

FRONTLINE

A DEFENCE SERVICE
JOURNAL

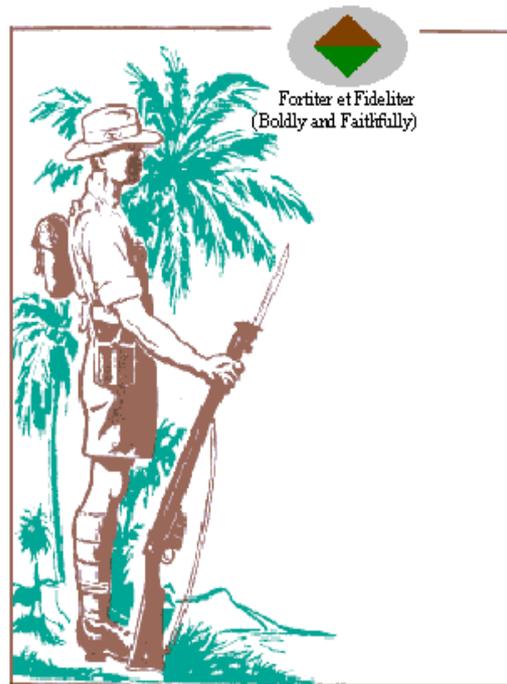
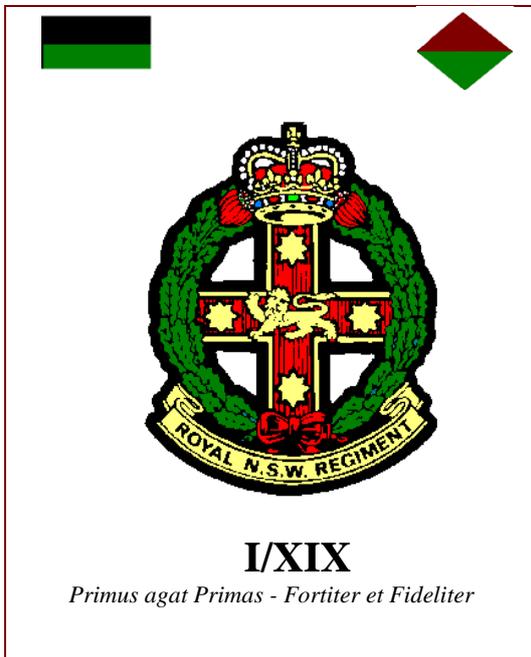


The Official Journal of

THE 1st NINETEENTH & **THE 2nd NINETEENTH**

1/19 RNSWR ASSOCIATION

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



As I start this edition of my contribution to *Frontline* I realise that this is the 75th time you have been subjected to the details of activities and I wonder whether anyone, apart from my most loyal adherents, even bothers. More importantly, it also reminds me that our intrepid Editor and Association Secretary has been putting this excellent magazine together for twenty years and that, believe me, is no mean task. We are all indebted to Bob for his tireless efforts behind the scenes. As I have said many times, both publicly and privately, without Bob there would be no Association. In saying that, I do not discount the contribution made by all members of my Executive and members of the Committee. They all contribute an outstanding amount for the benefit of our members but without the “glue” of our Honorary Secretary the Association would, like so many of our kindred associations, fade into the pages of history. So, as we start another year, I say to Bob Pink, on behalf of all members, exceptionally well done! We thank you for your service! Sadly, once again this page opens with the report of the passing of SGT Andrew Easton, a former Assault Pioneer Sergeant in Support Company, who passed away on 14 December after a brave battle with cancer. Andrew was not a member of the Association but will be known to many of the members who served with him in the Battalion. He was farewelled at the Lake Albert Crematorium on 21 December. Jim Hurt & Bob Burrage represented the Association at Andrew’s farewell

This serves to remind us of our own mortality! The brave men of 2/19 Battalion AIF are dwindling and now the men and women who served in 19 RNSWR and 1/19 RNSWR are reaching the age when we are seeing, more and more, their names in the obituary column. We need your assistance in recruiting new members to ensure that the Association continues to be strong and to ensure that the legacy of those who went before us – in World War 1, World War 2 and in the years since 1966 - are remembered.

The Australia Day Honours List contained details of Awards to a number of eminently deserving recipients among whom were the Commander, 2nd Division MAJGEN Kathryn Campbell, CSC who was made an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia for her service in a number of very senior Public Service posts, but who was also recognised for her exemplary service in the Australian Army Reserve. COL John Haynes, OAM who was made a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for his work in bring the Boer War Memorial to a successful completion after many years of effort. LTCOL John Howells, a long-time friend of the Association who was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division for his work as a military historian and his enormous contribution to the 1st/15th Royal New South Wales Lancers and finally, former RSM of 1/19 RNSWR, WO1 Brad Doyle who was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in the Military Division for his work in 1/19 RNSWR and subsequently in the Royal Australian Regiment. On behalf of all members I have conveyed warmest congratulations to the recipients.

On 2 February, Bob and I were guests at the 1/19 RNSWR Officers and Senior NCOs Dining-In Night at Romani Barracks in Orange. As this was also the occasion of the incoming Commanding Officer’s “briefing” weekend the Battalion corporals were also present at the dinner, together with a number of former COs. A very pleasant evening and I took the opportunity to present the 2018 Peryman Awards on the night. Interestingly, all of the awards went to members of Charlie (the Werriwa) Company and this was a very pleasing introduction to the Battalion for some of our newest members.

As we prepared to commemorate the 77th Anniversary of the Fall of Singapore in 1942 I was advised of the passing of Mrs Peggy Drinkwater. Peggy, with her husband Alan who served in 19 National Service Battalion, has been a staunch supporter of the Association since they joined many years ago and her smiling face and warm good nature brightened the Annual Reunions over the years. Sadly, this lovely lady was farewelled on 15 February and our commitments in Canberra prevented Bob and me from attending to say farewell to a valued member of our “family”. I have conveyed the condolences of the Association to Alan.

15 February saw a very large contingent of members and friends assembled in Canberra for the Commemoration of the Fall of Singapore in 1942. Members will recall, from last year, that the Director of the Australian War Memorial has committed to the Last Post Ceremony on this day each year being a commemoration of a member of the 8th Australian Infantry Division killed in the Malayan/Singapore Campaign or one who perished in captivity in the subsequent years after 1942. This year saw the commemoration of two men from 2nd/19th Battalion AIF – Roy and Arthur COTTON – one of whom fell in the fighting in Malaya and died at Parit Sulong, and the other fell in fighting on Singapore Island prior to the surrender. Over 100 people from the Association and friends of family of 2nd/19th and 8th Division members including a very large contingent of family members of the COTTON brothers. Association member, Shirley Drum – a sister, travelled from Yamba in northern NSW with her daughter, Mary and gathered scattered family together and Dorothy Sargent, also a sister, travelled from Western Australia with her daughter Miranda Divine to participate. Wreaths in memory of Roy and Arthur were laid in tribute by Dorothy and Shirley. Michael Drum, Shirley’s son, laid a wreath in tribute from the family. Dorothy also laid a spray of flowers in purple and green as a special tribute. The Commanding Officer, 1/19 RNSWR, LTCOL Michael Buchanan CSM accompanied by the RSM, 1/19 RNSWR, WO1 Jamie Osborne laid a wreath in tribute on behalf of the Officers and Soldiers of 1/19 RNSWR and I laid a wreath on behalf of all members of the Association. Those attending are too numerous to mention here and I am sure you will see a number of familiar faces in Bob’s report

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on the occasion. I do, however, want to mention and thank MAJ GEN Kathryn Campbell AO, CSC and COL John Brennan for taking time from their busy schedules to join us in this tribute and also Association Patron, COL Brian Martyn RFD, MAJ Ben Biddington, Officer Commanding C Company, 1/19 RNSWR and Mr John Lee, President, 3 RNSWR Association, for being with us on this very special occasion. I would be remiss if I did not also thank the members of my Executive, Bob Pink, Mick Pass and Sandy Howard for the work that each of them put in to making the day the spectacular success that it was and last, but by no means least, Mrs Di Elliott for untold hours of work, research and organisation over a protracted period of a year, to see that everything ran like a Swiss watch. I know the ceremony is organised – in an exemplary fashion - by the Event Services Team of the Australian War Memorial but it would not have been the success it was without the input of Di Elliott.

As a prelude to the Last Post Ceremony the Association, on Friday morning, conducted its own Commemorative Service at the Memorial Plaques set in honour of the 1st and 19th Battalions AIF and the 2nd/1st and 2nd/19th Australian Infantry Battalions AIF. The 1st Battalion plaques were laid by the now disbanded 1st Battalion Association and the 19th Battalion plaques were laid by this Association. 80 members and friends gathered at the Plaques on the Western Walkway at 1100 hrs for the short, but very moving commemorative service in which prayers were led by Chaplain Steve Neuhaus RFD, discovered through the efforts of Sandy Howard, who, it turns out, is a former 2nd in Command of 1/19 RNSWR. Wreaths were laid on each of the four plaques, by LTCOL Michael Buchanan CSM on the 19th Battalion AIF, Mrs Di Elliott on the 2nd/19th Infantry Battalion AIF; MAJ Bob Weir on the 1st Battalion AIF and LTCOL Gary Beltrame, RFD on the 2nd/1st Infantry Battalion AIF. Again, we are indebted to Di Elliott for taking the time to “clean up” the 19th Battalion plaques and then, at my request, ask her contacts at the Australian War Memorial, to clean the 1st Battalion plaques also. I am not sure whether it was her sweet talking or whether she scared the Event Services staff but I have never seen plaques washed, dusted, swept, washed again, swept again so many times in my life. Once again, I can only commend the Events Services staff at the AWM. We didn't give them any “official” warning of this ceremony – because we did not have the details – and yet the rose to the occasion, provided us with chairs and “protected” our service from disruption without demur.

Our next sortie on a packed schedule was a lunch that the Association had arranged at the Mercure Hotel where we had 70 plus members and guests sit down to a very lovely lunch giving members the chance to catch up in a relaxed atmosphere before the afternoon's activities. After lunch Di Elliott had arranged for a “tour” of some of the AWM exhibits and a talk by Stephanie Hume from the Memorial's staff. I was not able to attend this presentation and because the numbers attending kept increasing exponentially the location kept being moved to accommodate the numbers, there were a few problems but members were treated to insights that they might not have had the opportunity to view otherwise. Again, an example of the excellent work carried out by the AWM staff and volunteers. In all a memorable day due to the efforts of a very large number of people, named and unnamed, to whom the Association expresses its very sincere thanks.

The next “spectacular” will be ANZAC Day 2019. I have no details in relation to this except to say that the Harbour Cruise on the ‘Aussie Magic’ is on and the boat will depart from Commissioner's Steps at Circular Quay at 12.30 pm. I am sure that our intrepid Secretary will have further details elsewhere in this edition which is being rushed into print for that very reason. I urge you to support this activity. If you cannot face the March, then join us for the cruise. It is a great day on Sydney Harbour – rain or shine!

Until we meet again my warmest best wishes to you all and, as the excessive heat of Summer turns to the cool of Autumn, take care of yourselves, your loved ones and look out for those in need.

Roger Perry

CHANGE OF AGM 2019 VENUE

FROM WAGGA WAGGA TO GOSFORD RSL CLUB

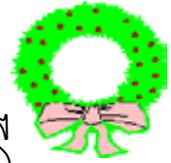


As members know, your Committee holds the venues where we conduct our re-unions to a high standard and, in twenty years, that standard has not been lowered. The decision to hold our 2019 Reunion in Wagga Wagga was taken by me as an opportunity to foster a closer association with A Company, 1/19 RNSWR and other elements of the Battalion. I broke the golden rule! “If you are going to suggest a venue for a reunion present the Committee with a fully researched plan in advance of the vote”.

Mick Pass made valiant attempts to find a suitable venue and settled on the Australian Rules Football Club as the only possible alternative, with both the venues of the RSL Club booked. Sadly, as planning progressed, it became patently obvious that the Australian Rules Club could not meet the standard we required and, reluctantly, we decided to move the 2019 AGM and Reunion to GOSFORD RSL CLUB on the same dates - 25 – 27 OCTOBER 2019. Michael has also booked 25 rooms at the GALAXY MOTEL & 20 rooms at the ASHWOOD MOTEL both of which enjoy the advantage of being located in close proximity to the Club.

Any inconvenience to members who may have already undertaken bookings with Wagga Wagga Australian Rules Football Club Motel is sincerely regretted.

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VALE GOOD FRIENDS



2797034 SERGEANT Andrew Kenneth EASTON
Assault Pioneer Platoon Sergeant, Support Company
1st/19th Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment

Jim Hurt advised with sadness on reading in the Canberra Times of Andy's passing at home peacefully after a brave battle with cancer on 14 December 2018. Affectionately known in the Battalion as "Two Dogs" Andy was born on 30 October 1950 and served with the Australian Regular Army Supplement (National Service) from 20 April 1971 to 19 October 1972 which included service with 1 Recruit Training Battalion and 3 Training

Battalion (Infantry Corps Wing) and 8th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment. He re-enlisted with 1st/19th Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment on 14 July 1973 where he served until 20 October 1988. A much respected Senior Non Commissioned Officer whose service and comradeship was highly valued.

His service record shows he was awarded the Reserve Force Medal but sadly no mention of the Australian Defence Medal – which Andy had probably not bothered to apply for. He is survived by his beloved sister Susan and daughter Alice and sons Edmund and Angus. Captain Bob Burrage BM, RFD and Jim Hurt represented the Association at Andy's farewell at Lake Albert Crematorium on 21 December 2018 and our thanks to Bob for the photo taken on the day of Andy's farewell and his service record.



2791632 GUNNER Albert KOLBUCH
1st Field Regiment and 4th Field Regiment Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery

Alby was born on 26 September 1948 and sadly passed away on 25 January 2019 at his residence at Nerang QLD. He served in 1st Fd Regt RAA - 7 JAN 1970 to 4 FEB 1970 and with 4th Fd Regt RAA - from 5 FEB 1970 to 10 DEC 1970 during their tours of South Vietnam.

He was educated at Griffith NSW and completed schooling at St. Edmund's College in 1967 where he was on the swim team and played rugby for the 2nd XV. Alby's beloved wife June predeceased him in 1999 and he is survived by his beloved son Mark.

He was farewelled at the Southport QLD Lawn Cemetery on 7 February 2019.



177274 AIRCRAFTWOMAN Mavis Joyce KIRLEY (nee THORNCRAFT)
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Mavis was born at Eugowra NSW on 17 August 1925 and her daughter Mrs Lesley Derham advised with sadness of her passing at Southern Cross Care Cootamundra NSW on 27 September 2018. Mavis was the widow of NX72398 PTE Walter Edward KIRLEY of 2/20 Australian Infantry Battalion AIF who pre-deceased her on 4 April 2007. Mavis enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force on 13 July 1944 at Sydney and served with Headquarters Eastern Area Point Piper until discharging on 2 May 1946. Loving mother and mother in law of Iain and Beth, Diana, Annie and James, Lesley and Bruce. Adored grandmother and great grandmother. Mavis was farewelled at her Memorial Service at Cootamundra Uniting Church on 22 October 2018.

Lest We Forget

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COMING EVENTS 2019

THU	25 APR 2019	0945h	ANZAC DAY SYDNEY FORM UP IN SPRING STREET REUNION VENUE: SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE	SYDNEY	Jacket & Tie Decorations & Medals REUNION SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE
SUN	20 JUL 2019	0930h	POZIERES DAY <i>TO BE CONFIRMED</i>	St COLUMBA CHURCH Ocean Street WOOLLAHRA	Coat & Tie Decorations & Medals
SAT	To be confirmed		ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT OFFRS/WOS/SNCOS DINNER		Mess Dress / Coat & Tie Miniature medals
SUN	To be confirmed		ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE		Coat & Tie Decorations & Medals
THU	15 AUG 2019	1045h	VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Refreshments after Service at the Combined Services RSL 5-7 Barrack St SYDNEY Coat & Tie Decorations & Medals
WED	04 SEP 2019	1030h	77th ANNIVERSARY BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA DAY	SYDNEY CENOTAPH	Coat & Tie - Decorations & Medals

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE FROM WAGGA WAGGA TO GOSFORD
21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & REUNION DINNER WEEKEND – GOSFORD RSL NSW

FRI	25 OCT 2019	1830h to 2130h	MEET & GREET FUNCTION	 GOSFORD RSL CLUB The Association has reserved 25 rooms at the GALAXY MOTEL which is co-located with Gosford RSL Club 26 Central Coast Highway WEST GOSFORD NSW Reservations/details Ph: 02 4323 1711 & 20 rooms at the ASHWOOD MOTEL Located across the road from Gosford RSL Club 73 Central Coast Highway WEST GOSFORD NSW Reservations/details Ph: 02 4324 6577 Quote "1/19 RSWR" for discount when making booking at both of the above motels PLEASE MAKE YOUR BOOKINGS EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT	
SAT	26 OCT 2019	1030h	WREATH LAYING CEREMONY		
SAT	26 OCT 2019	TBC	BUS TOUR of the scenic & picturesque Central Coast including LUNCH at the renowned Royals on RSL		
SAT	26 OCT 2019	TBC	MILITARY PRESENTATION by LTCOL Peter McGuinness MBE OAM RFD ED		
SAT	26 OCT 2019	1530h	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING		
SAT	26 OCT 2019	1800 for 1900h	AGM REUNION DINNER GOSFORD RSL CLUB		
SUN	27 OCT 2019		Return Travel Home		
MON	11 NOV 2019	1045h	REMEMBRANCE DAY	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)



ANZAC DAY SYDNEY 2019

28 MEMBERS & GUESTS HAVE SO FAR INDICATED THEIR ATTENDANCE AND WE NEED ANOTHER 32 - LAST YEAR'S CRUISE SET SAIL WITH 55 IF YOU CAN MAKE IT WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE AGAIN THIS YEAR

PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN THE REPLY PROFORMA ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO:

THE HON SECRETARY Bob PINK
PO BOX 224 INGLEBURN NSW 1890 BY 11 APRIL 2019
Telephone: 0414 907 427

OR President Roger PERRY
Tele: 0414 961 969 Fax(02) 9130 0137

PICK UP: 12:30 PM following the ANZAC Day March at the usual Embarkation point at **COMMISSIONER'S STEPS CIRCULAR QUAY** returning to Circular Quay at 4:30 PM



Aussie Magic is a 26 metre luxury sailing catamaran with a spacious outdoor entertaining deck, luxurious interior space and the unique feature of its opening Targa roof. There is no better way to enjoy all the delights that Sydney Harbour has to offer! You have the rare choice of enjoying smooth cruising with the engines on or hoisting the sails and enjoying the sounds of vibrant Sydney Harbour. We have again been afforded a **special price of \$90 per person (usually \$120 per person) which includes the vessel's Banquet and Unlimited Beverage Package** together with exclusive charter for the Association on the day. **Note:** A recent quote from another prominent Cruise vessel was \$75 per head (minimum of 70 persons) and did not include refreshments ! which were extra. **PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE ARE FREE & THE COST FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN 5 & 16 YEARS IS \$60 PER PERSON**



CRUISE PACKAGE Includes:-

Personalised event co-ordinator to assist you in the planning of your celebration **Exclusive charter of the Aussie Magic for 4 hours cruising the sheltered waters of Sydney Harbour**
Cruise director on board to assist and ensure our event is seamless



Unlimited beverage package to include local Beers, Australian Red, White & Sparkling Wine, Soft drinks, Juice and Water

Upper and Lower level will be set up to our specific requirements
Professional uniformed crew providing exceptional service



MENU

Canapés on Arrival

From the Buffet

Grilled Chicken breast with honey mustard sauce
Fresh Prawns
Antipasto platter of cured meats, marinated vegetables and cheeses
Penne pasta tossed in fresh tomato, garlic, and basil
Linguine with porcini and mixed mushroom sauce with a touch of fresh cream,
Parsley and Parmesan
Au-gratin (baked thin slices of potato with onion, garlic and cheese)
Baby spinach with roasted pumpkin, semi-dried tomatoes and fire-roasted capsicum
Mixed Garden salad - Salad of mixed greens with cherry tomatoes, cucumber,
Spanish onion, olives and herbed vinaigrette
Crisp, freshly baked dinner rolls

From the Dessert Buffet

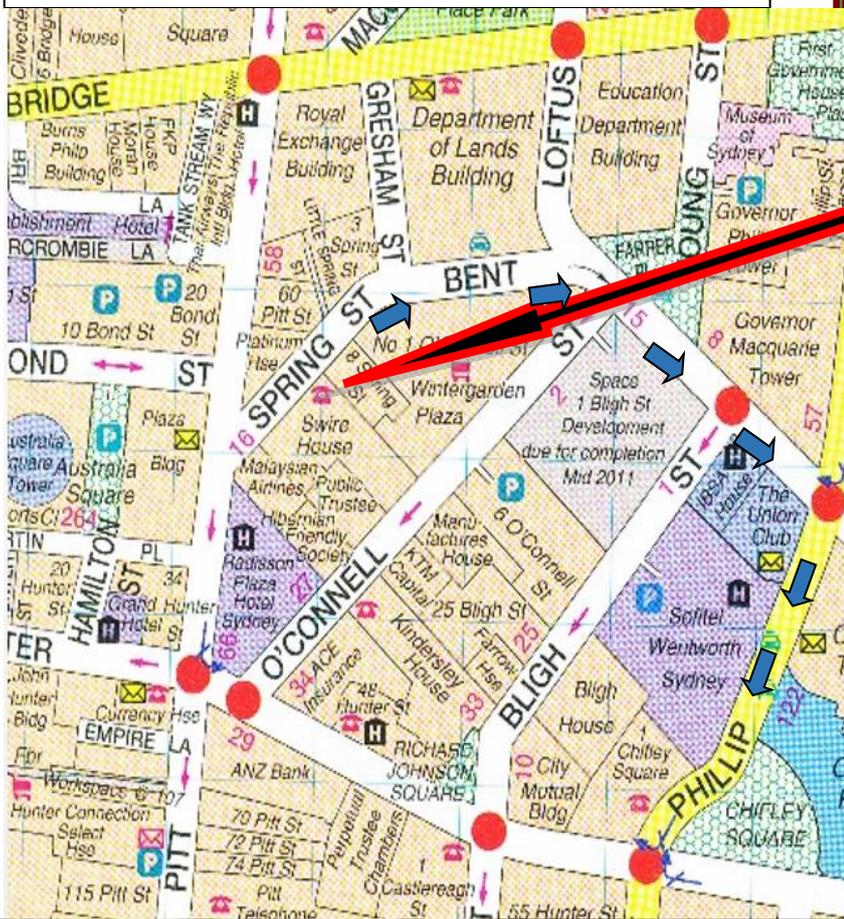
Chef's selection of cakes served with whipped cream
Fresh seasonal fruit platters
Freshly brewed tea and coffee

ANZAC DAY MARCH SYDNEY THU 25 APRIL 2019

NOTE NEW FORMING UP POINT

1/19 RNSWR & 2/19 BATTALION AIF
FORM UP AT 9:45 A.M.
IN SPRING STREET

Please check with the next issue of the NSW RSL REVELLE for confirmation / changes to details on this page. Limited info – if any has been “coming” from NSW RSL. If we’re not at the R/V please phone Roger PERRY 0414 961 969 and we’ll tell you where we are !



MARCH ROUTE: (as Last Year's ?)

Spring Street – Bent Street,
Phillip Street,
Elizabeth Street. Proceed
down Elizabeth Street –
“Eyes Left” at the Hyde Park
ANZAC War Memorial
thence left into Liverpool
Street for dispersal at
conclusion of March.
thence
TRAIN FROM MUSEUM RAILWAY
STATION to CIRCULAR QUAY
RAILWAY STATION (if attending
Harbour Cruise Reunion)



THE COMMANDING OFFICER

1st/19th Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment 8237131 Lieutenant Colonel Mick Buchanan, CSM

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan was born in Newcastle and completed schooling on the Central Coast of New South Wales.

He completed his officer training at the Australian Defence Force Academy and the Royal Military College, graduating in 1998.

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan commanded a rifle platoon at 5th/7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, deploying to East Timor in this role.

As a junior captain he was posted as the Adjutant of 25th/49th Battalion, The Royal Queensland Regiment. For the majority of this posting he was the Battalion Operations Officer.

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan was posted to 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment as the Signals Platoon Commander and Operations Captain. He deployed as an Operations Captain to Iraq and East Timor. Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan was awarded a Deputy Commander Joint Operations Command Silver Commendation for his achievements as the S33 for Timor Leste Battle Group 3. He also completed a posting as the S33 at Headquarters 3rd Brigade.

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan completed company command at 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, and was awarded a Conspicuous Service Medal for his leadership and achievements as an Officer Commanding.

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan was posted to the United States for two years to complete US Army Staff College and a post-graduate operational planning course. On return from the United States, he was seconded to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet as a policy advisor. His last posting in the Regular Army was as a Staff Officer Grade 1 in Head Modernisation and Strategic Planning Division in Army Headquarters.

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan transferred to the Army Reserve in 2017. His first posting in the Army Reserve was as a Career Advisor in the Directorate of Reserve Officer Career Management.

He was appointed as Commanding Officer 1st/19th Royal New South Wales Regiment in January 2019.

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan is a graduate of the United States Command and General Staff College and School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS). He has completed a Bachelor of Science majoring in Chemistry and Mathematics, Master of Project Management and Master of Strategy.

Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan is married to Natalie and has two children, Oliver (10) and Amelia (8).





THE REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR

WARRANT OFFICER CLASS ONE JAMIE OSBORNE
1st/19th Battalion, The Royal New South Wales Regiment

Warrant Officer Osborne was born on 02 October 1970 in Kerang, Victoria. He enlisted into the Australian Regular Army on 04 November 1987. After basic and initial training he was posted to the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment where he would subsequently serve at all rank levels. During his postings within the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment he has served in all three rifle companies, and Support Company. Additionally, he has served at the Parachute Training School on three separate occasions as an instructor, cell manager and doctrine desk officer, the School of Military Engineering as part of Assault Pioneer Section, and as the Operations Warrant Officer of the 4th/3rd Battalion, The Royal New South Wales Regiment.

In 2016, Warrant Officer Osborne was posted to the Army Command School in Waiouru New Zealand as the Field Warrant Officer to the Officer Cadet School of New Zealand. A role that required him to design, manage and schedule the field training of the New Zealand Commissioning Course, which is an 11 month course that trains up to 72 officer cadets from eight separate nations annually. Additional to the requirements of the course, he managed a team of 12 Regular and Reserve Force senior non-commissioned officers, and soldiers who deliver in excess of 132 days of field based training per year in New Zealand and overseas in Brunei, Fiji, or Papua New Guinea.

In January 2018 Warrant Officer Osborne was promoted to Warrant Officer Class One and was appointed as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st/19th Battalion, The Royal New South Wales Regiment.

Warrant Officer Osborne has deployed on three operations in leadership or advisory roles. These include: Operation CITADEL/TANAGER in 2002 as the Assault Pioneer Sergeant of the 3rd Battalion Group; Operation SLIPPER in 2012 as the Company Sergeant Major of Mentoring Team Bravo of the 3rd Battalion Task Group; and on Operation HIGHROAD in 2015 as the Training Advisor (S7) within the Special Operations Advisory Group (a multinational unit led by the United Kingdom) advising the Ministry of Interiors, General Command of Police Special Units.

Throughout his service, Warrant Officer Osborne has, been fortunate to have instructed at five schools (Germany, United Kingdom, New Zealand and two United States Army schools), he has completed multiple Indo-Pacific training tours, representational duties on Exercise Long Look in 2007, Overseas Education and Training with the United States Army, and instructional appointments to the Royal Military College - Duntroon, 2nd Division and Combined Arms Training Centre-Live.

Warrant Officer Osborne has been married to his wife Cherie for 23 years and they have two children Rhiannon and Eric. He enjoys traveling and two sports: skydiving and scuba diving, of which he holds professional instructional ratings for both sports.

FRONTLINE

A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR OF MALVERN UK

Malvern Town Council

28-30 Belle Vue Terrace
Malvern
Worcestershire
WR14 4PZ



Councillor C Palmer
Mayor

Telephone: 01684 566667

townclerk@malvern-tc.org.uk
www.malverntowncouncil.org.uk

14 January 2019

Dear Friends,

It was a surprise and delight to receive the package from you containing the December edition of your excellent Frontline journal and a copy of the photograph showing us laying the wreath at Sydney cenotaph on 11th November.

I am sure that you know that 11th November is a very important date on the calendar for us in the UK and, although I am aware that Australians commemorate Anzac Day in April each year, it was wonderful to see so many people at the cenotaph paying their respects for those who lost their lives in the Great War and later conflicts.

It was a special day for Tony and I as we initially joined the bell ringers at St Andrews Cathedral to ring for the Civic Service and then made our way to Hyde Park. But the greatest honour was to be asked to lay a wreath at such a prestigious occasion.

Sydney is my favourite city and hopefully we will return again soon and we will make contact with our friends of the 1st and 2nd Nineteenth Battalions once more.

We wish everyone health and wealth for the future.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia + Tony".

Cynthia and Tony Palmer

Mayor of Malvern and Consort



FRONTLINE



DONATIONS



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

SGT	Rick	AVERY
MR	Ralph	BARDSLEY
LCPL	Geoffrey	BLAIR
MRS	Joy	BOURKE
MRS	Betty	CLENDENNING
MAJ	Harry	COLE
LCPL	Brad	COLLIS
MRS	Jane	CROWE
MRS	Christopher	CROWE
MRS	Shirley	DRUM
WO2	John	ELLIOTT
MAJ	Ken	FITZGERALD
CPL	Tom & Mrs Jeannie	FLETCHER
PTE	Geoff	GREEN
MRS	Christine	HORROCKS
MISS	Dorothy	HOWARD
LT	Peter	HUGHES
MRS	Beryl	IRWIN
CPL	Charles	JENSEN
SGT	Mal	LE COMTE
MRS	Margaret	LONG
MR	David	MARINER
MRS	Pattie	McALEER
MAJ	Ken	McKAY
MRS	Ethel	MELVILLE
PTE	Graham	NEGUS
PTE	Tony	OHLBACH
SSGT	Mick	PASS
WO2	Ron	RICHMOND
MRS	Dorothy	SARGENT
LTCOL	Geoffrey	STEVENTON
MR	Glen	STEWART
MR	Stephen	WINBANK
CAPT	Dennis	ZALUNARDO

NEW MEMBERS

No new members have joined since December 2018

FRONTLINE SICK REPORT

OUR BEST WISHES TO MEMBERS
Norma JAMIESON and Dorothy HOWARD
following recent spells in hospital
and Glen SCRIVEN

who has returned home after his stay in hospital



Just an update on Glen ,
heading towards 8th July 2019 &
nearly 102 years young ?
Just shows what a Good Scotch,
Good women, Good training &
Jungle Exercise will do for you
!!!!
Hope you're all keeping well !
Regards Gleness

Get Well
Soon



CONGRATULATIONS

To Felicity JESS and Wayne STEWARD
on their marriage at Woodstock NSW
on MONDAY 31st December 2018



To Shirley DRUM on her Outstanding Service Award to
the Red Cross for her 40 magnificent years of service



Yamba Red Cross - special award to a special member

At our last monthly meeting of Yamba Red Cross our Zone Representative Judy Jackson visited us to present a very much deserved Outstanding Service Award to our president Shirley Drum.

Shirley first became interested in Red Cross in 1942 when she was a year 5 student at Hay Primary School. The junior involvement lasted two years ceasing on completion of her primary education. At junior Red Cross level Shirley participated in mini tuckshops and classroom concerts in an endeavour to fundraise. Shirley returned to Red Cross in 1991 when she, along with others established the Yamba Red Cross Branch. Shirley became the foundation secretary and later served in the position of president. Shirley has been a tireless worker and a staunch supporter of Red Cross and over the years has been involved in many fundraising activities. Shirley's major area of participation has been her involvement and organisation of the Red Cross Calling weeks. Shirley organised volunteers from the local high schools, Rotary, Lions International into teams and areas to doorknock. She was very successful at this and raised many thousands of dollars. As well as co-ordinating others to door knock Shirley herself worked tirelessly every day during the advertised collection weeks spending much of each day in Yamba and the surrounding country areas door knocking herself. She did this for many years until age caught up with her. Shirley also was the instigator of the name change from Yamba Red Cross Branch to Yamba Clarence Red Cross Branch. She did this as an acknowledgement to the many women from the Lower Clarence Bowling Clubs who at Shirley's instigation and her involvement with lawn bowls became members of Red Cross. Shirley is considered a very worthy recipient of this award.

Annette Callaghan



Shirley Drum has a lifetime of interest in the work of the Red Cross. Image: Contributed



CONGRATULATIONS



AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS 2019

OFFICER (AO) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA



Major General Kathryn Jane CAMPBELL CSC, Sutton NSW 2620

For distinguished service to public administration through senior roles with government departments, and to the Australian Army Reserve. Department of Social Services: Secretary, since 2017. Department of Human Services: Secretary, 2011-2017. Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations: Deputy Secretary, Tertiary, Youth and International, 2010-2011. Department of Finance (formerly Department of Finance and Deregulation): Deputy Secretary, Budget, 2009-2010. Deputy Secretary, Financial Management, 2005-2009. Division Manager, Social Welfare, 2002-2004. Army Reserve: Assistant Commander, 2nd Division, 2017-2018. Commander, 5th Brigade, 2014-2017. Deputy Commander, Joint Taskforce, Middle East Region, 3 months, 2017. Commander, Sydney University Regiment, 2007-2009. Enlisted, 1989. Community: Board Member, Snowy Hydro Care Helicopter Service Trust, 2012-2016. Awards and recognition includes: Recipient, Public Service Excellence Award, Institute for Governance and Policy/Analysis, 2016. Recipient, Conspicuous Service Cross for 'outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer of the Sydney University Regiment,' 2010.



OFFICER (AO) IN THE MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA



Major General Stephen Hugh PORTER AM, QLD

For distinguished service to the Australian Army and transformation of the Army Reserve through his significant contributions as the Commander 2nd Division Major General Porter provided distinguished service to the nation as Commander 2nd Division, leading and delivering a more ready, more capable, and better trained Army Reserve to meet the operational challenges of the future. His exceptional character and judgement combined with his drive and commitment has resulted in lasting benefits for the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force



MEMBER (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA



Colonel John Sutherland HAYNES OAM, (Retd) Randwick NSW 2031

For significant service to veterans, particularly through the National Boer War Memorial Association. • National President, National Boer War Memorial Association, since 2007. • President, Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association (NSW), 1995-2017. • Active Member, Defence Force Welfare Association (NSW), ongoing. • Active Member, Eastern Sydney Legacy, ongoing. Awards and recognition include: • Awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), 2005.



MEDAL (OAM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

Lieutenant Colonel John HOWELLS RFD (Retd), NSW



For service to community history. National Boer War Memorial Association • Member, New South Wales Committee, current. • Website Publisher and Administrator, current. Royal New South Wales Lancers' Association • Secretary, since 2012. • Commander, Reserve Forces Day Parade, 2005, 2015-2017. • Newsletter Editor, since 2001. • Member, since 1985. New South Wales Lancer Memorial Museum • Secretary, since 2000. • Public Officer, since 2000. • Website Publisher and Administrator, current. • Newsletter Editor, since 1998. • Military Historian/Tour Guide, since 1995. Royal Australian Armoured Corps Corporation • Member, Executive Council, since 2012. Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, New South Wales • Webmaster, since 2006. • Member, Special Interest Group on Military History, since 2008. • Website Publisher and Administrator for numerous organisations including: Army Museum of New South Wales, St Mary's Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia, University of New South Wales Regiment Association; Battle for Australia Association; Australian Reserve Forces Day Council; Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia.



MEDAL (OAM) IN THE MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

Warrant Officer Class One Bradley Michael DOYLE, ACT



For meritorious service as Regimental Sergeant Major of 1st/19th Battalion, the Royal New South Wales Regiment; as Regimental Sergeant Major of 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment; and as Regimental Sergeant Major of Training Task Group Five on Operation OKRA. Warrant Officer Doyle's exemplary service, training expertise and enforcement of rigorous standards, was instrumental in the success of the Australian contribution to coalition operations. His drive, leadership and support to all ranks epitomised his unit's ethos and he was influential in the attainment of the training objectives. Of note was his key role in the preparations of the Battalion's Duke of Gloucester Cup winning section and the devising and evaluating of unit training in 2016, which set the foundations for the realisation of battle-group level capability.



FRONTLINE



CONGRATULATIONS



To Bill and Joan FOGARTY

Hi All,
This photo commemorates our engagement 50 years ago on Bill's 25th birthday. The only thing that hasn't changed is Bill's watch! Time flies.....!!
Love to all,
Joan



From: Rod WHITE

Subject: RSL LifeCare, The War Vet's
Village Narrabeen - Chapel

Hello Bob

There is a memorial glass panel to the various First Battalions including 1/19 RNSWR, within the Chapel at the War Veterans Village, Narrabeen. 1/19 RNSWR is shown at lower right in the enclosed image. It also appears that a 2/19th Plaque is displayed with others on the adjoining walls.

Regards
Rod White



FRONTLINE

COMMEMORATIVE WREATHLAYING - UNIT PLAQUES AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL CANBERRA FRI 15 FEB 2019



FRONTLINE

LAST POST CEREMONY - AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL CANBERRA ACT FRI 15 FEB 2019

HONOURING THE MEMBERS OF THE 8th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION AIF
AND IN PARTICULAR

NX52468 CPL Roy COTTON and NX36763 PTE Arthur COTTON
OF THE 2nd/19th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION AIF



The Ceremony was preceded by a Buffet Luncheon and a briefing by staff of the Australian War Memorial – and the attendance at both functions was very well attended and exceeded expectations



FRONTLINE

LAST POST CEREMONY



FRONTLINE

LAST POST CEREMONY



FRONTLINE

From Carol Bunyan

The Riverine Grazier, Hay, Tuesday 5 August 1941, page 2

Murmurs from Maude

Many readers of the "Grazier" no doubt know that the contributor who used to write for us under this heading is now serving his country with the Aussies in Malaya. We have not had the pleasure of a letter from him but he has sent us a copy of the magazine of the 2/19th Battalion, which is a well produced piece of work which would gladden the heart of anyone who has one of their loved ones serving in that part of the world, and which we greatly appreciate. One amusing incident is related as follows:—"Joey, the battalion's kangaroo mascot, which we found in a Red Cross box during the voyage to Singapore, has had his back in a plaster cast as the result of an accident. The 'roo crashed into a concrete drain while being chased by some native boys. It was rushed to a local veterinary surgeon and is now making good progress. Joey got aboard our transport at Sydney somehow in a large medical supplies box with air holes bored in it; and got off again at Singapore in the same way without anyone being the wiser—or was it a case of the doctor who didn't tell."

After this issue of the "Grazier" reaches Malaya, we will be disappointed if we don't have some Murmurs to Maude from Malaya for publication.

The author of Murmurs from Maude was Alf Campbell (NX35801 Private Alfred James Campbell born Hay in 1906).



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

019199

Alf Campbell is the third man from the right in the AWM photo copied from their website. He had been wounded & had almost all of his left arm amputated.

Dear Bob

I am not a member of your association but wish to join the morning ceremony, afternoon presentation & the Last Post Ceremony on the 15th. I promised Mrs Marg Flack, of Hay, I would represent her on this occasion. Marg gave me the information your association sent her about the ceremony & the latest issue of Frontline.

My mother, Laura Bunyan nee Clifton, who is visiting from Hay, would also like to attend the afternoon presentation & the Last Post Ceremony. My mother knows Shirley Drum, who was a friend of her sister, also knew Cliff Farlow & Bill Baird from Hay, as well as other family friends who served in the 2/19th including one who died at Parit Sulong.

I hope this is acceptable to you that I attend all activities other than the lunch & that my mother join me for the afternoon ones.

It may interest you to know that there were three others I'm aware of from Darlington Point or working on a nearby property who died in January/February while serving in the 2/19th.

Hubert William (Jim) Byron, who worked at Post Office, also died at Parit Sulong. Robert Kendell Hews, who worked on Kooba Station as did one of the Cotton brothers as I understand it, died on 19 January while Albert Ernest Bloomfield died on 2 February. I am attaching a document that includes a bit from one of the early 2/19 magazine & associated photograph. This man was one of the family friends.

FRONTLINE



PERYMAN TROPHY AWARD 2018 PRESENTATIONS 1/19 RNSWR SAT 02 FEB 2019



**8437626 LIEUTENANT Sean McGEE
8 PLATOON, C COMPANY,
1ST/19TH BATTALION THE ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY CORPS**

CITATION

Lieutenant McGee has performed to an exacting professional standard as Platoon Commander 8 Platoon C Company 1st/19th Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment. He is a dedicated and motivated leader, and has driven significant capability improvements during his tenure as Platoon Commander. In 2018, Lieutenant McGee additionally fulfilled the role of Manoeuvre Support Platoon Commander on EX HAMEL, reporting directly to the Commanding Officer of Battle Group Waratah. Due to the success of his patrol plan, he was able to insert his platoon by night 15 km north of the 7 CB Former Line of Own Troops and they remained in a hide for 96 hours, observing and calling fire on enemy. Elements of his callsign were tracked by enemy cyber capabilities who came within 40m of his hide, but his platoon was not compromised. Such was the discipline applied by his soldiers from their platoon orders. Lieutenant McGee was subsequently invited to brief Commander 2nd Division and the former Chief of the Defence Force. Lieutenant McGee is a highly capable officer and a credit to his unit and to the wider Army.



OC C Coy MAJ Ben Biddington being presented with LT Sean McGee's Trophy by CO 1/19 RNSWR LTCOL Michael Buchanan.CSC

**8238452 WARRANT OFFICER CLASS TWO Thomas GIBSON
COMPANY SERGEANT MAJOR, C COMPANY,
1ST/19TH BATTALION THE ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY CORPS**

CITATION

Warrant Officer Gibson has served as the Company Sergeant Major C Company for five years, from 2014 to 2018. In this period he has displayed sustained outstanding devotion to duty maintaining the administration and discipline of the Company at the highest standard. His presence and professionalism have been recognised by senior peers who have commended his excellent soldiering. In addition to his C Coy Company Sergeant Major duties, in 2018 Warrant Officer Gibson performed substantial additional duties as the Company Sergeant Major of Combat Team Alpha, Battle Group Waratah, discharging Company Sergeant Major duties to an exemplary standard during a sustained foundation warfighting exercise. Warrant Officer Gibson's loyalty and selflessness are of the highest order. He is a leader and role model, and his conduct is in the finest traditions of the Australian Army.



**8546849 CORPORAL Rhys WILLIAMS
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY CORPS
SECTION COMMANDER, C COMPANY,
1ST/19TH BATTALION THE ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES REGIMENT**

CITATION

Corporal Williams has set an impressive example, and performed to the highest standard, as an Infantry Section Commander. In 2018, Corporal Williams was a key junior leader during the Brigade's Telopea series of exercises and on Exercise Hamel. He performed the role of Section Commander to an excellent standard, leading his troops through the force generation cycle from individual skills to combined arms training within an Australian Regular Army combat brigade. Following Exercise Hamel, Corporal Williams took the initiative to raise and train the 1st/19th Battalion The Royal New South Wales Regiment Military Skills Team which was placed second in the Brigade competition in October 2018. Corporal Williams' proficiency and professionalism as a Section Commander is of the highest order and he is highly respected by his superiors who have full confidence in his ability and dependability. His efforts have bought great credit upon himself, his unit, his Corps and the Australian Army.



THE PERYMAN TROPHY

The trophy was instituted in April 1992, by the Peryman family, in memory of Captain Mario Lemmers Peryman, (1st October 1897 – 9 March 1991) for competition within the 1st/19th Battalion, The Royal New South Wales Regiment, which has been a focal point of the family for many decades. The trophy is presented in an expression of thanks for the joys shared over these years. The benevolence of the bequest provides for three books, dedicated to the military arts and sciences to be awarded annually, and in perpetuity, one each to an Officer, a Senior Non Commissioned Officer and a Junior Non Commissioned Officer/Private soldier who exhibits outstanding qualities in the performance of their military duties and is symbolic of Captain Peryman's Commissioned and Non Commissioned service.

FRONTLINE

OFFR-WO-SNCO & JNCO REGIMENTAL DINNER ROMANI BARRACKS ORANGE NSW SAT 2 FEBRUARY 2019



FRONTLINE

OFFR-WO-SNCO & JNCO REGIMENTAL DINNER ROMANI BARRACKS ORANGE NSW SAT 2 FEBRUARY 2019



FRONTLINE

OFFR-WO-SNCO & JNCO REGIMENTAL DINNER ROMANI BARRACKS ORANGE NSW SAT 2 FEBRUARY 2019



FRONTLINE NATIONAL SERVICEMENS COMMEMORATION BARDIA BARRACKS SUN 17 FEB 2019





SEEN AROUND THE TRAPS



FROM: Mrs Shirley Drum

Our thanks to Shirley in forwarding on the articles below from the HAY TIMES Newspaper

Recognition for Jim Little



Volunteer driver for the Hay Legacy group, Jim Little was acknowledged for his many years of unselfish service when members gathered for their annual Christmas lunch on Saturday. Jim, (centre back) is pictured with his wife, Sue, Griffith representatives Bev Young, Dianne Kelly and Graham Young and local Legatees Lily Neill, Lorna Hutchinson, Eileen Beissel, Marge Flack, Melita Burrows, Laura Clifton and Russell Hutchinson. Photos: Margie McClelland.

MILESTONE FOR HAYDAYS



Haydays residents, Dorothy Farlow and Bill Maudment had the honor of unveiling the drawing depicting the four founders.

Ninety-nine year-old Dorothy Farlow represented her late brother, Archer Smith on Saturday when she helped unveil a drawing depicting the four founders of Haydays.

Mrs Farlow was joined by Bill Maudment, long-time resident at Haydays.

The drawing by local artist, Chris McClelland pays tribute to the founders, Archer and Kit Smith, Bill Ryan and Elizabeth McFarland.

It was commissioned by the Board of Directors to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the age care facility.

"Today is an important milestone," Board chairman, Wayne Mitchell said.

"This is about four people who sat around the kitchen table discussing the plight of the homeless men at Busby Bend - Haydays is the result of those four people."

And veteran resident of 17 years, Mr Maudment only had praise for Haydays when he addressed the gathering.

"Why people do not see Haydays as a wonderful place has got me beat," he said.

"The staff here is right on the ball.

"They told me I have died twice.

"If I lived on my own I would not be here today.

"The staff are dedicated and knowledgeable. They're on the ball."

The unveiling was followed by an inspection of two new high-care units which now enable high-dependency residents to remain in Hay.

Mr Mitchell said this was an essential addition to the facilities of Haydays to enable it to continue well into the future.

"Without it, Haydays wouldn't exist into the future and I don't want this to happen," he said.

"Our founders did not want this to happen to Haydays.

"I am asking for the community to stand together and support Haydays so we can continue to deliver quality age care."



Haydays board members with the drawing of the founders of Haydays by Chris McClelland (fourth from right) Kevin Heery, Jan Hemphill, Helen Edmonds, chairman Wayne Mitchell, Robert Pearson and Leon Booth. With them is Haydays Manager, Gayle Buiatti. Photos by Margie McClelland.

FROM LARRY NOLAN: This article was in an English media magazine in Cambodia I came across on my last visit. I found it most interesting and hope you do too.

Regards Larry

FORCES

African American 369th Infantry Regiment during WWI

The 369th Infantry Regiment, formerly known as the 15th New York National Guard Regiment, was an infantry regiment of the United States Army National Guard during World War I and World War II. The Regiment consisted mainly of African Americans, though it also included a number of Puerto Rican Americans during World War II. It was known for being the first African American regiment to serve with the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I.

Before the 15th New York National Guard Regiment was formed, any African American that wanted to fight in the war had to enlist in the French or Canadian armies. The regiment was nicknamed the Harlem Hellfighters, the Black Rattlers, and the Men of Bronze, which was given to the regiment by the French. The nickname "Hell Fighters" was given to them by the Germans due to their toughness and that they never lost a man through capture, lost a trench or a foot of ground to the enemy. The "Harlem Hellfighters" were the first all-black regiment who helped change the white American public's opinion on African American soldiers and paved the way for future black soldiers.

BACKGROUND

On 5 October 1917, Emmett J. Scott, long time secretary to Booker T. Washington, was appointed Special Assistant to Newton D. Baker, the Secretary of War. Scott was to serve as a confidential advisor in situations that involved the well-being of ten million African Americans and their roles in the war. While many African Americans who served in the Great War believed that, upon returning home racial discrimination would dissipate, that did not happen. Racial hatred after World War I was probably at its worst until the start of the Second World War. So with this American discrimination of African American soldiers, these troops were often sent to Europe where they were used to fill vacancies in the French armies. Unlike the British, the French held high opinions of black soldiers, which made for a more positive environment when working together. Ironically this made African American troops more passionate about fighting for America. This newly created patriotism by African Americans then led to the creation of the 369th Infantry Regiment.

Although many African Americans were eager to fight in the war, they were being turned away from military service. When the United States realized that it did not have close to enough soldiers, it decided to pass the selective service act which required all men from the ages of 21 to 31 to enlist in the draft. Additionally, it decided to allow African Americans to enlist as well. This would give African Americans the opportunity that they needed to try and change the way they were perceived by white America.

The 369th Regiment was formed from the National Guard's 15th Regiment in New York. The 15th Regiment was formed after Charles S. Whitman was elected Governor of New York. He enforced the legislation that was passed due to the efforts of the 10th Cavalry in



Soldiers of the 369th (15th N.Y.) who won the Croix de Guerre for gallantry in action, 1919.
Left to right, Front row: Pvt. Ed Williams, Herbert Taylor, Pvt. Leon Fraitour, Pvt. Ralph Hawkins.
Back Row: Sgt. H. D. Prinas, Sgt. Dan Storms, Pvt. Joe Williams, Pvt. Alfred Hanley, and Cpl. T. W. Taylor

Mexico, which had passed as a law that had not manifested until 2 June 1913.

Once the United States entered into World War I, many African Americans believed that entering the armed forces would help eliminate racial discrimination throughout the United States. Many African Americans felt that it was "a God-sent blessing" so that they could prove that they deserved respect from the white Americans through service in the armed forces. Through the efforts of the Central Committee of Negro College Men and President Wilson, a special training camp to train black officers for the proposed black regiments was established.

HISTORY

The 369th Infantry Regiment was constituted 2 June 1913 in the New York Army National Guard as the 15th New York Infantry Regiment. The 369th Infantry was organized on 29 June 1916 at New York City. The infantry was called into Federal service on 25 July 1917 at Camp Whitman, New York. While at Camp Whitman, the 369th Infantry learned basic military practices. These basics included military courtesy, how to address officers and how to salute. Along with these basics

they also learned how to stay low and out of sight during attacks, stand guard and how to march in formation. After their training at Camp Whitman, the 369th was called into active duty in New York. While in New York, the 369th was split into three battalions in which they guarded rail lines, construction sites and other camps throughout New York. Then, on 8 October 1917, the Regiment traveled to Camp Wadsworth in Spartanburg, South Carolina, where they received training in actual combat. Camp Wadsworth was set up similar to the French battlefields. While at Camp Wadsworth they experienced significant racism from the local communities and from other units. There was one incident in which two soldiers from the 15th Regiment, Lieutenant Europe and Noble Sissle, were refused by the owner of a shop when they attempted to buy a newspaper. Several soldiers from the white 27th Division, a New York National Guard organization, came to aid their fellow soldiers. Lieutenant Europe had commanded them to leave before violence erupted. There were many other shops that refused to sell goods to the members of the 15th Regiment, so members of the 27th Division told the shop owners that if they did not serve black soldiers that they can close their

FRONTLINE

US 369th INFANTRY REGIMENT



stores and leave town. The white soldiers then stated "They're our buddies. And we won't buy from men who treat them unfairly."

The 15th Infantry Regiment NYARNG was assigned on 1 December 1917 to the 185th Infantry Brigade. It was commanded by Col. William Hayward, a member of the Union League Club of New York, which sponsored the 369th in the tradition of the 20th U.S. Colored Infantry, which the club had sponsored in the Civil War. The 15th Infantry Regiment shipped out from the New York Port of Embarkation on 27 December 1917, and joined its brigade upon arrival in France. The unit was relegated to labor service duties instead of combat training. The 185th Infantry Brigade was assigned on 5 January 1918 to the 93rd Division [Provisional]. The 15th Infantry Regiment, NYARNG was reorganized and re-designated on 1 March 1918 as the 369th Infantry Regiment, but the unit continued labor service duties while it awaited a decision as to its future.

The US Army decided on 8 April 1918 to assign the unit to the French Army for the duration of the United States' participation in the war; this regiment was assigned to French Army command because many white American soldiers refused to perform combat duty with black soldiers. The men were issued French weapons, helmets, and brown leather belts and pouches, although they continued to wear their U.S. uniforms. While in the United States, the 369th Regiment was never treated like similar all white units. They were subject to intense racial discrimination and were looked down upon. This regiment suffered considerable harassment by both individual white American soldiers and even denigration by the American Expeditionary Force headquarters which went so far as to release the notorious pamphlet *Secret Information Concerning Black American Troops*,

which "warned" French civilian authorities of the alleged inferior nature and supposed rapist tendencies of African Americans.

In France, the 369th was treated as if they were no different from any other French unit. The French did not show hatred towards them and did not racially segregate the 369th. The 369th finally felt what it was like to be treated equally. The French accepted the all black 369th Regiment with open arms and welcomed them to their country. The French were less concerned with race than the Americans and were short on troops.

The 369th Infantry Regiment was relieved 8 May 1918 from assignment to the 185th Infantry Brigade, and went into the trenches as part of the French 16th Division. It served continuously to 3 July. The regiment returned to combat in the Second Battle of the Marne. Later the 369th was reassigned to Gen. Lebourg's 161st Division to participate in the Allied counterattack. On one tour they were out for over 6 months which was the longest deployment of any unit in World War I. 93d Division: Summary of Operations in the World War (1944) On 19 August, the regiment went off the line for rest and training of replacements.

While overseas the Hellfighters saw propaganda intended for them. It claimed that the Germans had done nothing wrong to blacks, and that they should instead be fighting against the Americans who had oppressed them for years. These statements only made the Hellfighters even more devoted to the U.S.

On 25 September 1918, the French 4th Army went on the offensive in conjunction with the American drive in the Meuse-Argonne. The 369th turned in a good account in heavy fighting, sustaining severe losses. They captured the important village of Séchault. At one point the 369th advanced faster than French troops on their right and left flanks, and risked being cut off. By the time the regiment pulled back for reorganization, it had advanced 14 kilometers (8.7 mi) through severe German resistance.

In mid-October the regiment was moved to a quiet sector in the Vosges Mountains. It was there on 11 November, the day of the Armistice. Six days later, the 369th made its last advance and on 26 November, reached the banks of the river Rhine, the first Allied unit to reach it. The regiment was relieved on 12 December 1918 from assignment to the French 161st Division. It returned to the New York Port of Embarkation and was demobilized on 28 February 1919 at Camp Upton at Yaphank, New York, and returned to the New York Army National Guard.

Two Medals of Honor and many Distinguished Service Crosses were awarded to members of the regiment. The most celebrated man in the 369th was Pvt. Henry Johnson, a former Albany, New York, rail station porter, who earned the nickname "Black Death" for his actions in combat in France. In May 1918, Johnson and Pvt. Needham Roberts fought off a 24-man German patrol, though both were severely wounded. After they expended their ammunition, Roberts used his rifle as a club and Johnson battled with a bolo knife. Reports suggest that Johnson killed at least four German soldiers and might have wounded 30 others. Usually black achievements and valor



Wartime poster of the 369th fighting German soldiers, with the figure of Abraham Lincoln above

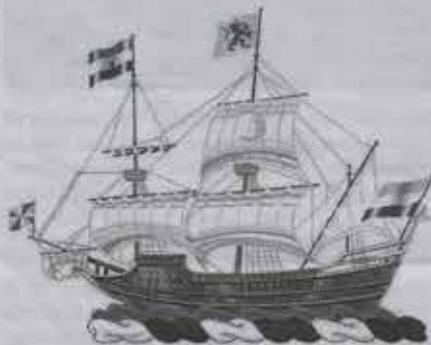
went unnoticed, despite that fact over 100 men from the 369th were presented with American and/or French medals. Among those honors 93d Division: Summary of Operations in the World War (1944) Johnson was the first American to receive the Croix de Guerre awarded by the French government. This award signifies extraordinary valor.

On 13 December 1918, one month after Armistice day, the French government awarded the Croix de Guerre to 170 individual members of the 369th, and a unit citation was awarded to the entire regiment. It was pinned to the colors by General Lebourg.

One of the first units in the United States armed forces to have black officers in addition to its all-black enlisted corps, the 369th compiled a war record equal to any other U.S. infantry regiment. It earned several unit citations along with many individual decorations for valor from the French government. The 369th Infantry Regiment was the first New York unit to return to the United States, and was the first unit to march up Fifth Avenue from the Washington Square Park Arch to their armory in Harlem. Their unit was placed on the permanent list with other veteran units.

In re-capping the story of the 369th Arthur W. Little, who had been a battalion commander, wrote in the regimental history *From Harlem to the Rhine*, that it was official that the outfit was 191 days under fire, never lost a foot of ground or had a man taken prisoner, though on two occasions men were captured but they were recovered. Only once did it fail to take its objective and that was due largely to bungling by American headquarters support.

So by the end of the 369th Infantry's campaign in World War I they were present in the Champagne - Meuse - Argonne, Champagne 1918, Alsace 1918 campaigns in which they suffered nearly 1,300 casualties the highest of any US regiment. (Nelson 2009, pp. 203-4) The 369th also fought in distinguished battles such as Belleau Wood and Chateau-Thierry. While fighting these battles, they served nearly six months on the front lines and earned many distinguished awards. These awards included the Croix de Guerre which is France's highest military honor. ■



Coat of arms of the 369th Infantry Regiment

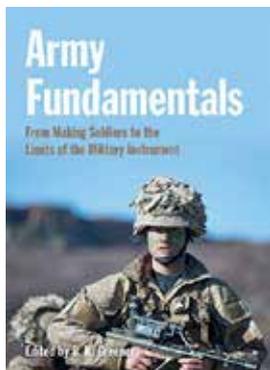
ARMY FUNDAMENTALS **BOOK REVIEW**

Edited by B.K. Greener

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REVIEWED BY John DONOVAN



This collection of essays is very much the proverbial curate's egg, good in parts. Its first failing, unfortunately, comes with the title. One might think that the Army fundamental would be war fighting, but much of the volume focuses on the military contribution to peacekeeping. That said, there are some useful essays, though the academic writing style can

make them heavy reading.

The essays *Making Soldiers* and *The Unmaking of Officers*, are among the most useful. In the former,

Dr Nina Harding recounts her experiences and conclusions after being embedded with New Zealand (NZ) Army trainees through 'BASSick' (not 'BAYSick') training. The importance of 'fully internalis[ing] the soldier identity' is emphasised throughout the essay, and was fully accepted by both the trainees and the author. The trainees saw this process as 'building them up'. In contrast, the officer cadet studied by Maiké Guesgen could not internalise this identity, and did not complete his course. The experience of the 'Kippenberger' commissioning scheme suggests that recruiting potential officers from university students could not replace institutions such as ADFA or the RMC of Australia.

Samantha Morris' essay *Reconsidering Military Identities* uses the NZ Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Afghanistan to consider 'how military identity is challenged, reinforced or remade by ... tasks ... not traditionally ... core military activities'. She notes that NZ Army personnel involved focussed on two identities, the Anzac identity and one of military professionalism.

The former is seen as 'ordinary men and women' stepping forward to complete tasks using their inherent skills in an 'everyman' soldier-civilian identity. The professional identity focuses more on a 'career discourse', a 'job rather than a duty or service to their country'. Morris sees humanitarian tasks as the way of the future, with the Anzac spirit modified by the professional one, albeit this could civilianise the military, and challenge military identity.

Peter Greener summarises international perspectives of New Zealander peacekeepers. He stresses the importance of Maori/Pakeha bi-culture to the NZDF's success operating in a range of cultures. He does note, however, a language problem. It seems that many nominally English speakers had difficulty understanding New Zealanders!

Michael Lauren reviews the record of the PRT in Afghanistan. As does Peter Greener, he gives credit to the Maori/Pakeha bi-culture for the success of the Team. However, he notes the tension with some NGOs, based on their generic suspicion of the military. Non-military groups had a particular suspicion of actions to enhance security. Afghans were, however, more accepting of greater security!

The essays by Beth Greener and Kiri Stevens on *Peacekeeping and Masculinities* and Jane Derbyshire on *Women in the Armed Forces* address the role of armed forces in peacekeeping and the place of women in the NZDF.

Greener and Stevens make useful points about the difference between biologically determined sex and gender (a social construct, perhaps with psychological elements). They suggest that NZ soldiers are becoming comfortable with a less masculine approach to their duties. Noting that feminist authors ascribe quite different traits to masculine and feminine genders, they see feminine gender traits as more appropriate for peacekeeping.

Derbyshire dismisses 'concerns about women's physical ability and ... the necessity of separate accommodation'. She does not make the clear distinction between sex and gender as Greener and Stevens, referring to 'gender stereotypes' when she might mean sex stereotypes. Derbyshire considers female traits critical to development of peace and security.

Josh Wineera's essay complements those by Harding and Guesgen. He sees rote learning, widely used by Western armed forces, remaining important, but not always appropriate. Apparently the change from rote to self-directed learning, under the theory of andragogy, should enable soldiers to 'think critically, conceptually and even creatively'. It would be surprising had such skills been ignored previously! Wineera describes NZ efforts to use non-rote training methods to make instructional efforts more appropriate for adult students from different cultures.

W.J. Fish, Beth Greener, Harding and Cameron Sigley address the *Limits of the Military Instrument*. After several pages considering what military forces 'can' do, they suggest that while they might potentially have the skills to carry out police work, the perspective of the police indicates that broad experience, which soldiers would not usually have, is also essential.

They note that police and soldiers operate under different ethos; to operate successfully as police, soldiers would have to become police. The role of the infantry, quoted by the authors, 'to seek out and close with the enemy, to kill and capture him, to seize and hold ground, to repel attack, by day and night, regardless of season, weather or terrain', is contradictory to the police ethos.

The authors of this collection seem to conclude that soldiers are not necessarily the best peacekeepers, as to the extent they modify their military ethos, they become less effective soldiers, without necessarily becoming better peacekeepers. A possible exception seems to be those soldiers who have a 'feminine gender' perspective (some of whom might be biologically male). This might not have been what they expected!



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.

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NOR ALL THY TEARS

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

Continued from December 2018 Newsletter:

The soles rapidly broke from these and were fastened on in all sorts of ways. Down the mine we had rice-straw ropes to keep them from slipping on the slimy stairs, and many kept their shoes together with these, but they did little to keep out the wet. A few were issued with sox; short cotton affairs, like marble bags - no heels in them - but these were only good for a day or two, and in any case, useless when the boots let in the wet. I was luckier than most. Very skillfully I kicked off one of my tattered remnants in front of one of the No.1's and hobbled on parade in one shoe. To save the prestige of the mine he held up the train while the 21/C ducked off and found two old but serviceable left sandshoes, which were changed in the afternoon for a new pair. And later my number was taken by mistake, for a new issue and the mistake not discovered, so that by the time the shoes arrived I got one pair as well. I suppose someone got his head cut off or something over this, but I couldn't be worried. I had four pairs of sandshoes for my term. Many spent their full term in the mine with only two pairs and most with only three.

Those working on the surface had the hardest time. There was no winter down the mine and apart from the to-and-fro journey we were indoors most of the time. There were fires in the huts during the worst of the winter, and we could make our beds warm enough with what we had. Nearly all of us were given British Army overcoats and these were our mainstay. This was the hardest inconsistency of all to explain, for they were the best things on Shikoku, and the miners used to look on them with wonder and envy. We were also given British anti-gas capes and these helped things along. It was our hands and feet that provided the weak spots from which our whole bodies were frozen.

The snow capped the mountains almost to the middle of summer, and all the while the cruel wind blew down on us, but we had occasional welcome hot days; the news was improving and the planes were now coming over daily. Often we had to eat our tea in the dark. One day there was a raid on the port a few miles from camp. We narrated these events with addenda to the miners, and these were beginning to see the light in increasing numbers. But those confident in a Nippon seemed to be still in the majority, among the rank and file.

But the Army was beginning to see the light to a man. Sickness was increasing and deaths were mounting, but they were beginning to show concern about these things. Once there were three deaths on successive days and there

was much ado. The Lolly-Lopper, (who was by this time rarely at camp) paid us a special visit. The sick were still sent to work (for they had to keep the figures down - perhaps more than ever) but they did it less cold-bloodedly, and the Nip medical orderly was careful to mention that it was because of the Nip doctor that he had to send them out and the Nip doctor let out more on his occasional visits, putting the thumbscrews on the orderly to keep more in after he had gone.

One great day, one of Shorty's bosses came along with great tidings that the Russians were within a hundreds kilos of Berlin, and the British and Americans within five hundred kilos. When they feigned incredulity he became annoyed and said he would bring the paper the next day. Sure enough it came and Shorty brought it to a delighted camp. There were two circles drawn round a centre, pretty obviously Berlin and the map was practically blank save for the names of towns crowded around the Russian side of the small circle and the Allied side of the large.

But our greatest triumph was the discovery of a paper in English. This told us almost as much as if it had been an annual summary. But it was the tone of the whole thing that built up our hopes. It was defeatist to the last. Every line seemed to tell that they were beaten and knew that they were beaten. "Because of lack of production Russia was driven back by Germany, and now for the same reason Germany was driven back by the Russians. Because of lack of production Germany would soon go down and ultimately even the great Nippon would follow. Nippon could not expect to fight the world alone" etc. etc.

A favourite item was the description of the raid on mainland by six hundred planes of the fifty-eighth task force. We had already known of a raid on a big scale, but the knowledge that there were fifty-seven more where that one came from put new heart in us. We settled back contentedly and breathed the words we conjured with: Roll on the Yanks!

Just at this time the mine enjoyed the services of an English speaking Nip who had come across from the mainland. He was obviously against the government and we thought it possible that he may have left the paper where we found it. He said that the situation on the mainland was impossible. Vast centres of industry were wiped out and there was no hope of organising food



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supply. The illiterate people of Shikoku had no idea what war really was. People lined up for whole days on queues and got nothing. To recover the dead or succour the injured was beyond the power of the authorities. People were asking again and again why the war was being allowed to go on. It was now years since we heard Churchill's speech in which he had said: *At last the mellow light of victory can be clearly seen.*

We were beginning to admire his eyesight, but were satisfied that he had been right. The medical orderly had seen the light (not Churchill's light) with a sudden rush. So much so that Sandy and the Doc had thought it expedient to tell him to get some Vitamin B tablets through the black market with the money they wouldn't let us spend, saying that if he didn't they would take him to Australia after the war and cut his bloody head off. The miners got a sudden shock when batches of them got called up for war service. Many were called off jobs without a moment's notice to go out and report for duty. Then came the day when the Lolly-Lopper paid a sudden visit on one of our days of "rest". We were warned to parade, but the usual accompaniment of such parades was missing. With less ceremony than he had ever shown, he addressed us on the parade ground.

He told us that the increasing number of bombings had led us to expect an early victory for Britain and America. This had made us too cocksure, and we had become disobedient. He told us that in another camp a man had been brought up for punishment owing to a misunderstanding, and that his punishment would be death or ten years imprisonment. He urged us not to be guilty of like misunderstandings. He told us that the mine officials would take charge of us the following day with full authority to punish for laziness and lack of discipline. And they left us entirely alone for the day which we celebrated with great rejoicing. Something had happened. Nothing could be more certain than that. The sudden change-over with which they had messed about for months had now caught them when they were not ready for it. The night before the Nips had been sitting up till two o'clock listening to the radio. The miners were being called up; and more than all these things we were being given a proper day off. Certainly something had happened, and we felt sure that we knew what it was.

Germany had "had it." At last it was true. The old rumour that had been impossible to kill had now come good. Some day it had to come true, but after so many disappointments it seemed impossible to believe that we had the reality at last. We slept the sleep of the just. So the mine guards took us over and the Army was responsible for us in camp alone. The change was remarkable, and not entirely for the better. The army put the pressure on the company to keep us under the thumb. The Company put on a special

gang of animalistic guards, who would dash around the column bashing into anyone they saw with hands in their pockets and buttons undone, and in the manner we knew so well from the earlier times. Darby, the Pig and Scarface went onto our long imaginary lists and we managed to forego a few moments of our elation to hate them. But there was nothing in the new tyranny that could depress us. They seemed just to be something grimly comic in these petty tyrants trying to keep back their fate with a few kicks and a bamboo rod. We were happy in a way we had never been happy before, and no doubt, like the old Chink in Singapore, they thought we were mad. We booed the guard into laying off a man he was bashing one day and every clout was taken with a wild defiance.

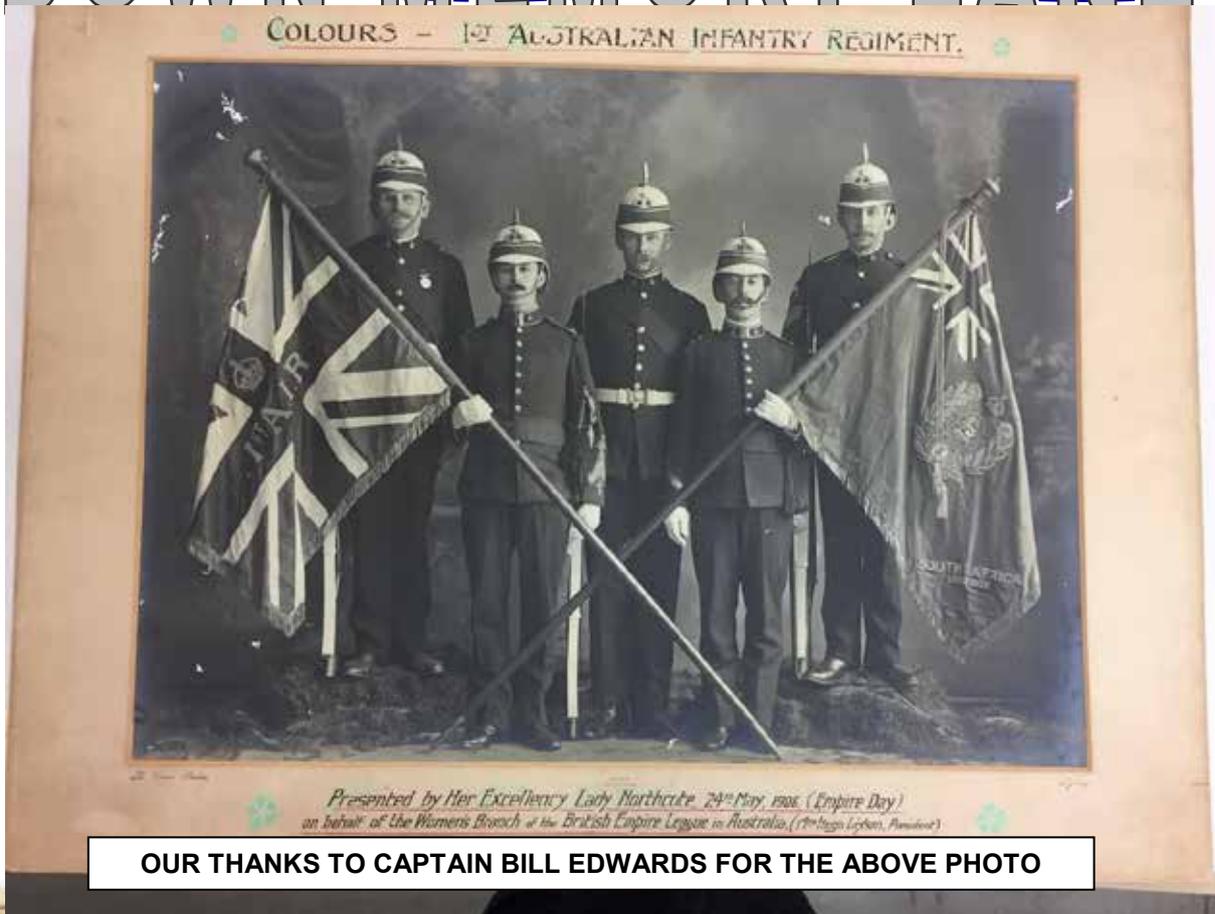
The army demanded more discipline and hence more and more bashings, that its own spotless soul might show up to still greater advantage, and it was a relief to get back to camp where the Army's rule was direct. Within the mine there was little or no change. The army could not see what we were doing and there was little attempt to drive us. Many of the bosses were becoming a bit cranky and they now had more liberty to vent their wrath, but there was no organised purge and many of them even tried to make up for the treatment outside. The new mine guards were obviously men who made bastardry a career and were disliked by the miners as much as ourselves. Few of the miners now took the war seriously, but some of these tried to take it out on

The sick once more got a fair go. The Company, of course, was making men sick by overworking and underfeeding them, and we had a good list of sick who were well-treated in camp and (Reply note) given a rice ball or a piece of radish. One of our chief gains was the main interpreter. The local schoolmaster, he spoke English well, and was definitely a gentleman. I don't think the course of the war had anything to do with his genuine efforts to get us more food or care for the sick. Like the Colonel's interpreter, he had a humanity that was independent of wars or country. Other natures than his had held sway in Nippon the few previous years. But we suffered a great disappointment. Although we knew that the end must be near, it soon became clear that Germany was not yet finished. All our prompting brought forth a uniform denial, and soon they began to give details that made it plain that fighting was still going on. Our party struck the very nasty job of removing a large winder from its base, and taking it outside for repair. It was a gut busting dangerous job, lifting great weights over slippery, rolling logs, and guiding them into place while balanced over a shaft hundreds of feet deep, and I remember how fervently I hoped that the war would be over before it came back.

To be continued.....

FRONTLINE

DOWN MEMORY LANE



OUR THANKS TO CAPTAIN BILL EDWARDS FOR THE ABOVE PHOTO



**INAUGURAL RESERVE FORCES DAY COUNCIL MEMBERS
AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE SYDNEY 1998 WITH THE COMMANDER OF THE US CONTINGENT**