



TPI *News*



TPI Front Office

Gaynor Tilley receiving the TPI Meritorious Award

TPI House

Wayne Norton winner of the \$100 Monthly Meeting Prize



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They live and breathe with you,
They walk here now at your side,
They tell you things that are true."

NAVY

G.B. Roberts

ARMY

D. Kidd
L.B. Dewsnap
F.T. Holtmann
L. Macpanas
T.L. White
R.J. Behrendt

Contents

President's Report.....	1-2
Editorial	3
Federation President's Report.....	6
TPI Noticeboard & Dates to Remember.....	8
Japan's New Defence Sparks Beijing Backlash.....	9-10
TPI (SA) Anzac Day Report.....	14
Welfare & Hospital Report	15
A Wall of Honour.....	16
HMAS Anzac Returns to Homeport.....	17
The B-21 Bomber Australia's Next Deterrent.....	18-19
Managing China's Missile Threat.....	20-21
TPI and Veterans Social Golf Club.....	22
Notices	23-24
Contending with Rampant Change in a Digital Age.....	25

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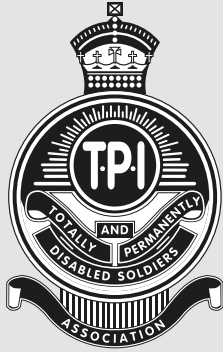
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¹ Emissions vary depending on driving conditions/style, vehicle condition & options/accessories fitted.



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(Services)

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Tony Mogridge

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(Office Volunteer)

Mark Thompson

(Office Volunteer)

Rod Pope

(Bar Manager)

Garry White

(Library/Memorabilia)



TPI Office

(08) 8351 8140

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by

Leon Eddy OAM



Greeting's members, it is time to adapt our Association to meet current needs. We need to consider changing our Constitution. We have had to refuse membership to some Veterans who have 100% Disabilities and cannot work but are not classed as TPI. Our job is to care for disabled Veterans.

The Government classifications under MRCA, DRCA, SRCA etc have moved the goalposts substantially and our Constitution does not allow us to accept non-TPIs as members. So, we must change the Constitution to stay legal.

I know the majority of members will support the change as our survey in the June 2017 Newsletter showed a great majority (84.6%) of members in favour of opening membership to persons in receipt of a DVA Disability Pension. Our members are generous to disabled Diggers.

I do not understand all the nuances of the current pension categories, nor do I fully understand the needs of our younger Veterans. Therefore, we have set up a sub-committee to research the current situation and report to the members.

This sub-committee is: -

- Brett Grosser (Chair) a new Committeeman (who is a lawyer).
- Mark Thompson, a younger Veteran and Committeeman who is studying the new ATDP pensions regime.
- Gary Pope, Vice-President Administration.
- John Genovese, Vice-President Services.
- Tony Mogridge until recently our VP Admin who has controlled our Constitution for twenty odd years and is now a Committeeman.

This committee will report to the Association Committee and the members at General Meetings. It will explain the shortcomings of our current Constitution, why it needs changing and what it will change too. It will be a slow careful process and adjust depending on member feedback. I expect the changes to be considered and adapted ready for a vote by members at a Special General Meeting to be held immediately after our Annual General Meeting on March 8th, 2022.

I urge you to consider the future governance of your Association. We have a healthy enterprise here. It is sorely needed and must continue, but to continue it must be relevant to the Veterans currently leaving Defence. It is not a poor Association, and we must ensure that the hard work that has put us in this healthy position is husbanded and continues to grow the Association. Please send your comments to Brett at the Office.

We are now informed that the training of Welfare Officers is to revert to being the responsibility of DVA. This is how it used to be under the TIP program but changed under the ATDP. It should be understood here that I am talking only about Welfare Officers. Nobody in the Management of this Association is qualified to comment on Pension Officers other than to say that they are a dedicated group of people fighting hard for their Veteran mates. It was nonsense to take the welfare training away from DVA, after all, advocates must fit DVA criteria and regulations.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1.

For anybody but DVA to oversee the training is ridiculous. I don't want to say it but "We told you this wouldn't work".

The public servants in ATDP created their little bureaucracy that was particularly good at forming groups and cliques and giving them acronyms to confuse us all. They produced nice 14-page Newsletters in full colour that were big on telling us about all the meetings they had had but they achieved little in the way of actually training advocates. Indeed, they disenfranchised many Welfare Officers of long-standing by expecting them to continue studying to become more highly qualified when these people simply wanted to continue serving their fellow Veterans, AS THEY HAVE DONE FOR YEARS.

Because these Welfare Officers did not continue further studies, they were dropped from the Welfare program and lost liability insurance coverage. Maybe now we can get back to DVA giving refresher courses to ensure that Welfare Officers are aware of current procedures but not insisting that Welfare Officers continue training up to legal knowledge of compensation.

This Association alone has 30 volunteer office workers and 10 volunteer hospital visitors who will assist the Department by liaising with their fellow Veterans. If you consider all the Welfare Officers in all the ESOs, there are now many people who have been disenfranchised for five years and who need DVA conducted information courses. The ball is back in the DVA court.

Who knows if we have a rash of logic breaking out, we might even see "Open Arms" get back to calling itself "Veterans Counselling Service"?

Take care of each other,

Leon.

NEW MEMBERS

NAVY

M. Booth

ARMY

D.M. Hassam

N.A. Goedings

A. P. Jupp

B.P.Sanders

A. Fell

M.J. Hawdio

J.N. Cornwill

N.J. Franklin

R.C.Parslow

Editorial J.F GENOVESE



TPI SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION TIME

As you know, TPI has provided tertiary scholarships for some years now. Please encourage your children/grandchildren to apply. You will find information about the scholarships on pages 13 and 14. Don't leave it to the last moment to apply. If you need further information contact the TPI office Monday to Friday between 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

More welcome news for you:

You can now walk into DVA and talk to someone without an appointment. I have lifted the below DVA announcement directly from the DVA website for everyone's benefit.

Please, for those of you that have computers, iPads, tablets and/or Smartphones) go to the DVA website and familiarise yourself with the various DVA web pages. You will note that Factsheets are now only available digitally, that is, you can obtain the Factsheet online. you will need to go on the DVA website to seek the information you require; of course, once found, you will be able to print it off.

For those members who do not have or are unable to access computers, call the TPI office during business hours and we will endeavour to answer your question/s.

Meritorious Service Award – George Hockley (Member Number 3374)

At the May Management Committee meeting, I moved the following motion for discussion and consideration of the committee.

“Mr George Hockley (George), Member # 3347, became a member of the TPI Association (SA Branch) in July 1997. In January 2004, George commenced as an office volunteer on a Friday and has continued his voluntary work since.

George performs his task with alacrity, willingly and always with good humour. When tasked to perform specific tasks, he is reliable and efficient. George is liked by his peers, workmates and management.

Given his attendance over the past seventeen years as an office volunteer, his consistency, esprit de corps, loyalty to his comrades and the Association, I propose he be considered for the TPI Meritorious Service Award”.

It pleases me to report that the motion was carried unanimously by the Management Committee and at the subsequent General meeting of members. Well done George, Congratulations and thank you.

Onya George, Ed.

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Federation President's Report...

By Pat McCabe OAM

The events of the last few months have been many and varied for the TPI Veteran community.

New Minister

The TPI Federation welcomes the new Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel who was sworn in on the 2nd July 2021. Minister Andrew Gee MP's profile can be found at <https://bit.ly/3hXenmD>. The TPI Federation has asked for a meeting with the new Minister and, it is hoped, that he will be able to attend the TPI Federation National Congress in September 2021.



Royal Commission

The second issue of the TPI Federation Royal Commission Newsletter will be released shortly. The inaugural edition can be found at <https://bit.ly/3f6i0BZ>.

The Defence and Veteran Suicide Royal Commission has been established following agreement by the Governor General on 8 July 2021. The official website for the Royal Commission can be found at <https://bit.ly/3psRHya>.

The Royal Commission's Terms of Reference can be found at <https://bit.ly/3i33wYz>. Mr Nick Kaldas APM has been appointed as Chair of the Royal Commission and is a former Australian Police Officer and former Deputy Commissioner of the NSW Police Force. The Prime Minister's media release of the 8th July 2021 announcing the Royal Commission can be found at <https://bit.ly/3r5e1OV>. The Royal Commission is due to provide an interim report on 11 August 2022 and a final report on 15 June 2023.

Submissions close 31st March 2022, and can now be made to the Royal Commission website either through an online form found at <https://bit.ly/3i6W8eL>, or a paper version can be downloaded at <https://bit.ly/3xD54PE> or mailed to GPO Box 3273, Sydney NSW 2001.

All TPIs, and your families, are strongly encouraged to tell the Government your stories, your thoughts and concerns and, if possible, suggestions and recommendations on how your concerns could be addressed.

Senate Inquiry into TPI Compensation Payment

As a result of the last 8-years of campaigning by the TPI Federation (that showed the 7-decades of decline of the TPI Compensation payment) and three Government reviews (Productivity Commission, KPMG Review and the Tune Review) the Labor Party requested that a Senate Inquiry into our TPI Compensation payment occur. A Senate hearing was subsequently held on the 20th of May 2021. The Hearing video can be found at <https://bit.ly/3ub0ENC> or the written Hansard report at <https://bit.ly/3oMcP24>. The TPI Federation submission to this Inquiry can be found at <https://bit.ly/2SlaxLe>.

This report confirmed the need for an increase in the TPI Compensation payment and negated the previous three reviews findings.

The TPI Federation thanks the Labor Party for instigating this Inquiry and all those TPIs, and their families, for the contributions and assistance they have provided in this campaign to achieve this successful result. Of particular note, the TPI Federation extends our appreciation and thanks to Peter Thornton for his enormous contribution to this campaign.

The TPI Federation is now calling on the Government to confirm the Prime Minister's letter of 2 April 2019 (of our "compelling case") and now the Senate Inquiry report to provide greater TPI Economic Loss compensation than the current 61% of the tax-adjusted Minimum Wage. The TPI Federation is also asking all TPIs, and your families, to help by calling upon you local Federal Members to ask the Government for the rightful restoration of the TPI Compensation payment as recommended in the final Senate Inquiry Report of June 2021. Ph: 0417 291 546 Email: federation@tpifed.org.au 2

Rent Assistance

As part of the October 2020 Federal Budget, the Government finally agreed, after 15 years of campaigning by the TPI Federation, and as of September 2022, to allow TPIs eligibility of the Federal Governments Rent Assistance allowance. The TPI Federation disagreed with the length of time this provision would take to be implemented and, as a result, as part of the May 2021 Federal Budget, this timeline was bought forward so that this initiative could commence on the 1st January 2022.

This provision will enable all eligible TPIs to have their TPI Compensation payment not included as income for the purposes of the income and assets test for this allowance. This will enable approximately 2800 TPIs to utilise this allowance.

Further information on this provision can be found at – a. TPI Federation Letter – Rent Assistance Information - <https://bit.ly/36bHIUR>, b. DVA Fact Sheet – Help with your Rent - <https://bit.ly/3wjYIJs>. c. DVA 'How-To' Accommodation Information - <https://bit.ly/3AfJQZM>.

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VEA Disability Optional Assessment Model (OAM)

DVA announced that as of the 31st May 2021, the new VEA Disability Optional Assessment Model is now available for all TPIs. This will enable all TPIs who wish to add medical conditions to their DVA Accepted Disabilities will no longer be obliged to have a full-body reassessment. Previously such a reassessment meant that it was possible that, for some, previously accepted disabilities to be reassessed as they were no longer an issue for the TPI. This new OAM enables any TPI who wishes to have additional medical conditions added to their Accepted Disabilities to opt for either a full-body reassessment, or just an assessment of the new condition. Further information can be found at <https://bit.ly/3hVWYek>. There is no compulsion to do anything and for you to continue with your current Accepted Disabilities. Should you wish to travel overseas – when we can – is possibly the only reason you may wish to consider this option. If you wish to utilise this facility then you will need to contact a Compensation Officer at an Ex-Service Organisation in your area for the appropriate paperwork to be completed. This does not change any of your current entitlements.

Australian War Memorial Redevelopment

The AWM Director, Mr Matt Anderson PSM, has provided a letter at <https://bit.ly/3xxiP21> and a promotional video which can be found at <https://bit.ly/2UHAVQh> as an update on the AWM redevelopment project. This redevelopment of the AWM is vitally important especially to the post-Vietnam Veterans and their families. Without such a record of history that the AWM is, no Veteran would be honoured and remembered in the way that we know it should and has been in the past.

Australian War Memorial Sufferings of War and Service Recognition

Following three years’ work with veterans, their families, ex-service organisations (including the TPI Federation) and the Departments of Defence and Veterans’ Affairs, a new sculpture will be placed on the grounds of the Australian War Memorial recognising the sufferings of war and service that can occur for many families over many decades.

The previous Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, Darren Chester MP, said the sculpture would provide a permanent place at the Australian War Memorial in recognition of those who have experienced and witnessed the ongoing traumas that can result from military service. This is of particular importance to the TPI Veterans, their families and friends.

“The commission will take two years to craft and be a significant work of site-specific, contemporary art and a major addition to the Memorial’s National Collection. Alex Seton’s proposal, Every drop shed in anguish, will be a field of sculpted Australian pearl marble droplets in the Memorial’s Sculpture Garden.

“Every droplet has a unique shape, defined by its delicate surface tension as if about to burst. Their rounded liquid forms suggest blood, sweat or tears — for every drop ever shed in anguish,” artist Alex Seton said. “Most importantly, when touched these forms reveal themselves to have an inner strength and resilience that provides hope and promise of healing.”

Subject to final approval by the National Capital Authority, the installation is expected to be completed in the second half of 2023.” (DVA Minister’s Media Release – 16 June 2021)

Council of the Aging The Royal Commission into Aged Care has been finalised and reported to Government. A result of some of the findings enabled COTA to be assigned as an Aged Care Provider for the ‘Aged Care Navigator’ program. More information on this can be found at <https://bit.ly/36ysRUI>. COTA is a national organisation that can assist Veterans and their families in navigating the MyAgedCare maze that can, at times, be confusing.

What’s important and what’s not

You and your families are important. Australia has another Federal election coming in the next 12 months. The TPI Federation would like to hear from you, and your families, on what you think is most important for you that you would like to see occur as a result of this election. We need you to tell us what is important to you. Can you please drop an email, or make a call to the TPI Federation or your local State/Territory TPI Association, to advise us of what you and your family need and, if possible, how you think what you need can be achieved. Any, and all, information will be treated confidentially.

Final Comments

Should you require hard copies of any of the documents referred to by computer links in this report, please email the TPI Federation or contact your local State/Territory TPI Association.

Should you wish to speak to the TPI Federation, or your local State/Territory TPI Associations, on any of these, or any other issue, please contact me on 0417 291 546 or your TPI office on 8351 8140.

TPI Noticeboard

Dates to remember.

Royal Commission Start – 8 July 2021.

Rent Assistance Eligibility for TPIs begins – 1 January 2022.

Royal Commission Submissions close – 31 March 2022.

Royal Commission Interim Report – 11 August 2022; (Ph: 0417 291 546).

Royal Commission Final Report – 15 June 2023.

September	<p>02 Battle of Khaz Oruzgan, Afghanistan 2008. 04 Battle for Australia Day, Milne Bay, Papua 1942. 14 TPI General Meeting. 14 Australian Peacekeepers' Day. 15 Battle of Britain Day 1940. 16 Capture of Lae, New Guinea 1943. 20 Arrival of INTERFET in East Timor 1999. 26 Battle of Al rumaythan, Iraq 2006.</p>
October	<p>3-8 Battle of Maryang San Korea 1951. 12 TPI General Meeting. 20 First arrival of ADF MovCon Unit (MCU) in Somalia 1992. 31 Anniversary of Battle of Beersheba, Middle East 1917.</p>
November	<p>02 Kokoda Memorial Day. 09 TPI General Meeting. 10 First arrival of Australian contingent of UNAMIC in Cambodia 1991. 11 Remembrance Day 1918. 13 9RAR formed 1967. 19 Sinking of HMAS Sydney (II) 1941. 23 Royal Australian Regiment Formed 1948.</p>
December	<p>03 Arrival of first Australian forces in Afghanistan 2001. 07 Japanese Bombing of Pearl Harbour 1941. 14 TPI General Meeting 2021. 17 TPI Office Closed until January 11th 2022. 31 Anniversary of Conclusion of Operation SLIPPER, Afghanistan 2014.</p>
January 2022	<p>01 Your \$50 Subscriptions are due. 11 Office reopens.</p>

Japan's new defence posture sparks Beijing backlash

By Charbel Kadib

Analysts weigh in on the diplomatic row triggered by Japan's new defence white paper.

Earlier this month, Japan released its latest defence white paper — *Defense of Japan 2021* — which largely promotes continuity from the policy framework established by Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga's predecessor, Shinzo Abe.

However, a striking inclusion in this year's white paper is a strong emphasis on the importance of Taiwan for "Japan's security and the stability of the international community".

This comes amid a marked escalation in tensions between Beijing and Taipei, with the People's Liberation Army (PLA) repeatedly breaching Taiwan's air defence identification zone (ADIZ).

These intimidatory actions have prompted the US Indo-Pacific Command to flag risks of a clash within the next six years.

As such, in its new white paper, Japan states it must "pay close attention to the situation with a sense of crisis more than ever before".

According to Thomas Wilkins — a senior lecturer at the University of Sydney and a senior research fellow at the Japan Institute for International Affairs — and Daisuke Akimoto — an official secretary in Japan's House of Representatives — Japan's new tone has, unsurprisingly, caught Beijing's ire as doubles down on efforts to achieve 'national reunification'.

"Though Japan has maintained warm, if low-key, relations with Taipei, it has traditionally eschewed overt support for the beleaguered island democracy," they write in ASPI's *The Strategist*.

"The 2021 white paper signals a significant policy change."

The white paper also flags the direct ramp up in aggression towards Japan, given heightened tensions in the East China Sea and waters around the Senkaku Islands.

Japan describes these moves as "relentless" attempts to "unilaterally change the status quo by coercion", creating a "grave matter of concern".

In line with these concerns, Japan criticises recently enacted legislation, which empowers China's coast guard, claiming it is inconsistent with international law.

Continued on page 10

Continued from page 9

Among the other security issues raised in the white paper are North Korea's nuclear program, environmental challenges, and the response to natural disasters.

Wilkins and Akimoto observe that this is not mere rhetoric, pointing to references to advancements in Japan's military technology.

"To support Japan's more proactive role in regional diplomacy and security, the white paper showcases recent developments in Japanese defence technology, especially in the new domains of space, cyberspace and the electromagnetic spectrum. This is backed by defence budget increases for nine years running," the analysts continue.

"Japan has invested in defence collaboration with other countries for the development of game-changing military technologies, such as artificial intelligence, hypersonic weapons, quantum technology and 5G.

"Notably, the white paper highlights the development of standoff missile as a strike capability, often described as the 'Japanese Tomahawk'."

However, Wilkins and Akimoto note that despite Japan's strengthened military capacity, the white paper acknowledges the paramount importance of greater cooperation with international partners, including Australia.

"The longstanding alliance with the US, which Japan is actively strengthening, provides a major fillip, due not only to the military power and influence it carries but also to the diplomatic support that the US has afforded to Tokyo through its adoption of the principle of a free and open Indo-Pacific," they add.

"Australia, too, has been a de facto supporter of this principle, and Canberra's 'special strategic partnership' with Tokyo continues to be augmented. The Japanese ambassador to Australia, Shingo Yamagami, recently made overtures to Canberra about engaging Australian support for Japan's predicament in the East China Sea.

"India is another country that Japan looks to in its bid to uphold the regional order, and the partnering process is brought together in the alignment of the four countries through the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue."

Wilkins and Akimoto conclude by observing that despite backlash from Beijing — which includes criticism of Japan's decision to publish a 'warlike' image of an equestrian samurai on the cover — the new white paper provides "firm evidence" of the Suga administration's commitment to upholding national interests and the regional rules-based order through proactive diplomacy, internal mobilisation and enhanced collaboration with allies and partners.



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Yes! Grandchildren of veterans can apply for an AVCAT Scholarship.

Do all applicants receive an AVCAT Scholarship?

The selection process is very competitive and scholarship numbers are limited therefore, not all worthy and eligible applicants will receive a scholarship.

How will my scholarship application be assessed?

Applications are considered by a team of independent assessors and AVCAT's National Selection Committee. The following criteria are used to assess applications: financial need, academic potential and personal circumstances.

What supporting documents do I need for my scholarship application?

It is advisable to start preparing your documents before applications open as this can take a considerable amount of time. You can find more information at avcat.org.au.

When will I be notified of the outcome of my application?

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application from late February through to early March. Applicants will be updated on any change to the timing of notification.

Where can I find more information?

You can find more information on the AVCAT website at avcat.org.au or contact the AVCAT office Monday - Thursday on 02 9213 7999 or at info@avcat.org.au. Register your interest in applying at avcat.org.au/scholarships



'I can say with confidence that my AVCAT scholarship has given me the reach I needed to grab hold of my dreams and aspirations.'

– AVCAT Scholar

A private company's ANZAC DAY Banner

Some companies truly appreciate the sacrifice made by Veterans as is evident by the photo below. Note, there is no company advertising, Company Logo, no self-promotion to be found. Just plain words, Red poppies for the lives lost and Purple poppies honouring the animals lost. "What better way to show gratitude"



To the Management and Staff of ORLANDO WINES

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from

The President and Members of the Totally and Permanently
Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women (SA Branch)

Disabled in our Service – United in our Cause

WWII VETERAN CENTENARIANS SHARING ANZAC DAY WITH S.A. VETERANS MINISTER
the HON. Stephen WADE MP



Welfare & Hospital Report...

by Mick Curry



COVID & Welfare/ Hospital Visitations issues

As I speak, we are in another COVID lockdown. With the likely chance that there may be other times our office will be closed, please use and advise others with welfare needs to post issues for help/follow up on our office after-hours service (08) 83518140.

Many have. Help is always available.

Welfare tasks we are helping with

I was recently asked about the range of areas we get involved in. I list some of the current ones below. In appreciating, that other issues may arise as a concern, as a request if you need help, use your (TPI) Welfare team as the first point of call, refer above regarding 24/7 service.

Some of our current tasks

- a. Hospital Visitations to all Public and Private medical sites. Additionally, the Jamie Larcombe Veterans Mental health Centre. Visit Aged Care or Home situations on request
- b. Support with access to D.V.A. services, e.g. wellness support facilities in the home, e.g. ramps, walking frames, security equipment, home care, DVA provided transport, taxis, ambulance, accounts etc.
- c. Help with end of life issues, Aged Care decisions, Legal support, Funeral Services, limited Department of Human Services help, organize support from other Ex-Service Organisations, such as Legacy, War Widows Guild, RSL Care, Partners of Veterans, Children & Partners & family of Veterans,
- d. Incorrect billing issues e.g. SA Health, SA pathology, SA Ambulance, Pharmaceuticals, Medals & Awards, Consumer Health, DVA advocacy and more.

TPI presence in Veterans Wellbeing Centre of the Repat

This Centre was as advised opened 18/4 (see picture). One of your hospital visitation volunteers Kym Brumfield is working there part-time as our rep with the team moved from the Plympton Veterans Centre (see picture).

As the centre is identified by our members & others as a resource for our use, there may be a bigger presence for us there.

A Wall of Honour... by Mick Curry

The Veterans Wellbeing Centre (VWC) honours the below-named veterans for their significant contribution to the VWC and veteran community

Rooms, corridors etc. will be named in their honour.



Kim Brumfield and Darren Renshaw

- **Warren Featherby OAM**
- **Guy Bowering OAM**
- **Ronald Coxon OAM**
- **Murray Crittenden**
- **George Gosse GC**
- **Bob Cowper DFC, OAM, Legion of Honour**
- **Pat Deal**

As members of the Association which have seen “Feathers” work to help fellow veterans, and family members in need, thus bringing credit to TPI SA, we are very lucky.

This said, as Warren and those who have had the privilege to either work with him, or observe his commitment over some 20 years, we are blessed.

“Warren, when you needed it, you received clinical help from Repat Ward 17; You have repaid this well and truly. You continue your debt of love in the Jamie Larcombe Centre.

Amongst all your other tasks, you have been the lifeblood of Ward 17 and The Jamie Larcombe Centre welfare/visitation service.

We, the Association, staff and inpatients of the two mentioned Veteran Health Centres love you. To Barbara, Feathers “rock”, thank you for your part in his journey.

HMAS Anzac returns to homeport...

From Defence Connect

The Navy frigate has returned to Australia after capping off an extended deployment, which concluded with a critical search and rescue mission.

After commencing a regional deployment alongside HMAS *Sirius* in early March, Royal Australian Navy frigate HMAS *Anzac* has returned to its homeport of Fleet Base West in Western Australia.



HMAS *Anzac* toured southeast Asia and the northeast Indian Ocean before being deployed on an emergency search and rescue mission in the southern Indian Ocean.

Assisted by RAAF P-8A Poseidon aircraft, HMAS *Anzac* sailed approximately 670 nautical miles west of Perth to provide support in the rescue of 20 Indonesian fishermen stranded on a sinking vessel.

The fishermen received medical treatment and accommodation on-

board the ship and were transported to a Perth hospital for urgent care.

The frigate then delivered the other 19 fishermen to their homeport in Bali on Friday.

Chief of Joint Operations, Lieutenant General Greg Bilton, congratulated the crew of HMAS *Anzac* for a timely response to the emergency.

"I would like to personally thank the ship's company for their commitment and focus throughout this deployment, particularly after being recalled with their homeport insight after almost three months at sea," LTGEN Bilton said.

"HMAS *Anzac* had been focused on our long-standing program of international engagements with regional partners.

"This included bilateral and multilateral activities with Brunei, Canada, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and the United States."

The ship's Commanding Officer, Commander Brendan Horn, said training exercises had prepared the crew for the search and rescue mission.

"While deployed, we practised and refined key mariner skills with other nations, so when we got the call to assist, we were ready to respond," CMDR Horn said.

"We knew there were people in distress, and everyone understood that assisting them in any way we could was the absolute priority.

"The men and women of *Anzac* are now grateful to be home with their loved ones again and we are very grateful for their support over the past two months – we couldn't have done this without them."

The B-21 bomber, Australia's next deterrent...

By Charbel Kadib |



With the B-21's long-range capabilities, and the advancement of unmanned long-range Chinese strike technology, should Australia buy the B-21 as a deterrent?

Australia must consider the option of onboarding long-range bombing capabilities into our military arsenal to serve as a deterrent to any state actors who threaten Australia's sovereignty.

This is the opinion of Marcus Hellyer in ASPI's *The Strategist* this week, who argues that long-range bombing capabilities can serve as a stop-gap before Australia's next generation of submarines are onboarded into the military.

"These include long-range strike capabilities to impose a greater cost on potential great-power adversaries at greater range from Australia," Hellyer argues.

Hellyer outlines that Australia's current fleet of F-35A jets do not currently meet the requirements for strike missions in the event of a potential conventional war in the Indo-Pacific, as they are only capable of operating in a 1,000-kilometre radius – shorter than the striking distance of modern Chinese missile systems.

Meanwhile, Australia's current fleet of submarines (numbering only six) also don't possess sufficient missile-carrying capacity to serve as a deterrent.

On the other hand, Australia has historically operated long-distance strike capabilities as a key component in the nation's defence arsenal.

"It's strange that bombers don't get much attention as a military option for Australia, considering we have a long history operating them. We flew bombers out of northern Australia during World War II against the Japanese to telling effect, and it was only a decade ago that the F-111, long a mainstay of Australia's deterrent capability, was retired," Hellyer argued.

Australia should thus consider onboarding a squadron of B-21 bombers, with the aircraft expected to be operational and used by the US military by the late 2020s, according to Hellyer.

“Remarkably for a developmental project, the B-21 seems to be roughly on schedule and budget by leveraging the technologies used in earlier stealth aircraft projects. It’s using two F-35 engines, for example, but it will have three or four times the range of the F-35. That will allow it to reach far out into the Indo-Pacific, greatly complicating the planning of any adversary operating against us or our friends. It also means it can be based deep inside Australia, far from threats, and still not need to rely on tanker support,” Hellyer continues.

“If Australia had a squadron of 12 B-21s, it could dispatch a flight of three aircraft carrying around 30 long-range anti-ship missiles in the morning and follow it up with another in the afternoon. Unlike submarines, bombers can do it all again the next day. If the mission was to strike ground targets, they could each carry 50 guided bombs.”

Such long-distance bombers are necessary to keep our adversaries at an arms distance and can inflict early and costly damage to our opposition.

The requirement for long-range capabilities may have been exaggerated this week following a report from the *South China Morning Post* that the Chinese have developed a drone with similar capabilities to the B-21.

“A Chinese drone maker says it has manufactured a prototype unmanned stealth aircraft that it claims could rival the B-21 Raider being developed for the US Air Force,” Kristin Huang wrote in the *South China Morning Post*.

The new unmanned stealth bomber and reconnaissance drone which is under construction by Zhongtian Feilong Intelligent Technology are reported to have a 7,000-kilometre combat range.

Even though the B-21 is expected to have a longer attack range, Zhongtian Feilong outlined that its newly tested drone is cheaper and thus a credible threat.

As discussed in Defence Connect in the 2020 article '[CSBA CEO calls for serious US consideration of Aussie B-21 collaboration](#)', it is likely that the US military establishment would view an Australian acquisition of the B-21 as burden-sharing on the US, as Australia would be better equipped to protect its interests in the Indo-Pacific.

Writing for *DefenseNews* last year, chief executive of the Centre for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA) Thomas Mahnken discussed how the sale of these arms to Australia would be an advantage to both nations.

"We need to learn from the past in developing the next generation of weapons. For example, in recent months, Australian defence analysts have discussed the attractiveness of the B-21 Raider stealth bomber for Australia's defence needs," Mahnken wrote.

"Export of the B-21 to a close ally such as Australia, should Canberra so desire, should be given serious consideration."

An Australian long-range bombing capability would not only serve as a deterrent to any potential adversaries but may prove a technological necessity if new long-range bombing and ISR drones encroach on Australian shores to inflict costly damage on an adversary's homeland.

'Get involved with the discussion and let us know your thoughts on Australia's future role and position in the Indo-Pacific region and what you would like to see from Australia's political leaders in terms of partisan and bipartisan agenda setting. Send your comments to'

**charbel.kadib@momentummedia.com.au, liam.garman@momentummedia.com.au
or editor@defenceconnect.com.au.**

Managing China's missile threat

By: **Charbel Kadib**

How should Australia prepare for the potential launch of a missile attack from China? A former deputy secretary of the Department of Defence weighs in.

Earlier this year, Hu Xijin, the editor-in-chief of Beijing's *Global Times* — which effectively serves as the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) propaganda mouthpiece — threatened “retaliatory punishment” against Australia if it came to the aid of the US in the event of a clash.

“China has a strong production capability, including producing additional long-range missiles with conventional warheads that target military objectives in Australia when the situation becomes highly tense,” he wrote.

Such threats have prompted observers to examine Australia's preparedness for a missile strike.

Paul Dobb, emeritus professor of strategic studies at the Australian National University and former deputy secretary of the Department of Defence, says Australia's current strategy is highly dependent on a US response.

Dobb suggests that Australia consider acquiring a missile system capable of thwarting a potential attack.

“The first step could be to fit this capability to the air warfare destroyers while noting that a nationwide capability would need to be much more extensive,” he writes in ASPI's *The Strategist*.

However, Dobb acknowledges that Australia would ultimately depend on US support, and as such, calls on policymakers to seek a “much clearer commitment” from Washington and a better understanding of its extended deterrence policy for both conventional and nuclear missile attacks.

This is particularly pertinent given uncertainty over China's readiness to deploy nuclear warheads, with the CCP ramping up the proliferation of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs).

“US estimates suggest that China is planning to double its strategic nuclear forces and recent media reports claim that Beijing is building more than 100 new silos for intercontinental ballistic missiles in the northwest of the country,” Dobb flags.

“If true, this is a strange development because ICBMs in fixed silos are becoming more vulnerable with the increased accuracy of nuclear strikes. China’s recent ICBMs have been road-mobile for precisely this reason.

“The only rational explanation for new fixed-silo ICBMs is that they’re designed for a new launch-on-warning posture, which suggests new developments in China’s early warning capabilities.”

The former deputy secretary also notes that Beijing possesses approximately 2,000 theatre nuclear missiles capable of targeting much of the Indo-Pacific, most of which are nuclear-armed.

“The main point here for Australia is that unless we acquire missiles with ranges over 4,000 kilometres, we won’t be able to retaliate against any attack on us,” Dibb continues.

“But, in any case, for a country of our size to consider attacking the territory of a large power like China isn’t a credible option.”

As such, Australia would need assurance from Washington that any missile attack would provoke an immediate response by the US.

The United States’ “overwhelming superiority” in precision missile technology, he adds, would serve as an effective deterrent, given China’s population density and the geographical distribution of its population.

“The virtual conurbation that extends from Beijing in the north via Shanghai to Guangzhou and Shenzhen in the south would make it particularly susceptible to massive destruction in an all-out nuclear war,” Dibb notes.

The US currently boasts 1,500 deployed strategic nuclear warheads and another 5,000 stockpiled or ‘retired’, which Dibb says would be “more than enough” in a conflict with both China and Russia.

“In the Cold War, the Pentagon planned on destroying a quarter of the Soviet Union’s population and half its industry. For comparison, a quarter of China’s population is about 350 million,” he observes.

“In such a nuclear war, China would no longer exist as a functioning modern society.”

Get involved with the discussion and let us know your thoughts on Australia’s future role and position in the Indo-Pacific region and what you would like to see from Australia’s political leaders in terms of partisan and bipartisan agenda setting in the comments section below, or get in touch with charbel.kadib@momentummedia.com.au, liam.garman@momentummedia.com.au, or at editor@defenceconnect.com.au.

TPI & VETERANS GOLF CLUB REPORT...

by Kevin Simper

Our game at Adelaide Shores in June was very well attended even though rain was forecast It surprises me to see how fast some of our players can move when a few drops appear while most of us escaped the last group John Viergever Craig Steel Neville Pash looked a bit the worst for wear

Our winners for that day were

- John Sierakowski 30 Points
- Gerry Jonnek 28 points
- Peter Shanahan 28 points
- Colin Kretchmer 27 points
- John Sadlier 27 points and
- Colin Kretchmer winning the Tony & Marks fruit box

Graham Dungey (President) has had some work done on the prostate we thought a box of fruit from Tony & Marks may help to get him moving again we wish him well and a quick recovery.



Our game in July Penfield was not so well attended but lunch was well organised by John Viergever and Besides, nobody got wet. Winners for that day were

- Colin Simper 41 points
- Kevin Simper 39 points
- Mike Sarson 38 points
- Wayne Jefferies 36 points
- John Viergever 33 points
- Colin Simper took home Tony & Marks

As Veterans Health Week will be in October, we are playing a Stableford game on the 22nd of Oct at Highercombe a challenging golf course but in very good condition. All of our veteran golfers, non-golfers, family and friends are welcome, the committee is doing a lot of work to make this a memorable day. For more information on this game call Graham on 0402204328 or Kevin on 0423524884.



The next four games will be:

- 16th September: - at Adelaide Shores,
- 22nd October: - Highercombe (Veterans Health Week)
- 16th November: - North Adelaide,
- 9th December: - Adelaide Shores (lunch and AGM)
- Call Kevin at 0423524884 for more information.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

Annual subscriptions are due on 1 January each year, A member who is un-financial as of 28 February shall automatically forfeit their membership and shall no longer be entitled to any Association benefit, including Honorary RAA membership.

SUBSCRIPTION FEE \$50.00

Name (Print)..... Member No:

(PRINT)

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Please enclose the subscription fee *and* a stamped self-addressed envelope or pay by Direct Debit (See below)

Send to: The Secretary, TPI Association, 171 Richmond Road, Richmond, SA 5033

PAY SUBSCRIPTIONS BY DIRECT DEBIT

Annual TPI Subscriptions can be paid by EFTPOS or directly to TPI (SA) bank account by Direct Debit.

TPI Bank Account details are set out below;

Account Name – TPI ASSOCIATION (SA) INC

BANK – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA, 283 Anzac Highway, PLYMPTON

BSB – 065 148; **ACCOUNT NUMBER** 1024 3192

Record your surname and TPI Badge Number as a reference for your transaction

Note: *The onus is on you to **Contact TPI Office** if you do not receive your membership card within seven working days*

APPLICATION FORM FOR HONORARY RAA MEMBERSHIP

Surname: (Print)..... Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___

Given Names: Member No:

Street: Town/Suburb: Postcode: State:

Tel: Mobile: Email:

Send to: The Secretary, TPI Association, 171 Richmond Rd., Richmond, SA 5033

AMBULANCE COVER (ACE Insurance)

TPI Gold Card covers you for Emergency attendance and/or transport by SA Ambulance, for Non-emergency transport you are responsible to pay. PLEASE CONSIDER taking insurance cover (small fee) with ACE Insurance, for general enquiries contact AmbulanceCover@health.sa.gov.au or 1300 136 272

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: (Print)..... Badge No:

New Address: Town/suburb: Postcode:

State: Tel: Mob: Email: _____

Send to: **The Secretary, TPI Association. 171 Richmond Rd., Richmond. SA 5033**

HOSPITAL VISITS

As a service to members our Hospital visits team services most hospitals; if you or a mate are going into hospital please advise our Hospital Visit Manager Mick Curry OAM.

Mob: 0417 843 262 or via email: mcur3581@bigpond.net.au

WELFARE MATTERS

If you need advice on welfare, please contact our office on (08)8351 7784 or (08) 8351 8140

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held monthly (Feb to Dec) on the second Tuesday of the month at 11.30 a.m. It is a good way to be informed and to participate.

Some member attending always wins a Prize!

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Call into TPI House any Friday from 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm for a \$5 lunch, TPI member bar prices and fellowship (complete with banter). ***Be there or be Square!***

Contending With Rampant Change in A Digital Age

by Trevor Shinnick TPI Member 3598

Today I spent sifting through my MacBook Pro Laptop. I was searching for 'Ulysses' material I had previously prepared and saved on iCloud. I had no success. I contacted 'Ulysses Help' by the email contact service provided by 'Ulysses'. This is what they sent me. A confusing set of directives that a savvy computer nerd would have great difficulty understanding. I find that I am not able to rapidly soak up the 'nerd savvy' 'rules of engagement' to electronically communicate. As I struggle to work through the maze, I try to understand the computer wizards whose 'digital language' is akin to understanding a foreign language. Just as I get on top of a particular computing software problem, bingo, along comes a new software program and the version I have just mastered becomes redundant. The personal loss is felt. The challenge becomes cyclic. To continue to try to keep up with the pace of change and to find a place in the 'digital world screen activities', is mentally exhausting.

Long live the pen and paper, and the articulate writer who scribes a message all the way up to a book, and who can enlighten and entertain the reader. However, at my age now 75, technology has crept into my life big time. A MacBook Pro Laptop sits on my desk. It is used almost every day to email, research information (Google) etc. message sending and receiving, online purchasing goods and services, including banking activities all of this is now part of my "anti-social" world.

Now I am in collaboration with my Apple 11 mobile phone, Apple Watch, Apple iPad, all synced to each other with passwords to remember and match.

I have become a 'digital 24-hour slave', whereby my time is constantly beeped and interrupted with a barrage of wants and sheer aggravation.

My life is now a test of stamina and fortitude to get by. Mainly because each of the aforementioned devices has batteries that invariably run flat during a task and need to be changed forthwith. Or one item has suddenly gone missing and at a time of 'nerd need'. Such is the case with my mobile phone which tends to disappear regularly. The ensuing stressful search to locate it invariably brings out the best of abusive vindictive language and such a pursuit is analogous to losing one's car keys, and or house keys and the like.

Such is the daily routine of living now in the 'fast lane' world. A world that is forever shrinking as individuals devise increasing new means and ways to contend, compete and survive in a 'digital-driven world'.

Even one last gasp of air and bleep of the final heartbeat and when one's mortal coil completes its task; all this is monitored and recorded by technology,' and with it, the computer 'toys' we lived with, also die with us as they will become redundant for technology is also on a cyclic basis.

So onwards we all strive to take our place in the world. And it's with the providence of partners, family and friends that bring us joy, laughter, good times and memories of companionship. All this human interaction provides the synthesis of wellbeing. The sense of belonging and belonging to a community is a positive for good mental and physical health, and it also has benefits that far outweigh the 'individual screen-based contemporary digital technology world, which many of us, have now subscribed to.

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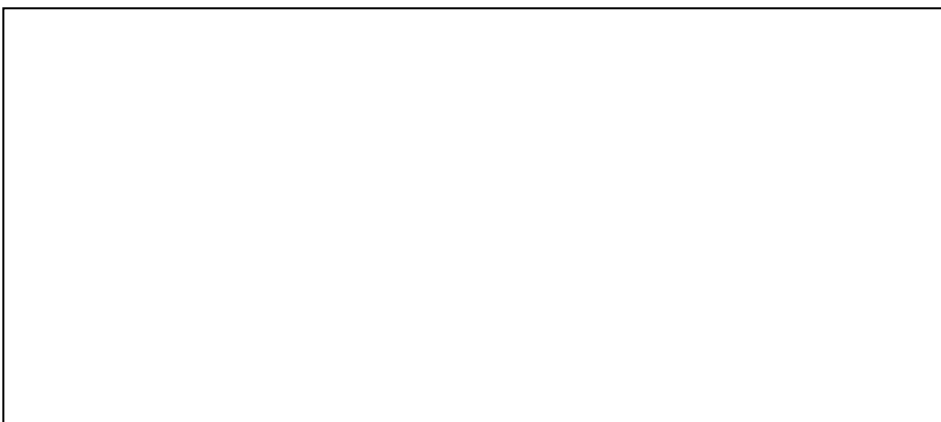
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