviceman apart from others. Many thoughts come to mind but the one which stands out above all others is that which we call "mateship" – something peculiar to the Australian male and a virtue which is particularly seen in times of great hardship and unexpected danger.

One might well ask: where does this quality have its origins? I believe the answer is very simple.

It all started among the early pioneers. They were people who came to a strange and very difficult country, one different to anything they had ever experienced. Their clothes were not suitable for the climate, the vast spaces were an unknown, and many of them had no real knowledge of farming, especially in a country plagued by droughts and floods.

Yet they cleared the land, planted crops, bred cattle and raised families. Now, it would have been an impossible task for individuals to attempt without having recourse to assistance from outside at times of necessity – i.e. illness, accident, death of family members, etc. And so it became the norm that if anyone was unable to plough, sow a field, harvest a crop, or build a haystack, the neighbouring farmers would band together and solve the problem.

Which very quickly reminds us of the basic responsibility of mateship – that it does not just mean meeting at the pub or going to the footy together.

Mateship has rich overtones of loyalty, trust, compassion, mutual respect and, to a degree, dependence, and not infrequently, forgiveness. It is the source of teamwork. Mateship, of necessity, bred initiative – another great aspect of his being for which the digger has always been renowned.

We, as modern Australians, owe a lot to our forebears – for their sheer guts and their determination to survive in all circumstances, including being prepared to fight for their country or for their allies, when demanded of honour so to do! And I could not possibly close without reference to our present day defence personnel, of whom we have every reason to be extremely proud and among whom all the above fine qualities are still vividly apparent. I speak, of course, of our representatives in East Timor, Afghanistan, Iraq, and many other troubled areas.

With every blessing, John Brownbill

Did You Know...

At its height in mid-1944, the US Army Air Forces had 2.6 million people and nearly 80,000 aircraft of all types. Today the US Air Force employs 327,000 active personnel (plus 170,000 civilians) with 5,500+ manned aircraft.

Growing Old

As I've aged, I've become kinder to myself, and less critical of myself. I've become my own friend. I have seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging.

Whose business is it if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 AM or sleep until noon? I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 50s & 60s, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love, I will.

I will walk the beach in a swim suit that is stretched over a bulging body, and will dive into the waves with abandon if I choose to, despite the pitying glances from the jet set. They, too, will get old.

I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again, some of life is just as well forgotten. And I eventually remember the important things.

Sure, over the years my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one, or when a child suffers, or even when somebody's beloved pet gets hit by a car? But broken hearts are what give us strength and understanding and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the joy of being imperfect.

I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have my hair turning grey, and to have my youthful laughs be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So many have never laughed, and so many have died before their hair could turn silver.

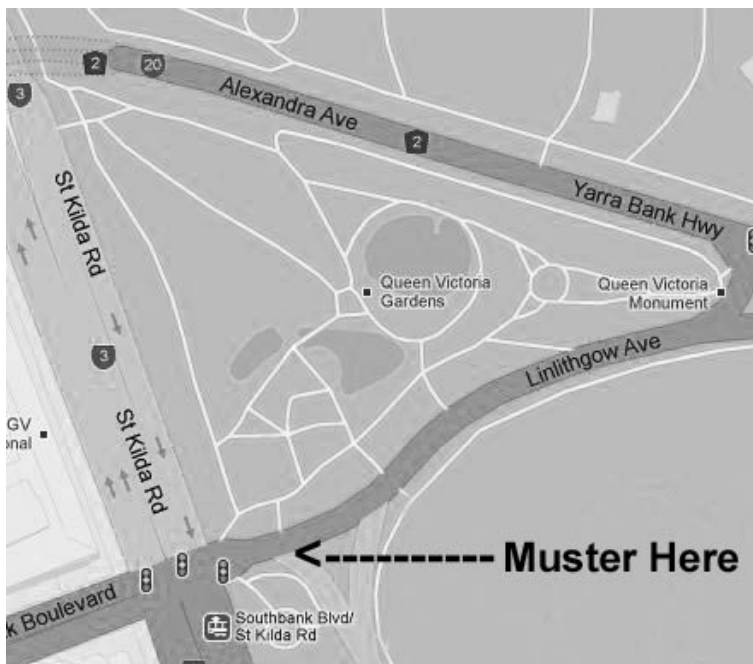
As you get older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don't question myself anymore. I've even earned the right to be wrong.

I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been, or worrying about what will be. And I shall eat dessert every single day (if I feel like it).

Notices IV

Anzac Day Information

Due to road works in Swanston Street, this year's Anzac Day parade in Melbourne will start from Linlithgow Avenue, South Melbourne, just south of the Yarra River where Linlithgow Ave meets St. Kilda Road. (Melways 2F, H-8). Muster is at 10.30am. A bus will be available at the conclusion of the ceremony to take participants from the Shrine to the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre for a light lunch and get-together.



SWAC 2012

The 2012 Story Writing & Art Competition (SWAC) is an annual competition for members of Victoria's ex-service community. Each year, the competition provides members of the veteran community with an opportunity to develop and apply their creative talents and skills stories and other artistic endeavours, publicly acknowledged and, where appropriate, recorded for posterity the Australian War Memorial.

In 2012, the SWAC opening date is Monday 20 April and all entry form nominations must be received closing date 1st July qualify. All competition enquiries can be directed to the SWAC Coordinator on (03) 9496 2290, country residents 1800 134 864, email: swac@austin.org.au or further information via internet; www.dva.gov.au/vic/services/swac

Monster Bat Raffle

Er, no, the KVAA isn't raffling a giant mutant flying rat-like animal with membranous wings. Our bat is of the cricket species and, no, not that sort of cricket, as in the insect. The KVAA Inc. is raffling two cricket bats. The first is signed by all the members of the 2009 Australian and South African Test teams, and the second by the 2010 Australian and English teams. Tickets are available from Alan Evered and are \$2 each. The proceeds go to a worthy cause: namely the KVAA Inc. The raffle will be drawn at the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre after the 27 July Commemoration Ceremony at the Shrine. The winner will be notified and the result published in *The Voice*. Tickets are limited so get in early. Hint: the perfect birthday or Xmas gift for a grandchild – and you support the KVAA Inc.

Please cut along the dotted line

<p style="text-align: center;">(Please Print)</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Phone Number:</p> <p>Number of Tickets Required:</p> <p>5 10 15 20 Other:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <h1 style="margin: 0;">RAFFLE TICKET</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Order Form</h2> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">Organised by the</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Korea Veterans Association of Australia Inc.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Registered Charity Number: 56487</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Prizes:</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Australia v South Africa 2009 cricket bat</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Australia v England 2010 cricket bat</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">Signed by all the members of each team.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 8px;">Drawn 27 July 2012 Winner notified Result printed in <i>The Voice</i></p> </div> <p style="margin: 10px 0; font-size: 1.2em;">Ticket \$2.00</p> </div>
<p>Please ensure your name is shown on any cheque or money order sent to: The Secretary, PO Box 2123, Rangeview, Victoria 3132</p>	

Out & About

Memorial Unveiling at Wagga Wagga

20 February 2012



About 200 people attended the Korean Memorial Dedication Ceremony at Victory Memorial Gardens in Wagga Wagga on Monday 20 February to remember those who fought in the Korean War. Wagga's surviving Korean War veterans – Harry Edmonds, Alan Evans and Catherine Thompson – were present at the ceremony. They were joined by Seong Jeong, Minister and Deputy Head of Mission Embassy of the ROK; Wagga Wagga Mayor, Kerry Pascoe; Lieutenant Commander Peter Hawthorn RAN; Colonel David Hay; Regimental Sergeant Major, David Galloway ARTC Kapooka; Group Captain Tony Checker of the RAAF Base Forest Hill; the member for Riverina, Michael McCormack, and representatives from service organisations and clubs across the Riverina

[Thanks to Alan & Nancy Evans for the video from which the stills came.]

KVAA Inc. Annual General Meeting

Stalla Maris Seafarers Centre, Wednesday 28 March 2012



Top photo (l-r): Allen Riches, minute secretary; Alan Evered, Secretary; Vic Dey, President; Tom Parkinson, Vice President; Jim Hughes, Patron, and, making a point, Gerry Steacy, Treasurer.

Bottom left: most of the regulars, minus the eight who sent their apologies and three who arrived late.

Goorambat Memorial Rededication

28 February 2012



The restored Korean War memorial in the school grounds at Goorambat.

Bernard O'Dowd Tribute

by

Brigadier Lou Brumfield CBE, DSO.

I cannot let the passing of Benny O'Dowd go without making a few remarks on this remarkable soldier. He served with 67 Aust. Inf. Battalion from its inception in Moratia and with it in BCOF in the occupation of Japan.

He was on the strength of 3AR and 3RAR and thus was a father of the Regiment. I should also note that earlier he had, during the Island campaign, been awarded an MBE as a WO2 platoon commander – this was a gallantry award as WO2 could not get an MC.

I first met him when I joined the 67 Bn in Feb. 1948. Benny was the senior subaltern. He was a mild master and a good friend, as he guided the newly joined subbies in performing their duties. Each Saturday night, after dinner, we went to the Officers Club in Cure for drinks and a singsong around the piano played by Darcy Laughlin – another father of the Regiment.

Benny was promoted Captain and had several trips to Tokyo as Commander of the Guard we placed on the Imperial Palace. Bennie had many US contacts in Tokyo and we all had a slice of his, sometimes hilarious, hospitality.

In Korea he played a significant role during the splendid advance of the Battalion towards the Yalu River where for some time he was held in Battalion HQ as an adviser and what we would now call an executive officer.

When I rejoined the battalion just before Kapyong I was posted to A Coy with, to my delight, Ben O'Dowd as OC. The story of the battle is enshrined in the history of the Regiment. What is not clear that Ben actually commanded the Battalion from the first enemy onset to the end of a terrific well planned but hotly contested fighting withdrawal.

There were many heroes in this battle, but in the minds of the soldiers there was no doubt that O'Dowd had fought the Battle and brought the battalion to safe haven. The lack of recognition for Ben has always rankled with Kapyong veterans. This soldier goes with the thanks, love and admiration of his old soldiers.

Editorial Disclaimer

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

Farewells

Leonard Coles, 31412, 3RAR,
on 26 February 2012

Bernard O'Dowd (Colonel, MBE), 57509, 3RAR,
on 29 February 2012

Sydney Gellatly, 36119, HMAS Warramunga,
on 1 March 2012

John Hennington, 36696, HMAS Sydney
on 10 March 2012

President of the South West Area for the RSL NSW

Ralph Kane, 24060, 3RAR,
on 23 February 2012

James Albert Nealson, 1400459, 3RAR,
on 7 March 2012

Leeton (Lee) T. Partridge, 22267, 3RAR,
on 17 February 2012

and

Perdita (Ditta) Marjorie McCarthy (Brigadier),
R22, Royal Australian Army Nursing Corp.
on 10 March 2012

Served in Papua New Guinea (WWII), B.C.O.F.
(Japan), Korea, Malaya and Vietnam.
Matron-in-chief, Army HQ, Melbourne
Honorary Nursing Sister to HRH Queen Elisabeth II

(plus a few we missed from 2011)

Hugh Bentley, 3400427, 3RAR
on 5 September 2011

Henry Chaperlin, 21174, 3RAR
on 1 September 2011

James Roy Currell, 23997, 3RAR
on 11 September 2011

John Goldsmith, 3400456, 3RAR
in December 2011

(thanks to Ron Attrill for the info.)

Valma Lillian Keylar, F170, AAUK Korea
on 24 December 2011

Bill (Jock) Longmuir, 38852, HMAS Anzac
on 22 December 2011

The Ode

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

LEST WE FORGET