

# CASCABEL

Journal of the  
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION  
(VICTORIA) INCORPORATED  
ABN 22 850 898 908

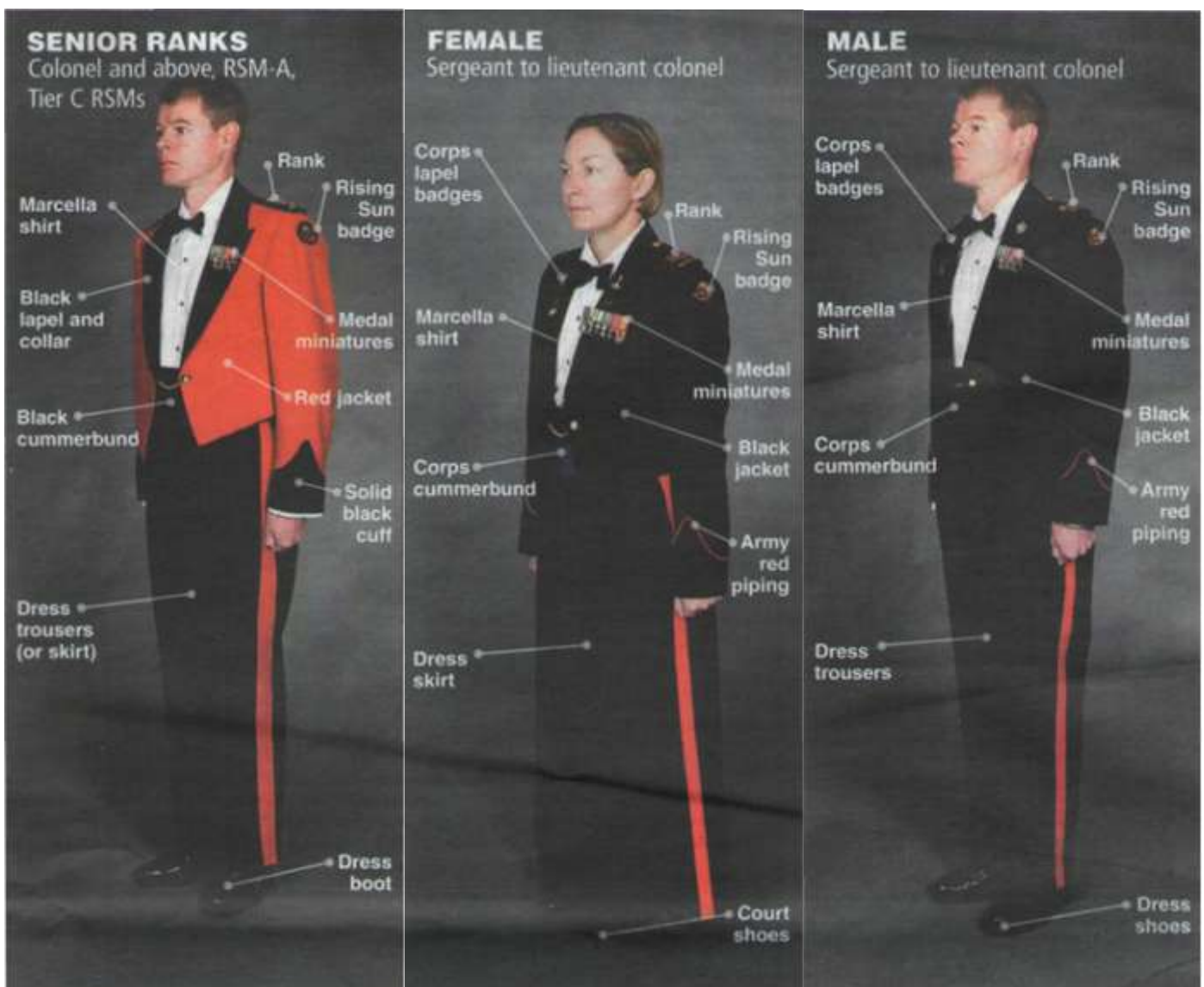


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## NEW UNIFORM REVEALED



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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

(VICTORIA) INCORPORATED

ABN 22 850 898 908



## FOUNDED:

First AGM April 1978

First Cascabel July 1983

COL COMMANDANT: BRIG N Graham AM

## PATRONS and VICE PATRONS:

1978

Patron: LT GEN The Hon Sir Edmund Herring  
KCMG, KBE, DSO, MC, ED

Vice Patron: BRIG Sir William Hall KBE, DSO, ED

1982

Patron: BRIG Sir William Hall KBE, DSO, ED

Vice Patron: MAJ GEN N. A. Vickery CBE, MC, ED

1999

Patron: BRIG K. V. Rossi AM, OBE, RFD, ED

Vice Patron: MAJ GEN J. D. Stevenson AO, CBE

2008

Patron: BRIG K. V. Rossi AM, OBE, RFD, ED

Vice Patron:

## PRESIDENTS:

1978 MAJ GEN N. A. Vickery CBE, MC, ED

1979 MAJ GEN J. M. McNeill OA, OBE, ED

1981 COL A. (Sandy) Mair ED

1984 MAJ P. S. (Norman) Whitelaw ED

1988 BRIG K. V. Rossi AM, OBE, RFD, ED

1991 MAJ M. Taggart RFD, ED

2004 MAJ N Hamer RFD

## JOURNAL NAME:

CASCABEL - Spanish - Origin as small bell or Campanilla (pro: Kaskebell), spherical bell, knob like projection.

CASCABLE - English spelling.

## ARTILLERY USE:

After 1800 AD, it became adjustable. The breech is closed in large calibres by a CASCABEL (E) screw, which is a solid block of forged wrought iron, screwed into the breech coil until it pressed against the end of the steel tube. In the smaller calibres, the A bore tube is carried through to form the CASCABEL(E)

[Ref: "Text Book on Fortification Etc", Royal Military College, Sandhurst, by COL G. Philips, RE, 4th Ed, Ch-1, P9, para 28, 1884].

[Source: COL Alan Mason, Vic, May 1993].

## CASCABEL HISTORY:

The name was put forward by the first editor, LTCOL Rob Gaw, and accepted because of its unique and obvious Artillery connection.

## ASSOC LOGO:

Our Assoc Logo is the 1800 AD 9 Pdr Waterloo Field Gun. Copy is taken from Device, Badge and Motto of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, as approved in 1833, by HM King William IV.

## LAPEL BADGE:

Copy of the left arm brass gilded gun once worn by GUN SGTS above the chevrons on each arm. Brassards worn by IGs at North Head were embroidered with this insignia. Selected by MAJ Warren Barnard, 1984 Assoc Committee.

## RAA Association (VIC) Inc Committee

President:	MAJ Neil Hamer RFD 9702 2100
Vice President:	Lt Col. Jason Cooke 9705 1155
Immediate Past President:	MAJ Merv Taggart RFD, ED 9773 3730
Secretary:	Rachel Decker 9578 5205
Assistant Secretary:	MAJ Robin Smith RFD 9435 6352
Treasurer:	SSGT Reg Morrell 9562 9552
Curator:	SSGT Brian Cleeman 9560 7116
Webmaster	Maj Carl Sarelius
Members:	CAPT. Peter Wertheimer OAM, RFD WO2 Lionel Foster SSGT Ernie Paddon
Cascabel Editor:	WO2 Alan Halbish 9587 1676
Representatives:	Maj Garry Rolfe 2 <sup>nd</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> Fd Regt RAA WO2 Lionel Foster (10 Mdm Regt Assn)
Honorary Auditor:	Major David J Osborne <b>Shepard Webster &amp; O'Neill Pty Ltd</b>

## VIC REGT CONTACTS

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## CONTENTS AND SUBMISSIONS

The contents of CASCABEL Journal are determined by the editor. Articles or opinions of authors & contributors are their own, and do not necessarily represent or reflect the official position of the RAA Assn (Vic) Inc, Australian Army, the committee, the editor, staff or agents.

Article style, clarity and conciseness remain the responsibility of the article owner or author. Submissions for the April 2012 issue are required no later than 1 March 2012 unless otherwise arranged with the Editor.

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# The President Writes

As is usual with the first Cascabel for the year, this report is being written in late November. Therefore the activities for the remainder of 2011 are yet to occur.

The activities on which I can report are:

The AGM which was attended by the usual interested members. The Committee was returned with the addition of Maj Carl Sarelus, our new webmaster, and Maj Garry Rolfe as the 2/10 representative.

The golf day at Berwick Montuna Golf Club. The day was supported by two very enthusiastic groups from the Dandenong/Cranbourne RSL. Thanks to John Wells for his organisation and the donation of prizes. The winner was Alan Jackson, a gunner from Berwick Montuna.

The weekend visit to Paynesville/Bairnsdale/Geoff **Rebbechi's Cave**. I could just about fill this magazine with my description of the weekend. If you missed it you missed a great weekend.

Thanks to Peter Wertheimer for his planning and hospitality.

The Church Parade, St Barbara's Day Parade and Family Day at 2/10 are yet to happen. The Admin Instruction I have received promises it will be another interesting and enjoyable day.

I do have advanced notice of the Whitelaw and 10 MDM REGT Association prizes.

Congratulations to:

Officer Prize: LT Adam Bordignon; WO/SNCO Prize: SGT Wolfgang Wessner; GNR/JNCO Prize: BDR Richard Ronc; ARA Prize: WO2 Maurice Broughton.

10 MDM REGT Award: LBDR Timothy Blue.

Please do not forget to notify me if you change your email address so that I can keep you informed about the Association.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Association function.

Regards to all

Neil Hamer

# Membership Report

Current Membership as at 30 Nov 11

Life Members	195	(197)
Annual Members	43	(46)
Senior Annual Members	13	(14)
Affiliates	31	(31)
Others (CO/CI, Messes, etc.)	12	(12)
Libraries	5	(5)
<b>RSL's</b>	4	(2)
<u>Total</u>	<u>303</u>	<u>(309)</u>

## New Members

We welcome Maj A J (Andrew) Leahy and Mr C V (Colin) Bragg as Annual Members to the **Association.** We also welcome Lt Jordon A'Vard as a Serving Concessional Member.

Vale

It is with regret that we note the passing of LtCol Robert Freeland RFD (joined 1 Jul 82), Lt John Hepworth OBE (joined 25 Jul 78), and Sgt Henry James (joined 16 Mar 95).

The usual reminder about the proforma on the last page below the Parade Card.

If you have not already done so, it would be appreciated if you would provide the information requested so that our files can be kept up to date. This proforma should also be used to notify us of any changes in the future.

Any changes can also be made via our web site at [www.artilleryvic.org.au](http://www.artilleryvic.org.au)

Neil Hamer      Contact: Telephone:    9702 2100  
MAJ (Retd)                                  0419 533 067  
Membership Co-ordinator  
Email nhamer@bigpond.net.au

Karl Hamer

# From the Colonel Commandant



I would like to take this opportunity to wish members of the Association all the best for 2012.

2011 was a year of significant achievement and change for the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery:

- New equipment and structure was introduced into almost every element of the Regular Artillery.
- The Reserved Forces continued their evolution towards their new role, and the pace of change is likely to increase in the coming year.
- The Artillery Association in Victoria also continues to renew itself. Cascabel is available in electronic form and the new web site has the potential to play a great role in the running of the Association.

More on new equipment and structure of the Regular Artillery can be found on the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery website at <http://www.army.gov.au/RRAA/default.asp>. Some of the site is out of date, but the home page is kept current. Also useful is the link to the latest liaison letter, which contains much interesting information about current developments as well as Artillery Association and heritage matters. The RAA Regimental Committee intends to ensure that the communications through the website improve.

Interestingly, the information in Wikipedia, though not up to date, is in some areas, more current than the RAA site. The Wikipedia web site can be found at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal\\_Australian\\_Artillery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Australian_Artillery).

It was disappointing to see the cancellation of the Gunner Dinner last year. This was due to several factors, mainly the lack of numbers. I would like to thank Reg Morrell, who in spite of ill health, sought to keep the dinner going. Reg has been the driving force behind organising the Dinner for several years and we owe him a debt of gratitude for his work.

On the positive side, the Artillery luncheon, hosted by Brig Perry at the RACV Club has become increasingly popular with over 100 attendees last year. This lunch is now in its third year and is a great opportunity to renew old acquaintances and meet other members of the Corps. It will be held on 13 March this year, and I encourage members to attend.

Best wishes

Brig Neil Graham

Colonel Commandant, Southern Region

Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery.





MESSAGE FROM  
COMMANDING OFFICER  
2<sup>nd</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment RAA



To all Gunners

Welcome to 2012. In writing this, I re-read my article from 12 months ago and note the same messages appearing: busy year in an ever changing environment, lots of obstacles and challenges thrown at us, however continued to deliver results to a high standard whilst maintaining high morale and growth. And more importantly – we are still here. Any civilian organisation would be pleased with these messages at the end of a reporting period. So I can assure you I am delighted in being able to detail our achievements for 2011, whilst linking these to key messages from my Regimental Status address I gave at the Annual General Meeting of the RAA Association in Nov.

Firstly, I trust that you have thoroughly enjoyed the festive season spending valuable time amongst family and friends, which is a deserved reward for the year the Regiment has undergone. However by the time you read this, we will be back in full swing with another busy year of training, exercises and operational tasks.

For those members that have been posted out and/or retired from the Regiment, I would like to publicly thank you for your dedication, commitment and tireless efforts as without these characteristics of your service achievements of the Regiment would not have eventuated. I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to those families that have joined the Regiment either through new enlistments or recent postings. To all members of the Regiment including families, warm greeting and best wishes for 2012, may you continue to enjoy being part of our Regimental family.

At a mixed Dinning In night in Dec 2010, I explained that the Regiment, although performing extremely well, was being asked to “crank it up a notch”. I needed the Regiment to take our new found skills in Mortars to the next level. I outlined the greater need to develop our training, both for individuals and as small teams and hopefully at a full call sign level. I outlined our commitment to larger ADF exercises like EX TALISMAN SABRE, the 4 BDE deployments overseas in early 2012 and the

opportunities these provide. I discussed the increasing demands of accountability our higher headquarters especially in areas of self evaluation and assessment, requiring the re-creation of our old skills - ARTAPS. And that we needed to achieve all this in a greater scrutiny of governance. Well, my fault, I should have asked for more as the Regiment achieved these goals safely, professionally and on schedule.

In summary we achieved the following since November last year: conducted 7 training courses qualifying over 100 soldiers in a variety of skills; conducted a series of field training weekends at the individual and collective level; constructed and delivered the training and evaluation of the 4th **Brigade’s team representing the Australian Army** at a international military skill competition and in so doing entered a 2/10 team for evaluation, the only Regt in 4 BDE to provide a non-Infantry team; provided a Joint Fires Team in EX TALISMAN SABRE, and finally processed 34 recruits and released 20 soldiers (some key staff) for promotional courses. These facts stand alone as testament to the leadership, professionalism and dedication the Regimental soldiers have towards their military service.

This was an outstanding effort by all members of the Regiment and I am immensely proud of the results we have achieved in 2011. We are and do deliver capability to the 4th Brigade, the 2nd Division and to the Australian Defence Force. Thank you and well done, but as last year I am going to ask you to do it all over again.

We made significant progress to consolidate and to demonstrate our capability and answer some of the challenges within Plan BEERSHEBA. To refresh you on the goals and purpose to Plan BEERSHEBA, for the Reserves as a whole, it is to optimise our (the **Reserve’s**) **contribution to the capacity within Army’s Total force. As I have openly stated** previous, I fully support this and see no change to our current role as evident from the achievements as detailed above.

(Continued on page 8)

Plan BEERSHEBA will see Multi-role Manoeuvre Brigades (MMB) based on 1, 3 and 7 Brigades who **will be reshaped to be fundamentally “alike”** for sustaining operations via a 36 month Army Force Generation Cycle. 2 DIV role is to deliver specified capability to support and sustain ADF preparedness and operations. As there are 6 Reserve Brigades, 4 & 9 Brigades will need to deliver a Battle Group (BG) to support their “alike” regular Brigade throughout this 36 month cycle. There are a number of positives that this opportunity creates with the foremost being these Reserve BG will be utilised as a complete capability which does not necessary occur under the current HRR structure and for RAA units there is a platoon of mortars within each BG.

There is much work yet ahead of us as we work out the details associated with Plan BEERSHEBA either as a reserve force and/or as a Corps. Our Corps is undergoing a major equipment refit with the introduction of the M777, CRAM and UAV capabilities plus the suite of associated command and control systems that interface with the ADF decision making/processing computer systems. This extends to the new technology and equipment Joint Fire Teams have at their disposal linking/interacting with the new force structures of the Air Land Regiment and RAAF elements. It really is an exciting and exhilarating period of our Corps history and the Reserves are apart of this exciting transformation.

Over the next two to three years particularly, there are multiple opportunities to inform, demonstrate and articulate the importance of our corps and what we bring to the ADF. There are many examples in the ADF history including recent conflicts that have proven the necessity for the effects of indirect fire, liaison and observation that our corps traditionally provides any force in conflict. Admittedly due to technology the means in which these are provided are changing and will change just as they have done in the past. The challenge we face is how to use these opportunities and new technologies.

To that end, 2/10 will continue maintaining the themes I introduced into the Regiment last year regarding the re-establishment of our Regimental culture; continue developing closer working relationship with the School of Artillery, ultimately

securing the 2nd Divisional Artillery Training cell; whilst continuing to coordinate and organise the conversion of the remaining 2nd Division RAA to mortars which includes the 2 NSW Regts and the reserve batteries from 1 Regt.

**So I will ask of you again to “crank it up a notch”** and deliver the required effects, on schedule on target. We need to take advantage of these opportunities and by so doing place us in the best possible position for the future. I have no doubt we are up for the task and that 2012 will see the Regiment excel across a wide range of tasks, continuing the delivery of capability to the ADF.

Now for some quick public announcements. There is an open invitation to any member of our Gunner family to visit the collection of memorabilia at the Regiment. And a very warm invite to our next Open Day, date yet to be confirmed. We would also love to see you all at any one of our Regimental or Association activities including the Gunner Lunch or Dinner and the Annual Golf Day in Nov. As I have previously stated, it is always an excellent opportunity to discuss all things Artillery amongst friends and fellow gunners.

Feedback and views from anyone is always welcome so please contact me on [jason.cooke4@defence.gov.au](mailto:jason.cooke4@defence.gov.au) if you wish to discuss anything. Again I extend all the best for the first half of 2012 and hope to see you at as many functions as possible.

Ubique

Jason Cooke

Lieutenant Colonel

Commanding Officer

2nd/10th Field Regiment





## EDITORS INDULGENCE



Barbara and I were fortunate to be able to spend much of Oct. in WA. However, it meant we were unable to attend the annual 3 Bty reunion at the Caulfield RSL. Reg informs me that another successful “catching up” dinner and chin wag was enjoyed by all.

The Gunner Dinner cancelled. What a pity. Is this a sign of the times that members would rather attend a daytime function - RACV Luncheon!! - than venture out at night.

Once again, I have inserted a number of links for you to view. Some are military related and others are not. My aim is to provide a variety of viewing experiences for your enjoyment. As usual, any feedback is welcome.

---

The latest video release from AVM Peter Criss (Retd) #6 focused on A Fair Go for Military Widows. His video highlights the discrimination and unfairness faced by spouses of those who have served and continue to serve.

Today, we are releasing a special video to reinforce that message. It is compelling viewing, watch it here <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2u1KJV3OJSs>

The plight of military families left behind when a current or former serving member dies is a major issue for the Fair Go campaign. We recognise that many spouses and families have been through tough times and some continue to face major challenges today. That is why we are developing a series of videos to expose the Faces of Unfair Indexation.

**The Government’s uncaring policy on military superannuation indexation is about much more than percentages and dollars.** These videos will allow our Defence family to tell their individual stories, and in doing so, add a human dimension to our campaign.

We have other personal stories waiting to be told in the weeks and months ahead. If you or someone you know would also like to share their story, please contact us at the email addresses below.

**Please, don’t just pass this video link on to your friends and contacts: ask them to support the campaign** by passing the link on to their social networks, including their family and friends and all of their contacts, both military and civilian, and adding the link to their facebook page where they have one.

In this way we can achieve the wider public awareness and support necessary to influence MPs and Senators for a change to Government policy.

*Courtesy military times.com*

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In this age of rapid technological innovation, man can now fly. Not quite like a bird - there are no flapping of arms - and outside assistance is needed: A helicopter to become airborne and a parachute for landing. Have a look at this video and admire, not only the technological achievement, but a man having the guts to do it. Enjoy. *ed*

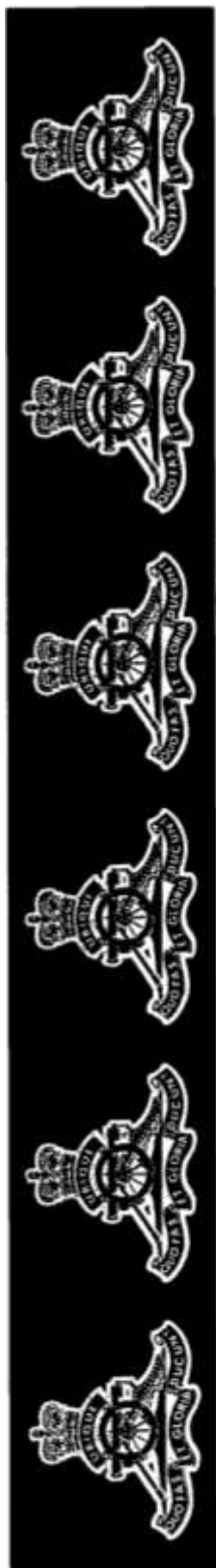
<http://www.youtube.com/v/WgdIE2t8OkM?> Jetman at Grand Canyon

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I’ve seen many tribute videos re Afghanistan etc, but most have been from the USA. Please view this one and at the end, links to other videos will be found. *ed*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&v=xwAYcPhuAV4> An Aussie tribute

# RAA LUNCHEON



Brigadier D. I. Perry OAM RFD ED cordially invites both serving and retired Gunners to the Annual RAA Luncheon. This is a great opportunity to catch up and renew acquaintances with other Gunners and at the same time encourage esprit-de-corp amongst our serving and retired Gunners. The theme is **"Back to the Fold"** to welcome back those Gunners we have not seen for many years.

WHEN: Tuesday 13th March, 2012

TIME: 1200 for 1230 hours

WHERE: RACV Club, 501 Bourke St.  
Melbourne

COST: \$60.00 (2 Course meal which includes complimentary drink)

DRESS: Jacket and tie

RSVP: 5th March, 2012

TO: Reg W Morrell  
6 Melissa Street, Mt Waverley 3149  
Tel. 9562 9552

NAME: .....RANK.....

ADDRESS.....Tel. No.....

Enclosed is a cheque for \$.....(payable to RAA Association)

Name .....Rank.....

Special dietary requirements .....

If possible, I wish to be seated near .....

*SSgt Barry Irons series of articles on the development of the tank continues.*

### ORIGINS OF THE TANK Part 3

#### Number 1 Lincoln Machine

This was designed from July 1915 by the Landships Committee to meet Great Britain's requirement in World War I for a war engine able to cross a five foot trench. After several other projects with single and triple tracks had failed, on 22 July, William Tritton, director of the agricultural machinery company William Foster & Company of Lincoln, was given the contract to develop a "Tritton Machine" with two tracks, after a concept proposed by his chief designer William Rigby.

It had to make use of lengthened tracks and suspension elements (seven road wheels instead of four) provided by the Bullock Creeping Grip Tractor Company in Chicago. When the tracks arrived it transpired they were very crude.



The No1 Lincoln Machine, with lengthened Bullock tracks and Creeping Grip tractor suspension, September 1915.

On 11 August actual construction began; on 16 August Tritton decided to fit a wheeled tail to assist in steering. X On 9 September the Number 1 Lincoln Machine, as the prototype was then known, made its first test run in the yard of the Wellington Foundry.

It soon became clear that the tracks were so flat that ground resistance during a turn was excessive. To solve this, the suspension was changed so that the bottom profile was made more curved. Then the next problem showed up; when crossing a trench the track sagged and then wouldn't fit the wheels again and jammed. Tritton and Lieutenant Walter Gordon Wilson tried out all sorts of alternative track design including Balata X belting and flat wire ropes.

Tritton, on 22 September, at last devised a system using pressed steel plates riveted to links and incorporated guides to engage on the inside of the track frame. This system was unsprung as the tracks were held firmly in place, able to move in only one plane. The track frames as a whole however were connected to the main body by large spindles allowing for a minimal amount of movement in relation to the hull. This was a successful design and was used on all First World War British tanks up to the Mark VIII though it limited speed. (Up 2 to 4 mile per hour?)

#### Description

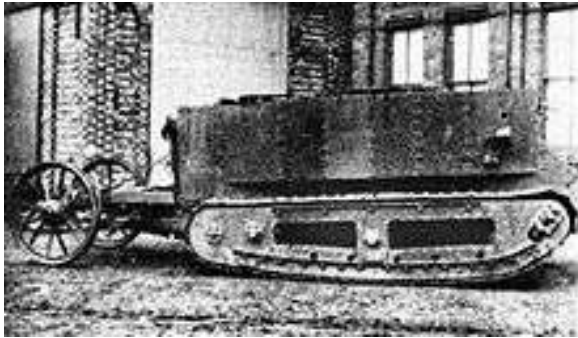
The vehicle's 105 hp Daimler 16 cylinder, 19 litre engine, designed by the brilliant motor engineer Harry Ricardo, Daimlers Chief Engine Designer was a triumph of its time. It was gravity-fed by two petrol tanks, was at the back, leaving just enough room beneath the turret. The prototype was fitted with a non-rotatable dummy turret mounting a machine gun; a Vickers 2-pounder gun was to take its place, with as secondary armament six Madsen machine guns. The main gun would have had a large ammunition store with 800 rounds.

It was considered by Tritton to use an open-topped superstructure, with the turret being able to slide forward on rails. In the front of the vehicle two men sat on a narrow bench; one controlling the steering wheel, the clutch, the primary gear box and the throttle; the other holding the brakes.

Most mechanical components including the radiator had been adapted from those of the Foster-Daimler heavy artillery tractor. Two more men were needed to adjust the secondary gearboxes near the engine. As at least two more had to operate the armament, the crew could not have been smaller than six. The maximum speed was indicated by Tritton as being no more than two miles per hour. The vehicle used no real armoured steel, just boiler plate; it was intended to use standard 10 mm plating for production.

Wilson was unhappy with the basic concept of the Number 1 Lincoln Machine, having conceived of a better design on 17 August and began the construction of an improved prototype on 17 September; for this second Mark I prototype, later known as "His Majesty's Land Ship" (HMLS) Centipede or Mother, a rhomboid track frame was

fitted taking the tracks up and over the top of the vehicle. The rear steering wheels were retained in an improved form, but the dummy turret was removed and replaced by side sponsons holding the armament.



Little Willie and Big Willie

Little Willie showing its rear steering wheels

Number 1 Lincoln Machine was rebuilt with an extended (ninety centimetres longer) track up to 6 December 1915, but merely to test the new tracks in Burton Park; the second prototype was seen as much more promising. The first was renamed Little Willie, the unflattering name then commonly used by the British press to mock the German Imperial Crown Prince Wilhelm; Mother was for a time known as Big Willie after his father Emperor Wilhelm II of Germany.

That same year the cartoonist W. K. Haseldon had made a popular comic anti-German propaganda movie: The Adventures of Big and Little Willie. In January 1916 Little Willie, now without any turret, contended with Mother for the first production order; its inferiority in crossing trenches decided against it.

Later the track system of the Medium Mark A Whippet was directly derived from that of Little Willie.

Though it never saw combat, Little Willie was a major step forward in military technology, being the first tank prototype to be finished (the development of the similar French Schneider CA1 started earlier in January 1915, but its first real prototype was only made in February 1916).

#### The Test.

Tanks were used in France in 1916, but they were found to have faults in their design. The main problem was the inability of the tanks to mobilize over the terrain. Tanks consisted of a crew with a

commander, driver, two steer men, and four gunners.

The first use of tanks on the battlefield was the use of 49 British Mk.I tanks at the Battle of the Somme on 15 September 1916, with mixed, but still impressive results despite many breaking down. But nearly a third succeeded in breaking through. Of the forty-nine tanks shipped to the Somme, only thirty-two were able to begin the first attack in which they were used, and nine made it across "no man's land" to the German lines.

The tanks had been rushed into combat before the design was mature enough, and the number was small, but their use gave important feedback on how to design newer tanks, the soundness of the concept, and their potential to affect the course of the war.

On the other hand, the French Army was critical of the British employment of small numbers of tanks at this battle. They felt the British had sacrificed the secrecy of the weapon while employing it in numbers too small to be decisive.

The Mark I's were capable of performing on the real battlefield of World War I, one of the most difficult battlefield terrains ever. They did have reliability problems, but when they were working they could cross trenches or craters of 9 feet (2.7 m) and drive right through barbed wire. It was still common for them to get stuck, especially in larger bomb craters, but overall the rhomboid shape allowed for extreme terrain mobility.



A Mark I (Big Willie), moving from left to right. The highly rhomboidal shape allowed it to climb tall obstacles.

#### The French Connection.

France at the same time developed its own tracked AFVs, but the situation there was very different. In Britain a single committee had coordinated design,

and had to overcome the initial resistance of the Army, while the major industries remained passive. Almost all production effort was thus concentrated into the Mark I and its direct successors, all very similar in shape. In France, on the other hand, there were multiple and conflicting lines of development which were badly integrated, resulting in three major and quite disparate production types.

A major arms producer, Schneider, took the lead in January 1915 and tried to build a first armoured vehicle based on the Baby Holt tractor. But initially the development process was slow until in July they received political, even presidential, support by combining their project with that of a mechanical wire cutter devised by engineer and politician Jean-Louis Bréton.

In December 1915, the influential Colonel Estienne made the Supreme Command very enthusiastic about the idea of creating an armoured force based on these vehicles; strong Army support for tanks would be a constant during the decades to come. Already in January and February 1916 quite substantial orders were made, at that moment with a total number of 800 much larger than the British ones.

Army enthusiasm and haste would have its immediate drawbacks however. As a result of the involvement of inexperienced army officers ordered to devise a new tank based on the larger 75 hp Holt chassis in a very short period of time, the first French tanks were poorly designed with respect to the need to cross trenches and did not take the sponson-mounting route of the British tanks. The first, the Char Schneider CA equipped with a short 75 mm howitzer, had poor mobility due to a short track length combined with a hull that overhung front and rear.

It was unreliable as well; a maximum of only about 130 of the 400 built were ever operational at the same time. Then industrial rivalry began to play a detrimental role: it created the heavy Char St Chamond, a parallel development not ordered by the Army but approved by government through industrial lobby, which mounted much more impressive weaponry.

French St. Chamond tanks had long bodies with a lot of the vehicle projecting forward of the short caterpillar tracks, making them more liable to get ditched in trenches. *(next column)*



Its 75mm was the most powerful gun fielded by any operational tank up till 1941, but also combined many of the Schneider CA's faults with an even larger overhanging body. Its innovative petro-electrical transmission, while allowing for easy steering, was insufficiently developed and led to a large number of breakdowns.

But industrial initiative also led to swift advances. The car industry, already used to vehicle mass production and having much more experience in vehicle layout, in 1916 designed the first practical light tanks, a class largely neglected by the British.

It would be Renault's excellent small tank design the FT-17 (which won out over a Peugeot model), incorporating a proper climbing face for the tracks, that was the first tank to incorporate a top-mounted turret with a full rotation. In fact the FT was in many respects the first truly 'modern' tank having a layout that has been followed by almost all designs ever since: driver at the front; main armament in a fully-rotating turret on top; engine at the rear.

Previous models had been "box tanks", with a single crowded space combining the role of engine room, fighting compartment, ammunition stock and driver's cabin. The FT-17 would have the largest production run of any tank of the war, with over 3700 built, more numerous than all British tanks combined. That this would happen was at first far from certain; some in the French army lobbied for the alternative mass production of super-heavy tanks.

Much design effort was put in this line of development resulting in the gigantic Char 2C, the most complex and technologically advanced tank of **its day. It's very complexity ensured it being** produced too late to participate in World War I and in the very small number of just ten, but it would be





Char Renault FT-17, Les Invalides.

the first tank with a three-man turret; the heaviest to enter service until late in World War II and still the largest ever operational.

French production at first lagged behind the British. After August 1916 however, British tank manufacture was temporarily halted to wait for better designs, allowing the French to overtake their allies in numbers. When the French used tanks for the first time on 16 April 1917, during the Nivelle Offensive, they had four times more tanks available.

But that would not last long as the offensive was a major failure; the Schneiders and Chars St Chamond (which saw their first action on 5 May) didn't have the ability to cross trenches as the British could, and were torn to pieces by concentrated German artillery fire. Proving once again what artillery can do with a co-ordinated fire plan, by both sides.

#### Now the Truth

Most World War I tanks could travel only at about a walking pace at best. Their steel armour could stop small arms fire and fragments from high-explosive artillery shells. However they were vulnerable to a direct hit from artillery and mortar shells.

The environment inside was extremely unpleasant; the atmosphere was contaminated with poisonous carbon monoxide, fuel and oil vapours from the engine and cordite fumes from the weapons as ventilation was inadequate. Temperatures inside could reach 50°C (122°F). Entire crews lost consciousness or became violently sick when again exposed to fresh air.

To counter the fumes inside and the danger of bullet splash or fragments and rivets knocked off

the inside of the hull, the crew wore helmets with goggles and chainmail masks. Gas masks were also standard issue, as they were to all soldiers at this point in the war. The side armour of 8mm initially made them largely immune to small arms fire, but could be penetrated by the recently developed armour-piercing K bullets.



Splatter mask used by tank crews in World War One

There was also the danger of being overrun by infantry and attacked with grenades. The next generation had thicker armour, making them nearly immune to the K bullets. In response, the Germans developed a larger purpose-made anti-tank rifle, and also a Geballte Ladung ("Bunched Charge") several regular stick grenades bundled together for a much bigger explosion.

Engine power was a primary limitation on the tanks; the roughly one hundred horsepower engines gave a power-to-weight ratio of 3.3hp/ton (2.5kW/ton). By the end of the 20th century, power-to-weight ratios exceeded 20hp/ton (15kW/ton).

Many feel that because the British Commander Field Marshal Douglas Haig who was himself a horse cavalryman, his command failed to appreciate the value of tanks. In fact, horse cavalry doctrine in World War I was to "follow up a breakthrough with harassing attacks in the rear", but there were no breakthroughs on the Western Front until the tanks came along.

Despite these supposed views of Haig, he made an order for 1,000 tanks shortly after the failure at the Somme and always remained firmly in favour of further production. Development continued with new, re-engineered tracks, and the machine was now renamed Little Willie. Little Willie was completed in December 1915 and tested on 3 December 1915.

Trench-crossing ability was deemed insufficient

however, leading to the development of a rhomboidal design, which became known as the Centipede and later Mother, the first of the Big Willie types of true tanks.

After completion on 29 January 1916 very successful trials were made, and an order was placed by the War Office for 100 units to be used on the Western front in France, on 12 February 1916, and a second order for 50 additional units was placed in April 1916.

In an effort to keep secret the real purpose of the early models when they were being shipped to France, the British labelled them "tanks" - for use as water tanks by Russia, instead of the official designation of "Landships". Also some of the early "special tanks" were built at North British Locomotive Works in Glasgow at its ironically named Tank shops.

Thus we have originated the name of tank for the new weapon. The naval background of the tank's development also explains such nautical tank terms as hatch, hull, bow, and ports. The great secrecy surrounding tank development, coupled with the scepticism of infantry commanders, often meant that infantry at first had little training or understanding to cooperate with tanks. This initial oversight will be explained in some detail later.



Tank logo used on a threshing machine casting.

William Foster & Co used the symbol of the tank after the war on other machinery they built as a trade mark.



Daimler-Foster 105 hp tractor towing artillery on a trailer built by Fosters, Flanders 1917  
(Using Harry Ricardo's engine ?)

Barry Irons

Armament Artificer (R)

The Internet if you have it, and Wikipedia

The History, and sometimes the Discovery Chanel

Cambrai 1917 – Trial of the Tanks on DVD Cromwell Productions Dist by MAGNA PACIFIC 2001 (46) mins

Concise Oxford English Dictionary – Online. (You can't always rely on the spell checker)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-12618167>

Turn up the sound.. there is commentary

A 7 minute photo shoot that will take you away from your world

*You probably really need to know this. I have included this article as a community service to all readers. VIP stuff!!! ed*

## What is the main ingredient of WD-40?

Before you read to the end, does anybody know what the main ingredient of WD-40 is? Don't lie and don't cheat. WD-40. Who knew.

I had a neighbour who bought a new ute. I got up very early one Sunday morning and saw that someone had spray painted red all around the sides of this beige truck (for some unknown reason). I went over, woke him up, and told him the bad news. He was very upset and was trying to figure out what to do.... probably nothing until Monday morning, since nothing was open. Another neighbour came out and told him to get his WD-40 and clean it off. It removed the unwanted paint beautifully and did not harm his paint job that was on the truck. I'm impressed!

WD-40 who knew? 'Water Displacement #40'.

The product began from a search for a rust preventative solvent and degreaser to protect missile parts. WD-40 was created in 1953 by three technicians at the San Diego Rocket Chemical Company. Its name comes from the project that was to find a 'water displacement' compound. They were successful with the fortieth formulation, thus WD-40.

The Convair Company bought it in bulk to protect their atlas missile parts. Ken East (one of the original founders) says there is nothing in WD-40 that would hurt you... When you read the 'shower door' part, try it. It's the first thing that has ever cleaned that spotty shower door. If yours is plastic, it works just as well as glass. It's a miracle! Then try it on your stove top ... Viola! It's now shinier than it's ever been. You'll be amazed.

WD-40 uses:

1. Protects silver from tarnishing.
2. Removes road tar and grime from cars.
3. Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.
4. Gives floor that 'just-waxed' sheen without making them slippery.
5. Keeps flies off cows.
6. Restores and cleans chalkboards.
7. Removes lipstick stains.
8. Loosens stubborn zippers.
9. Untangles jewellery chains.
10. Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.
11. Removes dirt and grime from the barbecue grill.
12. Keeps ceramic/terra cotta garden pots from oxidizing.
13. Removes tomato stains from clothing.
14. Keeps glass shower doors free of water spots.
15. Camouflages scratches in ceramic and marble floors.
16. Keeps scissors working smoothly.
17. Lubricates noisy door hinges on vehicles and doors in homes.
18. It removes black scuff marks from the kitchen floor! Use WD-40 for those nasty tar and scuff marks on flooring. It doesn't seem to harm the finish and you won't have to scrub nearly as hard to get them off. Just remember to open some windows if you have a lot of marks.
19. Bug guts will eat away the finish on your car if not removed quickly! Use WD-40!
20. Gives a children's playground gym slide a shine for a super fast slide.
21. Lubricates gear shift and mower deck lever for ease of handling on riding mowers.
22. **Rids kid's rocking chairs and swings of squeaky noises.**
23. Lubricates tracks in sticking home windows and makes them easier to open.
24. Spraying an umbrella stem makes it easier to open and close.
25. Restores and cleans padded leather dashboards in vehicles, as well as vinyl bumpers.
26. Restores and cleans roof racks on vehicles.
27. Lubricates and stops squeaks in electric fans.
28. Lubricates wheel sprockets on tricycles, wagons, and bicycles for easy handling.
29. Lubricates fan belts on washers and dryers and keeps them running smoothly.
30. Keeps rust from forming on saws and saw blades, and other tools.





31. Removes splattered grease on stove.
32. Keeps bathroom mirror from fogging.
33. Lubricates prosthetic limbs.
34. Keeps pigeons off the balcony (they hate the smell).
35. Removes all traces of duct tape.
36. Folks even spray it on their arms, hands, and knees to relieve arthritis pain.
37. **Florida's favourite use is: 'cleans and removes love bugs from grills and bumpers.'**
38. The favourite use in the state of New York, WD-40 protects the Statue of Liberty from the elements.
39. WD-40 attracts fish. Spray a little on live bait or lures and you will be catching the big one in no time. Also, it's a lot cheaper than the chemical attractants that are made for just that purpose.
40. Use it for fire ant bites. It takes the sting away immediately and stops the itch.
41. WD-40 is great for removing crayon from walls. Spray on the mark and wipe with a clean rag.
42. Also, if you've discovered that your teenage daughter has washed and dried a tube of lipstick with a load of laundry, saturate the lipstick spots with WD-40 and rewash. Presto! The lipstick is gone.
43. If you sprayed WD-40 on the distributor cap, it would displace the moisture and allow the car to start.

P. S. The basic ingredient is FISH OIL.

*Thanks to SSgt Reg Morrell for this enlightening information!!! Ed*

*The following profile is included to inform members of who the person is in charge of the Reserve Forces in Australia.*

Major General P. L. Brereton,  
AM, RFD

Head Cadet, Reserve and Employer  
Support Division

Paul Brereton was born on 27 August 1957 in North Sydney. He was educated at Knox Grammar School (where he was a Cadet Under Officer, Prefect, and Dux of the School in 1975) and the University of Sydney, from which he graduated Bachelor of Arts with Honours in 1980 and Bachelor of Laws in 1982. While a student, he was elected President of the

Students Representative Council for two successive terms, and a student Fellow of the University Senate.

Major General Brereton enlisted in Sydney University Regiment as a private soldier in 1975. After promotion to Corporal and Sergeant he was commissioned in Sydney University Regiment (SUR), into the Royal Australian Infantry Corps, in 1979. He served postings in SUR as a Rifle Platoon Commander, Regimental Signals Officer and Officer Commanding Headquarters Company, before attending Junior Reserve Command and Staff College. On graduation from that course in 1984 he was awarded the prize for Tactics and promoted Captain.



He returned to SUR as Officer Commanding C (Officer Training) Company, then Officer Commanding B (Rifle) Company, and finally Operations Officer, before being posted to Headquarters 5th Brigade as Staff Officer Grade 3, Operations in 1989.

After completing Intermediate Reserve Command and Staff College in 1990, he was promoted Major and posted to 2/17 RNSWR as Officer Commanding Support Company. In 1994, following attendance at Senior Reserve Command and Staff College and Intermediate Operations Course, he returned to SUR as Regimental Second-in-Command.

He was promoted Lieutenant Colonel on 31 December 1996, and assumed command of 4/3 RNSWR on 1 January 1997. After three years in command, he was posted as an instructor to Army Command and Staff College, Queenscliff in 2000, and then Australian Command and Staff College,

Weston Creek, in 2001, where he conducted the first Reserve Operations Module at the new College.

In 2003, he was promoted Colonel and posted to the Office of Head Reserve Policy, where his responsibilities included Reserve input to the development of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004. On 1 January 2005, he was posted to HQ 5th Brigade, as Chief of Staff, where his responsibilities included management of the Reserve Response Force, the Brigade response to the Military Justice Report, and the implementation of the Hardened Networked Army - Reserve. He was awarded a Land Commander's Commendation for his service as Chief of Staff, 5th Brigade. On 1 January 2007, he was promoted Brigadier and posted Assistant Chief of Staff, Land Headquarters, and on 1 January 2008 assumed command of 5th Brigade.

In June 2010, he was made a Member of the Military Division of the Order of Australia for his exceptional service to the Australian Army as the Chief of Staff Headquarters 5th Brigade, Assistant Chief of Staff, Land Headquarters and as Commander 5th Brigade.

Major General Brereton was promoted to Major General on 10 December 2010 and appointed Head Cadet, Reserve and Employer Support Division (HCRESD).

Major General Brereton was admitted as a solicitor in 1982, and was called to the New South Wales Bar in 1987. He was appointed Senior Counsel in 1998. He practised mainly in Sydney but also interstate, with a wide-ranging general practice, in trial and appellate advocacy. He appeared regularly in major cases in the Supreme Court of NSW and the NSW Court of Appeal, the Federal Court of Australia and its Full Court, the Family Court of Australia and its Full Court, and the High Court of Australia. On 15 August 2005, he was sworn in as a judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, where he is assigned to the Equity Division.

Major General Brereton has also served as an Officer of Cadets since 1977, mainly with the Knox Grammar School Cadet Unit.

Major General Brereton is married to Sue (a Captain in the Army Reserve). They live at Warrawee. They have a 19 year old son Adam, who is studying Arts/Law at the Australian National University, and twin 7 year old daughters, Josephine and Katherine.

As we get older we sometimes begin to doubt our ability to "make a difference" in the world. It is at these times that our hopes are boosted by the remarkable achievements of other "seniors" who have found the courage to take on challenges that would make many of us wither. Harold Schlumberg is such a person:

THIS IS QUOTED FROM HAROLD:

I've often been asked, 'What do you do now that you're retired?'

Well, I'm fortunate to have a chemical engineering background and one of the things I enjoy most is converting beer, wine and whiskey into urine. It's rewarding, uplifting, satisfying and fulfilling. I do it every day and I really enjoy it."

Harold should be an inspiration to us all.



On the 25th of November, 2011, the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, welcomed the release of a new documentary *Long Tan to Afghanistan*, to be launched at Gallipoli Barracks in Brisbane the next day.

In the late afternoon of 18 August 1966, D Coy 6 RAR were fighting for their lives in Vietnam at the Battle of Long Tan.

Now, another group of soldiers in D Coy are involved in some of the heaviest fighting in Afghanistan.

To view a 5 min trailer of the documentary, click on the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?=76ZyVS6pUOQ>



A HEAVY mist shrouded the hills around the Imjin River as the men of B Coy, 3RAR, moved through the darkness towards the first Chinese position in front of the mountain known as Maryang San.

With five days left before heading home, 21-year-old Pte Stan Connelly advanced with 3RAR towards the imposing mountains covered with Chinese defenders.

Sixty years later Mr Connelly and other veterans returned to the battlefields forever etched in Australia's military history.

## THE BATTLE OF MARYANG SAN

THE men of 3RAR along with their British cousins from the King's Shropshire Light Infantry (KSLI) and the King's Own Scottish Borderers (KOSB) were ordered to capture a line of hills on the southern bank of the Imjin River on October 3, 1951, as part of the offensive known as Operation Commando.

On the scattered hills, company and battalion-sized units from the 19th Chinese Division awaited the advance.

Through the early morning mist 3RAR's B Coy moved towards the first Chinese position on Hill 119 in front of the mountain known as Maryang San.

A few kilometres to the south, the British regiments began their attack on the hill Kowang San and another unromantically dubbed Hill 227.

By mid-morning B Coy had captured Hill 199 and were relieved by A Coy before Centurion tanks and machine guns came onto the hill to shoot at Chinese across the valley on Kowang San.

The next morning the KSLI had little trouble driving the Chinese off Hill 227, while the KOSB were having problems moving up Kowang San, so 3RAR's C Coy was sent to assist.

C Coy attacked up a spur running east of Kowang San, drove out the Chinese and made their objective by 10am. They then moved on and cleared the eastern slopes despite having no orders to do so.

Led by a bagpiper, the KOSB simultaneously attacked up the western side and the Chinese abandoned Kowang San.

The Chinese had moved extra troops onto the 200m-high Maryang San by October 5 to try and stop another hill being lost.

Earlier attempts by US forces to capture Maryang San had failed due to soldiers approaching the steep eastern slopes across a wide open valley raked by enfilade fire.

3RAR countered this with a tactic

called "running the ridges", developed by soldiers fighting the Japanese in New Guinea.

Due to previous attacks and constant shelling, 3RAR was down to just 320 men who faced about 1200 Chinese defenders.

Through the morning mist, B Coy swung around the right flank and captured positions on the lower slopes as D Coy came past B and moved up the hill.

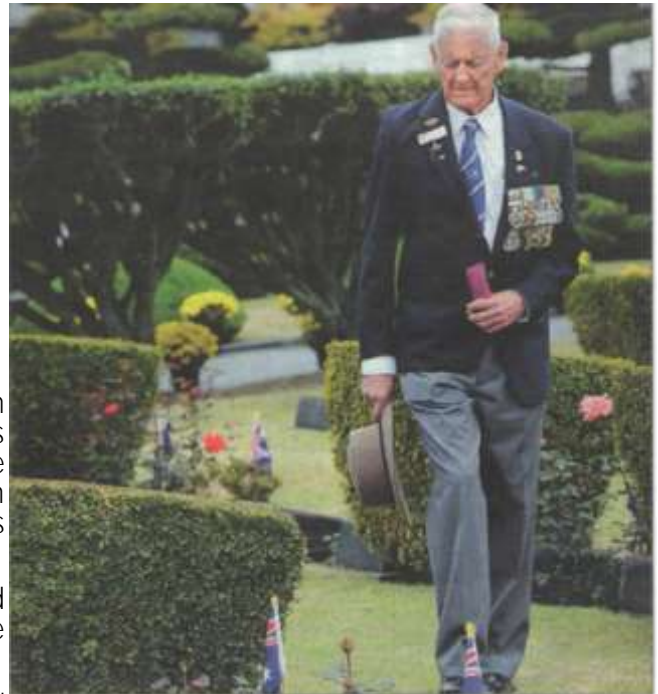
The mist suddenly lifted at 11.20am, leaving D Coy dangerously exposed half way to their objective.

The approach surprised the Chinese as D Coy closed to grenade range and forced the enemy out of several heavily entrenched positions leading up the ridgeline.

A Coy made a diversionary attack up Maryang San's south eastern spur that drew in Chinese defenders who believed it was the main assault.

C Coy then moved around the right flank, past B and D Coys and closed in on the mountain peak.

The Chinese were well dug-in but had no barbed wire to slow down attackers and the undefended peak of Maryang San fell to D Coy around 5pm.



Quiet time: Korean War veteran Kev Grayson walks around the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in South Korea, visiting the graves of mates killed during the war.

On October 6, 3RAR came together on top of Maryang San and the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers unsuccessfully attacked one of the last Chinese positions nearby.

3RAR consolidated its position by capturing the "Hinge" feature. On the night of October 7 it was subjected to waves of assaults as the Chinese attacked in battalion strength from the front and flanks.

The Australians fought back with .303s, Bren guns and bayonets until about 5am on October 8 when the Chinese finally gave up and withdrew.

As the sun rose over the battlefield, more than 120 Chinese dead and wounded lay in front of the defences.

Chinese stretcher bearers were later allowed to come and collect their wounded.

During the battle, 20 Australians had been killed with 89 wounded in what was later described as the "single greatest feat of the Australian Army during the Korean War".

*Maryang San was later recaptured by the Chinese after Australian troops withdrew and British troops took over.*

## SOME OTHER MILITARY REFLECTIONS

By COL Graham Farley, OAM, RFD, ED (Retd)

### 7. TEWTS

I had been planning to look at rations and cooking, but since I have examined army examinations, I felt that TEWTS would follow more logically.

TEWTS or Tactical Exercises Without Troops were a cost effective way of training officers around sand tray models or in the field. These exercises were conducted on a division or regimental basis. A blanket instruction would come out some weeks in advance listing all officers in division or regiment. eg. artillery, with the Directing Staff indicated. Further the syndicates, as the groups were known, would consist of about ten personnel with a nominated leader.

Many of the indoor exercises at divisional level were held in the signals depot on the banks of Albert Park Lake, while the RAA were generally able to use the Batman artillery depot for their **“special to arm” TEWTS.**

Field exercises could be held anywhere public land was available or where the land owner had **given permission to use “his” land.** If overnight accommodation was normally needed, the School of Army Health at Healesville was often used. Otherwise the officers had to use buses and return to Melbourne Saturday evening. I do not recall ever being asked to camp in the field in a **“hootchie.”**

Other earlier favourite exercise areas for artillery were held at Walhalla, with all of its old gold-finding romance. The hotel could just cope with the Third Divisional gunners that attended. A formal mess was an interesting experience. Faced with drinking the local water in lieu of port, I settled for the latter! Was it the beginning of a downhill slide?

#### Indoor TEWTS

Staff would produce either a sand model of the area upon which the exercise would be based or a green tarpaulin with the various features, often including the map grid lines chalked in. These could be quite lifelike.

Around this sand tray or tarpaulin would be

erected tiered seating with signs to indicate where the various syndicates would sit.

Where possible, syndicate rooms were nominated in which the various sub groups could discuss their solutions and decide on how they would respond.

**The officers’ mess would be quite crowded** during lunch and other breaks. Catering was available but it was assumed that correct uniform would be worn.

#### Field TEWTS

No such seating or artificial panorama would be supplied as the actual ground was available for all to see. Field catering would take place and a canteen generally made available. Clothing depended upon the weather. Experience suggests that it was cold, wet or hot with few tranquil days.

#### Exercise preparation

This was always thoroughly and professionally done, presumably by the Brigade Major and/or the unit adjutants. A bound manual would be issued to each participating officer, with the various coloured pages indicating the scenario, background and problems. The DS manuals **would also contain the “pinks” or the “greens,”** depending on which colour was fancied at the time.

I was always impressed with the detail that was included in these pages, ie., the possible solutions to the problems presented. They were based on doctrine at the time of the exercise.

#### Course-manship

**Stephen Potter’s book, *One-upmanship*, (Robert Hart Davis, London, 1952)** discussed how to win in sport and the like without actually cheating. For instance in tennis, one arrived late at the court and then discovered you only had your practice racquet. Your opponent would decide to reduce the intensity of his play to allow for this handicap. Dress would not be de rigueur for you, but your opponent would have arrived in whites. Should a ball be hit inside the line by your opponent, the recommended approach would be for you to challenge it, and then say that the **point didn’t matter. Potter suggested that after a**

string of these “dodges,” your opponent would be so put off by these tactics he would probably lose.

The same principles to some extent could be applied to the conduct of TEWTs.

The presiding DS would set the problem. This would be followed by a general discussion with some expertise from various officers in the room or out in the field. The syndicates would then be sent off to prepare their solutions

Re-assembled in the depot around the tarpaulin map, the presiding DS would nominate a syndicate to give their solution. This officer would have to be very careful as to what he said in his presentation. He or she would have to be up with the latest jargon and certainly use army parlance. It was important to underscore tactical concepts and the use of the weapons in the problem. For instance, if a minefield was suggested, then the officer must get in the fact that it would be covered with observation and fire!

Other than to make sure that he knew what the offered solution was, the presiding DS would nominate another syndicate to comment on the offered solution. Each syndicate would have nominated one of their numbers to comment if required. The way that this officer responded was critical. If he praised the solution he or she might find themselves out on a plank with only the sea and sharks below. If the opposite tack was taken and the solution criticised, then the burden of justifying the criticism had to be born.

I once “tore the solution apart,” and paid for it rather severely. One learnt that one must show some kindness as you let one of your mates down into the mire!

If on the other hand one is asked to mark the candidate out of ten, then the mark should be in the range of “four” to “seven.” A lower or higher score than these two would result in one having to justify why one was so severe or so generous when it was obvious that a number of self-evident errors were made!

So, to some extent, the solutions and comments required skills in debating and, as I have said, “course-manship.”

Messing

Lunches at depots tended to be “cold sideboards” with a considerable variety of delicacies. Often there were plates of prawns. It was clear that those who held senior ranks had knew how to use their elbows and girths in getting to this dish first!

A typical indoor TEWT

One that stands out in my mind was a 3 Divisional one. It was conducted in the Batman Avenue depot. The topic was an opposed river crossing. The setting was Malaya. The river was the Johore. The town on the north bank was Kota Tingi. Our forces were proceeding up the Malayan peninsular. I do not recall the particular enemy, but presumably it was of Asian origin. The date and year was the weekend of 16/17 June 1962. I was a captain and parading at 15 Fd Regt RAA at Dandenong under LTCOL Peter Turner, MC, at the time.

It was the unfortunate period of the Pentropic Division, with its five over-sized battalions. Such units required four hills for tactical deployment – one for each battalion with the fifth hidden in reserve between!

I have several memories of that TEWT. George Warfe had been promoted colonel to command one of the new battalions and he made it very clear how he would tackle a problem. When he had to present a solution, he arrived in combat gear with an Owen gun in his hands.

CAPT Graham Allinson had thoroughly read and marked a book that told of the story of an opposed river crossing in Italy by the allied forces. This gave him considerable knowledge on the subject that most of us lacked.

But the highlight was when the presiding DS asked for a definition of a defended beachhead or river bank. No one was game to express their ignorance for fear of being both shot down and humiliated in front of such a gathering. But then came a voice from behind the scaffolding. The signals CO climbed over the back of the seating and gave an accurate answer as if he had learnt it by heart. This so surprised the DS that the topic was dropped.

The signals CO was LTCOL Keith Rossi, who would

later become CO of 15 Fd Regt, RAA, and then CRA in the rank of Brigadier. He is currently a historian at Anzac House, the home of **Melbourne's RSL**.

In the course of the weekend we had to consider the priority that would be given to stores in the crossing, i.e. which ones would be needed first on landing. MAJ Lloyd Baxter of Warragul posed to **his group of officers as to when the Sergeants' Mess piano would be loaded**. He averred it would be landed with the first wave of troops! Lloyd had a particular sense of humour which appealed to me, but often he was clearly right. He once described how he was in a quick action in the **desert and the cry came down, "Aiming point, left side of moon"**!

The TEWT in the field

Officer students often had to cope with the weather and lack of chairs or tables. The opportunities for course-manship were increased **with smart "in the field" clothing and "shooting sticks" for seats. You were one up if you could nonchalantly wear some kit from a "Brit" unit or a war zone**. Rank chevrons varied in size and background.

Following the issue of the problem and the time for consideration, the syndicates would report to their syndicate DS. In turn this senior officer would take the party to a vantage point where the ground could be surveyed.

Gunner officers have always had it drummed in to them the procedure for correctly describing the country in view, with its three zones (foreground, &c.) and left to right descriptors. **Above all, a gunner officer never "points"! But rarely was there a convenient "red-roofed-house" from which to proceed to other topographical features!**

Again while in the field, the particular DS would follow the indoor procedure of requesting one student to give a solution and then another to comment on it. There would often be quite a bit of referring back to the DS solution pages, but rarely did the DS ever share the solution therein. These pages flapped in the wind. Oh! to be indoors! It always seemed to be more important that the weapons and capabilities of sub-units of the various regiments and corps were used

correctly.

Some other memories

While I was with 15 Fd Regt, RAA, Walhalla in Gippsland became the popular venue for its TEWTs. This was both a historical and romantic **site with the town's history of gold mining**, but the more than hilly nature of the countryside presented problems not encountered on the more undulating Puckapunyal range or the famous road running north from Yarra Glen.

LTCOL Graham Allinson has never let me forget the TEWT when in giving the solution, I had got the north and south of the sand tray back to front. In the course of the delivery I spotted my mistake and thought I had covered it up, but Graham was not to be fooled. Both of us being accountancy teachers, he would talk about north as being at the top of the ledger sheet with the debit side to the west and the credit side to the east!

Then there was COL Alan Mason who had a **particular bent for "spiking "the DS approach**. Small in stature, he made up for it with his incisive presentation as he tended to tear verbal holes in the accepted doctrine. He was the sort of original thinking man and actor who, when asked to give a lecture on mobilisation, brought along the very tin trunk with which he had gone to battle early in World War II. He enlivened any indoor or outdoor TEWT and kept the DS team on their toes.

BRIG Eason was another vital commander. At one particular TEWT the student officers came around the corner at lunchtime to find messing tables set out and laid with cutlery and table decorations. The brigadier assured us that these were the **"minimum" standards he would expect for messing in the field!** (Most of us thought to ourselves that perhaps rank and appointment might have something to do with the response of the QM and his staff.)

I was always felt that some of the TEWTs tested our ignorance rather than our knowledge. It could be quite boring filling in ninety minutes **when you know very little about the problem's possible solution**. Being a teacher I would try to impress adjutants and other TEWT organisers that pre-teaching would be advantageous before



such events. Exercise Freshett I and II were on quite a scale. As a major I was required to sign for a table full of equipment for the syndicate of which I was assigned, new webbing amongst other items. I wondered if I was signing my life away, but it was all accounted for after the weekend. Nothing like getting a set of signatures from the syndicate members to pass the responsibility down the chain.

On one of those two weekends, I was in Bill Kirkham's syndicate. We were required to bivouac overnight. Bill realised from his map reading that we were placed on the side of a hill.

Bill forced us up that hillside to reach the top ground. We thus ended up in relative comfort for the night while he and the rightful owner of that piece of ground discussed map reading – all in the dark! The other syndicate had to avoid rolling down the hillside on our allotted piece of ground.

Now, 28 years since I last received tax-free pay as a member of the Army Reserve, I look back with fond memories and realise that TEWTS were a part of life and very useful in the civilian world as well.

Graham Farley ©



COL Farley as a DS hears a solution at a TEWT from LTCOL Denton, with COL Howard Taylor looking on. MAJ Reg Wheller is seated second from left, the first officer being partially obscured. Another syndicate is at the rear, but all standing. (Ranks are those held on retirement). Location unknown, but it was not Puckapunyal. Circa 1971/73.

(Photo per LTCOL Bob Sealey)

## Vietnam vets honoured with citation

ON THE 45th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan, the brave veterans of Delta Company, 6RAR, were formally recognised with a Unit Citation for Gallantry in a moving parade at Gallipoli Barracks in Brisbane.

Long Tan veterans, their families, official guests and members of Mentoring Task Force 1 (MTF 1) gathered to watch the 6RAR parade, which began with a trooping of the colours.

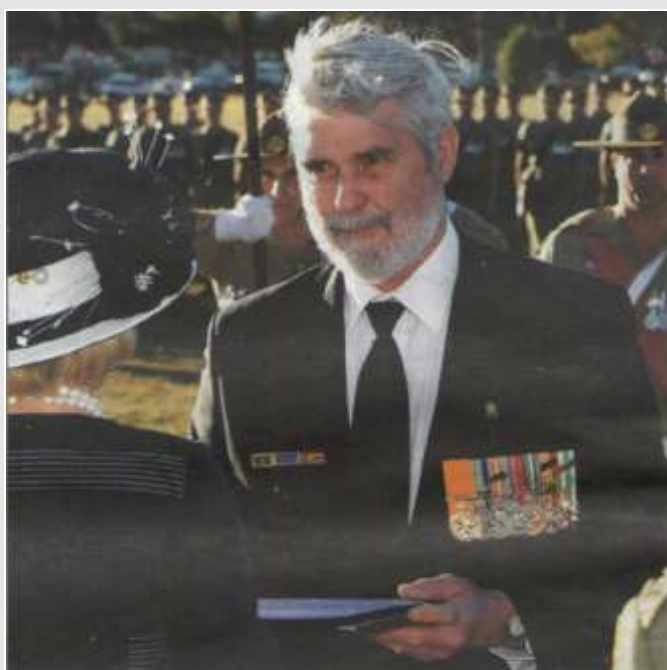
Mounted in front of the parade ground were 18 SLR'S with slouch hats, representing the 18 Australian soldiers killed during the Vietnam War battle.

Governor-General Quentin Bryce thanked the D Coy veterans on behalf of all Australians.

"Today we are here to pay tribute to your collective resolve as a battalion," she said.

Two former D Coy platoon commanders, Geoff Kendall and David Sabben, accepted the unit citation on behalf of the Long Tan veterans.

Mr Sabben, who also received a Medal for Gallantry for his actions during the battle, said it was a wonderful feeling.



**Gallantry:** Governor-General Quentin Bryce presents the Unit Citation for Gallantry to David Sabben, a platoon commander in D Coy 6RAR during the battle of Long Tan. Inset, veterans of the battle march through the ranks of modern-day 6RAR personnel. Photos by Col Peter Borys



## Definition!! of a “Drop Short”

Either born from a wish to bring levity or a need to share the fruits of a simple, shiraz inspired lateral thinking episode, I would like to help all veterans become fully aware of the true meaning behind what is otherwise meant when Arty guys are referred to as 'Drop Shorts'.

As an ex Artillery veteran myself, I have often been included among a group being referred to as 'drop shorts' and at each of these times, a warm glow has filled my heart through my own deep sense of knowing the original intent of the remark as being one meant to bestow praise and a reverent regard upon the addressee. Let me explain.

Understandably, most vets that use the term 'Drop Shorts' are either serving or now discharged and veteran grunts. While all of us retain deep respect for grunts and all others who walk or walked the weeds, we realize that asking anyone of them to grasp any higher minded or romantic concept would be grossly unfair and no doubt they will go on thinking that the term 'Drop Shorts' insinuates Gunner's errors that cause an artillery shell to 'drop short' of its prescribed co ordinates and cause harm to friendlies.

Although this is not the case (as I will explain) I say that we should allow grunts to go on thinking this if it makes them happy. Lord knows they have little else! For all others who are seekers of wisdom and truth, here is the true story behind the origin of the term 'Drop Shorts'.

I believe it first came to being during the Boer War

but I cannot be sure. The reason that so many service people, from every division of the services, within so many theatres of war across history have become so enamoured with Artillerymen and their charismatic ability to stun the local ladies, stems from how those local ladies were and I believe still are, always so unreservedly willing to cry "Drop your Shorts" whenever alone with an Artilleryman. I guess it's the Artilleryman's allure of class, intelligence and elegance that contributes to this uncontrollable mayhem, but if most were like me, none of us really cared about such frivolous detail regarding the why's or wherefore's as we were, at the time, far too busy enjoying the moment(s) while others sat alone drinking the local beer and wondering what the secret was.

Yes it's true and now you know - it was classy civilian ladies, helplessly torn by the power of overwhelming desire, who were the ones that coined this amorous catch phrase and in light of this new knowledge, I ask my fellow Artillerymen to just smile and say "Thank you for the compliment" the next time someone calls anyone of us 'Drop Shorts'.

I did elude earlier on to the fact that there would be little merit in trying to explain any of this to a grunt but then again; perhaps give it a try - who knows - some of them may have advanced a little since the time of the Boer war. Enjoy this new knowledge to the full and spread its good news.

Sincerely

Francis Edwards

## Distinguished RAAF Squadrons Celebrate 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries

Today three of the Royal Australian Air Force's oldest and most distinguished squadrons celebrated their 95<sup>th</sup> anniversaries at RAAF Base Williamtown in NSW.

Numbers 2, 3 and 4 Squadrons were formed during the period 19 September – 16 October 1916. The three units were immediately sent to England to train as RFC units and later deployed to France under the banner of the Australian Flying Corps (AFC) in 1917.

Senior Australian Defence Force Officer Williamtown, Air Commodore Mel Hupfeld, DSC, said the combined 95<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of Numbers 2, 3 and 4 Squadrons provided a unique opportunity

to celebrate the rich histories of the original AFC units.

Four AFC squadrons joined the British during World War One. No 1 Squadron, now based at Amberley in Queensland, flew against the Turks and Germans in the Middle East, while Squadrons 2, 3 and 4 served on the Western Front between September 1917 and November 1918.

The Australian airmen engaged in photographic reconnaissance, artillery spotting, strafing and bombing raids on enemy troops and positions, and air to air combat with German aircraft.

The leading scorer of the AFC was 24 year old Captain Harry Cobby from No 4 Squadron who was credited with 29 aerial victories and awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC with two bars) and

a Mention in Dispatches (MID).

**"These decorated squadrons have gone on to serve in a variety of roles since the inception of military aviation in Australia and continue to serve with a great sense of pride today," Air Commodore Hupfeld said.**

Over the past 95 years the three units have served with distinction in times of peace and conflict, including operational service in the Pacific, Middle East, North Africa, Southern Europe, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Today, Number 4 Squadron has personnel deployed on operations performing enduring Combat Control duties with the Special Operations Task Group in Afghanistan.

Numbers 2, 3 and 4 Squadrons are now resident at RAAF Base Williamtown, operating in the roles of airborne surveillance and control, fighter combat, combat control and joint terminal attack control.

**"The combined parade and family day was an elegant celebration of these histories and provided an opportunity for Air Force to display its rich heritage and build *esprit de corps* between the generations," Air Commodore Hupfeld said.**

Air Force's diverse history was on display at Williamtown with a 2 Squadron Wedgetail, 3 Squadron F/A-18 Hornets and a 4 Squadron PC-9 on the flightline along side warbirds, including a Tiger Moth, Boomerang, Sabre and Mirage.

**"RAAF Williamtown is proud of its rich and unique history as the home to three of the Air Force's most distinguished units 95 years since they were formed," Air Commodore Hupfeld said.**

**"In 2011 as the Royal Australian Air Force celebrates its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we look to the future and remember those who came before us and their sacrifices that contributed to our success as a modern integrated Air Force today."**



Banding together: The massed bands of Tonga's Royal Corps of Musicians, AAB Kapooka and the USMC Forces Pacific Band rehearse for HM King Tupou V's birthday parade in front of the palace (above) and Drum Majors WO2 Ray Hingston and SSgt Brad Rehrig congratulate each other after a successful mass band performance during the Kingdom of Tonga Military Tattoo 2011 (right).

## Best of British traditions

AS A tiny island nation in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, the Kingdom of Tonga is about as far away from England as it is possible to be. Yet Tonga's King George Tupou V celebrated his birthday on August 1 in the finest of British traditions, with a spectacular birthday parade and military tattoo.

With colours flying and massed bands playing, the TDS paraded in a highly disciplined and professional display that would not have been out of place in the grounds of Buckingham Palace.

Australia's Governor-General Quentin Bryce, was the reviewing officer for the parade and the Kingdom of Tonga Military Tattoo 2011 was also part of the birthday celebrations.

AAB Kapooka performed a selection of well-known Australian tunes from *Waltzing Matilda* to *Land Down Under* and *Khe Sanh*.

However, it was the rendition of the Tongan haka by WO2 Ray Kingston, and Musns Scott McCormick and Kaid Normington that brought down the house.

OC AAB-K Maj Peter Thomas said while the band's musical prowess impressed, its haka provided the comedy for the evening.

"Somehow, three skinny white guys performing the haka wasn't convincing," he said.

"But it was enough to bring the house down in uncontrollable laughter and earned the band a rare acknowledgment from His Majesty, who enjoyed AAB-K's professionalism and sense of humour."

The following statements were taken from the Minister for Defence – Paper on Afghanistan address to Parliament on 21/11/11

### *Health and Wellbeing of ADF Personnel*

In her Parliamentary Statement on Afghanistan, the Prime Minister acknowledged the wounds that our soldiers have suffered: lacerations and contusions, concussion and traumatic brain injury, amputations, fractures, gunshot and fragmentation wounds, hearing loss.

**The Prime Minister also said, “Our country will recognise and respect our wounded as well as our dead. Our country will take care of these Australians as they have taken care of us.”**

The care of wounded, injured and ill ADF personnel – and the support of their families – is a high priority for the Government.

Our servicemen and women deserve the highest quality medical care – regardless of whether they are on deployment, at home, or beyond their service.

In this work, Defence and the Department of **Veterans’ Affairs are working seamlessly together** to bring together support arrangements across these departments.

We must successfully implement the range of enhanced support measures we have commenced, including the Support for Wounded, Ill or Injured Program and the Simpson Assistance Program to support the needs of severely wounded, injured or ill individuals and their families.

### *Mental Health*

In his Parliamentary Statement on Afghanistan, the **Minister for Veterans’ Affairs and Defence Science and Personnel** acknowledged that we ask a lot of our service men and women in Afghanistan.

Working in the ADF is a tough and very dangerous job. Our people are exposed to difficult situations and recent weeks have been very difficult.

In recognition of this, Defence temporarily increased its support to deployed personnel, with the deployment to Afghanistan of a further two psychologists to support the troops affected by recent events. This was in addition to the already deployed team that is dedicated to providing quality mental, pastoral and welfare care to our

troops in the Middle East. An Army psychologist was also deployed to Germany to assist our wounded soldiers who were evacuated there for emergency treatment.

An important element of our care for our service men and women is looking after their mental health and wellbeing.

A total of more than \$93 million that has been invested by this Government in new initiatives supporting the mental health of our servicemen and women and veterans.

We have, this year, developed the 2011 Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The strategy focuses on both strengthening resilience and enabling recovery.

It is specifically aimed at providing a solid foundation for good health and wellbeing within the ADF, and to ensure services targeting mental health care are promoted and available.

Findings of the ADF Mental Health Prevalence and Wellbeing Study have highlighted some initiatives that warrant our immediate attention.

These priorities include:

- a communication strategy to address stigma and barriers to care;
- enhanced service delivery;
- development of e-mental health tools;
- -mental health up-skilling for health providers;
- improving pathways to care;
- strengthening the mental health screening continuum; and
- implementation of a comprehensive Keep Your Mates Safe peer network.

Defence is committed to providing comprehensive health care to serving members, from enlistment to discharge.

The priority of this health care system is to maintain ADF capability by ensuring its personnel are fit to deploy, and providing high quality rehabilitation services to those who require it.



'They will make a telling difference'



Sgt Andrew Hetherington heads to Woomera to catch up with a team of specialists preparing to bring a new level of aerial surveillance support to troops in Afghanistan.

*Further information on the next page. ed*

Good to go: Gnr Tori Ritchie is excited to be one of the 20 STA Regt Shadow 200 operators preparing to deploy to Afghanistan in December.

Photo by LS Andrew Dakin

CA LT-GEN David Morrison observed the Shadow 200 and SH1's capabilities in action during a visit to Evetts Airfield at the Woomera training area on November 1.

After visiting all of the components of SH1 and speaking to the personnel who were about to deploy to Afghanistan, he said he was impressed with what he saw of the new capability.

"It will give soldiers on the ground in Afghanistan a much greater level of surveillance, target acquisition and reconnaissance capability," Lt-Gen Morrison said.

"It's such a step beyond the level where we have been operating at to date."

He said the TUAS was now an Army-owned **asset and would improve Army's ISTAR** capabilities. This will now give us the opportunity to deepen skill sets and continue meeting the challenges we will find in any operational theatre," Lt-Gen Morrison said.



"The Shadow system is a fantastic capability and it's the approach taken by 20 STA Regt, with the commitment and dedication by all ranks within the regiment, which will really turn this into a fully operational capability,

"When they get into theatre they will make a telling difference."

*Courtesy Army News*

# Jumping at shadows

(Update to Issue 108, p30)



Air power: Soldiers from 20 STA Regt inspect the Shadow 200 UAS during a familiarisation day at Gallipoli Barracks. Inset, air vehicle operator LBdr Anthony Dunphy looks at the Woomera Training Area on 20 STA Regt's Portable Institutional Mission System.

By Cpl Metanie Schinkei

SOLDIERS from 20 STA Regt spent a day familiarising themselves with one of the first Shadow 200 Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) to arrive in Australia at Gallipoli Barracks on September 7.

Soldiers from 20 STA Regt have been in the US for several Shadow training rotations since early this year.

CO 20 STA Regt Lt-Col Nathan Loynes said support for ground forces would improve significantly once the highly sophisticated and manoeuvrable Shadow came online in Afghanistan early next year.

Designed to provide tactical support to the ground commander, the Shadow is capable of operations up to 125km away from the primary Ground Control Station (GCS), weighs 187kg when fully fuelled and loaded, has a wingspan of 4.2m and can cruise at 70 knots up to 15,000ft in the air.

Already in service with the US Army and Marine Corps,

Shadow has almost a million flying hours on record.

Shadow operator Bdr Aaron Hong, 20 STA Regt, said he couldn't wait for "Army's new shiny thing" to come online.

"This project is only going to grow from here and we're keen to get Shadow out there and show everyone what it's capable of," Bdr Hong said.

Shadow is a big step up from the Scan Eagle Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), which has been in service since 2006. Shadow is equipped with cutting-edge payload technology including advanced electro-optical and infrared cameras capable of day and night operation. The Shadow air vehicle is capable of transmitting real-time, full motion video to the GCS and other remote video viewing devices.

Additionally, a communication relay package in the Shadow air vehicle's wings means it can also be used as an airborne relay.

Lt-Col Loynes said Shadow would enable 20 STA Regt to provide

"near real-time reporting" and that its primary tasks would involve intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance collection as well as providing direct support to ground forces.

"Shadow will allow us to provide ground callsigns with quick and accurate information such as what is ahead of them during any manoeuvre operation," Lt-Col Loynes said.

Lt-Col Loynes said 20 STA Regt would be involved in precision targeting operations in the near future.

We will be able to designate for a large family of precision munitions and other terminally guided weapons.

"Shadow also has a portable GCS capability, which will allow us to deploy a GCS forward. Essentially, this would involve launching an air vehicle from a hub and then handing it over to a portable GCS positioned next to a combat team, platoon or Special Forces patrol commander."





## MEDIA RELEASE

### **If Sydney had been raided, we'd always remember**

Northern Australia attacks should be commemorated on 19<sup>th</sup> February each year

For far too long the World War II activity in northern Australia has been ignored.

If Sydney had been bombed to the ground in WWII, with 251 deaths resulting – as happened in Darwin – it would never have been forgotten. Commemorative ceremonies would be held every year.

If 62 other raids had taken place, from Bega to Coffs Harbour, over the next two years, resulting in hundreds more fatalities, and if the attacks had ranged over the Blue Mountains, names would be inscribed on plaques for ever more.

That is the equivalent of what happened in this country's north for the years of 1942 and 1943.

Not only Darwin was raided, and not only were aircraft were involved. Submarines attacked our

shipping and laid mines. Broome was strafed by nine Zero fighters in March, killing around 86 people, a month after the Darwin initial attacks. The assaults ranged as far east as Townsville and Cairns in July 1942, and several other parts of north Western Australia.

They should be all remembered, with 19 February as a focus date.

Practical acts of commemoration do not have to compete with those remembering the ANZACS; Remembrance Day, or Vietnam. The Australian Broadcasting Corporation could simply mention at 9.58am every 19<sup>th</sup> February – the time and date of the first air raids – that this was the beginning of nearly two years of combat, and then tell a one-minute story of something that happened. Radio stations and newspapers everywhere could carry small stories. The Darwin Military Museum is already committed to the emplacement of a plaque for each person who died.

But the biggest assaults on the Australian land mass should never be forgotten.

-o-o-O-o-o-

*Dr Tom Lewis OAM, the Director of Darwin Military Museum, is the author of Zero Hour in Broome, Darwin's Submarine I-124 – recalling the story of the 80-man submarine sunk by the Navy in January 1940; and A War at Home, an accounting of the initial Darwin attacks.*



## One of Maxine's best!!!!!!!!!!

Minorities

We need to show more sympathy for these people.

They travel miles in the heat.

They risk their lives crossing the ocean.

They don't get paid enough wages.

They do jobs that others won't do or are afraid to do.

They live in crowded conditions among a people who speak a different language.

They rarely see their families, and they face adversity all day ~ every day.

I'm not talking about illegal boat people ~

I'm talking about our troops!

Doesn't it seem strange that many Labour and Liberals and Independents are willing to lavish all kinds of social benefits on illegals, but don't support our troops, and are even threatening to defund them?



# A proud gunner

THE funeral service for WO1 William (Bill) Degenaro, who died on August 27, was held at the Anzac Memorial Chapel of Saint Paul at RMC on September 6.

Head People Capability Maj-Gen Gerard Fogarty presented the eulogy at the service. Attendees included CDF Gen David Hurley, RSM-A WO Stephen Ward and senior RSM's from across Army.

An honour guard by 1 Regt RAA recognised WO1 Degenaro's 37-year career in the RAA, which included postings with 8/12 Mdm Regt and 4 Fd Regt, and culminated in senior soldier appointments, including as the Army's RSM Ceremonial.

Born on February 15, 1957, WO1 Degenaro was 54 and had battled cancer for the past five years. He is survived by his wife Heather and his three daughters.

WO1 Degenaro was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (Military Division) in 2006 "for meritorious service as a Master Gunner, Regimental Sergeant Major, Soldier Career Adviser within the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, and Regimental Sergeant Major Ceremonial at Defence Headquarters".

He also received the Australian Service Medal with clasps,



Valued service: WO1 Bill Degenaro (inset) is farewelled by family and friends from his 37-year Army career at the Anzac Memorial Chapel of Saint Paul in Canberra. Photo by Cpl Bernard Pearson

South East Asia and Sinai, and the Multinational Force and Observers Medal.

DCA Maj-Gen Paul Symon said as a junior artillery officer he was influenced by a number of outstanding non-commissioned officers - WO1 Degenaro being one from the top shelf.

"He had a smirk with junior officers. It said on the one hand 'you've got a lot to learn', but it was done in a spirit of friendliness and a desire to make us all as good as we could be," Maj-Gen Symon said.

"In the command post, his technical

skills were outstanding. He made us learn through example and there was **never any ego involved**".

"He was self-assured and very widely respected by all ranks. Of course, the Army saw his qualities, hence his rise to the most senior soldier rank and a range of very demanding appointments.

"His courage, these past few years, has been an inspiration to us all. His pride in his family and in the Army was evident to the last."

SOLDIERS in Afghanistan will soon have better protection from IEDs thanks to three specially designed vehicles on loan from Canada.

Two Husky protected mobility vehicles (PMV) with ground penetrating radar and one Buffalo mine-resistant vehicle with a robotic arm for checking suspected IEDs are set to be operating early next year.

The vehicles will be used by sappers to detect IEDs and other explosive hazards, including mines, creating safe pathways for soldiers patrolling Uruzgan province.

Sappers can use the Buffalo's robotic arm to examine suspected IEDs from behind the vehicle's mine-resistant, ambush-protected armour. The Buffalo also boasts a high definition 'Gyrocam'



camera, mounted on a mast eight to 10m above the vehicle and gives a 360 degree view of the terrain.

Gyrocam has a thermal imaging capability and high quality zoom to detect IED indicators from a distance. While the Husky's ground penetrating radar allows IEDs to be detected with low or no metal content that other equipment might not find.



Australian and US marine artillery crews teamed up to put some new holes in Mt Bunday.

GUNNERS from 8/12 Regt's 102 and 103 Btys fired their M198 155mm howitzer guns for the last time with US marines during 1 Bde's Exercise Gold Eagle from August 12 to September 16.

About 270 8/12 Regt soldiers and 93 marines from M Bty, 3rd Bn, 11th Marines, also known as the 311th, participated in the combined artillery exercise held in the Mt Bunday Training Area near Darwin.

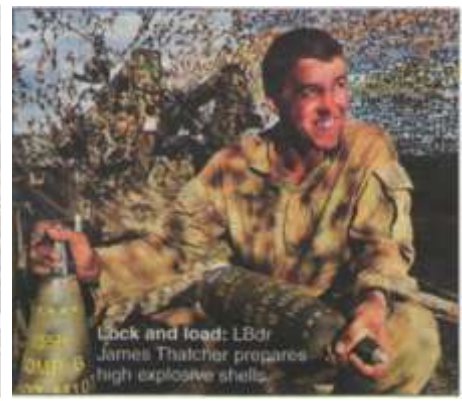
CO 8/12 Regt Lt-Col Andy Haebich said Ex Gold Eagle was a combat reciprocal exchange between the Australian Army and the US Marine Corps.

"M Bty marines were integrated with 103 Bty, worked in 8/12 Regt's command post, joint-fire teams, and combat service and operations support batteries," he said.

"Overall, the exercise was a great success and gave us the opportunity to trade secrets with the marines about how to conduct close support with artillery fires and how to live, work and fight together."

With the Australian artillery's M198 155mm howitzers being replaced by M777A2 155mm lightweight guns from February next year, Ex Gold Eagle provided 103 Bty and M Bty the opportunity to exchange tactics, techniques and procedures, and learn how their coalition counterparts operated within a gun group.

This was our last exercise with the M198 howitzers and



it will be a sad but historical day for 8/12 Regt when it finally farewells this great gun." Lt-Col Haebich said. CO M Bty US Marine Capt Matt Mahoney said the marines' focus for the exercise was to train with 103 Bty on the M198 howitzer and operate it during regimental live-fire activities.

"Some of the younger marines have never used or even seen this gun before so it was a great chance for them to see how it is employed by a coalition country," Capt Mahoney said.

Section chief for M Bty, Cpl Jacob Hendricks, said Australian gunners taught him everything he knew about the M198 howitzer.

"Before I came here I knew nothing about it besides its name and that it weighed seven tonnes. Now I know how to place, load, fire and perform maintenance on it," Cpl Hendricks said.

"I also enjoyed using the Steyr.

In comparison to the M16, it's a very reliable and accurate weapon. It's also easier to hold up for long periods of time because it's lighter."

He said despite some different terminologies, variations in fire disciplines and the orders of reports on the gun line, M Bty worked well with 103 Bty.

"After participating in this exercise it will be much easier to approach an Australian soldier in a joint operation or combat situation. We've learnt what to say, what not to say and a little bit of the Australian lingo "

As part of the reciprocal exchange program, about 60 gunners from 103 Bty will travel to Twentynine Palms to support M Bty in Enhanced Mojave Viper (EMV), a pre-deployment evaluation exercise from October 16 to mid-November designed to prepare two US infantry battalions for Afghanistan.

## FIRED UP IN THE KITCHEN

WHILE the gunners of 8/12 Regt and marines of M Bty fired rounds, the cooks taught their American counterparts how to make lamingtons, pavlovas and custard in Camp Krusty's kitchen.

Marine cooks Cpl Steven Evans and LCpl Edwin Todd from M Bty worked alongside a team of six Australian Army cooks to prepare more than 400 fresh meals a day during Ex Gold Eagle.

LCpl Todd said he was surprised the Australian Army prepared most of its food fresh.

"You guys cook everything fresh - even out in the field. Our meals are generally pre-packaged so we just drop them into hot water to heat up. Most of our food arrives frozen, although we do use fresh fruit and vegetables," LCpl Todd said.

This exercise has helped me a lot. I'm learning so much more from the Australians than I did at the Marine Corps cooking school, which is just a two-month course in Virginia. It only teaches us the basics like sanitation and how to make omelettes and scrambled eggs.

"During this exercise I even learnt how to make fresh pastries and custard for dessert, which I've never made before."

Cpl Darren Burtenshaw, a reservist cook for 8/12 Regt, said the marines' enthusiasm was refreshing to work with.

"Both marines have a great sense of humour and are keen to learn," Cpl Burtenshaw said.

"While we showed them how to make pavlovas and cook meat on the barbecue, they taught us how to have a bit more fun while on the job."



Team effort: Lbdr Sean DuPont and US Marine Sgt Nicholas Livingston carry shells to the gun line.



Smells good: US Marine Cpl Steven Evans and Pte Michelle Binnekamp prepare hot boxes for troops in the field.

He said the cooks prepped for dinner during breakfast to keep on top of the workload.

Three hot dishes were served for dinner so we had about 60kg of meat and a lot of fresh vegetables to prepare. The 25 personnel attached to Camp

Krusty had cold salads and meats for lunch but we prepared hot boxes for the troops out field.

"We tried to cook what the soldiers wanted to eat, which was pretty much anything deep fried or covered with melted cheese."

*Photos and articles re the SR-71 have appeared in previous journals. However, this story relates to a different aspect of flying the world's fastest plane. Ed.*

## How slow can an SR-71 fly?

Brian Shul, Retired SR-71 Pilot via Plane and Pilot Magazine, provides an answer.

As a former SR-71 pilot, and a professional keynote speaker, the question I'm most often asked is "How fast would that SR-71 fly?" I can be assured of hearing that question several times at any event I attend. It's an interesting question, given the aircraft's proclivity for speed, but there really isn't one number to give, as the jet would always give you a little more speed if you wanted it to. It was common to see 35 miles a minute.

Because we flew a programmed Mach number on most missions, and never wanted to harm the plane in any way, we never let it run out to any limits of temperature or speed. Thus, each SR-71 pilot had his own individual "high" speed that he saw at some point on some mission. I saw mine over Libya when Khadafy fired two missiles my way, and max power was in order. Let's just say that the plane truly loved speed and effortlessly took us to Mach numbers we hadn't previously seen.

So it was with great surprise, when at the end of one of my presentations, someone asked, "What was the slowest you ever flew the Blackbird?" This was a first. After giving it some thought, I was reminded of a story that I had never shared before, and I relayed the following.

I was flying the SR-71 out of RAF Mildenhall, England, with my back-seater, Walt Watson; we were returning from a mission over Europe and the Iron Curtain when we received a radio transmission from home base. As we scooted across Denmark in three minutes, we learned that a small RAF base in the English countryside had requested an SR-71 fly-past. The air cadet commander there was a former Blackbird pilot, and thought it would be a motivating moment for the young lads to see the mighty SR-71 perform a low approach. No problem, we were happy to do it. After a quick aerial refuelling over the North Sea, we proceeded to find the small airfield.

Walter had a myriad of sophisticated navigation equipment in the back seat, and began to vector me toward the field. Descending to subsonic speeds, we found ourselves over a densely wooded

area in a slight haze. Like most former WWII British airfields, the one we were looking for had a small tower and little surrounding infrastructure. Walter told me we were close and that I should be able to see the field, but I saw nothing. Nothing but trees as far as I could see in the haze. We got a little lower, and I pulled the throttles back from 325 knots we were at.

With the gear up, anything under 275 was just uncomfortable. Walt said we were practically over the field; yet there was nothing in my windscreen. I banked the jet and started a gentle circling manoeuvre in hopes of picking up anything that looked like a field.

Meanwhile, below, the cadet commander had taken the cadets up on the catwalk of the tower in order to get a prime view of the fly-past. It was a quiet, still day with no wind and partial gray overcast. Walter continued to give me indications that the field should be below us but in the overcast and haze, I couldn't see it. The longer we continued to peer out the window and circle, the slower we got. With our power back, the awaiting cadets heard nothing. I must have had good instructors in my flying career, as something told me I better cross-check the gauges. As I noticed the airspeed indicator slide below 160 knots, my heart stopped and my adrenalin-filled left hand pushed two throttles full forward.

At this point we weren't really flying, but were falling in a slight bank. Just at the moment that both afterburners lit with a thunderous roar of flame (and what a joyous feeling that was) the aircraft fell into full view of the shocked observers on the tower. Shattering the still quiet of that morning, they now had 107 feet of fire-breathing titanium in their face as the plane levelled and accelerated, in full burner, on the tower side of the infield, closer than expected, maintaining what could only be described as some sort of ultimate knife-edge pass.

Quickly reaching the field boundary, we proceeded back to Mildenhall without incident. We didn't say a word for those next 14 minutes. After landing, our commander greeted us, and we were both certain he was reaching for our wings. Instead, he heartily shook our hands and said the commander had told him it was the greatest SR-71 fly-past he had ever seen, especially how we had surprised them with such a precise manoeuvre that could only be described as breathtaking. He said that some of the



cadet's hats were blown off and the sight of the plan form of the plane in full afterburner dropping right in front of them was unbelievable. Walt and I both understood the concept of "breathtaking" very well that morning and sheepishly replied that they were just excited to see our low approach.

As we retired to the equipment room to change from space suits to flight suits, we just sat there, we hadn't spoken a word since "the pass." Finally, Walter looked at me and said, "One hundred fifty-six knots. What did you see?" Trying to find my voice, I stammered, "One hundred fifty-two." We sat in silence for a moment. Then Walt said, "Don't ever do that to me again!" And I never did.

A year later, Walter and I were having lunch in the Mildenhall Officer's club, and overheard an officer talking to some cadets about an SR-71

fly-past that he had seen one day. Of course, by now the story included kids falling off the tower and screaming as the heat of the jet singed their eyebrows. Noticing our HABU patches, as we stood there with lunch trays in our hands, he asked us to verify to the cadets that such a thing had occurred. Walt just shook his head and said, "It was probably just a routine low approach; they're pretty impressive in that plane." Impressive indeed.

Little did I realize after relaying this experience to my audience that day that it would become one of the most popular and most requested stories. It's ironic that people are interested in how slow the world's fastest jet can fly. Regardless of your speed, however, it's always a good idea to keep that cross-check up. And keep your Mach up, too.

Courtesy Mike Prowse

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## Arty celebrates milestones

Bombs away: Hamel guns and fireworks light up the Puckapunyal parade ground in a fiery celebration of the RAA's 140th and the School of Arty's 128th birthdays on August 20. About 400 people turned out to watch gun races and a feu de joie before the Army Band-Melbourne performed the *1812 Overture* with four guns from 53 Bty (pictured) lighting up the evening sky. Maj-Gen Tim Ford, representative Colonel Commandant for Artillery, reviewed the parade before a beating of the retreat and a bugler playing as the flag was lowered at sunset. The usual dining-in was forgone in favour of a family night at the OR's mess after the parade.



## Mess dress has been given a facelift.

Cpl Zenith King talks with RSM Ceremonial -Army WO1 Brett Pates about the changes.

AFTER more than 30 years in service, the mess dress for officers, warrant officers and senior NCOs will be replaced.

RSM Ceremonial WO1 Brett Pates said the roll out of the modern uniform was due to start later this year.

"We have developed an Army mess dress to be worn by sergeant through to lieutenant colonel. A senior ranks mess dress will be worn by colonels and above, including RSM-A and all Tier C RSM's," he said.

When designing the new uniform, WO1 Pates said the team wanted to retain, where possible, the Army's customs and traditions.

"We also wanted to retain our corps identity while implementing one uniform for Army," he said.

The final design selected by CASAC was to standardise the jacket cut in line with the other two services. The design chosen was placed into production by DMO for introduction into service from the end of this year.

ASODs will be updated in conjunction with the issue **of the new mess dress later this year and all RSM's will be notified once the changes have been made.**

All Army members are being asked to complete an online survey to gather feedback on the development phase of the review. The link for the clothing review is on the Army website at

<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/ASODS/>

## ISSUING THE MESS DRESS

RSM Ceremonial WO1 Brett Pates said the new Army mess dress would be issued to new graduating classes from RMC effective immediately along with any corporals promoted to sergeant as of January next year.

"There will then be about 12 months for DMO to introduce the new contract, at which point members will be able to purchase the Army mess dress," he said.

"Members can continue to wear the current in-service mess dress until the expiry date of January 1, 2017. From December 2012 until January 2017 will be designated the implementation period.

"Reservists will be issued the new mess dress during an Army-wide issue from 2017 and reservists eligible for initial issue on promotion or commissioning will be issued the new uniform from January next year.

"Full time members currently issued mess dress will have to use their uniform allowance to purchase the new uniform.

"It is recognised that some people would only have been issued their mess dress recently and to get the life expectancy out of that uniform we have put in place the implementation plan.

"From December 2011, members won't be able to purchase the current mess dress."

## THE NEXT STEP IN THE REVIEW PROCESS



Since the start of 2010, the Army has been conducting a number of reviews of the current uniforms.

Phase 1 conducted a review of entitlements and accoutrements, including a rewrite of ASODs.

Phase 2 conducted a review of the current in-service mess dress in conjunction with the clothing systems program office at DMO. This resulted in a number of prototypes being developed and a road show to all major regions providing the opportunity for members to make comments.

Phase 3 of the clothing review has commenced and will look at development of a single ceremonial uniform, while retaining the current general duty dress, incorporating a layered effect.

*Continued on next page*

## The new-look mess dress: breaking down the details

THE cut and design of the new mess dress is a black jacket with red piping on the sleeve cuff and black trousers with a single red Army stripe.

The Army mess dress is worn with the white Marcella shirt by all ranks.

The jacket will have a button and chain closure on the front. The Army mess dress in the black jacket will be worn by sergeants to lieutenant colonels, with senior officers, RSM-A and Tier C RSM's wearing the same design in a red jacket.

Other changes include gold or silver studs and cufflinks applicable to corps on the shirt.

Corps identity is being maintained with current in-service corps badges and corps cummerbund.

All rank is being transitioned to black hardboards worn on the shoulder of the jacket. For sergeants and warrant officers class two, the rank will be embroidered on the hardboard.

RSM Ceremonial WO1 Brett Pates said the changes to rank would make it easier for future promotions.

"This will allow soldiers, when they are promoted, to change their rank slide rather than having to sew on new rank, and those who commission will not need to be issued a new uniform," he said.

There is a significant change to the warrant officer class two rank - instead of the crown being inside a



square, the crown will be surrounded by a laurel wreath.

Warrant officer class one and above will have metallic rank pinned to the hardboard.

The rising sun, trade and qualification badges worn on the sleeves will transfer to a black background for the new mess dress.

Positioning of all embellishments on the jacket has been included in the new rewrite of ASODs and will be released in time for the roll out of the new Army mess dress.

*Courtesy Army News*

### For Exemplary Service.

**Two hundred and sixty one of the Army's finest troops have been recognised with soldiers' medallions for their dedication to duty and service this year. (2011)**

Among them have been the following RAA recipients. *(Shown in the order they were listed in Army News. ed)*

NON-ARMY GROUP	Bdr Richard Ronc, 2/10 Fd Regt	Bdr Tim Knappstein, 48 Fd Bty
Gnr D. Tate, JPEU/JLC	Bdr L Kavanaugh, 20 STA Regt	LBdr Ricky Mallett, 7 Fd Bty
FORCOMD	Gnr Braydon Webb, 20 STA Regt	Gnr Andre Sivier, 8/12 Mdm Regt
Cpl Bruce Magann, 1 Regt	LCpl Timothy Dain, 23 Fd Regt	Bdr S Fitzgibbins, 8/12 Regt RAA
Gnr Bruce Braithwaite, 1 Regt	Gnr David Gandy, 23 Fd Regt	Bdr A Broadhead, 8/12 Regt RAA
Bdr Kyle Golding, 16 AD Regt	Pte Bradley Taylor, 4 Regt RAA	LBdr Dan Gilera, 8/12 Regt RAA
Cpl Aaron Friedewald, 16 AD Regt	LBdr Chris Haire, 4 Regt RAA	Cpl Mel Rylance, 8/12 Regt RAA
Gnr Alexander Gatt, 2/10 Fd Regt	Gnr Lucas Maloney, 4 Regt RAA	Pte Reb Conelly, School of Arty

## WW II - Little Known History

You might enjoy this from Col D. G. Swinford, USMC, Ret and history buff. You would really have to dig deep to get this kind of ringside seat to history:

1. The first German serviceman killed in WW II was killed by the Japanese ( China , 1937), the first American serviceman killed was killed by the Russians (Finland 1940); highest ranking American killed was Lt Gen Lesley McNair, killed by the US Army Air Corps. So much for friendly fire.

2. The youngest US serviceman was 12 year old Calvin Graham , USN. He was wounded and given a Dishonourable Discharge for lying about his age. His benefits were later restored by act of Congress.

3. At the time of Pearl Harbor , the top US Navy command was called CINCUS (pronounced 'sink us'), the shoulder patch of the US Army's 45th Infantry division was the Swastika, and Hitler's private train car was named 'Amerika.' All three were soon changed for PR purposes.

4. More US servicemen died in the Air Corps than the Marine Corps. While completing the required 30 missions, your chance of being killed was 71%.

5. Generally speaking, there was no such thing as an average fighter pilot . You were either an ace or a target. For instance, Japanese Ace Hiroyoshi Nishizawa shot down over 80 planes. He died while a passenger on a cargo plane.

6. It was a common practice on fighter planes to load every 5th round with a tracer round to aid in aiming. This was a mistake. Tracers had different ballistics at long range so if your tracers were hitting the target 80% of your rounds were missing. Worse yet tracers instantly told your enemy he was under fire and from which direction. Worst of all was the practice of loading a string of tracers at the end of the belt to tell you that you were out of ammo. This was definitely not something you wanted to tell the

enemy. Units that stopped using tracers saw their success rate nearly double and their loss rate go down.

7. When allied armies reached the Rhine, the first thing men did was pee in it. This was pretty universal from the lowest private to Winston Churchill (who made a big show of it) and Gen. Patton (who had himself photographed in the act).

8. German Me-264 bombers were capable of bombing New York City, but Hitler decided it wasn't worth the effort.

9. German submarine U-120 was sunk by a malfunctioning toilet.

10. Among the first 'Germans' captured at Normandy were several Koreans. They had been forced to fight for the Japanese Army until they were captured by the Russians and forced to fight for the Russian Army until they were captured by the Germans and forced to fight for the German Army until they were captured by the US Army.

### AND LAST

11. Following a massive naval bombardment, 35,000 United States and Canadian troops stormed ashore at Kiska, in the Aleutian Islands. 21 troops were killed in the assault on the island. It could have been worse if there had been any Japanese on the island!!

*Submitted by WO2 Max Murray*

Space exploration has enjoyed many successes, but there have also been tragedies. Have a look at this interesting view of both aspects during the last 30 years

<http://www.crikey.com.au/2011/07/22/video-30-years-space-travel/>



# GUNNERS TAKE ON VIPER

By Cpl Mel Schinkel and Lt Todd Peut

GUNNERS from 8/12 Regt's 101, 102 and 103 Btys recently participated in the United States Marine Corps' pre-deployment exercise Enhanced Mojave Viper at Twentynine Palms in California.

The international exchange was a continuation from Exercise Gold Eagle, a combined artillery activity that integrated members of the United States Marine Corps (USMC) with 103 Bty in Darwin during September.

From October 12 to November 19, the Aussie gunners formed 103 Bty and conducted mechanised and airborne assaults alongside M Bty and I Bty, 3rd Bn, 11th Marines during Exercise Enhanced Mojave Viper (EEMV).

Gnr Giulian Pierdomenico, 103 Bty, said EEMV was equivalent to the Australian Army's mission rehearsal exercises and prepared the 7th Marines (Infantry) for their deployment to Afghanistan later this year.

"It was an awesome exercise because mixed units fired simultaneously - it was like being in the thick of a miniature war," Gnr Pierdomenico said.

"The marines definitely do gunnery differently to how we do it. They allocate separate ammunition trucks for each gun and they don't have safety officers checking gun positions."

Battery Commander 103 Bty Maj



Ian Fletcher said it was an invaluable experience for the battery to operate the M777A2 155mm howitzer guns, which will replace the Australian artillery's M198 155mm howitzers from February next year.

"EEMV was a resounding success and 103 Bty was honoured to be the first foreign military unit involved in the exercise. It was 103 Bty's chance to demonstrate what Australian soldiers can achieve alongside US marines," Maj Fletcher said.

During the trip the gunners also completed M777A2 familiarisation, observer and continuation training for the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS), a program used by Australian soldiers and US marines to send digital missions to the gun line.

"The rates of fire during EEMV

were high, which enabled the gun line to effectively understand the capabilities and limitations of the M777A2, as well as educate the fire direction centres in the fundamentals of the AFATDS," he said.

"About 1500 rounds were fired throughout the battalion phase - the most rounds the Australian Army has ever fired on the M777A2," he said.

"Our bond with the marines has improved and will no doubt strengthen in coming years. These exercises emphasized the Australian soldier's ability to adapt to different situations and settings, and amalgamate with coalition forces."

But it wasn't all work and no play for 103 Bty. After the exercises the gunners attended the 236th Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Las Vegas, which gave them the chance to unwind and socialise with their marine counterparts in a more relaxed setting.

"The ball was really fun and we were lucky enough to see a marine drill demonstration too," Gnr Pierdomenico said.

Following their three days in Las Vegas, the gunners visited Camp Pendleton in San Diego where they went aboard the LHD USS Bonhomme Richard before experiencing Rodeo Drive, Hollywood, Seaworld, Disneyland and a college football game.

*Courtesy Army News*



International relations: Soldiers from 8/12 Regt's 103 Bty, Gnrs Joseph Bell, left, Andrew Gilmore, Luke Roberts, LBdrs Karl McGrath and James Thatcher, and Bdr Matthew Powers take some time out with members of India and Mike Btys, 3rd Bn, 11 Marine Regt, US Marine Corps.



# VALE

# Tragedy in Afghanistan



By Graham McBean.

AN EMOTIONAL farewell from Tarin Kot marked the beginning of the journey home for three Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan on October 29.

Australian, Coalition and Afghan personnel lined the route to a waiting Air Force C-130 for CAPT Bryce Duffy, [\(see next page\)](#) CPL Ashley Birt and LCPL Luke Gavin on November 1.

**The soldier's were killed by a** rogue Afghan National Army (ANA) member at Forward Operating Base Pacemaker following a routine weekly parade.

Seven other Australian soldiers were wounded in the incident when a member opened fire with an automatic weapon.

An Afghan interpreter was killed and an ANA soldier and several other contracted interpreters were struck by gunfire before Australian soldiers were able to respond and shoot the gunman.

Commander of the ADF personnel deployed to the Middle East, MAJGEN Angus Campbell, said the Army had lost three courageous and brave soldiers who had served with distinction.

## THE WOUNDED

SEVEN soldiers wounded in the shooting were transferred to Landstuhl Regional Medical Centre in Germany on November 1. The soldier with the most significant wounds was reassessed as having improved from life-threatening wounds to **"serious condition" after care** from specialists at the Bagram Medical Facility. A psychologist went to Germany to assist the wounded as they continue medical treatment. Additional psychologists have been deployed to Afghanistan to assist in critical incident counselling and support.

**"CAPT Duffy, CPL Birt and LCPL Gavin were held in high regard by their mates and their commanders" MAJGEN Campbell said.**

*"Their loss has deeply affected all Australian and coalition personnel serving in Afghanistan and the Middle east.*

*"In true Anzac spirit they gave their all because they believed they were making a difference for the people of Afghanistan - their sacrifice will inspire us we go about our crucial mission here in Afghanistan.*

Members of combined Team-Uruzgan (CTU), Mentoring Task Force 3 (MTF -3) and their Afghan and coalition partners paid their final respects at the emotional ceremony at Multinational Base Tarin Kot.

Personnel of CTU and MTF 3 reflected on the three soldiers, their careers, achievements and the personal qualities for which they will be remembered by their fellow soldiers, families and mates.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Australian, Afghan and International Security Assistance Force personnel lined the road from the memorial service to the C-130.

They saluted as the procession of three Australian flag-draped caskets moved through their ranks, paying their final respects to the fallen.

Deputy Commander CTU COL Dave Smith said the men had lost their lives in the service of their nation and they would never be forgotten.

*"The best way we can honour their sacrifice is to re-double our efforts, because that is what they deserve."* COL Smith said.

*Courtesy Army and Navy news*

## Statement on behalf of the family of Craftsman Beau Pridue.

Defence releases the following statement on behalf of the family of Craftsman Beau Pridue.

Our family is devastated at the tragic loss of our son, Beau, in East Timor.

Growing up in Newcastle Beau always strived to be the best he could be, he loved his family, he loved his mates and he loved the Army.

He was a qualified Fitter Armament with 111 Workshop Company, 8th Combat Service Support Battalion and very proud to be a soldier and to be doing his duty. In his civilian job, Beau was a Fitter Machinist with Griffiths Computer Engineering.

We are extremely proud of our boy and we know that we lost him doing a job he was trained for and loved doing.

When he was growing up, we would never have thought of Beau as a soldier, but he loved the Army, its discipline, training and spirit. Beau had strength of mind, body, character and will.



Beau was much admired by his Army colleagues and was seen by his superiors as a quiet achiever who always got the job done.

Our son chose to serve in the Army and he was happy and, as fate would have it, he paid the ultimate sacrifice. His decision to serve his country was a true indication of his character. Beau always wanted to help and be of assistance, and he had this opportunity during his deployment to East Timor.

Beau leaves behind a loving mother and father, a sister and a brother-in-law and a large extended family who all adored him.

**We're a private family and would like that privacy to be respected at this difficult time, but we have issued these words because we want people to think of Beau the way we think of him.**

We wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all those who have shown support at this very difficult time.

Most importantly, we ask to be left in peace in order to grieve in private.



*(Continued from page 38)*

**Bryce's closest friends from 4th Regiment Royal Australian Artillery (4 RAA) formed the honour guard and catafalque party while fellow soldiers, relatives, Churchie students and members of the public lined the route into Morris Hall to pay their respects to the fallen.**

During a solemn eulogy, Commanding Officer 4 RAA Lieutenant Colonel Charles Weller described Bryce as an officer with unbounded energy, diligence and belief.

**"Bryce is one of those magnificent people for whom life is about more than personal advantage – he believed in duty, honour and country, and dedicated his life to them wholeheartedly,"** Lieutenant Colonel Weller said.

**"He was a consummate professional who loved soldiering – his chosen vocation. He accepted its privations and relinquished many of society's**

luxuries. He was a leader and warrior who was respected and admired by all ranks.

**"Our nation is poorer for his passing but richer for his service, we will miss him."**

The Chief of Army Lieutenant General David Morrison attended the funeral alongside senior military dignitaries and official guests.

Bryce was serving with Mentoring Task Force Three (MTF-3) when he was tragically killed in Afghanistan. He was awarded the Australian Active Service Medal with clasp - International Coalition Against Terrorism (ICAT), Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Australian Defence Medal, NATO Non Article 5 Medal with clasp – International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and the Meritorious Unit Citation – 1st Mentoring Task Force.

Captain Bryce Duffy was buried with full military honours at the Mt Gravatt War Cemetery.

# Lt-Gen Donald Dunstan, a legend of Australian military leadership, was farewelled at a state funeral in Adelaide. Cpl Melanie Schinkel reports.

A DISTINGUISHED officer and leader who served 42 years in the Army and became South Australia's longest-serving governor, died peacefully on October 15 and was farewelled at a state funeral in St Peter's Cathedral, north Adelaide, on October 25. Lt-Gen Dunstan served as the Chief of General Staff from 1977 to 1982 and then as Governor of South Australia from 1982 to 1991.

## Lt-Gen Dunstan's biography (edited) *(courtesy Army News)*

MAJ-GEN Peter Phillips' eulogy illustrated Lt-Gen Dunstan's career and outstanding achievements in great detail. Below is an excerpt from his address:

Donald Dunstan entered the Royal Military College in 1940 as a 16-year-old from South Australia. By mid-1942, he was a 19-year-old lieutenant and sent to join the 27th Inf Bn, South Australian Scottish Regt. He served with them in the southwest Pacific for the duration of World War II. Donald also saw action in New Guinea, Bougainville and New Britain, and was mentioned in dispatches for patrol action in Bougainville.

At war's end, he served in the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan as adjutant of the 66th Inf Bn - one of the three battalions to be the genesis of the Royal Australian Regiment. After his marriage to Beryl, he held appointments at Keswick Barracks but eventually saw action again in Korea as 2IC of 1RAR.

It was clear at this time that he was destined for higher ranks as he was selected to serve as the military assistant for the Commander in Chief of British Commonwealth Forces in Korea. In 1954, he was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire - presented to him by the Queen during her first visit to Australia.

He served twice at the Royal Military College Duntroon and was also a member of Directive of Staff at Staff College in Queenscliff, Victoria, and the British Army Staff College in Camberley, United Kingdom. In 1964, he returned to 1RAR as its Commanding Officer, and then commanded the Army's recruit training centre near Wagga.

Early in 1968, he assumed the

position of Deputy Commander of the Australian Task Force in South Vietnam.

A few months later, Donald took over as Commander of the First Australian Task Force during the battle at Fire Support Base Coral. His campaigning skill impressed us greatly as he repositioned 3RAR to establish the second fire support base at Balmoral, which greatly disrupted the North Vietnamese Army's drive on Saigon. For this service, Donald was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire.



After attending the Imperial Defence College in London and a short stint as Australia's Brigade Commander, Donald returned to Vietnam as Commander of all Australian Forces. Again, he was honoured and made Commander of the Order of Bath for successfully planning and executing the withdrawal of Australian forces from Vietnam.

Donald was then appointed to Army's Chief of Materiel in Canberra. It was at this time he worked with Dr Tom Miller on a report that completely transformed Army's reserve forces. In 1974, he was appointed as General Officer Commanding Field Force Command and made

the most of the difficult post-Vietnam War period.

In 1977, Army announced Donald as the 31st Chief of General Staff, post Federation, and his term was extended twice, serving five years. We were sorry to see him leave the Army in 1982, but delighted when he took up the appointment as governor of his own state. Soon after, he was made a Knight of the Order of the British Empire and a Companion of the Order of Australia.

### Decorations

- 1991 Companion of the Order of Australia
- 1979 Knight Commander of the British Empire
- 1972 Companion of the Order of the Bath
- 1969 Commander of the Order of the British Empire
- 1954 Member of the Order of the British Empire
- 1947 Mentioned in dispatches

### Medals

- \* 1939/45 Star
- \* Pacific Star
- \* Defence Medal
- \* War Medal
- \* Australian Service Medal 1939/45
- \* Australian Active Service Medal 1945/75 with Clasp Vietnam
- \* United Nations Service Medal (Korea)
- \* Vietnam Medal
- \* General Service Medal with Clasp Malaya
- \* Defence Force Service Medal with Federation Star
- \* Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal
- \* National Medal with 1st and 2nd Clasp
- \* Australian Service Medal 1945/75 with Clasp PNG, Japan, Korea
- \* Vietnamese Campaign Medal
- \* Infantry Combat Badge
- \* Returned from Active Service Badge

## Editors Note

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Printed journals will only feature this page in the 1st publication each year. Future viability of the shop will be considered by the committee in due course.

## RAA Association (Victoria) Inc Corps Shop

The following items may be purchased by mail, or at selected Association activities

### PRICE LIST

Badges, etc		ENQUIRIES:	
RAA Assn (Vic), members	\$5.00	BRIAN CLEEMAN	(03) 9560 7116
RAA badge cuff links	\$9.00	REG MORRELL	(03) 9562 9552
Key ring, RAA badge	\$4.00	Stationery	
Key ring, RAA (Pewter)	\$4.00	Stickers	
Ties		Bumper: <i>Gunners do it with a bigger bang</i>	\$2.00
Blue with single red gun	\$30.00	Square: gold badge, red and blue background	\$2.00
RAA Burgundy with gold gun	\$43.00	ORDERS:	
RAA Navy with gold gun	\$43.00	Most orders will require an additional FIVE DOLLARS packing and postage, which will cover one to several small items. If in any doubt concerning this, or availability, please contact one of the enquiries numbers above.	
St Barbara Stripe	\$43.00	Cheques should be made payable to RAA Association (Victoria) Inc, and be crossed <i>Not Negotiable</i> .	
Books		Orders to: Mr B. Cleeman	
<i>Kookaburra's Cutthroats</i>	\$39.00	28 Samada Street	
<i>Aust Military Equip Profiles</i>	\$13.50	Notting Hill VIC 3168	
<i>AMEF Profile - Leopard Tank</i>	\$17.00		

## Parade Card - Commencing January 2012

This page also will not be reproduced in future on-line editions of our journal. Details can be found on the Calendar and Membership pages of our web site at [www.artilleryvic.org.au](http://www.artilleryvic.org.au)

Jan 2012	Jun 2012	Oct 2012
25 Issue 110 Cascabel Posted	13 Reservist Luncheon	5 Gunner Dinner
	19 Committee	10 Issue 113 Cascabel Posted
Feb 2012		16 Committee
21 Committee	Jul 2012	
	1 Reserve Forces Day March	Nov 2012
Mar 2012	10 Issue 112 Cascabel Posted	1 Annual General Meeting
13 RAA Luncheon	17 Committee	2 Annual Golf Day
21 Committee		20 Committee
	Aug 2012	
Apr 2012	19 Church Parade Healing the Wounds of War	Dec 2012
10 Issue 111 Cascabel Posted	21 Committee	2 Annual Church Parade
17 Committee		<b>2 St Barbara's Day and Family day</b>
25 Anzac day	Sep 2012	<b>4 St Barbara's Day</b>
	14 Pipe Clay Dinner RACV Club	11 Committee
May 2012	18 Committee	
15 Committee		

### Change of Personal Details

Rank	Surname and Post Nominals	DoB
Address		
Telephone Mobile Email		
Additional Information		