

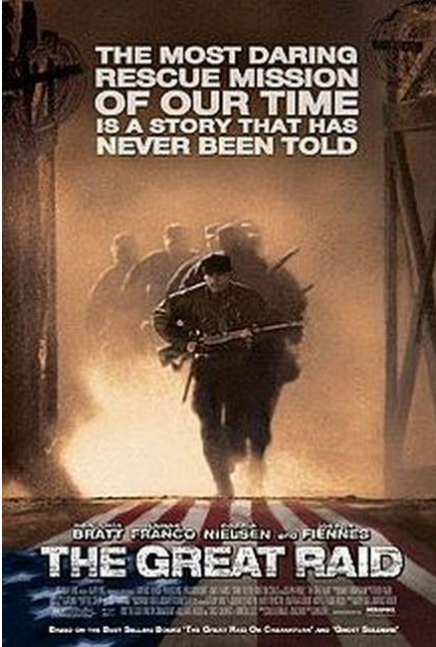


# Never Forgotten

Vol. 17, Number 1

SPRING – SUMMER 2016

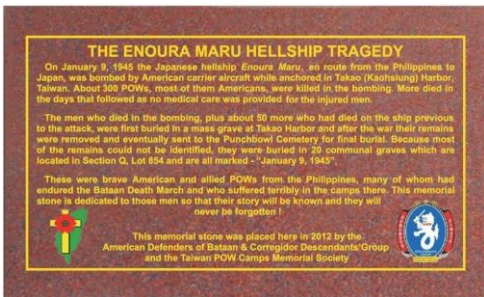
The Official Newsletter of the TAIWAN P.O.W. CAMPS MEMORIAL SOCIETY



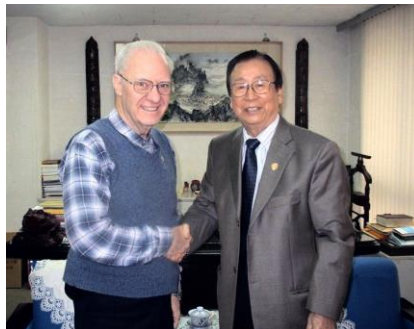
Coming to FEPOW Day - August 13



100th ANZAC Day 2016 - Representatives & wreaths after the service



The Enoura Maru Memorial Stone - moving forward with the project at last – See page 7



Meeting with Lt/Gen. Frank Kao Veterans Assoc. of the ROC



Remembering the 14 US Airmen murdered on June 19, 1945

**“We get so caught up in our life and so busy living that we just don’t remember to remember. It’s sad and tragic.” . . . Rev. David Homer**

## REMEMBRANCE WEEK 2016

Be sure to mark the week of November 9 – 16 on your calendars and in your date books, and plan to be with us for another wonderful annual event which will feature visits to the POW camps and the Remembrance Day service at the Prisoner of War Memorial Park at Kinkaseki on the 13th. We hope that former POWs and their families will make an effort to come as we have a special program prepared for these guests. If you are interested, and for more information, please contact the Society by Email or mail at the address shown on page 2 of the newsletter. Be sure to book early and we look forward to having you with us in November!

**TAIWAN POW CAMPS  
MEMORIAL SOCIETY**  
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[www.powtaiwan.org](http://www.powtaiwan.org)

## **TAIWAN POW CAMPS MEMORIAL SOCIETY - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Michael Hurst, MBE** - Society Director -  
VP and General Mgr., J. Chen Enterprises Taiwan;  
Writer; Editor, Historian

**Mark Wilkie, M.A.** - University lecturer, Historian,  
Screenwriter, Former soldier

**Prof. Jerome Keating, PhD.** - Professor, Writer;  
Historian

**William Wang** - Transportation Supervisor, Taipei  
American School, Military enthusiast, ROCAF Veteran

**Jack Hsu** - Ret. Lt. Cmdr., ROC Navy

**Stuart Saunders** - President, Esdesign Industrial  
Design

### **OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES. . .**

**UK - Cliff Foster** [Devgunner67@virginmedia.com](mailto:Devgunner67@virginmedia.com)

**Aust. - Rod Martin** [ramartin46@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ramartin46@optusnet.com.au)

### **EX-OFFICIO. . .**

**Catherine Raper** - Representative, Australian  
Office, Taipei

**Chris Wood** - Representative, British Office, Taipei

**Mario Ste-Marie** - Executive Director, Canadian  
Trade Office in Taipei

**Guy Wittich** - Representative, Netherlands Trade  
and Investment Office, Taipei

**Si'alei Van Toor** - Director, New Zealand  
Commerce and Industry Office, Taipei

**Kin Moy** - Director, American Institute in Taiwan

## **THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE TAIWAN POW CAMPS MEMORIAL SOCIETY. . .**

- \* to search for the locations of all the former Japanese POW camps on the island of Taiwan. [ *completed* ]
- \* to search for the survivors of the 1942 - 45 Taiwan POW camps.
- \* to ensure that the story of the Taiwan POWs is told and they are not forgotten.
- \* to help with the organization of and participate in the memorial service for the Taiwan POWs at Jinguashi every November on Remembrance Day.
- \* to help educate the people of Taiwan in a little-known part of their history.
- \* to provide information to researchers, scholars, museums and POW groups on the Taiwan POWs' story.

## **LIST OF TAIWAN POW CAMPS. . . all found !**

1. KINKASEKI #1 (Jinguashi)
2. TAICHU #2 (Taichung)
3. HEITO #3 (PingTung)
4. SHIRAKAWA #4 (Bai He)
5. TAIHOKU #5 MOSAK (Taipei)
6. TAIHOKU #6 (Taipei)
7. KARENKO (Hualien)
8. TAMAZATO (Yuli)
9. INRIN (Yuanlin)
10. INRIN TEMP. (Yuanlin)
11. TOROKU (Touliu)
12. TAKAO (Kaohsiung)
13. KUKUTSU (Taipei)
14. OKA (Taipei)
15. CHURON Evacuation Camp (Taipei)
16. MARUYAMA Evacuation Camp (Taipei)

## **LOGO of the TAIWAN POW CAMPS MEMORIAL SOCIETY**

Our logo - a poppy cross superimposed on a map of Taiwan - was chosen because the poppy and the poppy cross are recognised worldwide as symbols of remembrance to war veterans. In the fall of 1998 the returning POWs laid poppy crosses at all the former campsites they visited.

*Thought . . .*

**There is nothing new in the  
world - except the history that  
you do not know!**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **FEPOW DAY – AUGUST 13, 2016**

This year will be the ninth time that *FEPOW Day* is celebrated here in Taiwan. Once again we will meet at the Spot Theatre - 18, Zhongshan North Road Sec. 2 in downtown Taipei on **Saturday evening August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**. There will be a display of POW and military artifacts, we will have a short memorial service to remember the POWs and then the film "**The Great Raid**" will be shown.

The film tells the story of the rescue of the POWs in the notorious Cabanatuan POW Camp in northern Philippines in January 1945. It is based on the true story.

After the Americans landed in the Philippines in early 1945 word was received about the massacre of POWs at Palawan and so it was decided to try to rescue and free the POWs who were being held in the various Japanese POW camps as soon as possible in order to keep the same thing from happening again.

Under the command of Lt. Colonel Henry Mucci and Captain Robert Prince, the 6th Ranger Battalion along with Filipino guerillas, undertook a daring rescue mission against all odds. Traveling thirty miles behind enemy lines, they planned to liberate over 500 American soldiers from the Cabanatuan Japanese POW camp in the raid that many say was the most daring rescue of WW II - and the most successful rescue in US military history.

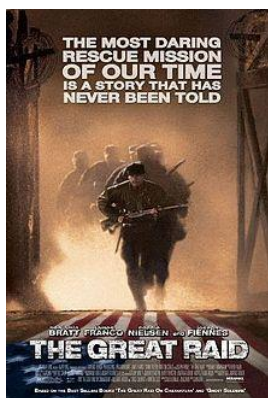
Everyone is invited to our event, but space is limited to around 70 persons, so please kindly let us know **by email** if you're planning to attend so we can reserve a seat for you. We hope to have a good turnout again this year.

There is no charge for this event, and coffee and fruit drinks will be available.

An email will be sent out locally as a reminder prior to the event.

**The reservation deadline is set at 5 pm Wednesday August 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**Note: There are no Chinese sub-titles on the film.**



### **A word regarding donations to the Society:**

Due to some banking changes recently we are now able to accept donations in **British Pounds, Canadian dollars, Australian dollars** as well as **US dollars**. So if making a donation to the Society please send the funds preferably in a bank wire / transfer to our account here and please contact us in advance for the pertinent account information. Thank you for your support of our projects.

## **FROM THE DIRECTOR. . .**

It seems that I say this every year at this time, but this year really is one of the busiest ever. I am trying to make use of every waking moment to work on the book, in addition to all the other things that have to be done, like answering inquiries about POWs from family members and other researchers, running POW tours to the camps plus other research and administrative work. I am hoping to have the book finished and out by the end of this year, but time and circumstances will tell if that will happen.

Speaking of the tours, we are seeing a steady increase in demand for these with people coming from all over the world - this year so far from the UK, USA, Canada and Asia. FEPOW family members, visiting business people, diplomats and gov't officials, community and school groups all make up the cross section of guests that we have.

ANZAC Day was very special this year. It was the 100th Anniversary of the first ANZAC Day back in 1916 and a real 'dawn service' was held at the residence of the Australian Office representative at 5 am on the morning of April 25th.

It was a lovely calm morning and about 60 people got up early to attend the solemn and moving event. As always a great time of fellowship took place after the service. (See story on page 7).

Unfortunately once again, there was no Memorial Day event held this year, and as I sat alone by the old prison wall draped with the American flag, I was saddened as I thought of how little most Americans here seem to care for the soldiers who fought and died, and those who also suffered as POWs in Taiwan for their freedom.

I also recalled the words of one of our former directors who said "**If it hadn't been for those POWs and veterans doing what they did here so many years ago, NONE of us expats would be here doing what we are today**". We should all give some serious thought to that statement!

On a brighter note, I was privileged to have a wonderful meeting with Lt/Gen. Frank Kao, decorated ROC Air Force veteran and President of the Veterans Association of the Republic of China. He had an illustrious career in the Air Force flying many kinds of aircraft and missions. He spoke at our Remembrance Day service last year and has pledged his help and that of VAROC to our work.

We are looking forward to a great FEPOW Day again in August and also to our Remembrance Week event in November. I hope both our overseas members and local friends will come and take part with us in these wonderful programs. I wish you all a safe and happy summer season.

Sincerely, *Michael Hurst* MBE

# In Memoriam

*The following former Taiwan POWs have passed away since our last newsletter.*

*We extend our sincerest sympathy to the families of these men and assure them that although they are no longer with us, they will not be forgotten!*

## **EDWARD 'TED' HICKMAN**

GNR., 148TH FIELD REGIMENT RA  
APRIL 20, 2016

## **CECIL E. CLARKE**

SPR., ROYAL ENGINEERS  
APRIL 26, 2016

## **ROBERT B. HEER**

PVT., 19TH BG HQ, US ARMY AIR CORPS.  
MAY 27, 2016

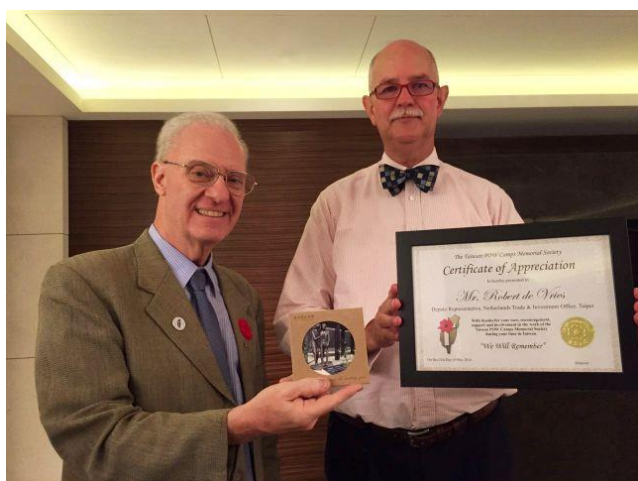
*"We Will Remember Them"*

~

**Notice:** *If you know of a former Taiwan who has passed on, please kindly get in touch with us and give us the pertinent information and funeral details so that we may remember them here. Thank you.*

## FAREWELL TO A FRIEND

Former Deputy Representative Robert De Vries of the Netherlands Trade & Investment Office left Taiwan on June 2nd for a new posting in Morocco. At a farewell party in his honour the Society Director was pleased to present him with a Certificate of Appreciation for all the interest and support he has shown for our work over the past 5 years that he has been in Taiwan. Robert attended nearly all of our events and spoke on behalf of the Gov't. of the Netherlands at the dedication of Phase II of the Taiwan POW Memorial Park and the POW Memorial Wall and Sculpture in 2011. We thank him for his friendship and care and wish him well.



## THE PASSING OF MORE DEAR FRIENDS . . .

### 'Ted' Hickman

I met Ted and his wife Winnie in 1999 at the first ever Kinkaseki Reunion in the UK. Previous to that I had been told that he had passed on, so imagine my surprise when he walked up to the registration table at the reunion and introduced himself. Ted was a Gnr. In the 148th Field Reg't RA and first came to Heito Camp in the fall of 1942 from Tanjong Rhu Camp in Singapore on the hellship *Dainichi Maru*. He transferred to Kinkaseki in September 1943 and stayed with that group til war's end, enduring the horrors of Kukutsu Camp as well. Over the many years Ted and Winnie have kept in touch with cards and letters and have been such an inspiration and encouragement to me.



### Cecil Clarke

I met Cecil, a Sapper in the Royal Engineers, for the first time at the USS Block Island reunion in 2007 and we became good and lasting friends. He also had come to Taiwan on the *Dainichi Maru* from River Valley Road Camp in Singapore, was first held in the Taichu Camp and then went to Kinkaseki in November 1943. He left there in the last sick party to go to Shirakawa in March 1945. He was a gentle, humble man and while at first was hesitant to talk much about his POW days, he did open up to me and we shared a lot together. I will not forget this very special man.



### Robert 'Bob' Heer

Bob became a POW on Mindanao Island, The Philippines. He was sent to Taiwan in September 1942 on the *Lima Maru* and interned in Karenko, Heito and Taihoku No.6 Camps. He was transferred to Japan on the *Taiko Maru* in February 1945 and was moved to Akabira Camp in May 1945.



Bob was a Pvt. in the 19th Bomb Group USAAC, and I remember him telling me one time that when the Far East Air Force left the Philippines, they handed him a rifle and 5 bullets and said "there, now you are infantry". He was a great help to me over the years as I researched the story of the American POWs from the Philippines.

Bob was the last surviving POW from Karenko Camp and I invited him to come for the dedication of the memorial in 2012, but sadly he could not make it. He was a special friend to me and was loved and respected by all who knew him.

# REMEMBERING - OR NOT? . . . 20 years on

By Michael Hurst MBE, Director, Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society

The years march on, and it has been nearly 20 years now since the first Remembrance Day service in Taiwan - that I am aware of, was held at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Shilin in November 1996. At that event information came to light about the notorious Japanese prisoner of war camp that had been located in the village of Jinguashi about 50 kms from Taipei on the island's northeast coast.

After the service a group of expats became interested in finding out more about this camp and subsequently an event was organized in May 1997 to remember the men of Kinkaseki, as the camp was called in wartime days. As a result, in late 1997 the Kinkaseki / Taiwan POW Memorial was built and dedicated on the site of that place of suffering where so many POWs died. Following this, and for the past 19 years, the Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society has been carrying on the effort to make sure that all of the Allied prisoners of war who were held in Taiwan by the Japanese in 14 POW camps during WWII would have their little-known story told to the world and that they would never be forgotten.

Over the years, 12 more memorials have been erected at various former POW camp sites around the island, more than 500 former POWs have been found and contacted worldwide, and numerous commemorative events have taken place here in Taiwan in remembrance of the men.

In addition, every year remembrance events like *ANZAC Day* and *Remembrance Day (Veterans Day in the US)* are held to make sure that the men who suffered so much as POWs and all veterans - and those who are still serving today, are remembered and honoured for their service.

The Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society has for the past 18 years, also sponsored and run its annual '*Remembrance Week*' event where former POWs and their family members are invited to come to Taiwan for a week of visiting the former camp sites and holding memorial services at each. There has usually been a banquet in honour of the POWs and the event culminates in the annual *Remembrance Day* service held on the site of the former Kinkaseki POW camp in what is now known as the Taiwan POW Memorial Park - the only one of its kind in the world.

The four Commonwealth Trade Offices - Australia, Britain, Canada and New Zealand take alternate turns along with the Society in co-hosting the Remembrance Weekend events. The Netherlands Trade Office has also been very supportive of our work over the years, as has the AIT military Liaison Affairs Dep't.

Over the past 19 years we have had many former Taiwan POWs return to take part in our *Remembrance Week* and other commemorative events that have been organized from time to time throughout the years, especially on the 60th, 65th and 70th anniversaries of the fall of Singapore, the end of the war, or events that

specially pertained to the Taiwan POWs. Many family members have joined as well, and in later years when it has become more difficult for the POWs to travel all this way, their family members - children, grandchildren and even great grandchildren, still come.

Most of the former Taiwan POWs are now in their 90's, and sadly, so many of these dear men have passed away over the years that we have been doing this work. However the goal has been reached, and the mission to make sure that they have their story told and are remembered is being accomplished.

So now what of the future? Although we are getting fewer FEPOWs now, there has been an increase in visits by their family members. With our '*Following in Their Footsteps*' Taiwan POW camp tours program, we are hosting visitors all through the year, as well as in November, and we certainly hope this will continue.

One thing I have noticed though, is the decrease in correspondence and communication with the families of the former POWs once they have passed on. In days gone by when their fathers and grandfathers were still with us there would be letters, emails, and Christmas cards by the hundreds each year, but now most of that has stopped.

Now I know that time passes, and with the business of life that people do move on, and this is inevitable I guess, but I just hope and pray that this doesn't mean that those same family members have forgotten about their loved ones who were POWs here so long ago - this is a worry and fear I have. As long as the men were with us we were connected, but now that most are gone - are they now - like me, being forgotten too?

We are also seeing a decline in folks participating in remembrance events particularly in the UK and USA. FEPOW Day which started off in the UK in 2007 with such great gusto has practically faded away. The original idea was for folks in every village, town and city to do something - have an event of some kind large or small, to celebrate the day the men were released from captivity and to honour them on this one special day a year. However over the next several years it never got the response hoped for to the point where it has now practically died.

Interestingly enough, here in Taiwan - on the other side of the world, and where there are no veterans living from that former time, FEPOW Day which started here in 2008, has been a rousing success and this year will be the 9th time we are holding this event on Saturday August 13th.



It really doesn't take much effort or resources to plan and run an event like this, and surely folks all across the UK in every community could do something  
(Cont'd on page 6)



## REMEMBERING... (cont'd rom page 5)

- anything, to make sure that the FEPOWs they cared about so much in the past will still be honoured and remembered by generations to come in the future.

Also, according to reports in the USA, for most people *Memorial Day* has become just another holiday long weekend, where people go to the beach, have BBQ's, party, or go shopping for the big sales, while the soldiers, sailors and airmen who gave their lives for their country are largely forgotten.

In stark contrast to *Remembrance Day*, here in Taiwan *Memorial Day* has never been 'officially' celebrated in the past 20 years that I know of. In 2011 - in response to an inquiry from an American expat friend, we organized a small *Memorial Day* event that year in co-operation with the Democrats Abroad Taiwan organization and about a dozen people showed up, including some of the Taiwan media.

The following year it was held again and the Democrats Abroad organization took on a prominent role and a similar number attended the service by the Taipei Prison wall and then joined together for lunch.

In 2013 the Society was not able to help organize or take part and so I suggested then that AMCHAM - the American Chamber of Commerce, and also AIT, the US defacto embassy, could be asked to help run the event. They were contacted but didn't get involved.

In 2014 the Democrats Abroad did a great job of organizing the event and we had the biggest turnout ever, but still with only about 20 people present, and even a bit of tacit support from AMCHAM. In digging into that situation further it was learned that since most of the Board of Governors of AMCHAM were not actually Americans, they had little interest in running the service, or even having a part in promoting it - seems they are more interested in business, networking and making money than in their veterans.

There was no Memorial Day service held in 2015, and this year, having heard nothing, I went over to the prison wall myself with the American flag and some poppies and waited for someone to come, but no-one showed up except for a Taiwanese man who stopped by when he saw the flag draped on the wall. I waited for over 2 hours and through the lunch hour as well, in case anyone might come then, but no-one came.

As I sat in the shade of a nearby tree gazing at the wall, I thought about those Americans and other POWs in Heito Camp who never had any shade at all, as there were no trees in the camp or anywhere on that desolate river plain where they lived and slaved in the hot tropical sun, and where some men died from malaria, exposure, sunburn and thirst. It seems they too have now been forgotten.

So I will still go to the wall on *Memorial Day* every year as I did this year, to remember the 1,555 American POWs - 57 who died in the camps here, and also the 25 airmen held in the Taipei Prison 14 of whom were murdered there by the Japanese just

weeks before the end of the war. Someone needs to make sure they are never forgotten - it's too bad there are not more Americans here who really care to help.

It should be noted that the American Chamber of Commerce is the largest and most influential one in Taiwan with over 1000 members, and AIT is the biggest defacto embassy, so they both should have the manpower and resources to really put on a wonderful Memorial Day event - as they do for their annual 4th of July celebration, and yet year after year neither seem to want to get involved or do anything for their veterans. It is hoped that in future years AIT and AMCHAM will take on a greater role by assisting the Democrats Abroad in *Memorial Day* and remembering.

The bright spot in all this is Australia and New Zealand. I have always said that no-one does 'remembrance' better than they do. Here in Taiwan both countries alternately take turns hosting and putting on a most wonderful ANZAC Day service, which is both moving and reflective of the memory of their veterans. Although not so large, these communities do an outstanding job of remembering.

There are many forms of 'remembrance' going on in Taiwan today, but there needs to be more. We are grateful for all the support that is shown by many of the trade offices, several expat organizations and individuals, and even by some Taiwanese who have come to know and appreciate the POWs' story and this part of their history. Let us just hope that it will not only continue, but that it will continue to grow as well.

We so often say that we will continually strive to 'always remember them', but do we really care enough to make sure, by our words and also by our actions, how important it is that their stories are told and their memory does not fade into history? As they say "talk is cheap" - it is by our actions and deeds that we really show how well we 'will remember them'.

Yes, it does take some time and effort to plan and organize and run these 'remembrance' events - as it does any event, but believe me the effort and perhaps the small sacrifice of one's time is more than worth it to the veterans to whom we owe so much.

I hope this article will make us all take a look at our lives and assess what we really do think of our veterans, how much we owe them, and what we are doing to honour and remember them here in Taiwan after all they have done for us.

World War II, Korea, even Vietnam are a long way off in the distant past now, but we are still fighting wars today against tyranny and terrorism, and men and women are still dying, trying to maintain the freedom that was won for us in the Battle of Britain, on the beaches of Normandy and Iwo Jima, Guadalcanal and Okinawa, in the jungles of New Guinea, and also by those who suffered as POWs. It is the least that we can do today to say thank you and to honour and remember their service for us.

As former Taiwan POW Jack Edwards has said - "NONE OF US SHOULD FORGET" - and I hope and pray that none of us ever will.

# Anzac Day 2016



This year is the 100th anniversary of the first ANZAC Day service, held on April 25th 1916.

A dawn service was held in the Australian Representative's garden at 5am - very early to have to get up, but well worth it.

There were around 60 people present and it was a wonderful event.



*Above: As the dawn breaks Representative Catherine Raper of the Australian Office addresses the crowd.*

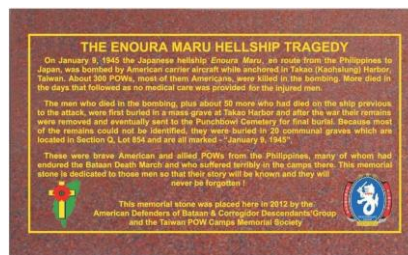
*Right: Representatives Raper and Van Toor laying wreaths for Australia and New Zealand.*

*(All photos courtesy of the Australian Office in Taipei)*



*Laying a wreath for the ANZAC POWs who were held in Taiwan and the 3 who died here.*

## A MEMORIAL FOR THE ENOURA MARU POWS IN HAWAII – UPDATE



In our previous issues over the past several years we have featured articles on the proposed memorial to be erected to the men who died in January 1945 when the hellship *Enoura Maru* was bombed by American carrier aircraft while laying over in Kaohsiung Harbour en route to Japan with prisoners of war. These men now lie in 20 communal graves at the Punchbowl National War Cemetery in Hawaii.

For the past year this project has been in limbo as despite all our efforts over a 3-year period to convince and persuade the former director of the cemetery and the Veterans Administration of the need for this memorial to honour those men who died for America's freedom, they have continually refused to allow it because the word "**Hellship**" is on the stone and they feel that word could be '**offensive**' to the Japanese tourists who visit the Punchbowl for sightseeing.

We have previously garnered the support of the VFW and AMVETS National Committees and an appeal was sent to Congress by the VFW, but still with no results.

The Taiwan POW Society believes we have done all we can for this project and feel that it should be carried on now by the US based POW groups to lobby their senators and congress people to see this ridiculous decision by the former cemetery director and the VA overturned. All the requirements for the memorial stone have been met, it is just the word "Hellship" that is disputed and termed "offensive" by the VA.

At this time we are working with the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor Memorial Society on a plan of action to start moving forward on this project again. In past months we have had emails from people seeing the article on the homepage of our website about this and more support is coming in, so hopefully this year with a new cemetery director and the VA already involved in so many scandals and controversies, plus it being an election year, we hope that by approaching new and different representatives, we may finally be able to see this travesty against those POWs who died overturned and a fitting memorial for them erected.

**NOTE: Americans reading this newsletter and our website should write / email to their senators and congress-people letting them know about this travesty and urge their support for the *Enoura Maru Memorial* at the Punchbowl. That will also greatly help us to succeed with this project.**



# POW CAMP TOURS

The year started off slowly with no tours being run in January and February as it is Taiwan's winter and rainy season. From March that all changed and since then we have had a lot of guests take part in our POW camp memorial tours. We are so glad to have been able to help them learn more of the Taiwan POWs' story during their visits to the former POW camp sites.

## Lenaghan and Roberts – USA



*With MND staff by the Taihoku Camp Memorial.*

Sgmn. Robert C. Lenaghan of the Royal Corps of Signals was imprisoned in Taihoku Camp 6 and Oka Camp, and on March 18th and 19th we were happy to host his granddaughter Elizabeth and her husband Jason from Chicago USA.

On Friday morning we paid a visit to the site of the former Taihoku Camp 6 on the grounds of the Ministry of National Defense. We were hosted once again by the MND Admin staff and a time of remembering took place with a short memorial service. Following this and a traditional Taiwanese lunch we did a bit of local sightseeing.

Saturday was spent visiting the site of the former Kinkaseki Camp in Jinguashi. Of special interest of course was the POW Memorial Park and the wall. The weather wasn't the best, but the gloomy atmosphere with the fog was typical of the weather the POWs experienced.

## Calum Busby – Scotland

In January of this year I got an email from Carolyn Busby, the daughter of former Taiwan POW Sgt. Jim Watson of the 155th Field Reg't RA whom I had known from years ago, letting me know that her nephew Calum would be coming to Taiwan in April on a school exchange tour and wondered if it would be possible to get him out to Kinkaseki to see the places here his great uncle had once been. I assured her it would be my pleasure and so working with his host Taiwan family we planned the trip for Saturday April 23rd.

Along with his classmate Chris Thomson-Nairne and their two Taiwanese host families, we drove to Jinguashi on a bright sunny morning and had a wonderful time together all day touring the museum,

mine tunnel, the area where the POWs worked and also the site of the former camp and Memorial Park.



*Above: With the boys and their host families.*

*Right: Calum and Chris by the Flame of Remembrance*

*Below: Calum points to his great uncle's name on the wall.*



Both of the boys and their Taiwanese host families said how much they enjoyed the day and also learning so much about the story of the camp and the POWs.

## Hugh Stephens – Canada

Back in 1997 when we first built the Taiwan POW Memorial in the little park at Jinguashi, Hugh was the Director of the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei - Canada's defacto embassy. Not only that, he was the one who - on learning of the horrors of the Kinkaseki Camp in 1996, suggested that





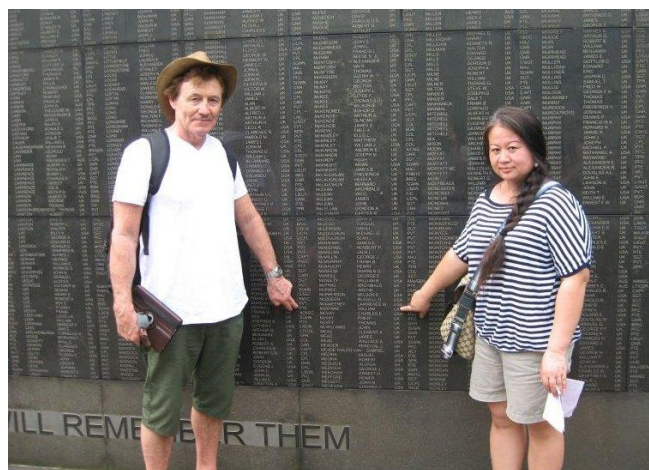
something should be done to remember the men who suffered and died in that place. That was the encouragement needed for the Society director to begin 20 years of work researching the camps to make sure the Taiwan POWs' story was told to the world and the men in all of the former camps were not forgotten.

In April Hugh returned to Taiwan for a visit and when I heard he was coming, I contacted him with regards to visiting Jinguashi for the day to see what had taken place in all the years since he had first been involved with our work and then departed Taiwan.

On Sunday April 24th we had a great outing together reminiscing about past days during his time here, and he was pleased to see all that has happened, not only at Kinkaseki but throughout Taiwan in telling the POWs' story. It was wonderful seeing him again too after all these years. What has been done here is also a part of the legacy of his time spent in Taiwan and of which he can be justly proud.

### McShane – Scotland

Pte. William McShane of the 2nd Btn. Gordon Highlanders was held in Heito and Kinkaseki camps and recently while on a tour to the POW Park we were pleased to meet his son and his wife from Scotland who were visiting the island. He told me they come to Taiwan from time to time and always try to visit the memorial. I invited him to let me know the next time they are coming so I can take them on a formal tour where they can really learn a lot more about Kinkaseki and his father's time there.



### Community Services Center – Taipei

Once again this year as every year, Rosemary Susa, the activities coordinator at the Taipei Community Services Center, set up another wonderful tour with a great group of local expats, and as they say, "a good time was had by all". Some new faces and some who had been on



*Rosemary Susa by the Memorial*

previous tours joined for a lovely day of exploring the former POW camp and environs at Jinguashi.



*The happy group around the memorial* Dave Susa photo

### Taipei European School – Taipei

Another annual event is the presentation of the Taiwan POWs' story at the Taipei European Intl. School to the Grade 9 class and then taking the students on a tour of Jinguashi. On April 10th I visited the school for a 1 1/2hour class and then on the 12th, guided 41 students and teachers on a tour of the POW sites around the former Kinkaseki Camp.



As usual the students were keen and interested and asked lots of questions. It is so great to see this younger generation embracing Taiwan's little-known history and also that of the former WWII POW camps.

### Wester Group Tour

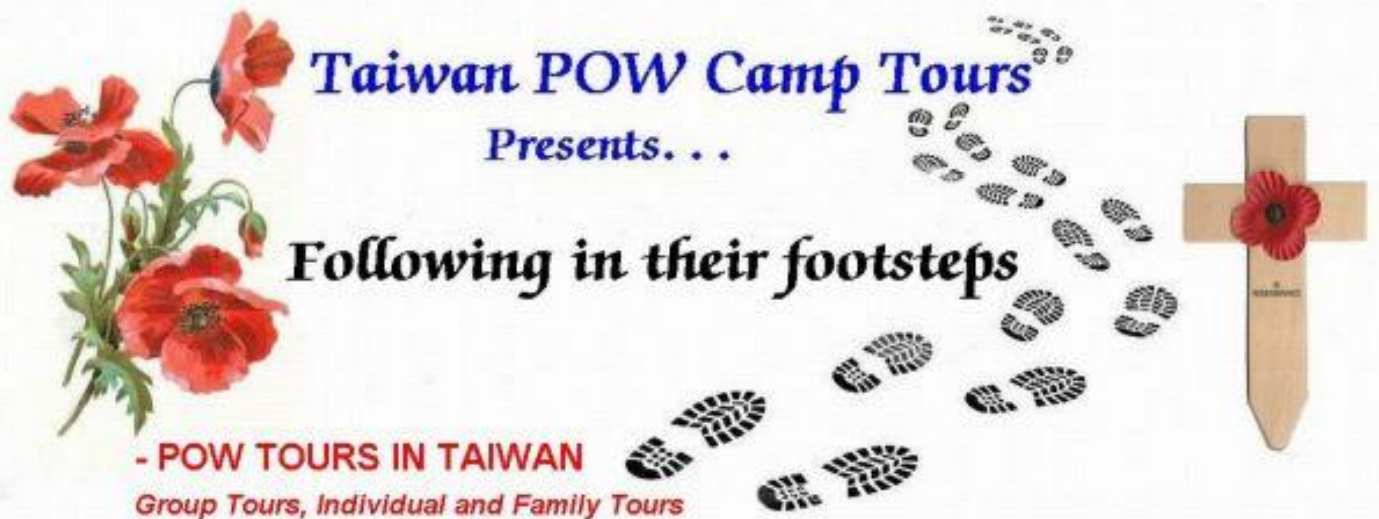
On June 9th I had the privilege to guide a group of international expats living in China on a tour of Jinguashi. The trip was arranged by former Taiwan expat Michael Wester and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who took part. The POW's story is really spreading worldwide now.



*The group at the #5 Mine*



# TAIWAN POW CAMPS MEMORIAL SOCIETY PRESENTS OUR POW CAMP TOUR PROGRAM



Over the past 19 years the Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society has researched and documented the history of the 16 former World War II Japanese prisoner of war camps on the island of Taiwan, then known as Formosa. During this time we have conducted many tours to the camps and related areas during our annual November "Remembrance Week" events, and also throughout the year at the request of individuals, families and groups.

In January 2015 we launched our official **POW Camp Tours Program** and a new page was added to the menu on the homepage of our website outlining the program and how those who are interested in visiting the Taiwan camps can participate.

We specialize in the WWII history of Taiwan and can research the stories of individual POWs, something that those with a family connection to the camps will find valuable, fulfilling and meaningful. Our tours are personally planned and tailored to meet the special and individual needs of the participants. We not only try to provide knowledge about the POWs and the camps, but peace and closure for our visitors as well.

We are not a "tour company" for normal tourist activities such as sight-seeing etc., but we provide specialized tours and personal pilgrimages to the camps, as well as behind-the-scenes insights into what took place here in World War II.

We cater to individuals and families, as well as small and large groups. We can also advise on tours to sites in Hong Kong, Singapore, the Philippines and Japan which may relate to a Taiwan POW's experiences.

Tours are expertly guided by Michael Hurst MBE, Director of the POW Society and the foremost authority on the Taiwan POW camps. Michael has lived in Taiwan for over 25 years and knows the island well, having also worked in the tourism industry for a number of years.

We try to bring alive the story of the former Taiwan POW camps - and the men who were interned in them, through a moving and enriching experience. It will give veterans and widows, and their children and grandchildren, a chance to retrace the footsteps of brave comrades and beloved family members.

**No-one is more knowledgeable or qualified to conduct tours to the former Taiwan POW camps than the Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society . . .** the 'reputable' local Taiwan tour companies don't even offer POW Camp tours, as their guides have little or no knowledge of the FEPOWs' story or the camps and what happened in them. They usually refer inquiries for POW camp visits to us. So for the most authoritative, comprehensive and 'personal' tour possible, be sure to contact us for help with your visit.

For individuals, families and groups we offer 1 day tours to camps that can be visited in a short time and also 2 and 3 day tours that require more travel time and overnight stays at various places around the island. In addition to seeing the former POW camps, visitors can also experience a panorama of scenery and culture from all across Taiwan.

Costs vary according to the visitor's requirements, length of the tour and number of camps visited, so please contact us for more information and a quote.

Also, there are currently grants available for UK visitors from **Heroes Return** and the **War Widows Aid Scheme** which are listed on our website, so please check there for more details and information on how to obtain a grant and also to register for a tour.

Once you have decided to visit Taiwan, kindly get in touch with us right away so that we may provide an explanation of your tour and arrange an itinerary. We look forward to hearing from those who are interested in our **"Following in their Footsteps"** program and tours - we are here to serve you!