



The RUSI of Tasmania Inc.

The RUSI Gazette

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Anglesea Barracks Hobart

CASUALTIES OF WWII

It seems we may have forgotten what a huge cost in human lives war has cost us. When we have one or two killed in current conflicts there is a great deal of unrest and publicity in the media. I thought you might be interested to read of the cost in terms of human life that resulted from World War 2. While a definitive figure is hard to assess, the British Military Almanac of WWII gives the best estimates available.

They believe the best estimated figure to be about 50m with deaths on the Russian side put at 20m. The US lost 300,000 dead, Britain under 500,000 and the British Empire 120,000.

The Germans lost 4.5m of whom 1m were civilians, the Japanese lost 2m while the Italians about 500,000. Estimates of the Chinese losses vary from 3m up to 15m and the higher figure is thought to be closer to the truth than the lower.

In Asia it is thought that about 1.5m died in the Bengal famine of 1943. In Central and Eastern Europe the figures are equally disturbing. The Jews lost 5.5m and in Yugoslavia it is believed about 1m Yugoslavs died at the hands of the Germans. About 4m other citizens of various Eastern European countries also perished.

The Armed Forces of Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Yugoslavia lost between 3m & 4m while France lost 500,000 (half of them civilians) and Holland about 200,000 civilians.

A dreadful price to have paid.

90th ANNIVERSARY

Next year, 2014, marks the 90th Anniversary of the foundation of the RUSI of Tasmania in July 1924. Coincidentally, it also marks the 80th Anniversary of the foundation of the Launceston Branch in July 1934.

Planning will shortly begin to decide on how to appropriately recognise the occasion. The State Council, at its AGM later this year, will consider a program and all members will be informed.

Alan Robertson
Executive Officer

NEW NATIONAL INSURANCE COVER FOR THE RUSI

The National Council have recently arranged Australia wide Insurance cover for the Institute at considerable saving to us. The policy is with a company who specialises in insurance cover for 'Not-for-Profit' organisations.

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

The National Council of the RUSI will meet in Brisbane in mid-September this year. Tasmania will be represented by the State President, CMDR Norm MacMillan.

Matters of interest arising will be published in the next edition of this newsletter.



What's on in Hobart



What's on in Launceston

Tuesday 13 August 2013

Hobart Branch AGM

Thursday 19 September 2013

AIRCDRE Mark Lax OAM, CSM

“ Medals – Myths, Rules and Reality”

Thursday 17 October 2013

LCDR Iain Weir RFD, RANR

MEAO Deployment – Gulf Waters

Thursday 21 November 2013

End of Year Breakfast – Officers Mess

Wednesday 17 July 2013

The Black Line

Wednesday 14 August 2013

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 21 August 2013

MAJ Stuart Ralph

Wednesday 18 September 2013

LCDR Steve Hurd RANR – Gulf Patrol

Wednesday 16 October 2013

Mr Wayne Binns – In the Steps of the Light Horse

BOOK REVIEW

*Going to War with the Dambusters –
617 Squadron – Afghanistan
Deployment. (Tim Bouquet)*

This is a very well written book that goes behind the work- up training for deployment, the actual deployment and then the operations in Theatre. It gives a splendid insight into the rigours of operating fast jets in the counter insurgency role and supporting the troops on the ground. The explanations of the tactical procedures and weapons systems is excellent and it makes for a very enjoyable read about a Squadron on operations with great traditions and unit pride.

*The RAAF and the RAAFA in Tasmania will
commemorate the Battle of Britain this 7/8
September 2013 with several events:*

Saturday 7 Sep 13:

*3pm Church Service at St David's Cathedral
Hobart*

*7pm Battle of Britain Dinner, Tattersall Park
Glenorchy*

Sunday 8 Sep 13:

*Commemorative Wreath Laying, Hobart Cenotaph
11am*

*BBQ Lunch – 12 noon – RAAF Memorial Centre 61
Davey Street Hobart.*

