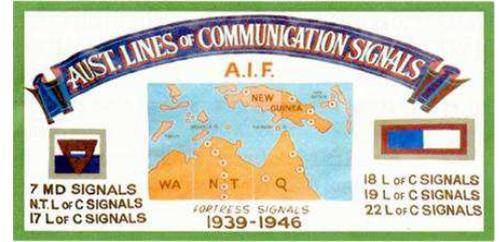




THURUNKA

June 2015

Newsletter of the
Royal Australian Signals Association (NSW) Inc.
Patron: **MAJGEN R.P. Irving AM PSM RFD (Retd)**
Including the
Aust. Lines of Communication Signals Association



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Our Calendar - 2015

Update your diary NOW!

Committee Meeting 4	Sat	18 Jul	1100h	Kirribilli Club
2 Div 100 th Birthday Pde		26/27 Jul		Canberra
8 Sig Regt's 100 th Birthday	Tue	04 Aug		Parade TBA
Battle for Australia Service	Wed	02 Sep	1100h	Cenotaph Martin Place
Rhumb Corps Luncheon	Wed	02 Sep	1200h	CTA Club
THURUNKA September edition		mid-September		
Committee Meeting 5	Sat	19 Sep	1100h	Kirribilli Club
**ER Corps Dinner	Fri	30 Oct	1200h	Kirribilli Club
Remembrance Day	Wed	11 Nov	1100h	Cenotaph Martin Place
Annual Memorial Service	Sun	08 Nov	1100h	Signal Hill Vacluse
Annual General Meeting	Sun	08 Nov	1230h	**Paddington RSL Club
Rhumb Corps Luncheon	Wed	02 Dec	1200h	CTA Club
Committee Luncheon	Sun	Dec 13	1200h	Mosman
THURUNKA A December edition		early-December		

* **TBA** Dates/details to be announced. ** **TBC** Dates/details to be confirmed.

NB: Dates and other details of events may change. They are constantly reviewed in an attempt to advise changes to members in a timely manner.

Royal Australian Signals Association (NSW) Inc.
Take Ownership of Your Association

SEE ASSOCIATION MATTERS FOR FULL DETAILS - Page 3!

Reserve Forces Day 2015

NSW Parades

See inside for further details

Rhumb Corps Luncheon

Wednesday, 2nd September, 2015

DR Davey Lounge CTA Club Sydney

Cnr Castlereagh Street & Martin Place



In this edition

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 - 50th Anniv'y Long Tan
 - 104 Sig Sqn's 50th
- Military History**
 - That other Prince of Wales
 - Book Review
- FYI**
 - Tattoo in Australia
 - Jimmy wanted
- TMI**
 - Is sex work?
 - Speeding Oldies
- Tail-end Charlie**
 - A word for a good friend
 - USASSA Mem'l Lunch'n
 - Poem 'Members Only'

Next edition

Copy for the next edition of **THURUNKA** must be in the hands of the Editor, Ken Forway
33 Oaks Avenue
LONG JETTY NSW 2261
Or by e-mail:
thurunka@hotmail.com
NO LATER THAN
28th August, 2015.

Association Matters

Association website:
<http://www.rasigs.com/nsw>

President's Report

Having found myself as Acting President as of 28th February, following the sudden resignation of LTCOL Andrew Butler, to take up a post overseas with his civilian employer, I have endeavoured to carry on the duties of the President. First, given the number of apologies for the planned meeting on 21st March 2015, we did well to conduct the meeting in the virtual medium of e-mails.

My second official duty was to represent the Association at the 142nd Signal Squadron dining-in night at Campbelltown RSL on 28th March, 2015. The night was well attended and I believe we cemented the relationship between the Association and the Squadron. The night saw four new recruits to the Association including the OC.

My ANZAC Day commenced with the Dawn Service at Georges Heights, conducted by the Mosman RSL Sub-branch. Embarrassingly, my photo together with the speaker for the ANZAC Commemorative Address, CMDR Paul Glynn Gall RAN, appeared in the local newspaper the following week along with angry letters to the editor about how crowded it was and the sound system did not carry to the large crowd estimated at over 5,000. On behalf of the Association I laid a wreath in remembrance of the fallen. Barry Izzard did the same at the Cenotaph.

The ANZAC Day march and re-union were successful with 72 marching with the Association plus volunteers from the 8th Signal Regiment providing the Banner Party. As an aside to ANZAC Day, the RSM has agreed to store the Associations banners and Chris Ballantine has prepared a CES for the kit. The RSM has also agreed to store our archived records at the Regiment. I believe that we have been successful in building on our relationship with the Regiment.

Notably, the 145th Signal Squadron (ARA) marched with the Association, having first marched as part of the Australian Uniformed Defence Contingent at the start of the march along with the New Zealand Uniformed Defence Contingent. They had 75 Personnel marching. I was struck by the number of other Corps personnel forming part of the Squadron. Having had a number of e-mail communications with the OC, MAJ Tim Minion, I took the opportunity to chat to him and his officers at the re-union, held at the Mr Tippy's Hotel (formally The City Hotel).

Unlike the past many years under the previous hotel management the re-union cost the Association dearly and will need to be re-negotiated for next year with the new

management. We should not have to be paying for their refurbishment of the hotel. Mind you they did donate vouchers for drinks for new applicants, saving us that cost.

I take heart in the enthusiasm of MAJ Tim Minion to support the Association, especially by actually attending this Committee Meeting. It is now up to us to devise how we may better support those serving who will become our future members. Those members retired from the ADF are served by **THURUNKA** and we need to seek their ideas for what further information they want from their Association.

At the FUP for the ANZAC Day march I took the opportunity to chat to Tom Richardson (ex-104 Sig Sqn, SVN) who is President of the Kirribilli RSL Sub-branch and General Manager of The Kirribilli Club. He was pleased to be reassured that we would continue to meet at the Club and might even hold the Corps Dinner/Lunch there (Since Confirmed).

I took the opportunity to chat to a number of those present at the re-union. At the re-union we attracted 15 new members and many members paid up their subscriptions.

CAPT Tracey Roberston, as the new member for Membership and Marketing, has been busy setting up our Facebook page on which the ANZAC Day key events were broadcast. She has been working with SGT Chris Johnson (155 Sig Sqn) on the RASA NSW website which was also updated with ANZAC Day key events.

With this meeting the membership records will be handed over to Tracey Robertson thus freeing up Ken Forway to focus on **THURUNKA**.

I must thank Ken in particular for his great work at the ANZAC Day re-union for taking on the mantle of Treasurer for the day. Ken has also been our Membership Officer for many years for which I wish to record our thanks.

Certa Cito.

Mike

Mike McEvoy
 Acting President
 16 May 2015



Association Matters

Association website:
<http://www.rasigs.com/nsw>

Royal Australian Signals Association (NSW) Inc. **Take Ownership of Your Association**

Your committee has served the Association and its members for decades and for many of them age and other commitments are overtaking them. There are already key vacancies and a number of the current committee members have indicated they will be standing down at the AGM in November.

Unless members take an active interest in the management of the Association and are prepared to serve on the committee, the Association is likely to fold and it could be as early as the next AGM.

Our immediate past President, Andrew Butler, has stood down from the position as he now works in Singapore and our Secretary, Mike McEvoy, is also acting as the President until the AGM. Mike has indicated that he will not be standing for President nor Secretary however is willing to remain on the committee to ensure a smooth transition. The position of the second Vice President has remained vacant since the last AGM.

Rob Mills is our current Treasurer and he has indicated that he cannot commit to a further term.

Committee member and past President, Chris Ballantine will not be standing for a further term after more than 30 years on the committee.

Accordingly we would welcome expressions of interest from our members to stand for the following positions, for which a brief position description is provided.

Detailed position descriptions can be obtained from Mike McEvoy or Chris Ballantine.

President: The member should have contemporary service in the Corps at a senior supervisory or management level. Be computer literate and have the ability to effectively represent the Association at public functions and Corps activities. Have a good understanding of the principles of corporate governance and be committed to the effective management of the committee and the Association in general.

Vice President: The member should have a similar background and expertise as the President and assume the role in the absence of the President. The Vice President should understudy the President and aspire to that position in the fullness of time.

Secretary: The member should be pro-active, computer literate and be competent at organising meetings, taking minutes, handling all correspondence, manage the administrative affairs of the Association and act as the Public Officer under the relevant State legislation. Templates exist for most of the Secretarial duties, correspondence and returns.

Treasurer: The member should be a qualified accountant or an experienced book-keeper (to the level of Army Mess Accounting) and be computer literate. Maintain the financial records, which are subject to audit; bank all monies received and pay all approved accounts in a timely manner; manage the sale of merchandise and prepare financial reports annually and for all committee meetings.

Committee Member: Attend committee meetings; provide advice on matters within their area of expertise; undertake special projects and serve on sub-committees; assist in the administration of the Association and at activities such as AN-ZAC Day. There is room for more than two more committee members.

The committee meets about every six weeks, currently on a Saturday at the Kirribilli Club and the time commitment will depend on the position held. Generally 1-2 days per month would be required to be devoted to Association duties albeit that some months are free of Association activities.

If you are interested in standing for the committee please contact the Acting President/ Secretary,

Mike McEvoy on 0418 489 703 or at mmcevoy@bigpond.net.au

Mike

Mike McEvoy
Acting President



Association Matters...cont

From our Treasurer's desk

The RA Sigs Association (NSW) Inc has received several direct bank deposits where we cannot identify the payee. The details are as follows

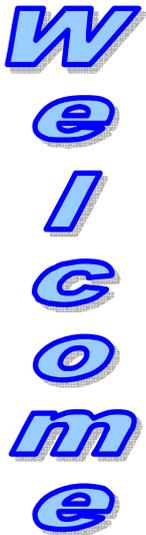
- On 7 Apr 15, a direct bank deposit of \$10.
- On 7 Apr 15, a direct bank deposit of \$40
- On 15 Apr 15, a direct bank deposit of \$30.

We assume that these deposits relate to memberships. If you made a direct deposit (EFT) to our bank account on these dates for the respective payment stated, would you please contact our Treasurer via e-mail or post.

A couple of points to note.

- When making a direct deposit into our account, please include your name as the remitter so we can identify you.
- Please do not send cash in the mail. (This has occurred several times and causes unnecessary complications).

Regards
Rob Mills
Treasurer



Welcome to our new members. We trust that you all have a long and progressive membership in the RASigs Ass'n (NSW).

Rich Adamson	3 CSR	Scott Kirkwood	8 Sig Regt
Gary Alikaris	142 Sig Sqn	Todd Liddy	145 Sig Sqn
Jon Broz	1 CDO Regt	David McConnell	145 Sig Sqn
Jacob Cullen	145 Sig Sqn	Tim Minion	145 Sig Sqn
Kim Edhouse	1 CSR	Barry Olsen	ex-2ARRU
Graeme Garside	ex-142 Sig Sqn	Peta Reeves	142 Sig Sqn
Colin Gladman	ex- 135 Sig Sqn	Morgan Smith	145 Sig Sqn
Bill Hanlon	ex-RASigs	Simon Statton	142 Sig Sqn
Al Hickey	8 Sig Regt	K (Syed) Syed	155 Sig Sqn



Annual Subscriptions

A gentle Reminder...

If you have not yet paid your annual subscription as sent with the last issue of *THURUNKA*, please remit your subscription now, while it is fresh in your mind. If any of the details on the docket are in error please correct the docket and return it with your remittance.

You are requested to keep up-to-date and make your remittance by the end of June to the Treasurer.

By the way, if you did not receive a notice of subscriptions due with your copy of the March edition of *THURUNKA*, your membership is up to date, at least to 30th June, 2016.

If you are not sure about your financial status, contact the Treasurer. Contact details above.

Mr R Mills

3 Cotentin Road

BELROSE NSW 2085

Mobile: 0418 646 734

e-mail: rgm1964@bigpond.net.au

If you want, you can pay more than one year's fee in advance. You may pay as many years in advance as you want. It is still only \$10 per annum!

Now you can pay by direct deposit. Just deposit your remittance to the Association's bank account:

Royal Australian Signals Association (NSW) Inc.

BSB: 112 879. Account No: 126 925 501.

REMEMBER to put your name in the transfer so that we are able to credit the payment to you.

OR advise the Treasurer of your deposit, with your name, date and time of transaction, by e-mail, or mobile (SMS), so that he is able to account for your deposit.

Receipts are available for cash payments. If you require a receipt just ask. If you are paying by post and require a receipt; please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your remittance.

All payments and enquiries should be made directly to the Treasurer. Thank you. ED



Recent Events

ANZAC Day 2015 - Darwin

Lieutenant Colonel John Petteit was in Darwin on business and enjoyed the Darwin ANZAC DAY experience and reports his appreciation of the day...ED.

The day began with a 0500hrs breakfast at the Darwin City RSL; the traditional supercharging of the coffee had to be forgone as I had to complete some work in the afternoon. Following breakfast, the RSL contingent formed up behind the flag party, and accompanied by a drummer, marched the 600 metres to the Cenotaph.

The 0600hrs Dawn Service was, (according to media reports) attended by 8000, and was highlighted by the dedication of new panels with all the WW1 war dead from the NT, including the 15 names of Territorians who had been incorrectly omitted from the original memorial...better late than never. The ceremony was very moving, especially for the descendants.

As we were forming up for the march, the RSL Sub Branch President came to the front with young lady (mid 20's), who was wearing an impressive row of

some 10 miniatures, the first of which was a Victoria Cross. The young lady was the great-great-granddaughter of Lieutenant James Rodgers⁽¹⁾ VC, who was one of the six Australians who were awarded the Victoria Cross in the Boer War. Captain Neville Howse was first Australian VC recipient, for a Boer War action on 24th July, 1900.

The march, viewed by many thousands, began at 0900hrs and the Darwin RSL group, with whom I marched, was near to the front—the march took 45 mins to pass the reviewing stand...I was able to double back to watch the parade from the reviewing stand. Preceding the marchers were the veterans in transport, in Darwin' case some WW2 Willey's Jeeps.

The ANZAC Day march was different from any I have attended, primarily owing to the large number of serving members of the ADF and the military hardware in the march.

Two 155mm howitzers formed an arch through which the march proceeded. A flight of FA-18s started the air segment and, for a time, there were several Blackhawk helicopters shadowing the march. Many hundreds of Australian Navy, Army and Air Force personnel were joined by a large contingent of US Marines and the usual mix of related Military and Service organisations. Military hardware in the march included:

- Abrams tanks;
- Long Range Patrol Vehicles (Land Rover variant) from NORFORCE. (NORFORCE is an Ares Regional Force Surveillance Unit where 50% of the members are Aboriginal);
- Bushmasters Protected Mobility Vehicle (PMV – built to carry and sustain 9 soldiers);
- Australian Light Armoured Vehicle (ASLAV – an 8 wheeled APC, carries 6 soldiers and has a 25mm chain gun);
- The M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier (tracked APC – carries 10 soldiers).

Near to the end of the march was a contingent of approx 60 Kiwi sailors, who paused in front of the reviewing stand, and (you guessed it) performed a fantastic Haka, much to the delight of everyone, especially the visiting Americans, including LTGEN TOOLAN, (a Marine corps 3 star general, with whom I had a nice chat).

Overall, it was a very enjoyable day which was really just starting when, unfortunately, I had to depart at 1000hrs.

John

John Petteit

LTCOL RASigs (Retd)



(1) Sergeant James Rodgers

Unit	South African Constabulary
Born	2 nd June 1875, at Moama, NSW
Date of action	15 th June 1901
Place	Thaba 'Nchu, Orange Free State

Sergeant James Rodgers was one of a party of seven men attacked by about 50 Boers. Lieutenant Dickinson's horse was shot and he was compelled to follow his men on foot. Rogers reined his horse in, and returned to fetch the officer, firing from his saddle as he rode. He took Dickinson up behind him and carried him 800 metres to safety. Although continually under heavy rifle fire Rogers returned on two occasions to within 350 metres of the enemy to pick up the unhorsed men. The Boers called on Rogers to surrender but his answer was to continue firing. He caught two riderless horses and helped another two men to mount and ride to safety.



Recent Events ... (cont.)

ANZAC Day in Kanchanaburi

The Wreath

Via Mike McEvoy -

06 May 2015



Our thanks to John Lucy for this Kanchanaburi ANZAC Day supplement and for his offer of help for anyone thinking about visiting there in the future. John has also included a couple photos that may be of interest....

Mike.

I was pleased to read Bert's account of ANZAC Day in Kanchanaburi. I was also there and I am sorry our paths did not cross. Bert's account is excellent and there is little I can add other than to praise the effort made by the Embassy Military Attaché staff particularly, WO (Dodger) Long, RAN. He did a superb job in the planning, preparation and follow through on the day.

I have attached a picture of the wreath which I laid at the War Cemetery at the 11 AM service. I wanted to do this as I was amazed on my first visit at the number of RASigs and RSigs who are buried within the cemetery.

The second picture is moving to lay the wreath accompanied by a member of 3RAR who were great ambassadors for our Country and the ADF throughout the day.

To provide marching music as the Catafalque Party marched on and off the parade at the cemetery the pipes and drums of the British Club in Bangkok came down. Their ex-pat ranks were joined by six other pipers and drummers who travelled out From Newcastle, England just to attend the Services and to provide some entertainment in the afternoon and evening.



Finally, should anyone be considering a visit to Kanchanaburi next year, I would like to join Bert with an offer to provide information and assistance.

I have visited Kanchanaburi on three occasions and various other parts of Thailand. I am also a self-taught functional Thai speaker and

(surprisingly enough) they can understand me.

If I can be of any help to anyone, they can just contact me.

Regards

John

John Lucy



ANZAC Day, 2015 at the Long Tan Memorial Cross

Ode to the fallen

**They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning
We will remember them...**

...Lest we forget

Coming Events

Battle for Australia Day - 2015

Commemorative Service - Sydney

The Battle for Australia Commemorative service is to be conducted at the Cenotaph, Martin Place, Wednesday, 2nd September, 2015 commencing at 1100hrs. If you are attending the service you are asked to arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the scheduled start time so that the service can start

on time. (Remember - the earlier you get there -the better chance of a good position).

...and afterwards...

Why not join us at the Rhumb Corps Luncheon to be conducted at the CTA Club, up Martin Place, across Pitt Street, (the champagne glass on the corner of Castlereagh Street). Meet in the Bistro lounge (Level two, one level down from the club's foyer). Just follow the crowd of Signallers.

Reserve Forces Day - 2015

Reserve Forces Day (RFD) parades in 2015 are held near to or during the first weekend of July in all capital cities and most major centres throughout Australia. Although the Association no longer marches as a unit at the RFD Parade in Sydney, individual members may march if they so wish. If you do march the appropriate unit to march with is the 2 Div HQ contingent. Below are the RFD parades in New South Wales from the RFD website and is correct as of 27th May. More detailed information is at the website or can be obtained from the contact given for the particular parade.

Other states/territories can be found on the RFD website, www.rfd.org.au...ED.

2015 Parade Theme

1915 saw the Australian Defence Force in combat for the first time at Formation level. No longer the "dutiful military apprentices" to be deployed at company level under foreign officers as requested by the British in the Second Boer War. February saw a full infantry division and a light horse brigade in training in Egypt. All volunteers, they were part of a special force drawn from the ranks of Australia's mostly militia and conscript army. Originally destined to take part in the conflict in Western Europe, they were sent to Europe's Far East, in an attempt to take the passage from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea and ensure Russia could be supplied year round breaking the entrenched deadlock that had developed in the west.

The 1st Australian and New Zealand (2 NZ Brigades and 1 (the 4th) Aust Brigades) Divisions landed on Z Beach (on the bay later to be known as ANZAC Cove) on 25th April, 1915. On 12th March the 1st Light Horse Brigade (dismounted) joined the fray.

By the time this military folly was abandoned in November and December, two of the eventual five Australian infantry divisions and thirteen of the eventual fifteen light horse regiments had taken part in the conflict on the Gallipoli peninsula. Our Naval resources also took part. Our remaining submarine, the AE2 penetrating the Dardanelles.

The Reserve Forces Day parades and functions in 2015 will commemorate the time our forces spent in south western Turkey, the 8,709 Australians; 2,779 New Zealanders; and 130,842 from all combatants who did not return home.

Parade Locations

Sydney NSW

A Reserve Forces Day activity with the Gallipoli Centenary theme will be held on **Sunday 5th July 2015**.

All serving and former members are to meet in Hyde Park North by 1000h. On arrival report to your Association Sergeant Major to ensure you know your position and where to go when asked to fall in. By 1030 College Street will be closed and all members will

move on to the road and form up in their Ceremonial Formations. Areas for, RANR, 2nd Division, 5th Brigade, 8th Brigade, RAAF and the National Service Association and others will be clearly sign posted. Initially the Formation RSMs will be in control before handing over to the 2IC/Formation Commander.

This year we are providing more chairs in Macquarie Street. They will be at the rear of the Associations and are there for anyone who needs a seat when the parade is formed up. If you feel you may need to sit down please do not hesitate and do it ASAP. First aid support has been increased this year if needed.

For more information contact Ian Meek on 02 9451 7636 or 0423 209 394 or by e-mail: iemeek18@bigpond.net.au.

Newcastle NSW

A Reserve Forces Day activity with the Gallipoli Centenary theme will be held on **Saturday 4th July 2015**.

For more information contact MAJ John Doig RFD on 02 4959 1372 or 0400 381 827 or by e-mail: Lones9361@bigpond.com.

Parkes NSW

A Reserve Forces Day activity with the Gallipoli Centenary theme will be held on **Saturday 28th June 2015**.

For more information on Reserve Forces Day activity for Parkes and surrounding districts contact:

MR Terry KNOWLES on 02 6862 2639 or by e-mail: terry.knowles@bigpond.com.

Taree NSW

A Reserve Forces Day activity with the Gallipoli Centenary theme will be held on or near **Sunday 5th July 2015**.

For more information contact Darcy Elbourne by e-mail: darcy.elbourne@bigpond.com

Wagga Wagga NSW

A Reserve Forces Day activity with the Gallipoli Centenary theme will be held on **Sunday 5th July 2015**.

For more information contact John Ploenges; Tel: 02 6922 9766 or by e-mail: reserveforcesdayriverina@gmail.com.

Full details on the Australian Reserve Forces Day Council's website:

<http://www.rfd.org.au/>





Norm McMahon has advised us of the following:

Our members are content with the bare information.

We have their memories.

Norman Allen (19 Nov 14)

Norm McMahon

Aust L of C Sigs Ass'n

VALE – Anthony Rickards

Via *Mike McEvoy*- 30/04/2015

A stalwart for CMF Sigs has died:

LT Anthony John (Tony) Rickards (Retd) RASigs.

29/09/1937 - 28/04/2015.

Ex National Service circa 1956,

504 ASSU,

130 Sig Sqn (8 Sig Regt)

Military service 28 years

Tony, who was a Lieutenant in the CMF, inducted me into 504 ASSU in February 1965 and we became good mates, sailing was his passion

Tony attended Sydney Boys High School. After early sports of Tennis and Swimming (and CMF), Tony took up Sailing with a passion. There are many MHYC skite plates to testify to Tony's competitive spirit and skill.

Tony has been in poor health for the last few years and was a resident of Elizabeth Jenkins Aged Care Home at Collaroy NSW in recent months.

A Memorial gathering at the Club to be held on 19th June 2015 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Mike McEvoy

VALE -Marinus Bouwmans

Via Chris Ballantine

CPL Marinus (Rick) Bouwmans

130 Sig Sqn, Mosman

Rick Bouwmans' family came from The Netherlands and he was a well-liked and respected NCO in the CMF at 130 Sig Sqn, Mosman in the late 1960s/early 1970s. Members Mike McEvoy, Norm Symon and Chris Ballantine served with him at that time.

He passed away on 25th May 2015 on the Sydney Northern Beaches at the age of 79 years. He is survived by his wife Patricia and family.

Chris.

VALE - Anthony White

Via Adam West - 30/04/2015

Our thanks go to Tom Davies for the following....Adam

47051 Anthony John (Tony) White

104 Sig Sqn SVN 21/01/1970 - 19/02/1970

HQ, 1st Australian Task Force SVN 20/02/1970 - 11/08/1970

104 Sig Sqn SVN 12/08/1970 - 07/01/1971

I have just been informed that Major (Retd) Tony White (Captain 104 Sig Sqn/HQ 1ATF SVN 21 Jan 1970 – 7 Jan 1971) passed away peacefully this afternoon (29th April 2015) at 5.30 South Australian time at his home, with wife Libby by his side. He had been ill for a couple of years now with cancer of the oesophagus. As recently as yesterday Tony had an outing with his son Mike, and on Monday he and Libby went out for a nice lunch after his doctor's appointment. All the White Family are now together at Tony and Libby's home in Lyndoch South Australia to say their final farewells to this wonderful man.

Tom Davies

VALE – Colin Larsen

Via Adam West - 07/04/2015

Our thanks go to Phil Wallace for the following....Adam

1731810 Colin Alexander Larsen

104 Sig Sqn in SVN from 25 Apr 1967 to 6 Feb 1968

Colin Larsen passed away today. He was in a nursing home for a period before his passing. RIP Colin.

If anyone wants to send condolences please forward to prdrslsb@pineriverssl.org.au. I will forward them to his wife Gloria

Phil (Wally) Wallis

VALE – Darryl Martin

Via Adam West - 08/03/2015

Our thanks go to Geoffrey Chamberlain for the following notification....Adam.

3794113 Darryl Leigh Martin

110 Sig Sqn SVN 16/09/1971 - 22/12/1971

You have probably got latest info regarding the passing yesterday of Darryl Martin. No other details from family in Geelong where he passed away, at home, after a long battle with cancer.

Geoffrey Chamberlain

VALE - Donald Mackeson

Via Adam West - 17/03/2015

Our thanks go to George Venables for the following notification....Adam.

2782875 Donald Richard Kenneth (Tracker) Mackeson

104 Sig Sqn SVN 18/02/1971 - 18/11/1971

I have received a phone call from Don Mackeson's sister, Beverly Bonnar, to say that Don passed away in the early hours of this morning (Tues 17 Mar).

George Venables

VALE - Frederick Carlson

Via Adam West - 08/03/2015

Our thanks go to Denis Hare and Julie Stewart for relaying the following....Adam.

Frederick James CARLSON,

104 Sig Sqn SVN 1968/1969

It is with much sadness that I tell you of the passing of Fred Carlson. I received a message from his niece, Donna Hutton, yesterday morning in which she told me that Fred quietly passed through the gate of no return early yesterday morning, the 6th March 2015. If you could pass this along to all those who knew this quiet gentleman I would be most grateful.

I would write to him c/- Donna and she would read the letter out to him. Things of the past and names and places of the past he seemed to remember quite well and would enjoy hearing about things that related to them as well as what people were doing. In one way for him a happy release.

Gweneth Brooks

VALE – John Johnston

Via Adam West - 07/04/2015

Our thanks go to Chris Yates for the following not....Adam.

2785848 John Matthew (Johnno) Johnston

I have just been informed by a mutual friend that John (Johnno) Johnston (110 Sig Sqn) passed away yesterday, 6 April. He had been suffering from MND.

All I know of his particulars is that he lived somewhere on the Mornington Peninsula. Unfortunately I have no details of his NOK.

Johnno was a Tech Elec, and a good bloke, always smiling.

Chris

VALE - John Langridge

Via Adam West - 06/03/2015

Our thanks go to Creagh/Possum Bramley for the notification....Adam.

51374 John Thomas Langridge
RASigs

Korea from 14 Aug 1952 to 15 Aug 1953

Unit in Korea - 3 RAR

DOB - 23/11/1931

DOD - 26/02/2015

Rank - Corporal

Service number - 51374

VALE - Keith Munro OAM

Via Adam West - 23/03/15

Our thanks go to Peter Evans for the following....Adam.

31114 (V150735, VX105261)
Keith Douglas Munro OAM

12 Aust Technical Maintenance Section 24/09/41 - 16/01/46

Australian Ancillary Unit Korea 29/08/54 - 22/09/54

I regret to advise the death of LTCOL Keith Munro in Melbourne 19th March.

May he Rest in Peace.

Peter Evans

VALE – Leonard Brown

Via Adam West - 10/03/2015

Our thanks go to Bill Garrett for the following....Adam.

3798980 Leonard James Brown

I advise that my Mate, Sig Leonard James Brown No 3798980, who served in 110 Sig Sqn with me in SVN from 5/8/71 to 22/12/1971, passed away on 9/3/2015 from cancer at the age of 65 years.

Thank-you and Best regards

Bill Garrett

VALE – Lindsay Evans

Via Adam West - 20/04/15

Our thanks go to Andy Anderson for the following....Adam.

It is with regret that I must post the passing of another member;

1734471 Lindsay William Evans

104 Sig Sqn SVN 17/12/1969 - 10/12/1970

DOB: 19 Apr 1948

DOD: 16 Apr 2015

Andy Anderson

VALE – Peter Muir

Via Adam West - 23/03/15

3786858 Peter Muir

Our thanks go to Paul (Popeye) Sams for the following notification....Adam.

I received a call from David Mynott (103 Sig Sqn SVN 66 - 67) informing me that Peter Muir (103 Sig Sqn SVN 66 - 67) had passed away on Saturday 14 Mar 15.

I contacted Peter's son, Sam Muir, and this sad event was confirmed. No details pertaining to cause of death were available, awaiting Coroners Report. Messages of condolences can be forwarded to Sam and Lucy at samtmuir@hotmail.co.uk or 0447 219 046.

Paul

(Popeye) Sams

103 Sig Sqn SVN 66 - 67.

VALE – Wayne Lawrence

Via Adam West - 06/04/2015

Our thanks go to Brian Fisher for the following....Adam.

218162 Wayne John William (Draino) Lawrence.

110 Sig Sqn SVN 02/04/1970 - 15/04/1971.

Wayne passed away yesterday here in Deniliquin NSW. Condolences to Wife Janine at wilannindeni@gmail.com or sons Corey and Adam at adaml75@live.com.

RIP

Brian Fisher



Sadly, we have lost more valuable servants of the Corps and Country.

Lest We Forget



SICK PARADE



Peter (Shorty) Giles

Update asat 08apr15

Via Adam West - 08/04/2015

As you can see below, Shorty is on the mend.

Shorty Giles this end

I have finally got my results back from my first lot of blood tests since my treat-

ment and all appears to be on my side of the ledger

I want to sincerely thank all those people who got in touch...it was great to hear from them.

I am currently at my sons place on the Gold Coast having a bit of quiet time with him and my two grandkids

Wishing one and all good health and stay safe

Regards

Shorty

Peter (Shorty) Giles

Peter Emery -

On the mend

Via Adam West

27/04/2015

Welcome news from Tony Everatt.

A bit of good news for a change, something we all need now and then. If anyone wants to contact Peter, then his e-mail address is below on his message. I hear he can still chew through a good steak and down a glass (or two) of red while doing so. So things are definitely on the up and up for him.

cheers,

Tony

Peter wrote...

G'Day Tony,

Just a note to let you know that I'm out of hospital now and, whilst I still have a way to go to make a full recovery, at least I'm heading in the right direction.

One of the things that really helped me through when things were pretty low was getting the best wishes from so many in the Corps. I would be really grateful if you could put out a note for me on your network.

Thanks again and best wishes

Peter E

26/04/2015

E: capse@bigpond.net.au.





CORPS MATTERS

RASIGS Corps website:

<http://www.defence.gov.au/army/RASIGS/default.htm>

50th Anniversary Long Tan RASigs Reunion Vietnam

ATTENTION ALL SIGNALLERS PAST
AND PRESENT,
FAMILIES AND FRIENDS



50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF LONG TAN

9 DAY TOUR/ REUNION - VIETNAM

15 AUGUST – 23 AUGUST 2016

As is the custom of the Ex-pat Vietnam Veterans, to have a tour to commemorate significant events of the Vietnam War, we are again proposing the above tour/ reunion to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of long Tan.

The tour will last nine days in country and will encompass the areas of Saigon, Vung Tau, Nui Dat and a Day trip to Mekong. Post tours are available.

The cost is \$US 990 per person twin share and a single supplement of \$US300 for anyone requiring single accommodation. Most meals and all transfers and entrance fees are covered in the fee. All transport to and from Vietnam, Visa, Travel Insurance costs and tips (USD 3.00) are the responsibilities of the participant.

The tour will have English speaking guides.

As in previous Tours the number of places is limited, (Approx. 200), we would advise people interested to start planning their participation and enroll as soon as possible.

More information and Registration can be found at Buddha's place.

The address is: www.buddhas-place.com

Other queries to: rasigsvn2016@outlook.com

Robert

Robert "Stretch" Murdoch

Secretary

50th Anniversary Tour Vietnam



104 SIGNAL SQUADRON

50th Anniversary Reunion

28th to 30th May 2016

(Saturday to Monday)



WEEKEND ON THE GOLD COAST

At Twin Towns Services Club
(Coolangatta/Tweed Heads)

The 104th Signal Squadron 50th Anniversary Reunion 2016 is being hosted at the Twin Towns Services Club and Resort on the Gold Coast 28th to 30th May 2016 celebrating 50 years since the unit was raised on the 30th November 1965 for service in South Vietnam.

This reunion is for 104 Signal Squadron past and present members, their families plus veterans who supported the squadron, drank with a squadron member or would have liked to have been a squadron member.

Also welcome are the younger 104th Signal Squadron veterans who served in the **Solomon Islands, Timor, Iraq, Afghanistan** and **Peacekeeping missions** plus other members of the **1st Combat Signal Regiment**. It's your time - please attend!

Widows and family members of deceased Ex 104th Signal Squadron members most welcome.

Full details from the website or the committee.

Reunion Committee 2016

Denis Hare Ph: 07-5438 7512 - Mob: 0419-334 535

Don Sutherland Ph: 07-3269 8298

Peter Thorne Ph: 07-3285 4823 - Mob: 0409-633 353

John Bertini Ph: 07-3397 1058 - Mob: 0429-491460

See Reunion Web Site at: <http://2016.au104.org>

Reunion Email: reunion@au104.org

All Correspondence

104 Sig Sqn Reunion 2016

PO Box 115, Glass House Mountains, Queensland, 4518

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Signals Vietnam Veterans Association Queensland



Military history



That other Prince of Wales

The Attempted assassination of Prince Alfred at Clontarf

Following our article in the March 2014 edition of *THURUNKA* concerning that picture, one response was that of the Prince of Wales and the reason for him shaking hands with his left hand was because he had been wounded in an assassination attempt at Clontarf, a harbour-side beach in Sydney. The title was correct, but the wrong person. It was Prince Alfred, some 52 years earlier. Here we bring you the research study of Cathy Dunn to complete the series...ED.

The extraordinary frenzy of both Imperial Loyalty...and mad sectarianism deeply divided and distracted NSW people long after', (Noel McLachlan). The effects of the Prince Alfred shooting at Clontarf.

The circumstances of the attempted assassination on Prince Alfred in 1868 placed Australians in national shame, but also the events that followed included a display of prejudice and racism towards Catholics and Irish.

During the first-ever visit to Australia by a member of the British Royal family, in 1868, Prince Alfred was the victim of an assassination attempt. He had been 'commissioned for a world tour under his command (the) HMS Galatea'.

Australia formed part of the world tour and included stops in Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney in the many ports of call. Prince Alfred, who had 'grown in favour with all classes of people daily' during his visit to Sydney was shot by Irishman Henry James O'Farrell. The general community and especially the religious fanatics attacked all Irish Catholics as enemies of the crown.

Word of the attempted assassination that occurred at Clontarf on 12th March 1868 quickly spread around Sydney even reaching the Parliament (Legislative Council) which doubted 'the correctness of the information' until confirmation was received from the detective office.

One colonial writer—Elizabeth Ricketts Hall—at the time also regarded the shooting as a wicked rumour but after the shooting was confirmed her intense feelings found 'relief in tears...it seems too deep and grave even for words'. She wrote that 'it would be impossible to describe how all felt and looked and the scene at Clontarf was terrible beyond everything. Men and women

fainted and sobbed and the criminal was nearly torn to pieces on the spot and with difficulty saved from Lynch law.

Elizabeth Ricketts Hall described O'Farrell as a 'miscreant' and at one stage was said to be involved with the Fenians (fighter for Irish independence), on the assumption of his Irish heritage. However it is 'most unlikely that he was' some say he was insane 'as his defence maintained'. He was convicted and hanged on 21st April 1868. James O'Farrell 'obsession with Fenianism and the wrongs of Ireland' is said to have caused his erratic behaviour.

After the assassination attempt there were many public meetings held around the country, 'the indignation meeting that above all seems to characterize the universal sense of outraged feelings'. Australian's immediately reacted to the shooting with nearly 20,000 people attended an indignation meeting in Sydney only one day after the shooting about 'yesterday's outrage'.

By the following week there were 'daily indignation meetings everywhere'. Most Australians felt that the scandal had shamed their integrity especially with the eyes of the world on them because of the Royal tour. One universal feeling of sorrow, shame and rage pervades the community. The whole colony has been wounded in the person of its Royal guest. A crime, which everyone will repudiate with horror, has shadowed our reputation.

At one such meet a speaker retracted 'his assertion...that there could be no Fenians in the country', was this a public display of his loyalty to the Empire? Why did the speaker retract his opinion of Fenians? Before the shooting at Clontarf, Australians were aware of Fenian terrorism in England from reports in newspapers.

The actions of O'Farrell were 'highlighted

by rumours about an upsurge of sectarianism'. After the shooting there was an anti-Irish Catholic and non-loyalist movement which lasted for many years. There was even a meeting of loyal Irish a few days after the attempted assignation, however not many attended and no disturbance occurred as suspected.

After the shooting Irish Protestants of 'the Orange movement came into its own' with 'its anti-Catholicism making it attractive to new members'. By the end of 1868 the Orange movement in Australia had become: Ultra-British, Ultra-Protestant, (with) ready-made positions at hand to feed the needs of that insure phase in the evolution of Australian identity. Orange Lodge members were still weary of the anti-Irish movement and attitude caused by the shooting especially in rural communities for many presumed all Irish were Catholics. Because they were mostly Irish, they were still part of the prejudice and racism towards the Irish after the shooting.

Henry Parkes (1815–1896), who, at the time of the attempted assassination of Prince Albert by O'Farrell, was the Colonial Secretary and the 'principal ministerial contact with the head of the Prince's entourage'. Some have said that Parkes turned the attempted assassination to his own political advantage, even to the extent that Parkes 'even claimed that he had foreknowledge of the conspiracy' (the attempt of assassination).

Immediately after the shooting Henry Parkes initiated his own investigation, as he may have had little conviction in his own police force members, who were mostly Irish. After interviewing O'Farrell on the evening of the shooting, he then went about to search his hotel room. Upon searching O'Farrell's personal effects he found a notebook of which set Parkes on the course



that possible created the Fenian scare and the Irish distrust and hatred amongst fellow Australians. Parkes believed that a Fenian group and O'Farrell were all part of the conspiracy to kill Prince Alfred.

Parkes use the shooting to gain public support for his personal prejudice against Irish and Catholics. His opinion of the Irish was that they were just 'jabbering baboons and disruptive trouble makers'. So with an Irishman shooting Prince Alfred it gave a perfect opportunity to promote his dislike of the Irish. Did Parkes' attitude add to the hysteria that occurred after the shooting? The Parliament was quick in the passing of the 'Treason Felony Act' which the shooting and 'investigation of O'Farrell...helped to decide Parliament on very stringent measures'.

After the confession of O'Farrell was released in which he claimed the shooting was that of his own doing with no Fenian involvement, Parkes was then blamed for causing the Fenian scare after the shooting especially since he had never really found any evidence.

This, however, still did not change Parkes' attitude and 'suspicion of Catholicism', showing his personal racist attitude towards both Catholics and Irish, of whom the majority were Catholics. Parkes, who was a Protestant, used his political power to finally introduce the 'Public Instruction Act' which abolished state aid for Catholic schools and others and 'as a result New South Wales has been plagued by a two-school system ever since'.

The Sydney Morning Herald, along with the Empire, published many stories and editorials about the shooting and many of the indignation meetings afterwards. The Herald also published telegraph messages from rural New South Wales and others about the feeling of horror amongst the many Australian communities.

Did the Herald influence people's reaction to the shooting with such editorial story

lines as 'A crime, which everyone will repudiate with horror' and 'We have no reader who does not feel its enormity to the fullest extend'? These and others were published only one day after the shooting. But the Herald also advised their readers to: Let the law be respected, even in the white heat of some of the strongest passions that can stir our nature in control....At present there is no authentic information as to the motives which led to the deed (shooting)... Let us not, under cover of zeal for righteousness, commit the wrong of casting undeserved suspicions...we must strive to preserve a moderation and a calmness that will keeps us from excess.

As O'Farrell was from Melbourne, the writings of the Herald quickly shifted blame for the shooting to Victoria setting the tone that 'the crime was not of home-grown but a foreign importation'. Did this make the inclination, that there was or even start some animosity between the states of Australia? The Herald was widely read in the Colony with copies being even sent to family members and friends in rural New South Wales 'containing of course full particulars of the attempted assassination of Prince Alfred'.

One of the Catholic periodical at the time was called the Freeman's Journal which the Herald wrote on its dislike of the publication and its contents. Even the Melbourne Age objected to the display of Irish disloyalty to the Crown and Empire which appeared in another Catholic publication, the Advocate. The reason for this was that both the Freemans Journal and Advocate had published sympathy and support for the Fenian movement.

So still the Herald reported the views and opinions to their readers and may have dictated their feelings towards fellow Australians. Especially with comments such as 'if Irishmen could not leave their hereditary feuds behind them, they would not make good Australians'. Did the Herald reader take this as all Irishmen were bad Australia-

lians?

There was a public subscription fund which was collected afterwards 'to raise a permanent and substantial monument in testimony of the heart-felt gratitude of the community at the recovery of HRH', which resulted in the building of the Royal Prince Alfred hospital. 'The Prince allowed his coat of arms to be used as the new hospital crest', with Royal status being granted in 1902. Prince Alfred on departing Sydney was with high emotions of his 'conviction of the loyalty of the colonists at large', noting that Australia was considered a Colony of England and not a country in our own right under the umbrella of the Empire. Even after the Prince's departure from our shores, we still had to declare and display our loyalty to the Empire and Prince Alfred as many Churches continued to hold Thank-giving services for Prince Alfred's recovery even though the Prince had recovered satisfactorily.

O'Farrell's actions had an intense effect on the Irish element in the Colony as the blame for the attempted assassination fell squarely on the Irish Catholics which spiralled aggression towards both Irish and non-loyalist, an early example of prejudice and racism in Australia.

The shooting of Prince Alfred made national headlines and gave a general feeling of indignation and hurt of national pride. If O'Farrell had shot a lesser unknown person there would not have been such a national outcry which set a tone of distrust amongst many communities and provoked Protestants against Catholics and Australians against Australians.

© Written by Cathy Dunn as part of the Graduate Diploma in Applied and Local History

UNE September 1998

Share and Enjoy:



Looking for...

...Garry J Silcock

Via Adam West - 30/04/2015

Can you help Neill Hunt ?

I am looking for the whereabouts of Garry J Silcock of 103 Sig Sqn SVN 66/67; last contact Townsville QLD.

He was known as "Maverick". If anyone has any knowledge of his whereabouts please contact following:

54543 Neill G Hunt

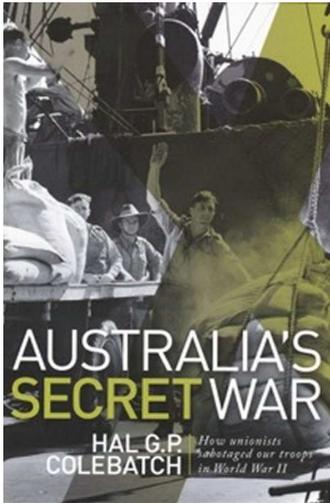
104/103 Sig Sqns 67

At: Neill@iinet.net.au

Thanks, *Neill*

Book Reviewed:

Via Max Revell



The Traitors Within

Hal G P Colebatch

They did the same in Sydney during the Vietnam War. Maybe it's time to buy a book – the subject line says it all!

As the Abbott government begins to take on union power and corruption, a timely new book reveals the union movement's role in one of the most shameful periods of Australian history.

What the wharfies did to Australian troops - and their nation's war effort - between 1939 and 1945 is nothing short of an abomination.

Perth lawyer Hal Colebatch has done the nation a service with his groundbreaking book, *Australia's Secret War*, telling the untold story of union bastardry during World War 2.

Using diary entries, letters and interviews with key witnesses, he has pieced together with forensic precision the tale of how Australia's unions sabo-

taged the war effort; how wharfies vandalised, harassed and robbed Australian troop ships, and probably cost lives.

One of the most obscene acts occurred in October, 1945, at the end of the war, after Australian soldiers were released from Japanese prison camps. They were half dead, starving and desperate for home. But when the British aircraft-carrier HMS Speaker brought them into Sydney Harbour, the wharfies went on strike. For 36 hours, the soldiers were forced to remain on-board, tantalisingly close to home. This final act of cruelty from their countrymen was their thanks for all the sacrifice.

Colebatch coolly recounts outrage after outrage.

There were the radio valves pilfered by waterside workers in Townsville which prevented a new radar station at Green Island from operating. So when American dive bombers returning from a raid on a Japanese base were caught in an electrical storm and lost their bearings, there was no radio station to guide them to safety. Lost, they ran out of fuel and crashed, killing all 32 airmen.

Colebatch quotes RAAF serviceman James Ahearn, who served at Green Island, where the Australians had to listen impotently to the doomed Americans' radio calls: "The grief was compounded by the fact that had it not been for the greed and corruption on the Australian waterfront such lives would not have been needlessly lost."

Almost every major Australian warship was targeted throughout the war, with little

intervention from an enfeebled Labor Prime Minister Curtin.

There was the deliberate destruction by wharfies of vehicles and equipment, theft of food being loaded for soldiers, snap strikes, go-slows, demands for "danger money" for loading biscuits.

Then there were the coal strikes which pushed down coal production between 1942 and 1945 despite the war emergency. There were a few honourable attempts to resist union leaders, such as the women working in a small arms factory in Orange, NSW, who refused to strike and "pelted union leaders with tomatoes and eggs".

This is a tale of the worst of Australia amid the best, the valour and courage of our soldiers in New Guinea providing our last line of defence against Japanese, only to be forced onto starvation rations and to "go easy on the ammo" because strikes by the wharfies back home prevented supplies from reaching them.

A planned rescue of Australian POWs in Borneo late in the war apparently had to be abandoned, writes Colebatch, because a wharf strike in Brisbane meant the ships had no heavy weapons.

There was no act too low for the unionists. For instance, in 1941, hundreds of soldiers on board a ship docked in Fremantle entrusted personal letters to wharfies who offered to post them in return for beer money. The letters never arrived.

At one point in 1942 a US Army colonel became so frustrated at the refusal of Townsville wharfies to load muni-

tions unless paid quadruple time, he ordered his men to throw the unionists into the water and load the guns themselves.

In Adelaide, American soldiers fired sub-machine guns at wharfies who were deliberately destroying their aircraft engines by dropping them from great heights.

Australian soldiers had to draw bayonets to stop the same Adelaide wharfies from stealing food meant for troops overseas.

You will read this book with mounting fury.

Colebatch offers various explanations for the treasonous behaviour of the unions. Many of the leaders were Communists obsessed with class warfare. Fervent "identity politics" led them to believe they were victims, and that servicemen and women were "puppets of capitalism whose lives were of no consequence".

Contrary to popular belief, strikes and sabotage continued to the end of the war, even after the Soviet Union became an ally, writes Colebatch, who contends that the Australian Left may have wanted to undermine the military in preparation for revolution after the war.

Whatever the reasons for the defective morality of those unionists who sabotaged our war effort, the traitors have never been brought to account.

This story has been largely suppressed for 70 years because Labor and the Left have successfully controlled the narrative of history. But no more, thanks to Colebatch.

Looking for...

...Clarry Williams

Via Adam West - 17/03/2015

Can you help Lorrie Johnstone with his search for Clarry Williams?

I have a mate in West Australia, ex

SAS. He has asked if anyone knows if Clarry Williams is still around and if so where?

Lorrie Johnstone

I believe he was a storeman. He was older than me, a very nice bloke. I was with him a couple of times but don't

remember where. 6 Sig Regt seems very likely. That's all I remember; WO2 as I remember. He was also certainly at the school for quite awhile

Adam West

Reply by e-mail via Adam West at:

sigsdb@netspace.net.au

FYI

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo comes to Australia

Via Geoff Davidson



Dear Friends

We are delighted to announce that The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is going to Australia and New Zealand in February 2016.

Scotland enjoys close ties with Australia and New Zealand and by returning to Australasia, we are celebrating an extraordinary shared heritage in culture, history and military alliance.

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo with its unique blend of music, ceremony, entertainment and theatre set against the backdrop of a floodlit Edinburgh Castle is a vivid and intensely emotional display and unfailingly entrals...and of course it symbolises the Scotland dear to so many hearts.

The Australia/New Zealand 2016 show will feature breath-taking performances from traditional Scottish favourites, precision drill teams, pipers, fiddlers and highland dancers combined with military and cultural groups from around the world. Edinburgh Castle in all its glory

DISCLAIMER: The thoughts and ideas and any views expressed in the articles of *THURUNKA* are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of The Royal Australian Signals Association (NSW) Inc. or the staff of *THURUNKA*. While contributions are welcome not all of them might be published and other articles may be held over for future editions of *THURUNKA*. Those published may be edited for length and clarity. Contributions are acknowledged as from our source, unless told otherwise. Contributions cannot be returned unless arrangements are made with the Editor prior to or upon submission of the contribution for publication. We encourage contributions and thank those who contribute to the pages of *THURUNKA*.

will be recreated in a magnificent 1:1 scale façade (a massive 29 metres high and 80 metres across) with the figures of William Wallace and Robert the Bruce standing guard over proceedings. The 1,200 performers will present an original Tattoo event - a truly spectacular and emotive experience.

In 2016 we will be doing a two stop international tour bringing the show to a live audience of up to 265,000 people and a TV audience of over 2 million. There will be significant marketing and promotional support across Seven West Media's platforms and a national media and marketing campaign in New Zealand.

In partnership with Seven West Media, the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo will appear at the Etihad Stadium, Melbourne on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th February. Tickets go on sale on 25th May on ticketmaster.com.au or edinburghtattoo.com.au

I am sure you will agree that this is an exceptional opportunity and we are very much looking forward to the myriad opportunities ahead.

Kind regards

Nancy

Nancy Riach
Partnerships and Development Manager
The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo
32 Market Street
Edinburgh EH1 1QB
www.edintattoo.co.uk

Jimmy wanted

Via Adam West - 29/03/2015

Borrie is searching for a couple of original Jimmy's with crowns. Can you help? Dennis writes...

I need a couple of original 'Jimmies' with crowns.

I am the RSM of Military Cadets Inc. It is a Volunteer non-profit organisation based here in Queensland, with cadets ranging in age from 11 to 18, currently with 9 units.

My old Jimmy finally gave up the ghost! (Just like me). If any of my Sig brothers out there could help me with this I would be very grateful.

Regards and good wishes to all,

Borrie

Dennis (Borrie) Borrett
ex -110 Sig Sqn,
2 Sig Regt,
28 ANZUK Bde
0408 722 784
muthavvmc@bigpond.com

ERRATOR...Please note an error in the last edition of *THURUNKA*...

...The Treasurer's e-mail address was incorrect. It is: rgm1964@bigpond.net.au, as shewn on page 1. We thank members for their patience in this matter....ED.

This edition of *THURUNKA* is printed on paper kindly donated by
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02 9516 2600

TMI

TOO MUCH INFORMATION

DISCLAIMER: The articles in **TMI** are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the **Royal Australian Signals Association (NSW) Inc.** or the staff of **THURUNKA**. They are included for light relief, a quiet smile, a break in the day's routine.

We encourage contributions and thank those who contribute articles to **TMI**.

Retirement...Ah YES!

Via Ken Myers

Why I Like Retirement!

Q?: How many days in a week?

A!: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Q?: When is a retiree's bedtime?

A!: Two hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Q?: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

A!: Only one, but it might take all day.

Q?: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?

A!: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Q?: Why don't retirees mind being called 'seniors'?

A!: The term comes with a 10% discount.

Q?: Among retirees, what is considered formal attire?

A!: Tied shoes.

Q?: Why do retirees count pennies?

A!: They are the only ones who have the time.

Q?: What is the common term for some-

one who enjoys work and refuses to retire?

A!: NUTS!

Q?: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic, or garage?

A!: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Q?: What do retirees call a long lunch?

A!: Normal

Q?: What is the best way to describe retirement?

A!: The never-ending Coffee Break.

Q?: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

A!: If you cut classes, no one calls you parents.

Q?: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?

A!: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

And, my very favourite....

Q?: What do you do all week?

A!: Monday through Friday, NOTHING.

Then on Saturday & Sunday...I REST.

50%. A 2nd Lieutenant responded with 25-75% in favour of pleasure, depending upon his state of inebriation at the time.

There being no consensus, the Major turned to the Private making the coffee. What was his opinion? Without any hesitation, the young Private responded, "Sir, it has to be 100% pleasure."

The Major was surprised and, as you might guess, asked why?

"Well, sir, if there was any work involved, the officers would have me doing it for them" The room fell silent.

God Bless the lower ranks!

Speeding Oldies

Sitting on the side of the highway waiting to catch speeding drivers, a Police Officer saw a car puttering along at 22 kph. He said he to himself, "This driver is just as dangerous as a speeding driver!" So he turned on his lights and pulled the driver over.

As the officer approached the car, he noticed that there were five old men, two in the front and three in the back...wide eyed and as white as ghosts. The driver, obviously confused said to the officer,

"Officer, I don't understand, I was doing exactly the speed limit! What seems to be the problem?"

"Sir", the officer replied, "you weren't speeding but you should know that driving slower than the speed limit can also be a danger to other drivers."

"Slower than the speed limit? No sir, I was doing the speed limit exactly...Twenty-two kilometres an hour!" the old man said a bit proudly.

The police officer, trying to contain a chuckle explained to the driver that '22' was the highway number, not the speed limit. A bit embarrassed, the man grinned and thanked the officer for pointing out his error.

"But before I let you go, Sir I have to ask....Is everyone in this car OK? These men seem awfully shaken, and they haven't made a peep this whole time" the officer asks.

"Oh they'll be all right in a minute, we just got off Highway 189."

Is sex work?

A Major was about to start his morning briefing to his staff. While waiting for his coffee the Major decided to pose a question to all those assembled.

He explained that his wife had been a bit frisky the night before and he failed to get his usual amount of sound sleep. He posed the question of just how much of sex was "work" and how much of it was "pleasure?"

A Captain chimed in with 75-25% in favour of work. A Lieutenant said it was 50-



Tail-end Charlie

A few words for a good friend, Tony...

I first met Tony Rickards when he was the Officer who inducted me into the Citizens Military Forces (CMF) Army on 24th February 1965. From then on we became good friends and would find any excuse to go sailing. Only later did I find out that our Mothers played tennis together. I guess I was the kid in the pram while Tony was exploring the bush around the tennis courts.

A mutual friend, LTCOL John Petiteit (Retd) spoke of Tony in the following words:

"I first met Tony in 1967. I was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 8th Signal Regiment (Lidcombe), and posted as a Troop Officer to the CMF component of the 130th Signal Squadron at Mos-

man. Tony was the 2IC of the CMF component and CAPT Norm Symon was the OC. Tony was, as I remember, the Supervising Officer of the Sgts Mess - A job which he (gleefully I think) passed on to me.

"As a newly minted 2LT, I remember Tony being helpful, practical and always concerned about the welfare of his soldiers. As 2IC, he was of course responsible for all the admin. However he was, as was his personality, involved in everything. Tony enjoyed socialising, and had a great sense of fun. I will remember Tony as my mentor at 130 Sig Sqn - a very important role to help a new officer find his feet." John's words really sum up Tony's attitude to his friends and crew. Tony received his Commission in February 1964".

Mike McEvoy



US Army Small Ships Association

73rd Anniversary Memorial Service and Luncheon

Ern Flint is a long-term member of our Association and has a deep passion going back to his war-time days in the US Army Small Ships. Out of this service came the US Army Small Ships Association, where Ern is the President. Every year on 15th May that Association meets for a Memorial Service and Luncheon. Here is my brief report of that gathering.

This year I again attended the memorial service and luncheon of the US Army Small Ships Association (USASSA) with other RASigs Ass'n members, Jack Podesta, Chris Manwaring, Ken Myers and Barry Izzard, with wives Lois, (Ken M), Rachel (Barry) and Glenda (Ken F).

We assembled in the ante-foyer to conduct a short but poignant service to remember those of the USASS, who fell in action and those who have passed on since.

Ern Flint thanked members for his OAM. He said that he was both proud and humbled by the occasion; proud for being able

to achieve what he, with others, had achieved in obtaining recognition by the Australian Government of the USASS, and humbled that so many thought him worthy of such an award

We then retired to the Pinaroo Room for the luncheon, which commenced with the welcome and introduction to the special guests which included the Ambassador to the United States of America and the representative of the Philippines Ambassador, as the Ambassador was overseas).

In his welcoming speech Ern added that the members had now received all the awards and medals to which they were entitled from the Australian Government..."...and it only took 73 years!" he said.

The sixty or so present were each served a three-course meal, which was well prepared and presented and washed down with good table wines. The atmosphere was congenial and was paused from time to time for toasts, other notices and the raffle draw, won by Glenda Forway.

These added to the general demeanour of the gathering, where new and old friends were swapping old tales and older jokes.

Ken Forway



Here is the third, and last, poem from our member, Dominique Sheridan. As you may recall, Dominique is trying to get as much information as he can about Australian poetry of the Great War and any such poems written by Australian servicemen and women. He is also very interested to find anything by nurses, wives, mothers, etc. If you can help Dominique here it would be much valued....ED.



Members Only

In ranks and files they rest at ease,
They earned their places dear.
They lie in earth so still and queer
For each had died in bloom of war
When mothers' sons died such as these.

They'll never leave their beds of clay;
Nor pain in mortal coil.
They rest forever more from toil
And wait for when we'll join them
On that last and final day.

So if you tread on member's ground,
Pay heed for you're a guest.
For its members only here may rest,
And we who visit must refrain
From making noise or sound.

D.P.G. Sheridan

(c) 6/11/2011

