

RICOCHET

Monthly newsletter of VVAA Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc. JULY 2024

THE LAST MILITARY GOVERNOR-GENERAL?

Retiring Australian Governor-General David Hurley may well be the last military officer to hold the post.

He has been in the role since 1 July 2019 and was replaced on 1 July by Ms Sam Mostyn.

Given that moves are afoot for Australia to become a republic, will she be the last in the role and General (Retd) Hurley (pictured right) the last military officer?

He may also be the last veteran – the third in recent years after Vietnam veteran General (Retd) Sir Peter Cosgrove (2014-19) (pictured below) and the late Major General (Retd) Michael Jeffrey (2003-08).

General Hurley was CO of 1 Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, during Operation Solace in Somalia in 1993 and was awarded a DSC. He commanded the 1st Brigade from 1999-2000 in Darwin, supporting Australian-led operations in East Timor (now Timor Leste). He succeeded Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston as Chief of the Defence Force on 4 July 2011.

Before becoming Governor-General, he was Governor of New South Wales in 2014-19. He was born in Wollongong on 26 August 1953. He is married to Linda; they

have three children and three grandchildren. He has been awarded an AC, CVO and DSC.

Sir Peter was in command of a rifle platoon in Vietnam and was awarded a MC in 1971 for his performance and leadership during an assault on enemy positions.

Peter Cosgrove came to na-

tional attention in 1999 when, as Commander of the International Task Force East Timor (INTERFET), he was responsible for overseeing that country's transition to independence. He was appointed Chief of Army in 2000 and Chief of the Defence Force 2002-2005.

Since retirement he has been a member of several boards including QANTAS, Cardno and the Australian Rugby Union. He was appointed by the Queensland Government to lead the task force rebuilding communities in the Innisfail region following the devastation caused by Cyclone Larry in 2006.

He has also chaired the Council of the Australian War Memorial and served as Chancellor of the Australian Catholic University. He has been awarded an AK, CVO and MC.

The son of a soldier, he was born in Sydney in 1947. He and wife Lynne have two sons and three grandchildren.

General (Retd) Jeffrey served operationally in Malaya, Borneo, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam, where he was awarded the Military Cross and the South Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

He became Governor of Western Australia from 1993 to 2000.

He was born in Wiluna, Western Australia, in 1937 and passed away on 18 December 2020. He and his widow, Marlena, had four children, three sons and a daughter, and seven grandchildren. He had been awarded AC, AO (Mil), CVO and MC.



OUR MISSION: To assist ALL veterans and their dependents in all matters relating to their health, welfare and well-being.

Our website: www.vietnamvetssc.org.au

Email: secretaryvvaasc@gmail.com **Editor:** ricocheteditor@gmail.com

General information Page 2 INCLUDING OFFICE NEWS.

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OFFICE NEWS

OFFICE OPEN Monday to Friday 0900 to 1200 (9am — noon).

POSH MEETINGS: Partners Offering Support and Hope meet Friday 1- 4pm, informal gathering in the meeting room beside the Drop in Centre. Coffee/tea/chat.

MEETINGS: Return to the third Tuesday of the month: Comm Meeting and General Meeting—times, check office for details.

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This service provides counselling and support to all veterans of overseas conflicts. The families of Vietnam Veterans are also able to receive counselling through us. Group programmes include the Lifestyle Management Program (5 days live-in with partner) and the Heart Safe Program (12 month gym). Other therapeutic/educational groups are being planned for the Sunshine Coast.

DISCLAIMER: The committee of Vietnam Veteran Association of Australia Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc. and its individual members take no responsibility for errors, omissions or inaccuracies in this newsletter, nor accept liability for any loss or damage suffered directly or indirectly from the use of information contained in this newsletter, and do not warrant that opinions published in this newsletter are necessarily the opinions held by the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, this Sub-branch or the Sub-branch Committee, including individual members.

OUR MISSION: To assist all veterans and their dependents in all matters relating to their health, welfare and well-being.

Open days for Defence

The public has been treated to a glimpse of career-life in the ADF with Open Days at both RAAF Base Amberley and Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, in mid-June.

At Amberley, it was not just the ADF though, with Defence industry also represented through displays from Boeing, CHC, Raytheon and other allied industries.

Displays included a Pilatus PC-21 aircraft, an Edgy Jericho Laboratory, Hawkei protected mobility vehicles, G-Wagons, an ejection seat and static displays of each aircraft type operating from Amberley.

At Enoggera it was Army vehicles, including Boxers, Australian light armoured vehicles, M1 Abrams, Bushmaster protected mobility vehicles, and M113AS4 armoured personnel carriers as well as detection dogs and parachutists.

PICTURED: Section of large crowd at Amberley (top) and Enoggera. – photos from ADF News.



This year marks the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy, France, on 6 June 1944. D-Day and the battle of Normandy marked the first step in the Allied liberation of Europe from Nazi occupation during the Second World War.

Involving the largest armada of ships ever assembled, and more than 10,000 supporting aircraft, D-Day was the culmination of years of planning and preparation. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill described it as “much the greatest thing we have ever attempted”.

Australians played a small but important role in the large Allied forces that participated in D-Day, and in tribute to them and all Australians who served throughout the war, the Australian War Memorial recognises and remembers their contributions to what was one of the momentous events of the twentieth century.

About 3200 Australians participated in the D-Day landing and thousands more would serve during the Normandy campaign and beyond. In the fleet some 500 members of the Royal Australian Navy served on attachment with

Aussies there when Allies stormed Europe

the Royal Navy.

A small number of Australian soldiers also served on the ground with the British Army. Our nation’s main contribution came in the air, where approximately 1000 Australian airmen flew with Royal Australian Air Force squadrons, and a further 1800 operated on attachment to the Royal Air Force.

On top of this, 10,000 Australians waited in training and reserve pools, ready to join operational squadrons as the campaign’s casualties mounted.

Thirteen Australians were killed on 6 June in Operation Overlord, and hundreds more were killed over the course of the campaign while flying in support of the ground forces in Normandy. In fact, in terms of total casualties June 1944 was the worst month in the history of the Royal Australian Air Force.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Everyone,

Hope you are all safe and healthy. I know that our Association is non-political so I apologise in advance for my column this month.

At the moment, I am angry, confused and thoroughly disappointed with the way in which numerous Australians view the antics, demeanour and actions of one Julian Assange; a so called Australian and alleged journalist.

What is it with our country where large groups of half-wits, including some members of our government, fawn over a convicted criminal, coward and traitor.

I was listening to a news report the other day where certain of our politicians were hailing the release of Assange as some kind of huge move forward in the name of justice.

What a joke! As far as I'm concerned he was nothing more than a criminal on the run who, having committed the alleged offences didn't have the fortitude to face his accuser like the majority of other people within the world.

He ran away and hid. Locked himself in an Embassy and claimed political asylum. Our Hero! Assange was wanted by authorities in Switzerland for sexual offence matters and in the United States for charges under the

Espionage Act.

James Morrow, a columnist with The Courier Mail had the following to say about him: "...Assange was accused of jeopardising the lives of Afghan translators and others who worked with US forces during the conflict by not removing their names from certain documents ...".

In response, Assange responded. "Well, they're informants. So if they get killed, they've got it coming to them. They deserve it."

Mind you, over 90 per cent of Assange's leaked top secret military information came from 'informants', whom by the way, according to him, 'deserve to die.'

He also ran a show on a .. "Russian backed TV station where he had 'warm sit-down' interviews with the head of Hezbollah." What a great guy!

Little wonder we fought so hard to get him back to Australia; just what we need. There, I've had my say about the matter and that's it.

**Best Regards,
Mick Howe,
President.**



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From the Secretary

As previously advised, the June Committee and General Meetings were cancelled due to lack of numbers.

Medical issues and other commitments by members resulted in a skeleton number of attendees. All going well, the troops will all be on deck in July.

Speaking of meetings, the President is investigating whether future meetings can be held at the Maroochy RSL Sub-Branch rooms. This would mean that meetings could revert to the mornings instead of the mid-day times that the Library has recently allocated. I will clarify this issue via heads-up prior to the July meeting.

As at the time of writing, new carpet is being in-



stalled in the Drop-In Centre. This has occurred as a result of water damage when the roof leaked during a number of previous rain events.

All going well, we will have a more spacious streamlined looking Centre. One of the cabinets fell apart when it was being moved, so it and a few other redundant items found a new home in the library skip bin.

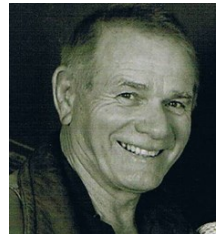
There are only around seven weeks until Vietnam Veterans Day and the lunch ticket sales have been slow. This is the usual pattern, and there will undoubtedly be a surge in July and early August.

However, to assist the organisers, it would be appreciated if those intending to attend the lunch, purchase tickets as soon as possible. As per the notice in Ricochet, tables can be booked, (maximum of ten).

That's about it for this month.
Stay safe and always take the high ground.

Regards

John Cunnington.



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ATTENTION MEMBERS

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY SUNDAY 18 AUGUST 2024

The day will commence at around 0600 hours with the “Toast to the War Dogs” at the War Dog’s Memorial, Alexandra Headland. Breakfast, tea and coffee will be supplied.

COTTON TREE CENOTAPH

Main Commemoration Ceremony

Assembly: 1045 hours near the swimming pool complex, The Esplanade, Cotton Tree. The short march to the Cotton Tree RSL Cenotaph, commences at 1045 hours.

Service: 1100 hours—1200 hours.

Luncheon: Maroochy RSL following the service. Welcome to guests at 1215 hours. Lunch tickets are available at the Drop-In Centre from 1 June.

Cost: \$45 for members and partners. Non-member’s price is \$55 per head. Lunch includes a sumptuous three course meal, subsidised beer and wine, entertainment, lucky door prizes, raffle draws and surprises!!!

IMPORTANT: At the luncheon there will be free seating available. However, If you would like to pre-book a table (groups of 10 are preferable), please notify John Cunnington on 54933513 (0415375968) or email secretaryvvaasc@gmail.com and arrange the bookings with him after you have purchased your tickets. Names are required for each person.

Transport: A bus will be provided to transport guests to and from the Caloundra RSL. Pick-up time will be 0945 hours. The bus will leave the Maroochy RSL at 1630 hours. Guests in the Maroochy area can avail themselves of the Maroochy RSL courtesy bus.

Special dietary requirements: leave a message with the duty officer at the Drop-In-Centre or contact John Cunnington on 54933513, (0415375968) or send an email to the secretaryvvaasc@gmail.com

Photo above: In Long Binh, Vietnam.



Stark art prize winner

Winning entry for the Australian War Memorial's Napier Waller Art Prize was "Deathmin" by Kathryn Rae.

The judges' statement read: "This sculpture is a powerful evocation of the burden carried by so many families after the death by suicide of current or former service personnel."

"The work is powerful, contemporary and layered with multiple codes: the artist presents us with a stack of the paperwork generated before and after her husband Andrew's death. At her height and his weight, 'Deathmin' embodies the challenges attested to at the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide."

"This is a vital contribution to public discourse at a time when the nation is grappling with the urgent need to do better; that no one who serves this nation experiences what Andrew and Kathryn went through. We thank Kathryn for her courage and generosity in sharing her story and congratulate her on the realisation of this finely balanced and complex work."

More at <https://www.awm.gov.au/napier-waller-art-prize-hub>

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Defence Force facing a crisis in recruitment

The Australian Defence Force is facing an acute recruitment crisis. Only 80 per cent of the 69,000 personnel needed to meet future challenges have signed up. The government recently announced recruitment will be opened up to some foreign citizens to try to fill this gap.

Not only is the Australian military failing to achieve planned growth, but it is also actually shrinking, as defence chief general Angus Campbell told a Senate inquiry in February.

There are two fundamental reasons for the current recruitment impasse. One is economic — low unemployment and a perception of better opportunities, work conditions and future prospects in the private sector.

The other reason is cultural: a declining willingness of gen Z to identify with — and fight to defend — their nation.

Either way, the key to the recruitment crisis lies in understanding the motivations of this generation, the main pool of potential recruits today.

We recently interviewed 19 serving Australian soldiers from a range of demographics (two were gen Z) and across military branches in a study funded by the Australian Defence Force. We wanted to find out what makes gen Z recruits tick, and what the force might do to persuade more of them to serve their country.

Researchers study every new generation as a guide to the future, from the baby boomers to generation X (like the authors of this article), and millennials. None is more distinctive than generation Z, or roomers — people born roughly between 1997 and 2008.

They are the first generation to grow up with smartphones and social media. In his current bestseller, *The Anxious Generation*, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt outlines the cataclysmal effect: he claims a large increase in depression and anxiety in young people is the direct effect of unsupervised social media use during adolescence.

Zoomers' mental health is a barrier to service, as US Marine Corps lieutenant Matthew Weiss spells out in his book on gen Z military recruitment.

A military career can be detrimental to psychological wellbeing, as Australia's Royal Commission into Veteran Suicide has demonstrated.

The force's rigorous mental health entry standards may have reinforced this perception.

The soldiers we spoke to said mental health is an issue for recruitment. On the one hand, they agreed that service is mentally challenging, and that younger soldiers are more psychologically vulnerable. On the other hand, interviewees said the force's mental health support has been improving. This is a step in the right direction — it may well be that media coverage of veterans' mental health issues worries Zoomers considering enlistment.

Weiss argues private sector jobs (and money) afford much more online currency than military service. The respondents in our interviews agreed younger recruits were very savvy about



pay and conditions.

But there may be another motivator: as Opposition Defence spokesperson Andrew Hastie recently told the ABC: "People who join the Defence Force don't just do it for economic reasons, they do it because they love their country.

This means if love of country falls from generation to generation, military recruitment falls too. Weiss suggests in the United States, low patriotism partly explains gen Z's reluctance to enlist.

Our interviewees said traditional nationalism played only a modest role for enlisting for young people. They thought a lesser sense of obligation and service is one reason. Another is the fact that the black-and-white picture of "my country right or wrong" has been muddied following media coverage of alleged Australian war crimes in Afghanistan.

The evidence confirms waning national pride among young Australians. We analysed publicly available data from the World Values Survey, a

wide-ranging poll of people's values around the globe conducted since 1981.

It shows in 1981, 70.3 per cent of Australians were "very proud" of their nationality. This fell to 60.8 per cent in 2018, the first year to feature gen Z members in the survey. That year, only 41.6 per cent of twentysomethings (including some millennials) were very proud Australians — the lowest proportion of any Australian age group in any year since the survey began.

All else being equal, older adults tend to be more nationalistic, as surveys in different periods and countries show. But the nationalism gap between old and young has opened up further with gen Z.

According to the survey data, in 1981, 69 per cent of Australians in their twenties were willing to fight for their country. This was a slightly greater proportion than the 65 per cent of over-70s. By 2018, this was reversed, with only 44 per cent of Australians in their twenties willing to fight, compared with 59 per cent of over-70s.

Our interviewees suggested that if nationalist values motivate zoomers, this is only in terms of "doing the right thing". This offers an alternative opportunity for recruiters: the changing role of the military towards peacekeeping and disaster relief makes defence attractive to those with humanitarian values.

Zoomers fall into this category. Research shows, and our interviewees agreed, that gen Z care about the environment, diversity, equity and inclusion.

This is reflected by their attitudes to work. Zoomers want a calling and not just a career (let alone merely a job). According to our interviewees, young recruits place greater importance on the intrinsic aspects of work, like learning skills, experiencing adventure and challenges.

So how do we boost recruitment? Our own and other research suggests gen Z is strongly motivated by things that support their own growth and wellbeing, both materially and spiritually, rather than service toward others. Researchers label these "pro-self" motivations.

Zoomers may be hard to recruit, especially given the increasing war for talent, but they have a great deal to offer the military.

● continued page 9.

DEFENCE RECRUITING

• from previous page

They may be the most success-orientated among recent generations. They have an unprecedented ability to handle digital technologies that are becoming increasingly important in the military.

The inaugural National Defence Strategy unveiled in April has conceded "the need for a fundamental transformation of defence's recruitment and retention system".

Many of the proposals to raise military recruitment in Australia are general. The government recently raised pay and bonuses in the defence force, for example.

Other measures include making the recruitment process easier, making military service an opt-out system, reducing medical requirements, or increasing the maximum recruitment age and galvanising junior military leaders to change outdated traditions that harm recruitment.

Our research suggests building a force that appeals to gen Z's social values and intrinsic motivations is the way forward. Recruitment strategies need to be tailored.

Article by Robert Hoffmann, a professor of behavioural economics at the University of Tasmania; and Maria Teresa Beamond, an assistant professor at RMIT University. Both receive funding from the Australian Department of Defence and Maria also from the not-for-profit group Australian Women in Security Network.

Support for cadets



OUR Patron, Laurie Drinkwater, has been instrumental in gaining a donation of \$4800 from Maroochy RSL for Yandina ACU. At the cheque presentation were (from left) CEO Jason Scanes, Cadet Under Officer Jett Pitt, Captain (AAC) Bernadine Onekawa, CUO Sheila Casey and Laurie.

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EIGHTY-TWO years ago, on 22 July 1942, the battle of the Kokoda Trail, New Guinea, began. Having been stopped in their attempt to reach Port Moresby by sea at the battle of the Coral Sea, the Japanese were forced to try and take the town by land. The only route open to them was over the Owen Stanley Range via the Kokoda Trail which became the scene of heavy fighting. — Damien Parer photos.



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When you're laughing, the whole world laughs with you

A former Sergeant in the Marine Corps took a new job as a high school teacher.

Just before the school year started, he injured his back. He was required to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. Fortunately, the cast fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable.

On the first day of class, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school. The smart punks, having already heard the new teacher was a former Marine, were leery of him and he knew they would be testing his discipline in the classroom.

Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, the new teacher opened the window wide and sat down at his desk. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he picked up a stapler and stapled the tie to his chest.

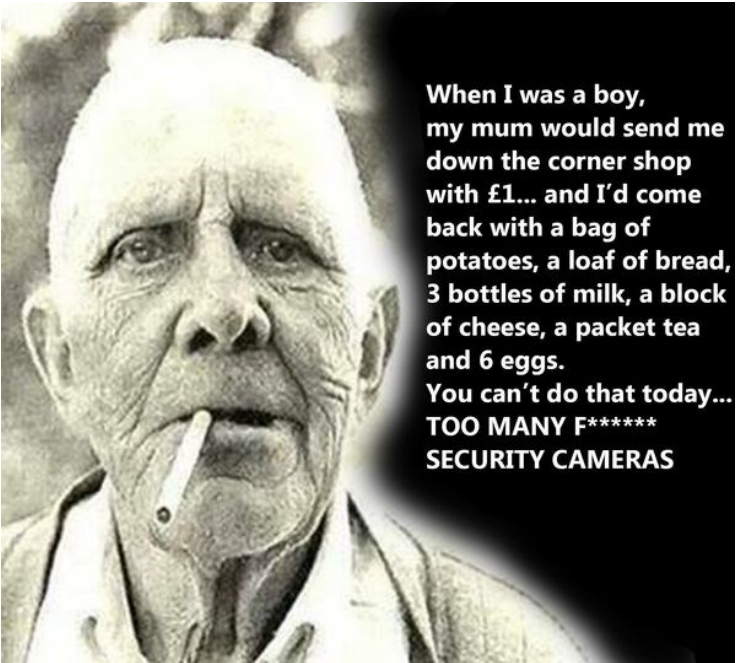
Dead silence...
The rest of the year went very smoothly.

So today, in church,
a guy in a dress tried to drown me



And, I kid you not,
my family just stood there
taking pictures!

liturgy.co.nz



When I was a boy,
my mum would send me
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Why do cemeteries have fences around them? Because everyone's dying to get in.

What's the difference between a hippo and a Zippo? One weighs a ton, and the other is a little lighter.

Why did the man bring his watch to the bank? He wanted to save time.—from Reader's Digest

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What an eventful day! Not that every day is not eventful in the Fry household, but three things happened today about which I shall report. Firstly, we were waiting for our youngest daughter, Paula, to drive from Ipswich to see us.

A phone call mid-morning put paid to that. She had just left her home when she drove over a bag of trash. I have never had four flat tyres at one time. She did. That put paid to her visit today.

Then out of the blue, I had a phone call from the best man at our wedding 59 and a half years ago. We had just been talking plans for our 60th Wedding Anniversary in December, and my best man and his wife were among the guests.

While Annette and I have twenty-seven descendants, including their partners, we have had to limit those outside our direct family, and that's when we were discussing my best man, and his wife, who we haven't seen for a few years, but like us are suffering the ills of older age which has crept upon us.

And then, our elderly neighbour passed away this morning. He was a nonagenarian, and he was not expecting to live more than two weeks. But his passing made us think about that inevitable day that is coming closer for every one of us. I mean we can plan for a 60th wedding anniversary party; we can repair four flat tyres when the shops open tomorrow, but how many of us plan our departure from this life?

As your Chaplain, this is my time to remind you to put your affairs in order, brutal as that may seem. Go to your local

Fireside with the Padre



church and your Pastor or Priest can fill you in on the details, or you can always speak to me.

Many of you will be pleased to know that I have been given permission to wear a shoe on my left foot for an additional hour a day. I am back to full exercise, albeit slowly, at my gymnasium. I still value my afternoon 'nanna nap' especially after a gymnasium visit. But I am on the road to full recovery, minus my big toe on my left foot.

The professionals told me that my next toe beside the former big one will now try to act as the propulsion of my forward movement. It is odd and I feel it, but that is most true. Number two toe is not used to such responsibility and has put in a loud complaint

No need for me to remind you that our Vietnam Veteran's Day is coming up in August. I look forward to that as I am sure you are too. Keep well, enjoy yourself with your family, and I hope to see you all at the Maroochydore Cenotaph on that day. May God continue to bless you and yours.

Arthur Fry
Honorary Chaplain

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BOOK FROM INQUIRY SHINES A LIGHT

A “lived experience book” titled “Shining a Light: Stories of Trauma & Tragedy, Hope & Healing” from the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide was presented recently to Governor-General David Hurley and presented in Federal Parliament.

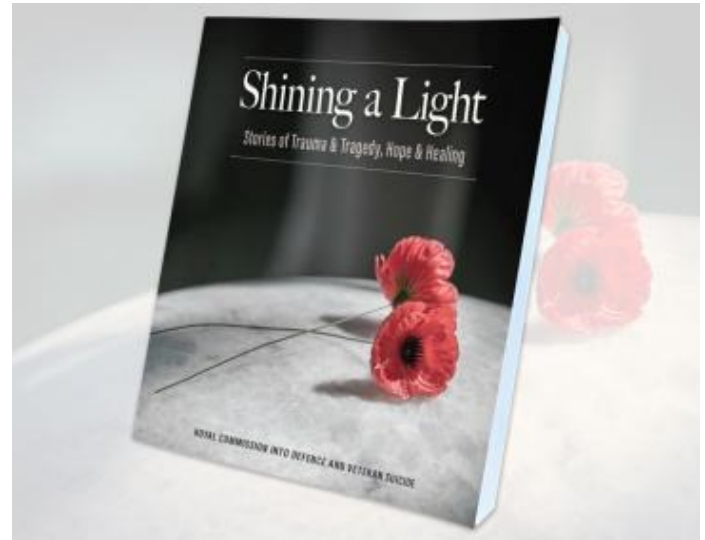
“The trauma-informed book, authored by journalist Patrick Lindsay AM, showcases the lived experience of suicide and suicidal behaviour of serving and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members, and their families,” the commission’s website explains.

“These experiences, which have been at the heart of the Royal Commission during its inquiries, were bravely and generously shared through submissions and evidence.

“Collectively, they highlight complex cultural and systemic issues which are failing past and present service personnel and their families, while also recognising and paying tribute to people’s resilience, recovery and growth.

“Together with our final report, we hope the book will lead to greater understanding of the sacrifices made by those who defend our country – and their loved ones – and help to drive real and lasting change.

“The book includes reading advice and icons throughout the stories to help readers manage any possible negative impacts of reading the book’s content, and features chapters about: Recruitment and early training; Life in uniform; Leadership and its impact; Mental health battles; Suicide and suicidality; Families and loved ones; From service to civilian life; Ex-service organisations;



Dealing with DVA; and Growth from trauma

The book also includes case studies of a small selection of inspiring community organisations supporting veterans in different ways across Australia.

Hard copies will be available soon. The book can be downloaded here:

<https://efenceveteransuicide.royalcommission.gov.au/publications/shining-light>

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Commander relished engineering role

Watching HMAS Warramunga sail away after a significant upgrade refit was a 'pinch-me' moment for Commander Felicity Petrie.

Leading test and trials team, Commander Petrie helped deliver the Anzac-class anti-ship missile defence program, taking the ship from bare bones to a technologically advanced, combat-ready frigate.

"I still remember standing on the wharf and watching the first ship I saw complete the program sail away," Commander Petrie said.

"Going from a bare, stripped back ship with all the masts removed and entire systems taken out to having it painted, fitted out, tested, put in the water, crewed up and sailed away to go on a mission – I haven't done a job before or since where the outcome was so starkly tangible."

Since joining Navy at 17, the weapons engineer has honed her technical skills through the lifetime of the Anzac-class, witnessed the introduction of the Hobart-class, contributed to the adoption of autonomous capabilities and moved from practical to policy roles.



'You can leap from waterfront to strategic roles and back again, and to be able to do that within the same organisation is unique.'

She hasn't ruled out one day returning to the waterfront, given the vast opportunities available.

"The experiences and the opportunities for engineers in the Navy truly are enormous," Commander Petrie said.

"There is no shortage of options. I've enjoyed the dynamic nature of my career hugely. You can leap from waterfront to strategic roles and back again, and to be able to do that within the same organisation is unique."

'If you're interested in rapidly changing technology, Navy has got that in spades.'

Taking advantage of the flexibility offered by Defence, she recently moved into a reservist role as Navy liaison to the Australian War Memorial.

Commander Petrie was surprised how much her skills and experience as a weapons engineer helped her tackle the new career.

"I think there is an uncapitalised opportunity to connect technicians and history," she said. "I recently did a piece looking into the Second World War gunnery support by HMAS Arunta I."

"Many of the problems they faced then are ones we still face today: ship repair and defects, capability management, refitting to keep up with technology development."

"The technology might be different but some of the problems remain, and we can learn a lot from what has come before us."

On a recent International Women in Engineering Day Commander Petrie and Squadron Leader Kate Yaxley represented the ADF and spoke at an Engineers Australia panel discussion and networking event.

PHOTO: In her new role in the storage annexe of the Australian War Memorial. – story and photo from ADF news.

Join us for a Special Charity Event!

This event aims to raise funds for Legacy, an iconic charity which supports the families of veterans who have given their lives or health as a result of their recognised military service and for the Air Force Association which cares for homeless Veterans.

7pm–10:30pm Thursday, 29 August 2024

Kedron Wavell Services Club Blue Pacific Room Food, drinks and live music featuring the Australian Army Band Brisbane	Special charity auction \$75 per person \$700 for a table of 10	Purchase tickets online www.radschool.org.au/KWSC Table bookings or event enquires: 07 3359 9122
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Special Guests

IAN HEALY

PAT WELSH

TREVOR GILLMEISTER

MERV HUGHES

TIMELINE JULY

1 July 1797: The first merino sheep were landed in Australia. Unlike earlier breeds, this Spanish variety was much better suited to the Australian environment and was a formidable wool producer.

1 July 1841: The islands of New Zealand were separated from the Colony of New South Wales and made a colony in their own right. This ended more than 50 years of confusion over the relationship between the islands and the Australian colony.

1 July 1851: Victoria also separated from NSW and became a colony in its own right.

2 July 1950: No. 77 Squadron flies first combat mission in Korea as the first Australian unit committed to the war.

15 July 1940: The Volunteer Defence Force (VDC), composed mainly of First World War veterans, was formed for home defence by the Returned and Services League (RSL).

20 July 1969: At a United States Marine non-commissioned officer's club near Da Nang, a civilian

pop entertainer, Cathy Wayne, becomes the first Australian woman killed during the Vietnam War. A US Marine Sergeant was found guilty of her murder, having shot her accidentally while attempting to kill his commanding officer.

21 July 1969: For more than 60 years, Australia has played a vital role in space tracking owing to its geographic location and its technical know-how – a high point was reached at 12.56pm (AEST) on this date when the Apollo tracking station at Honeysuckle Creek, near Canberra (**below**), transmitted live television of Neil Armstrong stepping onto the surface of the moon to a worldwide audience of 600 million.

6 July 1964: Warrant Officer Class Two Kevin Conway, an AATV advisor, is killed in action, the first Australian battle casualty of the war.


31 July 1914: Labor leader Andrew Fisher declares Australians will defend Britain "to our last man and our last shilling".




Sources include:
<https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/defining-moments-timeline>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_Vietnam_War
<https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/atwar>
<https://www.historyplace.com/specials/calendar>

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Roll of Honour — Vietnam, July 1962-75

July 1964

Conway, Kevin George (13097), 35, AATTV, Sgt (Temp.WO2), Cleveland Cemetery, Qld.

July 1965

Nalder, William Lynn (2412151), 19, 1RAR, Pte, Rookwood Military Cemetery, Sydney.

July 1966

Holland, Tony (3786634), 21, 1APCSqdn, Tpr, Mulwala Cemetery, NSW.

Knight, Gordon (2782226), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Botany General Cemetery, Sydney.

Lubcke, Robert John (42720), 23, 5RAR, Pte, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Norris, John William (17693), 25, 6RAR, Cpl, Cairns Cemetery, Qld.

Prowse, Leslie (18409), 21, 1FIdSqdn, Spr, Mount Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane.

Purcell, Anthony Thomas (3787580), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Tomas, Marian (5713739), 21, 5RAR, LCpl, Nannup Cemetery, WA.

July 1967

Briggs, David John (215144), 26, 32 Small Ships Sqdn, Cpl (Temp.Sgt), died Repatriation General Hospital, Concord, Sydney (no further detail).

Wride, Donald Spence (18665), 23, 1FIdSqdn, Spr, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Chatswood, Sydney.

July 1968

Borlace, Douglas Graham (42809), 24, 3CavRegt, CFN, Stirling Cemetery, SA.

Mitchell, David (1201249), 28, 1ARU, Pte, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Murray, Peter Eris (2788524), 21, 1RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

O'Connor, Patrick Shane (217350), 19, 4RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

July 1969

Abraham, Richard John (4719565), 23, 9RAR, LCpl, Whyalla Cemetery, SA

Adamczyk, Bruno Adam Joseph (43326), 22, 9RAR, LCpl (Temp.Cpl), Centennial Park Cemetery, Edwards,

Beresford Paul (218041), 23, 9RAR, Pte, St Mary's Cemetery, Sydney.

Hayes, Robert Max AFC, MID (O51626), 37, 9SqdnRAAF, SqdnLdr, Karrakatta Cemetery/Crematorium WA.

Hines, Peter Aubyn (214348), 27, 6RAR, Lt, Sandgate General Cemetery, Newcastle NSW.

Kermode, Raymond Charles (1733818), 21, 9RAR, Pte, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Loughman, Matthew (3794096), 21, HQ 1 Aust. LogSptGrp (RA INF), Pte, Finley General Cemetery, NSW.

McMillan, James Clyde (3794377), 20, 5RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Moore, Raymond John (39923), 23, 9RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Muller, Hans Leonhard (2788085), 24, 5RAR, Pte, Rookwood Necropolis, Rookwood, Sydney.

Needs, John David (55119), 22, 6RAR, Pte, Woongarra Crematorium, Qld.

O'Hanlon, Robert Melville (O16657), 27, 2Sqdn RAAF, FlgOff, Albany Creek Memorial Park Cemetery/Crematorium, Brisbane.

Pettit, Leslie James (217961), 21, 5RAR, Pte, Liverpool Cemetery, Sydney.

Smillie, Ronald George (39281), 19, 1FIdSqdn, Spr, Albury Cemetery, NSW.

Smith, John (3794831), 21, 1FIdSqdn, Spr, Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.

Smith, Paul Leslie (135494), 19, 5RAR, LCpl, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

July 1970

Bain, John (16667), 26, Catering Corps (att. 1FIdRegt), Cpl (Temp.Sgt), Mount Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane.

Bullman, John Harold (2794031), 22, 1ARU, Pte, Wellington General Cemetery, NSW.

Doyle, David Gerard (219663), 19, 3CavRegt, Trp, Belmont Cemetery, NSW.

Foster, Graham Leslie (1202992), 22, 1ARU, Pte, Allambe Garden Cemetery, Nerang, Qld.

McNair, Duncan Glen (A317006), 27, 9Sqdn RAAF, LAC, Springvale Cemetery, Melbourne.

July 1971

Lowes, Noel (14574), 31, ASqdn, 1ArmRgt, WO2, Springvale Botanical Cemetery, Victoria.

Pengilly, Bernard Michael (5717657), 22, 4RAR, Pte, Perth War Cemetery, WA.

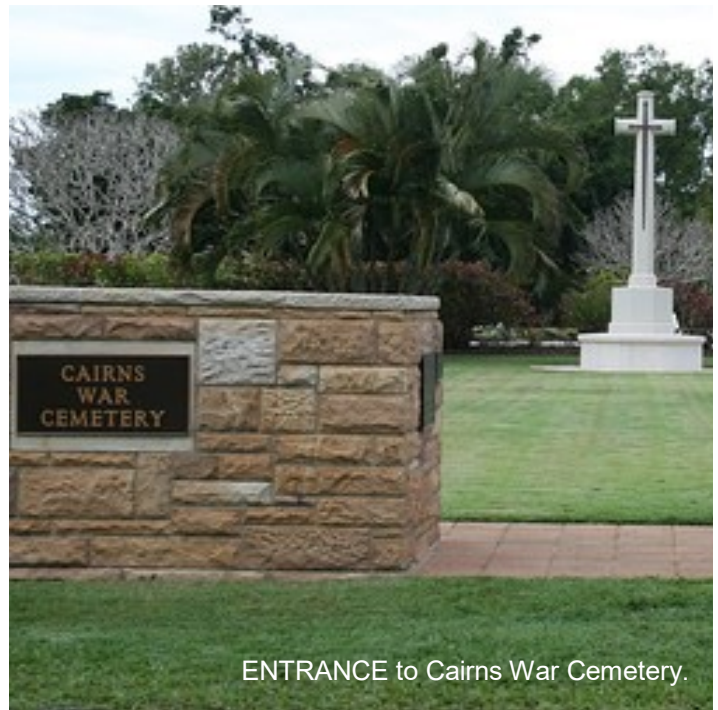
Weston, Raymond Bruce (A17233), 29, 1Op.Spt Unit, RAAF, Cpl, Mareeba Cemetery, Qld.

Wilkinson, Alan Charles F (61560), 33, 4RAR, Cpl, Comelian Bay Public Cemetery, Hobart.

Wilson, Robert Barclay (1201940), 23, 1FIdSqdn, Spr, Ravenshoe Cemetery, Qld.

July 1972

Gibson, Arthur John (218450), 29, 7RAR, Pte, Liverpool Cemetery and Crematorium, NSW.



ENTRANCE to Cairns War Cemetery.

'At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them ...'

OUR MISSION: To assist all veterans and their dependents in all matters relating to their health, welfare and well-being.