



NGVR/PNGVR
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VOLUME 46 APRIL 2006: PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

ANZAC Day is almost upon us. This year we have a number of functions and ceremonies to attend including the Regimental Mixed Dinner Reunion at Gallipoli Barracks; the Open Day at our Museum at Wacol; ANZAC Day march followed by our NGVR Memorial Service and Reunion Reception.

Many of our out of town members who cannot visit Brisbane will be attending ANZAC Day functions in many cities and towns across Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

Welfare Officer, Paul Brown was quick to react after cyclone 'Larry' hit the north Queensland, by making contact with 11 of our members whose addresses were in 'Larry's' path. Whilst most received various degrees of property damage, not to mention the stress having no power & water for some time, no one was seriously injured compared to less fortunate folk we all watched on TV. It was a relief to hear that our members came through the ordeal.

Our Museum project which is managed by John Holland is progressing well. We have received two special one off grants to assist with establishment and display costs (1) \$3,000 approved by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Bruce Billson, MP for display equipment and (2) \$18,381 from the Queensland Government Gambling Community Benefit Fund to completely air condition (reverse cycle) our entire museum.

We still need to do a lot more work such as cataloguing our collection, maintaining display and arranging regular showings to the public, particularly school children. This is ongoing work and John is organizing two working bees (Saturday 29 April & Saturday 6 May) starting at 0900 hours with a BYO Bar-B-Q lunch. Please help if you can. Phone John Holland on 07 3800 1554 for details.

Whilst much other work is being done by the Executive Committee Members, the most pressing issues involve arranging the public presentation of the Australian Service Medal 1945-1975 with PNG Clasp, to our PNG PNGVR comrades in Port Moresby, Mt Hagen and other locations in PNG on Remembrance Day on 23 July 2006. (To be confirmed) We are also working on establishing a working administrative structure to support PNGVR Ex Member Associations in Mt Hagen, Rabaul and other main centers or similar PNG bodies within PNG for our comrades.

This work requires additional funding or in kind travel and accommodation to and from Australia and inside Papua New Guinea to complete. Whoever has a contact or can help in any way, please contact our Secretary, Col Gould as soon as possible. Col's mobile is 042 456 2030 or email pngvr@optusnet.com.au

The Committee and I look forward to seeing you at the Brisbane ANZAC Day march and weekend functions. To all our members around Australia, Papua New Guinea and other overseas locations, the Committee wishes you a successful ANZAC Day.

Phil Ainsworth