



COURIER

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

<https://doublereds.org.au/>

Editor Ed Willis

April 2026

UPCOMING EVENT

ANZAC DAY 2026 MARCH ARRANGEMENTS



SEEKING INFORMATION ON 2/2 MEN WHO WENT ON TO SERVE AFTER WWII

Former 2/2 Commando Association President and current Committee member Peter Epps has devoted many years of effort to developing and maintaining the popular “Men of the 2/2” database on the Doublereds website:

<https://doublereds.org.au/history/men-of-the-22/>

To assist in completing the database, Peter is seeking information on 37 2/2 men who went on to serve after WWII and whose digitised service records are not available on the National Archives of Australia website.

Members of the Association, family and friends can participate in the Anzac Day Parade (Saturday 25 April) – gather at position I 97 as indicated on the map above. The Parade starts at 9 am from the corner of Barrack Street and St Georges Terrace. Moving east along St Georges Terrace, the parade passes the Saluting Dais before turning right onto Victoria Avenue and dispersing on to Langley Park.

Information about the Order of March, route map and parking, or other frequently asked questions are available on this RSL web page:

<https://www.rslwa.org.au/events-calendar/perth-cbd-anzac-day-2026-the-march>

Younger members of our ‘great fraternity’ are especially encouraged to participate. If anyone would like to have the honour of carrying the unit banner, please contact our President Noel Strickland when forming up before the March.

ANDERSON	CECIL CHARLES	QK 37751	Served Korea & KIA Malaysia 4 Mar 1956
BATEMAN	THOMAS HENRY	WX 29436	Service No 52682
BROWN	HAROLD JOHN	WX 13184	Also served with No 5995
BURNS	ARTHUR RUBIN	WX 39589	Served post WW2
BURTON	RICHARD HENRY	WX 12453	Also served with No 28988
CANILL	FRANCIS ERNEST	WX 17863	Also served with No 51265
CALLINAN	FRANK JAMES	VX 50081	also served with No 382051
CAPE	TIMOTHY FREDERICK	VX 74788	Service No 381
CARDY	JOHN ALLAN	NK 76334	2 / 338 LI (Hon Capt) Adj & Qtr 1 Cds 5th Bn 6 / 6 / 35 Also No 2338
COLES	MURPHY RONALD	RK 75296	Served in Korea & Malaya 2 / 1397, U.S. GCMC
CONLEY	RALPH GORDON	NK 38656	Service No 13313
CRISP	ALBERT ERNEST	QK 13827	Service No 19545
ELDER	ARTHUR ERNEST	VX 60070	Service No 32717
FRINCK	JAMES EWING	NK 96085	Service No 23568
FITZGERALD	THOMAS	WX 13003	Served Korea 51995
FOX	JACK	SK 25427	Service No 456
FYER	DONALD ALBERT	VX 52384	Service No 13096
GODDE	HAROLD	QK 47183	Service No 1576
GRIEK	JOHN	NK 30635	Service No 24506
HANSON	JOHN TRELEASE	WX 13894	Service No 52846
HETTICK	JACK NEVILLE	WX 24451	Service No 5110
HICKMAN	ARTHUR WALTER	TX 2597	Service No 64579
HUGHES	ALAN MURRAY	WX 37501	Service No 58643
JES	JOHN WILLIAM	VX 39020	Service No 284370
JARVIS	WILFRED CYRIL	TK 4722	Service No 69284
LARRY	JOHN PHILLIP	NK 17027	Service No 2415
LAIDLAW	GEOFFREY GOSFORD	NK 70537	Service No 279915
LE STRANGE	JOHN ALEXANDER	QK 59763	Service No 1162
NISBET	THOMAS GRANGER	WX 11073	WW2 8th uses Post WW2 No 520545
OBRIEN	ARTHUR GLEN	NK 120669	Service No 23264
PARRY	BANKING NORMAN	WX 12415	Served in Korea Service No 5 / 400049 R.A.R
PATTERSON	GEORGE ANGLUS	NK 127251	Served in Korea Service No 2 / 400018 R.A.R KIA Korea 5 Nov 1950
PETERS	ALFRED GEORGE PHILIP	WX 36454	Served in Korea Service No 4000107
STAFFORD	JOHN HENRY	VX 18894	Changed Name to Steen 25-1-56, also service No 52362 served Vietnam
STEWART	ALAN SAMUEL	NK 28557	Service No 233932
TUOHY	GERARD GORDON	VX 67953	Service No 337567
YOUNG	JOSEPH WILLIAM	VX 31771	Service No 346135

He has compiled this list of these men and would be grateful if any members or supporters who have obtained the service records of any individual man listed would be willing to make information in them available to the Association.

Peter advises: “The families can redact any info they do not wish to be common knowledge as all we are interested in is their military service with the Unit up to the end of hostilities and whatever military info is

available after; i.e., promotions, unit changes, awards etc.”

Anyone who assist with this task is requested to reply via the Doublereds website:

<https://doublereds.org.au/.../503-seeking-information-on.../>

and Peter will respond directly to them and follow up as required

**HANDOVER OF JAPANESE FLAG TO SAS
HISTORICAL FOUNDATION COLLECTION -
Campbell Barracks - Monday 5 January 2026**



Further to our post of December 8, 2025 the Japanese flag was handed over in a simple ceremony at Campbell Barracks last Monday in the presence of Bourke family members, 2/2 and a small group of 2/2 Commando Association of Australia committee members and supporters.

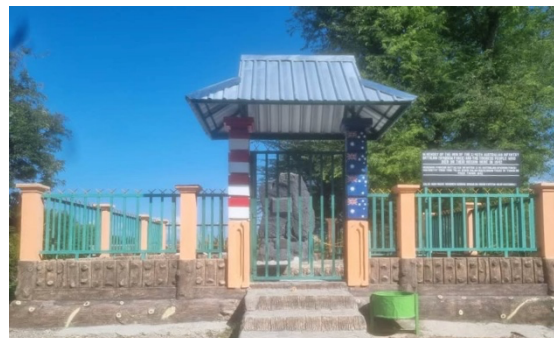
Edmund Bourke’s widow Dorothy very kindly donated the flag to the Association. It has been professionally restored and mounted for display.

Greg Mawkes, Chair of the SAS Historical Foundation advised:

“... we were gifted the [an]other captured Japanese flag signed by members of 2/2 Commando Squadron in 1945. The second flag would be a welcome addition to our collection as we can display it in the SASR HQ where members of the Regiment can see and appreciate the benchmark for physical and mental toughness, adaptability, flexibility, resilience, and courage that was set by men on whose shoulders we stand”.

2/2 President, Noel Strickland thanked Greg for accepting the flag into the Foundation’s collection and the hospitality provided to those attending on the day, including morning tea and a guided tour.

**SPARROW FORCE MONUMENT - OESAU
NEAR KOEPANG, EAST NUSA TENGGARA
PROVINCE (WEST TIMOR)**



Tom Vallas and Heath Crotty of the ADF’s Defence Cooperation Team – Timor-Leste recently visited the Sparrow Force Oesau Memorial that is located 30km from Kupang, the capital of East Nusa Tenggara province (West Timor), in the village of Oesau. It is situated on a low knoll about 50m from the road on the left hand side heading east along the road to Atamboea.

Tom and Heath were impressed with the appearance of the memorial that was refurbished earlier in 2025 by the Friends of the Sparrow Force Monument with support of a \$16K grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs Overseas Privately-Constructed Memorial Restoration Program.

Earlier, on Remembrance Day November 11 2025, Naval Attache Jakarta, Captain Mark Daly, laid a wreath at the memorial to recognise “those members of the 2/40th Australian Infantry Battalion (Sparrow Force), who made the ultimate sacrifice alongside the brave people of Kupang and surrounds in 1942”.

To read a comprehensive history of the Memorial please go to:

<https://doublereds.org.au/.../494-sparrow-force-monument.../>

BECOME A COMMITTEE MEMBER?

Association members are encouraged to consider becoming a Committee member; express your interest at:

<https://doublereds.org.au/forums/forum/6-members-general-discussion/>