

■ SOME of the estimated 3000 plus who attended the Anzac Day parade on Bribie.



■ THE Community Link representative Heather Ngata with guest speaker John Burns seated.



■ Lighthorseman Johnathon Ross and the Ferret armoured scout vehicle.

# SUPERB OCCASION

**ANZAC Day on Bribie Island, once again, proved to be a tremendous day.**

It started with the Dawn Service held at Woorim Memorial at 4.28am. The service was very well attended with an estimated gathering of more than 1000.

There were contingents from the 123 ACU Army Cadets and the TS Koopa Navy Cadets who performed the Catafalque and Flag Parties. They all looked very smart.

Reverends Col Baxter and Bill Crossman carried out the religious portion of the ceremony. Sub Branch President Vic Reading recited the Ode and Treasurer Dave Aitchison was the MC for the occasion.

President Vic stated that he was amazed at the number of children in

attendance at that early hour. Indeed there were numerous children, including Nippers from the Surf Club, Girl Guides and Boy Scouts. They are to be commended. Wreaths were laid by many of the gathering, including two serving representatives, one from the Navy and one from the Air Force who were in uniform. Both were from Bribie Island home on leave.

Following the Dawn Service, a large portion of the crowd returned to the RSL Club for the Gunfire Breakfast which started at 5am. There was more than 500 breakfasts served by the RSL Women's Auxiliary, who also sold the tickets.

The RSL Sub Branch provides these meals free to veterans and sub branch members and others paid \$4

for an excellent breakfast. Aside from serving and ticket selling, the Women's Auxiliary pays half of the cost.

Following the Gunfire Breakfast, the Citizens Club put drinks on, for patrons, until 8am. Then the work of setting up for the day was started. Committee members and other volunteers placed 900 chairs in Korea Place, placed signs and tarpaulins out and completed all the other tasks to enable the ceremony to proceed.

Participation in the parade was tremendous, comprising of ex-servicemen and women, Army and Navy Cadets, several vintage cars and a Ferret armoured scout vehicle, representatives of the Scouts and Guides, students from Bribie

and St Columban's schools, Bribie Island Voluntary Community Help vehicles transporting disabled veterans and, as a late entry, Lighthorseman Johnathon Ross.

The ceremony was attended by an estimated 3000 plus. It doesn't seem possible but a lot of people stated the service seems to grow every year.

Once again Dave Aitchison was MC, Vic Reading introduced the guest speaker, Mr John Burns, OAM, who gave a very stirring talk on the past and present members of the Defence Forces. He also spoke of his own experiences in Vietnam, which were extensive.

School captains Tyson Choat from Banksia Beach School, Rachel Middleton from Bribie High School and Tiffany McErlane from Bribie

Primary school read the three Loyalty Resolutions and all are to be congratulated on their delivery.

Community Link representative Heather Ngata delivered the response to the handing down of the Community Link Torch with sincerity and looked resplendent in the Community Link uniform.

Reverends Baxter and Crossman once again obliged with the hymns and prayers. The service ran smoothly with many wreath layers including several children.

Following the service the school children and cadets were served soft drinks and chips and thank you to Claudia Ngata who served them.

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■ LIGHTHORSEMAN Johnathon Ross at the main Bribie service.



■ CONTINGENTS from the 123 ACU Army Cadets and the TS Koopa Navy Cadets at the Dawn Service.