



NASHO NEWS

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUST (QLD) INC.



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President and Treasurer Reports

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My Father's War and Platoon of Note

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Front Cover

Part of the congregation of the Induction Day Church Service at Wacol on Sunday, 27th July, 2014. State Padre, Sandy Marshall, OAM RFD (Rtd) celebrate the Holy Communion Service assisted by Liturgical Assistant Vince Crowley and Organist Myra Fountain. Front Row: Neal Freier, Barry Loose, Alex Garlin, Lois Garlin and Patron Maj.Gen.Cooke AO RFD Ed (Rtd).

APOLOGY

In the Last Post in the May issue Ronald Charles Johnston name was incorrectly spelt as Johnson. Also Townsville Branch re-dedicated the Stuart School plaque and not the Stuart plague. I apologise for these errors.

Official NSAA Merchandise

OFFICIAL NSAA MERCHANDISE

Beret				\$32
Beret Badge – Pewter				\$5.50
Beret Badge – Silver Six Sided Logo				\$20
Book – 20 Year History of the NSAA 1987 to 2007				\$25
Caps Embroidered with Nasho Logo				\$17.50
Coffee Cup with Nasho Logo				\$ 9.00
Flag – Association Logo White Full Size (6'x3')				\$180
Flag – Association Logo White small size (hand waver)				\$12.50
Lapel Badge – Association Blue				\$5.50
Lapel Badge – Navy, Army or Air Force				\$6.50
Lapel Badge – Tri-service				\$6.50
Medals Full Size	Unmounted	Swing	Court	
ADM	\$18	\$22.50	\$27.50	
ANSM	\$18	\$22.50	\$27.50	
Duo ADM+ANSM	\$36	\$45	\$55	
Miniatures	Unmounted	Swing	Court	
ADM	\$12	\$16.50	\$21	
ANSM	\$12	\$16.50	\$21	
Duo	\$24	\$33	\$42	
Medal Ribbon bar with ADM+ANSM medal ribbons				\$12
Necktie with Nasho Logo				\$33.50
Nasho Pocket Patch – Bullion Thread – Red				\$36
Nasho Pocket Patch – Queensland Red Logo				\$10
Nasho Port				\$13.50
Nasho Key Rings Acrylic				\$4.50
Nasho Wattle Key Rings				\$10
Number plate covers 'I Am a Nasho'				\$22
Shirts – Chambray short or long sleeves S M L XL XXL (add \$3 for XXXL size)				\$36
Shirts – Polo White or Maroon S M L XL XXL (add \$3 for XXXL size)				\$31
Stubby Holder with Nasho Logo				\$5.50
Video – 50 year anniversary celebrations				\$5
Video – Last March Out at Wacol				\$5
Wall Plaque – 6 sided Nasho Logo on Timber				\$42.50
Pay by Credit Card – add \$1.00				

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



We are looking forward to the Conference in Ipswich. At the time this magazine goes to print most of the accommodation will be booked out but with luck on our side, if you contact Barrie Smith perhaps accommodation could be found.

Again, our Church Service was a great success. We had 120 plus members and their wives attending the service conducted by the Rev. Sandy Marshall, assisted by Mr. Vince Crowley. We also had our Patron Major General Kevin Cooke AO RFD Ed (Rtd) in attendance. Major Cook delivered a very interesting address concerning National Service. After concern of some branches regarding the lack of tables and chairs, we have purchased 20 tables and 120 chairs – we are now in the happy position of being able to seat 200 members.

I would like to thank Barry Loose, Tony Stevenson, Graham Bird, Len Ramsey and all those members who assisted in the clean up after the service. I would also like to thank Colin and Zindy Bell for the catering.

I attended the Reserve Forces Day at Ipswich on Saturday 28th June and on Sunday 29th I laid a wreath at ANZAC Square in Brisbane. There was quite a good turnout for both days. On Wednesday, 30th July, Padre Sandy Marshall, Vince Crowley and myself attended the dedication of Gold Coast North's relocated and refurbished Memorial at Broadbeach and enjoyed their hospitality afterwards. It was pleasing to see the Labrador State School Choir and Naval Cadets participating in the ceremony.

The Constitution Review Committee have held two meetings and I have been informed the review of the Constitution is almost completed and that copies of the draft Constitution will be available at the September Meeting.

At the SMC Meeting on 13th July, Phil and Heather Donoghue of the Deception Bay Branch were jointly appointed as State Welfare Officers. Please contact them particularly if any of your members are in hospital in Brisbane. Phil and Heather's phone number is 07 3889 4054

Cheers

Alex Garlin.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Hi fellow Nashos and supporters.



All my news is good. Things are sailing along very nicely and we are in a sound financial position. During my watch as your Treasurer I have discovered a number of areas where our money has been wasted in the past and hopefully I have addressed these problems. Recently I have managed to more than half the electricity bill at Wacol. That is a long story along with many phone calls to Origin etc. etc. The end result is our three monthly account is now less than half of what it was before. – down from up in the \$800's to in the \$300's I have changed our office phone/fax and internet provider . Under our old system we were paying Telstra and FutureWeb a total of over \$220 a month. I found that for years we had been paying twice for some of the lines etc. we were being billed for. Other services were not being used. Anyway it is all sorted out now and I expect we will only be paying \$69 per month for everything and more importantly our office phone number remains the same.

Keeping on with the good news, we have had some very harmonious meetings with Metroplex resulting in an agreement that they will pay us the remaining \$400,000 agreed upon, in instalments of \$50,000 every two months. We have just received the first of these payments (\$50,000) and I will be putting it in that particular investment account to make a total of \$150,000. I am waiting for some good news from the Anzac Day Committee Trust. Last year we received just short of \$40,000 and not wanting to put the “mockery” on myself, I am expecting considerably more this year. Of course it all depends on how much they have in the” pot” to give out. The end result will be given in the next Nasho News.

When I review the financial returns of our branches, I notice that some have an exceedingly healthy amount of money in their Welfare accounts. I urge all branches, especially those with healthy bank accounts, to use more of their money on their own members. This includes bus trips away, dinners, outings and other forms of entertainment. Also it goes without saying, use the money in times of hardship, sickness and death of any of our worthwhile members. There are many areas where you can justify using your welfare money. If ever you are in doubt just ring me and I will set you straight. I flew up to Mackay very recently and addressed their meeting and we had a good discussion on their welfare account, amongst other things. This branch is financially sound and sensible. Their Treasurer, Doug Dennis, presents the perfect financial report and is a credit to the branch. It would be great if every treasurer could do the same. Their executive is doing an excellent job and President Arthur Williams and Secretary, John Priest, and indeed all members of the Mackay branch are to be congratulated on the running of their branch.

Next month Tony Stevenson (Mr.Nasho) and I fly to Canberra to represent our State at the National meeting and we will report back to you at the General Meeting in Ipswich. I have said this before, and I repeat it again. The SMC is running smoothly, Tony has the office running smoothly and efficiently (he has never been so happy) and it is an absolute pleasure to be working with such a great bunch of Nashos.

Our future looks bright so look after yourselves and enjoy our association.

Cheers
Neal Freier.

CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMITTEE

At the General Meeting in March, a motion was moved to setup a sub-Committee to review the Constitution under the chairmanship of Vince Crowley. After the Meeting, John Hogan (Rockhampton) and Dave Burgess (Brisbane North) and Warren Cockburn (SMC) joined Vince to form the Committee. The Committee was not given any time frame nor specific brief other than to get it right.

The Committee has meet twice, 12th May and 26th July. At the first meeting we buried the hatchet and reviewed the history of the Association and Constitutions, the work of the previous Committee and information I provided the presentation at the March meeting.

We agreed that we would not consider drafting By-Laws until we got the Constitution right.

In a very co-operative fashion, after two and half hours the Committee had agreed on the majority changes required. The necessary amendments, together with a drafts showing the changes was sent to the Committee members.

When the Committee meet in July, we clarified some issues and a new draft Constitution prepared. A copy of the Draft has been sent to the SMC and all Branches. As there are over 300 changes (a number very minor) it will be recommended that we treat this as a new Constitution rather than an amendment.

At the September General Meeting, a presentation will be made explaining the rationale for the changes. It is not proposed to put forward any Notices of Motion on the Constitution, however, you will be invited to make comments, preferably in writing.

The Committee will continue to meet after the Conference and send a final version out to Branches as soon as possible so the Final Draft can be adopted at the March 2015 meeting

Vince Crowley,
Chairman

MY FATHER'S WAR

To Gallipoli and the Somme & Return

Written by Mackworth Rees

As we approach the 100th Anniversary of the landing of Australian and other British troops on the Gallipoli peninsula on 25th April 1915, my thoughts go back to my father who was an original ANZAC. For my family, friends and others who may be interested, I write as accurately as possible, to the best of my knowledge, my father's experiences before, during and after his time on the Gallipoli campaign.

My father was christened Nugent William Crawford Ross, son of a Church of England Vicar in the farming community of Pen-y-Clawdd, in southern Wales. After attending Monmouth Grammar School he spent some time as an estate agent at Pen-y-Clawdd and then as a clerk for a gas company in Newport. He spent 2 years military training with the Royal Gloucester Hussars. This was a mounted force on horses. He migrated to Australia around 1907.

After working as a deliveryman with horses for Marchants Soft Drinks in Sydney, he then worked at the Fairymead Sugar Mill in Bundaberg. From here he took a pioneering life living in a tent on his selection near Hivesville in the Wondai /Proston area of SE Queensland. This meant cutting scrub and planting pastures of Rhodes grass for cattle and his horses.

When war broke out in August 1914, he was quick to travel to Brisbane to enlist at the Enoggera Army barracks. Because of his training with horses he became No 116 of the 2nd Light Horse Regiment of the 18th Brigade. He enlisted 24th August 1914 along with a number of others from Wondai/Proston. I understand he went back to his property to tidy up his affairs and to encourage others to enlist. A total of 27 enlisted from this district.

The Light Horse left Brisbane from Pinkenba on 24th September 1914, on the ship 'Omrah'. They travelled south to Melbourne where they spent some weeks in camp training, while a convoy was being organised.

This convoy included ships from New Zealand. I remember him saying that while in Melbourne they were being trained in drill etc. but with insufficient rifles, many used broomsticks for drill practice, "sloping arms."

The convoy eventually left Australia from Albany WA on 1st November 1914. 'Omrah' was the HQ ship. I remember my father saying that while in the Indian Ocean near Cocos Island they could see the smoke over the horizon where the "Sydney" was in battle and eventually sank the "Emden".

This was a great prize for the Australian Navy. The "Emden" had already sunk or captured more than 20 merchant ships, mostly colliers, During the battle the "Sydney" had suffered minor damage with 16 casualties while the "Emden" had 132 survivors with hundreds lost when it sank. 34 survivors were taken prisoners of war on the "Omrah" and taken to the Middle East.

As well as horses and Light Horse men the "Omrah" carried army nurses. The nurses had their first encounters with war wounded when the German sailors needed shell shrapnel removed from their wounds.

The Australian troops expected to go to a base camp in England to assist British troops on the Western Front in France. However, Harry Chauvel, who was at this time a regular soldier and in charge of the Australian Light Horse, had them to Egypt, the climate being more suitable for the Australians.

In 1914 Russia was an ally and the British and French navies had been defeated by the Turks when they attempted to gain control of the Strait of the Dardanelles so that supplies could be shifted to Russia via the south.

After the naval defeat Winston Churchill persuaded the Entente to send in land armies of British and French troops to take control of these Straits - hence the Gallipoli Campaign.

Troops commenced landing at dawn on the 25th April 1915. My father's 2nd Light Horse Regiment landed at Anzac Cove on 12th May 1915.



When the Australians pulled out of Gallipoli in December 1915 many of the Light Horsemen went to fight in the Middle East. Many however, including my father, went to France to fight in places like the Somme. Horse drawn wagons were the main form of transport, and my father was probably largely involved. My father spoke little of action during the war. I did hear of the smoke seen over the horizon when the Sydney sank the Emden in the Indian Ocean; the riots in Cairo where a British officer pulled out his revolver and shot an Australian soldier who attempted to cut the fire hoses of the local fire brigade trying to put out fire at the house of ill repute; the Pyramids; the leaving of Gallipoli; and when in France of the rum issues which he used on his foot to prevent trench feet; the lice; mud and shell holes. With all this I never heard where he had been involved in serious action. He died in 1959 and it is only since then that I have learnt so much more. All the family know that his occasional screaming nightmares and rare quite explosive temper were related to his war experiences. Many years after his death when discussing this with my mother she said that he had to bayonet a German in the stomach and in his dream the German was coming back to get him. A local schoolteacher also said that it was rumoured that he had killed a German with a shovel. Recently, a builder friend whose grandfather fought on the Western Front was told that the Australians did sharpen shovels and use them as weapons. They were much easier to wield in the trenches than a bayonet

My mother said however, the thing that seemed to affect him most was the witnessing of the death of his CO on Gallipoli, Major Tom Logan. She said that they could not get him off the barbed wire. This was a vital piece of evidence that could pinpoint one of the actions in which he was involved. Oddly enough when Tom Logan was killed he had a number of children back home and one aged about 7, Beatrice (Trix) later married to Charles (Bon) Whitehouse. Bon Whitehouse was my wife's Gilruth's uncle. Their son Peter Whitehouse, grandson of Tom Logan was able to provide more information. I discovered that Major Logan was killed on 7th August 1915. This was the date of the massacre at the Nek - shown in film and also Lone Pine. Was my father there? At the time the British were landing reinforcements at Suvla Bay, a good distance north of Anzac Cove, while serious action was being taken on many fronts to keep the Turks busy while these reinforcements came ashore. When I told Peter that his grand-father had been my father's Major he informed me that Tom Logan had been killed at Quinn's Post. This must have been the action in which my father had been involved.

Then I discovered in a book written by Joan Star called 'From the Saddlebags of War' a detailed description of what happened at Quinn's Post on that fateful day 7th August 1915. She reported from the detailed diary or the C. of E. Padre at Quinn's Post, the Reverend George Green, that at 4am on that morning, 64 men including 3 officers, moved towards the Turkish line to 'bomb' them (throw hand grenades). The Turks opened fire with machine guns and all except 3 were either killed or wounded. My father was called Billy in his pioneering days and Major Logan's words recorded by Rev.Green in his diary were "Keep going Billy - I am done for". As my father was one of the 3 not wounded it could be that he was possibly "Billy". My father may have spent the rest of his life with the guilt "could he have done more for his Major?"

When the Australians arrived France my father was photographed with a French mademoiselle lighting his cigarette at the railway station in Paris. I was told this photo was published. The Australians were highly regarded as a fighting force by not only other British infantry but also by the French Citizens. I remember my father saying that when the Australian soldiers arrived in an area, those who had been forced out of their villages by the Germans would turn around and return, following the Australians.

They were apparently confident that the Germans would be pushed back. This respect for Australians is reinforced in the day to day diary of WWI written by Archie Barwick. His diaries are held in the Mitchell Library in Sydney. A recent publication of them is titled "In Great Spirits ". We found this respect for Australians was still evident when we visited in 1997.

Mid 1918, John Monash was in charge of Australian troops and became famous as a tactician, showing other allied forces how to wage war. His skills were supremely illustrated at the Battle of Hamel to such an extent that King George V knighted him in the field, the first time in hundreds of years that an English monarch had done this. Then on 7th August Monash sent a message to the Australian troops asking them to put every effort into the next big push to end the war as quickly as possible. My father souvenired a carbon copy of this order, probably from a field notice board. The family hold this copy.

As Archie Barwick describes in his diary, units that showed a high level of ability and success were given the more difficult tasks and more work. There was a general feeling in Australia that the Australian troops in France were doing more than their fair share. The Australian Prime Minister at the time was Billy Hughes, a feisty Welsh immigrant. He asked Monash to ease back on the workload of the Australians. Monash did not want to do this as he felt that hardened troops would not slacken off. He did however make a concession. All those still on the Front who had enlisted at the beginning in 1914 would be given leave to go home. On 5th August Archie Barwick wrote " Great rumour flying around that the 1914 men are all going home shortly."

My father left France near the end of September 1918, about 7 weeks before the war ended officially on 11th November 1918. His army record simply says "1914 leave". When he arrived back in Australia, he along with others were quarantined at Wallangarra on the Queensland/New South Wales border. The Spanish flu was killing millions around the world and they were being checked out before mixing with the general public in Australia. He thought the authorities illustrated some ridiculous behaviour.

For instance a bucket of stew from the cook house would be passed over the fence to them at the end of a stick to avoid contact. (Another example from Liston as the border was closed there too. Church services had an altar placed on the NSW side while the service was conducted from the Queensland side.)

When my father did arrive back in Wondai he was met at the station by the mother of one of the soldiers who had been killed, and had been encouraged by my father to go to war with him. He was accused of being responsible for her son's death. When he arrived at his selection he found it in chaos. Fences were down, fence wire had been taken and his rain water tank was on the pig sty of a German settler who thought he would never survive the war. Then in the late 1940s, at the Sunday dinner, table he made the comment that he had seen the funeral notice of the German settler and added almost with an element of triumph, that he had outlived him.

My father and another WW1 veteran went to Casino in northern NSW where he bought AIS cattle for his property. The pair, on horseback, drove the cattle to the Proston area There were no cattle trucks then, stock movements were along Travelling Stock Routes (TSR), over-nighting in stock reserves.

They probably drove the cattle initially up the Clarence River. He was still in the army until 1919 and so would have been in army uniform. I remember him saying that the station people along the way could not do enough for them. At one place they were given a shower with clean white towels.

They were not game to use them for fear of dirtying but wet them so as not to offend their hosts. At another station turmoil erupted. The young wife of a soldier who had been killed probably near the end of the war, broke down emotionally at their presence in their uniforms.

He had brought back with him a number of souvenirs. One was an inkwell made at Gallipoli from the timing mechanism and base of a shell. Also he brought a couple of German bullets, a couple of photos from a dead German and a small revolver, that I thought was for French ladies. As children we used to play with it and once he said, I believe jokingly, that he had to use it to recover his stolen property on his return.

Something that I see in stark contrast between “ peace” and “ war” is in the story of my father’s axe. He had left it in a tree before he left to go to war, its blade deeply embedded in the trunk. On his return, more than 4 years later, it was exactly as he had left it. What a difference between the serenity of the bush surrounding the axe on that pioneering block and the extraordinary tumultuous experiences its owner had gone through.



A NASHO Platoon of Note

By Rob Collins, MBE (mil)

23 Platoon, ‘DON’ Company, 11 National Service Training Battalion was formed at Wacol in 1951 and consisted of 2 sections (9&10). “DON” Coy. consisted of 6 platoons (19-24) with 4 of them trained as artillery, both field and anti-aircraft, 23 Platoon was trained as gunner signallers with 9 section trained for field artillery and 10 section for anti aircraft. (some readers might balk at “DON” as a company title as the phonetic alphabet for ‘D’ at that time was ‘DOG’. However our Company Commander, Captain Tom Collins, refused to command a company titled ‘DOG’)

The platoon had 47 members and with the excellent training received from our ARA staff, led by our Platoon Commander Sgt. Harry Brodie, went on to win the ‘Cock O’ The Walk’ from all other platoons of the 5 companies of the battalion, this trophy became the ‘Telegraph Shield’ in future NASHO intakes at Wacol.

With full time training at Wacol completed, 9 and 10 sections of the platoon were transferred to CMF Units, 9 Section to 11 Field Regiment, RAA and 10 to 3 Light Anti-aircraft and Searchlight Regiment, RAA, both at ‘Gona’ Barracks Kelvin Grove, retaining their National Service numbers, 1/701056 to 1/701112, until the completion of their National Service 5 year obligation in 1956 when, if still serving, they were allotted CMF regimental numbers.

With CMF only being reinstated in 1948 and consisting mostly of former WW2 veterans, an ARA cadre and cadets, there was, all of a sudden, a need for more Officers, Warrant Officers and NCOs to cater for the influx of NASHOs. So it was that, within 2 years, 5 members of the platoon were commissioned to 2nd Lieutenant and 6 others promoted to Sergeant, and another member to WO2 in 1956. 4 of those officers later became Captains with the other one serving on to become a Major General, he being Major General Rodney Fay, AO, RFD, ED. (retd) The WO2 mentioned was later promoted to WO1 and honoured by the award of the MBE.

In 1990, with some members of the platoon having kept in touch, a meeting was arranged to form a 40th Anniversary Reunion and with so much enthusiasm apparent a club was formed and named after what we were trained for in Wacol - the ‘Gunner Signallers’ Club’ (GSC). The Committee formed, and ably lead by elected president Nigel Stevens, then had the tremendous task of finding all platoon members. It was discovered that 7 of the 47 were deceased. Army records and other methods were investigated until all 40 surviving members were able to be contacted with 5 of those not wanting to become members and so we had our 40th Anniversary in 1991.

OTHER CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS:

- Annual reunions were conducted (1951-2011) with an eminent Guest Speaker at each. Special activities were arranged for the platoon's 40th, 50th and 60th anniversary.
- Those Guest Speakers consisted of our platoon commander Mr. Harry Brodie, Mr. Ken Coates, President of the Brisbane National Service Association of Australia (NSAA), 3 Majors, one of whom is Maj. Earle Jennings, AM. RFD. ED. (retd) the National President of the NSAA, 3 Lt/Colonels, 2 Colonels, one of which was our RAA Colonel Commandant of the time, Col. Arthur Burke, later an Honorary Member of the GSC. 2 Brigadiers and 4 Major Generals. They being Maj. Gen. Rodney Fay, AO, RFD, ED. (a 23 platoon member and now deceased), Maj. Gen. Darryl Low Chow, AO. MBE. RFD. ED. (retd) of the Royal Australian Engineers. Maj. Gen. Peter Arnison, AC. CVO. (retd) former Governor of Queensland and Chancellor of the Queensland University of Technology and Maj. Gen. Kevin Cooke, AO. RFD. ED. (retd) Patron of the NSAA (QLD) INC. With Mr. Bill Morriss, then president of that association, being the last Guest Speaker in 2011.
- The elevation of Mr. Harry Brodie to Patron of the Gunner Signallers' Club.
- 2 Books published by the then Public Relations Officer of the GSC Mr. Rex Kirkham titled "23 PLATOON D Coy 11 NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING BATTALION WACOL 06 AUG-11 NOV 1951" and "From Nasho to Major General" about 23 platoon's Rodney Fay.
- A sub-committee formed to retrieve and organise the gifting of a WW1 Artillery Banner to the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company (RAAHC) for display within the RAA museum at the old School of Artillery, North Head, Sydney.
- Being presented with a miniature Royal Regiment of Artillery Standard inscribed "**GUNNER SIGNALLERS' CLUB IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR PRESERVING THE HERITAGE OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT, ARTHUR BURKE COL COMD RAA 3rd FEBRUARY 2005.**"
- Becoming Corporate Members of the Royal Australian Artillery Company and the National Service Association of Australia.
- In 1994 the GSC conducted a survey in reference to the re-introduction of National Service. The results of the survey were sent to the Federal Government, the Federal Opposition and the RSL with all these opposing the idea.
- Early on in the club's existence a newsletter was produced with its masthead aptly titled "COCK O' THE WALK". 45 issues were published and widely distributed, 17 of which were with colour.
- Over the years the GSC was enriched by the addition of 46 Fellow Members, all Gunners except for 4. Those being an RAAF Group Captain, a QMI Major, an Intelligence Corp Major an RAE Captain and a QUR Member.
- The commissioning, by GSC committee member Rex Kirkham, (now deceased) of 4 paintings by the well known artist Mr. Les Lenton, a member of the GSC, and titled "23 Platoon Winning the Cock O' The Walk", "Integration" depicting the obvious training integration of NASHOs and CMF personnel, and "Sergeant Harry Brodie", 23 platoon commander, after another platoon win of the Telegraph Shield. All 3 of these paintings were donated to the NSAA to be hung at the NASHO Museum at its Wacol precinct. The other painting, titled "Returning To Barracks" and depicting a 6 horse drawn 18 pounder gun, limber and detachment just returned to the Kelvin Grove parade ground from exercise, is now hung in the Board Room of the Queensland University of Technology at Kelvin Grove.
- Other memorabilia includes a highly polished and inscribed 25 pounder shell donated by a 23 platoon member and a testimonial with chromed and capped 25 pounder and 40mm Bofors cartridges and artillery badges, mounted on a rosewood base. The front of the base has an attached and engraved plaque denoting the history of the platoon with, also attached and engraved plaques denoting members of 9 section on its right and 10 section on its left.

- The formation of another sub-committee, titled “The Kelvin Grove Barracks Artillery Historical Group”, to research and investigate every where possible and gather all possible information so as to publish a book titled “Artillery Units at Kelvin Grove – a tribute to their guns and gunners”. The sub-committee, consisting of 8 GSC members, was led by its editor and publisher Col. Arthur Burke, OAM (ret'd) and was launched by Maj. Gen. Peter Arnison, AC. CVO (ret'd), former Governor of Queensland and the Chancellor of the Queensland University of Technology, at Kelvin Grove.
- Contributing to the RAAHC to obtain 4 terracotta pavers engraved ***“IN LASTING MEMORY OF THE UNIQUE GUNNER SIGNALLERS CLUB ACTIVE IN QUEENSLAND 1990 TO 2011 23 PLATOON DON COY WACOL QLD 1951”***. These pavers have been laid in the Australian Memorial Walk at North Fort, Sydney, with the walk being in conjunction with the fort’s 9.2 gun positions.
- All AGM and committee meeting minutes, correspondence, other administrative paraphernalia, the GSC’s large photo album and all 45 copies of ***“COCK O’ THE WALK”***, have been lodged with the Queensland State (John Oxley) Library for any future information or refrence required.
- All 47 members of 23 Platoon are listed on the National Service Nominal Roll, via the Internet, courtesy of the list’s compiler Mr. Alex Garlin now President of the National Service Association of Australia (QLD) Inc. At the time of writing this article there are 33 of those 47 still alive, all octogenarians of course.
- In 2012 a letter was received by Rob Collins, Secretary of the former GSC, from the Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Artillery, Major Tim Ford, AO and was as follows:

Dear Rob,I am writing as Chairman of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company (RAAHC) Board following the closure of your Club at its 60th Anniversary and the conclusion of your Club’s membership of the RAAHC as at the 30th June 2012. On behalf of all members of the RAAHC I wish to acknowledge the significant contribution that the GSC has made to the Regiment and to the maintenance of RAA history and heritage. Your comradeship and service to the Army and the RAA is appreciated. The memory of your Club and its contributions over the years will live on through those records that you have left behind, including the pavers in the Australian Memorial Walk at North Head, in the book ‘**Artillery Units at Kelvin Grove – a tribute to its guns and gunners**’ and through the WW1 Artillery Banner that you presented to the RAAHC.

Thank you for your support to the Regiment and to the RAAHC. We wish all your Members the very best in their future activities. **UBIQUE**, Tim Ford, Major General Tim Ford, AO.

WOULD THERE BE ANY OTHER 1950s ERA NASHO PLATOON WITH THE ABOVE ACHIEVMENTS?



MERCHANDISE

New stocks of Silver Beret Badges have arrived. Cost \$20.00

BUILDING INSURANCE WITH DEFENCE SERVICE HOMES (DSH)

Further to the discussions at the March Meeting on this issue, an application for a quote was made to DSH by a Nasho from first period. Initially, when information was sought by phone, he was advised that we could insure with DSHI. When the application was made showing three month full time and five years part time, he was advised that he wasn't eligible as two years full time was required. They then offered to provide a quote through QBE. The quote had no advantages over his existing policy. DVA's Factsheet HAC02 provides confirmation of above

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REGISTRATION AS A CHARITY

The Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) has approved the Association's application for Registration and the Tax Office's request for lodgement of the past ten years of tax returns has been resolved.

The SMC is preparing Activity Sheets that will have to be completed to satisfy requirements of the Commission

CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS

The Townsville Branch has arranged for a Bus Tour to the Carnival of Flowers, Toowoomba **ON THURSDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2014.**

The Bus will depart from Caboolture (Aussie Ultimate Tours) and depart Ipswich 8 a.m. with a tour of the Lockyer District, Gatton

College (morning Tea), Spring Bluff Railway Station, visit Prize Winning Gardens in Toowoomba and Lunch with the Toowoomba Nashos at the Toowoomba Golf Club.

Anyone interested, please contact Secretary Townsville Branch Kyle MacLeod on 4779 3929 email - kylemac_nasho@hotmail.com
Limited seats available.

MUDGEERABA LIGHT HORSE MUSEUM

Recently, I was fortunate to visit the Museum and, with my wife and son, be given a tour by Brian Bertwistle and his wife Nicky. The museum is the headquarters of the Mudgeeraba Troop 14th Light Horse Regiment. Historically, the Troop has been involved with Shows, ANZAC Day parades as well as providing demonstrations of their award winning skills at arms and tent pegging.

The museum, under the care of Nashos, also has a Nasho Corner with a display of uniforms, photographs and other memorabilia. The last addition to the museum is a diorama of the 'The Charge at Beersheba'.

Group visits (tour buses, school, senior, and club groups) will have the opportunity to witness demonstration of legendary Australian Light Horse skill of tent pegging * weather permitting. The Museum is located beside the Mudgeeraba Showgrounds on Worongary Road and open Sundays 10am to 2pm and Wednesdays 9am to 12 noon. Contact Brian Bertwistle 07 5535 2455 or 0418 157 230

PADRE'S CORNER



Time has a way of moving quickly and catching us unaware of the passing years. As we get older we look back and wonder where the years have gone? This concept has been termed the "Winter of Life"

As we observe our friends we see we all move slower. We observe that some of us are in better and some worse shape than us.

Each day some find a simple action like getting a shower is a real target for the day! Taking a nap is not a treat anymore, it's mandatory because if we don't we just fall asleep where we sit!

Now we have entered this "Winter" of our lives most of us are not prepared for the aches and pains or the loss of strength and ability to do things that we wish we had done but never did!

If "Winter" has come, how long will it last? Whenever that is I know that when it's over on this earth - it's over, yet a new adventure is about to begin! Yes, I have regrets. I wish I hadn't done some things and there are others I should have done. Despite this there are many things I'm happy to have done during my lifetime.

Even if you're not in your "Winter" yet, just remember that it will be here faster than you think. Do quickly what you wish to accomplish in your life? Don't put it off! So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your "Winter" or not! Therefore live your life today and make it a fantastic one!

"Life" is a gift to you. The way you live that life is your gift to those who come after. It will allow them to appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them throughout your years past.

Make today a fantastic one! Live it well! Enjoy it! Be happy! Be at peace with all.

Remember "It's health that is real wealth, and not pieces of gold and silver."

A wise man once said "Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be so enjoy this day while it lasts."

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LAST POST

3/742171	BARFOOT, Lindsay	Puckapunyal, 2nd Intake 1952
148159	BARNETT, Joel Mark	CMF In Lieu
1/718337	BURGDORF, Eric Charles	Wacol, 3rd Intake 1955
1/712788	CREAMER, Robert(Bert)	Wacol, 1st Intake 1954
1/703626	PEFFER, Desmond Ray	Wacol, 1st Intake 1952
1/716961	HARKIN, John Francis	Wacol, 2nd Intake 1955
1/704528	KEARNEY, Joseph (Joe)	Wacol, 3rd Intake 1952
1/701072	KIRKHAM, Rex	Wacol, 1st Intake 1951
1/737637	KUHN, Trevor Raymond	Singleton, 1st Intake 1971
1/700719	McINTYRE, Douglas James	Wacol, 1st Intake 1951
2/746013	MARSHALL, Geoffrey Kenneth	Holdsworthy, 3rd Intake 1955
1/706838	PLATH, Martin	Wacol, 1st Intake 1953
1/702328	ROBINS, Gordon William	Wacol, 1st Intake 1952
1/700605	RULDOPH, Colin	Wacol, 1st Intake 1951
1/712826	STEPHAN, Desmond	Wacol, 3rd Intake 1954
1/729122	TAEGE OAM, Desmond Alwyn	Wacol, 1st Intake 1959
1/702380	TAYLOR, Douglas Bell	Wacol, 1st Intake 1952
2/705239	WATERSON, Keith	Holdsworthy, 1st Intake 1952
1/715232	WHITBY, Donald Kevin	Wacol, 1st Intake 1955

LEST WE FORGET THEY SERVED AUSTRALIA

INDUCTIONDAY CHURCH SERVICE, WACOL





BRANCH NEWS

Edited by John Hardy (john.hardy51@bigpond.com)
Under the Privacy Act, details about the person including Birthdays, illness and hospitalization cannot be included to Branch News without the person's consent.

Closing Date Friday 7th Nov Folding Date Friday 28th Nov

BAYSIDE (Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month 1100 hrs. Venue: Wynnum RSL)

Members of Bayside Branch had the pleasure of entertaining over twenty members of Pine Rivers and Deception Bay on a mutual visit to Bayside Branch. Our visitors made their way down by train where they were picked up and taken to the Wynnum RSL for tea and coffee; then onto Darling Point to view the Bayside National Servicemen's Memorial. Later our visitors were entertained to a barbeque lunch (ably supplied by our Bayside Belles). State President Alex Garlin was able to join us for lunch at George Clayton Park on the Wynnum foreshore. A very enjoyable day was had by all. Thanks to Pine Rivers and Deception Bay for your company. In June a group of Bayside members went to Longreach for a four night tour of the Outback; a great time was had by all. Thanks to Bev and Norm McKechnie for keeping us well behaved. We are looking forward to the 2014 State Conference in Ipswich come September.

BEAUDESERT (Meeting: 1st Monday even months 1030 hrs Venue: Beaudesert RSL Function Room)

On ANZAC Day about 30 of our members participated in Beaudesert's Anzac Parade, our banner was carried by cadets from the 1st Battalion, Logan City Community Cadets. Our President laid wreaths at our Cenotaph during the Dawn Service and at the service following the Parade. Our branch made a \$200.00 donation to their Cadet Battalion in appreciation. A group of our members will have attended the Induction Day Service at Wacol and the Centenary of the Lockyer Light Horse celebrations at Laidley. Ahead is Vietnam Veterans Day on the 18th August. On September 8th in conjunction with the Beenleigh Branch, we have planned a bus trip to the Prawn Farm at Woongoolba. We hope to be well represented at our State Conference in Ipswich. We are planning a four branch get together at the Canungra Army Intelligence Museum in November.

BEENLEIGH-LOGAN (Meeting: 4th Monday each month 1000 hrs Venue: Beenleigh RSL)

On 5th May, a bus load of us visited the Queensland museum to view the recently discovered photos of The Lost Diggers of Vignacourt taken in 1917, amazing in detail and clarity. Later we had a BBQ lunch at Parliament House cooked for us by our host Mark Boothman, our local member. The steaks and sausages etc. were complimented by fine wines also provided by Mark. This was followed by a guided tour of the parliamentary chambers, library and chapel. The tour guide was excellent with great knowledge of our political system and history; I recommend this tour to all other branches arranged through your local members. On June 16th we had a great day out at the Mudgeeraba museum, an unexpected display of military memorabilia which includes Mustang aircraft, armoured cars, artillery pieces and even a torpedo and much more too numerous to mention. This was followed by lunch at the Nerang RSL, a wholesome and cheap meal. Next we went out to Wacol for the Nashos church parade on July 27th where we caught up with old mates from other branches. This was followed by a chicken and salad lunch, sweets and coffee, a good day that was missed by many of our members; maybe you'll come next year. Don't forget our bus trip to the prawn farm on 8th September which we will be sharing with our Beaudesert Branch mates. At our July general meeting the guest speaker was ex-test cricketer Tony Dell who was representing the Stand Tall organisation. He gave a very informative talk about his group and how they help PTSD and disabled servicemen. This prompted a substantial donation for which he was very grateful.

BRISBANE EAST BRANCH (Meeting: 3rd Tuesdays each month 1900 hr. Venue: Manly-Lota RSL Hall, Manly)

The Army Press Officer for 6RAR during the Battle of Long Tan, Captain Ken Blanch, will read the Ode at the Brisbane East Branch Vietnam Veteran's Day observance at the National Service Memorial, Manly, at 3p.m. on Monday 18 August. Captain Blanch is a distinguished Journalist who held many senior editorial posts in newspapers, television and public relations. The head of Army Cadets in South East Queensland, Lt Colonel Leigh Eagle AAC will give the Address. Members of 121 Australian Cadet Unit will provide the catafalque party and the Moreton Bay Girls College choir and the Manly State School Fife band will provide the hymns and the music. If it rains the Observance will be moved to the Manly Lota RSL in Melville Terrace, Manly. Brisbane East Branch will move at the State Conference that any Brisbane National Service Memorial be built in ANZAC Square with the balance of funds from Metroplex and consist of four bronze figures representing the Navy and Air Force and two Army figures in 1950s and 1960s uniforms.

BRISBANE NORTH (Meeting: 1st Sunday each month 1000 hrs. Venue: Kedron Wavell Services Club)

We paid a visit to the recently refurbished City Hall and Museum and what an eye opener. From the entry foyer to the auditorium and every where in between was beautifully restored. We were fortunate to have a guide with a passion for the job and a sense of humour.

The adventurous ones climbed to the top of the tower and saw the wonderful view through the clock face; a really informative and enjoyable outing; thoroughly recommended. We were sad to lose two of our members during the month, Doug Taylor and Trevor Kuhm. Trevor was a regular team member at our fund raising projects. Members attended a working bee at Wacol to ensure everything was in pristine shape before our Church Service on Sunday prior to a lunch at the Oxley Golf Club. Barry Loose has reported that a program is in place to upgrade toilets on site in the near future. Allen Callaghan attended our July meeting and spoke about a Brisbane Nashos Memorial and the updating of his Memorial Reference Book of the 212 Nashos that were killed in action. Both these projects were viewed favourable and will receive branch support. Monthly meetings are well attended and we welcome our newest member Len Lock.

BRISBANE NORTH WEST (*Meeting: 3rd Sunday each month 1000 hrs. Venue: Gaythorne RSL.*)

We open on a sad note with the passing of 1716962 John Harkin; John was not with us long but his legacy remains in advising us in no uncertain terms that much was lacking with our branch communication skills, thus pointing the way to some improvements; vale John. On the same day we extended our sympathy to our sole naval ex nasho Les Barron for the passing of his wife.

BRISBANE SOUTH (*Meeting: Last Sunday each month 0930 hrs. Venue: Sunnybank Bowls Club*)

Last month 38 of our members boarded the Rum Runner boat for a trip up the Coomera River. The day turned out sunny with no wind to speak of, which guaranteed a smooth and pleasant day. Lunch was provided on board and the description of the mansions along the river banks, the marinas and the history of the places was most informative. 120 people attended the Induction Day at Wacol Precinct on Sunday 27 July. A Church Service being held in the chapel with our State Padre, Lt. Col. Canon Reverend Sandy Marshall OAM RFD (Retd) officiating. Lunch was served later which allowed many to renew friendships and promises to keep this day as an annual event. A new book written by a member at Toowoomba branch called "NASHO THE NATIONAL SERVICE EXPERIENCE 1951 – 1972" has recently been published and is available from Joe Dagg or Tony Stevenson. Our next social outing is a bus trip to North Stradbroke Island on Thursday 28th August. The bus will leave QE2 car park at 0800 hours. It will travel on the ferry to Dunwich and will be available all day to visit tourist areas on the island. Lunch will be held in a Dunwich Cafe.

BUNDABERG (*Meeting: 2nd Saturday each month 1330 hrs. Venue: Bundaberg RSL Club*)

Prior planning and preparation etc. most certainly paid off for our Social Secretary, Brian Trost with our recent bus trip to Gladstone. An almost full coach of excited members, associates and friends including some Vietnam Vets., travelled to Gladstone for a ferry ride around the harbour. It is about 5 years since we have done this trip. You can most certainly see the large amount of construction taking place ranging from new coal terminals and loading facilities, liquid natural gas refineries (3) and a new wharf precinct at the city end of the harbour.

The two hour trip, including comprehensive commentary by the ferry staff, passed by in no time. Other members of the ferry staff were busy providing a nice morning tea for all those on board; a very well worth it and enjoyable outing. The Social Secretary has received feedback from various patrons by way of congratulatory telephone calls with reminders not to forget them when our next trip takes place. The thinking hat is on and our next trip will be a surprise for many when the destination becomes known to all.

Upcoming events for our Branch include the October annual visit by Rockhampton, Gladstone and hopefully Maryborough this year, a luncheon for our 20th anniversary milestone in November and then the Xmas BBQ in December.

CAIRNS (*Meeting: 2nd Thursday each month 1100 hrs. Venue: Cairns RSL Board Room*)

Twelve ladies were our guests at our Mothers' Day BBQ breakfast held at Clifton Beach, north of Cairns. As a treat each lady present received a box of chocolates. In June, a sausage sizzle fundraiser was held at Bunning's and although the weather was not too kind to us, it turned out to be very successful. A huge thank you to those who assisted. Our Christmas in July was well attended with fifty seven members and guests from our three Far Northern Branches, Tableland, Innisfail and Cairns enjoying fellowship and a delicious luncheon at the Historic Hambleton Hotel, Edmonton. Ten of those who turned 80 during 2014 were presented with their OBE (Over Bloody Eighty) medallions followed by the cutting of their large chocolate birthday cake. Those who were not in attendance will be presented with their medallions over the next couple of months.

DECEPTION BAY, PENINSULA and DISTRICTS (*Meeting: 1st Thursday each month Morning Tea 1000 hrs, Meeting 1030 hrs. Venue: John Naumann Hall, Deception Bay Road, Deception Bay*)

Greetings to all Nasho's and supporters. Since our last update our President Bill Newton has spent sometime at the Prince Charles hospital; thankfully Bill is back on deck and the following is Bill and Margaret's message - "Deception Bay, Peninsula and Districts, President Bill Newton would like to thank the Doctors and Nurses in the Prince Charles Cardiac ward for the care and dedication during his recent stay. Also the best wishes from the State President Alex Garlin, State Treasurer Neal Freier, office staff, members and Nasho Padre Sandy". Our guest speaker for our June meeting was Jess Hoffman from the RACQ Years Ahead Programme, a very informative talk on road rules and other issues relating to driver education. Coming up in September is Men's Cancer awareness month. In the past we have had a guest speaker from the Redcliffe Prostate Cancer support group, Mr Fred Travis who is also a NASHO will be attending our September meeting, cost will be \$5.00 for morning tea and 5 raffle tickets, with all money raised going to the support group. All welcome to attend with hall holding 100 please advise if you are able to make it for catering purposes.

GLADSTONE (Meeting: 3rd Wednesday each month 1300hrs. Venue: Rocky Glen Hotel)

Members and supporters travelled by train to Innisfail and then hired a bus to tour the Atherton Tableland on the June long weekend to meet and mingle with fellow Nasho's. Despite the weather conspiring against us, we enjoyed a busy, informative time with members and supporters of Innisfail and the Tableland branches. Highlights of the trip were visits to the Afghanistan Avenue of Honour and the WWII Memorial Park at Rocky Creek. The Avenue of Honour, in a beautiful, serene setting (even in the rain) on the shore of Lake Tinaroo and is a fitting tribute to the young men and bomb detection dogs who made the ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan. It was a very emotive visit for our group. The Rocky Creek War Memorial Park is a peaceful site now, very different to the hive of activity during 1943-45 when a 5,000 bed Army hospital was established there. It was hard to believe 60,000 patients were treated in that time period with plaques erected honouring the various Australian Army and Allied divisions based on the Tableland including the Salvation Army.

During our whirlwind tour of the area, we were treated with legendary hospitality. From morning tea at Millaa Millaa to Bob Chester's potato farm on the Tableland for a superb afternoon tea, it was a case of Jenny Craig, 'eat your heart out' and some of us did just that. We were fortunate to have John Hardy with his incredible knowledge of local and WWII history of the Tableland as our tour guide. John was presented with a certificate in appreciation by Noel Bowley. Thanks must go to Gladstone Padre Capt. Jeff Bush, our bus driver extraordinaire, for organising our very busy time in the north and controlling his sometimes? wayward charges. The wonderful hospitality and friendship extended to our group during the tour of the Tableland will be long remembered by participating Gladstone Nasho's. Thankfully, our next train trip will be of much shorter duration when Gladstone and Rockhampton travel to Bundaberg for the annual meet and greet in October.

GOLD COAST NORTH (Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each even month 0930 hrs. Venue: Mudgeeraba Light Horse and National Servicemen's Precinct – sausage sizzle to follow meeting)

Social side of the branch has been active, with a picnic at Laguna Park, Palm Beach, where a good number enjoyed a pleasant day. Next was a bus trip to Ballina, to the RSL Club, where all enjoyed the entertainment "Morning Melodies" after a nice lunch was served, then most of the old Nashos had a wander through the Military displays. On the return the driver took a detour and pointed out things that lots of people wouldn't probably see other times. Forty five people arrived home, tired but all voted it a great day. The Naval Cadet unit, T S Tyalgum invited the branch to their Annual Review evening in June, this was attended by a number of members. This was an entertaining evening, although the rain spoiled the outdoor demonstrations somewhat. On Thursday 17 July, the Museum committee entertained the National Bank Officers Retirees Club, with a tour of the Light Horse Museum, with a Tent Pegging demonstration by member Peter Mc Laughlin on "Chloe". This is something different and was enjoyed by those present. Museum visits can be arranged by contacting Brian Bertwistle on 07 55332455. SPOONS meet, 9-30 for 10-00am, third Thursday of each month, held in the Barn at the same venue as the Branch; entrance is from Worongary Road.

On Wednesday 30th July 2014 our relocated, renovated Memorial in Christine Stumm Park in Broadbeach was dedicated by State Padre Sandy Hammond OAM and the Guest Speaker was State President, Alex Garlin, Guests included representatives of Federal and State Parliament, local Councillors and visitors from other branches. The ceremony was enhanced by the presence of the Labrador State School Choir and catafalque party of Naval Cadets. After the ceremony members and guests enjoyed refreshments at the Kurrawa Surf Club.

GOLD COAST SOUTH TWIN TOWNS (Meeting: 3rd Sunday bi-monthly even months 1000 hrs QLD Time. Venue: RSL Anzac Room, Twin-Towns Services Club, Tweed Heads, NSW)

With another Anzac Day behind us and the cold weather approaching, we all seem to blend into hibernation, with many of us unable to avoid the dreaded flue that's been around. However some of us did manage to meet for lunch at the Chinderah Tavern recently. The menu and atmosphere seems to be a big draw card for us to keep making regular visits; its one place we can all recommend. Our next Bi Monthly Meeting will be held on the 21st September 2014.

INGHAM (Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month 1900 hrs Venue: Ingham RSL)

On Saturday 21st June, the Ingham and District Branch of the NSAA together with a good attendance by the general public, gathered at the Nasho Memorial Wall, at the local cemetery. another five plaques honouring Nashos who had deceased during the past year were dedicated and blessed, bringing the total number of plaques to sixty five. Reverend Peter Blackburn, who officiated at the original dedication ceremony, returned for the 2014 ceremony, this year being the twelfth such dedication ceremony. That evening the Branch members, together with relatives and friends of those whose names had been added to the Memorial Wall that day, together with members of the general public gathered at the Ingham RSL club rooms for the Annual Dinner Dance. Keynote speaker for the evening was Master Chief Petty Officer Rick Bettua, USN, [Ret].who delivered an illuminating and entertaining address covering his thirty two years in the USN. Entertainment for the evening was provided by the Nasho Band, comprising Lorraine and Warren Hegarty and Ben Hobson. As always they carried the evening which was voted to be the "best ever" over the twelve years.

INNISFAIL (Meeting: 4th Tuesday each month 1800 hrs Venue: Innisfail RSL)

Eight members and supporters attended the Christmas in July function at the Hambo Hotel in Edmonton on the 7th July. It was a great lunch and all enjoyed the get together. We have a good attendance at our meetings and have a meal at the R.S.L. following the meeting and good company. Plans for Christmas are well in hand to be celebrated on 5th December. All branches are to be invited to help us celebrate.

IPSWICH and WEST MORETON DISTRICT (Meeting: 2nd Thursday each month 1900 hrs Venue: Ipswich RSL Services Club)

Our Conference Committee is still hard at work organising what we hope will be a great State Conference here. By popular demand another tour has been booked for Saturday 20th for persons not attending the meetings. This is a Fassifern Valley bus tour of at least one winery, Boonah Township and others plus lunch of your own choosing and cost at an old style country pub. The bus capacity is forty two (42) persons subsidized at \$15.00 each. Numbers booking will dictate whether the tour proceeds. Note! This tour is not on the original Registration Form. A conference update should have been received by all Branch Secretary's before you read this. The Reserve Forces Day March scheduled for 28th June was cancelled, sadly for those of us still able to enjoy a march. However, it was still commemorated with a Service followed by an informal BBQ. The cancellation was due to the high cost borne by authorities in the staging of the Freedom of the City exercised by the RAAF Amberley on 31st May. Approximately 1,500 Defence Personnel comprising RAAF Flights and attached personnel from the Navy and Army marched with bands playing and colours aloft for one kilometre through the CBD; an impressive sight. Further Conference information will be forwarded to Branch Secretaries. Last Post in this issue will sadly say farewell to two of our Branch Members. Vale Des Teage OAM, 1/729122 immediate Past President and Vale Rod Llewellyn 1/725076.

REDLANDS (Meeting: 1st Sunday each month 1000 hours Venue: Redlands RSL)

Our branch is travelling smoothly with over 80 members attending most general meetings. Also, each month members and supporters gather together for a dinner or lunch at a local restaurant and the ladies also meet once a month for a friendly lunch.

A great visit to Stradbroke Island was arranged by our Social Organiser, Frank Williams, when we started out by boarding the Big Red Cat to Dunwich. On arrival at the island, we took a scenic drive to Brown Lake for a fabulous morning tea provided by our Blue Bus driver, Geoff. After morning tea we walked around the historic Dunwich cemetery and then went on to the Point Lookout Hotel overlooking the ocean. Following lunch, we were driven up to Point Lookout to do a bit of whale watching – and there were plenty of whales to be seen; a most enjoyable day.

A sad note though is the passing of a number of our members. A large contingent of Nashos attended their funerals to support their families and celebrate and honour the lives of these mates who we have met through our great organisation.

ROCKHAMPTON (Meeting 4th Wednesday each month 1030 hrs Venue: Frenchville Sports Club)

Our annual trip to St Lawrence to meet the Mackay Nashos was once again very successful and an enjoyable day with 40 people travelling on the bus. Our Mackay friends totalled 25. Special mention must be made of our "well trained chefs" - John Aitken, Stan Munro, Brian Wheatley and Graham Bashford who cooked an excellent BBQ. Mackay were not to be outdone with the women providing a tasty sponge cake which went down very well. Everyone is looking forward to 2015 for another great day.

We have a couple of other trips planned for the rest of the year. The visit to Bundaberg in October which is always a great day. In November it is planned to take the Catamaran cruise around Gladstone Harbour which includes the Curtis Island construction site. To view the development of Gladstone from a different angle should be interesting. Members attended a special service on Long Tan Day at the Rockhampton Crematorium and North Rockhampton Cemetery to remember the three Rockhampton Nashos killed in Vietnam - Pte K. J. Prior, Pte J. G. Cox and Sapper A. Lisle. One of our members - Adrian Matrimon travelled to a small town in West Australia - Merridin to celebrate Anzac Day. It was a special occasion for the family as their grandfather was recognised with a monument placed on his grave with regard to his services in WWI when he served in Egypt and Middle East where he was wounded. Adrian was very proud of the ceremony as he was invited to give the Anzac Day address. It is pleasing to note that our membership is growing and meetings very well attended, with everyone looking forward to our social activities.

TABLELAND (Meetings: 2nd Sunday each month 1000 hrs Venue: Rocky Creek War Memorial Park Nasho Shelter)

The three Far Northern Nasho Branches combined on 7 July, to hold a very successful 'Christmas in July' lunch at the Hambo Hotel, Edmonton. This annual event was well supported by members and supporters from Cairns, Innisfail and Tableland Branches who enjoyed a sumptuous meal in a festive atmosphere. Eight members and 2 supporters from these 3 Branches who turn 80 this year were presented with their OBE medallions and gathered to cut a special birthday cake to commemorate this achievement. Bob and Margaret Chester supplied a large quantity of fresh produce for the raffles which proved to be very popular. The first Branch Meritorious Service Awards were presented by Patron and Nasho, Ray Byrnes at the June Branch meeting. Recipients were President Des Nella, Bill McDonald and John Hardy.

Our Branch members enjoyed the interaction with the Gladstone Branch on their northern tour on the Queens Birthday weekend. Unseasonably wet weather did not dampen the spirits of both Branches when they met for afternoon tea at Bob and Margaret Chester's Ravenshoe potato farm. The combined Branches Salvo Church Parade the following morning had the citadel overflowing. Following the service, both Branches enjoyed lunch at Gallo's Dairyland.

With the observance of the centenary of the commencement of WWI this year, the Tableland residents continue the annual focus on the end of WWII. Members of our branch provide good support for the Anniversary of Victory in the Pacific at the Rocky Creek War Memorial Park on 17 August. Branch members and supporters assisted the organising committee by setting up a display of WWII memorabilia, selling badges and raffle tickets.

Members will support the Vietnam Veteran's Day services on 18 August in Mareeba and Malanda. It is a time to remember in particular National Serviceman Leslie James Weston, 22 who was KIA while serving with 2RAR in 1966 and is buried in the Atherton Cemetery.

TOOWOOMBA AND DISTRICT (*Meeting: Odd months 2nd Tuesday 1900 hrs - Even months 2nd Sunday 1330 hrs*
Venue: Irish Club Hotel. Meals available before the meetings)

Widows' Lunch was held on 1st June. No new pins were given out this year, and orchids were presented to three of our widow members who attended and to Carol Baldwin (Social Convenor) and to our hard working Assistant Secretary Joan O'Sullivan. A happy time was had by all.

'NASHO THE NATIONAL SERVICE EXPERIENCE 1951 – 1972', a book edited by Ron Parsons of "Nasho Daze" fame, has been published after a lot of hard work by Ron and his wife Linley. It contains the history of National Service and includes contributions from many members. The book is now available at bookshops or can be bought on line from Boolarong Press for \$24.95. Branches can place bulk orders with Boolarong Press at a discount price, to sell to members. A minimum order of 5 books applies. The Publisher's Website says:-

Between 1951 and 1972 some 287,000 young Australian men were called-up in two separate schemes for compulsory military service. Of them 212 died and 1479 were wounded on active service. This book provides an insight into the Nashos training and service as told by those who were conscripted. It also explains the reasons for National Service at the time. As well as the serious side, there is also the humour for which the Aussie digger is renowned.

Last month our branch provided a replacement motorised wheelchair to one of our members as part of our welfare commitment. We hope it will provide safe and adequate transport for the member for a considerable time.

TOWNSVILLE: (*Meeting: 2nd Wednesday each month 1930 hrs Venue: Townsville RSL*)

This year our Branch made their annual visit to Cardwell on Sunday, 4th May to participate in the 72nd Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea which occurred east of Cardwell between 4th and 7th May, 1942. Only 14 members and wives were able to attend due to a number of our regular members away in New Zealand. By all reports it was a great day with a large number of Nashos marching or riding in vehicles to the Coral Sea Memorial Park. Representatives from Tablelands, Cairns, Innisfail and Ingham Branches also took part and paid their respects by laying a Wreath at the Memorial. After a wonderful Service, all partook of a BBQ Lunch in the Park.

Our 70/80 Birthday Party was held at the Townsville R.S.L. on Wednesday, 21st May although numbers were down on previous years; 114 people attended and had an enjoyable evening and the meal provided by the RSL was excellent. Entertainment was provided by Warren and Lorraine Hegarty as our guitarist Ben Hobson was away enjoying his 80th Birthday present travelling on the Indian Pacific. Sing-a-longs were popular on the night and prizes were forthcoming to those 'Girls and Boys' who found Blue or Pink Stickers under their chair. The successful ones 6 blue and 6 pink had to sing a song separately, including our Mayor Jenny Hill. 13 OBEs were handed out on the night to those surprised members and supporters who reached the ripe old age of 80. Congratulations to our President Warren for his usual superb job as Master of Ceremonies. Many thanks to our Treasurer Maurie Degovanni who organised the Function in the absence of our Functions Officer Jim Chaillon who was on a caravanning holiday.

Our second BBQ for the year was held at the Holy Family Church Hall on Sunday 8th June. 54 people attending had a great time with entertainment by Warren and Lorraine Hegarty, plus our old mate Arthur Rains giving his rendition on mouth organ, Spoons and Accordion, also songs from Fred Woodhead, Peter Armati and George Finn. The usual Trivia and Celebrity Heads took place. Thanks to our BBQ Co-ordinators Neville and Sally Hines who always do a good job. The following Sunday, 15th June, a coach trip to the Caledonian Hall in Ayr to meet up with members of the Burdekin Branch. As usual, the ladies provided an excellent lunch of cold meat and salad, plus dessert. Unfortunately, our numbers were down to 34 for various reasons, but still a very enjoyable day. 3 members of the Burdekin Branch were presented with their OBEs by President Donn Thomson. On Sunday, 27th July, 36 people travelled to Bowen for our Annual Get Together with the Coral Coast Branch at the Bowen Racecourse with Gladstone, South Burnett, Burdekin and Mackay Branches represented. The ever popular Calliope Singers again provided the entertainment. 10 Cartons of produce donated free by local farmers was raffled off with 6 being Townsville Branch winners, plus many other Raffle Prizes. . An excellent Lunch of cold meat and salad, plus dessert was supplied by Bowen Bowls Club Caterers. Overall, although numbers were down, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Sadly, it was announced by President Terry Hansen that this could be the last Get Together, having run for 11 years. Last Coach Trip for the year will be to the Cardwell RSL on Sunday, 26th October to meet up with members of the Northern Branches. Finally, I would like to mention that our member Tony Caruana, a 1960s Nasho, will depart Australia on 19th August to climb Kathmandu. We wish him Good Luck and a Safe Journey from all of us. Tony will be carrying the Nasho Flag to the top. More after his return.

NASHO TOURING CLUB

Our group has, so far this year, travelled to Warwick (February), Moree (May) and will be visiting Boyd's Bay for 10 days in October (10th to 20th). This should be a very interesting place as it is on the Southern End of the Gold Coast with all the attractions of the area in easy reach of the Caravan Park. Let's roll up in numbers for this outing as 'the more the merrier'. The better the attendance the better the fun and enjoyment. At this general meeting the plans for the rest of 2015 will be made. Come along and have your say. All suggestions are welcome and will be considered.

The first trip in 2015 is already planned for Millmerran on the Darling Downs. This trip includes the Annual General Meeting. This is the time when the future of the group is in the balance and serious decisions have to be made. The date of the outing is from 13th to 23rd March. The day of the AGM will be the Thursday of that week.

Get your bookings in for Boyd's Bay. Don't forget to tell them you are a Nasho and I look forward to seeing as many members as possible turn up.

NASHO NOTICEBOARD

Got a reunion planned? Looking for an old Nasho mate? Want to get information on anything? This is your page . . .

SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE AT IPSWICH

NOTICE OF DELEGATES' MEETING

A Delegates Meeting will be held on Saturday, 20th September 2014 at the RSL Services Club, Cnr Lowry & Downs Streets, North Ipswich (beside Riverlink Shopping Centre) Registration will be at 0830hrs for a 0900hrs start.

Each Branch is entitled to two Delegates. Visitors are welcome at this meeting and may speak, if acknowledged by the Chairman.

Agenda: Opening and Welcome; Ode and Prayer; Electronic Recording; Roll Call; Apologies; Minutes of March 2014 Delegates Meeting; Business Arising from Minutes; General Business - Report on Constitution; Date and Venue of Next Meeting; Close

Marie Hooper, State Secretary

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING.

A General Meeting of the National Servicemen's Association of Australia (Queensland) Inc. will be held on Saturday, 20th September, 2014 at the RSL Services Club, Cnr Lowry & Downs Streets, North Ipswich (beside Riverlink Shopping Centre) Registration will be at 1230hrs for 1300hrs start.

All financial Ordinary, Associate, Life and Eligible Complimentary Members shall be entitled to vote at this meeting either in person or by proxy.

A Proxy voting form for eligible members is enclosed with this newsletter.

Proxy voting forms are to be returned to the State Office, PO Box 7014, Holland Park East 4121 before Friday, 6th September 2013.

AGENDA

Opening and Welcome; Electronic Recording; Apologies; Minutes of General Meeting held at Wacol on 22rd March 2014; Business arising from Minutes; Award Presentation; Presidents's Report; Treasurer's Report; Membership Report; Notices of Motions; General Business – (a) Company Incorporation; (b) Wacol; (c) Business arising from Delegates Meeting; Date and Venue of next Meeting; Close.

Notice of Motion:

Motion 1: Moved Allen Callaghan Seconded John Hogan *that any Brisbane National Service Memorial be built in ANZAC Square; consist of four bronze figures representing the two eras of National Service and be funded by the balance of the money from Metroplex.*

Motion 2: Moved Allen Callaghan, seconded John Hogan *that the Queensland Branch of the National Servicemen's Association of Australia reaffirms the motion that only members of the NSAA may use the NSAA logo and that this motion may only be altered by special resolution.*

Marie Hooper, State Secretary.

NASHO FACEBOOK PAGE

National Servicemans Association of Australia Queensland

The Facebook Page is up and running and has some followers. Recently we were asked to advertise a Nasho event in the Nasho News, however, the event was on a week before the News was sent out. A good alternative would have been to post the event on the Facebook page and this would have reached a wider audience because it is not limited to Nashos. Just remember to type in the name as shown above.

Vince Crowley, Editor.



State Padre Sandy Marshall OAM RFD (Rtd), President of Gold Coast North Branch Barrie Smith and State President Alex Garlin at the dedication of the new (refurbished) Memorial in Lorraine Stumm Palmer Park in Broadbeach.

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