



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER  
DECEMBER 2010

“A PROUD MEMBER OF THE  
RAAMC ASSOCIATION INC”

[www.5fdamb.com](http://www.5fdamb.com)

**"SEMPER PARATUS"**



# 5th FIELD AMBULANCE RAAMC ASSOCIATION

*The Official Quarterly Magazine*

# Salary Package your next vehicle with a Novated Lease and leave your tax in the dust.



## Why fleetcare?

- ✓ Unlike other providers we pay ALL your vehicle bills straight up – no waiting around for reimbursement
- ✓ Any unused portion of your account is fully reimbursed to you at the end of your lease
- ✓ Fleet purchasing power to get you the best vehicle price around
- ✓ Dedicated personal account manager to provide you optimum support
- ✓ Discounted fuel, maintenance and FREE roadside assistance

## Call now and start saving!

Call Adam now on 0448 448 723 and start reducing your tax today!



Visit [fleetcare.com.au/novated](http://fleetcare.com.au/novated) for more information.

Novated by Fleetcare proudly supporting 5<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance RAAMC Association.



# 5th FIELD AMBULANCE RAAMC ASSOCIATION

**PATRON:** COL Ray Hyslop OAM RFD

## OFFICE BEARERS

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	LTCOL Derek Cannon RFD ~ 31 Southee Road, RICHMOND NSW 2753 ~ (H) (02) 4578 2185	
<b>HON. SECT:</b>	Alan Curry ~ 6 Reliance Boulevard, TANILBA BAY NSW 2319 ~ (H) (02) 4982 4646 Mobile: 0427 824 646	
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Brian Tams ~ 4/24-26 Barrenjoey Road, ETTALONG BEACH NSW 2257 ~ (H) (02) 4341 9889	
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Warren BARNES	Mobile: 0409 909 439
	Fred BELL (ASM)	Mobile: 0410 939 583
	Bill CLUTTERBUCK	Phone: (02) 4982 5725
	Barry COLLINS OAM	Phone: (02) 9398 6448
	John de WITT	Phone: (02) 9525 4951
	Mick ROWLEY	Phone: (02) 9570 5381

## CONTENTS

Vale: John A'Quilina, Shaun Danaher & Robert Boyter .....	3
Life Members .....	5
Message from the President / Happy Birthday .....	7
Message from the Secretary .....	9
Annual Mixed Reunion .....	11
VP Day .....	12
Battle for Australia .....	15
Reserve Forces Day Launch .....	17
Kind Acknowledgements / 5 Fld Ambulance Sgts Honour Boards .....	20
Dates for Your Diaries / Thank You .....	21
Congratulations / 2010 Fund Raiser / Sick Parade .....	23
5 CSSB Health Company News / New Members / Application Forms from Members .....	25
Messages from Members .....	27
Items of Interest .....	41
My Story – Maurice Porter .....	53
A Soldier Died Today .....	64
RAAMC Association Application for Membership Form .....	65
5th Fld Amb Application for Membership Form .....	67
Activity Sheet .....	68

**5th FIELD  
AMBULANCE  
RAAMC  
ASSOCIATION**

Official Publishers: **Statewide Publishing P/L**  
ABN 65 116 985 187

PO BOX 770, WEST RYDE NSW 1685  
PHONE: 1300 662 885 • FACSIMILE: 1300 557 996  
EMAIL: statepub@bigpond.net.au

**Printed by Galloping Press**

Unit 29, 398 The Boulevard, Kirrawee NSW 2232 • Phone: 9521 3371





## Defence Housing Australia – your housing solution.

**DHA was established in 1988 with the aim of improving the quality and selection of housing for Defence members and their families.**

Now, over 20 years on, DHA manages approximately 17, 300 residences around Australia and provides a range of services to help ease the pressure on Defence families – we will support you and your family throughout your tenancy, from moving in, to living in, and then moving out of your home.

While our level of support for you and your family will not change, there have been some changes to the Defence relocations process.

To help you understand how this may impact you and your family, we've put together a reference guide for you and your family.

DHA will assist you with:	Toll Transitions will assist you with:	Defence will assist you with:
Finding and securing your future Defence home – using DHA's online HomeFind tool	Notifying DHA of your relocation, so that we can commence the HomeFind process	All of your pay matters
Your housing entitlements, including Rent Allowance or Living In Accommodation	Organising your relocation requirements	Making and managing any policy which affects your housing and relocation entitlements
Arranging all your DHA housing maintenance requirements	Arranging all your uplift and delivery requirements	Determining your Conditions of Service
Rent Band Choice Housing – this provides you with a range of housing choices to suit your lifestyle	Approving and organising any long-term or short-term storage of your possessions	Managing the contractors who provide your relocation services and housing, such as Toll Transitions and DHA
Fast Connect – a free service for the connection or disconnection of major utilities and telecommunication services	Booking travel and temporary accommodation for your relocation	
	Your relocation allowances and entitlements	



## John A'QUILINA, Shaun DANAHER and Robert BOYTER

**John A'Quilina**, sadly, passed away on the 15th August 2010.

I had recently sent a letter, regarding a Reserve Forces Day matter, to all our members who are not on email, and John's came back as "return to sender—deceased".

I got quite a shock because I had been speaking with him about 3 or 4 weeks ago. I tried to ring his home and mobile numbers but as I received no answers I feared for the worst.

Strangely, it was John's wife whose well-being I was fearful of, because he has told me she was very sick and in and out of hospital.

Our member, George Harris, was kind enough to make some enquiries for me and eventually I was informed by Palmdale Crematory, on the Central Coast, that John's funeral service was conducted by them on the 15th August.

Palmdale, as well as offering to forward our Sympathy Card to their only son, Daniel, also informed me that his mum (and this was John's wife) had also passed away some weeks prior to John's passing.

In our letter to Daniel I asked if he would like to me to add any more information from his point of view. Unfortunately, I never received a reply from him.

John was born in Malta in June 1926. When war broke out and John was old enough he served in the 95th General Hospital of the RAMC.

He was stationed in Imtarfa, Malta. John and his family were in the siege of Malta. John was awarded the 1939-45 War Medal.

I understand that John and his wife migrated to Australia, from Malta, in the 1950's and eventually settled on the Central Coast of NSW in Kanwal.

John joined the CMF on the 8th August 1961 and served as a Sapper with 53rd Railway Squadron until he discharged on the 22nd November 1966. He was awarded the Australian Defence Medal.

John had read our Reserve Forces Day ad. in the March/April edition of the Reveille (RSL NSW Branch) and joined us in May 2003.

Although he did not enjoy good health, he came to some of our functions when able. He always wrote or contacted me to say how much he enjoyed reading all the news in our newsletters.

I was saddened that we did not know of his passing and we had no one at his funeral to say "Farewell".

**Shaun Danaher** passed away suddenly in the evening of the 4th of October 2010.

I received the sad email when I arrived home from a "Welfare Course" in the afternoon of the 5th October.

I immediately rang and spoke with Shaun's wife, Rita, to offer our sincere condolences, and I was heartened to hear the voices of her many family members in the background.

Rita told me that Shaun did not feel 100% on the Monday evening and thought he would rest in the spare bedroom. Rita checked on him at 8pm and 9pm and heard him sleeping.

The next morning she went in and found Shaun had died in his sleep. It's hard to put into words what to say.

Shaun's working life was mainly with the Corrective Services Department and they carried out a memorable Ceremony to pay their respects for Shaun and his family.

Shaun's funeral service was held in "Our Lady of the Rosary" Catholic Church in St Marys on the 14 October at 11am.

I was able to contact Rooty Hill RSL Sub Branch Welfare Officer, Mr Dennis Dewhurst, who gratefully carried out the RSL Service for Shaun. Shaun's family and friends appreciated this gesture.

Shaun was in the Army Reserves for nine years—from April 1991 until August 2000, his Army Number was 2312412.

Shaun served with the 41st New South Wales Regiment, the 4th/3rd Royal New South Wales Regiment, 5 Field Ambulance and the 5th Combat Engineer Regiment.

I kindly thank his friend, and our member, Alen Lucic, for sending me an email regarding Shaun's passing.

Alen attended the funeral with two other army mates, Robert Love and Greg Lewis-Phillips. (My sincere apologies if I have omitted a name)

Shaun was a well-respected member, and a Life Member, of our Association.

He is survived by his wife, Rita, and their two daughters, Madison 5 and Ashley 4. Shaun was 37 years of age.

If any member knew Shaun on a more personal level, I would be honoured to write about it in our next magazine.

**Walter Robert Boyter** was known as Robert to those who knew him.

He joined our Association in July 1998 and always attended our functions when he could.

He, and two other fellow members, Robert Frew (Dec.) and Ken Reynolds (Dec.), in the latter part of 2002, asked me if they could take our Banner to a Naval Ceremony at the Royal Australian Naval College, HMAS Creswell.

It was for the 50th Anniversary of the Atomic Ex-Servicemen's Association.

They attended and did our Association proud (I wrote about in our December 2002 Newsletter).

Robert has nearly always attended our ANZAC reunions and Reserve Forces Day celebrations (both in Sydney and Newcastle) and his presence at the yearly "Battle for Australia" Commemoration, and also our yearly "Mixed" Reunion dinners/luncheons.

In recent years his heart has been a constant worry and on one occasion with us, during a parade, he collapsed and had to be taken to Sydney Hospital.

We all got the shock of our lives when he turned up at the Berkeley Hotel later in the afternoon! He had discharged himself to be with us!

Robert married his long-time friend, M/s Helen He in August 2006 and we put a "Congratulations" to them in our Christmas Newsletter of 2006. (Helen also joined us as an Associate Member.)

I received a sad call from his good friend (and one of our previous Associate Members) M/s Peggy Wharekura, on the morning of the 22nd November to say that Robert had passed away in his sleep in the early hours of that day, presumably of a heart attack.

Robert served in the CMF on three separate occasions from 1959 until 1968.

The units he served in were; 5 Field Ambulance, 103rd Infantry Workshops, 1st General Hospital, 1 Base Ammunition Depot and the 101st Ordnance Field Park.

He was discharged as Private.

Robert's funeral was held at the Rookwood Crematorium on the 24th November.

The service was conducted by the Reverend Peter Kilkeary OAM and the RSL Ceremony was conducted by the Burwood Sub Branch Secretary and Welfare Officer, Mr Barrie Fitzhenry and three fellow members of the Sub Branch.

Robert was an active member of his Sub Branch.

He had no family and is survived by his wife Helen. Robert was 69 years old.

The following members are thanked for being able to be present and pay their last respects. *Fred Bell, Barry Collins, Alan Curry and Michael Moroney.*

**LEST WE FORGET**



# New disposable linen prevents reusable linen headaches

Using reusable linen can be a time consuming and costly headache, caused by issues that arise with its collection, washing, cleanliness and administration.

To prevent the headaches, Infection Control Specialist, Haines Medical Australia has introduced a new range of linen that is disposable. Haines Medical Disposable Linen is manufactured from strong, flame retardant, recyclable SMS non-woven material that is soft like reusable linen and offers these additional benefits:

## Improved infection control

Single use disposable linen removes the issues associated with washing and cleanliness of reusable linen and can help improve infection control.

## Hygienic solution for remote areas

In remote areas, where the pick-up of dirty linen is infrequent, disposable linen offers a hygienic solution that reduces the need to store dirty linen.

## More economical than washing

Haines Medical Disposable Linen is more economical than the high costs of washing reusable linen. For example, a disposable fitted stretcher cover costs only \$1.

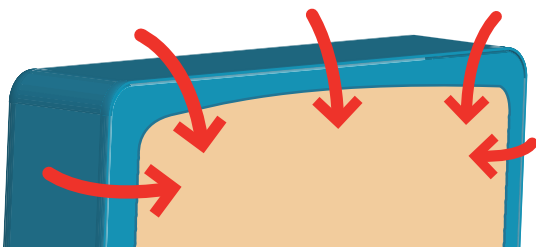
## Eliminates record keeping

Disposable linen eliminates the need for record keeping and Quality Assurance related to reusable linen contamination.

## No lost linen in emergencies

No issues of lost linen while transferring patients to another facility in emergencies.

## Improved fitting and fast placement



The range of disposable fitted sheets cover the top, sides and ends, with elastic sewn all around for improved fitting and fast placement of cover.

## A range of disposable linen to suit your application



Fitted Stretcher Cover



Pillow Case with Flap



Single Bed Fitted Sheet



Examination Table Fitted Sheet



Flat Sheet



Flat Sheet - Large

## FREE Disposable Linen (\$100 value) & Info Pack

For more information on the range of Haines Medical Disposable Linen, including independent review, plus a FREE mixed box of disposable linen worth \$100, simply email [sales@hainesmedical.com.au](mailto:sales@hainesmedical.com.au) or call:

**(08) 8294 5999**

**FREE**  
**\$100 Box of**  
**Disposable Linen**  
**Defence Personnel**  
**Exclusive Offer**

HAINES MEDICAL AUSTRALIA

*Haines*

[www.hainesmedical.com.au](http://www.hainesmedical.com.au)



**5 Field Ambulance RAAMC Association**  
(Please contact me if I have omitted your name)

## LIFE MEMBERS

COL Suresh	BADAMI OAM RFD	Mr. Robert	LOVE
CAP Steve	BALDICK RFD ED (Rtd)	* Mr. Roy	LOVE
WO II Warren	BARNES	Mr. Edwin	LOWERY
+ Mr. Neil	BARRIE	Mr. Alen	LUCIC
Mr. Fred	BELL	Mr. Robert (Bob)	LYNCH
Mr. Don	BOOTH	Mr. Nick	MARSHALL
* MAJGEN John	BROADBENT CBE DSO ED	Dr. Helena	MARTIN
Dr. Harding	BURNS OAM	COL G.R.W. ("Roy")	McDONALD (Rtd)
# Mrs Edna	CANNON	# Mrs. Yvonne	McLEAN
LTCOL Derek	CANNON RFD	Mr. Ken	McNUFF
Mr. Kevin	CARTER	COL Bill	MOLLOY RFD ED
LTCOL David	CAVANAUGH RFD ED	Mr. Barry	O'KEEFE
Mr. John	CHARTER	WO 1 E. (Bill)	O'KEEFE (Rtd))
Mr. Bill	CLUTTERBUCK	Mr. Charles	O'MEALLY
Mr. K.B. (Barry)	COLLINS OAM	COL John	OVERTON OAM
* Mr. Ross	CRAFTER	MAJ Peter	PAISLEY (Rtd)
Mr. Roy	CROSSLEY	Mr. Barry	PERRIGO
Mr. Alan	CURRY	# Mrs. Heather	PERIGO
* Mr. Shaun	DANAHER	LTCOL David	PHILLIPS RFD
MAJ John	de WITT ED (RL)	LTCOL John	PHILLIPS OAMRFD ED
Mr. George	DONNELLY	Mrs. Karen	PHILLIPS (nee Stead)
LTCOL Marie	DOYLE	WO 1 Ken	PHILLIPS OAM
LTCOL Andrew	ELLIS OAM	Mr. John	PRICE
* LTCOL James	ELLIS	Dr. F.G. (Geoff.)	PRIOR
Mr. Phillip	FAGUE	+ Mr. Thomas (Tom)	PRITCHARD
* WO 1 Bert	FERGUSON	COL Robert (Bob)	REID (Rtd)
Mr. Nelson	FIORENTINO	Mr. Alan	ROBINSON
Mr. Garry	FLOOD	CAP James	ROCHE OAM
Mr. Ron	FOLEY	Mr. Michael	ROWLEY
Mr. Joe	GATTY	Mr. Bill	RYLANDS
LTCOL J.R. (Ray)	GRANT (Rtd)	Sr. Elizabeth	SHEARD
Mr. George	HARRIS	Mr. Paul	SHERGOLD
LTCOL Miles	HAVYATT ED (Rtd)	Mr. Robert	SHILLINGSWORTH
MAJ Eileen	HENDERSON RFD	CAP Stephen	STEIGRAD (Rtd)
# Mrs. Norma	HUTTON	Mr. Robert	STEWART
COL Ray	HYSLOP OAM RFD	Mr. Chris	STRODE
CAP Jim	ILIOPOULOS	Mr. Peter	SULLIVAN
CAP Natalie	ILIOPOULOS	Sr. F.E.W. ("Sue")	THOMPSON
Mr. Terry	IRVINE	Mr. Peter	THOMPSON
# Mr. Don	JARMAN	Dr. Michael	TYQUIN
Sir Keith	JONES KB FRCS (Edin.)FRACS	* CAP A. ("Morrie")	VANE
LTCOL Stuart	JONES	Mrs. Ruth	VAUDIN (nee Corbett)
Mr. Anthony	JORDAN	Mrs. Kate	VERCOE
MAJ Robert (Bob)	KENYON	Mr. Matthew	VERCOE
Mr. Colin	KLINE	Mr. Arthur ("Bubby")	WALTON
LTCOL Edward ("Ted")	KREMER OAM	Mr John	WEAVER
COL Frank	LANG OAM RFD ED (Rtd)	MAJ Bruce	WHITTET (Rtd)
# Mr. Terry	LANGWORTHY	MAJ Alex	WILLIAMS
Mr. John	LASTOVICKA	Mr. David	WILLIAMS
# Mr. Bryan	LINDSAY	Dr. Phillip	YUILE
* # Mrs. Estelle	LINDSAY	Mr. Jim	ZORBAS
MAJ Kathleen	LOADSMAN		

+ 2/5th Fd Amb # Associate \* Deceased



**THANKS TO ALL THE TROOPS  
FOR THEIR SUPPORT DURING 2010**



**MrSupplement.com.au**

**YOUR PERFECT TRAINING PARTNER!**

**HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND  
A SAFE HAPPY 2011**

 **follow us on facebook**





Derek Cannon

## Message from the President

Welcome to the 2010 Summer edition of 5 Field Ambulance RAAMC Association Quarterly Magazine.

The Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day Parade was successfully held on Sunday 15 August at 2pm, at the Kokoda Memorial Walkway, Killoola St., Concord. Our Association was represented by Alan Curry, Anthony Jordon, Stuart Jones and self. Both 1 and 5 Field Ambulance Association Banners were paraded. The day was solemn though a great success even allowing for the vandal activity that had occurred to parts of the walkway just prior to the day.

The Battle for Australia commemoration on Wednesday 1 September in Martin Place, Sydney was attended by numerous Association members who were seated in front of our Banner. Our secretary Alan Curry will include the names of attendees in his message. Ms Angela Catterns of ABC radio fame gave a moving address.

I attended the bi-monthly meeting of the New South Wales RAAMC Association on 1 October at Victoria Barracks. Items of business included:

- The Association Luncheon on 20 November at the Coogee Bay RSL for which Barry Collins presented a meal menu at \$20 per head.

- The chairman hoped that all members took note and would hopefully be able to take this opportunity to meet up with old 'friends and comrades.'
- The chairman advised the meeting that a 'Petition' was on the internet concerning the 3 Australian Soldiers being 'Court Martialed' by the Military. The internet address is [www.gopetition.com/petition/39006](http://www.gopetition.com/petition/39006). He suggested that members make up their own minds whether to support this or not.
- The Chairman further advised that John Straskye (as RAAMC Association President) had been asked to produce a 'Membership Application' A draft application form was circulated and members will be advised when further developments take place.
- If John Straskye can arrange then Lunch in the Officer Mess at Victoria Barracks will follow the next Association meeting on 3 December. Members will be advised prior to this meeting and be advised of Dress Requirements.

I look forward to catching up with members attending the Reserve Forces Day 2011 Launch at Victoria Barracks on Saturday 27 November from 9-30 to 12-30 and/or at our annual Association reunion Lunch at the Paddington RSL on the same day starting at 12-30.

To all our members and their families and with thoughts for our number of sick, Edna and I extend our best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and successful 2011.

*Derek Cannon*



## Happy Birthday

OCTOBER: John and Margaret GORRELL, Edna CANNON, James ROCHE.

NOVEMBER: Roy CROSSLEY, Robert GLOVER, Tony MILLAR, Gordon MILLS, John SMITH, Phillip YUILE.

DECEMBER: Steve BALDICK, Fred BELL, George DONNELLY, Maureen LIVINGSTON, Chris O'REILLY, Heather PERIGO, Mick ROWLEY, Michael STRINGFELLOW, Peter SULLIVAN, Laurie FARRUGIA, Robert LOVE, Phillip McGRATH.

Our Association wishes each of you "All the Best" on your "special" day – have you given me your month of birth?



## GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN REMOTE INDUSTRIAL HEALTH



ONLINE COURSE AVAILABLE 2011

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course aims to provide knowledge and skills that enable health professionals to autonomously provide a holistic health service to individuals and organisations located within remote industrial communities.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have a degree or equivalent as approved by the University. Alternatively, those with an Advanced Diploma in Paramedical Studies or equivalent and recent clinical experience may be eligible for admission.

### COURSE LAUNCH DATE

Semester 1 2011.

For more information and to register your interest visit: [www.aspenmedical.com.au/RIH](http://www.aspenmedical.com.au/RIH)





# Message from the Secretary

## Dear Member,

To our members on our "Sick Parade" (and others who chose not to be), on behalf of our President, Derek Cannon, and our committee, we wish you better health and a speedy recovery, especially at Christmas time.

I would like to give a special mention to two of our sick members—Huss Mahomet and Steve Baldick.

Huss has a lot of friends who served with him in the late 50's and early 60's—myself included.

As of writing, Huss was taken to the heart ward at Napean Hospital after suffering a heart attack whilst on his way to the hospital for his dialysis treatment (in early September).

Luckily his wife, Judy, was driving the car. Huss knows his prognosis is not good but that does not dampen his spirit and in spite of his set-backs.

He is now back home and he remains very focused and positive.

Steve has suffered a setback with his health and was admitted to Sutherland Hospital in mid-November. He is to undergo more tests when his strength builds up.

I contacted our committeeman, Warren Barnes, because Steve is a member of Warren's Sub Branch (Miranda).

Warren immediately contacted his Welfare Officer, Mr Bruce Grimley, to make contact with Steve.

Since then Bruce has been kind enough to phone me each time he visits Steve.

Bruce is also talking to the Hospital's Welfare Officer for what action to take when Steve may be well enough to go home.

I sent out emails on both Huss and Steve and received a lot of return "Good wishes" to both members.

Our thoughts and prayers also go to the families and loved ones of LCPL Jared MacKINNEY, PTE's Grant KIRBY and Tomas DALE and Trooper Jason BROWN who were killed in action, against the terrorists, in Afghanistan, in August.

We pray for our soldiers wherever they are serving and want them to know we are 100% behind them.

I would also like you to ponder the dilemma that three of our soldiers are faced with, regarding the

deaths of four young children in a "fire fight" in Afghanistan, in 2009. (Please read our President's "Message")



In our last magazine (September 2010) I wrote a little about Ruth Vaudin (Messages from Members) and omitted the reference to the wonderful article on the Isle of Guernsey (*where she and her family live*) she sent to me. It was placed in our Newsletter of Christmas 2005. (Apologies Ruth).

I have two more "apologies"—one to Bryan Lindsay and the other to Don Jarman.

I included the "List of Life Members" (on p 4) in our last magazine and as well as spelling Bryan's name incorrectly, I also showed them (and others) as both "deceased"! They are well and truly alive.

(I had incorrectly shown the # as deceased-- instead of Associate—at bottom of page.)

In conclusion, what a beautiful ending to the Chilean miners' ordeal. Someone sent me an email pointing out they were trapped for 33 days and were saved on the 13/10/10. To a man they thanked their saviour, Jesus Christ, who died when he was 33 years old!

Sadly, when I wrote the above, I did not know of the terrible fate that was to unfold with the 29 miners who were trapped in an underground mine explosion in Greymouth colliery on the 19th November, in the South Island of New Zealand.

It appears that a series of explosions on the 24th has extinguished any form of life.

I, like a lot of us, was following every bulletin and news item coming from NZ and was thinking "*could another miracle happen?*" It was not to be.

Our thoughts are with the families and loved ones of those who perished.

Kind Regards to all, and a safe, healthy and very merry Christmas to all,

Alan Curry





# Providing a clearer picture of health

For more information about  
Queensland X-Ray services please  
call us on (07) 3422 8800



QUEENSLAND  
**X-RAY**



Brisbane • Cairns • Gold Coast • Mackay • Toowoomba • Townsville  
[www.qldxray.com.au](http://www.qldxray.com.au)





# Annual “Mixed” Reunion ~ Saturday 27th November

## (Summary)

This day was a very enjoyable day for the 28 members and friends who attended. We decided to hold it at the Paddington RSL Club because we weren't sure if the Berkeley Hotel could comfortably hold our numbers.

At an early stage we had to obtain a “room” that could hold about 40, so our committee suggested the Paddo RSL Club.

We were not disappointed, except as the time drew nearer we had to reduce our numbers due to “apologies”. The Club arranged for us to be in the “Regency Room”, with our own bar facility and a lovely selection of hot and cold foods—buffet style, including sliced fruits for dessert and with tea/coffee.

We thanked our member, John Weaver, for offering Grace, and later, our Treasurer, Brian Tams, offered the Loyal Toast.

Our President, Derek Cannon, thanked everyone for coming and making the day a success. He asked us to remember our three members who passed away during the year—John A'Quilina, Shaun Danaher and Robert Boyter.

Derek read “Apologies” for: Steve Baldick, Scotty Boyd, David Cavanaugh, Bill Clutterbuck, John Davies, John de Witt, Terry Fry, John Gallagher, Joe Gatty, John and Margaret Gorrell, Huss Mahomet, Ray Hyslop, Phillip and Trish McGrath, Bob Reid, James Roche, Andrew and Diana Rothfield, Mick Rowley, Sr. Elizabeth Sheard, Rob Stewart, Michael Stringfellow, Peter Thompson and Sr. Francis (“Sue”) Thompson.

He thanked our Standard Bearer for attending the RFD “Launch” rehearsals and taking charge of the Standard on the day.

He also thanked those members who contributed to our magazine and for the way it is presented and he said he gets a tremendous “feed-back”, from various sources, it is very well received.

Derek is looking forward to seeing us on ANZAC Day and hopefully, back here at Paddington on Reserve Forces Day next year.

He thanked the Management and staff for the fine selection of food/desserts/tea/coffee.

The yearly “Raffle” was then drawn. It raised a total of \$160 of which the winner, who was Barry Collins (Orange ticket E32), received \$80 and an “Impromptu” second prize was drawn (being the NEW book just “Launched” today at the RFD “Launch” at Victoria Barracks—Titled “The 39 er's”). This prize was won by member, Chris O'Reilly (Yellow ticket B40).

The following members and friends are sincerely thanked for their contributions to this raffle; Warren Barnes, Fred Bell, Derek Cannon, David Cavanaugh, Barry Collins, Alan, Ruth and Julie Curry, Margaret Dougherty, Ron Foley, Nelson Fiorentino, George Harris, Dennis Hucker, Kevin Hurrell, Bryan Lindsay, Edwin Lowery, Chris O'Reilly, Barry and Heather Perigo, Bill Rylands, Brian Tams and John Weaver.

Our Association sincerely thanks the following members and friends who came along and helped make the day a great success; Warren BARNES, Fred BELL, Derek and Edna CANNON, Barry COLLINS, Alan, Ruth and Julie CURRY, Margaret DOUGHERTY, Ron and Adrienne FOLEY, Nelson and Margaret FIORENTINO, George HARRIS, Dennis and Margaret HUCKER, Kevin HURRELL, Barry and Heather PERIGO, Robert LOVE, Edwin and Penelope LOWERY, Bill and Kerry RYLANDS, John and Maureen WEAVER.



FRONT ROW – Ladies (L/R): Julie Curry, Kerry Rylands, Margaret Dougherty, Gail Tams, Maureen Weaver, Ruth Curry, Edna Cannon, Margaret Fiorentino, Margaret Hucker, Penelope Lowery, Adrienne Foley and Heather Perigo.

BACK ROW – Gentlemen (L/R): Alan Curry, Brian Tams, Nelson Fiorentino, John Weaver, Bill Rylands, Robert Love, Barry Collins, Edwin Lowery, Dennis Hucker, Kevin Hurrell, George Harris, Derek Cannon, Fred Bell, Ron Foley, Warren Barnes and Barry Perigo.



# VP Day Sunday 15th August

(Summary)

M/s Alice Kang (*Marketing and Manager—Veteran Affairs at Concord Repat Hospital*) and Mr Rusty Priest (*Chairman—Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway*) and their respective committees are to be sincerely congratulated for the wonderful Ceremony that was conducted on this afternoon.

Prior to commencement (2pm) I had to deliver our Banner to the Scouting contingent, waiting at the old Thomas Walker Hospital which is at the end of Hospital road (about 1 & ½ klms from the Ceremony). The Scouts were carrying all the banners, and I had arranged to meet them about 12.30pm.

I came down by car and brought two members of our Sub Branch with me, (our Vice President, John Head and my good friend, Gavin Driscoll).

When we handed over our Banner, the threatening skies “opened up” and it absolutely teemed with heavy rain. It looked like being a very dismal and wet affair.

How wrong! The bad weather only lasted about 45 minutes and the sun and the blue skies appeared-- to make the day a very memorable one.

There was some seating, under cover, but the rest of the seats did cop the rain, which was unfortunate because the committees had placed on every seat, 3 items—*The Ceremony Program*, the *2010 Kokoda Memorial Newsletter* (which had a 65th Anniversary (Lapel) Badge attached), and a wonderful, 40 page, booklet entitled “*Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway*” which depicted and related short stories of all the various New Guinea campaigns from McDonald’s Corner on the Port Moresby



LTGEN Ken Gillespie AO DSM CSM, Chief of Army with Mr Rusty Priest AM Chairman, Kokoda Track Memorial – laying wreath



VP Day – Alan Curry, Derek Cannon (President) and friend from LTP Sub Branch, Gavin Driscoll.



VP Day ~ shows John Head (Vice President--LTP Sub Branch) and Gavin Driscoll.



Sited near Concord Repat. Hospital



Alan Curry and Gavin Driscoll





side, across to Buna and Sanananda on the other side of the country.

These items got very wet but I managed to obtain a completely dry set.

Everyone was seated by 2pm and prior to this, we were treated to WW 2 newsreels that led up to VP Day and the cessation of war with Japan. It was very nostalgic.

Whilst we were viewing the newsreels from various TV screens the Parade started about 1.30pm from the Thomas Walker Hospital. This was also intermittently transmitted to the TV screens.

A contingent of the NSW Mounted Police Force and a contingent from the Australian Light Horse led the parade followed by 9 WW 2 "jeeps" carrying WW 2 dignitaries and the various WW Banners.

There were 4 nurses wearing the different style WW 2 nursing uniforms. The parade also had the NSW Police

Pipe Band and the NSW Corrective Services Band marching in the parade.

The parade arrived at 2pm and all the WW 2 veterans were introduced as they alighted from their jeeps and all Banners were given a brief history to the assembled crowd.

Our Association thanks the following members who were able to be present; Our President, Derek Cannon, Alan Curry, Anthony Jordan and Stu' Jones (Stuart also represented 1 Field Ambulance with their Banner).

We sent a "Letter of Thanks" to 1st Concord Scouts especially mentioning scouters Alexander MASSEY and Joel MELI for their wonderful effort in carrying our Banner along the Parade route.

*I do apologise if I omitted your name but these were the only ones I had a chance to shake hands with.*



*Our Banner held by Joel Meli and Alexander Massey with Mr Peter Varenkamp? (I think) all from 1st Concord Scouts.*



*M/s Elizabeth Lawrence Harpist*

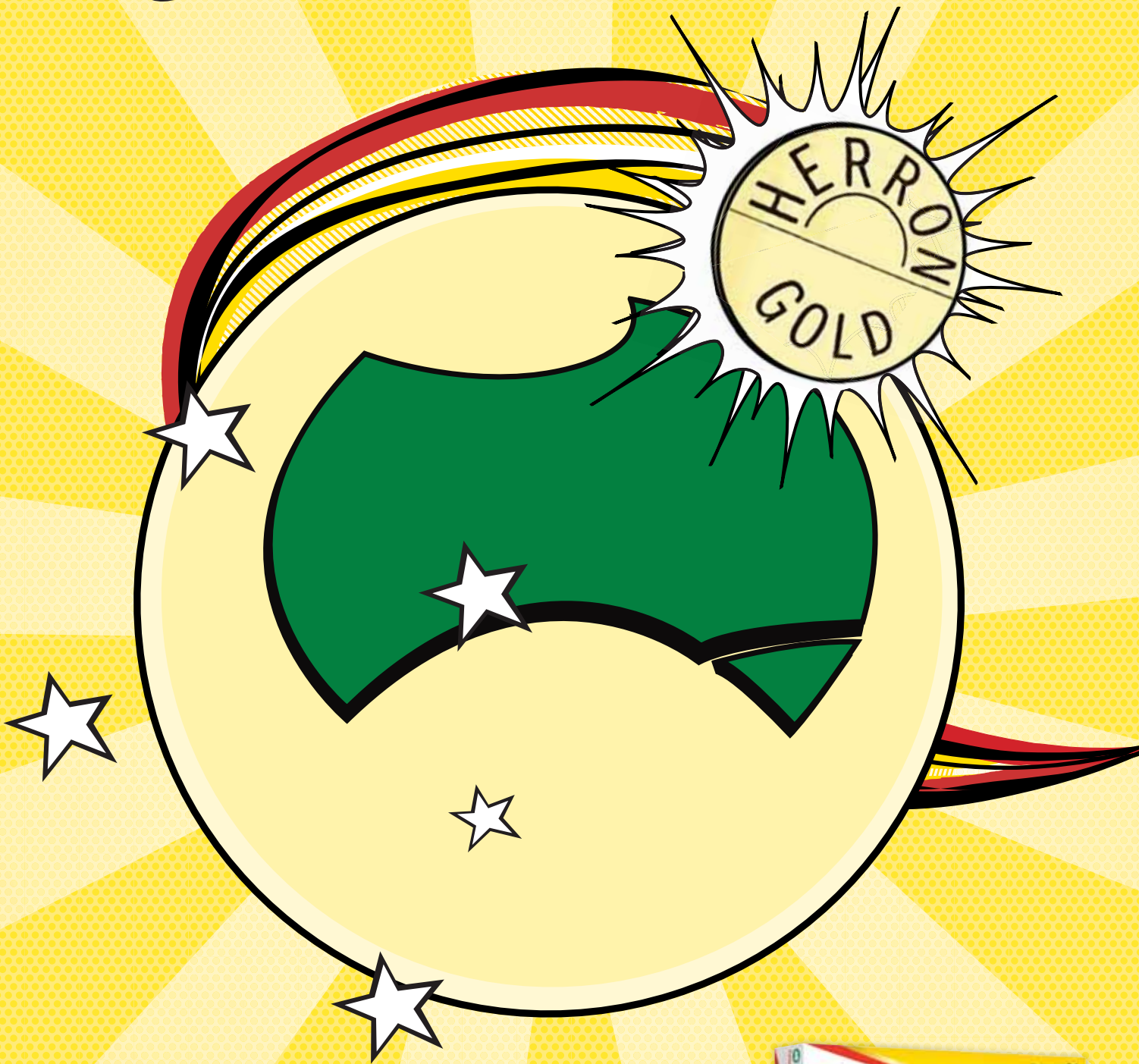


*PNG Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel representative, Mr Onenus Konene shaking hands with a WW 2 Veteran of the New Guinea campaign*





# RAPID PAIN RELIEF? GO FOR GOLD!



With its unique coating, Australian made Herron Gold Paracetamol dissolves quickly into your system, eating up pain fast. Herron Gold - Australia's solution for rapid pain relief.



Always read the label. Use only as directed. Incorrect use could be harmful. If symptoms persist, see your healthcare professional. A member of the Sigma group of companies.

[www.herron.com.au](http://www.herron.com.au)

ASMI/17972-0710

# Battle for Australia

## (Summary)

Wednesday, 1st September, and the first day of Spring, saw a fairly large crowd turn out at Martin Place in Sydney. Actually, we thought the turn-out was not as big as last year but there would still have been about 1,000 people attending this year's Ceremony.

Our friend, John Straskye, stopped to greet us, as he was on his way to a meeting.

The BFA Committee "reserved" 8 seats for us behind the visiting Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels for which we were very thankful.

Our good member, David Cooper OAM, again, did a good job as the MC and made everyone feel most welcome.

One of the pleasing moments was when our member, John Phillips, escorted 3 PNG Tribesmen, in full head-dress, to their seats, two of which were Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels from WW 2.

David Cooper introduced Mr Russel Titeri of Gona and Mr Hansel Hemeta from Seremi and the third was Mr Benjamin Ajumi of Kokoda and the Chief of the local Oro Province.

The crowd gave them a warm and friendly reception.

David then called on Mr Benjamin Ajumi to blow the "horn of welcome". There was complete silence as Mr Ajumi slowly stood and blew three long, intermittent notes on the horn.

The main "Address" was given by M/s Angela Catterns, a noted and well-respected ABC broadcaster. Angela's father was (the late) Major Basil Catterns MC.

She gave a stirring address and reminded those present of the fear and uncertainty that prevailed in various cities in Australia, when Japan attacked our homeland in 1942 and onwards.

She said she knew nothing about the attacks nor did she learn anything about the Japanese war machine during her school years—BUT, she said this is slowly changing.

Angela is hopeful that the "Battle for Australia" Ceremony Day will become as prominent as ANZAC Day.

It is a credit to the BFA Committee that they included the school children from Tempe High School to say the Ode of Remembrance and the Choir from St Andrew's Cathedral School to be part of the Ceremony.

I wish to thank the following members who were able to be present:- *Steve Baldick, Derek Cannon (our President), David Cooper, Alan Curry, Eileen Henderson, Anthony Jordan, Barry and Heather Perigo, John Phillips, Warwick Wilkinson and Gordon Wright.*



## PROJECT NEXUS

### Variety of additional Reserve workforce opportunities

Are you an ARes member finding the traditional Tuesday night and weekend model of Reserve service doesn't suit?

Are you transferring from the ARA?

Do you want to STAY ARMY but want flexibility in the type of work you do?

Did you answer yes to any of the above?

If so, then register for Project Nexus

What is Project Nexus? Army is establishing a new program to facilitate flexible Army reserve service. Administered and managed by ASSG, the Project Nexus program matches member's military and civilian skills, knowledge and experience to tasks in a way that fits around the Reservist's availability.

What is my time commitment? It's up to you.

Army has a wide range of tasks that can be performed remotely or on site over short and long periods.

All work is on reserve terms and conditions of service. Interested?

Have we got a job for YOU!

Registration is simple and accessible from the ASSG website  
[www.army.gov.au/ASSG](http://www.army.gov.au/ASSG)

For more information contact;

[ASSG.Admin@defence.gov.au](mailto:ASSG.Admin@defence.gov.au) or 02 6266 1831





## Frank Taylor's Australian Military History Tours

Trading as...

# Kokoda treks & tours

ACN 074 406 634

**"WE SHOW THE WAY"**

ABN 61 074 406 634

Australian Travel Agent's Licence No. 9TA1368

7 LAGA COURT, STIRLING, WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6021

Phone & Fax: (08) 9446 9856 • International: +61 8 9446 9856 • Mobile: 0428 686 899

Office: kttadmin@amnet.net.au • Email: kokoda@arach.net.au • Website: www.kokoda.com.au

### Programmes Summary 2011: All Tours are a Specifically Australian Military History Focus

- **KOKODA TRAIL** taking 10 days & 9 nights on the Track – then completed with added inclusive Beach Battle Tour (13-day programme in Papua New Guinea)
- **MILNE BAY AND BEACH BATTLES** (Buna, Sanananda & Gona) 4WD Tour (7-day programme in Papua New Guinea)
- **TOBRUK AND ALAMEIN** North Africa Tour (15-day programme)
- **GREECE & CRETE** (15-day programme)
- **THAI BURMA RAILWAY TOUR** - with optional Burma extension (11-day programme)
- **FALL OF SINGAPORE AND MALAYA TOUR** (11-day programme)
- **GALLIPOLI – OUTSIDE ANZAC DAY** commemoration timings (9-day programme)
- **THE SANDAKAN STORY** – complete with Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan relevant sites (11-day programme)

*We have these programmes available*



Trekking the Kokoda Trail is arduous, but filled with history and great personal reward.

# Our 1st Birthday Sale will blow you away!



## parramatta motor group

*It's all  
about  
you*

Cnr Church & Raymond Sts, Auto Alley, Parramatta  
**Ph: 1300 107 565** [www.parramattamotorgroup.com.au](http://www.parramattamotorgroup.com.au)

DL026661 X32469



# RESERVE FORCES DAY “LAUNCH”

(Victoria Barracks—Saturday, 27th November)

Some months prior to the “Launch” the RFD Council sent me information regarding the “Theme” for the RF Day Parade in July 2011. The “Theme” being to recognise the person, behind the reservist, with a Medallion.

Our Association executive, along with all other affiliated bodies’ executives and other personnel aligned with the RFD organisation, was invited to nominate our spouses/partners etc to be the recipient of this Medallion.

Our President, Derek Cannon, the Hon Secretary (myself), our ASM, Fred Bell, our Standard Bearer, Mr George Harris and Michael Stringfellow, one of our serving members, was given the opportunity for our spouse etc to receive a Medallion.

The nominations of Mrs. Edna Cannon, Mrs. Ruth Curry, M/s Margaret Dougherty, Mrs. Margaret Hucker and Michael Stringfellow’s mother, Jacqueline were submitted and accepted by the RFD Committee.

*(Unfortunately, Michael had work commitments on the day and his mother could not get down from Bowral and would not be able to be present.)*

It was a beautiful morning at the Barracks and The “Launch” commenced about 9.15am with the Manly Warringah Pipe Band marching on all the Standards of the many Associations.

They marched, in single file, from the archway that leads from the rear of the barracks out on to the large parade ground and stood to attention facing the seated dignitaries and quite a few “39ers”.

Other guests were gathered behind the dignitaries (on the Parade Ground)

Prior to the Standards marching on, all the medallion recipients were being “checked off” and lined up in single file, in alphabetical order—with the expert assistance of the indubitable Terry Maling.

After the Standards and Band were inspected, the Medallion Recipients were escorted onto the Parade Ground and faced the dignitaries.

The MC, Bob Joseph, then introduced each recipient as they were presented with their medallion by the National President of the RSL, Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Ret’d) and the Prime Minister’s representative, the Honourable Warren Snowden MP, Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, Defence, Science and Personnel and Indigenous Health.

When this was concluded, the Standards were marched over to the Drill Hall where they formed a “Guard of Honour” for all the Dignitaries and Medallion recipients as they entered the hall.



5 Field Ambulance Standard Bearer, George Harris, (directly in front and to the left of the white line).



Guests entering the main hall between the Association Standard Bearers. Photo shows the backs of Derek Cannon and Fred Bell with M/s Julie Curry at rear.



Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Ret’d), National President of the RSL, “Launches” the book – “THE 39 ER’S



Mrs Sue Gallagher and Mrs Ruth Curry (Derek Cannon in background)





# SAVE THOUSANDS BY SALARY PACKAGING YOUR CAR!

**New Volkswagen Tiguan,  
Automatic Wagon.  
Fully Maintained  
including fuel  
from \$165.00\*  
per week!**

\* The above price is calculated in after tax dollars based on a 5 year/75,000km lease term for an employee on an annual salary of \$84,000. Includes service, tyres, registration, insurance, road side assistance and fuel.



**Telephone Australia Wide:** 1300 668 283 **Email:** [info@supalease.com.au](mailto:info@supalease.com.au) **Web:** [www.supalease.com.au](http://www.supalease.com.au)



## **Luxury Houseboat Hire** *On the Freshwater Myall Lakes*

- No tides or currents
- No Licence necessary
- 33' Houseboats 2-6 berth
- 45' Houseboats 10 berth
- SHELTERED MOORINGS
- PHONE OR BOOK ONLINE

Weekend Escapes  
Extended Holidays

2-and-a-half hours  
north of Sydney

Our boats are also  
available for Jetty Stay  
Accommodation

**BULAHDELAH NSW**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*



[www.luxuryhouseboat.com.au](http://www.luxuryhouseboat.com.au)

**Ph: 02 4997 4380**





There were speeches from Sir Laurence Street, Rear Admiral Doolan, Mr Warren Snowden MP, Mr Ray Smith, a former Warrant Officer and a "39er" who spoke on behalf of the "39er's", and Mrs Virginia Moore, who spoke succinctly on behalf of all the Medallion recipients.

At the conclusion of the speeches, Rear Admiral Doolan, then launched the book "The 39er's".

This is a wonderful book, with many anecdotes and lots of pictures and nostalgia.

Our Association is going to purchase 4 copies and will sell them for \$30 (incl postage).

*(If any member would like a copy, please contact me.)*

At the conclusion of proceedings, when everyone was making their way to the lawns of the Officer's Mess for Tea and biscuits, our President, Derek Cannon, had the very pleasant duty of making a quiet presentation of a 5 Field Ambulance "Pewter Mug" to our good member David Cooper OAM.

David was most surprised but very grateful for the gift.

It was pleasing to see the wife of another of our members, Mrs Sue Gallagher, also receive a Medallion. Sue is the wife of John.

We give a special thanks to member George Harris for his manner and bearing and for doing us proud on the day.

Our Association thanks the following members who were at the "Launch"—

*Our President, Derek Cannon, Fred Bell, David Cooper, Alan Curry, John Gallagher, MAJGEN Warren Glenney, George Harris, Bill Molloy, Barry and Heather Perigo.*

*(My sincere apologies if I have missed your name.)*

John Moore and his RFD Committee do a fine job and are to be commended for keeping the focus on the importance to our country, of the men and women who unselfishly serve in our RESERVE FORCES.

-----



*Standards*



*"Marching on" the Regimental Standards of the Reserve Associations—led by the Manly Warringah Pipe Band.*



*Derek Cannon, MAJ John Gallagher and David Cooper OAM.*



*Alan Curry and fellow member, MAJ John Gallagher.*



*Member George Harris proudly holding our Standard as the Dignitaries are walking in.*



*Derek Cannon presenting David Cooper OAM with his pewter mug at the conclusion of the Reserve Forces Day "Launch" Victoria Barracks 27/11/10 (Holding Banner are Fred Bell and Barry Perigo).*



## 5 FIELD AMBULANCE SGT's "HONOUR BOARDS"

### BOARD 1

Baldick, S.J.  
Buxton, K.T.  
Canning-Cheal, F.  
Christensen, K.  
Clinch, G.A.  
Collins, K.B.  
Condon, D.T.  
Cooper, D.J.  
Crabtree, L.W.  
Crossley, R.  
Deayton, I.K.  
Gordon, M.J.  
Gough, A.N.  
Graham, J.G.  
Grieves, R.R.  
Grumsen, L.H.  
Jones, R.C.  
Kearns, J.  
Loughland, W.H.  
Luxford, G.N.?  
Lynch, R.J.  
Maltby, B.A.  
Margin, B.  
McLean, J.B.  
Moloney, K.J.  
Neaves, B.J.  
Nelson, R.F.  
Palmer, R.A.  
Parsons, M.W.  
Penny, R.  
Rees, P.J.  
Sheather, W.H.R.  
Smith, R.C.  
Trauberg, A.  
Williams, D.  
Zorbas, J.

### BOARD 2

Adams A.  
Bennett ?  
Bolton ?  
Booth, D.J.  
Brownlee, A.N.  
Crafter, R.G.  
Findlay, K.J.  
Fiorentino, N.  
He??? ??  
Kent, G.P.  
King ??  
Love, R.A.  
Lowe, G.W.  
M?????? R.G.  
Mahomet, H.  
Moran, B.J.  
Mundy, H.  
Newman, F.C.  
Peade, E.  
Pearson, R.?  
Peterson, A.C.  
Prior, F.G.  
Rowley, M.G.  
Spain, J.P.  
WO1 Sams, B.  
Sky, W.G.  
Storer, S.B.  
Tams, B.D.  
Upton ??  
Weaver, J.A.  
Weiner, R.B.  
(Last name indecipherable?)

## KIND

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

(Of monies received since last newsletter of September 2010.  
Please contact me if your name has been omitted.)

- **Warren BARNES** (Cash \$49) for Reunion \$30, 9 Raffle Tickets and 2 x \$5 Tickets in the Sudan Painting Raffle.
- **Neil BARRIE** (Cheque \$60) for Life Membership (*previous payment of \$40 received*).
- **Fred BELL** (Cash \$120) for Reunion \$70, RAAMC Corps Tie \$40, 5 Raffle Tickets \$5 and 1 x \$5 Ticket in Sudan Painting Raffle.
- **Derek CANNON** (Cheque \$25 and Cash \$76) for 5 x \$5 Tickets in Sudan Painting Reunion Lunch \$70 and 6 Raffle Tickets.
- **David CAVANAUGH** (Cheque \$200) for Life Membership (\$100), 10 x \$5 Tickets in Sudan Painting (\$50), 10 Tickets in yearly "Fund-Raiser" (\$10) and Donation \$40.
- **Barry COLLINS** (Cheque \$75 and Cash \$5) for Reunion \$35, RAAMC Corps Tie \$40 and \$5 for Raffle Tickets.
- **Bill CLUTTERBUCK** (M/Order \$100) for Life Membership.
- **Roy CROSSLEY** (Cheque \$100) for Life Membership.
- **Alan CURRY** (D/D \$100) for Annual Reunion \$70 and 4 x \$5 tickets in Sudan Painting (\$20) and 10 Raffle Tickets (\$10).
- **Julie CURRY** (Cash \$38) for Reunion Lunch \$35 and 3 Raffle Tickets.
- **Ruth CURRY** (Cash \$3) for 3 Raffle Tickets.
- **Gail DAVIS** (Cash \$25) for Coin & Token Set.
- **Margaret DOUGHERTY** (Cash \$6) for Raffle Tickets.
- **Gavin DRISCOLL** (Cash \$20) for New Member subs \$15 and 1 x \$5 ticket in Sudan Painting \$5.
- **Nelson FIORENTINO** (Cheque \$170 and Cash \$5) for Life Membership \$100, Reunion \$70 and 5 Raffle Tickets.
- **Ron FOLEY** (M/Order \$70 and Cash \$5) for Annual Reunion and 5 Raffle Tickets.
- **George HARRIS** (Cash \$137) for himself, Dennis and Margaret Hucker for Reunion \$95, RAAMC Corps Tie \$40 and 2 Raffle Tickets.
- **Dennis HUCKER** (Cash \$10) for Raffle Tickets.
- **Kevin HURRELL** (Cash \$40) for Reunion \$35 and 5 Raffle Tickets.
- **Colin KLINE** (Cheque \$68) for two Berets \$60 and 1 RAAMC Beret Badge \$8.
- **Greg LEWIS-PHILLIPS** (M/Order \$15) for New Member subs.
- **Robert LOVE** (Cash \$30) for Reunion.
- **Edwin LOWERY** (Cash \$60) for Reunion.
- **Penelope LOWERY** (Cash \$6) for Raffle Tickets.
- **Helena MARTIN** (Cheque \$100) for Life Membership.
- **Barry and Heather PERIGO** (Cash \$75) for Reunion \$65 and 10 Raffle Tickets.
- **Tom PRITCHARD** (Cash \$20) for Donation.
- **Bill RYLANDS** (Cheque \$65 and Cash \$10) for Reunion \$65 and 10 Raffle Tickets.
- **Brian TAMS** (Cash \$75) for Reunion \$70 and 5 Raffle Tickets.
- **Michael TYQUIN** (Cheque \$100) for Life Membership.
- **John WEAVER** (Cheque \$100 and Cash \$80) for Life Membership \$100, Reunion \$70 and 10 Raffle Tickets.

# Awesome Paving

All Styles of Paving  
Retaining Walls & Steps  
Supply & Install

**Free Quote: Ph Rob 0430 447 159**

**Email: awesomepaving@gmail.com**

Builders Licence No. 224093

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association





## Dates to put in your diaries for 2011

**RAAMC Assn Inc. (NSW Branch)** FEBRUARY, APRIL, JUNE, AUGUST, OCTOBER, DECEMBER.  
(First Friday at 10.30am, Bldg. 11 in Victoria Barracks, Sydney. An "OPEN" Invitation is extended to our Members. Please advise me if you would like to attend.

**14 FEBRUARY                      National Servicemen's Day**

*(We have no Official involvement but if any member attends a Ceremony and represents us, would they be kind enough to write/email and let me know so I can put an article in our MARCH magazine.*

**25 APRIL                      ANZAC Day**

**12 MAY                      AHS CENTAUR Service (Concord Hospital TBA)**

**2 JULY                      Reserve Forces Day --- NEWCASTLE**

**3 JULY                      Reserve Forces Day --- SYDNEY**

**7 SEPTEMBER              Battle for Australia Commemoration (Martin Place, Sydney)**

**26 NOVEMBER              Annual "Mixed" Re-Union Luncheon (Paddington RSL Club)**

-----  
**Cut-Off dates for articles for our quarterly magazine.**

**MARCH 30, MAY 26, AUGUST 1, NOVEMBER 30.**

# Thank You

(From your Committee)

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

Thank you, also, for giving your "unwanted Magazine" to your local doctors/hospital waiting rooms/ Nursing Homes/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 pay by EFT, thank you for identifying yourself. (There are some members who are a little behind with their Subs—any little effort is much appreciated.)

Your contributions, letters and emails are enjoyed by us all and are an encouragement.

Members on the Internet—don't forget our own site (see Front Cover of our magazine) and also "surf" the RAAMC website:- [www.raamc.com](http://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.







# Congratulations

## Edward (Ted) KREMER OAM

Ted received an invitation from the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, to receive "An Award of Fellowship Without Examination" and a "Diploma of Emergency Medicine".

Ted was honoured and attended, in September, with his wife, Maureen, and two friends.

I thank our good friend, John Straskye OAM, for sending me this particular email and I hope the photo that was taken is able to be shown here.



## David COOPER OAM

## James ROCHE OAM

## Warwick WILKINSON AO

Our three members above were presented (or posted) with a Pewter Mug courtesy of our Association.

Many years ago our then President, the late P.J. (Jim) McGrath, and John de Witt, thought it would be nice gesture to present a pewter mug, suitably inscribed, to any of our members who were recipients of an "Honours" award from our Government.

Some of our members reading this will remember being "presented" a 5 Field Ambulance Association "mug".

We usually wait for an appropriate occasion when the intended recipient and our President would be together, but to date it has never happened.

I have had these "mugs" sitting in my office for a few years and our President, Derek Cannon, thought the members might just be at the recent Reserve Forces Day "Launch" at Victoria Barracks.

David Cooper was there and Derek duly presented him with his "mug". David was very surprised and grateful. By the time James and Warwick read this they will also be surprised to receive their "mug" and letter in the post.



Our Association has purchased one of the paintings "Sudan to Afghanistan" by noted artist Martin Campbell and we intend to make this our major prize.

It is a "Special Numbered Edition" No: 55 (of 200).

The print overall measurement is 33 ½ inches x 23 ½ inches and the actual painting measures 22 inches x 16 ½ inches. It is unframed.

The tickets will be \$5 each and we will draw the winner ONLY after we recover the cost. May we count on your support?

As of this Magazine we have sold \$170 worth and sincerely thank the following members; Warren BARNES, Fred BELL, Derek CANNON, David CAVANAUGH, Alan CURRY, Gavin DRISCOLL (new Member), Bryan LINDSAY, Barry and Heather PERIGO, John ROCHE and John SMITH. Please keep the support going. We will still run our "Yearly Raffle" for \$1 per ticket.

The winner of this year's raffle was Barry COLLINS (paid \$80), a second prize was a "spur of the moment" announcement and it will be the NEW BOOK "The 39ers" from the Reserve Forces Day Committee (just "Launched")—this was won by member Chris O'REILLY. We raised a total of \$160.

We sincerely thank ALL members who participated — particularly those who attended our yearly Reunion (See Summary in this newsletter.)

## SICK PARADE

Steve BALDICK (*Sutherland Hospital*), Warren BARNES, Neil BARRIE, Don BOOTH, Scotty BOYD, Derek CANNON, Kevin CARTER, David CAVANAUGH, Barry COLLINS, John DAVIES, Vic ("Bluey") DAVIS, John de WITT, George DONNELLY, Nelson FIORENTINO, Ray GRANT, Eileen HENDERSON, Kevin HURRELL, Neville JOHNSON, Sir Keith JONES, Wilfred (Bill) JONES (*Calvary Nursing Care, CESSNOCK*), Anthony JORDAN, Ted KREMER, Bob LEECH, Bryan LINDSAY, Robert LOVE, Huss MAHOMET, "Roy" McDONALD, Rayda NOBLE, Charles O'MEALLY, Chris O'REILLY, Barry and Heather PERIGO, John PHILLIPS, Maurice PORTER (*Hayfield Court, Baptist Community Village, Carlingford*), Tom PRITCHARD, Harley RODD, Sr. Elizabeth SHEARD, Rob STEWART, Brian TAMS, Peter ("Tommo") THOMPSON, Sr. Francis ("Sue") THOMPSON (*Big Sister Hostel, Room 216, 2c Kanimbla Rd., Miranda*), Arthur WALTON, John WEAVER and John WOODHEAD (*Lourdes Nursing Home, Room 27, Stanhope Rd., Killara NSW 2077*).



# Want a brighter smile?



At Adelaide Cosmetic Dentistry  
we use state of the art  
laser equipment and the latest  
techniques to care for your teeth.

## Services:

- Laser teeth whitening
- Laser gum lift
- Minimal tooth reduction veneers
- Full porcelain crowns
- General dentistry

**Dr Roshanak Amrein** (Dentist)  
**Dr Balakka Reddy** (Dentist)



adelaideCosmeticdentistry

**Level 4, 18 North Terrace  
Adelaide**

**Ph: (08) 8213 1821**

E: [enquiries@adelaidecosmeticdentistry.com.au](mailto:enquiries@adelaidecosmeticdentistry.com.au)

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*

# BK BATHROOM RENOVATIONS

- KITCHEN • BATHROOM • LAUNDRY
- PAINTING • BUILD WARDROBES
- Quality Bathroom Renovations
- Experienced Tradesman
- Quality Workmanship
- Professional Service & Advice
- Obligation Free Quotes

**10% Discount**  
To All Pensioners

**0403 535 457**

Sydney - All Areas

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*

## All Purpose Framing Medal Mounting

Ph: (08) 8555 5993 • Fax: (08) 8555 0489



We **court mount medals** and **frame** just about anything such as military and war medals, replica medals, die struck medals, war ribbons, ribbons, military, medal boxes, medal framing, army badges, navy badges, air force badges, Australian medals, sporting memorabilia and wedding photos frame plus wedding bouquets.

We also supply military badges and combat badges as well as Australian medals, New Zealand medals, police medals, emergency service medals, WW1 medals, WW11 medals, Vietnam medals, foreign medals, WW1 ribbons, WW11 ribbons, Vietnam ribbons, medal-ribbons, ribbons, Australian army badges, military dog tags, war emblems, military plaques, plaques, clasps.

We have just introduced a new line of personalized mugs, personalized T-shirts, memorial frames for dogs, sashes, frames for dog shows, cushions, animal tags and personalized stickers.

We have served thousand of customers across Australia and world wide, including current servicing members of the ADF, Vietnam veterans, police and other services.

**PO Box 2320 Goolwa, SA 5214**  
**Tel: 08 85555993 Mob: 0400029903**  
**Fax 08 85550489**  
**[www.allpurposeframing.com.au](http://www.allpurposeframing.com.au)**





## 5 CSSB Health Company NEWS

It has been a very quiet last 3 months with all the major activity occurring in the previous months.

A "SPECIAL" mention goes PTE Ed HUNG for being the recipient of the Soldier's Medallion for exemplary service to the army in 2010.

Our Association sincerely congratulates Ed for his dedication to his unit and his training.

NEW Pay Rates for Reserves from 11/11/10 (*Kind thanks to "ARMY" newspaper 25/11/10*)

Recruit Trainee	\$75.17 per day
Private (hasn't completed CAT TRG)	\$88.87 per day
Private Grade 1	(ranges from \$109.74 through to Grade 10, \$199.89)
LCPL Grade 1	(ranges from \$114.42 through to Grade 10, \$202.26)
CPL Grade 1	(ranges from \$124.39 through to Grade 10, \$217.60)
SGT Grade 1	(ranges from \$143.95 through to Grade 10, \$237.97)
SSGT Grade 1	(ranges from \$160.99 through to Grade 10, \$248.83)
WO 2 Grade 1	(ranges from \$166.58 through to Grade 10, \$257.93)

Our Association takes this opportunity to wish all the members of 5 CSSB and in particular, the Health Company, a very happy and safe Christmas and may the unit experience good times in 2011.

### NEW MEMBER/S

**Gavin DRISCOLL** is warmly welcomed into our ranks. Gavin is a good friend of mine and we both attend the same Sub Branch. He is a WW 2 Veteran and I had the pleasure of his company just recently, when we attended the RAAMC Association Inc. luncheon at the Coogee-Randwick Diggers Club.

**Greg LEWIS-PHILLIPS** is welcomed "back into the fold"! Greg was a previous member in the unit when it was in Carlow Street, North Sydney. His "nick name was "2 dads" (naturally!) and when his other good friend, Alen Lucic (and our member) contacted him regarding the death of their mutual friend, the late Shaun Danaher, he contacted me to join us.

Greg lives on 6 acres of land at Rylstone with his wife, Julie and two children, Travis 11 and Katelyn 9. He works in the nearby hospital.

**John STRASKYE OAM** is the National President of the RAAMC Association Inc., and is sincerely welcomed into our Association.

We made mention of John in our last magazine (*September 2010, p15*) and it is a pleasure to have him as one of our members.

John has been, and is, the driving force of "setting up" the RAAMC web site, with all the various links and it is a wonderful piece of work in the RAAMC scheme of things.

For any past and present soldier involved in the RAAMC in any capacity, it is a terrific site to "trawl" through.

I realise this only applies to our members who own and use a computer, but for those who don't, take my word for it—this man has done the RAAMC a great service. (*To those members who don't own a computer, take my advice and buy one then go to computer classes and learn how to use it—you won't regret it!*)

### Application Forms from Members

Our Association sincerely thanks the following members for returning their completed forms.

Although most of them signed them with a November 2010 date there are many who are inaugural members—we never had a "formal" application form to fill in in the early days.

The following were received prior to our magazine "cut-off" date and the remainder will be acknowledged, when received, in following magazines.

*Fred BELL, Derek CANNON, Mrs. Edna CANNON (Associate), Alan CURRY, Pat CURRY, John de WITT, Philip FAGUE, Nelson FIORENTINO, Ron FOLEY, George Harris, Dr. Helena MARTIN, Dr. "Roy" McDonald, Tom McLANDERS, Peter PAISLEY, Albert PERRY, Ken PHILLIPS OAM, Bill RYLANDS, Mrs. Elizabeth SHEARD, Chris STRODE, Dr. Michael TYQUIN, Darren WATERSON, John WEAVER, Dr. Phillip YUILE and Jim ZORBAS.*

### BBQ & OVEN Owners



Feel like cleaning the BBQ or Oven??

Save yourself from the drudgery of cleaning a dirty BBQ or Oven

Cook for family & friends on a pristine BBQ or Oven professionally cleaned at home



Call the BBQ Man!!

**9332 3353**

[www.bbqman.com.au](http://www.bbqman.com.au)



## Belvedere & Netherby Aged Care Centres Wahroonga



*“real quality living for our elderly”*

We specialise in a non corporate approach to aged care and rehabilitation that focuses on individual needs and preferences in partnership with our clients.

A person centred approach provides the foundation of individual care and lifestyle for each resident at the home, and is driven by strong support for choice and decision making by residents and their families.

We are located at

9 and 17 Pacific Highway, Wahroonga 2076

(just past “Pearsons corner” on the left hand side going toward Hornsby)

**(02) 9489 2664 Belvedere**

**(02) 9489 0271 Netherby**

or view our website [www.rivierahealth.com.au](http://www.rivierahealth.com.au)

We look forward to seeing you!

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



**FLAT-RATE DENTAL\*\***  
**\$200 ONLY for**  
**BIG FACE X-RAY,**  
**CHECK-UP**  
**CLEANING &**  
**FLUORIDE.**  
**SAVING OF \$100**  
For patients not covered  
by private health fund.  
Must present coupon.  
Valid till 31/12/10  
(conditions apply)

**50% off**  
TOOTH  
WHITENING

Must present coupon.  
Valid till 31/12/10

**NO GAP\***  
**PAYMENT**

- Check up
- Cleaning
- Big Face X-Ray
- Fluoride.

\*For patients covered by  
private health fund.  
Valid till 31/12/10  
(conditions apply)

• We also welcome:

The **Dental Teen Vouchers** and  
The Dental Services Referrals under **Medicare**



Shop 3, 53-59 Mimosa Rd.  
Bossley Park

**97533322**

Call to book your appointment

**OPEN 7 DAYS**

\* No Gap Payment for patients covered by private health fund. \*\*Only for new patients not covered by private health fund.

# 1300 558 174

## BATTERIES

**SAVE TIME & MONEY**  
**CALL US FIRST!** **DIRECT**  
*We'll get you started NOW!!*

**24 Hours - 7 Days A Week**

**Delivery & Fitting** **Your House**  
**ALL SUBURBS WELCOME** **Your Work - Roadside**

**We Specialise in Retail,**  
**Fleet, Trade & Wholesale**  
**Battery Supply**

**We are a Dedicated Team Who**  
**are Always Willing to Help**

**Batteries For:**

- Cars • Motorbikes • 4WD • All Types & Sizes of Boats
- Trucks • Aeroplanes • Golfers • Jetis • Golf Buggies
- Forklifts • Traction Cells • Sealed Lead Acid (SLA)
- Mobile Phones • Portable Phones • Laptops • Quads
- Absorbed Glass Mat (AGM) • House Hold Remotes
- Security Systems • Alarms • Blood Monitors • Drills
- Cameras (Video & Still) • We Also Repair Batteries

**Batteries For ANYTHING!**

**SUPERCHARGE**  
**BATTERIES**



**MORE POWER... LONGER LIFE**



Batteries Direct & Cell-Tic Batteries are  
divisions of Matthew Lovell Enterprises  
**Ph: (08) 8285 6020**

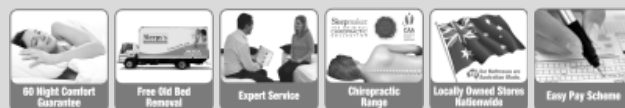


**BATTERIES DIRECT HEAD OFFICE - 154 COMMERCIAL ROAD, SALISBURY FAX: 8285 6030**

Welcome to the  
best night's sleep  
you've had in ages

Bring this ad in to receive  
**20% OFF**  
your next mattress  
purchase\*

For **FREE** expert advice visit your local Sleepy's Store



**Call 1300 722 718**  
**www.sleepys.com.au**

**Sleepy's**  
THE MATTRESS EXPERTS





# MESSAGES FROM MEMBERS

**Ray GRANT** sends his greetings to all his friends in the Association and wishes them an enjoyable Christmas.

Ray said he enjoys reading all the news and wrote back regarding the sad passing of Bert Ferguson and the article about Gunner Harry Peck.

Ray knew Bert Ferguson very well, as "Fergie".

He said although they never served together, Ray got to know Bert very well when Bert served in Eastern, Western and Southern Commands and also in 2 Field Ambulance in Vietnam.

Ray said "Fergie was a highly competent tradesman. He was particularly outstanding in assisting Captain Bill Wilcox move the Western Command depot from Guildford (WA) to Karratha, Perth and then re-assessing the reserve stocks—some of which dated back to WW 1 (Panniers etc)".

Ray was aware when Fergie retired from the army he took on a senior position as Warehouse Manager for Glaxo Pharmaceuticals.

Ray remarked about the "Harry Peck" article, in that he knew a Harry Peck – and very well.

He said Harry came to Australia from England, at a very early age. He grew up in the Trundle/Tullamore districts, in the central west of NSW.

Ray said Harry "ran" a restaurant in Trundle that was famous for his Saturday night "Special"—"pie floaters". Later, in the late 1930's, he sold up and moved to Tullamore, where he established a Wine Bar and Tea Room.

Ray remembers that on the night Robert Menzies, the then Australian Prime Minister, declared war against Germany, he and a group of friends were at Harry's Wine Bar to hear the sombre announcement.

They were expecting this to happen, and the immediate reaction by all present was to join up in the A.I.F., as a group.

When the time came for enlistment, Ray's father refused to sign his papers.

*He told me it would not be a short war AND I was under age so there would be plenty of time to "sign up" later on.*

*His words proved to be a stroke of luck because most of those who joined up at the start were taken prisoner and put to work on the Burma/Thailand railway, and as a consequence very few returned.*

Ray said that in 1993, he travelled through much of Asia where he visited the Kwai River, Hell's Pass and the Kanchanaburi Cemetery where he "searched" for missing friends. Ray found several; including Gunner Harry Peck.

*(I have included a photo of the Cemetery and the gravestone of NX18769 Gunner H. H. Peck, 2/5th Field Regiment RAA.)*

Ray said that Russell Braddon (Author—"Behind Bamboo") gives a good account of Harry Peck and others,



including, the late, Colonel Jack Coombe (ex Army Health).

At the same time Ray was searching for friends he "ran into" (ex W.O.) Keith Payne VC and his son, they were also searching for past friends.

Rays concluded his letter saying that in all his 35 year's service in the army he never heard of the reference regarding "Harry Peck".

*(Thank you, Ray, for your letter and kind words. The "Harry Peck" article you requested has been dispatched.)*

**Roy CROSSLEY** sends his good wishes to all his friends in the Association, especially at Christmas time.

Roy and Betty have recently returned from a family reunion in Sydney which they enjoyed. They said it was a great 3 days but can't believe how cold it is "down south"—they are enjoying lovely weather at home (Pottsville Waters) and are now in "T" shirts and shorts!!

Betty wrote that Roy has not been very active with his fishing because, she said, at 84 he doesn't like walking through the sand now!

They are both enjoying their game of golf, especially more so, now that they have their own buggies.

Betty said that now she has retired it will probably see the end of any more overseas holidays—but she is looking forward to more quality time at home.

*(Thank you, Roy and Betty, for your letter. I was pleased to read that Betty has now retired but who knows what the future may bring you—there may be a "trip" now and then! Our Association also kindly thanks you, Roy, for your Life Membership donation.)*

**John OVERTON** enjoys reading our magazine and "catching up" with all the news. He passes on his good wishes and Christmas greetings to all his friends in the Association.

John wrote to say the article in our last magazine about the ANZAC trip (p28) by Frank Oliver brought back a stark memory of one of the most important events in John's life when he visited Gallipoli many years ago.

John said it makes one proud to be an Australian and instills a desire to follow the example and philosophy of those fine men who founded our country's traditions.

John echoed the comments that we put in our last magazine regarding the OAM received by our good friend, John Straskye. He said the work on the web site of the RAAMC has now allowed many soldiers (men and women) who have served in so many medical units (and beyond) to feel a "sense of belonging" to a body which continues to maintain our traditions.

John is a current member on the Health Committee of the Vice Chief of Defence Force and said it was pleasing to note that John Straskye's contribution and his Award were recorded at a recent committee meeting.

*(Thank you, John, for your letter and kind words. We also pass on our good wishes to you and your family.)*

**John WEAVER** sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association and said that he received the "OK" from his





*Proud to support 5th Field  
Ambulance RAAMC Association*

**Precious Cargo  
Myrtle Bank Pty Ltd**  
3 Fisher Street  
Myrtle Bank SA 5064  
Phone: **8130 6699**  
Fax: 8130 6622

**Precious Cargo Woodcroft Pty Ltd**  
Cnr Bains & Panatalinga Roads  
Morphett Vale SA 5162  
Phone: **8325 0011**  
Fax: 8325 0015

**Precious Cargo Aldinga Pty Ltd**  
182 Aldinga Beach Road  
Aldinga Beach SA 5173  
Phone: **8557 6000**  
Fax: 8557 6099

**Precious Cargo Montessori  
Child Care &  
Early Learning Centre Pty Ltd**  
79-83 Stephen Tce, St. Peters SA 5069  
Phone: **8363 5669**  
Fax: 8363 5662

Website for all centres: [www.preciouscargo-montessori.com.au](http://www.preciouscargo-montessori.com.au)

## A Micro-Sleep can kill in Seconds!

**Driver Fatigue Alarm™** is a new revolutionary micro-sleep warning technology designed to raise the driver's awareness from driver fatigue and micro-sleep. Effective, light weight and easily worn behind the ear. It works on an electronic balance. As the driver's head begins to tilt forward in a micro-sleep, it emits a loud alarm sound or strong vibration alerting the driver to take corrective action or pull over immediately for a rest.

*If everybody wears a Driver Fatigue Alarm™, our roads will be a lot safer.*



DRIVER FATIGUE ALARM™  
can be your "drive buddy" for  
a safer drive.



A safer drive  
for just...  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**  
Plus \$4.95 Postage  
and Handling

**Driver Fatigue Alarm™**  
A Micro-Sleep Warning Technology

Order Today Online at [www.driverfatiguealarm.com](http://www.driverfatiguealarm.com)  
or Phone (02) 9715 5100



## Specialised gear for the elite medic

Supplying:  
Stethoscopes  
Medical Pouches  
Trauma Packs  
Rescue Tools  
Pre-Hospital Accessories  
LED Torches/Headlights  
Tactical Medical Equipment  
First Aid Equipment

[www.tacmedaustralia.com.au](http://www.tacmedaustralia.com.au)

For more information email:  
[info@tacmedaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@tacmedaustralia.com.au) or call 02 9597 5078

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*

Full off road and Semi off road models available in standard or deluxe versions to suit any budget, starting from \$4,150.

For more information download a brochure at  
[www.bluetonguecampers.com.au](http://www.bluetonguecampers.com.au) or visit us at:  
14/4 Ethell Rd, KIRRAWEE NSW Ph: 02 8544 0976  
28 Depot Rd, DUBBO NSW Ph: 02 6882 0322  
77 Myrtle St, MYRTLEFORD VIC Ph: 03 5752 1257  
5 / 26-38 Miller St, EPPING VIC Ph: 03 9408 0787

**Blue Tongue**  
CAMPERS

[www.bluetonguecampers.com.au](http://www.bluetonguecampers.com.au)





doctor a while back, for he and his wife, Maureen, to go on a fly/cruise etc to Singapore.

They departed in early September and when they arrived back home John kindly sent me a small resume` of their trip, which I hope we can put in this magazine.

*(Thank you, John. What great news from your doctor. We also thank you sincerely for your Donation of Life Membership.)*

-----  
**Michael TYQUIN** sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association and enjoys reading our magazines.

Michael has just completed a new book, titled "Forgotten Men"--The Australian Army Veterinary Corps--1909-1946. It will be "launched" in early 2011.

It is a long awaited story of a "forgotten" Corps.

As Sgt Joe Burgess wrote, on the 30 October 1917 at Beersheba, Palestine...

*"we formed up at Asluj and after dark off we marched. We were blocked by another Brigade and when we got away had to gallop for about two miles. Couldn't see, just chanced it, we passed a horse which had broken its neck and had been pulled aside. A little later old Dick (my horse) went down into a hole and he and I sprawled onto the ground, there were about 100 hooves about me and I was smothered like I went down in a football pack, but neither of us got hurt."*

*(Thank you, Michael, for your note. Your donation of Life Membership is very much appreciated. For those members who may not know--Michael was the OC of the 5 CSSB Health Company when he "took over" from MAJ (now LTCOL) Andrew Ellis on the 1st July 2002. Our Association wishes Michael good success with his new book. Michael is also the author of "Little by Little"-- a Centenary history of the RAAMC.)*

-----  
**Don JARMAN** wrote to say he enjoys our magazines and kindly told me about the "typo" error in our Life Member's List (see my comments in "Message from the Secretary").

He also commented on the "new house move" that Ruth and I faced in early January. Don said they are facing a similar dilemma but keep putting it in the "too hard" basket!

*(Thank you, Don, for your letter. I appreciated your words.)*

-----  
**John DAVIES** wrote to pass on his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

He was seeking some information on his deceased uncle, Doug, who was in WW 2 and asked if I could assist him. I managed to get some pertinent information and pass it on to him.

After this contact, John was directed to another lead-- John Winterbotham--at winterbotham@ Hotmail.com. This person emailed John to tell him that his uncle Doug was in the Militia before the war, enlisting in February 1939 and later discharged to join the 2nd AIF.

He was taken prisoner by the Japanese and sent to work with other POW's on the infamous Burma Railway.

When it was finished "they" (1,317 POW's) were then taken to the Japanese "hell ship" "Rakuyo Maru".

At 5am on the 12th September 1944 the "Rakuyo Maru" was in convoy, with other ships on their way back to Japan

from Singapore, when she was torpedoed and sunk by the American submarine "USS Sea Lion". 1,159 souls perished. John's uncle Doug was one of them.

John also queried if he would be entitled to the Australian Defence Medal. *(I sent him an Application Form to complete and forward on.)*

He then took me on an enjoyably short tour of his life.

John said that many years ago he got talking to a family friend (*none other than our inaugural secretary, the late Kevin Findlay*), because he always had a yearning towards the Defence Forces, and due of his family's past involvement, thought he might like to join the CMF.

So, at 17 John joined the CMF with 5 Field Ambulance and signed as a Private with the RAASC. The drill hall was in Carrington Rd, Randwick. He said he enjoyed learning all the disciplines and working his way up towards sergeant's rank.

*(John thinks there is a photo in the unit archives showing a group playing volleyball, at one of the 2 week camps in the early 60's. This group showed Peter ("Tommo") Thompson, Tony ("Castro") O'Connell, myself, Terry ("Grip") Hammerton, and Dave Rimmer. John wanted to get a copy for his upcoming 50 year school reunion publication. John attended St Joseph's on Victoria Road, Rozelle.)*

When he turned 20 he became eligible for National Service and promptly received an honorary discharge and a "Letter of Recommendation" for National Service, from his C.O. LTCOL Ian Dawson.

This was the 2nd NS Scheme and involved the "Birthday Ballot"--John's birthday is the 30th but the August Scheme "drew" those whose birthdays fell on the 29th and 31st !!!

John was subsequently REJECTED--"Indefinitely Deferred" his papers read.

He was very dejected but, try as he might to volunteer, even with his CO's "Letter", he was not allowed to "break the rules"

John, at the time, then completed his printing apprenticeship and stayed in the printing industry until 1976.

At this point he "changed direction" and secured employment in the Trade and Retail market with Ramsett Fasteners Aust. P/L (an Australian company owned by the Siddons family--i.e. Sidchrome Tools for one).

John applied himself to learning all he could with his new company and he became a product specialist in explosive power fastening systems, fixing to metal and concrete on both land and under water.

John was involved with many large contracts including the Australian Parliament House project (reportedly starting at \$900 million but "blew out" to \$1.3 billion when finally opened in 1988--John said this was NOT his fault!).

John progressed in his company from Sales Rep. to Manager for ACT and Southern NSW. He enjoyed his working life until the wheels "fell off" in 1994.

In 1994, he was diagnosed with Non Hodgkins Lymphoma and forced to make radical life changes.

*(I have written over the years about John's "ups and downs")*

At this stage he is in remission, he has never lost his sense of humour or his perspective, loves his wife, Moira (who also does not enjoy good health--the result of a



Visit **armyshop.com.au** to check out our full range of merchandise for **YOUR Corps**



**Black Cap**  
\$18.45

**Key Ring**  
\$8.95

**Lapel Pin**  
\$6.00

**Medallion**  
\$9.90

**Plaque**  
\$49.70

**ARMYSHOP**  
EVERYTHING MILITARY FRONT & CENTRE  
Visit **armyshop.com.au**  
or Army Shop at Military Shop  
65 Kembla Street  
Fyshwick Canberra  
02 6123 2960

**PIDCOCK PANEL BEATING PTY LTD**  
TEL: (02) 6626 4499



02 6626 4499  
Auto Body Services & Repairs

- Quality Spray Painting & Panel Beating
- All Insurance Work
- All Insurance Companies

**PREFERRED REPAIRER FOR**

- Toyota Insurance
- Real Insurance
- Comminsure
- Private Work
- Touch Up Paint
- All Makes & Models
- All Work Guaranteed

Supplier & Industry



**263 Keen Street, Lismore NSW**  
**Tel: (02) 6626 4499**  
**admin@beating.com.au**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*




**HAPPY HOUSE SITTERS**

**Going on Deployment?**

**Who will care for your house and pets while you are away?**

- 1000's of sitters to choose from
- A completely FREE service. Save big \$\$\$ on kennel fees and keep your home secure
- We have sitters all over Australia
- In return for rent free accommodation a house and pet sitter will...
  - Feed, walk, groom, play & love your pet
  - Take your pet to the vet if necessary
  - Save you \$20-30 a day in kennel/cattery fees
  - Allow your pet to stay at home where it's most comfortable
  - Keep your home safe and secure
  - Take/forward messages
  - Water plants & gardens, clean the pool
  - Give you 'peace of mind'
  - Put flowers on the table on your return

*Find out more at...*

**www.happyhousesitters.com.au**  
**Ph. 1300 780 809**

(Why not put our URL and No. into your phone so you have our details handy)

Leader in appearance medicine

**VISAGE CLINIQUE**

Specialising in All Cosmetic and Anti-Ageing Medicine  
Latest Technology Available  
Monday to Saturday 9am-5pm



**77 Cecil Avenue, Castle Hill NSW**  
**Appointments: (02) 8850 1577**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*






motor vehicle accident many years ago) and their children and their grandchildren—and like me, he “loves the Balmain TIGERS”.

*(Good on you, John. Thank you for your letter. Hopefully, we will get your medal and your uncle's medals.)*

**David COOPER** wrote to thank us for the support we gave in our last magazine regarding joining the Battle for Australia Commemoration organisation.

David was appreciative of our attendance in Martin Place and said the BFA “Appeal” is starting to gather momentum.

*David is also on the committee of the Reserve Forces Day organisation and it was a great pleasure when our President, Derek Cannon, presented David with a pewter mug, in a quiet area, at the conclusion of the Reserve Forces Day “Launch”, held at Victoria Barracks on the 27th November.*

*It was a gesture from our Association when David was recognised recently, with an Australian Honours Award (OAM).*

*David has since written to both Derek and myself, sincerely thanking our Association for this wonderful memento, which will be proudly displayed in his glass Trophy Cabinet in his home.*

*He said that even after 51 years he still has this strong attachment to 5 Field Ambulance, adding, that had the NSW Education Department not sent him to a NSW country town, he would never have left 5 Field Ambulance.*

*He also remarked that when the National Servicemen's Association started he was told he could wear his CMF Badge alongside the “Nasho” Badge and quite often I would be asked about my RAAMC Badge!*

*David passes on his good wishes for the season to all in our Association and looks forward to meeting up in Martin Place at the “Battle for Australia” Ceremony.*

*(Ed. Note: Association members, please support the BFA Commemoration Committee's Appeal by joining for \$10 per year—see page 11 in September 2010 issue, if you need a “form”, please contact me. We must NEVER forget when Australia (our land) was attacked and bombed, many, many times during 1942 and 1943, by Japan)*

*(Thank you, David, for your letters and kind words.)*

**Rob STEWART** sent me a card to say he enjoys reading all the news and passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

He read about the National Service Memorial Ceremony and would have attended except a hernia operation put a stop to this. He said he has since managed to visit the Memorial site.

Rob “headed over to the west” (Perth) for a few weeks and hoped to be back to be with us at our “Annual Reunion”, he sent a card to say what a beautiful city it was.

He visited the Memorial dedicated to the crew of the HMAS Sydney (2) and in a subsequent contact from him he has apologised to say he will not be able to be with us at our Reunion.

Rob informed me that he has now sold his home in Randwick on the 28th October. He is looking to move to the ACT.

*(Thank you, Rob, for your cards and the enclosed photos of*

*the NS Memorial (with the wreaths still in place)—I was pleased to read that you had a pleasant trip to the “West”. We all hope your move to your new abode went off smoothly and we wish you well.)*

**Don BOOTH** kindly posted me the “original” Name and Address book for 5 Field Ambulance.

I took possession, many years ago, of what I thought was the original Name and Address book, when the late Kevin Findlay was our Secretary.

The book that Don sent me had more names recorded and it is quite a very well kept and substantial record book and in very good condition.

I transferred all the records over into Don's book and then “updated” our own web site with all the extra names (see “History” link on our Website).

Don later emailed me regarding the passing of Bert Ferguson. Don knew Bert through another deceased member, the late Keith Mackay, who passed away on the 13/11/97. Bert and Keith served with each other in Japan after WW 2.

*(Don still passes our magazines to Keith's widow, Joan.)*

Don has to undergo radiation and Chemo treatment in early October and will have to spend 6 weeks living in Townsville. He had an operation on his face some weeks back and has lost feeling on the left side but he says he can still eat and talk.

He sends his kind regards and best wishes at Christmas time, to all his friends in the Association.

*(Good on you, Don, you sound very positive and strong. I thank you for those items you posted down to me. You are in good hands. We are thinking of you.)*

**“Bluey” DAVIS** wrote to say he enjoys reading our magazine and enclosed some “snippets” he thought we might enjoy reading?

He sent this marvellous piece which explains how the Government “Stimulus Package” works;

*On a slow day in this dusty, little Australian town with the sun beating down and the streets are deserted. Times are tough, everybody is in debt, and everybody lives on credit.*

*On this particular day a rich tourist from down south is driving through town and stops at the local motel. He puts \$100 on the counter and says he would like to inspect the rooms upstairs, in order to pick one to spend the night.*

*The owner gives him a bunch of keys to look at some rooms.*

*As soon as the man disappears up the stairs the motel owner rushes out the door with the \$100 and promptly pays his debt to the butcher down the road and hurries back to the motel.*

*The butcher immediately takes the \$100 to repay his debt to the pig farmer.*

*The pig farmer, in turn repays his feed supplier the \$100 at the Co-Op, the feed supplier promptly runs over to the hotel to repay the \$100 for his drinks etc bill.*

*The publican then “slips the \$100” to the local prostitute at the bar. She has been offering him “services” on credit due to him going through some tough times.*

*The prostitute then rushes over to the motel and pays the \$100 off her room bill.*



# ADVERTISING SALES REPS WANTED

## FREELANCE ADVERTISING SALES PEOPLE REQUIRED

WORK FROM HOME  
YOU NEED PHONE + COMPUTER

**40% COMMISSION**  
**20% COMMISSION ON CONFIRMATION**  
**20% PAID WHEN ACCOUNT IS PAID**

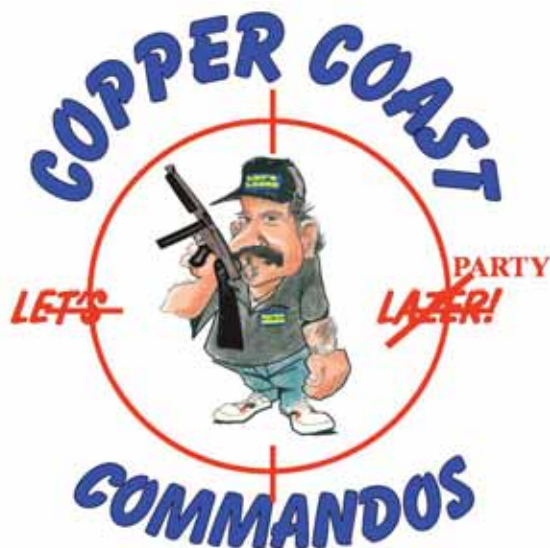
ABN REQUIRED

ONLY PEOPLE WHO CAN SELL  
NEED APPLY

*Phone Robert Burton*  
**1300 662 885**

BUSINESS HOURS

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*



**37 Muddy Lane, Moonta**  
**0417 085 587**

OUTDOOR LASER SKIRMISH  
INDOOR LASER TAG & ARCADE GAMES

**NEW: PARTY PLANS NOW AVAILABLE**

Covered shoes & hat must be worn.

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*



## CJ Medals

- PROFESSIONAL MEDAL MOUNTING & FRAMING
- MEDAL/MILITARIA SALES & AUCTIONS
- VALUATIONS OF MEDALS & COINS

ALL RELATED ENQUIRES WELCOME

**SAMUEL ALFRED • MEDAL SPECIALIST**

Shop 17 Loganholme Shopping Village  
59 Bryants Road, Loganholme, Qld 4129

(07) 3806 5980 • [www.cjmedals.com](http://www.cjmedals.com)  
[cjmedals@optusnet.com.au](mailto:cjmedals@optusnet.com.au)

## Complete Kitchens & Joinery

- For All Your Joinery Needs
  - Kitchens & Bathrooms
- Custom Made – Flat Pack Kitchens
- Quality Workmanship Guaranteed

**Malcolm**  
**0405 637 192**

**Old Beach &  
Surrounding Areas, Tas**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*





The motel owner promptly replaces the \$100 back on the counter.

The traveller at that moment comes back to the desk and informs the motel owner that none of the rooms were satisfactory. He picks up his \$100 and leaves town.

Now, no one earned anything and no one produced anything BUT the whole town is now out of debt and looking to the future with renewed optimism!

(Thank you, Bluey and Betty for your letter. I note that you turned a spritely 91 in September and Betty will be 85 in November and by the time you read this you will be overjoyed at Collingwood (the mighty "pies") winning the Grand Final. Even though you are on oxygen 24/7 your spirits have never dampened—it must be Betty "keeping you in line"? I was pleased to read that you and Neil and Tom keep in touch—Thanks again Bluey)

**Terry FRY** wrote to say he was sorry he missed being with us on RFD Day but with his move to the Gold Coast and his work we would understand.

Being with the ATO he reminded me (us) that our yearly returns had to be in by the 31st October!

He gave me the good news that he received his long awaited Australian Defence Medal by registered post.

Terry passes on his good wishes to all in the Association and hopes we all have a safe Christmas. He will be thinking of us at our yearly "Luncheon" on the 27th November.

(Thank you, Terry, I hope all is well in your new location and we also wish you all the best.)

**Tom PRITCHARD** sends his good wishes to the members in our Association, especially to his good army mates Neil Barrie and "Bluey" Davis.

Tom is recovering after a hip replacement and he said the best part of the rehab. process was being "looked after" by two "lovely young nurses" from the services, who were doing their training.

He told me their names were; Ebany Moebus and Jessica Bailey and they were both from Latchford Barracks, Bandiana.

They were studying to be paramedics and due to be posted in the near future.

Tom finished his letter by writing..."will sign off now, arthurs got me"!

(Good on you, Tom. You were in good hands. We hope by the time you read this you are back to you old self. Have a Happy Christmas.)

**Peter ("Tommo") THOMPSON** passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

He was a bit "miffed" because his firm made him retire when he turned 65 years young in October. His new name is "Pensioner Pete" (welcome to the ranks old mate) and he reckons he now has to start getting used to being "Mr. Mum" and "Master Chef" and "all round home body"?

The "up side" is he can now work on getting his boat trailer "ship-shape" so he can do a lot more fishing BUT the "down side" is that his "job list" to do is so big he would not be able to jump over it!!

(Good on you, Peter. We hope that the future years will be good for you and Cassandra. Thank you for your letter.)

**Bryan LINDSAY** wrote to pass on his good wishes for Christmas and to say he enjoys reading our magazine.

He has been kept busy trying to "finalise" his Mum's estate (the late Estelle Lindsay who was one of our Associate Members for many years).

His health has not been the best and he recently entered hospital for heart surgery. He had an 80% blockage and had 2 stents inserted but says he is now feeling much stronger.

(Thank you, Bryan, for your letter. We hope that when this newsletter reaches you, you will have "cleared up" your mum's estate and that there have been no set-backs with your heart.)

**Alan BECKERLEG** passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

He recently sent me some information regarding the Commanding Officers of 5 Field Ambulance Militia, after WW 1.

**LTCOL C.L.Chapman** was the CO from 1/11/29-31/10/33 (he was a medical practitioner in Sydney and served in the AIF from 3/7/15-25/7/20), he was followed by **LTCOL C.R.Frederick MC ED** from 1/11/33-31/10/37 (he was a medical practitioner from Petersham (NSW) and served in the AIF from 23/12/15-27/2/20), he was followed by **LTCOL T.E.Parker** from 1/11/37-? (he was a medical practitioner from Ashfield (NSW) and served in the AIF in the AAMC during 1914-18. He also had a previous appointment of CO 2 Field Hygiene.)

(Thank you, Alan, for this info, it is much appreciated.)

**David CAVANAUGH** passes on his good wishes for Christmas to all in the Association.

He wrote to apologise for not being able to make it to the Annual Reunion due to an unexpected family illness in far North Queensland.

(Thank you, David. We hope all is well when you read this and were sorry you could not be with us. I kindly thank you for your Life Membership and purchase of our raffle tickets.)

**Kevin HURRELL** sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

He recently made contact with the curator of the ANZAC Memorial Building in Hyde Park, Mr. Greg Read, and was pleased to hear that the WW 1 tapestry (a 5th Light Horse "Souvenir of Egypt") should soon be "on display".

If any of our members visit the "Memorial" when the display "opens", they will be able to see our "Tapestry Donation".

(Thank you, Kevin, for your letter and we look forward to seeing you at our reunion.)

**Dr. Helena MORRIS** is known to us as **LT Helena MARTIN**, and I recently sent out an Application Form for Helena to complete (as I did for over 100 of our members) and received a very pleasant reply back from her mum, Caroline.

Helena is now married, has obtained her medical degree and now she and her husband presently reside in the UK.



## Be Kneaded

"Where Kneading is Nurturing"

**David Bridgman**

Japanese Massage • Relaxation Massage  
Sports & Deep Tissue Massage  
Trigger Point Therapy  
Positional Release Therapy • Reiki

Mobile from the Blackwood area

HEALTH REBATES APPLY

Phone for appointment..... **0417 872 572**

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



**Stawell**  
**Panel & Paint**  
Custom and Collision Specialists  
Peter & Suzette Friebe

- Spraypainting
- Panel Beating
- Insurance Work
- Windscreens
- Restorations

ph. 5358 3380 fax. 5358 3780  
mob. 0488 583 780 email. stawellpanel@dodo.com.au  
6 Smith Street, Stawell Vic 3380  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



## G & E ELCO

**DOMESTIC – COMMERCIAL**

- For all your Electrical Needs • Installations
- Re-Wiring • Computer & Data Cabling
- Power Points • Lighting • Smoke Detectors
- Ceiling Fans • Safety Switches • TV & Phone
- Air Conditioning Installations & Repairs

**Phone: 0412 898 111**  
**Fax: (02) 8725 4722**  
Email: gnselco@msn.com  
Lic. No. L025878 & 52606C

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## RLC PLUMBING

- General Plumbing, Maintenance & Repairs
- Hot Water • Roofing • Guttering
- Blocked Drains • Taps & Toilets
- Gasfitting • New Homes & Renovations
- Mini Excavations

**Rick 0404 069 605**  
Sydney - North Shore Regions




## Mystery Flights

[www.mysteryflights.com.au](http://www.mysteryflights.com.au)

**BIGGER & better than ever!**

Imagine flying off to an unknown destination! We choose your flights - with one of the major airlines (Virgin Blue, Jetstar or Qantas), we pre-arrange the transfers at your destination (excluding daytrips) and book you into a lovely hotel! All you have to do is have fun when you get there...

**the sky's the limit!**

Daytrips, 1,2 & 3night packages available as well as gift vouchers

**Be surprised & delighted - with no hidden costs.**

Book online [www.mysteryflights.com.au](http://www.mysteryflights.com.au) or call 02 94401455

## A1 MIGRATION SERVICES

*Any Immigration Problems???* Contact us:



**Ms Rukma Paramita**  
Senior Migration Agent  
MARN: 9601018  
Ph/Fax: **612 8725 4085**  
HP: **0420 732 322**  
Email: [info@a1migration.com](mailto:info@a1migration.com)  
or [rukma.paramita@a1migration.com](mailto:rukma.paramita@a1migration.com)  
PO Box 204, Padstow NSW 2211  
140 William Street, Bankstown NSW 2200

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association  
[www.a1migration.com](http://www.a1migration.com)



## AG ONE ENGINEERING

16 Thorn Street  
Albany WA 6330

**Ph: 08 9844 8590**

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## CLASSY TIMBER FLOORING

- Timber Floor Installation
- Repairs & Maintenance
- Floating Floors • Parquetry
- Cork Floors
- Quality Workmanship
- Obligation Free Quotes

**Keith: 0425 220 024**  
Sydney - Western Suburbs





Helena has been a Research Associate in the King's College, London, since 2009, and currently is co-ordinating a study on the "Evaluation of Community Rehabilitation Services for People with Long-Term Neurological Conditions".

Her Staff Review on the College web site reads...

*"Helena studied medicine at the University of NSW and graduated with her MBBS BSc (Med) in 2005. Since then she has worked in a variety of clinical areas including general medicine, intensive care medicine, and infectious diseases. She also has particular experience in the fields of oncology and psychiatry.*

*Helena has worked in a variety of hospitals ranging from rural base hospitals to major metropolitan teaching hospitals. Helena has also served as an officer in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps, and has experience in managing a platoon and implementing training modules for Medical Assistants. Through her army service she has gained a broad overview of health services delivery in conflict zones and developing countries."*

Helena did her intern year in Newcastle and then went back to Sydney to the Prince of Wales Hospital at Randwick before heading off to the UK.

Caroline said that Helena is doing her Masters of Public Health from Sydney University by long distance education.

Helena's dad (Michael) has a medical practice in Mayfield (Newcastle) and when she was doing her intern, she shared some of his patients. Caroline said that this gave him a tremendous thrill.

Caroline told an amusing story about Helena's twin sister, Claire. She said a few years ago, when Mike was attending a medical conference in Sydney, Claire had joined me at the hotel to see her father and while we were waiting for him to come out, a strange woman rushed up to Claire and said... "How are you, lovely to see you again?"

Claire, of course, looked blankly at her and the lady went on... "don't you remember, I taught you how to do pap smears at Holsworthy Army camp". Caroline said they both started to laugh and explained that Claire is Helena's twin.

Caroline said the lady was one of the civilian doctors who was "contracted" to Holsworthy and Helena had recently done a rotation there when she was a final year student.

Caroline said that Helena and Claire, although identical, have different hair styles and clothing and look more like siblings. (Claire is a lawyer with Price Waterhouse Coopers.)

*(I kindly thank Caroline for sharing some of Helena's medical opportunities with us. Caroline said Helena and her husband might be home around April 2011—Our Association wishes Helena and her husband a happy and contented life together.)*

**Rayda NOBLE** has a young friend in the ADF. He is Bombardier Brad Marshall (I wrote a little piece in our June 2010 magazine) and was on a "tour of duty" in Afghanistan and part of their duties are to teach the Aghan National Army how to operate their D 30 122mm Howitzers.

They fired them for the first time in over 20 years and Brad remarked that this was a massive achievement, both for the Afghans and us.

Brad sent me two photos which Rayda hopes we can use. She said Brad is on the right of the group photo.



Rayda said Brad is coming home soon to marry his long time girlfriend. The wedding will take place in Brisbane.

*(Thank you, Rayda, for your emails and "updates" on Brad. We wish him and his fellow soldier mates a safe return back home when their "Tour" is completed.)*

**John SMITH** enjoys reading our newsletters and he passes on his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

He was recently tidying up his "office desk" and came across the AHS Centaur Service "reminder" and it brought back a happy/sad memory.

John said that not only was this day their Wedding Anniversary but the booklet mentioned the hospital ship "Manunda" in Milne Bay where a Japanese surface ship trained her searchlights on her, but left her alone.

It brought back memories of his dad talking about the "Manunda" and the menus he kept when he was aboard it. He was in the 14th Field Ambulance and was being evacuated back to Sydney on the "Manunda" to have convalescence at Baulkham Hills Army Hospital whilst his injuries healed.

John vividly remembers his mum getting us four kids "tarted up" to visit him. He said it was a great trek with 4 kids, by public transport, from Newtown to this very far, out-of-the-way place.

John remembered it was great to see his dad in his hospital gown.

In those days the army did not make it easy for families to visit their injured loved ones. There was no monetary "helping hand"—it was either pay the fare or not go!

*(Thank you, John, for those reminiscences.)*

**Andrew ELLIS** kindly sent me an email in mid-August stating that our members might be interested in viewing a "60 Minutes" (Channel 9) story on an inspirational soldier and his recovery from serious injury.

I tried to recover this video just recently but with no success.

*(Thank you, Andrew, for your message, I am sorry I could not view this segment nor send it to our members on email. We hope all is well with you and your family.)*

**Ken PHILLIPS** sent me a "trip diary" of his epic bicycle journey in Vietnam.

I have passed it on to our printer/publisher and if we have room we will put it in this magazine—if not we will put it in our ANZAC Newsletter (1'11) in the new year.



## House of Stuff GIFT SHOP



Telephone:  
**(08) 9452 3084**

Shop 37A  
Forest Lakes Shopping Centre  
Forest Lakes Drive, Thornlie WA 6108

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association

## ROYAL HOTEL

**02 6729 1444 Warialda**  
51 Hope Street  
Warialda NSW 2402

**Bistro Monday - Saturday**  
Function Facilities  
Lunch & Dinner

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## BONZA FURNITURE

0407 799 152

*Specialising in PVC Tube Furniture*

**Phone: 07 4773 2992**  
**Fax: 07 4723 4857**  
32 Ventura Court, Kirwan QLD 4817

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## Camping Outdoors Centre

- Wide Range of Camping Gear
- Ultimate Fishing Gear
- Full Supply of Archery Products
- Home Brew Supplies & Accessories
- Friendly Service & Advice

43 Vulcan Street, Moruya NSW  
**Tel: (02) 4474 3081**

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## cafe Pennoz

Open Monday to Saturday  
Unit 5, 2075 Reliance Drive, Tuggerah NSW  
**Phone: (02) 4353 5777**  
[www.cafepennoz.com.au](http://www.cafepennoz.com.au)

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## Sparky's Electrical

- For all your Electrical needs • Installations
- Re-Wiring • Computer & Data Cabling
- Power Points • Lighting • Smoke Detectors
- Ceiling Fans • Safety Switches • TV & Phone

**John 0418 254 360**  
Canterbury / Parramatta & Surrounding Areas, NSW  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## PAUL'S PAINTING AND MAINTENANCE

- Domestic & Commercial
- New & Old Home
- Interior & Exterior
- Quality Products
- Repaints • Free Quotes

**Mobile: 0408 237 695**  
Melba & Surrounding Areas, ACT

## Lorraine Nolan

**Trainer Assessor**

- First Aid
- CPR
- Aged Care & Community Services

**Mobile: 0408 664 346**  
Casino NSW

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association





(Thank you, Ken, for your wonderful story. I look forward to our members also reading about your travels.)

**David PHILLIPS** (no relation to Ken, above) kindly emailed me the sad information on the passing of a past 1 Field Ambulance pharmacist, LTCOL Noel Fraser RFD ED.

I was away in far north Queensland at the time but was able to pass on to David, and his dad, John, a contact number for Stu' Jones who was a friend of Noel.

(Thank you, David, for your email.)

**John PHILLIPS** was also saddened by the passing of his friend, Noel Fraser and was honoured when asked to give a eulogy for Noel. I contacted John and said our Association would be honoured to write about his friend.

John's words at the funeral service were;

*"Noel Roderick Fraser RFD ED—I consider it to be a great honour and privilege to be asked to say a few words, specifically with regards to Noel's long and distinguished service in the Australian army, as a part-time soldier of the CMF and subsequently the Army Reserve."*

Noel and I were in the same year of pharmacy at Sydney University. We did not have a close relationship at that time, since as soon as we had finished our university lectures, it was back to our respective pharmacies, under the terms of our apprenticeship indentures, but our military service changed all that.

Noel continued a family military tradition, with both his father and uncle having served in the army in WW 1.

At High School, Noel joined the Air Cadets, but the first National Service Scheme helped him to get with the strength, when he was "called up" to undertake his 3 months basic training with 19 NS Training Battalion at Holsworthy Army Camp on 2nd January 1952.

Having completed his basic training he was posted to 12 Company RAASC. A transport unit located at Ashfield.

Having qualified and subsequently registered as a pharmacist, Noel transferred to the RAAMC and was posted as a Lieutenant Pharmacist to 1 Field Ambulance, located at Homebush, on the 1st April 1954. 1 Field Ambulance was then part of 1 Armoured Brigade.

Thus commenced a long and distinguished career as a military pharmacist.

On 11 July 1958, Noel was promoted to the rank of Major and appointed as Officer Commanding 1 Advanced Depot of Medical and Dental Stores, linked with the Eastern Command Depot of Medical and Dental Stores, located at Maroubra.

For the next 5 years Noel commanded the unit with weekly and monthly week-end Parades, as well as Annual Camps.

Activities included the general operation of a medical and dental stores unit, Ordering, Receiving, Storage, Packing and Despatching to units of the three services, Medical Stores, as well as bulk compounding of cough mixtures, lotions etc.

A "highlight" of one Annual Camp was an aerial delivery of stores exercise, in conjunction with the RAAF Base, Richmond, an exciting experience for all involved.

On the 27th September 1963, Noel was appointed to HQ Eastern Command, Victoria Barracks, as SO2 (Pharmaceutical), becoming the senior Pharmacist in Eastern Command (covering all of NSW) and within the office of the Director of Medical Services.

Subsequently Noel had a number of postings, including the Eastern Command Officer Training Group, Pharmacist 1 General Hospital, and the Administrative Officer Eastern Command Logistic Staff Course.

In April 1983, Noel was promoted to LTCOL, SO1 (Pharmaceutical) HQ Eastern Command, now designated 2 MD. Again, he became the senior Army Pharmacist in NSW, within the office of the Director of Medical Services.

Noel finally retired on the 1st April 1986 after 34 years of continuous and dedicated service as a citizen soldier. For this service he was awarded the Reserve Force Decoration and the Efficiency Decoration—both with attached bars for extended service.

Noel Roderick Fraser certainly dedicated himself, over very many years, to the service of his country, in a most exemplary way and will always be remembered by all he served with, as a dedicated, honourable, reliable and trustworthy fellow officer and friend.

Of course, with his wife, Agrita, he was very justly proud of his three sons and eight grandchildren, especially in witnessing Donald receiving the "Sword of Honour" on his Graduation from RAAF Base, Point Cook and now to see granddaughter, Sarah, undertaking a gap year with the RAAF.

In closing I would like to acknowledge Noel's dear, devoted wife, Agrita, who so ably held up the homefront during the years of Noel's army service. A commitment only those who have also experienced the demands of service life, can fully understand and appreciate Agrita's dedication to Noel's welfare and wellbeing have been of the highest standard, over many years with his various health problems, but especially during his recent progressive illness and hospitalisation.

#### **LEST WE FORGET**

(Thank you, John, for those well-said words for your late friend, Noel and his family.)

**Nick MARSHALL** and his wife, Dorothy, wrote say they have sold their home in Riverwood. They sent me a beautiful photo of their NEW home in East Bowral, it built on a slight hill with the most majestic views.

Their new address, for any of Nick and Dorothy's friends in the Association who may not be aware is, 24 Stirling Drive, East Bowral NSW 2576. Their new phone number is; (02)4862.5346. Nick's email address has not changed but Dorothy's is; [dotmarshall@iinet.net.au](mailto:dotmarshall@iinet.net.au)

Nick and Dorothy pass on their good wishes to all in the Association.

(Thank you, Nick and Dorothy, we are very happy for your decision and hope that the future is good for you both.)

**Bill MOLLOY** wrote to pass on his good wishes to his friends in the Association.

I had "run into" Bill at the RF Day "Launch" on Saturday 27th November.

Bill wrote to say he had the pleasure of being the MC at the launching of a NEW BOOK written by his good friend, LTCOL Robert Likeman CSM.

This took place at Victoria Barracks Officer's Mess on the 24th November.

Bill said that LTCOL Robert Likeman was the last CO of 9 Field Ambulance. The unit held a "Farewell Parade" for him in Townsville in 1994.





**WE MAKE MOVING A JOY**  
**WE TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING**

**For All Your Removal Needs**  
Wide Range of Truck Sizes – Local Country & Interstate  
Offices, Houses & Warehouses  
Insurance Available – Reliable Service

**1800 683 608** Wentworthville NSW  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association


**Adelaide's Garden Makeover Specialists** **Garden Revamps** **Commercial and Residential**

**WE WILL BEAT ANY GENUINE QUOTE**

- Landscaping • Lawn Mowing & Gardening • Paving & Retaining Walls • Pruning & Hedge Trimming • Steel Fencing & Gates • Soil Testing & Fertilising • Irrigation Installation
- Weed Control • Yard Cleanups • Rubbish Removal

**Servicing All Areas – Free Quotes**  
**Head Office: 8252 7324**  
**Tony 0422 318 252**  
**Rodney 0417 697 153**  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**"Be You, No Matter What..."**



Ph: 0411 582 484  
www.beingphenomenal.com

Clear off the stress, the memories, the judgments and the build up of negativity.  
All you have to do is choose that and relax!  
Using the most dynamic, easy and joyful tools to release it all  
**Cathie** can show you how.  
How much better can life be?  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**oceanfront brasserie**

The menus are as fresh as the catch of the day at the Oceanfront Brasserie located in the Deep Sea Fishing Club.

"Specials Menu" changes daily and always includes at least five new selections of fish dishes to tempt diners.

- Friendly Personal Service
- Special Celebrations and Wedding Receptions
- 3 Function Rooms • Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Ph 02 6651 2819**  
1 Jordan Esplanade, Coffs Harbour, NSW 2450  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**WIXY'S MAINTENANCE**

- Lawn Mowing • Edging • Pruning • Trimming
- Garden Makeovers • Yard Clean Ups
- Rubbish Removal • Competitive Rates
- Free Quotes • Prompt & Reliable

**Mobile: 0428 417 556**  
Glendenning & Surrounding Areas, NSW  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**CRAIG PURTON**

**GARAGE DOORS**  
**Installations & Service**

- Roller Doors • Sectional Doors
- Trade Qualified • Quality Service
- Trouble Free Installation • Great Rates

**Mobile: 0418 128 806**  
**Land Line: (03) 6425 6301**  
Devonport / Ulverstone & Surrounding Areas, Tas  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**DEAN'S TOWING**

- Tilt Tray • Breakdowns
- Cars • Boats • Motorbikes
- Machinery • Car Body Removals
- Prompt & Reliable Service

**Dean: 0448 990 890**  
**Canberra – All Areas**  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**MOBAYED RENDERING & PLASTERING SERVICES**

- Domestic & Commercial • Supply & Fix
- New Work • Renovations • Ceilings
- Cornice • Interior & Exterior Rendering
- Obligation Free Quotes • Professional Service

**Mobile: 0408 758 044**  
Sydney - Upper North Shore Regions  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association





He was placed on the R of O, but when his expertise was needed he returned back to Uniform. He is currently the SMO of 3 Brigade in Townsville although he is looking forward to his retirement in 2011.

Bill called on GEN Peter Cosgrove AC MC to officially "Launch" Robert's book, titled "**Gallipoli Doctors**".

General Cosgrove applauded the work and research, done by Robert, that has gone into his book, GEN Cosgrove said it is wonderfully written, he being unaware that 270 doctors served in various capacities at Gallipoli.

The book contains all the details of every Australian AIF doctor who served at Gallipoli, Palestine or the Western Front.

It is released through "Slouch Hat Publications", P.O.Box 174, McRAE, VIC 3938. The cost is \$60 (plus postage).

If any member would like to purchase a copy of "Gallipoli Doctors" Volume 1, (which is in hard copy with dust jacket and contains many photos), please contact myself or the above address.

*(Thank you, Bill, for your letter. I feel sure that Robert's book will be well received in many circles.)*

**John CHARTER** sends his good wishes to his friends in the Association. He informed me that the Housing Commission have just "relocated" him.

John had a rather big unit in Ashfield and as his health is not 100% due to arthritis, the Department have set him up in a smaller unit in Epping.

John said it is like ... "*being in the bush, compared with Ashfield*". He has discovered that he is a few minute's walk from the Epping RSL Club so he will transfer to their Sub Branch.

John's NEW ADDRESS is; 3/28 Boronia Ave., Epping, NSW 2121 and his phone number is; (02) 9868.4988.

*(Thank you, John, for contacting us, I was getting a bit concerned when I couldn't contact you. Our Association wishes you good luck in your new home and hopes you have "settled in" by the time you receive this newsletter.)*

**Peter PAISLEY** contacted me to say he was recently in Canberra at a conference and at a "loose end" one evening he contacted an old acquaintance to see if he would like to come into town and share a "drink or two"!

Peter then quoted his friend verbatim... "*I will collect you outside your hotel at 5.30pm sharp on Monday. You will be conveyed to my home for dinner. Bloody well make sure you're on time!*"

In due course I was on a guided tour of Brigadier (Retired) John Essex-Clark's home followed by marvellous dinner served by his good lady, which we enjoyed immensely.

The meal, of course, was helped by copious amounts of red wine.

There was much conversation and many reminiscences—several mutual, but mostly supplied from the Brigadier's uniquely varied experience—in all, it made for a most relaxed and delightful evening.

Before being driven back to my hotel I was commanded to contribute to the visitor's book; a camera then appeared and, as befits my junior status, my host took up a position behind my chair and laid a reassuring hand on my shoulder, while we raised our liqueur glasses to the lens.

I must say it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Peter closed by saying that if any of our members knew the Brigadier they would be pleased to learn that he has lost none of his verve.

*(Thank you, Peter, for your email. It just shows how a "chance" phone call can be most rewarding.)*



**STARAZ HOLDINGS**  
Demolitions & Excavations

**DEMOLITION SPECIALIST**

- Houses • Asbestos Removal • Excavation
- Burnt Out Buildings • No Job Too Small

**Tony: 0414 678 080**

Chipping Norton & Surrounding Areas, NSW  
Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

*Lasting Moments*  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**

- All Aspects of Photography • Weddings
- Formals • Portraits • Special Occasions
- Quality Work Assured • Professional Service

**Andrew: 0425 047 411**  
**Phone: (08) 8248 2921**  
Adelaide – All Areas

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**SOUTHWEST  
CARPET CARE**

Your Local Carpet, Upholstery,  
Tile & Grout Steam Cleaning Experts

**Graeme 0438 315 373**  
**Phone: (08) 9795 5242**  
Bunbury & Surrounding Regons, WA

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association



- All aspects of painting & decorating
- Interior & exterior
- Garden maintenance
- Roof and gutter repairs
- Property maintenance

**John Hodkin**  
BLD 223743

**Tel: 0406 348 233**  
*For a free no obligation quote*

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association





**Phone:** (07) 3800 7950  
**Email:** info@brownsplainsfirearms.com.au  
**Address:**  
 Shop 10, 3238 Mt Lindsay Hwy  
 Browns Plains QLD 4118

- New & Used Rifles & Pistols
- Accessories
- Knives
- We Purchase Used Guns
- Ammo
- Scopes and Optics
- Spotlights and Torches
- Storage Services

**NOW AVAILABLE:** Duncan's Pigdog Collars and Chest Plates

[www.brownsplainsfirearms.com.au](http://www.brownsplainsfirearms.com.au)



## Callala RSL Country Club Ltd

**Tel: (02) 4446 5313**

Callala Beach Rd, Callala Beach NSW 2540

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

Callala RSL Country Club is a fully licensed club with the fantastic facilities for the families and lovers of golf, bowls and nearby kid safe beaches and fishing. We are situated at Callala Beach only minutes walk from Jervis Bay, 2 hrs drive from southern Sydney and the closest and quickest way to Jervis Bay.

- Three Sisters Bistro
- Fox Sports, Sky
- Two Bowling Greens
- 9/18 Hole Golf Course
- Family BBQ Area
- Outdoor Terrace
- Eftpos
- TAB • KENO

## PARADISE PAINTING SERVICE

Lic. No. 179826C

- Domestic & Commercial • New & Old Homes
- Interior & Exterior • Special Effects Finishes
- Pensioner Discounts • Free Quotes

**Mobile: 0428 173 796 • Ph: (02) 4456 4769**

Fishermans Paradise & Surrounding Areas, NSW

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



## STRAIGHT EDGE PLASTERING

FREE QUOTES

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

**Mobile: 0416 736 829**

[www.straightedgeplastering.com.au](http://www.straightedgeplastering.com.au)

Email: aaron@straightedgeplastering.com.au

Sydney – All Areas

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



## Corrugated Carton Products



### Cardboard Box & Carton Manufacturers

33 James Erskine Drive, Erskine Park NSW 2759

**Ph: (02) 9670 9700 • Fax: (02) 9670 3684**

[www.ccpnsw.com.au](http://www.ccpnsw.com.au)

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## Speedy Mouse

### COMPUTER SERVICES

- On-Site or Mobile • Repairs & Upgrades
- Virus Removal • Networking
- Troubleshooting
- Free Quotes • Prompt & Reliable



**Andrew: 0438 950 586**

Tea Tree Gully & Surrounding Regions, SA

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## Hunter Valley Web Design

Tracy Ellem - 0410 476 128

Walter Ellem - 0408 493 923

Business Managers

### Our Services;

#### Web Design...

- Custom Built Web Sites • Re-Design Existing Sites
- E-Commerce • Domain Registration • Web Site Hosting
- Search Engine Optimisation

#### Graphic Design...

- Logo Designs
- Business Cards & Stationary Packages
- Animations

Office: (02) 4966 3065

Fax: (02) 8003 9101

Email: enquiry@twh.com.au

[www.huntervalleywebdesigns.com.au](http://www.huntervalleywebdesigns.com.au)

ABN - 92 033 941 457



## A J's HOME IMPROVEMENTS



- General Home Maintenance & Repairs
- Window, Door & Lock Repairs
- Painting • Tiling • Carpentry
- Professional, Reliable Service

**Anthony 0438 543 403**

South Penrith & Surrounding Areas, NSW

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*





# Stems of Interest

## (1) National Servicemen's Memorial Dedication Day Wednesday 8th September

This was a memorable event that I attended and I was also proud to represent all our Association members who performed their National Service commitment with 5 Field Ambulance and were not able to be present on this day. Prior to the Dedication day, we (about 1,000 people) were invited to the Great Hall in Parliament House on the Tuesday evening, from 5pm to 7pm, for a "Meet and Greet" with the Prime Minister, Julia Gillard and the Opposition Leader, Mr Tony Abbott.

It was a most friendly atmosphere with plenty of "nibbles" and liquid refreshments.

On the "crisp" morning of the Dedication it turned out to be a very warm day with beautiful sunshine throughout. All the National Servicemen "Formed Up" in their respective year of "Call Up".

I was present in the 1955 year group, and we had a very large roll-up. I never recognised anyone from my Intake but then, there would have been over 100 in our group. We formed up in the centre of ANZAC Parade and faced the War Memorial.

The first Intake to march off at 10am was the 1951 men, led by the band of the Royal Military College of Australia.

When our year passed the Saluting Dais (about 1 km from "Form Up") and we were "Dismissed", I looked back at the marchers still to come and my eyes filled up and my heart swelled with pride to see the long formations of National Servicemen, still to pass the Dais, all marching in step—and all were proud to be here.

Those fortunate enough to have a "Reserved Seat" (I was one—first in best dressed!!) for the Ceremony were seated in a "U" format and facing the eastern wall of the War Memorial.

I was pleased to shake hands with four of our members—MAJGEN Warren Glenny, Noel Moulder, Barry O'Keefe (and his wife, Barbara) and George Harris (I sat next to George during the service)



ABOVE: Australian War Memorial staff estimated this event was the largest ever gathering of "Nashos", many of whom had brought their families to join a crowd of 4000 to witness a long overdue event.

BELOW: A member of the Royal Australian Navy at the Memorial.  
(Courtesy Canberra Times, Thursday, 9.9.10)



The National Servicemen's Memorial was situated in this section of the grounds and it was here that the Service took place.

The Chairman of the AWM, General Peter Cosgrove AM MC (Ret'd) gave the Official Welcome and the National President of the National Servicemen's Association, Major Earl Jennings AM RFD ED (Ret'd) gave an Introduction.

The Commemorative Address was given by the Governor-General, Her Excellency, Ms Quentin Bryce AC.

The "Highlight" was the Unveiling of the Plaque by the Governor-General.

A very poignant segment of the Ceremony was during the Wreath Laying, because the last official wreath laid was a joint effort involving Mrs Betty Kingston and Miss Isabella Doherty.

Mrs Kingston was the oldest living mother and Miss Doherty was the youngest grandchild, and together, they represented all the families of the 212 National Servicemen who died.

*(Mrs Kingston's son, Ian, was 20 when he was killed in action in Bien Hoa Province on September 3 in 1969. He was a bank officer from Nambour, Queensland.*

*Miss Doherty's grandfather, John, was 23 when he died from head wounds received during a mortar attack in the Bien Hoa Province on 18 February 1968. He was a boilermaker from Kerang in Victoria.)*

The younger Miss Doherty assisted her elder companion, Mrs Kingston, as they walked slowly from their seats to receive the wreath and then they seemed to stand staring at the plaque for a long time, remembering, and then slowly placing the wreath.

To me (and George) it was a very emotional moment.

When the Ceremony was over I visited the archive section of the AWM to research some material.

I wrote a "Letter of Congratulations" to the National Servicemen's Committee for wonderful job well done, this would have been the culmination of many years of hard work and wonderful friendships.

The NS Association has now available, either through Australia Post or the Military Shop, a number of items for purchase, ranging in prices from 70c to \$299 (including the 3 hour DVD of the Memorial Day, for \$29).

If you require further info on this, kindly contact their National Secretary, Noel Moulder (Ph/Fax: (02) 4334.2884). *(The following information has been edited from the National Service Memorial booklet section entitled "National Service in Australia--A Brief History" by Allen Callaghan—with kind thanks.)*

**There were two National Service Schemes—The FIRST** being from 1951 to 1959 involving 52 Intakes with a total of 227,000 young men serving in the Navy, Army and Air Force.

This Scheme was discontinued on the 30th June 1960.

The National Servicemen in this Scheme did not see Active Service, except for those who enlisted and fought in Malaya, Korea, Borneo and Vietnam.

National Servicemen were on Navy ships that visited Korean waters during hostilities—they were also at the atomic bomb tests in 1952 at Monte Bello Islands in





273 North East Road, Hampstead Gardens SA 5086

**Telephone: (08) 8369 3438**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

**Raelene Johnson  
PROPERTY  
SERVICES**

*Specialising in  
Property Management*

35 ANN STREET, SALISBURY SA 5108

**Phone: (08) 8285 5312**

**Mobile: 0414 499 435**



*Raelene Johnson*

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## LOVES LOOKOUT

32 Elanora Road, Kiama Heights NSW 2533

Phone: **0417 698 877** • Fax: **(02) 9647 3334**

Email: [roxanne@nuteck.com.au](mailto:roxanne@nuteck.com.au)

[www.kiama.com.au/loveslookout](http://www.kiama.com.au/loveslookout)

Waterfront accommodation for up to 12 people  
Rates start at \$400 per night, plus bond \$300  
and cleaning fee \$70

Contact person: Roxanne

Two-storey waterfront house overlooking Loves Bay

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



[www.zalotions.com.au](http://www.zalotions.com.au)

**Mobile: 0421 546 503**

**ALOTIONS**

*Empowering your business!*

**WEBSITE DESIGN**

Email: [bzalloua@zalotions.com.au](mailto:bzalloua@zalotions.com.au)

**Unit 6, 1 The Crescent, Berala NSW 2141**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## ALLAM DIESEL MECHANIC PTY LTD

7 Bellona Avenue, Regents Park

Phone: **(02) 9644 4455**

Mobile: **0415 619 992**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



**Fastfit Bullbars & Towbars**

**65 ST HILLIERS ROAD, AUBURN, NSW 2144**

**Sport Bars**



**Nudge Bars**



**Side Steps**



Manufacturers of High Quality Alloy  
& Steel Accessories

Towbars, Nudge Bars, Mufflers,  
Bullbars and General  
Metal Fabrication

**65 St Hilliers Road, Auburn**

**Ph: (02) 9749 1209**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

**Roof Racks**



**Bike Racks**



**Cargo Barrier**



*Ford Pro  
Motor Wreckers*

*Specialising in New, Used & Reconditioned Parts for...*

- FALCON • FAIRLANE • UTE
- XR6 • XR8 • XR • TURBO

**FREE DELIVERY IN THE SYDNEY METRO AREA**

**94 Victoria Street, Smithfield NSW**

**Tel: (02) 9757 1811**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## Ishak & Associates

**FOR ALL YOUR CONVEYANCING NEEDS**

Suite 3A, Level 2

22 George Street, North Strathfield

**Phone: (02) 9763 5550**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## PIRATE CLEANING

- Commercial Cleaning Specialists
- Cleanest & Cheapest - 100% Guaranteed
- Police Clearance Available • Free Quotes

**Stephanie: 0447 170 015**

Geraldton & Surrounding Areas, W.A.

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



**John Edmondson VG Memorial Club**

*The Friendly Club*

Whether it's great food, good fun, entertainment or just a place  
to sit back and relax why not visit us at Club Liverpool.

**185 George Street, Liverpool 2170**

**Phone 9822 4555**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*





Western Australia and in 1956 at Maralinga in South Australia.

RAAF National Servicemen worked on aircraft that had flown through atomic clouds.

National Servicemen in this Scheme were also placed "on alert" as part of a wider stand-by for Active Service during the Suez Canal crisis in 1956 but the crisis passed.

**The SECOND NS Scheme** (1965-1972) involved the invoking of the National Service Act 1964, due to lack of recruitment.

This was a time when there was the "Confrontation with Indonesia" between 1962 and 1966 and the Vietnam War. This Scheme involved the "Birthday Ballot" of men turning 20 years of age to be selected to go into the Army.

(The Navy and Air Force did not use National Service for Vietnam).

An alternative allowed those liable to conscription to elect, a year before the ballot, to fulfil their NS obligation by six year's service in the CMF (some 35,000 did so before this option was abolished.)

Between 30 June 1965 and 7 December 1972 a total of 63,735 men were "Called Up" for two years of Full Time Service and integrated into regular army units (this was reduced to 18 months in 1971).

150 served in Borneo, 15,381 served in Vietnam and the remainder served in support units in Australia, Malaysia and Papua-New Guinea.

1,639 completed Officer Training at Scheyville (Sydney) and promoted to second Lieutenants. Another 600, who were teachers, were promoted to sergeants and posted to Papua-New Guinea for 12 months to educate soldiers of the Pacific Islands Regiment at Port Moresby, Goldie River, Lae and Wewak.

National Servicemen in this Scheme also served in PNG in Signals, Ordnance, RAEME, Small Ships, Survey and other units.

Two National Servicemen died in Borneo and 210 died in Vietnam.

*(The booklet had all 212 depicted in alphabetical order with a small photo beside each name with a short resume` of the soldier—it was a wonderful tribute.)*

In 1974 the CMF was reorganised as the Army Reserve.

On the 28th November 1987, the late Barry Vicary founded "The National Servicemen's Association of Australia, in Toowoomba, Queensland, to seek a better deal for Vietnam-era National Servicemen.

When he learned of the FIRST Scheme he immediately widened the organisation to include them.

*(The National Servicemen's Association is the second largest ex-service organisation after the RSL.)*



Photo shows the area where the NS Monument is placed.

In 2001 the Defence Act was amended so that Reservists could be called up for overseas service.

This year also saw the Australian Government award the "Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal"

No women were called up for National Service.

In 2006 the Australian Defence Medal was awarded to National Servicemen along with all other Service men and women.

Many National Servicemen, in their later life, rose to high positions in business, the professions, sport, entertainment, politics and community—two of them were Governors-General, viz; Bill Haydon and Dr. Peter Hollingworth, three were Tasmanian Governors, viz; Sir Guy Green, William Cox and Peter Underwood.

Tim Fischer was a Deputy Prime Minister, Wilson Tuckey is still a Federal Minister, Jeff Kennett was a Premier of Victoria, Sir Llew Edwards was a Queensland Deputy Premier, Paul De Jersey, a Queensland Chief Justice, Rod Fay rose to be a Major General.

There was Lindsay Fox and Sir James Hardy of business fame, TV Personalities, Clive James and the late Graham Kennedy, entertainer Normie Rowe, famous tennis player, Lew Hoad, cricketer, Doug Walters, racing car legends, the late Peter Brock and Dick Johnson.

As well, Australia called up Aborigines, Torres Strait Islanders and Pacific Islanders.

The Association has branches all over Australia and a NEW WORD was introduced into the Australian language-- "NASHO".

FEBRUARY 14 each year is commemorated as National Service Day. *This was the day that the LAST NASHO completed his Army obligation.*

NB: for any member who may be able to get there—see the Invitation (attached) to the 60th Anniversary, 2011 of The National Servicemen get-together in TOWNSVILLE.

(2) **Mick CARLSON** is a good friend of our Association and is member of 1 Field Ambulance and he enjoys reading our magazines.

In a recent magazine of ours he read with sadness about the passing of his old friend, Ray Harrington, and the comments from his other friend, John McKeown.

Mick commented that he first met Ray about 1964 when he came up from 1 Fd Amb HQ to supply the newly formed Maitland Depot (Medical Company) with equipment for a week-end bivouac.

The medical company was situated in the town of Lochinvar. Ray was the QM and one of his staff was CPL Ken Coles.

Mick said they enjoyed each other's company and he still fondly remembers the 0200hrs Mess drink at Lochinvar.

Mick wrote that he learned a lot from Ray, as far as logistics went, because he used

knowledge gained in his army experience to set up a Distribution Centre, prior to his retirement, for the Best and Less store at Riverwood.



(L/R): the late LTCOL Jim McGrath, WO 11 Mick Carlson and MAJ David Rothfield on Field Exercise in the Singleton area in the 70's.





**berihurikari**  
**(02) 4464 1230**  
 Berry NSW

SPECIALISING IN HOME MADE  
 FROZEN GOURMET CURRIES  
 (GLUTEN FREE)

[www.berihurikari.com.au](http://www.berihurikari.com.au) • [info@berihurikari.com.au](mailto:info@berihurikari.com.au)

**NEW SOUTH WALES  
 WATERPROOFING**

- All Wet Areas • Bathrooms • Kitchens
- Laundries • Balconies • Decks, etc
- FREE QUOTES –

**Mobile: 0409 888 800**  
 Sans Souci & Surrounding Areas, NSW  
*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

**Jackleconstruct**  
 RBP Reg. No. DBU11373

- New Homes • Extensions • Renovations
- Bathrooms • Kitchens • Painting
- Tiling • Property Maintenance
- 30 Years Experience –

**Marcus 0412 687 697**  
 Wangaratta & Surrounding Regions, VIC  
*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

**ZIPPY I.T.** **SERVICES**  
**Graham 0403 323 732**  
**Phone: (02) 4017 2522**

- \* Windows 7.XP & Vista \* Repairs & Upgrades
- \* Installations & Training \* Internet Security
- \* Virus Removal \* Networking
- \* Troubleshooting \* Free Quotes \* Prompt & Reliable

Lake Macquarie / Newcastle Regions, NSW  
*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



**Lowndes End  
 Takeaway/Cafe**  
 Open 6 Days a Week

**Phone: (03) 5442 5231**  
 11 Lowndes Street, Kennington VIC  
*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*




**HouseProud Cleaning**

- Domestic Cleaning • Move in / Move Out
- End of Lease • Bond Recovery • Spring Cleaning
- Weekly • Fortnightly • One-Off Cleaning
- Prompt & Professional Service

**Tim: 0403 807 521**  
 Kirrawee & Surrounding Areas, NSW  
*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



**ACADEMY  
 PAINTING**

- Domestic & Commercial • New & Old Homes • Interior & Exterior
- Special Effects Finishes
- Quality Products • Re-Paints
- Free Quotes

**Mobile: 0402 429 033**  
 Sydney - All Areas • Lic. No. R79689

**Antonietta's Photographics**  
 Open by Appointment

Shop 1, 640 Oxley Rd, Corinda  
 Shop 1, 45 Dean St, Toowong

**Ph: 3278 5554**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*  
[www.antoniettasphotographics.com.au](http://www.antoniettasphotographics.com.au)



*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

**NEAT & TIDY  
 BATHROOMS**


- Complete Bathroom Renovations
- Wall & Floor Tiling • Property Maintenance • All Areas
- Satisfaction Guaranteed

**Mobile: 0414 949 127**  
 ABN 32 131 159 698 • Lic. No. 68919C

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

**Primula**  
 CAFE & RESTAURANT

**Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner**  
 Large Variety of Delicious Dishes  
 Caterings Available – Phone Orders Welcome  
**Open 7 Days 8.30am - 8.30pm**  
 15 Railway Place, Bundanoon NSW  
**Tel: (02) 4883 6236**






Mick said Ray was always a well-organised man and their paths crossed many times on various exercises involving 1 General Hospital.

Mick remembers seeing a photo of Ray and this good looking nursing sister that was taken on one of the exercises—he can't locate it as yet—but the good looking nursing sister and Ray got engaged and married—a union which lasted until Ray died.

Mick kindly did find one photo which I have included. It will bring back a happy memory.

(3) **Don MELVILLE** is another friend of our Association. He sent me a letter to thank us for the small "plug" in our September (2010) Magazine regarding their upcoming Rotary Peace Tour to Gallipoli in 2011.

He kindly enclosed a copy of a "poem" "A Soldier died today" which has been sent to me by other members on a previous occasion. I have given this poem to our publishers to put in a forthcoming magazine, when room permits.

Don hails from the Leeton area and he said some very welcome rains have come to the farms around which augurs for a good season—plague locusts permitting!

Don has been kept busy over the past many months I helping to "set up" the Leeton Shire Men's Shed.

He said it has been a very successful venture and a fair proportion of the "members" are ex-service people and the Dept. of Vet. Affairs has also been very supportive.

Don wrote a "follow-up" letter to say the rains have filled the two big dams (Blowering and Burrenjack) but the farmers have only received a 50% water allocation!

He said The Murray-Darling Basin Committee held another meeting at Griffith which was attended by over 4,000 concerned citizens. It seems that a lot more work has to be done by this committee before it is accepted by farmers.

Don finished his letter by saying that the last surviving (he understands) Changi POW, who lives near him, has deteriorated in health. Don gets regular "updates" because he has a beer with the man's son.

(4) **Dick PAYTEN** is the President of the 7th Division Association and we briefly met again at the VP Ceremony that was held at the Kokoda Memorial Walkway in August. Members may remember reading about our attendance at a Ceremony at Bass Hill (*Aug. '09 and Dec. '09 magazines*), Dick and his committee have applied for, and been successful, for a "Saluting our Service" Grant to help pay for the "Wall and many Plaques".

Our Association also filled in the paperwork to apply for part of the same Grant and we were also successful.

*(We applied for \$254 to assist to pay for the 2/5th Field Ambulance plaque and were granted \$204. We, and the 7th Division Association, were very grateful and when we receive our cheque we will pass it on to their Association.)*

(5) **Eastern Region History Committee** usually meet every 2 months at Victoria Barracks and is "Chaired" by Colonel Bill Molloy.

At their **July Meeting** in General Business the members present were informed;

- (i) COL Robert Likeman has written a new Army Medical Book.
- (ii) CAP James Roche donated a book to the Barrack's library entitled "The Rise, Fall and Regeneration of the 2/7th Australian Field Ambulance A.I.F. in WW 2".

(iii) LTCOL John Phillips presented various articles in relation to Japan's entry into WW 2. One of the articles was that Australian airmen based at Kontabaro were the first to fight the Japanese, in December 1941—prior to their attack on Pearl Harbour. The Japanese bombed Malaya before bombing Pearl Harbour!

(iv) MAJ John Straskye being awarded the OAM in the Queen's Honours List. John being acknowledged as instrumental in the "Setting up" of the RAAMC Web Site.

At their **OCTOBER Meeting**, correspondence was read from a Mrs Sheila Davison.

Her husband was Major Davison AM ED – he passed away in 1997 and had served in the Middle East and Greece where he was taken prisoner by the Germans in WW 2. He was with the 2/5th AGH.

He was a POW in Poland and Germany for 4 years. On his return to Australia he was in the inter-services Medical Wing and later, joined the CMF.

Another item of correspondence was a "Flyer" regarding the purchase of "The History of the Uni of NSW Regiment 1952-2006"

In **General Business**, the Chairman discussed the possibility of recruiting new, younger members to the committee.

At their **NOVEMBER Meeting** the committee were;

- hoping to finalise the "Hanging" of Brigadier General Fiaschi's "Honour Board sometime in 2011.
- endeavouring to arrange a date/s for a visit to Bandiana in 2011.
- Making arrangements to lay a wreath at the 2011 AHS Centaur Memorial Ceremony.
- informed of the Colonel Likeman book "Launch" by GEN Peter Cosgrove, at Victoria Barracks on 24th November.
- informed about MAJ John Straskye's OAM Award and his army service. Trying to arrange for John to attend a future meeting to discuss the RAAMC Association Inc.

In **GENERAL BUSINESS** they;

- discussed the recent article, in Reveille, about SSGT Jack Thompson, who is also a well-known actor.
- discussed the now much publicised pending trial of the three Australian soldiers from Afghanistan. The committee unanimously agreed to giving its full support to these soldiers. They also noted that a judge, in a recent article, was NOT supportive.
- heard from MAJ Eileen Henderson about a book review "Willingly into the Fray—100 years of Australian Nursing"—being a history from the Boer War to Banda Aceh. A further book is called "On Radji Beach" which is on Banka Island.

## (6) The Australian War Memorial.

I mentioned (above) that I had some time to spare whilst in Canberra with the NS Dedication Day.

I "browsed" through some articles involving 5 Field Ambulance at the outbreak of war in 1939 (and beyond) and the Sydney Morning Herald of the 8/1/40 (pages 10 and 11) wrote about 5 Infantry Brigade (which includes 5 Field Ambulance) going into camp in Wallgrove (NSW) between April 26 and July 24—it brought back memories of something I read in Sir Keith Jones's book "One man's Story".

The paper also stated that 42 Victorian nurses were to accompany the 2nd AIF overseas and 4 masseuses from



## EFFECTIVE MASSAGE THERAPY

RELAXATION MASSAGE, REMEDIAL MASSAGE,  
HEAD & SHOULDERS MASSAGE & AFTER BIRTH MASSAGE,  
WAXING & BEAUTY SERVICES

**Phone: (02) 9602 5250**

2/39 Memorial Avenue, Liverpool NSW 2170

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## GLASS BY DAY

Glass Bricks & Accessories

**MOBILE: 0433 436 365**

30 Mariners Crescent, West Lakes SA 5021

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## M. Juric Concreting

### DOMESTIC CONCRETE SPECIALISTS

- Driveways • Footpaths • Slabs • Carports • Sheds
- Garage Floors • Patios • No Job Too Small

**Phone: 0409 667 697**

Kalgoorlie & Surrounding Regions, W.A.

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

### Campbell Hospitality Services

Sit back, Relax and be Enticed

### Catering Specialist

- Corporate Functions • Conferences
- Formals • Weddings • Special Events
- Prompt, Professional Service

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

**Mobile:**

**0421 946 273**

Canberra - All Areas

## JSD BUILDING MAINTENANCE

- Domestic & Commercial Painting Services
- Interior & Exterior • Special Effects Finishes
- Quality Products • Re-Paints • Free Quotes

**Mobile: 0412 712 298**

Sydney - South Western Suburbs

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## HAN RA GROUP PTY. LTD.

- Domestic & Commercial Cleaning Specialists
- Bathrooms • Kitchens • End of Lease Cleaning
- Weekly, Fortnightly & One-Off Cleaning
- Offices • Showrooms • Professional Service

Unit 87, 20 Federal Highway, Watson ACT 2911

**Mobile: 0421 658 088**

Canberra - All Areas

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## Looking for a Marriage Celebrant? *Simply the Best Ceremonies*

### CIVIL CELEBRANT

- \* Weddings \* Namings \* Renewal of Vows
- \* Professional & Personalised Service

**Phone Kimberley: 0411 155 755**

[www.simplythebestceremonies.com.au](http://www.simplythebestceremonies.com.au)

Parramatta, Oatlands and surrounding areas

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



*Professional Quality at a fraction of the cost...*  
0106 018 929

- On-Site or Studio Photography
- Weddings • Portraits • Children • Newborns
- Special Occasions • Treasured Memories
- Professional, Friendly Services

**Phone: 0406 018 929**

Minto & Surrounding Areas, NSW

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## innovative ALUMINIUM AND GLASS

### 24 HOURS EMERGENCY SERVICE

Specialising in Windows & Door Replacement  
Supply & install everything related to aluminium & glazing  
Gold Licence Installer

**Phone: 1800 679 661**

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

*Susan Veenstra*

~~ Civil Celebrant ~~

**Phone: (03) 5251 2228**

[susanveenstra@optusnet.com.au](mailto:susanveenstra@optusnet.com.au)





NSW would also be from a party of 15, they were selected from applicants from Sydney University—Orthopaedic Dept. of the AAMC.

Those 4 Masseuses were; M/s Annie Laurie McGarrity, M/s Jean McLean, M/s Jean Black and M/s Shirley Ogilvy (SMH 9/1/40 p4)—(My Kind thanks to the AWM and to SMH).

**(7) RAAMC Association Inc. (VIC Branch)**

Their Inaugural President, Kevin (Bat) Andrews and their committee are to be congratulated in achieving almost 100 members who have signed up to join since the inception. WELL DONE, KEVIN.

If any of our Victorian Members would also like to join, please contact Kevin on his mobile: 0425.785.598.

**(8) The RAAMC Association Inc.**

Their National President, MAJ John STRASKYE OAM, has advised us (and other affiliated Associations) of the following;

*"In OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2011 (actual date to be confirmed later) the NEW RAAMC Banner (being made at present) will be presented with the Governor General's Banner at a major city (probably Brisbane but depending on the Dignitary's availability).*

John made 3 points:

- (1) This will be the greatest event for the RAAMC in our time.
- (2) The RAAMC Veteran community will be involved in all formal activities and celebrations.
- (3) That our presence will be honoured and applauded.

John said that "updates" will be provided as they occur. The Association had their ANNUAL LUNCH at the COOGEE-RANDWICK DIGGER'S CLUB on the 20th November and a "last-minute" apologies from some members saw about 20 attend. They all had a good time and the food was excellent. (See attached photos)

**At their DECEMBER Meeting (NSW Branch)**

President Theo, reported on;

- The year's success at the ANZAC Day march with over 120 RAAMC members marching behind the Main Corps Banner and afterwards many of the marchers meeting socially at the Paddington RSL Club.
  - The disappointment of having to cancel the CORPS Birthday Celebration due to lack of numbers.
  - The National Committee Meeting on the 17/10/10 at Victoria Barracks attended by their Patron, MAJGEN 'Digger' James AC MBE MC, The National President, John Straskye OAM, John Taske (QLD Branch), Kevin Andrews (VIC Branch), Michael Jelly (SA Branch), John Overton OAM (Trustee), Suresh Badami OAM (Trustee), John O'Brien (National Secretary) and Theo Dechaufepie, National Vice President and (NSW President).
  - The success of the "End of Year" function held at the Coogee-Randwick Diggers Club.
- He thanked Barry Collins OAM and the staff for the preparation work, both before and, on the day.

Theo said the THREE major functions for 2011 will be **ANZAC Day, CORPS Birthday** (July) and the **"End of Year Function"** (November).

With these in mind, Theo is looking for a VOLUNTEER/S to form a SOCIAL COMMITTEE. (If you think you can help you would be most welcome. Please contact Theo on Mob; 0408.781.717))

**In GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- (5 Fd Amb) informed the meeting about the Reserve Forces "Launch" at Victoria Barracks (Sat 27/11) and the Medallions that were presented—and generally, the success of the Launch.  
We also informed them of our Annual "Mixed" Re-Union Luncheon (the same day at the Paddington RSL Club opposite the Barracks).
- 1 Aust Field Hosp reminded they are having their Re-Union in Canberra at Easter and also ANZAC Day (2011)
- 8 Fd Amb will be in New Zealand for ANZAC Day (2011)
- National President, John Straskye OAM, informed about a problem with the SA Branch (called the SA Health Services Association) regarding a conflict with the constitution regarding membership and monies received.  
Membership should consist of members who have served/serving in the RAAMC and hold the Executive positions and that membership is FREE.  
It is hoped the problem might be solved in the near future but the National Executive extend their best wished to the SA Health Services Association.
- He also spoke again (See above in Item (8)) about the upcoming presentation of the Governor-General's Banner.
- He advised about the NEW RAAMC Newsletter on the website ([www.raamc.com](http://www.raamc.com)) and for those with computers to "click" the "Forward" button at the extreme bottom of the Newsletter and send on to other interested fellow members.
- a Motion was passed that **Mr. Frank Lander** be elected as **TREASURER of the NSW Branch** and that TWO Bank accounts be started (one for the NSW Branch and one for NATIONAL body) for any DONATIONS that may be received and kept separate for either body.
- The President asked me to leave the room. The members, in my absence, moved a motion *"That Alan Curry be nominated to the National Committee for Life Membership."* It was carried unanimously.  
(When I was called back in and told what had took place I was flabbergasted and extremely honoured. I sincerely thanked all present.)

**(9) MEDIA RELEASES** *(With kind thanks to the Dept. of Defence—edited for space and in no particular date order.)*

- (A) Projects of Concern—List.** *There were 18 but the Government has since removed 6 (5 due to remediation and 1 has been cancelled).(See also (E) below.)*  
*Projects are put on a list when, for example, there are significant challenges with scheduling, cost, capability delivery or project management.*  
*The 12 on the list are;*
- (i) CN 10 Collins Class Submarine sustainment and projects.
  - (ii) AIR 5077 Phase 3 'Wedgetail' Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft.
  - (iii) SEA 1448 Phase 2B Anti-Ship Missile Defence radar upgrades for ANZAC Class Frigates.
  - (iv) Joint 2043 Phase 3A High Frequency Modernisation—(HFMOD) communications and data exchange capability for sea, air and land forces.
  - (v) AIR 5333 'Vigilare'—Aerospace surveillance and command and control system.





New & Pre-Loved Maternity Wear  
Nursery Items, Furniture, Baby & Children's  
Clothing and Toys

**BUY & SELL ALL OF THE ABOVE GOODS**

Shop 3, 61 Bagster Rd, Salisbury North SA

**Phone: (08) 8182 4444**

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## ST GEORGE PAINTING SERVICE

- Domestic & Commercial • New & Old Homes
- Interior & Exterior • Roof Restorations
- Wall Papering • Special Effects Finishes
- Quality Products • Re-Paints • Free Quotes

**Mobile: 0433 941 566**

Adelaide - All Areas

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## GEOFF RICHARDSON TILING

- All Aspects of Wall & Floor Tiling
- Kitchen & Bathroom Renovations
- 25 Years Experience
- Free Measure & Quote

**Mobile: 0429 630 668**

Bunbury / Collie & Surrounding Areas, WA



## BEAUTY

by Lisa Marie

Specialising in all aspects  
of beauty treatment by friendly  
and very experienced professionals

Shop 5, 125 Beach Road  
Christies Beach, SA

**Phone: 0408 810 393**

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## Creations HAIR & BEAUTY

- Cuts • Colours • Foils • Perms
- Hair Treatments
- Manicures • Pedicures • Waxing

Shop 14, 110 Yorktown Road  
Elizabeth Park, SA

**Appointments: (08) 8287 0070**



## McDonald Fencing

**SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF  
ALL TYPES OF FENCING**

**Specialising in Insurance Work  
Colorbond and Chainmesh**

**Gavin: 0438 977 329**

Bunbury & Surrounding Areas, WA

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



DOG WALKING • PET SITTING

**Going on Holidays? Too busy to walk the dog?**

- Walking • Feeding • Play • Cuddles

Visit [www.madaboutmuzz.com.au](http://www.madaboutmuzz.com.au) to find out more

**Maureen: 0422 462 210**

Adelaide - CBD and Southern Suburbs

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



alice springs  
CONVENTION  
CENTRE

**Alice Springs Convention Centre**

*The heart and soul of Australia's best events*

**08 8950 0200 | [aspcc.com.au](http://aspcc.com.au)**

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## ADELAIDE HILLS HOT WATER & PLUMBING

- General Plumbing, Maintenance & Repairs
- Hot Water • Roofing • Guttering
- Blocked Drains • Taps & Toilets
- Gasfitting • New Homes & Renovations

**Russell: 0400 660 293**

Seaford Rise & Surrounding Areas, SA

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



- 24/7 - 365 Days a Year • Large Fleet of Vehicles
- Hotshot Specialist • Anywhere, Anytime - Fast

**0411 406 483 • 0418 935 836**

Kalgoorlie, W.A.

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association





- (vi) *JOINT 129 Phase 2 Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicles—airborne surveillance for land forces.*
- (vii) *LAND 121 Phase 3 'Overlander' replacement field vehicles, trailers and modules for land forces ('Medium Heavy' class of vehicle only).*
- (viii) *JOINT 2070 Lightweight torpedo replacement for ANZAC and ADELAIDE Class Frigates.*
- (ix) *AIR 5402 Multi-Role Tanker Transport aircraft—Air to Air Refuelling Capability.*
- (x) *JOINT 2048 Phase 1A LCM 2000 Watercraft for Landing Platform Amphibious Ships.*
- (xi) *AIR 5276 Electronic Support Measures upgrade for AP-3C Orion aircraft.*
- (xii) *AIR 5418 Phase 1 Joint Air to Surface Standoff Missiles. (Approved in 2004, the project is running late and risks to capability remain.)*

**(B) AUSSIES MENTOR ANA COMMANDERS**

*At Camp Hero, an Afghan base near Kandahar, 23 ISAF members of the 205th Coalition Advisory Team (CAT), advise and mentor the regional HQ Staff of the Afghan National Army (ANA).*

*The ISAF members comprise Australian, British, Dutch, Canadian and American forces and are commanded by our own Australian Colonel, John Simeoni. The force comprises 9 Australians.*

*Their mission is to mentor the ANA's 205th Hero Corps in key areas, such as operations, medical and logistical support in support of the Afghan Government's aim of transitioning lead responsibility for security to Afghan force by 2014.*

*The 205th Hero Corps has grown to approximately 16,000 Afghan troops and has the responsibility for 4 provinces, including Uruzgan, where the majority of the Australian troops are based.*

*Engagement with insurgents is a frequent occurrence for the soldiers of the 205th Hero Corps and the CAT who often work in high pressure and stressful conditions.*

*Colonel Simeoni said their role is not to give orders to their Afghan counterparts or do work on their behalf to simply get the job done.*

*The team supports Afghans as they assess, analyse and solve Afghan problems.*

*"Advising can be very challenging but we are working with what is essentially the future of this country and that's exciting."*

*The Commander of 205th Hero Corps, Brigadier General Hamid said he is pleased with the progress of the 205th Hero Corps particularly with the success of recent operations by the 4th Brigade, in conjunction with Australian and other ISAF troops.*

*He said he was very happy he has had a significant relationship with Australians, adding that his troops were very happy also. They have a good relationship with the Australians. "They are working side by side, like brothers I think."*

**(C) WINNERS OF M.A.G.I.C. CHALLENGE.**

*I have written about this "robot" challenge in our last two magazines.*

*After five days of demonstrations, displaying ground-breaking robotics technologies, three teams from America have topped the inaugural Multi Autonomous Ground-robotics International Challenge (MAGIC, 2010). The team from the University of Michigan was awarded*

*first prize and a grant of \$US750,000. The team from the University of Pennsylvania was placed second place and earned \$US250,000 and the third team was the US team RASR (Reconnaissance & Autonomy for Small Robots).*

*Mr. Warren Snowden MP, Minister for Defence, Science and Personnel presented the winners and congratulated them and all other competitors who had contributed their technology by participating in this event.*

*He said, "this competition would continue to enthuse University teams around the world that will be working toward the next generation of collaborative, multi-tasking robots. This partnership between Australia and the US will advance technology for both countries".*

*The director of US Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Centre, Dr Grace Bochenek said the inaugural MAGIC 2010 competition brought together top researchers from around the world.*

*He said it pushes the boundaries of ground robotics and the work accomplished with a team of robots working together will directly benefit our soldiers now and in the future.*

**(D) EXERCISE BOSS LIFT**

*Twenty-three employers recently joined their reservist employees currently deployed to the Solomon Islands in support of Operation Anode.*

*The employers experienced for themselves what the deployment was like with demonstrations on police assistance drills, first aid, field craft and vehicle recovery. Brigadier Robert Marsh, Commander of 4 Brigade, said...."exercise boss lift helped to generate and strengthen ADF Reserve capability by informing the employers of the benefits gained by having Defence and employers working together.*

*Civilian employer and community support is vital to Australia's Defence capability because reservists now provide such a vital contribution to Australia's operations overseas and during times of national emergency.*

*We encourage employers to actively participate in these sorts of Defence activities to help them to better understand the important work a Reservist does".*

*The employers experience first-hand life on deployment for a soldier as well as other activities including cultural demonstrations on the Solomon Islands and historic lectures on the Battle for Guadalcanal during WW 2.*

**(E) ADDRESS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE SENIOR LEADERSHIP GROUP.**

*This was held in the Hotel Realm, Canberra, 26 November, 2010 and conducted by Mr Stephen Smith MP, Minister for Defence-- to the Defence Senior Leadership Group.*

*Mr Smith reiterated that Defence is a big and complex organisation. It is critical to the full range of our nation's national security interests. It is an organisation that is barely matched in size and complexity in Australia.*

*He restated that we have 80,000 people in our permanent military and civilian workforce and some 25,000 reservists operating on a budget of nearly \$27 billion this financial year.*

*On current planning we will receive over \$100 billion over the 2010-11 to 2013-14 period. We own over 390 properties, over 3 million hectares of land, 25,000 buildings, 6,000 other structural assets and 150,000 plant and equipment items. We currently have over 200 major*



## BUDGET TOWING & TRANSPORT

Clean Professional Towing – 7 Days

Old Cars Towed Free

22 North Street, Auburn NSW

Ph: (02) 9749 5557 • Mobile: 0413 343 309

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## BILL'S HANDYMAN GARDENING CLEANING SERVICES

ABN 58 446 019 349



Phone: 0428 954 568

Griffith & Surrounding Areas, NSW

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



## ON TIME LOCKSMITHS AND SECURITY SYSTEMS

8 Wattar Court, Ocean Shores NSW

Tel: (02) 6680 4956

Mobile: 0410 630 597

## BRIGHT TILING

- All Aspects of Wall & Floor Tiling
- Domestic & Commercial
- Kitchen & Bathroom Renovations
- Quality Workmanship

Mobile: 0403 494 576

Bidwell & Surrounding Regions, NSW

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## FHRX STUDIOS

### CAR SOUND

The Way It's Supposed To Be

Caringbah, Sydney

0417 686 671

www.fhrxstudios.com.au

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## CANBERRA TRADEMARK ROOFING

- Rebedding & Pointing • Gutter Cleaning & Replacement • Leaks • Tile Replacement
- Fascias • Roof Restorations • Obligation Free Quotes • Quality Workmanship

Mark 0427 616 184

Canberra. All Areas



Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## Hastings Shuttle Service

Friendly & Professional Door to Door Services

Mobile: 0437 293 178

Hastings / North Haven & Surrounding Areas, NSW

## Di Gibson

Civil Celebrant

- Weddings • Baby Namings
- Funerals • Commitment Ceremonies

Ph: 0410 691 660

digibson@idl.net.au

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



www.concrete-polishing.net.au

Mobile: 0428 946 941

Servicing the Far South Coast Regions of NSW

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## MANN'S PAINTING SERVICES

- Domestic & Commercial • New & Old Homes
- Interior & Exterior • Special Effects Finishes
- Quality Products • Re-Paints • Free Quotes

Mobile: 0450 388 954

Elizabeth & Surrounding Areas, SA

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association

## CBM BUSINESS SOLUTIONS



- Bookkeeping Specialist
- Administration • Marketing
- Accounts Payable / Receivable
- Professional, Friendly Service • Mobile Service

Mobile: 0414 181 574

Davistown & Surrounding Areas, NSW

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association



Phone: 0403 936 850  
Sydney - All Areas

Sea Side Sparky's  
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

- For all your Electrical needs • Installations • Re-wiring
- Computer & Data Cabling • Power Points • Lighting
- Smoke Detectors • Ceiling Fans • Safety Switches
- TV & Phone • Solar Grid Connect Systems • C-Bus

Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association





acquisition projects and programs and more than 120 minor acquisitions underway.

More than 80% of our war-fighting assets are planned to be replaced or upgraded over the next 15 years. This size and perplexity translates into our Ministerial portfolios. To date, we have received over 2,200 submissions. These submissions cover a vast range of diverse issues from Navy's central canteen board Annual Report to Operation SLIPPER.

There are a number of challenges ahead, being East Timor, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Operation RESOLUTE, and one of the biggest being Afghanistan.

Mr. Smith spoke of the need to operate as "One Defence" inside "One Government" with better accountability and better consultation internally and externally.

(Ed. Note: in reading this "Release" (of over 4 pages) it appears to me that the Government is being "swamped" by submissions where, in some cases, efficiency is lacking. I would imagine this applies to every other Government expenditure. Cutting "wasteful" cost is good but cutting costs for saving sake has far-reaching effects. Consultation and compromise is part of the problem solving process. The Defence Budget equates to 7.6% of the Government outlay which is equivalent to 1.9% of our GDP.)

(F) **DEFENCE HOUSING**

Plans and options are being investigated, by the Government, for additional housing for ADF personnel who will be deployed, in the future, to TOWNSVILLE and the RAAF Base, DARWIN.

Mr Warren Snowden MP, Minister for Defence, Science and Personnel said DHA has clear plans to build new homes for Defence families and gradually reduce the availability of on-base housing and pressure on the DARWIN housing market.

(G) **DECOMMISSIONED "LEOPARD" TANKS.**

30 tanks have been "gifted" to RSL Clubs around Australia. Victorian RSL Clubs will receive 7, Queensland 6, South Australia 5, Western Australia 5, New South Wales 4, Tasmania 1, Northern Territory 1 and the ACT 1. Two have already been delivered—one to Ingleburn (NSW) RSL and one Jerilderie (NSW) RSL and the rest are hoped to be delivered by mid 2011.

(H) **REMEMBRANCE DAY 11/11 at 11am.**

This day was commemorated right around Australia and overseas where our troops are situated.

This solemn service commemorates those who died in WW1.

Australia lost almost 3,000 Officers and over 56,000 men. A further 152,000 Officers and men were wounded.

I had the honour of giving the "Citation" at my RSL Sub Branch. It was a smaller gathering than last year?

(I) **"WELCOME HOME" PARADE FOR 8th/7th Bn. RAR**

A Homecoming Parade was held on the 5th December 2010 at RAAF Base, Laverton, Victoria for approximately 100 ADF personnel, and they were mainly Reservists.

The Parade was reviewed by the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence, Senator David Feeney, representing the Minister for Defence, in the presence of the soldiers' families, friends and other VIP's.

The soldiers were the 22nd deployment, as part of the Australian Government's ongoing support to the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI). The mission is to assist the Government of the Solomon Islands in the restoration of law and order, economic governance and improving the machinery of government in order to ensure the people of Solomon Islands have a brighter future.

This was the third deployment to Solomon Islands with Victoria's 4th Brigade as the mounting formation. The 4th Brigade is part of the ADF 2nd Division—its Army Reserve Division.

The principal Guest of the Parade was MAJGEN C.D. Williams, Commander of the 2nd Division.

Other VIP's who attended were Brigadier R.J. Marsh, Commander of the 4th Brigade, Air Commodore K.N. Watson, Commander of RAAF Base Williams and Commander Air Force Training Group and M/s Judy Verlin, Mayor of the City of Ballarat.

**(10) MEDALLIONS—RESERVE FORCES DAY 2011**

I mentioned in our article about the Reserve Forces Day "Launch" at Victoria Barracks on the 27/11/10 and the presentation of Medallions to some of the Association members' wives/partners etc.

The RFD Committee is now working on presenting this Medallion to other Association members' wives/partners etc.

When the logistics are worked out, it is hoped to see the Medallion Recipients being presented by appropriate personnel from each of their respective Associations.

An APPLICATION FORM will be available in our next (ANZAC Day Newsletter--2011) issue, for any of our members to apply on behalf of their wife/partner etc.

The major condition being that the Recipient MUST be present on the day (SUNDAY 3rd JULY 2011) to receive his/her Medallion.

The RFD Committee have submitted an article in the next edition of "REVEILLE" (JAN-FEB 2011 Edition). This article gives a fuller meaning to the Medallion presentations.

**(11) THE 4TH BATTALION RAR ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND.**

Their President, Mr. Alan Price, wrote a 2 page letter to our Governor General M/s Quentin Bryce AC regarding the "charging" of three Australian soldiers from the 1st Commando Regiment.

The basis of the letter being that the charges of manslaughter should be withdrawn due to the situation when the "fire-fight" started and quick decisions that had to be made.

He made the point that when this incident occurred in 2009, why has it taken 18 months to determine that a charge was to be made and why were these soldiers allowed to remain on the battlefield to continue to serve their country honourably.

He ended his letter saying that an international petition as well as local emails have stated the "Situation is disgusting".

(This "incident and charge" has aroused huge interest all over the ADF and in all RSL Sub Branches and their District Councils. I dread to think what the "Media" will do with this, in due course!)



## MIKE'S GARDENING SERVICES

- Lawn Care & Maintenance • Pruning
- Edging • Trimming • Rubbish Removal

**Phone: 0400 220 552**

**Canberra - All Areas**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## Cherry's Clean

- Domestic or Commercial • Move In / Move Out
- End of Lease • Bond Recovery • Spring Cleaning
- Offices • Prompt & Professional Service

**Mobile: 0407 257 095**

Port Macquarie & Surrounding Areas, NSW

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## PRESTON Building & Carpentry

- General Carpentry • Renovations • Decks • Pergolas
- Wardrobes • Bathrooms • Plastering • Fencing
- General Maintenance • No Job Too Small

**Wayne ~ 0428 384 876**

Warracknabeal & Surrounding Areas, VIC

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## FLOORS WALLS & MORE

- Total Property Maintenance & Renovations
- All Work Guaranteed • Prompt & Reliable

**Vic: 0403 209 358** Wheelers Hill, Vic

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## Bardwell Blooms

- \* Fresh Cut Flowers • Bouquets
- \* Weddings • Special Occasions
- \* Reasonable Prices • Friendly Service

1 Hartill Law Avenue, Bardwell Park NSW

**Phone: 0414 546 371**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## MANU'S CARPET LAYING SERVICES

- Supply & Lay All Carpet & Floor Coverings
- Repairs • Re-stretching
- No Job Too Small

**Mobile: 0405 482 067**

Sydney – All Areas

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## • IAN ROSS • BRICKLAYING & PAVING

- Brick & Block Laying • Paving • Repairs • Extensions
- Renovations • Retaining Walls • Commercial & Domestic

**Mobile: 0428 401 247**

For After Hours Contact...

Ph: (02) 6965 1347 or Fax: (02) 6965 1446

Griffith & Surrounding Areas, NSW

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*



## PACIFIC RENDERING SYSTEMS

### Cement Rendering Services

[www.pacificrendering.com.au](http://www.pacificrendering.com.au)

**Fabio: 0412 633 047**

Sydney - Eastern Suburbs

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## NC BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

- General Home Maintenance & Repairs
- Window, Door & Lock Repairs • Painting • Tiling
- Carpentry • Professional, Reliable Service

**Nick 0420 526 623**

Marrickville & Surrounding Areas NSW

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## ANTHONY'S MOWING & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

- Lawn Mowing • Edging • Pruning • Trimming
- Garden Makeovers • Yard Clean Ups
- Rubbish Removal • Competitive Rates

**Mobile: 0449 749 108**

Wetherill Park & Surrounding Areas, NSW

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## Jeffrey and Greg Lawn Mowing Service

- Domestic & Commercial Mowing
- Light Pruning • Obligation Free Quotes
- Professional & Reliable Service

**Phone: (02) 6646 8798 • Mobile: 0423 621 034**

Yamba & The Clarence Region of NSW

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*

## Shepparton Boarding Kennels & Cattery

- Individually Housed • Larged Exercise Areas
- Vaccination Essential • Long Term & Short Term
- Open 7 Days 8am-12 noon & 3pm-6pm

**40 Edwards Road, Congupna VIC 3633**

**Bookings: (03) 5829 9480**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance RAAMC Association*





# MY STORY — Maurice Porter

(With kind thanks to his wife, Barbara, and son David, as well as David Cooper OAM)

## MY EARLY YEARS

I was born in Hornsby on the 9th April 1919. My mother's midwife's name was Miss Maurice, and she requested I be named after the woman who had been such a help to her – hence my name.

The family later moved to Hurstville where I first started school.

I was the 5th of six children, with an elder sister and three brothers before me and then a second sister, six years later.

My parents were both school teachers. My father being Classics Master at Fort Street Boys' High School for many years, then Head Master at some other schools in Sydney and surrounding districts.

I had a devout Christian upbringing with Christian Brethren parents. Whilst they were strict they were very loving.

During school holidays and Saturdays my father took me and my brothers, and other boys from the church, hiking in the bush in the National Park.

Eventually, the family built a "shack" on the Woronora River. It was made out of car packing cases, which we had towed up the river behind a rowing boat, as this was our only access!

We had many great holidays at the "shack", especially before Christmas so we could be out of our mother's hair whilst she was busy doing all the Christmas preparations.

*(We had a "Family Reunion" a few years ago and the family all went by "putt putt" boat up the river to the site. Some of my sons and their cousins had a "sentimental journey" swim.)*

My elder sister became a school teacher and my brothers were scholars – becoming a doctor and a lawyer.

I was determined to become a tradesman and went to Tech. College to learn cabinet making.

I earned an apprenticeship with Ogden's Furniture Factory in the City.

I would ride my bicycle from Hurstville daily, with my carpentry tools in a sugar bag on my back.

I was a keen cyclist and used to race at weekends. I would do "warm-

up" practice runs at night to Wollongong and sometimes to Katoomba, I had a white handkerchief pinned to my back so vehicle drivers could see me at night.

I became a self-employed furniture maker and started my own furniture making and repairing business on our family's back verandah in Hurstville, but I eventually had to rent premises in Forest Road because the sawdust and shavings worried my mother, who was a meticulous housekeeper.

In 1937 my older brother, Ormond, came home one night and said he had joined the 5th Field Ambulance Militia at Marrickville and that it might suit me.

Being the youngest of four boys, we had often discussed the possibility of enlistment with our father and a very good friend, Mr. Reg Hind MM and Bar, who had been a stretcher bearer sergeant in WW 1 where he had been badly wounded.

Two of my father's brothers had also served in WW 1 and we were well aware of their difficulty adjusting to a normal civilian life again.

Being a Christian I felt a duty to become involved in a war should one come, for several reasons;

*(1) I was not afraid to die; (2) I could not stand off and let other non-Christians risk their lives on my behalf; and (3) It is better to fight a bushfire in a neighbour's yard and not be selfish hoping it won't affect your own possessions.*

So I decided to train to save lives, rather than carry a rifle, and joined the 5th Field Ambulance at Marrickville, as a stretcher-bearer.

It was with 5 Field Ambulance that I learned the skills of a rifleman as well as stretcher-bearing and First Aid uses.

We went into our first Annual Camp at Liverpool in early September 1939.

My 19th year was a very good year for me.

First, I became a Christian. Secondly, I became interested in a very lively young lady named Margaret Brewster, who accepted my attentions.

Margaret and I were at my family home in Hurstville on Sunday, 4th

September 1939 (I had "Day Leave") when Mr. Menzies, the Prime Minister, announced that Australia was at war with Germany.

Hitler had invaded Poland and Britain had a pact with Poland so Britain declared war on Germany on the 3rd September.

We both realised what this meant for each other. We became engaged about a fortnight later, on her 20th birthday, 24th September.

## THE START OF THE WAR YEARS IN THE ARMY

The A.I.F. recruits started coming into Liverpool as soon as we also were in camp.

Our Field Ambulance ran an Advanced Dressing Station "under canvas", which was 3 tents laced together, in the camp.

I will never forget my introduction to the A.I.F. recruits.

They were mostly country men and had kept their civvy clothes and after parade many of them would "hitch-hike" into the Crossroads Hotel at Liverpool, in their civvies.

In those days hotels had to close the bar at 6pm (the expression was "The six o'clock swill"), except for bona fide travellers whose home address was 25 miles away. These chaps would give their home address – Wagga Wagga, Tumut, Boggabri, Tamworth etc – and so stay on drinking until just before the army "Lights Out" at 10pm.

The local police sergeant, a Returned man from WW 1, realised he couldn't win, so he organised a local bus driver to call at the hotel at 9.40pm, when the police sergeant or one of his men, would announce that any "traveller" still in the bar in 5 minutes would be taken to the lock-up for questioning in the morning. Consequently, a lot of these chaps came back in a pretty inebriated state.

To address the sanitary problem in the camp, an open sanitary pan was placed in between the huts at night.

One night I was on "night duty" in the A.D.S. and reading at a small rickety table.

The book I was reading was a large "Admission and Discharge Register" which had been used by the 5th Field



Ambulance in Gallipoli and France in WW 1.

It was quite a valuable record of wounded and sick.

Suddenly, in staggered an A.I.F. bloke who leant on the table for support, urine dripping from his coat sleeve, his false teeth in his hand, with; *"I don't suppose ya got any Lysol, 'ave ya—I dropped me teeth in!"*

Somehow I coped with his problem and put his teeth in a kidney bowl of Dettol solution until morning; then decided how to handle this wet, urine-stained valuable register in my care without smudging the ink, and dry it before the morning shift took over.

Little did I realise that before many months were passed I would get to know these chaps and appreciate their worth over and over again.

At the end of that 10-day camp I went to Victoria Barracks to enlist in the A.I.F. and I was told...*"Sell your business and come back and see us"*.

I returned to Victoria Barracks on the 5th January 1940 and was sworn in to the A.I.F. with Army Number NX9901.

Those who were in the Militia were instructed to report in uniform, and I specifically stated that I wanted to join a Field Ambulance Unit.

After we were pronounced "physically fit", 30 of us were called out to go to the 16th Infantry Brigade at Ingleburn camp. I complained to the sergeant *"That I came here to be in the Field Ambulance"*! His reply was... *"You're in the army now, son"* (A reply I was to hear many times, later.)

We travelled in a double-decker bus to Ingleburn and I was quietly complaining to God... *"I want to save life, not take it, I don't want to be in the infantry"*.

When we arrived at the 2/4th Infantry Battalion we had to report before the RMO, Captain P.A. Tomlinson. He looked at my card, saw the Field Ambulance uniform and said *"Have you a brother, Ron, who finished medicine last year?"* I replied *"Yes, Sir"*, he then asked me ... *"How would you like to work for me in the R.A.P. (Regimental Aid Post)?"* Naturally, I replied that I would like to, very much.

The doctor then told me to go with the other reinforcements to "C" Company, a rifle company, and that in the morning he would arrange my transfer to Bn HQ as the R.A.P. orderly.

Here I would find myself in much more direct contact with wounded infantrymen than ever happens in a Field Ambulance situation.

The battalion was made up by a trainload of men from the northwest of NSW and a trainload from the Riverina together with 30 or so city chaps to make up the total strength.

*In action I often admired the resourcefulness and tenacity of these countrymen, and thanked God he placed me among them.*

The following day I was issued with my rifle etc, and did rifle training and drill, then after lunch I was told to report with all my gear, for duty to the R.A.P., where I worked for several days.

There began strong rumours of a move overseas very shortly, so we reinforcements received all our anti-tetanus, typhoid and other injections in one day, which knocked us about a bit.

It was obvious we were going to move; all reserve stores were packed according to metric shipping weights and sizes – all clothing and personal equipment and issues made complete.

After parade at 4pm, everyone who lived in the metropolitan area was given general leave home with strict instructions to be back in camp by 10pm.

I quickly headed off on leave.

*(My brother, Ron, and his wife, Lily, had left Australia a few weeks earlier to go to Belgium to study Tropical Medicine in the French language so he could practice as a medical missionary in Belgian Congo.*

*Ron had left his car in a garage in Hurstville to have the motor re-bored etc, prior to being sold to help pay his expenses overseas.*

*Margaret was holidaying at Newport, so I phoned my parents to get permission to contact the garage and ask whether Ron's car had been finished.*

*I collected the car but with very strict instructions from the garage NOT to travel faster than 20 MPH for the first 200 miles.*

*I drove slowly all the way to Newport and said goodbye to Margaret and her family and then drove slowly all the way back to Hurstville – all in home-going, busy traffic.*

*I said my fond farewells to all my family and left about 8.30pm to drive back to Ingleburn camp.*

*It was a very long way from Hurstville to Newport and then back to Hurstville and then from Hurstville to Ingleburn – driving no more than 20 MPH – I was very weary and tired from all the driving and – I dozed off!*

*I went over a bump on the Liverpool side of the old Lansdowne Bridge; the car went off the road and headed for a lamp post. I just woke in time to brake and duck my head.*

*The windscreen shattered, but my army hat partly shielded my face. I received cuts to my forehead and nose and bruised my knee on the dashboard.*

*Fortunately, I had come to a stop outside a friendly local's residence and he came to my aid and stopped the bleeding and phoned for a military ambulance, which duly took me to Ingleburn Camp Hospital.*

*Unfortunately, dad had to organise the repairs and pay for all the damage etc. I repaid dad 2s & 6d (25c) a day (out of my 5s & 6d (55c) per day for about 12 months!)*

The battalion doctor organised my discharge from hospital the next morning, and I looked like I had been in a bruising fight, with sticking plaster on my forehead and nose.

I spent the rest of the day packing our medical gear into boxes.

Rumours were still flying – *"Off tonight – to England – to Egypt – to France"*.

We had to get rid of personal gear, apart from service items, tidy the barracks, and then parade ready to move, with all our gear at 1800hrs to the picture theatre.

The picture theatre was merely a large screen, behind, and above a stage, at the bottom of a sloping, grassed area.

The troops lay or sat around in Company groups. The Officers sat on chairs in the front.

The screen was showing awesome, graphic details of the ravages of various venereal diseases encountered overseas, followed by a humorous skit on the appropriate avoidance.

About 2130hrs a large car drove up and a lady and a gentleman in evening dress came forward.

It was Gladys Moncrief and her manager.

Without any fuss she walked out onto the stage and started to sing to us the old favourite songs. We clapped





and whistled after every song. (As a girl she had sung to WW 1 troops).

When she heard about our leaving Australia, she cut another engagement short to sing and entertain us.

After she had been singing for about half an hour her manager spoke to her – obviously reminding her not to strain her voice.

Gladys endeared herself to us for our lifetime, when she stepped down from the stage and walked past the officers and stood in front of us and opened her arms and said...*"Come on, boys—what do you want me to sing?"*

We gathered around her while she sang our favourites, several hymns and some good old heart-stoppers.

At last her manager persuaded her to stop – she kissed several of the closest chaps – and we clapped and cheered her to their car. There was not a man who was not moved by her sincerity and warmth – she became – *"Our Glad"*.

Later that night we marched down to Ingleburn Railway siding, where a troop train was waiting.

To observe the "secrecy" of our movement to the wharf we travelled along the goods train line and not the normal passenger lines.

Nevertheless, at almost every overhead bridge, crowds of people were gathered, cheering and clapping. When we got to the wharves at Woolloomooloo several thousand relatives and friends were there to farewell us – so much for security!

The press were there with cameras, photographing us walking up the gangway. It must have caused amusement to one photographer to see my sticking-plastered face going to war because he took a good photo of me (which has since appeared in the official war publication).

When we got on board we just dumped our gear anywhere and lined the railings – waving and joking to bystanders until a launch cruised in close and played "The Maoris' Farewell" (*"Now is the hour"*).

This quietened us down for several minutes, as we all wondered how long it would be before we would see our loved ones again!

We had embarked on the "Strathnaver", a liner that had just completed a pleasure cruise to Australia. The accommodation was excellent – an extra bunk was built above a single

bunk which made a double cabin, and in the double cabins the same procedure was followed to make it into a 4-berth.

The meals were served by stewards, in relays. To save the carpets and passageways from our steel-heeled boots we were all issued with sandshoes for the voyage – creating a tourist attitude for a day or so.

We cruised to Melbourne, escorted by several navy vessels, where we picked up the Victorians. Then on to Fremantle where we experienced rough seas sailing across the Great Australian Bight.

Fremantle gave us a tremendous welcome and we were given afternoon and night leave. The residents turned out to greet and entertain us and were eager to show us around Fremantle and the surrounding areas, including Perth.

Another mate (whose name I can't recall now) and I were met by an ex WW 1 man and his wife and their 18 year old daughter.

They showed us around for a bit and then the man said... *"Well boys, mum and I are off home. Olive will show you the sights. Her bus leaves at 10.30pm, see she gets it won't you?"* Then he quietly added ... *"her name is Olive Goodchild. You boys will remember that, won't you?"*

We gave him our assurances and off they went.

As I was engaged to Margaret, I left my mate to pay more attention to the lass, who was a very nice girl.

*(Subsequently, she and my mate corresponded frequently until we returned to Australia in 1942 – when they married.)*

An amusing incident occurred in Perth when a group of the boys were getting bored. After a few beers they spied a little car at the kerb, at the bottom of a terrace of about 15 steps to the front doors of the Town Hall.

With much grunting and heaving, they managed to carry, and park the car, side on, on the landing right in front of the main glass doors – then they "disappeared"!

The photograph appeared in the Perth Daily newspaper the next day. We sailed before getting any info as to how the car was returned to the roadway!

When we got further out to sea we were joined by a troopship from New

Zealand. We had a naval escort until we reached Colombo (now Sri Lanka) in Ceylon.

This harbour was very shallow and the ships that anchored "outside" were met by "bumboats" of traders, who showed the wares in the boats or let you haul them up, in a basket, to the deck to evaluate it, and then the bargaining began; involving much gesticulating and good-natured arguing. (*The carved elephant that my daughter Jenny now has was bought here!*)

Day leave was granted and we had an interesting day, again involving the Aussies!

The Hindu's pay homage to the cow and they dare not hurt it. Some of our boys were on a tram when a white cow strayed onto the road and decided to stop in front of the tram!

The driver stopped and rang his bell, and generally tried to get rid of the cow by imploring it to move – all to no avail. Two of our chaps got out; one of them grabbed the cow by the horns while the other one took off his web belt and gave the cow a good whack on the backside. It cleared the tramline but almost caused a riot with the locals!

My day was particularly interesting. When the lighter took us from the ship to the wharf, a Christian tea planter was handing out tracts to the troops and I spoke to him.

He invited me to his plantation in the hills where he grew orange pekoe tea, which he assured me, was the premium tea.

I came away with a pound (half a kilo) of broken orange pekoe. These are the tips of the leaf, which contain the delicate flavour and are broken off by nimble fingers, then dried and packed without undue delay.

We left Colombo under more naval escort, and safety precautions were enforced. No smoking on deck after 1800hrs and all port holes closed.

It was interesting to watch the destroyer escorts circling around our convoy constantly, like kelpies around a flock of sheep, until we reached Aden and then onward to Kantara, in Egypt, where we disembarked, and later noted the Memorial to the Australian Light Horse.

Some of us had a few hours leave at Aden. Two of us were met by an Aussie Fleet Air Arm Officer with a jeep



and he volunteered to show us around.

It was a real eye-opener. Additional fortifications were in progress wherever we went but one of the real "surprises" was the aircraft hangar.

A high mountain had been partly tunnelled into by army engineers and this held dozens of planes, ready for combat. The place had hidden skylights and air vents, several side entrances and exits – all camouflaged.

Other areas, that were well lit, had a workshop, cranes etc for maintenance as well as sleeping and mess facilities. The "spoil" removed from the mountain was used to make an airstrip nearby. A real engineering feat well executed.

After a meal, provided by British troops in Kantara, we entrained for Palestine.

Being the first contingent of Australian soldiers we created quite some interest for the locals.

Much of the railway had been laid originally for the movement of troops during WW 1.

We passed through Egyptian desert, plains and hills – not much sign of food production – scattered villages – very little soil management or good roads. Here and there were Bedouin encampments with flocks of goats and sheep.

About 7 hours later we arrived at Gaza and were met by trucks which took us to our Brigade area camp at Julis, about 15 miles from the rail.

### **SOME MEMORABLE MOMENTS AT JULIS CAMP**

We were next to a large orange grove, which was a former swamp area now reclaimed by Australian gum trees.

*(Incidentally, much of the eucalyptus seed used for these projects was collected by the two Sonter brothers from Woy Woy (on the Central Coast of NSW), under contract to the Federal Government after WW 1).*

In typical army fashion, the following morning a route march was ordered.

"C" Company had only marched for an hour and a halt was called as we came to the top of a hill.

A youth was leaning against a large rock, playing a "flute" (2 pieces of bamboo, side by side, with holes at appropriate intervals). He was watch-

ing over a flock of about 50 sheep.

The sheep scattered at our approach but at a word from the boy, they came back to him. One of the chaps near me said... *"Here is David the shepherd!"*

This was the first of many instances later, when some men, rough and tough, still remembered Sunday School stories, choruses and hymns.

For a bit of a laugh, several of the chaps tried to scatter the sheep but on each occasion the shepherd boy called them back to him. One sheep started to stray and "David" put a stone in his sling and hit a bush in front of the sheep, which caused it to come back to the flock.

We encountered "David" frequently in the days to come and we could not entice or drive his flock away.

After a week or so, we attended a General Parade to be inspected by the British Commander in the Middle East, General Wavell, who, amongst other remarks, told us we were "ill-disciplined troops".

This was deeply resented by both the Officers and men – he was obviously referring to Aussies in WW 1, as we had not left our Brigade area camp.

*(This same General was very keen to have these "ill-disciplined" troops in Libya, and against the Australian Prime Minister's wishes, to attempt to hold an impossible line of defence on the Grecian border of Yugoslavia against Hitler's armoured division, and with the New Zealanders to fight more than their share of rear guard action, in the retreat south to Athens, thus allowing English troops to evacuate to Egypt or Crete.)*

A funny incident that I recall was a concert in the Middle East.

Two men were playing the part of husband and wife and in one scene the wife's dress fell down, displaying the most obvious evidence that the wife was not feminine. The audience roared with laughter.

At Julis we found that the Australian Army Formation was changed to conform to British Formations. Where Australia had 4 Battalions per Brigade etc, we now had 3 Battalions.

It meant that the 2/4th Bn became detached from 16 Brigade.

We spent about one month as an independent Battalion until we were joined by the 2/8th Victorian Bn and

the 2/11th West Australian Bn, together with the 2/7th Field Ambulance to all form the 19th Brigade – still in the 6th Division.

As an independent Battalion we were used for numerous and interesting duties whilst waiting the arrival of the other two Battalions.

On one occasion, on Brigade "manouevres" we (2/4th Bn) were used as "The Enemy" and we were using old WW 1 maps. We were 'defending' Beer Sheba as 'Turks' and we re-dug into the old Turkish trenches and uncovered a Turkish skeleton, which we christened "Abdul".

We kept him in a sand-bag under my bed-boards and we used him to train the stretcher-bearers.

*(We knew "Abdul" was Turkish because remains of leather sandals were still on his feet, with no metal buckles of any description. If he had been a member of the British Army there would have been metal buckles etc from his belt and webbing.)*

On a couple of occasions we were used by the Palestine Police, (which were a para-military outfit, many of whom were "ex" British Army men who had served their 7 years of service) to surround an Arab village, quietly at night.

The police would enter the village at dawn, looking for stolen rifles and ammunition. Guilty offenders would rush out of the village – right into our arms!

Sometime in 1940, General Blamey arrived and set up his HQ in what had once been the Turkish HQ in Gaza in WW 1. The top storey of the building had been "blown off" by our artillery.

The roof was concreted over and a metre high parapet was built right around it.

Each Battalion had to supply a platoon, in turn, to provide a guard. I went with a 2/4th platoon in case of accidents.

We camped on the roof. The moon was so bright that I could read the story of "Sampson and Delilah" to the men – the boys called her "Delightful"!

Gaza is predominantly an Arab town. We were allowed day leave in threes with two of us carrying rifles, keeping to the main streets, avoiding the Market Place, but we had to be back before sundown.

At a street corner I saw a sign "Christian Hospital", and 100 yards





down the street was a large rose garden with a large building behind it.

In the rose garden was a lady in a large hat, carrying a basket and picking roses.

There was a pill-box at the entrance and when I went to go in, the Arab keeper demanded my rifle. I refused to give it to him and the lady came up to see what was the problem?

In a very English voice, she said... *"Corporal, we do not allow arms on this complex. We are Christians. What can I do for you?"*

I replied that I was a Christian and interested in seeing the hospital. She asked me to toss her my rifle, and she caught it correctly – she slid the bolt out like an expert and told me to put it in my pocket. She then handed the rifle to the gate-keeper and invited me in for a cup of tea.

*(The lady was Mrs. Hargreaves and she was a nurse in WW 1. She nursed a young doctor who had had part of his scalp blown off. After the war they married, and at times the doctor suffered with tremendous headaches for days; in desperation they prayed, and promised God that if the headaches were cured, they would serve God anywhere.)*

The hospital was duly established for all creeds. It had two wings: one medical and one surgical. Each had a row of beds along the wall and wide verandahs. On one side would be Jews and on the other side – Arabs.

Dr Hargreaves was so respected, by all religions, in Gaza, that when his "baby Austin Car" appeared in some streets, he would be stopped while an explosive device was removed from the road, and replaced in the hope that the next car would be driven by a Jew.

When I visited the hospital, a wealthy Bedouin, Sheik Rahal, of the La Joudibal Tribe had been summoned to appear before the doctor to be disciplined.

He had become a Christian but recently took another wife (No: 4).

It appears that the girl was a daughter of a nearby powerful sheik, and the marriage was considered a good political move – his punishment – not to be allowed to attend Holy Communion for 2 weeks. To his Arab mind – a fair trade.

*(When the tribe travelled, they dismantled about 10 vast, black tents made of goat's hair, which was very waterproof, and moved on, with literally 100's of sheep and goats. The women were loaded with bundles and they moved on to a fresh area where the pasture was good. They would settle there until they had eaten it out—then move on again.)*

The doctor told me that the sheik was so well known, that to give him a message all he needed to do was to tell any nomad Arab, and shortly thereafter, he would receive a reply.

I asked the doctor about the sheik's wealth and he said there was no way it could be calculated in pounds and shillings (*dollars and cents*). Neither did the sheik worry about it!

The sheik's servants had brought quite a few camels into market to trade. I mentioned to the doctor that the markets were considered unsafe for the Aussie soldiers, and he replied that being in the company of Sheik Rahal was safer than a battalion of troops – so off we went.

The doctor was right; people made way for us on the footpath; and at the markets they stood aside as we entered the livestock trading area, greeting the Sheik with "Salaams" and bowing. This was quite an experience for me.

The sheik was a remarkable fellow – he treated me like a brother. He gave me his business card, written in Arabic, French and English – it simply gave his address as Transjordan. The doctor said if I ever got into trouble with an Arab, to just show him the sheik's card and I would be free from danger.

For the next 6 months or so, we marched and trained in Brigade manouvres, Division manouvres and Battalion manouvres – advancing, retreating – sometimes 30 miles in a day, with one water bottle.

We were toughening up on hard rations (bully beef and biscuits). Sometimes the cooks provided us with a stew at night, or the inevitable baked beans, sometimes porridge for breakfast.

In camp, we had good meals.

When the Jews and Arabs settled down to a sort of truce, leave became available for 1 or 2 days to the "modern" town of Tel Aviv (built in 1935), with its beach and beach

beauties, who intrigued some watchful eyes when they arrived at the beach, fully clothed and then modestly unrobed into their 2-piece costumes.

Later on, leave was granted to Jerusalem. We carried rifles but had to leave them at the Police Station.

In many of the more sacred, or disputed, parts of Jerusalem, an armed Palestine (British) Policeman stood guard continually.

I was fortunate. My father, knowing the trouble a young man can get into, gave me the address of two New Zealand missionaries who resided in Jerusalem. I looked them both up and consequently spent several enjoyable, instructive leaves in their company.

I visited many of the authentic places mentioned in the New Testament.

Because of the general unrest in the Middle East, many missionaries had to leave their stations and find safety in Jerusalem.

The Governor of Barclays Bank in the Middle East (a Christian) lived in a palace on Mt Scopus (about 4 acres). In the days of carriages he had excellent stables for 30 horses, which he converted to 30 well-furnished units. Most of these were occupied by single missionaries from nearby areas.

He also had a tennis court and a tournament was arranged. I was roped in to partnering a NZ girl (she was about 30).

We had great pleasure, as colonials, in beating all the others (Britishers).

Some of these missionaries wanted to see Jericho. The road down to Jericho is full of bends.

The Arab farmers on the hillside, sometimes seeing a lone car on the road, would fire a shot or two at it, and then bury the rifle in the furrow they were ploughing.

To overcome this, the Palestine Police would organise a convoy of 5 or 6 cars, with an armoured car leading and one behind.

Because I was an Australian soldier in uniform, I was often invited to this type of journey, and to sit in the front seat with my slouch hat very obvious – neither Jew nor Arab was too keen to cross the Aussies.

When the "Blitz" on England commenced, she was short of Anti-Aircraft guns, some were being used



to guard the oil pipeline terminal at Haifa – these were shipped back to England.

The Italians had commenced high-flying raids on Haifa, so the 2/1st Australian Field Artillery Regiment and the 2/4th Infantry Battalion joined forces as “X” and “Y” Anti-Aircraft units.

Officers and NCO’s from both units were judiciously sprinkled in both units – our job was to guard the oil wells. The only trouble was that artillery guns have comparatively short barrels and are not designed to point upwards at 90 deg.

To confuse the locals, some of the guns had long wooden barrels, fitted temporarily, while the others were sent to the British workshops on the Suez Canal to be fitted with correct barrels and the necessary traversing equipment installed to fire skywards.

During an air-raid, the gun crews would assemble. When the Officer yelled the command to fire, “someone” would let off a powerful cracker and “someone else” would fire a Vercy Pistol into the air, which supplied a realistic flash of a gun.

We were composite bombardiers for about 3 months until the real guns arrived. One good result was that the infanteers and the artillery men formed a close relationship, which stood us well in Greece. *(Even today both units invite the other to their reunions.)*

During October or November in 1940, we moved by truck to Burg El Arab, a town very close to the border of Egypt and Libya.

The trip was very monotonous – the only traffic on the road was military convoys. The road was like a long, unending bitumen carpet, 2 trucks wide, over desert sand or rocks for miles and miles.

The only sign of civilisation was empty bitumen drums scattered here and there.

We eventually came to the railway terminus at Burg El Arab. We camped in a hollow about 4 miles out of town (such as it was!)

We had a few high-flying Italian air-raids at night, so to give us some protection we dug our tents in about 2 feet. This was good until we had an unexpected rainstorm which caused a real flood.

The camp was in a mess, and we watched bed-boards floating away

with blankets neatly stacked or kit-bags floating by, mess gear submerged in mud or floating away, boots, personal belongings saturated, wet photos and letters from home, writing papers ruined – and NOT a tree or bush to hang anything on to dry!

Early in December, the British captured Sidi Birani, just inside the Italian/Libya border.

In case of a counter-attack we had to “Stand To” every morning – this involves being fully dressed in marching order, rifle ready – at day-break or pre dawn – ready to defend our position.

To keep the momentum of the attack going, it was resolved to bring Christmas celebrations forward 14 days, so on the 10th December or thereabouts, we had Christmas Day.

It consisted of no parades, Australian turkey and beer (2 bottles per man) and plum pudding served at lunch, by the Officers.

A few days later we were on the move into Libya.

The 16th Brigade (1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions) captured Bardia with relatively few casualties. We were bogged down with the number of prisoners we had to handle.

Our Brigade, the 19th, was held in reserve.

To come down from the escarpment to the coastal plains and forts, there was a pass called Haifia Pass. Because the Italians were rumoured to have their guns trained on it, it was called “Hellfire Pass”.

The surface had been ploughed about by rains and heavy trucks. The camouflage experts instructed that all trucks with canvas covers should travel with the back flaps closed.

As we travelled down the pass, I could see the doctor and the driver, Len Curry, casually having a normal conversation as the driver picked his way over the ruts in the road, while guns blazed and shells roared just overhead.

I was alone in the back with the medical supplies and could not see out, I was sure the next shell would hit us and I prayed that if I was hit “make it a good one” to finish me off.

When we got down onto the plain the doctor came around to see how the medical stores had travelled. He

said...“*Our guns on the escarpment made a din, didn’t they?*” He laughed when I told him I thought the shells were being fired at us!

We camped outside of Bardia before moving towards Tobruk.

## THE ATTACK ON TOBRUK:

It was known that Tobruk was the largest fort on the coast, with a big harbour that could accommodate battleships. It had heavy concrete fortifications both seaward and landward; consequently, the reconnaissance and observations were carried out by every means possible to find flaws in the defences and penetration points.

The Australian Air Force spotters slowly patrolled the skies, co-operating with infantry thrusts and plotting strong points.

When fired upon, the pilots unofficially dropped beer bottles filled with petrol, which exploded and caused annoying fires.

The Intelligence Section of our own battalion did a lot to make the attack successful – probing and spotting for days and nights before we attacked.

Our platoons made feint attacks in several places of the 3 strand rolls of barbed wire, fortification which surrounded the outer perimeter of Tobruk.

*(This was 2 rolls of wire side by side with a 3rd roll placed on top – it formed a difficult barrier about 6 feet wide at the base and about 5 & 1/2 feet at the centre. The wire is rolled out “in tension” and when cut would spring apart dangerously!)*

We would cut holes in the wire in different places, far apart, to note if the Italians observed it or repaired it.

The alertness of the Italians was frequently tested—quiet raids of 20 to 30 men penetrated the enemy lines to gauge defences. Some occasions our men positioned themselves, under cover, with field glasses while others patrolled noisily to see where the Italian response would come from!

One of the Intelligence Section, Trapper Jake, who had been a boundary rider at Maree in central South Australia (*where he literally made shoes for dogs’ feet because the ground was so rough*), made a rough, overhead structure of rocks to protect himself from the desert heat, where





he could observe the movements around gun emplacements etc.

He would go out before dawn with a water bottle and field glasses and plot the enemy positions throughout the day. After dark, the Intelligence Section went out and escorted him back.

Late one afternoon, again to test the alertness of the Italians, a full platoon with noisy equipment that would also flash in the sun, was marshalled.

My mate, Stan, (who was deaf), and I, went with a stretcher.

We were instructed to talk loudly, smoke and to deliberately cross the hill opposite the Tobruk defences on the skyline (which is against all military wisdom) to see if any guns responded!

We had almost succeeded, when BANG! Everybody ducked for cover except deaf Stan, who tripped when my end of the stretcher came down with me – he stood there and roared... *"What the bloody hell, Porter!"* Until he looked around and followed quickly.

When a second shell went overhead we smartly moved to the other side of the hill, none the worse for our encounter.

The probing, mapping and observation of the Tobruk fortifications by the Air Force, ground troops and navy from the sea was carried on for about 2 weeks.

The Attack was well planned.

Prior to the attack a battalion conference was called, to be attended by the Company Commanders and their 2IC's. The doctor had the C.O.'s permission to include me, a mere corporal.

The object was to survey a "sand map" of potential objectives and to see the natural features for protection (rocky outcrops etc) to plan the dispersal of the companies in the attack.

One Major looked at me and asked... *"Why are you here, corporal?"* I replied... *"Ask the C.O. Sir"*. The doctor was well aware that if he was wounded, I would have to carry on for several hours, perhaps days, before another medical officer was available.

On the 21st January 1941, the attack was made in an arrowhead formation; the 16th Brigade cut the wire then moved to mop up the right

and left flanks, whilst the 19th Brigade took the centre, the 2/4th Battalion being the spearhead.

It was decided that the R.A.P.'s long wheel-base Chevrolet truck would present an obvious target, so the doctor changed to a utility, which still had to remain a fair way back from the attacking troops.

This made a long carry for the stretcher-bearers and a long time delay before some wounded could secure better attention, and a morphia injection, if needed.

We found a pine packing case that had held 3 artillery shells. It measured 2 foot 6 inches long by 1 foot 2 inches wide and was 8 inches deep – with a lid! We nailed a rifle sling to each end so it could be carried on our shoulder, like a "hot dog stand"!

We filled it with 1st field dressings, shell dressings, a bottle of acriflavine, a bottle of distilled water, morphine tablets, a syringe and 3 inch bandages.

My instructions were to proceed approximately 100 to 150 yards behind the attacking company and to intercept the stretcher-bearers and treat what wounds I could, and find a secure place for the wounded to remain safely until the doctor's utility was allowed forward.

The stretcher-bearers had a good laugh at my expense.

The leading Company Commander looked back and said... *"Who's that bloody donkey walking around on his own?"* One of the other Officers apparently said... *"It looks like a bookie laying the odds!"*

A stretcher-bearer said... *"It's Corporal Porter looking for wounded"*.

To which the Company Commander replied... *"Tell him to get some riflemen for protection"*.

The attack was effective with a relatively low number of casualties, considering the size of the fort and the capture of over 30,000 Italians.

One of the reasons for this was, we were issued with leather guerkins (a sleeveless, loose coat, no collar, fleecy lined and held together in front with a toggle) because our greatcoats were too heavy and cumbersome.

The Italians initially thought we had bullet-proof jackets and were firing at our legs. We had very few chest or head wounds, at first.

Some of our worst casualties occurred early in the day, when one of

our own shells dropped short and landed amongst one of our Companies.

I attended one chap who appeared to have the top of his skull taken off, he was bleeding profusely. I applied a shell dressing and attempted to tie the bandage about his head, as I did so blood spurted in my face.

I had cracked lips and when I looked at his Identity Disc I realised we had sent him to a special V.D. hospital a week or so earlier – he had been returned as NOT POSITIVE.

I still used a lot of my water bottle washing my face, hands and jacket, just in case.

It soon became evident that I was not needed so far forward, when 2 stretcher-bearers, in a huge, captured Italian truck, passed me with 4 wounded on board.

The Italians made no effort to make guns or vehicles or supplies unusable to the enemy.

A fact which made it possible for the whole Division to cover miles of territory and to arrive in Benghazi, using Italian petrol, diesel and oil and some vehicles.

For a couple of days I had a small Fiat navy ambulance, which was from a battleship in the harbour. It had space for a driver, one stretcher case and two sitting casualties.

*(My parents received a very nice letter from our RMO (Captain P. Tomlinson – dated 22 February 1941; it read...*

*"Dear Mr and Mrs Porter, I have been intending to write to you for some time now to let you know what good work Cpl Porter has been doing in the R.A.P. of this Battalion, and especially during the battle of Tobruk. In this battle he worked without ceasing for 25 hours, and after two hours rest for a further 12.*

*In this action he was of valuable assistance, had at times to be left working on his own, and used his initiative at all times. He has been recommended for promotion to sergeant, but authority for this has not yet come through. I do not think it will be long.*

*He has been enabled to send some things of medical and surgical use to his brother in Belgian Congo, during the last few days. I would be glad if you would give Ron my regards when you are writing. With sincere good wishes,*



P.A. Tomlinson.") – (I was unaware of this letter until I arrived home after the war.)

### MY WAR EXPERIENCES:

These left a lasting impression on me.

My job as a medical man in this very good infantry battalion was very difficult, at times.

I knew I did not have the "up front" danger of the rifleman – most nights my job started when their job finished.

As an example, I remember the attack on Tobruk started at 4am and the town was captured about 4pm – the fighting men then relaxed.

We treated wounded all day and the doctor and I would still be working on the wounded that still came in at 3am and then started again at 5am.

I slept in the RAP tent or the truck. Most nights were spent attending to "someone" – blistered feet, festering sores, a cut or bruise as a result of a fall etc.

I remember being alone, on duty, so much, and missing the "bon home" and humorous comradeship that "lightens the load" of an infantryman and makes his life bearable.

When I look back I can see that I constantly saw the grim side of war.

I remember men as casualties or death.

I recall being wounded and missing, in Greece.

(My parents received a telegram dated 8 July 1941... "Cpl Porter re-joined unit. It is with pleasure that I have to inform you that NX9901 CPL Maurice Wilfred Porter previously reported missing and wounded in action is now reported rejoined unit—Minister for Army") I also sent one the next day (9th) ... "am quite safe well love Porter").

I also recall the overwhelming German air superiority.

### Some "edited" extracts from the R.M.O.'s (Captain Tomlinson) war diary at GREECE;

1 April 1941 the 2/4th Bn left Alexandria on the Pireede? On board the "Pensland"? Other units on board were; 6th Aust Gen Hosp, 6th Aust Div HQ, 2/3rd Field Regiment and 2/8th Aust Infantry Bn.

3 April Arrived at Daphne camp (outside Athens).

6 April Arrived at Larissa ("C" Company detached and sent to Volos –

security duties – 4 stretcher-bearers attached.

Tactical positions subsequently occupied – Zenon Neron – Vevi, Sauta, Northern side of the Aliakmon River, Domokos, Brallos, Megara.

26 April Evacuate Greece—arrived Crete.

The R.M.O. noted... "That although we had our share of casualties, the rigors of the campaign were due to physical and mental hardships."

### Physical Hardships

I have never seen a body of men more completely worn out than those who evacuated Megara on the 26th April; This was due to many factors;

1. Loss of Sleep: Unit was moving and without sleep, one night in every three, while we were in Greece.
2. Exposure to Cold and Snow: Fighting 3 days in snow without blankets – early frost-bite of feet prevalent.
3. Long Marches: with precipitous climbs over rough country with heavy loads.
4. Within the Brigade the major portion of the work fell on the 4th Battalion. This was due to other units throwing away their arms in withdrawing from Vevi. Thereafter, 4th Battalion was called upon to cover all the withdrawals as the other units had lost their equipment.
5. Frequent changes of position meant almost continuous digging when not marching.
6. Quite a few wounded were still walking with the unit.

### Mental Hardships

1. Every man in the ranks was fully aware from the beginning of the unsoundness, tactically, of the position (3 Companies on a 4 mile front) and of the absence of a "reserve" (except those 6,000 Canadians?).
2. Exposure to intense artillery fire especially at Brallos Pass.
3. The multitude of enemy aircraft and the complete absence of our own.
4. Repeated bombings and dive bombings and machine gunning.
5. The realisation that if they became casualties, they had very little hope of getting away from Greece.
6. Resentment that a unit which threw its arms away should have an easy time, while one which stuck to theirs

should continue to bear the burden for both.

7. Poor example of (1) one of our own Officers and sergeants, whose nerves gave way; they had to be relieved of their commands; this produced a local effect on one Company; (2) Neighbouring Troops: (a) Major.....commanding..... who became hysterical every time a plane came in sight; (b) Neighbouring Field Ambulance Officers, who, by showing their fears spread panic to their own and nearby troops.

### Recommendations for Awards:

NX9901 Sgt Porter M.W. Recommended for the Military Medal  
NX27617 Pte. Harber L.

### Contacts with other Medical Units:

Larissa—189 Field Ambulance.

Zenon-Neron—2/1st Field Ambulance (Captain Matthews) Daily contact.

ADMS or DADMS—once—at Brallos Pass.

2/7th Field Ambulance—at Brallos Pass and at Brallos

Other RAP's—2/3rd Field Regiment—on the way up to Vevi. 2/6th and 2/8th at Domokos.

### Lessons learned from Greece:

1. The necessity for RAP's and Fd Ambs to be always in contact. The responsibility for this lies with the Field Ambulance.
2. Organisation of the Medical Services were unsuitable for the conditions in Greece. In my opinion surgical facilities should be closer to the front line and be mobile units which can pack and unpack and move in 1 hour. OR move at short notice (maximum 1 hour).  
The best place for these to function is with Field Ambulances and that there should be others along the Line of Evacuation. That the CCS's as at present established, and hospitals, are too fixed, too immobile and should not be within 100's of miles of fighting.  
That with long Lines of Communication, necessary shock treatment and transfusion should be carried out when necessary, during movement.
3. Field Ambulance stretcher-bearers attached to RAP's are seldom necessary.





The most heart-breaking experience that I cannot forget, no matter how hard I have tried, was the hopeless medical situation in Crete.

The only drugs we had were a few that I had managed to salvage from a burning truck in Greece.

The experience of having to leave behind sick and dying men on Crete affected me greatly, and when it was pointed out to me, in therapy 50 years later, that I was not responsible for that decision, it became easier on my soul.

Again – Some “edited” extracts from the R.M.O.’s (Captain P. Tomlinson) war diary at CRETE:

*(Medical aspects of parachute warfare at Heraklion)*

26 April – arrived at Suda Bay.

29/30 April (night) – moved to Heraklion

29 May – evacuated Crete.

**Medical Equipment:**

Surgical Haversack, Shell Dressings, First Field dressings, 5 Stretchers, (and later) 2 small surgical kits and 1 small Medical kit, both dropped with German parachutists.

### **Medical Arrangements:**

2/4th Bn formed part of a Brigade of 5 Infantry Battalions and attached troops defending Heraklion area against German parachutists.

Each Infantry Bn had an RAP within its own area. There were 2 ADS’s;

(1) at Villa Galba, which always remained in our hands and from which all patients were ultimately evacuated. This was about 1 & ½ miles from our RAP and about 2 miles east of Heraklion.

(2) at Villa Ariadne at Knossos, 5 klms south of Heraklion. This fell into enemy hands early and, at the evacuation, only 2 patients got away. Even after it fell into enemy hands there was free ply, to and from it, for patients from both sides.

From a medical aspect, time spent at Heraklion may be divided into two phases;

(1) before the 20th May—Hygiene and Sanitation.

(2) after 20th May—Surgical and Public Health.

### **Before 20th MAY**

Water Control – always abundant, clean and assured.

Control of VD – by civil authorities and very satisfactory.

Sanitation – owing to their conspicuousness from the air, Latrine Covers (Middle East pattern) though available, could not be used. Buckets and conservancy system not available. Deep trenches used where possible, but in the majority of areas ground was so hard and stony that trenches could not be dug more than 2 feet deep. These shallow trenches were filled in and changed daily. There were only a few cases of mild diarrhoea. Infestation of fleas was heavy and universal.

### **After 20th MAY**

RAP consisted of a series of caves in the side of the hill some of which were connected together. RAP isolated from all other medical units for 4 days, owing to collection of parachutists not yet mopped up.

During this time, 25 patients were nursed in the RAP for 4 days by 4 people, including the RMO, some of them requiring a considerable amount of surgical aid. This was due to the fact that evacuation was impossible owing to enemy troops in Lines of Communication.

(1 to 26 injury types were listed here)... Treatment of most wounds after cleansing, consisted of packing with acriflavine gauze. Only one wound with charring of tissues showed infection on evacuation to ADS. Fractures by improvised splints. 5 prisoners were treated. Patients were treated from 6 units other than our own.

### **Public Health**

Difficulties of sanitation were increased because air activity seldom allowed even sufficient time to dig latrines in the open. All dead within our battalion area were buried, but in some cases could not be buried to a depth of more than 18 inches owing to the ground in their areas.

On the night of our evacuation, Heraklion was one large stench of decomposing dead, debris from destroyed dwelling places, roads were wet and running from burst water pipes, hungry dogs were scavenging amongst the dead.

There was a stench of sulphur, smouldering fires and pollution of broken sewers. Conditions were set for a major epidemic.

### **Difficulties of Nursing**

No beds, blankets, bed pans, urinals or towels. As far as possible, these were improvised from tins and boxes, and blankets were withdrawn from fighting troops.

### **Paucity of Equipment**

Equipment was grossly inadequate, even for the treatment of more simple cases. No anaesthetic, serum or bone saw was available.

**Failure of Supplies** was due to a number of factors;

(1) the evacuation of Greece left us with very little equipment.

(2) few supplies were available by purchase in Heraklion.

(3) After the “blitz” started supplies could not be got up to the RAP’s.

The doctor’s last entry... “on the 26th May about 1930 hrs, a German doctor and stretcher-bearer with white flag, brought one of our own (an Argyll and Southern Highlander) and one German wounded into our lines. They were permitted to re-join their own troops, and the arrangement was made for future severe casualties for their stretcher-bearers to bring them half way across “No Man’s Land” and our stretcher-bearers would bring them to our RAP. The wounded Argyll was number 4269744 Pte Davies A. The German Officers and OR’s showed every respect for medical personnel and wounded at Villa Ariadne. In my opinion the Germans did respect the Geneva Cross”.

I remember those two caves with connecting tunnels. We had two, sometimes three, stretchers.

(It’s ironic – 50 years or so after leaving Crete, I visited this same area with my wife and son, Ian.

Previously, when we were on the island (during the war) I had cut out a rock shelf in a cave, on which to rest a lantern to be able to tend to the sick. Then 50 years later, unbelievably, I was able to locate the cave and point out the shelf I had scratched out! When it became known to the locals that I had been there during the war, they brought along a woman, now in her 50’s, who, as a child, used to bring fresh eggs and goat’s milk to us each day, and whom we had named “Princess”. She was delighted to meet me, but of course we still had our language barrier.)



One cave was used as "Reception" – a stretcher on petrol cases, a hurricane lamp, a primus stove.

We had no bed pans, no light diets (we had army biscuits that softened over night in goat's milk!).

A wounded man would be examined – treated as best as possible and moved onto his groundsheet, (if he had one) on the floor, in the next cave to wait.

We had a very limited supply of morphine. We had no change of dressings.

There were up to 24 wounded men – Germans, British, Black Watch and Aussies – all together.

Because of possible German parachute infiltration, a blanket was placed over the doorways each night.

On one occasion we were able to clear 8 of our worst cases to the Field Ambulance in a very dangerous night drive because we did not know the exact location of the Field Ambulance or the Germans.

We were on roads that both armies used and shot first and asked questions afterwards.

I recall this very dangerous ride as I was standing on the running board and wearing my Red Cross Arm-Band.

We were evacuated at 3am on the 29th May 1941 by a British Navy Destroyer. The convoy was bombed from daylight.

There was a direct hit on one ship with 200 soldiers of the 2/4th Bn and 250 soldiers of the Black Watch, many of whom drowned.

Our convoy was bombed until we were out of range from Greece. We arrived in Alexandria completely exhausted.

I eventually landed in Darwin prior to being sent to New Guinea.

## MEMORIES OF NEW GUINEA:

When we got to New Guinea we thought we knew it all as we had spent our time in the Middle East. So, because of our swelled-headedness, we didn't take much notice of the training that was being given, or listen to the lectures which were being given to the Brigade.

We soon realised we had to ask... "What did he say?"

I was shocked by the humidity and steaminess. After a shower I was

continually sweating after 5 minutes. It was the same – day or night!

Men had lots of problems with their feet. We would have a RAP Parade and find men had not been able to wash their feet for 4 or 5 days, and the stench was unbelievable, as well as the problems with their skin.

I remember one occasion when I had to accompany the doctor into the jungle and make notes as he examined the bodies of soldiers whose bodies had been cannibalised. The order was then given that under no circumstances whatever, we were to leave a wounded or sick man alone in the jungle, for fear of cannibalisation, amongst other things.

I actually saw the arm and below the elbow was partly cooked. It had been brought in by a stretcher-bearer sergeant.

*(Some injuries in the Middle East were from accidents where troops were thrown out of the back of a 'ute when it had gone into a ditch, and they sustained broken legs or arms. My job was to stop the bleeding and make the men comfortable for further treatment.)*

*In New Guinea you knew that after you had treated a man, unless things were unusual it would be at least 12 or 15 hours before he would be looked at again—there were no motors—it was being carried on stretcher through jungle, and there was a big delay.)*

I remember during a "time out" we threw a hand grenade into the river and ended up with plenty of fish for all, for lunch.

When I was "Demobbed" in October 1945. I was flown from Port Moresby in a Sunderland Flying Boat, with several high ranking Officers. Due to the factors involved I was one of the early ones to be demobbed, much to the chagrin of the Officers.

We stepped onto the Rose Bay (Sydney) wharf and one of the Officers said... "That's my port over there, Staff!" to which I replied... "It is indeed a lovely valise, Sir". And kept walking – I was almost no longer under his directions.

In conclusion, I would acknowledge that it was my faith in Jesus Christ, and the knowledge that my family was praying for me, that sustained me throughout this ordeal.

I was discharged from the army on the 16th October 1945 with the rank of Staff Sergeant.

*(An aftermath of New Guinea was malaria for many years, and my sons recall when they were 6 and 8 years old, accompanying their mother when she rushed me to hospital in the middle of the night.)*

I resumed my furniture business after I was discharged, but with a difference.

On the advice of a friend I started to build church furniture.

*(A couple of years ago we went to a church hall at Luddenham (near Penrith) and I "spotted" a chair that looked just like the ones I used to make. I upended it and sure enough there, in chalk, was my initials "MWP". Ever since then, whenever we go there, they say..." there's the man who made our chairs!")*

Eventually, due to back problems from the lifting of heavy slabs of timber, needed for the church pews, I sold my business.

I then became a salesman for a timber company. I thoroughly enjoyed this job because I knew the various kinds of timbers and their uses.

I still stroke and admire any timber and carvings that I lay my hands on.

I had my last job, as an employee, with Grollier, the publisher of World Book Encyclopaedia.

My last business venture was with my late wife, Margaret. We owned two shops – one at Crows Nest and the other at Warringah Mall where we sold tapestries, threads and craft materials.

Sadly, my wife Margaret passed away in February 2003 after a beautiful partnership of almost 60 years which saw us blessed with surviving children but in a thankful turn of events I was to renew an old friendship of more than 50 years, with Barbara McClenaghan (who was the next door neighbour of my brother, Douglas), when I visited a relative of hers.

Barbara's first husband, Terry, was a Lieutenant in the Commando "Z" Force, which operated in New Guinea, amongst other areas, during WW 2.

Barbara and I married in December 2003.

I now live my retirement years in happy contentment with Barbara, in the Baptist Community Village in Carlingford (Sydney).





# PUT YOUR SAFETY FIRST GET A SAT PHONE!

**IF YOU ARE TRAVELLING OR LIVING REMOTELY, A GOOD RELIABLE PHONE IS A MUST!**

**Need a go-anywhere phone? One that >>> is rugged and everything is in the box?>>>**



**Inmarsat  
Isatphone Pro**

Then the Iridium 9555 could be your choice. We have so many options and plans available with a wide range and great pricing. Great all-over and is the best for mountains.



**Iridium 9555**

**<<<Need a tough, rugged phone that is <<<advanced, but simple, and as TOUGH AS YOU?**

Then, the new Inmarsat Isatphone Pro could you the best option for you.

This is simple, smart, new and the toughest phone available... AND is amazingly affordable! Includes GPS for extra safety! Great for outback, good Aus wide!



**Thuraya XT**

**>>> Need rugged but small?>>>**

Then the Thuraya XT could be your choice! Sleek, tough, and smart!

There are three models in the Thuraya range. All models also incorporate a GPS. Best in the West & very good in Central Australia.

**Need help deciding? Contact:  
Safecity Services Pty Ltd.**

**ABN:11055464581**

**PHONE: 02 6335 5216 FAX: 02 6335 5229**

**Email: [support@satellitephones.com.au](mailto:support@satellitephones.com.au)**

**Bulk pricing is also available. Contact us to help find a fit to your needs!**

# NAZRON ACCOUNTING

- Mobile or On-Site Service
- Individual & Business Tax Returns
- BAS / GST • Rental Properties
- Professional, Reliable & Friendly Service

**Mobile: 0437 386 958**

**Morphett Vale & Surrounding Areas, SA**

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*

*Proud to support 5th Field Ambulance  
RAAMC Association*

## Simply MOWING

All Aspects of  
Garden Maintenance

**Eddie: 0419 957 274**

Albany &  
Surrounding Areas  
WA



## “A SOLDIER DIED TODAY”

(Author unknown but kind thanks to “Scotty” Boyd and Jim Jordan)

*He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,  
And he sat around the RSL telling stories of the past.*

*Of a war that he once fought in, and the deeds that he had done,  
In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes, everyone.*

*And tho’ sometimes to his neighbours, his tales became a joke.  
All his buddies listened quietly for they knew where of he spoke.*

*But we’ll hear his tales no longer, for old Bob has passed away  
And the world’s a little poorer for a Soldier died today.*

*He won’t be mourned by many, just his children and his wife  
For he lived a very ordinary, quiet sort of life.*

*He held a job and raised a family, going quietly on his way  
And the world won’t note his passing, tho’ a Soldier died today.*

*When politicians leave this earth their bodies lie in State,  
While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great.*

*Papers tell of their life stories from the time that they were young,  
But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed, and unsung.*

*Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land  
Some jerk who breaks his promise and cons his fellow man?*

*Or the ordinary fellow, who in times of war and strife  
Goes off to serve his country and offers up his life.*

*The politician’s stipend and the style in which he lives  
Are often disproportionate to the service that he gives.*

*While the ordinary soldier who offered up his all  
Is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small.*

*It’s so easy to forget them, but it is so  
many times that our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys went to battle,  
but we know.*

*It is not the politicians with their compromise and ploys  
Who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys.*

*Should you find yourself in danger with your enemies at hand  
Would you really want some cop-out, with his ever waffling stand?  
Or would you want a soldier—his home, his country, his kin,  
Just a common soldier, who would fight until the end.*

*He was just a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin  
But his presence should remind us, we may need his like again.*

*For when countries are in conflict we find the soldier’s part  
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.*

*If we cannot do him honour while he’s here to hear the praise  
Then at least let’s give him homage at the ending of his days.*

*Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say..  
“Our country is in morning. A Soldier died today”*

-----  
*A veteran is someone, who, at one point in his life,  
wrote a “blank cheque” made payable to... Australia,  
New Zealand, Canada, Great Britain, the USA  
or any other God-fearing country for an amount  
---“Up to, and including, my Life”.*

*That is honour. There are way too many people in this world  
who no longer understand it.*

## Get Up & Go

Explore the 74  
Island Wonders  
of the Whitsundays  
on board a luxury  
yacht, catamaran  
or motor cruiser.

**Limited  
availability**

**Our Get Up & Go package makes it even easier...**



- **FREE** sleep aboard your vessel the night of arrival in the Whitsundays
- **FREE** dinner from Casa Mia or Fish D’Vine
- **FREE** bottle of wine
- Guaranteed 8am brief
- **FREE** continental breakfast
- On the water by 10am

\* Conditions apply

**BOOK  
NOW**

**1800 075 000**  
holiday@rentayacht.com.au  
www.rentayacht.com.au

*Whitsunday*  
**rent yacht**  
Yachts • Catamarans • Motor Cruisers







**RAAMC ASSOCIATION**  
(INCORPORATED)

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the RAAMC Association is open to all members who have served either full or part-time in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps. Membership is also available to those who have served in a RAAMC Unit who belong to another Corps and members who have served in the Medical Services of another country who are allied to Australia.

**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Surname:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Post Nominals (Honours and Decorations Only):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address Street & Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Suburb/City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Category (Tick Applicable Box)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordinary Member	Members or Former Members of the RAAMC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Member	Members of the ADF Health Service other than the RAAMC Unit. Members of an Allied Country who have served in an RAAMC Unit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Member	Members of the ADF Health Service other than the RAAMC. Members of an Allied Country Health Service. Spouses or widows of a member.

**Service** (Circle Relevant Service) RAN | Army | RAAF. If you have served in the Medical Service of another country specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you entitled to wear the Return From Active Service Badge?

(Please circle one) Yes | No (Required for Veterans' Entitlements and Legacy)

Is/was your service **Full-time** or **Part-time**? (Full-time includes National Service Members)

(Please circle) Full-time | Part-time | Both | Still Serving

**Regimental Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PM Keys Number:** (only those who are now serving) \_\_\_\_\_

What was/is your trade/employment in the RAAMC or RAAMC Unit (other than RAAMC Members)



List the last three Units which you have served:

---

---

---

If granted membership have you any skills that you wish to provide to the RAAMC Association that could benefit the membership. (Please circle one). Yes ☐ No ☐ If you have indicated Yes please advise below.

---

---

---

List the Military Associations to which you belong. (e.g. Callsign Vampire or 5 Field Association)

---

---

---

---

---

I understand membership to the RAAMC Association is free, however, I wish to make a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover administration 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.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use Only**

---

---

---

Membership Forms should be posted to:

RAAMC ASSOCIATION  
PO BOX 5080  
MINTO NSW 2566





“ SEMPER PARATUS “  
**5<sup>th</sup> FIELD AMBULANCE RAAMC ASSOCIATION**

Patron: COL Ray Hyslop OAM RFD  
President: LTCOL. Derek Cannon RFD

WEB SITE: [www.5fdamb.com](http://www.5fdamb.com)

A proud member of the RAAMC Association Inc.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

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

**I hereby apply to join 5<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> January each year. LIFE MEMBERSHIP is \$100. (Reminders will be included in each “ACTIVITY SHEET”**

Cheques/Money Orders should be made out to “5<sup>th</sup> FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION” and forwarded to either — Alan Curry (Hon Sect) 6 Reliance Bvd, TANILBA BAY. N.S.W 2319 OR Brian Tams (Hon Treasurer), 4/24-26 Barrenjoey Rd, ETTALONG BEACH. NSW 2257. EFT Details: BSB: 637000, A/C Number: 717253825, A/C Name: 5<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association, Bank: Greater Building Society. (Please identify yourself). All acknowledgements will be in next Newsletter.

(SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_ (DATE) \_\_\_\_\_



**ACTIVITY SHEET** (for December 2010)  
(Please indicate your choice/s with an X or Tick)

- ☐ Please find enclosed my Subs for 2010 (\$15) (cover from January to December) or **LIFE MEMBERSHIP (\$100) or Donation** *(See my details below).*
- ☐ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ RAAMC Centenary “Coin and Token” set/s @ \$25 each.
- ☐ Please send me a RAAMC coat Lapel Badge for \$10.
- ☐ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ RAAMC Centenary (Stamped) Envelopes (1903-2003) @ \$2 each. (47 left—with 50c Stamp embossed. They are still useable.)
- ☐ 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 (\$8), \*LAPEL BADGE (\$7), \*CORPS TIE (\$40) *(Any item Includes postage) ---please indicate size of Beret & whether Badges/Ties are to be RAAMC or RACT or RAEME.*
- ☐ Please order me a copy of Sir Keith Jones’s book.  
“One Man’s Story” an autobiography (\$25)
- ☐ Please ORDER me a copy of “Military of the Hunter—1855-2005 @ \$45 *(Includes postage).*
- ☐ Please ORDER me a copy of “Little by Little”--- *A Centenary History of the RAAMC by Michael Tyquin. @ \$60 (Includes postage).*

(Please make any Cheques/Money Orders etc payable to:- “5<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association” and post to either:- Alan Curry (Hon Sec) 6 Reliance Bvd., TANILBA BAY NSW 2319 OR Treasurer, Brian Tams, 4/24-26 Barrenjoey Rd., ETTALONG BEACH, NSW 2257—All acknowledgements will be in next issue. Our EFT details are: **BSB:** 637000, **Account Number:** 717253825, **Account Name:** 5<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association, **BANK:** Greater Building Society. (Please Identify your name)

COMMENTS/ORDERS ETC: FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT No: \_\_\_\_\_ MONEY ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





# Are you out of control?

Depression, war-related trauma or addiction can cause challenges in your life.

## We can help

We have successfully treated many veterans and understand the issues and how they affect lives.

## Talk to us

Our treatment programs are specifically designed to help veterans deal with their problems safely and confidentially in the company of other veterans facing similar difficulties. We can help you regain quality of life.

## You are not alone

Call us today to discuss any of our wide range of residential and outpatient treatment programs, which offer recovery in a supportive setting of beauty and tranquility.

## Let us help you with:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Alcohol or drug dependence
- Anger
- Relationship difficulties
- Feelings of guilt
- Sleeplessness
- Emotional problems

177 Grose Vale Road,  
North Richmond 2754

**4570 6100**

[www.sjog.org.au](http://www.sjog.org.au)



**ST JOHN OF GOD**  
HOSPITAL

RICHMOND

# 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Service

This commemorative 50c coin recognises the vital role and contribution made by National Servicemen in Australia's history and the dedication of their new memorial in our nation's capital.

**A great keepsake to share with family.**



To view and order coins visit our website  
**[www.ramint.gov.au](http://www.ramint.gov.au)** or call **1300 652 020**.



**Australian Government**  
**Royal Australian Mint**

RAMNASHOS1005

## Defence Service Homes Insurance Scheme

Home & Contents insurance for Veterans (their widows or widowers) or ADF personnel who are:

- Entitled to use a DSH loan (whether used or not),
- Entitled to benefits under the *Veterans Entitlement Act 1986* (including AASM qualifying service), or
- Using the Defence Housing Assistance Act loan.

**cover**  
**plus the care**



To see if you are eligible  
and to compare the  
features call  
**1300 552 662**  
**[www.dsh.gov.au](http://www.dsh.gov.au)**



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**DEFENCE**  
**SERVICE HOMES**  
**INSURANCE SCHEME**