

Phuoc Tuy Times



Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Queensland Branch (Brisbane North) Incorporated

ABN: 75 651 700 258



***** **NOVEMBER 2016** *****

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Hello everyone – Welcome to the NOVEMBER edition of the **Phuoc Tuy Times**.

Remember, if you have any articles, newsy items, had an enjoyable holiday, seen something funny or unique, etc to contribute to the newsletter, please email them to me in WORD format to vvaabrisbanenorth@bigpond.com - *Attention to the Editor*. Alternatively, you could place articles in an envelope marked to the Editor and leave in the office at Black Duck Cottage.

PLEASE NOTE: Cut-off date for insertions for the newsletter is the third SUNDAY of each month (after the monthly meeting).

Regards, Jan

BRISBANE NORTH - EXECUTIVE CONTACTS

Position	Name	Contact
President	Angus Fraser	3264 1797
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Junior Vice President	Robyn Sutherland	5498 5973
Secretary	Peter Thorne	0409 633 353
Treasurer	Carol Fraser	3264 1797
Editor – Jan Thorne	vvaabrisbanenorth@bigpond.com	



Black Duck Cottage is open at 9.00 am until midday every Wednesday. Snacks and raffles are also available. Address is: 3 Ogg Road, MURRUMBA DOWNS QLD 4503 - Telephone: (07) 3886 5411. Monthly meetings are held on the third **SUNDAY** of each month at **10.00 am**. Please come along and support your local sub branch. These meetings are held at Black Duck Cottage which is the Sub Branch Drop In Centre where all Veterans are welcome!

The next meeting is scheduled for **SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER 2016 at 10.00 am.**

MONTHLY PUZZLE

How can you add 8 8's to make 1000?

Answer on the last page



DEFENCE INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Defence Indigenous Development Program (DIDP) is for young Indigenous adults that want to join the ADF but who may be challenged by reading and writing, fitness or are just not sure if the ADF is for them.

The DIDP is a five-month residential course that focuses on six key areas:

- Language, Literacy, and Numeracy training;
- Military skills, including weapon training;
- Physical fitness;
- Vocational Education and Training;
- Cultural appreciation; and
- Leadership and character development.

Twenty two indigenous recruits from across Australia graduated from the Defence Indigenous Development Program – Navy (DIDP-N) at HMAS Cairns earlier this month.

In his address, Reviewing Officer Captain Stephen Hussey congratulated them on their successful completion of the intense 18-week program. He challenged the recruits to put into practice what they had learned and to live by the Navy values of honour, honesty, courage, integrity and loyalty. "Wherever your journey takes you, your communities will expect you to abide by these values," Captain Hussey said. "Be the very best you can be no matter what the task and make yourself, your families and Australia proud." "Enjoy yourselves: if you are remaining in Navy you have just begun the journey of a lifetime. You will experience things that you never dreamed of and you will grow as a team member and leader as you continue to learn new things about yourself. If your journey takes you in another direction, I hope that you find enjoyment in whatever you do."



DIDP-N was launched by Navy in March 2014 and is a key aspect of the Defence Reconciliation Action Plan (D-RAP) and Closing the Gap.

The program is designed to assist indigenous Australians reach the required standard to permanently enlist in the Australian Defence Force (ADF). Upon successful selection in the DIDP-N, members are enlisted as recruits for six months and are trained in literacy, numeracy, cultural development, military compliance, physical fitness and maritime studies. At the end of the program recruits are offered the options of continued service in the ADF, application to the Australian Public Service (APS), or transition back to civilian life.

<http://news.navy.gov.au>

WHITE SAUCE

A recipe this month from the English Domestic Cookery Book from early 1900s

It is seldom necessary to buy meat for this favourite sauce, as the proportion of that flavour is but small.

The water that has boiled fowl, veal, or rabbit, or a little broth that may be in the house, or the feet and necks of chickens, or raw or dressed veal, will suffice.

Stew with a little water any of these with a bit of lemon peel, some sliced onion, some white pepper corns, a little pounded mace or nutmeg, and a bunch of sweet herbs, until the flavour be good; then strain it, and add a little good cream, a piece of butter, and a little flour; salt to your taste.



A squeeze of lemon may be added after the sauce is taken off the fire, shaking it well. Yolk of egg is often used in fricassee; but cream is better.

USB STICKS SCAM



Scammers are using USBs to trap you!!

Victorian Police are warning the public that cyber criminals are targeting Victorians by leaving malware loaded USB drives in letter boxes.

These scammers are hoping residents will stick the devices into their home computers. On plugging in the unmarked USB and opening the attachment of a fake offer, their computers then become infected with Malware before crashing.

Research has found that nearly 50 percent of people will plug a USB drive they have found on the ground into their computer, it's a timely warning to us to stop and rethink, and avoid clicking on anything that is not from a trusted site or source.

If a USB is sent to you through the mail by an unknown source or unexpectedly from a known source, don't plug it into your computer until you have a confirmation of who it is from. If you can't confirm who it is from, throw it in the trash.

Please contact Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (ACORN) if you believe you have been a victim of a scam / Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 / Policelink on 131 444 for further enquiries.

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BUCHANAN PARK ANZAC WAR MEMORIAL



This ANZAC War Memorial is opposite Remembrance House in Burpengary, north of Brisbane.

The memorial was opened ANZAC Day 2015 and was funded by Moreton Bay Regional Council, with a contribution from federal government's ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program.

It is a series of semi-circular pre-cast concrete panels, graduating in height, arranged around an electronic eternal flame in a plinth.

On ANZAC day the rising sun shines through a tall glass panel, on which is written the Ode, onto the eternal flame.



Nearby are flagpoles, and eleven illuminated totem poles, with campaign ribbon colours at the top, for Australia's key military campaigns and missions overseas.



VVAA BADGE

While serving as the New South Wales State President of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, *Mick Scrase JP*, and the then NSW Secretary, *Denise Burke* came to the conclusion that the Association should have a badge, a national symbol by which members could be recognised.

After many sketches, they came up with the proposal for:

- The map of Vietnam, with the North shown in red to represent communism, and green to represent the free South and the jungle.
- The Rising Sun, as a continuation of the ANZAC tradition, representing the Army, Navy and Air Force of Australia.
- The National Flag.
- A C130 or C132 used for the spraying of chemicals.
- The central orange background to represent Agent Orange, the most widely known of the chemicals which were used in Vietnam.
- The outer circle in black to represent those who have died, directly and indirectly as a result of the Vietnam war.



This was the final draft that was put to the National Council (*Phil Thompson* was the National President at this time) and the New South Wales Branch. In those days, both worked side by side out of the HQ, which was at the rear of the Granville RSL Youth Club Hall in Blaxcell Street.

The design was agreed, quotes were sought from a number of companies and Perfection Plate was given the order to manufacture. The design number was 582/82.

The badge was well-accepted at first, but a few years later the VVAA was advised that RAN members did not think that they were represented. Their opinion was that the Rising Sun represented the Army, and the plane represented the Air Force.

At the same time, attendance at what was then Long Tan Day services dropped off because Navy and Air Force thought that it was for Army only. The Committee discussed these serious problems, and a change to the colour of the flag on the badge was moved and carried unanimously. With these changes, the badge now shows the White Ensign for Navy, the Rising Sun for Army, and the Plane for Air Force.

This badge is now a registered trade mark of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (as is the name), and by law may only be used by members, Sub- Branches and State Branches of the VVAA, as authorised by the National Council of the VVAA.

www.vvaa.org.au

**We were all sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, mothers,
Fathers, uncles and aunts of you all.
We were mates with our mates, the ones we fought with,
We were together for each other for our country,
We did what we were asked and continue to do so,
We paid for what was asked, some with their lives,
Some with their health, all with their innocence.
We fought in distant foreign lands, in places
Whose names will forever be etched in our minds:
Gallipoli, Fromelles, Messines, Tobruk, Alamein, Kokoda,
Kapyong, Long Tan, Iraq and Tarin Kot, to name a few,
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BOER WAR

From soon after its acquisition by Britain during the Napoleonic wars, the southern tip of Africa had been shared between British colonies and independent republics of Dutch–Afrikaner settlers, known as Boers. In order to escape British rule many Boers had moved north and east from the Cape to settle on new lands which eventually became the Boer republics of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal.

Throughout the nineteenth century tensions were often high, and in 1880–81 the two sides fought a war in which the Boers inflicted several costly defeats on the British army.

As part of the British Empire, the Australian colonies offered troops for the war in South Africa. Australians served in contingents raised by the six colonies or, from 1901, by the new Australian Commonwealth.

For a variety of reasons many Australians also joined British or South African colonial units in South Africa: some were already in South Africa when the war broke out; others either made their own way to the Cape or joined local units after their enlistment in an Australian contingent ended. Recruiting was also done in Australia for units which already existed in South Africa, such as the Scottish Horse.

Australians served mostly in mounted units formed in each colony before despatch, or in South Africa itself. The Australian contribution took the form of five “waves”. The first were the contingents raised by the Australian colonies in response to the outbreak of war in 1899, which often drew heavily on the men in the militia of the colonial forces. The second were the “bushmen” contingents, which were recruited from more diverse sources and paid for by public subscription or the military philanthropy of wealthy individuals. The third were the “imperial bushmen” contingents, which were raised in ways similar to the preceding contingents, but paid for by the imperial government in London. Then were then the “draft contingents”, which were raised by the state governments after Federation on behalf of the new Commonwealth government, which was as yet unable to do so. Finally, after Federation, and close to the end of the war, the Australian Commonwealth Horse contingents were raised by the new Federal government.



The Australians at home initially supported the war, but became disenchanted as the conflict dragged on especially as the effects on Boer civilians became known.

It is generally thought that about 16,000 Australians fought in the Boer War. This figure includes those who enlisted in an Australian unit, as well as the many raised locally, but it does not allow for double-counting of those who served in two contingents. A small number of Australians are known to have fought on the Boer side.

Six Australians received the Victoria Cross in South Africa, and many others received other decorations.

www.awm.gov.au

The Government agreed in 2006 to provide a site in Anzac Parade Canberra for a Boer War Memorial. The National Boer War Memorial Association volunteers have raised nearly all of the \$4 million needed to build the memorial but are still \$100,000 short. For more information see details on www.bwm.org.au.

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Further information can be obtained by contacting the Secretary on 3886 5411 or vvaabrisbanenorth@bigpond.com

SPECIAL AIR SERVICE REGIMENT

The Special Air Service Regiment is a special missions unit with unique capabilities within the Australian Defence Force.

Operating under the motto 'Who Dares Wins' the Special Air Service Regiment (SASR) is a direct command unit of the Special Operations Command with a demanding role.

SASR personnel are specially selected and highly trained to act with discretion and discipline in situations that may have national and strategic consequences. Personnel are required to work in small teams for extended periods, often without support.

SASR can trace its beginnings back to the Australian Z Special Unit and Independent Commando Companies that fought during World War II. On 25 July 1957, the 1st Special Air Service Company, Royal Australian Infantry, was raised at Campbell Barracks in Western Australia. In 1964, 1st Special Air Service Company was expanded to become the Special Air Service Regiment.

SASR is tasked to provide special operations capabilities in support of the Australia's national interests. This includes providing unique capabilities to support sensitive strategic operations, special recovery operations, training assistance, special reconnaissance and precision strike and direct action.

Force elements from SASR have served in various major conflicts (including Borneo, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq) and provide support to peace enforcements and peacekeeping operations (including Rwanda, Somalia, Cambodia and Timor-Leste (East Timor)). In addition to international operations, SASR remains prepared to meet domestic and offshore counter-terrorism tasks.



www.army.gov.au

RAAF VETERAN WALKS AROUND AUSTRALIA



Mr Peter Tripovich has just walked all the way around Australia. At the grand young age of 90, Peter Tripovich – a RAAF veteran - celebrated his 90th birthday on the road.

The jubilant Echuca man strode down Melbourne's Bourke St mall, arms held high in victory at the end of a decade-long quest. Wearing denim jeans, a knitted jumper and runners with a huge hole cut in the side, Mr Tripovich said he felt "amazing" but was looking forward to putting his feet up, "at least until Christmas". "I'm a little battle-scarred, but I'm OK," he said, thanking his

supporters. Explaining the holey shoes, he said, "It was either amputate the toe or cut a hole in the shoe. My foot swelled up across the Nullarbor".

Mr Tripovich had long wanted to walk approximately 20,000km around Australia, but committed to doing it at aged 79 to raise money for children living in poorer countries who were "worse off than ourselves". He chose the charity International Children's Care Australia, and has so far raised \$102,000.

He got started in Melbourne as a sprightly 79-year-old to make an anticlockwise circuit, but had to stop 15,000km later in Pemberton, WA to return home when his wife Jan fell ill, sadly passing away four years later. Last Australia Day he returned to Pemberton for the final 3500km jaunt to Melbourne.



Each day he woke at 3.00 am before walking between 30-40km followed all the way by his support staff of three often relying on good will and generosity for food and accommodation.

Whenever the going got tough Mr Tripovich was inspired by children he visited three years earlier at the Thai-Myanmar border. "They've got nothing. You give them a little Barbie doll or a golliwog three inches (big) and they're over the moon," he says,

"It's great that I was able to finish. "It was a 10-year journey. Peter puts his stamina down to the early days on the farm in rural Victoria rearing sheep, wheat and rice. After retiring from farming, the servicemen simply wanted to do something positive for the world and decided to raise money for underprivileged children. Peter identifies with the needs of children in the ICC child protection program, since he grew up with a few setbacks himself after his parents both died when he was 10 years old.



"You're never too old to venture out," Mr Tripovich said.

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COMMITTEE MEMBER

Would you like to become more involved in what is happening in your sub branch - *VVAA Brisbane North*?

If you would like to consider nominating for a position on the committee and would like to discuss what is involved or would like to have more information, please feel free to contact one of the present committee members or contact the Secretary on 3886 5411 or email vvaabrisbanenorth@bigpond.com.

POPPIES

Because it grew in such profusion on the Belgian and French battlegrounds, the red corn poppy, *Papaver rhoeas*, became forever associated with the First World War. It's said that the churning of the soil caused by horses' hooves and soldiers' boots encouraged never-before-seen displays of these wildflowers.

After the 'war to end all wars' ended, artificial poppies were made and sold by war veterans to raise money for disabled ex-soldiers. It became a tradition to proudly wear the poppy on Remembrance Day, 11 November. Ever since then the red Flanders Poppy, like rosemary and the Gallipoli Lone Pine, has been grown as a thoughtful memento of those soldiers who died in that Great War almost a century ago.



Flanders poppy grows easily from seed. Poppies don't transplant happily so it's best to sow them straight into the garden bed where they're to grow. Before you start, dig over the bed, breaking the soil down into fine particles. Mix in some Thrive Complete Plant Food, and rake to level the surface. Spread a thin layer of Thrive Seed Raising Mix and scatter the seeds on top. Water carefully, and then sprinkle the barest amount of seed raising mix over the seeds. Press to gently firm the seeds into the mix and water again with a fine spray. Seedlings usually emerge within a couple of weeks and, of course, it's important not to let the bed dry out during this period.



Feed the young seedlings with Thrive Soluble Plant Food, half strength at first, then gradually increasing to full strength. Thin the plants to about 30cm spacing. A full, leafy base will always give the best results so, if the plants begin to develop precocious flower spikes, remove these as soon as they appear. Allow the plants to establish and mature and they'll then produce an abundance of flower shoots. Dead flowers should be removed promptly to encourage more blooms.

Poppy problems? The plants can suffer from mildew, so keep a Yates Rose Gun on hand for quick treatment. This will also help with controlling insect pests and mites. Poppy flowers can be battered by late winter winds which means choosing a well-sheltered planting spot is critically important. Snails and slugs can attack the young foliage.

Little girls might like to try creating poppy dolls. In their simplest form these are made by bending down all the petals and tying the 'waist' with a blade of grass. More adventurous doll makers can try using just the front and back petals for the dress and rolling the side petals into 'arms' (again, tied with grass). The round, developing central seedpod forms an appropriate 'head'.



<http://www.yates.com.au>

LAST SAY

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Answer to Puzzle:- $888 + 88 + 8 + 8 + 8 = 1000$.

DISCLAIMER

The information contained within this newsletter is from magazines, newspapers and government departments and is published as information to members, veterans and readers. The Editor and the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, Brisbane North branch accepts no responsibility for misquotes or other errors which are attributable to other sources. At the time of publication, all information was deemed to be correct. The Editor of the Phuoc Tuy Times invites readers and members to submit articles for publication in this newsletter. All articles must include the writer's name and address, and will be considered by the Editor as being suitable for publication.