VCAL ‘WHEN WE REMEMBER’ INTEGRATED PROJECT
AIMS:

• TO CREATE ONGOING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SERVICEMEN FROM THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA AND THE STUDENTS OF ALKIRA SECONDARY COLLEGE.
• TO CREATE ONGOING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE OLDER AND YOUNGER GENERATIONS.
• TO SHARE AND RECORD THE RICH HISTORIES OF THOSE OLDER MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.
• TO CREATE A LASTING HISTORY OF EACH VETERAN, TO EXIST AS A RECORD OF THEIR LIVES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS TO BENEFIT FROM.
• TO HONOUR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF LONG TAN IN 2016 BY CREATING THESE FILMS.
• TO ENTER THESE FILMS INTO YOUTH FILM COMPETITIONS TO WIDER THE AUDIENCE OF THESE FILMS.
WHEN WE REMEMBER

LITERACY:
• LETTER OF INTRODUCTION TO VETERAN
• SENDING OF INVITATIONS
• PLANNING THE STORYBOARD FOR THE SCRIPT
• INTRODUCTION AND CONCLUSION FOR FILM
• QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEW

• INTERVIEW AND RECORDING OF ANSWERS
• CORRESPONDENCE WITH FURTHER QUESTIONS
• RESEARCHING BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE VETERANS
• TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS AND FILM FOOTAGE
• PREPARING OF THE FINAL PRESENTATIONS
• DELIVERING THE FILMS IN A CEREMONY BACK TO THE VETERANS
• WRITING THANK-YOU CARDS TO THE VETERANS
WHEN WE REMEMBER

PDS:

• PREPARING THE MENU FOR MORNING TEA
• HOSTING MORNING TEA FOR THE INTERVIEWS
• SETTING UP AND PACKING UP FOR THE FILMING
• EDITING THE FILMS
• DESIGNING THE COVER FOR THE FILMS
• ORGANISING THE CEREMONY
• COPYING THE FILMS
• CREATION OF THE PROGRAMS FOR THE CEREMONY
• ORGANISING THE TRIP TO PHILLIP ISLAND WITH THE VETERANS
• LUNCHEON AT THE CRANBOURNE RSL AFTER THE CEREMONY
WHEN WE REMEMBER

ORACY:

• INTERVIEWS WITH VETERANS IN PERSON
• PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF FILMS
• HOSTING THE MORNING TEAS, LUNCHES AND VISITS TO THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE, VIETNAM VETERANS MUSEUM IN PHILLIP ISLAND AND LUNCH AT THE CRANBOURNE RSL
EXAMPLES OF THE FILMS – DAY TRIP TO PHILLIP ISLAND AND ROB LOWE FILM
VETERAN FEEDBACK ON THE ‘WHEN WE REMEMBER’ FILM PROJECT

THE PROJECT GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON MY TIME IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND WITH A COUPLE OF THE STUDENTS QUESTIONS THE TIME TO REFLECT ON THE LOSS OF A MATE AND THE PROBLEMS THAT SERVING IN VIETNAM CAUSED ME. THE ONE OUTSTANDING THING THAT THE PROJECT MEANT TO ME WAS THAT I HAD FINALLY OPENED UP TO THE STUDENTS AND TOLD THEM FACTS THAT I HAD NEVER MENTIONED BEFORE LIKE THE LOSS OF A GOOD MATE.

THE MAKING OF THIS FILM AND MY BEING ABLE TO SPEAK ABOUT MY TIME IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAS HELPED ME TO UNDERSTAND MYSELF AND AT THE SAME TIME BECOME GOOD MEDICINE FOR ME AS A VETERAN TO BE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT THE WAR AND WHAT I SAW AND DID..

ROB LOWE, PRESIDENT OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (EDUCATION TEAM).
I WANT TO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING ME IN THE "WHEN WE REMEMBER" PROJECT. WHEN YOU FIRST SPOKE TO ME ABOUT IT I THOUGHT IT WAS A MAMMOTH UNDERTAKING BUT WHEN I MET THE STUDENTS I FELT VERY COMFORTABLE AS TOO DID THEY.

THEY WALKED ME THROUGH WHAT THEY HAD PLANNED AND WHEN WE ACTUALLY STARTED FILMING I WAS IMPRESSED WITH THEIR QUESTIONS AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF ALL ASPECTS OF AUSTRALIA'S INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM.

THE FINISHED PRODUCT WAS FAR MORE THAN I HAD ANTICIPATED. THE STUDENTS HANDLED THE PROJECT WITH IMMENSE RESPECT AND I ACTUALLY FELT Rather HUMBLE TO SEE WHAT THEY HAD PUT TOGETHER.

NICOLE, I APPLAUD THE STUDENTS, THE SCHOOL, AND ESPECIALLY YOU, FOR YOUR ON-GOING INVOLVEMENT WITH THE VIETNAM VETERANS FOR WHICH WE ARE ALL GRATEFUL.

YOU MAKE US ALL FEEL VERY PROUD.

YOURS SINCERELY,

BRENDAN KINCADE
VETERAN FEEDBACK ON THE ‘WHEN WE REMEMBER’ FILM PROJECT

What the “When We Remember” VCAL Film Project means to me.
When Phillip first told me about the project for 2015 I thought it was a wonderful idea, the VCAL students filming their interviews with their allocated Vietnam Veteran and making short films from their recordings. Brilliant.
This project, for me then became very personal, very bitter sweat, Phillip gave the first of his interviews in March of 2015, with 2-3 more interviews to be done as the year went on. Sadly and so unexpectedly he passed away in April 2015, so was unable to finish this project. He loved working with the students and teachers at Alkira. That being the bitter, but the sweet is that my family and I have this most wonderful film of Phillip, happy and relaxed talking about a subject he loved in an environment he was so comfortable in. This is priceless to me, our daughter Shannon, son Justin their spouses and our four grandchildren.
I am extremely proud of Phillips work and all the veterans, students and teachers that took part in this project.

Chris White, Secretary of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Victoria (Education Team)
STUDENT FEEDBACK ON WORKING WITH PHIL WHITE ON THE ‘WHEN WE REMEMBER’ FILM PROJECT

DYLAN, CJ AND JORDAN WROTE ABOUT PHIL WHITE.

“WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH HIM FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS NOW AND LUCKILY FOR US, WE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING IN A GROUP WITH HIM TO MAKE A FILM. UNFORTUNATELY BEFORE WE HAD FINISHED ALL OF OUR FILMING, PHIL PASSED AWAY. THIS HAD AN EFFECT ON US VCAL STUDENTS AS A WHOLE.

PHIL WAS SUCH A DOWN TO EARTH PERSON, HONEST, LIKED TO TELL A YARN, A GENUINE BLOKE. PHIL SHOWED GREAT CHARACTER AND WAS ABLE TO GIVE US A MASSIVE INSIGHT INTO EVERYTHING HE DID IN THE WAR AS WELL AS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RETURN FROM IT.

WE WILL BE FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING PHIL GAVE US AND THE MANNER IN WHICH IS WIFE CHRIS WAS ABLE TO STEP UP AFTER PHIL’S PASSING AND PASS ON HER KNOWLEDGE OF HIM.

PHILLIP WHITE OAM. REST IN PEACE.”
STUDENT FEEDBACK ON ROB LOWE IN THE ‘WHEN WE REMEMBER’ FILM PROJECT

KYLE AND ZAINT WROTE

“HELLO LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. MY NAME IS KYLE AND THIS IS ZAINT. WE HAVE VERY KINDLY CREATED A FILM FOR OUR VETERAN ROB LOWE. THIS MAN IS A VERY KIND, FUNNY AND LOVEABLE GUY. HE REMINDS ME OF MY GRANDDAD WHO I LOVE DEARLY AND SO I HAVE MADE THIS FILM.

I HOPE THAT THIS FILM HELPS PEOPLE IN GENERATIONS TO COME THAT IF IT WEREN’T FOR PEOPLE LIKE ROB LOWE WE WOULDN’T BE HERE TODAY.

SO I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK-YOU ROB FOR ALL THE TIME YOU HAVE PUT INTO THIS PROJECT. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE FILM.”
ASH WROTE ABOUT RAY WESTON –

“RAY MAKES LIGHT OF HIS EXPERIENCES. HE IS A MAN WHO DOESN’T LET THESE EXPERIENCES CHANGE HIM BUT DEFINE HIM AS WHO HE IS TODAY. FROM MAKING THESE FILMS, WE HAVE LEANT MORE ABOUT THE VIETNAM WAR, THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF WEAPONS USED DURING THE WAR, BY EITHER THE ENEMY OR THE ALLIES. WE ARE PROUD TO SAY THAT WE HAD THIS CHANCE TO CREATE A MEMORY IN THESE FILMS TO PASS ONTO GENERATIONS TO COME.”
CURRICULUM:
SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE
PHILLIP ISLAND
FILM PRESENTATIONS
ALKIRA SECONDARY COLLEGE HAD BEEN WORKING WITH PHILLIP WHITE FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS, IN PARTICULAR THE VCAL STUDENTS. HE WAS A GREAT SUPPORTER OF ALKIRA AND OF THE PROJECTS INVOLVING OUR VCAL STUDENTS – AS HE COULD RELATE TO THESE STUDENTS BECAUSE THEY WERE LEARNING A TRADE AS HE HAD ONCE DONE. SADLY HE PASSED AWAY ON THE 19TH OF APRIL, 2015. HE WAS WORKING WITH THE SENIOR VCAL STUDENTS DYLAN, CJ AND JORDAN ON A FILM PROJECT, WHICH THEY HAVE COMPLETED AND WILL BE SHOWN ON MONDAY THE 19TH OF OCTOBER.

THE PHILLIP WHITE OAM MEMORIAL AWARD FOR ATTITUDE WAS CREATED TO HONOUR THIS GREAT MAN. IT WAS PRESENTED BY CHRIS WHITE (PHIL’S WIDOW) AND ROB LOWE (PRESIDENT OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, EDUCATION TEAM). THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THIS AWARD WAS MITCHELL ALLEN, DUE TO INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCHOOL AND WIDER SCHOOL COMMUNITY ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO ANZAC DAY.
TIPS

• FOLLOW YOUR PASSION

• COMPLETE ACTIVITIES THAT TAKE STUDENTS OUT OF THEIR COMFORT ZONES SUCH AS DIGGING GARDENS OR EDITING FILMS

• CONTACT EVERYONE – EVENTUALLY SOMEONE WILL AGREE TO YOUR REQUEST

• MAKE YOUR CURRICULUM ADAPTABLE AS IT NEEDS TO CATER FOR THE DIFFERING NEEDS OF EACH OF YOUR STUDENTS

• ENTER COMPETITIONS – YOU MAY WIN

• INVITE IMPORTANT GUESTS FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO THE CEREMONIES (SOMEONE WILL EVENTUALLY SAY “YES”)

• NOTIFY THE LOCAL PAPER OF THESE STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENTS
APPLY FOR A GRANT – MEMORIAL GARDEN


THE LOCAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WILL PROVIDE FLAG POLES FOR YOUR GARDEN. JUST CONTACT THEM TO ARRANGE THIS.

THE LOCAL RSL MAY HELP IF ANY ADDITIONAL MONEY IS REQUIRED FOR THE GARDEN.

ANZAC CENTENARY GRANTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT HTTP://WWW.ANZACCENTENARY.GOV.AU/ABOUT-ANZAC-CENTENARY/ANZAC-CENTENARY-LOCAL-GRANTS.
• Students applied to be in group responsible for a certain area of the memorial garden such as flower beds

• Students organised lists of the required supplies for their group

• One student was responsible for the whole garden and kept all information together

• Students visited Bunnings to price and select items required for their area
WORKING ON THE MEMORIAL GARDEN
COMPLETED MEMORIAL GARDEN

"The well being of history lies in its telling, for unless the story is transmitted across the generations it is lost."
(Michael McKernan).

This Memorial Garden and Plaque were opened on the 17th of October, 2016.
This plaque has been created to honour all veterans, in particular the members of the following organisations who have formed links with Alkira Secondary College, 1416 Vietnam Veterans of Australia, Cranbourne RSL, Dandenong RSL and Berwick RSL.
Lest we forget the sacrifices they have made.
OPENING OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN
OPENING OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN – STUDENT SPEECH BY CATH AND JORDAN

WE GATHER TODAY TO CREATE A NEW BEGINNING, THROUGH THE OPENING OF THIS MEMORIAL GARDEN. THIS MEMORIAL GARDEN IS A PROJECT THAT THE YEAR 12 VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF APPLIED LEARNING (VCAL) STUDENTS OF 2014 HAVE SPENT MANY HOURS PLANNING AND CREATING, TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED FOR OUR PEACE AND HUMANITY, THE FALLEN, THE CAUSALITIES OF WAR AND THOSE WHO STILL CURRENTLY SERVE OUR COUNTRY.

THE YEAR 12 VCAL STUDENTS OF 2015 SPENT MANY HOURS ORDERING SUPPLIES FOR AND BUILDING THIS GARDEN FOR THESE SAME REASONS.
OPENING OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN
- STUDENT SPEECH

BUT THE MEMORIAL GARDEN IS NOT ONLY TO REMEMBER AND THANK ALL OF THOSE SERVICE MEN FOR THEIR TIME, BUT IT HAS AND EXTENDED THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP TO US, THE STUDENTS OF ALKIRA SECONDARY COLLEGE.

THEY HAVE MADE OUR FINAL YEARS OF SCHOOLING MEMORABLE AS WELL AS DEVELOPING LONG LASTING MEMORIES THAT WE WILL REMEMBER FOR MANY YEARS. THIS IS ANOTHER REASON WHY THIS MEMORIAL GARDEN WILL BE BUILT – SO THAT WE WILL ALWAYS HAVE A PLACE TO REMEMBER THEM.
EXAMPLES OF OTHER VCAL PROJECTIONS
THE HOLOCAUST – INTEGRATED TOPIC

LITERACY:
• RESEARCHING OF JEWISH BELIEFS AND CULTURE
• READING OF THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMAS
• RESEARCH OF ALLOCATED HOLOCAUST PERSON
• VISIT TO THE JEWISH MUSEUM
• VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM – HEARING SURVIVORS SPEAK

PDS AND ORACY:
• WATCHING OF SCHINDLER’S LIST
• CLASS DISCUSSIONS OF MORAL DILEMMAS
• INVESTIGATING LEADERSHIP QUALITIES OF THE RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS
ANZAC DAY

LITERACY:
• WAR POETRY
• FILM ANALYSIS – *SAVING PRIVATE RYAN*
• SONG ANALYSIS – *WAR*
• DEBATE – DOES ANYONE WIN IN A WAR?
• INVITING VETERANS TO THE CEREMONY

ORACY:
• PARTICIPATION IN THE ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY FOR YEAR 6 STUDENTS AT A LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
• QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH VETERANS IN YEAR 6 CLASSROOMS
ANZAC DAY

PDS:

• INVITING OF VETERANS TO COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES FOR ANZAC DAY
• ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY MORNING TEA
• ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY AT LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
• ATTENDED LEGACY DAY AT THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE
• APPLYING FOR A DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS GRANT (OR AN ANZAC CENTENARY GRANT)
• PLANNING THE SPENDING OF THE GRANT AND THE BUDGETING OF THE GRANT
• COMPLETING THE GRANT SUCH AS IN THE BUILDING OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN
MAKE A CHANGE/PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

PDS

• OFFERS A VARIETY OF LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES TO YEAR 7 AND 8 STUDENTS ON A REGULAR BASIS SUCH AS GAMES IN THE GYM OR BOARD GAMES

• FORMS FRIENDSHIPS ACROSS THE YEAR LEVELS

• FUN ACTIVITIES THAT THE STUDENTS ENJOY

• SPECIAL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS AT AN INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE
SENIOR VCAL BUDDY PROGRAM:

- BETWEEN THE SENIOR VCAL STUDENTS AND GRADE 4 AT THE LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
- MONTHLY OR TERM BASED ACTIVITIES ON THEMES DECIDED BY THE PRIMARY SCHOOL SUCH AS BULLYING, FRIENDSHIP, HEALTHY EATING AND HARMONY
- ACTIVITIES FOR HARMONY DAY INCLUDED THE TRUST FALL, HUMAN KNOT, CIRCLE BALL, NEWSPAPER GAME, BLIND AS A BAT ETC…
FEEDBACK RECEIVED FROM EVELYN SCHULTZ (GRADE 4 TEAM LEADER FROM HILLSMEADE PRIMARY SCHOOL) REGARDING THE ‘BUDDY’ PROGRAM IN 2014 WAS

“WE HAD A WONDERFUL YEAR WITH THE VCAL STUDENTS. THE PROGRAM WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL THE PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS REALLY ENJOYED SEEING THE OLDER STUDENTS EACH TERM. IT WAS WONDERFUL FOR ME TO SEE HOW THE STUDENTS MATURED AND DEVELOPED OVER THE YEAR. THEY LEARNT TO INTERACT SO WELL WITH OUR GRADE 4 STUDENTS AND ALSO THE COOPERATION THEY DEVELOPED AMONGST THEMSELVES WAS EVIDENT AS THE YEAR PROGRESSED. THE ACTIVITIES THEY ORGANIZED WERE RELEVANT AND INTERESTING FOR THE STUDENTS. THEY LEARNT A GREAT DEAL. THE BONDS BETWEEN THE 2 GROUPS GREW STRONGER OVER TIME. THE VCAL STUDENTS LEARNT TO PLAN, DELIVER AND COMMUNICATE THEIR LEARNING INTENTIONS TO THE YOUNGER STUDENTS VERY WELL. THEY SHOWED MATURITY AND TOOK ON BOARD SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THEIR DELIVERY FOR THE NEXT SESSION. FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL CONCERNED.”
DISCOVERY BOXES:

AIM:

FOR OUR INTERMEDIATE VCAL STUDENTS TO WORK WITH THE VETERANS OF THE KOREAN AND VIETNAM WARS, WHO HAVE FORMED LINKS WITH ALKIRA SECONDARY COLLEGE, TO CREATE ‘DISCOVERY BOXES’ OF ARTEFACTS. THESE ‘DISCOVERY BOXES’ WILL BE USED BY YOUNGER STUDENTS (FROM ALKIRA AND HILLSMEADE PRIMARY SCHOOL) TO EXPLORE THE LIVES OF THESE VETERANS. THE ‘DISCOVERY BOXES’ WILL ALSO CREATE A LASTING RECORD IS A LASTING RECORD OF THE LIVES OF THESE VETERANS.