Greetings from the land down under. Yes, I’m back in Australia for my annual pilgrimage catching up with friends and family. I find it amusing that when we have a few warm days here, the locals tell me how hot it is which makes me smile. A typical winters day in the Philippines is nearly always warmer that the summer around Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. I’ll be glad to get home to Angeles and the camaraderie of the RSL at the Hotel Fenson. I keep in touch with the committee on almost a daily basis so even though I am not around, I still have the required input that the President should have.

I was not able to attend the last general meeting due to my travel arrangements where I would have thanked the members and friends that helped on our Fiesta Street Party celebrating Australia Day. Through this newsletter, I thank you all, without your help, such events would not take place.

At the meeting I missed a presentation that was made by Ms. Christine Mendoza from 583 Travel and Ms. Scarlet Lachicia from the Philippine Retirement Authority. The subject was the SRRV (Special Resident Retirement Visa) which I’m told was most interesting and informative. As it was so well received, I plan to have other guest speakers occasionally which I feel would be very beneficial for our membership.

The committee is now planning our ANZAC Day activities which, as usual a service will be conducted at the Clark Veterans Cemetery. VP Gary Barnes has met with the cemetery supervisor and we are advised the service will be held at the newly completed area where we used
to hold the services. This year, Gary has arranged for an extra tent to keep the attendees under cover and out of the sun as ANZAC Day always seems to be a hot one here.

As in many places in Australia, our ANZAC Day is getting bigger with more people attending. Details of the event are in this newsletter and I look forward to seeing you there.

The social side of ANZAC Day will be held at the Hotel Fenson as the Swagman Resort is now closed.

Gunfire Breakfast and the mid-day sausage sizzle will be provided by Tony Donson, the new owner of the Hotel Fenson and Scott Chambers and his Prime Choice Meat Company. I thank them both for the generous donations that will help make our ANZAC Day a great success.

This is President Bob signing out, see you on my return. Cheers for now.

---

The above article was in the Geelong Advertiser helping to put the activities of our Sub Branch on view to Australia and beyond. It’s good that the Deakin University nurses have been recognised for the great work they do when they visit us and help at our medical missions. We always enjoy their company as do the nurses from the Angeles City University Foundation. As the articles says, it’s good to see our local nurses working with our special visitors. What we have only just found out, the nurses pay for the visits themselves.
ANZAC DAY APRIL 25th 2018

On behalf of the Angeles City RSL Sub Branch, President Bob Barnes invites you all to commemorate the 103rd landing at Gallipoli. A service has been arranged at the CLARK VETERANS CEMETERY to be held at 0700 hrs. (Please muster at 0645 hrs.)

Followed by “Gunfire Breakfast”

At the Hotel Fenson at 8:30am

Plus raffles & “Two-up” in the afternoon

Admission: 400Php Single or 700Php Couple

Unlimited local drinks until 4:00pm. Gunfire Breakfast & Sausage Sizzle (courtesy of the Hotel Fenson) and Scott Chambers Prime Choice Meats

All other drinks and food at your own account

Plus LUCKY DOOR PRIZE & RAFFLE drawn at noon
**Nomination Form**

I nominate ........................................... For the position of

**PLEASE PRINT**

☐ President       ☐ Snr Vice President
☐ Vice President
☐ Treasurer       ☐ Committee 2 positions

Tick **ONE BOX ONLY** of the above

**Separate form required for each position contested**

Nominated by ....................................................

Seconded by ......................................................

I ................................................................. Accept the nomination

Address of nominee:-

...........................................................................................................

...........................................................................................................

**NOTE:** only financial Service and affiliate members can nominate, second or accept nominations.

This nomination form must be handed to the secretary of the

**ANGELES CITY RSL SUB BRANCH**

(or left at the reception of the Hotel Fenson)

No later than 5pm Saturday 6th April 2018

---

**Agm Annual General Meeting**

**17th April 2018**

**2:00pm sharp**

In accordance with State Rules & By-Laws 13.7(b), the committee has determined the manner in which the elections are to be held. It was decided that there will be:-

- No absentee votes
- No postal votes
- No electronic votes
- No proxy votes
- **Only members present at the AGM may cast a vote**

---

**Please note:** The Angeles City RSL Sub Branch is bound by the Victoria Branch State Rules and ByLaws. 13.7(a)(2) which states (in part) "**That members of the Sub Branch committee shall be elected for a term of two years,**....". The secretary and 1 (one) committee member have not completed two years and therefore are not up for re-election. As shown above, the positions that will be available to contest are:-

President       Snr. Vice President       Vice President

Treasurer       Committee members (2 [two] positions)

The AGM will be held at 1400 hrs sharp April 17th.

**Please have your membership card available and register early.** All members will be checked to ensure they are financial prior to the meeting. Once the President/chairman calls the meeting to order, the meeting room will be locked and no one will be allowed to enter until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

Philip R Salmon, Hon. Secretary
RSL events schedule March 2018

Night Moves Club...........15 draws
Raffle every Monday, drawn at 6:00pm. Great Prizes

Phillies Sports & Grill Raffle
Special Nights to be advertised

Saturday 3rd March 2018
8:00am
MEDICAL MISSION
Covered Area next to Pulungbulu Barangay Hall

Tuesday 6th March 2018
2 pm COMMITTEE MEETING
2:00pm Social Tuesday at Hotel Fenson
4:00pm Moons Bar – Kick Back & Relax
Aussie Shack

Tuesday 13th March 2018
2 pm WELFARE MEETING
2:00pm Social Tuesday at Hotel Fenson
4:00pm Finnigans – Highway 54 – Night moves

Tuesday 20th March 2018
2 pm GENERAL MEETING
2:00pm Social Tuesday at Hotel Fenson
4:00pm Voodoo – Valhalla – Angel Witch

Tuesday 27th March 2018
2 pm NO MEETING
2:00pm Social Tuesday at Hotel Fenson
4:00pm Hotel Fenson

Check our web site www.rslangelescity.com
secretary@rslangelescity.com
or philsalmon@y7mail.com

As usual, we thank the Blue-Book for advertising our events

The venue: -
Covered area next to the Pulungbulu Barangay Hall
Saturday 3rd March 2018
The wheelchair team
January 31st

Top right: Helpers, Parents and the wheelchair team with two happy children from Bulacan.

Top left & bottom right: This girl was all smiles, such a little beauty.

Left: Hardworking Ian Briggs about to complete one of the chairs.

Bottom left: The escorts from Bulacan with the first chair of the day with the child’s mother, Chris Weeks (Mr Wheelchair) and Christine Salmon
Special wheelchairs – 7th February 2018

Two more children receive special wheelchairs, this time from Dau, Mabalacat City.

Bottom left: Kim Fairleigh being shown the ropes by long term team member Steve Innes.

Pictured below: introducing Kim Fairleigh who is a new member of the special wheelchair team. Volunteers are always welcome, please contact Chris Weeks at the Hotel Fenson any Tuesday afternoon.

Thank you RSL Special Wheelchair Team. I’m very happy
Pictured right: **Jeff Collinson** CEO of Aussie Aqua. Jeff has stepped in to provide the water at our medical missions as our supplier for the past 5 years, Starfish are no longer able to assist us. Jeff is also in our annual Fields Avenue Street party celebrating Australia Day and was a contestant in the curry cook-off competition. He did not win this year but wow, what a flavour his team produced, truly delicious.

**AUSSIE AQUA MISSION STATEMENT:**

- To be a leading supplier of quality purified and alkaline drinking water in the Angeles City areas.
- To be a great place to work where people are inspired to be the best they can be.
- Provide a great place to work for many underprivileged Filipinos lacking formal education.
- To empower and encourage our employees to develop their skills and entrepreneurial spirit so that they can better serve our customers.
- Instil confidence within our customer base that Aussie Aqua can and will provide the highest quality of drinking water and an exceptional level of service and understanding of our customers' needs.

This month we thank **Peter Renton** (Personality Pete) for his continual input to the Sub Branch. At the recent Fiesta Peter was on deck in Fields Avenue at 4:00am and was still hard at work unloading the truck at 10:00pm. That is definitely **above and beyond the call of duty**. Peter also collects the water for our medical missions, the Fat Boys Rugby Tournaments and our services at the Clark Veterans Cemetery plus any other event which means he puts in many hours behind the scenes. We done Peter, a great **MEMBER OF THE MONTH**.

For information about **Jeff Collinson** and his Aussie Aqua, go to his Facebook page or visit at Magalang Ave Cor. Maria Soledad Brgy, Ninoy Aquino, Angeles City 2009
Saturday 3rd February
Medical Mission at
Duquit Elementary

Nurses from Deakin University, Victoria working alongside with the nurses from Angeles City University. 580 children attended on a very warm winter’s day. Some of the Deakin nurses were amazed that we have such wonderful weather in winter. It’s always good to have them here and we look forward to their next visit.

Photos provided by
Anthony Cullen
MEDIA RELEASE
THE HON MICHAEL MCCORMACK MP
MINISTER FOR VETERANS’ AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL
MINISTER ASSISTING THE PRIME MINISTER FOR THE CENTENARY OF ANZAC

17 Feb 2018 9:00 AM AEST - McCormack Media Release: 76th anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin

19 February 2018

76TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOMBING OF DARWIN

TODAY marks the 76th anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin and Australians are encouraged to pause to remember those who died during the attacks by Japanese aircraft.

Minister for Veterans’ Affairs Michael McCormack said on 19 February 1942 the Second World War was brought to Australia’s shores for the first time when 242 Japanese aircraft bombed Darwin in two separate attacks, killing more than 240 people.

“The targets were the harbour and town, Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and civil aerodromes and the Army hospital,” Mr McCormack said.

“Ten US Kittyhawk fighters were the only aircraft available to defend Darwin and all but one were shot down before they could engage the attackers. A second wave of Japanese bombers arrived just before noon and bombed the RAAF base.

“Other towns across Australia’s north were also bombed including Katherine, Broome, Townsville, Wyndham and Cairns.”

The Japanese bombed Darwin 64 times during the course of the war. The final raid against Darwin took place on 12 November 1943. The 19 February 1942 raids were by far the most destructive.

The Bombing of Darwin Day has been a national day of observance since 2011. The Northern Territory Government will recognise the anniversary by conducting a National Day of Observance Commemorative Service in Darwin on Monday, 19 February 2018.

Ends

DISCLAIMER
The Angeles City Sub-Branch of the R&SLA, the Committee and the Editor take no responsibilities for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies contained in this newsletter. Nor do they accept any liability for loss or damage suffered directly or indirectly for use of information contained in this newsletter. Nor do they warrant that articles or opinions published in this newsletter are necessarily the opinions held by the Sub-branch, the Committee or the Editor.
LEFT: A magnificent tribute to the Light Horsemen. We thank Albert Bunnies and Subic Bay RSL Sub Branch for posting this.

BELOW: During the construction of a wheelchair, VP Chris Weeks chats to a visitor, Dr. Talud from Angeles City Health Dept.

BELOW: Two completed wheelchairs ready to go. One is on the sidecar of the trike, we hope there were no low bridges on the way home.
“Hear” Is What $25 Can Do

This is a summary of the RSL hearing aid program for 2017:

Since mid 2013 the RSL-Angeles City Sub Branch has fitted children and young adults with hearing aids and ongoing batteries.

- Number of children fitted in 2017: 50
- Total RSL cost in 2017: 58,900 PHP
- Average cost to the RSL per child: ~1,200 PHP (~$25)
- Average age of child: ~12

This included 3 months of no activity due to the lack of patients, ear molding material, vacations, and holidays.

Beginning in January 2018 we surged forward with 44 fittings and many enrollments in the first month alone, expending 53,320 PHP already. As of February 20, 2018:

- We have a confirmed backlog of 46 children.
- We have a stock of 27 hearing aids. (We always need more used hearing aids!)
- 547 have been helped since we began the program in June 2013.
- 30 children are missing since requesting hearing aids. We keep looking for them.
- Many families are requesting a 2nd hearing aid. Due to our limited supply we give only one per child.

The texts of thanks and blessings keep coming in. Here’s a recent one from a mother: Thank you for giving my son and daughter, Justin and Princess, hearing aids. [They are age 9 & 2] We could never have afforded to get them by ourselves. It is such a joy for my husband, grandparents, our other children and me to talk to them and to listen to them talk and sing with each other. God bless the RSL for changing our family’s life so wonderfully!

Thanks to all members, the Henson Ear Clinic (Audiologist Jean Meneses & Dr. Henson) and others who have donated hearing aids, money, time and efforts to support this honorable effort. You deserve to feel proud of your contribution!

Greg Mann
Hearing aid coordinator (63)998-415-9135

The above was read at the last general meeting (See the minutes attached to this newsletter) Greg is a quite achiever who works many long hours behind the scenes making a huge difference to the lives of the children and the families in the Philippines. If anyone has spare or not needed hearing aids please contact Greg or the Sub Branch secretary.
FILIPINO AIF VOLUNTEERS: 
IN THE TRADITION OF JOSÉ RIZAL

Part 2: The Ga Family

This year the allied nations will mark the centenary of Armistice Day when – on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month – the guns fell silent on the Western Front. Among the 13 million dead were two sons of a Filipino-Australian family from Darwin, whose service and sacrifice could be seen to be in the tradition of the martyr and Filipino national hero Dr José Rizal.

Filipino diaspora in northern Australia

Throughout the Spanish colonial era, many residents of the Philippines chose to seek a new life elsewhere. Any history of migration is a complex mix of socio-economic, political and religious motivations, and these are often summarised as ‘push’ and ‘pull’ factors. Generally, these Filipinos were ‘pushed’ by lack of employment opportunities in their home barangays and barrios. From the 18th century, their primary destination was Mexico and the Americas (technically, the Philippines was a sub-colony of New Spain, administered from Mexico City).

In the third quarter of the 19th century however, the first wave of Filipino migration to northern Australia began, with seafarers and divers ‘pulled’ by economic opportunities after pearlshell began to be collected in Torres Strait from 1870. As the Japanese came to dominate the pearlshell industry there, many Filipinos joined pearl diving operations out of Palmerston (Port Darwin) or on the remote Kimberley coast.

The Filipinos in Palmerston were referred to in the press as ‘Manilamen’ – even though most did not actually come from Manila. They were excellent divers, and proved to be a bonus to the pearl and pearlshell industry.

The first to come to Port Darwin were various adventurous individuals who made their own way via Thursday Island from the 1870s. The second Filipino wave of migration comprised a group who came directly from the central and southern Philippines from 1895 onwards, to be employed as divers and pearlshell processors under the Indentured Labour Scheme.

The Ga family

The Filipino pearling-diver Carlos Ga (1855-1931) came from the Dinagat Islands, a small group south of Leyte Gulf, at the very northeastern tip of Mindanao, north of Surigao Del Norte.

Recent ongoing research has identified family connections in the Philippines stretching back to the very first pioneer families in Dinagat. Through this connection, the ancient baptismal certificate of Carlos Ga has recently been discovered in an old church in the municipality of Dinagat – which was formally established as a pueblo in 1855.

This record, hand-written in old Spanish language, confirms that Carlos Ga was born on 21 October 1855, and was baptised on 24 November 1855. The registry records show that Carlos had one brother, Florencio Ga (probably born before 1855), and three younger sisters Vicenta, Orgea and Encarnacion.

Various genealogical sites have named his father as ‘Oulyincis Ga’ (1820-1880), but this certificate confirms that Carlos Ga’s father was named Fulgencio Ga (this name is consistent in all other records of his siblings’ birth and marriage documents).

Similarly, various sites name his mother as ‘Estild (born Erma)’: however this baptismal record confirms her name as Maria Germa. Subsequently it appears in the records of marriage of their children as ‘Estela Germa’ and ‘Estela Erma’.

Carlos Ga made his way to the small island of Waiben in the Torres Strait in about 1870, at the age of 16. On 19 July 1877 this island was annexed by Queensland and renamed ‘Thursday Island’.

Carlos later went to Port Darwin where he was a pearling diver. He returned to north Queensland at some point, and in Cooktown on 30 April 1883 married the 19 year old Mary Anne Bunyan (1864-1909) from Carmarthenshire, Wales. Carlos was naturalised in 1887, and continued working as a diver, alternating between Thursday Island and Palmerston.

Seven children were born on Thursday Island, all christened with the surname ‘Ga’, although Carlos variously recorded his name as ‘Ga’, ‘Gah’ or ‘Gar’. Carlos and Mary Anne were in Palmerston in 1893 where another son was born, and again after 1900 when three further children were born.

In Palmerston, Carlos and Mary Anne lived on the beach overlooking Frances Bay, which became known as Carl’s Beach (today known as Dinah Beach). Mary Anne Ga drowned on 11 February 1909, among the rocks near the Fort Hill Bath House, and was buried the same day in Palmerston Cemetery.

The early Filipino patriarchs in Darwin followed closely the news of the Philippine uprising and revolution at the end of the 19th century, particularly rejoicing in the declaration of independence in 1898 which ultimately saw the end of the Spanish colonial era (only to be replaced by an American colonial era).

Their sons had grown up hearing of the patriotism of José Rizal and the bravery of Andrés Bonifacio, Supremo of the Katipunan Revolution. Just as the names of these heroes were drawn in by families in the Philippines, so too Manilaman Carlos Ga named his youngest son ‘Aguinaldo’ in honour of General Emilio Aguinaldo, the revolutionary hero and first President of the Philippines who had proclaimed independence from Spain on 12 June 1898 (sadly though, Aguinaldo Garr died in 1905 at the age of five months).
Northern Territory volunteers

When the Commonwealth assumed responsibility for the Northern Territory in 1911, there were 52 Filipinos living in Darwin. In 1915, of Carlos and Mary Anne’s eleven children, the four sons who lived to adulthood all volunteered for the AIF – three served overseas, two were killed-in-action, and one was wounded and decorated for bravery.

Carlos Ga died in Darwin on 16 February 1931, aged 77. The surviving WW1 veteran son, and two of Carlos Ga’s grandsons, enlisted during World War 2: this represents a significant contribution from a single Darwin family to the military history of Australia.

On 20 September 2000, Darwin City Council named ‘Carlos Road’ at East Arm in honour of the Manilaman and Filipino patriarch Carlos Ga – now confirmed as born in Dinagat in the Philippines on 21 October 1855, the son of Fulgencio Ga and his wife Maria Estela Germa.

*  *  *  *  *

In the tradition of the martyr and Filipino national hero José Rizal – *Non Omnis Moriar* (‘I shall not wholly die’) – Carlos Ga and his sons are remembered today because their names appear on street signs, monuments and honour rolls throughout Australia and overseas. Their mortal lives may have passed, but they have ‘not altogether died’.

Lest we Forget

Paul A Rosenzweig

ThanksDigger@gmail.com


Thanks Digger

The ‘Thanks Digger’ Facebook page has been established as a tribute to all Australian Service personnel and others who have served in the defence of Australia and Australia’s interests.

[https://www.facebook.com/Thanks.Digger](https://www.facebook.com/Thanks.Digger) | ThanksDigger@gmail.com

Captions

**Image 1:** Carlos and Mary Anne Ga – all four of their sons who lived to adulthood, of mixed Filipino-Welsh blood, were volunteers for the AIF.

**Image 2:** Carlos Ga’s baptismal certificate recently discovered in a church in Dinagat.

**Image 3:** The names of Carlos Ga’s sons Matthew and William are commemorated on the Darwin Cenotaph.

**Image 4:** In 1968, Darwin City Council named ‘Garr Street’ in the suburb of Moil in honour of Matthew and William Garr.
Neutral Switzerland Has Invaded Liechtenstein 3 times in 30 years – by Mistake

Most people associate Switzerland with mountains, chocolates, watches, and Swiss Army knives. They also think of a peaceful and neutral country that’s fanatic about avoiding war, and would certainly never invade a neighbour! Well, they’re wrong – just ask Liechtenstein.

Liechtenstein is so small that most non-Europeans don’t even know it exists. Measuring only 62 square miles, it’s smaller than Washington, DC (68.34 square miles), or almost three times the size of Manhattan (22.82 square miles).

With a population of only about 37,000 people, it shares borders with Switzerland to the west and south, as well as with Austria to the east and north. Now don’t let that fool you. It’s among the richest countries in the world with one of the lowest unemployment rates.

But it does lack two things. The first is an airport. To fly in, you have to use the nearest one at Zürich in Switzerland. The second is a military. Liechtenstein disbanded its own in 1868 – making it one of the 22 countries in the world today without any armed forces. To make up for it, they’ve become the world’s largest producer of false teeth.

Though false teeth may be good for the economy, they’re completely useless for defense unless you use them as projectiles. Which probably explains why Switzerland couldn’t resist invading them. Three times!

On December 5, 1985, the Swiss Army was conducting a training exercise which included the use of surface-to-air missiles. Despite the bad weather and strong winds, they decided to launch their rockets anyway, so off they went…

Straight into Liechtenstein’s Bannwald forest. An alpine country ruled by a prince (the only one in Europe with real political power), Liechtenstein is heavily forested. Fire and wood make an excellent combination – made even more so when there are strong winds blowing about.

Which explains why the rockets caused massive forest fires. Although Switzerland and Liechtenstein had normally enjoyed a friendly relationship, this one caused a long diplomatic ruckus.
The Location of tiny Liechtenstein

The argument focused on whether or not the wind was responsible, or if it was due to faulty equipment. The answer mattered because if it was the latter, then the Swiss (who don’t produce missiles) were not fully responsible.

Fortunately, no one was hurt or killed, and the Swiss eventually paid Liechtenstein millions of Swiss francs in compensation for the environmental outrage. Rumor has it that the entire affair was eventually settled over a case of white wine (or two) and perhaps some fondue.

End of story, right? Far from it. Because on October 13, 1992, Switzerland struck again!

The Rhine: the border between Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

Swiss Army cadets were on manoeuvres when they received written instructions to set up an observation post in Treisenberg. That’s a small, picturesque village with a population of about 2,564 people. What makes it particularly unique, however, is that they speak a distinct German dialect that dates all the way back to the 14th century.

It also measures 11.58 square miles, making it one of the biggest municipalities… in Liechtenstein. Curiously enough, the Swiss Army leadership had forgotten that Treisenberg is in another country.

So had the cadets, apparently, until some of the curious locals asked them what the heck they thought they were doing. It must have been rather awkward.

Triesenberg, Liechtenstein

In the Cadets’ defense, no border posts exist between Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Both countries speak the same German dialect (save for the one in Treisenberg), citizens of each do not need visas to cross the border, and they use the same currency.

As such, Swiss nationals tend to view Liechtenstein as sort of their 27th state. By agreement, Switzerland is not only responsible for Liechtenstein’s security, but it also has the power to represent the latter in some diplomatic situations.
There’s another curious thing about the second invasion, however. Though they were on military maneuvers and armed with rifles, none of the men carried any ammo, whatsoever. Military service is mandatory for all Swiss men, and each keeps an assault rifle at home, so the cadets must have brought theirs along for ballast… or something.

◆ There is no border control between Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

The Swiss government apologized profusely, of course – which is how the Liechtenstein government first learned about the invasion. Asked what they thought about it, Gerlinde Manz-Christ, spokeswoman for the principality said, “Nobody really realized it.”

Fortunately, no damage was done to Liechtenstein property, so no compensation was required, this time. The damage to Swiss prestige was otherwise, however, inflaming an already sensitive debate about doing away with their armed forces – an argument that’s still ongoing as of 2016.

So that should have been the end of that, yes? Umm… no. Fast forward to March 1, 2007.

It was a dark and stormy Thursday night as 171 Swiss Army infantry soldiers went on training manoeuvres. Though armed with their trusty Swiss Army knives, the version they had apparently carried neither a compass nor a GPS.

◆ Border between Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Then the weather went from bad to worse as a heavy downpour blasted the men. At least that’s the official explanation given as to why they ended up on Liechtenstein soil, yet again. By early morning, they had made it over a mile into foreign territory before someone realized that they were no longer in Switzerland.

In a later interview with Blick (a Swiss paper), one of the men said, “It was all so dark out there.”

That was when the company commander ordered an about-face back home.

Again, Liechtenstein wasn’t aware of the invasion till a sheepish Switzerland apologized for the incident. Asked about the snafu, Manz-Christ replied, “Who could cross the border except for the Swiss?”

Swiss officials downplayed the incident and expressed confidence that no political repercussions would result. Most Swiss papers didn’t even bother to cover the story, officially because it was a non-event. Unofficially, they were probably dying of embarrassment.

Fortunately, the invaded were equally eager to downplay the invasion. Markus Amman, Liechtenstein’s spokesman for the Interior Ministry, said, “It’s not like they stormed over here with attack helicopters or something.” And a good thing, too, or the Swiss might have ended up in Austria.
Brings Results to Your Business....... www.blue-bookph.com

BUY & SELL • SERVICES • EVENTS • PRODUCTS • INFO • JOBS • TV GUIDE

#490 Suite B, Don Juico Avenue, Malabananias, Angeles City 2009 Pampanga
MONDAY TO FRIDAY • 9:00AM – 5:00PM
Tel.: (045) 892.1902 • Telefax: (045) 321.0561
Email: info@blue-bookph.com • bluebook_04@yahoo.com

10,000 COPIES
“Guaranteed”
PER MONTHLY ISSUE
and read by thousands more around the world on our website www.blue-bookph.com

Australian Visa Assistance johntpower@hotmail.com
www.johntpower.com

Live Sports & Bands
22 Flat Screen TV’s
Phillies Sports Grill

Prime Choice
FIRE QUALITY MEATS

How to Get Here?
Campbell’s Beach Resort
Big Lalaguna Beach,
Puerto Galera,
Mindoro, Philippines
Phone +63 43 287 3466
Mobile +63 917 558 7547

TEST DESIGN
Clubhouse: Hotel Fenson
1734 San Pablo St.,
Mt.View Balibago, Angeles City 2009, Philippines

President
Robert (Bob) Barnes
Mobile: +63-928-145-6756
Email: president@rslangelescity.com

Vice Presidents
Gary Barnes
Mobile: +63-995-052-8994
Email: garylbarnes86@gmail.com

Chris Weeks
Mobile: +63-927-320-4149
Email: chris.weeks@hotmail.com

Philip Salmon
Mobile: +63-9287424628
Email: secretary@rslangelescity.com

Chris Weeks
Mobile: +63-927-320-4149
Email: chris.weeks@hotmail.com

Secretary
Philip Salmon
Mobile: +63-9287424628
Email: secretary@rslangelescity.com

Treasurer
Ron Parrott
Mobile: +63-939-936-5939
Email: treasurer@rslangelescity.com

Quartermaster
Vacant
Mobile: +63-
Email: dimnessent@yahoo.com

Editor
Larry Smith
Mobile: +61-423 238 620
Email: editor@rslangelescity.com

Membership Officer
David Shine
Mobile: +63 0939 853 8168
Email: david.shine60@yahoo.com

Do not forget, if dialing ‘in-country’ add in a 0 before the number

“The price of liberty is eternal vigilance”
Lest We Forget
Call to order: at 1406hrs.

_The doorman placed the "do not enter” sign on the door. The President asked the members to turn off all phones recorders etc._

_The secretary confirmed we have a quorum._

Ode to the fallen: Recited by Vice President Gary Barnes

Attendance 22 as registered (Including 7 visitors/guests)

Apologies: President Bob Barnes, Peter Renton

New members/transfers: None in attendance

Visitors:-

- Ms. Christine Mendoza from 583 Travel
- Ms. Scarlet Lachicia from the Philippine Retirement Authority
- Rhys Shine plus 4 reps from 583 Travel

Motion: Suspended standing orders to allow our guests to address the members.

MOVED Philip Salmon  
SECONDED Chris Weeks  
CARRIED

Ms. Christine Mendoza & Ms. Scarlet Lachicia spoke the members and gave a very interesting and informative address about the SRRV (Special Resident Retiree’s Visa) followed by question time.

VP Gary thanked the visitors and added that he has the SRRV and recommended it to the members. He also reminded members of the requirement to have a valid will to ensure that the PRA deposit required for a SRRV can be recovered by relatives. He called for a 5 minute recess.

Motion: Resume standing orders.

MOVED Philip Salmon  
SECONDED Scott Chambers  
CARRIED
Vice President’s address:-
VP Gary advised that the committee has complied with State Rules and By-Laws “Elections of the Sub Branch Committee 13.7(b)” in relation to the election of Office Bearers which will be conducted at the 2018 AGM, and read the following resolution taken at the last committee meeting.

Motion: There is to be no postal votes, no electronic votes, no absentee votes, and no proxy votes at the AGM. All votes must be from the attending members only. Only financial Service and Affiliate members may vote. If there are no nominees for any of the vacant positions then that/those positions may be called for from the floor.

He also advised the meeting that nomination forms for Executive and Committee positions are available from the notice board in the Hotel Fenson Bar. Two positions will not be contested: secretary and one committee position, as those members have not yet completed their two year term.

Secretary:-
The secretary advised that we did not have a quorum for the last General Meeting so there was a need to confirm the minutes of the December meeting. As usual, the minutes were available to all members in the newsletter. 
Motion: The minutes of the general meeting held 19th December 2017 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

MOVED Philip Salmon SECONDED Chris Weeks CARRIED

Matters arising from minutes:-
Any matters arising from the December have been attended to but the secretary requested that it be noted in the minutes that the Request to use RSL logo for a pool competition team has approved by State Branch.

Correspondence:-
The inward/outward correspondence has been attend to at committee level with the exception of the following:

Inward Correspondence:-
Iain Booth (to the President) Requesting a reply to his letter
Greg Mann Update on the hearing aid program.***

Outward Correspondence:-
Iain Booth (from the President) President will attend to this matter on his return from Australia

Motion: The inward correspondence be accepted and the outgoing correspondence be endorsed.

MOVED Philip Salmon SECONDED Steve Innes CARRIED

*** The article on Hearing Aids from Greg will be in the newsletter for member’s that did not attend the meeting.
Point of order raised by Peter Henderson: The chairman should ask if anyone is against the motion as well as asking who is for the motion. VP Gary agreed and apologised for this oversight.

Treasurers Report:-
Ron presented a long and detailed report for January and explained that the financial report for the 2018 Fiesta is yet to be completed.

Motion: The treasurer’s report be accepted as read and tabled.

MOVED Peter Henderson SECONDED Bill Hall CARRIED

VP Gary added that the 2018 Fiesta financial report will be made available at the next general meeting.

Welfare report:-
VP Chris Weeks advised that in January, we issued a total of 7 wheelchairs: 5 special, 1 regular and one adult.

Medical Missions report:-
David Shine advised that at the last medical mission, we attended to 586 children which also resulted in appointments for 6 wheelchairs and 3 hearing aids. VP Chris added that the Deakin University who were in attendance, have contacted Johnson and Johnson who are donating several boxes of Band-Aids. The next mission was due to be held at San Fabian Street but as of yesterday, the location is now to be at the side of the Pulungbul Barangay Hall.

Membership report: -
Membership Officer David Shine advised that we have 427 financial members.

General Business:-

Australia Day Fiesta:-
VP Gary explained that the Fiesta was reviewed at the last committee meeting with the following issues to be rectified prior to Fiesta 2019:

- Loud speaker/s are required half way down the "Tent City" to ensure people mid-way can hear the raffle draw.
- Tents should be paid for in advance. (Note that we are still awaiting some payments)
- RBI Steak House will help to promote the 2019 Fiesta.
- Fiesta shirts, raffle prizes etc should and will be organized immediately after Vietnam Veterans Day with sales commencing ASAP.
- Suggested we start an Australia Day Fiesta committee as has been done in the past.

VP Gary added that the Executive will be calling for volunteers to form that committee in June/July 2018.
ANZAC Day:-
A flyer has been produced and will be in the next two newsletters. As the Swagman Hotel is now closed, the gunfire breakfast will be held at the Hotel Fenson. The secretary has permission to hold the service at the Clark Veterans Cemetery and a request has been made to the Australian Embassy for a guest speaker.

Bill Hall gave a short up-date on the animal care program. He has checked the medicine supply that we donated, they still have sufficient in stock at this time.

Gary McGufficke may have a source of supply of hearing aids in Maroochydore. He will advise accordingly.

Peter Henderson thanked David Lynch and Iain Briggs for their help at the Fiesta (Raffle ticket sales)

David Lynch mentioned Christmas cakes and the fact that none were available for Christmas 2017. To be discussed and addressed by the Committee with a view of obtaining a supply for next Christmas. He also passed comment on the material used for the Fiesta shirts, he preferred it to the heavier cotton ones.

Greg Mann mentioned the family day that used to be held. As it is too late for this year, it was suggested that it be included for action by the 2019 Fiesta planning committee.

Steve Innes would like to see thank you letters (Hearing aids, wheelchairs etc) published in the newsletter.

New RSL AC Truck:-
VP Gary advised that approximately AUD $25,000 has been raised to date, and we have been asked if we are going to make a contribution as well. President Bob has suggested that we transfer $2,500 to the truck account.

Motion: The treasurer is to transfer $2,500 to the account for a new truck from the Australia Bank account.

MOVED Philip Salmon SECONDED Peter Henderson CARRIED

The raffle was drawn, won by Lucky Bill Hall.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1549 HRS