



# Courier

## 2/2 Commando Association of Australia

[Doublereds.org.au](http://Doublereds.org.au)

President Peter Epps, Secretary Colleen Thornton-Ward, Editor Ed Willis

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### MARCH 2016

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#### 2/2 66TH ANNUAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE



Joan Karmelita addressing those attending the Commemoration Service with a member of the Naval Cadet catafalque party in the background

A small but committed group of family members, friends and other interested members of the community gathered for the Annual Commemoration Service at Lovekin Drive Kings Park, at 3pm, Sunday 15 November 2015.



HMAS *Kuru*, an RAN ship of the 'Timor Taxi Service' that supplied the 2/2 on Timor

The service proceeded without the SAS providing the catafalque party for the first time in many years due to other commitments on the day. A team of young Naval cadets from Training Ship *Marmion* proved to be very suitable replacements.

In his comments at the service, Association President, Peter Epps explained that the 2/2 '...

would not have survived on Timor as long as they did without the vital help of the RAN bringing in supplies, ammo, medicines and evacuating the wounded'. Peter said 'we were very proud and honoured to have the cadets at our Commemoration Service'.

Peter also referred to the Association's move into the generation of funds through donations and generous bequests to support community development projects in Timor-Leste.

Joan Karmelita, the daughter of 2/2 veteran Charlie Sadler provided an appropriately reflective address. John Denman read the names of the fallen. Surviving 2/2 veteran Keith Hayes laid a wreath.



#### GENEROUS GIFT HELPS TIMOR-LESTE STUDENTS

In 2013 visiting Timorese veterans clearly indicated to Association members that school toilet construction was their top priority for aid in their country. As a result, the Association provided a \$6,500 grant enabling the construction of two new toilet blocks at schools in the Fatu-Bessi area as a starting project in cooperation with the Melville Friends of Hatolia (see 'Toilet block gift', *Courier* October 2015)<sup>1</sup>.

Photos have recently been received showing progress with their construction. The photos were taken by Snr Graciano, the headmaster of

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<sup>1</sup> [Doublereds.org.au/couriers/](http://Doublereds.org.au/couriers/)

the Fatu-Bessi schools, who organised and supervised the building of the toilets.



It is very difficult to get to, or out of the Hatolia district by road during the wet season because the

roads become essentially impassable even in a 4-wheel drive vehicle. The Buburia toilet block is complete (see photo) and in use, and the one at Lebumeo is about 70% done. Work on the unfinished toilets will resume once weather conditions improve.

Association President Peter Epps commented: 'As can be seen from the photos our donation has been put to very good use. The association should be proud that it has helped improve the quality of living standards of numerous school children in the Fatu-Bessi area'.

Additional toilet construction, water supply provision and professional development for teachers in areas where the 2/2 campaigned are other projects under consideration for funding by the Association.

Langley Park (not the Supreme Court Gardens) as in previous years.

Details of the muster point will be published in the 'West Australian' in the lead up to the day.



After the march: Anzac Day 1949 next to Newspaper House

## STRONG MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

The membership of the Association has grown from having seven members to a current 62 in a year. Memberships will be valid until 30 June and members are invited to renew their membership for the 2016-2017 year through the membership page on the Doublereds website **after May 1** ([Doublereds.org.au](http://Doublereds.org.au)).

## ANZAC DAY 2016



Anzac Day, Perth 2016 Event Map (Source: [RSL WA](http://RSLWA))

[rslwahq.org.au/commemoration/anzac-day.aspx](http://rslwahq.org.au/commemoration/anzac-day.aspx)

Members of the Association, family and friends can participate in this year's Anzac Day Parade. Noel Strickland will carry the unit flag on the day.

There will be some key changes this year for the Parade through Perth that will start at 9am not 9.30am and will travel along a different route. The commemorative service will be held at

## PROVIDING CONTENT FOR THE WEB SITE



Families and friends are welcome to provide content to be linked to the information about particular soldiers on the nominal roll on the Doublereds web site.

Ideally we would like

there to be some words and pictures about every 2/2 unit member listed on the nominal roll.

Jack Denman (WX12123), from his record on the nominal roll

To update any soldier's details, please log in on the Doublereds website and get touch with us through the forums on that site.

([Doublereds.org.au/forums](http://Doublereds.org.au/forums)).