Malays, Gurkhas honour fallen Diggers

SPECIAL FEATURE
FULL STORY INSIDE PAGES 10 TO 15

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**COMMITTEE**

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**Newsletter:** Pete Kelly, 4129 6270

For the submission of articles in *SALUTE*, please contact Pete Kelly on 4129 6270.

The Sub-branch meetings are held on the last Monday of the month, starting at 11am in the Sub-branch hall. Phone: 4129 2214.

**NOTE:** The opinions expressed in *SALUTE* are not necessarily those of the Sub-branch executive, nor do they reflect RSL policy or views. The contents of this newsletter reflects only the opinion of the author of the article.

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Those with a keen eye would have noticed that popular member Dave Chamberlain was absent from this year’s Anzac Day activities.

Dave had hot-footed it across to South Australia where he attended the Port Lincoln RSL Dawn Service and later teamed up with old farmer mates in nearby Cummins where Dave spent a great deal of his youth.

It was almost 63 years ago that Dave worked on farms which neighboured those owned by his mates, David Jones and Jack Scarff.

David Jones, now 94, was a RAAF Spitfire and bomber pilot during WW2, while Jack, 90, was with the British Army’s elite Grenadier Guards.

Jack was recovering in hospital at the time Dave made his visit.

It was questionable whether he would make the Anzac march, but Jack’s ingrained, old military determination saw him gain a leave pass from the medical authorities and sweet-talked the local constabulary into giving him a seat in the police car heading the Anzac march.

Dave said it was a magical trip into his past, and he was not surprised that so much that he recalled of the area was still unchanged.

He said it was fascinating to re-establish contact with his old workmates, and the welcome he received from the RSL community in South Australia was simply magnificent.
The toilets in the police station were all stolen. The police have nothing to go on.

1860
August 3: British troops in Australia sent to fight the Maoris in NZ.

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August 8: NSW and Victorian contingent sails to China to assist in quelling the Boxer Rebellion. With many Australian soldiers fighting in the Boer War, this contingent was a naval one.

August 14: Boxer Rebellion in China ends before Aussies arrive.

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August 5: Mass breakout of Japanese prisoners from Cowra POW camp. A total of 378 Japanese were killed or committed suicide and 108 were wounded. Four Australian guards died.

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August 18: Battle of Long Tan in South Vietnam results in D Company, 6RAR, being awarded the US Presidential Unit Citation.

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August 30: Death of C.E.W. Bean, Australia’s first official war correspondent in WW1.

1990
August 2: Iraq invades Kuwait leading to the Gulf War of 1991.

Rod White, the former President of the NSW RSL Branch was elected National President of the RSL at the AGM in June.

He enlisted in 1964 in the Army Reserve later volunteering for the Regular Army as a National Serviceman and serving for nearly 3 years.

During that time he was posted to the 9th Battalion and then with the 3RAR during the Vietnam War, as an Infantry corporal and a Mortar Fire Controller.

After Vietnam, Rod returned to the building industry, re-enlisted in the Army Reserve and was subsequently appointed a commissioned officer.

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1RAR Coral mates gathered at Tweed Heads

ABOVE: Russell Stanford, left, with Tony Jensen at the 1RAR Battle of Coral reunion, held at Tweed Heads.
Russell was a private mortar layer and Tony was the Mortar Platoon Commander during the battle, which began the night of May 12-13, 1968, in which the enemy overran the platoon, killing five and wounding 14 — including Russell — of the 20-man platoon.

More than 300 former members of 1RAR attended the Memorial Service and later the dinner, at which Ben Robert-Smith VC was the guest speaker.

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Vietnam vet is new National President

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Next month in history

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August 2: Iraq invades Kuwait leading to the Gulf War of 1991.
Stanley McDougall, VC, MM fought with the 47th Battalion

Stanley (Stan) McDougall (1889-1968) was born in Tasmania, and became a blacksmith.

He enlisted in August 1915 and was a member of the 47th (Wide Bay) Infantry Battalion.

He fought at Pozières, Messines and Broodseinde and was promoted to sergeant in January 1918. At Dernancourt, when he saw the enemy knock out a Lewis gun position, he attacked two German machine-gun teams, killing their crews by "hosing" them with the Lewis gun.

He then attacked a second wave of Germans, burning his hands on the hot barrel casing of his gun.

When a German officer aimed his pistol at some Australians, McDougall killed him with a rifle and bayonet. Twenty-two Germans were killed and 30 were captured, largely as the result of McDougall's actions.

This action won him the Victoria Cross.

Eight days later, at the same place, McDougall won the Military Medal, taking over the platoon when his commander was killed. He charged an enemy gun position and when his Lewis was disabled by an enemy round, he went to the rear, picked up another gun and continued the battle, killing a large number of the enemy.

After the war McDougall became an officer with the Tasmanian Forestry Department, and later, while inspector-in-charge of forests in north-east Tasmania, performed outstanding work during bushfire periods. He died at Scottsdale on July 7, 1968.

He was buried at Norwood Park Cemetery and his medals are on display at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

Support the butcher who supports Tiaro Sub-branch

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Discuss your needs with
the owner Ben Goldenstein

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Ben’s professional team of butchers provide a wide range of freshly-cut meats, sausages, mince, small goods and a variety of marinated meat and poultry products. His team offers tips on how to best prepare and cook the products they sell.

Prices are competitive, the service is super-friendly and the products they sell are the freshest possible. Make Station Butchery YOUR butcher. You’ll be glad you did.

Don’t worry about old age: it doesn’t last. And Velcro — what a rip off!
Australia has won 100 VCs, (96 under the imperial system) the youngest being John William Jackson, 19, in WW1, but three British VCs have been awarded to servicemen under the age of 16. The youngest was Andrew Fitzgibbon, who was 15 years and three months when he won his VC. He was a hospital apprentice in British Army’s 67th Regiment and was attending a wounded man during the China War in 1860.

Having fixed the injured man he then rushed across open ground under fire to help another soldier when he was shot and wounded. He survived and died at the age of 39 in India.

Thomas Flinn, or Flynn, was also allegedly the same age as Fitzgibbon, but his age could not be verified. Flinn won his award for charging an enemy gun single handed in the Indian Mutiny and engaging the crew in hand-to-hand fighting. However Flinn was not a copybook soldier. On discharge he had 47 defaulter charges listed against him as well as 15 courts martial. He died a penniless drunk in a British workhouse in 1892.

The third youngest British VC winner was 16-year-old John “Jack” Cornwell, who stayed at his gun station aboard HMS Chester, even after eight of his crewmates were killed around him during the battle of Jutland in WW1.

Our youngest VC winner was 19

John William Jackson, was a 19-year-old digger in 17th Bn AIF, serving in France in 1916. During one furious battle, Jackson rushed into no-man’s land to rescue injured mates. Having safely brought them back, he again went looking for any injured diggers when his right arm was blown off above the elbow. He had a tourniquet applied and then went back into the battle to seek out more injured.

Jackson was awarded the VC for his incredible bravery, and a week or so later the London Gazette announced he had also been awarded the DCM for the same action. For several years he believed he was entitled to both awards, but the British authorities had cancelled the DCM, but had not informed him. However, although the medal had been cancelled, he was permitted to keep it, but not use the post nominal DCM.

John Jackson was also awarded the DCM for the same action which won him his VC.
When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

VC winner on War Memorial Council

Cpl Daniel Keighran VC is one of two new appointments to the Australian War Memorial Council.

He and Wing Commander Sharon Brown (Ret) replaced Graham Edwards and Gabrielle Trainor on the Council.

Cpl Keighran won his VC in Afghanistan while serving with 6RAR and is the only member of the RAR to be awarded the VC.

Codner returned to Malaya after the war and was killed in a Communist Terrorist ambush on March 25, 1952, in an ambush in Tanjung Malim, Perak, while repairing a water main which had been blown up by the CTs as a trap for anyone coming to repair it. Earlier CTs had ambushed a police patrol and killed 12 men at the same site.

A couple of old cricketing facts

Ever heard of a cricketer named Heatherfield Harman Stephenson?

You’d think that with a name like that you’d never forget it.

He was a Pom who played for Surrey in the early 1860s.

It was from his feat as a bowler that the term hat-trick was coined. On one occasion he took three wickets with consecutive balls — believed to have been the first time this was achieved.

For this outstanding feat of bowling he was presented with a hat — and thus, the term “hat-trick” was coined.

Stephenson was also the captain of the first English team to tour Australia and members were each paid 150 pounds for the tour.

Who needs Wisden when you’ve got “Salute”?
The New Zealand Wars, which were long known as the Maori Wars, were a series of armed conflicts that took place in New Zealand and lasted a staggering 27 years, from 1845 to 1872 between the New Zealand government and indigenous Maoris.

On August 3, 1860, British troops stationed in Australia were sent to New Zealand to help put down the Maori rebellion. Though the wars were initially localised conflicts triggered by tensions over disputed land purchases, they escalated dramatically from 1860 as the government became convinced it was facing a united Maori resistance to land sales and a refusal to acknowledge Crown sovereignty.

**FARMS AND FIGHTS**

The government summoned thousands of British troops to mount major campaigns to overpower the Maori King Movement and also acquire farming and residential land for British settlers.

At the peak of hostilities in the 1860s, 18,000 British troops, supported by artillery, cavalry and local militia, battled about 4,000 Maori warriors in what became a gross imbalance of manpower and weaponry.

Around 2,500 Australians enlisted to fight in the Maori Wars. Most came from New South Wales and Victoria, but they saw very little action.

Victoria also sent a warship — HMVS Victoria to the war.

Although outnumbered, the Maoris were able to withstand their enemy with techniques that included anti-artillery bunkers and the use of carefully placed fortified villages, that allowed them to block their enemy advance and often inflict heavy losses, yet quickly abandon their positions without significant loss.

Guerrilla style tactics were used by both sides in later campaigns, often fought in dense bush.

Over the course of the Taranaki and Waikato campaigns the lives of about 1,800 Maori and 800 Europeans were lost and total Maori losses over the course of all the wars may have exceeded 2,100.
Looking to expand a hobby? Looking to learn carpentry or steelwork? Look no further. The Shed is looking for members.

The Bauple Community Shed is one of the best in Queensland — in fact it is two sheds and has thousands of dollars worth of trade tools and equipment.

Even if you have never held a plane, saw or welding torch in your life, the instructors at the Shed are waiting to show you how to become a competent do-it-yourselfer.

Make your own furniture or toys, repair your car trailer or even make an exotic letterbox — the possibilities are endless at the Shed.

Fees are just $25 a year and you will have access to machine-handling training, be fully insured while on the premises and be part of a talented and friendly social group.

PHONE: 4129 2069 AND TALK TO DENIS ABOUT JOINING, OR CALL IN AT 14 FORESTRY ROAD, BAUPLE, AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.

Did Kipling have a look into the future?

Sub-branch member and Vietnam veteran, Don Campbell, sent this classic verse with the remark that it has vaguely similar political echoes of today as when Kipling penned it.

I went into a public-’ouse to get a pint o’ beer,
The publican ’e up an’ sez, ”We serve no red-coats here.”
The girls be’ind the bar they laughed an’ giggled fit to die.
I outs into the street again an’ to myself sez I:
O it’s Tommy this, an’ Tommy that, an’ “Tommy, go away”;
But it’s ”Thank you, Mister Atkins”, when the band begins to play,
The band begins to play, my boys, the band begins to play,
O it’s ”Thank you, Mister Atkins”, when the band begins to play.

— Rudyard Kipling

Load ’em up and move ’em out

Sub-branch member and long-time jounro, Don Campbell, also sent in this pic, among a dozen others, of what some nations may consider to be a fair load.

Wonder how many tickets a Queensland “scaly” could hit the poor, but very courageous driver of this vehicle with? And how does a passenger unload his gear if he’s the only one getting off?

What makes you think this desert country has no ‘scalies’?

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Wonder how many tickets a Queensland “scaly” could hit the poor, but very courageous driver of this vehicle with? And how does a passenger unload his gear if he’s the only one getting off?
I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

War widow thanks the Sub-branch

Thank you so much for attending my husband, Deryck’s, funeral, and performing that beautiful farewell to a fallen comrade, laying the poppies on the coffin with your hands on your medals.

It was very touching, and I will always treasure the flag (that draped the casket).

Thank you for letting us have the hall free of charge, and then for paying the QCWA members for the catering.

Beyond that, thank you for all the work you did setting everything up for the wake, and then cleaning up afterwards.

Our grateful thanks.

Ann Carden and family

Vietnam Veterans’ service and BBQ

The Sub-branch will hold a Vietnam Veterans’ Day commemorative service on August 18, starting at 11am at the Cenotaph.

It will be followed by a barbecue lunch and refreshments.

Partners are invited to attend. Please advise the secretary if you are attending to assist with catering planning.

Tiaro loses two members in less than one month

Tiaro RSL Sub-branch has lost two of its most recent members in May.

First to pass away after a long illness was WW2 veteran Deryck Carden of Bauple.

Then the sudden and unexpected death of Brian Esler was announced.

Brian was believed to have been run over by his tractor while attempting to start it.

His body was found the following morning and was transported to Brisbane for an autopsy.

The tractor was later removed by police for closer examination. His funeral was held in Kiama, NSW.

Tiaro Meats and Bacon is a proud supporter of the RSL

Fran and Nathan and their team guarantee their meats and products are always of the highest quality, which has made Tiaro Meats and Bacon famous throughout the Fraser Coast and Queensland.

* Bulk orders
* Meat trays
* Retail and wholesale
* Hams, bacon, locally-made small goods and sausages

Phone your order on 4129 2173

Vale Deryck Carden and Brian Isler

Deryck with his Legion of Honour medal last year.

Around 50 mourners, including eight Sub-branch members attended the funeral service of WW2 veteran, Deryck Carden, on May 27.

The simple, but moving service was held in the Tiaro Memorial Hall.

Family members and friends paid tribute to Deryck, 92, who was a British Army veteran of the Normandy D-Day Landings.

Deryck fought throughout France, Belgium and the Netherlands for the remainder of WW2.

Last year he was presented with the prestigious French Legion of Honour medal by the French Ambassador for his service to France in WW2.

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I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.
Malaysian pilgrimage to ‘forgotten’ Diggers’ graves

Services held in Taiping, Ipoh, Batu Gaja and Sued Putra

The ceremony at the Kamunting Road Christian Cemetery contains the graves of 28 Diggers who were killed during the Malayan Emergency. It was the first of four ceremonies conducted over the four day pilgrimage.

Mr McNeill said that when his group first started their pilgrimage to Malaysia, this cemetery was overgrown.

He made representation to the Australian War Graves Commission who later took responsibility for maintaining the graves of Australian, British and other Commonwealth troops buried there.

He also warmly praised the soldiers and officers of the 9th Rangers, Royal Malaysian Army and the members of the Warriors Association of Malaysia for the unstinting support they have provided on this and previous visit.

The 9th Rangers provided the Flag Marshalls for the ceremony.

Mr McNeill also thanked the Australian Department of Veterans Affairs for providing crosses bearing tributes which were submitted by schoolchildren from around Australia.

Music for the ceremony was provided by the Royal Australian Navy Veterans’ Band, which had paid its own way from Australia to support the pilgrimage.

At Batu Gaja, locals refer to the cemetery at the Holy Trinity Christian Church, as “God’s Little Acre”.

It contains the graves of a great many planters, tin miners and workers killed by the CTs.

Among them is the grave of Richard Codner MC, killed in March 1952. In WW2, a German POW, he was an escapee in the famous “Wooden Horse” breakout.

Ken McNeill addresses the veterans at the Taiping ceremony

Ann and Pete Kelly of Tiaro RSL Sub-branch lay a cross and poppy on the grave of Cpl J.N. Allan of 2RAR, who was killed in 1956.

Malaysian Army Rangers raise the Australian and Malaysian flags.

Pumice is the only rock that floats in water.
Ken McNeill, in white shirt, with the Australian Defence Adviser to Malaysia, Group Captain Wendy Horder, were among those presented with Certificates of Appreciation at a ceremony in Ipoh Town Hall.

TWO AUSSIIES RECEIVE APPRECIATION AWARDS

The Australian Defence Adviser, Group Captain Wendy Horder, and Ken McNeill were two to receive Appreciation Certificates from the Perak Government at a ceremony in Ipoh.

At a ceremony and lunch held in the Ipoh Town Hall after the official ceremony, the two were among a handful to receive the awards.

Once again, during this ceremony, the Royal Australian Navy Veterans Band was one of a group of musical entertainers to perform.

Later during the pilgrimage, the British High Commissioner to Malaysia, Her Excellency Vicki Treadell, unsparingly praised the professionalism and dedication of the band and its conductor, Doug Drysdale, on their sterling support for the event.

She almost pleaded with the band to come again next year.

Doug Drysdale is a former RAN band member and was also a member of the South Australian Police Band.

At the earlier Ipoh Remembrance Ceremony, soldiers of 8/9RAR, who were stationed at Butterworth with the 2/30th Training Group, provided the Catafalque Guard.

LEFT: A NZ soldier’s grave marker.

BELOW LEFT: The RAN Veterans Band in action.

BELOW: Soldiers of 8/9 RAR who mounted the Catafalque Guard at the Ipoh ceremony.
Son of a legendary RSM paid his respects

Among the members of the RAN Veterans’ Band was trombonist Patrick Steer, pictured at right, who is the son of former RMC Duntroon and AHQ RSM, Peter Steer.

Peter was a 6ft 7inch member of the King’s Company, Grenadier Guards and he first came to Australia as the batman to the Governor of Victoria shortly before the outbreak of WW2.

After WW2 service he joined the Australian Army as a WO1 in 1952 and served in Korea with 2RAR and later became the RSM of the Battalion.

Patrick served with 3RAR as a band member in 1961 and later with the RMC Duntroon Band when his father was the RSM there.

“Dad used to chip me for some imaginary dress blemish every time he inspected the Band,” he said.

Patrick returned to 3RAR in 1963 and served in Malaysia, Thailand and was with 1Pl, A Company, 3RAR at Stass in Borneo during the Indonesian Confrontation campaign when Paddy Young was its CSM.

Gurkha cemetery was upgraded

The President of the Warriors’ Association of Malaysia is a former senior Malayan Police Officer, Dato R. Thambipillay and was the founder of the Association.

He said the annual Ipoh ceremony had begun in the 1960s but had ceased in the 1970s when most British troops had departed.

He personally revived the Cenotaph in 2000. It was constructed in 1925, and stands between the Town Hall and the magnificent railway station.

Dato Thambipillay saw the need to initiate a commemorative remembrance in 2005 at the Gurkha Cemetery which is in the grounds of the 2nd Royal Ranger Regiment where 28 Gurkhas are buried.

Two marble slabs were recently erected as a memorial and 28 trees planted on either side of the path leading to the cemetery.

The cost of these and other improvements to the grounds was met by local donations and the Warriors’ Association of Malaysia.

At the Gurkha service, the Nepalese Ambassador, Dr Niranjan Man Singh Basnyat, presented a cheque for cemetery maintenance, and laid a wreath at the memorial.

BELOW LEFT: Pete Kelly of Tiaro RSL Sub-branch, and Dato Tham-bipillay at the Ipoh Cenotaph.

BELOW: The Gurkha Pipes and Drums from Brunei strut their stuff, with the RAN Veterans’ Band in the background.
Malaysian pilgrimage to ‘forgotten’ Diggers’ graves

ABOVE: A group of Australians pose at the base of the Ipoh Cenotaph following the formal ceremony.

RIGHT: A section of the Royal Australian Navy Veterans’ Band entertain at the Taiping New Club.

BELOW: Ann Kelly lays a cross on a British Army mate of husband Pete. The mate was one of three 13/18th Hussars killed while serving with Pete in 1959 in Malaya.

ABOVE: Ken Gordon inspects some of the Gurkha graves at the 2nd Malaysian Rangers’ camp.
Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!

There was also time for several social activities

ABOVE: A “beer tower” on the table saved a lot of time chasing waiter service for the Kellys, Ken Gordon and Martina Gogarty at dinner. Functions were held at Ipoh Town Hall, Riverfront Hotel, the Kinta Golf Club at Batu Gaja, the Taiping New Club and the Syuen Hotel in Ipoh.

COMMUNITY AND MEMBER ASSISTANCE

Over the past few months the Sub-branch has assisted community groups and two WW2 members of the Sub-branch through our welfare program.

A reverse-cycle air-conditioner and window blind has been installed in the community kitchen following complaints of excessive heat in the kitchen. Fraser Coast Regional Council had been asked to install a range hood to help lessen the heat load.

Contract gardeners were employed to manage the properties of the two senior Sub-branch members who could no longer manage their properties.

Following a representation from our Sub-branch, Fraser Coast Regional Council has agreed to install a range-hood in the kitchen.

Other welfare programs are currently being investigated.

Tiaro Foodworks: your one-stop shopping centre
A long-time proud supporter of the Tiaro RSL Sub-branch

Tiaro Foodworks is the local shopping hub for a 30km radius. It is a one-stop venue selling a wide selection of groceries, newspapers and magazines, hardware, dairy produce, fresh vegetables and take-away foods. It also has its own well stocked Post Office.

Competitive prices, friendly staff and plenty of parking are all part of the Foodworks’ service.

Malaysian pilgrimage to Ipoh

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Legal Aid Queensland is reminding veterans and war widows/widowers who are trying to gain disability pensions, that they can apply to access free legal assistance.

The War Veterans’ Legal Aid Scheme provides free legal help to eligible veterans and their dependants who want to appeal a decision made about disability entitlements by the Veterans’ Review Board.

Legal Aid Qld Acting CEO Paul Davey said Legal Aid Qld was concerned some veterans may be paying for legal assistance when going before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, rather the getting free legal help.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

“Veterans or their war widows/widowers can contact Legal Aid Qld on 1300 651 188 to find out about their entitlements,” Mr Davey said.

“To be eligible for the scheme, veterans or their widows/widowers must have a case for a ‘war-caused’ pension claim that has been presented to the Veterans’ Review Boar and refused.

“The matter can then be appealed to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and a Legal Aid lawyer will be able to represent the veteran or war widow/widower.

“Our legal representative will prepare the case, gather evidence including medical or other expert reports and provide representation at the hearing.”

Mr Davey said there was no charge to veterans or their widows/ widowers who appeal to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

“Legal Aid Queensland will provide high quality service that will help them with their appeal at no cost,” he said.

“There are no fees involved — not even when they win their case,” he added.

**NEW DISTRICT BOARD ELECTED**

At the Calliope District General Meeting, held in mid-May, the following members were elected to the District Board.

* PRESIDENT: Neil Burrows.
* DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Craig Fothergill.
* TREASURER: Colin Bell.
* VICE PRESIDENTS: Don Davey and Brian Tidyman.