

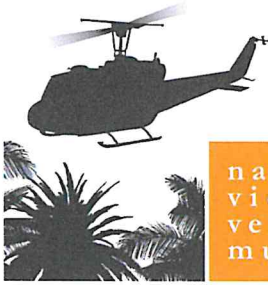


# national vietnam veterans museum

Annual Report 2018

Our unique, interactive  
museum seeks to  
remember, interpret  
and understand  
the experience of  
the veterans of the  
Vietnam War.





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vietnam  
veterans  
museum

**Visit Us:**  
25 Veterans Drive,  
Newhaven,  
Phillip Island, Vic 3925

**Mail:**  
PO Box 318,  
San Remo  
Vic 3925

**Tel:** (03) 5956 6400  
ABN 34 133 827 308

20th February, 2019

Veterans & family members  
Volunteers  
Fellow Members  
Members of the Board  
Museum staff  
Distinguished guests  
Ladies & gentlemen

### **Chairman's Report – 2018**

#### **Federal Government Funding**

With a big hairy audacious goal under our arm we took a major step forward on May 28, 2018 when local Federal Member and Federal Minister for Health, Greg Hunt MP formally announced the commitment by the Federal Government to provide a cornerstone investment of \$5m for our new Museum to kick start our capital campaign. I said at the time, and I say it again, this would not have happened without the personal commitment of Greg Hunt. I saw firsthand, and was involved in the discussions with Canberra, and it was not an easy task to obtain the funding but Greg worked very hard to make it happen. Greg has been a long term active supporter of the Museum and we are very grateful for his efforts on our behalf.

Getting the commitment was one thing, getting the money is a whole other exercise and we are working with the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, Community Development Grants Program and hope to finally have a contract with them in the near future.

#### **Land acquisition discussions & newspaper article**

Our next priority is to obtain land for our new Museum. Our current land is insufficient in size and we are hemmed in by a property development, a helicopter operation, and a road. We need ~ 20 acres to allow for sufficient access, parking, buildings, and back of house. We can retain the current site as our workshop, storage, conservation centre and back of house.

**This museum is the legacy of Vietnam veterans**

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Regrettably the commitment of the gifting of 5 acres to the Museum by Mr. Rod Patch and the developers of the airport site was “clarified” for us during the year and it is now offered only providing their proposed residential development is approved in full. The developer is now asking for \$3m to sell us 20 acres of land on the airport site.

We have spoken with a number of property owners in the area and there are very few available properties which meet our criteria. The location needs to be on the main highway and on the inbound side of the highway. This could be on the Island or at Bass but we do not want to lose our volunteers by being too far away. We are prepared to buy a larger tract of farming land if need be and seek rezoning to enable us to build the Museum and we will hold the land for future expansion.

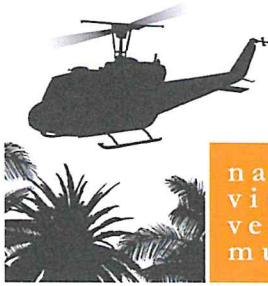
I spoke with the Phillip Island and San Remo Advertiser to tell them of our plight and advise that if we can't obtain suitable land on the Island we would need to relocate and this has done what we had hoped for, in that a number of people have contacted us to advise of land availability or their willingness to sell. The very first thing we have to do in this project is to secure the land and then we need to base our design on it and apply for a Development Application.

#### **Board Meeting at RAAF Base Point Cook, 29 August 2018**

The museum patron AVM Alan Reed AO facilitated a visit for the Board to RAAF Base Point Cook where it held its meeting in the old Officers Mess followed by a tour of the RAAF Museum. This was part of an orchestrated effort to strengthen our relationship with RAAF and has resulted in the gifting of a Bellman Hangar, a C130 Hercules and potentially a Sabre jet - a RAAF Sqn operated out of Ubon in Thailand under USAF command during the Vietnam War. AIRCDRE John Meyer and GPCAPT Bob Coops have become regular visitors to the NVVM this past year and the bonds between RAAF Heritage and the NVVM have grown considerably.

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## **Board Members**

We continue to look for board members to strengthen our networks and our fundraising efforts. MAJGEN John Hartley, of Future Directions International undertook to join the Board early in 2018 but regrettably his busy and dynamic schedule along with his WA location made attendance impossible. John has decided to relinquish his Board position but will remain as an advocate for the Museum in WA and elsewhere.

## **VVAA National Council**

The Chairman and General Manager briefed the VVAA National Council in Canberra on 10 May on progress and plans for the museum. The Chairman stressed to the council that the museum was looking for VVAA support for the museum, not necessarily money. The GM & I were warmly welcomed and our presentations were well received.

## **Victoria State Government**

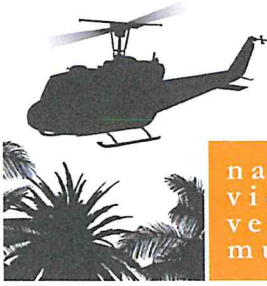
Ken Smith arranged a meeting for us at Parliament House with the Hon. John Eren, Victorian State Minister for Veterans on Tuesday 5 June to discuss opportunities for State Government support for the museum. The Minister had visited the Museum again on 17 May and he has been a consistent supporter of our endeavors. We were sorry to learn of his resignation due to ill health and we wish him a speedy recovery.

## **Museum of Flight Seattle**

The Museum of Flight has a Vietnam War exhibition and a very active group of Vietnam Veteran Volunteers. The centrepiece of a Vietnam Memorial being created there is a B-52 bomber, immaculately restored. We have been invited to attend the opening of the Memorial on Memorial Day, 27<sup>th</sup> May.

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### **Meeting with Head of Land Capability AHQ**

Early in the year I met with MAJGEN Cath Toohey, and the military history unit reports to her. During the visit, we discussed the possibility of Vietnam era equipment that might be available to the NVVM.

### **Election of Marcus Fielding to State Executive of RSL Victorian Branch:**

We are delighted that our Board Member Marcus Fielding has been elected to the State Executive of the RSL Victoria. Rob Webster, President RSL Victorian Branch has donated his Vietnam era items to the museum.

### **Granite from the US Vietnam Veterans Wall Memorial**

Marcus arranged with Jim Knotts, the President & CEO of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, for the gifting to us of a piece of granite from the wall and it was presented to me at the Wall on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

### **AVM Alan Reed AO – Patron retirement**

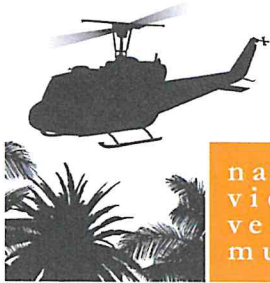
Alan spoke to me a few years back and said he didn't think we were using him enough. Since then he's made a fantastic contribution in opening up doors to RAAF, gaining access to additional hangars and aircraft, and potentially the gifting of an exciting addition to our fleet in the coming year.

Alan has decided to retire as our Patron for two reasons:

- He believes it's time and he's done his bit
- He is being selfless in making way potentially for General Sir Peter Cosgrove AK, MC to become our Patron after his term as Governor-General comes to an end.

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I wish to express my deepest gratitude to Alan for his efforts on our behalf, for his advice on protocol, and for opening many doors for our future relationships with RAAF and the military at large.

### **Lisa Brorsen gift to the Museum 25 Oct**

On October 25 Lisa & Dorte Brorsen presented a cheque to the Museum from their foundation. Lise and her husband Ted (deceased) have been long standing supporters of the Museum having provided their home for fundraising and meat supply for BBQ's to feed volunteers and raise funds for the Museum over the years. Lise and Ted are fully paid Life Subscribers of the Museum. Neville Goodwin has been the link for this funding and I'm grateful to Neville for his efforts to bring this to fruition and to the Brorsens for their wonderful contribution.

### **Exhibitions**

Our team at the Museum do a wonderful job in arranging entertainment, activities, and curating exhibitions throughout each year. I want to single out one of these exhibitions "Behind the Wire" by photographer Susan Gordon Brown who interviewed and photographed forty Vietnam Veterans contained in the exhibition and the associated book. These oral histories are critical for the future memories of the people and events and we as a Museum need to continue this for the years to come so the real stories are not lost.

### **Aircraft**

Colin Grey and his team at Oceania Aviation Museum Inc., do an amazing job with the aircraft and heavy equipment. A new Kiowa helicopter has arrived at the Museum and we'll have a C130 from June. This Museum would be a very different place without them and we're grateful for all they do.

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## Special Thanks

Each and every member of our Board is a volunteer and I thank them for their enormous contribution and I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce them to you:

- Vietnam Veteran - Major Bob Elworthy AM (ret'd) - N.V.V.M. Sec. & President of the VVAA (Vic)
- Vietnam Veteran - Gary Elliott
- Veteran - Colonel Marcus Fielding (ret'd) & member of the State Executive of RSL Victorian Branch
- Hon. Ken Smith
- Neville Goodwin OAM
- Brian Norwood

All our volunteers are the lifeblood of this Museum and we need them to help us keep going and to prosper into the future. Without you we wouldn't exist and we thank you most sincerely for your service!

To our employees Phil, Liz & Sonia you are the mortar in the bricks and we thank you for your passion, commitment & dedication!

The primary role of the Board continues to be fundraising and that will be where we focus, whilst keeping an eye on the day to day operations capably managed by Phil and his team. This calendar year will see some solid strides in terms of fundraising and then the long hard task of raising \$35m will engulf us all.

Thank you all!

Kingsley Munday AM  
Chairman

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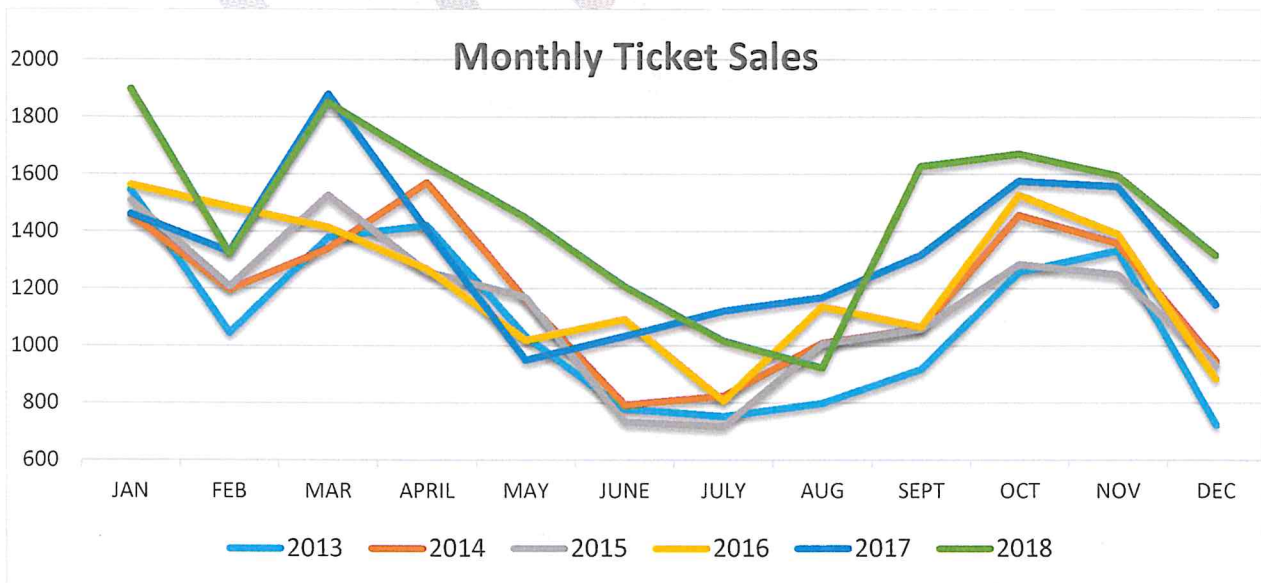




2018 was a successful year from a number of perspectives. Once again our Volunteers continue to make a significant contribution to our Museum. We would not have a Museum without them.

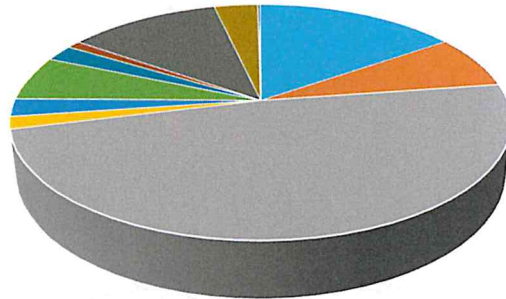
**Some highlights during 2018:-**

- We now have eight-four (84) active volunteers.
- Visitor numbers increased by 9.9% compared to 2017. Eight out of twelve months saw record numbers of visitors since records were kept from 2013.



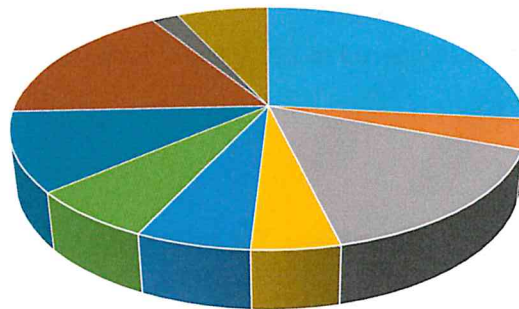
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- 
- Financially, we are in a much stronger position today compared to the same time last year. Entry fees have not increased in over two years. An independently audited Report follows later.

### 2018 Income



- |                |              |                 |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| ■ Sales        | ■ Badge Week | ■ Entry         |
| ■ Info Wand    | ■ Friends    | ■ Museum Events |
| ■ Donations    | ■ Bricks     | ■ Grants        |
| ■ Tower Rental | ■ Other      |                 |

### 2018 Expenditure



- |                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| ■ Wages, salaries & super  | ■ Computer       |
| ■ Building & grounds maint | ■ Depreciation   |
| ■ Marketing & Advertising  | ■ Museum Events  |
| ■ Collection, Restoration  | ■ Administration |
| ■ Motor Vehicle            | ■ Other          |

- The State Labour Government committed, as part of their 2018 electoral campaign, \$200,000.00 to our Museum, “to cover entry and tour costs for Victorian school groups.”

- Business Support Officer, Liz Fincher added Financial Reporting to her list of duties and was later joined by volunteer, Ernie Lopes assisting.
- Our Museum welcomed Zoe Sargant, to our Staff. Zoe has been appointed as a part time Collections Coordinator and brings Museum qualified expertise.
- Staffing levels remain at less than three (3) Equivalent Full Time (EFT) employees.
- Formal Museum's Australia (Victoria) accreditation (MAP) continues to be a high priority. We have spent an inordinate amount of time and effort into this aspect of our operations.
- Our New Museum Building Project has also been a high priority and progress is being made almost on a daily basis. Procurement of a suitable site is a priority.
- Additional security measures have been installed within our Museum and externally.
- Our Museum hosted a small Vietnam Veterans Day service on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August.
- Badge Week provided an exceptional outcome with sales increasing by 23% compared to 2017.
- Installation of an interactive, on-line research tool titled, "Battle Map" a University of New South Wales program mapping every Australian service personnel enemy contact during the Vietnam conflict.
- 143 "Friends" of the Museum contributed over \$10,000 to our Museum this year. An extraordinary effort.
- Our Museum received Victorian Industry Council's Australian Tourism Accreditation Program acknowledgement.
- Jan and I visited Vietnam this year. We found it to be a wonderful country with very friendly people. It seems the Vietnamese economy, particularly in regard to tourism, is growing rapidly.
- We have acquitted the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (VVAA) grant of over \$350,000.
- The Café has received a freshening coat of paint and amenities have been renovated. The driveway and western carpark have also been repaired and extended.
- Governor General, Sir Peter Cosgrove visited our Museum.
- Numerous other dignitaries visited our Museum during the year including Victorian Labour Minister for Veterans, Tourism and Major Events, John Eren; Commodore Greg Yorke, Chief of Navy, Senior Naval Officer, Victoria; Federal member for Bass, Greg Hunt and former Federal Minister for Veterans Affairs, Dan Tehan; Air Commodore John Meier, Director General History and Heritage Air Force and Group Captain Bob Coopes; Harriet Shing, Member for Eastern Victoria; Former Member for Bass, Brian Paynter; new Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale; the majority of Bass Coast Shire Councillors and many more.
- I presented our Museum's expansion plans to a forum of Liberal Shadow Ministers including new Liberal Party Leader, Michael O'Brien.
- Volunteer gardener Lorraine Brighton lost her battle with cancer this year. Lorraine took great pride in our landscaping particularly our Garden of Reflection. She will be missed.
- Our APC looked brilliant in a parade down Phillip Island's main street celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of settlement of Phillip Island.



**Staff:** Sonia Hogg, Sales and Events Executive and Liz Fincher, Business Support have proven to be excellent contributors and supporters of our Museum often going above and beyond.

**Exhibitions:** Three exhibitions were held during the year. The Royal Australian Navy's involvement in the Vietnam conflict; a commemorative exhibition of the Battle of Coral/Balmoral and Behind the Wire, a series of stories and photos of Vietnam veterans.

**New Potential Acquisitions:**

- **F4 Phantom:** Investigating procurement from the Hellenic Air Force.
- **C130A Hercules:** Currently acquisition from Point Cook Museum being investigated.
- **Centurion and Scorpion tank turret simulators:** Currently at Puckapunyal being refurbished.
- **F111 cockpit:** From Defence laboratories in Port Melbourne.
- **Bellman Hangars:** Acquisition of three and a half Bellman Hangars continue. One and a half from Amberley Aircraft Base and two from Laverton.

HTAV Membership.

Video cards.

TripAdvisor.

Phil Dressing,

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Well, wow what a year. Where do I start, well I suppose at the beginning?

January 2018 started with Steve Knox my Co coordinator sadly and unexpectedly passing away. His death left many grieving parties. From my perspective he was a friend, an ally and my partner. The two of us had mapped out our plans, ambitions and goals for the year. I was determined to go it alone until I could find the “right” fit.

Our goals were to unite all volunteers, break the divide, no longer did we want a “them and us” mentality. We currently have 83 volunteers who are engaged in various activities within the museum. We wanted to join volunteers from all the departments i.e. front counter, guides, library, collections, restorations, maintenance and gardens, general office and cleaning, all as one. The Museum going forward needed to be united. To achieve this, we set about interviewing all of the volunteers individually discussing their needs, likes, views and opinions. We pointed out our desire for further training and the current situation with the Museum Accreditation Program (MAP).

This led to the initiation of a number of training programs, in 6 key areas identified as being critical to our successful operation going forward. The 6 key areas were Hazard Detection, Incident Reporting, Health and Safety practices, Emergency Evacuation Procedures, Lift Operation and Safety and Sexual Harassment and Anti Bullying Protocols.

A training team was established consisting of 5 trainers, namely John Walton, Lesley Argæet, Steve Barber, Rob Newall and Debbie Barber. All volunteers were contacted and invited to attend on any one of the seven dates on which

the training was provided. Over the seven training sessions a total of 64 volunteers attended.

Given that the Museum is in the public domain and open to all ages, it was decided that it was mandatory for all volunteers to obtain a Working With Children's Check. Where necessary, assistance is provided to enable them to obtain this accreditation. After considerable effort almost all of our volunteers now hold current Working with Children's Check.

After discussions with Phil and the Volunteer Programme Advisory Group (VPAG) we also decided to implement Police checks firstly, for all new Volunteers and then have it rolled out to existing volunteers. Application was made to Victoria Police for the Museum to be assessed for eligibility to obtain a Community Volunteer fee, which in turn provides a Police Check at a subsidised fee. It is now mandatory for all new Volunteers to consent to a Police Check. I sit with each Volunteer, to complete the application, I certify all copy documents and sign off on the applications.

I also attended meetings with both the South Gippsland Volunteer Association and Volunteering Victoria, making useful contacts enabling me to have a sounding board for ideas, issues and views on policies, procedures, trainings, inductions, all of which will be beneficial going forward.

Attending training sessions with Volunteering Victoria has enabled us to develop a more professional approach in organising our volunteers.

As Volunteer Co-ordinator, it is wonderful to see all departments coming together, with camaraderie and friendships forming. For example, our quarterly Volunteer BBQ's which enables all Volunteers, to get together and mingle. Another example are the Volunteer participants and the spectators coming together for a celebratory drink for the Movember Shave off.

With the MAP almost completed, I worked closely with, in particular, the library and collections department, ensuring we had sufficient Volunteers to complete the tasks of cataloguing, boxing, identifying and documenting all of our collections. The task is still ongoing, but systems have now been put in place to ensure the continuation of this work. A huge effort has been made by all in that department.

However, all departments are to be commended on their magnificent efforts in achieving adherence to the MAP and "Best Practice" requirements.

From the front counter perspective, all staff are now being trained by Lesley Argaet who completes the initial induction and training, to ensure that we have a consistent and thorough training approach for all front counter procedures. Also forming part of the induction for all new staff is mandatory training on Lift Procedures and our Harassment and Bullying policies.

For the first time, in the Museum history, we have been able to participate in the school work experience programme, which saw young Coby Heinze from Newhaven College attend at the museum from the 9<sup>th</sup> April to the 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2018. Coby so enjoyed his time at the museum that he has since returned as a volunteer and we call him our “ Battle Maps King”. As the introduction was so successful, we intend to continue to participate in the School Work Experience programme and in fact have interviewed and agreed for another student to complete work experience with us, in the coming year.

During this year, we have implemented the “Guide Group” which holds meetings every two months. This group was formed to enable round table discussion amongst guides, to also implement a mentor programme to ensure that learning guides have a mentor and to also ensure that all guides follow set protocols. This is also a forum where the events co Ordinator can keep the group informed of up coming group visits and event. It also enables the tabling of any issues or future training that may be required.

In September, Ernie Lopes came on board as co-co-ordinator and the timing couldn't be better, it was high time I had some assistance. We have worked tirelessly on the implementation of a new software package called “Better Impact”. This package is designed to have our volunteer profiles, recruitment training, policies and procedures all in one place, and improve our communication streams. As well as enabling much more efficient access for prospective volunteers to apply on line through our web site. It also enables us to keep accurate records of the amount of volunteer activity and specifically the areas in which they are working.

We plan to have the implementation of Better Impact rolled out by March 2019. We still have a lot of work to do, and are streamlining processes and checking systems within the package. We have received considerable assistance from Rachael Ferguson who is the Volunteer Co Ordinator with Phillip Island Nature Parks and is well versed in the programme. She has spent a number of days with Ernie, Phil and myself, and we are very grateful for all of her help.

**Future Plans.**

We propose to continue working on the Better Impact programme to ensure that all volunteers are well versed in not only its use, but to enable communications through all the relevant departments.

We propose to continue Training and upgrading Training for Front Counter Staff to ensure that they are kept up to date with changes, policies and procedures.

We will also continue to revisit training procedures and induction processes.

We also will continue to recruit additional volunteers in order that we can hopefully in the future offer split shifts to enable greater involvement and flexibility

At some stage this year, we will also revisit the uniform issue and a decision will be made as to what uniform is to be worn by our volunteers.

Ernie and myself will continue attending training sessions provided by Volunteers Victoria in order to stay on top of changes in legislation and “Best practice” volunteer procedures.

Debbie Barber and Ernie Lopes





## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

### COLLECTIONS

There were sixty seven donations documented in 2018, among which are several private collections of memorabilia, including the cameras & uniform etc of Denis Gibbons, the military photographer whom the Exhibition Gallery is named after.

All 2018 donations have been numbered differently from the backlog of articles. The intention is to have them catalogued as soon as possible. 2019 donations will be treated in the same manner.

The bi-annual exhibitions have been a success, (see attached). In May the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The First Australian Task Force, The Battle of Coral & Balmoral was opened by Ms Harriet Shing MP for Eastern Victoria.

The first of December saw the opening by Bass Coast Mayor Councillor Brett Tessari of the exhibition, Behind the Wire, Photographs & stories of Vietnam Veterans by photographer Susan Gordon Brown.

Both exhibitions have been well attended & are designed to inform, educate, preserve & respect the history of those who served in Vietnam.

PRESENTS THE  
**50<sup>TH</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY OF  
ARTILLERY • INFANTRY • AIRBORNE

FIRST AUSTRALIAN TASK FORCE  
**THE BATTLE OF CORAL AND BALMORAL**  
12<sup>TH</sup> MAY - 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1968

EXHIBITION FROM SATURDAY 5 MAY TO FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER

THE HISTORY THE PEOPLE THE STORIES

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Opening Saturday 1 December at 2pm  
Photographs and Interviews by Susan Gordon Brown

**BEHIND the WIRE**  
Images and Stories of Vietnam Veterans

www.behindthewire.com.au www.vietnamvetmuseum.org

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Philip Island 3240 (behind helipad)  
CALL 03 5986 8450 for more information  
or contact: Newhaven  
newhaven@vnet.net.au

Start the Day Early  
Friday 8am and weekend 10am (entry by appointment only)

03 5986 8450  
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## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

### COLLECTIONS

#### **Mourning Soldier Memorial Image**

In mid-December a delegation from the South Vietnamese Association, led by ARVN Ranger Second Lieutenant Andy Huu Nguyen attended a memorial handover at the National Vietnam Veterans Museum. The handover consisted of speeches and the dedication of a framed memorial board to the museum. After the event the delegation was shown around the museum and the Garden of Reflection. Whilst in the garden the delegation revealed that it has raised a fair amount of money towards recasting the Mourning Soldier statue with the thoughts of potentially donating it to the museum. Mention Andy Nguyen's comments re re-cast statue of the Mourning soldier and felt the best place in our Garden of Reflection.



#### **2019 Plans**

- Create a dedicated display focusing on Antonio Parrello, using a custom guitar, service medals and detailed letter with highlighted areas. As part of this the floor plan of the current AATTV area may be redesigned.
- Produce a display based on the APC tank explosion, including flag, images and a newspaper article.

- Complete two exhibitions: A Qantas exhibition in May and a currently undetermined one in December.

John Downing medals and uniform – mannequin to be set up.

Annual Report 2018

Sonia Hogg

Sales & Marketing Executive



## **Marketing**

2018 saw the introduction of the Video Cards, which are a handheld device, similar in size to an iPad. Two different cards were created: 'Vision' for fundraising purposes and 'Campaign' for promotional purposes. Both have been well received and are doing their job in creating a greater awareness of our Museum. The cards are a perfect medium as the screens portray several short videos of different aspects of the Museum which the user may play at leisure. The feedback has been excellent and as a marketing tool they have been very useful and successful.

**Advertising** has been prolific – and has come in under budget. Events are well promoted in local newspapers – The Sentinel Times and Phillip Island Advertiser. The local glossy magazine Coast includes a regular advert and this is also widely distributed on the Morning Peninsular and the Bass Coast. Various other publications are used to promote the Museum nationally. Social media is one of the most popular and successful methods for promoting events and keeping in touch with the 4,000 plus followers. Local community radio stations 3MFM, ABC Gippsland; RPPFM (Mornington Peninsula) and 3MDR (Dandenong Ranges) are supportive with regular promotional broadcasts about our Museum. Other avenues include the local business and tourism bodies: Phillip Island Business and Tourism Association (PITBA) and Destination Phillip Island (DPI) with the Official Visitors Guide and maps. Mail outs are conducted on a regular basis to Probus groups, RSL clubs, retirement villages, car and motorcycle clubs VVAA, schools and our database to keep everyone informed of events and special occasions at our Museum. The domestic and international markets are also covered with our association with Vic Tourism; Sydney Melbourne Touring Company; Go Beyond Melbourne who represent us both nationally and at international expos.

## **Brochures –**

**Museum Visitor Brochure** A new double sided 4 page DL size brochure has been produced to replace the original 2 sided brochure. It was felt more information needed to be shared on the brochure. The new one has been well received and is distributed throughout other attractions, venues, accommodation and information centres throughout Phillip Island and the Bass Coast.

**Museum Education Brochure** A new double sided 4 page DL size brochure has been created to send out to schools and educational institutions. The Education Program has been created and tailored to meet standards for all year levels and receives wonderful feedback from schools which visit the Museum. The intention is to market the program intensively to encourage visitation from schools which are unaware of the amazing educational resource available to them at the Museum.

**HTAV** (History Teachers Association Victoria) – 2 conferences were attended in 2018, to promote the Museum to history teachers in the secondary and middle year levels. These were held in Melbourne in July and October. The video cards and new education brochure were used to promote the Education Program at the Museum with great effect. A substantial number of teachers were not aware of the Museum and were delighted to find out more about our venue and the resources we can offer teachers. Since attending the conferences, 2 new schools have booked visits and we anticipate many more in 2019.

HTAV Conference stand



### **Education**

A total of 41 groups booked into the Education Program in 2018. These included schools, Cub/Scout groups, Tafe and other adult educational institutions. The launch of the Caribou Classroom created an extra buzz of excitement with excellent feedback from all students and teachers who have experienced this activity. Our education program includes:

The holographic Light & Sound Show, which covers the causes and consequences of the war;  
The Action Station, which is a table of items used by servicemen on their Tour of Duty in Vietnam. Students get to pick up and handle these items, supervised by our trained volunteer guides and Vietnam veterans;

The Caribou Classroom, where students enter the Caribou and watch a video of the Caribou in action, plus listen to one of our guides talk about the role of the Caribou in the Vietnam War;  
A guided tour through the Museum.

The program is suitable for all year levels and is tailored to suit the age and capabilities of the students. Comments from both students and teachers are positive and the return visits speak of the success of this program.

### **Events**

2018 was a busy year with events. These included:

Rock Away on Labour Day; Sisters & Misterys Concert; launch of Coral and Balmoral Exhibition; Antiques Evaluation Day; Free locals Open Day; Launch of Caribou Classroom; Big Boys Toys; the play Barry Versus Kelly; launch of Behind the Wire Exhibition;



Big Boys Toys



Airforce Band playing at Caribou Classroom launch



Other events included the Churchill Island Easter Fun Fair, where the Museum sets up a 9 hole mini golf course, which is kindly donated by Dennis Taylor who is a Vietnam veteran. This is manned by staff and volunteers over the Easter Weekend and raises funds for the Museum. \$3 per go and raised close to \$1000 for the Museum over 2 days.

There were several reunions at the Museum. The largest was HQ1ATF in November where we seated 133 visitors for dinner plus organized entertainment for them. It was a great success.

Two other notable events included the opening of the Wing Commander John Downing Display



The presentation of a specially commissioned guitar by Chris Parrello to commemorate his father Antonio Parrello who was a member of the AATTV



### **Grants**

Several grants and sponsorships were applied for in 2018 to cover the cost of events' advertising and performers' fees.

A total of \$26,300 was raised from several sources included the Bass Coast Shire Community Grant; San Remo & District Finance Services; The Angior Family Foundation; RACV and Phillip Island Experience.

Our sponsors for events also include Archisign who kindly supply and donate signage for our events when required.

2018 has been a busy year and 2019 promises to be even busier.





## NVVM 2018 annual report O.A.M component

### **Kiowa A7-007 helicopter**

Kiowa helicopter arrived in February

Manufacture of a vertical stabiliser

Prepare and Paint the Kiowa

Construct 2 horizontal stabilisers, this work is 50% complete

November saw the aircraft painted in Vietnam era colour, the final paint and finish will be applied after Avalon Air Show

### **Caribou A4-231**

Caribou centre wing section fatigue repair panels installed and substructure remanufactured

Caribou central dorsal beam repairs

Fuselage production joint fatigue repairs completed, fuselage modification and rebuild is 80% complete

Source radio and avionics equipment

Install concrete pad under tail section of the aircraft, install cable tie-downs

### **Grumman Tracker N12-153567**

Enlarge concrete pads under undercarriage

Begin task to refurbish undercarriage doors

Restore "Nightsun" wing mounted search light

Source radio, radar and avionics equipment

Over a 4-year wait our hope has been to source an airframe through the RANHF tender however that has now failed and work to repair and upgrade 855 has begun.

### **Canberra A84-307**

Complete the removal of undercarriage assembly, de-corrode all magnesium parts, manufacture new components and overhaul hydraulics.

Repair damaged wheel well structures

Overhaul flap and aileron hydraulic and actuator systems

### **Bell AH-IG Cobra 68-15092**

Source and install 4 TOW missile launch tubes, repairs needed to be made to the tubes as they sustain damage when dropped from the aircraft

Repair internal structures to rectify de-mill damage

### **Westland Wessex N7-220**

Catalogue parts and sundry equipment

Remove radioactive components from rotor blades

## **Armoured Personnel Carrier S/No 134253**

Service brake levers

Free tracks for towed movement

Move APC to rear of workshop and prepare for transport in P.I 150<sup>TH</sup> anniversary parade

Begin the task of returning vehicle to Vietnam conflict era configuration

Remove late model rear carriers and replace with period jerry can panniers

## **Land Rover AMF-173823**

Remove engine, remove clutch and flywheel assembly from engine, source new clutch plate and replace flywheel bush.

Repair/finish exhaust and inlet manifolds

Replace welch plugs in cylinder block

## **Workshop equipment**

Overhaul two pneumatic/hydraulic aircraft jacks

Overhaul 1 conventional aircraft jack

Manufacture swaging equipment for aircraft electrical systems



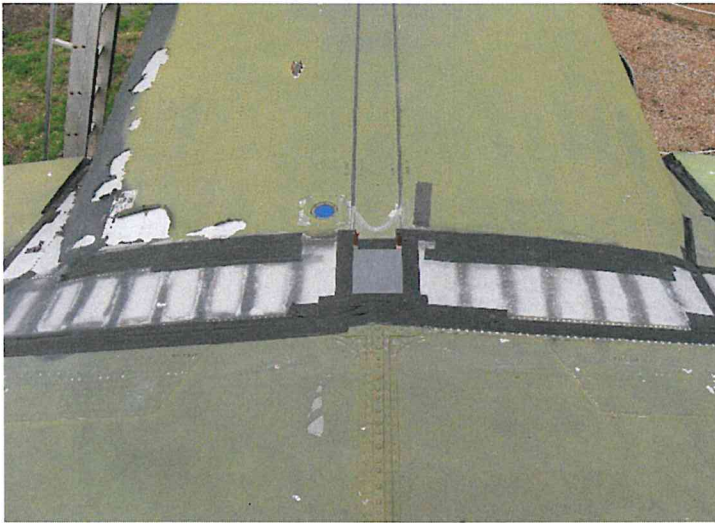
Kiowa arrival Feb 2018



Kiowa prepared for paint



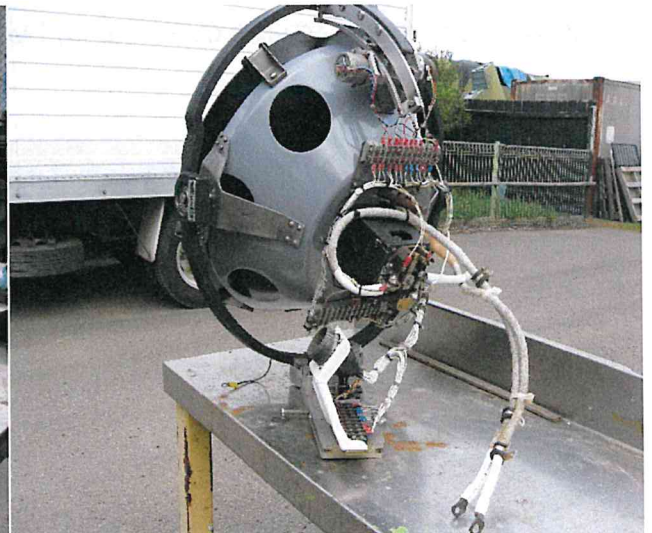
Kiowa rear stabiliser



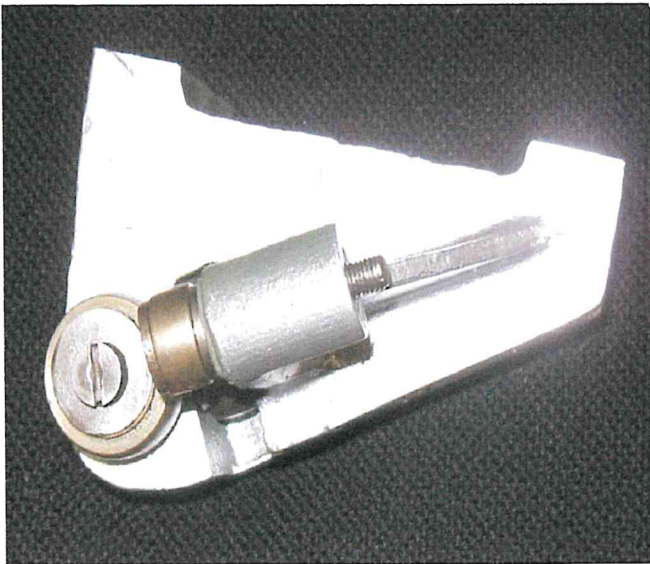
Caribou centre section repairs front and rear



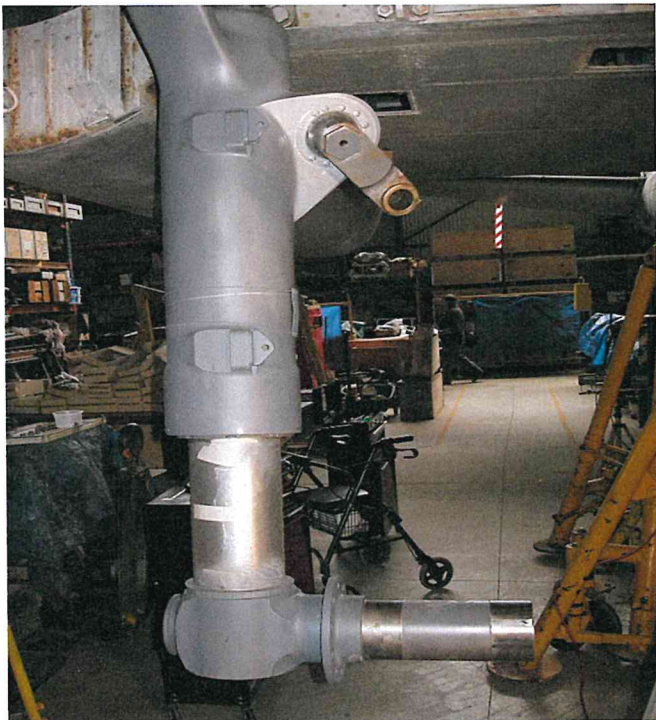
Caribou floor and roof beam repairs



Grumman Tracker "Nightsun" restoration is complete



Canberra remanufactured bomb door guide brackets



Canberra main undercarriage overhauled, hydraulic cylinders reconditioned and struts repaired



Restored aircraft jacks



Cable swaging tool (10 tonne cap)