



VICTORIAN VETERANS COUNCIL

Annual Report

1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011

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Chairman's Foreword

I am pleased to report that 2010-11 has been another full year for the Victorian Veterans Council (the Council). The Council has continued to work closely with Government and ex-service organisations to support the wellbeing of Victoria's veterans and to promote the commemoration of their service and sacrifice to the wider community.

A significant highlight of 2010-11 has been the continued success of the Council's grants program, which has again assisted a broad range of ex-service organisations to undertake initiatives that support the welfare of veterans, their dependents and war widows. This year, grants totalling \$363,202 were distributed from the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund. The Council's grants program has also supported a number of important projects to honour the contributions of Victoria's veteran community, including Stage 1 of the Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk in Seymour. Grants to the value of \$373,967.50 were made to 29 different projects from the Victorian Veterans Fund this financial year.

The Council has also actively participated in and provided advice to Government on a range of initiatives relevant to the veteran community in 2010-11, including the highly successful Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Schools Competition and Prize, the second annual Veteran Community Award, as well as the *In Our Words* veterans' digital storytelling project.

I would like to thank outgoing Council member, Rear Admiral John Lord AM RAN, for his service to the Council. John was appointed to the Council on 1 February 2009 and resigned in August 2010. During this time he was a member of the Governance Sub-Committee.

Finally, on behalf of the Victorian Veterans Council, I would like to acknowledge the support of ex-services organisations and the broader veteran community for the Council's activities in 2010-11. We look forward to working with you again in 2011-12.

Major General Peter Haddad, AO (Retd)

Chairman

About The Victorian Veterans Council

The Victorian Veterans Council is an independent statutory body established in August 2006 under the *Veterans Act 2005*. The Veterans Council plays an important role in supporting Victoria's veterans and reports to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on issues affecting the Victorian veteran community. Under the Act, the Council has specific responsibility for the distribution of the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund and the Victorian Veterans Fund. The Council also provides advice to the Government in a number of ways including:

- general advice to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on issues affecting Victoria's veterans such as the current and future needs of veterans and widows
- specific advice on issues referred by the Government to the Council for advice such as the Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize
- specific advice to the Director of Consumer Affairs Victoria in relation to applications to transfer patriotic funds.





Objectives and Functions of the Veterans Council

The objectives and functions of the Veterans Council are detailed in Sections 5 and 6 of the *Veterans Act 2005*, as outlined below:

The objectives of the Victorian Veterans Council are to:

- promote the well-being of all members of the Victorian ex-service community
- promote the commemoration of those who have died in the performance of service or duty
- develop a better understanding amongst Victorians of the participation and sacrifice of Victoria's veterans in war and peacekeeping operations, and the contributions of Victoria's ex-service community
- actively promote the significance of, and the key values associated with, the spirit of ANZAC
- promote cooperation and collaboration across organisations dealing with veterans' welfare and other ex-service community issues, including with the trustees of the Shrine of Remembrance.

The functions of the Victorian Veterans Council are to:

- ensure the objectives of the Victorian Veterans Council are met to the maximum extent that is practicable
- monitor and advise the Minister on issues affecting Victoria's ex-service community
- investigate and report on any aspect of veterans affairs referred to it by the Minister
- consult with the ex-service community when developing advice for the Minister
- support the welfare activities of ex-service organisations through the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund
- fund activities that further its objectives through the Veterans Fund
- advise the Minister administering Part 4 or the Director on matters in relation to the regulation of patriotic funds under Part 4.

Members of the Victorian Veterans Council



Major General Peter Haddad AO (Retd), Chairman

Major General Haddad served as an Army officer for 38 years, including active service in Vietnam, and retired in 2005 at the rank of Major General. As a senior officer he held policy and management positions at Defence Headquarters, in the Defence Materiel Organisation and as Commander, Joint Logistics Command.

Major General Haddad is the principal of a consultancy company and is currently responsible for the operations of the Defence Industry Unit within the Department of Business and Innovation. He is also an Adjunct Professor in the School of Business, IT and Logistics at RMIT University.



Mr George Logan RFD, Deputy Chairman

Mr Logan enlisted into the Australian Army in 1956. He served as an infantryman for 36 years, including war service in Malaya, on the Thai/Malay border and in Vietnam. He left the Army as a Major in 1992.

Mr Logan has held a 10-year tenure in an Administrative Law Tribunal (VRB), and has been the Secretary to the Lord Mayor of Melbourne. Currently RSL State Vice President, he has chaired a number of ex-service associations as well as the Defence Reserves Re-employment Board, whilst Acting Chair of the Patriotic Funds Council.



Mr Peter Colliver

Mr Colliver served in the RAAF Reserve for eight years and for 16 years with the Air Training Corps (now Australian Air Force Cadets). He commanded the Victorian Squadron for five-and-a-half years. A member of the Royal Australian Air Force Association (Victorian Division) since 1968, Mr Colliver has served a total of 11 years as a member of the Divisional Council and served six years as Treasurer before being elected State President in May 2004. Mr Colliver was elected as a National Vice President in March 2006.



Brigadier John Deighton AM MC (Retd)

Graduating from Portsea Officer Cadet School, Brigadier Deighton spent 30 years as an Infantry Officer and saw active service in Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam. In 1983 he resigned from the Army with the rank of Brigadier. He was the CEO of the RSL (Victorian Branch) for 17 years before retiring in April 2006. Brigadier Deighton was a member of the Patriotic Funds Council of Victoria for four years and is now the RSL representative on the Council.



Mr Bob Elworthy

Mr Elworthy graduated from the Officer Cadet School, Portsea, in 1973. He spent 20 years in the Army, attaining the rank of Major. During this time, he served overseas in Singapore, South Vietnam and Hong Kong. Since leaving the Army, Mr Elworthy has been employed as a project director by a number of Defence organisations in Victoria. He is currently the State President of the Victorian Branch of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia.



Mr David Ford CVO AM GM

Mr Ford was an Army Officer for 20 years and saw active service in Malaya and Vietnam. He was then employed as Chief of Protocol for the Victorian State Government until he semi-retired in 2000. Mr Ford is an active Legatee, a former President of Melbourne Legacy and represents Legacy on the Veterans Council. He is also a Life Governor of the Shrine of Remembrance.



Ms Mary Kelly

Ms Kelly enlisted in the Army in 1980 and served in the Corps of Signals for 16 years. She served in the Force Communications Unit as part of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia and currently works for Department of Defence in the Information Communications Technology area. She was a member of the Patriotic Funds Council of Victoria for three years and has been a member of the Victorian Veterans Council since 2006.



Rear Admiral John Lord AM RAN (Retd)

Rear Admiral Lord was a member of the Victorian Veterans Council from 1 February 2009 until his resignation from the Council in August 2010. Rear Admiral Lord served with the Royal Australian Navy for over 36 years. He also served in Vietnam, commanded two major warships and directed naval operations for East Timor during 1999-2000. He was also Commander of Northern Command in Darwin and retired from the Navy with rank of Rear Admiral.



Mr Stephen Ryan

Mr Ryan was a member of the former Patriotic Funds Council for five years and has a strong affinity with ex-service organisations. He has over 25 years experience in finance and accounting and has been Chief Financial Officer for various multi-national companies. Mr Ryan has no direct service affiliations and is appointed as an independent member of the Veterans Council.



Mr John Wells

Mr Wells has been a school teacher and school principal and has also been a freelance journalist and author since 1973. He served in Vietnam with the Royal Australian Artillery. Mr Wells is a member of various state and local RSL bodies, is a Legatee and has been a member of Carry On for 30 years. He is a Director of Carry On, founding chairman of the Vietnam War Memorial of Victoria and edited the *Prisoners of War and Relatives Association Journal* for some years.

Highlights of the Year

Victorian Veterans Council Grants Program

The Council's grants program continues to play an important role in its work to promote the wellbeing of our ex-service community and to foster a greater understanding among Victorians of our veterans' service and sacrifice as well as their ongoing contributions to the broader community. The 2010-11 financial year has seen a total of \$664,908 in grants distributed from the Victorian Veterans Fund and the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund.

Victorian Veterans Fund

The Victorian Veterans Fund was established under the *Veterans Act 2005*. The Fund's revenue comes from the Community Support Fund (CSF) and is equal to one day's revenue of that Fund. Grants made from the Fund totalled \$373,967.50 in 2010-11. As the stories below illustrate, the Victorian Veterans Fund continues to make a significant contribution to initiatives to commemorate veterans' service and educate the wider community about Victoria's service history.



The Memorial Cairn at the Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk in Seymour

Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk

The Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk in Seymour will be the first of its kind in Australia to recognise all the Australian personnel who served in the Vietnam War. Managed by the Mitchell Shire Council with the support of the Mitchell sub-branch of the Vietnam Veterans Association, the project also commemorates the strong involvement the Seymour District has had with the Australian Defence Force, in particular during the Vietnam era when the 2nd Recruit Training Battalion was situated at the nearby Puckapunyal Army Camp. The Victorian Veterans Council provided \$37,500 from the Veterans Fund towards Stage 1 of the Walk, which opened on 30 May 2011. This funding supported the construction of a black marble memorial cairn dedicated to those who died during their service in Vietnam. Stage 1 also features a replica of Luscombe Bowl, the open entertainment area at the end of the main airstrip at Nui Dat.

Indigenous Australians at War Touring Exhibition

Indigenous Australians have served in all major conflicts from the Boer War to the present, and in recognition of their service and sacrifice, the Shrine of Remembrance hosted the *Indigenous Australians at War* temporary exhibition between May and August 2010. *Indigenous Australians at War* traced the history of Indigenous Australians' participation in war and explored the personal stories of Indigenous service men and women. Following the success of the temporary exhibition, the Shrine was approached by Indigenous community leaders who suggested the exhibition tour regional and rural Victoria so that Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities across the state could learn more about Indigenous Australians involved in war and peace-keeping. The Victorian Veterans Council was pleased to support this important project with a Veterans Fund grant of \$23,577, which will make a substantial contribution towards a range of costs associated with taking the exhibition on the road.



Informal group portrait of members of the 2/18th Australian Field Workshop, taken at Tennant Creek, NT. All men except two (Jackomos and Cook) are Indigenous servicemen. Photo courtesy of the Australian War Memorial collection, id P00898.001.

ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund

The ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund receives contributions from sporting events on ANZAC Day, which are collected by Sport and Recreation Victoria in accordance with section 4A of the *ANZAC Day Act 1958*. Grants from this year's ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund totalling \$363,202 were invested in 28 initiatives to enhance the welfare of our veteran community. As outlined below, grants from the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund are making a positive difference to the lives of Victorian veterans and their dependents.

Legacy Dependents with a Disability Somers Camp

Legacy cares for more than 300 adult children of veterans, most of whom have congenital or acquired disabilities that significantly impact on their daily lives. These include intellectual, neurological, psychological or physical disabilities. Research indicates that social support and leisure activities can make a positive difference to the life-satisfaction of people with intellectual disabilities, and studies also show that many people with a disability are at risk of losing their support networks as they age.

The Dependents with a Disability Somers Camp provides an inclusive and supportive environment where participants can develop relationships and enjoy a range of recreation and physical activities, including art and craft, music, dance and drama, sport, as well as outings to places of interest near the camp. The camp also provides opportunities for participants to develop skills such as cooking. Consistent with Legacy's objective of providing accessible opportunities to dependents with a disability, there is no charge for participation in the camp, which is largely funded by philanthropic contributions. In this context, the Victorian Veterans Council's \$10,000 grant from the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund made an important contribution towards the camp's ongoing sustainability.

Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize 2010-11

The Council was pleased to continue its involvement with the Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize schools' competition in 2010-11. The competition challenges students in Years 9 and 10 to research the service history of their local communities and to reflect on the values exemplified by those who landed at ANZAC Cove in 1915. The 2010-11 competition attracted 174 student entries from across Victoria. The Victorian Veterans Council was represented on the State Selection Panel by Mr Peter Colliver.

The 10 winners were formally announced and congratulated by the Premier at a reception at the Shrine of Remembrance on 4 March 2011. This year's Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize Study Tour visited Gallipoli and the Western Front and the group commemorated ANZAC Day at the Dawn Service conducted at the Australian Memorial in Villers-Bretonneux.



The Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize winners at the Menin Gate, Belgium.

***In Our Words* Veterans Digital Storytelling Project**

The Veterans Council continued its support for the roll-out of metropolitan and regional workshops to collect the stories of service men and women in Melbourne, Morwell, Warrnambool and St Arnaud. The *In Our Words* project plays an important role in ensuring veterans' stories are kept alive for future generations. It also engages young people with our veteran community – this year, students from secondary colleges assisted at the workshops in Morwell and Warrnambool.



Local secondary college students participating in the Bendigo digital storytelling workshop. Photo courtesy of the *Bendigo Advertiser*.

Veterans Accommodation Study and Business Case

In the *Victorian Veterans Sector Study*, the Veterans Council recommended that the Victorian Government, together with the Commonwealth Government and ex-service organisations address the accommodation needs of the State's veterans, war widows and their dependants. In response, the Victorian Government made available up to \$2 million in matched funding from the Victorian Property Fund to expand the supply of specialist housing to low-income or disadvantaged veterans and/or their dependants.

Also in response to the Veterans Sector Study recommendations, a study was conducted to identify the demand for specialist housing and the gaps in current supply. As a result of the study, the Veterans Council endorsed a proposal for a consortium of ex-service organisations to establish specialist housing as part of the planned redevelopment of the Boyd Girls High School site at Southbank.

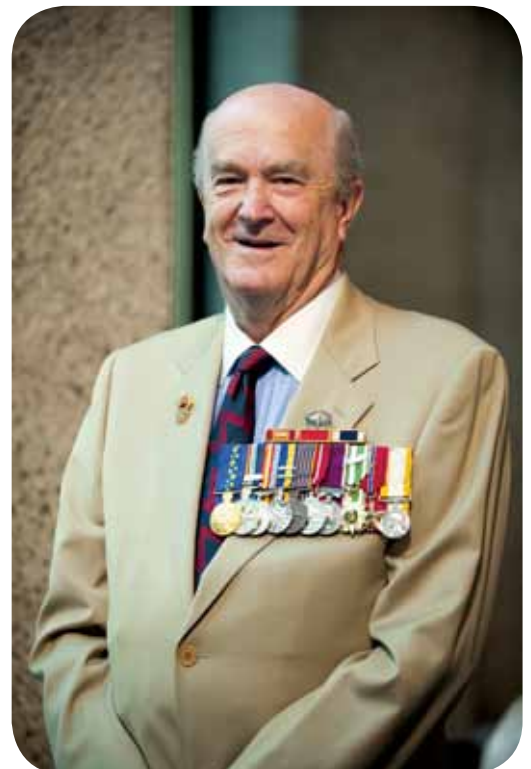
A business case will be developed in respect of the proposal and used by the consortium as the basis for a grant application to the Victorian Property Fund.

Veteran Community Award

The Veteran Community Award recognises a senior Victorian who has made an exceptional contribution to the veteran community. Following the success of the inaugural Veteran Community Award in 2009, the Victorian Veterans Council was pleased to be involved in selection of the 2010 award winner, John Vincent OAM.

Since his retirement from the Army in 1983, Mr Vincent has made an outstanding contribution to the veteran community, including over six years as the State President of the Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI) Association of Ex-servicemen and Women of Victoria and more than five years as State President of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam Association of Victoria.

For the past five years John has also served as Vice-President of the National TPI Foundation. In this position John played a significant role in gaining government agreement on a range of improvements to the conditions and improving support for veterans, in particular, Federal Government approval for the indexation of the Special Rate Disability Pension – a significant achievement that has benefited almost 130,000 veteran disability pensioners.



Winner of the 2010 Veteran Community Award,
John Vincent OAM



Corporate Governance

Council Meetings

The *Veterans Act 2005* provides that the Council must meet at least eight times per year. The Council held eight meetings during the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011.

Committee Structure

The Council has established two committees to facilitate the performance of its functions under the Act.

Funding Sub-Committee

The role of the Funding Sub-Committee includes responsibility for the development of the guidelines for the Victorian Veterans Fund and the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund, coordinating the application process for both funds and making recommendations to the Veterans Council for grants from both funds.

The Chair of the Funding Sub-Committee in 2010-11 was Mr Ryan. The other members of the Sub-Committee in 2010-11 were Brigadier Deighton, Mr Ford, Mr Elworthy and Ms Kelly. The Committee met on six occasions throughout the year.

Governance Sub-Committee

The role of the Governance Committee includes ensuring that the Victorian Veterans Council complies with all financial and legal requirements under the *Veterans Act 2005* and other relevant legislation. The Governance Committee is also responsible for developing a governance framework for the Council and the coordination of the Victorian Veterans Council Annual Report.

The Governance Sub-Committee was chaired by Mr Colliver in 2010-11. The other members of the Governance Sub-Committee in 2010-11 were Mr Logan, Mr Wells and, until his resignation from the Council, Rear Admiral Lord. The Governance Committee has met on three occasions during the year.

Secretariat Support

Secretariat support to the Victorian Veterans Council and both Sub Committees is provided by the Veterans Unit with the Department of Planning and Community Development.

The Victorian Veterans Fund

During the financial year ending on 30 June 2011, \$373,967.50 was distributed from the Veterans Fund to support 29 individual projects.

Projects receiving Veterans Fund grants are outlined below:

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT APPROVED
Ararat Legacy Club Inc.	Remembrance activities for rural school students	\$2,525
Ballarat City Council	Restoration of World War 1 Howitzer Battery	\$22,000
Barham-Koondrook Historical Society Inc.	Honouring Our Soldiers – First World War Publication	\$4,000
Battle for Australia Foundation in Victoria	The Victorian Battle for Australia Commemoration Annual Ceremony	\$15,000
Carry on Victoria	Secondary and tertiary education grants for dependents of ex-service personnel	\$60,000
Catalina Club of Victoria	Lake Boga Flying Boat Museum covered walkway project	\$10,000
Geelong Legacy Club Inc.	Transport school students to Legacy's annual ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony for Students at the Shrine of Remembrance	\$1,200
Legacy Melbourne	Legacy's annual ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony for Students at the Shrine of Remembrance	\$14,500
Legacy Melbourne	Legacy tertiary scholarships for junior legatees	\$10,000
Legacy Melbourne	Commemorative furniture restoration	\$3,000
Legacy Melbourne	Junior legatee education grants	\$15,000
Merbein RSL Sub-Branch	Merbein RSL display project	\$4,700
Mitchell Shire Council	Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk – memorial cairn	\$37,750
National Boer War Memorial Association Inc.	Boer War Day commemoration service	\$4,000
Rotary Club of Monash Inc.	Rotary Club of Monash ANZAC Ceremony for Schools 2011	\$3,320
Royal Australian Electrical Mechanical Engineers Association (Vic) Inc.	Remembrance Plaque for the RAEME Association (Vic) Inc. to be placed at the base of the Corps Remembrance Tree in the Shine of Remembrance Garden	\$844.50
South Eastern Group of Melbourne Legacy Inc.	Junior Legatee education assistance	\$7,000
South Eastern Group of Melbourne Legacy Inc.	Transport children from Oatlands Primary School, Narre Warren to the annual Legacy ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance	\$320

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT APPROVED
South Gippsland Group of Melbourne Legacy Inc.	Transport primary school students to the annual Legacy ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance	\$1,870
The Lions Club of Maryborough Inc	Restoration and enhancement of soldiers' memorial plot	\$3,000
Vietnam Veterans Association Of Australia	Conduct a commemorative service at the national Vietnam Veterans Museum, Phillip Island honouring the sacrifice of the South Vietnamese armed forces during the Vietnam War and the courage of the Vietnamese boat people	\$3,000
The Debaters Association of Victoria Inc.	Wartime Australia debating competition	\$5,600
Reserve Forces Day Council (Vic)	Reserve Forces Day Parade	\$4,500
Shrine of Remembrance Trustees	Extension of the Robert Grieve VC Display Case	\$15,000
Shrine of Remembrance Trustees	Indigenous Australians at War touring exhibition	\$23,577
Shrine of Remembrance Trustees	Exhibition to mark the Women's Royal Australia Army Corporations 60th anniversary and the 70th anniversary of the formation of the Second World War Australian Women's Army Service	\$25,000
Rutherglen RSL Sub Branch	Rutherglen Victoria World War II Memorial Wall	\$5,000
Carry on (Victoria)	Secondary and Tertiary Education Grants	\$ 65,260
South Eastern Group of Melbourne Legacy	Junior Legatee Education	\$7,000
29 PROJECTS		\$373,967.50

An audited statement for the Veterans Fund can be found at Page 25.

Please Note: Four grants from the Veterans Fund were inadvertently not acknowledged in the 2009/10 Veterans Council Annual Report. They were:

- Battle for Australia Foundation – \$17,500,
- Friends of Same Inc. – \$22,161,
- Mount Alexandra Shire – \$5,000, and
- Shrine of Remembrance – \$25,000.

Payment of these grants were reflected in the 2009/10 Annual report.



The Rutherglen Victoria World War II Memorial Wall

The ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund

Grants totalling \$363,202 were distributed from the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund to 28 individual projects during the financial year end 30 June 2011.

Grant recipients are detailed in the table below:


ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT APPROVED
2/14 Battalion Association Inc.	<i>Comradeship</i> , 2/14 Battalion Association Newsletter	\$2,000
2/4th Field Regiment Association	<i>Barrage</i> , 2/4th Field Regiment Association magazine	\$1,000
39th Australian Infantry Battalion (1941-43) Association Inc.	<i>The Good Guts</i> , the 39th Battalion Association newsletter	\$3,000
Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Victoria	Invalided Servicemen's Outreach Program (ISOP)	\$5,000
Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Victoria	Emergency Welfare Fund	\$2,500
Carry On (Victoria)	Welfare assistance to eligible ex-service personnel and their dependants in Victoria	\$40,000
Colac Legacy Club Inc.	Colac Legacy community bus	\$2,925
Defence Force Welfare Association Victoria Branch Inc.	Production of branch supplement and postage together with <i>Camaraderie</i> magazine – three editions	\$2,400
Kerang Group of the Legacy Club of Bendigo Inc.	Winter Warmth for War Widows	\$900
Legacy Melbourne	<i>The Answer</i> , Legacy widows' newsletter	\$40,000
Legacy Melbourne	Legacy Dependants with a Disability Somers Camp	\$10,000
Maryborough and St Arnaud Group of Ballarat Legacy	Widows' winter heating assistance	\$5,000
Mornington Peninsula Legacy Club Inc.	Publications and newsletters of club activities	\$4,000
RAAF Association (Victorian Division)	RAAF Association (Victorian Division) Ballarat Branch elderly and infirm transport program	\$2,000
RAAF Association (Victorian Division)	RAAF Association (Victorian Division) welfare program	\$13,000

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT APPROVED
RAAF Association (Victorian Division)	RAAF Association publication <i>Contact</i> , branch newsletters and web site	\$5,000
RSL of Australia Victorian Branch	Regional Veterans Centres Project	\$110,000
RSL of Australia Victorian Branch General Appeals Patriotic Fund Account	RSL of Australia Victorian Branch General Appeals Patriotic Fund	\$59,427
South Eastern Group Of Melbourne Legacy Inc.	Welfare support for Junior Legatee	\$1,000
South Gippsland Group Of Melbourne Legacy Inc.	War widows' winter fuel assistance program	\$3,750
The Legacy Club Of Ballarat Inc.	Ballan Legacy Laurel Club bus trips	\$1,000
The Legacy Club Of Ballarat Inc.	2011 Legacy widows' winter heating allowance	\$5,000
The Legacy Club Of Ballarat Inc.	2011 Ballan – Daylesford widows' energy costs support	\$1,000
The Partners of Veterans Associations of Australia Victorian Branch Inc.	Contemporary veteran partners/carers and families wellbeing awareness campaign	\$5,000
Totally and Permanently Disabled Soldiers Association of Victoria	Quarterly production and distribution of TPI Association (Vic), <i>Chin-up</i>	\$10,000
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Victorian Branch	Provision of welfare support to the Victorian Vietnam Veteran community	\$20,000
Vietnam Veterans Federation Victorian Branch Inc.	Bowder House welfare project	\$5,000
Yarra Valley Group of Melbourne Legacy Inc.	Winter allowance project 2011	\$3,300
28 PROJECTS		\$363,202

An audited statement for the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund can be found at Page 24.



Victorian Veterans Council member Ms Mary Kelly and fellow veterans at the ANZAC Day Luncheon in April 2011.



Patriotic Funds administered by the Victorian Veterans Council

The Victorian Veterans Council is the Trustee for the following patriotic funds which are administered in accordance with Part 4 of the *Veterans Act 2005*:

The Australian Army Training Team Vietnam Victorian Branch Fund

This fund provides an annual prize that is awarded to the senior cadet from Melbourne University Regiment who achieves the highest cumulative score for all assessments conducted at the Royal Military College, Duntroon. The prize was awarded to Officer Cadet K. Richards in 2011.

The Australian Legion of Ex Service Men and Women Scholarship Account Number 1 and Account Number 2

These funds support two scholarship programs: the Albert Coates Scholarships for emergency care and the Nurses Memorial Centre's Australian Legion Scholarships for postgraduate study in aged care.

The six winners of the Albert Coates Scholarships were presented with cheques totalling more than \$46,000.

The winners of the Nurses Memorial Centre's Australian Legion Scholarships were congratulated at an awards ceremony hosted by the Nurses Memorial Centre in March 2011.

The Victorian Veterans Council was represented at the awards evening by Mr George Logan.



Col John Coulson OAM RFD ED (Retd), Mr George Logan and Nurses Memorial Centre Director Dr Marcia George OAM congratulate the scholarship recipients. From left to right: Ms Melissa Bloomer, Dr Allison Williams, and Ms Cathy Daniel.

War Widows and Widowed Mothers Association (WWWMA) Scholarship Fund

This fund supports scholarships awarded by the School of Nursing at Ballarat University to students undertaking postgraduate study in the fields of palliative care, aged care and midwifery. Mr George Logan represented the Victorian Veterans Council at this year's awards ceremony on 12 May 2011, where cheques to the value of \$4,000 were given to three scholarship recipients – Mr Jesse Crab, Ms Rhiannan Haintz and Ms Adrienne Ryan.

Audited reports for each of these funds can be found at pages 27, 28 and 29 respectively.

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

The 2010-2011 Annual Report of the Victorian Veterans Council is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislation. The financial statements, disclosure index and statement of legislative compliance are provided to meet a range of mandatory reporting requirements.

Disclosure Index

This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the Victorian Veterans Council's compliance with statutory disclosure requirements.

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Appendix – Statement of Legislative Compliance

Manner of establishment and the relevant Ministers

The Victorian Veterans Council is an independent statutory body established under the *Veterans Act 2005*. Due to a change of government following the Victorian state election on 27 November 2010, there were two relevant Ministers during the reporting period. Prior to the change of government, the relevant Minister was the Premier and Minister for Veterans Affairs, the Hon. John Brumby, MP. The new government was sworn in on 1 December 2010 and the relevant Minister is currently the Hon. Hugh Delahunty MP.

Organisational structure

The Victorian Veterans Council consists of 11 members, including the Chairman and Deputy Chairman. There are two Sub-Committees of Council: the Funding Sub-Committee and the Governance Sub-Committee.

Objectives and performance against objectives

The Veterans Council has worked towards achieving the following key objectives and had achieved the following outcomes as at 30 June 2011.

OBJECTIVE	OUTCOME
Strengthen the Council's capacity to communicate effectively with the veteran community, Government and the wider community.	Redeveloped the Council's communications strategy, in consultation with DPCD Corporate Communications.
Provide advice to the Government on the veteran community in Victoria.	Participated in and provided advice to Government on initiatives relevant to the veteran community, including the Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize and the Veteran Community Award.
Promote the wellbeing of members of the veteran community through grants to support welfare projects targeting veterans, their dependents and war widows.	Distributed grants totalling \$363,202 from the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund to 28 initiatives to support the wellbeing of veterans, their dependents and war widows.
Promote the commemoration of veterans' service and sacrifice and support initiatives to raise community awareness of veterans' contributions.	Distributed grants to the value of \$373,967.50 from the Veterans Fund to 29 projects that commemorate veterans' sacrifice or educate the wider community about the contribution of veterans and Victoria's service history.
Manage Patriotic Funds for which the Council is Trustee.	The Victorian Veterans Council managed the following Patriotic Funds in accordance with Section 4 of the Veterans Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund No.1 – Nurses Memorial Centre• the Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund No.2 – Albert Coates Memorial Trust• War Widows and Widowed Mothers Association Scholarship• Brigadier Ted Serong Scholarship.

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Workforce data

The Victorian Veterans Council does not employ any staff but is supported by the Veterans Unit within the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD).

Merit and equity

The Council notes and complies with the merit and equity principles under the *Public Administration Act 2004*. It also follows its own protocols designed to ensure its actions are fair, impartial and responsive.

Occupational health and safety

The Victorian Veterans Council is supported by the Veterans Unit within DPCD, whose staff are employed under the Department's Occupational Health and Safety policies and procedures.

Cultural diversity

The Victorian Veterans Council is an independent, statutory body established under the *Veterans Act 2005*. The Council plays an important role in supporting Victoria's veterans and reports directly to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on issues affecting the veteran community in Victoria.

Major changes or factors affecting performance

There were no major changes or factors affecting the performance of the Victorian Veterans Council during the reporting period.

Consultancies

The Victorian Veterans Council did not engage any consultants during the period under review.

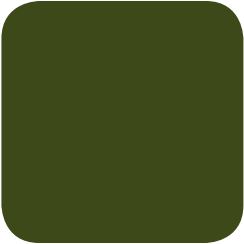
Major contracts

The Victorian Veterans Council has not entered into any major contracts during the reporting period.

National competition policy

Competitive neutrality is a guiding principle of the National Competition Policy and requires that government-owned businesses should compete with private sector businesses on the same footing.

The Victorian Veterans Council is committed to the ongoing implementation of National Competition Policy and applies competitive neutrality policy to all significant activities where the benefits of competitive neutrality exceed the costs.



During the reporting period, the Council ensured the goods and services procured were used safely, in an environmentally responsible manner and were purchased at the most competitive prices.

Information privacy

The Victorian Veterans Council notes the *Information Privacy Act 2000 (Vic)*.

Whistleblower Protection

The *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* came into effect on 1 January 2002. The Act is designed to protect people who disclose information about serious wrongdoing within the Victorian Public Sector and to provide a framework for the investigation of these matters.

The Protected Disclosure Coordinator for DPCD acts as an agent for the Victorian Veterans Council to receive disclosures under the Act and applies the Department's procedures in managing disclosures. No disclosures were made in relation to the Victorian Veterans Council in 2010-11.

To view the full procedure for making disclosures visit www.dpcd.vic.gov.au.

Disclosures may also be made to the Ombudsman Victoria, as follows:

The Ombudsman Victoria
Level 9, 459 Collins Street (North Tower), Melbourne, VIC 3000
Telephone: (03) 9613 6222
Toll Free: 1800 806 314

Freedom of information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* allows the public a right of access to documents held by the Victorian Veterans Council. For the 12 months ending 30 June 2011, no requests were received.

Freedom of Information (FOI) requests are made in writing, describing the documents requested and including payment of the \$23.90 application fee (rate effective from 1 July 2010). Further charges may be applicable. FOI fees and charges are not subject to GST. Freedom of Information requests are sent to:

Freedom of Information
Department of Planning and Community Development
PO Box 2392, Melbourne VIC 3001
Telephone: (03) 9208 3333

Compliance with building and maintenance provisions of the *Building Act 1993*

The Victorian Veterans Council utilises premises provided by DPCD.

Compliance with the *Financial Management Act 1994*

Compliance requirements in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994* and the Directions of the Minister for Finance are managed by DPCD on behalf of the Victorian Veterans Council. Consolidated compliance reporting information for the Victorian Veterans Council for the financial year 2010-11 is contained in the Annual Report 2010-11 published by DPCD.

Report on Operations

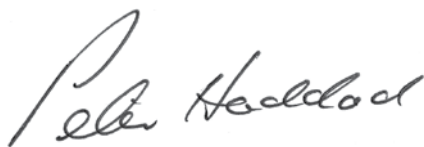
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Availability of other information

Information relevant to the headings listed in Financial Reporting direction 22B of the *Financial Management Act 1994* is held by the Victorian Veterans Council and is available on request, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

Accountable Officer's Declaration

In accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 1994* I am pleased to present the Report of Operations for the Victorian Veterans Council for the year ended 30 June 2011.



Major General Peter Haddad, AO (Retd)

Chairman

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

SUMMARY OF TRUST ACCOUNT BALANCES

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Victorian Veterans Fund		209,142	305,309
ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund		35,794	70,109
Australian Legion of Ex Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund No 1 – Nurses Memorial Centre		1,063,803	1,052,443
Australian Legion of Ex Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund – Albert Coates Memorial Trust		1,051,898	1,040,823
War Widows and Widowed Mothers Association Scholarship Fund		76,174	75,680
Brigadier Ted Serong Scholarship Fund		3,337	3,335

The above statement should be read with the accompanying notes

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Victorian Veterans Council as Trustee for the ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Receipts			
Sport and Recreation Victoria		360,441	753,330
Interest received / receivable		4	9
Reimbursements		1,3520	0
Total Receipts		361,797	753,339
Disbursements			
Grants to approved applicants – paid		(363,202)	(692,961)
Contract Services Expense		(32,900)	0
Bank Fee		(10)	0
Net funds available for use		(34,315)	60,378

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

Assets

Cash at Bank	96	802
Short term debtor	34,998	69,307
DPCD recoverable	700	0
Total Assets	35,794	70,109

Represented by:

Statement of Trusts

Opening balance	70,109	9,731
Net increase/(decrease) in fund – current year	(34,315)	60,378
Balance of funds held in Trust	35,794	70,109

The above statement should be read with the accompanying notes

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Victorian Veterans Council as Trustee for the Victorian Veterans Fund

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Receipts			
Community Support Fund		266,779	276,450
Interest received / receivable		17,048	17,266
Disbursements			
Grants to approved applicants – paid		(359,390)	(351,036)
Grants to approved applicants – pending		(14,577)	(69,661)
Others		(6,027)	(1,250)
Net Funds available for use		(96,167)	(128,231)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

Assets

Cash at bank	217,749	362,140
Short term debtor	6,149	13,009
Total Assets	223,898	375,149

Short term liabilities

Other creditors	14,756	69,840
Total Liabilities	14,756	69,840

Net Assets

Represented by:

Statement of Trusts

Opening balance	305,309	433,540
Net increase/(decrease) in fund – current year	(96,167)	(128,231)
Balance of funds held in Trust	209,142	305,309

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Victorian Veterans Council as Trustee for The Australian Legion of Ex Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund – Albert Coates Memorial Trust

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Receipts			
Interest received /receivable		61,075	46,341
Disbursements			
Scholarships		(50,000)	(43,000)
Bank Fees		0	(63)
Net increase / (decrease) in fund		11,075	3,278

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

Cash

Cash at Bank	1,036,055	1,021,256
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Other Assets

Short term debtor	15,843	19,567
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TOTAL ASSETS

1,051,898	1,040,823
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Represented by:

Statement of Trusts

Initial settlement of trust	1,000,000	1,000,000
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Prior years' addition to corpus	40,823	37,545
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Corpus of Trust to be held in perpetuity	1,040,823	1,037,545
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Net increase/(decrease) in fund – current year	11,075	3,278
--	--------	-------

Balance of funds held in Trust

1,051,898	1,040,823
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The above statement should be read with the accompanying notes

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Victorian Veterans Council as Trustee for The Australian Legion of Ex Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund No 1 – Nurses Memorial Centre

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Receipts			
Interest received / receivable		61,360	46,504
Disbursements			
Scholarships		(50,000)	(43,000)
Bank Fees		0	(84)
Net funds available for use		11,360	3,420

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

Cash

Cash at Bank 1,047,960 1,032,876

Other Assets

Short term debtor 15,843 19,567

TOTAL ASSETS

1,063,803 1,052,443

Represented by:

Statement of Trusts

Initial settlement of trust 1,000,000 1,000,000

Prior years' addition to corpus 52,443 49,023

Corpus of Trust to be held in perpetuity 1,052,443 1,049,023

Net increase/(decrease) in fund – current year 11,360 3,420

Balance of funds held in Trust

1,063,803 1,052,443

The above statement should be read with the accompanying notes

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Victorian Veterans Council as Trustee for the War Widows and Widowed Mothers Association Scholarship Fund

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Receipts			
Interest received./receivable		4,494	3,211
Disbursements			
Scholarship payments		(4,000)	(4,000)
Bank fees		0	(1)
		<u>(4,000)</u>	<u>(4,001)</u>
Net Increase/(decrease) in fund		494	(790)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

Cash

Cash at Bank 74,351 73,885

Other Assets

Short term debtor 1,823 1,795

TOTAL ASSETS

76,174 75,680

Represented by:

Statement of Trusts

Fund balance transferred from Patriotic Funds Council as at 21 August 2006

Opening balance 75,680 76,470

Net increase/(decrease) in fund – current year 494 (790)

Balance of funds held in Trust

76,174 75,680

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Report on Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Victorian Veterans Council as Trustee for the Brigadier Ted Serong Scholarship Fund (also known as Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (Vic Branch) Scholarship Fund)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Receipts			
Interest received / receivable		202	126
Disbursements			
Melbourne University Regiment Regimental Funds		(200)	0
Net Increase/(decrease) in fund	2	126	

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

Cash

Cash at Bank 3,271 3,281

Other Assets

Short term debtor 66 54

Total Assets

3,337 3,335

Short term liabilities

Other creditors 0 0

Total Liabilities

0 0

Net Assets

3,337 3,335

Represented by:

Statement of Trusts

Opening balance 3,335 3,209

Net increase/(decrease) in fund – current year 2 126

Balance of funds held in Trust

3,337 3,335

The above statement should be read with the accompanying notes

Notes to the financial statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

NOTE 1 Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared specifically for distribution to Victorian Veterans Council members to meet the reporting requirements of the Veterans Act 2005. The Council members have determined that the Victorian Veterans Council is not reporting under the Corporations Act 2001.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors;

AASB 110: Events after the Balance Sheet Date;

AASB 1031: Materiality.

No other Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on the accrual and going concern basis and under the historical cost convention.

(b) Financial assets

Cash, money market call accounts and term deposits are measured at fair value.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Council Members, Victorian Veterans Council

The Special Purpose Financial Report

The accompanying special purpose financial report for the year ended 30 June 2011 of the Victorian Veterans Council which comprises the Summary of Trust Account Balances, Statements of Receipts and Disbursements and Statement of Financial Position for the Australian legion of Ex Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund No 1 – Nurses Memorial Centre; the Australian Legion of Ex Servicemen and Women Scholarship Fund – Albert Coates Memorial Trust; the War Widows and Widowed Mothers Association Scholarship Fund; the Brigadier Ted Serong Scholarship Fund; the Victorian Veterans Fund and the ANZAC Day Fund; a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the trustee's declaration has been audited. The special purpose report has been prepared by management using the basis of preparation described in Note 1.

The Council Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council Members of the Victorian Veterans Council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of AASB 110 *Events after the Reporting Period* and AASB 1031 *Materiality*, the *Veterans Act 2005*, the financial reporting requirements of Part 7 of the *Financial Management Act 1994* and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members, and for such internal control as the Council Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The audit procedures selected depend on judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, the Auditor-General, his staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

VAGO

Victorian Auditor-General's Office

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position for each of the funds held in trust of the Victorian Veterans Council as at 30 June 2011 and receipts and disbursements for each of the trusts for the period ended 30 June 2011 in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis of Accounting – Special Purpose Report

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to Note 1 to the special purpose financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared specifically for distribution to Victorian Veterans Council members to meet the reporting requirements of the *Veterans Act 2005*.

MELBOURNE
18 August 2011



D D R Pearson
Auditor-General

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September 2011

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VICTORIAN VETERANS COUNCIL

Annual Report

1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011

