

CASCABEL

Journal of the

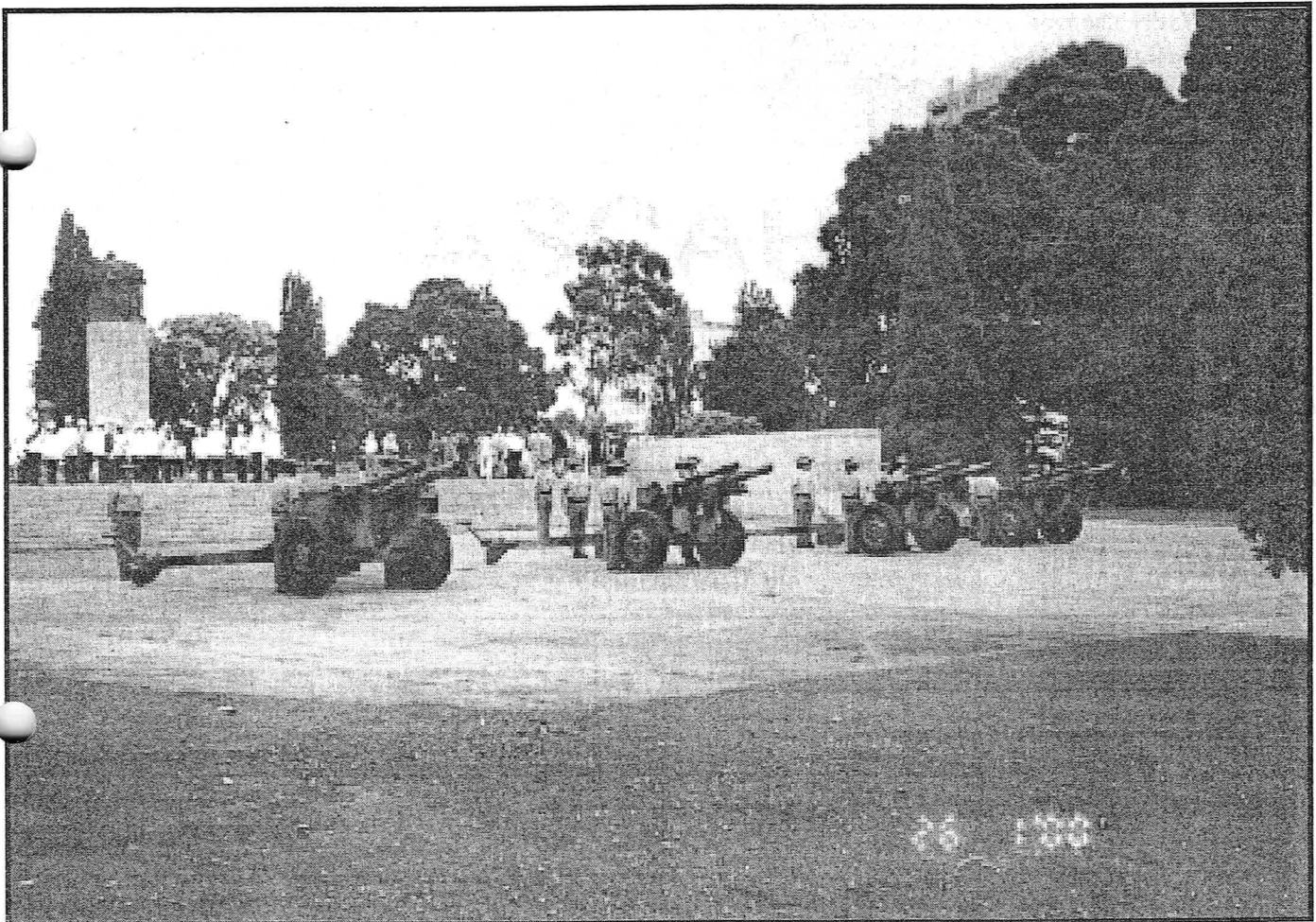
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION
(VICTORIA) INCORPORATED



Number 64

Published Quarterly in
Victoria Australia

July 2000



**Guns and Band of the 2nd/10th
Medium Regiment (22 Fd Bty) at the
Shrine for the Australia Day Salute**

CASCABEL

Journal of the

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC



FOUNDED:

First AGM April 1978

First Cascabel July 1983

COL COMMANDANT:

BRIG G. B. Standish AM, RFD, ED

PATRONS and VICE PATRONS:

1978

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

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

1982

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

Vice Patron: MAJGEN N. A. Vickery CBE,
MC, ED

1999

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

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

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1979 MAJGEN 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

JOURNAL NAME:

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

CASCABLE - English spelling.

REASON FOR:

Once a fixed extension left over when a muzzle loaded gun was molten cast. It was the left over molten ore plug from the cast liquid entry point. Left on as it was found to be a good handle to move or elevate the barrel. Then shaped to look like a bell.

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 breach 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.

ASSN LOGO:

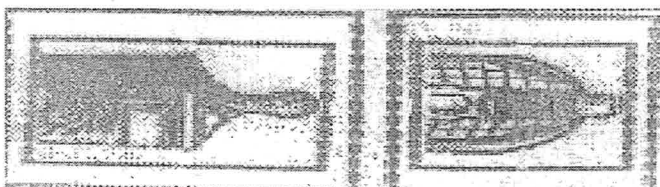
Our Assn Logo is the 1800 AD 9 Pdr Waterloo Field Gun. Copy is taken from Device, Badge and Motto of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, as approved in 1883, by HM King William IV.

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 Assn Committee.

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CONTENTS AND SUBMISSIONS

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Article style, clarity and conciseness remain the responsibility of the article owner or author.

Submissions for the **July 2000** issue are required no later than **Fri 26 May 2000** unless otherwise arranged with the Editor.

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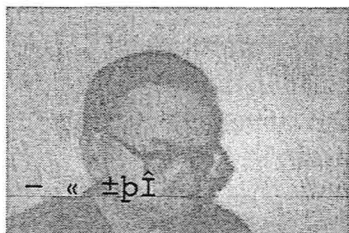
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EDITOR'S EXOTERICS

No personal disasters like swimming pool filter pumps or computer hard disks breaking down have caused delays in the production of CASCABEL this time, so we are fairly well on schedule.

Believe it or not I do know the difference between a gun and a truck. I swapped the photo on the cover last issue and forgot to change the caption, sorry about that.

I was happy to be able to join those who attended both on ANZAC Day and on the visit to the Pay Corps and Sigs Museums. The latter was an experience to remember forever, including the BBQ lunch provided by the guys at the Pay Corps Museum, who even had the foresight to cater for those of us on special diets. Thanks a million guys, hope we can go again.

Articles lifted from popular magazines or newspapers are read by the majority of members when published. Also local parochial articles about small suburban or country areas unknown to the majority of the members have limited interest for most of our readers. What we need more of are short interesting and/or amusing anecdotes of members' previous Artillery experiences, reports of visits by individuals or groups to sites with Artillery equipment, including museums and suggestions of places of interest that we could visit in the future. Also if you have read a book to do with Artillery, don't just tell us, send us a full page book review.

Don't forget those of you who sent me e-mail letters to the editor before my hard disk crashed, if we haven't published it yet you need to send it again, because everything was lost when the hard disk crashed.

I attended the annual Air Defenders' Luncheon in Canberra on Fri 2 Jun 00 at Belluci's Restaurant in Curtin and the food and service as always was fantastic, and it was great once again to see so many ex-LAA gunners and to discuss old times both fact and fiction.

Among those present from memory included BRIG Garth Hughes (Rtd) who has organised each one from the day they started and was Capt (Adj) when he had the misfortune to serve with me as SGT acting Chief Clerk of 18 LAA Regt, MAJ Ian Uhlmann (Rtd) who has assisted by sending out the invitations for the last three years, Brig Don Tier (Rtd) who I believe has attended every year so far, MAJ Sid Penhaligan (Rtd) whom I served under as BDR at 17 LAA Regt for a short period on loan from 18 LAA when he was WO2 then again when he was WO1 and I was SGT in R Bty 18 LAA Regt. Also present were MAJGEN Geoff Carter (Rtd) ex-DCGS whom I had the pleasure of serving under as a civilian when he was in that position, MAJGEN John Whitelaw (Rtd) whom we all know from his excellent Book Reviews that he writes for us in CASCABEL, SGT Eddie Keane (Rtd) who organises the excellent Air Defence Reunions through the 110/111 LAA Association and had travelled down from Arundel in QLD for the occasion, BDR Dave Payne (Rtd) who came from South West Rocks near Port MacQuarie NSW to share with us, WO1 Jim Ponting (Rtd) who is the Chairman of the ACT TPI Association, BDR Sparks Crane (Rtd), MAJ David Francis (Rtd), WO1 Eric Dean (Rtd), and LT John (Don) Hendy (Rtd) who answers to any name that comes to mind so long as it is clean.

Well I think you have had more than your money's worth for this issue, so bye till next time.

Ron G. Curtis
Editor



The President writes

The weather is so dismal as I write that it is hard to get going. Association activities have been a little sparse but a few things have been happening.

On Saturday 1st April last 2/10 Medium Regiment celebrated the ninth anniversary of its creation following the last reorganisation of the Artillery in Victoria in 1991. Unfortunately there was no time to notify any one other than the committee of our invitation to attend. The occasion took the form of a BBQ lunch and family day. There were games for the children and a great recital by the band. The lunch was a great array of roast meats and vegetables served in a marque outside the JARKS Club. Several promotions and postings were announced. The Mayor of the City of Port Phillip Councillor Dick GROSS spoke to confirm the close ties that have been established between the Regiment and the City since the granting of the Freedom of the City in November 1999. Actually Dick had ceased to be mayor on the previous evening following the municipal elections in March and had handed over to Councillor Julian Hill.

Anzac Day began with a Dawn Service at Chapel Street Depot. It was a moving ceremony as they always are. The service was followed by breakfast at the rear of the depot and a little something to warm the tummy from the JARKS Club. The main Melbourne march was well attended but still ran according to the timetable. Regrettably there are less of the older members able to attend at the depot after the march as the years roll by. The AIF members being about eighty years old are few and far between in these modern times but they still attend and brace themselves for the march to the Shrine of Remembrance.

It was a little different going to the Pay and Signals museums with eight members rather than the 108 that went to the fire power demonstration at Puckapunyal last March. Both these museums are well worth a visit. They both have a broad scope of interest as well as their own particular theme.

The curator of the Pay Corps museum is John Phillips who is also a member of our association and this is reflected by many of the exhibits such as several items of Gunner uniform etc. Their exhibits range from pay books and rolls kept in a cashiers office through to a complete Furphy Tank and a 1 Ton Blitz Mobile Cash Office. I asked about the Furphy Tank and was assured that it had been donated by an army workshop from I think Broadmeadows and was not a piece of Pay Corps equipment. It was never the less an interesting piece of Australiana. We found that there are at least four of their members who have made a name for themselves as gunners before retiring to the sedentary world of the Pay Corps. In particular it was good to see many items referring to the late Tony Furze who transferred to Pay Corps toward the end of his service after many useful years with the guns. We were made welcomed to the museum by LTCOL Brian Condon (not previously a Gunner) a passed CO and Honorary Colonel of the Pay Corps and following our visit the staff put on a fine BBQ lunch to refresh us for our next visit.

Colonel John Pilbeam who organises tours of Victoria Barracks joined us for both visits. Some will remember John as the first CO/CI of OTS in 1962 (later to be OCTU). It was a pleasant coincidence to be met at the Signals Corps Museum by another friend of Colonel Pilbeam in BRIG Keith Colwill former Honorary Colonel of the Signals Corps and the last Commander Southern Command. BRIG Colwill was at the museum to host a class of young officers from the School of Signals, which is close by.

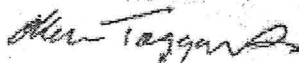
Although the Signals Museum is run by a voluntary group as is the Pay Corps Museum it does reflect the advantages of the presence close by of the Corps School in both the accommodation and content. The displays range from old model field telephones to quite recent high power, world range, radio equipment. I felt it was of benefit to both the young officers and ourselves to be able to talk about and operate some of the old equipment such as the Lukis lamp and heliograph. There is a complete range of vehicle and man pack radios covering the whole period since the Second World War plus many items such as POW made sets and many other related items of equipment. This was a very worthwhile visit thoroughly enjoyed by those that attended.

I hope those who wish to attend the ball have made contact since the last issue. It should be a great night with the aim of helping the people of Suai in East Timor as its aim.

The Minister for Defence John Moore recently announced some new appointments to the senior positions in the ADF among whom is a distinguished gunner in the person of Major General Des Mueller. After a long career in artillery culminating as CO/CI School of Artillery and several senior administrative appointments General Mueller was appointed as the first Commander Support Command, in charge of the combined services logistic system. On 5 June 2000 Major General Mueller was promoted to Lieutenant General and appointed Deputy Chief of the Defence Forces. Our congratulations on this well deserved promotion. In the same announcement Major General Peter Cosgrove is to be promoted to Lieutenant General and appointed Chief of Army with effect 16 July 2000.

The first of July has become recognised as Reserves Day and once again there will be a parade at the shrine. Details should be shown elsewhere in the magazine.

Best wishes to all.



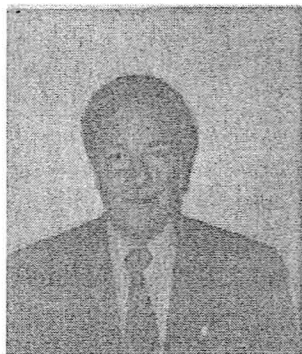
Merv Taggart
President

Barracks Sale Plan Upsets MP

THE FEDERAL Government planned to sell the parade ground from which many ANZACs marched off to war in 1914, Labor MP Carmen Lawrence said in Canberra yesterday.

Dr Lawrence (ALP WA) called on the Government to preserve public ownership of the Fremantle Artillery Barracks and the associated museum.

***The above appeared in the News Briefs of THE COURIER, Ballarat Tuesday, June 6, 2000
For more info see Letter to the Editor on page from MAJGEN Whitelaw.***



Membership Report

June 2000

This time of the year is generally quiet from a membership point of view. We don't seem to attract new members in the depths of winter. I guess we all tend to hibernate for a few months.

I do however have the sad duty to inform you of the passing of MAJ Ian Kennison recently. On behalf of all members I would pass condolences to his family.

I am pleased to advise that several members who had not responded to last year's call to pay their subscriptions have now done so. As a result their membership has been re-instated. Welcome back.

As you would know, our subscription year runs from 1st July to 30th June, and all annual members are currently paid up to 30th June last. A few months back the committee looked at the calendar of events and decided to move the Annual General Meeting back from August, until 26th October. We did this to achieve the following:

- a) try to attract more members to the function due to warmer weather and daylight saving, and
- b) allow more time for the annual accounts to be prepared and audited.

At the last committee meeting it was decided that the Association would send out renewal notices to those annual members who were not already in advance with their subscriptions, in July, rather than wait until November, with a separate mail out to all those involved. As such, those members concerned will find a separate sheet in this issue asking for their subscription for the 2000/2001 to be paid. The subscription amount remains unchanged at \$12.

On another note, you will all be aware that the New Tax System commenced on 1st July. This Association has applied for an ABN, so that any other business that may be paying us will not deduct the statutory 48.5% withholding tax from their payment. The Association has not registered for GST. As a result, our subscriptions, and anything else we charge our members, including shop items will not have GST added to the price. Any GST that the Association is charged for goods and services we acquire, will not be claimable as input credits. We will absorb those costs as additional overhead. As such members can expect a small increase in costs in due course. The Association hopes that it can absorb those increases for as long as possible and will not pass on those increased charges until necessary.

Should you have recently moved, or be about to move I would appreciate you cutting out the change of address notice on the cover of this issue. Please fill out the form and post it to me. You may find it more convenient to telephone during the day on (03) 9781-2633 or at home on (03) 9787-7852.

**DAVID OSBORNE
MAJOR
VICE PRESIDENT AND
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.**



RAA Association (Victoria) Inc Corps Shop

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

PRICE LIST

Badges, etc

RAA Assn (Vic), members (limit two per member)	\$5.00
RAA, tracksuit	\$3.00
RAA badge cuff links	\$9.00
Key ring, RAA badge	\$4.00

Bar items

Artillery Port	\$8.00
Crock, blue with gold badge (name at no extra cost)	\$22.00
Coffee mug, blue, gold badge (name at no extra cost)	\$6.00

2nd/10th Medium Regiment Band

<i>Voice of the Gunners</i> recording	
cassette	\$15.00
compact disc	\$20.00

Clothing items

Cap, RAA badged	\$7.00
Scarf, blue with red flash	\$29.00
Wallet, cam	\$5.00

Ties

Blue with red flash	\$30.00
Blue with single red gun	\$30.00
Maroon with small gold gun	\$30.00

Books

<i>Kookaburra's Cutthroats</i>	\$39.00
<i>Aust Military Equip Profiles</i>	\$13.50

Stationery

Card, RAA badge, with envelope	
Christmas message	\$0.40
blank inside	\$0.40

Stickers

Bumper: <i>Gunners do it with a bigger bang</i>	\$2.00
Square: gold badge, red and blue background	\$2.00
Folders, white A4 size, 2-ring	\$2.00

ENQUIRIES:

BRIAN CLEEMAN	(03) 9560 7116
REG MORRELL	(03) 9562 9552

ORDERS:

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.

Cheques should be made payable to RAA Association (Victoria) Inc, and be crossed *Not Negotiable*.

Orders to: Mr B. Cleeman
28 Samada Street
Notting Hill VIC 3168

"A university professor set an examination question in which he asked what is the difference between ignorance and apathy. The professor had to give an A+ to the student who answered: I don't know and I don't care. (Richard Pratt, Pacific Computer Weekly, 20th July 1990)"

(Submitted by Craig Cook) *Bad! Craig Bad! And not even to do with Gunners or on second*

RESERVE FORCES DAY

RECOGNISING THE VALUE OF RESERVE SERVICE TO THE NATION

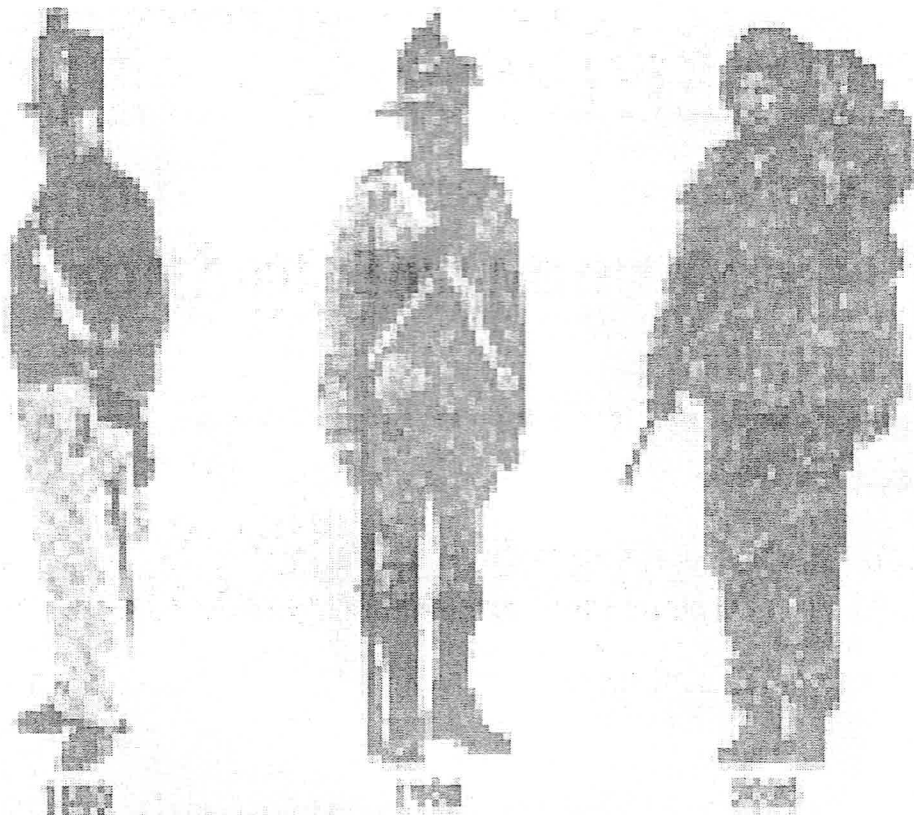
SATURDAY 1st JULY 2000

11:30 am in St Kilda Rd service lane
north of Birdwood Ave

JOIN THE MARCH

Reunions afterwards, Past and present members of the Australian Reserve Forces

* MILITIA * CITIZEN MILITARY FORCES * NATIONAL SERVICE 51-59 * RESERVES *



Reserve Forces Day is a day to celebrate the contribution of Reserve Forces to the Australian Defence Force and the Australian community. It is a day to thank Reserve Forces for their service and to recognize their value to the nation.



NEWS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

By Michael Cecil, Assistant Curator, Military Technology

Regular visitors to the AWM will be surprised by the diminished car parking at the rear of the main building, but be assured that this is only temporary until the new car park behind the Administration Annex is completed. The reason is the construction of ANZAC Hall, a new 3000 square metre gallery being built to the rear of the main building, and attached to it by a covered walkway. The new building is scheduled to be completed by April 2001, and will house many major items of military technology from the AWM's collection, including the Japanese midget submarine, Mark IV (Female) tank, and numerous artillery pieces. Planning for the various exhibitions for ANZAC Hall is well advanced: all that's needed now is the completion of the building!

Another construction, albeit at a much smaller scale, is a base for a 5-inch gun turret from HMAS Brisbane. Once the base is completed, the turret will be moved from Navy stores in Sydney and bolted into place. This new exhibit is located between the main and administration buildings.

Of marginal interest to the Association is the redevelopment of Bradbury Aircraft Hall. This is the area of the main building where the Lancaster "G for George" stood for many years. "George" has been dismantled and moved to the storage annex at Mitchell, pending restoration, and a major redevelopment is being undertaken to take its place. Items already in position include an early warning radar, P51 Mustang, Japanese Zero, P40 Kittyhawk, Wirraway, and Mosquito, with the Mig 15 and Hawker Sea Fury soon to join them. This hall is looking spectacular already, and will look even more so when it opens around August this year.

The Memorial runs many temporary exhibitions in the "Special Exhibitions" space on the lower ground floor. Currently, the "Out in the Cold" exhibition about Australian involvement in the Korean War is on display. One of the main features of this exhibition is a 17 pndr Anti-tank gun. The anti-tank platoon of 3 RAR took six 17 pndrs to Korea, which were mainly used to great effect for "bunker busting" during the static period of the conflict.

As Association members may be aware, the

both allied and enemy. Many of these - particularly the WW1 pieces - are visible at the Treloar Technology Annex at Mitchell. What is not normally accessible to the public is the Treloar B storage annex, located next door to Treloar A. Stored here are examples of 5.5 inch BL, 105 mm L5 pack howitzer, an M2A2 (ex-FSB Coral), 25 pndr field guns, 6 pndr A/T gun, 120 mm Recoilless BAT guns, 3.7 inch HAA and Bofors 40 mm LAA, the odd search light and a 106 mm M40A2 RCL on a short wheel base Landrover. There are a number of vehicles in storage in the same annex, including a Marmon Herrington "Tractor, Artillery (Aust) No 3A". While incomplete, research has shown that the vehicle was sent to the Middle East during 1941. This operational service makes the vehicle that much more "special" to the collection, and worthy of eventual restoration back to its original 1941 build standard.

An item which has been occupying much of my time lately is the German V2 rocket on its meilerwagen erector trailer. The AWM has one of only 22 examples of the V2 left in the world. The meilerwagen is even more rare, with only two other examples left. It appears that the AWM V2 is one of the most complete and original examples left, with most of the internal componentry still in place. Much of the missiles electronics in the compartments behind the warhead are in such good condition that the original German acceptance stamps are still crisp and clear. The AWM acquired this V2 in late 1957 from the Department of Supply. It had been in use as a reference sample at the Long Range Weapons Establishment at Salisbury in South Australia since October 1947. When offered to the AWM, it was accepted because it was in better condition and more complete than the V2 then held by the AWM. The original V2 was then given to 1st Field Regiment at Holsworthy, where it remained on display until the mid-1970s. It was then given to the RAAF Museum at Point Cook, where it is currently held in storage.

The AWM holds many items of historical interest. Unfortunately, not all of these can be displayed at all times, but the completion of ANZAC Hall will certainly enable a greater number of large technology items to be more readily accessible. It will be well worth a visit next year when it opens!

SIMPSON BARRACKS MUSEUMS VISIT

Ten of us gathered on Tuesday, 23rd May, to see two of the Corps museums at Watsonia.

We were met at the Royal Australian Army Pay Corps Historical Collection with a hot cuppa and a welcome by LtCol Brian Condon RFD, ED (retd), the Pay Corps Trust chairman. Also on hand was former Locator, and RAA Association member John Phillips, who is the curator of the collection.



Darby O'Toole, Reg Morrell, Merv Taggart and Ed Williams looking at part of the Pay Corps collection

The display covers memorabilia from the Boer War, the World Wars, Vietnam and UN Peacekeeping Operations, and peacetime service within Australia. It includes many photographs and documents, as well as uniforms and equipment, not limited to Pay Corps items. Significant items on display were the restored 2 1/2 ton Ford GS Mobile Cash Office, a 1920s Furphy Water Cart, and a bound set of newspapers covering the period of the WW I (this is loaded with photos, and reports the war as it was happening).

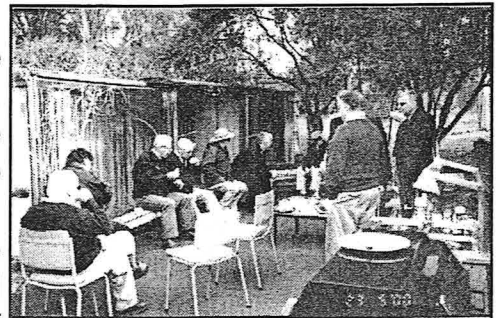
The display is a credit to the Corps and to all those responsible for its development, and well worth a visit. They are indeed fortunate in having such space available.

A fine barbecue lunch was provided at very reasonable cost, giving us a chance to catch up with one another's news, and our President the time for a few reminiscences. We hardly noticed the chill wind which seemed straight from the slopes of Puckapunyal.



John Loftus, Ed Williams, Jim Killender and Merv Taggart outside the Corps of Signals Museum

Then it was time to head off to the Royal Australian Corps of Signals Museum. This museum's display facilities are excellent; it is situated in the building formerly notable for the large satellite dish (no longer in evidence), and must have the best security of any museum in Australia, with a three metre chainwire fence topped with barbed coil. The large lawn area which is enclosed has two 40mm Bofors and a 25pdr on display. We noted some enhancements under way in preparation for a July visit by the Corps Colonel in Chief, HRH Princess Anne, The Princess Royal.

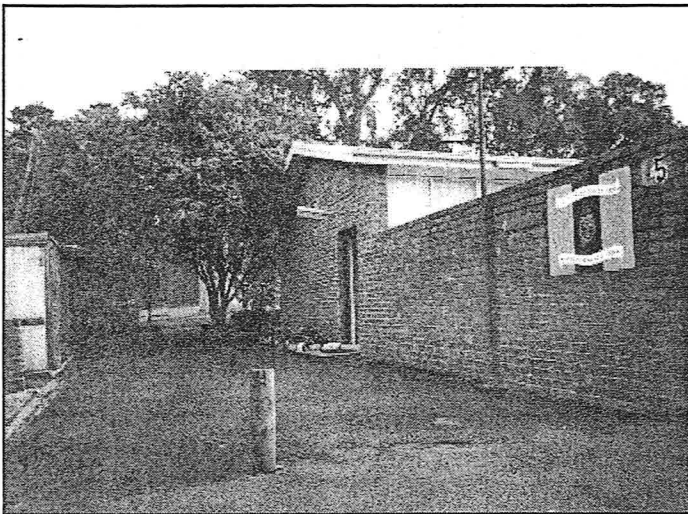


Lunch time outside the RAAPC collection

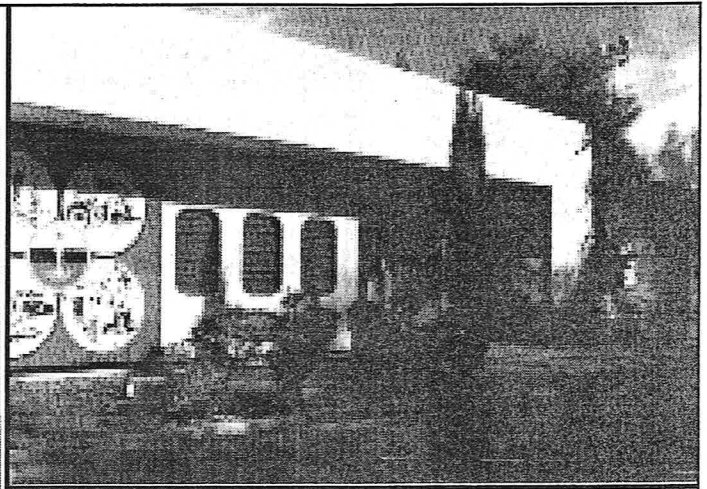
We were welcomed on arrival by curator Keith Munro, and given a brief introduction to the area. A larger group of newly graduated Signals Corps officers was also looking through the display at the time.

Items of historical interest have been collected since the close of the Second World War, and there is a wide variety of equipment on display. This ranges from heliographs of Boer War days to pigeon, dispatch rider, radio, line and satellite communications items, and also includes captured material. Special exhibits include a "Rats of Tobruk" Signals Office modelled on that of 9th Aust Div Signals.

It was a great day, and both museums are worth another visit to find the items missed the first time.



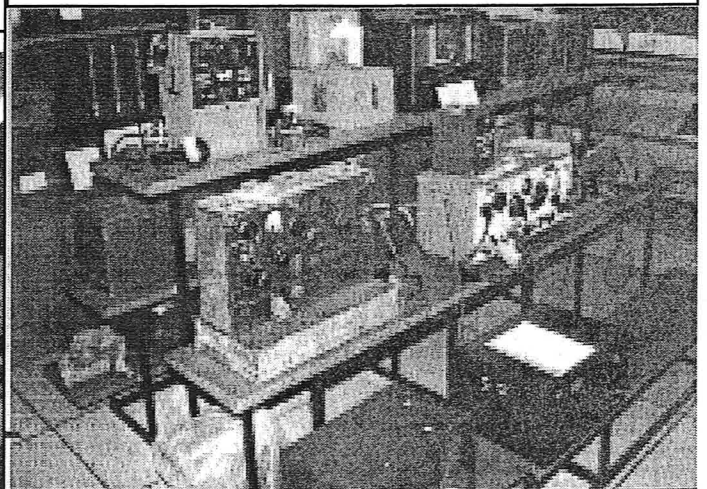
**Simpson Barracks Building 75 Main
Entrance to RAAPC Historical Collection**



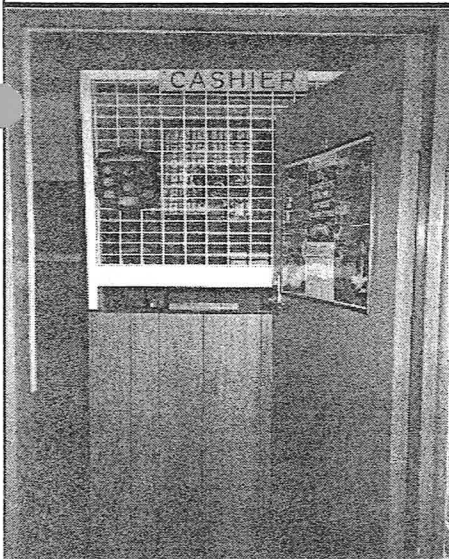
**Entrance to the Royal Australian
Corps of Signals Museum**



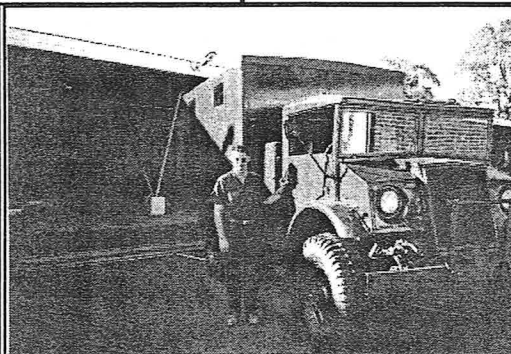
**RAAPC Museum Room 9 West Wall Display
Items in Areas B & C Flags, Signs, Black &
White Prints Depicting Army Equipment &
Personnel, Plaques**



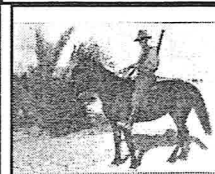
**A Display of Communication Equipment
Which Although it was Nostalgic to Some
and Confusing to Others was Nevertheless
Delightful to All**



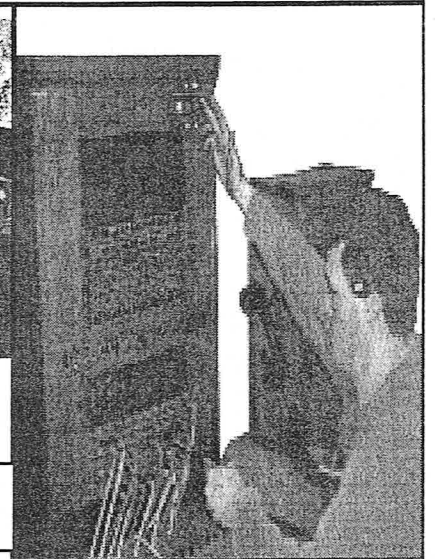
**RAAPC Museum Room 2
Cash Office Display**



**The Mobile Cash Office in
Operational Order**



**Sigs Yesterday,
Today and
Forever**



**Hey! My Mum Used One
of These! Shut Up Ron
You're Showing Your Age**

The Lysterfield Memorial Restoration

(Coordinator Edmund Williams)

Back in February 1995 I reported on my attendance at the dedication of the World War One memorial and Avenue of Honour at Lysterfield in the City of KNOX.

That memorial dates back to shortly after World War One. Located at the corner of Wellington and Lysterfield Roads it consists of an avenue of trees and a stone bearing the names of twelve soldiers from the district who enlisted and went away to WW1. Actually there were fourteen soldiers as will be explained later. The avenue consisted of ten Silky Oaks and four English oaks each with a small picket guard around it and a brass plate bearing a soldier's name. The Silky Oaks were for the ten who returned and the English Oaks were for those who were killed in action.

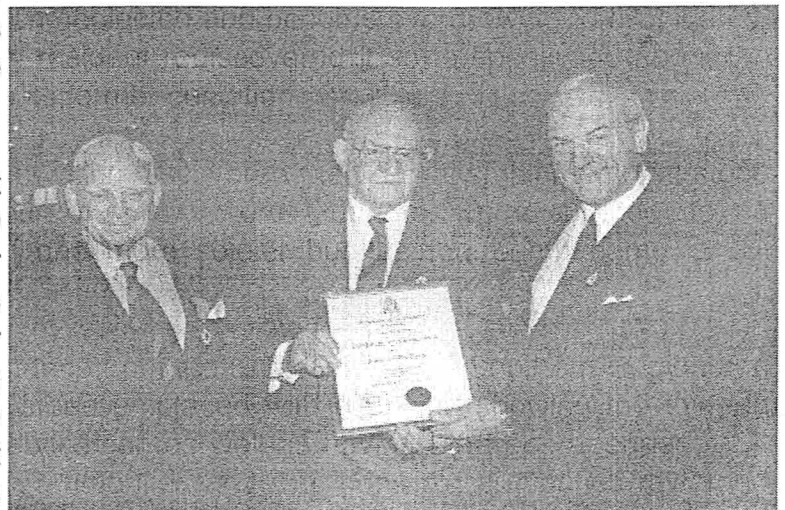
Over the years this memorial had been neglected and become overgrown and dilapidated. Our member Edmund (Ed) Williams a local resident rediscovered it so to speak and about ten years ago began a campaign to restore it to its former condition.

Ed's first task was a general clean up which discovered the original small memorial stone bearing the names of twelve soldiers four of whom were Gunners. Ed launched into an investigation and discovered the name of one more soldier but the fourteenth name is still missing.

Pressing on Ed has lobbied for assistance from the Knox City, Army Southern Region and local people. He was able to get a larger stone emplaced with a plaque showing the thirteen known names and acknowledging WW2 servicemen as well as having the trees attended to. It was at this stage that the RSL, the military authorities and the municipal authorities rewarded Ed's efforts with recognition. The official opening by BRIG Keith Rossi that I attended was held on 25 February 1995.

The State President of the RSL Mr Bruce Ruxton on behalf of the National President Major General Digger James presented Ed Williams with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work in restoring the memorial and he is recognised as the coordinator for its ongoing care. This however was not the end.

After further lobbying which must have been quite exhausting in mid 1999 Eastern Energy have moved their power lines away from the avenue. This was highly desirable for two reasons. Firstly for the general appearance of the area. More importantly it will allow the trees to develop properly and not need constant pruning to avoid the power lines. This has gained Ed a well deserved second



Certificate of Appreciation presented by Major General Peter Phillips National President of the RSL

Ed Williams being presented with his second Certificate of Appreciation by MAJGEN Phillips National President of the RSL in the presence of

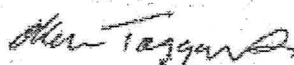
The story does not end here. Ed's ongoing efforts are directed at the Knox Council and VicRoads to have a retaining wall built along the road line. This will protect the embankment in front of the memorial and the trees from traffic vibration and provide a more favourable view from the road. The most current project is to have a plaque added to acknowledge the recent East Timor operations.

Listed here are the names of the WW1 soldiers recorded at the memorial.

1. PTE J. A. Battersby	7 Inf Bn	8. GNR N. B. G. Sandford	5 F A Bgde
2. GNR Jas. Dean	F A Bgde	9. DRV H. deG. Van Brummelan	3 Div
3. PTE Chas Gordon	KIA	10. PTE P. Van Brummelan	29 Inf Bn
4. GNR D. W. J. McDonald		11 DRV J. H. Moore	4 F A Bgde
5. PTE J. H. Moore	32 Inf Bn	12. DRV T. W. E. Wragge	3 Div
6. PTE G. M. Reid	39 Inf Bn	13. PTE W. E. Farr	Gallipoli Vet
7. GNR L. F. Sage	10 How Bty	14. Missing	

It would be great if someone could come up with the missing name. Maybe someone has the brass plate with the missing name hidden away in a shed or a mystery uncle in a family photo album. It would be very difficult to verify such a name but it is worth a mention. Ed would be very grateful for any information.

The memorial is well worth a look if you are travelling in the area and I congratulate Edmund on his tireless work on behalf of the memory of the soldiers from the district.



Merv Taggart
President

NEW UNIT IN AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

You may like to know of the formation of a new unit in the Australian Defence Force. Known as the *Australian Federation Guard* (AFG), the 150 member unit has been drawn from all 3 services, and will be based at the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra. The unit's role will be to undertake ceremonial duties, thus relieving operational units of the task, and having to interrupt their training program to prepare for such occasions. Members will largely volunteer for posting to the unit for up to 2 years, and will wear the ceremonial uniform of their service.

The unit's first formal parade was held on Tuesday 7th March, at which they welcomed home representatives of the INTERFET force returning from East Timor. Following this function, they began a busy schedule involving a guard of honour for Her Majesty's visit during late March, and a range of parades related to the Olympic Games.

The above is reproduced with the kind permission of the committee of the RAA Assoc of SA Inc from their newsletter of April 2000.



Corporal Farley, 16-year-old giant of the Air Training Corps camp at Laverton, dwarfed Brian Franzi, 4'9" and Garry Morgan, 4'9". Farley is 6'3" tall.

MY SERVICE CAREER

by COL Graham Farley, OAM,
RFD, ED, (Rtd)

The VICAIRTC 50 Years Ago

I was a foundation cadet (No 7964) in the Malvern Grammar School No 9 Flight in September 1947, and left the corps four years later aged 18, with the rank of Flight Sergeant.



**At RAF White Waltham
11 Aug 1951 ATC/Air Cadet
Exchange Program
L-R: USA, Australia,
Pakistan, India UK, Canada**

In 1951 I had the chance and Victorian Headquarters of parade with a UK Flight. This was No where I was made most welcome. RAAF AIRCDRE arranged for me to included a weekend at RAF White Typical English wet weather forced a base. I was unable to accompany the George VI a week later. I look back on and gratitude.

When National Service was to opt for the Army side of the services other factors. In the military I became a Regiment of Australian Artillery, but I



**Sergeant Farley on the steps
of Malvern Grammar
School's Italianate building
1950 shortly before being
promoted to Flight Sergeant**

to go to Britain for three months VicAirTC arranged for me to 323 Squadron at Ewell in Surrey During those three months the join the Canadian contingent. This Waltham and RAF Uxbridge. strategic withdrawal to the latter Canadians when they met King those four years with great pride

introduced in 1951, I was obliged owing to university studies and Gunner, ie. a member of the Royal never forgot my day's in blue.

15th National Service Battalion – My Introduction to the Army

On Tuesday, 5th January, 1954 I presented myself at 0730 hours at the Royal Park Military Depot for enlistment into the Army and to commence 98 days of training in the recently established National Service Scheme.

Before that night was out, I was allotted to a hut, sworn into the Army, fought myriads of flies for my lunch and had my first taste of boiling up water in coppers known as Sawyer stoves. But we did put on our battle dress and wrote letters home. I always felt that the swearing in might have been conducted with a little more ceremony than the requirement to some how get a finger's touch on the single bible with some dozen of us in a ring.

I recall feeling that some of the trousers with which I had been issued were rather tight and that I would have to get them changed when opportunity permitted, but for the first week, our platoon in Able Company was on fatigues.

JI and another were allotted to the task of boiling up three Sawyer coppers for each of the three daily meals. The inland weather for January was hot. The wood was like mahogany. When we complained that the wood was hard to split, one of the regular Army cook staff came out to demonstrate that it could be done. He was a strapping big fellow who wielded the axed one-handed. Of course, the wood split -- it had no option.



The scene on a Saturday morning at Puckapunyal when we had to scrub out our hut, clearing all of the furniture out on to the ground outside.

Each Saturday morning we were required to scrub out our huts. This necessitated moving all the furniture such as beds and cupboards out of the hut on to the ground outside. Then hoses would be used to "flood" the hut with the water being squeegeed out. As it was summer and quite hot, the huts dried quickly and we could have the gear back in before lunch. We had to sit outside while the hut dried.

One week when duties involved gardening, guard and ammunition parties, the opportunity arose to change those trousers. I felt a fool when I fronted up, the issued trousers fitting perfectly. I had lost pounds in weight in those seven days. The Army in those three months trimmed me from seventeen to twelve stone. I had never been as fit!

At the start of the third week we commenced our training as soldiers. After the relatively early breakfast, we paraded with rifles and bayonets on the company parade ground between the huts. The CSM did a good job and we responded as best we could. We were allowed to go to the showers in the morning in *muck order*, but most of the time we resigned ourselves to being marched, even to mess parades.

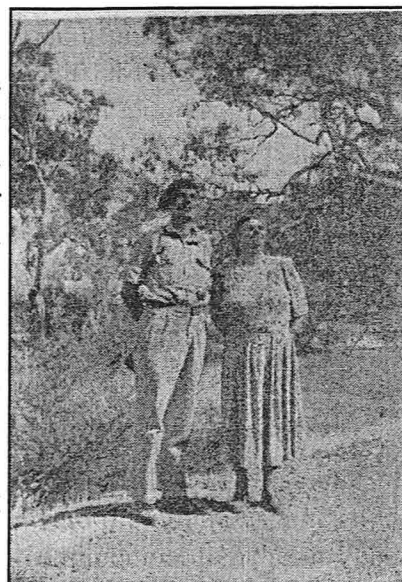
The best lectures were those in the film theatre. The training films were mostly of British origin. One got used to the cast used for these films. Later in my CMF career there were the infamous *quick* and *deliberate* fire plan films with battle-dressed Tommy signallers just sliding into convenient trenches to send the BC's orders, and most officers sporting ribbons including the MC.

Communication with home was by letter or phone call. To make a phone call meant a walk to the military post office and booking one's call with the operator. Having had one's three minutes, one walked back in the dusk to the lines.

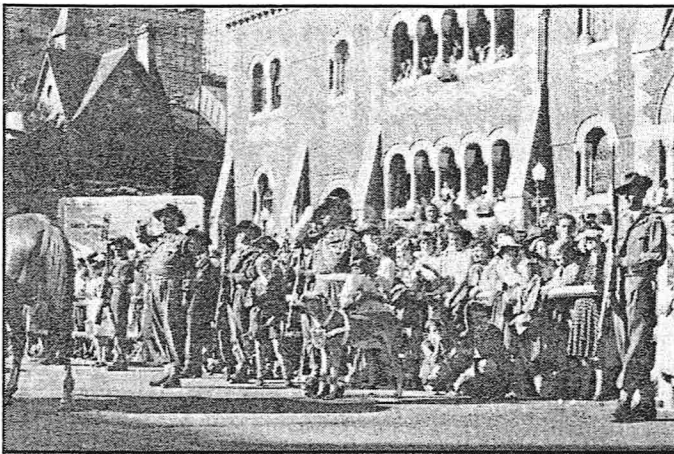
Leave for the weekend was given about three times during the period. The return trip was on Sunday night. On one trip, the emergency cord had to be pulled as our carriage developed a distinct list. We were placed in another carriage and the faulty one disconnected. On another weekend when we had Sunday leave my mother and father came up to see me. We went to Tallarook and Trawool. These weekend leaves were very precious.

Rifle and Bren shooting took place both at the Puckapunyal and the Seymour rifle ranges. Owen and other small arms training take place at Mount Certainty. . Despite my reasonable ability at rifle shooting with the Air Training Corps a few years earlier, I had very little success during national service. Was this why I was allocated to the MMG platoon in my first CMF unit?

On these range days our lunch rations would be brought out by truck. It was stew on one of these occasions that gave the battalion members severe bowel trouble. That night every toilet was pressed into service, including those in other unit's lines. The next day the medical



Me and my mother on a leave weekend near Trawool with Mt Hickey in the background



The Battalion stands rigidly at the salute as Her Gracious Majesty passes by during the Melbourne Royal Progress. Fortunately the Bn mascot, Rajah, shows his better side standing firmly with the Bn in homage to our Gracious Sovereign

A Coy. marched up from Spender Street Station with me as the marker, the first soldier in the front file on the left, some six inches above the rest to Flagstaff Gardens where refreshments were available and we changed into battle dress. Some efforts were put in to our diet so that we would be able to stand for some hours without needing conveniences.

A day or two later, soldiers in Puckapunyal were provided with transport to see the Queen and the Prince as we journeyed north on the Kilmore to Bendigo line (now dismantled). The Queen and the Prince were on the platform of the observation car when they came past.

Some aspects of training were more unpleasant than others or more physically challenging. One was gas training. Here, the soldiers had to don respirators and then to experience the gas (reduced to acceptable levels) without them. I was not sorry to miss this experience, having volunteered for the battalion concert party.

But that ruse did not get me completely out of the confidence courses. Our platoon did miss one of these owing to leave, but there inevitably came the day when it was obvious as to which site in the camp area we were being marched. Somehow I got my body through it all with only minor scratches.

Being tall, I was relatively able at volley ball and was a member of the company team. The inter-company matches often took precedence over training. One should never volunteer, I have been told, but I could not resist when volunteers were asked for the company's dramatic night. I thoroughly enjoyed playing a part in *The Happiest Days of Our Lives*, in which a girls' school is allocated war time premises in a boys' school, and the two heads have to somehow keep parents and council members from seeing the wrong sex. Margaret Rutherford starred in the film version.

Three months passed quickly. The community benefited through the expansion of the Citizen Military Forces (re-established in 1948) as the units had to accommodate the national servicemen for their five years service obligation. There were many of us who *stayed on* after that commitment was fulfilled. It was logical for university students to be posted to the Melbourne University Regiment (MUR). And that will be the next chapter in this account.

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth of Australia, accompanied by Prince Philip, made an official visit to Australia in the early part of 1954, the previous trip having been cancelled when her father, George VI, died.

There were sufficient troops and other bodies available for the entire route to be lined by armed personnel. Quite a bit of training time was devoted to training for the lining of the route task while at Puckapunyal. We had strict orders that we were not to make any attempt to hold back the public should they break through the lines of soldiers. The bayonets would have caused more havoc to each other than to the public.



A Coy. marched up from Spender Street Station via Collins St near Scot's Church to Flagstaff Gardens with Bn Mascot, Rajah more interested in the camera than military discipline

LLOYD SEARLE'S WAR

DUNERA - THE TROOPSHIP

I must mention a little about this ship, as it is my first trip in a vessel of this size. This troopship was the same one that brought out the Jewish people from Britain to Australia where they were locked up for the duration of the war. Their shocking ordeals have been published in a book, the Dunera Boys, I think it was called. This is no bull; they came out on her and we the 2/2 Field Regiment went back on the return trip to the Middle East. I am led to believe that at the drawing board stage of her design, a bit of confusion set in when it was realised the designers were more skilled in the design of duck punts and paddles for pleasure resorts, than they were in troop carriers. The powers in charge decided to let them carry on regardless and they finished up with their masterpiece the Dunera. A few little problems crept in during construction. One small one they have never been able to solve, was that when she was sailing in anything over a five knot wind, anyone looking up the funnel could see dry land if the ship was in sight of shore. This problem disappeared as she got out into the ocean. All that could be seen then was the crest of the waves. Another strange thing for us was to look out the portholes and gaze at a beautiful blue sky and within seconds we would be studying the rock formations on the bottom of Bass Strait. Very interesting fish in these waters as we noted, swimming among the rocks. The rocking and rolling of the ship may have been causing these problems.

Another masterpiece of design was the toilets. They were placed right in the pointy or bow end of the ship and consisted of two long planks coming from the point of the bow and coming back in a vee on both sides of the ship. A series of holes were cut in these approximately two feet apart. These were resting on a long trough, which had a terrific jet of water shooting along under the holes. In calm waters it was quite a meeting place for the Gunners where we could sit and have a yarn with those on either side of us, or the ones opposite, although it became a little embarrassing to find the only vacant holes were the ones right up front where the v met. To study the expressions on one of your mates face from a distance of about two feet while he was doing what nature intended, was a bit puzzling to say the least. Where the system fell down was when the seas got really rough. The bow would skyrocket up to the crest of a wave and then drop like a stone. Between the crest and the trough, anyone using this latrine would become airborne and then meet the hole again as the Dunera mounted another crest. For anyone unskilled in this task it was nothing unusual to start off on one and land on the next one as the bow came up. Very embarrassing though to land on some one's knee who happened to be sitting on the next hole. I believe the only answer is to use seat belts and to have a sign on the door reading (BUCKLE UP).

A well thought out idea was the mess tables. They were solid timber about three feet wide and approximately thirty feet long. The luxuries such as sugar; marmalade and butter were kept in racks up one end and placed out on the boards at mealtime. As the ship very seldom stopped rolling from side to side, there was no need for anyone up one end of the table to sing out "Pass the butter when you are quite sure you have finished with it". All they had to do was wait a couple of seconds and grab it as it slid past on the polished board. Butter, sugar, marmalade, slid constantly from one end to the other and back again and no matter how violent the rocking was, these luxuries would stop before hitting the side of the ship or crashing off and onto the floor at the other end. Must have taken a lot of mathematical calculations to work that one out.

I mentioned polished tables earlier. They came about from lots and lots of bare feet trying to get a grip on something as we attempted to climb into our canvas hammocks at bedtime. These were slung between hooks welded to the underside of the deck above. It required lots of

skill to make the hammock first time without getting in one side and straight out the other down onto the table. As most of us slept in the raw below decks it was amusing to see the movement in a hammock after we put a hand full of sugar over the top end of someone fast asleep. It would slowly creep down to the lowest part of the hammock, which was about the bum level. The scratching wouldn't last long though, as the sugar would turn into goo after being in contact with a sweaty body. This could be one of the main reasons so many of us slept up on deck when we were a few miles clear of the South Pole.

The one thing I would like to ask the Jewish people who were on this ship before us is "Why the hell didn't they pull the plug out of her when they disembarked". This could have saved the 2/2 Field Regiment the same sort of torture that they endured on the way out here.

It has been rumoured that the same people, who designed and built this ship, then decided they had learnt by their mistakes and would build another much more modern one than the Dunera. This they did and called it BOUNTY. They handed it over to a Captain Bligh. He had a little trouble with conditions on the ship also and the last I heard was the crew were thinking of having a mutiny.

The Reserve Forces Day Council invites you to

Celebrate an historic occasion With this unique collector's item



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To mark the unique occasion of the 200th Anniversary of Reserve Forces in Australia, a very special Commemorative Medallion has been commissioned and struck.

Strictly limited and individually numbered, these medallions offer a never to be repeated opportunity to own a place of Australian Defence Force history.

The first medallion number 0001, will be issued to Reserve Forces Day Patron in Chief,

- Strictly limited production
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- Hand finished
- Marks the 200th Anniversary of Reserve Forces in Australia

The Commander in Chief, Australian Defence Force, Governor General of Australia, Sir William Deane, AC KBE. All others are being made available to collectors and enthusiasts.

Mounted in a double sided presentation pack, the reverse shows the Government General Order of the 7th September, 1800, raising the loyal Sydney and Parramatta Associations.

All proceeds go towards the RFD Council work with Reserve Forces Day activities.

The medallion will be struck by The Adelaide Mint, in cupro-nickel, proof like quality, mirror finish background, with frosted relief, diameter 38.35 mm.

The face of the medallion will carry three Service figures, dressed in the garb of the era 1800, 1900, 2000, carrying the perimeter words "celebrating 200 years of Part Time Service in the defence of Australia."

The obverse will carry the Australian Defence Force Emblem, carrying the perimeter words "Reserve Forces Day 1 July 2000." It will be mounted in a double sided, numbered, presentation pack for easy viewing and display. They will be available in July.

To order these medallions ring our Treasurer Reg Morrell on 9562 9552

Letters to the Editor

ARTILLERY BARRACKS, FREMANTLE, WA.

THERE MUST BE NO SALE!

The Commonwealth Government has indicated its intention to sell the Artillery Barracks, Burt Street, Fremantle, WA. Presently the Barracks are the home of the Army Museum of Western Australia and some Army Reserve units.

This has caused considerable alarm among those interested in our Australian Army heritage, and there are many of them, both in the Army, in community groups and particularly those closely associated with the Army Museum of Western Australia who have by their voluntary efforts over the years established a first class museum which attracts many visitors and is now firmly established as an element of the tourism scene in Fremantle and more generally of Western Australia.

There is a deal of unfairness in the proposed sale; unfairness toward those who have given unstintingly of their labour, their funds and untold hours of their time over some 30 years in the expectation that their landlord, the Defence Department, would give them a *fair go*.

The RAA Association (WA) has been at the forefront of opposing the proposal. A march and rally on Sunday 21 May attracted some 2000 supporters. Will you help?

Major General J. Whitelaw
91 Mugga Way
RED HILL ACT 2603
Tel: (02) 6295 9680

Keep those letters rolling in. Please address all editorial correspondence, and articles, etc to:

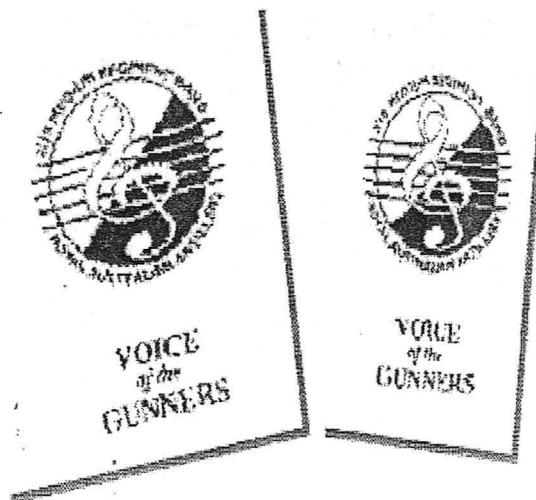
The Editor
"CASCABEL"
34 Richmond Ave
Carrum Downs Vic 3201

OR E-mail to: rgcurtis@bigpond.com.au

NON-Editorial material should be addressed to: RAA Assn (Vic) Inc
PO Box 309
Frankston VIC 3199



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PARADE CARD 2000

June 2000

- 15 Committee Meeting
- 30 Gunner Dinner

July 2000

- 1 Reserves Day Parade
- 20 Committee Meeting
- 29 Arty Ball

August 2000

- 17 Committee Meeting

September 2000

- 21 Committee Meeting

October 2000

- 9 Committee Meeting
- 26 AGM

November 2000

- 16 Committee Meeting
- 19 Freedom of Geelong

December 2000

- 2 1812 Overture
- 3 St Barbara's Day
- 7 Committee Meeting

January 2001

No functions or meetings during this month

February 2001

- 4 Church Parade
- 15 Committee Meeting

March 2001

- 15 Committee Meeting

April 2001

- 19 Committee Meeting
- 25 ANZAC Day

May 2001

- 17 Committee Meeting

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

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PO Box 309
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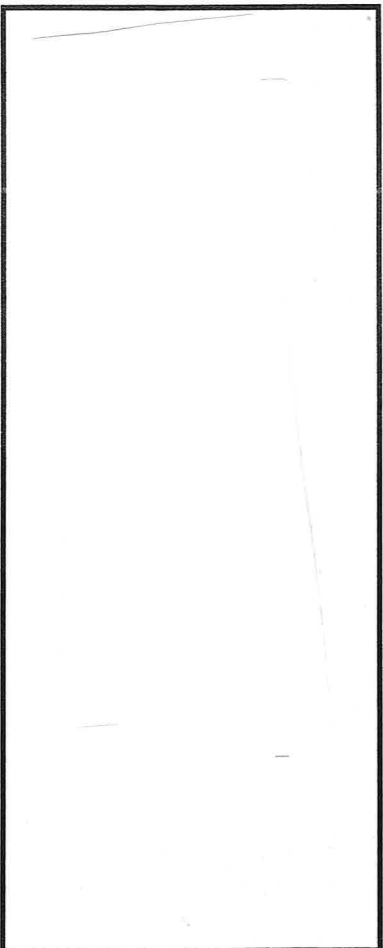
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