

The official quarterly magazine

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CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER ISSUE 2013



"SEMPER PARATUS"

*Merry
Christmas!*



5 FIELD AMBULANCE RAAMC ASSOCIATION

"A PROUD MEMBER OF THE RAAMC ASSOCIATION INC."

5 FIELD AMBULANCE RAAMC ASSOCIATION

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DISCLAIMER:

Opinions expressed in our quarterly newsletters are not necessarily those of our Patron, Executive or Committee. We welcome any input as long as it is not offensive or abusive but if any member has a problem with a printed article we would like to be informed in order that the author may be contacted. We do encourage your opinion.

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RAAMC
ASSOCIATION**

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VALE ~

Ernest William LYNCH	27/07/13
Matthew Henry HOGAN	22/08/13
Kenneth MASTERS	30/08/13
Sr. Elizabeth SHEARD	17/09/13
Robert (Bob) GLOVER	1/10/13

Sr. Elizabeth SHEARD (nee Reid) passed away peacefully on the 17 September, in her home in Penshurst, Sydney, with her son Phillip by her bedside. She had celebrated her 84th birthday in July.

(This picture was the last time Elizabeth was able to be with us—taken at our ‘mixed’ Reunion, in 2011)



Elizabeth was also a Life Member and she always kept in touch with us, and among the many letters and notes she sent was one expressing her disappointment about not being able to attend our late President's funeral (Dr. P.J. (Jim) McGrath).

In our September 2003 Newsletter we printed the words (sung to the tune of... “I like to go a’wandering”) to a Hygiene song that was laughingly put together, on a troop train from Sydney to Singleton, in 1958, by Ray Atkinson, John Phillips, Sr. Pat Cross and Sr. Elizabeth Reid (she married Kilner Sheard in 1959—Kilner, by the way, rose to Lt Col in Intelligence Corps. Sadly, he passed away in 1991).

In our Christmas Newsletter of 2005, I placed an article that Elizabeth had written, about their trip to Cambodia that year.

When I read the news of Elizabeth's death, I spoke to her son, Phillip, about having an RSL Tribute and he contacted me to say that his brother, Charlie, and his sister, Ruth, thought their mum would like that very much.

At Elizabeth's Funeral Service, Phillip spoke lovingly on behalf of all the family members, and it was particularly pleasing to hear Elizabeth's granddaughter, Elena, speak of the good memories that will always remain with her, of her times in her nan's company. It was a pleasure to listen to the family's contribution to their mum.

I had the honour to present the RSL Tribute at her funeral.

I informed the family and friends that Elizabeth was a nurse and she was placed on the Reserve of Officers with Army Number F12010, from the 15th May 1953 to 23rd December 1956 and the next day (24th) enlisted in the Citizens Military Forces with 5 Field Ambulance, until her discharge as a Lieutenant on the 10th December 1958. Elizabeth was awarded The Australian Defence Medal.

I spoke about Elizabeth's commitment in teaching basic First Aid skills and Life Saving drills to the young National Servicemen who were assigned to the unit during her time there.

We had a moment's silence for Elizabeth, followed by “The Last Post”, the “Ode of Remembrance and “Rouse”

I wish to thank our member, George Sip, for also being present and to place a ‘Poppy’ on Elizabeth's casket.

Our Association extends its sincere sympathies to Charlie, Phillip and Ruth and their families.

LEST WE FORGET

Robert (Bob) GLOVER MID passed away peacefully, in his home, on the 1st October.

His wife Margaret, of nearly 63 years, was by his side. Bob's health had gradually deteriorated over the last 12 months

and, mercifully, he did not suffer when he died of heart failure.

Bob, and his wife Margaret, were very good friends of mine and we have known each other since they moved to Lemon Tree Passage, from Canberra, in the early 1990's.

Bob joined our RSL Sub Branch as soon as they arrived in the area, and it was not too long before he was elected as one of our respected Pension's Officers. He held this position from 1998 to 2000 and was elected as our Sub Branch President in 2001. He only stood for the one term, due to personal reasons.

He joined our Association in 2010 because he liked reading about us, and a short time later he became a Life Member.

The sad part of this “Vale” is, I had Bob's ‘life story’ at our printers and it is included in this Issue.

I had the honour of presenting the below RSL Tribute, about Bob's service;

“Bob joined the RAAF when he turned 18 in late 1944. His number was A2859. After basic training at the Recruit Training Depot in Cootamundra, he was transferred in June 1945 to LABUAN and in July he was transferred to MOROTAI and assigned to 4 Construction Squadron.

The Japanese were still entrenched on MOROTAI, until defeated in August 1945.

In November he was transferred to NOEMFOOR, a strategic Dutch New Guinea island, and assigned to 9 Transport and Movement Office.

In January 1946 he was transferred back to BRADFIELD PARK (which is now the leafy, North Shore Sydney suburb of LINDFIELD) and then later transferred to RAAF Station CANBERRA.

Bob decided to remain in the RAAF.

In 1947 he was transferred to RAAF Station, PORT MORESBY.

In April 1949 he was transferred back to RAAF Station CANBERRA.

When the KOREAN War broke out in 1950, he was assigned, in December, to 77 Squadron.

(Prior to his departure to KOREA, he was granted leave to get married, in the October, to Margaret.)

He served 3 further periods in KOREA in 1951, between MARCH to DECEMBER.

In March 1952 he was taken to IWAKUNA, JAPAN and then flown to MASCOT and transferred to RAAF Station RICHMOND (NSW). Bob was promoted to Sergeant and transferred to LAVERTON.

In March 1953, Bob was selected to be part of the RAAF Coronation Contingent and sailed to PORTSMOUTH in the UK, aboard the HMAS SYDNEY.

After the Ceremony they returned to SYDNEY, again aboard the HMAS SYDNEY. He returned to Base Squadron CANBERRA.

Bob was promoted to Flight Sergeant in May 1955 and sent to OFFICER'S TRAINING SCHOOL at RATHMINES for a month.



His LAST transfer was to Base Squadron RICHMOND (NSW) in early January 1957.

Bob decided to take his discharge on the 9th January 1957, with the rank of Flight Sergeant, to 'settle down' to a normal life with his wife, Margaret.

During his service in the RAAF Bob had a number of Attachments;

3 RAAF Hospital, Eastern Area HQ Transit Departure and Reception Centre, RAAF Stations – GARBUT, RICHMOND and WILLIAMTOWN, 87 Sqn CANBERRA, Eastern Area HQ GLENBROOK and 1 Stores Depot TOTTENHAM.

Bob's HONOURS & AWARDS were;

MENTION IN DISPATCHES (June 1952)

1939-45 Star, Pacific Star, War Medal 1939-45, ASM 1939-45, AASM 1945-75 with Clasp KOREA, KOREAN Medal, UN Service Medal KOREA, ASM 1945-75 with Clasps 'JAPAN' & 'PNG', Australian Defence Medal, South Korean Presidential Citation, Coronation Medal and Return from Active Service Badge".

LEST WE FORGET.

I would also like to record the names **two other soldiers**. They were **not members** of our Association but one served with **5 Field Ambulance** during National Service and the other served in the **2/5th Australian Field Ambulance during WW 2**. They have also been placed on our **Honour Roll**.

Ernest William LYNCH passed away on the 27 July 2013.

I wish to thank Mr. Gary Roser, the Hon Secretary of the Bass Hill RSL Sub Branch for contacting me. Ernie, as he was known in his Sub Branch, was a member of the Bass Hill Sub Branch and our Association sincerely thank them for conducting the RSL Tribute on behalf of Ernie's family. I have edited some of the Eulogy presented by the Sub Branch and later handed to his family..

"Ernest William LYNCH was born on the 24th November 1933. He was "called up" for National Service on the 28th April 1953 and given Army Number 2721743. His 3 months full time basic training was completed at 13 National Service Training Battalion at Ingleburn and the remaining 5 years in the CMF with 5 Field Ambulance at Moore Park. Ernest was awarded the Australian Defence Medal and ANS Medal 1952-72."

Ernie was known as a quiet, decent man to his friends. On the day of his funeral I was not able to be present but we sincerely thank our member George Sip for attending and representing us. He made himself known to Ernie's family and expressed our sincere sympathies to them.

Matthew Henry HOGAN passed away on the 22nd August 2013 and his Eulogy on pages 3 & 4 was edited and sent to me by our Honorary Chaplain, Brian Hogan, who, coincidentally, is somewhere related to Matthew.

Matthew Henry Hogan

17th Aug 1920 – 22nd Aug 2013

2/5th Australian Field Ambulance

(With kind thanks to our Honorary Chaplain- Brian Hogan & Matthew's family)

When many born in the era of Matthew hid from their convict past, that was not the situation for Matthew. He relished the fact that his Hogan heritage included bush rangers, murderers and political prisoners.

Matthew Henry Hogan was known by most as Matt, but to his beloved June he was always Matthew.

Matthew's parents were down to earth people and brought up their children in that manner.

Matthew was a good story-teller and although the records imply that he was born on the 27/8/1920, he put his birthday back to 1919 just to get into the Army, as what quite a few young blokes did when WW2 commenced.

Matthew was the middle son ~ Alec now deceased, Matthew, and Jack who is with us today. Though they were born 8 years apart they related well in adulthood and saw each other frequently throughout life.

Back in those days Brighton was a country area with market gardens all round. Today it is a city. Being country kids it was not uncommon for Matthew and his brothers to bring home animals like an escaped horse, a goat and a chicken.

For misbehaviour sometimes his grandmother puts him in the laundry for "Time Out", but he would hide in the washing box so she couldn't find him when she returned.

Matthew the scholar

Matthew's love life began when he began school at Gardenvale Primary School. He had a crush on Miss Fee, whom he often walked hand in hand down to the local railway station, but he got jealous when she got friendly with Mr Ritchie. Most of the time he loathed school, preferring to get into mischief with his mates, and the resulting strap as punishment.

At the grand old age of 12 he first locked eyes on 8-year-old June Smith, and being a drummer in the school marching band he would bang the drum a little harder as he walked past her.

Many a time he would wag school just to ride with the milko and deliver the milk.

After a short time at Brighton Tech, he finally got a job as an office boy with "Women's Weekly" in Melbourne, which was run by June's dad.

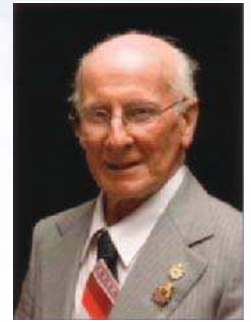
Matthew the soldier

When WW2 started, the Hogan family motto kicked in: "Push forward with every breath".

He signed up joining the 7th Division and 2/5th Field Ambulance. He was an ambulance driver, and served in The Middle East and South West Pacific. At one stage he drove for Weary Dunlop. He was always proud to be known as one of the Rats of Tobruk.

In the Army he re-acquainted himself with a bloke he knew when they played in the sandpit at school, Jack Harmer. Jack reckoned that Matt could sleep anywhere, even in a noisy war zone. Jack would put Matt's tinny over his head to protect him; best friend all his life; Jack became uncle Jack to Matt's children.

Jack tells the story of an incident where Matthew was struggling to get a bloke onto the stretcher whilst under fire.



A third stretcher bearer came to his aid as the other original stretcher bearer had scarpereed into the bush.

Apparently Matthew was one of the few soldiers who was willing to speak about his wartime experiences. There is approximately 8 hours of recorded interviews with him which can be found on...

www.australiansatwarfilmarchive.gov.au/aawfa/interviews/50.aspx

Matthew the Family Man

From his early school days the Hogan clan and the Smith family became intertwined in the Brighton area.

Matthew and June were soul-mates, and according to their children, were very much in love. In fact the children never heard them argue.

Yet there was one time when June was exhausted back in the 1950s. She took Laurel and John in the pram and marched towards her mother's place. That's it. I'm leaving you!" she said. Before long, Matt turned up in the Ford Prefect, packed them up and they went home.

Matthew and June had a newsagency and Matthew would be at the shop sorting papers any time after 4am and June would come and help out during the day as well as care for the children. June's basic complaint was that she needed some time for herself.

But in the main Matthew made sure that June and the children never lacked for anything.

Operating a newsagency, having 6 children Matthew and June needed time for themselves. To achieve this time alone they'd send the children to church, go out to the car, or put a chock of wood behind the bedroom door! Laurel, Jenny, John, Elizabeth, Jill, Katie. Five girls and one son.

On occasions dad and the lad would drive off on Saturday afternoon and go to Philip Island for a bit of men's time out, and do it all again next Saturday.

The family had their illnesses, but there was a family strength. Katie at the age of 6 suffered from rheumatoid arthritis, but she loved dad carrying her off to bed.

One occasion Jenny cried out from sheer exhaustion "I can't do this anymore." dad, He responded with the words, "There's no such word as can't." Jenny's son Nicholas had leukaemia.

Matthew's children stated that, "Whatever they needed, dad didn't hesitate to try and fulfil."

His grandchildren adored him, not to mention his 20 great grandchildren. They called him "Dud".

Some comments from his grandchildren

Emmaly: "Dud has given me two beliefs which I live to:

1. That you can achieve anything your heart desires, no matter how crazy the concept might be. I realised this from Dud, as he built a whole boat in his backyard.
2. Never go by the prescribed dose on medications!

Liz, Hylton, Anika and Bastian: "Thank you Dud for taking us on all your adventures! You took us surfing, bike riding, trail bike riding, sailing and swimming. You gave us such wonderful experiences, we will always remember these special times. You encouraged us to explore and try new things, qualities that we will pass on to our children. What a wonderful grandfather and great-grandfather you have been. You will always remain in our hearts."

Matt: "Dud represented to me what a fulfilled life meant: happiness, health, family, adventure, travel, courage, honesty and determination ... in no particular order and mixed in together! He was a humble gentleman who tipped his hat to the ladies. We will remember them."

Matthew and the community

Matthew was seen as a key figure in the Mt Waverly community. It was the place he loved. He was known as "Mr Hogan" or "Mr Impeccable. If you wanted to feel good walk up to Mt Waverley with Matt and everyone would smile at you; and he would tip his hat to everyone.

To the Hogan family, running the Newspaper agency, the customer always came first. This became ever so true when June was in labour with Elizabeth in the shop - "I'm sorry love, but you'll have to wait until I've finished the paper round." After an hour, returned to take her to hospital, then straight back to the shop.

Many of their delivery boys were from poor families, so Matt started them off with their first bank account and gave them a sense of self-worth, earning and saving. He also gave them treats like hot doughnuts every Saturday, and at Easter took them to the local milk bar to gorge themselves on as much chocolate as they liked, annual fishing trip to Mordialloc then thank them for their hard work.

As a JP he often signed papers for people in sad situations, and did much behind the scenes that his family didn't know about, to help those in need.

There are many stories that could be told about Matt, delivering papers out of his car sometimes with his very young daughter driving. One paper boy told of Matt's generosity in giving him a week's wages just because he came back a day early and asked would Mr Hogan like him to do his run the next day.

All family weddings needed to be held on Tuesday or Wednesday – between the Herald and Sun newspaper deliveries.

Retirement and decline in health

Matthew and June decided to retire when he turned 60. He loved his parties, and the crazy family antics.

They eventually set up a caravan with enough room to sleep 21 at Philip Island, where they had wonderful family experiences.

In all of the family photographs people are either holding hands or cuddling each other, for as a family, they valued each other.

About the age of 70 as macular degeneration started to set in, Matthew still built a few crazy objects. He relished the talking books and spent as much time as possible with his ever expanding family.

About 2008 he endured a massive stroke and recovered surprisingly well, only to decline last year.

While at home his family lovingly nursed him until it became necessary for both he and June to move into a nursing home run by his daughter Laurel at Healesville.

On the night Matthew died a number of his children were present. In this final moments, his daughter Elizabeth said to her dad, "Dad you're taking the love of us all with you – your wife, your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren".

So just a week before his 93rd birthday, Matthew Henry Hogan passed away.

(Continued on page 7)



5 Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

(Please contact me if I have omitted your name)

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Mr. Huss	MAHOMET		

+ 2/5th Australian Field Ambulance # Associate



Message from the President

Welcome to the 2013 Summer Issue of the Magazine of 5 Field Ambulance RAAMC Association.

Battle for Australia Day this year was held on Wednesday, 4th September at the Cenotaph Martin Place. The main address was given by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO Governor of New South Wales.

The event was well attended and the Association was represented by Alan Curry OAM (Secretary) who brought and displayed our Banner, Brian Tams (Treasurer), Derek Cannon (President) and prospective new member Thomas Hamilton. The MC was member David Cooper OAM and present as always representing the Nursing Corp was member Eileen Henderson OAM. Following the ceremony I was delighted to present Eileen with her tankard from the Association.

Following the ceremony Alan, Brian, Tom and I retired to the Services Club in Barrack St. for refreshment and lunch.

I attended the October 4th meeting of NSW RAAMC Association (Inc). with no major outcomes to report. The next meeting is on 6th December at 10.30 at Victoria Barracks.

The Reserve Forces Day National and NSW Launch for 2014 took place on Saturday morning 2nd Nov 13, in the Auditorium of the Paddington RSL Club, 220/232 Oxford St. Sydney. 2014 marks the First Year of the ANZAC Centenary. 100 years since our Prime Minister Andrew Fisher vowed that Australia would "help and defend Britain to the last man and the last shilling". The conflict that was to last until 1918 cost 62,000 Australian



Derek Cannon

lives, a terrible cost to a 4.5 million population. 1914 saw the raising and dispatch of the first troops to the War, and the first battle to cost Australian lives. 6 were killed taking control of German New Guinea. In 1914 Australia had few permanent forces, the reservists of the time formed the backbone of the Navy, ANMEF and AIF and were to be sent overseas and write our country's name large in the company of nations.

Standards were marched in including Alan with our Standard and Stu Jones with 1 Field Ambulance Standard, before the formal welcome by the National and NSW Chairman of the Reserve Forces Day Council the Honorable Tim Fisher AC.

Short presentations were given on the mobilization of the Army, Navy and Australian Flying Corps and their service through World War 1 by:

- Major General Gordon Maitland AO OBE RFD ED Ret'd
- Captain Ian Pfennigwerth PhD RAN Ret'd
- Air Vice Marshal Bruce Short AM RFD Ret'd
- Chairman of the NSW Centenary ANZAC Advisory Council General Peter Cosgrove AC MC Ret'd
- Outlined the plans for the Centenary of Anzac Commemorations in NSW.
- The Prime Minister's message was read by the Honorable Bronwyn Bishop MP
- Before: Head of Cadet and Reserve and Employer Support Division Major General Paul Brereton AM RFD Launched Reserve Forces Day 2014.

Our end of year mixed reunion lunch was held on 30th November at Paddington RSL. Twenty-six members and guests attended. For details see article by Alan Curry (OAM) later in this magazine. Tom Hamilton gave us a 30 minute gig of rhyme and song which had the audience laughing and crying and was very well received.

Though plans are in train by for our Centenary celebration in March 2015 and also Stu Jones is working on the 1 Field Ambulance Centenary in August 2014. One is drawn to Rudyard Kipling's lines:

I kept six honest serving men
They taught me all I knew
Their names are Why and What and When
And How and Where and Who.

To all our special members and with constant thought for our sick, Edna and I wish you all the very best for Christmas and the festive season and best wishes for 2014. Good reading and hope to see you on Anzac Day 2014.

Derek Cannon

VALE... (Continued from page 4)

Kenneth MASTERS passed away on the 30 August 2013.

Sadly, I did not find out until early November. His son, Glen, phoned me after he came across our last newsletter. Ken had joined us earlier, in 2013.

He was an acquaintance of our President, Derek Cannon, who also was unaware of Ken's passing.

Ken enlisted in the RAAF on the 15th July 1954 and discharged on the 7th May 1962 with the rank of Aircraftsman. He was promoted to Aircraftsman on the 15th January 1955.

His postings were:- Base Squadron Richmond, 1 Recruit Training Unit Richmond and 1 Central Reserve Marrangaroo.

Ken was Struck off Strength on the 8th March 1955 and then returning to Base Squadron Richmond on the 14th March 1962.

Our Association expresses its sincere sympathy to Glen and his family at the loss of his dad. I am sorry that we did not have a representative present on the day.

LEST WE FORGET



Message from the Secretary

Dear Members,

As another year closes I take the opportunity to wish all our members, and their family and friends, a happy, healthy and safe Christmas.

In saying this I join with our committee in wishing our sick, and possibly hospitalised, members good health and spirits at this time and trust you are all in good hands.

I would like to thank the members who contacted me in regards to the devastating bushfires that flared up on the 13th October in my particular area.

Thankfully no lives were lost but at least 4 homes were destroyed and much other property damaged or destroyed. The fires were about 3 kms from our home.

We (Ruth and I) were on our way back from Sydney Airport and when we arrived at our 'turn-off' to go to Tanilba Bay, about 4.30pm, the police were not allowing any residents in or out because of the fire danger. I was told that people had been waiting by the side of the road since about 2pm!

There is a small local church that is situated adjacent to the Lemon Tree Passage road and church members, I presume, were bringing around bottled water to every vehicle and their occupants.

I was told that the manager from the Coles store at Tanilba Bay (Mr. Alan Benson) had instructed his staff to donate as much bottled water as was needed.

I was also informed that the CEO of the Tilligerry RSL Sports Club (Mr Anthony Watson) arranged emergency accommodation for two golfers whose homes were under immediate threat.

At about 10pm, Rural Fire Service volunteers came to all the vehicles and told them to start making arrangements for the night, because the fires had flared up again and no one would be allowed access along the Lemon Tree Passage road.

We were fortunate that our son, Gregory, and his family live in Nelson Bay and knew what was going on. They arranged for us to sleep at their place for the night.

Ruth and I made our way back home about 7.30am the next morning. What a sad sight greeted us as we drove along the Lemon Tree Passage road!

A large section of both sides of the road completely 'gutted' by the fires.

Houses and sheds GONE. Police and emergency personnel and many fire trucks - with their 'flashing' warning lights' very visible, on a side road and in amongst the burnt-out trees, all working to restore the area and still putting out spot fires and smouldering embers.

A blessed relief had occurred during the night and all through the early hours, in that the predicted southerly had arrived and brought much needed heavy rains.

It must have been a very harrowing experience for those residents who were 'caught up' in the middle of it all.



I was speaking to one couple who were evacuated and were unaware of the bushfire danger until they received a knock on their front door to inform them to 'get out'.

From our own experience the sad part was a complete lack of information from informed sources. One would think there could have been, at least, an hourly update to the local ABC and community radio stations that broadcast to the areas. I also understand that nearby Fingle Bay was also in much trouble at the same time.

Since this fire in our area, we have read about, and seen on our TV's, the dreadful carnage that has occurred in many other areas of our State. I hate to think what the end of our Summer will have brought!

In closing, I sincerely thank all our police and emergency service personnel, including those young (and not so young) volunteer rural fire-fighters for the enormous benefit they are to our communities. The vast majority are unpaid and our local areas would be in dire peril if we do not support them fully. In saying the above, the ADF has certainly 'weighed in' and every member is most sincerely thanked in whatever role they played.

On REMEMBRANCE DAY (11/11 at the 11th Hour), it rained steadily, but did not dampen the spirits of over 100 men, women and children, and school representatives who attended our local Sub-Branch Ceremony (held in the Club's auditorium).

I had the honour of giving the "CITATION" followed by the reading of a beautiful, evocative poem by the noted author and friend of our Association, Mr. Tomas Hamilton, titled... "Why is the Poppy so red"?

On a personal note, we have SOLD our home at Tanilba Bay.

By the time you read this Newsletter our new home will be in the process of being built. Ruth, myself and our daughter, Julie, will be moving to an "Over 50's" Retirement Village at Anna Bay. It is called Birubi Sands and our NEW ADDRESS, in early January 2014 (hopefully), will be;

35/1a Gordon Cl., ANNA BAY NSW 2316. We do not know what our new HOME PHONE will be, as yet; My mobile number is unchanged-0427.82.4646.

We, (myself and our committee) wish all our members a safe and, if possible, a Happy Christmas and a bright and healthy New Year in 2014.

Alan Curry OAM



BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA CEREMONY-(Summary)

A beautiful morning greeted over 200 attendees to hear our respected members, David Cooper OAM, the MC for the Ceremony, introduce our other well respected member, MAJGEN Warren Glenny AO to give the Welcome Introduction to all the special guests and attendees.

A warm welcome was especially extended to our "Fuzzy Wuzzy" Angels who would normally have been chaperoned by our late, and dear member, John Phillips OAM who, sadly, passed away late last year. It was good to see John's wife, Alison, in attendance and their daughter Debbie was also one of the official photographers.

The "Fuzzy Wuzzy's" – Mr Benjamin Ijumi and Mr Frederick Sopa – were in the very capable hands of Mr Michael Ali, M/s Rosemary Bayne and Mr Ludwick Kamanski. Qantas is to be commended for also being heavily involved in their attendance.

The main 'Address' was given by Her Excellency, Prof. Marie Bashir AC CVO. I requested a copy of it from her Aide and have great pleasure to place it

in our Newsletter. It was a wonderful 'Address'.

A very pleasing feature of this Ceremony is the presence, and participation, of the Choristers of St Andrew's Cathedral School and the Recital of the "Ode" by two students from Tempe High School.



The photos below were taken on the day and we also had the opportunity to 'present' a pewter mug to our good member, Eileen Henderson OAM, on the occasion of her being awarded an OAM.

We had our Banner assembled and on display and we were represented by our President, Derek Cannon, Brian Tams, myself, Eileen Henderson OAM, David Cooper OAM and MAJGEN Warren Glenny AO.

An ex RAAF friend of Derek's (and noted poet) – Tomas Hamilton also attended with us.

After the Ceremony the four of us had lunch at the Combined Services Club in Barrack Street.

(The Battle for Australia Committee has now been changed to: "The Battle for Australia Association NSW Inc." – If you would like to donate to them to keep this very important Ceremony on-going, please contact their Hon Sect Mr David Cooper OAM (02)9144.2867 or Email; david_cooper@barker.nsw.edu.au)



Photos courtesy of Alan Curry & Battle for Australia NSW Association



Battle for Australia "ADDRESS" Wed. 4th September 2013

(With sincere thanks to our State Governor-Prof Marie Bashir AC CVO)

It is indeed a deeply felt privilege to share this commemorative service with you all today of one of the most critical – perhaps the most critical period in the history of our beloved nation.

It may be said that for tens of thousands of years during the period when the first Australians, our Aboriginal people were perhaps the only occupiers of this glorious continent, and the 225 years when British and other settlers joined them in this great South Land, the so called "tyranny of distance" was indeed "the blessing of distance". So far from the recurrent wars of the Northern Hemisphere, the thought of an invasion of our island continent was inconceivable.

Inconceivable perhaps, until with the audacious bombing of Pearl Harbour in December 1941, World War II burst upon the Asia Pacific Region. By mid February 1942, just 69 days after Pearl Harbour, Singapore fell.

This news tore across Australia, stunning our people into almost disbelief. The Japanese had taken 140,000 prisoners, approximately 1,500 Australians. Or courageous Prime Minister of the day, John Curtin, declared to the nation – and I quote his very words – "Just as Dunkirk began the Battle for Britain, so does Singapore open the Battle for Australia. It is now work or fight as we have never worked or fought before. On what we do now, depends everything we hope to do when this bloody test has been survived".

On 19th February 1942, Darwin then a relatively small outpost town of the Commonwealth, with a population of around 2,000, was bombarded by 188 Japanese planes and 243 people were killed.

This was followed immediately by the invasion of Timor where Australian Commandos, it was reported, conducted a guerilla campaign.

What were the special interests of the Japanese in Australia, one may ask.

Extraordinarily, reports of Japanese designs on Australia had been known to some as early as the time of Russia's defeat by the Japanese in the Russian-Japanese War of 1904-1905.

Some years later, Japanese documents came to light mentioning Australia as a possible future colony of Japan. However, it is also believed that the underlying purpose of those attacks on Darwin and later on New Guinea and other parts of Australia, were to weaken our nation's value as an American Base.



The US President Roosevelt in February 1942 had decided to make Australia the main American Base in the South West Pacific Region and this fact sheds understanding on the critical significance of the Battle of the Coral Sea.

The invasion of New Guinea took place in March 1942, involving specifically the region of Lae and Salamanca; and later in July, of Buna and Gona. As the enemy pressed on southward towards Moresby, it was necessary to cross a precipitous mountain track which would take them through the small village of Kokoda. However, in their intended move onward to Port Moresby (and perhaps then Australia), it was the Kokoda Track they must negotiate. But as we are proudly aware, the extraordinary courage of the Australian troops, despite the ravages of malaria and dengue fever, would successfully prevent the Japanese progress.

The Japanese alternate strategy was to gain access to Port Moresby from disembarking their troops at Milne Bay. The Allies were now ready to meet them, and in 10 days this Japanese ambition had been destroyed.

Yet another critical confrontation occurred in the Bismarck Sea in March 1943, where a joint Australian-United States Air Strike Force successfully sunk or damaged all of the 16 ships which were bringing much needed reinforcements and supplies to the Japanese invaders in New Guinea.

This assault in the Bismarck Sea is credited with putting an end to Japanese efforts to reinforce their troops in Papua New Guinea. However, Australians justifiably believed that a Japanese invasion of our land was still a possibility, and a massive coordinated war effort was underway, making "defence – the first priority".

Beaches were covered in barbed wire, older men joined the volunteer defence corps, air raid precautions were

devised even as far away as the towns of Western New South Wales, and a National Emergency service readied themselves for invasion. In addition, manpower laws were enacted, directing thousands into essential war material production – and women into employment formerly the realm only of men!

One extraordinary aspect of Australia's effort in regard to Naval Defence relates to shipbuilding. Realising that escort ships were urgently required, and those made in Britain and elsewhere were not suitable to Australian needs, there was no alternative for Australia but to build its own. Let me quote the report verbatim:

"The result was as Australian as a kangaroo – designed by Australians who had never designed warships before, built by Australians who had never built warships before, and manned by Australians most of whom had never been to sea before... "But before long "ships were sliding down the slipways of eight shipyards, and corvettes were being commissioned at the rate of one every 26 days."

Let me assert that ingenuity was to the fore as well as sheer hard work. For when tallow was not available at a Queensland Shipyard to grease the slipway, our incomparable Aussie used bananas.

Thankfully, and despite our fears, the invasion was never realised and eventually the tide was turning. By December 1942, the Japanese invasion force was retreating, repulsed by a determined, combined force of Australians and Americans.

By early 1943, all Japanese positions had been captured. The Papua New Guinea campaign was over and the Australian spirit was proudly resolute. And we can never ever forget our loyal friends, the Papua New Guinea "Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels".

As we are aware, the Pacific War would continue for another two-and-a-half years, but Australia was no longer in danger. The defence of our land had been successful but high price had been paid.

Deaths in the New Guinea campaign totalled more than 12,000 Japanese, but also 930 Americans and more than 2,100 of our Australian sons. This nation shall always remember them with everlasting gratitude."

LEST WE FORGET



RESERVE FORCES DAY “LAUNCH”

(Summary)

The RFD 2014 “Launch” was held on Saturday, 2nd November in the auditorium of the Paddington (Sydney) RSL Club from 10.30am.



About 150 friends and guests of the RFD Committee welcomed the spectacle of the ‘March On’ by the Reserve Forces Band for the numerous Standard Bearers from the majority of the Associations and the Combined Tri-Service Heritage Group, The Australian Great War Association and the Australian Federation Troop.

The MC, Mr. Bob Joseph, introduced the various speakers, which included The Hon Tim Fischer AC, MAJGEN Gordon Maitland AO, MAJGEN Peter Cosgrove AO, Air Vice Marshall Bruce Short AM, CAP Ian Pfenningwerth PhD RAN (Ret’d), MAJGEN Paul Brereton AM and the representative of the Prime Minister, The Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP.

All the guest speakers were well received and each gave the audience much information on the past, present and future role of our Reserve Forces, which everyone present greatly appreciated.

The “Launch” came to a successful conclusion about noon and everyone ‘mingled’ in the various Function Rooms afterwards for some much appreciated sandwiches and tea/coffee.

Congratulations to LTCOL John Moore OAM, and his tireless committee and other organisers within the RF structure, for a wonderful morning.

I had the pleasure of carrying our Standard and we also thank the following members of our Association for being in attendance; Our President, Derek Cannon, Stu’ Jones (he also represented 1 Fd Amb Assn and carried their Standard), MAJ Eileen Henderson OAM, MAJGEN Warren Glenny AO.

(My sincere apology if I have omitted your name.)



VP DAY CEREMONY

(2pm ~ 15/8/2013)

(Summary)

A beautiful sunny afternoon greeted about 200 attendees, all seated under cover, at the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway near the Concord Repatriation Hospital.

If you have not visited this wonderful Commemorative facility I would urge you to take an hour or so, when you have time, to quietly stroll around the tree-lined paths and pause to read the plaques that have been placed at various points.

They tell a vivid story of the Kokoda campaign and the ongoing struggle against the Japanese invaders, before our soldiers and allies slowly gained the upper hand.

There is also a very nice little café where you can sit and have a bite to eat and a cuppa.

The gathering heard the MC, Mr. John Gatfield, introduce the Mayor of Canada Bay, Mr. Angelo Tsirekas, to give the Prologue and later to introduce GEN Peter Cosgrove AC MC who presented the main 'Address'. It was inspiring to hear the General speak very clearly, and without notes, the story of the Kokoda Campaign.

While the Wreath Laying was in progress we watched a big TV screen flash images of our servicemen involved in the Campaign, especially the Bismarck Sea Battle.

We were entertained with very thoughtful music from the talents of harpist, M/s Elizabeth Lawrencev and cellist Mr. Kenny Ma.

M/s Alice Kang and her staff, as well as the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway committee are to be sincerely congratulated for a mighty effort. The NSW Corrective Services Band did a great job as did the pupils from St Patrick's College, if only for their very welcome presence.

Actually their teacher, Mr Justin Newman, is sincerely thanked for seeking the assistance of two volunteers, Master John Chidiac and Master Joseph Ayoub, to hold our Banner during the Ceremony.

Our President, Derek Cannon, and myself wish to thank Mr John Head for taking a heap of photos on the day and giving me a DVD of all the pictures. Some of the ones shown were taken by John (he is a member of my Tilligerry RSL Sub Branch).



ASSOCIATION'S 2013 ANNUAL 'MIXED' REUNION



Sitting on floor L/R: Gail Tams, Kerry Rylands, Ann Steigrad, Penelope Lowery.

Seated L/R: Bill Rylands, Margaret Fiorentino, Margaret Dougherty, Betty Hamilton, Sue Jones, Edna Cannon, Felicity Evans.

Rear L/R: Fred Bell, Edwin Lowery, Tomas Hamilton, Michael Carlson (behind), Hugh McCarty, Nelson Fiorentino (kneeling), Brian Tams, Stu' Jones, Stephen Steigrad, Derek Cannon (rear), Alan Curry and Rob Stewart (rear).

MISSING: Warren Barnes, Ray Hyslop OAM and Theo Dechaufepie.

26 members and their partners and friends attended our Christmas reunion Luncheon at the Paddington RSL Club on the 30th November.

It is our casual and informal yearly 'get-together' which gives us a chance to relax in each other's company and renew old friendships and in some cases meet up with new members.

We had a private room with our own bar facilities and a 2-course, hot/cold smorgasbord with available tea/coffee.

Our good member, Rob Stewart, offered Grace and after we had eaten our main meal, our Treasurer, Brian Tams, proposed 'The Loyal Toast'.

Our President, Derek Cannon, welcomed everyone for their attendance, and read out all the apologies. He especially thanked our Patron, Ray Hyslop, OAM for his attendance.

Derek thanked the members who had travelled long distances to be here. He informed us that we had 'lost' three members during the last 12 months and that eleven new members had joined us.

These included Theo Dechaufepie, who is the National President and the NSW President, of the RAAMC Association Inc., and also a new member, Hugh McCarty, who came up today, from the south coast, to be with us.

Derek had brought in a small "one man carry" replica of our Banner which we will carry in our next RF Day

Parade. He also made mention of 1 Field Ambulance. Their Patron (and our good member) Stu' Jones is preparing for their Centenary celebrations in mid-August next year.

Derek said we are also making preliminary preparations for our own Centenary celebrations in 2015.

Derek concluded by introducing Tomas Hamilton, a friend and likely new member of our Association, to come forward and entertain us.

What a wonderful 30 minutes we all enjoyed. Tomas is a noted poet and Irish joke-teller and does a spot of strumming and singing on his guitar. I tell you he was a very good entertainer, in my opinion.

He sold a few of his CD's and our Association also bought three to add as prizes in our yearly raffle.

We concluded the day with some words sent to us from Brian Hogan with some suggestions and thoughts regarding our 2015 Celebrations.

We then proceeded with the drawing of the prizes in our yearly \$1 Raffle. Our Association sold 152 tickets and the winner of 50% of the proceeds (\$76) was Steve (Boris) Paris, and as an added incentive we put each winner back into the draw for the other seven prizes!

Those winners were; CD's to Steve Paris, Tom Pritchard and Nelson Fiorentino. The two (different) Gallipoli books (donated by committee member, Warren Barnes) were





won by Edwin Lowery and Brian Tams. A 5 Field Ambulance Plaque (donated by our President, Derek Cannon) was won by Don Wikner (and now suitably inscribed and posted) and the Australian Army Badge Collection (donated by our Patron, Ray Hyslop OAM) was won by Rob Stewart.

Our Association thanks the following people for their welcome attendance;

Warren BARNES, Fred BELL, Derek and Edna CANNON, Michael CARLSON, Alan CURRY, Theo DECHAUFÉPIE, Margaret DOUGHERTY, Felicity EVANS, Nelson and Margaret FIORENTINO, Tomas and Betty HAMILTON, Ray HYSLOP OAM, Stuart and Sue JONES, Edwin and Penelope

LOWERY, Hugh (Macca) McCARTY, Bill and Kerry RYLANDS, Stephen and Ann STEIGRAD, Rob STEWART, Brian and Gail TAMS.

We also thank the following for tendering their Apologies; Barry Collins OAM, David Czerkies, John Davies, Ron and Adrienne Foley, Joe Gatty, John & Margaret GORRELL, Brian Hogan, Kevin Hurrell, Terry IRVINE, Huss Mahomet, Phillip and Mrs. Trish McGrath, Bill Molloy, John Overton OAM, Barry and Heather Perigo, Bob Reid, Jim Roche OAM, Diana Rothfield, Noel TAME, John WEAVER, Bruce Whittet and serving members of 5 CSSB Health Company (due to the day being the unit family bar-b-q Christmas lunch)

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Happy (Summer) Birthday

Our Association wishes each of you "All the very best" on your "special" day.

DECEMBER: Fred BELL, George DONNELLY, Dr. Andrew ELLIS OAM, Laurie FARRUGIA, Maureen LIVINGSTON, Robert LOVE, Bob LYNCH, Nick MARSHALL, Noel MOULDER, Dr. Phillip McGRATH, Barry O'KEEFE, Chris O'REILLY, Heather PERIGO, Mick ROWLEY, Michael STRINGFELLOW, Peter SULLIVAN and Noel TAME.

JANUARY '14: Alan CHAD, Adrienne FOLEY, Don JARMAN, Colin KLINE, Dr. Ted KRAMER OAM, Alen LUCIC, Paul NICHOLLS, Bill O'KEEFE, Steve PARIS, Barry PERIGO, Albert PERRY, Ken PHILLIPS OAM, Cath SALMON, Frank SKINNER, Dr. Stephen STEIGRAD, Chris STRODE, David WILKINSON and Warwick WILKINSON AO.

FEBRUARY '14: Don AINSWORTH, Sam ALEXANDER, Dr. Harding BURNS OAM, Gavin DRISCOLL, Brett FERRARI, Terry FRY, George HARRIS, Brian HOGAN, Dr. Ray HYSLOP OAM, Michael MORONEY, Marion NEWMAN, Peter PAISLEY, Suzzane READ, Brian TAMS, Dr. Peter TRALAGGAN and Kate VERCOE.

SICK PARADE

Don AINSWORTH
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Rupert St., Bairnsdale Vic.
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Kevin CARTER
George CARUANA
David CAVANAUGH
Barry COLLINS
Gordon CURTIS
John DAVIES
George DONNELLY
Brittany EVANS
Nelson FIORENTINO
Alf FITZSIMMONS
Richard FORD

Dorothy FOSTER
Brian HOGAN
Kevin HURRELL
Brian INMAN
Neville JOHNSON
Bob LEECH (Lansdown
Nursing Home, Lovani St.,
Cabramatta NSW)
Robert LOVE
Huss MAHOMET
John McCARTHY
Hugh (Macka) McCARTY
Bob McINERNEY (Windsor
Gardens, Chatswood,
(02) 9415-3470)

Rayda NOBLE
"Bill" O'KEEFE
Charles O'MEALLY
Chris O'REILLY
Barry & Heather PERIGO
Maurice PORTER
(Shalom Lodge,
"Fairview",
157 Balaclava Rd.,
Marsfield. NSW)
Bob REID
Alan ROBINSON
Stephen STANSFIELD
Judith STRACHAN, Sr.



Francis ("Sue") THOMPSON
(Endeavour Home. Bed 10,
79 Hawkesbury Rd.,
Springwood
Ph: (02) 4751-1000)
John WEAVER & John
WOODHEAD (Lourdes
Nursing Home, Room 27,
Stanhope Rd., Killara ,
(02) 8467-4550)





We will continue with our small \$1 Raffle but with our 2015 Centenary only a matter of 6 magazine issues away, it will be on us before we know it.

I have sent a number of letters to known philanthropists, as well as my Federal Member for Paterson, Mr. Bob Baldwin MP (for a Federal Grant) seeking their monetary support for us, to help celebrate the 'forming' of our historic medical unit on the 15th March 1915, in Queens Park in Waverley (Sydney).

To this end we will meet, or have a phone 'hook-up', with our committee early in 2014 to formulate arrangements for a SPECIAL CEREMONY to be held on SUNDAY, 15th March 2015, from 9.30am!

More news will be forthcoming as we work out our plan. If we can raise the money we need it will be a great Ceremony and Celebration—if we can't, we will still have a Celebration.

(I received some news from our sister unit Association-1st Field Ambulance, via their patron (and our good member, Stu' Jones) that their Centenary preparations are progressing and they will be honouring their unit's formation with a Parade on 24th August 2014 at approx 10am in Queens Park, Waverley (Sydney). Stu' is also organising a celebratory dinner for the evening of the 23rd August --cost will be between \$50/\$75 per head-Venue TBA—he is taking 'Expressions of Interest' and enquiries—(Mob: 0412.410,019)

Friends are like balloons; once you let them go, you might not get them back. Sometimes we get so busy with their own lives and problems that we may not even notice that we've let them fly away.

Sometimes we are so caught up in who's right and who's wrong that we forget what's right and wrong.

Sometimes we just don't realise what real friendship means until it is too late.

I don't want to let that happen, so I'm going to tie you to my heart, so I never lose you.

CHAPLAIN'S

CORNER

Is there a pattern?

A major world power installs a despotic dictator, who tries to buy the allegiance of his people with structures of cultural significance as well as building edifices to his own glory and protection. Think of this despotic leader who in not getting his way slaughters many of his people.

Does it sound familiar? America shows interest in South Vietnam. China shows interest in North Korea. Cuba shows interest in Angola. The Western powers install puppet leaders in Iraq, and Afghanistan. China makes substantial cash investments in Africa and the Pacific Islands.

Is this the stuff of conspiracy theories, or am I crossing some unspoken political correctness agenda? Maybe this is what is sparking the current wave of whistle blowers, who are concerned about governmental underhandedness. So my question is, 'Is there a pattern here!'

The major world power which started this line of thought was the Romans, who installed in Palestine, the despotic King Herod. He tried to appease the Jewish people by re-building their temple, but in the meantime he built Masada as one of his fortresses, and a host of palaces for himself.

It was in his time as king, that some foreign dignitaries arrived to ask him about the birth of a special king. Being crafty, he asked them to find this special king, and then report back to him, so that he might go and honour him. Herod eventually realising that his plans had been thwarted sent his army out to slaughter every child under the age of two. The sideline to this story is that he killed most of his family just to keep his throne secure.

Two kings, Herod and Jesus. One advocate's murder on a large scale, the other advocates peace for all mankind. One is hell-bent, the other is heaven sent. One lives on greed and corruption, the other on service and sacrifice.

The Christmas cards showing snow on the window sill, or a family surrounded by sheep and shepherds together with wise men and gifts, does not reveal the horror of the true story of Christmas. It doesn't show the slaughter of innocent people or fleeing refugees. And to my mind that makes the story of Christmas relevant for today, for it has as its background the message Service and Sacrifice in the midst of terror and hopelessness in all its forms.

Service and Sacrifice is the essence of the RAAMC and the 5th Field Ambulance.

Take some time out this Christmas season to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, and your activities of Sacrifice and Service.

The actual story of the birth of Jesus can be read from the Bible, Matthew's Gospel Chapter 1: verses 18 to Chapter 2 verse 23. And in Luke's Gospel Chapter 1 to Chapter 2 verse 80.

Discover more about Herod the Great on Wikipedia.

BRIAN HOGAN
Honorary Chaplain



Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

Dr Malcolm STENING OAM is most warmly welcomed into our Association. His good friend, Dr. Jim Roche OAM, introduced Malcolm to us and also kindly mailed me a signed copy of Malcolm's book ("Memoirs of Doctors at War").



(His photo above is circa 1942)

This very distinguished doctor and veteran originally wrote this book for his 100th birthday in 2012 and what a great read it is.

I will not go into detail suffice to say he was born in 1912 and educated at Sydney Boy's High School and then at Sydney University where he graduated in medicine in 1935. He furthered his studies in England and when WW2 broke out he volunteered and served in the Royal Navy as a Surgeon-Lieutenant.

He served with distinction in the Royal Naval Hospitals in Portsmouth and Devon and at sea on HMAS Australia and HMS Howe.

Malcolm was awarded the OAM in 2009 in recognition of his many achievements.

In his chosen profession, he has taught generations of gynaecologists, many of them are life-long friends to this day.

Malcolm resides in the RSL Veterans' Retirement Village in Collaroy (Sydney). If any of our members visit the Village, call in and have a chat with Malcolm.

Thank you, Malcolm, for joining us.

Stephen STANSFIELD is sincerely welcomed into our Association. He came across one of our quarterly magazines and filled in his Application Form to join us and also the RAAMC Association.



The photos show Stephen in his Queensland Ambulance uniform and the other beside his pride and joy, a lovingly restored, Army 1965 Land-



rover Ambulance, "Norma Jean". It bears the markings of the 2nd and 8th Field Ambulance with the 1st Australian Task Force to Vietnam-1966-69. It is a 4 speed & Reverse, with a 2-speed transfer case giving high and low range in all gears. It is rear wheel drive with ability to engage all wheels.

Stephen is a military historian and a restorer. He received a "Thank You" letter in June this year from Head of Corps-RACT, BRIG Paul Nothard AM CSC, for Stephen's (and "Norma Jean") contribution in being part of the

recent RACT Princess Royal Banner Parade.

Stephen kindly posted me a few of his A4 pamphlets (and quite a few coloured photos of army ambulances) which tells the story of these ambulances, and if any member would like a pamphlet or a copy of the coloured photos, please contact either Stephen on (07) 5463.2912 or myself (Alan Curry-(0427.82.4646)

Any member living in (or passing through) the Dugandan area of Queensland (on the Beaudesert-Boonah Road) might like to call in. Stephen would be glad to meet you and show you around.

A couple of years ago, Stephen fell from his ladder and broke his spine and it was thought, at the time, that he would never walk again. He is-- but it is a daily battle!

Thank you, Stephen, we wish good days ahead for you-- and again-- Welcome.

"Every day
you should reach out
and touch someone.

People love
that human touch--
shaking hands,
a warm hug,
or just a friendly pat
on the back."

(with kind thanks to H.J.B. -Tennessee)

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5 CSSB Health Company News

(with kind thanks to OC MAJ David Czerkies)

Dear Association Members and Soldiers,

Since returning from Exercise Talisman Sabre(Hamel) 13 in mid-August, Health Company tempo has not stopped. The tempo this time has revolved around post exercise refurbishment, OR Dining In, Health-Unit Establishment Review (UER), preparations and delivery of first aid training for 5 Brigade units and the preparation for Defence Assistance to Civil Community (DACC).

On return from the exercise Health Company commenced the refurbishment of its equipment and stores. Though the staff had already done some refurbishment while on exercise the rest was completed without major hitch. That same weekend was also the Other Ranks (ORs) Dining In.

The OR's Dining-in night was well attended with special guests being 5 BDE Comd and the RSM. From all accounts the night went well with the officers, WOs and SNCO providing the service to the troops.

There was no time to stop after the exercise as Health Company was involved in reviewing the new proposed structure of Army Reserve Health. A Health Unit Establishment Review (UER) was being conducted on a proposed structure for Army Reserve health company of the future. In planning, the OC spent time reviewing the material sent to him planning his presentation for Army HQ. Though a lot of this information was presented at the last 2 Division Senior Health Advisors conference, there was a requirement to review what 5 Health Company would be capable of performing in the future. This was the real test to establish what Reserve Health will look like for the future. With Environmental Health, Dental and Pyschology staff transferring to 17 BDE, Health Company will be a totally different to what its present structure is now. Armed with this information and the OC's planning a proposed structure was presented to Army HQ and its panel at 2 Division in September. Though this was only one option presented, the final decision on the future of Army Reserve health is still to be determined. At the time this article was being written there had been no answer on the decision.

Once again, 5 Health Company was tasked in October/Nov to conduct Combat First Aid (CFA) training for personnel within 5 Brigade. This course being a full 16 day course for new candidates, plus a CFA Recertification course for those members who require to the maintain their qualification. Each of these courses are valid for 12 months where they must under-take requalification.

The CFA course commenced in mid-October with a full panel of 24 personnel and at last report all were doing well with the course in its final phase. The CFA Recert will commence in early November with a panel of 10 personnel. The duration for the CFA Recert course is four days where the soldier are run through their paces refreshing skills and tested once again to retain their qualifications.

As the year draws to a close, Health Company will look at the next task being Defence Assistance to Civil Community (DACC). However, with the recent bushfires this has brought things sooner. At short notice a number of medics and staff concentrating at Holsworthy Barracks during the bushfire period, in preparation for deployment into the fire zone. Fortunately the fire situation changed and the members were stood down and not required. Though this was short notice, this provided good practice in readiness for the summer season. This will no doubt be the first or the last as there are likely to be more of these situations during the holiday/summer season.

As this will be the last article for the year, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of the soldiers of 5 Health Company for their support for 2013. This year has been a busy one with major events let alone all of the others tasks. As the festive season comes within reach, I would like to pass on my best wishes to all 5 Field Ambulance association members and readers and the officers and soldiers of 5 Health Company for the festive season and may Christmas be a peaceful one with loved ones and friends and may the new year bring prosperity in 2014. For those members who will be working, providing essential service to the community – doctors, nurses and ambulance staff may the day be a pleasant one as celebrate the Christmas season. We will be thinking of you.

Kind regards

David Czerkies

Major

OC 5 Health Company

"The World Is Mine"

(With kind thanks to Rayda Noble from a poem by Jack Caple—2/24th Bn)

Today upon a bus I saw a lovely girl with golden hair
I envied her, she seemed so gay—I wished I were as fair.
She had one leg and wore a crutch—and as she passed—a smile.

O God, forgive me when I whine,
I have two legs, the world is mine.

And then I stopped to buy some sweets,
the lad who sold them had such charm.

I talked to him, he seemed so glad. If I were late 'twould do no harm,
And as I left he said to me, "I thank you, you have been so kind,
It's nice to talk to folks like you, he said, You see I'm blind."

O God, forgive me when I whine,
I have two eyes, the world is mine.

Later, walking down the street, I saw a child with eyes of blue,
He stood and watched the others play, it seemed he knew not what to do.
I stopped a moment, then I said "Why don't you join the others, dear?"
He looked ahead without a word, and then I knew he could not hear.

O God, forgive me when I whine,
I have two ears the world is mine.



Why wear a Poppy

by Don Crawford

*"Will you wear a poppy?" the lady said --and held one forth, but I shook my head.
Then I stopped and watched to see how she'd fare. Her face was old and lined with care.
But beneath the scars the years had made, there remained a smile that refused to fade.*

*A boy came whistling down the street, bouncing along on carefree feet.
His smile was full of joy and fun-- "Lady", he said, "May I have one?"
As she pinned it on I heard him say "Why do we wear a poppy today?"*

*The lady smiled in her wistful way and answered, "This is (Remembrance) Day.
The poppy there is the symbol for-- the gallant men who died in our war.
And because they did, you and I are free. That's why we wear a poppy you see."*

*"I had a boy about your size, with golden hair and big blue eyes.
He loved to jump and play and shout-- free as a bird he would race about.
As years went on he learned and grew, and became a man as you will, too."*

*"He was fine and strong with a boyish smile, but he stayed with us such a little while.
When war broke out he went away, I still remember his face that day.
When he smiled at me and said 'Goodbye, I'll be back soon so please don't cry.'"*

*"But the war went on so he had to stay. All I could do was wait and pray.
His letters told of the awful fight-- I can still see it in my dreams at night.
With tanks and guns and cruel barbed wire, and mines and bullets, the bombs and fire."*

*'Til at last the war was won. "And that's why we wear a poppy, son."
The small boy turned as if to go-- Then said, "Thanks lady, I'm glad to know.
That sure did sound like an awful fight, but your son, did he come home all right?"*

*A tear rolled down each faded cheek-- She shook her head but didn't speak.
I slunk away, head bowed in shame. And if you were with me, you'd have done the same.
For our thanks in giving is oft delayed, though the freedom was bought and thousands paid.*

*And so you see, when a poppy is worn, let us reflect on the burden borne.
By those who gave their very all, when asked to answer their country's call.
That we at home in peace may live-- then wear a poppy, remember and give.*

(By Email-with kind thanks to member "Scotty" Boyd)



Dates for your Diary for 2014

RAAMC Association Inc. (NSW Branch) Meets at Victoria Barracks, every 2 months, on the FIRST FRIDAY: FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT, DEC at 10.30am. An "OPEN INVITATION" is extended to you. Please advise me if you are coming.

14th February	NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S DAY — we have no official involvement but if any member attends a Ceremony and represents us, please advise me of your involvement.
25th April	ANZAC DAY
MAY	AHS CENTAUR SERVICE – Concord Hospital 113 AGH Memorial Chapel (Date TBA)
JULY	RESERVE FORCES DAY - First Sunday in Sydney and Saturday prior-in Newcastle
AUGUST	VP DAY – Further details as advised
SEPTEMBER (1 st Wednesday)	BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA COMMEMORATION (Martin Place, Sydney. 11am)
NOVEMBER	RESERVE FORCES DAY "LAUNCH" FOR 2015 ~ (TBA)
NOVEMBER (last Saturday)	ANNUAL "MIXED" REUNION LUNCHEON (Paddington RSL Club)

Cut-Off dates" for articles in quarterly magazines of 2014 ~
AUTUMN ISSUE 1st APRIL, WINTER ISSUE 1st JUNE
SPRING ISSUE 1st AUGUST, SUMMER ISSUE 1st DECEMBER

Congratulations

Our Association sincerely congratulates **THREE** soldiers from 5 CSSB who received an "Exemplary Service Medallion" which recognises their hard work and dedication to duty.

They were:- **PTE Cameron ARMSTRONG, LCPL D.G.PRECIEUX**
and **PTE A.G.SIMPSON.**

(Cameron is a member of the Health Company)



MESSAGES FROM MEMBERS

Bryan LINDSAY wrote to say he enjoys reading all the news and passes on his good wishes.



He enclosed these 3 photos of his beloved orchards. Some of them have taken 6 or 7 years to flower. He has just purchased some small ones from Victoria which were the same ones that he started with when his mum was alive.

Bryan just celebrated his 65th Birthday with a trip to Sydney and a very pleasant 'dinner' with his daughter. His other daughter had sent

him a nice bottle of port.

(Thank you Bryan, for your letter and photos and the fact that you are still caring for your mum's little dog tells us what a nice man you are.)

Stephen STEIGRAD enjoys our newsletters and is looking forward to our Reunion Luncheon in November. Stephen has attended a number of medical seminars over the last few weeks and will shortly attend a medical conference in Chicago in October. Stephen's wife, Ann, will be accompanying him.

(Thank you Stephen for your purchase of a Name Badge and also your indication for a purchase of an item/s for our 2015 Centenary. We wish you and Ann a successful and safe trip to and from the US.)

Jim ROCHE sends his kind regards to our members and his friends in our Association. He very kindly introduced his good friend, Dr Malcolm Stening, to our Association (see NEW MEMBERS) and also posted me Malcolm's book "Memoirs of Doctors at War".

If any member would like to read this wonderful account that Malcolm has produced, I would be happy to post it to you—it is a wonderful and historical read.

Jim also sent me a couple of other notes to say that Mr. Rod Lyons, (a son-in-law of Dr. Malcolm Stening) is the president of the RAR Association and is sending Jim some literature on establishing a National Military Cemetery—akin to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, USA. It has been in the news in mid-October, where the Federal Government said the concept has merit.

Jim also informed me of the recent death of a friend of his—Major Billie Grenning. She was a nurse in WW 2 and joined the CMF in the 1950's. Jim thought she may have been a member of 5 Field Ambulance at some stage?

He had also phoned me to ask if I had been sent the article "Scalpel & Tongs" on the HMAS Sydney and the HSK Kormoran medical personnel. I had put Jim's interesting article in our ANZAC Day Newsletter (AUTUMN Issue 2012-p. 23).

(Thank you very much Jim for your letters and articles and in particular for introducing Malcolm to our Association. What an icon—even if he is Navy. When the info from Rod becomes available, I will notify same in our next Newsletter.)

John OVERTON sent me an email to say he enjoyed reading our SPRING Issue 2013 magazine.

He was pleased to read about Eileen Henderson receiving the OAM and promptly rang to offer his congratulations to her. He also liked what was written about his good mate, Theo Dechaufepie.

John asked that his good wishes be extended to all his friends in the Association.

(Thank you John for your very welcome email. I understand that you are curtailing some of your 'medical duties' in favour of more grand parenting duties??)

Rob STEWART sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He has just returned from a wonderful trip to the UK and other parts of Europe.

He sent me a letter and a post card and some information about the Victory Services Club (See "Items of Interest"), where he stayed.

Rob said he was pleased he allowed extra time to visit Ireland because the people he met were warm, friendly and very welcoming.

He said 'they' call rain 'liquid sunshine'! No wonder it is called the Emerald Isle. He was heading off to Denmark before coming back home.

(Thank you Rob for your card, letter and the info on the VSC. We are glad you are now back home after a great trip.)

Bruce WHITTET sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association and enjoys reading all the news. He contacted me to let me know that I omitted his name from the attendees at the 2013 Reserve Forces Day Parade!

(Thank you Bruce. I sincerely apologise for this oversight. Your presence is always very much appreciated.)

James HOOLAN jr. is one of our International Life Members and we regularly exchange letters, emails, magazines etc.

He sent me some info from one of his Marine Corps magazines to say the USAF will start rotating Fighter and Tanker aircraft through the RAAF bases in Darwin and possibly Tindal (the Air Force Base in Northern Australia) in 2015, as part of the US military's re-balance to the Asia-Pacific region.

They may be F-15's from Kadena Air Base in Japan or F-16's from the Misawa Air Base, also in Japan.

The US Marine Corps has indicated plans to increase its rotational presence in Australia where they will stay on a 6 monthly rotation at Larrakeyah Barracks, Darwin.

(Thank you James for your "Dispatcher", Semper Fidelis and the newspaper cut-out that you sent. They are very much appreciated.)

Eileen HENDERSON sent us a "Thank You" note for the presentation of her pewter mug, by our President, Derek Cannon, after the "Battle for Australia" Ceremony (see the 'Summary' and photo). The 'mug' is a token gesture from our Association to any of our members who, since joining



us, has been invested with an Australian Government Award. Eileen was awarded the OAM in the 2013 Queen's Birthday Honours Awards and was invested in early September.

(Thank you Eileen for your Email. You are a very worthy recipient. I hope when you read this your shoulder has mended.)

Bob REID passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He was saddened when he read about the death of Sr. Elizabeth Sheard because it brought back very happy memories of his time, as CO, when she was part of a 'team' that also included Sr. "Molly" Mills.

Bob asked that his condolences be passed on to Elizabeth's family.

(Thank you Bob. Your respects were passed on to Elizabeth's family. I hope when you read this you are back to your normal self.)

Robert "Scotty" BOYD enjoys reading all the news and passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

He had great pleasure in reading about the OAM that Eileen Henderson was awarded and wrote "Well Deserved". He said that Eileen will always be remembered by him for her help and wonderful humour during his final time with 1 General Hospital.

(Thank you 'Scotty', Eileen will certainly read your 'well wishes'. We hope this finds you in good health.)

Maurice PORTER is one of our WW 2 members (*his story was featured in our CHRISTMAS Magazine-December 2010*). Friends of Maurice may recall that he moved to another Nursing Home (from Carlingford to Epping) a couple of years ago.

His wife, Barbara, visits him nearly every day. She wrote that some days are better than others. She asked him recently...*"Do you know who I am?"* and straight away he replied...*"Of course I do, you're my missus"*.

Barbara said he enjoys her reading to him, especially when our magazine arrives and he tells her...*"I was in 5 Field Ambulance"*.

She said the staff at his Nursing Home are a wonderful team and all so attentive and most caring.

Barbara takes Maurice to 'Trivia' on some occasions and said that sometimes he would 'nod off' but Barbara still enjoys joining in. She said his son David always take him to chapel on Sundays and seems to respond to the old hymns he has always known.

She told me that our Honorary Chaplain, Brian Hogan, rings her every so often and one time he rang he had left a message on her phone to say he was staying at his mother's and brother's place in Paddington. When she rang the number in Paddington she also had to leave a message on his answering machine and said...*Hi Brian, this is Barbara Porter returning your call"*.

A few moments later Barbara's phone rang and she picked up to find out it was a "million to one" chance! There was a woman on the other end of the line whose name was Monica.

Monica is a carer. She is employed by 'Round the Clock Care' and works on a roster. She is also the carer for Barbara's aunt and they both know each other quite well.

It transpired that Brian's mum also has a carer but on this particular day, was unavailable, so Robert had rung 'Round the Clock Care' and Monica was the replacement! Robert had said to Monica that he had to go out and if the phone rang not to worry about it! Monica was equally amazed at the coincidence when she heard Barbara's voice on the answering machine.

(Thank you Barbara for your letters and emails. It is always nice to read how Maurice and you are going and that you are still involved with your Portrait group and also still the secretary of the Ryde Arts Society. Please pass on our good wishes to Maurice and the rest of the family.)

Steve PARIS passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He had been away for a bit and just caught up with all the news in our magazine. He kindly indicated that he was keen to be a part of the "Expression of Interest" for our 2015 Centenary and also to buy some raffle tickets.

(Thank you, Steve. I have recorded your name, with our other members, re the Centenary 2015 Ceremony, as well as your kind gesture for the Raffle Tickets. We hope this finds you 'settled' back to normal.)

Don WIKNER passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He was replying back to me as to whether we had posted his DVD on the unit's 50th Anniversary Parade in 1965. (Our Honorary Chaplain, Brian Hogan, had done this).

Don said the DVD brought back a flood of memories, especially many good times. He wrote that he hopes to be around in 2015!! (Don't we all, Don?).

(Thank you Don, for your purchase. Yes, they were a great lot of memories. We all look forward to 'catching up' in 2015.)

Ron HOLDER sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He wrote to thank us for the article we wrote about him in our WINTER Issue-2013 and included a little extra service—that being with the RAAF Reserves and being commissioned a Pilot Officer. Well done Ron.

(Thank you Ron, for your letter. We are glad that you are now able to spend more quality time with your wife, now that some of your 'volunteer' activities have been cut back. We hope this finds you both in good health.)

John ROCHE passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He kindly sent me a 'cut-out' of the obituary that was placed in the recent "Rats of Tobruk" newsletter (NSW Branch). It was about the death of R.G.(Gordon) Hughes OAM who died on 14th July 2013.

The President of the ROTB (NSW Branch), and a good friend of Gordon, Mr Joe Madeley OAM wrote some of Gordon's war history, including that Gordon was a member of the 2/8th Australian Field Ambulance and was also the ROTB secretary from 1988 until about 2010.

John thought there may be some of our members that Gordon may have helped, in his capacity of Pension's Officer when he was with DVA.



John wrote that he came up to Sydney especially to see the wonderful "Fleet Review" in October. He said he parked at Macquarie Uni in North Ryde, walked about 50 metres to the train and arrived at the rooftop of St Aloysius's at Milsons Point. He later caught the train to Wynyard and walked to Pyrmont Bridge before catching a ferry back to Milsons Point—he saw almost everything through his binoculars! He had a most memorable day.

(Well done John. What a mighty long day for you—you sure covered a lot of territory. Thank you for your letter and attachment. We hope the terrible bushfire danger down your way does not affect you and Kathy.)

Barry PERIGO sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He sent me an Email and the attached photo.



It shows Barry with our Patron, Col Ray Hyslop OAM and a friend from Urunga, Mr John Sayers.

They had all been attending the Bardia Day Ceremony on the 8th August at the Ingleburn Military Heritage Precinct-Bardia Barracks, Ingleburn.

(Thank you Barry for your Email. It appears that it was a good roll-up. Also for your Email regarding the death of John ("Snow") Larkin. I 'forwarded' it on to all our members on Email in case they knew of John.)

Terry IRVINE passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He, and wife Annette, have just arrived back home after two memorable cruises—one from Whittier to Vancouver and the other from Vancouver to Sydney.

They are hoping to come up from the south coast to be at our November Reunion.

(Thank you Terry for your Email and the 'update' of your address. We hope you can be present in November)

Poem

AT CHRISTMAS

(Author unknown)

*There is a list of friends I have, they're written in a book,
and every year at Christmas time I go and take a look.
This is when I realise that these names are a part-not
of the book their written in-but of my very heart.*

*For each name stands for someone
who has touched my life some time,
and in that meeting, they've become the rhythm
of the Rhyme.*

*I really feel I am composed of each remembered name,
and, while you may not be aware of feeling quite the same,
my life is now so much better than it was-after you came.*

*For once that you have known someone,
the years just can't erase,
the memory of a pleasant word or of a friendly face.*

*So never think my Christmas cards are just a mere routine.
Of names upon a written list-forgotten in between.*

*So when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
it is because you're on that list of friends that I'm indebted to.*

*And whether I have known you for many years or few,
in some way you have had a part, in shaping things I do.*

*So every year when Christmas comes, I just realise anew
the biggest gift that God can give
is knowing a friend like you.*

KIND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

(Of monies received since our last magazine, Spring Issue 2013. Please contact me if your name has been omitted.)

- **Warren BARNES (Cheque \$50 & Cash \$20)** for Reunion Luncheon (\$35) and 35 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Fred BELL (Cash \$75)** for Reunion Lunch and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Derek CANNON (Cash \$110)** for Reunion Lunch and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Michael CARLSON (Cash \$35)** for Reunion Lunch.
- **Alan CURRY (Cash \$40)** for Reunion Lunch \$35 and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Theo DECHAUFEPIC (Cash \$45)** for Reunion Lunch \$35 and 10 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Nelson FIORENTINO (Cash \$105)** for Reunion Lunch \$70, Donation \$30 and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Barry FOSTER (Cheque \$15)** for Subs.
- **Tomas HAMILTON (Cash \$75)** for Reunion Lunch and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Brian HOGAN (Cash \$15)** for Subs.
- **Ray HYSLOP (Cash \$38)** for Reunion Lunch \$35 and 3 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Stu' JONES (Cash \$75)** for Reunion Lunch \$70 and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Edwin LOWERY (Cash \$78)** for Reunion Lunch \$70 and 8 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Hugh (Macca) McCARTY (Cash \$47)** for Reunion Lunch \$35, RAAMC Lapel Pin \$10 and 2 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Steve PARIS (EFT \$20)** for 20 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Mrs. Kim RICHARDS (Cash \$30)** for Beret.
- **Bill RYLANDS (Cheque \$70 & Cash \$5)** for Reunion Lunch \$70 and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **John SMITH OAM (Cash \$15)** for Subs.
- **Stephen STANSFIELD (Cheque \$25)** for New Member Subs (\$15) and RAAMC Arm Band (\$10).
- **Stephen STEIGRAD (Cheque \$90 & Cash \$56)** for Reunion Lunch (\$70), Name Badge (\$20) and 6 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Dr. Malcolm STENING OAM (Cash \$15)** for New Member Subs.
- **Rob STEWART (Cash \$40)** for Reunion Lunch \$35 and 5 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Brian TAMS (Cash \$78)** for Reunion Lunch \$70 and 8 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.
- **Don WIKNER (M/Order \$22)** for 50th Anniversary Parade DVD (\$20) and 2 X \$1 Raffle Tickets.



Stems of Interest

(1) Magazines and Newsletters etc sent to us from other sources (Let me know if you would like any of them posted to you-FREE to our members)

- (i) Memoirs of "Doctors at War" (Kind thanks to the author and our new member-Malcolm Stening OAM and Jim Roche OAM)
- (ii) Tobruk House News (Vic Branch) Aug, Oct, 2013 (courtesy-Secretary, Reg Lawrence)
- (iii) Battle for Australia Association NSW Inc. (Aug/Sep 2013 Newsletter-courtesy, David Cooper OAM)
- (iv) Reveille (RSL-NSW Branch) Sep/Oct, Nov/Dec 2013.
- (v) Commonwealth War Graves Commission (Sep & Nov 2013 Newsletter-courtesy, Chris O'Reilly)
- (vi) VP Day Program & KTMW Newsletter (15 August 2013-Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway)
- (vii) NSSA Penrith Sub Branch Newsletter (Oct/Nov-Dec/Jan, courtesy, Barry Perigo)
- (viii) Semper Fidelis (Quarterly Mag of 28 pages- Jul/Sep 2103 for retired US Marines-courtesy, member James Hoolan Jr.)
- (ix) 7th Division Association Magazine (Issue 3-courtesy, Dick Payten OAM, Pres.)
- (x) Bofors Newsletter (18 LAA Regt Assn-Nov 2013)
- (xi) RFD 'Launch' Program & attached 2-page copies of news clippings from 1914.
- (xii) 25th Bn Newsletter "Black over Blue"-(Nov 2013, courtesy, Alan Beckerleg)

(2) VICTORY SERVICES CLUB-LONDON-UK

As you may have read in "Messages from Members" (Rob Stewart), if you are contemplating a trip to Europe you might consider making your 'base' at this club which is in the heart of London.

Their membership is open to our members and any past or present serving members. Their yearly fees are; Single £20 (A\$35 Approx), Couple £35 (A\$60 Approx), Family £45 (A\$77 Approx), Current Serving Members are FREE Membership.

A single shared room on the 5th floor is £51.75 (A\$89 Approx), a twin/double £88.50 (A\$152 Approx).

Their contact details are; Their address is; VSC, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF. Phone: 0207.616.8355 Fax: 0207.616.8344. Email: kennyn@vsc.co.uk Website: www.vsc.co.uk

(Call me if I can assist further – Alan Curry (mob) 0427.82.4646)

A Little History about this club:

It was created in 1907 by Major Arthur Haggard as a club and charity to those who were demobilised from the army after the Boer War, in which he took part. It is an 'All Ranks Members' Club' for retired and serving members of the Armed Forces. It is located in Marble Arch in London's West End and a 2 minute walk from Oxford Street. It is a registered charity which also provides, and funds, 'respite and welfare breaks' for the needy and infirm.

(3) ANZAC DAWN SERVICE TRUST INC.

Our Association was made aware that there may be a vacancy available in the near future, due to the advancing ages of some of the members of the Trust.

Our committee was unanimous that we should seek membership (\$50 per year) and, if successful, we could canvass our members to see if we had a volunteer/s that would like to be involved in helping to organise this very moving yearly event.

We wrote to the Trust to express our interest and will let you know the outcome in due course.

(Ed note. I wrote about how this all started in our JUNE 2002 Newsletter)

(4) 'EX' RAN COOKS & AACC COOKS!

Historian, Graham Wilson, a retired WO 2 (he is the author of "Bully Beef and Balderdash"- among others) is seeking information and anecdotes on the feeding of troops in transit from and to Australia that were aboard HMAS Sydney. Also any AACC cooks who served in Vietnam. If you fall into this category and would like to assist Graham with his 'story', his details are; Mr. G.F.Wilson, P.O.Box 6021, LANYON LPO, CONDOR, ACT 2906. OR Email; duty_first@hotmail.com

(5) Ron PALMER came and introduced himself to us at the "Battle for Australia" Ceremony (in September) and said he was a Transport Sergeant with 5 Field Ambulance and discharged in 1958. If any member remembers serving with Ron, in the 1950's, he would like to say hello and have a chat. Please contact Alan Curry (Hon Sec) if you would like Ron's contact details.

(6) Ian PFENNIGWERTH is a well-respected author and a friend of our Association. He gave a most informative 'Navy Address' at the RF Day "Launch" on the 2nd November at 11am in the Paddington RSL Club. It was very well received. Ian is presently researching information on the "HMAS Krait", and the members who took part in that very daring and successful raid, during WW 2, in the Japanese-held Singapore harbour on the night of the 26th September 1943.

"OPERATION JAYWICK": (Edited and with kind thanks to "Google" and Wikipedia)

This operation involved the previously 'seized' 68 ton Japanese fishing vessel "Kofuku Maru" and subsequently re-named "Krait".

There was a trained team of 4 soldiers and 10 sailors on board and they were part of an Australian and British "Z" Special Unit (known as "Z" Force).

At 2am on the 18th September, "Krait" anchored off Pulau Panjang and disembarked 6 men in 3 canoes.

The plan was to destroy Japanese shipping in Singapore Harbour and then rendezvous on the night of 1st/2nd October at Pompong.

Canoe 1 carried the leader-Major Ivan Lyon and Able Seaman Andrew Huston.

Canoe 2 carried Lt. Donald Davidson and Able Seaman Walter Falls.

Canoe 3 carried Lt. Robert Page and Able Seaman Arthur Jones.

The canoes were loaded with enough food and water for a week, together with Limpet mines and fuses.

They paddled their canoes during the hours of darkness, and 'Island hopped' to Subar.

On the 26th September at 1920hrs they set out from Subar (being their 2nd attempt-due to tidal current problems).

Canoes 1 and 3 paddled quietly together before parting company in the vicinity of Pulau Jong.

Canoe 1 had much difficulty with the tide and the dark background and eventually were able to set timed fuses and 'mines' to a tanker before heading back to Dongas-12 miles away.

Canoe 2 had proceeded independently to its target areas to the east of Keppel Harbour and the Roads. They were nearly run down by a tug which had passed by them from about 20 paces away, they were not seen but could not find any suitable targets, so they turned back through the 'boom gates' to the Roads.

They located and attached their limpet mines to 3 cargo vessels, each about 5,000 tons and they paddled off to the eventual rendezvous point to meet up with the "Krait".

Canoe 3 had favourable currents and made its way to their target area of Pulau Bukum where they attached their 'mines' to a freighter and then allowed the currents to drift them to Keppel Harbour where they attached more 'mines' to two more freighters before heading back to Dongas.



Between 0515hrs and 0550hrs, seven explosions were heard. Seven Japanese ships had been sunk or severely damaged. Canoe 2 rendezvoused successfully on the morning of the 2nd October but canoes 1 & 3 missed the rendezvous due to being unable to locate "Krait" in the darkness—they were picked up at 2100hrs the next night (3rd). Each of the crewed canoes had some very tense and nerve-racking moments during their successful mission. The "Krait" had covered 4,000 miles during her 48 days 'absence'. There were no casualties on Operation "Jaywick" and the 14 man 'team' were either decorated or Mentioned in Dispatches. The HMAS Krait was commissioned in 1944.

REPERCUSSIONS:

Because the raid was such a success, the Japanese thought it was the work of local saboteurs and Chinese Communist Guerillas. Their Secret Police began making mass arrests on the 10th October and the incident became known as "The Double Tenth".

Local Chinese and Malays, as well as interned POW's and European civilians, were tortured and many executed as reprisals. The Allies never claimed responsibility for the 'raid', most probably to preserve the secrecy of the "Krait" for future similar missions—like "Operation RIMAU".

- **The main purpose** of this small story was to try and assist Ian in his quest for **further information** on one of the "Jaywick" team; **Corporal Ron Morris**, who was a RAMC crew member. If any reader can assist Ian, please contact me (Alan Curry) in the first instance.

(7) Mr. Robert WOOLVERIDGE happened across our website and was very pleased he did.

He completed his National Service in 1968 and said he was the 2 IC of his old unit-- 89 Transport Platoon (Motor Ambulance). He was appointed Transport Officer to 5 Field Ambulance. He kindly attached the nostalgic "Singleton Camp Photo" of 1970. Robert left the CMF shortly after this period.

Front Row seated L/R: LT D.Lewis, CAP Don Wikner,



MAJ B.Linehan (RNZAMC), LTCOL B.Purser, MAJ Darryl Booth, CAP Wally Olsen, LT Robert Woolveridge (RAASC).

Back Row L/R: CAP J.Hicks (RAADC), CAP B.Whitlocke, CAP M.Barratt, LT F.G. (Geoff) Prior, CAP M.Martin, CAP Tom Rennie.

(8) YOUR SERVICE & MEDICAL RECORDS:

If any 'ex' ADF member require their records, please write to; **For ARMY records** – Requests, in writing, to CARO, P.O.Box 1932, MELBOURNE, VIC 3001.

Requests for Service Records via Email, to; caro.hq@defence.gov.au

Requests for Medical records via Email to; adfhr-army@defence.gov.au

For NAVY and AIRFORCE records – requests, in writing, should be addressed to;

ADF RECORDS, Queanbeyan Annex 2, P.O.Box 7949, CANBERRA, ACT 2610.

Request via Email, to; adf.recordsenquiries@defence.gov.au

For our UK members; write to;

APC Support, Parliamentary & Disclosures iHub, Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street, GLASGOW G2 8EX

You need to state your **FULL NAME, Date of Birth, Service Number/s, Year of Discharge, Unit/s, Current Mailing Address, Phone/Email contact number/s and a reason for your request- and don't forget to SIGN your letter AND keep a copy of what you have written.** If you require further assistance please contact Alan Curry.

(9) M/s Donna PEACH contacted me via email to say that her great grandfather, Robert John TROUT, was a member of the 5th Australian Field Ambulance during WW 1. She said he was not listed on our web site and gave me some details of her great grandfather.

I ascertained that Robert John TROUT was born in October 1888 and the family lived in Broad Road, South Randwick in Sydney.

He was married to Lily Flora Tout. John joined up on the 6/5/1915, with number 5477 and was assigned to the 9th Reinforcement, 2nd AGH Australian Medical Corps.

He then served as a Map Plan Moulder (Montage Compositor) for some time and then, later, served in the 2nd Regiment for 9 months. (John must have been sent overseas because his record shows he returned to Australia on the "Wandilla" on the 13/12/1915.)

John was transferred to the 5th Field Ambulance, from 2nd AGH, on the 10/3/1916 and embarked on the "Arcadia" (on the 11/3/1916) to join the British Expeditionary Force at Alexandria.

On the 4th of February 1917 he was seriously wounded in action, at Dernancourt, and admitted to the 45th CCS in France.

He had multiple wounds to his legs and arms and he died the next day (5th February 1917) of wounds to his right thigh.

The copy of his Death Notice reads; TOUT, Pte Robert John 5477 5th Field Ambulance AAMC. Died of wounds 5 March 1917. Age 29. Son of John and Marjorie Tout. Husband of L.F.Tout of 162 Hargrave Street, Paddington NSW. Native of Australia.

His wife was contacted by the Army to inform her that the Graves Registration had recorded that he was buried in the ANZAC Section, 3rd Echelon GHQ, BEF. At the bottom of an official Imperial War Graves Commission-Cemetery Register it reads; *The letters and numerals at the end entry opposite represent the final registration of the buried. The number of the plot is indicated by a Roman Numeral-the Row by a Capital Letter and the Grave by a Number.*

John's wife, Lily, signed for a package of his personal effects on the 22/1/1918. The package contained;

First Aid Book, Kitbag handle, 7 Handkerchiefs, pair of mittens, Brush, Buttons, Button Stick, Badge, 2 Identity Discs, Pouch, Photos, 2 Wallets, Metal Ring, Knife, Letters, 2 Coins, Metal Watch (damaged) and strap.

John was awarded the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

A Memorial Scroll (322264) and the King's Message and plaque was dispatched on the 1/10/1921.

(Thank you Donna, it was our honour to include your great grandfather, John Robert TOUT, on our HONOUR ROLL.)

(10) MEDIA RELEASES & EXTRACTS FROM 'ARMY' NEWS-PAPERS (Edited for space & in no particular date order. With kind thanks to both 'sources').

(i) TREKKING ON CRADLE MOUNTAIN (Tas) & PADDLING FOR CHARITY:

Two groups of soldiers, one from 3 Brigade's 'Soldier Recovery Centre' and the other group (of 25) who were



wounded, injured or ill veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan war, took on two very different challenges. The first groups spent a week in mid-October trekking about 75 Kms, with much of the trek over mushy ground, on Cradle Mountain in Tasmania. They battled blizzards and snow for much of the time. It was basically designed to test themselves personally and as a group. It was an arduous trek and two soldiers had to be 'chopped' out due to minor injuries, under orders of the team doctor. After completing the 'trek', each soldier in the group said they would do it again—even the injured two soldiers.

The second group embarked on a 960 klm 'Charity Paddle' from Sydney Harbour to Brisbane. This involved crews in 12 Kayaks. They departed on October 19.

It was named; "Mates4Mates Sea Kayak Adventure Challenge" and was headed by SPR Curtis McGrath and CPL Tyson Murray. Curtis had lost both legs to an IED in 2012 in Afghanistan and Tyson has PTSD after leading a high risk patrol in which two mates were killed by an IED. SPR McGrath said he was not thinking of the distance as a whole but looking at it 50klms a day—take each day as it comes—they would be paddling 8 to 10 hours a day! The group had spent months preparing for this 'Challenge' and news was broadcast in early November they had all successfully reached Brisbane.

They had stopped at many coastal towns on their way to their destination, including the major cities of Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour and the Gold Coast. (Ed. Comment: *What a fantastic feat of courage and endurance—congratulations to both groups.*)

(Mates4Mates was 'set up' by the RSL (Qld Branch) as a "Not-For-Profit" organisation to provide support for wounded, ill or injured members of the ADF and their families. Donations to support the 'Brave Mates' can be made at; www.mates4mates.org)

(ii) **THE BENEFITS OF GIVING BLOOD:**

Joe Guarnieri has been named the 2013 Australian Public Service Defence Blood Challenge Ambassador. He does not give blood/plasma—he receives it— from the generosity of more than 80 donors every day.

He is 1 in 6,000-10,000 males world-wide who is Haemophilia A or B and was diagnosed as a baby, soon after birth.

Joe requires daily injections of Factor IX concentrate to replace the clotting factor he is missing. He is aware, and very thankful, that just one donation of blood can help many people with various blood conditions.

Joe has been working in Defence for the last 20 years and has had a variety of roles. He said he can't thank the blood donors enough, mainly from the ADF.

He is hoping his new role as Blood Challenge Ambassador will encourage more civilians who work in the APS, in Defence, and also in Canberra, to become a blood donor.

Joe said... *"If giving blood is something you have always thought of doing, take this opportunity to start during the 'Defence Challenge'".*

(iii) **ROTARY WING GROUP-8 COMPLETES ITS FIVE MONTH MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN:**

This Army Aviation Detachment completed their mission on 14 September.

The detachment consists of two CH-47D Chinook medium lift helicopters and operated throughout the Afghan summer months as part of the American-led Regional Command South Aviation Task Force.

They will be carried back to Australia by an RAAF C-17 Globemaster sometime during October 2013.

The CO of the group, LTCOL James Brown, said... *"Australian RWG Detachments have made a significant contribution to the ISAF every year since 2006. RWG-8's contribution was substantial. We achieved over 780 flying hours over 90 missions, from 2nd April to 4th September 2013. We carried more than 3,400 passengers and approximately 373,000Kgs of cargo to dozens of FOB's in southern Afghanistan. It has been a privilege to support NATO and Afghan troops"*

The MEAO Commander, MAJGEN Michael Crane said... *"The RWG operated steadfastly alongside their American allies. The Army Aviation's detachment, assigned under Operational Control to American Combat Aviation Brigades over the past eight years has provided a meaningful enhancement to Australia's strategic US alliance".*

(The Chinook is a tandem rotor cargo helicopter with a maximum all-up weight of 22,727kgs. It provides significant lift capability in high-density altitude conditions. It will soon be upgraded to a newer model. Eleven tours have been completed since 2006—the first three were by the then named Aviation Support Element before being designated as RWG Detachments.)

(iv) **SOLOMONS ISLANDS COMBINED TASK FORCE 635 PREPARE TO LEAVE:**

Members of CTF 635 volunteered their spare time to visit a kindergarten in the remote village of Barana, to build the children a sand pit.

This particular kindergarten has a special significance—it is called the "JAMIE CLARK KINDERGARTEN".

It bears Jamie's name as a legacy because he was the only soldier to lose his life in the Solomon Islands, (under the 10 year RAMSI (Regional Assistance Mission Solomon Islands)).

PTE Clark died in 2005, whilst on patrol searching for possible weapon caches, when he fell into a 'sink hole'.

Chaplain Mark Dunn, the organiser of the event, said the community were delighted to have the team of 40 soldiers come with surplus timbers, sand from the local beach and the trade expertise of the mainly Reservist members.

There was singing and dancing by the women in their traditional dress. The children joined in with sports and all had a good time.

One of the members, LCPL Lucas Brown, from Alpha Company, said it was a privilege to have the opportunity to help the local community. Many on the Rotation did not know Jamie personally but most got to meet his mother, Avril, in April this year.

(v) **PREPARING TROOPS FOR DEPLOYMENT:**

When troops first enter the Middle East Area of Operations (MEAO), it is a pre-requisite they go through a short 'refresher course' called Reception, Staging, Onward movement and Integration (RSO&I).

It is a 3-day course and held at the Al Minhad Air Base and is run by a small team from 39 Personnel Support Battalion, which is based at Randwick Barracks (Sydney). Participants are run through briefs designed to familiarise them with their new environment and conduct refresher training in Care of Battle casualties (CBC) techniques, weapons handling, explosive ordnance detection and the sizing and wearing of combat body armour.

Training includes using realistic scenarios to ensure personal could perform life saving first aid while under pressure on the battlefield.

Course Instructors impress on the participants that the person who applies the first bandage is the one that



saves the life, that means that it's the man or woman next to you on the battlefield that is going to save your life, ... *"so you better be prepared"*.

The Course also runs an Explosive Ordnance Device identification training, because the threat of improvised explosive devices were still very present in Afghanistan. Personnel are taken through some practical examples of IED constructs, including switches and main charges and to show them what to look for.

The Course is designed to show the personnel how to mitigate the risk posed by any of the current IED threats they might encounter in theatre.

(vi) **TOOLS & EQUIPMENT GIFTED TO THE ANA GARRISON IN URUZGAN:**

Members of the 4th Brigade 205th Hero Corps will benefit from gifts of tools and equipment from the Australian and US Advisory Teams.

The tools and equipment were used to teach students skills in plumbing, electrical repairs and carpentry over a 16 week training course, undertaken by 23 Afghan members of the ANA in early 2013, coordinated by the US Army Corps of Engineers Infrastructure Training Advisory Team (ITAT).

The Commander of the 4th Brigade garrison, Colonel Mohammed Akbar, accepted the gifts on behalf of Colonel Mohammed Rasul Khan, the CO of 4/205, with much appreciation.

(vii) **FORMER AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY MEMBER ARRESTED:**

In August 2012, three Australian soldiers were murdered and two other Australian soldiers were wounded during an 'insider' attack at Patrol Base Wahab in Afghanistan.

The Chief of Defence Force, GEN Hurley, confirmed, in early October 2013, that former Sergeant Hekmatullah of the ANA was apprehended in Pakistan and would be brought back to Afghanistan to stand trial.

GEN Hurley said a number of Agencies have been engaged in the relentless pursuit to arrest this man. He also said this arrest draws a line under the four 'insider' attacks on our Australian soldiers. He said... *"Those responsible for the deaths of seven Australian soldiers and who wounded another ten have now been captured or killed and no longer pose a threat to our ADF personnel"*.

(Defence has spoken to the fallen soldiers' families to inform them of Hekmatullah's capture—sadly, the news comes close to the anniversary of the incident)

(viii) **CPL BEN ROBERTS-SMITH VC MG TRANSFERS TO THE RESERVES:**

After 17 years in the Australian Regular Army CPL Roberts-Smith has announced his decision to leave the permanent Army and will join the Reserves.

Ben is currently on Long Service Leave and will pursue a career in Business Administration. He will focus on commencing a Masters of Business Administration (part time) in 2014 at the University of Queensland.

The Chief of Army, LTGEN David Morrison, ... *"thanked CPL Roberts-Smith for his 17 years' service in the regular army and said he represents the best of the Australian soldier."*

Ben has been a wonderful Ambassador for the Australian Army, and will always be a part of the Army family and we look forward to his continued service in representational duties as a Victoria Cross recipient".

Ben said it was an honour to serve his country and he feels extremely privileged to have served alongside

some of the best men and women in Australia.

(Ed. comment-Our Association's members would 100% echo my sincere good wishes to Ben, his wife, Emma and their family, all the very best as he embarks of the next phase of their lives.)

(ix) **ARMY'S DECISION ON INAPPROPRIATE & UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR:**

The Chief of Army, LTGEN David Morrison, has taken firm action and terminated the services of another six service personnel whose ranks range from sergeant to major, in both the Regular and Reserve army.

This brings the number of personnel terminated from the army to 122 with a further 172 cases still being investigated.

(What a way to end a career. To forever have on your personal record why your services were terminated and that you are no longer to be a part, and in some cases a promising part, of a great organisation of 44,000 diligent and committed men and women who make up our army. Some of the 'bad apples' have been removed and it is sincerely hoped a timely lesson has been learned that, hopefully, will NOT be repeated.)

(x) **FAMILIES OF FALLEN SOLDIERS VISIT TARIN KOT:**

The Chief of Defence Force, GEN David Hurley, hosted 57 family members as they boarded a C-17, on November 2, to visit Tarin Kot in Afghanistan as a major part of 'closure' for the loss of one of their loved ones.

40 soldiers were killed in Afghanistan and their family members took the opportunity to visit the land where their husbands, partners, fathers, sons and brothers served and died.

A very significant Ceremony was conducted at the Al Minhad Air Base in honour of the fallen and in the presence of their families.

GEN Hurley said it was a very deep and moving experience for everyone involved. He admired the courage of all the families who were present.

(xi) **WAR ANIMALS HONOURED:**

At a Ceremony conducted in Brisbane, war animals were honoured. It was stated that Australian animals which have served Australians in war included; dogs, horses, donkeys, mules, camels and pigeons.

Of the 20,000 war pigeons used by Australian forces, two were awarded the "Dickens Medal" which the Australian War Memorial refers to as the "Animal's VC".

In WW 2 a ship carrying 650 soldiers was torpedoed in the Coral Sea by a Japanese submarine. The ship did not have a radio and was sinking. They released their bird which flew 45 klms in just under 50 minutes, in typhoon conditions, to deliver a message enabling a rescue ship to save those on board.

(xii) **NEW ARMY PAY RATES:**

PRIVATE	(PG1)	\$43,766	rising to PG 10	\$78,799
CORPORAL	"	\$49,609	" " "	\$84,641
SERGEANT	"	\$57,407	" " "	\$92,441
WO 2	"	\$66,436	" " "	\$101,467
WO 1	"	\$72,131	" " "	\$107,161
CAPTAIN	"	\$63,699	" " "	\$105,310

The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts.



Thank You

(From your Committee)

Thank you Members, for your yearly dues, donations and LIFE MEMBERSHIPS, they are so very much appreciated.

...for completing your (FREE) Application Form to join the RAAMC Association Inc.

...for giving your “unwanted Magazine” to your local doctors/hospital waiting rooms/ Nursing Homes/Retirement Villages/local chemists/RSLs/etc “Reading Rooms” for their enjoyment.

...To all the businesses who have paid our publishers to have their advertisement placed in our magazine.

...To our members who have paid by EFT and for identifying yourself. (There are some members who are a little behind with their Subs—any little effort is much appreciated.)

... For your contributions, letters and emails. They are enjoyed by us all and are an encouragement.

Members on the Internet—don’t forget our own site, www.5fdamb.com, and also “surf” the RAAMC website:- www.raamc.com

If you do visit our website, please feel free to write a comment in our “Guest Book”.

5 Field Ambulance RAAMC Association is also a proud member of the **RAAMC Association Inc.**

NB: Some of you reading this magazine may decide you may now wish to discontinue to be on our Mailing List. **We hope this is not so**, but if it is please let me know and your wishes will be respected.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(6th request)

The CENTENARY of our beginnings — 5 Field Ambulance AAMC – will be MARCH 2015.

To celebrate and remember our comrades-in-arms through the years gone by, our Association’s Committee would like your input on the following:

1. I would purchase a bottle of Port for \$35.....YES/NO
2. I would purchase a bottle of Red Wine for \$20 (Shiraz)YES/NO
3. I would purchase a bottle of White Wine for \$20 (Chardonnay or Riesling)YES/NO
4. I would purchase a short-sleeve, collared “T” shirt (With pocket) for \$35YES/NO
5. I would purchase ONE of each of the above for \$100 (Includes postage)YES/NO

All money raised from these “Expressions” will go toward a 3-course sit-down luncheon, with all drinks, for a nominal price of \$15 per head. The venue to be decided.

Please advise me if you would travel from interstate for this occasion?

As of this issue, other members/friends have indicated they will purchase either some items, or everything, when the date gets closer. May we count on your commitment?

Our GOAL is at least 100 members/friends to indicate they will commit.

COMMITTED TO DATE IS EIGHT (8) MEMBERS

Our Committee sincerely thank you for your responses.

*Life is too short to wake up with regrets,
so love the people who treat you right,
forget about the ones who don't.
Believe everything happens for a reason.
If you get a second chance,
grab it with both hands.
If it changes your life, let it.
Nobody said life would be easy,
they just promised it would be worth it.*

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- **MANJESH C D'SOUZA JP (CPA) CPA** 0414 462 761 Ex RAAMC PWCC
- **Wendy Robertson** 0427 419 767
- **Steven Fines** 0429 909 000



Robert (Bob) GLOVER — Story

(With kind thanks to our member (Bob) for his memories and letters)

Bob's family history shows a unique band of family men and women who served their (and our) country, and as you will read further on, it embraces over 100 years of service.

Bob was born Robert Culshaw Glover, on 15th November 1926 and lived at Aberdare, Cessnock, NSW. He was the only child of George and Linda Glover.

He remembers a happy childhood and holidays and has particular fond memories of watching his dad motorcycle racing at the Maitland Showground.

He attended Primary school at Aberdare Primary and went to High School at Aberdare Technical High School. Bob enjoyed sports.

When he left school he started work as an apprentice motor mechanic with the local Ford dealer on Wollombi Road, Cessnock.

When war broke out he was still in his apprenticeship but promptly joined up on 19 December 1944, just after he turned 18.

The RAAF had a trade test system. Bob sat the tests and became a Fitter/Driver.

He served in the RAAF, with 4 Airfield Construction Squadron at Labuan (Borneo) and Morotai. His pay was six shillings and sixpence per day!

When the war was over Bob stayed in and served in New Guinea, Manus Island, Korea and Japan.

A wonderful memory stays with Bob and that being the morning after the Japanese Surrender in August 1945, Bob had breakfast on the "MANUNDA" with his father, George, and Kate Rowen, a sister from Maitland Hospital (Kate later became Matron of Concord AGH), Father Paddy Youill, who was a Padre on the "Mununda" and of the East Maitland Church. (Bob said that Father Paddy and his dad were great drinking mates as well.)



Bob Glover holding a photo of his grandson, Tim, who graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

Whilst on leave he met his future wife, Margaret Smith, when he lived in Canberra. They married on the 28th October 1950 and they had three children – Anne, Peter (dec) and Elizabeth.

In 1953 Bob was a member of the Australian Coronation Contingent in the UK, for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth 11.

Bob's working life was as a self-employed motor engineer, mainly in the Canberra area.

Some Family History:

Teressa GLOVER purchased a house at Bankstown (Sydney) before the 'boys' arrived.

James GLOVER (George's brother) arrived in Australia on the first Australian naval ship "PIONEER" in 1907. He returned to England in 1909 and left again in that year to come back to Australia. He worked in Mick Simmons Sports Store in Sydney, as a gunsmith.

He enlisted in the 6th Australian Light Horse in WW1 and after the war he owned the GULGONG Hotel (which is depicted on our bank notes).

Francis GLOVER (George's brother) arrived in Australia in 1913 and he also enlisted for WW1 in the 6th Australian Pioneers.

Colonel J. Winston GLOVER served in WW2 in a Parachute Regiment. He was taken Prisoner-of-War at Arnhem (Holland) but escaped and returned to his Regiment. He served 32 years in the Military. (He was the son of Joseph Glover and a nephew of George. His 'nickname' was "Pat" and will be the subject of a future story.)

John GLOVER (son of Winston, above) served in the Royal Air Force.

Lorna GLOVER (daughter of James, above), joined the RAAF in WW2.

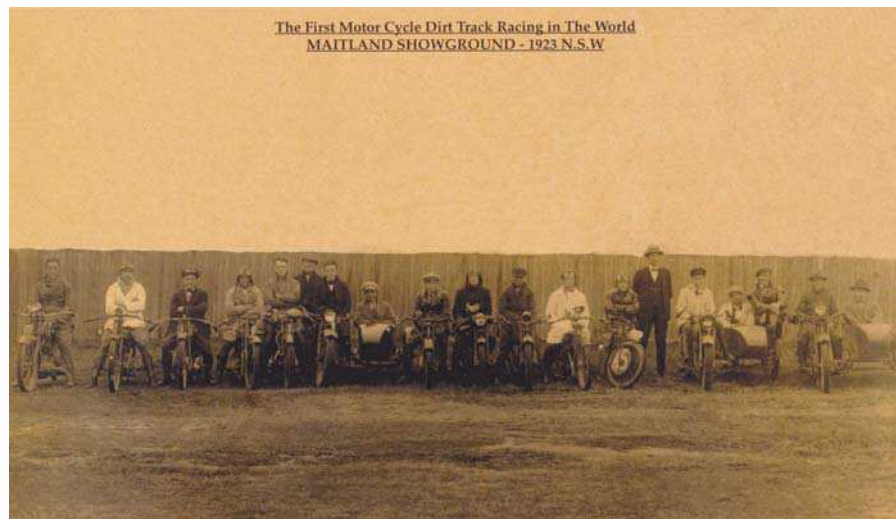
George Culshaw GLOVER MM is Bob's dad. He was born on the 2nd March 1898. He was one of 7 brothers (all served in WW1 and SURVIVED) and 3 sisters.

His mother was Elizabeth Ann Culshaw and born on the 29th July 1858. They lived in 143 Bridge-Water St, Hindley, UK. He was a miner at the Hewlett Pit of the Wigan Coal and Iron Company. (Bob has since been back and seen his old house)

When WW1 started, George enlisted in the 27th Field Ambulance RAMC, on October 30 in 1914. He landed at Suvla Bay and later, in 1916, served on the Western Front. He was awarded the Military Medal "for bravery in the field whilst stretcher-bearing under heavy fire on the 21st March 1918".

When the war was over, George migrated to Australia in 1919, where he met and married Linda York at Maitland. They lived at Cessnock and had one son (Robert—this is his story).

George's nickname was "Jock" (due to his north country accent) and he was a keen motorcycle rider. He became a world champion motorcycle rider after



The First Motor Cycle Dirt Track Racing in The World
MAITLAND SHOWGROUND - 1923 N.S.W

Photo shows Bob Glover's father, George, in the motor cycle group. He is the one on the right side with number 45 on his front wheel.





Consecration and Presentation
of the Governor-General's
Banner - November 2011

RAAMC ASSOCIATION INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Family Name _____ First Name _____

Rank/Title _____ Regt Number _____ RAN/Army/RAAF _____ Full/Part Time _____

Address _____

Suburb/City _____ State _____ Post Code _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Ordinary Member Special Member (Other than RAAMC) Associate Member (Allied)

I understand membership of the RAAMC Association is free, however, I wish to make a donation of \$ _____ to assist in the administrative costs. Please make cheques payable to the RAAMC Association. Donations to the RAAMC Association are VOLUNTARY.

In applying to join the RAAMC Association I hereby confirm that I will abide by the Constitution of the RAAMC Association and continue to hold the values I have served under whilst a member of the Australian Defence Force and the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I propose the abovenamed applicant be considered for membership of the RAAMC Association.

Name of Proposer: _____ Signature: _____

Please provide a photocopy of your 'Record of Service' or evidence of service with this form and send to your State RAAMC Association or RAAMC Association Inc, P.O. Box 5080 MINTO NSW 2566.



the war and won the FIRST motorcycle dirt track World Championship at Maitland Showground in 1923 on his famous AJS motor cycle, No: 45.

An article, titled "Personalities", appeared in a local newspaper about 1965/6 which wrote about "Jock" Glover. It all began with a certain John Hoskins, the then secretary of the Maitland Show Council.

He recognised the possibility of dirt track racing at the showground, so he contacted the various motor cycle clubs in Maitland and Newcastle.

The result was that dirt track racing came into being for the first time in history in ANY PART OF THE WORLD!

"Jock" was well known for his immaculate appearance whenever he rode his dirt bike, noticeable with his black coat and black gloves—the colour of his bike, with the distinct number 45 on the front wheel. He was one of the top riders in the State and the winner of many races.

"Jock" did reliability trials for P & R Williams NSW; AJS Distributors. He was also a member of the Maitland Sub Branch and RSL Club.

When WW2 started, George, again, enlisted at Cessnock on the 17th June 1940 and served on the Hospital Ship "MANUNDA". He survived the bombing in Darwin and served until war ended.

The following words were remarks made on the back of one of his "keepsakes" on the 21st AHS "MANUNDA" — *In the printed detail it showed the ship was commissioned on 22 July 1940, the Total Staff carried was: MALE = 378, FEMALE = 83.*

The "Manunda" carried a total of 14,959 patients. Medical Passengers carried were 7,851.

She was decommissioned and handed back to ASCO 26th July 1946.

(Bob showed me "hand-written notes" of a personal nature from his dad which will remain personal).

George did numerous trips to the Middle East and Pacific Islands and also to Changi to pick up POW's. He was discharged on the 2nd August 1946 with the rank of L/SGT. George passed away on 2nd September 1970.

Bob (from the age of 9) and his dad travelled from Cessnock to Sydney every ANZAC Day. He remembers his dad being

well received, due to his Military Medal.

He remembered asking his dad how he got his medal and his dad said..."I saved a sergeant—he had a bottle of rum in his pocket"!

CURRENT SERVING MEMBERS:

Tim GLOVER (grandson of Bob and Margaret — currently Adjutant, 3 RAR Townsville (2013). A graduate of Duntroon Military College and earned "The Sword of Honour".

He has had "Tours of Duty" to the Solomon Islands, two to East Timor, one to Iraq and one to Afghanistan.

Matthew GLOVER (grandson of Bob and Margaret — currently serving in the Engineers in Darwin. He is a Corporal and has completed a "Tour of Duty" to Afghanistan in 2012.

Duncan REID (son-in-law of Bob) currently is a WO11 Instructor in Aircraft Engineering in the Army Aviation in Darwin and has completed 2 Tours of Duty in East Timor.

Duncan's wife Elizabeth (Bob and Margaret's daughter) is also in Darwin with Duncan. She is a CEO for one of the Government Departments.

A small article on the bombing of AHS "MANUNDA" in DARWIN

(My kind thanks to the newspaper clipping (no name/date on the copy I had) around 1995, and "Google")

The AHS Manunda was commissioned as a hospital ship 22 July 1940 under the command of Captain James Garden. The 2/1 General Hospital was commanded by LTCOL John Beith and members of the Australian Army Nursing Corps were led by Matron Clara Jane Shumack.

The "Manunda" sailed on a "shake-down" cruise to Darwin, Port Moresby and returned to Sydney before heading for the Middle East.

She made 4 trips to the Middle East and the Mediterranean between November 1940 and September 1941, before being despatched to Darwin.

On that fateful day 19th February 1942, war came with a vengeance, for the very first time, to our country when Darwin was suddenly bombed by over 200 Japanese planes, in two separate attacks.

The first wave of about 180 Japanese planes struck about 10am. The harbour was full of all types of shipping and moored among them was the AHS Manunda.

The damage to shipping and shore installations was immense and the loss of human life was estimated to be between 243 and twice this number, and many hundreds injured. At the time though,

through strict media censorship, it was stated that 13 had died.

Among the many killed or injured were servicemen and women, civilians, merchant seamen and waterside workers.

The "Manunda" was twice bombed (one with a direct hit) and strafed. 13 people (Ship's crew and hospital staff) on board were killed, including Sister Margaret de Mestre who was a 23 year old nurse from Bellingen (NSW), 19 others, including Sister Lorraine S. Blow, were seriously wounded with a further 40 suffering minor wounds.

Eye-witness accounts from Matron Shumack, Mrs. Barbara Kilgour (nee Millard) who was also a sister on the ship and Matron E McQuade-White described the terrible and frightening moments when the bombs hit and then the tasks at hand afterwards in caring for the injured.

The "Manunda", although damaged, was able to be used a Casualty Clearing Station for injured personnel from other ships involved in the aftermath of the attack.

She sailed to Fremantle the next day. The Captain had to steer by the stars as the ship had no navigation equipment and as well they had to "jury-rig" the steering system.

She was re-fitted in Adelaide, after

being laid up for some months, and continued on with her duties.

The "Manunda" then went to Milne Bay in PNG and acted as a "floating hospital" for the allied forces who were stationed there. On several nights in Milne Bay whilst the enemy Japanese ships attacked our troops, they raked their powerful searchlights on her but on these occasions the Japanese honoured the Geneva Convention and left her alone.

The "Manunda" made 27 voyages from Milne Bay to Brisbane and Sydney transporting wounded troops. She followed the Allied forces around the Pacific. Her final wartime voyage was to New Zealand to transport civilian passengers. During the war she carried approximately 30,000 casualties to safety. She was decommissioned in September 1946 and after refit, continued with carrying passengers. She was eventually sold and "scrapped" in 1958.

On the 19th February 1995 a plaque was unveiled at the Prince Henry Hospital, Little Bay (NSW) to honour Sister de Mestre.

The Coast Chapel is a National War Memorial dedicated to the 95 Australian Nurses who were killed during the two World Wars.



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5 FIELD AMBULANCE RAAMC ASSOCIATION

Patron: COL Ray Hyslop OAM RFD

President: LTCOL Derek Cannon RFD

WEB SITE: www.5fdamb.com

A proud member of the RAAMC Association Inc.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Preferred Title: Prof./ Dr./ Mr./ Mrs./ M/s. Etc.		Date of Birth: _____
<u>FAMILY NAME:</u> _____		(Wife/Partner Christian Name) _____
<u>FIRST NAME</u> _____	<u>OTHER NAME/S</u> _____	
<u>Military/Civilian Awards (if any)</u> _____		
<u>Service/PMkeyS Number (if applicable)</u> _____		<u>RANK (If applicable)</u> _____
<u>ADDRESS NUMBER:</u> _____		
<u>STREET etc NAME:</u> _____		
<u>SUBURB/TOWN/CITY etc</u> _____		
<u>STATE</u> _____		<u>POST CODE:</u> _____
<u>Contact Details: Telephone (H)</u> _____ <u>(W)</u> _____		
<u>FAX:</u> _____		<u>EMAIL:</u> _____
<u>MOBILE:</u> _____		

I hereby apply to join the 5 Field Ambulance RAAMC Association as (Please mark “X” in the appropriate box below)

A FULL MEMBER (served/serving in the A.D.F. or Allied Forces)

AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER (never served in the A.D.F. --Australian Defence Forces)

Annual Subscription (\$15) is due on the 1st January each year. LIFE MEMBERSHIP is \$100. (Reminders will be included in each “ACTIVITY SHEET”

Cheques/Money Orders should be made out to “5 FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION” and forwarded to — Alan Curry OAM (Hon. Sect) 42 Dean Pde, Lemon Tree Passage, N.S.W 2319 OR Brian Tams (Hon. Treasurer), 4/24-26 Barrenjoey Rd, ETTALONG BEACH NSW 2257 OR EFT, DETAILS are:- BSB: 637000, Account No: 717253825, Account Name: 5 Field Ambulance Association, Bank: Greater Building Society) --please identify yourself in the reference.

SIGNATURE) _____ (DATE) _____



ACTIVITY SHEET

(Please indicate your choice/s with an X or Tick. Any item ordered includes postage)

- Please find enclosed **my Subs for 2013 (\$15)** (cover from January to December) or **LIFE MEMBERSHIP (\$100)** or **Donation** *(See my details below).*
- Please order me ___ copies of the DVD of our **50th Anniversary Parade@ \$20 ea.** (It includes a brief history of the 2/5th Australian Field Ambulance.)
- Please place my name on the list for our **CENTENARY YEAR** purchases.
- Please send me ___ **RAAMC Centenary “Coin and Token” set/s @ \$30 each.**
- Please send me a **RAAMC coat/jacket Lapel Pin** for \$15.
- Please send me ___ **RAAMC Centenary (Stamped) Envelopes (1903-2003) @ \$3 each.** *(14 left—with 50c Stamp embossed, they are still useable for every day postage—just add 10c stamp.)*
- Please send me a **RAAMC Red Cross Arm-Band @ \$10 each.** *(7 left)*
- Please send me a **5 Field Ambulance RAAMC KEY RING (\$20).** *(With my membership number on it, if possible.)*
- Please **ORDER** me a **NAME BADGE (\$20)**
- Please **ORDER** me a (XL/Large/Medium/Small) **BERET (\$30), *BERET BADGE (\$20), *LAPEL BADGE (\$7), *CORPS TIE (\$40) ---please indicate size of Beret & whether Badges/Ties are to be RAAMC or RAASC/RACT or RAEME.**
- Please send me a copy of **“Little by Little”--- A Centenary History of the RAAMC by Dr. Michael Tyquin. @ \$70.** *(2 left)*

(Please make any Cheques/Money Orders etc payable to:- **“5th Field Ambulance Association”** and post to either:- Alan Curry OAM (Hon Sec) 42 Dean Pde, LEMON TREE PASSAGE, NSW 2319 OR Brian Tams (Hon Treas.), 4/24-26 Barrenjoey Rd., ETTALONG BEACH, NSW 2257.

All acknowledgements will be in our next issue.

Our EFT details are: **BSB: 637000, Account Number: 717253825, Account Name: 5th Field Ambulance Association, BANK: Greater Building Society.** *(Please Identify your name)*

COMMENTS/ORDERS ETC: FROM: _____

CONTACT No: _____ **MONEY ENCLOSED \$** _____

