



RICOCHET



Monthly newsletter of VVAA Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc. MAY 2023

The service of more than 60,000 Australians involved in the Vietnam War and the 523 who gave their lives was acknowledged by Governor-General David Hurley in his Anzac Day message.

“The impact of that service and loss on their loved ones, and the physical and mental trauma many carried and many still carry,” the Somalia veteran and former Defence Force Chief said.

“On Anzac Day we come together to honour those who have served, those who continue to serve and the families that support them. We reflect on their collective sacrifices and what their service has meant to our nation.”

He noted that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War, but said, “There is a second anniversary being marked today”.

“Earlier, I had the great privilege of leading the contingent marching to mark the 30th anniversary of Australia’s commitment in Somalia ... The Vietnam and Somalia oper-

TRIBUTE FOR VIETNAM VETERANS FROM G-G

ations were different in scale, duration and intensity but were very strongly linked.

“They are linked because it was Vietnam veterans who taught the Somalia generation of servicemen and women our military skills and what it means to wear your country’s uniform.

“In my own experience, one of my small arms instructors at Duntroon was WO2 Keith Payne VC. In the first platoon I commanded after graduation, my platoon sergeant and section commanders were all veterans of the Vietnam War. Like many others at that time, I was fortunate to be schooled by those with deep military and combat experience.

“Each generation learns from those who have served before. We are also linked by the shared experience of serving together, perhaps that emotion we refer to as ‘mateship’. Marching with your mates is one of the most satisfying of life’s experiences.

“The mix of feelings I have today would be common to all veterans: the pleasure of seeing old friends and colleagues, pride in the job undertaken for Australia in difficult circumstances, and in the shared and private moments of reflection on our service and of those no longer with us.

“And there is an intangible link. Australian servicemen and women are the custodians of a legacy that began more than 100 years ago.”

PHOTO: The Governor-General (left) with the Somalia contingent at the Anzac Day march in Canberra.



INSIDE: SUNSHINE COAST ANZAC DAY SERVICES



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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SUNSHINE COAST**

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PATRON: Laurie Drinkwater (pictured)

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**VVAASC SUB-BRANCH
DROP-IN-CENTRE**



Located at the rear of the Library Complex Administration Building (upstairs) , Cnr Sixth Avenue and Beach Parade, Cotton Tree.

Office Phone 54794552

E-mail: secretaryvvaasc@gmail.com

OFFICE NEWS

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

WANTED: DUTY OFFICER for Monday mornings; also one wanted available for relief (contact office).

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.

MEMBERSHIP fees are due annually on 31 December. Renewal form on website or with mail-out Ricochet.

NEXT meeting Tuesday, 16 May 11am.

Department of Veterans' Affairs

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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.

Historic battle in Vietnam recalled

The attack on Fire Support Base Coral in the Vietnam War was "the most sustained ground attack on an Australian field gun position since the Pacific war," according to Australian artillery history records.

Sub-branch President Mick Howe related this in his address to the Dawn Service at Mooloolaba Surf Club on Anzac Day.

He said this year marks the 55th anniversary of the largest, longest, bloodiest, and most costly and sustained battles of the Vietnam War during Operation Surfers in 1968, involving attacks on Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral.

"The number of enemy casualties was greater than any other Australian battle during the war," he said.

"It was the only time that Australian artillery engaged the enemy by direct fire of splintex over open (horizontal) sights during the war.

"It was the only time that Australian infantry and artillery positions were over-run by the enemy during the war, and;

"It was the first time that Australian battle tanks had been used in combat alongside infantry since World War Two."

Elements of the 1st Australian Task Force began occupation of FSB Coral on 12 May and about 3.30am on 13 May, with the defences not yet finished, the base was attacked by the North Vietnamese. Following a brief but intense rocket and mortar barrage, the 1 RAR mortar platoon position was over-run, along with one of 102 Field Battery's six 105mm howitzers.

The attack was beaten off after three hours and the captured gun pit was retaken with 11 Australians killed and 28 wounded, while the enemy left 52 bodies behind. A further three Australians died in patrol clashes early the following morning.

At 2.30am on 16 May FSB Coral again came under attack, this time from a North Vietnamese army force estimated at three battalions strong.

The base was now defended by armoured personnel carriers from A Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, and 1RAR's rifle companies, all of which were heavily engaged; part of the A company position was occupied for a period, but the enemy was forced to withdraw.

Continued Page 7



RUSTY PERRY on Jack adds to the atmosphere — both reflective and spectacular — at Mooloolaba Dawn Service (Photo Vicki K. in Sunshine Coast News).



A NEW War Memorial at Bli Bli was finished just in time for Anzac Day. The memorial designed by Cam Crossley is a focal point of an Avenue of Honour. Sunshine Coast RSL President Ian Hall laid a wreath at the memorial.



FORMER WRANs Helen Gilmore-Walsh and Christine Brunton were involved in Maleny Anzac Day activities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT for Anzac Day photos to Sunshine Coast News, various Facebook pages and others with thanks. More photos pages 5, 8, 9, 10 and 13.

From the President

Hi Everyone, hope you are all safe, happy and healthy.

Well, another Anzac Day has been and gone. I attended the Mooloolaba Surf Club ceremony as guest speaker and it was a truly remarkable turn out.

Everything went according to plan and for that we must thank the tireless efforts of both Ian Atkinson and Rick Brittain, not to mention the absolute dedicated and loyal staff of the Mooloolaba Lifesavers, and the Club itself. A hearty well done!

Once again, prior to Anzac Day, we organised our badge sales days over three days, 22, 23 and 24 April. We had tables at Sippy Downs, Spotlight Maroochydore and at the Buderim Shopping Centre.

Once again, we were able to recoup a substantial amount of ready money to go into our reserves and once again, we had the same regular volunteers manning the tables. Our current situation with respect to volunteers is just not good enough.

Unfortunately, we have had to revise our regular meeting dates. Instead of our meeting taking place on the third Tuesday of each month, they will now commence at 11am on the third Thursday of each

month, as and from May of this year. We will hopefully see a few of you there.

Finally, I arranged a committee meeting for Tuesday, 2 May, to discuss membership issues. Colleagues need to understand that your paid membership subscriptions commence in January of each year and expire in December of that same year.

It is becoming a difficult task for the Membership Officer to continually amend our membership records when some members leave it until June/July or August to re-register.

Well, that's about it for the moment. Remember, if you have any ideas or thoughts on how we can improve our Association, drop us a line or give us a call at the office. We welcome all feedback, good or bad.

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



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AT MAROOCHYDORE on Anzac Day a solemn moment (above) and an Old Digger enjoys the day (below).



CROWDS flocked to Sunshine Coast Anzac Day services including Mooloolaba (above) and Nambour (below).



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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING, VVAASC, TUESDAY, 18 APRIL 2023

Meeting opened at 1105hrs. Ode to the Fallen recited by Garry King.

Attendance: 18. **Apologies:** 2.

Previous Minutes read by: Mick Howe, moved Mick Howe, seconded Johnno. Carried. No further business arising.

Correspondence/Secretary Report: ANZAC Day Sales 3 days at each venue: Chancellor Park, Buderim and Spotlight Maroochydore. Volunteers required at Chancellor Park and Buderim. Bookings are now out-sourced by the relevant venues and the booking process took longer than anticipated for Chancellor Park and Buderim. The "Drop In" will be closed the following days: Friday 21 April, Monday 24th April, ANZAC DAY and the following week on Monday 1st May 2023. This will be emailed to all members. Moved Garry King, seconded John Huxham. Carried. No further business arising.

Treasurer's Report: Garry King read the report prepared by Deb Day. The report is available to read upon request by Members.

Membership: Pieter Reus advised there are currently 193 financial members. Moved Pieter Reus, seconded Garry King. Carried. No business arising.

Ricochet: No report available.

Office Manager: John Huxham advised the Meeting we still need Volunteers for the role of Duty Officer. Moved John Huxham, seconded Brian Earp. Carried. No business arising.

Sub-Committee: John Cunnington informed the Meeting VV Day organising is progressing well at this stage. The Army Cadets Catafalque Party is sorted out. Moved John Cunnington, seconded Gordon Hall. Carried. No business arising.

DHJ: Report given by Scotty: 3 attendees this month. Orders continue to be processed and posted. Moved G. Scott, seconded Win Fowles. Carried. No business arising.

Merchandise: Gordon Hall informed meeting that Chancellor Park sales still need volunteers. Moved Gordon Hall, seconded David Oliver. Carried. No business arising.

General Business:

Win Fowles: Updated the Meeting on the ongoing case regarding taxation of compensation. He will advise as new information is available.

Garry King: A Hydrotherapy Centre has opened in Cotton Tree. There being no further business the Meeting closed at 1140hrs

NEXT GENERAL MEETING 1100hrs TUESDAY 16 MAY 2023



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Battle of Coral/Balmoral in Vietnam

Continued from Page 3

The attack was repelled after four hours of intense fighting, with the Australians having suffered a further five men killed and 19 wounded. Only 34 enemy bodies were recovered, but blood trails and drag marks indicated that many more casualties had been suffered.

On 22 May FSB Coral was subjected to yet another rocket and mortar barrage, but this time the North Vietnamese troops were dispersed by return fire from the battalion's mortars.

Enemy attacks on 26 May were primarily focused on another FSB named Balmoral, which had been only just established about 4.5km north of coral by 3RAR and supported by tanks. The defenders threw back assaults launched against Balmoral on 26 and 28 May and on the latter occasion, the enemy lost at least 42 killed and seven prisoners were captured.

Over the following weeks, the North Vietnamese launched several strong attacks in an attempt to drive the Australian

units from this most strategic area. The Australian units also initiated successive combat missions during their many patrols outside the base's perimeters.

These actions, over a 26-day period, eventuated in what has now been determined as Australia's costliest and most protracted battle of the Vietnam War.

Patrol engagements around FSBs Coral and Balmoral accounted for over 300 enemy soldiers killed and many hundreds of enemy weapons seized; 26 Australian soldiers died, two from 12 Field Regiment; one from 104 Signals Squadron; 16 from 1RAR, six from 3RAR and one from 161 Independent Reconnaissance Squadron; more than 100 Australians were wounded.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In 2022, an Australian Digger was recommended for a Victoria Cross for his actions during the battle of Fire Support Base Coral in the Vietnam War on 14 May 1968. He is the late Private Richard Norden (2412437), from Gundagai, NSW, who was at the time awarded a Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM). The recommendation has been made to the Governor-General, but it appears no further decision has been made.

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Pride in the Flag



SCHOOLCHILDREN proudly marching with the Australian Flag at Caloundra (left) and at Buderim, with large crowds attending those services and others around the Sunshine Coast.

Compliment from national museum

Letter to our secretary, Garry King, from National Museum founder:

I would just like to say thank you for including the National Vietnam Veterans Museum in your distribution list of "Ricochet".

It is a fine newsletter and I personally enjoy reading it. For years, copies of your magazine have been added to our library for future research purposes and reading. It is items like yours that will tell our story years after we are all gone.

Keep up your sub-branch's good work and keep the jokes coming. Kind regards,

John Methven OAM
 Founder and Board Member
 National Vietnam Veterans
 Museum.

HMAS Anzac farewelled

The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Anzac-class frigate, HMAS Anzac, has commenced a regional presence deployment to Southeast Asia.

Families and friends were at Fleet Base West at HMAS Stirling to farewell the warship and its nearly 200-strong crew for the five-month deployment.



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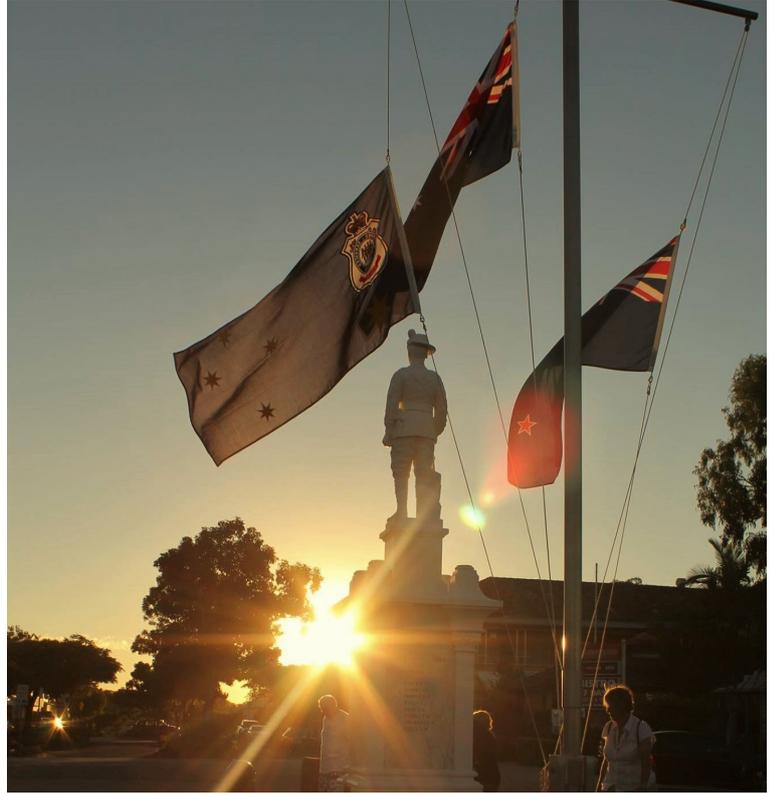
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AT TEWANTIN-Noosa schoolchildren lay wreaths at the Memorial, pictured above at sunrise.

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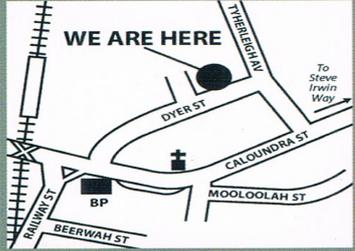
Darren Fletcher
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ANZAC Day at Mudjimba (right); at Cooroy (below) where cadets were having a well-deserved breakfast; and (above) Cooroy at dawn.





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SCOOTAVILLE EVENT FOR LEGACY RIDING AGAIN

The Scootaville fund-raising event for Legacy is on again this year, leaving Ipswich on 24 August and arriving in Townsville on 8 September.

Organiser Trev Benneworth said Scootaville will travel via and overnight in Dalby, Roma, Charleville, Blackall, Longreach, Winton, Cloncurry, Richmond, Hughenden and Charters Towers.

“Ipswich City Council has graciously allowed us to spend two nights in their Corporate Centre (22/23 August) where we’ll be introduced to our scooters, our bedding and our fellow travellers.

“Councils all up the line have been kind enough to provide us with accommodation facilities.”

“We have a few things planned: Merv Hughes has agreed to join us and will fly into Charleville and stay with us until we get to Longreach; the RAAF hot air balloon will be flown at Ipswich on 24 August before we leave.

“We’ve arranged entertainment for every night we’re away so apart from raising funds for Legacy, you’re sure to have a good time.”

He said numbers are restricted due to the availability of accommodation.”

Anyone interested should go to the website at <https://www.radschool.org.au/magazines>

Go to Vol79 and down to Scootaville 2023. “Fill in the form and get it back to us ASAP (Fill it in anyway, that way

you’ll be sure you have),” Trev said.

“There are two ways you can come, as a Rider (you will need a current Motor Cycle licence) or as a Supporter. Costs are: Rider \$1000 (less if you’ve been before), Supporter (\$650).

“For that cost we provide the transport, scooter, riding jacket, helmet, bedding, t-shirts, cap, breakfast and some meals. You’ll be responsible for your return journey from Townsville. We have accommodation arranged in Townsville until Monday morning, 11 September.

“If you are not sure what Scootaville is all about you can read the story of last year’s event at the link referred to.” Last year \$25,000 was raised for Legacy.

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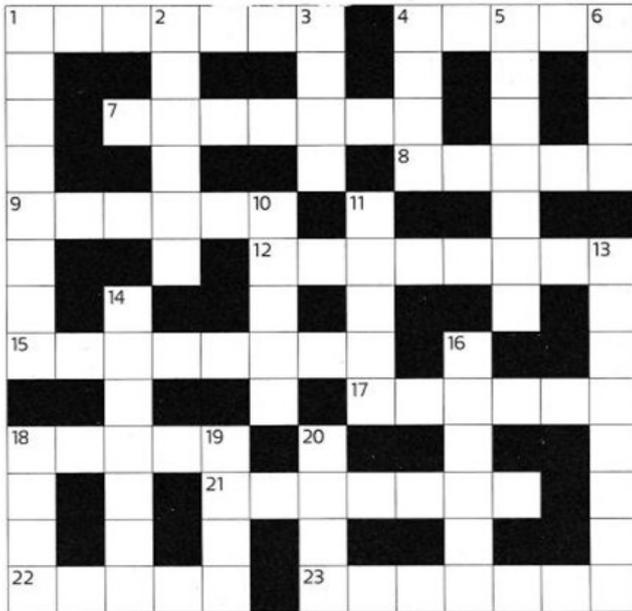
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JC's BEFUDDLEMENT PAGE



Anzac Trivia

1. Where were the first 'acts of war' committed by Australian troops in WWI? Rabaul, Gallipoli, Paris, London.
2. Who wrote 'For the Fallen', that is recited every Anzac Day in Australia as part of the commemoration, n service? Billy Hughes, Banjo Patterson, Laurence Binyon, Winston Churchill.
3. What was the alternative name mooted for the forces who became known as the Anzacs? Australasian Corps, Australian and New Zealand Expeditionary Force, New Australasian Corps, Austral Zeal Army Corps.
4. Who was Australia's Prime Minister when WWI began? Joseph Curtin, Billy Hughes, Joseph Cook, Arthur Fadden.
5. Which Australian newspaper reported the first news in Australia of the Australian landing at Gallipoli? Sydney Morning Herald, Courier Mail, (Brisbane) Singleton Argus, Hobart Mercury.
6. What name did Charles Bean use to describe the New Zealand forces at Gallipoli? New Zealanders, Maorilanders, Maoris, Kiwis.
7. Who is Australia's youngest winner of the Victoria Cross Medal? William Jackson, Captain Ross M Smith, Alfred Shout, Jack Simpson Kirkpatrick.



ACROSS

1. Discover (4,3)
4. Evil being (5)
7. Weather conditions (7)
8. Noisy, unruly (5)
9. Schoolboy character created by Frank Richards (6)
12. Matched (8)
15. Adult tie [anag] (8)
17. While (6)
18. Cauliflower heads (5)
21. Circus act (7)
22. Cut or clip (5)
23. Axle (7)

DOWN

1. Popular sport (8)
2. Add water (6)
3. Ambush (4)
4. Antlered animal (4)
5. Mirror Group boss who died in 1991 (7)
6. Inquisitive (4)
10. Satirical show (5)
11. Enticed (5)
13. San Diego [anag] (8)
14. Frighten (7)
16. Ice-cold (6)
18. No. 1 hit for Gary Numan (4)
19. Celebrity (4)
20. Church service (4)

This Will Test Your Sports Knowledge!

1. Who ran the first four-minute mile?
2. Where can you find arnis being widely practiced?
3. In what sport would one find an Albion round?
4. In polo, what is a period of play called?
5. In tennis, what follows a deuce?
6. What player was the first to win five straight Wimbledon tennis titles?
7. How many points is required for a win in association croquet?
8. In Australian Rules football, what is the maximum number of players allowed on the field at a time?
9. What is the maximum number of clubs that can be used in tournament golf?
10. How many holes are there in a bowling ball?
11. What was the first sport to have a world championship?
12. In lawn bowling, what is the target ball called?
13. In what sport would one find a loppet?
14. What is the date of the first known Olympic Games?
15. What year did the modern Olympics start?
16. In what year was the first World Cup of cricket held?
17. In what game would one find a googly?
18. What is Holland's football anthem?
19. What is the name of the One Day International trophy that is contested by Australia and New Zealand?
20. Which famous Australian distance runner lit the Olympic flame at the 1956 Olympics?

• ALL ANSWERS PAGE 15.



CALOUNDRA'S dawn service, march and wreath-laying were well attended, reports member Win Fowles. Local schools were represented in force as well, he said, showing they were keen to be involved. Cadets, Navy and RAAF personnel were involved. He captured the images here.



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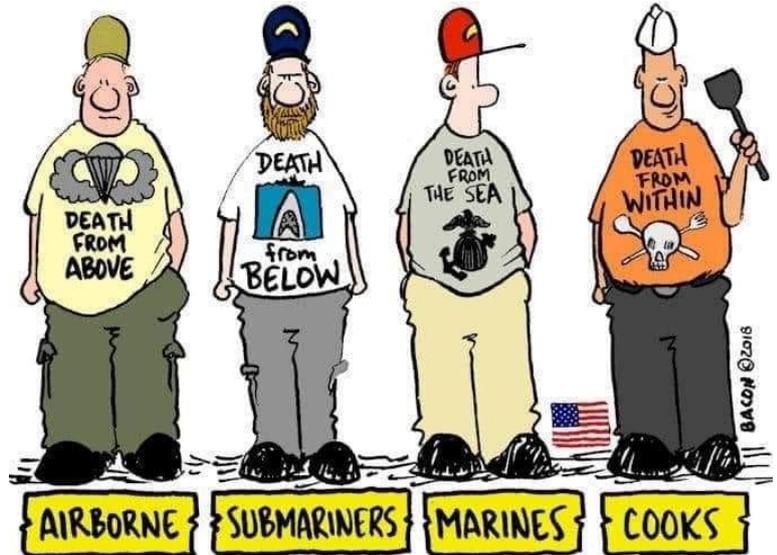
NOOSA

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

MANYANA ... Spanish singer Julio Iglesias was on UK television with British TV host Anne Diamond. He used the word "manyana" (pronounced "man - yarna"). Diamond asked him to explain what it meant.

Julio said that the term means: "Maybe the job will be done tomorrow; Maybe the next day; Maybe the day after that; Or perhaps next week; Next month; Next year. Who really cares?"

The host turned to Albert Yatapingu from the (Australian Aboriginal) Gumbaingeri Tribe who happened to be on the show. She asked him if there was an equivalent term in his native language. "Nah" he replied. "In Australia we don't have a word to describe that degree of urgency."



World economy explained with two cows:

SOCIALISM: You have two cows. You give one to your neighbour.

COMMUNISM: You have two cows. The State takes both and gives you some milk.

FASCISM: You have two cows. The State takes both and sells you some milk.

BUREAUCRAT-ISM: You have two cows. The State takes both, shoots one, milks the other and then throws the milk away.

TRADITIONAL CAPITALISM: You have two cows. You sell one and buy a bull. Your herd multiplies, and the economy grows. You sell them and retire on the income.

VENTURE CAPITALISM: You have two cows. You sell three of them to your publicly listed company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at the bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with an associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax exemption for five cows. The milk rights of the six cows are transferred via an intermediary to a Cayman Island Company secretly owned by the majority shareholder who sells the rights to all seven cows back to your listed company. The annual report says the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more.



AN AMERICAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. You sell one, and force the other to produce the milk of four cows. Later, you hire a consultant to analyse why

the cow has died.

A FRENCH CORPORATION: You have two cows. You go on strike, organise a riot, and block the roads, because you want three cows.

AN ITALIAN CORPORATION: You have two cows, but you don't know where they are. You decide to have lunch.

A SWISS CORPORATION: You have 5000 cows. None of them belong to you. You charge the owners for storing them.

A CHINESE CORPORATION: You have two cows. You have 300 people milking them. You claim that you have full employment and high bovine productivity. You arrest the newsman who reported the real situation.

AN INDIAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. You worship them.

A BRITISH CORPORATION: You have two cows. Both are mad.

AN IRAQI CORPORATION: Everyone thinks you have lots of cows. You tell them that you have none. Nobody believes you, so they bomb the crap out of you and invade your country. You still have no cows but at least you are now a Democracy.

AN AUSTRALIAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. Business seems pretty good. You close the office and go for a few beers to celebrate.

A NEW ZEALAND CORPORATION: You have two cows. The one on the left looks very attractive.

A GREEK CORPORATION: You have two cows borrowed from French and German banks. You eat both of them. The banks call to collect their milk, but you cannot deliver so you call the IMF. The IMF loans you two cows. You eat both of them. The banks and the IMF call to collect their cows/milk. You are out getting a haircut.

— all from Mick Howe ... but, of course.

Most Queenslanders believe we are through the pandemic, but we found that is not so. I am part of a small team that takes a communion service up at the former RSL Aged Care complex in Caloundra, (now run by Bolton Clarke) every Sunday.

Lately, we have had to cancel our short service due to 'Centaur' being closed because of Covid. We all have felt the impacts of Covid on our lives these past three years. Some of you, more than others.

For Annette and me, we have not been able to fly to see our granddaughters in the States, nor their wonderful mother, our dear daughter-in-law. We have had to rely on Face Time to see their growth, and how much they have developed into lovely young ladies of whom we are most proud.

The fifth anniversary of our only son's passing is on 23 May and we would like to be with his family in Massachusetts to remember this tragic day. Several of our members remember our son, for he served with RAEME for 14 years. It was on a three-year posting to the United States Navy Post Graduate School in Monterey, California that he met and married our daughter-in-law, Joy, in 2002. Her Pastor and I officiated at their wedding in Providence, Rhode Island.

Annette and I have been trying since January to exhaust our Frequent Flyer points to get over to Los Angeles, and then to Providence without avail. In early March, Annette got as far as one Frequent flyer seat over but nothing available coming home.

Then in late March, she managed to get seats all the way over and better still, all the way home. We will not talk about the increased cost over previous trips across

Fireside with the Padre



the 'Pond,' suffice it to say we are so pleased to be going and meet with his American family again.

As you read this, Annette and I will be enjoying the heat of a Massachusetts summer day, long days, and short nights, while you, my friends, will be wrapped up in your dressing gowns and winter PJs as you head into a chilly winter.

We know we will face change in America over previous visits. Favourite shops and restaurants will be closed. Joy's parents have moved from their family church near where the family grew up to one closer to their present home in Seekonk. (Interesting place is Seekonk. It was named after the noise geese made as they flew over the area). I had spoken in their old family church several times over the years but going to a new (to us) church will be a new experience.

So, think of us enjoying an extended summer, with our granddaughters and daughter-in-law and all her family. They welcomed us as they welcomed our son into their family, while you enjoy a mild winter on the Sunshine Coast.

Every blessing from the Frys in America,

Arthur Fry
Honorary Chaplain

Answers from page 12



Anzac Trivia Answers

Rabaul: Destruction of German radio stations in Rabaul.

Laurence Binyon

Australasian Corps. ANZAC (for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) was coined in December 1914.

Joseph Cook

Hobart Mercury

Maorilanders. Charles Bean was the official press representative with the Australian Expeditionary Force at the landing of troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

William Jackson. Private John William (Billy) Alexander Jackson (pictured pg 12) was awarded the Victoria Cross aged 18.

Sports Trivia Answers

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Roger Bannister. | 11. 3. |
| 2. The Philippines. | 12. Billiards. The first world championship event for any sport was for billiards. It was held in 1873 |
| 3. Amis is a very old Filipino martial art. | 13. Jack. |
| 4. Archery. An Albion round involves firing 36 arrows at targets at each of three distances. | 14. Skiing. A loppet is a cross-country ski run |
| 5. Chukka. | 15. 776 BCE. |
| 6. Advantage. | 16. 1975. |
| 7. vBjorn Borg. He won five Wimbledon titles for singles tennis from 1976 to 1980. | 17. Cricket. |
| 8. 26. | 18. Wij houden van Oranje. "We love the Orange." |
| 9. 36. | 19. Chappell-Hadlee Trophy |
| 10. 14 | 20. Ron Clarke |

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

Across: 1. Find out, 4. Demon, 7. Climate, 8. Rowdy, 9. Bunter, 12. Equalled, 15. Latitude, 17. During, 18. Curds, 21. Trapeze, 22. Shear, 23. Spindle.

Down: 1. Football, 2. Dilute, 3. Trap, 4. Deer, 5. Maxwell, 6. Nosy, 10. Revue, 11. Lured, 13. Diagnose, 14. Startle, 16. Frozen, 18. Cars, 19. Star, 20. Mass.

May Timeline

2 May 2011: US Special Operations Forces killed Osama bin Laden during a raid on his secret compound in Pakistan after a decade-long manhunt for the leader of the al-Qaeda terrorist organization. He had ordered the attacks of 11 September 2001.

6 May 1969: In Kon Tum Province, Vietnam, Warrant Officer Class Two Ray Stewart Simpson (**photo, at right**) carries out two brave actions for which he is later awarded a Victoria Cross; on 24 May in the same province Warrant Officer Class Two Keith Payne (**photo, at left**) shows outstanding courage and leadership and is later awarded the Victoria Cross.



7 May 1954: The French Indochina War ended with the fall of Dien Bien Phu in a stunning victory by the Vietnamese over French colonial forces in northern Vietnam.

8 May 1942: During World War II in the Pacific, the Battle of the Coral Sea began in which Japan would suffer its first defeat of the war.

8 May 1970: In the first of the moratorium demonstrations, 200,000 march in Australian cities calling for an

end to Australian involvement in the Vietnam War. The largest turnout was in Melbourne where 70,000 people marched.

13 May 1968: Battle of Coral–Balmoral takes place and becomes the bloodiest engagement for Australians in Vietnam when 25 Australians are killed and nearly 100 wounded during 26 days of fighting in AO Surfers, north-east of Saigon. The operation lasted till 6 June.

16 May 1868: The first Australian cricket team arrived in England for a series of matches. The team consisted of 13 Aboriginal men from the western district of Victoria. The team played 47 matches against intermediate-level English amateur teams between May and October 1868.

17 May 1932: Founding of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC), the National Museum says the ABC has been a trusted source of quality entertainment, news and information for all Australians, in the city and the bush. While it has occasionally attracted controversy, it remains Australia’s only advertisement-free public broadcaster.

- *Timeline continued next page.*

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May Timeline

18 May 1813: Gregory Blaxland, William Charles Wentworth and William Lawson became the first European settlers to successfully navigate a path across the Blue Mountains. When Governor Lachlan Macquarie arrived in 1810, a combination of drought, insect plagues and exhaustion of the soil around Sydney made finding fresh lands imperative (**commemorative stamp below**).

21 May 1962: The Commonwealth Electoral Act 1962 received assent, granting all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the option to enrol and vote in federal elections. Enrolment was not compulsory for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, unlike other Australians. Once enrolled, however, voting was compulsory.

24 May, 1962: Minister for Defence Athol Townley announces the intention to send 30 Army advisers to South Vietnam, the first members of the Australian Ar-

my Training Team Vietnam arriving in August.

27 May 1965: 1 Battalion RAR leaves for Vietnam on HMAS Sydney, arriving at Vũng Tàu on 8 June.

27 May 1967: A referendum on Indigenous recognition in the Australian constitution was held. Nearly 91 per cent of the electorate voted to amend the constitution so that Aboriginal people would be counted as part of the population and acknowledged as equal citizens, and that the Commonwealth would be able to make laws on their behalf.

30 May 1917: During the First World War, state and federal governments agreed to coordinate efforts to build farming communities of returned soldiers and their families. Officials modelled soldier settlement on prior efforts to populate the Australian inland by splitting up large pastoral estates into small farms. The schemes ultimately proved to be a failure and had profound social and ecological effects.



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/mar>

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Legend wows the troops at The Dat



RECOGNISE anyone? At Nui Dat, in 1967 Australian legend Lorraine Desmond on stage entertaining soldiers of 5 and 6 Battalions and other Australian Task Force units. She was singing with the ABC dance band, to over 1000 troops in two 2-hour shows. Lorraine Desmond died on the Gold Coast in 2021 aged 91. - AWM photo.

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REMEMBER THESE ... BEFORE 14 FEBRUARY 1966?



OUR old currency pre-1966, from a post on Facebook by Tex Weston.

Roll of Honour – Vietnam, May 1962-75

May 1966

Noack, Errol Wayne (4717546), 5 RAR, 21, Pte, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

May 1967

Bartholomew, Glen Trevor (2782555), 1 FldSqn, 22, Spr, Memorial Gardens, Lismore NSW.

Brady, Gregory Vincent (2782812), 1 FldSqn, 22, Spr, Goondiwindi Cemetery, Goondiwindi Qld.

Brooks, Dennis Lindsay (3787889), 1 FldSqn, 22, Spr, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Deed, Ramon John Peter (3788300), 1 FldSqn, 21, Spr, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Mathieson, Kenneth Frank (37175), UL S Comd ex 6 RAR, 21, Pte, Fawkner Crematorium & Memorial Park, Melbourne.

O'Hara, John Laurence (2782779), 1 Fld Sqn, 22, Spr, Wollongong Crematorium NSW.

Renshaw, Terrence James (3788172), 1 FldSqn, 22, Spr, Wangaratta Cemetery Vic.

Ruddy, James (214360), Unit Detachment 55 Advanced Engineer Stores Squadron (RAE), 32, Cpl (Temp Sgt), Beresfield Crematorium NSW.

May 1968

Abbott, Dal Edward (2786017), 1 RAR, Pte, 21, Terendak Military Cemetery, Malaysia.

Bailey, Errol John (2786313), 1 RAR, 23, Pte, Beresfield Crematorium NSW.

Brown, Lindsay Noel (3790530), 3 RAR, 22, Pte, Benalla Cemetery Vic.

Constable, George Alfred (235125), 161 Recce Flt, 32, Maj., Frenchs Forest Bushland Cemetery, Sydney.

Cooper, Alan John (4411171), 3 RAR, 20, Pte, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Dawson, Ian Kenneth (215063), 1 RAR, 24, Cpl, Rookwood Crematorium, Sydney.

Desnoy, John Walter (3791033), 3 RAR, 22, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Durrington, John Thomas (36485), AATTV (Att. RAI), 29, Sgt (Temp. WO2), Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Hamersley, Frederick George (54828), AATTV, 38, Sgt, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Hickey, Robert Bernard (215745), 1 RAR, 24, Cpl, Rookwood Military Cemetery, Sydney.

Lewis, Peter Edward (43423), 3 RAR, 24, Sgt, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Martin, William Henry (1731467), 1 RAR, 22, L/Cpl, Winton Cemetery, Qld.

McNab, Robert Leo (39354), 1 RAR, 20, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Nisbet, Christopher Robert (1201338), 1 RAR, 20, Pte, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

O'Brien, John Alfred (2786748), 1 RAR, Pte, 21, Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium, Sydney.

Pearce, John Gregory Stinson (2784043), 1 RAR, Cpl, 22, War Cemetery, Rookwood, Sydney.

Sawtell, Christopher James (216970), 12 FldRegt, 19, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Chatswood, Sydney.

Scott, Ian James (3791583), 12 FldRegt, 21, Gnr, Camperdown Civil Cemetery, Vic.

Sheppard, Laurence (aka Lawrence) Rodney (3790506), 1 RAR, 22, Pte, Springvale Cemetery, Melbourne.

Thomas, William Malcolm (4718911), 3 RAR, 21, Pte, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Trimble, Bevan Maxwell (3791291), 1 RAR, 21, Pte, Bendigo Cemetery, Victoria.

Wallis, Alan John (2787255), 1 RAR, 21, Pte, Sandgate General Cemetery, Newcastle NSW.

Watson, Richard Christopher A (39403), 1 RAR, 20, Pte, Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.

White, Harry Winston (216009), 1 RAR, 23, Pte, Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium, Sydney.

Whitton, John Hunter (311532), 1 RAR, 28, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Worle, Jeffrey Thomas (3790789), 3 RAR, 21, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Young, Alexander Henry (1732408), 104 SigSqn, 21, Sig., Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Young, Brian Thomas (1733095), 1 RAR, 21, Pte, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

May 1969

Bramble, Peter John (2789684), 1 FldSqn, 21, Spr, Forster Cemetery, Forster NSW.

Davies, Ronald Edward (38530), 1 FldSqn, 24, Spr, Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.

Drummond, Andrew (55537), 5 RAR, 27, Pte, Carnarvon Cemetery WA.

Gill, Michael William Thomas (14667), RAS (att. AATTV), Sgt (temp. WO2), Garden of Remembrance, Toowoomba, Qld.

Kerr, James Kelly (218508), B Sqn, 1 ArmdRgt, 19, Trp, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

Lee, Errol John (235328), 5 RAR, 22, Lt, Woden Cemetery, Canberra.

Locke, Geoffrey Robert (39161), 9 RAR, 22, 2/Lt, Garden of Remembrance, Launceston Tas.

O'Neill, John Barry (39457), 1 Div. Supply/Transport Workshop, 20, Cftsm, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Reidy, Paul Francis (3793403), 9 RAR, 21, Pte, White Hills Cemetery, Bendigo, Vic.

Shipp, Noel Ervin (R59629), RANHFV, 24, LAC, Frenchs Forest Bushland Cemetery, Sydney.

Yule, Robert James (218491), 9 RAR, 20, Pte, Rookwood Crematorium, Sydney.

May 1970

Ahearn, Alan William (214287), 8 RAR, 25, Sgt, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Sydney.

Crouch, Noel Valentine (5716239), 7 RAR, 22, Pte, Katanning Public Cemetery WA.

Earle, Philip (45104), 8 RAR, 23, Pte, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Goody, Phillip Raymond (1734847), 8 RAR, 22, L/Cpl, Monto Cemetery Qld.

Neal, Dennis William (1735386), 2 RAR, 22, Pte, Gympie Cemetery Qld.

Tully, Desmond John (2792375), 2 RAR, 21, Pte, Lismore Crematorium NSW.

May 1971

Mills, Noel Reginald (1200423), RAA Chaplains' Dept, no age, Chaplain, died Repatriation General Hospital, Concord NSW (no funeral details).

• *From Australian War Memorial, Roll of Honour; Department of Veterans Affairs; Virtual War Memorial, Australia; Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Wall of Faces.*

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