



THE VOICE

April 2017 Edition

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Editor's Opening

Lots to discuss, so I'll skip the usual witty and incisive banter and get to the main points:

Changes. The KVAA Inc. Annual General Meeting has come and gone, leaving behind a number of significant alterations. Firstly, as announced last issue, Major General David McLachlan, agreed to be, and is now, the Patron of our organisation replacing the late and fondly remembered Jim Hughes.

The KVAA Committee has altered considerably and consists of the two Rons (Christie and Kennedy), John Moller, Allen Riches and Arthur Roach. Returning after a long absence is Don Scally. New to the Committee are George Daniel and Milton Hoe plus (drumroll)...

Praise the Lord! No, not *that* Lord – Merrill Lord. Who? Last issue I put out a call to the younger generation (those approaching retirement) for some help keeping the KVAA going for at least a few more years. Long-time Associate Member Merrill Lord has answered the call. As far as I can tell, she is the KVAA's first female Committeeman, eh, Committeewoman. Committeeperson? Anyway, welcome Merrill.

Now to the most significant change...

The role of National Secretary is multifaceted and greatly under-appreciated. If something requires copious reading of documents written in impenetrable legalese, the filling out of multiple forms, communicating (by email, letter, phone or in person or a mixture of one or more) with embassies, consulates, government departments and agencies, other veteran groups, local councils and sundry persons of some importance, the National Secretary does it. No one notices when it goes right; everyone complains if there is a problem.

After many years of excellent service and dedication, our here-there-and-everywhere do-this-that-and-everything-else National Secretary, Alan Evered, has relinquished his office. Although he'll remain a member of the KVAA, he will hold no official position or sit on the Committee.

Let's not forget Nicole Evered either. A true 'two for the price of one' deal. She played the role of secretary to the National Secretary and was the hidden power behind the throne. (Don't tell Alan that. He thinks he ran the show.) So to Alan and Nicole: good bye and good luck.

(continues on Page 4)

"Blitzkrieg" was not a German term. It was invented by a *Time* journalist in September 1939 after the invasion of Poland.

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KVAA pocket badge	\$10.00	\$	Kapypong battle print	\$ 6.00	\$
KVAA lapel badge (undated)	\$10.00	\$	Tie (with KVAA Inc. logo)	\$20.00	\$
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President's Report

Editor's Note: We finally have a President's Report this issue. Vic Dey is back on deck after a long absence and as ship-shape and he is now ever likely to be. [And, yes, I'm aware I'm using nautical metaphors for an ex-soldier.]

The Korean Consul-General and the Korean community held their annual festival at Queen's Bridge Square on March 23rd to March 26th. These four days are extremely interesting, full of fun and entertainment such as K-Pop World, taekwondo & taekkyeon demonstrations, K-Beauty, Hanbok fashion show, traditional Korean dancing, Korean food stalls and a cooking displays. This event is always a pleasure to attend for a great time with fantastic hosts.

For a number of decades now, Australian Korea War Veterans have received the hand of friendship for our local Korean community and the government of Korea itself. This is generously expressed through special or commemorative dinners; cultural events; ceremonies; annual re-visits to Korea for veterans, and university scholarships for descendants of veterans. These, of course, are and always will be deeply appreciated. We veterans and our families have much to thank the people of the Republic of Korea for.

This time last year, the Consul-General submitted my name to the Government of the Republic of Korea for a foreign award. I never imagined that this (once young) Australian soldier would ever be considered. To be nominated was an honour in itself. So for me to be presented (in November) with this prestigious award is something that I will honour and cherish for the rest of my life. I hereby extend my thanks and gratitude to the Consul-General.

As we close in on Anzac Day there are many organizations hosting memorial ceremonies and members of the KVAA Executive/Committee attend as many as possible to represent our Association. Among other ceremonies is the annual Memorial Service at Fountain Gate Secondary College (our adopted school) on Monday April 24th. A warm and sincere ceremony with over 1000 students in attendance. We visitors and the school Captains then hold a short

(continues on Page 11)

ANZAC: A National Heirloom

The Gallipoli campaign of 1915 made the word 'Anzac' instantly recognisable throughout Australia and New Zealand. Even before the evacuation of Gallipoli, individuals, organisations and businesses began to use the word for a variety of purposes.

Some uses were purely personal, such as those who wished to name children Anzac; others wanted to give this name to their homes in memory of a son, brother or relative who had been on Gallipoli. Organisations, such as those raising money or preparing comforts for the troops, wanted to incorporate the name Anzac into their title.

Businesses looked to attract custom by using the word to describe a product or in the name of the business itself. Then there were those who wished to copyright some article which was associated with Anzac – songs, photographs, cards, designs etc.

In 1916, concerned that the word Anzac might be misused, especially by commercial concerns, the Commonwealth Government prohibited the use of the word in any 'trade, business, calling or profession'. By the time the regulation appeared, many people had already begun using the word to describe a business or a product. Some now sought permission to continue using it because they had gone to some expense to have stationary printed or signs made.

Members of the public often reported breaches of the regulation to either the police or the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department. The staff at the Attorney General's Department administered the regulation rigorously, and later amendments to the 'War Precautions Act' prevented even Gallipoli veterans from naming their homes 'Anzac'.

Amongst the National Archives of Australia files is an undated newspaper article which relates to public concern about the use of the word Anzac:

The Acting Attorney-General, Mr Mahon, has done the right thing in reserving the word "Anzac" as a national heirloom by refusing applications to register it for trade purposes. We do not want the Anzac Hotel in every town of the Commonwealth, where its sign board would inevitably arise but for the Minister's prohibition. The Anzac Liver Pill would have been a sordid certainty, and the Anzac brand of tea would rise up and perpetuate the referendum light with Anzac whisky. Fortunately we are to be spared all this vulgar bill posting on the monument "more durable than brass" that Australian valor has raised at such awful cost. But the naming children is another question. Unfortunately, the persons who will have to bear the name of Anzac have no say in the matter. A question has already arisen as to whether Anzac is a more appropriate name for a girl or a boy, and probably both sexes will have to bear the burden of it. This the Government need not interfere with, but it has power to refuse registration of the name as a trade mark or sign of any kind, and by exercising that power the enterprising salesman who might otherwise secure a monopoly of the use of the word will be very properly blocked. The word Anzac is coined out of material more precious than gold, and it is a coinage which no one should be allowed to debase.

www.gallipoli.gov.au/anzac-a-national-heirloom/using-the-name-anzac.php

Enjoy your 'retirement'; we couldn't have kept the organisation going without you both. This brings us to...

We have a new National Secretary. Some of you have already met him. He comes to us with two advantages: he is relatively young (compared to the veterans but not your grandchildren) and he has administrative experience as Secretary of the Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria (NCCV). His next public appearance will be at the Stella Maris on ANZAC Day, so come along and introduce yourself.

ANZAC Day. If you served in any capacity in the Korean War or the uneasy ceasefire which followed and are capable of marching, walking, strolling, ambling or even rolling (skates or wheelchair) then why not line up behind the KVAA banner on Tuesday April 25. Now you know the day, here's *where* and *when*...

The muster area for BCOF, Korea, Malaya and Borneo veterans this year, as per the previous couple of years, is Swanston Street West (opposite the City Square and between Flinders Lane and Collins Street) at **1000** hours with step off time at **1030** hours. For the civilians reading this it's **10am** with step off time **10.30am**. As usual, a car will be provided for those who can't march but don't want to miss participating.

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. Oh, regarding the lunch...we've ordered more sandwiches (healthy) and less fried food (not so healthy) this year. Yes, it is more expensive, but...hey it isn't as if we need to put enough money aside for the next 20 ANZAC Days.

Costs: Members/Guests – \$20. Cadets/Fountain Gate Students/Children – Free. Plus: 2 free drinks per person.

Hannah Kim. For those who don't know, Hannah Kim is the 33-year-old former aid to (recently retired) US Congressman Charles Rangel, a Korean War veteran who helped pass many resolutions and bills related to Korea. Hannah is travelling to each country that sent troops or medical support to Korea during the war (though, presumable, not North Korea and China) making videos and audio recordings of those who participated so that young people in Korea and abroad can learn about the conflict and its participants. She's in Australia in April, visiting Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne. Her Melbourne leg of the trip is April 22 and 23.

Thus **all** members are invited to the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre on **April 22 at 1100 hours for lunch and to meet Hannah Kim** who, after lunch will be taken on a tour of the Shrine of Remembrance. Can't make it on the 22nd? Well, the following day, the 23rd, there will be a lunch for her at **1100 hours at the Pascoe Vale RSL** after which she will be taken on a tour of Melbourne. Did I mention she is interviewing veterans of the war? Well, you need to be there (either lunch) to be considered.

Membership Cards. Some of you received yours in the envelope with February's *Voice*; others had already received theirs one way or another, usually by mail. Many of you will find yours in this edition of *The Voice*, and some will have received it in March by mail.

No membership card? Well, there a couple of possible causes, though they basically boil down to the same issue. Instead of a card, did a colourful *subscriptions* slip flutter from the envelope?

There is a reason for that. Can you guess what that might be? Now before you raise your head to the sky and cry out in rage and frustration, "But I've paid!" let me concede that you may have. I'm working from an incomplete record (the dead computer with its non-backed up data as mentioned last issue), and that responsibility for collecting subscriptions having this year been divided amongst two (and sometime three) individuals at two (sometimes three) different addresses. Another reason for a lack of a card is that I may have simply misread a line or mis-ticked a name on the list I use. Further, if you joined the KVAA in mid-2016 or later, your initial membership doesn't expire until the end of 2017. In effect, you get 6 months 'extra' for your money.

If this applies to you, give me a call on (03) 5997 6240. You will then encounter my answering machine, there to screen calls from undesirables like telemarketers and members of the KVAA Executive. At the 'beep' just provide your name, the approximate date you paid, and to who you sent (or gave) the money. I will do a bit of research then either mail you a membership card or phone you to clarify the situation.

This is a new way of doing things done by an inexperienced subscriptions manager. I'm still working out the kinks and it'll work much smoother next year. It will also save us close to \$800 in postage.

Subscriptions. A good response in January which dried up in March. According to Gerry Steacy, that's normal. What is also normal is the number of defaulters. There are still over 100 of you who need to cough up some dough – and I'm not talking flour mixed with water here (unless you're baking me a cake).

Donations. I have a few subscription renewal donations of \$50 or over to acknowledge: namely, contributions from Dong-Up Kim (\$135), Ray Oliver (\$75), Horace Johnson and Bill Jubb (\$50). Thanks guys, it all helps.

My Death. For those who noticed it in late March and may have been concerned, the announcement in the Death Notices section of the *Herald Sun* and *Melbourne Age* that Geoffrey Guilfoyle was no more, was totally true – only it was a different Geoffrey Guilfoyle who died and not your beloved editor. To my many enemies who rejoiced at the news of my demise...better luck next time.

Korean War Memoirs

By Lt. Col. Guy Temple, 1st Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment

Part Six

I imagine that it was about nine o'clock when the guard came in with three small bowls of goliang.

The Chinese untied us so we could eat, apparently not suspecting that we had untied ourselves during the night.

The goliang was the first food we had seen for twenty-four hours and we fell upon it greedily. To us it tasted delicious. Taking the lead from *Oliver Twist*, we asked for more.

The Chinese guard took his lead from Mr. Bumble, and his face twisted in sheer disgust. "Mologo-pi!" he said. Later on I found he was insinuating that I was the 'son of a turtle'.

We were thirsty and asked for water, and were taken out to the stream at the back of the house. It looked dirty, obviously loaded with dysentery, but I was thirsty and drank, at the same time dunking my fever hot arms in the water, almost expecting a cloud of steam to appear. I splashed it over my face and body revelling in its coolness. A hoarse grunt from the sentry brought me back to reality. We were tied up again, this time with the hands behind the back and pinioned at the upper arm and the wrist. Unceremoniously we were pushed onto the mud floor of the hut.

That fifteen minute respite and the ability to get a breath of fresh air and sunlight had been wonderful. Working on the assumption that it would be another seven hours before we were untied again, we reckoned that we must get to work on the ropes again. A different technique was called for this time as already I could feel a numbness seeping down my arms to the fingers. There was no time to waste. Within another fifteen minutes there would be no feeling in the fingers at all.

Soon we realised it would be easier to untie each other and sitting back to back achieved this in a few minutes. Nonetheless the arms were considerably swollen through lack of circulation.

We kept our ropes slack behind us ready to replace them should the Chinese dart through the door. Again we were all tied up by the time evening meal arrived, anyway sufficiently so to fool the 'Soya Links'. That night we were confident – too confident. We grew sleepy and were not awake when three Chinese burst into the room. Volley upon volley of oaths were spat out when they saw we were untied. Brutally we were hustled out of the house, clubbed by rifle butts to goad us on. The Chinese seized me. One put his knee in my back forcing me to bend over backwards while the other two tied me. Once inside again they bound my legs too. I felt as helpless as an oven ready turkey. Henry and Eddie suffered the same fate.

'How are you?' asked Henry. From Eddie, always a little taciturn, 'Not good, give them time to cool off and we will have another go'.

I could feel the circulation stopping. Desperately I started to struggle. It was useless.

'Let me try' suggested Henry. I eased my body back to back against his. Twenty minutes struggle made no impression on the ropes. I tried his but with equal lack of success. It was the last time I was to feel my fingers for three months. In another ten minutes they were useless.

'Oh my God' said Henry, 'I'm going to die' with a calmness that was alarming. 'Do you think it will take long'?

'You're not going to die', I said, neither believing nor disbelieving what I said., simply knowing it should be said.

'How long will it take'? He was obviously not reassured.

'Don't think about it', was all I could think to say.

'These ropes are giving me hell', said Eddie quite calmly, but it was obvious that what he said was true, he was in Hell.

I have often read in novels how, when somebody gets tied up the arms go numb and there is no feeling in them at all. This unfortunately is not the case. The fingers lose their power of feeling but the whole arm remains like a sack of red hot coals that sear and scorch.

To say that the hours dragged by would be a masterpiece of understatement. Conversations started and died, all three of us seeking some form of escape from horrible reality. Eddie talked about his wife and daughter.

"When I get back to the States I'm going to give that girl the time of her life, never am I going to complain again if the toast is burnt or the egg not just right and never again..."

He tailed off in a low moan.

I must think about something, anything, just concentrate I told myself, I set myself mathematical problems and didn't do them, started counting sheep in an effort to sleep, but sleep evaded me. Hotter and hotter grew the fiery leaden weights behind my back that were my arms. Surely something must explode or burst open,

(continues on Page 6)

I thought. Had someone at that moment offered to cut off both arms at the shoulders I would have gladly agreed. I think I must have gone into a coma. Reality changed places with unreality and it was hard to separate the two. Sometimes I was an airy spirit hovering over the shell of a man that was myself, looking at him and sympathizing with his fate, but totally divorced from his suffering.

Dawn broke and with it came new hope. I looked about me. Eddies face was ashen grey beneath his heavy dark beard. His bowed head, hollowed cheeks and shrunken frame gave the appearance of a man of sixty. He had aged thirty years in a night, I thought. But he turned to me and spoke. A spark came into his eyes as he spoke of the future. The spirit was still there and willing, but the body was very weak. I looked at Henry who was still asleep, propped against the mud wall. His face haggard but a faint smile lingered over his lips. Where was he? Portugal, reliving his boyhood. England or Jamaica; it didn't matter – he was happy. With a start he awoke blinking at the unaccustomed light.

'I suppose it's about six o'clock now.'

'Yes.' I agreed, 'about four hours to chow.'

How to pass the time till then. We looked out of the door.

An old woman was toiling past with a vast load of sticks piled on her back. She glanced at us through the gap in the paper that covered the door, but the sentry motioned her on.

I looked at the walls; they were covered with sheets of Korean newspapers and on each appeared a picture of the smug, self satisfied face of Kim Il Sung. This was the first thing I saw on waking and the last thing at night. (Continued next issue).

Notices

Canberra Reunion

Dates are now set for the 2017 Korea War Veterans Annual Commemorative Reunion held in Canberra from Friday 27th October to end Sunday 29th Oct. 2017.

Cost will be \$470 which includes 3x full breakfasts, 3xDinners, 3 nights' accommodation on a twin share basis, bus transport to the Service and on Sunday.

A deposit of \$50 is to be paid by the 5th August with the balance of the payment being paid by 21st September. Shorter or longer stays available. This is a national event open to veterans, their families, friends and carers.

Enquiries to Wendy Karam: 0408 913 695 or email: wendy.karam@bigpond.com. Application forms are also available from the Editor.

Support For Carers

Consultations have kicked off for the Andrews Labor Government's Carers Statement which will outline how we can best support and recognise carers. Parliamentary Secretary for Carers and Volunteers, Gabrielle Williams, said carers played a vital role in our community and it was important that their voice was heard. There are more than 773,000 Victorians who give their time, effort and love into caring for a family member or friend who needs them. They can be older and they can be very young – and many may not identify as a carer. To develop the Statement, Carers Victoria will be hosting a number of consultations for carers and organisations that support carers to find out what works best in existing services and supports and what could be improved.

Carers can have their say by completing an online survey. Visit the Carers Victoria website at www.carersvictoria.org.au to complete the survey or find out more.

Navy Week Victoria 2017

Navy Ball

Date and Time: Saturday 21 October 2017 at 1900 hours

Dress: Black tie & miniatures

Cost \$155 per person

Venue: Melbourne Town Hall

Guest of honour will be Chief of Navy VADM Tim Barrett AO CSC RAN. All service, ex-service men and women, plus families and friends are encouraged to attend. Arrange a table, or go solo – book now!

Email Sandra: navy.week.victoria@gmail.com or post to 7 Clarence Place, Cranbourne East, 3977. Please include a telephone number. For more info go to navyvic.net

2RAR National Reunion

Brisbane 17-21 May 2017

This reunion is for everyone who served in 2RAR and 2/4RAR. There is no requirement to be an Association member to attend. Spouses/partners/families are welcome; however, it is essential that all attendees are registered. For more information, contact:

Leo Van De Kamp, President 2RAR Association.

Phone: (07) 5444 0889

Email: vandekam@powerup.com.au

Burdekin and Diamatina Attacked!

‘Sunk’ while at anchor on the Mary River, Queensland, in 1944.

by Vic Jeffrey

It is over 70 years now since *HMAS Diamatina*, now a museum ship, was ‘sunk’ at her moorings, then later commissioned and joined the RAN fleet. She ‘went down’ with her sister ship, *Burdekin*. Like many other wartime events – secrecy and in this case, a degree of embarrassment – have seen this incident largely forgotten in the mists of time.

The British-designed, River class frigates, *HMAS Burdekin* and *HMAS Diamatina* were constructed in the shipyards of Walkers Limited of Maryborough, Queensland, on the Mary River. Two of eight ships of this class completed for the RAN between 1943-46, *Burdekin* was launched on June 30, 1943, and *Diamatina* on April 6, 1944.

Important additions to the RAN in the war against Japan, they were fitted out at Walkers shortly after when they were hit by a clandestine night attack. Both ships had limpet magnetic mines attached, complete with fuses and time settings – everything except the explosive charges, which would have sent them to a premature watery grave. Fortunately, as it turned out, other than a few red faces and a degree of embarrassment the ships were unscathed.

The raiders? None other than the RAN’s own Services Reconnaissance Department, better known as Z-Force. Six Z-Force personnel in three collapsible two-man rubber canoes, known as folboats, made the clandestine raid.

Z-Force had a wartime training centre around 10 kilometres off the Queensland coast on Fraser Island. At Fraser Island a carefully planned training operation was put into place to challenge dockyard security and alertness at this important asset and test defences against sabotage.

The unit’s 9.75 metre ketch *Princess Yolandra*, formerly a Japanese vessel, dropped the six operatives with their folboats at the mouth of the Mary River under the cover of darkness. Carrying limpet mines and provisions, they passed through the heads at 2130 in ideal conditions, almost complete darkness and with no breeze.

Faces blackened, the folboats’ crew silently made their way up the river knowing that if they were seen they would certainly be fired on as no one knew they were coming. It was reasoned that if the group could not carry out the operation successfully in Australia their chances behind Japanese lines would be no better.

Commanding the operation was Scotsman, Royal Air Force Flight Lieutenant Bird, with his crew member being a fellow Scot, Pilot Officer Robertson. In No.2 folboat were two Royal Australian Air Force sergeants, well-known Perth Z-Force identity Jack Sue and his cousin Peter Wong. The third folboat contained two Australian Army captains. Robinson and Lennard.

Around 0200, the silent raiders reached their targets undetected, only to be confronted by the problem of the tropical tide racing out. The decision was taken to proceed with the raid despite the receding tide and the cloud cover clearing to illuminate the area.

Jack Sue and Peter Wong singled out *Diamatina* which was in the early stages of being fitted out and paddled alongside where they used the “holdfast” device to enable the folboat to remain stationary alongside the ship. A long rod was used to place the limpet mines below the surface and the resulting clang of each application saw the raiders expecting this to draw attention and raise the alarm. The two other folboats attended to the *Burdekin* which was in also completing their task successfully.

A sense of larrikinism saw the *Burdekin* raiders go one step further, boarding the frigate undetected and placing chalk mark crosses on the forward and aft 4-inch gun mounts before entering the ship and repeating the dose on the captain’s door.

No.2 folboat, which carried Sue and Wong, reached the open sea without detection and they rested on a nearby island before safely returning to Fraser Island. The other raiders realised they could not hope to reach the river mouth by dawn; they holed up in a quiet area down river with their collapsible folboats hidden in a sugar cane plantation. Here they ate from their field rations and slept before making their way back to their headquarters the following night.

The only casualty from this dangerous mission was Bill Robertson of No.1 folboat who sustained a grazed leg from a .303 bullet when a Volunteer Defence Corpsman opened fire with a Vickers machine gun. For some incredible reason he failed to raise the alarm and the raiders escaped.

Source: *Navy News*, 30 June 1995

A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was a nurse said, ‘No change yet’.

Korean War Memorial Church Service

Of the three most popular events on the KVAA calendar, the Korean War Memorial Church Service ranks just behind the Christmas luncheon and marginally ahead of the ANZAC Day reunion at the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre. Well, the annual Korean War Memorial Service is on **Sunday 25 June at 9.30am for a 10am start**. 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 National Secretary Chris Banfield on 0412 832 148 or lithiumicecream@hotmail.com **ASAP**

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

Passage to Pusan Update

An email on 27 February 2017 from author and journalist Louise Evans.

Dear Mr Vic Dey,

Since you kindly invited me to address your Korean Veterans Association about my book Passage to Pusan in August, there have been some major developments. I'm delighted to advise you that Passage to Pusan is being made into a documentary by the Korean Cultural Centre of Australia, the cultural arm of the South Korean Government. Filming began last week in Brisbane and continues in Sydney and Canberra before we head to South Korea in May.

The Passage to Pusan documentary will be screened as part of the annual Australian-Korean Film Festival which is held in all Australian capital cities, including Sydney, between August and September. In addition to the documentary, the Korean Cultural Centre of Australia will hold an exhibition of memorabilia from the story and book between June and September at its Sydney headquarters.

The Korean Embassy in Canberra has also wishes to host the exhibition in late September. There has been some local media about the documentary as a result of our Brisbane filming. Here's the media links: <https://www.baysidestarnews.com.au/news/book-about-sandgate-pioneer-becomes-a-film/3145787/?ref=hs> and <http://www.redlandcitybulletin.com.au/story/4471267/documentary-filming-in-cleveland/>

Images from the Brisbane filming week have also been posted on the Passage to Pusan FaceBook page: www.facebook.com/passagetopusan/

It has been an amazing journey, no doubt aided by the publicity your association helped generate. Thank you very much for your support.

Best wishes,

Louise Evans

www.passagetopusan.com

[Passage to Pusan is published by PB Publishing (RRP \$A24.99) Buy the Passage to Pusan book here: <https://passagetopusan.com/buy-passage-to-pusan/>]

KVAA Inc. 2016 Accounts

**Korean Veterans Association of Australia
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the Year Ended 31 December 2016**

	2016	2015
Income	\$	\$
Interest received	7	37
Donations	3,844	3,490
Subscriptions	13,241	7,380
Merchandise	1,355	2,122
Other Income	3,057	8,994
Total Income:	21,504	22,023
Expenses		
Auditor's remuneration	1,012	1,012
Bank fees and charges	98	77
Wreaths and Plaques	1,611	1,518
Depreciation - other	976	244
Donations	140	50
Functions and outings	5,793	6,238
Hire of Plant & Equipment	480	660
Insurance	2,090	2,130
Materials & Supplies	4,085	4,223
Postage	3,212	3,496
Sundry expenses	37	28
Telephone	401	358
Total Expenses:	19,935	20,235
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax:	1,569	1,789

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

Q: What unusual military distinction was held by Clarence E. Dowden Jnr.?

A: Clarence E. Dowden was the last man on active duty with the United States Armed Forces to have enlisted during WWII. Dowden signed up with the Coast Guard on 16 January 1945, saw active service in the Philippines in the closing months of the war, and went on to become a Master Chief Petty Officer before retiring on 16 Dec. 1988.

World War One Factoids

The Great War vs First World War

Q. When and why did the Great War first become known as the First World War?

A. The term 'First World War' seems to have been first used in print in Britain in 1920 as the title of the two-volume war memoirs of the soldier-turned writer, Lieutenant Colonel Charles a Court Repington. A veteran of Afghanistan, the Sudan and the Boer War, Repington was a colourful and controversial figure who took up journalism in 1902 after being forced to resign his commission in the Rifle Brigade following an affair with the wife of a fellow officer.

In 1915, writing for *The Times*, he broke the news of the 'shell scandal', which brought down Asquith's government. Then, in 1918 Repington, now a reporter with the *Morning Post*, was fined after being found guilty under the terms of the Defence of the Realm Act of disclosing secret information. He died in 1925.

Due in part to the belief that the 1914-18 war had indeed been "the war to end all wars", Repington's term was slow to catch on. The war continued to be referred to as "the Great War" or simply "the World War" until the outbreak of an even greater conflict in 1939 created a need for differentiation.

Source: *BBC History* magazine, February 2011

Trench Food

During the hard winter of 1916, in the trenches on the Western Front, the staple food of the British soldier was pea-soup with horse-meat chunks. The hard-working kitchen teams were having to source local vegetables as best they could, and when that was not an option, weeds, nettles, and leaves would be used to whip up soups and stews. As there was a major shortage of flour, it was replaced by dried, ground-up turnips which produced unappetising, diarrhoea-inducing bread.

Each battalion was assigned two industrial sized vats for food preparation. The problem was that every type of meal was readied within these containers, and so, over time, everything started to taste the same. As a result, pea-and-horse-flavoured tea was something the soldiers had to get used to.

Source: *Military History Monthly*, Issue 26, Nov. 2012

Germany made the final payment on its First World War reparations (approx. USD 90 million) on 3 October 2010.

The Early RAF

The story starts, somewhat ironically, in April 1912 – the month that saw the sinking of the *Titanic*. The Committee of Imperial Defence authorised the formation of the RFC as part of the Army. At this stage, British military aviation was to consist of separate Army and Navy wings, for in July 1914, less than a month before the outbreak of WWI, the Admiralty succeeded in forming the independent Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS).

The war was the catalyst for the phenomenal expansion of both services, and they were eventually amalgamated to form the world's first independent air force – the Royal Air Force (RAF) – on 1 April 1918. By November 1918, the RAF had 280 squadrons and nearly a million men. It had destroyed over 7,000 German aircraft during the war for the loss of over 9,000 aircrew.

This was not necessarily a war of 'aerial chivalry' as is sometimes suggested. The British ace Mick Mannock on hearing of the death of his rival, the German ace Manfred von Richthofen, muttered "I hope he roasted all the way down." Appositely, Mannock was to die in just such a manner three months later.

Source: *Military History Monthly*, Issue 26, Nov. 2012

At the start of the First World War, the majority of ships in Germany's merchant marine were insured by Lloyd's of London.

Britain's 1st Royal Dragoons must have been embarrassed about their colonel-in-chief at the outbreak of the First World War. Why? Because it was Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II.

Who Killed the Red Baron?

Nobody knows for certain who shot down Baron Manfred Freiherr von Richthofen, who with 80 unofficially attributed kills was among the most successful air aces of WWI. On April 21, 1918, his red Fokker triplane was pursuing a Sopwith Camel close to the ground when he was himself attacked by another Camel flown by Captain A. Roy Brown, a Canadian. Some Australian machine-gunners on the ground fired at Richthofen – nicknamed the Red Baron – as Brown attacked. Richthofen's guns are said to have jammed, and he tried to break off the fight, but he was hit. The Fokker landed intact, and von Richthofen's body was found with a bullet wound in the chest. Brown was credited with the victory, but it remains uncertain who fired the fatal shot.

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

The Day It Rained Metal

by Max Thomson

Communications Branch, *HMAS Hawkesbury* WWII

Few Australians know about it to this day, yet the horrendous explosion aboard the United States Navy fleet ammunition supply ship *USS Mount Hood* at Manus Island, was the greatest disaster in the wartime Pacific fleet bases apart from Pearl Harbor. It happened on what, in those days, was Australian Mandated Territory in The Admiralty Islands, off New Guinea.

The sheer enormity of what occurred is revealed in detailed material extracted from the US National Archives – augmenting the memories of it all for some Australian Navy men whose warships were anchored adjacent to the horror of it all.

- 743 men were killed, declared missing or were injured.
- *USS Mount Hood* disintegrated with 296 men aboard.
- 38 nearby vessels were extensively damaged.
- 61 other small craft were destroyed or damaged beyond repair.
- A massive 107,387 man-hours were required to effect repairs on a whole variety of nearby ships.
- A trench 35 metres long, almost 20 metres wide, and more than nine metres deep was later found in the seabed where *USS Mount Hood* had been at anchor.

Tragically, on its maiden voyage from USA, the *Mount Hood* exploded with 3800 tonnes of shells and ammunition it had transported out into the Pacific for warships of the US 7th Fleet preparing for the big onslaughts against Japanese forces around the Philippines.

RAN ships like *Australia*, *Shropshire*, *Warramunga*, *Arunta* and others were part of the strike forces that ultimately took part in the great battles around the Philippines. Other units of our Navy serving on convoy escort assignments were in Manus fleet base on that fateful day and saw the horror of it all.

On the morning of November 10, 1944, *Mount Hood* was anchored in 19 fathoms of water. The ship's Communications Officer, Lieutenant L.A. Wallace, took a group of 17 men ashore – some for dental treatment at the fleet base, others just to 'stretch their legs on dry land'.

Shortly after landing, they saw a flash out in the harbour followed by two tremendous explosions. Scrambling back to their launch, they headed back towards their ship, only to find that *Mount Hood* was no longer there, just debris all around.

As a key base for the US 7th Fleet, Seeadler Harbour at Manus Island in those days was extremely busy with warships big and small, plus a vast array of back-up and supply convoy ships that serviced the great battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, infantry landing ships and also the requirements of all the base personnel ashore.

A number of RAN warships were in the fleet base at the time. One of them, the anti-submarine frigate and long-range convoy escort, *HMAS Hawkesbury*, was anchored not far from *Mount Hood*. *Hawkesbury* had just arrived there after a convoy escort assignment to the Palau islands – ironically with another ammunition ship, the *Ethiopian Victory*.

The scene at Manus in those days represented something akin to a 'Forest of Masts' with ships of the great armada gathered there. Several signal towers ashore had at least two decks, with signal projectors on each. For signalmen aboard warships at anchorages, it was hard, concentrated work keeping tab of the flashing light signals that originated from those communication towers. Two such signalmen were keeping watch on the bridge of *HMAS Hawkesbury* and were eye-witness to the explosions aboard *Mount Hood*, anchored in berth number 380.

Hawkesbury quickly despatched its motor-cutter towards the scene, joining a vast array of small craft from ships and from shore that raced to help. Port frequency radio crackled on *Hawkesbury's* bridge as appeals went out for all sorts of help – even for clergymen to tend to the dying and the dead.

The initial explosion had caused flame and smoke to spiral up from amidships to more than masthead height then, within seconds, the bulk of the 3500 tonnes of ammunition aboard *Mount Hood* exploded with intense mushrooming of smoke and flames. It rose almost 2000 metres skyward, obscuring the ship and a vast surrounding area. It literally rained metal over everything in the area.

The concussion and metal fragments from *Mount Hood* caused casualties and damage to ships and small craft, yet the largest pieces of metal subsequently found were insignificant in size. Pieces of metal and projectiles were hurled in all directions. Some fragments landed 1000 metres from where the ammunition ship had been at anchorage.

Source: *Navy News* 10 October 2002

KVAA Inc. Calendar of Events:

April 2017 - March 2017

- April 19: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
April 19: Victorian Minister for Veterans announcement regarding the Melbourne Korean War Memorial.
April 21: Heidelberg Repat. Hospital ANZAC service.
April 22: Hannah Kim Melbourne visit. 1100 hours lunch at the Stella Maris then Shrine of Remembrance tour. All welcome.
April 23: Hannah Kim lunch at 1100 hours at Pascoe Vale RSL followed by tour of Melbourne.
April 23-28: Korea revisit.
April 24: Fountain Gate SC ANZAC Day service (0854 hrs).
April 25: ANZAC Day and KVAA reunion.
May 19: Heidelberg Repat. Austin Health Veterans Day
May 31: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
June 25: Korean Church service [see Page 8]
June 28: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
July 19: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
July 27: Korean War ceasefire commemoration at The Shrine of Remembrance.
August 9: Altona RSL Service
August 30: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
Sept. 27: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
October 25: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
Oct. 27-29: Korean War veterans reunion in Canberra.
Nov. 10: Austin Health Remembrance Day service
Nov. 11: Remembrance Day
Nov. 29: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
Dec. 6: KVAA Xmas Luncheon.
Dec. 13: KVAA Geelong Xmas Luncheon
Jan. 26: Australia Day
Jan. 31: Committee/General Meeting at Stella Maris.
1. Nominations for KVAA Inc. Committee 2018 are to be lodged at this meeting.
2. Deadline for Life Membership nominations.

President's Report (continued from Page 3)

service in their Memorial Garden.

My recent stint in hospital has reinforced two things I have long held true: family is precious, one of God's greatest gifts and, secondly, for the past 23 years the members of our Association have been my second family, and with their help and support and assistance, we have gained the respect of many ex-service organizations.

On ANZAC Day let us reminisce and think of our mates who never made it home, our MIAs, those who returned wounded, and our mates who have since passed on. Where ever you may be, celebrate your day in a way I'm sure that they would wish us to.

Alderney

Alderney is one of the four main English Channel islands (Jersey, Guernsey and tiny Sark being the others), closer to the French coast than the English. They became part of English territory in 1154 and have remained that way ever since (albeit with a degree of self-government). On the striking, rugged coastline of Alderney lies evidence of the island's darker past – it was one of the most fortified parts of the west European coastline during the Second World War.

Not long after war was declared, the civilian population of Alderney was given the opportunity to evacuate to England in 1940. Virtually the whole 1,450 population left before the first German troops seized the island.

Over the next five years, Alderney was gradually turned into a vast concrete fortress, part of Hitler's Atlantic Wall. Thirteen Victorian coastal fortifications were modified and extended to make the island into a formidable stronghold. Forced labour was used to build bunkers, gun emplacements, air-raid shelters, and concrete fortifications, much of which can still be seen today.

Alderney is unique in that it is the only part of the UK to have had a concentration camp built on it. The Germans constructed four camps on the island, each holding up to 1,500 people. At the peak of the work there were 3,000-4,000 slave workers, and 3,500 German troops and technicians on the island. The island is also the only part of the UK to have been shelled by the Royal Navy. The navy blockaded Alderney from time to time, particularly following the liberation of Normandy in 1944.

Alderney was eventually freed by British forces, with the German garrison surrendering on 16 May 1945. More than 1,000 Germans were kept on the island to help the British troops clear the 37,000 mines that had been laid, the miles of barbed wire, the booby traps, the rubble from buildings they had destroyed, and to repair as many houses as possible. It was December 1945 before any islanders were allowed to return. In 2005, 60 years on, Alderney designated 15 December as Homecoming Day – a public holiday to celebrate the return of the islanders after six years of exile in their own country.

Source: *Military History Monthly*, Issue 34, July '13

Revolting Admirals

The “revolt of the admirals” was an episode of the early Cold War in which the US Navy’s top officers openly criticized both the Air Force and the civilian leadership of the Defense Department.

Their “revolt” had been building for several years, and its origins were in the inter-service rivalry stretching back to World War II. Many Navy leaders were opposed to the unification of the armed forces under a single Department of Defense, even after that scheme was officially set in place by the National Security Act of 1947.

That dissatisfaction was then further exacerbated by the Air Force’s move to take control of all military aviation. Naval leaders claimed their service was being short-changed and the US needed a strong fleet to protect its interests globally, especially in the face of an aggressive Soviet Union. The Navy cranked up its publicity machine, including having senior officers write articles in popular magazines in which they charged the Navy was about to be scuttled.

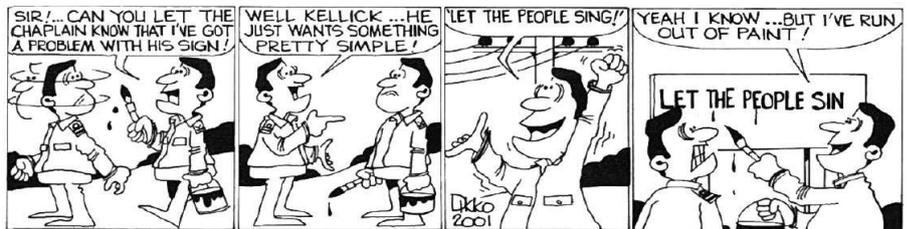
Capt. Arleigh Burke headed up a special investigative group that criticized the Air Force’s new 8-36 strategic bomber and the Consolidated Vultee Company that produced it. The Navy pushed its own plan, which called for the construction of a fleet of super carriers.

The admirals’ main point was the US was restricting itself to a single option in a future war, that of a massive nuclear exchange. Aside from the moral issue, the nuclear option didn’t deal with the more mundane aspects of controlling territory and sea lanes, which still required conventional non-nuclear forces. Of course, there were also naval officers who believed neither the Air Force nor the Army were necessary for an overseas war, with those services’ power projection missions instead being executable by naval aviation and the Marine Corps.

The revolt of the admirals was quashed by administrative action against some of its leaders in 1949. The Korean War also worked to settle some of its issues, demonstrating conventional naval power – carrier aviation, amphibious operations, gunfire support, and Marine Corps ground slogging – remained critical to the conduct of US military and foreign policy.

Dikko by Bob Dikkenburg

A series of cartoons which appeared in *Navy News* in the 1980s-2000s.

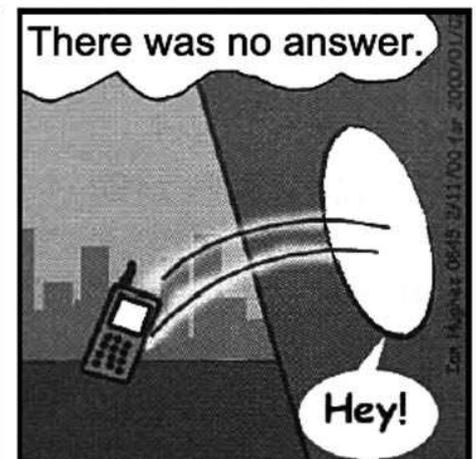
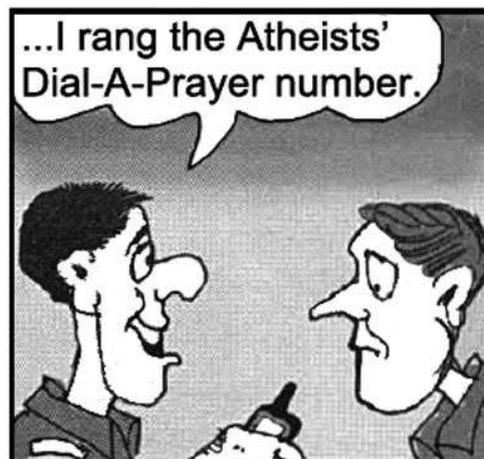
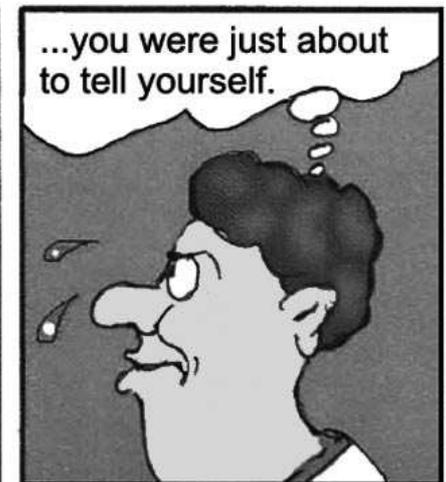
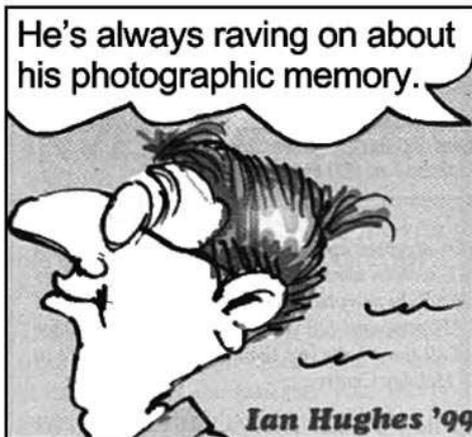
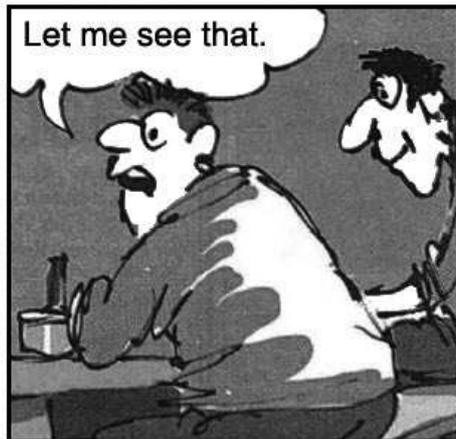


Source: *Strategy & Tactics* No. 271

If you think nobody cares whether you're dead or alive, try missing a couple of mortgage payments.

HMAS Wort by Ian Hughes

A series of cartoons which appeared in *Navv News* in the 1980s & 1990s (now in public domain).



Jim, Max & Sydney

After 14 months of working on it at his home in WA, Max Montague recently completed a model of *HMAS Sydney* as it was during its service in Korea, complete with Sea Furies and Fairey Fireflies. With the exception of the ladders, props and flags, all components were handcrafted by Max. Pictured with Max (on the right) and *HMAS Sydney*, is Commodore Jim Dickson AM MBE RAN Retired, Patron of the Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria and Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia.



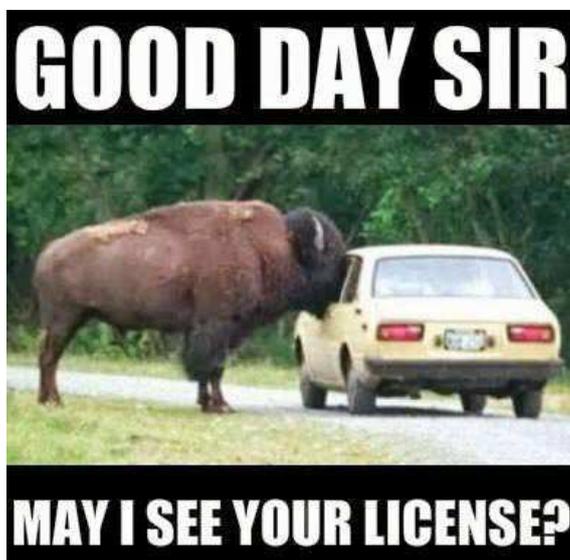
Jim Dickson with Max Montague and *HMAS Sydney III*

Only 6,480 Tanks

On 21 June 1941, the day the Third Reich invaded the USSR, the latter's ground force had an on-paper total of some 24,000 tanks within its inventory. At the same time, though, of that overall number, 44 percent (10,560) were out of service for regular maintenance, and another 29 percent (6,960) were off-line due to major maintenance requirements such as full transmission or engine replacement. That left *only* 6,480 tanks to meet the German onslaught. Further, there wasn't a single armored recovery vehicle – essential for getting damaged and broken down tanks off the field and into a repair shop in the entire Red Army.

This photo shows...
(Choose one to suit)

1. Doormen at North Korea's only hotel.
2. Human lightning rods.
3. Ambassadors for scrap metal recycling.
4. The latest in North Korean bullet-proof vests.
5. North Korean generals receiving their yearly service medal.



Farewells

Thomas M. J. Bryant, 34074, 3RAR on 7th March 2017

James Ian Craven, 34562, 3RAR on 6 March 2017

Peter Wilson, 26297, 1RAR on 25 March 2017
(Long time Pensions/Welfare Officer KWVA NSW Inc.)

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