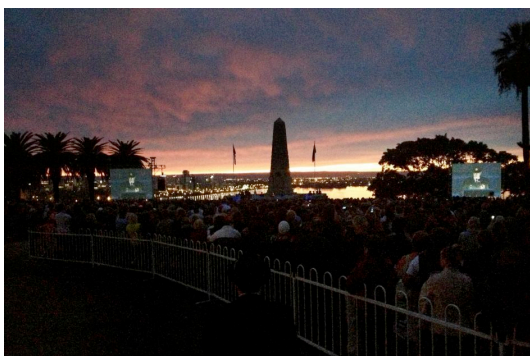




## Anzac Day 2015

Anzac Day 2015 is, of course, a very special occasion, being the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of ANZAC troops of the shores of Gallipoli.



We pay tribute to all men and women who have served Australia in military conflicts from Gallipoli to the present day.

We will again be joined in the march this year by East Timorese war veterans, all of whom fought in East Timor's struggle for independence.

Details of the muster point for the march will be published in the West Australian in

the lead-up to Anzac Day. This year, the association's trustees have decided there will be no formal 2/2 Anzac Day lunch. If there is interest next year, we may revive the Anzac Day lunch.



## Sunset ceremony - 20 April 2015



Above: His Excellency Xanana Gusmão, Timor-Leste's minister of planning and strategic investment

At 6pm on Monday 20 April 2015, there will be a sunset commemorative ceremony at our Lovekin Drive memorial, to coincide with a visit of East Timorese veterans around Anzac Day.

His Excellency Xanana Gusmão, the inaugural president and former prime minister of Timor-Leste, now its minister of planning and strategic investment, will lay a wreath with 2/2 veteran Keith Hayes. Also present will be Timor-Leste's ambassador to Australia, His Excellency Mr Abel Guterres and Timor-Leste's honorary consul to Australia, Dr Barry Mendelawitz.

As this is to be a sunset ceremony, it will start at 6pm sharp and conclude by 6.30pm. We hope you can join us.



2/2 veteran Keith Hayes

## Changes to the association

When the present 2/2 Commando Association of Australia came into being, we were, at the request of the 2/2 veterans who comprised the association in 2010, limited in our membership to some of the adult children of 2/2 veterans. The association has now amended its constitution to allow for a broader membership, so that the spouses and descendants of 2/2 veterans will be eligible for membership. The committee will also have the discretion to grant membership to others who, by virtue of education or experience, might help the association to achieve its objects.

The association's objects are:

- to fund the improvement of communities in a sustainable way for the benefit of the peoples of Timor

Leste, New Guinea and/or New Britain;

- to promote education about the achievements of the men who were, at any time between 1941 and 1946, enlisted in the No. 2 Australian Independent Company of the Australian Infantry Forces, also known as the 2/2 Commando Squadron ("the unit"); and
- to honour the memory of the unit and its members and to help people to recognise and appreciate those achievements

We plan to have a meeting in the not-too-distant future to hold some elections and welcome others to the fold. Watch this space.

## Commemoration Ceremony - November 2014

Each year we hold a commemoration ceremony on the third Sunday in November. On Sunday 16 November 2014, we gathered at the association's memorial in Lovekin Drive, Kings Park, for our 65th such ceremony.



Pip Dunkley, son of the unit's medical officer, Captain Roger Dunkley, delivered a very moving

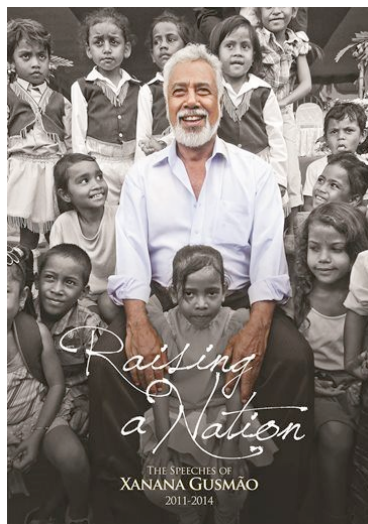
address. Peter Epps, one of the association's trustees and son of Bill Epps read the names of the fallen.

Our president, Jenny Beahan, was unable to attend due a death in her family, so our secretary and treasurer, Colleen Thornton-Ward, delivered a not-the-president's report. Once again, we were privileged to be joined by a catafalque party from the SAS Regiment.

## Xanana Gusmão's book launch in Canberra

On 15 March 2015, there was a function at Parliament House in Canberra to launch Xanana Gusmão's book "Raising a Nation – The speeches of Xanana Gusmão 2011 – 2014".

Catching up at the launch were the Hon. Alannah MacTiernan, Federal Member for Perth and Helen Kenneally. Helen is the daughter of the late Paddy Kenneally, a 2/2 veteran and staunch supporter of the East Timorese.



Alannah has been involved with the 2/2 since becoming inspired by the unit's exploits in the 1970's. She joined the Friends of East Timor in 1994 and has been a volunteer in East Timor on several occasions. Alannah has also been involved with the East Timor Guest Worker Program in Broome and continues to be a keen supporter of our association and of the people of Timor-Leste.



Alannah MacTiernan and Helen Kenneally

## Can you help?

We seek contributions from you, the friends and family of 2/2 soldiers. We invite you send us some words about the 2/2 soldiers who were important to you personally, be it in the form of a tribute, a poem, a few words of recognition or thanks or something more. We also need photos. These will be added to the website, so that, by clicking on the soldier's name, the words about the soldier can be seen. Please email any contributions to [update@doublereds.org.au](mailto:update@doublereds.org.au).