

# FRONTLINE

A DEFENCE SERVICE JOURNAL



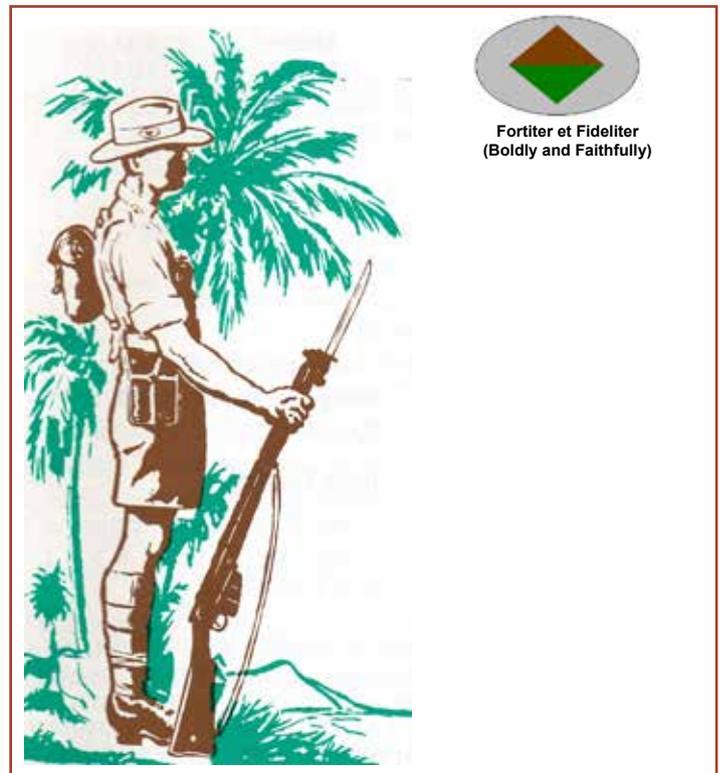
The Official Journal of

**THE 1st NINETEENTH**

1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION

**THE 2nd NINETEENTH**

2/19 BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION



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# FRONTLINE

## A DEFENCE SERVICE JOURNAL

**OFFICIAL JOURNAL**

**1<sup>ST</sup>/19<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION**

**THE ROYAL NEW**

**SOUTH WALES**

**REGIMENT**

**ASSOCIATION &**

**2<sup>ND</sup>/19<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION**

**A.I.F. ASSOCIATION.**

**MEMBERS OF THE**

**AUSTRALIAN**

**DEFENCE**

**FORCES**

**RESERVES**

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# FRONTLINE



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



By the time this issue of *Frontline* reaches you we will have celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Raising of 19 RNSWR in December 1966, had a successful Annual Weekend held, in part, in conjunction with 1/19 RNSWR and the young men and women who serve today in the Battalion, summer will be upon us and the holiday season will be in full swing. To keep the news in perspective, Wednesday 21 September saw me at a Ceremony at St Paul's Anglican Church at Kogarah NSW to honour 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and the relocation of the Colours of 45<sup>th</sup> Battalion from St Paul's to the Australian War Memorial. Brian Borland, the Secretary of 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Association invited attendance from 1/19 RNSWR Association because 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF had fought alongside 45<sup>th</sup> Battalion on the Western Front. It was also a very personal event for me because my late father served in 45<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF in World War 1 and was wounded at Pozieres on 24 August 1916 and again, a year later, at Messines on 7 June 1917. The Association was also represented by Bob Pink, Juanita Moon and Alan & Peggy Drinkwater. A large contingent of Perry family members was also in attendance to pay homage to our father, grandfather and great grandfather. The Ceremony was well organised and speakers from the Army History Unit, the Australian War Memorial and the Anglican Church spoke on the history of 45<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the Colours and the relationship between the Church and the Defence Force. A very pleasant morning tea followed the service and I am pleased to advise the Bob managed to secure some food.

Spring is supposed to be a time of rebirth but I have to say that Spring 2017 hasn't started too well for our members.

Tuesday, 27 September saw us farewell Barry Willoughby at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church at Kingsgrove. Barry was well known and respected throughout the Ex-Service community and a very large crowd was in attendance to say goodbye to this hardworking member of the community. The Association was well represented by Bob Pink and me, Bryan Schafer, Harry Cole, Martin & Helen Hanson, Kevin Connelly, Barry & Barbara Nesbitt and John Partridge.

19 September brought the news of the sad and untimely death of Donald Kennedy, son of Don and Cherry Kennedy. Donald, who served in 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, and 1<sup>st</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment was farewelled on 11 October. The Association was represented at Donald's funeral by Bob Pink. Also present were Bob Weir, Tony Harvey, Bryan Schafer, Graham Ross, Ray Warden and Juanita Moon.

26 September saw the passing, at the grand old age of 103 years, of Olive Hughes, mother of Association member Peter Hughes. Olive, who had resided for the past 15 months in Lourdes Retirement Village in Killara NSW after moving out of her family home at age 102, was farewelled in the Chapel at the retirement village on 6 October by a large gathering of family and friends. The Association was represented at the funeral by Bob Pink and me, together with Sandy Howard and Bob Binns.

On 25 October I had the honour of being invited, along with Bob Pink and Bryan Schafer to the Acknowledgement to Country and Plaque Unveiling Ceremony at Holsworthy Army Barracks in Sydney. The ceremony was hosted by 5 Brigade with Deputy Commander COL Brendan Casey acting as host due to the absence of BRIG Kathryn Campbell who was, unfortunately, attending a former comrade's funeral in Canberra. It was a most impressive occasion, commencing with a traditional smoking ceremony, the raising of flags, speeches by a number of Aboriginal Elders and an extremely beautiful and impressive performance by an Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Dance Group. The organisation by Warrant Officer Class Two Michael Ali and the hospitality extended to us by the staff of 5 Brigade Headquarters made this a memorable occasion. Not having been back to the Holsworthy camp since 19 RNSWR moved out of there in about 1970 I was very impressed by what has happened in the ensuing 45 years.

November 11 was Remembrance Day and saw Bob Pink and I at the Commemorative Service at the Sydney Cenotaph to represent the Association on this important occasion. Bob laid a wreath on behalf of the men of 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF and 2/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF. Also present were Barry Nesbitt, John Walsh, Mary Bryant and Sylvia Rae from Ashfield RSL sub branch. A very large crowd in attendance with unprecedented security surrounding the venue which, I have to say, did absolutely nothing for spectator comfort. Friday, 18 November saw us gathered in Orange for the Association's Annual Weekend, which this year celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Raising, on 12 December 1966, of 19 RNSWR. The weekend was an unparalleled success due, in no small part, to the efforts of Michael Pass – our Vice President and Bob Pink – our Honorary Secretary both of whom, while complaining bitterly, dealt with every problem that arose and moved on.

We had 85 members, partners and guests at the Friday night Meet & Greet including many faces not seen for a few years. It was a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and new acquaintances but, in deference to my failing memory, I am going to insist that next year we issue name tags.

At the Saturday morning Commemorative Wreath Laying there were a few notable absentees – suffering remorse for their "sins" of the previous evening but 90 members and guests made the trip out to Romani Barracks where we were hosted by the Commanding Officer, 1/19 RNSWR, LTCOL Ian Pattingale and the RSM, WO1 Simon Foley. In a brief but moving service, with prayers offered by the Association Chaplain, LTCOL the Reverend Colin Aiken, wreaths were laid in memory of members of 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade by the Brigade Commander, BRIG Kathryn Campbell; members of 1/19 RNSWR by LTCOL Ian Pattingale; members of 1/19 RNSWR Association by LTCOL Gary Beltrame; members of 2/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF Association by MR Glen Scriven; members of the Orange Ex Services Club by MR Russell Jones; and members of Orange Ex Services RSL Sub Branch by their President, MR Lindsay Wright. Once again the proceedings were enhanced by Luke Meehan sounding The Last Post and Reveille on his trumpet and Brian Tisdell piping the Lament. After the ceremony we were entertained to a magnificent morning tea catered for by the Battalion staff led by SGT Wendy Sparks. There must have been more

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than adequate food because I saw Bob Pink eating and he invariably complains that when he gets to the table there is nothing left. After a quick bite of lunch, almost all Association members, together with all the serving members of 1/19 RNSWR attended a very moving Church Service at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, the Battalion's Garrison Church, where I was very proud and privileged to be asked to read the 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson. The Battalion's Colours were marched into the church and laid on the altar and the Offertory Collection raised \$541.15 for the Soldier On charity – despite some senior officers asking for change from their 50 cent contribution. This was the Battalion's contribution to the weekend's activities and it was a truly remarkable addition to our usual program. I am indebted to the RSM, WO1 Simon Foley, for his organisation of this event.

Then it was a rush back to the Orange Ex Services Club for the fun and games of the Annual General Meeting. Regrettably, this year, as all the trouble makers were either absent attending National Party functions or recovering from their excesses the previous evening, the meeting was concluded in record time with no controversy. Your Committee was re-elected unopposed and I thank each and every member of the Committee for the work they put in as individuals and collectively. While Kevin Jones accepted nomination for the Committee, and was re-elected, he has given notice that his eyesight precludes him from continuing to serve once a replacement is found. **If you would like to be considered for a position on the Committee, please contact me directly so that we can review a list of candidates.**

The Annual Dinner was an outstanding occasion with 202 members, official guests and soldiers of 1/19 RNSWR sitting down to dinner. The Guest of Honour was Brigadier Kathryn Campbell, CSC, Commander 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade. Sadly, we farewelled Kathryn from this role as she moves at year end to Deputy Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division. We will have the pleasure of welcoming her back next year in her new role. We also paid tribute to our own Brigadier Paul Couch CSC, RFD to acknowledge the eight years he spent as Regimental Colonel before his replacement earlier this year by Major General Paul Brereton AM, RFD. Paul, unfortunately could not be with us as his duties took him overseas. We were honoured to have with us, on this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Raising of 19 RNSWR in December 1966, Tom Crawford's daughter and grandson, Nancy and Luke Meehan. Tom was the first Commanding Officer of 19 RNSWR. Also with us was Terry Irwin's widow, Beryl and his son, Peter. Terry was the last Commanding Officer of 19 RNSWR and the first Commanding Officer of 1/19 RNSWR. It was spectacular evening with over 80 members of the Battalion present with their partners, the Colours of both 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion present and the Army Band from RTB Kapooka providing background music during dinner and much livelier music afterwards for those who wished to dance. An enormous birthday cake, very generously provided by Champion cake maker, Linda Colligan, was cut during the evening by Geoff Braddon – who was in the first intake of 19 RNSWR in 1967 and PTE Chalker – who was the newest and youngest recruit to join 1/19 RNSWR. The service provided by Orange Ex Services Club was excellent and the evening was a tribute to the organisation skills of our Vice-President, Mick Pass.

28 November brought the sad news from Association member, Shirley Drum, of the death of Cliff Lowien. Cliff who had been in poor health for some time had never really recovered from the death three years ago of his beloved wife Kathleen. Cliff was farewelled on Monday, 5 December at All Saints Anglican Church in Yamba. The Association was represented Committee member, Kevin Jones, who also delivered Cliff's Military eulogy, Mrs Shirley Drum and Brad Collis.

December 3 was the 75<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary for 2/19<sup>th</sup> standout member, Joe Coombs. One could be forgiven for wondering how Muriel has put up with him for so long, but a more loving, and lovely, couple you would search a long way to beat. While both Muriel and Joe are getting a little immobile as age advances they are still a very active couple with both participating in services conducted by Lidcombe RSL sub-branch and Joe still very prominent at the head of the Association's contingent in the ANZAC Day March.

Sunday, December 11 brought the very sad news of the passing of Mrs Rita Dean, widow of the late Roly Dean 2<sup>nd</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF, after a short spell in Gosford Hospital where she had been diagnosed with mesothelioma. Rita was farewelled at Palmdale on Friday, 16 December before a very large gathering of her many friends from Yallabee Retirement Village at Gosford where Rita had resided for a number of years. The Association was represented at Rita's funeral by Vice President, Michael Pass and Committee member, Sandy Howard, together with David Ring and Gleness Larnach who was there at the request of her father Glen Scriven. Rita had been a staunch supporter of the Association since its incorporation and will be sadly missed.

Unfortunately, as most of us prepared to celebrate Christmas we received the sad news of the passing of PTE Frederick Clark, A Coy and HQ Coy 2<sup>nd</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF, on Christmas Day. Fred, who had moved from Coomba Park, his long time residence, to his daughter's house at South Penrith, passed away at the age of 92. Fred was farewelled on Thursday, 5 January at Forest Lawn Crematorium at Leppington before a large gathering of family and friends. The Association was represented at the funeral by Bob Pink, together with Ray Warden, Robert Binns and David Ring. Bob prepared Fred's Military Eulogy with the generous assistance of Di Elliott and the Eulogy was delivered by the Honorary Secretary of Belmore RSL sub-Branch Roy Steer. Fred's passing reduces the number of 2<sup>nd</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> survivors – of whom we are aware – to eight! A sad end to an eventful year!

I trust that each and every one of you have had a happy and joyous Christmas with family, friends and loved ones and that 2017 brings you all you wish for, not the least of which is good health and good friends.

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

*Roger Perry*

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# FRONTLINE

## WARRANT OFFICER CLASS ONE Barry WILLOUGHBY 23 FIELD REGIMENT RAA

*Prepared by Vic Rae Editor 'Gunfire' Magazine & and  
Martin HANSON and delivered by Lieutenant Colonel Schon Condon*



Advice to 1/19 RNSWR Association of Barry's passing on 11 September 2016 in Melbourne was received with much sadness. Barry enlisted on 9 Jan 1957 as part of 1/57 National Service intake. Allocated to 12 NS Bn. Martin Hanson remembers Barry as being in the hut, two over from him. Barry joined the Regiment from National Service in 1957, not long before it transitioned from a Light Regiment (4.2in mortars) to a Field Regiment equipped with 25 pdr guns. During his time in the Regiment he witnessed the change from 25 pdr to 105mm, both L5 and M2A2, as well as the replacement of the Plotting Board by graphical instruments and later the hand held Hewlett Packard 25C calculator. Stuart Staziker joined the regiment around the same time and while both took different career paths they remained good friends. Indeed Barry, Pat, Elaine and Stuart played tennis together.

Barry worked for and with a dozen COs and a similar number of RSMs. He was a significant member of the Belmore and later Kogarah Sergeants' Mess and involved himself in the life of the Regiment.

In the early '60s, Graham Williams joined the regiment and recalls that Barry was the Survey Sgt (TARA - Technical Assistant Royal Artillery or CP SGT) of Q Bty parading at Dora Street Hurstville. Rod Adams also joined Q Bty which relocated to Belmore around 1965. Rod remembers being taught battery survey by Barry, then in a camp south of Nowra, together they manned the CP over a 24 hour stint. Another Willoughby, Barry's brother Kenny was also a gun sergeant in Q Bty at Hurstville. At Belmore they were joined by Laurie Willoughby who had enlisted in the Light Aid Detachment or Technical Support Troop. Barry immediately recognised the benefit from this arrangement as he could always "drop-in" for a "hot shower". In 1971 when Vic Rae transferred into the Regiment and became BK of 11 Bty, Barry was Battery Guide and he is remembered as key figure in the BK's recce team. Along with the BSM, John Hand, they contributed much to the smooth running of the battery in the field. Barry went to HQ Bty to raise the regimental survey party and Graham Williams became Battery Guide. While normally a dependable and methodical person, Barry enjoyed a bit of mischief and during the time he was in HQ Bty he is remembered with a degree of fear and awe by the gun batteries who never knew when their local defence would be tested by "Willoughby's Raiders". Even when they did not put in an appearance, sleep could be lost in vain waiting. Promoted to WO2, Barry was initially BSM of 10 Bty until the battery in name was moved to Ingleburn and he became BSM of 11 Bty. In 1973 Barry marched out to join the staff of HQ RAA 2 Div.

He returned to the Regiment in Aug 1980, following George Laudenback as RSM ARes. As RSM he worked for Mick Burge, Tony English and Ken Broadhead alongside regular RSMs Bob Cane, Ashley Spann, P Dobbs and Chris Jobson until in 1987 when he marched out to 2 Div ARes Recruiting Unit. As RSM he was methodical and precise. His knowledge of drill, the ability to plan a parade and execute it ensured that it appeared to 'just happen' but Barry's attention to detail and everyone knowing what they had to do left nothing to chance. Following his regimental career, Barry continued as a driving force in the 23 Fd Regt Association. Indeed he held unbroken membership of the association and since its inception has been a member of the committee. He took up the challenge to remember the contribution of the members of 2/3 Anti-Tank Regiment and their post-war association. Barry welded camaraderie between the war time regiment and those who carried the legacy in peace. He, with Bevan Lennie, organised combined activities following the amalgamation and conversion to field of 18 LAA Regt. Under Barry's leadership the Regimental Association built a memorial at Belmore and later moved and enhanced it at Kogarah as a focus to both the War and Peacetime Regiments and those who served. They acquired and maintained a troop of 25 pdrs, a 4.2in mortar, a 6 pdr and a 17 pdr anti-tank gun, two examples of 105mm guns an L5 and a M2A2. These guns are currently in store with the Artillery Museum. In the lead up to the Sydney Olympics the firm for which he worked built a series of buildings that could be used to train Special Forces in many of the scenarios that might be faced during the Games. When the games ended it had to be removed and no one at that time could envisage the rebuilding of it following 9/11 to again train a new cohort of personnel. Barry also spent a few months with the contractors involved in setting up a staging area for Australian personnel transiting to the Middle East Area of Operations. Having, it appears, overstayed his visa by a short time, Barry was fortunate to be allowed to leave without further repercussions. Peter Burgess sums up Barry's ability to operate with 'a great range of contacts throughout both the military and civilian environment with whom he was able to easily and effectively communicate at all levels of management regardless of rank structure. This was evidenced by his involvement in the UAE.' Barry was also a key figure in the Sydney Reserve Forces Day Parade prior to his 'trip' overseas as RSM to the parade.

The opportunity to support the Reserve Forces Day Parade in Canberra, supporting the Troops that paraded down there and to participate in the ceremonies conducted at the Australian War Memorial saw the Regimental Association organise a series of visits to Canberra that coincided with Reserve Forces Day and with the help of Martin Hanson, from National Service days, enabled association members to tour into areas of the memorial that most don't see. Martin was at the time employed in the Ceremonial office at the Australian War Memorial as well as being involved as a volunteer. Barry, also was involved with 1/19 Battalion RNSWR Association and he developed links with both 2/17Bn and 4/3 Bn RNSWR in his support for the Light Batteries and their continued involvement with the gunner associations. The RAA Association (NSW) changed its constitution in 1977 in order to be an all-ranks organisation. Barry joined on 14 June. As President of the 23 Fd Regt Assn he encouraged the affiliation by becoming a branch of the RAA Association (NSW) and joined the committee as their representative. He took an interest in the activities of the RAA Assn, especially ANZAC Day, representing it at RSL Planning Meetings. In conjunction with Kingsgrove RSL, Barry effected liaison and supported 233 St George Regional Cadet Unit. Over the years the cadets from this unit have carried a number of the gunner banners on ANZAC Days, a contribution that has been beneficial both ways. Barry carried the new RAA Association Standard into the Annual Gunner Dinner on Aug 6 2011 where it was dedicated and then handed to the Governor who presented it to the President. The standard was then handed to the Banner Party who marched it into dinner for the first time. In October 2011 Barry was elected VP (Ops) and was instrumental in organising ANZAC Day, the Annual Gunner Dinner and in 2015, St Barbara's Day activity at Ingleburn RSL.

Barry is survived by his beloved wife Pat and son David and was farewelled at Our Lady of Fatima Church Kingsgrove on 27 September 2016. The Association was represented by Barry & Barbara Nesbitt, Helen & Martin Hanson, President Roger Perry, Kevin Connelly, Bryan Schafer & Bob Pink. Alan Barnes of Kingsgrove RSL Sub Branch delivered the RSL Tribute.



# FRONTLINE

## MRS Betty HEYDON



Born 2nd September 1926 Died 17th September 2016. Association member Mick Heydon, Vice-President of the Integrated Service Peoples Association, advised of the passing of Betty Heydon of Gundagai. She was 90 years old.

Betty was the wife of ISAA member Eric ("Mick") Heydon, WW2 veteran who served in New Guinea. Mick and Betty married in 1946 and had two children Peter and Judy. Over the years Betty worked at the Gundagai office of the Pastoral Protection Board for 50 years, was Secretary/Treasurer for Gundagai CanAssist for 12 years, worked for Home Care, and assisted students at St. Patrick's Primary School in the reading classes for close to 10 years. As their health declined in recent years both Mick and Betty moved from their home into the local Uralba Aged Care facility.



## 280668 PRIVATE Donald Francis KENNEDY Jnr 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Commando) The Royal Australian Regiment 1<sup>st</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment

Don was the beloved son of 1/19 RNSWR CQMS SSGT Don and Mrs Cheryl Kennedy. Born 11 November 1976 he sadly passed away on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at Glen Innes NSW. Donald served from 16 May 1995 to 6 August 2000 in the Australian Regular Army and with the General Reserve from 7 August 2000 to 11 July 2001. Donald is survived by his wife and family.

Tony Harvey, Bryan Schafer, Bob Weir, Juanita Moon, Bob Pink, Graham Ross and Ray Warden represented the Association at Don's farewell at Guardian Funerals, Blacktown on 11 October 2016



## NX114338 PRIVATE Jack PRICE 55/53 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF

Jack was born at Sydney on 22 September 1922 and sadly passed away Fairfield Hospital on 9 December 2016. He served in the Militia prior to enlisting in the 55/53 Australian Infantry Battalion at Sydney on 21 August 1942. One of the Mice of Moresby he served in New Guinea and Bougainville and following War's end he was discharged on 3 June 1946.

Jack was the beloved Father and Father-in-law to Denise and Noel Selway, and Jacqueline and Stephen Peacock, and cherished Grandfather to Heather and Malcolm, Luke, Matthew, Michelle, and Great Grandfather to Hannah. Jack was farewelled at Rookwood Crematorium on 19 December 2016. Mr Ken Wheeler from the Ingleburn RSL Sub Branch delivered the RSL Tribute and Mr Arthur Perry represented the 55/53 Australian Infantry Battalion Association and Bob Pink the 1/19 RNSWR Association,



### AT JACK PRICE'S FAREWELL 19 DEC 2016

L to R: Bob PINK, Arthur PERRY, Ken WHEELER, & Noel SELWAY

# FRONTLINE

## 98685 CORPORAL Rita May DEAN (nee Dobson) Womens' Royal Australian Air Force



Rita's son's Robert & Perry advised with much sadness of the passing of their beloved mother Rita at Gosford Hospital on Sunday 11 December 2016 in her 94th year. Rita was the widow of NX59496 Corporal Roly Mushett DEAN, HQ Coy 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF who predeceased her on 10 January 2003.

Our thanks to Rita's son Perry and her granddaughter Nicki for the following very fine tributes

Good morning everyone,

On behalf of my brother and I – I have the honour of presenting Mum's eulogy. After I have done that I have asked her grandchildren to remember a favourite memory of Mum or Mum and Dad and present it. Patsy Edwards is also keen to contribute to this occasion. I would like to publicly thank Patsy for being such a help to Mum. It was Patsy who on telephoning Mum thought she sounded a bit 'off'. So, she came around to visit Mum and found she was having difficulty in breathing and arranged for an ambulance, which took Mum to Gosford hospital. Sadly, she never returned. Patsy on behalf of our family, I want to thank you from

the bottom of our hearts for being such a close friend to both Mum and Dad and for your amazing assistance during what was a difficult time. I would like to offer some apologies at this time, firstly from my brother Robert and his wife Ann. They had planned and booked an extensive overseas trip some weeks ago when we were all unaware of Mum's illness. Mum insisted that they go on their holiday and with great reluctance they have. Secondly, my niece and Mum's first grandchild Nicki. Nicki is the QANTAS airport manager at Dubai and had flown to see her beloved Grandma in hospital. They spent some lovely time together when Mum was very ill and I know it was of great comfort to Mum that Nicki was with her. Finally to very dear friends of Mum and Dad, Clive and Mary. Likewise they spent time with Mum in hospital. They sent their deeply felt condolences to our family. To Mum, Clive was the unofficial 3rd red headed son!

So, to Rita May Dean.

This is the celebration of a life. A life well lived. A life filled with dreams, possibilities and the unexpected. It is amazing to think that Mum and her generation lived through the most incredible events the modern world has seen. Post WW1 and the use of cars, wireless radio and the like. Then the depression followed by WW2, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. They have seen the advent and wide spread use of radio, television, computers, CO's, mobile phones, modern aircraft, internet banking and mankind landing on the moon! What an amazing spread of history, and events in one lifetime! Mum was born into this world just like everyone else. She was a wife, sister, mother, mother in law, grandmother, great grandmother and Aunt. Mum was born on 22 September 1922, 94 years ago, in London to Robert Dobson, a former long serving and decorated British Soldier, and his wife Maude Dobson. Mum had an elder sister by 3 years, Joan, now also deceased. Mum's Dad was sponsored to come to Australia in 1924, by the Rutledge Family of "Gidleigh Station", Bungendore just near Canberra because of his mechanical knowledge. Mum attended the station school at Gidleigh. Introduced to Australian country life she took to it like a duck to water. The same cannot be said of her sister Joan. Mum was a tom boy. She learned to ride horses and could ride with the best of them. I remember one day as a kid we went to a property with Mum and Dad, family friends I think. Mum was offered a horse to ride. She was in slacks and readily agreed. One of the men made the foolish statement that 'this horse is a bit lively, maybe one of the others' or some such similar comment. There was silence for a split second before Mum rounded on him, snatched the reins, mounted the horse and was off. I remember her coming past us all at a full gallop completely at ease, on the horses back her hair flying, her face alight with sheer pleasure and delight, the horses hooves thundering as she flew past, much to the amusement and delight of all present, perhaps bar one! I remember Mum telling us that she would ride the horse and sulky to school, on many occasions. She also took great delight in teasing her older sister, who hated horses and was loath to ride them. Mum said she would smack Joan's horse on the rump and delight in the startled horse taking off at great speed with Joan clinging to its back.

The friendships the family made on the station formed an early part of her life. She and the family later moved to Sydney where her father was employed by the Fairfax family as a chauffeur at Woollahra. They lived in the gate house. During these early years, Mum would return to the station and stay with the cook, Maise. Here she learnt her way around the kitchen and the farm. I remember her saying that she could still see 'old Grandfather McKay' (whoever he was) sitting on the veranda after dinner picking his teeth with the knife he had used to crutch sheep! She became the good horsewoman she was, as the station owner, Mr Jack Rutledge loaned a horse to her whenever she visited the station. After finishing year 5 of primary school education at Double Bay primary school, she started an apprenticeship with a milliner near David Jones in Elizabeth St. Please note the year 5. That was primary school. Not the fullest education for sure, but smart she was. One wonders if we have it all wrong these days, but I digress.

Mum could be found most weekend at the Double Bay Sailing club getting a sail on any boat she could. Seven Shilling Beach near Redleaf swimming pool was another popular place for the young people of those days. The harbour was their playground. Like a lot of young women, the Second World War was a way to break out to do the unexpected and to experience their own challenges just as women had broken the status of women in WW1. When the war broke out she tried to join the Army, however, her mother said she was too young and would not sign the paperwork. After turning 18 years old she fronted her mother with the paper work to join the WAAAF. Her father said, "you had better sign the paperwork to let her join because you won't stop her". Ring a bell anyone? Stubborn? Strong willed? Mum did love a challenge and no one was going to stop her. This was how she continued her way through life. She enlisted at Sydney at 11 July 1942 and served in Wagga Wagga, Parkes and Evans Head gunnery school for the RAAF until discharge on 21 December 1945. Robert was reminded by Mum during his own "March Out Parade" from basic Army training at Kapooka in 1964, that she and some mates

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shinned their way down a drain pipe outside the billet they resided in on the Main Street so they could go out and have fun. Later, at Evans Head everyone would try to get to Brisbane on weekends. So off to the railway station on a train where no official train stop was listed, however, the station master would ensure a signal allowed the train to stop for a minute till everyone jumped on board the freight train to Brisbane. It would slow down for them to "disembark" just short of the goods yard. Mum was at home on leave when Jap submarines entered Sydney Harbour. Grandad and Nan lived at Double Bay at that time. When asked what she did when it happened, she said they could hear lots of sirens, explosions and firing caused by guns, torpedoes exploding and depth charges, she told us she put her tin hat on and hid under the kitchen table! Prior to the war her family had met Dad who was a friend of a friend of the family's. Mum was around 15 at the time. During the war, Dad was serving with the 2/19th Battalion AIF in Malaya.

He was first reported as "missing". This was later changed to POW. Dad returned from being a POW in Japan after the surrender and was later to arrive to a wonderful welcome by the public for the POW's. They were taken to Liverpool where everyone had someone to meet them except Dad. Shortly after Mum's sister Joan and a friend had Dad paged to go to the Reception area. Giving him a warm welcome they took him home to the Dobson Family. Rita was in camp at Wagga Wagga and came home the next day. The next morning Dad woke up and Mum was standing in the doorway in uniform. She went over and threw her arms around him and as he said "I was gone". Dad proposed two days later but Mum waited for a further two days before she said yes. During their time, together they spend many hours walking from Double Bay to Watsons Bay or taking the tram one way depending on how much money they had. They were to marry 29 December, 1945 and their first son, Robert, was born in Canberra exactly twelve months later. Robert would "check" with Mum and Dad later in life by wishing them "Happy 16th Anniversary" on his 16th birthday. He never did catch them out on that one ! Dad was discharged from the Army in early 1946. He had a job with the Dept. of Interior but later joined the fledging TAA at Canberra airport. In 1950 their second son Perry was born in Canberra. Canberra was a very young city and expanding as the nation's capital. It was the days when wives rode their bike to town with kid attached to bring the shopping home in string bags hung over the handle bars. Milk delivered to a billy on the porch, the green grocer's lorry stopped at the door and bread appeared in the bread box - home delivered! Going bush to a property to chop and collect firewood for winter; cooking on a fuel stove and every Monday was wash day with the copper going full steam, the twin cement tubs with the wringer in the middle and a 'blue bag' in the rinse water. How times change! Xmas was when a chook was killed in the back yard by Dad, and of course Mum to pluck the feathers!! Dad's career then took the family to Sydney where we lived with Mum's parents. Long before women's liberation and equal rights Mum went to work, I think because Robert and I were at school and because they wanted and needed the income. Bear in mind even in the late 50's married women working was not common. These social barriers never interfered with Mum. When she wanted to, she had a very steely determination. Never one to hold back she did not suffer fools gladly. Next we moved to Launceston. Dad went before the rest of the family so Mum did the pack up. Just shy of 2 years later Dad was to arrive home "with good news", we are moving again! "Where to now" was Mum's question. "Lae, New Guinea". From the extreme cold to the extreme heat - Mum without missing a beat "when do we go"? "I go next week but the kids and you come up in a months' time". Rita's words of wisdom about airline planning methods were given in some depth for Dad to pass on to the powers to be. Once again Rita was to do the pack up, this time she had to sell the car and rent the house. Rita and the rest of the families were to arrive in Lae on a very specially registered aircraft - VH SEXH, The only time I saw Mum very upset at moving was with the move to New Guinea. A set of handmade pottery (made by a Dutch neighbour who had immigrated to Australia, post war) all got broken in the move. I remember she made comment about Dad and his moves at the time. She got over it but at times would remind him of it! Mum's first job in Lae was to arrange for Robert to go the boarding school in Townsville. Later Perry was to follow. This is when Mum and Dad became the proverbial Darby and Joan! They also used this time with the kids away to travel overseas between school terms. Back to the UK to visit Dad's family. Mum being of British stock stood her in good stead as she was not quite a "colonial".

Other trips to Rome, Germany, Thailand all well before the famous Women's Weekly World Tours. Mum loved life in New Guinea. Once again she worked and both Mum and Dad took up golf. They played most weekends and had a terrific social life which suited Mum down to the ground. On golf, Mum was never a long hitter but was uncannily straight, much to Dad's chagrin! Still not enough to do so Mum puts her "check out chick" skills to work for Burns Phillip. As usual she was highly regarded and soon made herself indispensable with her 'can do' attitude. Various excursions around PNG were also enjoyed. But pigeon English was never Mum's forte. She could not get it clear in her early days in New Guinea. Picture this: House boy comes to see the misses - "Misses me cookem shirt belongem Perry? Mum only got the "cook em Perry" bit and raced down to the boy house at the bottom of the garden when the laundry was expecting to Perry sitting in the copper with Apple between teeth being "cooked"!! House boy scratching his head was very confused about misses haste to get to the copper when all he wanted to know was if he could boil Perry's shirt or hand wash? Like all kids I was very quick on the uptake with the local language and became Mums interpreter before going to boarding school with Robert in Townsville. After the New Guinea life style, it was in early 1963 back to Launceston; cold winters and grey days were hard to take. Robert then joined the Army and later was to serve with 6 RAR first tour in Vietnam. I continued high school in Launceston. Later Mum and Dad were moved back to Sydney where in 1971 their first Granddaughter, Nicki was born to Robert and his wife Lucille. Then tragedy. Lucille died while awaiting a double lung transplant. Nicole was relatively young and Mum then took on the role of, confidant and mentor. They developed a bond that was unshakable. Later Robert was to marry Ann. Once again Mum was back at work and now had a job with the then Telecom, which she enjoyed. Later, when Dad retired after 30 years with TAA they decided to head to Adelaide where Mum's Mother, her older sister and husband lived. When Dad started to learn French polishing and upholstery Mum tried her hand at wood carving, they both did very well at developing their skills. In fact some amazing work which has been passed on within the family. After the passing of her mother and later her sister they re-located to Wyoming. Dad got interested in the RSL locally, the Ex POW's Association as well as the 2/19th

# FRONTLINE

Association. Mum started working with the Ladies' Auxiliary. When Dad passed away Mum took on roles in the ex POW for NSW and the Gosford RSL. One of the highlights for Mum was when she was made a Patron of the West Gosford RSL. She was very proud of that achievement. More of that later. She handed over the running of the NSW POWs a couple of years back when the QLD branch assisted to merge for the remaining members. Mum and Dad were a great team together. Rita was a warm-hearted woman who challenged herself during her life; was an equal partner in her marriage, a giving mother, Grandmother, great grandmother and Mother in Law who loved her family and was very protective of them. She loved every one of us equally. She was generous to her friends. In recent years she had a small but great group of friends. People like Joyce, Teddy, Betty and several others - you know who you are. Of course, Patsy who would drop in to see how things were going and if she needed anything. I contacted 2 of my mates I spent part of my childhood with to let them know of Mum's passing. They both mentioned how much Mum had a sense of adventure and what fun she was. Rob Twidle who loved across the road from us in Launceston sent me text as follows: Sorry to hear about your Mum.

I have very fond memories of a very lovely lady. She was always happy and a lot of fun. I remember her pulling up her dress and jumping on the back of my Ariel 500 motorbike and us roaring off up the hill. Or busting me with a flagon of sherry under the seat of my old Morris 10. I said it was petrol but she knew differently. It is these sorts of memories that Mum should be remembered for. To the West Gosford Ladies Auxiliary many thanks to you ladies for your friendship and the fun times. To the POW's association, and the POW-WOW'S their support and friendship over many years is appreciated and we know Mum was very proud to serve you in her role at the association. And woe betide anyone who does not look after her ex POW's... you will have someone to answer to one day. To Bob Pink, Roger Perry and the 2/19 and 1/19 RNSWR Association many thanks for your support of the thinning members of the 2/19th and their remaining ranks. Your support is greatly appreciated and we salute your support of the members of the units. We know that you take it very seriously the responsibility you have shouldered over the past years. I do hope they are ready for her in the ex-pow hereafter because she will make sure they get their act together. As someone once said "It's not the life you have but the journey you take". You will forever live in our hearts. God bless you Mum. From me, my wife Julie, William, Stephen and Kellie and their children, Sarah and Dave and their children, My brother Robert and his wife Ann and Nicki. Your loving family.

## ***From Rita's Granddaughter Nicki***

Grandma Not many people can say they have their grandparents in their life as they grow up so I have been doubly blessed to have had my wonderful grandmother in my life for so long. Grandma and I have shared so many adventures together over the years so much so that she wasn't just my wonderful Grandma but she was my best friend too. There was my first overseas trip to England at the tender age of 6 months where apparently I would disappear first thing in the morning only to be returned to my parents with tea stains dribbled down the front of my jumpsuit thanks to what would become a childhood tradition of early morning tea and biscuits, snuggled in bed with my grandma and grandpa. Many of my school holidays were spent with Grandma and Grandpa with one particular favorite of mine being a driving trip back to Adelaide in their camper van. I am not sure Grandma was ever able to listen to an Abba song again after that particular trip. Grandma was responsible for igniting my great love of cooking and her ANZAC biscuits are still my all time favorites although I still aspire to her level of talent in the Christmas cake and Christmas pudding stakes but I am not sure I will ever master the skill of a twirly orange peel quite like Grandma could! Another amazing talent of grandma's was her skills in all things craft - her wonderful handmade cards, quilting, decorations, woodwork are all greatly admired by us all and again I have many fond memories of hours spent doing crafts or sewing under Grandma's instructions.

Of course there are countless instances of her rescuing my dropped knitting stitches or fixing my mistakes on my various school sewing projects over the years. And I always have wondered just how Santa Claus managed to get my dolls house to have the same wallpaper and Grandma inspired furnishings - she really was special to be in touch with Santa Claus himself!!! After seeing her own sons through school and boarding school days I'm not sure Grandma expected to go through it all again but needless to say my own boarding school days saw Grandma sewing on what felt like millions of name labels into every single item of clothing I owned, she tackled the Mt Everest of washing and ironing that always accompanied my weekend visits out from school and I was always sent back laden with enough biscuits, slices and treats to feed an army. In recent years I was fortunate enough to be with Grandma on an impromptu visit to her beloved childhood home of Gidleigh where she reminisced of her times living there on the farm as she walked us around the houses on the property - it was wonderful to be there with her and hear some of her stories.

Again I followed in her footsteps and spent some of my years living in Double Bay although I am not so sure she was quite so proud of my carrying on the family tradition of partaking in refreshments at the Royal Oak hotel! Another wonderful tradition of Grandmas was that she would always have a chocolate Heart ice cream as a treat when I came to stay over - this is a tradition I have kept up with my friends kids and it is still just as popular as when I was a kid! I also have wonderful memories of watching movie greats with Grandma such as Wizard of Oz, Gone with the Wind and we even both had a cry in ET! Grandma always had a fabulous sense of fun and her pearls of wisdom are legendary 'If you can't be good - get his number!' is one of my particular all time favorite Rita comments. She always was particularly good at putting on the charm and attaching herself to the young and handsome men to help us out! I certainly could keep going on and on with wonderful memories and stories about the fun times I have had with my Grandma. Unfortunately she has had to take on this very last adventure without me but I take much comfort knowing that a part of her will stay with us all - her family and friends - because we are all so much the richer for having had the wonderful Rita in our lives.

Rita is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law Robert and Ann and Perry and Julie and her grandchildren Nicki, Stephen and Kellie, Sarah, William, and great grandchildren Jessie, Campbell, Jack and Matilda. Rita was farewelled at the Hillside Chapel, Palmdale Lawn Cemetery and Memorial Park Palmdale NSW on Friday 16 December 2016. The RSL Tribute was delivered by the Gosford RSL Sub Branch and the Association was represented by Vice President, Michael Pass and Committee member, Sandy Howard, together with David Ring and Gleness Larnach who was there at the request of her father Glen Scriven of 2/19 Bn AIF.

# FRONTLINE

## MRS Olive Louise HUGHES (nee Tufnell) 28 May 1913 to 26 Sept 2016

Our thanks to Peter Hughes for the following tribute:



This is quite simply *the end of an era*. Mum has been here forever it seems to me. Of course, that is an obvious thing for a son to say of his mother, but when she has lived to over 103 years, it is indeed the case. She was witness to a time and events that are not part of our first hand experiences - we can only remember what she told us of these events or what we have read about them. She used often say "*Times Change*" when recounting tales from her childhood and younger days or when some new way of doing things became the norm. On 26 September 2016, there was indeed a very big change in our family structure, when Mum passed away peacefully with David and myself at her side. Olive Louise Hughes, nee Tufnell, was born in Sydney on 28 May 1913, the 2<sup>nd</sup> child and only daughter of Louisa and George Tufnell MC (see Peter Hughes' profile); a baby sister for Rowland. Olive's early days were spent growing up at Kings Cross - a suburb she described during an ABC interview recorded when she was 93 years of age, as being a village with a great sense of community, a wonderful and safe place for children. **How times have changed.**

In that same interview, she recounts the tale of her first big travel adventure when she, a little girl of 2½ years together with a friend aged 3, wandered from the Cross down to White City which was then a form of Luna Park. The local Bottle'O Jack spied them and in her words "knew they had no right being there", promptly put them in his hand drawn cart and delivered them up the hill safely home to their distraught mothers. **How times have changed.**

After her Primary Education at Darlinghurst Public School, Olive attended Sydney Girls' High School where she won an Art Scholarship to East Sydney Technical College. In 1929, Olive and her mother embarked on a world trip which lasted 7 months - she spent her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday in London and during the trip her mother ensured she saw as much art work as possible. They visited the Louvre, spent time in Brussels, went to Windsor and Newton in London where Olive and her mother learnt the technique of poker work. Returning to Australia, via Canada and USA, the emergence of poster art further influenced her work.

Back in Sydney, Olive worked professionally doing poker work, a skill she perfected and was still practicing when well into her 90's. As long as she could remember, Mum wanted to be an artist and she studied widely with numerous Australian and International tutors over many years.

Many of you have her art works on your walls just as we do. Paintings in our possession range from 2 very much treasured oils, painted in 1939, - the first 2 oils she painted and bearing the signature Olive Tufnell. As well there are water colours, mixed media and collages to name a few. Mum was forever experimenting with colour and techniques, never content to simply paint in a single style or with one medium. She herself became an art teacher, a role which she really enjoyed and in which she excelled - her mantra was that everyone is born with artistic talent, it just needs developing and she was supportive of people's efforts and always willing to share her wide knowledge. We also have poker work, enamelling and sculpture done by my most talented mother.

Several large pieces of Mum's work are here at Lourdes Aged Care Facility in Killara - they look superb and have greatly added to the décor. Another beneficiary of her generosity is The Children's Hospital where paintings with a theme of Australian Animals hang. Mum also used her talents to raise funds for many charitable organisations.

In 1940, Olive married my father, Russel (2/6<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment AIF - see Peter Hughes' profile) and together they built a home in Frith Ave, Wahroonga. Both David and I grew up there and our mother lived in that house until 15 months ago. A fiercely determined and independent woman, she dearly wanted to stay there forever and the fact that she was able to live by herself until after her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday is amazing, and entirely due to all the help she received from David's family and from Angela Elliott. We owe you a huge thank you Angela - without your friendship and practical support, Mum would not have been able to remain there for as long as she did. The house that I grew up in was extended several times, a larger lounge room was added - more space to put her paintings; but most significantly for Olive, art studios - not one but three, as well as an enamelling room. She could give Margaret Olley a run for her money!

Mum's garden was a source of great delight to her, she had the proverbial "green thumb" and those of you who spent time in her home will well remember the white vase which always sat on top of the TV containing seasonal flowers from her garden. Olive's care for the environment was impeccable - she was the original recycler and could teach our current conservationists a thing or two - it all went back into the garden and what a garden she created. She loved her flowers - she painted so many lovely water colours using the flowers from her garden as the subject.

Whilst cleaning out her home we came across letters received from family and friends, accounts of Grandchildren's activities and accomplishments, and little works of art done by infant Great Grand children. All treasured items in her life. There were lists of Christmas Cards sent by her over the years - these lists represent a dynamic chronology of family and friends - when someone married they came off the parent's card and had their own entry and then later a child's name would appear. A great many of you were on these lists. At the start, I said Mum has always been there and while this is certainly true the important point is that she has always been there **FOR US**. Her family and her friends were an integral part of her life, - her love, interest, support and encouragement to everyone is indeed her legacy.

Our family has a wonderful role model to cherish - she set the bar high and it is our duty to ensure it does not wobble and fall. **'Mum - you done good!'** No Pete, I can hear her say; it should be - **Olive, you have done well!**

Dearly loved Mother of Peter and David, Mother-in-law of Judy and Jann and Granny Olive to her Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren and loving friend to so many over her long life.. Olive was farewelled at the Lourdes Chapel Killara on 6 October 2016 and the Association was represented by President Roger Perry, Bob Binns, Sandy Howard and Bob Pink.



Paintings of Australian Animals hang.

# FRONTLINE



## **NX53593 PRIVATE Clifford Edward LOWIEN, D COMPANY, 2<sup>nd</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION, AIF**

Association member Mrs Shirley Drum advised with much sadness that Cliff's son Jeff, had notified of Cliff's passing on Monday 28 November 2016. Our thanks to Mrs Di Elliott for her valued assistance and impressive detail in researching Cliff's military service which is once again greatly appreciated.

Cliff put his age up by a year and enlisted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Imperial Force at Paddington NSW on 14 November 1941 (24 days before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour) and departed Sydney on 10 January 1942 aboard the HMAT Aquitania arriving at Johore Bahru, Malaya on 26 January 1942 as a reinforcement and allotted to D Company 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF. Cliff fought in the Battle for Singapore and following the Capitulation was taken Prisoner of War by the Japanese on 15 February 1942 and incarcerated in Selarang Barracks and camps in the village of Changi.

On 18 March 1943 together with his comrades of D Force he was sent to slave under horrendous and inhumane and brutal conditions under the Japanese on the construction of the Burma Thai Railway for 6 months. On completion of the Railway on 16 October 1943 they remained along the line doing maintenance until April 1944 when they moved south to Tamuang until June 1944. Departing by train on 21 June 1944, D Force U Battalion

survivors returned to Singapore's River Valley Road Camp, arriving there 26 June 1944. Together with his comrades of U Battalion he embarked for Japan on 4 July 1944 on the MV Byoki Maru. The Byoki Maru made it all the way to Japan arriving in Moji - Japan on 8 September 1944 - where they again slaved in the Coal Mines at Ohamma and the shipyards until War's end on 15 August 1945 and his repatriation to Australia and discharge on 6 February 1946.

Cliff joined Yamba Surf Club in 1940 where he gained his Bronze Medallion before enlisting in the Army during World War II. He spent many years living in the Bellata area near Moree before retiring to Yamba about 30 years ago where he became involved in the surf club again. He served as Club Treasurer for almost 10 years in the 1990s and was instrumental in starting up the Golf Club raffles as a fundraiser on Saturday nights. Cliff was awarded Life Membership of Yamba Surf Club for services rendered in 2004.

Cliff was the dearly loved husband of Kathleen who sadly predeceased him on 14 November 2014. He is survived by his loving family and was Father and Father-in-law of Rick and Nettie, Peter (decd) and Karen, Jeff and Karen, and Wendy and Bruce Howard. Loving Grandfather and Great-Grandfather to his family. Dear Brother and Brother-in-law.

Cliff was farewelled at All Saints Anglican Church, Yamba NSW on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016. The Association was represented by Committee member, Kevin Jones OAM, who also delivered Cliff's Military eulogy, Mrs Shirley Drum and Brad Collis. Cliff's Yamba RSL Sub Branch delivered the RSL Tribute, Our thanks to Mrs Shirley Drum Kevin Jones and Brad Collis for the newspaper cutting from The Daily Examiner of 7 December 2016.

## **Yamba bids farewell to Cliff**

**Clair Morton**  
Clair.Morton@dailyexaminer.com.au

IN HIS lifetime Clifford Lowien was many things: a surf life saver, soldier, prisoner of war, farmer, councillor, husband and father.

On Monday, as people from across the Clarence Valley gathered at Yamba's All Saints Anglican Church to celebrate his life and mourn his loss, these were facets that shone most brightly.

In his eulogy, which was kept to a minimum due to Cliff's "pet hate" of long speeches, son Rick Lowien spoke of a larrikin who could talk to anyone.

His demeanour was evidently a quality that endeared him to all, from the members of the Yamba Surf Life Saving Club to his comrades on the Thai/Burma Railway, where as a young soldier he worked under horrific conditions as a POW.

Cliff was born in Toowoomba, and after moving around his parents eventually settled in the Clarence Valley, a place he would return to throughout his life.

After two years as an



**IN LOVING MEMORY:** Clarence Valley identity Clifford Lowien was farewelled on Monday at Yamba's All Saints Anglican Church. PHOTO: CLAIR MORTON

active member of the Yamba Surf Life Saving Club, he left the region for the first time to enlist in the Australian Army in November 1941, writing his birth date on the enlistment form as April 1, 1922.

He was in fact born in 1923, Maclean sub-branch president Kevin Jones said as he re-counted his service history.

Cliff was captured by the Japanese soon after arriving in Singapore with the 19th Battalion, and was sent to labour camps in Japan, Thailand and Singapore as a POW until his release in 1945.

"Cliff saw and

**It's difficult to imagine him not being around any more...**

— Rick Lowien

experienced a lot in his lifetime, from an almost itinerant life as a child, to world war, and many changes and challenges as a farmer after the war," Rick said.

It was also after the war that he met his future wife Kath, a nurse at the Grafton Base Hospital.

They married in 1949 and remained happily married for 65 years, raising four children along the way.

And while they left the Clarence Valley to pursue farming opportunities, Cliff and Kath returned to Yamba to retire in the 90s.

Rick spoke of his father's "inexplicable" love of American country music, and his penchants for gardening, Yamba's beaches and red wine.

"I'm sure (my siblings) Geoff and Wendy remember as well as I do the nights he would play music late into the night," he said.

"It's difficult to imagine

him not being around any more, not there to chat about football and horses when we caught up.

"As sad as this day is, I know dad would want the commemoration of his life to be one where his friends and family gather together and tell a story or two, and share a beer together."

As Mr Lowien was carried out of the church, a guard of honour was formed by Yamba Surf Life Saving Club members, and the local servicemen he called mates.

Outside, an Australian flag flew at half-mast as Jambalaya played through the speakers.

# FRONTLINE



**NX48182 PRIVATE Frederick CLARK**  
**C Company & Headquarter Company (Mortar Pl)**  
**2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF**

Fred's daughter Linda advised with deep regret of his passing at home on Christmas Day. Fred was born at Riverstone, New South Wales on the 11 November 1924 to James Edward Clark and his wife Vera Ellen – he was one of their twelve children.

While living at Richmond, New South Wales, Fred enlisted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> AIF on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1941 and on the 10<sup>th</sup> January, 1942 he sailed out of Sydney onboard RMS *Aquitania*, destination Singapore, as a reinforcement for the 2/18<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF. Arriving at Singapore on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Fred proceeded to the General Base Depot at Johor Bahru on the Malayan mainland where, on the 26 January, Routine Orders show he was taken on strength of the 2/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF and not the 2/18<sup>th</sup>.

2/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion had just fought a fierce campaign in Malaya and with deaths and wounded depleting their number, the Battalion required close to 700 reinforcements, Fred being one. On 31<sup>st</sup> January 2/19 Battalion, along with the rest of the 8<sup>th</sup> Division and Allied Forces, crossed the Causeway onto Singapore Island. The Japanese then invaded Singapore on the 8<sup>th</sup> February.

On capitulation to the Japanese on 15 February, 1942 Fred became a prisoner of war. Initially held in Selerang Barracks, in April he transferred to the Adam Road Prison Camp followed by a short stay in Sime Road Camp. On 28<sup>th</sup> October, 1942 he left Singapore onboard *Kamakura Maru* as a member of C Force bound for Japan. During his time in Japan, Fred worked in the shipyards and down mines. They experienced the coldest of winters and very harsh working conditions and of the approximately 550 Australians on C Force, 82 died in Japan of various causes. The deaths included one officer who was killed on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 1945 when his chest was crushed by a box of supplies being parachuted into the camp. Fred was recovered from Fukuoka No 26 Camp (Keisen, Japan) on the 17<sup>th</sup> September, 1945 and from there sent to Manila in the Philippines before finally coming home to Australia. He was officially discharged from the Australian Army on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1945.

Fred's wife Evelyn pre-deceased him and he is survived by his children Linda, Daniel, Jeanette, Georgina, Veronica, Carol and Colline and their extended families.

Fred was farewelled at the North Chapel of Forest Lawn Crematorium, Leppington on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.

Our thanks to Mrs Di Elliott for her impressive research of Fred's military service which was greatly appreciated and to the President of Belmore RSL Sub Branch Mr Bob Webb and Honorary Secretary Mr Roy Steer for their attendance at Fred's farewell and the delivery by Roy of the RSL Tribute and Fred's eulogy. The Association was represented by Ray Warden and Bob Pink.



**NX52470 PRIVATE William Frederick "Bill" DEMPSEY**  
**E Company 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF**

Di Elliott advised in early January 2017 of Bill's passing on 24 February 2012 in his 93<sup>rd</sup> year at Assumption Villa Aged Care Facility, Leeton NSW and notified in the Leeton Irrigator on 28 February 2012. Bill was born at Leeton on 5 December 1918 and was an original enlistment in 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF on 3 July 1940 at Paddington NSW.



Bill fought in the Malayan and Singapore Campaigns and following the Capitulation managed to escape from Singapore and made it back to Australia. He was discharged on 10 August 1942.

Subsequent information also sadly advised of Bill's beloved wife Doreen Grace DEMPSEY's passing in her 83<sup>rd</sup> year on 30 December 2009 and notified in the Leeton Irrigator on 8 January 2010.



# FRONTLINE

## COMING EVENTS 2017

WED	15 FEB 2017	1045h	<b>FALL OF SINGAPORE COMMEMORATION</b>	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Refreshments after Service at the Combined Services RSL 5-7 Barrack St SYDNEY Decorations & Medals
TUE	25 APR 2017	0930h	<b>ANZAC DAY SYDNEY</b> FORM UP IN SPRING STREET REUNION VENUE: SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE	SYDNEY	Decorations & Medals
TUE	25 APR 2017	1000h	<b>ANZAC DAY CANBERRA</b> FORM UP IN ANZAC PDE CANBERRA REUNION VENUE: TBA	Details: LTCOL David HORTON 0410 814 619 Email: tet_jurgestrek@hotmail.com	Further details CONTINGENT COMMANDER CAPT Bob BURRAGE Mobile: 0412 129 272 Email: bobburrage@hotmail.com
SUN	02 JULY 2017	0930h	<b>RESERVE FORCES DAY PARADE - SYDNEY</b>	March details to be confirmed	REUNION VENUE: TO BE ADVISED Decorations & Medals
TUE	15 AUG 2017	1045h	<b>VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY</b>	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Refreshments after Service at the Combined Services RSL 5-7 Barrack St SYDNEY Decorations & Medals
SAT	22 JUL 17	1800h TBC	<b>ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT WO's/SNCO's DINNER</b>	BATHURST RSL CLUB	Mess Dress / Coat & Tie Miniature medals
SUN	23 JUL 17	1000h TBC	<b>ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE</b>	ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL BATHURST NSW	Decorations & Medals

### 19th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & REUNION DINNER WEEKEND – GOSFORD RSL NSW

FRI	27 OCT 2017	1830 to 2130h	<b>MEET &amp; GREET FUNCTION</b>	 <p><b>GOSFORD RSL CLUB</b></p> <p>The Association has reserved 25 rooms at the <b>GALAXY MOTEL</b> which is co-located with Gosford RSL Club 26 Central Coast Highway WEST GOSFORD NSW Reservations/details Ph: 02 4323 1711 &amp; 20 rooms at the <b>ASHWOOD MOTEL</b> Located across the road from Gosford RSL Club 73 Central Coast Highway WEST GOSFORD NSW Reservations/details Ph: 02 4324 6577</p> <p><b>PLEASE MAKE YOUR BOOKINGS EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT</b></p>
SAT	28 OCT 2017	1030h	<b>WREATH LAYING CEREMONY</b>	
SAT	28 OCT 2017	TBC	<b>BUS TOUR of the scenic &amp; picturesque Central Coast including LUNCH at the renowned Doyalson RSL</b>	
SAT	28 OCT 2017	TBC	<b>MILITARY PRESENTATION by LTCOL Peter McGuinness MBE OAM RFD ED</b>	
SAT	28 OCT 2017	1530h	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b>	
SAT	28 OCT 2017	1800 for 1900h	<b>AGM REUNION DINNER GOSFORD RSL CLUB</b>	
SUN	29 OCT 2017		Return Travel Home	

SAT	11 NOV 2017	1045h	<b>REMEMBRANCE DAY</b>	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Decorations & Medals Refreshments after Service at the Combined Services RSL 5-7 Barrack St SYDNEY
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## ASSOCIATION PATRONS & OFFICE BEARERS

**PATRON & LIFE MEMBER**  
**PATRON**  
**CHAPLAIN & LIFE MEMBER**  
**CHANCELLOR**

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

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

# SICK REPORT

*Get Well  
Soon*



We are very pleased to report that no members have attended the RAP since the AGM weekend

# CONGRATULATIONS



To Delices & Mark  
On the arrival of twin daughters Naomi & Lena  
born 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016  
and Granddaughters to  
Proud Grandparents Colin & Tricia AIKEN



It's your  
shout  
Colin !



CONGRATULATIONS TO  
PTE JAMES DALLAS - A COY (WAGGA WAGGA)  
1/19 RNSW  
ON HIS AWARD OF  
THE SOLDIERS' MEDALLION  
FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE





## CONGRATULATIONS Joe & Muriel



From The Auburn Review Tuesday November 29, 2016 and  
forwarded by our eagle eyed correspondent Roy Mundine, OAM

### Couple celebrating 75 years of marriage

SEPARATED by war for the first four years of their marriage, Joe and Muriel Coombs will celebrate their 75th anniversary this week.

The couple, who live in Regents Park, met during a hiking party and picnic in November 1938 when they were 18.

Planning to get married late in December 1941, World War Two intervened when Joe received orders to sail to Singapore with the 2/19th Infantry Battalion reinforcement on January 10, 1942.

On December 3, with Muriel wearing a dress she and her mother bought earlier that morning, and with Joe in his uniform, they tied the knot in a ceremony held in Earwood.

Just over two months later after the fall of Singapore, Joe was listed as missing and throughout most of the war Muriel didn't know if she was a wife or a widow.

Joining the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, she packed parachutes and camouflaged aircraft as part of the war effort.

Meanwhile, as a prisoner of war Joe was shipped to Japan and then to the coal mines on Kyushu where he saw the mushroom cloud from the atomic bomb dropped on Naga-



Joe and Muriel Coombs are celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary this week.

said.

Despite the rocky start, the couple share a positive outlook on life and agree that the secret to their marriage was "a bit of give and take".

"We've never had any trouble in all the years we've been married," Muriel said.

Joe added with a laugh that during the first four years, they "never exchanged an angry word".

He said immediately after the war was a difficult time but he got through it with the support of mates.

"We look after one another now. We both turned 96 this year and we've had a bloody good trot," Joe said.

After resuming their life together in Berala, they had two sons "with wonderful daughters-in-law", and now enjoy the company of their six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.



### CONGRATULATIONS DAVE & BARRY



Major David TAYLOR &  
Warrant Officer Class Two  
Barry PARSONS  
on the presentation of their award  
of the Federation Star  
**for 40 years service to the  
Australian Army**  
by the Forces Commander  
Major General Gus GILMORE AO  
DSC at Victoria Barracks Sydney  
on Tuesday 22 November 2016

# FRONTLINE



## DONATIONS



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

WO1	Warren	BARNES
PTE	Tony	BRAY
CPL	Bruce	HANSEN
LT	Peter	HUGHES
CPL	Dan	JOHNSTON
MAJ	Bob	LIDDEN
CPL	Graham	ROSS



## ***NEW MEMBER***



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

<b>MRS</b>	<b>Joy</b>	<b>CRONIN</b>	<b>TEMORA NSW</b>	<b>2666</b>
------------	------------	---------------	-------------------	-------------

### DVA Summary of Ex-Prisoners of War as at 1 July 2016

TABLE 1: PRISONERS OF WAR BY STATE OF RESIDENCE

STATE	Europe	Japan	Korea
New South Wales	28	52	under 4
Victoria	27	32	0
Queensland	18	27	under 4
South Australia	8	9	under 4
Western Australia	13	14	under 4
Tasmania	under 4	6	0
Northern Territory	under 4	0	0
Australian Capital Territory	under 4	under 4	0
Overseas	0	under 4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>6</b>

TABLE 2: AVERAGE AGE OF PRISONERS OF WAR

	Europe	Japan	Korea
Average age	94.7	95.3	87.8

Table 6: Widows of Deceased Prisoners of War paid War Widow Pension

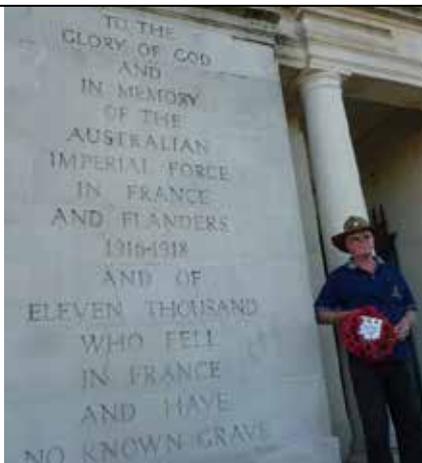
	Europe	Japan	Korea	Unknown
War Widows	602	1,241	7	15



Bob COLLIGAN pictured at the Last Post Ceremony at the famous Menin Gate, Ypres Belgium on 6 SEP 2016 during his and Linda's Western Front Battlefield Tour



Bob at the TYNE COT CEMETERY



Bob at  
VILLERS BRETONNEUX



Linda & Bob COLLIGAN at the  
THIEPVAL MEMORIAL 8 SEP 2016

# FRONTLINE



## SEEN AROUND THE TRAPS



Warren & Rachel AZZOPARDI at the recent Rockin Maryborough Vintage Festival Military Ball. Warren proudly wore his 1/19 RNSWR uniform and Rachel wore her Miss Saigon dress which she made herself.



SGT Rocky WALSHAW  
(Local Controller – Forbes Unit – NSW State Emergency Services)  
photographed on the morning of MON 24 OCT 16 at FORBES NSW during a visit by His Excellency General The Honourable David HURLEY AC DSC, Governor of New South Wales



PICTURED AT A TOUR OF SPECTACLE I<sup>S</sup> NAVAL MUSEUM 3 NOV 2016  
L to R Jim SWINBOURNE MAJ Lou CUNNINGHAM WO2 Barry PARSONS MAJ Brett COOPER & Bob PINK



Peter TRACEY & Schools' Tour Group  
In VIETNAM SEP/OCT 2016

## COMMEMORATING Bill BAIRD 2/19 BATTALION AIF

Many thanks to Association member Mrs Marj Flack of Hay in arranging for Susan Johnston of Hay's 'The Printed Post' to forward the article below on former 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF member, the legendary Bill Baird.



### Highway to Hell

Organiser of the "Highway to Hell Challenge", The Hay Vintage and Veteran Motorcycle and Car Club, are very happy with the number of entrants who turned up to join this first time event. "This has been a good roll up," said HVMCC Club president, Dave Cooper, "We hope to more people enter next year." The event raised \$1,500 which will be donated to Booligal and Ivanhoe schools.

The challenge was held in recognition of the years of service, and 100th birthday of Hay legend: Bill Baird. Bill travelled the Cobb Highway between Hay and Ivanhoe delivering mail and freight, twice a week for over 30 years, until his retirement at the age of 93.

Bill's young great grandson Mitchell Baird, the son of Mark Baird, travelled all the way from Sydney for the event. Mitchell partnered with Fred Scott for the rally, and enjoyed hearing Fred's stories about Bill. "I have loved hearing all the stories about my pop," said Mitchell, "I appreciate that the town has recognised my pop in this way."

Mitchell was joined by another of Mr. Baird's great grand sons Mitchell, to present the winner trophy to Claire and Marie Stevenson.

Photo top left: a Colleen Schiller painting of Bill Baird. The painting hung in the Jennifer Groves owned coffee shop 'Havachat', which Bill used to frequent after his mail run.

Left: HVMCC Club committee Dave Cooper, Chris Woods, Jennilee May, Mal Stevens and Peter May with Maurice Groves, Bill Baird (painting) and Mitchell Baird.



Celia Bloomfield (7th), Rod Barnes (4th), Hugh Duncan (2nd), Thaden Roy (6th) and Graham Mitchell (3rd)



Mitchell Baird, winners Claire and Marie Stevenson, and Nick Baird with his daughters.

The winner was chosen from the first correct competition entry handed in, organisers were a bit surprised that it was entry number 12 before they found a winner.



Above: Organisers thank tow vehicle drivers: Tim Peterson and Trevor Warr. The only break down for the day was President Dave Coopers vehicle, much to the amusement of fellow rallyists.

# FRONTLINE

## RELOCATION OF 45th BATTALION AIF COLOURS

Honouring the Fallen: Nick Fletcher, Brian Borland, John Thomas, Colonel Vin Halloran, Bob Mowle, Don Nelson and Will Davies.

Picture: John Veage  
By Kahlia Beichert  
For years the Colours of the 45th battalion have hung proudly in St Paul's Anglican Church in



Kogarah. But they will soon find a new home at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. The Colours are made up of a King's banner and a regimental banner with the Battle Honours. They are one of a few, if not the only, set



of original, unaltered Colours of an Infantry Battalion in Australia.

45th Battalion Association President John Thomas said there was mixed emotions in moving the Colours.

We were concerned that over time that they could be lost inappropriately, he said. The general view of the members is that they are going to a better place. The Colours are expected to be moved within the next month and a plaque will be installed to mark its spot.

The Battalion has a long history since being formed in March 1916. Within four months it was on the front line at Fleurbaix. In WWI the 45th had thousands of casualties but were honoured with more than a hundred military medals. It was disbanded after the war and in 1921 was re-raised as a part-time unit of the citizens force that was renamed the St George Regiment in 1927. On the outbreak of WWII the unit was called to guard vulnerable points at La Perouse and was responsible for the defence of the Cronulla area.

The unit was eventually disbanded in 1960 and its Colours left for safe keeping in St Paul's. The Association has around 70 members with many flying to Sydney on Wednesday to celebrate the forming of the battalion and the moving of the Colours. Mr Thomas joined the Association after research of his family history revealed his great uncle had fought and did with the Battalion. The Battalion was an integral part of the community, he said. They have had a long history that should be remembered. For more information on the association email [the45thassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:the45thassociation@hotmail.com). <http://www.theleader.com.au/story/4181883/st-georg>

# FRONTLINE

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY CEREMONY HOLSWORTHY BARRACKS 25 OCT 2016



# FRONTLINE

## DID YOU KNOW ?? A series by Association Member LT Peter Hughes

Peter R Hughes

Member, 1/19 Battalion RNSWR Association

A news item in the Sydney Morning Herald on 3 January 1943, reads;



**"FIFTY! Godfathers For Digger's Son.** A boy born yesterday in Mater Misericordiae Hospital, North Sydney, will have 50 godfathers. He is the son of Sgt. Russel Hughes, AIF, of Sir Edgeworth David Avenue, Wahroonga, and is to be named Peter Russel. Sgt Hughes returned last year from the Middle East, where he and his fellow-sergeants became inseparable comrades. It was arranged that when the first baby was born, the sergeants would all be godparents." And so the story goes – Yes, the entire Sergeants' Mess of the 2/6<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment.

Russel Hughes had been a member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Artillery Field Brigade, ACMF stationed at Willoughby, Sydney, in the late 1930's and served during World War II with the 2/6<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment AIF in the Middle East.

Peter's maternal grandfather was George Tufnell, a merchant Sea Captain by 1910, enlisted as a Private in December 1915, aged 32 years and sailed on HMAT Star of England on 8 March 1916 with the 15<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements 3 Bn AIF and in Egypt, he was transferred to 55Bn AIF and promoted to L/Cpl. In January 1917, he joined the MG Corp Officer Cadet School in UK and was commissioned as a 2Lt in May 1917 being on-strength with 14<sup>th</sup> MG Coy and saw action at various battles in Flanders and was awarded a Military Cross at Polygon Wood for his actions between 27 and 30 September 1917. He was promoted to Lt, saw further action in Belgium later in 1917 and the Somme with the 5<sup>th</sup> MG Bn through 1918 and he returned to Sydney in 1919.

As stated above, Peter was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1943 to Russel and Olive Hughes, was raised in Wahroonga and attended North Sydney Boys' High School from 1955 to 1960. Peter joined the High School Cadet unit in 1956 and rose through the ranks to Cadet Under-Officer in 1960. Peter has a younger brother David.

Upon matriculating from high school, Peter was employed as a Cadet Engineer with Consulting Engineers, Rankine & Hill at North Sydney and studied Civil Engineering at the University of NSW part-time. He enlisted with UNSWR in December 1962 at Kensington; recruit training at Studley Park, Narellan in January 1963, NCO training at Wallgrove in April 1963 and was promoted to Cpl in the Transport Platoon. Peter retained that rank during his entire officer training and was commissioned on 23 August 1968. At that time Peter was supernumerary to UNSWR establishment and was seconded to E Comd Trg with visits as a Specialist Technical Instructor to OCTU.

Also in 1968, Peter graduated in Civil Engineering from UNSW and was appointed Deputy Shire Engineer at Narrabri NSW and due to distance, found it difficult to attend UNSWR parades in Sydney and in early 1969 was invited by then CO, Lt Col Tom Crawford to transfer to 19 Bn RNSWR (The Bushman's Rifles) as a Platoon Commander, B Company. From 1969 to 1971, Peter served with 19 Bn and then 1/19 Bn RNSWR as PI Cmdr, 5 PI, B Coy with Sandy Howard as PI Sgt. Further employment changes in 1971 to Moura in Central Queensland and with the cessation of the National Service Scheme in December 1972, Peter found it difficult to transfer to a CMF battalion in Queensland and at this time went on to CMF Reserve and retired from military service in 1975.

In 1973, Peter moved to Brisbane to open the office of his former employer, now Sinclair Knight Merz and with whom he was appointed Associate Director in 1977. In 1978, Peter commenced his own consulting engineering business, Hughes McNaughton Consultants, specialising in road, rail, mine and port infrastructure across Australia and South East Asia with 6 offices and some 80 staff by 1996. Peter sold the business in 1999 and continued as a sole consultant undertaking engineering planning and design projects such as Cross City Tunnel in Sydney, Gladstone and Abbot Point Coal Terminal upgrades in Qld and the planning for numerous coal mine and rail upgrades in the Hunter Valley and in Central Qld and rail reviews throughout Australia.

Over the years, Peter has been involved in Apex and Rotary service clubs, the Association of Consulting Engineers, a member of the advisory council of the Queensland Institute of Technology (now QUT) and since retiring in 2015 has been involved in mentoring engineers, entrepreneurs and start-up companies.

Peter has been married to Judy (whom he met on the North Shore train going to high school in 1959) for 50 years and they have 4 adult children and 5 grandchildren and live in Ashgrove, Brisbane.

# FRONTLINE

## AGM MEET & GREET - ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB FRI 18 NOV 2016

Our thanks to Dan Johnston for his once again valued photography expertise & assistance during the weekend



# FRONTLINE

## WREATHLAYING ROMANI BARRACKS ORANGE SAT 19 NOV 16



## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH SERVICE - ORANGE SAT 19 NOV 16



# FRONTLINE

## AGM 50th ANNIVERSARY 1/19 RNSWR DINNER 19 NOV 2016



# FRONTLINE

## AGM 50th ANNIVERSARY 1/19 RNSWR DINNER 19 NOV 2016 ANNUAL PERYMAN TROPHY PRESENTATIONS

*The trophy was instituted in April 1992, by the Peryman family, in memory of Captain Mario Lemmers Peryman, for competition within the 1st/19th Battalion, The Royal New South Wales Regiment, which has been a focal point of the family for many decades. The trophy is presented in an expression of thanks for the joys shared over these years. The benevolence of the bequest provides for three books, dedicated to the military arts and sciences to be awarded annually, and in perpetuity, one each to an Officer, a Senior Non Commissioned Officer and a Junior Non Commissioned Officer/Private soldier who exhibits outstanding qualities in the performance of their military duties and is symbolic of Captain Peryman's Commissioned and Non Commissioned service in the First and Second World Wars.*



### CAPTAIN Mario Lemmers PERYMAN

1<sup>st</sup> October, 1897 - 9<sup>th</sup> March 1991

19<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Australian Imperial Force  
13<sup>th</sup> Garrison Battalion,

Presentations by  
President 1/19 RNSWR Association  
& Chairman The Peryman Trust  
**Mr Roger PERRY**

Commanding Officer 1/19 RNSWR  
**Lieutenant Colonel Ian Pattingale**

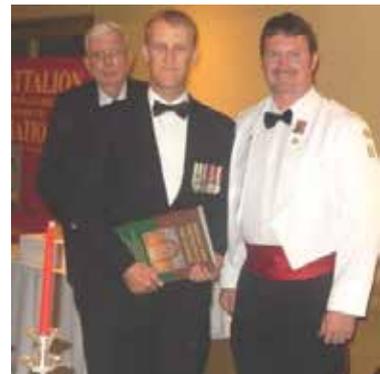
Commander 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade  
**Brigadier Kathryn CAMPBELL, CSC**

President Orange Ex Services Club  
**Mr Graham GENTLES, JP, MAICD**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO

88563234	LT	Brenda Kaye	YOUSE	ADJUTANT	Bn HQ
8239620	WO2	Adam Brendon	BISSET	TRAINING WARRANT OFFICER & RERUITING OFFICER	D COY
8510605	LCPL	Joel Mark	YOUNG	SECTION COMMANDER	B COY



# FRONTLINE



Primus agat Primas –Fortiter et Fideliter



Fortiter et Fideliter

## MINUTES OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF 1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION

PROUDLY INCORPORATING  
2/19 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION  
HELD AT ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB  
ON SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2016 at 1530h

### OPENING:

The Chairman, Mr Roger PERRY opened the meeting at 1530h and noted the apologies.

### ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES:

It was MOVED by David RING and SECONDED by Alan DRINKWATER that the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

### IN ATTENDANCE (58)

Colin	AIKEN, OAM, RFD, ChStJ	Ross	McINTOSH
Warren	BARNES, OAM	Ken	McKAY, RFD, ED
Doug	BELL, RFD	Joy	NEWTON, RN, BHS
Gary	BELTRAME, RFD, JP	Reg	NEWTON
Terry	BETTS	Tony	OHLBACH
Bob	BINNS, RFD	Mike	PASS
Geoff	BRADDON, OAM, JP	Roger	PERRY
Tony	BRAY	Bob	PINK, OAM
John	BURNS	Mary	RAE
Ian	CANNOCK	Roy	RAE
Barry	CHAPMAN ED MB BS FRACP FCSANZ FICA FRSM RACI	Peter	REYNOLDS
Bob	COLLIGAN	David	RING
Peggy	DRINKWATER	Graham	ROSS, JP
Alan	DRINKWATER, MLO	Joy	SAVILLE
Bill	EDWARDS	Bryan	SCHAFFER, JP
Allen	GIDDINGS, JP	Glen	SCRIVEN
Eddie	GIFFORD	Geoffrey	STEVENTON, MBE, RFD
Peter	GODFREY, B.Com.CPA.	Jim	STEWART
Geoff	GREEN	Graham	TIPPETT
Peter	HALL	Annette	TISDELL
Ken	HARPER	Brian	TISDELL
Sandy	HOWARD	Gay	WARDEN
Peter	HUGHES	Ray	WARDEN
Jim	HURT	Charlie	WATSON, RFD
Dan	JOHNSTON	Bob	WEIR
Robert	LAVINGTON	Peter	WIGHTMAN, RFD
Bob	LIDDEN, RFD	Phillip	WILLMOTT
Brian	MARTYN, RFD, psc	Graham	YETMAN
Peter	McGUINNESS, MBE, OAM, RFD, ED	Dennis	ZALUNARDO, OAM, JP

### APOLOGIES (76)

Judy	ABBOTT	Philip	GERBER LL.M., M.Crim.	Roger	PEARSON
John	ADENEY, RFD	Hugh	GORDON	Fred	POWER
Tony	ANG	Vin	HALLINAN, OAM, RFD, ED	John	RALPH, RFD
Ron	BARTON	Bruce	HANSEN	Ron	RICHMOND
Marilyn	BELTRAME	Martin	HANSON, JP, AIMM	Roger	RUMBEL
John	BRENNAN	Tony	HARVEY, RFD, JP	Adrian	SCHLIEPER
Bruce	BRIDEOAKE	Dorothy	HOWARD	Roy	SCHMIDTKE
Harry	COLE, JP, AIMM	John	JACKSON, RFD	Bodo	SCHWARZ, JP
Brad	COLLIS	Charles	JENSEN	Alf	SEYMOUR
Kevin	CONNELLY, OAM, JP	Felicity	JESS, JP	Dave	SMALL
Garry	COOK, RFD	Kevin	JONES, OAM	Kim	TEMPLETON, AM, RFD
Joe	COOMBS	Corinna	KELLY	George	THOMAS, RF
Hazel	COOPER	Don	KENNEDY	Trevor	THOMPSON, RFD
Tom	COOPER, OAM, JP	Alby	KOLBUCH	Bob	WADE
Paul	COUCH, CSC, RFD	Dennis	LITTAME, RFD, psc(r), MIE, JP	Mike	WALDRON, OAM
Valerie	CRAWFORD	Cliff	LOWIEN	John	WALSH, PSM, GCM, BCM, JP
Glenn	CROSLAND	Bruce	LOYNES FCIS FIPA	Rocky	WALSHAW
Paul	CROWE	Bill	MELVILLE	Vera	WALSHAW
Ken	CURRAN, OAM	Ethel	MELVILLE	Robert	WATSON
Graeme	DAVIS, psc (r)	Juanita	MOON	Don	WAYNE
Rita	DEAN	Don	NEWMAN	Wal	WILLIAMS
Shirley	DRUM	Larry	NOLAN JP	Lurline	WILSON
John	ELLIOTT	Bob	O'CALLAGHAN	Gavin	WINTER
Ken	FITZGERALD	Alan	PALMER	Maree	WINTER
Tom	FLETCHER	Cath	PALMER		
Bill	FOGARTY	Barry	PARSONS		
John	FOGARTY, RFD, JP, AFACM	John	PARTRIDGE		

# FRONTLINE

## FALLEN COMRADES RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

The Chairman requested all present to stand and observe a period of silence in solemn memory of Fallen Comrades, Relatives and Friends:

MRS	Helen	<b>BENNETT</b>	20-Jun-15	Widow LT Gordon Bennett 2/19 Bn AIF
SGT	William John	<b>JAGO</b>	9-Oct-15	1 RAR & 19 RNSWR
MAJGEN	William Brian "Digger"	<b>JAMES</b> AC AO MBE MC OStJ	16-Oct-15	FORMER SURGEON GENERAL
WO1	Trevor Frank	<b>HAGAN, OAM</b>	12-Nov-15	1 RAR & RSM 1/19 RNSWR Husband of Claudine
GNR	Alan Graham	<b>STANNARD</b>	16-Nov-15	2/15 FD REGT 8 AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
LCPL	William John	<b>SAVILLE</b>	24-Nov-15	17 RNSWR & 1/19 RNSWR - Husband of Joy
SSGT	William Charles	<b>HOARE aka HALL</b>	4-Dec-15	1 & 3 RAR CQMS C Coy 19 RNSWR
SSGT	Robert Arthur	<b>WILSON, OAM</b>	20-Dec-15	CQMS SPT COY 1/19 RNSWR Husband of Lurline
COLONEL	James Frederick	<b>HODGSON,</b> OAM, RFD, ED	31-Dec-15	Former CO 2 RNSWR
PTE	James	<b>McMAHON</b>	10-Jan-16	Darwin INF BN & 19th INF BN
MRS	Beatrice Gertrude Jean	<b>BATHGATE</b>	17-Jan-16	Wife of Bruce BATHGATE
MRS	Norma Junetta	<b>JONES</b>	20-Jan-16	Mother of WO2 Kevin JONES 1/19 RNSWR
MAJ REV DR	Frank Grenfell	<b>GLEN</b>	5-Feb-16	Chaplain 19 RNSWR
CPL	Arthur William	<b>FISK</b>	6-Mar-16	B Coy 1/19 RNSWR
PTE	Grenville Paige "Bill"	<b>LEECH</b>	13-Mar-16	A Coy 2/19 BN AIF
PTE	Ellen Weaver	<b>COHEN</b>	26-Apr-16	Mother and Mother-in-law of Dianne and WO2 John ELLIOTT 1/19 RNSWR
LT	John Anthony	<b>BRADDON</b>	29-Apr-16	19 RNSWR brother of SSGT Geoff BRADDON
WO2	Neil William	<b>MELVILLE</b>	04-May-16	1/15 RNSWL 2 TRG GP 1/19 RNSWR Husband of Ethel
MRS	Kaye	<b>MUNDINE</b>	14-Jun-16	Sister of WO1 Roy MUNDINE 1/19 RNSWR
LT	Geoffrey Michael	<b>HONEY</b>	21-Jun-16	1 CDO REGT
MRS	Patricia	<b>GULLEN</b>	27-Jun-16	Dear friend to Alan & Peggy DRINKWATER
MRS	Margaret	<b>FORBES</b>	07-Aug-16	Widow SGT Jim FORBES 2/19 Bn AIF
PTE	Angela Lee	<b>THOMAS</b>	07-Aug-16	1/19 RNSWR Wife of Troy THOMAS 1/19 RNSWR
CPL	Lloyd William	<b>ELLERMAN</b>	31-Aug-16	8 DIVISION SIGNALS AIF
MR	Donald Jnr	<b>KENNEDY</b>	18-Sep-16	4 RAR & 1/19 RNSWR Son of Don & Cheryl KENNEDY
WO1	Barry	<b>WILLOUGHBY, JP</b>	20-Sep-16	12 NS BN & 23 FD REGT RAA Husband of Pat
MRS	Olive Louise	<b>HUGHES</b>	26-Sep-16	Mother of LT Peter HUGHES 1/19 RNSWR
MRS	Noma Mary	<b>CURRAN</b>	9-Oct-16	Wife of WO2 Ken CURRAN Z FORCE - 1 CDO REGT - 1/19 RNSWR

## MINUTES OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERALMEETING HELD AT GOSFORD RSL CLUB ON SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER 2015:

The Chairman advised that the Minutes of the previous AGM held on Saturday 24 OCT 2015 had been circulated to all members via the Association's December 2015 Frontline Newsletter.

It was MOVED by Gary BELTRAME and SECONDED by David RING that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24 OCT 2015 be taken as read and signed as a true and correct record. **CARRIED**

### MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

The Honorary Secretary tabled the Inwards and Outwards Correspondence since the last Annual General Meeting.

These items include the Association Newsletters, but do not include the many email messages received and sent including exchanges between committee members and the general membership. They also do not include the despatch of Association Merchandise sent out by our Merchandise Manager Ray Warden and his wife Gay – whose assistance and exceptional contribution is again highly and much appreciated.

It was MOVED by Gary BELTRAME and SECONDED by Bryan SCHAFER that the Correspondence Register be taken as read and the correspondence be accepted. **CARRIED**

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President advised that details of the various activities and functions, attended by him and members of the Executive representing the Association, were contained in the Association's "Frontline" Newsletters. The Association has maintained the presence of 2<sup>nd</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion at all ceremonies involving the 8<sup>th</sup> Australian Division. The President conveyed his sincere thanks to the Association's Patrons and the Committee Members for their continuing efforts and assistance throughout the year and, once again, singled out the Association Honorary Secretary for his efforts and opined that without the vast amount of work performed by Bob Pink the Association would cease to function. The President also made special mention of the impressive and ongoing work undertaken by our Committee Member and Website Manager Sandy Howard in his ongoing work to build the Association's website. While this was a work in progress it was a very impressive site and well worth a visit. The President also expressed his sincere thanks to Sandy for stepping into the breach to lead the Association on ANZAC Day 2016 when illness prevented the President from being present. From all reports it was one of the best ANZAC Day functions ever. While acknowledging the work of all members of the Committee who stepped up whenever asked he made special mention of Vice President, Mick Pass and thanked him for his splendid organisational work in arranging the Annual Weekend which, despite some "speed bumps" was tracking to be the most successful ever. The President finished this section of his report by thanking Committee Member and Merchandise Manager, Ray Warden, and, more importantly, his wife Gay, for their continued sterling efforts in handling the efficient management of all of the Association's merchandise. The President concluded his remarks by expressing his thanks to all those who had made the effort to be present on the weekend and to all members of the Association for the many acts of kindness, generosity and affirmation that had been received during the past year.

It was MOVED by Roger PERRY and SECONDED by Peter HUGHES that the President's Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

# FRONTLINE

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Chairman conveyed his personal thanks and that of the Association to the Treasurer, Mrs Joy NEWTON, for her continuing efforts in support of the Association and tabled the following documents on her behalf:

- Statement of Receipts & Payments and Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 30 June 2016.
- Balance Sheet for the year ended 30 June 2016.
- Statutory Reports by the Committee
- Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements
- Form A12 - Annual Statement.
- Certificate of Currency of Public Liability Insurance.

The Chairman advised that while the surplus for the year was slightly less than the previous year the cash balance was very healthy and augured well for the future.

## 1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION INC - CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

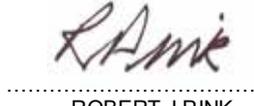
We, ROGER JAMES PERRY of 25G/3 Darling Point Road Darling Point NSW 2027 and ROBERT JOHN PINK of 3/20 Cumberland Road, Ingleburn certify that:

- a. We are members of the Committee of 1/19 RNSWR Association Inc.
- b. The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on 24 October 2015.
- c. We are authorised by a resolution of the Committee to sign this certificate.
- d. The Annual Statement was submitted to the members of the Association at its Annual General Meeting.

Dated this 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016



ROGER J PERRY  
President



ROBERT J PINK  
Secretary

## 1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION INC - STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee have determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The Committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards in so far as they are relevant to the members of the Association.

In the opinion of the Committee the financial report as set out on page 3:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of 1/19 RNSWR Association Inc. as at 30 June 2016 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that 1/19 RNSWR Association Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



ROGER J. PERRY  
President



ROBERT J. PINK  
Secretary

30 September 2016

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF 1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION INC

### Scope

I have audited the financial report being a special purpose financial report of 1/19 RNSWR Association Inc for the year ended 30 June 2016 as set out on pages 1 to 4. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) and the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW). I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates.

These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material aspects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies adopted by the Association so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position and performance as represented by the results of its operations. These policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements. The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies adopted by the Association the financial position of 1/19 RNSWR Association Inc. as at 30 June 2016 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.



DENNIS ZALUNARDO, OAM, JP  
Honorary Auditor  
30 September 2016  
1 Jacaranda Avenue  
BAULKHAM HILLS NSW 2153

# FRONTLINE

## 1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION INC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

### STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

2015		2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
15,043	Cash at Bank & on Deposit	20,782
21,217	Stock for sale at cost	21,435
1,700	Prepayments	2,000
<b>37,959,</b>		<b>44,217</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
3,915	Subscriptions in Advance	3,227
	Other Creditors	3,329
3,915		6,556
<b>34,044</b>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>37,661</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
29,232	Accumulated earnings 1 July 2015	34,044
4,812	Add: Surplus for year	3,617
<b>34,044</b>	<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<b>37,661</b>

### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

2015		2016
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
5,220	Subscriptions	4,225
256	Bank Interest	204
964	Sales – Merchandise	473
1,440	Sales – The Grim Glory	600
1,760	Sales – Boldly & Faithfully	545
4,110	Donations	3,741
17,307	Functions	13,517
225	Sundry Income	0
<b>31,282</b>		<b>23,335</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
72	Bank Charges	72
200	Donations	0
0	Insurance	1,078
18,164	Functions	11,798
	Postage, Printing, Stationery & Phone	518
1,546		375
1,139	Presentations & gifts	1,562
2,661	Purchases – stock for sale	0
122	Sundries	200
0	Subscriptions	238
560	Welfare	0
300	Website	(300)
299	Magazine	55
53	Filing fees	0
700	Deposit for AGM	2,000
1,000	Prepayment for ANZAC Day 2016	0
<b>26,816</b>		<b>17,596</b>
4,466	<b>SURPLUS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>5,740</b>
10,576	Cash Book Balance at 1 July 2015	15,042
<b>15,042</b>	<b>CASH BOOK BALANCE at 30 JUNE 2016</b>	<b>20,782</b>

### STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

2015		2016
<b>INCOME</b>		
5,168	Subscriptions	4,942
256	Bank Interest	204
1,300	Profit Merchandise sales	275
4,110	Donations received	3,741
225	Miscellaneous Income	0
<b>11,059</b>		<b>9,162</b>
<b>Less: EXPENDITURE</b>		
72	Bank Charges	72
200	Donations	0
1,100	Insurance	1,078
856	Net Cost of Functions	352
	Postage, Printing, Stationery & Phone	1,535
1,546		1,206
299	Magazine costs net of	54
53	Filing fees	375
1,139	Presentations & gifts	0
122	Repairs to Banner	200
0	Subscriptions	673
560	Welfare	0
300	Website	0
<b>6,247</b>		<b>5,545</b>
<b>4,812</b>	<b>NET OPERATING SURPLUS FOR YEAR</b>	<b>3,617</b>

It was MOVED by Bob WEIR and SECONDED by Gary BELTRAME that the financial documents be accepted.

**CARRIED**

It was MOVED by Bryan SCHAFER and SECONDED by Mike PASS that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

**CARRIED**

# FRONTLINE

## HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT:

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

A warm welcome was conveyed to the following 9 new members who joined the Association since the last Annual General Meeting:

CAPT John	ADENEY RFD	WEMBLEY WA	6014
PTE Warren James	AZZOPARDI	MARYBOROUGH QLD	4650
MRS Joy	CRONIN	TEMORA NSW	2666
PTE Paul Christopher	CROWE	MANILLA NSW	2346
MR Brendan	DOYLE	SUTHERLAND NSW	2232
MR David	HUNT	MINTO NSW	2566
WO2 Russell	LAWRANCE	ORANGE NSW	2800
LCPL Phillip John	MARTIN	CASULA NSW	2170
CAPT Peter James	POLKINGHORNE	CROWS NEST QLD	4355

### CURRENT MEMBERSHIP:

CATEGORY	LIFE	FINANCIAL	TOTAL
1/19 RNSWR ASSN	6	130	136
2/19 BATTALION AIF ASSN	15	N/A	15
2/19 BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATES	-	63	63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>214</b>

UN FINANCIAL	WRITTEN OFF	MAIL RTS	TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
45	26	2	69	205
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15
66	7	3	76	139
<b>111</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>359</b>

### DEATHS:

Sadly, 18 members passed away during the year.

### ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER:

The Association's newsletter continues to be produced on a quarterly basis in a professional format, and the Honorary Secretary acknowledged the valued assistance of our Publisher, Flight Publishing. The Association maintains contact with other unit Associations and 72 copies of the newsletter are currently sent to the following kindred associations and organisations:

Association of First Infantry Battalions (3)	Reserve Forces Day Council (33)
Friends of the City of Newcastle Regiment 2 <sup>nd</sup> Infantry Battalions (2)	14 Field Squadron Association
3 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion RNSWR and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Inf Battalion Association	Royal Australian Ordnance Corps Association
Association of 4th Battalions	3 Transport Company Association
Association of 17 <sup>th</sup> Battalions	Royal Australian Naval Reserve Association
Ex 22 Battalion RVR Association	Regimental Council, The Royal New South Wales Regiment (3)
30 <sup>th</sup> Battalion NSW Scottish Regimental Association	CO 1/19 RNSWR
8 Division Council Association (3)	OPS OFFR 1/19 RNSWR
2/4 Anti-Tank Regiment Association	ADJT 1/19 RNSWR
5 <sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association	RSM 1/19 RNSWR
The Australian Intelligence Corps Association NSW Branch	QM 1/19 RNSWR
UNSWR Association	Australian War Memorial
Integrated Service Peoples Association (2)	National Library of Australia
Defence Reserves Association	State Library of NSW

Additional copies are also sent to the families of our deceased members, family members and friends, and 1/19 RNSWR Depots at Orange, Bathurst, Dubbo, Parkes & Wagga Wagga. Newsletters are sent with application forms to enquirers throughout the year. A total of 550 copies of the newsletter continue to be despatched each quarter.

The Honorary Secretary spoke on the continuing generosity and the kind donations received from the membership which has enabled the Newsletter to continue to be forwarded gratis to several ill and frail widows of 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF members. Such gestures are very much appreciated.

### ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER:

The Honorary Secretary reported the Electronic Funds Transfer system has not been without its problems – mainly due to members still not recording their names or sufficient means to readily identify their transfer/deposit into the Association's Bank account and/or failing to advise details by post or email of the date and the bank's details and location of the transaction. Members are again asked to ensure the following:

If they are making an Electronic transfer ensure their name is provided as part of the transaction.

If they are making a cash deposit at a St George branch ensure that they advise the Hon Secretary by email or phone that the deposit has been made and the date and location where it was deposited.

### YEAR 2017 SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENTS:

Fall due and payable on 1 JANUARY 2017. A subscription slip will be enclosed with the December 2016 Newsletter to all members. The Honorary Secretary advised that the annual subscriptions had risen to \$25.00 per annum – a fact which had unfortunately been "lost" on some members and that a further reminder would be contained in the December 2016 Newsletter.

It was **MOVED** by David RING and **SECONDED** by Peter HALL that the Honorary Secretary's Report be accepted.

**CARRIED**

# FRONTLINE

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT:**

Vice President Mick PASS reported that next year's activities and prominent Commemorative Events would be published in forthcoming issues of the Association's Newsletters and our Website Manager Sandy HOWARD will also post activities as they come to hand on the Association website. The Vice President spoke on the arrangements for this evening's dinner and advised that 4 x bottles of wine would be placed on each table.

The Association had been represented at the following commemorative events:

11 NOV 15	REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES – SYDNEY / CENTRAL COAST
30 JAN 16	1/19 RNSWR PERYMAN AWARDS/REGTL DINNER ORANGE
14 FEB 16	FALL OF SINGAPORE COMMEMORATION - LIDCOMBE
15 FEB 16	FALL OF SINGAPORE COMMEMORATION - SYDNEY CENOTAPH
28 FEB 16	NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S 6-7-8-9 DIVISIONS COMMEMORATION - INGLEBURN
24 APR 16	ANZAC SUNDAY SERVICES - LIDCOMBE - SYDNEY / CENTRAL COAST
25 APR 16	ANZAC DAY
19 JUN 16	RESERVE FORCES DAY PARADES – CANBERRA, NEWCASTLE & WONDAI QLD
24 JUL 16	POZIERES DAY COMMEMORATION WOOLLAHRA
07 AUG 16	SANDAKAN COMMEMORATION BURWOOD PARK
14 AUG 16	VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY - LIDCOMBE
15 AUG 16	VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY – SYDNEY CENOTAPH
27 AUG 16	RNSWR OFFRS'WO's/SNCO's REGIMENTAL DINNER – CASTLE HILL RSL
28 AUG 16	RNSWR ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE – MILLERS POINT NSW
07 SEP 16	BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA DAY – SYDNEY CENOTAPH
21 SEP 16	45 <sup>th</sup> BATTALION AIF ASSN RELOCATION OF COLOURS CEREMONY KOGARAH

The Vice President thanked the membership for their support, particularly those who had travelled long distances to be present at this weekend's functions and looked forward to an increased attendance at the Association's activities and functions next year, particularly the ANZAC Day 2017 Cruise in Sydney and the Association's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEEKEND 2017.

The Chairman thanked Mick PASS for the considerable and very generous amount of personal time and effort he contributes to the planning, arrangement and liaison for our functions – particularly the Annual AGM Weekend - which continues to ensure their smooth and very successful conduct.

## **ANZAC DAY 2017 HARBOUR CRUISE:**

Liaison by the President with All Occasion Cruises for ANZAC Day 2017 advises a requirement for a minimum attendance of 50 persons and the Vice President earnestly requested all members to give this premier function their keen support. The cost will be \$90 per person (normally \$120). Concession prices will be granted to Children - under 5 years of age will be FREE, and Children aged between 5 years & 16 years of age: \$60.00 per head

## **ANZAC DAY MARCH SYDNEY 25 APRIL 2017:**

1/19 RNSWR & 2/19 Battalion AIF Association will form up in Spring Street with other 2<sup>nd</sup> Division units. It is expected that the route will follow the same as the 2016 march from Spring Street – Bent Street - Phillip Street and south down Elizabeth Street.

Start line at Martin Place and Elizabeth St

March south on Elizabeth St

Observe the Act of Remembrance adjacent to the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park

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.

This route will allow the March to continue as a solemn March of Remembrance while also allowing as many spectators including senior veterans and Legacy widows to participate.

While the March will no longer pass the Cenotaph, an Act of Remembrance will still be observed and the Cenotaph will continue to hold the Dawn Service and Sunset Service Commemorations on ANZAC Day.

The Honorary Secretary will attend the RSL's 2017 SYDNEY ANZAC DAY March briefing on FRI 03 MARCH 2017 and advise of any changes.

It was MOVED by Roger PERRY and SECONDED by Sandy HOWARD that the Vice President's Social Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

## **CONFIRMATION OF RE-APPOINTMENTS:**

### **HONORARY CHAPLAIN:**

The Chairman confirmed the continuation of the appointment of Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel The Reverend Canon Colin AIKEN OAM RFD ChStJ as the Association's Chaplain and expressed his personal thanks to Colin and Patricia for their continuing support.

### **CHANCELLOR:**

The Chairman confirmed the continuation of the appointment of SQNLDR Philip GERBER, LL.M, M.Crim, as the Association's Chancellor.

### **HONORARY AUDITOR:**

The Chairman also confirmed the continuation of Dennis ZALUNARDO, OAM, JP, as the Association's Honorary Auditor. The Chairman thanked Dennis for undertaking the auditing of the Association's accounts and noted that we are very grateful for his ongoing oversight.

### **ELECTION OF FOR 2016-2017:**

The Chairman advised that only one nomination had been received for each of the positions of President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Honorary Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and 4 of the 5 Committee positions.

Committee Member Kevin JONES, OAM, had advised that ongoing medical restrictions precluded him performing his duties as a member of the Committee but he was willing to accept nomination until a replacement could be found. The Chairman thanked Kevin for his unstinting assistance and dedicated support of the Association for the decade since his appointment to the Committee on 21 October 2006.

The Chairman then called for nominations to replace Kevin from the floor. There being no nominee for the position at the present time the Chairman advised that Kevin's nomination would stand pro-tem and that a call for a replacement would be included in the next issue of *Frontline*.

# FRONTLINE

The Chairman then declared the following elected to the positions shown. This declaration was endorsed with acclamation by all present.

POSITION	ELECTED	
PRESIDENT	Roger	PERRY
VICE PRESIDENT & PUBLICITY OFFICER	Mick	PASS
TREASURER	Joy	NEWTON
HONORARY SECRETARY/ NEWSLETTER EDITOR / 8 DIVISION LAISON OFFICER & ASSOCIATION PUBLIC OFFICER	Bob	PINK
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Bryan	SCHAFFER
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Bob	WEIR
COMMITTEE MEMBER & MERCHANDISING MANAGER	Ray	WARDEN
COMMITTEE MEMBER & WEBSITE MANAGER	Sandy	HOWARD
COMMITTEE MEMBER & ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN	Geoff	BRADDON
COMMITTEE MEMBER	John	ELLIOTT
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Kevin	JONES

The Chairman congratulated all on their election and thanked Sandy HOWARD for his exceptional contribution in managing the Web Site and to LTCOL Peter McGUINNESS for his valued ongoing close support and assistance to Sandy on the recording of the Battalions' histories and the preparation of Unit History presentations at our Annual General Meetings and also by way of assistance to 1/19 RNSWR members called upon to deliver dissertations at Regimental Dinners. He also thanked Ray and Gay WARDEN for their continuing efficient and valued efforts in handling the Association's merchandise throughout the year. He reminded all members that there were still copies of the 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF History "Boldly & Faithfully" for sale.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS:

##### GRANT OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

The Chairman then spoke on a motion to grant Life Membership to the widows of former members of 2/19 Infantry Battalion AIF Association.

It was then MOVED by Roger PERRY and SECONDED by Gary BELTRAME that Life Membership be granted forthwith to the widows of former members of 2/19 Infantry Battalion AIF Association.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY & WITH HEARTY ACCLAMATION**

The Honorary Secretary is to identify and advise details of these ladies to the President who will personally write to them and offer the Association's congratulations.

##### NOMINATION FOR ASSOCIATION LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Ray WARDEN spoke on the contribution of Mike PASS who has over the last 12 years since his appointment as Association Vice President on 21 November 2004 provided exceptional assistance and support to the Association together with his valued co-ordination and liaison undertakings with a host of organisations which has always ensured the Association's activities and functions have been conducted in a most professional and enjoyable manner.

It was MOVED by Ray WARDEN and SECONDED by Roger PERRY that Mike PASS be granted Life Membership of the Association.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY & WITH HEARTY ACCLAMATION**

##### RESERVE FORCES DAY 2017:

David RING queried if the Association would be participating in Reserve Forces Day next year in Sydney. The Chairman advised that the Association would not be participating but any member who wished to attend was welcome to do so and it was up to individuals. The Association would attend only as spectators and following the end of the parade would adjourn to a venue to be advised.

##### NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The Chairman reminded the meeting that it was "convention" that every alternate AGM be held in Orange to enable interaction with 1/19 RNSWR and the Orange Ex-Services Club who have been staunch supporters of the Association for all of its existence.

The Chairman iterated his comments from previous years that details of suggested venues should be sent to the Committee for consideration prior to the Association's Annual General Meeting and no suggestions would be considered unless the Committee had received timely notice of the proposal, with a detailed plan as to the operation of the weekend.

Following further discussion, it was MOVED by Bob PINK and SECONDED by Roger PERRY that the Association's next Annual General Meeting be held at the Gosford RSL Club on the weekend 27-28-29 OCTOBER 2017

**CARRIED**

As accommodation at Gosford RSL Motels is likely to be at a premium on the AGM weekend 27-29 October 2017 members are especially reminded to make early bookings for their accommodation to avoid disappointment.

The following is the Outline Plan for the 2017 AGM weekend to be held at Gosford RSL Club:

MEET & GREET FUNCTION	1800-2130h	FRI 27 OCT 17
WREATH LAYING	1030h	SAT 28 OCT 17
PRESENTATION BY LTCOL Peter McGUINNESS MBE OAM RFD ED	1400h	SAT 28 OCT 17
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	1530h	SAT 28 OCT 17
REUNION DINNER	1800h for 1900h	SAT 28 OCT 17

##### CO-ORD ARRANGEMENTS:

Association Vice President Mike PASS will liaise with Gosford RSL in arranging accommodation reservations and the booking of facilities and rooms and catering arrangements for the functions.

##### CLOSURE:

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 1600h.

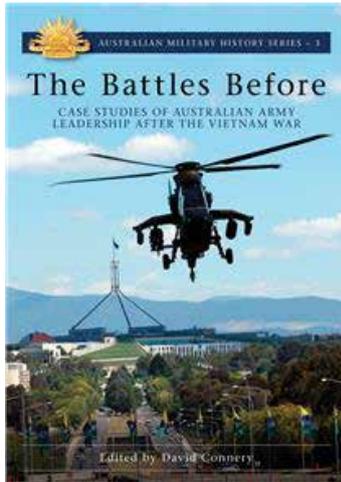
# FRONTLINE

## BOOK REVIEW

### THE BATTLES BEFORE: Case Studies of Australian Army Leadership After the Vietnam War

David Connery (ed)  
Big Sky Publishing, 2016, 124pp  
ISBN 9781925520194

This compilation provides a look into the bureaucratic performance of Australian Army leaders from the early 1970s to the 2000s. In his Introduction, David Connery describes the peacetime work of generals as 'battles'. While this could seem pretentious, it highlights the frequent failure of generals to apply their training for and experience of combat operations to the peacetime 'battles' described in the case studies. The appreciation process and Principles of War can be applied to such 'battles', and might have obtained more productive results than some recorded here. Indeed, as the book moves forward in time, it demonstrates a greater application of military skills to achieve peacetime objectives.



Connery shows in Chapter 1 that the senior officers of the early 1970s 'did not accurately identify the key features of their risk environment'. Their first proposals for the future Army, including maintaining nine infantry battalions, were rejected. The development of specialised brigades that followed retained a range of capabilities, but ultimately led the Army down a cul de sac, limiting its ability to rotate forces. The five division objective force, some 250,000 strong, that the Army set as its expansion target was not accepted either in Defence or by government. Resources for such a force were unlikely to become available in foreseeable circumstances.

In Chapter 2, Connery demonstrates that the generals learned from their earlier failure. They persuaded Dobbie to compromise on the threat environment, warning time, and levels of conflict, allowing them to obtain their basic objectives for the service. However, one result of winning these points was to retain the specialised brigades, leaving the Army to continue as a core force 'army of ones' with its disadvantages. The Army's most important win from the Dobbie Review was control of battlefield helicopters.

Chapter 3, on the East Timor crisis, shows the generals preparing for operations, confident in their training and skills. This was, after all, their true métier, where they could be expected to perform at their best, and mainly did. Officers at all levels took quiet initiatives before formal decisions

were made, shortening action times when formal approval to prepare was given.

Bob Breen discusses in Chapter 4 the development of the future Adaptive Army after the period of peak operational activity between 1999 and around 2008. This led to the most significant changes in Army organisation in decades. The specialised brigades and 'army of ones' were swept away, command responsibilities for 'Raise, Train and Maintain' clarified, and combat support capabilities brought together.

Chapter 5, on making generals, follows the development of the officer education system from the Regular Officer Development Committee through to Project OPERA. Recommendations were not always followed through, however, and some proposals, particularly for career streaming (described by one senior officer as 'career suicide'), partly fell by the wayside. Even after major changes, one prominent general argued that the 'ADF is not fully capable of running a modern joint battle or campaign'.

One element notably missing from the discussion on making generals (perhaps it is so obvious that no need was seen to mention it) is self-education. Patton, for example, was a voracious reader of military history. He did not just read, however, he studied, annotating his books, and applying his studies to his duties. If, as stated, many career courses remain 'significantly undersubscribed', however, this suggests some lack of interest in personal career development among officers.

Lieutenant General Leahy's summary section notes that 'it is often easier to command an army at war than in time of peace'. His assessment of the case studies suggests that the Army experienced peacetime command difficulties in the 1970s and 1980s. East Timor showed the Army reacting well to a crisis, as should be expected, while the Adaptive Army initiative showed how much improvement has occurred in peacetime processes.

This is a valuable collection, which should encourage further consideration of the development of Australia's military leaders. Regrettably, the Endnotes for the Introduction are missing, while those listed as belonging to the Introduction seem to belong to Chapter 1.

**Reviewer: JOHN DONOVAN**



*John Donovan worked in the Department of Defence for over 32 years, principally in the fields of intelligence, force development and resource management. He also served for several years in the Australian Army Reserve.*

# FRONTLINE

## NOR ALL THY TEARS

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

**Continued from September 2016 Newsletter:**

It was enough, but more than that, it was got up with a delicacy that fascinated us, and after the food on the boat, tasted delicious. For the first time we felt that we had really crossed the last bridge. The interpreter told us that we would be going a long distance by train and then by barge, and then by train again, and that we would finally be working in a mine, and that he would be going with us. Sandy asked him his name. Just call me Pete! he said. So we rose next morning and walked another way through the town, which was now decorated with flags, and crowded with people seeing someone off. Our guards elbowed women and children out of the way and sometimes even the men, and we made our way to a wharf where we were bundled into a ferry.

The harbour was crowded with shipping and we were able to pick out the Bioki Maru, marvelling that she was still afloat. A short journey found us on shore again, and soon we were sitting on a railway station underneath a large clock that was going. A sign told the name of the station in Japanese and underneath that, the name in English was painted out, but with Japanese paint, so we were able to see through it and make out that it was Shimonoseki. We learned afterwards that the port at which we had embarked was Mojii. The thought of a mine filled us with mild horror, but we drew some sort of comfort from a rumour we had heard to the effect that all Japanese miners were "open cut" because of earthquakes.

So we went by train and by barge and by train again, and for better or worse we took Pete with us. For worse, it turned out in the long run. The first train journey took us all day, but we were comfortably seated in good carriages. The barge journey was a bit different. They had difficulty in crowding us below the deck on the big barge, even in a standing position, and by the time we had all jammed down to the floor we were a mass of aching necks and twisting muscles. We were twisted in to the most insufferable positions, and in this way we had to spend the whole night being towed over the glass-smooth surface of the inland sea. And yet in the end we all slept.

Dead with fatigue, heads lolled over until we were no longer conscious of the aching of our neck muscles I don't think there was anyone who did not sleep. I did and I started with a high fever of malaria. The last lap in a train was uncomfortable but short. We were on the island of Shikoku and we finished in the town of Yahamane. The prestige of the Wishful Thinkers Federation rose rapidly at the sight of the camp. It was new and clean. Far above anything we had experienced before. Huts were of a light timber

like Oregon with two sleeping-platforms running the length of the hut on each side. These were covered with new, nest mats and there were shelves behind for our gear. Electric lights, plenty of taps, and even a kind of sewage (open); cookhouses were all fitted out with steam cookers and delight reached its limit when we saw a large concrete bath with a furnace for heating water.

We were addressed by the camp commandant, who was a captain with a chest full of medals. He was the commandant of the new camp. He was responsible for us, for our health and for our work. His sword (a mighty weapon was held aloft) had cut off the heads of many of our friends in Malaya, and would cut off ours, too, if we were disobedient, but if we did our work well he would guarantee our lives. He also promised us a sausage. The sausage, delayed by a storm, did not arrive for a couple of days, and when it did come it turned out to be a concoction of chillies and pork - the famous "red sambol", the luxury of luxuries of our Japanese career. The ration was slight, but it flavoured a lot of rice.

Even the horse gut that became so popular later was never rated above it. Later we had a visit from a colonel who was in charge of a group of camps. He gave us a fairly comforting address through an interpreter, who spoke the best English I have ever heard from any other foreigner, regardless of experience. Then he questioned the officers about Thailand and the journey across. Peter and Sandy made no reservations about what they thought about our treatment in Thailand and he assured us that we would be better treated here. We were issued with toothbrushes, tooth powder, and a cake of almost good toilet soap.

This latter was a supreme luxury, and the Wishful Thinkers Federation began to argue whether it was a weekly or a fortnightly issue. We never learned how frequently it was to be issued, as we were released a year later. They gave us time to get over the boat trip. At first we were allowed to rest and later given Japanese drill and P.T. Food was at this time almost enough, though apart from the rice, which was the backbone of the diet, it was practically all vegetables, or so-called vegetables. It would improve, we were told, when we went to work.

**To be continued.....**



## DOWN MEMORY LANE

### LAST POST CEREMONY AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL CANBERRA

4107 PTE Thomas John ELLIS  
19th Australian Infantry Battalion  
Griffith, New South Wales, Australia

Association members Martin Hanson and Sandy Howard attended the Australian War Memorial on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 for the moving Last Post Sunset Ceremony and laid a tribute to Private Thomas John Ellis of 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion AIF on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death. Aged 34 years Thomas was Killed in Action on 14 November 1916 in France, Members of Thomas' family were also present at the ceremony. Thomas lies in the Warlencourt British Cemetery, Warlencourt-Eaucourt, Arras, Nord Pas de Calais, France.

At the end of each day, commencing at 4.55 pm AEDT, the Memorial farewells visitors with its moving Last Post Ceremony. The ceremony begins with the singing of the Australian National Anthem, followed by the poignant strains of a Lament, played by a piper. Visitors are invited to lay wreaths and floral tributes beside the Pool of Reflection. The Roll of Honour in the Cloisters lists the names of more than 102,000 Australians who have given their lives in war and other operations over more than a century. At each ceremony the story behind one of these names will be told. The Ode is then recited, and the ceremony ends with the sounding of the Last Post. On the first and third Wednesday of each month the Last Post Ceremony includes the presence of [Australia's Federation Guard](#). At 4.00 pm a catafalque party mounts a vigil at the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier in the Hall of Memory. There is a change of guard at 4.30 pm, and the entire catafalque party then participates in the Last Post Ceremony. **Live stream via webcam** To enable anyone anywhere in Australia or overseas to view the Last Post ceremony, it is broadcast live daily via webcam on the Memorial's website from 4.55 pm AEDT. The ceremony is a memorable occasion, engaging visitors and offering them the opportunity to remember those Australians who have lost their lives in war and to reflect on their service and sacrifice. Proudly supported by the RSL & Services Clubs Association, RSL Victoria and RSL Queensland.



Our thanks to Association Member Alan Drinkwater in forwarding the following details on SGT Robert James BENNIE of the 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion AIF

#### FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 1916

The hospitals in England were now filling with wounded Australians from the Somme, just one of those is shown here, as recorded by our War Correspondent Charles Bean. On the 14<sup>th</sup> November the 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF almost ceased to exist. The Australian attacks around Flers that winter were fought in the worst conditions faced by the AIF. The 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion took its objective, but its war diary reports that of the 451 men who went over in the attack, 381 were killed or wounded. Lance-Corporal Robert James Bennie wrote to his mother from hospital in England after being badly wounded in action, he went over the top at 12 minutes to 7am and could not go faster than a walk for fear of being worn out when they got to close quarters fighting with the Germans. He said: *I got safely into Fritz's trenches but only lasted a few minutes when a machine-gun got me through both shoulders. As there were five or six Huns within a few yards of me, I did a record scoot over the top of the trench with the intention of getting back to our old lines, but after I had done about half the distance - about 50 yards - I felt faint from loss of blood and took refuge in a shell hole where I stayed until dusk. Robert Bennie crawled toward his lines and spotted some stretcher bearers who carried him to the casualty clearing station.*



Now a sergeant Robert James BENNIE is back with the 19<sup>th</sup>.