



Terrigal Wamberal RSL sub Branch

NEWSLETTER

President's Message

ANZAC DAY UPDATE

With the easing of restrictions, our amended plans for a COVID safe ANZAC DAY Dawn Service are well advanced. **We now have permission to march.**

The approved COVID plan requires us to record the names and contact details of participating veterans and family attending the service. While we would like everyone to register in advance, QR codes will be available at various locations for registration on the day. Veterans wishing to march are requested to assemble outside the Police station in Church Street at 5 am. The short march to the Memorial is scheduled for 5.15 am, and this should allow sufficient time for everyone to be in place for the commencement of the service at 5.30 am. ***The Secretary will communicate with you soon regarding registration procedures.***

The surf club is not available for refreshments after the service.

The sub-Branch breakfast at Breakers will begin at 8 am, followed by the 11 am service. Tickets for breakfast will be \$30pp and will be on sale early next month.

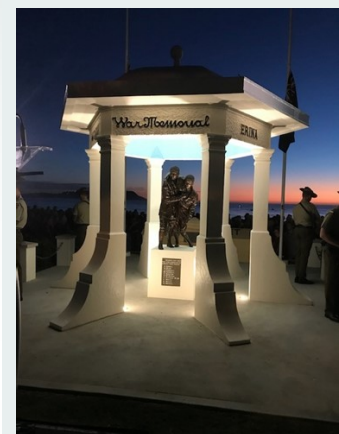
The year ahead.....

Pension and welfare advocacy is available. Please contact the sub-Branch office if you need assistance.

The Committee is considering several social activities that comply with our purpose of promoting social connection, including an overnight destination, day trips and barbecues.

I'm optimistic that we can now plan sub-Branch activities this year with confidence.

Terry Saxby



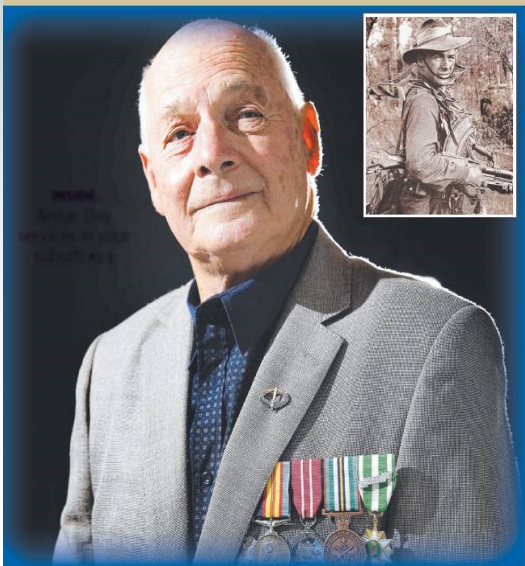
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meet The Members 2
Christmas Luncheon.....3
Anzac Day 2015 remembered..4
Upcoming Events

- Sub-Branch meeting 10 April
- Anzac Day

Meet the Members

Jim Burke



Jim was uncertain about his future and life in general in the early sixties and decided to join the CMF.

When Australia committed troops to Vietnam and announced compulsory national service, Jim was too impatient to wait for his call-up and volunteered.

He commenced national service in 1965, and after initial and basic infantry training, he was transferred to the Australian Reinforcement Unit and was posted to Vietnam in 1966. He joined D Company 6RAR after the Battle of Long Tan and remained with

the Company for the next ten months.

After discharge, he started a successful drainage business with his wife, Lee. They sold the business and moved to the Central Coast about ten years ago.

Jim is a Trustee and respected member of the sub-Branch.



6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) was raised at Alamein Barracks in Brisbane on 6 June 1965. It arrived in Vietnam throughout June 1966 and formed half of the 1st Australian Task Force (1ATF) with 5RAR. It was stationed at Nui Dat in Phuoc Tuy province.

Sub-Branch Christmas Luncheon

COVID created havoc with our planned social activities last year; however, we were able to hold our traditional Christmas luncheon with the easing of restrictions. An excellent crowd of about 70 attended and enjoyed the occasion, especially for those who suffered in isolating during the pandemic lockdown periods.

Breakers' meal and service were first class, and Mike Murphy and his band entertained us. Some of our members were grateful that dancing was not allowed.

Thank you to Roger Wrightson, who organised an extensive range of door prizes. We also acknowledge and appreciate the help from Peg, Barry and Lorraine for setting up the tables. Even George Schmidt lent a hand.

The luncheon was a great way to finish the year.



ANZAC DAY 2015 Remembered



The March

A record crowd of more than 5000 people packed the Terrigal foreshore for an emotional-charged service.

The Gallipoli landing re-enactment was a spectacular feature of the service. Twelve surfboats, led by the 18th Battalion Living History Group, rowed ashore to the sound of gunfire and flares lighting the sky.

Keynote speakers were Samantha Akerley (Terrigal High School) and the member for Terrigal Adam Crouch.



Crowd on the beach watching the re-enactment



The ceremony

Bet ya didn't know this....

"Why did the US choose a US Navy battleship as the location for Japan's surrender in WW 2 even though they were in Tokyo Bay and could have used a building on land.?? Pure symbolism..!!

Nothing says "you're utterly defeated" than having to board the enemy's massive battleship in the waters of your own capital city. A naval vessel is considered sovereign territory for the purposes of accepting a surrender.

The Navy originally wanted the USS South Dakota to be the surrender site. It was US President Truman who changed it to USS Missouri, Missouri being Truman's home state. The Japanese delegation had to travel across water to the Missouri, which sat at the center of a huge US fleet.

In addition, the USS Missouri flew the flag of Commodore Perry's 19th century gun-boat diplomacy mission that opened the closeted Edo-era Japan to the world in 1845 and forced upon them the Meiji restoration which ended the rule of the samurai class. The symbolism here is pretty clear - "this is how we want you to be and remember what happens to countries that defy us."

It was particularly humiliating for a proud country like Japan, and that was entirely the point. The symbolism of the ceremony was even greater than that. The ship was anchored at the precise latitude/longitude recorded in Perry's log during his 1845 visit, symbolizing the purpose of both visits to open Japan to the West. Perry's original flag was also present, having been flown all the way from the Naval Academy for the ceremony.

When the Japanese delegation came aboard, they were forced to use a stairway situated just forward of turret #1. The freeboard (distance between the ship's deck and the water line) there makes the climb about twice as long as if it had been set up farther aft, where the freeboard of the ship is less. NOTE: This was even more of an issue for the Japanese surrender party as the senior member, Foreign Affairs Minister Shigemitsu, was crippled by an assassination attempt in 1932, losing his right leg in the process.

The #1 and #2 turrets had been traversed about 20 degrees to starboard. The ostensible reason for this was to get the turret overhangs out of the way to create more room for the ceremony on the starboard veranda deck, but in fact this would have only required traversing turret #2 had it been the real reason. However, the turret position also put the gun tubes directly over the heads of the Japanese. They were literally boarding the ship "under the gun".


The honour guard of US sailors were all hand-picked to be over six feet tall, a further intimidation of the short-statured Japanese. The surrender documents themselves, one copy for the Allies and one for the Japanese contained identical English-language texts, but the Allied copy was bound in good quality leather, while the Japanese copy was bound with light canvas whose stitching looked like it had been done by a drunken tailor using kite string.

After the signing ceremony, the Japanese delegation was not invited for tea and cookies; they were shuffled off the ship as an Allied air armada of over 400 aircraft flew overhead as a final reminder that American forces still had the ability to continue fighting should the Japanese have second thoughts on surrender."

Now you know !!....Interesting !!


GREENWAY
CHAPEL & MEMORIAL GARDENS


CREIGHTONS
FUNERAL SERVICE


PALMDALE
LAWN CEMETERY & MEMORIAL PARK



OUR DISCOUNT OFFER FOR YOU

We would like to offer you


- **10% Off** Creightons Funeral Services
- **10% Off** Greenway & Palmdale Memorial Sites


We invite you to enquire about our pre-paid options, where these discounts will also apply.

Visit and explore our facilities at Greenway Chapel and Memorial Gardens, and Palmdale Memorial Park. Tour our numerous gardens, Defence Memorials and spacious chapels that are fitted with the latest in audio-visual technology, equipped for complimentary live-streaming. All facilities are located on-site at Greenway and Palmdale, including fully catered, private function rooms and a café. Feel comfortable knowing you are in safe hands with our friendly and experienced teams.

Contact our friendly team to learn more and organise a visit to one of our locations, including our newly refurbished Erina Heights Chapel (pictured below), exclusive to Creightons Funeral Service.



 1300 130 955

 creightonsfuneralservice.com.au