

Bulletin Board Bulletin Board Bulletin Board

RAAF photographers' reunion

Plotters, photographer, interpreters and allied musters, October 14 to October 21, 2009

at
Caloundra, Sunshine Coast,
Queensland
Low-key activities with a dinner on the Saturday
Come for as long as you are able to and relive the memories.

For details, Contact:
photos@live.com.au

or
Photos

165 Hotspur Crescent
Little Mountain
Queensland 4551

Special rates for RSL members to visit battlefields

Dennis John WEATHERALL is a member of the RSL (NSW) and an ex (Navy) WO Seaman.

In his civilian life he operates as a qualified battlefield guide, arranging visits to Australian battlefields around the world.

In the current issues of *Navy/Army & Air Force News*, June 12, 2008 he has advertisements for a visit to Vietnam, for the 42nd Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan.

For special rates for RSL members, full details can be viewed on the active web site:

www.battlefieldsoftheworld.com

along with 2009 "War Trails" visits to the battlefields of Europe.

Details of the recent "John Monash" ANZAC Day (2008) visit to Gallipoli may be viewed.

Contact "Weathers"

Telephone: (02) 9520 6023

dweatherall_eng@bigpond.com

Female agents in WWII France



The distributors of a new French film, *Les Femmes de l'ombre*, with English sub-titles, can provide tickets to advance screenings to give away to members. The story is set in May 1944. A five-woman commando unit parachutes into occupied France on a daring and dangerous mission to protect the secret of the D-Day landings and eliminate Colonel Heindrich, the head of the German counterintelligence.

Louise is a trained sniper and the widow of a Resistance leader. Jeanne is a tough hooker who won't hesitate to kill. Gaelle is a young and brilliant explosives expert desperate to see some action. Suzy is a stunning former show-girl and Heindrich's one-time lover. Maria is an Italian *contessa* undercover

agent with the French Resistance.

Based on true events, true stories and real heroines, *Les Femmes de L'ombre* is an action-packed and powerful tribute to the brave female World War II Resistance fighters, who were constantly in the shadow of men yet had an undeniably profound impact on the events of the war.

Directed by Jean-Paul Salome and starring Sophie Marceau, Julie Depardieu, Marie Gillain, Maya Sansa, Deborah Francois and Moritz Bleibtreu. **In cinemas August 7 (advance screenings August 1–3)**

The link to the UK web site and the trailer is www.femaleagents.co.uk An Australian web site is being created and the film will retain its French title in Australia.

Date for Battle for Australia Day set in September

The Battle for Australia will be marked on the first Wednesday in September each year, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Alan Griffin, announced on June 26.

The Governor-General, Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC (Retd), had signed the proclamation for the Battle for Australia Day.

It will not be a public holiday nor will it detract from "the importance of Australia's two most significant days of commemoration, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, on which we remember all Australians who served and died in wars, conflicts and peace-time operations," Mr Griffin said.

Then Prime Minister John Curtin announced the Battle for Australia when Singapore fell on February 15, 1942.

However, the first Wednesday in September has been chosen by the veteran community as it represents the first defeat of Japanese forces on land in the Battle of Milne Bay.

Mr Griffin said, "Battle for Australia Day will commemorate the service and sacrifice of all those who served in defence of Australia in 1942 and 1943, when we faced the gravest threats to our nation.

"This national day of observance will provide tangible recognition and greater community awareness of the contribution to Australia's freedom and democracy of those who fought in the Battle for Australia. ..."

Retiring Chief of Army farewelled in ceremonial parade

A farewell parade for the Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Peter Leahy, was held on July 3 at Sir Thomas Blamey Square, Russell Offices, Canberra.

Lieutenant General Leahy has retired from an Army career that spanned 37 years — six of those commanding the Australian Army.

At the ceremony, command of the Army was handed over to the present Vice Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie.

Among those present were the Secretary of Defence, Mr Nick Warner PSM; the Chief of the Defence Force, Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston AC AFC; and the Deputy Chief of Army, Major General David Morrison AM.

RAN change of command

A ceremony to mark the change in command for the Navy was held on July 3 at HMAS Harman when Vice Admiral Russ Shalders, AO, CSC, RAN, handed over to Rear Admiral Russ Crane, CSM, RAN.

Field Ambulance

Second Field Ambulance Past Members Association's reunion in Adelaide is on October 17–19.

Details from Phil

07 3869 0250;

dha09232@bigpond.net.au

Korea Veterans' Day

Korea Veterans Day Commemorative Ceremony at the Australia National Korean War Memorial, ANZAC Parade, Canberra ACT is on Sunday, July 27 at 11.30am.

RSVP by June 27 to

Ceremonial Officer:

02 62418587

11 Mawalan Street

Mawalan ACT 2913

Radio Ron calling

Ron Metcalfe's radio show, focusing on veterans, is on in the ACT region on the first Thursday of every month at 9.15am and then again at 8pm on Radio One (1120 AM Band)

Call sign 42: 2010 reunion plans

6 RAR EAST TIMOR 2000: Call sign 42 is attempting to conduct a 10th anniversary of the return from deployment from East Timor on October 30, 2010. Expressions of interest are sought from members of the platoon so accommodation etc can be organised.

Contact: Col Bishop (0432 063 453)
e-mail: A_227611@hotmail.com

ARMY APPRENTICES WANTED

60TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION & MEMORIAL DEDICATION
ALBURY/BANDIANA
24th–26th OCTOBER 2008

For details:

www.austarmyapprentice.org

Contact: Frank Maloney (13thVM)
0418 728 181

Don't miss this one

ACT commemoration of Battle of Britain

The inaugural ACT Commemoration of the Battle of Britain will be held on Friday 12 September 2008, a.m. at the Australian War Memorial. Be there: your support is needed. More details to be published later.

Enquiries to the Chairman of the Commemoration Committee:

Paddy Mahony (02) 6254 3934

bpmahony@velocitynet.com.au

See report on page 12

RAAF chief hands over

The Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Geoff Shepherd, AO, received the salute at his final Graduation Parade on July 2 at RAAF Base East Sale. Air Marshal Mark Binskin AM assumed command of the Air Force on 4 July.