

Gates honours Australians' sacrifice



United States Defence Secretary, Robert Gates (right), toured the Australian War Memorial during his visit to Canberra in February. Dr Gates laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and viewed the memorial's Roll of Honour and galleries accompanied by Director of the Australian War Memorial, Steve Gower (left).

Reunions

Navy writers: 28–31 March, Perth, WA. Contact Jeff Wake, RFD Sec at reunionperth08@ranwriters.com or visit www.ranwriters.com.

HMAS Nirimba 1965 Entry MOBIs: April, Gold Coast Qld. Contact Norm Noack, (08) 9309 1782, 37 Comstock Way, Woodvale WA 6026, normjuli@bigpond.net.au

6th & 7th intake HMAS Leeuwin 1963: 11–13 April, Perth, WA. Contact Ron Giveen, rugbyron@hmasleeuwin-1963.com or WA Committee Secretary Jeff Wake, RFD at jeffwake@bigpond.net.au, or visit http://www.hmas-leeuwin-1963.com/. May be the last JRTE reunion visit to East Fremantle.

Noble Park RSL: reunion for Vietnam veterans on their honours board, 19–20 April, Noble Park Vic. Contact Gordon Murray on (03) 9548 3750 or nobersl2@net2000.com.au.

21st consecutive Anzac service: 20 April, St Stephen's Anglican Church, 211 Mowbray Rd, Willoughby NSW. Special guest Governor of NSW, Prof Marie Bashir. Music by a detachment of the NSW RAN Band. Medals to be worn.

5 Company RASC—86 Transport Pl: 22–26 April, Fremantle WA. Contact Barbara Danks, Sec, on (08) 9439 1399 or bdanks@bigpond.net.au.

RAN Physical Trainers (PTI): 23–26 April, Canberra. Contact Doug Collins, 8 Erwin Pl, Calwell ACT 2905, (02) 6292 5980, 0418 269 175, dkkt@bigpond.com.

173rd Airborne Brigade, including 105 Med Bty RAA; 161 Bty RNZ Arty; Prince of Wales Lighthorse RAAC; 17 Const Sqn RAE; and 1ALSG who served as part of **1RAR Battle Group at Bien Hoa, Vietnam 1965–66.** Southern States Chapter (Chapter XXVII) is marching Anzac Day 2008 in Melbourne under its own identity for the first time. Dinner 24 April and trip to Vietnam Veterans' Museum, Phillip Island 26 April planned. Contact John Arnold, Secretary, Chapter XXVII Southern States Australia, PO Box 1092, Altona Meadows Vic 3028. (03) 9315 8201, 0419 315 676, Johnarno@bigpond.net.au.

AWAS Signals: 24 April, noon, Naval & Military Club, 27 Little Collins St, Melbourne Vic. Contact Beryl Burford, 5 Clovelly Pde, Seaford Vic 3198, (03) 9786 2023. Bookings essential.

7th AIB AIF: reunion after the Anzac Day march, Middle Park Bowling Club, Vic. Contact Secretary, Ray Pedder (03) 8390 9145, President, Lyall Butling (03) 9457 1631.

3rd Div Aust Army Service Corps: reunion and luncheon after the Anzac Day march, Celtic Club, 316 Queen St, Melbourne Vic. Contact Jan Wadge (03) 9889 6031.

Tarakan Island: for all who served on Tarakan Island or in supporting Navy and RAAF in 1945, family and friends included. 1 May, Geebung/Zillmere RSL Club, Geebung Qld. Contact Speed Maher (07) 5524 1515 or Jack and Dot (07) 3263 7212.

HOLDFAST: 2–5 May, Townsville Qld. Email kwheatle@bigpond.net.au, jori.cotter@bigpond.com or visit http://thesapper.net.au.

RAAF Association (NSW Div) B24 Branch: lunch noon Friday 16 May 2008 at the City of Sydney Community Club, 565 George St, Sydney. Contact Rod McDonald (02) 9451 7009.

Delta coy 5RAR 1966–67: 6–9 June, Nerang Gold Coast Qld. Contact Col Illman (07) 5578 2773 or Warren Power (07) 5574 8414.

Ex 486 sqn B707 maintenance personnel: reunion and farewell, 28 June, RAAF Base Richmond. Contact Henry Laursen on rlaursen@bigpond.net.au or (07) 3720 2747 or visit www.raaf.gov.au/b707farewell/

NSW Artillery Band (18LAA & 23 Fd Regt): 50th anniversary reunion, 5–6 July, Kogarah NSW. Contact Kevin 'Dutchy' Holland (02) 9522 8381 or Jim Hawkins (02) 6625 2689, hawkins@internode.on.net

11 Aust Inf Bde (AIF) and assoc units: 6 July, Kedron-Wavell Services Club, Hamilton Rd, Chermside Qld. Contact Jim Stephenson (07) 3263 6436, Marle Juster (07) 3203 5223 or Eric Hall (07) 3284 3554.

RAASC Vietnam Veterans Supply Pl Assoc: 25–27 July, Gold Coast Qld. Contact Secretary, PO Box 218, Calwell ACT 2905, (02) 6292 7567, 0408 947 935 or Dabblers1@bigpond.com.au.

NOTICE BOARD

AIR FORCE (continued)

Seeking information on **John Foreman Giles 130612** formerly of Narara. Contact Don Booth, 97 Aries Way, Elmore Vale NSW 2287, (02) 4953 8124.

Seeking WW2 RAAF members or families associated with **No 1 Bombing and Gunnery School and No 1 Air Observers School at Evans Head, NSW.** Contact Donella Kinnish, 637 Broadwater Rd via Lismore NSW 2480, (02) 6682 8600, dkinnish@RND.com.au.

Seeking family members of **4 RAAF personnel (Barron, Harvey, Stephenson and McGuigan)** killed in Beaufort Bomber A9-670 on 10/04/1945 at Greenbank Military Reserve near Brisbane. Plans to erect a plaque near crash site. Contact Sandra Kerr (07) 3376 6469.

Seeking **Blue Palfrey and Ron Boyle**, ex Vietnam 30 Term Sqn 1970. Contact Jim 'Jack' Cowan (03) 9361 2737 or Rodger Smith 0438 349 511.

Seeking **Syd Lamperds**, crew (9HRBTU) Nadzab New Guinea 1944–45. Contact Noel Stone (Ball Turret), 18B Cox St, Mandurah WA 6210, (08) 9581 5215.

Seeking **Brian 'Beef'** Hourigan, airman, posted to Butterworth, Malaya 1969–72. Airframe fitter, member of Butterworth scuba club, boat called *Orion*. Contact Marj, 24 Denny Cr, Littabella Qld 4673, (07) 4156 1079.

Seeking ex **FLTLT Charles Nagy**, Iroquois helicopter pilot, served 5 Sqn early to mid 1970s, 9 Sqn and UNEF II Ismailia, Egypt 1977–78. Contact Mike Ryan (02) 9666 6574, jewel@tadaust.org.au.

Seeking WAAF stores clerk **CPL Beth McDonald**, 5 RC Adelaide SA. Passenger Lancaster bomber to Broken Hill 1942. Contact fellow passenger Helen Robertson (Eastaugh), (02) 9982 4249.

Seeking **FSGT Ian McKean**, ex 2nd pilot Catalinas, aerodrome control Darwin 1945–46. Contact Ralph Shinkfield, 701250 Tolmie Rd, Tatong Vic 3673, (03) 5767 2311.

Seeking information on alleged concealment/disposal of aircraft at or near **RAAF Station Oakey** circa 1945. Contact Ted Strugnell 0437 250 447, eastrug@icr.com.au

Seeking information, anecdotes, newspaper cuttings, photographs about **RAF 238(T) Squadron** based at Parafield near Adelaide during 1945 or anyone who knew **LAC Douglas John Cook** from Sussex,

England who served with this squadron. Contact Alan J Cook, alanjohncook@yahoo.com

Seeking **CPL Debbie Didriksen**. Last known posting RAAF Amberley during tour of Iraq c 2004. Also **LACW Jules Ironside**. Last known discharge from RAAF, 2SD Regents Park, c1994, now living SA. Contact John (Jock) O'Connor on 0418 899 050.

NAVY

Seeking **LEUT K Wright RANVR of LCI 530** which landed members of 45 RM Commando onto Sword Beach on 6 June 1944. Contact Don Haskell Thomas, 1/561 Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn Vic 3122, (03) 9038 9187.

Seeking **AB Reg Binding** in RMS and bomb disposal unit New Guinea Madang 1944 and Milne Bay 1944–45 and **AB 'Angus' Ralston** Madang 1945. Contact ex RAN Leo 'Siddy' Collins (07) 5535 3822.

Seeking ex crew members of **RN HMS Belfast** 1944 onwards. Contact Ron Baggaley, 37 Strada Cres, Wheelers Hill Vic 3150, (03) 9560 9040.

Seeking ex crew members of **HMAS Quiberon** (1942–43), Operation Torch, who served with **Eric Baker**. Contact D Baker, 56 Edge St, Murarrie Qld 4172.

Seeking **shipmates who join the RAN in July 1966 at HMAS Leeuwin**. 16th intake reunion to be held 10–12 July 2009 Gold Coast, Qld. Contact Paul and Margaret Cobb (07) 3865 1815, Haydn Ahgee (07) 5526 2421, Peter Marks (07) 5450 6817 or Terry O'Hara 0413 081 950.

Seeking **John Tyson and Ben Skeates HMS Glasgow Association**. Contact Allan Mercer, 89 Royal Ave, Hough Green Widness WA8 8HJ England, or Arthur Beards, 22 Galvin St, Lawnton Qld 4501, abeads@bigpond.com

Seeking information on **WO Lyall 'Bruno' Cawsey** from Mascot, ex 238 Sqn RAF Burma and later Parafield. Contact ex-WOP/AG Dan Webb, 7 Nyora St, East Malvern Vic 3145.

Seeking anyone on board the **troopship Cameronia** when it was torpedoed in 1942. Contact Andre Chissel, achissel@hotmail.com.

Seeking to buy a large **Omega aviator watch** as worn by fleet air arm pilots serving on **HMAS Melbourne** in the '50s. Contact Fred Brewer, 34 Judges Gardens, Leda WA 6170, (08) 9419 3558.

Seeking **Pennant No HMS Fencer** carrier at Williamstown Xmas 1944, later Sydney to join Pacific Fleet. Post-war converted to migrant ship **SS Sydney**. Contact Douglas Birch (08) 8260 6310, douglas.birch@bigpond.com.

Seeking **Wanda Watson** ex WRAN, joined 23/8/1968, no W104900. Contact Karen Vonarx (nee Thomson), (07) 3408 0435.