

# FRONTLINE

A DEFENCE SERVICE JOURNAL



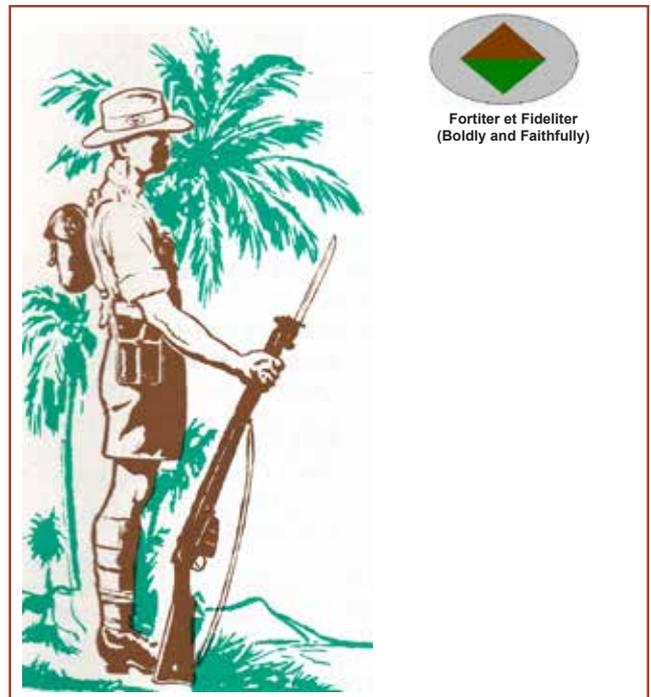
The Official Journal of

**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**

**1ST/19TH BATTALION**

**THE ROYAL NEW**

**SOUTH WALES**

**REGIMENT**

**ASSOCIATION &**

**2ND/19TH BATTALION**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE**

**AUSTRALIAN**

**DEFENCE**

**FORCES**

**RESERVES**

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT



The September edition of *Frontline* will not even have reached us when I received news of the passing on Wednesday, 29 August of the beautiful Moira Power, wife of Fred Power. Moira had been in indifferent health for some little time. I well remember my visit with Bob to Singapore in 2007 for the dedication of the Parit Sulong Memorial where we had the great pleasure of the company of Fred and Moira, and their granddaughter Kirsty. A lovely lady who will be sadly missed. Moira's funeral was held on Tuesday, 4 September at the Shoalhaven Crematorium & Memorial Gardens and the Association was represented by Bob and myself. Also in attendance was Association member Michael Mulcahy. A large gathering of family and friends were present to farewell Moira and I was very pleased to see Fred, at 102 years of age, very bright and alert while obviously feeling his great loss. Moira will be sadly missed not only by Fred and her loving family but also by the wider Sussex Inlet community of which they both are an integral part.

Wednesday, 5 September was Battle for Australia Day and a commemorative service was held at the Cenotaph in Sydney. The Association was represented by Bob Pink, Ray Warden, Tony Bray and myself on a rather dismal Spring day. Also present was Association member Chris Dawson but more in his capacity as a luminary of the Battle for Australia Association. The Royal Australian Navy again did splendid work providing the band and the Catafalque Party and the St Andrew's Cathedral School Junior Choir provided musical accompaniment. The inclement weather no doubt served to deter attendees as numbers were significantly down on last year.

18 October brought the sad news of the passing of MAJGEN Gordon Maitland, AO, OBE, RFD ED. General Maitland had a distinguished Army career, including service in World War II, and after service in 45<sup>th</sup> Battalion, which he ultimately commanded, in the post war CMF went on to command 4 RNSWR and 2<sup>nd</sup> Division and ultimately became Chief of the Army Reserve. General Maitland was a true gentleman and a tireless worker for the Army Reserve as well as a prolific writer and historian. His death was preceded earlier this year by his beloved wife Dorothy who had stood by Gordon's side through a lifetime of Service activities. General Maitland was farewelled with a military funeral on Monday, 29 October at the Parish Church of St James in Sydney before an exceptionally large gathering of current and past Reservists. I represented the Association along with Bob Pink, Dennis Zalunardo, Ken McKay, Tony Ang, Kathryn Campbell, John Brennan, Paul & Carmel Couch and John & Ros Jackson. After the church service the coffin was placed on a gun carriage and, with an Escort from 4 RNSWR proceeded down Phillip Street to Hunter Street and thence to the Cenotaph in Martin Place where a Ceremony of Remembrance was held with a number of floral tributes laid on the Cenotaph in Gordon's memory.

On a brighter note congratulations are due to Association Patron, LTCOL Peter McGuinness MBE, OAM, RFD, ED who celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on 22 October. Peter has an association with 1/19 RNSWR that dates almost from its inception fifty-three years ago culminating in a term as Commanding Officer. Now living a life of ease in his native Tasmania Peter has always been an absolutely staunch supporter of the Battalion and given similar unstinting support to the Association since its formation.

The Association Annual Reunion was held in Orange on the weekend of 26 & 27 October with numbers slightly down due to a clash of "engagements" with the Regimental Weekend in Holsworthy. This clash precluded the attendance of the Colonel Commandant, MAJGEN Paul Brereton AM, RFD, BRIG Kathryn Campbell CSC and COL John Brennan and the CO, 1/19 RNSWR, LTCOL Ian Pattingale all of whom expressed regret at their inability to be in two places at the same time. The weekend commenced with the usual Meet & Greet on the Friday night in the Orange Ex-Services Club and was attended by a large number of members some of whom, like WO1 Warren Barnes OAM, the former Regimental Warrant Officer, had travelled to Orange just for the evening and left for other engagements the next morning. The Annual Commemorative Service was held on Saturday morning at the 1/19 RNSWR Depot and we are indebted to CO, 1/19 RNSWR for making the facility available for this very important part of the weekend activities. We are also indebted to WO2 David Canavan, the Battalion's Chief Clerk for giving up his time to open the depot and arrange the seating and other facilities. Unfortunately, our Chaplain, LTCOL Colin Aitken, OAM, RFD, ChStJ, was unable to be present due to pastoral duties but he graciously provided the prayers for the occasion and they were read by me. Again, a large number of members were in attendance and the proceeding were greatly enhanced by the trumpet playing of Luke Meehan and the piping by Brian Tisdell. We are indeed fortunate to have this talent available to support our activities.

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Saturday continued with Peter McGuinness' excellent presentation "1918". The product of painstaking research and excellent presentation that canvassed aspects of various campaigns fought in the closing days of World War 1. Peter was forced to deliver his presentation without his trusty offsider, Bill Edwards who, unfortunately due to illness, was prevented from attending the weekend. Again, standing room only for Peter's presentation. After Peter's exercise the AGM of the Association was something of a non-event. The Minutes will appear in *Frontline* and I am pleased to say that the Committee was re-elected unopposed. It is appropriate that I place on the record my thanks to the members of the Committee for their input in the management of the Association and I must single out Bob Pink, our Honorary Secretary and Magazine Editor, without whose efforts the Association would not exist. I am also indebted to Mick Pass my Vice President for his efforts in organising all of the minute details of the weekend and other functions throughout the year. His absence this year has made me learn the hard way exactly how much work he does. Some other people also deserve special mention – Ray and Gay Warden, the wonderful duo that run our merchandise operation, I am sure that Amazon would poach them if they thought there was a chance and Sandy Howard who does an excellent job of maintaining and updating the website. But all of the Committee, in their own way, contribute and the Association is very lucky to have this dedicated group of people looking after our interests.

The weekend concluded with the Annual Dinner where we had BRIG Paul Couch CSC, RFD and his lovely wife Carmel, together with Association Patron COL Brian Martyn and his equally lovely wife Joanne as our principal guests, together with WO2 David Canavan representing the CO, 1/19 RNSWR and representatives from both Orange Ex-Services Club and Orange RSL Sub-Branch. David Ring conducted a very successful raffle and the evening drew to a close a successful 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion.

Remembrance Day Weekend was a busy time. 1/19 RNSWR participated in the Bathurst celebrations surrounding the centenary of the end of the Great War and the Battalion exercised their Freedom of Entry Right, granted in 2009, to march through the streets of Bathurst "with swords drawn, drums beating, [Colours](#) flying, band playing and [bayonets](#) fixed". Bob and I represented the Association as the guests of the CO, 1/19 RNSWR and were very impressed at the Battalion's performance. We also had the opportunity of catching up with COL John Brennan, the Senior Military guest and former CO, LTCOL Terry Betts who acted as the Parade Host. Among the large gathering of people watching the ceremony were the incoming Commanding Officer of 1/19 RNSWR, LTCOL Michael Buchanan, former CO, LTCOL Tony Ang and Association member Ken Harper. Unfortunately, due to commitments in Sydney the following day Bob and I were unable to stay and attend the Battalion Ball on the Saturday evening.

Remembrance Day, Sunday November 11, saw us at the NSW War Memorial in Hyde Park where the Remembrance Day activities were conducted around the Reflecting Pool in the presence of His Excellency, General The Honourable David Hurley AC, DSC (Ret'd) and Mrs Hurley. The Association was represented by me, Bob Pink, Brian Schafer, Ray Warden, David Ring with Barry Nesbitt also in attendance. After the ceremony we adjourned to the Edinburgh Castle Hotel for light refreshments. The attendance was significantly less than I expected but this was most probably due to a lack of information as to the venue for something that has been held in Martin Place for the past century.

Sadly, Monday 12 November brought the sad news of the passing of WO2 Paul Beer. Paul, a veteran of 41 RNSWR, was the husband of WO1 Terry Beer a very strong supporter of the Association. Paul, who fought a valiant battle with lymphoma, passed away peacefully in Lismore Base Hospital. A celebration of Paul's life was held at the Carmelite Monastery, Goonellabah on Monday 19 November.

As the days countdown to Christmas, with Bob hoping that this will get to you before then, on behalf of my fellow Committee members, our Patrons and myself, I wish each and every one of you, our members, the very best for the festive season. If you are travelling, please travel safely. Enjoy time with family and loved ones and remember those in need of help at this time.

*Roger Perry*

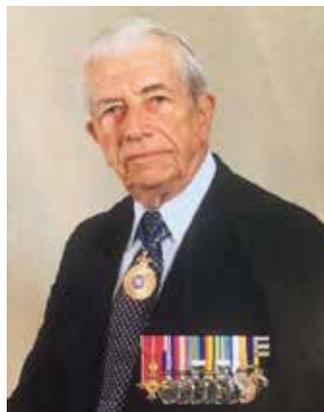
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# FRONTLINE



## VALE GOOD FRIENDS



### EULOGY

By Major General The Honourable Justice Paul Brereton AM RFD  
Colonel Commandant The Royal New South Wales Regiment  
and The University of New South Wales Regiment  
**PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES SYDNEY 29 OCTOBER 2018**

### MAJOR GENERAL GORDON LINDSAY MAITLAND AO, OBE, RFD, ED

The solemn splendour of this ceremony marks the death, on 17<sup>th</sup> October last, and commemorates a life of service – to the Army, to the Defence Reserves and Ex-service communities, and to Australia - of a man who became a popular and familiar figure at ANZAC Day and most of Sydney's commemorative ceremonies, described by a Chief of Army as a legend, and by a Governor-General as a "doyen of the veteran community", Chief of the clan Maitland, and our most conspicuous remaining link with the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War - the senior surviving soldier of that war, and the only one who, having enlisted as a private recruit, would become a Major

General and a member of the Chief of the General Staff's Advisory Council.

#### Early days

Born on 25 August 1926 in Rockdale, the young Gordon Lindsay Maitland learned from his father a love of the bush, and life in it, and the mateship which it brings; while with the support of his artistic mother he became an avid reader, acquiring an appreciation the written and spoken word, of which he would become so fine an exponent. At the age of 11, he was placed eighth in the State at the Qualifying Certificate for high school admittance, and was enrolled at Canterbury Boys' High School. In a portent of his future, at the age of 14 in 1941, on a dark cold Anzac Day morning, he attended unescorted his first of what would be many Dawn Services in Martin Place. Attaining his the Leaving Certificate in 1942, he embarked on the study of economics at the University of Sydney by night, while by day he worked as a clerk for the Commonwealth Bank, where he was assigned to a department which, depleted of manpower by the war, was supervised by an able 20-year-old woman, Dorothy Gunn, in whom he saw a remarkable blend of all the important virtues - including a unique ability to bond her staff.

#### War Service

Approaching his 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday, and determined to enlist in the 2<sup>nd</sup> AIF rather than being conscripted into the militia, Gordon enlisted at his local Army depot, at Arncliffe – a depot which would have a lasting place in his military career. On his recruit training at Cowra, he found himself sandwiched between Jim Gerathy, an illiterate boundary rider, and Ken Prowse, who would become chair of an insurance company, on whose board he would later serve. But it was to Gerathy, whom he taught to sign his name that he attributed his greatest lesson in humility, which would be among his foremost qualities. In him he saw soldierly qualities superior to his own, and he learned that education and opportunity was not necessarily the best yardstick. Private Maitland was told that he would be proceeding to an intelligence course, and then to the intelligence section of an infantry battalion. He asked whether he instead might be trained for a Z-Special unit, but when interviewed, was told that university students were few in the Army, and it would be of great assistance if he could speak Japanese. So he went to the Air Force School of Languages, and on 20 September 1945, aged 19 and still a Private, he flew from Melbourne to join Timor Force, where his responsibilities ranged across the then Netherlands East Indies, including locating and questioning Japanese war criminals and witnesses, finding Australian graves, ensuring Japanese compliance with surrender arrangements, and dealing with issues arising from the Free Indonesian Movement. The last was the most dangerous, and he recounted that the indigenous population "were leaping onto the bonnet of my jeep, waving their knives and yelling 'Merdeka' (freedom)".

Then, as a youthful Sergeant, he served as the Chief Interpreter at the War Crimes Trials in Darwin. Returning to Sydney aboard the troop ship *Manoora*, during his leave, on 24 May 1946, took Dorothy Gunn out on their first date. They were soon totally committed to each other, and their commitment endured for the rest of their lives. Then, he returned as an instructor to the School of Languages at Point Cook, where he was commissioned as a Lieutenant on 14 October 1946.

#### The three best decisions

In 1947, when offered a Captaincy, he made what he would later describe as the three best decisions of his life. The first was to return to the Commonwealth Bank, from which he would eventually retire as a Chief Manager. The second was to join the Citizen Military Force when it was raised on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1948, from which he would retire as a Major General and Chief of the Reserve. And the third was to marry Dorothy Gunn, on 6 November 1947; they adored each other for seven decades thereafter. But never having been a member of an Australian Army unit, he had no banner to march behind, and no mates with whom to reunite, and it would be more than 50 years before, at the urging of the RSL, he would march on ANZAC Day.

#### Civilian career

The Bank made him an Executive cadet, and in time he proceeded to executive positions. As Papua New Guinea approached independence, and while relations soured with Indonesia, Gordon was sent to determine the Bank's future in that country. His report and recommendations were accepted without amendment. Initially

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specialising in lending, he was instrumental in expanding the Bank's lending business, to the point that it became Australia's major home lender. When the Commonwealth Bank, concerned that it was seen as a large lumbering money box, being left behind by its competitors, decided to embrace marketing, it was Gordon Maitland that it appointed as a Chief Manager to transform its image. When at the age of 55 he retired from the Bank, he became Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales. In that capacity he revitalised the Society, restored it to profitability, and laid the foundations for its move to Homebush Bay. Recognising the value of military organisational skills, he found employment for many ex-service personnel.

## Military career

When the CMF, as the Army Reserve was then known, was raised in 1948, Lieutenant Maitland applied to join the 45<sup>th</sup> Battalion (The St George Regiment), headquartered in the Arncliffe depot. He was duly paraded before the Commanding Officer, the redoubtable Lieutenant Colonel – later Major General - Paul Cullen, who had commanded the 2/1<sup>st</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion. Most of the Battalions' officers were from the 2/1<sup>st</sup>; and many were decorated. Cullen promptly rejected Lieutenant Maitland as lacking the requisite infantry experience, but as he was being marched out, called out: "If you have the right spirit, you will turn up anyway". Maitland had the right spirit, and he turned up; in time he would become one of Cullen's closest friends, and eventual successor as Regimental Colonel of the Royal New South Wales Regiment.

The youthful officer became well-liked and was well mentored, and proved more than competent, topping the Army's first Infantry Tactics Course. He spent thirteen enjoyable years with the 45<sup>th</sup> battalion, ultimately as a company commander, which he considered the most enjoyable of all his postings. As Brigade Major of the 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade, he had an experience to which many will be able to relate. He ascertained that it would be quicker, cheaper and more comfortable to move the brigade by private buses than by troop trains. But this earned a reprimand from Headquarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, as there was no provision in its budget for buses – after all, buses were not trains. And then he was counselled, for telling his superior headquarters that they were stupid.

Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel followed in 1962, with appointment as second-in-command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RNSWR Battle Group under the pentropic restructure of the early 1960s. When, in 1965, those arrangements were discarded in yet another restructure, he was appointed to command the newly-raised 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the Royal New South Wales Regiment, whose colours you saw marched into the Church this morning, to be placed with the other colours of the Regiment. Mentored by Major General Sir Ivan Dougherty who had commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion, Cullen, Cox and Major General John Broadbent who had commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>, his reading of history and his acquaintance with the battalions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> AIF taught him that their quality had nothing to do with education and class, and everything to do with "spirit". And it was on that basis that he selected and mentored his own subordinates, from whom he would spawn a Major General, three Brigadiers, and many Lieutenant Colonels. His sometime subalterns continued to take him out for a birthday lunch, even until last year. There was also a young NCO, whom he advised to transfer to the ARA: Sergeant Wally Thompson would later become the first Regimental Sergeant Major of the Army, but for the rest of his life maintained his connection with Gordon and with 4 RNSWR. Lieutenant Colonel Maitland's achievements as a Commanding Officer earned him the quite exceptional award, for an officer of his then rank, of appointment as an Officer in the Order of the British Empire, the then equivalent of an AO.

His subsequent career included prestigious staff appointments; a period in Vietnam with the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, with the then Lieutenant Colonel Alby Morrison; appointments as ADC to two Governors-General; and in 1974, the responsibility of assembling and farewelling the Royal Family from Australia; and the establishment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Training Group in Bardia Barracks, Ingleburn.

It was also in 1974 that, on promotion to Major General, he assumed command of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, when it was shrinking following the end of conscription; his tireless efforts and inspirational leadership, and his belief in training that was interesting, demanding, and challenging, and extended his people and organisations well beyond their comfort zones, sustained it. Recognising that after fifteen years in which the Army had been focussed on jungle warfare in South East Asia it needed to learn about the continental defence of Australia, he conducted a major tactical exercise in the Northern Territory. For his service as Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, he was in 1978 appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia.

Then, initially as Inspector-General of the Army Reserve (1978-79), and subsequently as Chief of the Army Reserve (1979-82), he set about shaping the modern Army Reserve and enhancing Reserve service. He united the discrepant agendas of the state-based fiefdoms into a coherent single Army Reserve approach, and as a member of the Chief of the General Staff's Advisory Council won the respect and friendship of his regular colleagues. He established the Chief of Reserves conference, attended not only by senior Australian Army Reservists, but also by the Chiefs of Reserves of the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand. And when Russia invaded Afghanistan, he secured the Fraser government's support for a 50% increase in the strength of the Army Reserve, from 20,000 to 30,000, which he then implemented through the most successful ever Reserve recruiting campaign.

As might be expected of one who had been mentored by the likes of Cullen and Broadbent, General Maitland did not succeed by sycophancy; his advice could be firm as it was fearless, as illustrated by his first encounter with the then Field Force Commander Major General Dunstan, who would later become Chief of the General Staff, and eventually Governor of South Australia. As Field Force Commander, he was the immediate superior commander of Maitland's 2<sup>nd</sup> Division. Dunstan issued a directive which in Gordon's view showed a lack of understanding of conditions that were different in the Reserve from the Regular Army, and Gordon wrote to him highlighting the issues. The response from Dunstan was blistering, and Major General Maitland took what he regarded as the only course open - to walk up the hill from Moore Park where 2<sup>nd</sup> Division was then headquartered, to the Field Force Commander at Victoria Barracks. What followed went something like this. Maitland: "You wrote a disturbing letter to me". Dunstan: "You wrote an inappropriate letter to me". Maitland: "I am sorry you found it inappropriate, but I believed it necessary to be direct, and in a proper relationship one has a duty to protect one's superior from making mistakes". Dunstan then raised the stakes. According to Gordon's discrete and polite account, he asked when Maitland was going to have recourse to the Army Reserve political group; but I suspect that there was an allusion to the so-called Rum Corps. Maitland replied that he was offended

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to be so misjudged, that he knew those people well and respected them, but that was where it ended while he had a position of trust. Happily, things calmed down. Within days, the Maitlands were dining with the Dunstons in the Bungalow at Victoria Barracks, and they developed enormous mutual respect, and a close and deep personal friendship.

## Retirement

Following his retirement in 1982, General Maitland devoted his next thirty years to commemorative and community activities, to assisting veterans and their organisations, to researching and publishing six books on military history, and to the Royal New South Wales Regiment. As an officer, patron and benefactor, he left his mark on more than 20 organisations – many of them represented here today – including the 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Association, which in 1970 uniquely made him – who had never served in that battalion - a member, in recognition of the support he had provided to them when Commanding Officer of 4 RNSWR; the Association of 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalions, the formation of which he promoted when Commanding Officer, and of which he became a Patron; the Royal United Services Institute; the Military History Society of New South Wales; and Legacy.

For eight years (1982-89), General Maitland served as Regimental Colonel of the Royal New South Wales Regiment, and afterwards remained the Regiment's elder statesman. Until very recently, he was a fixture at virtually every regimental activity, even in later years when it might have been more comfortable for him to remain at home. He has been responsible for the foundation and fostering of many of the activities and traditions that sustain the Regiment's spirit, morale and welfare. He was at the forefront of contributing and enlisting support for the sponsorship of a station on the Kokoda Memorial Walkway at Concord: Uberi was selected by him, though it did not have the renown of Isurava or Iorabaiwa, as one through which the antecedent battalions of the Regiment had passed on their way north. He was also instrumental in the conception and creation of the Regimental memorial – designed by his son Neil - on the foreshore of Sydney Cove, south of the Opera House, at the place from which in 1885 the Soudan Contingent departed, to commemorate the soldiers of New South Wales who sailed from Sydney for abroad, in that and subsequent wars.

There has been no greater servant of the Regiment, than General Maitland, and none has earned it greater lustre. Perhaps his most significant legacy to the Regiment is his magnificent twin volume *Battle History of the Royal New South Wales Regiment*. As an historian, he brought to his work a combination of academic rigour and the understanding of a soldier. His account of the battles of the infantry battalions drawn from New South Wales in the Soudan, the Boer War, and the two World Wars, is in the best tradition of Australian military history: both scholarly and readable, it presents the soldiers' perspective as much as it does the generals'. As the then Premier Bob Carr said, it is "an important and worthy contribution, not only to the military history of New South Wales, but to the history of the Australian people as a whole".

General Maitland's quiet influence as a mentor has given his successors the benefit of his wisdom and experience. On appointment, they could expect an eloquent and gracious letter of congratulations, with some gems of sage advice, but which never seemed an attempt to tell them how to do their job. This did not end with his declining physical health; happily his faculties remained intact until the end. In a brilliant speech at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division dinner in 2014, which he said then would be his last outing and which those who heard it will never forget, he encapsulated in half-an-hour the history of the Division from its formation in 1915 to the present, and moved and inspired the current generation of officers.

## Family

Somehow, he managed to combine his multiple and demanding civilian and military careers with success as a husband to Dorothy and as a father to Neil, Barbara and Elizabeth. Dorothy and he were a partnership who mutually supported each other in every undertaking. Two Chiefs of Army wrote singing her praises. She was his secretary and the keeper of his diaries, and his chief assistant in researching and composing his six books and numerous papers. When she died just a year ago on 28 October 2017, they had been married 69 years. Neil became an architect and served as an officer in the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion; tragically, he died far too young. Gordon's relationship with his beloved and loving daughters Barbara and Elizabeth was cemented in their teens, on long walks and talks. He had a phrase of sage advice for their every situation, and was delighted when his youngest grandchild quoted back to him: "When in doubt, don't".

## The man

There was about Gordon Maitland a natural dignity, without airs or graces. This was a man who could talk with crowds and keep his virtue, yet walk with Kings nor lose the common touch. He was well-connected at the highest levels of government and business; his counsel was sought by Chiefs of Defence and Prime Ministers, and his company by Governors. And yet he was entirely unassuming: his manner was relaxed, and he enjoyed mixing with every one; he was as at home with privates and pensioners as he was with Governors and generals. It appealed to his sense of humour to tell a story against himself; one favourite was of the then Sergeant Fred Nile's 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, out in the scrub. Fred's platoon commander decided that a drink or two would be in order, and invited their company commander Major Maitland. All were gathered in the platoon headquarters dug out when the platoon commander, in pumping up his cooker, set fire to the overhead cover. In the ensuing melee, a sergeant lost his glasses, and by stooping to pick them up, provided a foothold for the major to make a rapid exit. Thereafter an observer said "We knew then you would climb over everyone to the top".

He is quoted as having responded to an inquiry why it had taken so long for a biography of Harry Murray VC to be written by pointing to that hero's "innate modesty"; those words are equally applicable to himself. His great generosity of spirit was manifested in his readiness to help others. He liked to help people. There may have been those of whom he had a low opinion, but he spoke ill of no-one. If, as it has been written, the measure of one who is truly great, is the courtesy with which he treats lesser men and women, then Gordon Maitland was a truly great man.

According to the Roman orator Cicero, the life of the dead is placed in the memory of the living. General Maitland will live, not only though above all in the memory of his beloved daughters and grandchildren, but also in the memory of those many whom he has influenced, and who tentatively tread, with awe and admiration, in his formidable footsteps. For as the American poet Longfellow wrote, When a great man dies, for years the light he leaves behind him, lies on the paths of humankind.



## MRS Moira Gertrude POWER

Late of Sussex Inlet, Moira was the beloved wife of NX60388 CPL Fred POWER (A COY 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF) and the much loved Mother and Mother-in-law of Gary, Ian & Dee. Loved Grandma to Kristy and Cameron. Fred and Moira's son Gary advised with deep sadness of her recent passing on 29 August 2018 aged 93 years.

Celebrant Mr Eddie McPARTLAND delivered the following eulogy:

We are gathered here today in remembrance of a special person in our lives and in so doing we are all well aware of the fact that our lives are interrelated and composed of many facets from the time of our birth until the final time of our death. Our being here today is another facet, a meaningful experience and a way of saying farewell to a sensitive and caring woman whose

home and family meant the world to her – Moira Gertrude Power. I am sure you join with me in extending deepest sympathies to her precious husband, Fred to her treasured boys, Gary ad Ian our sympathies to Kristy and Cameron to Dee, Matt and Kyle and to all those who came to know Moira as family and friend.

In understanding what death is we realise death is very much part of everyday living and is simply a gateway – a gateway to a rest that means different things to each one of us according to our beliefs. Today we will reflect upon Moira's life which has already passed through that gateway and help to bring a gentle closure to those of us left behind. When a love one passes it is usually a time when we look back and draw comfort from the memories that were built over the years – there is a history of a life time to share – the ups and downs – the joys and sorrows – the hits and misses – all the things that not only built our relationship with that loved one but also the little things that possibly influence us and how we live in some small way and there is no doubt Moira has influenced your lives in many ways. It is written that love never ends and of all the aspects of life, love is the one thing that truly endures. Let us remember that Moira loved and she was loved and that love is ever with her and with us.

Moira's journey began in Sydney therein Coogee born the only daughter to parents William and Gertrude Brown – born on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of 1925. When Moira spoke of her younger days she spoke with a genuine fondness – she spoke of good family and close bonds – she spoke of moving here and there in the early years until the family bought and settled in Kyle Bay – here a young Moira grew up alongside her brothers, Douglas and Gordon doing all the usual things a young girl does on her journey through to womanhood – she played – she dressed up – went to school – made friends – and spent many a day out kayaking out on the bay with the first of her many treasured dogs – Bonny. Moira's schooling was local and as was the day she finished her schooling quite young. At 14 she was up and making her own way in this big world – applying herself to be a quality dressmaker – indeed she was employed by David Jones making dresses designed by some of the world's top designers – both for fashion models and in store sales.

In life it's always going to happen boy meets girl – girl meets boy – 1946 saw a young Fred and Moira set their eyes and then their hearts upon each other – there was the meeting – the asking – the dates and the dancing – the days of courtship through to the commitment of marriage there in St. George Church in Hurstville in the year of 1949 – and their marriage has been a wonderful marriage one that has stood the tests of time – some 69 precious years – blessing them with good times –fond memories and to 2 valued sons – Gary and Ian who in their own ways have brought their own special fullness and richness to their Mum's life. Moira was ever supportive of her boys – proud of their achievements on and off the field – she rallied them through their swimming and their soccer years - Fred coaching – boys playing – Moira cheering and very much part of the fund raising committee – seeing Kareela soccer club house through to completion. Wonders are done and mountains moved on the back of good mums – and Moira was a good mum – she was ever active – up – and about her business – and her business was her family – early years of marriage had seen Fred and Moira in partnership with the Young's where they owned and operated a hardware store in Miranda and for 10 years they applied themselves there – moving on they then built a house in Malvern Road in Miranda – children settled into school – Moira – she set about home duties – she also undertook piece work. When the boys were older Moira returned full time to work – now with Kryslar Paints as a store manager in Hurstville and Miranda.

We all know children are wonderful – and grandchildren – well they are something special – in time Moira and Fred were blessed with Kristy and Cameron – and time spent with grandchildren is precious time – watching them grow to become their own good people – well that warms the heart – kindles the pride in a grandparent's spirit – Ian and Dee with Matt and Kyle so grafted in – family bigger – birthday calendar a little fuller – and that's the way they are meant to be. In retiring Fred and Moira packed the van – hitched it to the red terror and took to the open road – 12 months in and about Australia – seeing the sights – meeting the people and all the time Fred imparting the passion he has for fishing and it wasn't long before Moira could hold her own. Returning from their trip – land at Sussex Inlet was purchased – the house was built and Fred and Moira retired to the South Coast to make the house their home – residing there for 19 years during which time Moira continued with her love of needlework – tapestry upon tapestry on the walls of their home.

Ever active she became a member of the Sussex Inlet's RSL women's auxiliary – I believe fulfilling the role of president for a time – and there was Sussex Inlet Golf Club – Moira enjoyed the social aspects of playing – but also enjoyed success in winning – some monthly medals – I think there too she gravitated towards the committee. 14 years ago Fred and Moira moved to In as Much and have continued to live independent there. Club – committees – golf – daily outings – lunch – out every day – to be together and because Fred hates the washing up – has warmed this precious lady to many – she has been a lady of substance – and of quality and she will be surely missed. There is much a person leaves behind on this earth – personality and character – values, lessons and love all of which leave impressions and shows that every life counts in so many ways – there are aspects of Moira that will manifest in her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren – in time - thus enabling her earthly footprint to continue on into the future as well as the impact she has had upon all of those who knew and loved her. ..*Continued over page*.....

# FRONTLINE

Moira was a woman of quiet dignity and strong family values she was a good mum, a wonderful grandmother who not only knitted together 2000 trauma teddies but she also knitted herself and deposited into her families lives – whilst also stitching and knitting herself into the hearts and memories of many – a precious lady who will be missed and all we can say is well done well lived Moira.

On behalf of family thank you for joining together today in honouring Moira – family would like to make a special thank you to local doctors – Doctor Krishnapalli (VJ) and Doctor Morgan and a special mention to the Shoalhaven hospital for their care and compassion and to the Sussex community at large who have been so supportive to family and on behalf of Moira thank you for whom you were in her life.

Roger Perry, Michael Mulcahy and Bob Pink represented the Association at Moira's farewell at the Shoalhaven Crematorium Chapel, Worrigea on 4 September 2018.



## **WARRANT OFFICER CLASS TWO Paul Frederick BEER**

41<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment

Late of Goonnellabah NSW Paul passed away peacefully on the 12th November 2018 aged 74 years.

Paul was a member of the Lismore R.S.L Sub Branch and a founding member of the 41 RNSWR Association.

Dearly loved Husband to Terry. Much loved Father to Teresa, David and Sarah. Grandfather to Monique, Tyler, Erin, Lucas and Hannah. Great Grandfather to Aiden, Lleyton and Lucas. Paul was farewelled at the Carmelite Monastery Goonnellabah on 19 November 2018.

## **MRS Jeanette Ruth “Jenni” ROBBINS**

Late of Tea Gardens NSW sad advice was received of Jean's passing on 12 September 2018 aged 76 years. Beloved wife of Colin (dec). Loving mother and mother-in-law to Edwina & Steve, Leone & Greg, Graeme & Debbie, Peta & Craig. Much loved Nanny TG to Amie, Chanel, Jett, Jack, Stevie, Aleisha, Melinda, Edith, Rex, Gingerlily and their partners. A dear sister, sister-in-law and aunt to the PICKLES and ROBBINS Families. Jeanette was farewelled at St. Andrew's Anglican Church Tea Gardens on 18 September 2018.



## **CORPORAL Ronald STEER**

19<sup>th</sup> Battalion & 1<sup>st</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment

John Elliott advised of Ron's passing on 28 September 2018: From Jodie Watts "It is with great sadness that I have been asked to notify all our Wilcannia People that today we have sadly and suddenly lost another Great Icon of our Town.

Vale Ron Steer you served our community well a career spanning 38 years starting off as the Lock up Keeper and finally Chief Inspector. We all have many great memories of you and Fay and your Family. With Love to you All and Thank You Jodie Watts.

Ron served as the Company Clerk Admin Coy to Company Sergeant Major WO2 Roger Perry during his service. The Liberal Rural Press provided the following on Ron's NSW Police Service:

AFTER Ron Steer retired from more than 40 years involvement with the police force he did not expect continued involvement with law enforcement and the justice system. But a decade on after his retirement he is finding satisfaction and fulfilment as a mentor and being part of the youth conferencing process. Mr Steer grew up in Sydney and at the age of 16 decided to follow the example of a cousin and choose the police force as a career. He joined the force as a cadet and for three years worked alongside trained officers as "a bit of a roustabout". "It was on the job training, working in traffic and around the office and picking up the mundane jobs," he said. Aged 19 and then a fully-fledged policeman he "went bush" to Harden as the manager of the Police Citizens Youth Club. "It was a vibrant railway town back then," he said. "We had a lot good young kids involved with football and boxing."

His next posting in the force was a transfer to Broken Hill for a two-year stint and a step up the promotion ladder. He admitted it was a case of extremes moving from Harden to a strong industrial town in the far west of the state. His next posting was to Ivanhoe for a four-year stint. "It was a good town then," he said. He then took a posting at Wilcannia as a senior constable, the first of two five-year stints in the town. After his first posting at Wilcannia, he and his family moved to Moree where he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and was the "lock-up keeper". Another promotion to second class sergeant and a move to Lake Cargelligo followed where he was officer-in-charge for a five-year spell. A phone call from the then police commissioner put Mr Steer on the path of his greatest policing challenge. "There was a death in custody in Wilcannia and the commissioner asked me to go back as the officer-in-charge," Mr Steer said. "It was the greatest challenge of my career," he said. Mr Steer said all of the staff at the Wilcannia station were replaced and his team was made up of young officers in their early 20s without much experience. "We started from scratch," he said. "The advantage for me was I'd been there before but we had to get back to community-based policing.

# FRONTLINE

"Talking to people face-to-face, foot patrols getting involved with the youth and the football club. "It was daunting for the young police who were aged between 19 and 21 years who hadn't been around for long. "It was a different world in Wilcannia." After a five-year posting at Wilcannia, Mr Steer was commissioned as an inspector and took a posting in the Upper Hunter at Muswellbrook. He admitted he found life across the eastern side of the Great Divide less to his liking and before long he and the family moved west when he was promoted to chief inspector and the officer in charge at Walgett. His daughter still lives in Walgett working in child care. After Walgett he was posted to Dubbo where he worked until retiring after 38 years as a commissioned officer in the NSW police Force. His efforts during his second posting in Wilcannia earned him an Australian Police Service Medal. He said in the decade since retirement he was almost "back full time" working in the youth justice system, mentoring and working one-on-one with young people in strife with the law. "I do a lot of one-on-one mentoring with kids in the Staysafe system," he said. "It's hard for kids today to come to terms with the real world. "I enjoy working with them." Mr Steer said retirement for him was not about just sitting around all day. "That's a disaster and you can't be forever packing a suitcase and moving around." He said it was about finding a balance, and working with young people in trouble was proving fulfilling and rewarding.



## 280514 CAPTAIN James Stanley MICHELL

1<sup>st</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment  
 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Commando) Royal New South Wales Regiment  
 Late of Padstow NSW, Jim's passing in early November 2018 was sadly advised by Rod Hilliker. Dearly loved father of Elisabeth, Katherine and James, Loving brother to Pauline. Fond uncle and cousin. Much loved friend.



Jim enlisted in the CMF on 17 March 1965 and discharged on 31 October 1992. He served with the following units during his 27 years of Army Reserve Service and continued his service with the Australian Army Cadets.

17 March 1965	Enlisted Sydney University Regiment
22 February 1969	1 Battalion (Commando) Royal New South Wales Regiment
1 May 1971	Redesignated 1 Commando Company
1 November 1977	Headquarters 2 Division Field Force Group
1 July 1979	Headquarters Royal New South Wales Regiment
1 July 1982	1/19 Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment
31 August 1983	1 Commando Company
27 March 1986	Headquarters 2 Military District
18 July 1986	2 Army Reserve Recruiting Unit
28 April 1987	1 Commando Company
16 May 1990	Headquarters Logistic Support Force
23 March 1992	Headquarters 2 Military District



Jim was farewelled in the Palm Chapel, Macquarie Park Crematorium, North Ryde on 28th November 2018. Members of Jim's Cadet Unit formed the escort and a large contingent from the Commando Association was present and 1/19 RNSWR Association was represented by Tom NOLAN and Bob PINK.

Notice in the Sydney Morning Herald 12 September 2018:

### **MARTIN, Laila Annikki** – 27th August 2018.

Beloved wife of former 1/19 RNSWR Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Robert George MARTIN, AM who predeceased her in October 2002. Late of Braidwood Road, Tirrannaville. Laila's family and friends are invited to attend her Memorial Service commencing at 11-00am, Wednesday, 19th September 2018 at Craig's Hill Crematorium Chapel, Goulburn.

## Lest We Forget

# FRONTLINE

## COMING EVENTS 2019

FRI	15 FEB 2019	1100h 1645h	<b>LAST POST CEREMONY</b> 2/19 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION AIF Commemorating Brothers NX52468 CPL Roy COTTON Killed in Action Singapore 11 February 1942 and NX36763 PTE Arthur COTTON Killed in Action Malaya 22 January 1942 (Brothers of Association member Mrs Shirley DRUM)	<b>AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL CANBERRA ACT</b> 	Coat & Tie Decorations & Medals  <b>SEE ENCLOSURE THIS NEWSLETTER FOR THE FULL DAY'S PROGRAMME</b>
THU	25 APR 2019	0945h	<b>ANZAC DAY SYDNEY</b> FORM UP IN SPRING STREET REUNION VENUE: SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE	SYDNEY	Jacket & Tie Decorations & Medals <b>REUNION SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE</b>
SUN	20 JUL 2019	0930	<b>POZIERES DAY</b> <i>TO BE CONFIRMED</i>	St COLUMBA CHURCH Ocean Street WOOLLAHRA	Coat & Tie Decorations & Medals
SAT	To be confirmed		ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT <b>OFFRS/WOS/SNCOS DINNER</b>		Mess Dress / Coat & Tie Miniature medals
SUN	To be confirmed		ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT <b>ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE</b>		Coat & Tie Decorations & Medals
THU	15 AUG 2019	1045h	<b>VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY</b>	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Refreshments after Service at the Combined Services RSL 5-7 Barrack St SYDNEY Coat & Tie Decorations & Medals
WED	04 SEP 2019	1030h	<b>77th ANNIVERSARY BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA DAY</b>	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Coat & Tie - Decorations & Medals
<b>21st<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING &amp; REUNION DINNER WEEKEND – WAGGA WAGGA NSW</b>					
FRI	25 OCT 2019		 <b>ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEEKEND</b> WAGGA WAGGA AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL CLUB 188 Fernleigh Rd WAGGA WAGGA 2650	 <b>WAGGA WAGGA AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL CLUB</b> The Association has reserved <b>30 rooms at</b> the <b>QUALITY HOTEL RULES CLUB</b> WAGGA WAGGA Bookings Tele: 02 6931 2000 Email: <a href="mailto:qualityhotelrulesclubwagga.com.au">qualityhotelrulesclubwagga.com.au</a> <b>HOTEL ADJOINS THE RULES CLUB</b> <b>PLEASE MAKE YOUR BOOKINGS EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT</b> (CUT OFF DATE IS 01 OCTOBER 2019)	
SAT	26 OCT 2019				
MON	11 NOV 2019	1045h	<b>REMEMBRANCE DAY</b>	SYDNEY CENOTAPH TBC	Decorations & Medals Refreshments after Service at the Combined Services RSL 5-7 Barrack St SYDNEY

### ASSOCIATION PATRONS & OFFICE BEARERS

PATRON & LIFE MEMBER  
PATRON  
CHAPLAIN & LIFE MEMBER  
CHANCELLOR

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Colonel B.E. (Brian) MARTYN, RFD, psc (r)  
Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel The Reverend Canon C.G. (Colin) AIKEN, OAM, RFD, ChStJ  
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[www.http//www.rnswr.com.au](http://www.rnswr.com.au)

# FRONTLINE

*Get Well  
Soon*



## SICK REPORT

Our Best Wishes for a speedy recovery  
and a return to the best of health to

Mrs Joy NEWTON  
following a spell in hospital

LTCOL Gary BELTRAME  
following his recent knee operations

Mrs Dianne June ELLIOTT  
following her recent knee surgery and undergoing physio at Wilcannia !

WO2 Martin HANSON  
following his dental procedures

Cath & Alan PALMER  
on their recent hospitalisations



## CONGRATULATIONS



To Felicity JESS and fiancé  
Wayne STEWARD on the recent news of  
their engagement and coming nuptials



## OCTU REUNION LUNCH

MAJ Robert BINNS has asked that details be brought to the notice of  
1/19 RNSWR Association members



All ex Students and Staff of the OCTU  
and your partner or personal guest  
are invited to join us for lunch in the  
Cellos Grand Dining Room of the  
**Castlereagh Boutique Hotel/NSW Masonic Club**  
Level 4, 169-171 Castlereagh Street, Sydney NSW 2000

on  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019**  
1230 for 1300 hrs

Cost: \$95.00 per person

*Which includes drinks from 1230 – 1530 hrs, a Two Course Lunch and Coffee.*

**Dress:** Gentlemen Lounge Suit or Jacket & Tie or Association Uniform  
Ladies, Lounge Suit equivalent or Association Uniform  
**RSVP: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019**

If you would like to attend please email the REUNION COORDINATOR:  
Captain Michael Cassin (Ret'd) for an invitation.

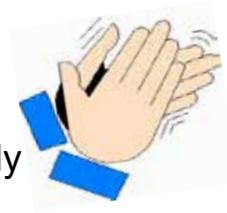
[michael-cassin@hotmail.com](mailto:michael-cassin@hotmail.com)

*I would like to thank Ex OCTU CI, Colonel Alec "Sandy" MacGregor MC, RFD Ret'd, for  
organising such a good deal for our luncheon.*

# FRONTLINE



## DONATIONS



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

3 RNSWR ASSOCIATION		
MR & MRS	Bob & Gladys	BAK
WO1	Warren	BARNES
LTCOL	Gary	BELTRAME
MAJ	Bob	BINNS
PTE	Tony	BRAY
BRIG	Paul	COUCH
MAJ	Barry	CHAPMAN
CPL & MRS	Alan & Peggy	DRINKWATER
MRS	Shirley	DRUM
SSGT	Bill	FOGARTY
SQNLDR	Phillip	GERBER
LT	Peter	HUGHES

SGT	Jim	HURT
CPL	Dan	JOHNSTON
MAJ	Bob	LIDDEN
COL	Brian	MARTYN
MAJ	Ken	McKAY
SSGT	Mick	PASS
CPL & MRS	Graham & Jo	ROSS
PTE	David	RING
CAPT	Mike	WALDRON
LCPL	Ray	WARDEN
PTE	Robert	WATSON
SGT	Dave	WILLIS
CPL	Phil	WILLMOTT

## NEW MEMBERS



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

CPL DR	Ross	MIERENDORFF	CAPALABA QLD	4157
PTE	Milton	MOFFATT	WOY WOY NSW	2250
PTE	Philip	TURNER	WESTON ACT	2611
PTE	Garry	SCHUMACHER	WANNIASSA ACT	2903
LCPL	Peter	VYMYS	BONDI NSW	2026

Subject: Correction New Members Vol 18 No 2 June 2018 (Peter Vymys Serial No. 265396)

Hi Bob,

Just noticed the June 2018 (Vol 18 No 2 June 2018) Journal is coming up on-line for google searches with my name. I left 1/19 Bn RNSWR as a LCPL yet the Journal listing for new members has me listed as 'PTE'. I'd be grateful if you could make a small mention of the next Volume to correct the error.

Thanks in advance. Trust all is well.

Kind regards,  
Peter Vymys

**(Our apologies Peter for the error)**

# FRONTLINE

## MUTINY ON THE SOMME

*Our thanks to Des Lambley for copies of his new book for presentation to the Association and the Commanding Officer 1<sup>st</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment*

The AIF was a spearhead for the British Expeditionary Force towards the end of the war on the Western Front. It was recognised that the exhaustion of body and mind, and the soldiers' good will was bordering on local mutiny. The men of the 1st were always part of that environment. One hundred and twenty-seven of them were sent to the Compound on 23 September 1918 after walking out of the line overnight on 21 September 1918 at Hargicourt, seven weeks before the end of the war. It has been called a mutiny. It has been called desertion, and it has been called an industrial dispute that is somehow intended to justify or sanitise the event and it also obfuscates the circumstances surrounding the causes. There is no doubt consternation and confusion was more a feature, and these men became scapegoats because communication, command and control had evaporated at a critical time during the temporary fog of war.

### THE COMMANDERS DIDN'T KNOW WHAT DAY IT WAS

The Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Stacy sent a report about the event to Brigade HQ and dated it the 20th. People at Brigade initialled dated its receipt the 20th but the event had occurred at 0300 on the 21st September 1918. The commanders and their Staff didn't even know what day it was!

Stacy blamed his NCOs and said that men with bad records had induced some to leave and others were too weak not to follow. This insinuated the character of them all. A quarter of their number were sergeants and corporals. Command and control of the unit was impacted by the reversal of orders communicated poorly at a late hour to the men and not at all to some of them. Instead of the planned withdrawal for a long rest the generals had thought up another operation they wanted to commence in a few hours time. Good communication had been broken down by the hard fighting over the last few days, and confusion, and misunderstanding reigned. The soldiers used their initiative and marched away to the earlier planned rendezvous miles to the rear. Command called this a mutiny and imprisoned the soldiers two days later. Biographies for each of the so called mutineers are included to show that the character of each of these men before, during and after the war was not necessarily as portrayed by their commanding officer. These biographies along with the assembled in-depth evidence surrounding the event also help to correct some of the historical misinterpretations.

### THE SOLDIERS THOUGHT SOMEONE WAS IN CHARGE

It was argued at the subsequent courts martial that they went out under the bona fide belief they were being relieved and had received an order to go out.

- 127 were sent to the Corps Safe Custody Compound on 23 September 1918.
- 2 were charged with inciting a mutiny, joining a mutiny and with desertion.
- 124 of them were charged with joining a mutiny and with desertion.
- 1 escaped from custody and for administrative convenience after his apprehension was charged with being AWL
- 11 were found not guilty and released.
- 1 charge was downgraded to AWL to satisfy 'face' and convenience.
- 114 were found guilty of desertion (for six hours from 3am-9am on 21 September 1918) & sentenced for up to 10 years gaol.

Fortunately Monash, Hobbs and Senator Pearce convinced General Sir William Birdwood that in honour of Anzac Day 1919 over 200 Australian prisoners could be released. These so-called mutineers were included in this amnesty. A question remains as to whether these soldiers were made the scapegoats for command errors brought about by the fog of war. Evidence suggests leadership had evaporated at a critical time over the twelve hour period on 20/21 September 1918. An injustice may therefore have been done to these AIF volunteers. - Author

### AN INJUSTICE WAS DONE

This book is an intricate and well overdue account of the antecedents to the events on the Somme on 20th and 21st September 1918 into which these 127 ordinary volunteer Australian soldiers were catapulted where, 'communication, command and control' had broken down. These ordinary men serving as soldiers on the front line in brutal and inhuman conditions, fighting for their country, were cast as mutineers perhaps to shift responsibility from the Officers who ought bear responsibility for maintaining 'communication, command and control'. The author has lifted the veil on the lives of these enlisted volunteers and writes elegant psychological portraits in which he measures and weighs the course of these men's lives before enlisting through the circumstances of their service in various theatres of the war from Gallipoli to the Somme and their lives, their contributions and commitment to their families and communities upon their return to Australia in 1919 including the many instances of their re-enlistment in the Australian armed forces during WW2.

- David Sullivan, Forensic Psychologist

*This book is about the fog of war at two levels on the Western Front in WW1 at a time when confusion, uncertainty and indecision were at a premium. And it is about how under such circumstances the egos and the reputation of those at command level will tend to work against fairness in relation to those at the subordinate level.*

- Bob Slater A.M., Brigadier (Retd.)

LEADERSHIP HAD EVAPORATED IN THE FOG OF WAR Copyright U 2018 by Des Lambley

e-MAIL: [mutinyonthesomme@gmail.com](mailto:mutinyonthesomme@gmail.com)

A NON-FICTION MILITARY HISTORY REFERENCE TEXT

National Library of Australia Cataloguing-in-Publication entry

Title: Mutiny on the Somme

ISBN: 9780994405401 (Available at selected deposit libraries and **is not for sale**) pp.340

Title: Mutiny on the Somme 1st Battalion Scapegoats 1918 ISBN: 978-0-9944054-1-8 (Available as an e-book) 537 pages

Continued over page.....

# FRONTLINE

## MUTINY ON THE SOMME

Continued Pt 2

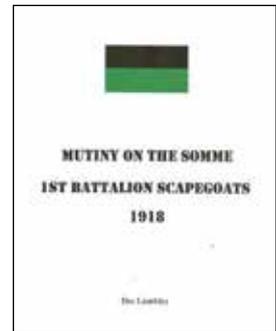
### THE AUTHOR



Des Lambley says he was a farm kid from the Hunter Valley and when his marble did not come out in 1958 for the old National Service he joined the CMF at Maitland. 'I even qualified for first appointment to commissioned rank while with 2nd RNSWR but there were no holes', he said. When the family estate was wound up in 1962 after 120 years he joined the Regular Army and served 9 years with the Corps of Signals, 'the Grunts used to refer to us as Chooks'. He was attached to 1RAR for a couple of years before the army was reorganised and they all went off to Vietnam. Des was a Supervising Sergeant at the major Signals relay station in Saigon during the Tet Offensives in 1968. After his discharge in 1971 he joined the NSW Public Service but was retained on military strength as a Special Emergency Reservist (because of his rank and cryptography trade) for another 8 years.

He was a Senior Policy and Research Officer with the Public Service and says that the daily routine there influenced him to keep his hand in by studying, researching and writing.

He is married and now retired lives in Melbourne. He is involved in Guest Lecturing and has published many papers and reference texts and books across half a dozen different academic disciplines over the years. Reflecting on his Vietnam experience Des said, 'Vietnam was a bad era. We were spat on, had red paint tossed at us, called baby killers, had unionists in Australia refuse to load essential war stores for us, had church people, old dumb folk and university ferals sitting in the streets as anti-war activists. We got to wonder how many of those bastards were really worth defending. I realised even if it got down to my close family and friends that was enough. The rest could get nicked. I can forgive but I cannot forget those unpatriotic people. I know those kinds of idiots are still around in Australia today and I just hope there will always be enough intelligent young men and women willing to volunteer to help those unable to defend themselves from tyrants, young men and women who are willing to carry out the requirements of a democratically elected government - in a professional manner, to defend our freedoms'.



## LOCOMOTIVE HISTORY

21 RUMSEY DRIVE  
RACEVIEW QLD 4305

Mr Bob Pink  
PO Box 224  
INGLEBURN NSW 1890

Dear Bob.



My working career started off as an apprentice boilermaker in the Ipswich railway workshops. After a while I left the Railways to join the Postmaster Generals Department and it was in 1961 that I met Tom Fletcher when we were on a postal clerks training course. Tom was from around the Warwick area and he asked me if I had relatives in the Warwick area who he had known during his school days. Tom had sent me a couple of copies of Frontline and it was in the June 2017 issue that there was an advertisement regarding the National Rail Museum in Adelaide with a picture of a loco that was built in 1919. The old Ipswich workshops have become part of the Queensland Museum with part of the site being retained by Queensland Rail for the Heritage Fleet. This fleet of steam locos has the oldest steam loco in the southern hemisphere, the last steam engine to be built in Australia and now a fully restored Hunslet loco that had seen service in France in the Great War. Although there are no narrow tracks around the site, the loco will be a static display.

When the Hunslet came to Australia, it had been used by one of the sugar mills in the north of the state hauling cut cane from the farms to the crushing plant. This little loco was used for this purpose for about fifty years before coming into the museum. There is another narrow gauge cane loco that had been used by the Quanaba sugar mill in the Bundaberg district. This one also has a couple of wagons that were used to carry the cane to the mill.

The re run of the enlistment train that went from Winton to Brisbane used the same carriages as the original train. A newer loco was used on the rerun was a B 18-1/4 with the number 1079. Maryborough was also a stop for the train for the dedication of a statue to the memory of a local officer who was fatally injured on his landing at Gallipoli. Walkers built the largest number of steam locos in the country and were also the builders of the Diamantina which is now in a dry dock at the maritime museum in Brisbane

Sincerely  
Trevor Wode  
12/9/2018

# FRONTLINE



**EXERCISING THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF BATHURST  
BY 1st/19th BATTALION THE ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT  
SAT 10 NOVEMBER 2018**



# FRONTLINE

## BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA DAY SYDNEY CENOTAPH 5 SEP 2018



## REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018 SYDNEY ANZAC WAR MEMORIAL HYDE PARK

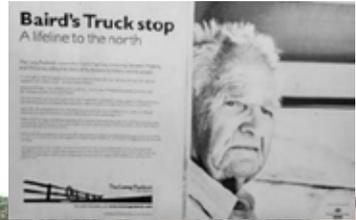


# FRONTLINE

## IN MEMORY OF BILL BAIRD 2/19 BATTALION AIF HIGHWAY TO HELL CHALLENGE



From  
Susan JOHNSTON  
& Marj FLACK



The 2018 Highway to Hell Challenge, group photo taken at Bill Bairds Truck Stop. The 90 or so participants in the Challenge sang happy birthday to our outback legend - Billy Baird. (Dave Cooper photo)



Billy's Great Grandson Mitch and Grandson Mark Baird at the truck stop dedicated to Billy Baird. (Photo Tracy Ellis)

### Billy Baird's Highway to Hell

Nearly \$1,500 was raised for Booligal and Ivanhoe schools in this years Highway to Hell Challenge, following the route of mailman Billy Baird from Hay to Ivanhoe.

Billy is a legend of the outback who travelled the highway for many years delivering mail, milk and groceries to the inhabitants of Booligal and Ivanhoe. For the about 30 years, Mr Baird delivered milk and goods to the isolated towns of Booligal and Ivanhoe. For most of the time, the major part of Cobb Highway between Booligal and Mossgiel was an unsealed dirt track and many times rain turned it into a quagmire, leaving his army blitz bogged for days. He was instrumental in getting that section of Cobb Highway sealed. Billy would have celebrated his 102nd birthday this year.

#### Quick Stats for 2018 from the organisers:

- Winners this year were;
- 1st place winner of the Bill Baird Blitz award - Renae McCormick,
- 2nd - Yvonne Nisbet
- 3rd - Jayden Wall

All up 40 awards in the name of Bill Baird were issued. Some included:

What's your biggest worry award - Rod and Jennifer Barnes

Most senior person to complete the Challenge -

Fred Nelson

Youngest person to complete the challenge - Bonnie Mathews

Steadiest Driver award - Maurice Groves

Bit of Bad Luck award - Ant Ellis, Damian Schiller, Peter May

Furthest ravelled - Debbie & Glenn Phillips

Best loudest singer at the truck stop - Hugh McCormick

Most Fuel Filled at Ivanhoe - Bev O'Brien

Oldest Car to complete the challenge - Owned by John Mathews

Fastest Bus driver - Ted Schneider

New this year -The Ball Joint Award -

Al Balljoint Symonds

and lastly a stack of Bill Baird "Buy Ya-self an Ice-cream" awards.

Congratulations to all the winners and commiserations to those who didn't make it to the end or had bad luck during the day. Hence the name of the event. The Highway to Hell Challenge.

Some general stats from the challenge this year were:

Approx 90 people attended: 26 cars, 3

Motorcycles and the Club Bus went on the challenge.

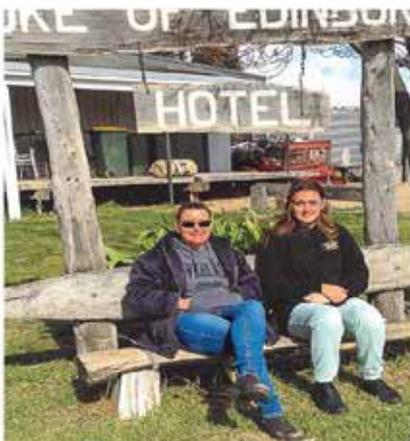
3 mechanical mishaps were had.

Over 20 animal carcasses were removed from the road, mostly by Frog Edwards.

Nearly \$1500.00 was raised for the Booligal & Ivanhoes Schools to be shared between them.

36 Local businesses in Hay & Ivanhoe contributed toward the prizes and the moneys raised.

Special Thanks to Mark & Mitchell Baird - Grandson & Great Grandson of Bill Baird for travelling from Sydney to attend and complete the challenge and help out with presentations.



# FRONTLINE



## SEEN AROUND THE TRAPS



### VISIT TO Warwick CAMPBELL

L to R: WO2 Barry Parsons, Peter Hibbard, Brian McFawn, CPL Elish Rowan, Ben Costa, Chris Chownie, Warwick Campbell, and Terry NIXON



### THE NEW C COMPANY 1/19 RNSWR SIGN CANNBERRA DEPOT

(Correction to SEP 18 Newsletter which showed the sign as the Wagga Wagga Depot sign – Our thanks to SGT Dave Sherwood on behalf of WO2 Brandon Carey bringing the error to our notice)

### Warwick & Rachel CAMPBELL

Meet Prince Harry & Meghan at Government House during the Royals recent visit to meet Veterans

# FRONTLINE



## SEEN AROUND THE TRAPS



Charles JENSEN & Les FORDHAM aboard a train during their recent visit to China



Charlie & Roy MUNDINE with Mrs Annette WINTER at the Ingleburn TAB



Graham ROSS & David RING proudly displaying the beautifully stitched double bed sized patchwork quilt with complementary themes commemorating the end of World War I created by Graham's wife Jo and which they have generously donated to the Association. The unique design is valued, in excess of \$2,500 and involved many hours of painstaking work.

# FRONTLINE

## ARMISTICE DAY COMMEMORATIONS 2018



**2/19 Bn AIF Association Member Fred POWER unveils the Memorial at Sussex Inlet RSL**



**2/19 Bn AIF Association Member Fred POWER cuts the cake!**



**Commandos at Balibo TIMOR LESTE SEP 2018  
Rod HILLIKER 3<sup>rd</sup> from left**



**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY BODANGORA  
Photo courtesy Terry NIXON**



**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY BODANGORA  
Photo courtesy Terry NIXON**

# FRONTLINE

## FROM Geoff BLAIR

Hi Bob,  
just sending a couple of photos and write up thought you may be able to slot it into the next journal. Started my piping career 1960 ANZAC Day with the Tumbarumba Pipe Band, called up for National Service 1969, Joined 3RAR Pipes and Drums, Feb 71 South Vietnam for 7 months deployment as combat medic with 9PI C Coy, 1986 joined 1/19 RNSWR Pipes and Drums for 12 years, and all the while doing 40 odd years with Tumbarumba Pipes and Drums.  
Cheers  
Geoff Blair



### TIARO WAR MEMORIAL

The Tiaro War Memorial commemorates those who served in World War I. It was unveiled on 25 April 1921 (ANZAC Day) by Sir Thomas William Glasgow. Originally the main centre of the Shire of Tiaro, Tiaro became part of the Fraser Coast Regional Council after the amalgamations of local councils on 17 March 2008.

Tiaro /'tairou/ is a small town on the Mary River in Queensland, Australia. The town is situated on the Bruce Highway 27 kilometres (17 mi) south of Maryborough and 227 kilometres (141 mi) north of the state capital, Brisbane. At the 2006 census, Tiaro had a population of 433.<sup>[2]</sup> Timber and farming are the predominant industries in the Tiaro area, although the town's position on Queensland's main coastal highway also brings economic benefits.



### OCTU DINING IN NIGHT

L to R MAJ Harry COLE, COL Tom CRAWFORD & LT Tom COOPER

Photo courtesy of MAJ Harry COLE

# FRONTLINE

## MEET & GREET FRI 26 OCT 18 AGM WEEKEND ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB

OUR THANKS TO THE WEEKEND'S "OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHERS" PHIL WILLMOTT & JIM HURT FOR THE PHOTOS TAKEN DURING THE AGM WEEKEND – WELL DONE PHIL & JIM !



# FRONTLINE

## AGM WREATH LAYING ROMANI BARRACKS SAT 27 OCT 18



# FRONTLINE

## AGM DINNER ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB SAT 27 OCT 18



# FRONTLINE

## AGM 2018 DINNER ORANGE EX ASERVICES CLUB SAT 27 OCT 2018



# FRONTLINE



I/XIX

Primus agat Primas –Fortiter et Fideliter

## MINUTES 20<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 27 OCTOBER 2018 at 1530h



Fortiter et Fideliter

### OPENING:

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

### ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES:

It was MOVED by Bob WEIR and SECONDED by David RING that the apologies be accepted.

**CARRIED**

#### IN ATTENDANCE (29)

SSGT	Geoff	BRADDON, OAM, JP
PTE	Tony	BRAY
SGT	John	BURNS
MAJ	Barry	CHAPMAN ED MB BS FRACP FCSANZ FICA FRSM RACI
CPL	Alan	DRINKWATER, MLO
MRS	Peggy	DRINKWATER
SGT	Ken	HARPER
SGT	Jim	HURT
SGT	Felicity	JESS, JP
CPL	Dan	JOHNSTON
LT	Corinna	KELLY
SGT	Malcolm	LE COMTE
COL	Brian	MARTYN, RFD psc (r)
LTCOL	Peter	McGUINNESS, MBE, OAM, RFD, ED
PTE	Ross	McINTOSH
MAJ	Ken	McKAY, RFD, ED
WO2	Roger	PERRY, OAM
WO1	Bob	PINK, OAM, OAM (Mil)
PTE	David	RING
PTE	Graeme	ROBBINS
CPL	Graham	ROSS, JP
MRS	Jo	ROSS By Invitation
LCPL	Graham	TIPPETT
SGT	Brian	TISDELL
MRS	Annette	TISDELL
MAJ	Charlie	WATSON, RFD
MAJ	Bob	WEIR
CPL	Phillip	WILLMOTT
CAPT	Dennis	ZALUNARDO, OAM, JP

#### APOLOGIES (50) continued

MRS	Hazel	COOPER
LT	Tom	COOPER, OAM
BRIG	Paul	COUCH, CSC, RFD
MRS	Shirley	DRUM
CAPT	Bill	EDWARDS
WO2	John	ELLIOTT
SSGT	George	FISHER, JP
MRS	Marjorie	FLACK
SSGT	Bill	FOGARTY
SQNLDR	Philip	GERBER. LL.M, M.Crim
CPL	Eddie	GIFFORD
CPL	Peter	HALL
CPL	Peter	HALL
SGT	Sandy	HOWARD
LT	Peter	HUGHES
MRS	Beryl	IRWIN
CPL	Charles	JENSEN
WO2	Kevin	JONES, OAM
MAJ	Bob	LIDDEN, RFD
PTE	Alan	LOWE
MRS	Ethel	MELVILLE
MR	Bob	MIDDLETON
MAJ	Lee	MONZO
WO1	Roy	MUNDINE, OAM
MAJ	Reg	NEWTON
MRS	Joy	NEWTON, RN, BHSc
PTE	Larry	NOLAN
WO1	Jamie	OSBORNE
PTE	Alan	PALMER
WO2	Barry	PARSONS
MAJ	John	PARTRIDGE
SSGT	Mike	PASS
LTCOL	Ian	PATTINGALE
LCPL	Roger	PEARSON
SGT	Peter	REYNOLDS
MAJ	Bryan	SCHAFER, OAM, JP
MR	Glen	SCRIVEN
CPL	David	SMALL
SGT	Peter	TRACEY
LCPL	Ray	WARDEN

#### APOLOGIES

LTCOL CHAPLAIN THE REV CANON	Colin	AIKEN, OAM, RFD, ChStJ
SGT	Rick	AVERY
LTCOL	Gary	BELTRAME, RFD,JP
MAJ	Robert	BINNS, RFD
LCPL	Geoff	BLAIR
COL	John	BRENNAN, B.Comm, M.B.A., Grad Dip. Def.Mgt., Dip. Pol.
BRIG	Kathryn	CAMPBELL, CSC, RFD
MAJ	Harry	COLE, JP, AIMM
WO2	Robert	COLLIGAN
LCPL	Brad	COLLIS

# 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	Ruth	McEWEN	4 AUG 16	Relative SGT Kenrick PULLEY 2/19 Bn AIF
PTE	Don Charles	WAYNE	2 OCT 16	1/19 RNSWR
MRS	Audrey	TONACIA	00 FEB 17	Widow PTE Harold 'Tony' TONACIA 2/19 BN AIF
CAPT	Peter Ian Alexander	HENDRY AO	23 SEP 17	2/10 FD AMBULANCE 8 DIV
MRS	Dorothy Bowness	MAITLAND	28 OCT 17	Wife of MAJGEN Gordon MAITLAND
SSGT	Raymond John	BERRY	2 NOV 17	1/19 RNSWR
SGT	Christopher Michael	HALLORAN	21 NOV 17	1/19 RNSWR
MRS	Dorothy Bowness	MAITLAND	28 OCT 17	Wife of MAJGEN Gordon MAITLAND
SGT	Christopher Michael	HALLORAN	21 NOV 17	1/19 RNSWR
SSGT	William Paddy	FOX BEM	9 JAN 18	Kings Royal Hussars
CPL	Amy Katherine	TAYLOR AM OAM	28 JAN 18	Australian Womens'e's' Army Service
PTE	Robert John	LAVINGTON	30 JAN 18	1/19 RNSWR
LADY	Diana Margaret	Lady CARRICK AO	2 FEB 18	Wife Sir John CARRICK 18 Anti Tank Bty AIF
MAJ	Peter	GODFREY	4 MAR 18	1/19 RNSWR
MRS	Joan Gloria	ALCHIN	4 MAR 18	Widow PTE Mervyn Hugh ALCHIN 2/20 BN AIF
MRS	Margaret Jean	CRAGO	27 MAR 18	Widow PTE John Burley CRAGO 2/19 Bn AIF
CPL	John Francis	WALSH PSM GCB BCM JP	3 APR 18	3 TPT COY
SGT	Dianne Gay	WILSON	29 APR 18	1/19 RNSWR
LT	Sir John Leslie	CARRICK AC KCMG	18 MAY 18	18 Anti Tk Bty AIF
LT	Douglas Alfred	SEYMOUR	LATE JUN 18	2/19 BN AIF
PTE	Joseph Frederick	COOMBS	27 JUN 18	2/19 BN AIF
MRS	Constance Frances	HEYDON	7 JUL 18	Widow SGT Jack HEYDON 2/19 Bn AIF
MRS	Jenny	ROBBINS	12 AUG 18	Mother of Graeme ROBBINS 1/19 RNSWR
MRS	Laila Anniki	MARTIN	27 AUG 18	Widow of LTCOL Robert MARTIN, CO 1/19 RNSWR
MRS	Moira Gertrude	POWER	28 AUG 18	Wife of Fred POWER 2/19 Bn AIF
CPL	Ronald	STEER	28 SEP 18	19 & 1/19 RNSWR
MAJGEN	Gordon Lindsay	MAITLAND AO OBE RFD ED	18 OCT 18	Commander 2 <sup>nd</sup> DIVISION - Inspector General & Chief of Reserves

## MINUTES OF THE 19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT GOSFORD RSL CLUB ON SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER 2017

The Chairman advised that the Minutes of the previous AGM held on Saturday 27 OCTOBER 2017 had been circulated to all members via the Association's December 2017 Frontline Newsletter.

It was MOVED by Phillip WILLMOTT and SECONDED by Dennis ZALUNARDO that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 OCTOBER 2017 be taken as read and signed as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

### MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

It was MOVED by Bob WEIR and SECONDED by Peter McGUINNESS that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 OCTOBER 2017 be accepted.

**CARRIED**

### 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 valued and much appreciated.

It was MOVED by Graham ROSS and SECONDED by Dennis ZALUNARDO 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, Chaplain, Chancellor and the Committee Members for their continuing efforts and assistance throughout the year. The apologies this year by several Association committee members were unavoidable due to other commitments and not to a lack of interest, coupled with the conduct of the RNSWR Officer/WO/SNCO Dinner and Regimental Weekend on the same weekend as our AGM here in Orange. The President advised he has written to the Colonel Commandant RNSWR expressing his displeasure.

The President thanked the CO 1/19 RNSWR and also the Battalion's Chief Clerk WO2 David CANAVAN for his support and assistance to the Association's Wreath Laying Ceremony at Romani Barracks earlier today. The President thanked all present for their efforts in attending this weekend and advised that BRIG Kathryn CAMPBELL CSC regrets her inability to be present this weekend. BRIG CAMPBELL has been a very strong supporter of the Association and she will be promoted to MAJGEN in December 2018 and take up her appointment as Commander Second Division. Our Association numbers are falling due to the passing of members of our 'senior brigade'. The passing of Joe COOMBS – a stalwart and staunch supporter of the Association and also the 2/19 Battalion AIF Association was a severe blow. We are also losing more of our 1/19 RNSWR Association members and we need to recruit more serving 1/19 RNSWR members. Sadly, there appears to be a lack of enthusiasm in regard to joining the Association among serving members.

The President spoke on the Association activities planned for and in conjunction with the Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial CANBERRA ACT on FRI 15 FEB 2019. The Memorial's Director Mr Brendan NELSON has confirmed the ceremony on 15 FEB 2019 will honour our Association member Mrs Shirley DRUM's 2 brothers, CPL Roy COTTON and PTE Arthur COTTON who were sadly killed in action during the Malayan and Singapore Campaign of January/February 1942. The programme will include a Commemoration Ceremony at the Association's plaques in the War Memorial grounds on the morning of FRI 15 FEB 19 to be followed by luncheon at the Mercure Hotel.. A Presentation at the Australian War Memorial will follow in the afternoon prior to the Last Post Ceremony at 5:00pm. Full details will be included in the December 2018 issue of the Frontline Newsletter. We are very fortunate and grateful to have the assistance and expertise of Mrs Dianne ELLIOTT in the planning for the events of the day.

# FRONTLINE

The President spoke on the following matters:

- The winding up of the 8<sup>th</sup> Australian Division Association;
- The disbandment of the Reserve Forces Day Council NSW – although it was noted that Newcastle NSW, Wondai, QLD Canberra ACT, may continue to conduct events. Falling numbers and the increasing age of members had taken its toll on attendances together with the irrelevance of many of the events singled out for commemoration coupled with the dissatisfaction of most infantry units who had ceased to parade. COL Brian MARTYN advised that as CO 1/19 RNSWR he had arranged for the Colours of 1/19 RNSWR to participate in the inaugural RFD March in Sydney in 1998 which was going to be a "one off" event.
- The disbandment of 3 RNSWR Association and the formation of a Social Club. They have donated \$1000.00 to our Association which will be used after discussions with the CO 1/19 RNSWR to foster 1/19 RNSWR's Charlie (Werriwa) Company in Canberra ACT;
- The Colour Party for Pozieres Day Commemoration at St Columba Church Woollahra this year was carried out by members of Charlie (Werriwa) Coy, Canberra who performed their duties in a spectacular manner and were deserving of high praise;
- ANZAC DAY SYDNEY 2019
- The Association's Harbour Cruise will again be conducted at the conclusion of the ANZAC Day March;
- The funeral for MAJGEN Gordon Lindsay MAITLAND AO OBE RFD ED former Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Division and Chief of Reserves to be held at St James' Parish Church Sydney on MON 29 OCT 2018 at 10:30 a.m. and a strong Association attendance is requested;
- The passing of Mr Joseph Frederick COOMBS of A Company, 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF Association was keenly felt. Joe's immense support, input and co-ordination arrangements for the Association and the many Lidcombe RSL Commemorative Services at Lidcombe Park over the years achieved much success and recognition from his local community.

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 Phil WILLMOTT and SECONDED by Jim HURT that the President's Report be accepted.

**CARRIED**

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Chairman advised that Association Treasurer Joy NEWTON's recent hospitalisation regrettably prevents her attendance at the meeting today and conveyed his personal thanks and that of the Association to Mrs 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 2018.
- Balance Sheet for the year ended 30 June 2018.
- 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.

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES as at 30 JUNE 2018

2017		2018
<b>ASSETS</b>		
16,708	Cash at Bank & on Deposit	20,110
18,827	Stock for sale at cost	19,513
2,000	Prepayments	1,000
<b>37,535</b>		<b>40,623</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
3,392	Subscriptions in Advance	3,657
		3,657
<b>34,143</b>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>36,966</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
	Accumulated earnings 1 July 2017	34,143
37,661	Accumulated earnings 1 July 2016	
(3,518)	Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for year	2,823
<b>34,143</b>	<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<b>36,966</b>

## STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE for year ended 30 JUNE 2018

2017		2018
<b>INCOME</b>		
5,385	Subscriptions	4,879
117	Bank Interest	92
404	Profit Merchandise sales	137
4,054	Donations received	3,176
0	Miscellaneous Income	0
<b>9,960</b>		<b>8,284</b>
<b>Less: EXPENDITURE</b>		
73	Bank Charges	87
100	Donations	100
550	Insurance	550
7,835	Net Cost of Functions	1,228
	Postage, Printing, Stationery & Phone	1,305
1,599	Magazine costs net of subsidy	1,571
44	Filing fees	45
974	Presentations & gifts	0
0	Subscriptions	0
862	Welfare	575
242	Website	0
<b>13,478</b>		<b>5,461</b>
<b>(3,518)</b>		<b>2,823</b>

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS as at 30 JUNE 2018

2017		2018
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
5,550	Subscriptions	5,144
117	Bank Interest	92
1,010	Sales – Merchandise	490
1,710	Sales – The Grim Glory	0
627	Sales – Boldly & Faithfully	500
4,054	Donations	3,176
20,191	Functions	10,365
<b>33,259</b>		<b>19,767</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
73	Bank Charges	87
100	Donations	100
550	Insurance	550
26,026	Functions	9,593
	Postage, Printing, Stationery & Phone	1,305
1,599	Presentations & gifts	0
974	Purchases – stock for sale	1,539
336	Welfare	575
862	Website	0
242	Magazine	1,571
1,199	Filing fees	45
44	Prepayment for ANZAC Day 2019	1,000
2,000	Prepayment to Creditors	0
3,328		
<b>37,333</b>		<b>16,365</b>
<b>(4,074)</b>	<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS</b>	<b>3,402</b>
20,782	Cash Book Balance at 1 July 2017	16,708
<b>16,708</b>	<b>CASH BOOK BALANCE at 30 JUNE 2018</b>	<b>20,110</b>

# FRONTLINE

1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION INC

## CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

We, ROGER JAMES PERRY of 1/14-16 Blaxland Road BELLEVUE HILL NSW 2031 and ROBERT JOHN PINK of 3/20 Cumberland Road, INGLEBURN NSW 2565 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 28 OCTOBER 2017.
- 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 2018

  
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 2018 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 2018

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

## 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 2018 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 2018 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.



DENNIS ZALUNARDO, OAM, JP  
Honorary Auditor  
30 September 2018  
1 Jacaranda Avenue  
BAULKHAM HILLS NSW 2153

It was MOVED by Dan JOHNSTON and SECONDED by David RING that the financial documents be accepted.

**CARRIED**

It was MOVED by Peter McGUINNESS and SECONDED by John BURNS that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

**CARRIED**

# FRONTLINE

## HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT:

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

A warm welcome was conveyed to the following 6 new members who joined the Association since the last Annual General Meeting:

MR	Alan	ARMSTRONG	BALMAIN NSW	2041
PTE	David	GATT	KALLANGUR QLD	4503
PTE	Milton	MOFFATT	WOY WOY NSW	2256
PTE	Maurice	SAINES	GOULBURN NSW	2580
MR	Joseph	TULLY	CHARLEVILLE QLD	4470
LCPL	Peter	VYMYS	BONDI NSW	2026

### CURRENT MEMBERSHIP:

CATEGORY	LIFE	FINANCIAL	TOTAL	UN FINANCIAL	WRITTEN OFF	MAIL RTS	TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
1/19 RNSWR ASSN	7	162	169	7	32	2	41	210
2/19 BATTALION AIF ASSN	8	N/A	8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8
2/19 BATTALION AIF ASSN ASSOCIATES	29	59	88	6	33	4	43	131
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>349</b>

### DEATHS:

Sadly, 13 members passed away during the year and since the Association's formation in 1998 - 279 of our members & friends have passed on.

### 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 86 copies of the newsletter are currently sent to the following kindred associations and organisations:

1. Association of First Infantry Battalions (3)
2. Friends of the City of Newcastle Regiment 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Battalions (2)
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion RNSWR and 3<sup>rd</sup> Inf Battalion Association Social Group
4. Association of 4th Battalions (2)
5. Association of 17<sup>th</sup> Battalions (2)
6. Ex 22 Battalion RVR Association
7. 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion NSW Scottish Regimental Association
8. 8 Division Council Association (3)
9. 2/4 Anti-Tank Regiment Association
10. 5<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association
11. The Australian Intelligence Corps Association NSW Branch (3)
12. UNSWR Association
13. Integrated Service Peoples Association (2)
14. Defence Reserves Association
15. Reserve Forces Day Council (33)—last issue sent June 18
16. 14 Field Squadron Association
17. Royal Australian Ordnance Corps Association (2)
18. 3 Transport Company Association (4)
19. Royal Australian Naval Reserve Association
20. Regimental Council, The Royal New South Wales Regiment (4)
21. CO 1/19 RNSWR
22. OPS OFFR 1/19 RNSWR
23. ADJT 1/19 RNSWR
24. RSM 1/19 RNSWR
25. CHIEF CLERK 1/19 RNSWR
26. Australian War Memorial
27. National Library of Australia
28. State Library of NSW

Additional copies are also sent the families of our deceased members, family members and friends and 1/19 RNSWR Depots at Orange, Bathurst, Dubbo & Wagga Wagga, The Cowra Depot closed earlier this year.

Newsletters are sent with application forms to enquirers throughout the year. A total of 530 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 associate members and families. 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.

# FRONTLINE

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 2019 SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENTS:

Fall due and payable on 1 JANUARY 2019. A subscription slip will be enclosed with the December 2018 Newsletter to all members. The Honorary Secretary advised that the annual subscriptions was \$25.00 per annum – which fact had, unfortunately, been “lost” on some members and that a further reminder would be contained in the December 2018 Newsletter.

It was MOVED by Malcolm LE COMTE and SECONDED by Bob WEIR that the Honorary Secretary’s Report be accepted.

**CARRIED**

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE’S REPORT:

The President 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 President spoke on the arrangements for this evening’s dinner and advised that 2 x bottles of wine would be placed on each table.

The Association had been represented at the following commemorative events since the last AGM:

11 NOV 17 REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES – SYDNEY / CENTRAL COAST  
 03 FEB 18 1/19 RNSWR PERYMAN AWARDS/REGTL DINNER ORANGE  
 15 FEB 18 FALL OF SINGAPORE - AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL CANBERRA  
 22 APR 18 ANZAC SUNDAY SERVICES - SYDNEY / CENTRAL COAST  
 25 APR 18 ANZAC DAY  
 01 JUL 18 RESERVE FORCES DAY PARADES – CANBERRA, NEWCASTLE & WONDAL QLD  
 22 JUL 18 POZIERES COMMEMORATION ST COLUMBA’S CHURCH WOOLLAHRA  
 05 AUG 18 SANDAKAN COMMEMORATION BURWOOD PARK  
 09 AUG 18 VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY SYDNEY  
 12 AUG 18 NATIONAL SERVICEMEN’S COMMEMORATION INGLEBURN  
 15 AUG 18 VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY – SYDNEY CENOTAPH  
 18 AUG 18 VIETNAM VETERANS’ DAY COMMEMORATION SYDNEY  
 05 SEP 18 BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA DAY – SYDNEY CENOTAPH

The 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 2019 Cruise in Sydney and the Association’s ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEEKEND 2019.

## ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2018-2019

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

POSITION	ELECTED	
PRESIDENT	Roger	PERRY, OAM
VICE PRESIDENT & PUBLICITY OFFICER	Mick	PASS
TREASURER	Joy	NEWTON, RN, BhSc
HONORARY SECRETARY/ NEWSLETTER EDITOR/ ASSOCIATION PUBLIC OFFICER	Bob	PINK, OAM, OAM (Mil)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Bryan	SCHAFFER, OAM, JP
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Bob	WEIR
COMMITTEE MEMBER & MERCHANDISING MANAGER	Ray	WARDEN
COMMITTEE MEMBER & WEBSITE MANAGEER	Sandy	HOWARD
COMMITTEE MEMBER & ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN	Geoff	BRADDON, OAM, JP
COMMITTEE MEMBER	John	ELLIOTT
COMMITTEE MEMBER	George	FISHER
The following were appointed to the positions shown		
ASSOCIATION AUDITOR	Dennis	ZALUNARDO, OAM, JP
ASSOCIATION STANDARD BEARER	David	RING

The Chairman congratulated all on their election and thanked Sandy HOWARD for his exceptional contribution in managing the Web Site and 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 Vice President Mick PASS for his exceptional work in organising this AGM weekend functions and Ray and Gay WARDEN for their continuing efficient and valued efforts in handling the Association’s merchandise throughout the year and to our Auditor Dennis ZALUNARDO, OAM, JP for his sterling efforts and guidance and to David RING our Standard Bearer for his unhesitating attendance and exemplary performance at the Association’s Commemorations and Reserve Forces Day Parades.

He reminded all members that there were still copies of the 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF History “Boldly & Faithfully” for sale.

# FRONTLINE

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

The Chairman thanked Jo Ross, wife of Association member, Graham Ross for her creation of a beautifully stitched double bed sized patchwork quilt with complementary themes commemorating the end of World War I. Graham and Jo have generously donated this quilt to the Association. The unique masterpiece is valued in excess of \$2,500 and involved untold hours of painstaking work. A future heirloom!

He also thanked Mrs Shirley Drum for the magnificent crocheted rugs which she has once again donated to the Association for raffle prizes.

Jim HURT brought to notice that Remembrance Day this year was the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death in 1998 of the revered and gallant Commanding Officer of 2/19 Australian Infantry Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Groves Wright ANDERSON VC MC whose ashes together with his wife Edith are interred at the Norwood Crematorium CANBERRA ACT. There is also a plaque commemorating his service at a Rest Area named in his honour located on the Memorial Drive on the eastern side of the Federal Highway at Lake George NSW.

The Chairman advised that 1/19 RNSWR will Exercise their Right of Freedom of Entry to the City of Bathurst on SAT 10 NOV 2018 at 1100h and all Association members are invited to attend as spectators.

## NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The Chairman reminded the meeting that it had been "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 Wagga Wagga NSW on the weekend 25-26-27 OCTOBER 2019.

**CARRIED**

As accommodation at Wagga Wagga NSW is likely to be at a premium on the AGM weekend 25-27 October 2019 members are especially reminded to make early bookings for their accommodation to avoid disappointment.

The following is the Outline Plan for the 2019 AGM weekend at Wagga Wagga NSW:

<b>MEET &amp; GREET FUNCTION</b> CLUB TBA	1800-2130h	FRI 25 OCT 19
<b>WREATH LAYING</b> WAGGA WAGGA RSL MEMORIAL PARK	1030h	SAT 26 OCT 19
<b>PRESENTATION BY</b> LTCOL Peter McGUINNESS MBE OAM RFD ED 1400h		SAT 26 OCT 19
VENUE &TIMING TBC		
<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b>	1530h	SAT 26 OCT 19
VENUE TBC		
<b>REUNION DINNER</b> VENUE TBC	1800h for 1900h	SAT 26 OCT 19

## CO-ORD ARRANGEMENTS

Association Vice President Mike PASS will liaise with Clubs in the Wagga Wagga area to arrange accommodation reservations and the booking of facilities and rooms and catering arrangements for the functions at selected venues.

## CLOSURE:

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 1608 H.

.....  
CHAIRMAN

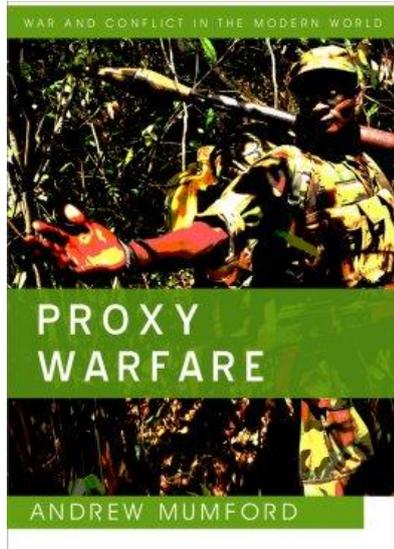
# FRONTLINE

## BOOK REVIEW

### PROXY WARFARE

Andrew Mumford  
Polity, 2013, 141pp  
ISBN-13: 978-0-7456-5183-7

#### REVIEWED BY John DONOVAN



Andrew Mumford, a Lecturer in Politics and International Relations at the University of Nottingham, has written a short survey of proxy warfare. He reviews the recent rise of proxy war, covering conflicts from the Spanish Civil War to recent days.

Mumford notes that it is not only superpowers that have resorted to proxy war, as non-state actors like Hizballah have also found it useful. With the decline of traditional conflict, he sees an increasing role for proxy war.

Mumford attempts to define proxy war, using the Spanish Civil War as an example. In that case, he sees Germany and Italy fighting a war of intervention, with their own military personnel deployed, while the Soviet Union fought a proxy war through its sponsorship of the International Brigades. His distinction, however, seems to lose its clarity when the early (advisory) period of the Vietnam War and the recent deployment of Chinese personnel into parts of Africa come under discussion, and are both regarded as proxy wars.

Drawing a distinction between the deployment of formed military units and of thousands of 'advisers' seems like a debate on the number of angels that can dance on the head of a pin – interesting to theologians, but of limited practical value. His dismissal of the potential role of NGOs and the UN as participants in proxy wars also seems to discount too easily the effect of their presence, which allows governments and their opponents to focus on fighting, by relieving them of much responsibility for refugees and other casualties. Mumford has chapters on the appeal of proxy wars, who engages in them, how they are fought, and the future and continuing appeal of proxy wars. There is some discussion of the rise of private military companies, with their perceived benefit of moving the political costs of casualties

away from governments but, surprisingly, no mention is made of forces such as the French Foreign Legion or the Ghurkhas. Such forces also move the political pain of casualties elsewhere, but they provide greater control to their sponsoring government.

Perhaps Mumford's clear disdain for companies such as Sandline and Blackwater explains his reluctance to look too closely there, albeit he does mention the possibility that the UN might at some stage have to consider the use of private military companies. In this context, some less developed nations already seem to use their armed forces effectively as UN mercenaries, deploying them to gain the payments that accrue from the UN.

Mumford forecasts more proxy wars in the future, as states become reluctant to commit their own troops to conflicts. Also, regional powers are now using proxy war more often. He sees the jihadist use of proxy wars as particularly concerning, because of the 'perpetuity of the jihadist interpretation of their struggle'. Those commanded by their religion to ensure its supremacy will, in his view, continue to fight an eternal holy war until victory is attained. This is not a happy prospect!

The book would be easier to read if Mumford did not employ numerous multi-syllable words where a few short ones would suffice. His propensity for complex academic language ('multitheoretical understanding', 'relevance of certain tenets from alternative theoretical schools'), and trite statements of the obvious ('calculations made by states and non-state actors ... are predicated upon an inescapable acknowledgement of self-interest') also doesn't help. The occasional grammatical infelicity jars ('hard' and 'soft' are not verbs).

Overall, this is potentially an interesting book, but it is not easy to dig the gems from the surrounding layers of over burden.



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 2018 Newsletter:*

Sometimes they would pull down a pump several times, and then, as a last resort, would clean out the bearings and grease them and then it would go. They always left it to the last moment of a flood to move a pump and frequently the water caught us before we lifted it from one crazy platform to another. When that happened the panic knew no limit. I don't know how they revived an electric motor that had become saturated with thick oily water, but however they did it, it was out of commission for that particular job, and it had to be replaced somehow. Often we would have to move the pumps up several times to keep clear of the water, but they never learnt to shift it more than the bare minimum the first time. Whole levels would be filled right up with water and have to be abandoned until we caught up. The bottom level was out of commission for over a month on one occasion.

It was a blessing to the miners who usually worked in the foul sweat-box, but it was on the nose for us. But we got it pumped out the end, and they had to go back into a much fouler sweat-box flooded with mud and slime. Carrying the pipes up the stairs was the job that played on our weakened condition. Our shoulders were hardened and our muscles more accustomed to it, but custom had no power to deal with the great weakness of our bodies. We strained ourselves to lift over each single step, and there were more than two thousand steps in the longest carry. It was courting death to bump the roof where rocks were so low that we had to double up to pass under them. Most of our bosses realised how much this was taking out of us and where possible, left the pipes where they were, or let us carry them up to the nearest tunnel to be carried up later, one at a time. Providence put a shoulder to the wheel, too, and when a nice stack was built up in a particularly dangerous tunnel that had already earnt one of us a month off, the entire roof caved in, burying the pipes and leaving the place in such a mess that they were never able to recover the pipes while we were there.

But the pipes kept accumulating and this brought about our undoing, for a No. 1. spotted the heap and turned on a blitz. The result was a succession of days in which we specialised in pipe carrying until we looked like hunchbacks. It reached a climax when old Takamota, who was particularly allergic to reprimand from above, was put in charge of us. Normally a bludger, he was very much the opposite when he got pressure from the No.1's. He stood over us the whole time and kept us at it. The pipes were eight to ten feet long, four inches in diameter and filled with rust,

and had large flanges at the end. He made us carry one each. In that day we did well over ten thousand steps with the villainous burdens, scarcely knowing from one step to another how much farther we could go. After each journey it seemed impossible to believe that we would be sent on another one. Each single step took a mighty effort, and we forced our aching muscles on solely because we knew that if we dropped our load we would never be able to pick it up again. Other parties knocked off, making it certain that we were on our last trip, but back we went again. We continued until we had completely cleared a huge dump, finishing by taking a few odd small pieces strung together with rice leaf ropes. Then we were ordered to hurry up for the train.



On the way I just dropped down wherever we had to wait. I was sure that if the last flight of stairs had been 273 steps instead of 272, I could not have done it - that I had exploited Pete's philosophy to the limit. The fresh air outside revived me a bit, but only gave me power to force aching muscles a little farther. The guard at the camp was finicky. He made us repeat our movements and our numbering. To crown it all there was the hollowing voice of the Lolly-Lopper. Probably this meant half an hour's numbering at attention. Then suddenly I saw that the others had turned left and were moving off almost as a mob, and that the Lolly-Lopper was not abusing us for miss-numbering, but the guard for holding us up. Those in front were almost running, and suddenly a mighty cheer went up running along the line. Then excited voices shouted in my ear: There's a Red Cross parcel each and they're on our beds!

The deep bed of the valley with its now golden stream splashing through a few uncovered black rocks, is a magnificent sight, and the little square patches of blackness that penetrates deep into the rough bulges in the hill-side - the homes of the miners - break up the fairy-like pattern in a quaint and fanciful way. There is a real thrill in crushing a deep footprint in the frosted mass as you struggle through it - but you pay for it. The melting snow takes a powerful coldness, and mixes into the dirt to form a cold filthy slush that soaks your feet and your clothing. Most of us had practically no boots. Our boots were taken from us in Singapore and we were given rubber sandshoes, which, we were told, had to last four months and later six.

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

# FRONTLINE DOWN MEMORY LANE



**2/19 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION AIF SOLDIERS – MALAYA 1941**  
Above may be : Bill GAVEL - Bill DEMPSEY - Lance CROWLEY ? Roy COTTON (far right)  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF MRS Shirley DRUM  
(sister of Roy and Arthur COTON)



**OCTU DINING IN NIGHT – A DRINK WITH THE FAMOUS LAIRD OF WALLABADAH**  
L to R: Tom COOPER, Andrew GIBBS, Harry COLE &  
Major General J. M. L. MACDONALD, AO, MBE, RFD, ED, MA (Oxon)  
PHOTO COURTESY OF MAJ Harry COLE