



## **Special Interest Articles:**

- President's Report
- Highlights from District Council Meeting.
- Membership renewals, don't forget!.

## **Individual Highlights:**

- Care Programs 3
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*The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance*

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Prepared for Sub-Branch Board Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011

### Sub-branch goals:

- Look after the veteran and ex-service community of Magnetic Island
- Commemorate the sacrifice of Australians in conflicts
- Support the young people of our community
- Engage with community support agencies

### President's action against goals

- Veteran and ex-service community of Magnetic Island
  - Vale Charles Stephen Coleman, sub-branch. Steve's funeral and memorial service were well attended by friends, family and RSL colleagues and dignitaries. Steve was accorded the rite of the RSL ritual, which was led with distinction by past-president Jim Davis.
  - Magnetic Island Community Care, Tuesday Club. MICC, which has a number of veterans among their clients, has commenced using the Hall during the wet months to avail themselves of our air-conditioning and kitchen facilities. No charge for Hall usage has been levied as this support falls under our charter of support to our community.

### Commemorate the sacrifice of Australians in conflicts

- Remembrance Day:
  - The ceremony held at the Memorial Stone in the gardens of the Hall was well attended by VIPs and locals including the speaker WGCDR Stewart Dowrie CO No 38 SQN RAAF, Rev Beryl Finch Padre, Ewen Jones (member for Herbert), Councilor Trevor Roberts (TCC), Ewan Cameron (District President), Katherine Herlihy (DVA), members of the ADF and the Navy Cadets.

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*“The rules have been drafted and are to be endorsed by the board before they are circulated to the stallholders.”*



Poised and ready to move, Private (PTE) Greg Harris and PTE Peter Hallin from 5th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (5RAR), Recon Platoon, practice room entry drills during Close Quarter Battle (CQB) training in Dili, East Timor.

- Poppies were given to the Sunbus drivers on the Island (as was done on the mainland) and poppies were sold around the Island including the Ferry terminal.
- Support the young people of our community
  - Nothing to report
- Engage with community support agencies
  - Friday Night Markets.
    - *Rules for the markets.* The rules have been drafted and are to be endorsed by the board before they are circulated to the stallholders.
    - *Season of Goodwill.* I am working with the stallholders to have market nights with a Christmas feel. The committee is considering a variation to fees for stallholders for one or two evenings.
- Other business
  - *Constitution and ATO scrutiny.* The committee established a working group to consider the sub-branch's position on the new constitution and the ATO requirements. The Secretary Pat Trewin and Jim Davis responded to the issues. Jim was appointed by the Board to represent the sub-branch in Brisbane at the Taxation conference and the extraordinary meeting. Jim has been authorised to act on behalf of the sub-branch.

**David Pierce**  
President

Magnetic Island RSL Sub Branch  
20th November 2011

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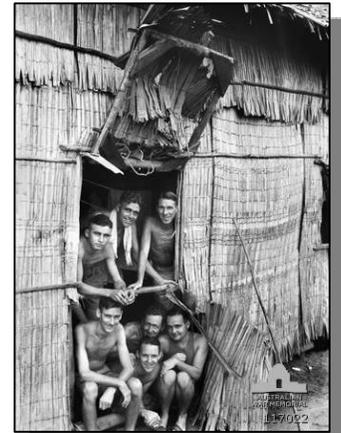
## Veterans Pharmaceutical Reimbursement

Veterans who have qualifying service and are in receipt of a disability pension (or equivalent under other Department of Veterans' Affairs administered entitlements) will receive this additional support towards their health care needs.

**NOTE: For a veteran on a Gold or White Card and have not been on or applied for Service Pension will need to apply to DVA to make a determination on their qualifying service status.**

The Scheme will be effective from 1 January 2012, with the first reimbursements to be made in early 2013. For eligible veterans, the reimbursements will cover the gap between the pharmaceutical allowance component of the Pension Supplement and the pharmaceutical safety net.

Factsheet HSV-132 Veterans' Pharmaceutical Reimbursement Scheme is available from the DVA at <http://factsheets.dva.gov.au/>



Singapore Straits Settlements, 19 September 1945: members of 2/18th Australian Infantry Battalion, prisoners of war of the Japanese, in Changi prison. *Courtesy the Australian War Memorial*

## The Coordinated Veterans' Care (CVC) Program

The Coordinated Veterans' Care (CVC) Program is a positive step to improve the wellbeing and quality of care for chronically ill Gold Card holders.

The program will pay General Practitioners and nursing providers to coordinate care for Gold Card holders who are at risk of hospitalisation.

Through improved community based care, the program is intended to improve the health of participants by:

- providing ongoing planned and coordinated care from your GP and a nurse
- educating and empowering participants to self manage their conditions, and
- encouraging the most socially isolated to participate in community activities.

For GPs and nursing providers:

A Guide for General Practice can be downloaded here and provides further

information on the CVC

Program, including 'Setting Up Your Practice', 'Eligibility' and 'How to Claim'.

**Please note:** There is no CVC Enrolment form or Care Plan template. Sample care plan templates can be found at <http://www.cvcprogram.net.au/> and further details are provided in the Guide for General Practice.

Training Resources for GPs and Nursing Providers

- The CVC training Modules are being progressively rolled out over the next nine months. Module 1 entitled "Is Your Service Ready?" is now available.
- The Training Modules can be viewed at

<http://www.cvcprogram.net.au/training>

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*"Through improved community based care, the program is intended to improve the health of participants."*

## Ewan Cameron: A Profile

**Name:** Ewan Cameron  
**District:** N/Queensland District  
**Year Elected:** August 2009 as District President

### Other Significant Positions Held in the RSL:

President Rollingstone Sub Branch (dates) - 2004 - 2010

### Brief Work History:

- Bank Officer 1973
- Australian Army 1974 - 1999
- Owner and sole trader - retail and wholesale nursery industry 1999 - 2002

### Brief Military History:

Major Ewan Cameron served in Infantry regimental postings as a Rifleman, Platoon Commander, Company Second-In-Command and Operations Officer with; the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Battalion and 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Battalions of The Royal Australian Regiment and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup> Battalions of The Royal Tasmania Regiment.

Ewan is a graduate of OCTU and Officer Cadet School, Portsea. He transferred from the ARA to the Reserve Force in 1999. His last posting in the ARA was 2IC Land Command Battle School.

Ewan was employed as a Reservist at HQ 3 Brigade as S301 (Ops LO) when the Brigade deployed to East Timor in 1999, leaving him behind to conduct the Rear Details responsibilities. This was the busiest job he had ever been employed in either as a FT or PT member. On the Brigade's return he transferred to HQ 11 Brigade where he was employed as the Brigade Intelligence Officer (S2), before moving to the Land Warfare Centre (North Queensland), initially as Deputy

Commandant.

Ewan's recent employment included a project to redevelop a precinct in Lavarack Barracks (Passchendaele Lines) and relocating the Army Reserve's 11<sup>th</sup> Brigade from Jezzine Barracks to Lavarack Barracks in Townsville, which he conducted on a full time and part time basis, whilst also being employed as the SO2 OPS (BM) of HQ 11 Bde for four months. He has recently completed other significant project work on behalf of Commander 11 Bde contributing to the Reserve Individual Training Capability including writing 11 Bde Individual Training SOPs and conducting TAA04 Training Supervisor and Qualified Assessor courses for members of 11 Bde. Ewan is currently posted as the Officer Commanding Queensland University Regiments' North Queensland Company conducting Army Reserve Officer and Soldier training.

### Other Relevant Community Work:

Vice President (NQ) RAR Association QLD (INC)  
 Past Secretary Rollingstone Historical Society  
 Past Chair Rollingstone and District Business Group  
 Member Mystic Sands Golf Club

### Other Relevant Information:

Interests / Hobbies

- Rugby Union (occasionally playing Golden Oldies still)
- Camping holidays with three teenage children; Fiona, Angus and David
- Rebuilding a 1981 SWB Nissan Patrol (owned since new)
- A 56 year old Daimler saloon still rests in a shed awaiting attention.

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*"Ewan's recent employment included a project to redevelop a precinct in Lavarack Barracks (Passchendaele Lines)."*



Royal Australian Air Force  
90th Anniversary

*Photo Courtesy The Australian Army*

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*"This was the busiest job he had ever been employed in either as a FT or PT member."*

## Planning for 2012 ANZAC Day commemorations

Planning for the 2012 ANZAC day commemorations was kicked off very successfully at a meeting held at the Magnetic Island RSL Hall at 4:30 pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.

The meeting was well attended and after the opening welcome delivered by David Pierce, the group agreed that detailed planning of logistics and arrangements was an essential part of ensuring that all things run smoothly on the day.

It was unanimously agreed that it is essential that all stakeholders and interested parties be kept fully up to date with any and all arrangements.

It was agreed that such information will be regularly published as "Latest News" updates on the RSL website and as articles in the newsletter.

Previous committee members shared important planning details and information with the new committee.

It was emphasised that all stake holders

such as Sealink, the school, property owners, the SES, Police, bus services and many others will need to be updated and consulted with all arrangements that are being formulated.

The committee then proceeded with the development of a formal project time line.

It was also agreed that a call for volunteers will be made as soon as possible, giving all ample time to adjust personal arrangements.

If you have any comments or would like to provide input to the process, please contact the RSL office or by simply submit your comment via the "Contact and Admin" page on the web site.



Her Majesty The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh laid a wreath at the Australian War Memorial as part of their Royal Tour of Australia.  
*Photo Courtesy The Australian Army*

## Renewals of 2012 RSL Memberships

All members are advised that they need to renew your membership fees before **28 Feb 2012** otherwise you will be required to make **another** application to join.

This is because the new computerised Membership Management System automatically deregisters anyone who has not paid by that time.

The best times to pay your fees are during Friday Markets (see the Committee member on duty) or ring the office to find out when it is attended.

Fees are \$20 for ex-Service member and \$10 for Citizen's Auxiliary (non-Service) member.

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computerised  
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Australian Army engineers pour cement into a platform for a water catchment, while school children from St Joseph School, Vanuatu look on. The engineering assistance project is one of many being completed during Pacific Partnership 2011.  
*Photo Courtesy The Australian Army*

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**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

[www.rslmagneticisland.com](http://www.rslmagneticisland.com)

## Afghan and Australian troops seize insurgent poppy seed cache

7 December 2011

Afghan National Security Force (ANSF), Special Operations Task Group (SOTG) and US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) personnel have destroyed 1785kg of poppy seed during a successful mission in Helmand Province.

The ANSF's National Interdiction Unit led the mission into Baghran on Friday, 2 December 2011, to clear an identified narcotics production facility and network.

Commanding Officer of the SOTG, Lieutenant Colonel G (who cannot be named for security reasons), said the DEA assessed the street value of the poppy seeds to be US\$8,925 if sold in Afghanistan.

"While this dollar amount is not significant, if the poppy seeds were cultivated, processed into heroin, and sold in the United States, the DEA assess the find would potentially be worth more than US\$717 million," Lieutenant Colonel G said.

The ANSF and DEA destroyed the poppy seeds in location. It is believed the seeds were being cached in preparation for the 2012 growing season. High grade poppy seeds are generally highly protected by insurgents as they are crucial to

sustaining production.

Lieutenant Colonel G said the combined force elements were heavily engaged by insurgents throughout the mission.

"The Afghan National Security Force, Special Operations Task Group and Drug Enforcement Administration force elements were involved in seven separate contacts," Lieutenant Colonel G said.

"A number of insurgents were killed during the mission however no ANSF, SOTG or DEA personnel were killed or wounded.

"Destroying the poppy seed and removing insurgents from the area will affect the insurgency's ability to operate effectively during the winter months."

"While insurgents continue to bring narcotics operations into civilian areas, they will disrupt Afghans going about their daily lives," Lieutenant Colonel G said.

National Interdiction Unit operations focus on targeting the Afghan narcotics trade and the threat it poses to the long term security, development and governance of Afghanistan.

*Courtesy: Australian Department of Defense*

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