**Directory**

**State Management Committee**

**Patron:**
Major-General Kevin Cooke AO RFD ED (Ret'd)

**President:**
Alex Garlin 07 3847 9690 0417 621 411

**Vice-President:**
Warren Cockburn OAM 07 416 217 93 0418 192 821

**Secretary:**
Marie Hooper 07 416 277 60

**Treasurer:**
Neal Freier 07 3348 2080 0427 000 408

**Assistant Treasurer:**
Barry Loose 07 3408 6103

**Administration Manager:**
Tony Stevenson 07 3397 7512

**State Welfare Officer:**
Lt. Col. Canon Rev.d Sandy Marshall OAM RFD (Retd) 07 3348 8866

**Merchandise Officer:**
Graham Bird 07 3200 0446

**Editor Nasho News:**
Vince Crowley 07 4779 9460 0428 193 076

**Editor Branch News:**
John Hardy 07 409 541 54 0408 939 910

**Minutes Secretary:**
Vince Crowley 07 4779 9460 0428 193 076

**Membership Officers:**
Jim and Judy Woodford 07 3822 7009

**State Office**

Eric Sivell Park, 171 Boundary Road, Camp Hill, Brisbane 4152

Office Hours: 9.00am to 1.00pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Phone (07) 3324 1277 Fax (07) 3397 0424
Email: officeadmin@nashoqld.org.au
Mail to: National Servicemen's Association
P.O. Box 7014 Holland Park East Qld 4121
Web: www.nashoqld.org.au
Nominal Roll/Webmaster
Alex Garlin 07 5446 5210 president@nashoqld.org.au
National Website: www.nashoaustralia.org.au

---

**Front Cover**

Major-General Kevin Cooke AO RFD ED (Rtd) at laying up of Army Ensign at Wacol Chapel, February 2009. His name has appeared on Page 2 of the NASHO NEWS for years as our Patron, but who is Major-General Kevin Cooke AO RFD ED (Rtd)? Thanks to Jim Woodford for arranging for the story to be told. Read it on pages 2 to 5.

---

**WELFARE OFFICERS**

The Welfare Officer strongly recommends that all Branches have at least two Welfare Officers who must have received Training and Information Program Training. Dates and Venues of TIP Training can be obtained from dva.com.au or the State Welfare Officer. Recently, one Branch’s Welfare Officer had bypass surgery and the stand-in was overseas. Fortunately there are two other TIP trained members.

---

**Official NSAA Merchandise**

**OFFICIAL NSAA MERCHANDISE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beret</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beret Badge – Pewter</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beret Badge – Silver Six Sided Logo</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book – 20 Year History of the NSAA 1987 to 2007</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caps Embroidered with Nasho Logo</td>
<td>$17.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee Cup with Nasho Logo</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag – Association Logo White</td>
<td>$180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag – Association Logo White small size (hand waver)</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapel Badge – Association Blue</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapel Badge – Navy, Army or Air Force</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapel Badge – Tri-service</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Medals Full Size**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Unmounted</th>
<th>Swing</th>
<th>Court</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADM</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
<td>$27.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANSM</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
<td>$27.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duo ADM+ANSM</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Miniatures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Unmounted</th>
<th>Swing</th>
<th>Court</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADM</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>$16.50</td>
<td>$21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANSM</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>$16.50</td>
<td>$21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duo</td>
<td>$24</td>
<td>$33</td>
<td>$42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 X XL (add $3 for XXXL size) $33

**Stubby Holder** with Nasho Logo $5.50

**Video** – 50 year anniversary celebrations $5

**Wall Plaque** – 6 sided Nasho Logo on Timber $42.50

**Pay by Credit Card** – add $1.00

---

**IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER**

The material contained in this publication is in the nature of general comment only, and neither purports, nor is intended, to be advice on any particular matter. Readers should not act or rely upon any matter or information contained or implied by this publication, without taking appropriate professional advice which relates specifically to their particular circumstances. The publishers and authors expressly disclaim all and any liability to any person whether an Association member or not, who acts or fails to act as a consequence of reliance upon the whole or part of the publication. Views expressed in any Editorial may not necessarily be those views held by the Management Committee.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

I take this opportunity to thank the Delegates and Members who attended the Delegates’ and General Meeting, also those members who attended the AGM and the Church Service the next day. These were very successful events but I apologise for the lack of proper table and chairs to accommodate such an event. Your committee has since purchased 20 new tables and we are looking at purchasing new chairs before the next Church Service on 27th July 2014 to celebrate Induction Day, the day the first Navy and Air Force went into camp.

The SMC was re-elected unopposed with the exception of Bruce Reedman who resigned due to ill-health. John Hardy resigned a Minute Secretary but has accepted the position of Branch News Editor. Vince Crowley is Editor of Nasho News and Minute Secretary.

Our delegation to the National Committee in Glenelg in South Australia submitted verbal reports to the General Meeting and I have to advise that the disagreement between the National Committee and NSW Branch looks as though it will head to the courts for a decision. The “Chalkies” issue raised by Queensland in being taken to the Department.

The next Delegates and General Meeting will be held in Ipswich on 19th, 20th and 21st September 2014. Please be advised that if you are going to attend the Conference then you will need to book early as accommodation in Ipswich is limited and there are other events on at that time.

Reserve Forces Day will be held in Ipswich on Saturday 28th June 2014. The March will be through the streets of Ipswich and I invite all Nashos in South East Queensland to attend the March with the SMC. Medals to be worn. On Friday 20th June a dinner will be held at the RAAF Base at Amberley. A wreath laying service will be held on Sunday 29th June at ANZAC Square.

The Constitutional Review Committee comprising Dave Burgess (Bne Nth), John Hogan (R’ton), Warren Cockburn and Vince Crowley (SMC) meet on 3rd May and started work on amendments. It is proposed the amendments will be sent to Branches before end of year to be finalised at the March General Meeting.

Alex Garlin.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Well once again I have to do this report on the run. Our well respected Editor, Vince Crowley, has kindly reminded me that I haven’t put in my report yet and closing time is here.

Regarding our finances, we are in a healthy position as I reported at our AGM in March where I presented and explained our Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss report. In my last report to you I said I was hoping to receive another $50,000 from Metroplex. This has happened and I was able to announce it at the AGM. Indications are we will receive the remaining $400,000 sometime this year.

I need to address the subject of my application for the Anzac Day Trust grant. Because of the total co-operation of all branches last year, we were successful in receiving a grant of $39,120. This year all branches once again went out of their way to get their financial returns in on time EXCEPT for two in the far north of our lovely state! Anyway after quite a few phone calls from me, I finally received their reports and the application is on its way. – Hey fellas, it really makes it hard when you don’t get those returns to me on time! When the application is being furnished we have to declare where our donations are going and what they are for. It is really important because that is where we get the bulk of our grant from.

Any donation which assists in any way the armed services, cadets or the Nashos is allowable, but donations to things such as “Girl in a million” etc. are not allowable. We need to know what your donations are for. This caused me to ring 14 branches to find out what their donations were for and it is very time consuming. So a notice to all branch treasurers - when you next send in your annual financial returns, please disclose where your made your donations.

In March I attended the National meeting in Adelaide and when presenting our President’s report I made mention of the grant we received last year from the Anzac Day Trust. The other States have absolutely nothing like this and they struggle for financial support. As I said earlier, our finances are in a healthy position and I feel we are the envy of the other states. That is all for this edition. Being your State Treasurer consumes about 30 hours of my time per week. Sometimes it is draining, but the reward is that I am talking to lovely people and working with an SMC that is devoted and so very supportive.

Cheers Neal Freier
Kevin Cooke was born in Melbourne on 21 April 1931 to George and Honor Cooke. That year marked the start of the Great Depression and Kevin’s parents, through no fault of their own, quickly went from being comfortably well off to losing everything. So they moved to Lumeah near Campbelltown NSW where Honor’s parents had a small farm. They existed on that until George secured a job as a labourer at the BHP steel works at Port Kembla and the family moved to Wollongong. Fortunately, George was well educated and being one of the few at the time who was able to read and write to a high standard, he was fairly quickly promoted and before long was selected to head BHP’s shipping and transport department. Kevin’s sister Janine joined the family in 1937, becoming a highly qualified nurse and doctor of nursing.

Kevin started school first at the local primary school and then at Wollongong High School. At the time this was the only high school between Sydney and the Victorian border so standards were high. He was school vice-captain, captain of his rugby league and debating teams and matriculated to Sydney University. Guidance counsellors strongly recommended law as a preferred career. He became an articled law clerk with an uncle’s firm in Melbourne while he completed his law course on a part time basis at Melbourne University. He did this with Honours in one year less than the set time.

At school he had joined the Australian Cadet Corps in early 1945, attended every Army course he could and was commissioned as a Cadet Lieutenant.

When the Cold War showed signs of becoming serious and the Korean War loomed, the Federal Government moved to boost Australia’s Defence capabilities. It decided to raise an Army largely of citizen-soldier volunteers and national servicemen organised into three Infantry Divisions and two Armoured Brigades. Initially there was no Regular Army, a small full-time increment being called “the Interim Army.” Kevin was an early enlistment into 58th/32nd Infantry Battalion based in the north and west of Melbourne. Its officers and senior NCO’s were largely men of impressive war service with the majority having decorations for bravery. When Kevin was first a sergeant and then an officer, he was the only one at the time not wearing WWII ribbons.

He was commissioned on 23 August 1951 in the Active Citizen Military Forces just as the first National Service scheme was starting. His first command as an officer was as a platoon commander of the first intake. He continued his association with National Servicemen of both schemes, in various postings including in Vietnam with 7 RAR in the case of the second scheme, until National Service was terminated in 1972.

He was promoted to Major-General in 1980 as Assistant Commander Logistic Command, then to Commander of the 3rd Division and finally Chief of the Army Reserve until reaching retirement age in 1988. Then he was appointed the Honorary Colonel of the Royal Victoria Regiment until 1994, leading a pilgrimage of veterans, serving and retired soldiers to Villers Bretonneux to mark the 75th anniversary of its liberation by Australians, including Kevin’s old battalion, on Anzac Day 1917.
He has been active in numerous charities and military support activities including Chairman of the TPI's, a Trustee of the Limbless Soldiers’ Association and the Royal Australian Infantry Corps Museum, a Member of the Defence Reserves Support Council, President of the Royal United Services Institute, the Corps of Commissionaires and the Naval & Military Club, Patron of his old battalion association, National Servicemen’s Assoc. Qld and the National Servicemen’s Pipes & Drums.

He is a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Fellow of the Society of Senior Executives, a Member of the International Bar Association and the Law Institute of Victoria.

Military Honours and Awards include appointment as an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO), Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 with Vietnam clasp, Vietnam Logistic & Support Medal, Reserve Force Decoration (RFD) with 4 clasps, National Medal with clasp, Australian Defence Medal and Efficiency Decoration (ED) with 2 clasps.

Following his busy Army career mainly part-time as a citizen soldier and being the senior partner of a significant Melbourne law practice, he had an active involvement in commercial life, serving as a director of a number of companies. Eventually he decided to retire and since his wife, Anne, was a committed Queenslander he sensibly “volunteered” to move to the Gold Coast where they now live.

Kevin, thank you for providing this brief account of your outstanding Military career and your commitment to Australia and The Australian Armed Forces. As Patron of the National Servicemen’s Association of Australia (Queensland) INC. we salute you.

Bushwalking Christmas Day – note the army boots

MAJOR-GENERAL KEVIN GEORGE COOKE, AO, RFD, ED, Retd.
Royal Australian Infantry Corps

Army Number: 382403

Decorations and Awards:

- Officer in the Order of Australia (Military Division)
- Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 with Vietnam clasp
- Vietnam Logistic and Support Medal
- Reserve Force Decoration (with four clasps)
- National Medal (with clasp)
- Australian Defence Medal
- Efficiency Decoration (with two clasps)
- Returned from Active Service Badge

Summary of Service:

- **Apr 45** Enlisted in Commonwealth Cadet Corps
- **23 Dec 46** Appointed Cadet-Lieutenant
- **Dec 47** Service terminated on completion of schooling
- **16 Jun 50** Enlisted as Private in 58/32 Infantry Battalion (Active Citizen Military Forces) Regimental postings to platoon sergeant (only sergeant in battalion without war service)
- **23 Aug 51** Commissioned as Lieutenant and appointed rifle platoon commander (only officer in battalion without war service)
  - Assistant Adjutant, Battalion Intelligence Officer, Brigade Intelligence Officers Course
14 Feb 55  Promoted Captain and appointed rifle company second-in-command

9 Jan 56  Promoted Major (Temporarily)
     Company Commander Course at Jungle Training Centre Canungra
     Rifle Company Commander
     Administration Company Commander

13 Mar 56  Promoted Major. Qualified under Section 21A of the Defence Act for promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel at the School of Tactics & Administration (first officer to graduate without war service)

15 May 58  Brigade Major, 4th Infantry Brigade (for Operation “Firepower” – largest live firing exercise with troops in Australia since World War II)

6 May 59  Regimental duty 58/32 Infantry Battalion as rifle company commander

1 Jul 60  Transferred to 1st Battalion the Royal Victoria Regiment on disbandment of 58/32 Infantry Battalion and raising of the Royal Victoria Regiment, on reorganisation of the Australian Army Order of Battle to the Pentropic establishment
     General Staff Officer Grade 2 (Operations)

1 Jul 61  Seconded as General Staff Officer Grade 2 (Operations) Headquarters 3rd Division

1 Jul 62  Seconded as Deputy Assistant Adjutant General Headquarters 3rd Division

23 Feb 63  Promoted to lieutenant-colonel
     Appointed Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters 3rd Division

1 May 65  Appointed Commanding Officer 1st Battalion Royal Victoria Regiment (To re-raise the battalion as a Tropical Warfare Battalion on disbandment of the Pentropic organisation) and including presentation of Queen’s and Regimental Colours

8 Aug 67  Full time duty for attachment to 7th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment in South Vietnam

1 May 68  Appointed to administer command of 4th Task Force until 12 Sep 68 in the absence of the Brigadier

1 Nov 68  Appointed Chief Instructor and Commanding Officer of the Officer Cadet Training Unit, Southern Command

1 Jan 71  Promoted Colonel and appointed Deputy Commander of the Southern Command Training Group

1 Feb 72  Appointed Chief of Staff, Headquarters 3rd Division
     Represented Australian Army at 200th Anniversary Celebrations of the Royal Fusiliers in the United Kingdom followed by training attachments in England, Scotland and the Isle of Mann

1 May 73  Appointed Commander, 1st Support Group

11 Mar 76  Appointed Colonel (Reserve Planning Group) Headquarters Logistic Command

10 Apr 78  Appointed to perform the duties of Commander 3rd Divisional Field Force Group in addition to those of Assistant Commander Logistic Command

1 Jul 83  Appointed to perform the extra-regimental appointment of Senior Reserve Officer of the 3rd Military District

11 Aug 86  Appointed to the Order of Australia in the Military Division for distinguished service in positions of responsibility and particularly as Commander of the 3rd Division

1 Apr 85  Promoted Major-General and appointed Assistant Commander Logistic Command

2 Apr 86  Appointed to perform the duties of Commander 3rd Divisional Field Force Group in addition to those of Assistant Commander Logistic Command

1 Jul 81  Appointed Commander 3rd Divisional Field Force Group and to perform the extra-regimental appointment of Senior Reserve Officer of the 3rd Military District

21 Mar 84  Appointed Commander 3rd Division (on the re-raising of the Division on the Australian Army Order of Battle)

26 Jan 85  Appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia in the Military Division for distinguished service in positions of responsibility and particularly as Commander of the 3rd Division

1 Apr 85  Promoted Chief of the Australian Army Reserve and as such a member of the General Staff and –
     Member of the Chief of the General Staff’s Advisory Committee
     Member of the Senior Commanders Conference
     Member of the Army Programme & Estimates Committee
     Chairman of the Army Reserve Advisory Council
     Member of the Regular Army Promotion & Selection Committee
     Member of the Army Reserve Appointments & Promotions Advisory Committee
     Member of the Committee for Employer Support of Reserve Forces
     Member of the Army Reserve Retention & Recruitment Advisory Council
In addition to responsibility for the running of Reserve Branch of Army Office, he travelled widely on Army business, attending exercises, conferences, ceremonials and inspecting military installations and activities throughout Australia and overseas including in the United Kingdom, Europe (including a major NATO exercise), United States of America, Canada (appearing before the House of Commons Defence Committee at its request), New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.

- 29 Mar 88: Appointed the Honorary Colonel of the Royal Victoria Regiment for a period of four years
- 31 Mar 88: Transferred to the Inactive List
- 21 Apr 88: Placed on the Retired List of Officers with the right to use the title and wear the uniform of Major-General on reaching retirement age
- 24 Mar 92: Appointment as Honorary Colonel of the Royal Victoria Regiment extended

Member of the Army Reserve Appointments & Promotions Advisory Committee
Member of the Committee for Employer Support of Reserve Forces
Member of the Army Reserve Retention & Recruitment Advisory Council

In addition to responsibility for the running of Reserve Branch of Army Office, he travelled widely on Army business, attending exercises, conferences, ceremonials and inspecting military installations and activities throughout Australia and overseas including in the United Kingdom, Europe (including a major NATO exercise), United States of America, Canada (appearing before the House of Commons Defence Committee at its request), New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.

- 24 Mar 92: Appointment as Honorary Colonel of the Royal Victoria Regiment extended for a further two years
- Apr 93: Led a pilgrimage of veterans, serving soldiers and former members of the Royal Victoria Regiment and their families to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Villers Bretonneux in France
- 29 Mar 94: Handed over appointment as Honorary Colonel to The Honourable Sir John Young, AC, KCMG, MID, the Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria
- Jun 94: Led a representative party from the Royal Victoria Regiment to visit overseas Allied Regiments:
  - The Gordon Highlanders (disbandment parade)
  - The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers
  - The Staffordshire Regiment
  - The Royal Regiment of Canada

**IMPORTANT NOTICES**

**INDUCTION DAY**

SUNDAY 27TH JULY 2014

WACOL CHAPEL

1000 hours for 1030 hours
Lunch served at 1200 hours
Padre Sandy Marshall will conduct a COMMUNION SERVICE

**BANNER PARTY**

The SMC is inviting a Branch to take responsibility for the State Banner and to organise the carrying of the Banner at the 2015 ANZAC Day Parade. For further information contact the Administration Officer.

**CAN YOU PLAY AN ORGAN?**

Our Padre commented that the Church Services at Wacol Chapel would benefit by the addition of organ music. If you are available for the service on 27th July please contact Sandy on 07 3348 8866

**KILL TERMITES THE EASY WAY!**

- DIY Termite Baiting System and White Ant Termite Bait
- As easy as 1-2-3.
- For a FREE INFORMATION PACK, see contact details below.

[Website: www.superway.com.au | Phone: 1300 302 938]
AN OVERHEAD VIEW OF CONCEPT MEMORIAL

At the meeting at Wacol in March, a proposal was discussed to have a Memorial at Wacol honouring the 212 National Servicemen who were killed in Vietnam and Borneo and for other Nashos who desire their names to be recorded.

The concept is that the Memorial is in the shape of the Rising Sun Badge. The walls will be approx. 1.5 metre high.

On some of the walls there will be an opening at the end close to the curve to allow a continuous movement through the structure. The top of the wall will be tapered to give effect of a bayonet

The names of the 212 will be on the front of the curved section and other names on the straight walls.

We invite your comments on the concept or any other suggestions you may for a memorial to honour the 212.

Comments can be sent to Warren Cockburn at warrencockburn@bigpond.com

FUTURE DIRECTIONS REPORT

At the Delegates Meeting in March a report from the Futures Committee was presented to the meeting. Copies of the report were distributed to Delegates at the meeting. If your Branch did not receive a copy of the report please contact Vince Crowley on vincecrowley@westnet.com.au or phone 07 4779 9460 to request a copy.
As this Edition of “Nasho News” goes to print we have just experienced two events which at first seem to have no connection - the celebration of Easter and the Commemoration of ANZAC Day. I would like to suggest that together they have a profound effect on all families. I say this because the themes expressed throughout Easter and values we remember on ANZAC Day are also the same themes and values which should be expressed within any human family.

At Easter the Christian family thanks God for the death and Resurrection of Jesus; the reconciliation of the sinner; the restoration of “the hurt” and the strong belief in a “future good to come”. The Christian looks forward to a new experience of life with Jesus through the Resurrection.

The lessons learned through the tragedies of war remind us of the futility of all War. The reconciliation of those who were combatants in all conflicts is often seen in all sorts of experiences. I was moved by the sight of former enemies, all in uniform, sitting and remembering together at a peaceful Lone Pine Service on ANZAC Day. The Gallipoli campaign saw the Australian family “pulling together” for the first time to become a nation.

Finally within the human family reconciliation and forgiveness; an ever looking forward to the better good for each member and a determination to maintain a sense of care, protection, contentment and fulfilment sets the pattern for a successful family in this world.

Yet within these three expressions of “family” there is the underlying theme of love - love of God for his creation: love of mate for mate in all situations: and love within the human family.

So when we say ‘Lest We Forget’ we not only remember the price of war in lives and resources but perhaps we could also ponder how things could have been different if the universal quality of love had been allowed freedom of expression.

Sandy Marshall – State Padre
LAST POST

BALDERSON, Victor James  Holdsworthy 1st Intake 1957
BERRY, Donald Campbell  Wacol 3rd Intake 1952
BROWNING, Ron  Holdsworthy 3rd Intake 1955
BURGESS, Tony  Wacol 1st Intake 1972
HOLMES, Fred Rex  Wacol 1st Intake 1954
JOHNSON, Ronald Charles  Wacol, 1st Intake 1956
KIRK, Barry  4th Intake 1956
LOCARNINI, Don  Wacol 3rd Intake 1953
Laurie, John Kalkett  Penguin 2nd Intake 1954
McKEE, Robert (Bert)  1st Intake 1954
SIMPSON, Ronald  Wacol 2nd Intake 1954

LEST WE FORGET
THEY SERVED AUSTRALIA

THE GREAT WACOL WALKOUT

On the day of the AGM this story appeared in the Sunday Mail. Was this a sheer co-incident? When the item was mentioned at the AGM one unnamed member present was able to give a very good background to the incident. In no way is it implied that this member was involved in the incident other than he was on Guard Duty at that time. Trust him – he’s a NASHO.
Ed. Thank you for your contributions. If this keeps up I will have to start editing Tablelands and Townsville. Remember this is your opportunity to tell us what you are doing. But don’t forget, to give us up to date info go the Facebook for real time info. Go to facebook.com/national servicemans association of australia queensland

BAYSIDE (Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month 1300hrs. Venue Wynnum RSL)

Bayside membership continues to grow every month. (Perhaps we will survive beyond 2015) Since the New Year Bayside has had a busy time with a visit to the Port of Brisbane, having morning tea and a conducted tour of the Port facilities. Well worth considering as an outing for other Branches. National Service Day was well attended and was honoured by the attendance of State President Alex Garlin. Alex being an ex navy man extolled us with some of his Navy exploits. A successful sausage sizzle was held at Bunnings Cannon Hill in March, well supported by members of the Branch. The Anzac Day Sunrise Service conducted at the Darling Point National Service Memorial was a huge success with the biggest attendance we have ever had, upward of four hundred people.

BEAUDESERT (Meeting: 1st Monday of Month Venue: RSL Function Room)

Catching up on our recent activities a group of our members travelled to Mudgeeraba for a combined 3 branch get together at the Light Horse Museum on the 21st Oct 2013. All enjoyed a great BBQ lunch and fellowship. On the 3rd Dec. 2013 we had our annual Christmas Luncheon, SMC member Graeme Bird was one of our guests. On 3rd March 2014, 32 members and supporters travelled to Laidley by bus. We visited their Pioneer Village and Museum where we were given a delicious morning tea on our arrival then a guided tour of the village. After leaving the museum we had a guided bus tour of the Laidley Creek Valley followed by lunch at the Mulgowie Hotel before returning to Beaudesert. Russell Hartley is our President this year and Ian McDougall, Secretary.

A group of our members with member Neil Stuhmcke on his restored 1929 motor bike from the museum collection.
BEENLEIGH-LOGAN (Meeting 4th Monday each month 1000 hrs. Venue: Beenleigh RSL)

Our branch signed up new members Phillip Gardner, Frank Lipanovic and Wayne Clune with new supporters Lynette Gardner and Colleen Clune; we welcome you all to our group. At our A.G.M. we voted in a new president, Colin Waite, pictured leading the Nashos at the Beenleigh ANZAC march, a vice President Terry Green and a membership officer Joyce Waite. A local newspaper article and photo instigated by our new president saw a marked increase in Nashos at the march. Our thanks goes to the A.A.F.C. members who carried our Nasho banner and flag. ANZAC badge sales were slightly down on last year’s figures but we still made a handsome profit due to our small but ardent band of volunteers. To quote Winston Churchill “Never have so many owed so much to so few”. ANZAC Day was especially sad for us with the passing of member Tony Burgess who died in Logan hospital while the Last Post was playing on T.V. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his wife Jenny and their family. The next outing is on Monday 16th June; a bus trip to Mudgeeraba Military Museum followed by lunch at Nerang R.S.L. Please ring Pam Boyle on 3287 1772 for more details, booking, etc.

BRISBANE EAST (Meetings 3rd Tuesday of the month, 1900hrs Venue: Manly-Lota RSL)

Historic Board Unveiled: The acting Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Cr. Adrian Schrinner, on 29 April unveiled an historic Lest We Forget board restored and re-erected by Brisbane East Branch in Richard Russell Park at Manly on Brisbane’s Bayside. The very rare Board is believed to date from World War One and was saved and donated to the Brisbane East Branch by Wynnum monumental mason, Bill Burrows. It was re-dedicated by State and Branch Padre, Sandy Marshall OAM. The State Member for Lytton, Neil Symes and Branch President Ken Edwards laid wreaths with the acting Lord Mayor. The Board, which takes two men to lift, is believed to be of ironbark which accounts for its good condition after almost a century. The park also is home to an historic Digger memorial itself restored after being vandalised.

BRISBANE NORTH (Meeting: 1st Sunday of the Month 1000hrs Venue: Kedron Wavell Service Club)

It only seems a few days since we were talking about our Christmas Function. Well we expected a big event but it turned out to be bigger than we expected. A great turn out, full of fun and frivolity. I was fortunate to spend 3 weeks touring the South Island of New Zealand in a friend’s motor home in January and visited some RSA establishments (equivalent to our RSL) and was made most welcome. They offer low cost overnight parking for Motor Homes in conjunction with the NZ Motor Home and Caravan Association. We had our Volunteers Luncheon in February and shared the function with our sponsors who have supported us during the year. Anzac Day sales saw our teams in action in 6 locations with a good result expected. We had some new members involved this year which was very promising. The march at Kedron Wavell was well attended and the crowd at the service was bigger than last year.
BRISBANE NORTH WEST (Meeting: 3rd Sunday each month 1000hrs Venue: Gaythorne RSL.)
At its February meeting the branch hosted National President Earle Jennings AM RFD ED as guest speaker, accompanied by his wife Yvonne. In April the branch conducted its usual pre-Anzac Day sales activities and members took part in Gaythorne RSL Anzac memorial service and the City march. The response to our pre-selling and the larger than ever crowds at the two Anzac day events was truly amazing. The branch assisted Enoggera & Districts Historical Society who held its own Anzac Day afternoon service to honour those from the former Enoggera shire who went to the Great War 1914-18. For his community work for amongst others, National Servicemen’s Association and Enoggera & Districts Historical Society, Branch Secretary Dave Livett has been nominated as a contender for Ashgrove Electorate’s Senior of the Year Award in the 2014 Can Do awards.

BRISBANE SOUTH (Meeting: Last Sunday each month 0930hrs. Venue: Sunnybank Bowls Club)
Our Branch AGM held on 23rd February resulted in our new secretary Len Ramsay being appointed. Our thanks go to Charles Johnson who successfully held the position previously. Our visit to the Robotic Dairy at Beaudesert on the 13th March was attended by 35 of our members, who upon arrival were shown the bottling plant in action. The owner then gave a history of his dairy farm, which included the four years it had been under computer control. It was interesting to see the cows lining up within the fenced area leading to the dairy building, and when the gates were opened electronically, would stand adjacent to one of four milking robotic heads, and wait their turn to be milked. We then travelled back to the Beaudesert RSL for lunch. After lunch we visited the Scenic Rim Museum which consisted of buildings relocated from their original locations into the town. Our next outing will be a trip on the Rum Runner on 26 June. Morning tea and lunch will be served on board. Bus will leave QE2 Park and Ride at 0900hrs. Many thanks to the teams of sellers who made our Anzac day sales a great success.

BUNDABERG (Meetings: 2nd Saturday of the month, 1330 hrs Bundaberg RSL)
Everyone has negotiated through the Christmas & New Year holiday period. Some more of our members have now joined the OBE Brigade. Our AGM was conducted on Saturday 8 March 2014. Nothing new in the Executive positions once again. The new list of Office Bearers have been forwarded to SMC for their information. Our bus trip to the South Burnett has now conducted. Thursday 13 March came and a bus not quite full of excited members and associate members departed Bundaberg on time at 8am. Our first stop was in Biggenden for morning tea before we headed off for our next stop in Goomeri at the cheese shop. Then to the Bjelke-Petersen Dam for our lunch. It was good to see the dam was quite full after last years rain, although the entire country side we travelled through is most certainly drought stricken and in need of rain. Preliminary discussions have ensued regarding a manner in which to celebrate the Branch 20th year milestone in November 2014. It is also good to advise the membership that our Treasurer Tony BRUCE was recognised at the Australia Day Awards when he received the Order of Australia Medal for his services to Veterans and their families and service to the community in Moree, New South Wales. Tony and his wife are recent arrivals into the Bundaberg area and his hand went up to fill the vacant position of Treasurer at the 2013 AGM. He continues in that position again for this coming year. Another ANZAC Day has come and gone and now planning across the country will get into top gear for next year’s 100th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landings. On Thursday 24 April, 9 of our members attended the very impressive commemoration service which is conducted at the East Bundaberg State School. Each year a different group of service people are featured and this year the Vietnam Veterans were the featured entity. This ceremony was highlighted by the arrival of 3 Kiowa helicopters from Oakey west of Brisbane. A sturdy group of 21 marched in the Bundaberg city parade on ANZAC Day. Age is most certainly wearing down our members. Most members took the opportunity at the termination of the service, to refresh at the RSL club next door. Planning under way for our next bus trip on 19 June 2014. More than likely a trip to Gladstone for a ferry tour of the harbour precinct which should highlight all the development that has or is taking place.

Member for Hinkler, Kevin Pitt with members ready for coach trip
accommodation. Week beginning 19th September the under 18 women’s hockey State Finals are to be held in their branch as delegates or wishing to attend the General Meeting or for a convivial time can secure suitable accommodation. A list of accommodation is being forwarded to all Branches in order that Nashos elected by members. Referring back to the 2014 (19th, 20th and 21st September) State Conference an invitation was extended to the 2014 Carnival of Flowers and lunch at the South Toowoomba Bowls Club. A Christmas lunch was enjoyed by many. A full coach load of our members enjoyed a trip to Toowoomba to visit the Milne Bay Museum, see the Rockhampton including the honor given of hosting in Ipswich the 2014 State Conference. During September Branch Members received a detailed report back from their delegates re the 2013 State Conference at Welcome to the New Year. May every Nasho be granted the best possible health and happiness during 2014. IPSWICH WEST MORETON kinder to you all than the one gone by. They may have cancelled the service at Munro Martin Park and curtailing the distance marched. Due to their inability and health, many Nasho’s were unable to take part in this year’s services.

DECEPTION BAY & PENINSULAR: (Meeting: 1st Thursday of the month 1030 hrs at John Naumann Hall) Greetings from the Members and Supporters of our Branch where the Country meets the Bay. Since our first official meeting in September 2013 with 12 local Nasho’s showing interest in having a Branch back on the Redcliffe Peninsula we have now close to 50 members and supporters, who meet on the first Thursday of each month with our ladies supplying a great morning tea before we start at 10.30. We would like to thank our neighbouring Nasho’s at Pine Rivers for all there help and support especially Len Matthews and Pat Casey who have helped us from the start. As well as Alex and Lois Garlin, Neal Freier and Tony Stevenson who’s guidance has been invaluable. Never having done anything like this before I am very humbled by the support from all mentioned. Our Branch has also received support from the Moreton Bay Regional Council and when we started Yvette D’Ath MP for Petrie. This has been such a help with us just starting the Branch. With our Branch Executives, members and supporters we are looking forward to continued success in the future.

GLADSTONE (Meeting: 3rd Wednesday each month 1300 hrs. Venue: Rocky Glen Hotel) A good attendance at the Annual General Meeting in February saw all positions filled for 2014. Attendance at monthly meetings remains constant despite ongoing health problems for some members. All High School Libraries in the Gladstone region have been presented with a copy of “The National Servicemen’s Association of Australia- A History 1987-2007” with President Noel Bowley and Secretary Keith Leach making the final presentation to Gladstone High School on 24th April at their Anzac Day ceremony. This impressive function was organised and presented entirely by the students. Members participated in Anzac Day ceremonies with the Dawn Service community support being the best in memory. Fourteen members were joined by a New Zealand Nasho at the morning service. Transport was provided by the R.S.L. for those of our members unable to march. Twenty five members and supporters travelled north by bus to Marmor at 1.30pm where we joined with the small but very active local community, Rockhampton Nasho’s, and children from Bajool and Marmor school in a very meaningful tribute to the spirit of Anzac. Capricorn Silver Band provided the music for the ceremony. Our very busy day concluded with socialising and a B.B.Q provided by the local Anzac committee. Some of our intrepid travelling members and supporters are venturing north over the June long weekend to the Atherton Tableland. This tour has been organised by our Padre Jeff (previously stationed at Atherton). His local knowledge and contacts promise to make this a very interesting and enjoyable experience.
GOLD COAST NORTH (Meeting:)
The 2013 AGM saw President Barrie Smith returned to the chair. After delivering a healthy financial report Treasurer David Moss was returned to the position unanimously. Two new members were elected to the committee, which basically remained the same. SPOONS, Social ladies have been planning an interesting social calendar for the year. First event was the popular “fish and chip day” on the Broadwater Park next to Charis Seafood. This attracted a nice crowd who enjoyed the day. “The Nasho Corner” at the Mudgeeraba Light Horse Museum is creating much interest, with the collection of exhibits growing rapidly. Anyone with items relating to your National Service, that you would like to donate will be gratefully received. Attendances at Schools ANZAC Day services was heartening, with members/ wives attending Southport High School and Labrador State School. These Services were outstanding with the student participation. Pleasing numbers marched at Southport and Mudgeeraba on ANZAC Day. Some members and wives attended the Broadwater/Surfers Paradise Masonic Lodge ANZAC Service in Southport on 28th April. Gold Coast North Branch meet on the second Tuesday of the even numbered months, in the Barn at the Mudgeeraba Light Horse Museum, at 9-30 am, with a sausage sizzle after. SPOONS meet, 9-30 for 10-00am, third Thursday of each month, held in the Barn at the same venue as the Branch. Entrance from Worongary Road.

GOLD COAST SOUTH-TWIN TOWNS: (Meeting: 3rd Sunday, Bi Monthly even months at 1000hrs (QLD Time) Anzac Room Twin-Towns Tweed Heads NSW)
Gold Coast South - Twin Towns Branch, held their Annual General Meeting on the 16th March. It was attended and chaired by our State President Alex Garlin. We lost our long time Vice President John Shanahan and our Treasurer Graeme Ross and still have a couple of places to be filled. Our new Committee is now in the process of getting ready for “ANZAC Celebrations”, including a march through Coolangatta, leaving Goodwin Park at 10.30am. We are looking forward to a good turn-out of Nasho’s on the day

GYMPIE (Meetings: 2nd Sunday every 2nd Month Starting February 1400 hrs Venue Gympie RSL
Had 12 members at the last meeting for both the general & AGM. These were the usual members who turn up every meeting. We would very much like to see our other members who we know are out there, as we would love to meet you all. We have a dinner planned for the 11th of May at a local eatery, and often have Trips away or BBQs at member’s houses in the months in between meetings. Please contact the Secretary on 0427975899 or 0402051262. Any members in the Gympie district will be most welcome. Next meeting on July 13th 2014

INNISFAIL (Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each Month at 1800 hrs Venue: Innisfail RSL)
We had a very enjoyable Christmas Party with lots of visitors and plenty of raffles. Nasho day 14th Feb was an outstanding success, The march went well and the dinner after, at the Crown Hotel, was well attended. Many thanks to the Tableland Branch for their help. Members attended ANZAC Day dawn service and breakfast at Innisfail and then went to Babinda for their march. A busload will be attending the proceedings at Cardwell for Battle of the Coral Sea March and barbecue lunch. May see some of you there.

IPSWICH WEST MORETON (Meeting: 2nd Thursday each month 1900hrs. Venue: Ipswich RSL Services Club).
Wow! What a busy year so far. Prior to Anzac Day Members visited School Services at Ipswich Girls Grammar, Ipswich State High, Brassall State Primary, Karalee State Primary plus many others. Many Members attended various services and Parades all over the Ipswich and West Moreton area. Pre Anzac Day merchandising sales have been very successful (thousands of dollars receipted) thanks to our merchandising officer Keith Morton and his happy helpers. Thanks also to Bunnings Booval and Brassall Shopping Centre. To build general funds sausage sizzles are held at Brassall Shopping Centre (next on19thJuly) and of course Bunnings thank you. News Flash! An invitation is extended to Nashos, members or not, to come and join in the Reserve Forces Day March in Ipswich on Saturday 28thJune. See the RAAF exercise the Right to Freedom of Entry to the City March on 31st May at 0945hrs. For September Conference arrangements see inside back cover.
MACKAY (Meeting 4th Monday of the month 1830hrs. Venue: North Mackay Bowls Club)

Our branch has been very active since Christmas with three sausage sizzles at Bunnings, our Annual Church Service held on Nasho Anniversary in February and of course selling badges prior to Anzac Day. On Anzac Day a good representation of members attended marches in Mackay, Mirani and also the other services in the district. Preparations are underway for our get together with Rockhampton Branch at St Lawrence on Wednesday June 11. Also members are showing interest in attending the annual Nasho Day at Bowen on Sunday 27th July meeting with branches from Coral Coast, Burdekin and Townsville. On Tuesday 27th May we have been invited to Mackay North State High Schools launch of their 2014 Commemorative Tour. At this night our branch gives a monetary donation towards their costs plus each person going on the tour receives a Rising Sun badge. Our Annual General Meeting was held in February with most of our previous committee being re-elected. What’s new.

REDLAND (Meeting: 1st Sunday each month 1000 hrs Venue: Redland RSL)

The Redlands Branch, in conjunction with the Redlands RSL Sub-Branch, is engaged in a project to convert a public park into an ANZAC Memorial Precinct. The park is strategically located adjacent to the RSL and diagonally opposite the current cenotaph which will remain in situ. The Redland City Council has approved the conversion of the parklands. A local architect has volunteered the services of his firm and has prepared a concept plan which will be presented for public comment in late April. The project will be developed incrementally, as funding becomes available, with the primary focus being on having phase one completed in time for the Centenary of ANZAC in 2015. Future development will provide for the recognition of all major engagements and the contribution and involvement of the Redlands community in times of conflict. The new location will be better able to accommodate the ever increasing attendance at ANZAC Day ceremonies and provide greater opportunity for public engagement in the proceedings. The park offers a natural amphitheatre setting with good public access. The concept plan allows for a memorial wall to contain plaques detailing significant actions and local personnel involved, a covered dais, a memorial walk and a terraced hill side. A strategic gap in the Memorial Wall will allow the first rays of sunshine to fall on a simulated Eternal Flame each ANZAC Day. The Precinct will be surrounded by trees.

ROCKHAMPTON (Meeting: 4th Wednesday of the month 1030hrs. Venue: Frenchville Sports Club)

Hope every centre had an excellent Anzac Day as we did in Rocky. The Dawn Service and Morning Parade were well attended. We joined the Capricornia RSL for lunch at the Frenchville Sports Club. A record crowd was in attendance. The annual trip to Marmor to attend their 4pm service and evening bar.b.q was as usual tops. Gladstone Nashos were also in attendance. Our memorabilia sales at the various shopping centres were sell outs. Our well attended AGM saw the following elected. Patron Neville Harris, President John Hogan; Vice President John Aitken; Secretary John Day, Treasurer Errol Williams, Merchandise Officer John Morgan, Padre Rev Barry Harvey, Historian Cliff O’Brien, Media Brian Smith, Visitation Officer Bob Casey, Committee Reg Smith and Noel Moore. It is worthy to note that our meetings have been very well attended with new members joining. Two trips have been organised for later in the year. 11th June to St. Lawrence where we will be joined by Mackay Nashos. 16th October to Bundaberg.

SOUTH BURNETT (Meeting: Bi-monthly at residence of one of members)

The Annual general meeting of the South Burnett Branch was held at the Booie Hall on Sunday the 6 April 2014, there were 11 members present .The Office Bearers for 2014 are President Warren Cockburn OAM, Vice Presidents Trevor Sanderson and Keith Bellotti, Secretary Marie Hooper, Assistant Secretary Jean Hobbs, Treasurer Jim Kingston Assistant Treasurer Evelyn Kingston, Committee Bill Hobbs and Bill Ross, Merchandise Officer Colin Humphrys, Welfare Officer Warren Cockburn OAM, Chaplin G Woods. It was resolved to write to the Local Member of Parliament Ms D Frecklington and ask her to become Branch Patron. At the general meeting that followed it was decided to write to Toowoomba and Dalby and ask for an expression of interest in having a get together of the three Branches at a date to suit. Reports were given on the delegates meeting on the 23 March by our Delegates Jim Kingston and Bill Hobbs. The Members and Partners present sat down to a very nice cold lunch before the meetings.
TABLELANDS (Meetings: 2nd Sunday of each month. Venue: Nasho’s shelter at the Rocky Creek War Memorial Park.)

At our April Branch meeting, the proposal was accepted to trial holding meetings every second month and hold a social function on the alternate Sunday between these meetings. Some other Branches already do this and the Branch Management Committee can meet as necessary to consider any pressing issues. Leading up to ANZAC Day, our Welfare account was boosted by the selling of merchandise at Ravenshoe, Yungaburra, Malanda and Atherton. A Branch raffle was also held at the same time and this proved to be a very successful exercise. Supporter Terry Edmondson capably controlled all aspects of the fundraising and encouraged several business houses to make considerable donations of prizes towards the raffle. As to be expected, ANZAC Day services were well attended right across the Tableland. Our Branch President Des Nella and some other members and supporters even travelled to the Gulf town of Normanton to participate in parades there. The local weather was inclement but some centres were lucky enough to get a break in the weather for their scheduled service. The new Yungaburra Avenue of Honour commemorated their first ANZAC dawn service supported by a contingent of soldiers from 1 RAR, Lavarack Barracks. Branch Secretary Boyd McQueen acted as MC for the Yungaburra morning parade and John Hardy as Parade Marshall. Early indications are that the 72nd Anniversary Commemoration Service of ‘Battle of the Coral Sea 1942’ at Cardwell will be well attended by five northern Nasho Branches on 4 May. The annual street parade preceding the memorial service followed by lunch on the foreshore of Rockingham Bay is always a memorable occasion. A group of Townsville Nashos and supporters and Tableland Branch members John Hardy and Terry Edmondson are touring New Zealand from 30 April to 10 May. There will be an opportunity to socialise with fellow CMT (Compulsory Military Training) members during the tour of the North and South Islands. A Mother’s Day lunch will be held at Gallo’s Dairyland on 13 May following the Branch meeting at Rocky Creek earlier in the day. Previous lunches have been well enjoyed in particular by our Supporter members. Nasho Branch meetings are held at the Nasho’s shelter at the Rocky Creek War Memorial Park on the second Sunday of alternate months and further details can be obtained from President Des Nella on 4095 0294

TOOWOOMBA (Meetings: 2nd Tuesday at 1900hrs; (odd months); 2nd Sunday at 1330 hrs (even months); Venue: Irish Club Hotel (Meals available before meetings).

Nasho Day 2014 in Toowoomba was commemorated on Saturday 15th February at the State National Servicemen’s Memorial in East Creek Park Toowoomba. State President Alex Garlin was guest of honour and guest speaker. Cadets from Toowoomba Grammar School and 210 Squadron Airforce were on guard at the monument, and the flag bearers were Australian Navy cadets. Harlaxton Brass Band provided the music and hymn singing was assisted by the Choral Society. Padre Matthew Weatherley conducted proceedings and all present were invited to have a cup of tea afterwards, courtesy of our Nasho branch. 40th Anniversary of our Padre’s Ordination to the Priesthood Even though our padre Matthew Weatherley is officially “retired” from the Anglican ministry, he is still very busy with ex-servicemen’s groups including our branch of the National Servicemen’s Association. On 1st February a service was held in St Luke’s Church Toowoomba to celebrate the 40th anniversary of his ordination. About 40 ex-service men and women, including Nashos and RAAF Association members contributed to the 150 guests who attended the service followed by lunch. Congratulations, Matthew. AGM 2014 The AGM at Toowoomba was a quiet affair with all office-bearers taking on their positions for another year. The executive consists of President, Leo Camm; Secretary, Pat O’Sullivan; Assistant Secretary, Joan O’Sullivan; Treasurer, Dennis Gillbard. ANZAC Events Wreaths were laid by Nashos at “pre ANZAC” ceremonies at the Garden of Remembrance and the Cross of Sacrifice, as is our custom in Toowoomba. Badge stalls were set up at three of Toowoomba’s shopping centres prior to ANZAC Day, and trading was very good. Our badge sellers are to be congratulated on their efforts. The Services on ANZAC Day continue to get bigger and there was a very large public attendance this year. Bill White laid our wreath at the Mother’s Memorial during the morning and our branch took part in the march and following ceremonies. Nasho numbers were probably down a bit, and some of our Nashos were required for marshalling duties. Widows’ Lunch is scheduled for 1st June at the Irish Club Hotel. Details are available from the secretary.
TOWNSVILLE: (Meeting: 2nd Wednesday each month 1930 hrs. Venue: Townsville R.S.L.)

Our first big event for the year was NASHO DAY on 14th February at the National Service Memorial at National Servicemen's Park, Rowes Bay, commencing with a Commemorative Service at 10.00 a.m. It is estimated 260 people attended on a beautiful sunny day with a magnificent view over looking Cleveland Bay with Magnetic Island in the background. The Service was conducted by our Branch Chaplain Archdeacon Father John Emerson who travels from Charters Towers each year to be with us on our special day. It is on this day we pay our respects to the 212 National Servicemen who died on Active Service in Vietnam and Borneo and to honour those National Servicemen from both Schemes who have since passed on. Our MC for the day was Ben Hobson who always does an excellent job. The Welcoming Address was given by our Patron Brigadier Neil Weekes AMMC (Retired) who travelled from Bribie Island to be with us on the day. Neil always delivers an impressive and emotional speech on National Service, outlining his experiences as a Platoon Commander in Vietnam. Music for the Hymns was provided by the ever popular IRAR Band. Always a impressive sight is the marching on to the drum beat of the Flag Party under command of Treasurer Maurie Degiovanni and the unfurling of the Flags. Many thanks to the Flag Party who appear to have not lost touch with their Nasho Training. It was the first Nasho event attended by the new Commander of 3rd Brigade Brigadier Roger Noble DSC CSC, Member of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps, proud wearer of the Emu Plumes and was the first non-infantry Commander appointed in 100 years since the Brigade was raised. Another Senior Commander present was Wing Commander George Hodgson, Senior Officer at RAAF Base Townsville and the Navy was represented by Commander Chris Kerr RFDANR Liaison Officer for the 3rd Brigade. Also in attendance was Wing Commander Judy McCann who flew from Melbourne to be present for the dedication of a Plaque in memory of her late father John McCann who was Secretary/Treasurer of the Townsville Branch from 1996 to 2002. After the service, 154 members, wives, friends and guests sat down to an excellent lunch prepared by the Townsville RSL catering staff. During the lunch 3 Bursary Awards were presented by President Warren to Lucy Fallance, Emily Davey and Gerard Ferns, grandchildren of our members. Unfortunately Gerard was unable to attend due to his competing in a Swimming Carnival at Ignatius Park College, but the Award was gratefully accepted by his mother. Widows Badges were also presented by our Brigadier. MONDAY, 17th MARCH, a St Patrick's Night Dinner was held at the Jubilee Bowls Club with some 46 members and partners in attendance. BADGE SELLING FOR ANZAC DAY at our 10 Venues yielded excellent results with a number of new Badges and merchandise on hand in the lead up to the ANZAC DAY Centenary. A good attendance of 55 Veterans and members of Aged Care Homes turned up at the Special ANZAC Day Service at Morleys Funeral Home which has been arranged by our Branch for a number of years. ON SUNDAY, 4th MAY, a number of members and partners travelled by bus to attend the 72nd Anniversary Commemorative Service of the Battle of the Coral Sea at Cardwell Sea Memorial Park. Reunions with the Burdekin Branch will be held on Sunday 15th June and with Coral Coast Branch on Sunday, 27th July, 2014.
SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE AT IPSWICH

Thursday 18th September; Early registration will be at the RSL Services Club, Cnr Lowry & Downs Streets, North Ipswich (beside Riverlink Shopping Centre) from 1300hrs to 1800hrs.

Friday 19th; Heritage City Bus Tour - $15.00 per person (includes morning tea), 0900hrs assembly at the RSL Club, returns there approx. midday. RAAF Amberley Museum Tour with a 1230hrs assembly and return to the RSL club, $12.00 per person, Gold Coin donation at the Museum. Evening a Meet & Greet at the RSL Club, 1830hrs for 1900hrs until late.

Saturday 20th; Meetings at the RSL Club. Delegates Meeting 0900hrs. Smoko (provided) at 1000hrs. Lunch (provided) at 1230hrs. General Meeting 1300hrs. Tea and coffee Station at both. Conference Dinner 1830hrs for 1900hrs, venue is The Swifts Sports Club, Cameron Park, Cnr Brisbane Road and Green Street, Booval.

Sunday 21st; March, Parade and Memorial Service assembly is at 0915hrs. March off at 1000hrs. Farewell BBQ following. Venue is yet to be confirmed.

Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers – we have requests about when it is on and a possibility of attending. It is always held in the last full week of September commencing on a Friday, which, this year, is Friday 19th to 28th September. The 19th may not be a suitable day due to other tours already planned and a Meet and Greet that evening. Saturday is full as is Sunday. Saturday is the Carnival of Flowers Parade in Toowoomba which means that most buses are already booked and Toowoomba is bursting at the seams.

I am inviting you to email me brianglendahall@bigpond.com to indicate if interested; your day/date (19th, 22nd, 23rd) preference if desirous of seeing the flowers. Should enough people be wishing to see the flowers, then we can arrange a tour on the most requested day. Cost would be that which would cover the cost only of the bus. The trip a pleasant one about 90 minutes each way (depending on traffic & road works) from Ipswich, is up the Warrego Highway through the scenic Lockyer Valley.

Other Attractions: Arrive early stay late and visit the Workshop Rail Museum, (a working museum week days, open all days), Mining Museum. Visit Queens Park, the oldest in Queensland and see Nerima Gardens, Animal & Bird Enclosures plus more. Shop at Riverlink.

Accommodation: NSAA discounts have been arranged at the Country Comfort Motel ($125 & $135) 15 minutes to RSL. Motel Monaco (10% off $80 & $90). 3 minutes walk to RSL. Ipswich City Motel ($88 & $99) 10 mns to RSL. Quest Apartments (Studio Apt. $125, 1 bedroom Apt $145, 2Br Rm Apt $230, 2Br Exe. Apt $260). 10 mns to RSL. More promised. Central Motel booked out. Caravan Park is at Ipswich Show Grounds ($20 per might) 10 mns to RSL. Further & more Info by mail to all Branches later. Where, and as necessary, free pick up and returns to accommodation will be provided.

CAN YOU HELP?
1730662 Kenneth Hall from the 3rd intake of 1959 is looking for Doc Cornish of Southport who was in the same intake. If you can help contact Ken at wynb@bigpond.com or
President Alex Garlin thanking Bruce Reedman for dedicated years of service as State Welfare Officer. Bruce handed over his documents and templates to the incoming Welfare Officer. A job well done and done well. Bruce continues to share his wealth of information on our Facebook page.