

National Service Eleventh Intake

February 1968 to February 1970

1 RTB KAPOOKA 2 RTB PUCKAPUNYAL 3 RTB SINGLETON

50th Anniversary Remembrance Service



10.30am
Thursday
08 February 2018

Kingscliff Cenotaph
Marine Parade
Kingscliff NSW

NATIONAL SERVICE

On 5 November 1964, Cabinet decided to introduce a compulsory selective National Service scheme. In announcing this decision to Parliament, Prime Minister Robert Menzies referred to 'aggressive Communism' developments in Asia, such as 'recent Indonesian policies and actions' and a 'deterioration in our strategic position', as being influential in the decision being reached. The Government had concluded that Australia had inadequate Defence manpower and aimed to increase the strength of the Army to 33,000 by the end of 1966 by introducing national service.

The *National Service Act 1964*, passed on 24 November, required 20 year old males, if selected, to serve in the Army for a period of twenty four months of continuous service (reduced to eighteen months in 1971), followed by three years in the Reserve. The Defence Act was amended in May 1965 to provide that conscripts could be obliged to serve overseas, and in March 1966, Prime Minister Holt announced that National Servicemen would be sent to Vietnam to fight in units of the Australian Regular Army.

Although registration was compulsory a process of selection by ballot determined who would be called up. Two ballots were conducted each year. The ballots selected several dates in the selected period and all males with corresponding birthdays were called up for national service. The ballot was conducted using a lottery barrel and marbles representing birthdays. The barrel and marbles are held in the National Office, Canberra.

The National Servicemen were given twelve weeks initial training at
1 R.T.B. at Kapooka, NSW, (R.T.B. is Recruit Training Battalion)
2 R.T.B. at Puckapunyal, Victoria,
3 R.T.B. at Singleton, N.S.W.

Most were sent to the Infantry, which allowed the Army to increase the Royal Australian Regiment to nine Battalions. Officer Training Unit (OUT) at Scheyville trained over 1600 National Servicemen who were commissioned as second lieutenants, many of whom served in the Infantry.

From 30th June 1965 to 7th December 1972,
Over 800,00 men registered for National Service.
Over 63,000 men were conscripted for fulltime service.
Over 100 NS men served in Borneo with 2 Killed.
Over 19,000 NS men served in Sth Vietnam with 210 Killed in action.
Over 1200 NS men were wounded in action in South Vietnam
Remaining 44,000 plus served in support units in Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Source: National Archives of Australia

Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal

The Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal was introduced in 2001 to recognise those who completed their obligation under the two National Service schemes that had operated in Australia between 1951 and 1972.

Eligibility for the medal is dependent upon a person's obligation to serve and upon this obligation being fulfilled under the National Service Act 1951 (As Amended), as it applied to the individual at the time of his service. Additionally, he must not have been discharged for disciplinary reasons. No women were conscripted under the National Service Act.

Design

The medal is bronze with the obverse having a central device derived from the current Australian Defence Force Emblem reflecting, more historically, national service as it related to the defence force during the 1950s and 1960s, with the crossed swords of the Army taking precedence, being the arm predominantly affected by national service. Surrounding the outer edge are the words 'ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL SERVICE' and at the central bottom edge the years '1951-1972'.

The reverse bears a central device of lines radiating from a nucleus, over-layered with the stars of the Southern Cross, representing national service being influential in the machinery of the defence force during a time of need and its broad impact in Australia. Surrounding the central device is a cog, the traditional symbol representing the spirit of cooperation between the Australian Defence Force and the Australian community, thus recognising those who accepted the obligation to serve as part of national service.

Ribbon

The ribbon has a central yellow stripe, flanked by two dark blue stripes, which are in turn flanked by white, green and light blue stripes and ochre edges. The central yellow and dark blue stripes represent Australia's national colours of the time, the white, green and light blue represent the Navy, Army and Air Force and the outer ochre stripes represent the soil of Australia.



Order of Service



Welcome and Introductions:

by Tony van Sleeuwen

Poem:

“The Lonely Forward Scout” by Dan Penman

“Remembrance” Address:

Guest Speaker:- Mr Brian Vickery OAM

Remembrance:

Roll of Honour - Eleventh Intake

By John Bertini

Laying of Wreaths:

National Service

Tony van Sleeuwen

Eleventh Intake

John Lloyd

Invitation to family/friends to lay a wreath or other memorial.

Ode to the Fallen: (For those who are able, please stand)

by Adrian Adams

"They went with songs to battle,
They were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye,
Steady and aglow,
They were staunch to the end,
Against odds encountered,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them”

All: We will remember them

“Lest We Forget”

All: Lest We Forget

The Last Post:

(remain standing—remove headwear)



One Minute's Silence:

Rouse:

National Flag to be raised to the peak - Flag Orderly

The Australian National Anthem:

Australians all let us rejoice
for we are young and free.
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea.
Our land abounds in nature's gifts,
of beauty rich and rare.
In history's page, let every stage,
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains than let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

Conclusion of Service

By Tony van Sleeuwen

Our thanks to the following people and Units who have made this Service possible.

*Guest Speaker:- Brian Vickery,
Kingscliff RSL,
Kingscliff Surf Club,
Kingscliff Shire Council,
Bus Driver*

Roll of Honour Eleventh Intake



We will remember:-

Those personnel killed and wounded in action in South Vietnam.

Those personnel killed in non-operational duties whilst in Australia.

Those who have died since being discharged.

Those who still suffer since being discharged.

They shall not be forgotten

The following names are those National Service men from the Eleventh Intake who made the supreme sacrifice whilst serving in South Vietnam.



L/Corporal Richard J. Abraham
SA 9 RAR 06 Jul 1969



Private Gary A. Archer
NSW 9 RAR 04 Feb 1969



Private Keith I. Dewar
WA HQ 1 ATF 24 Jun 1969



Private Ronald J. Gaffney
NSW 9 RAR 16 Dec 1968



Private Ian J. Gibbs
WA 1 RAR 18 Nov 1968



Private Raymond C. Kermode
QLD 9 RAR 19 Jul 1969



Private Lyall H. McPherson
WA 9 RAR 12 Apr 1969



Private Joseph G. Manicola
VIC 1 ARU 12 Mar 1969



Private Thomas F. Meredith
NSW 9 RAR 10 Jan 1969



Private Reginald A. Phillips
SA 9 RAR 18 Jan 1969



Private Bruce J. Plane
SA 9 RAR 20 Jan 1969



Private Alexander Remeljej
SA 5 RAR 11 Apr 1969



Private Peter C. Smith
NSW 9 RAR 19 Jan 1969

We acknowledge that the details for these men were taken from the Department of Defence, the Department of Veterans Affairs, 9 RAR Association Qld, 5 RAR Association, and The National Servicemen's Association of Australia Inc. We thank them for their support.

Unfortunately, there is no actual list of the National Servicemen and their respective intake. Therefore, by looking at the Regimental Numbers, the birth dates, the posting dates and the research done by the National Servicemen's Association we believe that these men were from the Eleventh Intake. This information has been compiled to assist us to honour them as well as all National Servicemen who paid the supreme sacrifice.



THE SPIRIT
LIVES
2014 - 2018

2 RTB Puckapunyal Barracks



3 RTB Singleton Barracks



1 RTB Kapooka Barracks

