

FRONTLINE

A DEFENCE SERVICE JOURNAL



The Official Journal of

THE 1st NINETEENTH

1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION

THE 2nd NINETEENTH

2/19 BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION



I/XIX

Primus agat Primas - Fortiter et Fideliter



Fortiter et Fideliter
(Boldly and Faithfully)

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FRONTLINE

A DEFENCE SERVICE JOURNAL

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

1ST/19TH BATTALION

THE ROYAL NEW

SOUTH WALES

REGIMENT

ASSOCIATION &

2ND/19TH BATTALION

A.I.F. ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS OF THE

AUSTRALIAN

DEFENCE

FORCES

RESERVES

CONTENTS

From the President.....	3-4
Vales.....	5-10
Coming Events.....	10
Notice of 2015 Annual General Meeting Gosford & Assn Officer Bearers...	11
Annual General Meeting Weekend Gosford Program.....	12
Items of Concern – The Future of the Sydney ANZAC Day March.....	13
Sick Report & Congratulations.....	14
Reserve Forces Day Canberra.....	15
50th Anniversary National Service Day 1965-2015 Canberra.....	16
Donations & New Members – Reserve Forces Day Sydney.....	17
Major James McManamey Commemoration.....	18
2 Division Centenary Commemoration.....	19
Corporal John Mooney Commemoration.....	20
Pozieres Day Commemoration.....	21
Seen Around The Traps.....	22
RNSWR Offrs/WO's & SNCO's Regimental Dinner.....	23-24
RNSWR Garrison Church Parade.....	25
Victory over Japan Day & Battle for Australia Day Commemorations.....	26
Freedom of the City of Sydney Scroll.....	27
B COY 1/19 RNSWR Dinner.....	28
The Norden Gun.....	29
Book Review - Australian Soldiers in Asia Pacific in World War 2.....	30
Nor All Thy Tears Dvr James McNamara.....	31
Down Memory Lane.....	32

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Winter did not start in a very auspicious manner. I had no sooner finished reading the proof copy of the June issue of *Frontline* than Bob Pink telephoned me with the news of the passing, at 95, of Allan Brideoake. Allan, together with “Bandy” Donaldson, “Digger” Dowd and their wives were among the staunchest supporters of the merged Associations when we accepted responsibility for the 2nd/19th Battalion legacy. While infirmity and distance have curtailed Allan’s activities in recent years he remained a committed member up to his passing, peacefully, at Strathearn Nursing Village, Scone where he had recently taken up residence. Allan was farewelled at St Andrew’s Uniting Church in Scone on Friday, 19 June before a large congregation. I represented the Association at the funeral of this important member of our Association and I was accompanied by Bob Pink, Joe Coombs and Greg Coombs. Also present was Andrew Donaldson and his wife Margaret, who had travelled up from Canberra. The Church was packed to overflowing and Bruce, Allan’s son, gave a very moving eulogy for his father. A guard of honour was provided by a detachment of the 12th Light Horse (Murrurundi) Troop in full Light Horse uniform. Allan had served with the Light Horse before enlisting in the AIF.

I was also saddened to receive a call from Esther Slater’s daughter, Val Cochrane, who informed me of Esther’s passing on 9 November 2014. Esther, who lived in Quirindi, was also a staunch and generous supporter and will be sadly missed.

On Sunday, 26 July I represented the Association at the 1st Battalion Annual Pozieres Day (99th Anniversary) Commemoration Service at St Columba’s Uniting Church in Woollahra. The ceremony was conducted in the presence of LTGEN John Caligari AO, DSC who flew down from Townsville especially for the occasion. The service was conducted by Reverend Alan Russell, formerly the Minister at St Columba’s, and was attended by a large congregation. The Association of 1st Battalions, which is basically focused on the men of 1 RAR, is to be commended for their continuing dedication to the memory of those who served in the AIF in 1st Battalion and 2nd/1st Battalion. Unfortunately, the Colours of 1st Battalion were unable to be paraded on the day. As always, the Pipes and Drums of Scots College, Sydney provided the musical accompaniment and these young men are a shining example of the dedication of those who serve in the school Cadet Corps. The ladies of St Columba’s provided the usual spectacular morning tea at the completion of the service.

On Saturday, 8 August, in company with Bob Pink, Sandy Howard, Bob Weir, Ken McKay and Ron Richmond, I attended The Royal New South Wales Regiment Officers’, Warrant Officers’ and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers’ Regimental Dinner at the Novotel Brighton Le Sands. It was the 55th Anniversary of the formation of the Regiment and also the Centenary of the Battle of Lone Pine. The Guest of Honour was His Excellency, General The Honourable David Hurley AC, DSC (Retd.), Governor of New South Wales and Regimental Representative Colonel of the Regiment. A number of serving members of the Association were also present among them the Regimental Colonel Commandant BRIG Paul Couch CSC, RFD, the Commanding Officer 1/19 RNSWR, LTCOL Tony Ang, the OC B Company 1/19 RNSWR, MAJ Lee Monzo, LTCOL Graeme Davis fresh from his duties of organising the Divisional Centenary Parade in Canberra a few weeks before and COL John Brennan. Over 130 sat down to dinner and it was a splendid evening with a very cogent address by His Excellency. As ever, discretion was the better part of valour and I retired reasonably early.

Bob, on the other hand, maintained the honour of the Association by persisting to the end and was somewhat slow the next morning when we all turned out for the Regimental Church Parade at The Holy Trinity Garrison Church in The Rocks. The service was attended by His Excellency, this time accompanied by Mrs Linda Hurley, and it was a very moving occasion and the first time that it had been conducted by the new Rector, Reverend Craig Tubman. PIPE MAJOR Bill Campbell, with two drummers and a trumpeter provided appropriate music including the stirring Highland Cathedral as the Colours of 4th Battalion were marched into the church to join all of the other Queens’ and Regimental Colours of the Regiment that had been pre-positioned on the Altar.

Saturday, 15 August was the 70th Anniversary of the end of World War 2 in the Pacific. I represented the Association at the Commemoration Service organised by RSL NSW at the

FRONTLINE

Cenotaph in Martin Place, together with Bob Pink, Roy & Trish Rae, Sandy Howard, Dorothy Howard and Ray Warden. Ray laid the wreath in memory of the men of 2/19th Battalion AIF 2 who did not return. Also in attendance were Barry Nesbitt, Mary Bryant, Ken Smith and Matt Walsh. His Excellency, General The Honourable David Hurley, AC, DSC (Retd), Governor of New South Wales delivered a very stirring address and it was a particularly well performed occasion with the Guard found from 6 Aviation Regiment and the Australian Army Band Sydney. Afterwards we adjourned to The Combined Services Club in Barrack Street for refreshments.

On Saturday, 29 August, in company with Bob Pink and Geoff Braddon, I was a guest at the B Company, 1/19 RNSWR "Grunt Inn Mess" Formal Dinner at the Bathurst RSL Club. It was a very successful night which saw awards made to a number of outstanding soldiers from the Company and it was an occasion to catch up with some old friends and to meet and talk with some of the fine young men and women who serve so well in Bravo Company.

Wednesday, 2 September was Battle for Australia Day. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Commemorative Service at the Cenotaph in Sydney but the Association was ably represented by Bob Pink, Mick Pass and Ray Warden. Mick was accompanied by two of his mates from HQ COY 2 DIV Association – Greg Fleming and Allan Hampson.

On Saturday, 5 September, I was privileged to represent the Association, accompanied by Bob Pink and Bob Binns, at the Centennial Commemoration of the death of Major James Whiteside Fraser McManamey, Second in Command of 19th Australian Infantry Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, who was killed on Gallipoli on 5 September 1915. The Commemoration was organised by David and Rosa McManamey and was held at the Woodford Academy in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, a school established by James' brother, John and where James had taught in the years before World War 1. The Commemoration service MC was Ian McManamey a grandson of Major McManamey and it was a very moving tribute to a soldier who was obviously well loved and respected by the men under his command. It was attended by members of the family who travelled from many parts of Australia, senior members of the Australia Rugby community recognising James' strong involvement in that code, representatives of various colleges and Sydney University. A fitting commemoration of a dedicated "citizen" soldier who was killed on the eve of his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and assuming command of his own battalion!

Work has continued apace on the updating and upgrading of the Association website and special thanks are due to Peter McGuinness, as the author of the content, and Sandy Howard, as the Webmaster, for their sterling efforts. It is still a work in progress but it is a remarkable achievement and well worth a visit. In particular, the "Coming Events" page always has up to date information about what is to happen and is an ideal space to keep abreast of Association matters between issues of *Frontline*.

By the time this edition of *Frontline* reaches you arrangements for the Annual Reunion in Gosford will be all but complete. I understand that motel bookings are heavy so if you have not already done so I suggest that you attend to this important detail URGENTLY! Our Vice President, Mick Pass, has done his usual excellent job in organising the weekend and you are assured of a good time. I look forward to seeing a large number of you there.

As Winter gives way to Spring we can emerge from "hibernation" safe in the knowledge that we have survived another year. I trust that all of you are well. To those who have been unwell, I hope that you are on the road to recovery and I do ask that, if you are unwell, you have someone let Bob Pink or me know. We care about the health and well-being of our members.

Until the next time we meet, in the words of my Irish ancestors:

May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind always be at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face, and rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Roger Perry

FRONTLINE



VALE GOOD FRIENDS

NX36061 PRIVATE Allan Robert BRIDEOAKE, JP
16 Platoon D Company, 2/19 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION AIF
6 June 1920 - 15 June 2015



EULOGY DELIVERED BY ALLAN'S SON BRUCE BRIDEOAKE

Allan was born in Cootamundra on 6 June 1920 and spent his early years in and around Ilabo and Junee where his Dad had a farm. In 1929, The Great Depression had hit and Allan's father Bob had to sell the farm and they moved to Tallimba, near West Wyalong, where Bob became the butcher. Bob had been wounded and gassed in France, on the Somme in 1916, so Allan helped out as a young lad and began to learn the butcher's trade. By the early 1930's, things were so tough that Allan left school and spent most of his time bringing in sheep and cattle from surrounding farms to support his father and supply the butcher's shop.

This period had a profound impact on Allan. He saw so many families and individuals 'on the road', relying on charity just to survive. He often told me about getting up early to milk the cow for the family. His track home with a full bucket was past the 'Common' where those 'on the road' camped. They would send their children over to Allan for just a cup of milk, but there was so many that

by the time he got home most of the milk was gone. He found it hard to say 'no' and the plight of these people did concern him.

Like so many of his generation, the Depression meant leaving school at thirteen and working part-time along with some home studies. Allan worked with his Dad and by the late 1930's he was 'stepping out' with Ruth Watt, the daughter of a local farming family. Then came the War.

Allan enlisted in the 2/19th Battalion AIF at Wagga Wagga on 1 July 1940. They trained around western Sydney and Bathurst before embarking on the Queen Mary on 4 February 1941. Little did he know he would not see his family or his country for the next four and a half years. They sailed to Singapore, then trained in Malaya for almost 12 months before going into action. Following the defence of Singapore and the surrender of some 85,000 Allied troops, Allan worked as a prisoner around Singapore Island for a year. This was followed by 18 months working on the infamous Burma-Thailand Death Railway, including Hellfire Pass. It was during this period Allan saw the best of humanity and Australian mateship and at the same time the worst of humanity from their brutal captors. Starvation rations, beatings and 18-hour days were normal.

After the Railway was finished, Allan was in an 18-boat convoy sent from Singapore to Japan to work in their coalmines. The trip took 70 days on a boat that was in the sights of the American submarines, but they decided it would sink anyhow, so didn't waste a torpedo! A 4-day typhoon culled more boats, and only 3 made it to Japan. It's worth noting that in later life he chose not to get on a cruise boat or eat rice. He said he'd pushed his luck once on a boat and eaten a shed full of rice, so didn't need to repeat those experiences!

He spent the next 12 months in Japan, living through the coldest winter in 70 years in tropical kit and starvation rations, working 12 hour days, 7 days a week. But he survived it all and he made it home to Australia in late October 1945. Allan was 25 at that stage, with 5 years of horror, mateship and humour behind him. He never forgot the horror, but the rest of his life was defined by the mateship and humour.

Once home, Allan put a deposit on a butchers shop in Weethalle and got on with his life. In April 1946, he married his childhood sweetheart Ruth, who had waited for him, even though for much of the War she didn't even know if he was alive. Together they worked and raised a family in Weethalle for the next 15 years. In 1961, Allan realised a lifelong dream and bought a farm at Wingen. There were many happy days there, but a devastating drought made times hard and to make ends meet, he returned to the butchering game to survive. The 1970's saw Allan and Ruth managing the Isis Motel and owning the Isis Caravan Park. In 1978, they retired and purchased a small farm in the Southern Highlands. Allan had room for his horses and dogs, a few sheep and chooks. Ruth was close to the Sydney shops so both enjoyed their 19 years at Tahmoor.

They returned to Scone in 1997, and both Ruth and Allan enjoyed their remaining years in this wonderful town and district. As many of you recall, Ruth died in 2007. Allan was able to remain in his home until early this month. Allan was an uncomplicated man. If you were a friend, it was for life. If you did the wrong thing, you also got life! Allan loved his animals, especially his horses and dogs. He understood how they thought and worked with them. He hated cruelty with animals and the people behind it. He was a great father and citizen, a man who contributed to the community, through organisations such as the RSL and Legacy.

After the War, the 2/19th Battalion AIF survivors became a very close-knit group. They were a big part of his life and a big part of our family's life. The sons and daughters of those men are now our close family friends.

FRONTLINE

At least two are present here today, sons of two very special men in Allan's life. He lived a long and full life, saw the best of times and the worst of times and stayed positive through it all. For that we should all celebrate his life and the fact we knew him. On behalf of Beryl and I, thank you all very much for coming today. It has been appreciated. Allan was a special man and a good mate, and we will all miss him.

Allan's beloved wife Ruth (NFX169807 Private Ruth Mary Brideoake 2/2 Australian General Hospital, Australian Army Medical Womens' Service 1943-1945) predeceased him on 9 July 2007. Loved father of Beryl and Bruce. Loving Pop to Susan, David (dec'd), Fiona and Tim. Great grandfather to Oscar, Jack and Indigo. Brother of Audrey Rose, Bob and Les.

Allan was farewelled at St Andrews Uniting Church Scone on Friday 19th June 2015. Roger Perry, Joe and Greg Coombs, Andrew and Margaret Donaldson and Bob Pink represented the Association at Allan's farewell at St Andrews Uniting Church Scone NSW, on Friday 19th June 2015.



FRONTLINE

VALEDICTORY TRIBUTE TO Allan BRIDEOAKE by



Senator John WILLIAMS (New South Wales)

HANSARD 23 JUN 2015 (23:52):

Tonight I begin with the words of George Lancaster of the 4th Anti-Tank Regiment. He said: Those who were in Japanese captivity are an elite group, for those who were not there are unable, even in their wildest imaginings, to understand what happened to us physically, mentally and above all else, emotionally. Does one forget the pain, the degradation and the loss of comrades who would never have died if our treatment by our captors had been half-way civilised? I forgive grudgingly, but forget? How ridiculous! How ludicrous! Tonight I pay tribute to Allan Brideoake, a man who endured the horrors of a prisoner-of-war camp and a man I came to know over the years as a thorough gentleman.

Allan was born in 1920 in Cootamundra, the son of a farmer who later became a butcher. He did not know it at the time, but a young daughter of family friends, Ruth Watt, was later to become his wife. After the Dunkirk evacuation in May 1940, Allan again asked his father if he would let him join the call-up. Mr Brideoake senior said he would not stop him, but he also would not sign anything to allow him to join. Like many young men, he fudged his birthdate, putting down 6 June, 1919, one year earlier than the date he was born. He enlisted in the AIF on 1 July 1940 in the 2nd/19th Battalion. In February the following year he and thousands of other young Australians sailed from Sydney bound for Singapore.

The first few months were spent in Malaya, getting ready for what they knew would be a sustained Japanese attack. In an early battle Allan received a bullet wound and the bullet was not removed until much later, when he was a POW. He recalled that life was tough—one of his mates became so dehydrated he tried to drink the ink from a fountain pen. He was in Singapore when news of the surrender came through on 15 February 1942. In Allan's words:

It was the beginning of the toughest period of my life. I'd just lost a lot of good mates in battle and I was about to lose many more, as well as witness some of the most barbaric acts of savagery by members of the Japanese army.

Following the surrender, the Australians were marched 15 miles to Selarang barracks, near Changi. Allan soon got a taste of what was to come, having to sleep on a cement floor, although he found a six-inch piece of timber that he tried to lie on.

The prisoners were sent to work constructing a road that would lead to a shrine, and one Australian was given the job of driving a steamroller. Each morning, he would get the petrol ration for the machine but would either trade the petrol for food or store the petrol overnight in the firebox of the steamroller—not a good place to put petrol,. One morning the Japanese announced they were not happy with his work and decided they would operate the steamroller themselves. This presented a problem, because there was a tin of petrol in the firebox. The Aussies kept well away that morning. There was an almighty explosion and the front end of the steamroller flew off. All the Japanese soldiers bolted, while the diggers had a good laugh. It took them a while to fix it, and meanwhile the driver was called over. He guessed the game was up, so he said his goodbyes and went to the Japanese. They told him they were putting him back on as the driver as he obviously knew how to operate the machine properly!

Allan suffered the first of his beatings in August that year when he was savagely beaten with a pick handle; as he tried to protect himself, his wrist was broken.

In March 1942, D Force were herded into steel railway trucks and told they were leaving Singapore, bound for Thailand. They eventually arrived at Tahsao camp, and work started on the railway line, doing embankments and cuttings. From this time until the end of June 1944, it was just hard slog, moving from camp to camp and eventually to Konyu at Hellfire Pass and up to Hintok and Rin Tin camps. I take up Allan's words again:

This was the hardest time of our lives. The work we had to do was heavy and included digging, carting away rock and moving heavy timber around for bridge construction. Where a cutting was needed for the railway, gangs of two were given a 16 lb (7kg) sledgehammer and a long chisel. It was called the 'hammer and tap', where one man held the chisel while the other swung the hammer 100 times to drill the blasting holes for the Jap engineers. After 100 swings you would swap places. Many of the blokes ended up with broken hands and arms, until we fashioned a bit of timber to hold the 'tap'. We had to drive the blasting-hole one metre in depth into solid rock, and then the Jap engineers would give us charges to ram. After the blast, we would then have to return and clear out the rock. This is how the cutting at 'Hellfire Pass' was made ...

The workday started at 8 am and often finished at midnight. Starved men suffering from malaria, tropical ulcers, dysentery, beri-beri and cholera, bashed within an inch of their lives, virtually used their bare hands to build what we now know as Hellfire Pass. The men were looked after by Doc. Hinder; Allan Brideoake, being a butcher, had the job of sharpening his instruments.

The line construction was finished in 1943, and in June 1944 the POWs were shipped south to Singapore and then on to Japan to work in the mines. Allan said there were already Pommy POWs working in the mine and they were a great help to the Aussies in telling them what they should and should not do to avoid a beating. The winter was horrific and the warmest place was down in the mines.

This brought new challenges to stay alive. Once, Allan and others were trapped for 28 hours underground by rising water, with a solitary lamp for company. Nearly all the guards at both the mine and the camp were civilians,

FRONTLINE

and a lot of them were trying to outdo each other, bashing prisoners. A good mate of Allan's, Doug Craig, was carrying a bucket of ash on a cinder pole and, when he went to salute a guard, he dropped the pole. For this accident, Doug was made to kneel in the snow all night and literally froze to death. Allan was so incensed he provided evidence to the war crimes commission about the guard, but nothing ever came of it.

In late July 1945, the POWs heard Allied planes more frequently and in the following months they were given the news that atomic bombs had been dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. When the end did come, the POWs were wary of the fate they faced. But, surprisingly, the gates were opened and the POW officers took control of the camp. It was over. American planes flew over and dropped food packages and newspapers. One cannot imagine the thoughts of these men, knowing they were the lucky ones who had survived.

And they still had their sense of humour. A group including Allan commandeered an old truck with solid rubber wheels and headed off down the road to find a brewery they had been told about. By this time, some of these blokes had revolvers on their hips and they looked like they were in a Western. When they found the brewery, they were not allowed to take the beer and whisky until they signed for it. So, that day, Bob Menzies, Don Bradman and Ned Kelly signed for most of it! Off they went.

The men were asked to send a simple telegram—'Safe and well, in Allied hands'—which would go to their family. By chance, Allan Brideoake's brother Bob was serving as a telegram officer north of Darwin, and a colleague reached across and gave him the telegram Allan had sent and said, 'You might like to be the one to send this through to your mum and dad.'

Allan Brideoake arrived back in Australia on 18 October 1945. He was met by his mum and dad, his sister and also Ruth Watt, who had also worked for the war effort in various ways. Allan and Ruth were married in April 1946 and had two children, Bruce and Beryl. In the post-war years, they were involved in butcher shops, farming and the accommodation industry. In 1997, Allan and Ruth retired to Scone. Ruth passed away in 2007, and I am sad to say Allan passed away early last week at the age of 95.

I was honoured to have met Allan Brideoake and enjoyed chatting to him about his time as a prisoner of war. I extend my sincere sympathies to his family.

I conclude with the words of George Lancaster of the 4th Anti Tank Regiment:

When I arrived home, I received two one-pound sterling canteen orders, a handshake and a ride home. No counselling or other forms of assistance, so readily available today. Go home and be 'normal' we were told; we did it, each to his own principles.

Allan Brideoake you are a great Australian



FRONTLINE



MRS Arija AUSTIN

Widow of NX 70159

Lieutenant Richard Wigram Locke AUSTIN, AO, OBE
2/19 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION AIF

Lawyers Butler McDermott of Buderim QLD advised by letter dated 22 July 2015 of Arija's passing and asked that we remove her details from the Association's mailing list. Subsequent phone calls to Butler McDermott established that Arija had passed away on 30 March 2015 and that there were no relatives or Next of Kin. Dick predeceased Arija on 17 May 2000 at Buderim QLD. Following Dick's passing, Arija

maintained her membership and keen support of the Association. Regrettably nothing is known of her family. The following tribute by Philip Jones published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on Tuesday June 13, 2000 provides a good insight into Dick's military and civil service

DICK AUSTIN, AO, OBE A SINGULAR MAN 1919-2000

The English writer Jeanne Heal wrote this of Dick Austin, who has died of cancer at Buderim in Queensland at the age of 81: "He is lean and tough and deeply tanned. It was in the Cathay Hotel [Singapore] where we both happened to be staying that the Japs took him prisoner of war. Capture was inevitable, so Dick did what to me is something typically Australian in its clear-mindedness he searched the building for toothpaste and a Japanese dictionary and so ended his imprisonment with sound teeth and a new language." When, in 1958, the Department of External Affairs announced its intention of sending Austin to the Australian Embassy in Jakarta he was singularly unimpressed by a posting, as he put it, to "the arsehole of the world". Yet after six months in Canberra "the city of the plain" his new posting appeared positively alluring.

A last outing for Dick before he left for Jakarta was the Melbourne Cup when his father's horse, Monte Carlo, came second in the big race. A gossip columnist wrote: "Dickie Austin was covered with lipstick, from kisses of condolence. He might have been Aly Khan as hordes of beautifully dressed women rushed at him with cries of 'what a shame'." He took his comparison to Aly Khan as a good omen. He was, after all, going to a Muslim country. The fact that Austin was a man of infinite attraction to the ladies did not preclude his seriousness of purpose in diplomacy, secret intelligence, management and passionate pursuit of the arts. Richard Wigram Locke Austin was educated at Sydney's Cranbrook School and Waitaki College in New Zealand. A law degree at the University of Sydney was interrupted by the war. He was commissioned as an officer with the City of Sydney Regiment and served from 1940 to 1945 as a lieutenant in the 8th Division, AIF. Austin's time as a prisoner of war was in a camp set up near the Burma railway between 1942 and 1945. His swiftly acquired knowledge of the Japanese language enabled him to act as an interpreter. Men were dying of cholera and of starvation. Many were tortured. Austin bravely approached the commanding officer with a plea for help but was told, "Life is transitory. We must accept without complaint whatever fate has in store for us."

On repatriation Austin returned to the University of Sydney where he gained a bachelor of arts and an honours degree in law. For seven years he taught law and practised as a barrister. In 1952 he was recruited by the Department of Foreign Affairs to serve in the political section of the Australian Embassy in Tokyo. His response to Japanese life and culture proved to be a revelation. "My whole attitude changed when I saw the other side." The enchantment lasted a lifetime. It is interesting to note that for a man of outstanding ability Austin was not singled out for top assignments in his diplomatic missions. Perhaps the answer can be found in his ultimate appointment as deputy director of the Australian Secret Intelligence Service. H.A. Dunn as publisher of Austin's book on Indonesia, *The Shadow of the Durian* provides a clue. "He might perhaps have said more about the work of the [Australian] Embassy. Those who knew him will understand."

In 1962 Austin joined the Department of Defence in Melbourne where he met and married Arija Cesna. It was then that his public involvement with the arts began and where I first met him. I was assistant director of the then Museum of Modern Art of Australia (now MoMA at Heide) and Dick was appointed a member of the council. I think he did not feel at home with us. As others have observed, he was a classicist rather than a modernist. He left the public sector in 1973 to become manager of corporate relations for Conzinc Rio Tinto Australia. Later he became a director. In 1979 he was appointed chairman of trustees of the National Gallery of Victoria. From 1981 until 1989 he was a member of the Australia-Japan Foundation. In 1985 the Austins moved to Buderim and he became the Queensland representative for art dealers Sothebys; he chaired the Queensland Art Gallery's board from 1987 until 1995. Last December, a QAG exhibition included a young Japanese sculptor's work a crumpled Zero fighter plane as a metaphor for a broken nation. Austin commented: "I don't get touched by political statements, but I'm glad that artists can come to this part of the world and express their views." His wife survives him.

The Queensland Art Gallery Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) awarded former Chair of the Gallery's Board of Trustees Richard (Dick) Austin AO, OBE (1919–2000) with the inaugural QAGOMA Gallery Medal. The medal recognises Austin's incredible vision, energy and leadership that even now continue to guide the Gallery towards Asia and the Pacific as a key Collection and exhibition focus. Chair of the Gallery's Board of Trustees, Professor Susan Street AO and QAGOMA Director Chris Saines CNZM presented Austin's wife, Mrs Arija Austin, with the Gallery Medal in an intimate ceremony at Mrs Austin's home. The gold medal, designed by acclaimed Queensland jeweller Barbara Heath, carries the iconic breezeway lattice pattern borne by many Queensland homes complemented by a cascade of silver 'water' droplets. Like rain, which nourishes and cultivates, the design alludes to the precious and transformative gift of dedicated service made by the awardee to both the Gallery and Queensland's cultural landscape as a whole.

MRS Esther May SLATER

Widow of NX48834 Private Wilfred George Slater, 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF

Late of Quirindi NSW, Esther's daughter Mrs Val Cochrane advised of Esther's passing on 9 November 2014.

FRONTLINE



NX4955 Private Roydon Charles CORNFORD 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF

Late of Vincentia and formerly of Mount Ousley Roy was born at Portland NSW on 24 May 1922 and passed away peacefully on 2nd July 2015 after a short illness. Beloved Husband of Joan. Dearly loved Father and Father in law of Beryl and Don, Barbara, Stephen and Margo. Loving Grandfather of Sheridan, Andrew, Melinda, Bernadette and David. Much loved Pa Corny of Charlotte, Ashton and Layla. Roy will be sadly missed by his loving family and many friends.

Roy was a 19 year old labourer from Wollongong, and enlisted into the Second Australian Imperial Force (AIF) in September 1941. Arriving in Singapore late in the Malayan campaign as a reinforcement for the 2/19th Battalion AIF, Roy was fortunate enough to be evacuated from Singapore to Java a week before the city fell to the Japanese. His luck was not to hold out, however, and Roy was

taken prisoner by the Japanese when Java fell in March 1942. Transported back to Singapore, Roy went on to work in Thailand on the notorious Burma-Thailand Railway. In March 1944, Roy was amongst a group of prisoners of war (POWs) in Thailand selected by the Japanese for transport to Japan to work as slave labour.

After many delays and a tortuous trip from Thailand to Singapore, Roy departed Singapore on 6 September 1944, aboard the Japanese cargo ship Rakuyo Maru, part of a convoy bound for Japan. On 12 September, the convoy was attacked by a US Navy submarine 'wolf pack', consisting of US Ships Growler, Pampanito and Sealion. Two ships in the convoy which were carrying POWs, Rakuyo Maru and Kachidoki Maru, were sunk by the submarines. As the ships carried no special markings and as the Japanese government had made no application for safe passage of the ships as POW transports, the American submarine crews had no way of knowing that Allied POWs were aboard the ships when they were torpedoed. The presence of POWs aboard the ships was discovered on 15 September, three days after the sinkings, when the USS Pampanito returned to the area to continue operations against the convoy and discovered men clinging to rafts who were identified as British and Australians.

Pampanito immediately set about rescuing as many survivors as possible and called in three of her sister ships to assist. Roy Cornford was one of the 73 survivors picked up by Pampanito. Roy and his mates were transported by Pampanito to the US base on the island of Saipan, where they were disembarked and immediately admitted to hospital. From Saipan, Roy was returned to Australia by ship, arriving at Brisbane on 18 October 1944. After further hospital treatment, Roy was discharged from the AIF on 24 May 1945.

Roy married his wife Joan in 1947 and they raised three children. Trained as a painter after the war, Roy originally worked as an employee of a painting contractor and then set up his own business, which he ran for almost 30 years. Roy was an active member of the RSL and following retirement he and his wife Joan established a successful plant nursery and donated all of the profits from 1987 to 2009 to charity. He remained actively involved in community and charity work. Roy preferred to forget the horrors of his time as a POW, concentrating instead on remembering how he and his mates all helped each other through difficult times and conditions.

Tom Cooper represented the Association at Roy's farewell at the Shoalhaven Crematorium Chapel Nowra on 7 July 2015.

Lest We Forget

COMING EVENTS 2015

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	Remarks
			ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & REUNION DINNER WEEKEND – GOSFORD NSW	GOSFORD RSL CLUB	
			SEE FURTHER DETAILS PAGE 11	 <p>GET IN QUICK – THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL DARTS COMPETITION IS BEING HELD IN GOSFORD (NOT AT THE GOSFORD RSL CLUB) ON THE SAME WEEKEND AND ACCOMMODATION IN THE GOSFORD AREA WILL BE VERY LIMITED</p>	
FRI	23OCT 2015	1800	MEET & GREET FUNCTION	<p>The Association has reserved 25 rooms at the GALAXY MOTEL which is co-located with Gosford RSL Club</p> <p>Reservations/details Tele: 02 4323 1711 26 Central Coast Highway WEST GOSFORD NSW 2250 & the ASHWOOD MOTOR INN 73 Central Coast Highway NORTH GOSFORD NSW 2250 Reservations/details: 02 4324 6577 (10% Discount)</p>	
SAT	24 OCT 2015	1030	WREATH LAYING CEREMONY		
SAT	24 OCT 2015	1400	PRESENTATION <i>The Big Adventure 1915</i> LTCOL Peter McGuinness, MBE, RFD, ED		
SAT	24 OCT 2015	1530	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING		
SAT	24 OCT 2015	1830 for 1900	AGM REUNION DINNER		
SUN	25 OCT 2015		Return Travel Home		
WED	11 NOV 2015	1045	REMEMBRANCE DAY	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Decorations & Medals Refreshments after Service at the Combined Services RSL 5-7 Barrack St SYDNEY

FRONTLINE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF 1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION INC.
(PROUDLY INCORPORATING THE 2nd/19th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION)

WILL BE HELD AT THE GOSFORD RSL CLUB,
26 Central Coast Highway WEST GOSFORD NSW 2250
on SATURDAY 24th OCTOBER 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. OPENING
2. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES
3. MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION'S
4. 16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB ORANGE NSW ON SATURDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2014
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. CORRESPONDENCE
6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
7. TREASURER'S REPORT
Presentation of Statement of Receipts & Payments Balance Sheet for the period 01 July, 2014 to 30 June, 2015.
Form 12 Annual Statement.
Certificate of Currency of Public Liability Insurance.
8. HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT
9. SOCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT
10. CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR
11. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS & 6 COMMITTEE MEMBERS
(in accordance with Clause 14 of the Rules)
PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
TREASURER
HONORARY SECRETARY
ASSISTANT TREASURER
ASSISTANT HONORARY SECRETARY
COMMITTEE MEMBERS (6)
12. GENERAL BUSINESS
13. CLOSURE
14. NEXT MEETING

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Nominations are hereby called for the following positions for the 2015-2016 year.

- PRESIDENT
- VICE PRESIDENT
- TREASURER
- HONORARY SECRETARY
- ASSISTANT TREASURER
- ASSISTANT HONORARY SECRETARY
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 6 positions

Any member who is entitled to vote at a general meeting is eligible for election as an office-bearer. (A member is entitled to vote if all money due and payable by the member to the Association has been paid other than the 2015-2016 subscription). Subject to satisfying the voting eligibility requirement, all current office-bearers will be eligible to nominate for re-election on this occasion.

Nominations for election as office bearers must be made in writing, be signed by one or more members of the Association, and be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination). A form for this purpose is available from the Honorary Secretary, but it is not mandatory to use it. Nominations must be delivered to the Honorary Secretary by Monday 19th October, 2015. They may be mailed to the Honorary Secretary at PO Box 224 INGLEBURN NSW 1890 or lodged by facsimile to (02) 9328 3319.

- ❖ If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies, the candidates nominated will be taken to be elected and nominations for the positions remaining vacant will be accepted at the Annual General Meeting.
- ❖ If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated will be taken to be elected.
- ❖ If the number of nominations received for any position(s) exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot will be held for that position(s) at the Annual General Meeting.



R.J. PINK
Honorary Secretary
7 September, 2015

ASSOCIATION PATRONS & OFFICE BEARERS

PATRON & LIFE MEMBER Lieutenant Colonel P.E.M. (Peter) McGUINNESS, MBE, RFD, ED
PATRON Colonel B.E. (Brian) MARTYN, RFD, psc (r)
CHAPLAIN & LIFE MEMBER Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel The Reverend Caron C.G. (Colin) AIKEN, OAM, RFD, ChStJ
CHANCELLOR Philip GERBER, LL.M., M.Crim.

PRESIDENT:

R.J. (Roger) PERRY
GPO Box 890 SYDNEY NSW 2001
Telephone: 02 9363 2439
Mobile: 0414 961 969
Facsimile: 02 9328 3319
Email: roger.perry@bigpond.com

VICE PRESIDENT & PUBLICITY OFFICER:

M.J. (Mick) PASS
15 Gwydir St BATEAU BAY NSW 2261
Telephone: 02 4332 4993
Mobile: 0412 993 417
Email: michaeljpass@optusnet.com.au

HONORARY SECRETARY & NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

R.J. (Bob) PINK, OAM
P.O. Box 224 INGLEBURN NSW 1890
Telephone: 02 8747 0941
Mobile: 0414 907 427
Email: bob.pink@optusnet.com.au

ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

B.J. (Bryan) SCHAFER, JP
42 Delaunay St INGLEBURN NSW 2565
Telephone: 02 9605 5841
Mobile: 0412 432 464
Email: blues5@iprimus.com.au (NOTE Updated email address)

TREASURER:

R.J. (Joy) NEWTON RN BHSc
146 Fragar Rd SOUTH PENRITH NSW 2750
Email: newbraeton@gmail.com

ASSISTANT TREASURER:

R.W. (Bob) WEIR
2/46 Wilma Street CORRIMAL NSW 2518
Telephone: 02 42851278
Mobile: 0408 639 168
Email: bob.weir@bigpond.net.au
ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN:
G.P. (Geoff) BRADDON, OAM, JP
"Briar Corner" CARCOAR NSW 2791
Telephone & Facsimile: 02 6367 3139
Mobile: 0457 898 063

MERCHANDISING & MEMORABILIA:

R.N. (Ray) WARDEN
3 Avery Way NARELLAN VALE NSW 2567
Telephone: 02 4647 7670
Mobile: 0407 055 448
Email: ray.warden4@bigpond.com

WEBSITE MANAGER

R.A. (Sandy) HOWARD
33 Peacock Parade
FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086
Telephone: 02 9401 9130
Mobile: 0411 145 077
Email: sandy1h@optusnet.com.au

COMMITTEE

J.A. (John) ELLIOTT
"Moir Plains"
WILCANNIA NSW 2836
Telephone: 08 8091 9492
Email: BlackHat2000@bigpond.com

K.W. (Kev) JONES, OAM
9 Potaroc Place
TOWNSEND NSW 2463
Telephone: 02 6645 5474
Mobile: 0419 164 411
Email: thebigthree@bigpond.com

HONORARY AUDITOR:

D. (Dennis) ZALUNARDO, OAM JP
1 Jacaranda Ave BAULKHAM HILLS NSW 2153
Telephone: 02 9639 4673
Mobile: 0418 230 446
Email: dandpzal@bigpond.com



ASSOCIATION WEBSITE ADDRESS: <http://www.rnswr.com.au>

FRONTLINE

PROGRAMME

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DINNER WEEKEND 23-24-25 OCTOBER 2015

GOSFORD RSL CLUB 26 Central Coast Highway WEST GOSFORD NSW 2250

PLEASE COMPLETE & THE RETURN REPLY PROFORMA ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER BY 16 OCTOBER 2015

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER 2015

Timing	Function	Location	Dress	Remarks
1800 - 2130	 <p>Registrations "WELCOME" MEET & GREET RECEPTION</p>	Gosford RSL Club \$20 per person	Smart Casual	Finger food and drinks

SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER 2015

1000	 <p>Morning Tea Under members own arrangements</p>	Gosford RSL.	Suit/jacket & tie Full size Decorations & Medals	
1030	 <p>ASSOCIATION COMMEMORATIVE WREATH LAYING CEREMONY in conjunction with the Officers & Members of Gosford RSL Club & RSL Sub Branch</p>	Gosford RSL Club Memorial Wreath layers to be appointed	Suit/jacket & tie Full size Decorations & Medals	Banner Bearers Orders of Service distributed Stereo /tape
1200	 <p>LUNCHEON</p>	Under members own arrangements	Casual	Lunch available from the Gosford RSL Club Bistro
1345-1445	 <p>THE GREAT ADVENTURE 1915 Presentation by Lieutenant Colonel Peter McGuinness MBE RFD ED</p>	Gosford RSL Club	Casual	
1500-1600	 <p>ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</p>	Gosford RSL Club	Casual	
1830	 <p>ASSEMBLE FOR FORMAL DINNER Pre dinner drinks and hors d'oeuvres served</p>	\$100.00 per person	Suit / jacket & tie Miniature medals	
1900 – 2300	 <p>ASSOCIATION FORMAL DINNER (alternate servings) ENTRÉE Gnocchi W/basil pesto, cherry tomatoes & spinach OR Tandoori chicken skewer with cucumber salad</p> <p>MAIN Roasted lamb rump with macadamia crust with parsnip puree, peamash & lamb jus OR Grilled barramundi with hollandaise sauce, chat potatoes & seasonal vegetables Fresh Bread Roll and Butter</p> <p>DESSERT Individual macadamia tart OR Fresh fruit salad with berry compote</p> <p>Tea, Coffee & After Dinner Mints Beverages A selection of Vins Rouge and Vins Blanc, Beer, Port, soft drinks & juices will accompany the meal</p>	 <p>GOSFORD RSL CLUB</p>		
2300 - ?	 <p>ENTRÉE: MAIN COURSE: DESSERT:</p>	Post Dinner Camaraderie		Ties may be loosened !

SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER 2015 - Return Home

FRONTLINE

ITEMS OF CONCERN

FROM 5 FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION - BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER. SPRING ISSUE 2015

ANZAC DAY MARCH SYDNEY 2016

As all Sydney RSL Sub Branches and other Sydney ESO's and veterans generally, are aware, the 2016 ANZAC DAY March will not march past the Cenotaph and up George Street due to major road works along George Street. There is a major concern from some Veteran's Associations including our Association, that the "temporary" ANZAC DAY March route could be permanent ! To this end, our committee recommends that any of our members who belong to a NSW RSL Sub Branch, that he/she moves a resolution at their next meeting- such as;

"This RSL Sub Branch instructs our State Council to ensure that the re-routing of the 2016 Sydney ANZAC DAY MARCH is a "ONE OFF" and that the 2017 ANZAC DAY MARCH and all subsequent ANZAC DAY MARCHES in Sydney reverts back to the time honoured original route, I.E. Martin Place past our Cenotaph and left up George Street and onwards past the Sydney Town Hall"

All members are also requested to send a letter of concern to their State and Federal NSW Member of Parliament to seek their support.

From: 3 TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION 6 AUG 15

To: All Members and Friends

We have received the attached document from the Army Reserve Representative for the NSW RSL ANZAC MARCH 2016, setting out the changes that will be necessary for the Sydney ANZAC Day March in 2016.

These changes are required because of the construction of the "Light Rail" which is to run the length of George Street. These changes completely remove the Cenotaph from the march where traditionally we and those before us have observed the Act of Remembrance to those who have made the supreme sacrifice.

Note: The ANZAC Day march has always used George Street even when Trams previously travelled George Street.

There is a major concern from some Veteran's Associations including our Association, that the "temporary" ANZAC DAY March route could be permanent! To this end, we recommend that any of our members who belong to a NSW RSL Sub Branch, that he/she moves a resolution at their next meeting- such as;

"This RSL Sub Branch instructs our State Council to ensure that the re-routing of the 2016 Sydney ANZAC DAY MARCH is a "ONE OFF" and that the 2017 ANZAC DAY MARCH and all subsequent ANZAC DAY MARCHES in Sydney reverts back to the time honoured original route, I.E. Martin Place past our Cenotaph and left up George Street and onwards past the Sydney Town Hall"

All members are also requested to send a letter of concern to their State and Federal NSW Member of Parliament to seek their support.



SYDNEY ANZAC DAY MARCH UPDATE No. 1/2016 THANK YOU

The organising committee of the 2015 Sydney ANZAC Day March would like to thank everyone who participated in making the March such a success in marking the Centenary of the Gallipoli landings. Particular thanks needs to go to the NSW Government agencies such as the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Office of Veterans, Police, Fire Brigades, Ambulance, Traffic Management Centre and Transport NSW for the resources and man-hours they committed to the event. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the City of Sydney Council, Dawn Service Trust, the SES, our volunteer bands and especially our group of dedicated volunteer Marshals. Your hard work made all the difference on the day. Thank you.

NEXT YEAR

As you are no doubt aware there is a Light Rail Project starting construction later this year which will make the use of George Street impossible for future Marches. A group of senior members of the March committee have investigated and evaluated a number of alternate routes within the CBD paying particular attention to aspects such as the width and gradient of the street for senior veterans, having an appropriate focal point for an Act of Remembrance, access to public transport and minimal disruption to existing form up locations.

After careful discussion with key participants and government agencies the committee feels the best alternate route for the Sydney ANZAC Day March is:

- start line at Martin Place and Elizabeth St
- march south on Elizabeth St
- observe the Act of Remembrance adjacent to the ANZAC Memorial in Elizabeth St
- participants wheel left into Liverpool St for dispersal
- vehicles and bands wheel right into Liverpool St and use Castlereagh St to return to the start line

SICK REPORT

The following members have reported to the RAP in recent months and pleased to report are well on the way to a good recovery

Ray WARDEN

John WALSH

Maureen MARINER

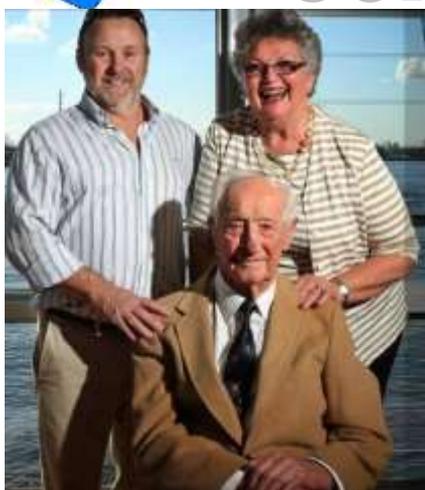
Bryan SCHAFER

Ray CLENDENNING

Get Well
Soon



CONGRATULATIONS



TO CAPTAIN DR

Peter Ian Alexander HENDRY, AO
2/10 FIELD AMBULANCE AIF

who celebrated his

**100th BIRTHDAY
on 29 JUNE 2015**

Ian pictured at Fort Scratchley with his son Ian Hendry and daughter Rosemary Reeves

TO Glen Walter SCRIVEN

2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF who celebrated his

98th BIRTHDAY on 8 JULY 2015



TO Norma JAMIESON

who celebrated her

**90th BIRTHDAY
on 20 JUNE 2015**

Pictured at Norma's 90th Birthday party at the Hellenic Club Canberra

Daughter Jean – Norma and son Peter
(Our thanks to Di Elliott for the photo)



TO Mick PASS and daughter Kirsty and husband Phil on the safe arrival of their new son Harrison, born at Gosford on 10 JUNE 2015 and who is Mick's 11th grandchild

FRONTLINE

RESERVE FORCES DAY CANBERRA 2015



FRONTLINE

NATIONAL SERVICEMENS 50th YEAR COMMEMORATION CANBERRA 29 JUNE 2015



FRONTLINE

DONATIONS

It is a pleasure to once again acknowledge the generosity of the following members which is gratefully received. Our Thanks folks !

LCPL Brad COLLIS
MR David MARINER
SSGT Roy SCHMIDTKE
PTE Don WAYNE

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm and sincere welcome is extended to the following new members who have joined since the last newsletter:

CPL	Patrick	GALLAGHER	TOWNSVILLE QLD	4814
PTE	Geoffrey	GREEN	DURAL NSW	2158
WO2	Ron	RICHMOND	PUNCHBOWL NSW	2196

RESERVE FORCES DAY SYDNEY SUN 5 JULY 2015



FRONTLINE



COMMEMORATION FOR MAJOR James Whiteside Fraser McMANAMEY, VD

Second-in-Command 19th Battalion AIF
Born 1862 Killed in Action GALLIPOLI 5 SEP 1915

WOODFORD ACADEMY WOODFORD NSW
SAT 5 SEPTEMBER 2015



James McManamey's Grave
in the Hill 60 Cemetery,
Gallipoli



FRONTLINE



2ND DIVISION CENTENARY COMMEMORATION AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL CANBERRA FRI 24 JUL 15





2055 Corporal John Ignatius Mooney 19 Battalion, 5th Infantry Brigade AIF

John Ignatius Mooney was born on 24th January 1892, at Spring Valley near Goulburn, New South Wales. He was the grandson of another John Mooney, an Irish convict from County Galway who was transported for life to Australia in 1831. At the outbreak of war in August 1914, John Mooney was employed as a railway shunter with the NSW Railways Service. He enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on 15 May 1915 at Liverpool and was allocated to the 3rd Reinforcements of the 19th Battalion, one of four units in the 5th Infantry Brigade. He departed Sydney on 9 August 1915 on the transport HMAT Runic. He spent about three weeks in Egypt before deploying to Gallipoli, but was diverted to hospital for two weeks on the island of Lemnos with mumps before finally joining his unit on 16 October 1915. 19 Battalion was tasked with the defence of Pope's Hill, a small knoll within the 2nd Division's area of responsibility. Private Mooney was employed in the front line as a marksman in recognition of his rural upbringing and his proven expertise as a good shot with the senior cadets.

The Battalion remained there until the evacuation of Gallipoli in December. After the evacuation, he spent three months in hospital in Egypt with jaundice and influenza. He re-joined his unit on 18 March 1916 just as they were leaving to re-deploy to the Western Front as part of the British Expeditionary Force, firstly in the Bois Grenier sector, near Armentières. He attended a Trench Mortar School in November 1916. Private Mooney was badly wounded in the right arm at the battle of Fiers on 13 November 1916, where his Battalion captured a German trench system known as "The Maze" and held it without support for more than 24 hours until relieved. The attack was conducted in extremely cold weather, driving rain and deep mud, in what is sometimes described as the worst European winter in living memory. Mooney was evacuated to England where he remained for ten months recovering from this wound. After attending a promotion course in July 1917 he was promoted to Lance Corporal and returned to 19 Battalion in France in October 1917. He then attended courses in Belgium at the Corps Bomb School and the Corps Gas School.

He was promoted Temporary Corporal on 24 August, 1918. At the end of August 1918 General Monash attempted to capture the major German stronghold of Péronne. 19 Battalion was ordered to cross the Somme from the west during the night of 29-30 August near Halle at the junction of the river and the Somme Canal. There were several footbridges in this area, but the withdrawing Germans had either destroyed them or had them covered by artillery and heavy machine gun fire, so the crossing operation was cancelled. During the withdrawal, Corporal Mooney was killed by German artillery as his company was heading back to their trenches. A shell landed immediately in front of him, killing him instantly. After daylight on 30 August, a party of five men led by his platoon sergeant went down to the river to retrieve his body. As they approached the Battalion's outpost line, the Germans shelled them again. Two of the party were killed and another man was slightly wounded.

The next day, his Battalion as part of the 5th Brigade participated in the famous attack on Mont St. Quentin the small village above Péronne, by deploying to the north and catching the Germans completely by surprise. At the time of his death Corporal Mooney was aged 26 years and 7 months. His fiancée in Australia, Margaret Hannah Driscoll, the daughter of a pioneering family from the Monaro district, was devastated. She never married. Corporal Mooney now rests in the Assevillers New British Cemetery, 10 km west of Péronne, along with the two men killed whilst attempting to retrieve his body.

Our thanks to the Mooney family for CPL Mooney's biography and photo. Commanding Officer 1/19 RNSWR Lieutenant Colonel Tony ANG had the honour to deliver Corporal Mooney's biographical details at the Last Post Ceremony at the 2nd Division's Centenary Parade at the Australian War Memorial Canberra on Friday 14 July 2015 and our thanks also to Lieutenant Colonel Graeme Davis for his ongoing assistance and guidance to the Association which is much appreciated.



This photograph of Corporal Mooney is likely to have been taken in the United Kingdom in late 1917 or early 1918 whilst he was convalescing after being wounded in the Battle of Fiers. Under close scrutiny of this photograph, it is possible to detect a single wound stripe on the left sleeve of his jacket

FRONTLINE

POZIERES DAY COMMEMORATION St Columba Church Woollahra SUN 26 JUL 15

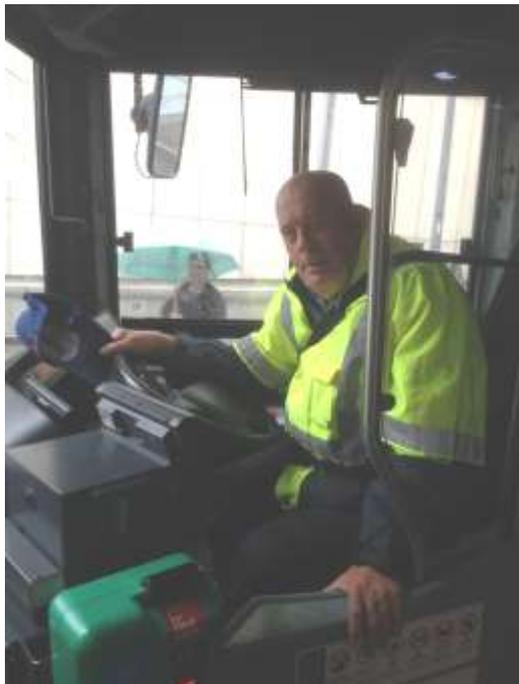
Our thanks to Mike LANE of Assn of 1st Battalions for the photographs & CD he kindly provided



FRONTLINE



SEEN AROUND THE TRAPS



AT SANDAKAN COMMEMORATION BURWOOD PARK SUN 2 AUG 15

Pictured below at left Association member Tony BRAY in company with fellow State Emergency Services members



**PHOTO ABOVE:
CPL Phil WILLMOTT
ON HIS BONDI BEACH TO SYDNEY BUS RUN**



**PHOTOS - ABOVE & AT RIGHT
KINDLY SENT IN BY NEW MEMBER
Geoff GREEN**

FRONTLINE

RNSWR OFFICERS' WARRANT OFFICERS' & SERGEANTS' DINNER NOVOTEL HOTEL SANS SOUCI SAT 8 AUG 15



FRONTLINE

RNSW OFFICERS' WARRANT OFFICERS' & SERGEANTS' DINNER NOVOTEL HOTEL SANS SOUCI SAT 8 AUG 15



FRONTLINE

RNSWR GARRISON CHURCH PARADE MILLERS POINT SUN 9 AUG 15



FRONTLINE

VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY CENOTAPH - SYDNEY SUN 15 AUG 15



BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA DAY CENOTAPH - SYDNEY WED 2 SEP 15



FRONTLINE

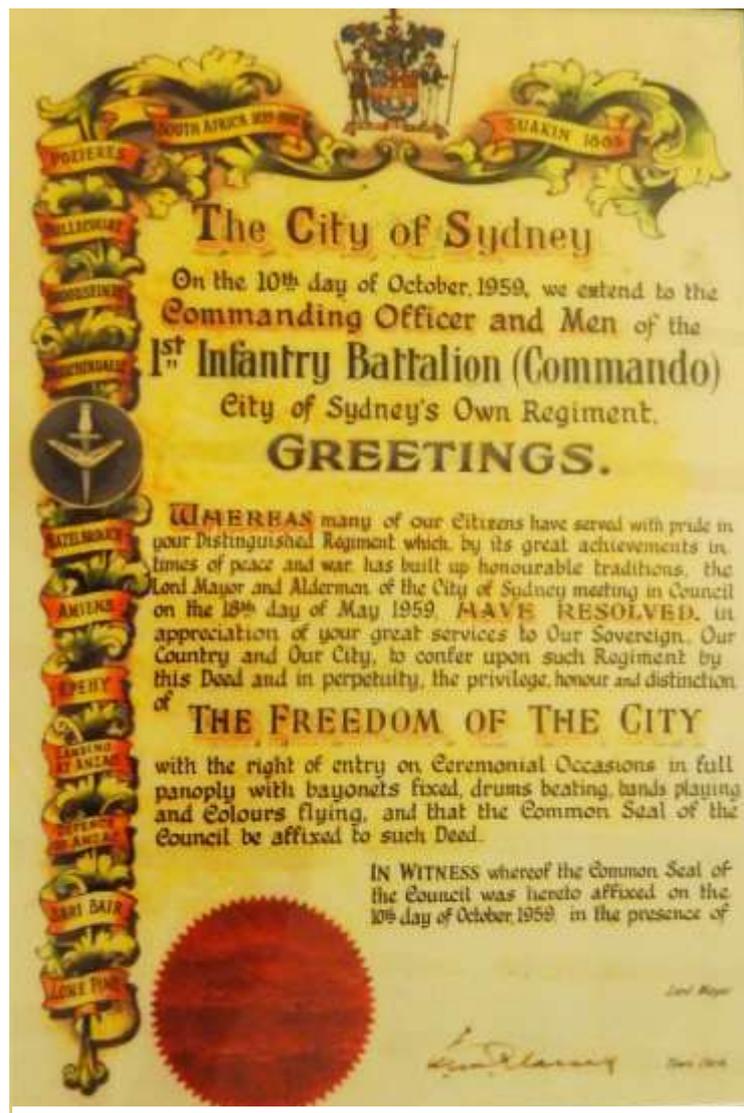
FREEDOM OF ENTRY TO THE CITY OF SYDNEY SCROLL

Association President Roger Perry recently arranged for a copy of the Freedom of Entry Scroll to be professionally refurbished and presented to the Carmanhurst Museum at the School of Arts Carcoar NSW on 20 August 2015. If anyone knows - or can shed light on what happened to the original document we would be very pleased to hear from you.



L to R Bob PINK , Candice BRADDON, Grant DILLON, Geoff BRADDON, Roni VAN DAMME, Kim MORCOM, Phil MORCOM.

HISTORIC CARCOAR SCHOOL OF ARTS



FRONTLINE

B COY 1/19 RNSWR DINING IN NIGHT BATHURST RSL CLUB SAT 29 AUG 15



THE NORDENFELT GUN

FROM CAPT **Bill EDWARDS**
Museum Volunteer

Australian Army Infantry Museum Singleton

A weapon on display at the Museum that attracts a lot of attention from visitors is the Nordenfelt 0.45 inch 5 barrel machine gun. The gun on display is in its original working condition and is located on the plinth in the centre of the Latchford Gallery.

The Nordenfelt multi barrel machine gun was invented by Thorsten Nordenfelt (1842-1920), a Swedish inventor and industrialist. The Museum's Nordenfelt gun was manufactured in Great Britain by the H.B. Co., Enfield, in 1886 and was allocated to the Middle Head Permanent Artillery Battery for the defence of the battery against land based assault. This gun is mounted on a field carriage for mobility and was operated by a crew of five. It was one of twelve guns of this type purchased by the New South Wales colonial government.

Other mountings were available so the guns could be installed as fixed defences. Guns were also available in 3 barrel, seven barrel and ten barrel versions, and with 0.45 inch, 0.5 inch or 1.0 inch bore.

Nordenfelt 0.45 in 5 Barrel Machine Gun

(Ammunition Distributor in place, but without Hopper)



Physical features of the 0.45 inch 5 barrel gun include the weight of 154 pounds (70 kg) (not including field carriage), overall length of 46 inches (117 cm) and a barrel length of 28.5 inches (72.5 cm). The gun fired the 0.450 inch

Martini-Henry round feeding from a 50 round distributor and a 50 round hopper. The maximum cyclic rate of fire is 600 rounds per minute with a maximum effective range of 1800 yards (1600 metres).

The gun is operated by a hand crank, located on the right side. Ammunition is fed into the chambers from the distributor which in turn is charged from the hopper. This allows the hopper to be changed without interrupting the fire task. When the hand crank is fully extended to the rear, the chamber is cleared of any spent cases and fresh rounds are positioned for insertion into each of the five chambers. The five bolts are also cocked ready for firing. As the hand crank is moved forward the bolts feed the fresh round into the respective chambers. On reaching the forward position, the firing pins are tripped and the cartridges fired. The hand crank is then drawn to the rear with the spent cases extracted and they fall through the bottom of the gun. The firing cycle is then repeated as long as the hand crank is operated and ammunition remains in the distributor.

Sights are fitted to both sides, with "V" notch backsights and a barleycorn foresights. Primary sighting is by positioning the field carriage, then adjusting the inclination using the trimming wheel underneath the rear of the gun. All barrels fire on the same horizontal plane, but the splay of the barrels can be adjusted by the second trimming wheel at the left rear of the gun. This also provides variation to the beaten zone.

The barrels are fired in a fixed sequence of left to right, with the interval between barrel firing being adjustable. The knurled knob at the rear of the gun provides this adjustment from rapid succession firing to use as a volley gun.



**Nordenfelt 0.45 Inch 5 Barrel Machine Gun
Deployed at New Lambton 1888**



**Nordenfelt 0.45 Inch 5 Barrel Machine Gun
Sighting and Firing Adjustments**

There is no record of these guns being deployed on active military service overseas, as they were issued to the Permanent Artillery who manned the coastal defences of the Colonies and the early Commonwealth. However the guns were deployed to assist the NSW Police in Newcastle on at least two occasions. The first was on 18 Sep 1888 when the Police required the assistance of the Permanent Artillery from Fort Scratchley, including the Nordenfelt machine gun detachment, to protect non-union labour who were being used during a miners strike at the "C" Pit New Lambton Colliery. When the disturbance spread to the Glebe Pit on 20 Sep 1888 a further 75 Police and 150 Permanent Artillery soldiers from Sydney were deployed, including a second Nordenfelt machine gun detachment.

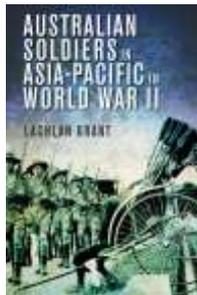
The second request by NSW Police was to assist in controlling crowds associated with a strike by maritime employees (stevedores) on 27 Aug 1890. A riot started near the AA Company wharf when the company attempted to load coal with non-union labour and two Police officers were injured. Capt Morris of Fort Scratchley Permanent Artillery and his men under arms were called to assist at nightfall. These troops were reinforced the following day with the arrival of an additional forty men from Sydney, including two Nordenfelt machine gun detachments. Order was finally restored without further injury on Friday 29 Aug 1890.

The deployment of the machine guns was criticised by the editor of the Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate when he wrote "We would once again urge the Military Forces to leave the machine guns behind, as it would be a sad pity for the people and also for the soldiers if they were used".

Sources:
100 Years of Australian Service Machine Guns, Ian Skennerton, Published by Ian Skennerton, Margate, Qld, 1989
Machine Guns, Terry Gander – Crowood, Marlborough, 2003.
Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate – September 1888 and August 1890

FRONTLINE

BOOK REVIEW



AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS IN ASIA-PACIFIC IN WORLD WAR II

Lachlan Grant
NewSouth Publishing, 2014,
276pp.
ISBN 9781742231419

Reviewer: JOHN DONOVAN

As I read this book, my mind continually returned to a simple question. What was Lachlan Grant's purpose in writing it?

At first, I thought it was another work of that genre in which today's educated thinkers reflect critically on the attitudes of an earlier generation, often with a smug attitude that they would not hold such crass attitudes. However, as I read the book, this did not prove to be so. Indeed, Grant explicitly acknowledges that the beliefs and language of an earlier generation might not be comfortable for today's generation.

Grant's story starts when Australians arrived in Singapore and Malaya, where they rubbed against British racial and class attitudes. Grant portrays the Australians sympathetically, suggesting that they found themselves in a similar position to the Empire's colonial subjects. He notes, however, that many adopted colonial practices, including siestas and hiring servants for menial tasks. The latter, especially, he sees as suggesting an acceptance (perhaps too ready) of British attitudes. Maybe, but Grant shows that many wealthy Asians used servants too, implying that the relative wealth of the individual was a key factor.

Strangely, given the background of anti-Chinese feeling in Australia dating back to the gold rush days, Australians seemed to get along better with Chinese than with others. However, racism could be a two-way street, with Grant noting that some Chinese girls 'won't look at white men'. Views about Indians were mixed. Men who served in Malaya and Singapore, or visited India, were less positive than those who liberated Indian prisoners of war in New Guinea. Finally, Australian prisoners who were taken to Japan found their relationship with Japanese civilians more amicable than they might have expected. Individual behaviour could overcome cultural attitudes.

When the story moves from Asia to Papua New Guinea, Grant sees a different dynamic. There, Australians seemed comfortable with being colonial masters. Indeed, Grant mentions the ambitions of the Curtin government, particularly the Minister for External Affairs (H.V. Evatt) for greater Australian post-war control over nearby regions.

Using letters to the Army's Educational Service periodical *Salt* and other sources, Grant argues that some Australians saw the war as being about the ideals of the Atlantic and United Nations charters. Perhaps so, but those documents post-dated the enlistment of many, and cannot have influenced their initial war aims. The evidence used by Grant is somewhat sketchy. A debate in *Salt* on independence movements in Asia apparently involved letters from only 31 men, from a force numbering over 400,000 at

the time, suggesting that while a debate occurred, it was limited.

Grant does not accept that there was a so-called 'battle for Australia'. He argues instead that the cause for which many Australians fought was the liberation of Asians from colonialism. One wonders how many of the soldiers fighting in 1942, lacking knowledge of Japanese wartime decisions and the benefits of hindsight, did not believe they were fighting a battle for Australia? It seems difficult to support Grant's suggestion that because 'defending Australia – either from invasion or ... a "battle for Australia" was not of immediate concern within soldier debates' late in the war, that they were not high among their concerns earlier.

Ultimately, the book seems to conclude that a generation born anywhere between 90 and 150 years ago broadly reflected the attitudes of their era, attitudes that were imparted during their adolescence. Australians (and others in the British Dominions) were inculcated with stories of 'symbolic images of empire' by authors like Kipling, Buchan, Ballantyne and Australia's Ion Idriess.

As examples, an army pamphlet written by an anthropologist emphasised the 'attitude of superiority' that whites must maintain in PNG, while a journalist/war correspondent used 'natives' for manual work, and sometimes assaulted them. Another regarded Papuans as 'not far removed from stone-age savagery'. Grant notes, but does not seem to see the significance of, the attitudes of the editorial staff of *Salt*. Even these educated elites, supposed 'left-wingers', shared attitudes with less educated junior soldiers. Perhaps authors who study the attitudes of earlier periods should, as Grant generally has, approach the task with a modest recognition that their own attitudes might come under critical scrutiny in 50 or 75 years.

As an aside, Grant implies some criticism of those who considered themselves both British and Australian. Nowadays, such attitudes are reflected in the common practice of holding dual nationality, and praised as elements of a multicultural Australia. Perhaps the men of 1940 were Australia's first multiculturalists, albeit affected by what Grant describes as 'British race patriotism'?

To try to answer the question posed earlier, I suspect that Grant sought evidence to support a theory that Australian soldiers serving in the Asia-Pacific during World War II were converted to anti-imperialist the cause by their experiences. Perhaps they were, but the evidence is not obvious in this book.

Grant lapses occasionally into anachronisms (using the term 'whiteness' in a context that is suggestive of the modern sociological fields of 'whiteness studies' and 'white privilege', for example). Strangely, claimants to 'whiteness' and its power apparently spent much time sunbathing, presumably to reduce their power of 'whit



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NOR ALL THY TEARS

NX45804 Driver Herbert James McNAMARA, Carrier PI, HQ Coy, 2/20 Battalion A.I.F.

Continued from June 2015 Newsletter:

The best measure of the force of this water was an object known as "Stackem's Life Jacket". "Stackem", one of our newly acquired guards, had early shown that he intended to live up to his villainous reputation, and we gave the name "Stackem's Life Jacket" to a piece of machinery. It was a large iron ring, about a foot in diameter, an inch thick, and about four inches broad, and a proportionately heavy chain was attached to it. We thought that it would be an ideal life jacket to throw to Stackem if the ship went down. Yet, heavy as it was, this object was tossed about in the water to menace us as alarmingly as the machinery rolling above. When calm followed storm, we could punch holes through the rust and let the water run down below, but while the boat was rocking violently this was impossible, and the task of keeping our inland seal at a reasonable level was often beyond us, for the holes quickly filled up with rust.

When the holes were working the water merely drained down onto the hold below, and the men there had to drill holes of their own to let it go right down to the bottom of the vessel. We had a horrible fear that Nips, in turn, would drill holes in the bottom of the boat in the hope that it would drain right out into the ocean, but our fears were groundless and they even got pumps to work on it, though the "sea in the bottom of the hold was generally large enough to give some pretty heavy jolts to the side of the vessel. For latrines we had nothing but wooden boxes, insecurely roped to the side of the vessel, and these were far too few. Even the very sickest had to be helped out onto these, day or night in the worst weather. On this precarious perch you could see how fragile the craft really was, for it changed shape like a snake at each rising wave.

As we guessed, loud snapping noises rising above the general creaking and groaning told us that the welding of the two massive girders were breaking away, and soon the girders were only an additional burden on the hull. Every single wave brought us a fresh reminder of our plight, for every inch of the vessel showed the effects of it. There are few things more alarming than to lie on the deck of a horribly noisy ship and watch the decking heave up and down like a breathing human being as it bowed under the pressure of conflicting stresses. We followed the parallel across to Borneo and called in at the gloomy ports of the grim and pitiless country still taking toll of the lives of the men that we knew. We had kept to the sight of land all the way, and the comfort we

drew from this was small when weighted against our knowledge of the reason for it. The guards for the most part measured well up to past standards, but the crew, in the main, treated us well. In fact they had little time for the guards and often went crook on them for



the things they did to us. They gave us a few extras from the kitchen and denied them to the guards, who were also hungry. The Japanese doctor said that he would examine our rations to see if they were adequate and if not, have them increased. He examined them and found them adequate, and as they were as adequate as the fish were fresh, this didn't surprise us. The fish came to us in the form of a paste, a small spoonful of this, unaided, had to flavour the rice for one meal, and in justice to the I.J.A. I must say that it certainly did.

In the early days of the trip we had stews reinforced with what those with inadequate vocabularies called vegetables, and by cooking the rice in large quantities of water and beating it into a sort of froth, we made a "pap", which enabled us to deceive our eyes, if not our stomachs, into the belief that we were having a fair-sized meal. From the nourishing point of view we probably derived more from Soya beans than anything else. Sometimes we were given a few of these, dried tremendously hard, and we had various ersatz foods made from them. Amounts were almost nominal, but they gave us at least microscopic quantities of the vitamins that rice lacked. Chief of these were the "bath-mats" small square bricks of stuff in the colour and texture of bath-mats, vile tasting things, even to our depraved palates rendered still more eccentric by hunger.

This wonderful vegetable, so beloved by dietitians, contains all the elements necessary for health. If you are marooned on a desert island and allowed to take only one food-stuff, these are the things you should take. In fact they should be reserved for this purpose. Alongside Hong Kong it was good, but by any other standards it was hard to work up any affection for it. I know that it is a sort of universal chemical that can be made into almost anything, but I can hardly be stirred up about it as a food. It can be made into a substitute for milk and a substitute for eggs and a substitute for coffee, and for those like us, whose palates

FRONTLINE DOWN MEMORY LANE



[OUR THANKS TO PTE Geoffrey GREEN FOR THE PHOTO
Anyone recognise those pictured - the dog in the photo will jog some memories



[OUR THANKS TO PTE Anton YUSWAK FOR THE ABOVE PHOTO
OF HIS RECRUIT COURSE 11-28 MARCH 1993)
(CPL Steve HOOK standing in middle row at far right)

Many – of the above would have been enlisted on 06 FEB 1993 and subsequently attended the
11-28 MARCH 1993 Recruit Course

The following is a list of Recruits in **ALPHA SURNAME** order.

Can you **match the names to those** in the photograph ??

PM BACHEN – E BENYAMEEN –KJ BLOOMFIELD- R BONDIN- HL BRAY- P BUBALO- WJ CAMPBELL -
CI CARLAW-BW CARROLL -BT CAUSER – CL COLBECK –EJ COLEMAN- JR DUNCAN -GJ FAIRWEATHER – CA FALLICO
– TA GRAHAM- JD HAYLES ' -TG HITCHINS – ML JOHNSON –BA MALONE- PA-McEWAN –FW McINERNEY-
MJ -O'KEEFE- MP O'NEILL-EB PIECHOCKI- AJ PILON- AR PINKERTON- MA SILLS- CT SMITH GK TURNER- AJ VAN DER
WEGEN- WJ WILCHER –SL WONDERLEY –A -YUSWAK