

6 March 2006

RE: CYCLING PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THAILAND:

RAISING FUNDS AND AWARENESS FOR THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE

Shrine of Remembrance Trustees would like to invite you and your colleagues, friends and families to participate in a new program aimed at raising funds and awareness for Melbourne's sacred war memorial – the Shrine of Remembrance. Funds generated from this innovative initiative will go towards Shrine education programs that in turn create appreciation of the service and sacrifice of Australians in wartime, and perpetuate the ANZAC spirit.

Working in conjunction with an organisation called Memorable Challenges, members of the public have the chance to cycle through western Thailand's breathtaking countryside while paying homage to Australians who served there during the Second World War.

From the **5-18 November 2006**, anyone over age of 18 can intimately experience Thai culture and history as they pedal along the River Kwai from the Burmese border to the Gulf of Thailand. The tour group of approximately 20 will visit commemorative sites which honour the bravery, sacrifice and loyalty of Australian men and women who served in this region. Remembrance Day will be spent at Hellfire Pass, where thousands of Australians suffered and died while working as prisoners of the Japanese on the Thai Burma Railway.

The group will also visit the Bridge over the River Kwai and the Allied POW Cemetery, all of which have special significance for Australians.

This ride of a lifetime will raise needed funds for the Shrine, yet **cost participants only \$500**. With assistance from Memorable Challenges, participants will fundraise the rest, making the whole experience one of personal development and growth.

This unique way to experience Thailand will be varied and challenging. The group will pedal along jungle tracks, quiet back roads and into market towns, experiencing Thailand off the beaten track.

An information evening will be held **Thursday 11th May at 6pm at the Shrine Visitor Centre**. Please call Chris Harrison on 0423 780 716 to reserve your place(s).

Yours faithfully

Lena Condos
Marketing Manager

Chris Harrison
Managing Director -Memorable Challenges