



KOKODA DAY 2022 COMMEMORATION SERVICE

HOSTED BY ROTARY CLUB BROADWATER SOUTHPORT

SUPPORTED BY –

Gold Coast City Council - 39th Bn Assn and The Southport School

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE DEFENCE OF KOKODA 8TH – 10TH AUGUST, 1942
BY THE 39TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

& PAPUAN INFANTRY BATTALION

ROTARY KOKODA MEMORIAL WALL

MONDAY 8 AUGUST, 2022

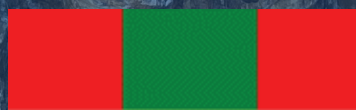
COMMENCING 10.30 AM

“THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS ETERNAL VIGILANCE”

OFFICIATING CHAPLAIN FATHER JOHN DOUGHERTY, TSS



PIB



PIR



PROGRAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

George Friend, OAM, Kokoda Memorial Trustee

PRAYER

Father John Dougherty (TSS Chaplain)

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

Rotary President David Reynolds

80th ANNIVERSARY: KEYNOTE ADDRESS

*His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia*

Vote of Thanks

Rotary Club Past President BRIG (Retd) Rod West, CSC

CATAFALQUE PARTY MOUNTS

TSS Honour Guard

39th BN. HONOUR ROLL & PIB HONOUR ROLL

*TSS Senior Cadets, SNR CUO Zach Miller-Wright, Cadet RSM Zemin Goh
and Cadet SGT Isaiah Hargreaves*

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

"THE ODE"

Rotarian David Bellairs (39Bn direct descendant, Veteran)

LAST POST

"SILENCE"

"LEST WE FORGET"

"THE ROUSE"

BENEDICTION

Father John Dougherty (TSS Chaplain)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA NATIONAL ANTHEM

"O, Arise All You Sons"

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

"Advance Australia Fair" - Lead by the TSS Choir

CATAFALQUE PARTY DISMOUNTS

Thanks

Our thanks and appreciation to the following supporters and organisations:

Gold Coast City Council and Cr. Darren Taylor Division 10

TSS Headmaster, Director of Cadets, Staff, Honour Guard, Band & Choir

Refreshments kindly catered by the Salvation Army Gold Coast and

Red Shield Defence Services

Surfers Paradise RSL and White Lady Funerals

"LEST WE FORGET"



39TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

THE 39TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION, composed of 18 to 19-year-old Citizen Force soldiers, based initially in Port Moresby were ordered north on 7th July across the "impassable" Owen Stanley Range to secure Kokoda. On 21st July, the Japanese landed near Gona and advanced inland. The 39th fought delaying actions near Gorari and later at Oivi before being overwhelmed at Kokoda. On 8th August a Coy secured Kokoda and resisted constant fierce onslaughts until nightfall of 10th August when, greatly outnumbered and food and ammunition exhausted, they withdrew with their wounded. The 39th then fought pitched battles at Deniki and Isurava. At Isurava they held the Japanese until 26th August when the 2/14th Bn arrived to save them from annihilation. The 39th, depleted and exhausted, stayed to support the 2/14th. Finally relieved on 5th September, it had fought continuously for six weeks. By the time they were withdrawn for return to Australia they could only muster 32 men remaining from the original force.

2/14TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

On 13th August 42, 21st Brigade incl 2/14th Inf Bn disembarked in Port Moresby without supplies and artillery held up on the wharves in Australia. They marched to Uberi reaching Myola 21 Aug. On 25th Aug 2/14th received orders to relieve the severely depleted 39th Bn which was holding the Japanese at Isurava. On 27 Aug the Japanese offensive threatened Isurava. The 2/14th Bn consolidated on 28th Aug around Isurava against six enemy battalions. Fierce fighting continued to Ioribaiwa and Imita ridge. In these ongoing battles to the 30th Aug, the 2/14 was severely damaged. They were temporarily withdrawn from the line on 16th Sep. The 2/14 Battalion had commenced the Kokoda campaign with 546 men. Upon arrival in Uberi they had only eighty-eight men available for operations. The consolidated 39th - 2/14th campaign is one of the finest examples of battle endurance fought in the Pacific.

2/16TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

2/16th Bn: On 6th of August 1942, the 2/16th Battalion embarked from Queensland on the 'James Wilson' arriving in Port Moresby on 12th August.

On 17th August 1942, 600 soldiers of the 2/16th Battalion started the 100km trek towards Kokoda (one day behind the 2/14th Battalion). The Battalion trekked to Alola to cover the 53rd Battalion withdrawal south of Isurava, arriving there on 28th August. The Battalion was then sent forward to secure Abuari and Missima. On 29th August, Brig. Potts ordered the 2/16th Battalion to cover the withdrawal of the 2/14th Battalion south of Alola. The 2/16th Battalion together with the 2/14th and the 2/27th Battalions participated in the Battle of Brigade Hill (Efogi) from 6-8th September 1942. During one bayonet attack on Brigade Hill more than forty 2/16th soldiers were killed and many more wounded. By 16th September 1942, only 142 of the original six hundred soldiers of the 2/16th Battalion were fit to answer muster.

PAPUAN INFANTRY BATTALION

The first mainland military attack on the Japanese Army in PNG was an ambush conducted by the PIB on 23rd July near Awala. Later they joined the 39th Bn for operations against the Japanese. Together, the 39th Bn with the PIB in support, fought the first historic Kokoda battles. They held back the Japanese until the arrival of the 2/14th reinforcements at Isurava. Over 3,550 PIB and NGIB troops under the direction of Australian Army Officers and NCOs fought alongside Australian forces throughout Papua New Guinea and the Islands. In 1944 the PIB was combined with the NGIB to form the PACIFIC ISLAND REGIMENT which today carries their Battle Honours on its colours. WWII decorations included 1 DSO, 6MC, 3DCM, 2GM, 20MM and 10MID. They inflicted 2,600+ casualties on the enemy suffering 230 killed, missing, and wounded.

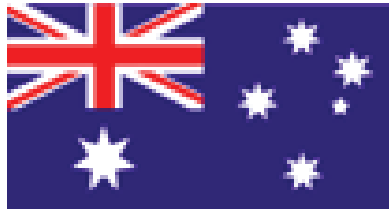
KOKODA REOCCUPATION

Kokoda was retaken unopposed on 2 Nov 42 and the Australian flag re-raised the next day. 39th Bn and PIB are the only two units which bear the Battle Honours: "KOKODA-DENIKI" and "KOKODA TRAIL" (which all other units hold).



'O, ARISE ALL YOU SONS'

O, arise all you sons of this land, Let us sing of our joy to be free,
Praising God and rejoicing to be. Papua New Guinea.
Shout our name from the mountains to seas. Papua New Guinea;
Let us raise our voices & proclaim. Papua New Guinea.



ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Australians all let us rejoice. For we are one 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 then let us sing. Advance Australia Fair.

REFRESHMENTS FOR INVITEES WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE SERVICE
SALVATION ARMY & RED SHIELD DEFENCE SERVICES.

ROTARY GRACE

O Lord and Giver of all Good,
We thank you for our daily food,
May Rotary Friends and Rotary Ways,
Help us to serve thee all our Days

FOUR WAY TEST

Is it the truth?
Is it fair to all concerned?
Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendship
Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?