



Vol 1 No 10
June 2003

The WAURior

The official newsletter of the Western Australian University Regiment Association Inc.

In this edition...

Look out for these items and more

- ✓ Welcome to new members
- ✓ Member contributions
- ✓ Unit History file
- ✓ Sightings
- ✓ History Committee report
- ✓ Official history Part 10
- ✓ Interesting websites
- ✓ Camp Fire tales Part 2
- ✓ 60 seconds with...

Contributions sought!!

Thanks are again due to Shaun Chapman and Dave Knight for contributions to this edition. Mick Matthews also has his first rant as WAUR Liaison Officer Remember, if there is something you would like to see in your Newsletter, please let me know. As I have often said, I would be delighted to receive your contributions - no matter how small!

Regards, Michael Jenkin (Ed)

Ramblings from the Secretary

With Michael Jenkin

A great deal has happened since the last edition of WAURior. For a start, your Association has cracked the ton and enrolled its 100th member - Mark Bivens. This was a significant achievement and assuming we can keep people re-enrolling when their memberships come up, will mark a further point in the Association's maturity and development. Another milestone was the successful audit that was recently completed by the Association's Honorary Auditor Tas Nolan. This shows that the Association is financially sound and that our Hon. Treasurer was made no outrageous cock-ups to date. **[SC: Give me time]** Anzac Day 2003 saw your Treasurer and I laying a wreath at the Dawn Service (apparently they homed in on us and some of the boys saw us on the MCG like screens set up to show the crowds what was happening. After the very moving Dawn service it was off to Chifley's Hotel for a fantastic breakfast and a couple of restorative nips of Bundy. The March went well as did the Mess crawl afterwards. See a more detailed report later in this edition. Finally, it would be remiss of me not to observe Of course, this is the 10th edition of the WAURior which I have had the pleasure of presenting **[Ed: steady on son - otherwise they will know you are bullshitting]**. I hope that will find it an interesting read.

If there is one thing I would like to improve it would be to increase the number of contributions received from members - over to you....

★ REGIONAL ASSOCIATION MEETING ★

★ 05 July 03 ★

The Association's first country meeting will be held in Bunbury on Saturday, 5th July 2003 at 1900 h probably at the Rose Hotel – to be confirmed. More details will be e-mailed to members closer to the time. The format of the evening will include a short Committee Meeting followed by a dinner. Dress is smart casual. Association merchandise will also be on sale!

Welcome to the Following New Members

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The Committee would like to extend a very warm welcome to the following members who have joined the Association since the last edition of The WAURior:

March 2003

Mark Bivens **Member Number 100:**

April 2003

Colin Walker.

May 2003

John "Alby" Hassell & Helen Cope (who paid their membership subs and will be officially inducted next month when their paperwork is received).

Your Association now has 103 paid up members!

New Membership Arrangements Explained

At its meeting on 6 May 2003, your Committee decided that effective immediately, all memberships will expire on 01 October in the relevant year. For example, if you joined the Association today for 12 months, your membership will expire on 01 October 2004.

Under the previous system, memberships expired on the date a person joined. This meant that each year we are faced with membership renewals cropping up throughout the year. Instead of being able to e-mail out renewals in one hit, the job had to split over the year. As those members whose membership expired late last year or in the first quarter of 2003 would have noticed, renewals were sent out late.

The only people disadvantaged by the new system will be those whose membership currently expires in October - December. There appear to be only a handful of these members. Given that this disadvantage only occurs once, the Committee felt that this was outweighed by the substantial gains in efficiency.

Member Number 100:- Mark Bivens

Our 100th member Mark Bivens was a member of the unit between 1980 and 1984. Mark's most memorable time was in 1981 doing IET training at Northam and Bindoon. After GRES service with WAUR and 15 Psych, Mark finished his studies in education and psychology and worked as a Psychologist with the Education Department, firstly in Northam and later back in the metropolitan area. Mark is now also a part-time lecturer at Curtin University. Congratulations to Mark on being the 100th member of the Association.

Lets hope there are many, many more members!

WAUR Liaison Officer Report

By Mick Mathews

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How it all started

You all know how it goes; it's the same in any tradition bound, megalithic, hierarchical organisation (that's like a big government department Barney); start a rumour and eventually it will become fact.

So, when, in the course of enjoying a well earned drink in the "boozier" one Tuesday night, WAUR Combined Ranks Mess just doesn't have the same cachet, I found myself being congratulated on my appointment as the WAUR Association Liaison Officer, I began to gain an understanding of how Damocles must have felt when he looked up. (Damocles, big guy, Greek, really old had an enormous sword suspended over his head, never knew when it was going to fall. You get the picture)

On the Tuesday night in question, the stalwart and staunch committeemen of the Association had met as usual to plot new methods of enticing the membership to part with money and brain cells in varying amounts. God bless 'em. Ever wondered why most so-called sports clubs have a bar? So the committee members can make enough money out of the lower grade players and non-playing members to send their sons or daughters and as many Committeemen as possible to national carnivals and tournaments. Strange thing is the carnivals always seem to be in places like Noosa or Broome, Threadbo or Falls Creek depending on the time of year. Back at the meeting and during some closed door negotiations upstairs in RHQ it was decided that your humble correspondent was to become the go between for WAUR and the Association. As is usually the case, the target of a sneak attack, is the last to know.

No reason to worry I thought as I drove home later that night, listening to someone rave on to Tony Delroy about shooting all illegal immigrants, I must have been mistaken. I was not. The dreaded e-mail lobbed on my desk the next morning, thus signifying that I, Mick Matthews, was Liaison Officer to the WAUR association. (apologies to Monty Python).

What's been happening?

The Unit has had a busy start to 2003. Instructors and Staff Cadets were flung far and wide across Australia during January and February.

Senior cadets spent as long as 6 week's attending Modules 4, 5 and 6 of the Part Time, First Appointment Course (PT FAC) at the Royal Military College, Duntroon (RMC-D). Each Module was for two weeks. Those Cadets just starting their journey attended all or part of the IIIA course with Melbourne University Regt (MUR). Again, this course is broken into three two-week modules.

The seniors were tested as section and platoon commanders during their stay at RMC-D. Due to the fires in Canberra at the time, part of Mod 5 and the platoon commander-testing phase of Mod 6 were held at Puckapunyal training area. A very demanding phase for all concerned. (I haven't walked so far or over so many hills with a pack on my back in a long time, if ever. Did I forget to mention that your correspondent was "embedded" with a platoon for the battle phase.) The whole course then moved back to Duntroon where charges were heard, cadets were counselled, some back squadded and parade rehearsals held. The course culminated with a Graduation Parade and Ball on the Saturday followed by a formal presentation of commissions and prizes on Sunday.

Meanwhile, the new cadets were getting a taste of army life attending their IIIA course. IIIA is essentially a combined recruit and infantry IET course with some additions. WAUR sent trainees to MUR.

WAUR also lent instructor support during this busy courses phase. We sent four instructors to support RMC-D, two to MonUR and one (I think) went to QUR. All were praised for their professionalism and enthusiasm. Score another one for WAUR.

In all, WAUR had ten graduands from the course at RMC with two held back to the next course. We provided four instructional staff for the courses there. We sent 16 trainees and 6 support and staff to MUR. I'm sure you will agree that this was a fine effort from the Unit.

WAUR Liaison Officer Report

By Mick Mathews

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Over the last couple of months, the Unit has run the IIB module. The module focuses on the trainee's development in the Profession of Arms as well as lessons in military history, ethics, public speaking, written communication, personal administration and unit administration. It also introduces the cadets to Military Law, a subject many of you have had personal and intimate encounters with.

We are currently in the lead up phase to the next full time element for the cadets, IIB. This course, over two weeks, introduces the trainees to section level tactics. It is designed to be physically challenging, test endurance and reaction under pressure. (sound familiar all you ex-corporals out there).

While all this training has gone on, we have found time to maintain the skills of the staff with BFA's, range practices equity training etc. We have also gone bowling, arranged and held the Regimental Ball (more on that next issue) and are planning a wine tasting night on the 27th June.

You may have noticed the difference in course title for the courses run earlier in the year. This is due to a change in the way RMC is now running the PT FAC. In essence, the part-time course is now aligned with the full timers. If you want to see how it is all structured, have a look at www.army.gov.au/WAUR/

That's all for now the, boss needs me to do some work for the bank.

Cheers,
Mick

(P.S. Tony Delroy is a DJ on ABC 720 who has a late night phone in on current issues as part of his show. Just the thing for some of the more politically minded of you to tune into to gain an understanding how lonely and bored many Australians are. It usually has me screaming and trying to run someone off the road within 5 minutes.)



FRONT ROW: MAJ M Weaver RFD, BRIG D Warren RFD, ADC, LT COL PE R Joppek RFD, COL G.P Simpson RFD,
MAJ M Fenton.
BACK ROW: CAPT O Ashby, LT S L'Estrange, CAPT A Higgins, CAPT D Thompson, CHAP A Jackson,
CAPT K Trent.

Sadly, LTCOL P. E. R. Joppek, RFD (1950-2003) - Commanding Officer of WAUR 1995-1998 died on 03 May 2003.

LTCOL Phil Joppek was born in England in 1950 and following his mother's marriage to a Tasmanian farmer, immigrated to Australia, with his family when he was 7. He attended school in Tasmania and matriculated to the University of Tasmania where he won a scholarship to study geology. LTCOL Joppek did not complete his studies, moving to Western Australian at the age of 19 to work in the mining industry. During the late 1960s early 1970s, this industry was booming and he worked in both the Pilbara and Goldfields as a field assistant.

After several years, he returned to academic life and completed an Honours degree in Geology at the University of Western Australia and then a Diploma of Education. In 1970, LTCOL Joppek enlisted in the CMF (Citizens Military Forces) to serve his National Service commitment. He was promoted to CPL and then applied for Officer Training. After passing the Selection Board, he was posted to 5 Course at the Officer Cadet Training Unit. LTCOL Joppek completed the 2 year course and graduated into the Infantry Corps, as a 2LT, in 1975.

LTCOL Joppek commenced employment as a part-time Army officer as a Recruit Platoon commander with 11 Battalion, The Royal Western Australia Regiment and later with 11 Independent Rifle Company, The Royal Western Australia Regiment. Shortly there after, in his civilian career, he commenced teaching at Northam SHS. Given that he lived in Northam, LTCOL Joppek was approached by the then OC 'A' Sqn XLH to command Assault Troop, which was based there. He accepted and transferred to the Armoured Corps. He then completed a range of postings with XLH including as Technical Officer, Training Officer and Second in Command. In January 1988 he was appointed OC, commanding the squadron for three years.

He then served on the Headquarters of 13 Brigade before being posted as Second in Command of 16 Battalion, The Royal Western Australia Regiment. This meant a return to the Infantry Corps. LTCOL Joppek enjoyed a long association with the Western Australian University Regiment having attended many courses as an instructor. In 1995 he assumed command of the Regiment. During his period of command, Project WELLESLEY was launched. This considered the effectiveness of current training models and looked to institute more efficacious systems. As an outcome of WELLESLEY, the university regiments were brigaded and with the Royal Military College at Duntroon, formed the Royal Military College – Australia. LTCOL Joppek was an enthusiastic supporter of the new formation. As CO, he hosted the last graduating parade of officers from WAUR prior to the unit joining the new formation.

LTCOL Joppek handed over command in early 1998 and was then posted as an instructor to RTC WA. In 1999 he served as a Project Officer on the staff of Headquarters, 13 Brigade. During that year he was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease, which he fought courageously until his death on Saturday, 3 May 2003.

The legacy of LTCOL Joppek is the esteem with which WAUR is held in RMC-A and the fact that all graduating Reserve officers can now say, "I am a graduate of Duntroon".

We will remember him!

2003 Ball Report

By Shaun Chapman

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First up I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to WAUR CO Milton Butcher for inviting the Association to this years ball and feel disappointed that more of our members didn't make the effort to attend. The Ball committee did an outstanding job putting it all together John Fisher and his team deserve praise for their efforts. The regimental ball is WAUR's highlight social event for each year. The ambience created this year in the magnificent Winthrop Hall was magical. The crowd resplendent in a combination of Dress uniforms, Kilts, suits and cocktail frocks. Wisely, official proceedings started early under MC Kim Hutchinson's direction. The speeches were to the point and interesting. Current CO WAUR Milton Butcher gave a touching tribute to the recently deceased former WAUR CO LT COL Phil Jopek (see Vale page 4). WAUR Association President John Kargotich then presented the Association award for Best Cadet to David Seers who has been posted to 11/28 RWAR in Bunbury (see photo left). With official business dispensed with the party started in earnest. Three cabaret singers with the Army band kept the troops entertained. However the highlight of the night was the pipe and drums band. To thunderous applause the hall was filled with the sound of drums and bagpipes as the band marched in. This is something that has to be seen first hand to be appreciated. All in all it was a fantastic night and I look forward to the 2004 Ball.



The graduating class of 2003 were:

M. CADDEN, Posted to 16RWAR; T.W. CARLTON, Posted to 10LH
C.A. COWDREY, Posted to 7 FD Bty; A.E. FLANAGAN, Posted to 13CSR
H. JOYCE, Posted 16 RWAR; A. LOWMASS, Posted to 13CER
D.J. SEERS, Posted 10 11/28; A.C. SMITH, Posted to 13CSR
R.C. STEWART, Posted to 13CSSB; M. WILLIAMS, Posted to 16RWAR

As for many in Perth, ANZAC Day 2003 started early for me with a short taxi ride into King's Park for the Dawn service. My first task for the morning was to collect the Association's wreath made up by the terrific guys at *Florambiente* - they did a great job, but my one cock-up for the day occurred when I realised I had forgotten to do up a little card to attach to the wreath to say who it was from. Anyway, John Kargotich, Shaun Chapman, Alby Hassell, Grant Thompson, Bart Simpson and Tas Nolan turned up a few minutes later. After a quick Committee meeting, Shaun and I decided that we should lay the wreath together - which I thought was a nice touch. The Dawn Service is a very moving time and the crowds seem to get bigger and bigger every year. The RSL have placed huge screens around the place so that public can see what is going on. Before the service starts, the screens show archival footage covering Australia's involvement in War. Shaun and I laid the wreath successfully on the War memorial - and were apparently seen by the 15,000 spectators as our respective mugs flashed up on the screens. After the service, we all trundled down the hill for a hearty Gunfire breakfast at the Chifley Hotel. We were joined by a number of other WAURiors and had a great feed for a bargain price of \$15. Definitely something we will repeat in future years. At breakfast I met new member Andrew Bray and former WAURior Dom Fragomeni. The chat was great and everyone seemed to enjoy the company and the good food. After a few restoring Bundies we moved off down the Terrace and into position outside Government House. There was a great buzz along the Terrace and the crowds were already 3 and 4 deep and it was only 9.30 am.

As can be seen from the picture below, the Association formed a pretty reasonable contingent, and with few exceptions, managed to keep in step down the length of St George's Terrace for the March through Perth. Once again this year we marched with DRA contingent - this year led by former CO WAUR LTCOL Trevor Arbuckle. After the march, some of us stayed for the service whilst others formed a very useful vanguard and secured a prime position in front of the Central Law Courts where the RSL had pitched a beer tent. After the service, on the Esplanade, the rest of the contingent wound up in front of the beer tent - Shaun Chapman forming a very useful beacon. After some pretty pricey beers - the contingent staggered off to the WA Club to locate Association President John Kargotich. After failing in this mission, it was on to the Moon and Sixpence - which was full of Navy types. Notwithstanding this obvious problem, the beers were flowing until after 5.00 pm when most of us called it a day - it was great to see so many Association members at the Breakfast and the March - I hope more will decide to join us next year.



The WAUR Association Contingent – ANZAC Day 2003

Left to Right: Helen Cope, Sutherland, Trevor Arbuckle, David Treloar, Den Helium, ?, David Knight, Grant Thompson, John "Alby" Hassell, John Kargotich, Greg Smith, Bart Simpson, David Wee, Michael Jenkin, Andrew Bray, Shaun Chapman, Charles Crouch, Dean McAuliffe, Paul Tubman, Tas Nolan, and Lyndon Hopkins.

The following is reprinted from the Jan 2003 edition of The Rifleman, the newsletter of our sister Regiment The Royal Green Jackets:

News from 1 RGJ

1 RGJ ended a successful tour as NIBAT 3 in North Belfast at the end of October, a week earlier than originally planned to allow early preparation for Op FRESCO fire fighting duties. After 2 weeks well earned leave we returned to Weeton Barracks, with Green Goddess drivers being the first group to undergo training. They then joined their vehicle commanders and crews for a one-day fire-fighting package at Donnington. Meanwhile, Fire Fighting Group and Fire Station commanders completed recess of Strathclyde, where the Battalion will be supporting 1 HLD RS from 30 November. The commitment is scheduled to end in late January and developments in the Fire Brigades Union strike will be watched with interest as Christmas and the New Year approach. Despite the distractions of fire fighting, plans for Exercise GRAND PRIX in Kenya are going ahead. The exercise will form a critical part of 1 RGJ's preparation for a new operational commitment that sees the Battalion being the Spearhead Land Element (SLE), at reduced readiness for world-wide deployment from mid April to the end of July. Possible tasks that the battalion must be prepared to accomplish include the evacuation of non-combatants, the security of overseas territories, peace support operations and disaster and humanitarian relief. Indeed, there appears to every chance that 1 RGJ may be required to deploy in the current climate of a world-wide terrorist threat, political instability overseas and increasing risk of famine. We deploy on Exercise GRAND PRIX 2/03 from mid February until early April supported by 6/36 Battery of 40 Regt RA, a troop from 36 Engr Regt and a Lynx detachment from 9 Regt AAC. The exercise will include jungle training on the slopes of Mt. Kenya and both live fire and dry tactical training in the Kenya bush, with opportunities to see big game and experience the culture of this fascinating region. Adventure training will take place on the spectacular Indian Ocean coast near Malindi, providing opportunities for sub-aqua, canoeing, sailing, windsurfing and mountain biking. Those with an interest in mountaineering will be able to make an ascent of Mt. Kenya, the second highest mountain in Africa at 5199 metres. We will continue to develop our 'difficult terrain' capability during 2003 and two rifle companies will participate in mountain warfare cadres, while individual instructors will be trained in cold weather warfare in Norway during January and February. We are also undergoing a re-equipment programme to provide the Battalion with the new SA80 A2 rifle and personal role radio, with the ultimate aim for 1 RGJ to be a Light Battalion capable of world-wide deployment that is trained and equipped for service in any environment. Our programme in 2003 will undoubtedly be both challenging and rewarding, in the knowledge that the Battalion will have a key role to play in the UK's military capability both home and abroad.

News from 2 RGJ

2 RGJ is now in the second cycle of supporting Land Warfare Centre exercises on Salisbury Plain. No one anticipated quite how busy the Bn would be in this new role. As we head into October the BG will be employed in almost its entirety every weekday this month. The highlight of the last six months has been the two TESEX against the QLR and the KOSB both of whom fought bravely!! The Bn having put its best exercise foot forward during the first cycle is now entering a cadre period. The JNCO cadre includes sections from 1 RGJ and both the TA battalions. With the JNCO cadre about to pass off the Bn will run a Recce and Atk cadre during the autumn with the other Support Weapons training in the New Year. 2 RGJ continues to work on its Armoured Infantry Skills with B and R Company going to Castlemartin on a Live Firing Camp, whilst a myriad of driving courses continue to feed our driving requirements. On the sports field 2 RGJ won the Army Major units Cricket Cup. Ably led by Lt James Fulton who also played Combined Services cricket this year. The Rugby league team has made the semi finals of the Army Cup and we eagerly await the start of the novice boxing season were we face 1 PWRR in the first round. In the next six months we hope to assist 1 RGJ with their training in Kenya. We deploy on another three TESEX using the new Area Weapons Effect Simulation kit. We are now individually tracked round the Plain. Not only that, but a chip in your canister can tell if you are taking a sneaky breath of "fresh" air and then kills you disabling the laser in your weapon. It is no longer that much fun for the opposition.

News from RRV (RGJ)

It seems that A (Royal Green Jackets) Company at Oxford are indeed "Chosen Men" having had a hectic but exciting previous six months, there seems to be no let up in the opportunities open to the Riflemen in the next. Over half of the RRV team entering the Army Ski Championships in January are from the two RGJ Companies in Oxford and Milton Keynes. We look forward to some good press. The RRV has been asked to provide 44 Soldiers of mixed rank and Cap Badge for Op Fingal: a deployment to Kabul from March to June 03. A (RGJ) Coy have provided Soldiers for Voluntary Mobilisation for this Operation. Captain John Leever will lead the HQ element and Lt Xavier Griffin will be the Platoon Commander. The bulk of the Soldiers in the composite platoon will come from A (RGJ) Coy. Also in the planning stage, is the new role for the TA that we will be part of. A Civil Contingency Reaction Force to be committed to help the Blue Light services in the event of a 9/11 style attack in the UK. If that is not enough, we are to lead the RRV involvement in Exercise Amber Hope in Lithuania in June. We hope this will be as interesting as Cossack Express in Ukraine was in Sep 02 where A (RGJ) Company appeared on Central TV News on two consecutive days. To sustain these tasks recruiting has been the main priority and has been successful making the Coy some 30 soldiers over strength. We look forward to a visit from The Lord Mayor of Oxford in February that will be linked in with a presentation of SaBRE certificates by our Hon Col, Brig Nigel Mogg to supportive employers. We at A (RGJ) Coy are always looking for ways to promote the image of the Regiment in Oxford and given the tasks before us we will have little trouble in doing this. The Company is strong, in good heart and training to a new standard of professionalism needed by today's TA. If E Company thought that 2002 was an exciting year, with a cracking live firing exercise in the Ukraine, then 2003 looks set to be even better! A composite RRV Force Protection Platoon will mobilise in January, to deploy to Kabul for three months on Op FINGAL. Training for those Volunteers deploying is well under way as this edition of Riflemen's News goes to press, and will gather pace through the early part of the year before we deploy in February. Needless to say, both RGJ Companies of the RRV, and E Coy in particular are well represented amongst those going to Afghanistan. Apart from the chance to participate in the most current operation that the Army is involved in, the FPP are looking forward to the firm leadership of Capt John Leever. Fortunately CSgt Andy Ansell will be on hand to advise on misplaced procedures. A local girl band have become the "FPP mascots" and have already made their first visit to our training. Hailing from Milton Keynes, Erica and Elizabeth have a background in modelling, and are breaking into the music business. We are looking forward to seeing much more of them over the coming weeks. The training for the FPP is the RRV's main effort, and will incorporate a challenging live firing package in Brecon and CPTA before the OPTAG phase fine-tunes their skills for theatre. Troops who have served in Kabul in the past have often found the harsh, wailing cries of the muezzin strangely disconcerting, as he calls the faithful to prayer - but of course the E Coy lads are fully inoculated against this having grown used to Strangler's demented yelling over the years. The Afghanistan deployment is due to finish in late May, and E Coy will then "turn on a sixpence" and deploy to Lithuania as part of the RRV Partnership for Peace Exercise AMBER HOPE. This will see us operating as part of a multinational Battalion in a Peace Support Environment. Behind both these two significant deployments, though, the Company is going to be busy developing its capability as part of the new Civil Contingency Reaction Force (CCRF) in line with SDR New Chapter. Several Riflemen will also deploy to the Falkland Islands and Kenya in support of the Regular Army, while Rfn "Jock" Brown and "AWOL" Martin are already serving in the FRY on FTRS. The annual Champion Rifleman competition was held in October, and congratulations are due to Rfn "Ankles" Clarke and LCpl Marc Hairsign for their excellent performance in winning their respective categories, and also to Pte Harris the champion female soldier. There have been several comings and goings over the past few months. After 4 years with E Coy, the OC Maj Roger Smith is to move on as he is relocating to Pembrokeshire. In the meantime he is "double-hatted", as he is filling the vacant RRV Training Major's slot on FTRS. WO2 Shuv Dove has taken over as CSM from Pez Ryan, who is now growing his hair in emulation of Maj Mike Foster-Brown, and bought a tweed suit, brogues, trilby and monocle as befits a pink-cheeked young Subaltern of Rifles.

News from RRV (RGJ) (cont'd)

CSgt Tony Cousins has jumped the counter and been "born again" as a Greenjacket to take on the CQMS appointment, while we have welcomed Sgts Sav Saville and Rucksack Hrycak into the Sgts' Mess. Congratulations are also due to Ruckers and Cpl JJ Johnson on their recent engagement. On the permanent staff side, CSgt Fred Cowan will move to Bn HQ in December to join the Training Team, and we look forward to welcoming CSgt Proctor as his replacement MPSI. So an excellent start to 2003 is in prospect - watch this space for further news from "the 6th Bn".

News from Londons (RGJ)

F (Champion) Coy are happy to report that we remain at our full establishment with fresh recruits turning up at Davies Street on a weekly basis. After nearly two years of stability in the SNCO plot the New Year sees some important changes. WO2 Andy Coyle has succeeded WO2 Jim Bewley as CSM, with Jim moving off to the RRV as RQMS. CSgt Martin Smithson has moved across from Mortars as CQMS and CSgt Perry Tuson has taken on RRTT following WO2 Chris Percival's move to HQ Coy as CSM. Following a very busy second half year of 2002 - Battlefield Tour to South Africa, Annual Camp in Sennelager, Diving in Cyprus, plenty of Ceremonial including 30 soldiers on Parade at The Cenotaph under the command of Capt James Shackleton - the first half of 2003 should be a good deal quieter.

Financial pressure in London District has had a major impact on our training time with the net result being only one training weekend scheduled each month: Company training weekends in January, March, April and June and Bn FTXs in February and May. The London District military skills competition that Green Jacket Companies have won so often, The Courage Trophy, has been cancelled next year along with the training time allocated to prepare for it. Our soldiers continue to support the regular army on Operations with Rfn O'Gorman and Leveratt off to Afghanistan in January with the Royal Rifle Volunteers. Reference is made above to F Company being the London Regiment Champion Company for 2002. The Competition consisted of: Athletics, Tug of War, Rugby, Skill-at-Arms, and an arduous march and shoot. We are pleased to report that F Company won just about everything in sight and the OC, Maj Ray Rock, took pleasure in banging his heels in front of the CO, Lt Col James Cunliffe, to collect a rather fine trophy. Well done us. G (RGJ) Coy are pleased to inform our fellow Riflemen that we are recruiting well, and are close to full establishment. Our recruiting team under Sgt Kibble have had a busy year, and have been extremely successful in ensuring a steady stream of willing bodies into Phase 1 training, then onto CIC, and ultimately into the Company Platoons.

The New Year of 2003 will see G (RGJ) Company taking part in Company and Inter-Company Training, with the CO's focus of Defensive Operations continuing during these months. These are a great source of rivalry, as for every defensive force, there has to be an aggressive OPFOR, which is always seeking to exploit every opportunity! The month of May will be filled with a selection of support for Ex Executive Stretch (an opportunity for selected employers to gain a "hands-on" experience of training and circumstances that may be encountered whilst serving in the TA), a KAPE opportunity with The London Regiment RHQ Open Day, and a Regimental FTX Big Match 6 to round May off. Throughout June, our focus will be on shooting, and our riflemen will provide a strong contribution to the London Regiment Shooting Team's preparation for TASAM. This year may see a change of the Regiment's training focus, as we say farewell to Lt Col JR Cunliffe, and welcome our new CO Lt Col J Mooney who will ensure that the London Regiment are ready to support the changing and challenging roles and responsibilities for the TA of the future.

The Company welcomes back Lt Chris Sykes on his successful completion of his mobilisation tour in Bosnia, as G2 officer to 1 Welsh Guards. Also LCpl Duffield returns from Kosovo, where he has been employed as a MT driver to the Engineers. G (RGJ) Company currently has 5 members supporting the regular Army on FTRS:- Cpl Little in Yugoslavia, Rfn Aylett, Hickey and St Luce in Bosnia, and Rfn Purvor serving with 2 RGJ in Warminster.

The following was WAUR's contribution to the 1969 Chronicle – an Annual report on the Royal Green Jackets activities:

On 25th April, 1949 W.A.U.R. was raised under the title of Perth University Regiment, changed after some months to its present name. Twenty years later we see how this Citizen Military Force unit of the Australian Army has grown from an initial strength of one officer and seven other ranks on raising to a maximum of 428 all ranks during the period of National Service a decade ago and to a current strength of 28 officers and 192 other ranks.

It is not the purpose of this article to review the history of the last twenty years but to pick out the highlights of 1969.

By way of introduction, readers should be acquainted with the function of W.A.U.R. which is primarily of officer production for the C.M.F., recruiting from undergraduates of the University and of other tertiary institutions, hence its small establishment. Recruits are accepted in two intakes each year and those who have had experience in Cadets go straight into a Corps Training (Infantry) programme. In addition to the Annual Camp which is now of three weeks' duration, conducted during the long summer vacation, two ten day courses of continuous training are run in May and November. These are used to accelerate a member's progress through the training and exam cycle, allowing him to devote his time with fewer week-end interruptions to his academic studies. At present it is our aim to bring soldiers up to the standard of gaining their commissions after two years in the Regiment. As would be in war-time, our heaviest "casualty rate" is with subalterns. After being commissioned and graduating from the University many go overseas or are transferred to other units in Western Command that have vacancies for junior officers. We have just "lost" three subalterns in this way.

Each year starts off with Annual Camp. Generally our weather in January can be relied on to bring considerable discomfort, Camp being the signal for the weather bureau to organise a run of above-century temperatures. This year was happily an exception to the rule. A minimum of high temperatures eventuated and these contributed to a very smoothly run camp; no fires, no heat exhaustion, no one evacuated to hospital, no administrative "stuff ups" even.

On return from Camp a committee launched into planning our 20th Anniversary Ball which proved a great success. Amply catered for with music coming from one of our ex-bandsmen's own group, the drill hall was converted into a veritable jungle of potted palms through the courtesy of a former R.S.M., while illumination came from strings of hundreds of coloured bulbs.

Mid-year we welcomed our new Honorary Colonel, Colonel Charles Court, O.B.E., M.L.A. who is Minister for Industrial Development and the North-West in the Government of Western Australia. A chartered accountant by profession, Colonel Court has been a parliamentarian for sixteen years and a Minister of the Crown for ten years. His World War service started in the ranks from which he rose to Lieut.-Colonel. He was awarded an O.B.E. for services in Bougainville in the Pacific Islands. To those who follow tennis the name of Margaret Court (nee Smith), former Wimbledon Women's Champion, will not be unfamiliar. Mrs. Court is married to one of the Honorary Colonel's five sons.

In August, our 21C, Major Arthur Anderson E.D. retired after 17.5 years with the Regiment. During much of this time his canny hand directed the management of the Officers' Mess, with the result that we have one of the most tastefully furnished C.M.F. messes in the Command.

The end of October also saw the end of active C.M.F. duty for Lieut. Colonel M. A. S. Williams, E.D. This was a second time round affair actually. We had once before farewelled him when he was re-posted to the Royal Western Australia Regiment in 1964 but we were fortunate to have him restored to us when that unit was later re-organised. This time, however, regulations dictated that his soldiering days must end. Originally joining the Royal Army Service Corps in 1939, Mike Williams saw service with First Army in North Africa and was mentioned in dispatches in Italy. He is one of the few people able to wear both the Efficiency Decoration and the Efficiency Medal. The Medal for British Army service and the Decoration for Australian Army service. At his farewell a brief "ceremony of the keys" saw him hand over to his successor Lieut.-Colonel I. D. Stock. This was a case of history repeating itself for, both being sappers, the new C.O. had taken over from the old C.O. when 13 Field Squadron R.A.E. had been the command. Lieut. Colonel Stock is a former Regular Army officer, graduating from R.M.C. Duntroon in 1948. He served in Japan with B.C.O.F. Engineer Regiment, later returning to Australia to graduate with first class honours in Engineering from the Western Australian University. Between 1958 and 1961 he was attached to Royal Engineers and filled the posting of D.C.R.E. Malacca. It is possible some Green Jackets may have met him in the Bukit Terendak cantonment. In 1962 Ian Stock joined the C.M.F. and before coming to us commanded 10 Light Horse Regiment.

On the day Lieut.-Colonel Williams handed over his command, he had sprung on him the final, pleasant task of handing to three new subalterns their badges of rank. They were 2LT's Peter Boxsell, Dick Farrer and Brian Williams. Other new officers promoted during the year were Peter Amey, Kim Branson, Dave Hewitt, Dave Nairn and Geoff Wardle, the last-named also managed to fit in an Hawaiian honeymoon into the year's activities. We also have a trio of subalterns who have served in Vietnam with battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment. Neville Gale (also recently married) Dick Utting and David Ward. Higher up the ladder Rod Willox gained his Majority and Phill Harvey his third pip.

Another subaltern in the news is Bob French who stood for Federal Parliament in the October House of Representatives election. Put up by the Liberal Party in opposition to a "big name" in Labor politics in a strong Labor seat he polled quite well, but it seems he will not need to resign his commission for a seat in the House just yet. At the time of compiling this survey, our Adjutant, Captain Lloyd Cooper, who has served in Malaya and Vietnam is about to embrace civilian life. We are hoping he will soldier on with us as a C.M.F. member. Ex-regulars are handy to have around. Pins have sunk into a couple of chests this year. Our RSM, Lou Reid has been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and CSM Ron Mazzucchelli the Efficiency Medal. And now final preparations are in hand for the "November Course". This is held at Swanbourne Camp, home of the Special Air Service Regiment in suburban Perth between a golf course on one hand and a Rifle range on the other, with a handsome view of the Indian Ocean a sparkling in the spring sunshine just over the sand hills. If that doesn't sound inviting, then I hope that any transient Green Jacket who may find himself in the West will come along to our Depot and seek a conducted tour.



You asked for it - now **buy** it!

In response to member's demands, your Association (at great expense to the management it has to be said) arranged for the production of quality ties, lapel badges, cuff links and tie bars. These items will be on sale at the AGM and are also available by mail order. The order form is attached. The lapel pins, tie bars and cuff links are in a quality gold coloured metal and feature the Unit crest. The Association ties are modeled on the original Unit tie and have been made up in a quality silk blend material. Please make sure you bring your cheque book!

Price List

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

Cuff links (pair	\$20.00	(Gold metal, swivel clasp)
Lapel pins	\$ 7.50	(Gold metal, single pin)
Association Shirt	\$30.00	(Quality fabric, embroidered logo)
Song book	\$ 2.50	(Authentic reprint - all the favourites)
Stubby holders	\$ 7.50	(Yellow text on Green, top quality)
Tie bars	\$12.50	(Gold metal, bulldog type clasp)
Ties	\$45.00	(Silk blend)

VALUE PACKS

Association pack	85.00 75.00
(Tie, tie bar, lapel badge, cuff links)	
Tie pack	57.50 50.00
(Tie, tie bar)	
Lapel pack	27.50 25.00
(Lapel badge, cuff links)	

Comeback line of the Year

A high school English teacher reminds her class of tomorrow's final exam. "Now class, I won't tolerate any excuses for you not being there tomorrow. I might consider a nuclear attack or a serious personal injury or illness, or a death in your immediate family - but that's it, no other excuses whatsoever!" A smart-ass guy in the back of the room raises his hand and asks, "What would you say if tomorrow I said I was suffering from complete and utter sexual exhaustion?" The entire class does its best to stifle their laughter and snickering. When silence is restored, the teacher smiles sympathetically at the student, shakes her head, and sweetly says, "Well, I guess you'd have to write the exam with your other hand."

Mick Bruce (seen below) took time out on ANZAC Day from an busy schedule to attend ANZAC House for a beer dispute the fact that wife Ingrid was due to give birth to child number



Horse Reading has relocated to Paraburdoo taking the ever patient Van and the 3 little ponies with him.



This in from Matt Stacey...

Hi everyone,

I think most of you have received the news of the birth of our son Jordan Joshua. He was born on Tuesday night 27th May at 8:40pm. He weighed in at a reasonable 8lbs 11oz (3.95kg), 48cm in length and a user friendly head circumference of 34cm. Both Tan and Jordan are doing very well and are in excellent health. Jordan eats like his Dad so he is certainly looking after himself. Sorry for the delay in getting these pictures out but they are certainly worth the wait (well at least we think so....).



We will send some more through as he gets a little older. Mummy and baby should be coming home on Sunday or Monday. Then the fun should really start. Regards, Matt, Tania and Jordan

Love on the box

Association webmaster and part-time thespian Bart Simpson is in a new show about to air on Channel 31 called Love on the Box. Bart stars as Trunky – the following is an extract from the Love on the Box Newsletter:

“Well, as it stands, episode one and two are so close to finished it’s easier just to call it finished. Episode three has a few largish scenes and one or two flashes to go and then it’s done and episode four, well it’s well under way. We filmed the first of our celeb cameos the other day with Docker’s legend Dale Kickett. He spoke for a bit then hit Trunky. Not as hard as we would have liked, but he hit him none the less. For those concerned, Scott is ok. A little sore, but ok.”

Association Treasurer Shaun “Chook” Chapman got into the act as a Drill Sergeant” is one of the episodes - see pic below...Whilst Trunky meets Dale Kickett.....



Scott and Bianca Arbuckle have welcomed new daughter Lily on 11 April 2003 weighing in a 2.88kg 6lb 5oz and 47cm long. Mother and Daughter are doing “fabulously” Dad is over the moon.

Got some gossip on a WAURior? send details to Shaun Chapman for the next issue.

WAUR Association facilitates family reunion!

On 17 February 2003 an email came through to us via the Website from a Zoeghdie Van der Schyff based in London. Zoeghdie said she was looking for her brother James Paterson. The last contact Zoeghdie had with him was that he was an Officer cadet at WAUR in 2000. Zoeghdie's request was passed on to WAUR RSM Jeff Murray who let the bloodhounds loose. By 18 March 2003, he had tracked James down in Brisbane and passed on Zoeghdie's contact details.

The Association has since had a big thank you from Zoeghdie who is now back in touch with her MIA brother!!

When did you join WAUR?

In 1954 - I was in the Army Cadets at Leederville TAFE before that and I was due to go into National Service but as I was at Teacher's College that was deferred for 12 months.

Why did you join?

I don't know, I suppose the military was a big part of the family - my Dad served in both Wars and my brothers had also served. I guess I enjoyed the cadets had some good fun. I just sort of thought that WAUR sounded romantic!

Was it what you expected?

Oh I don't know - I guess so. I mean when you are young - I was very impressed with the WO2 instructors - these were blokes who had served in Korea, they were good role models and they influenced and guided me! I loved the weapons part of the training and range shoots - I also enjoyed parades and ceremonial activities - the Band and all that.

Why did you stay?

Well actually, I had to do Nasho's and as I was posted to the country with work I tended not to be able to get to weekend bivouacs, although I did do Annual Camps. I spent most of my time as a Sergeant with postings as Platoon Sergeant and CQMS. Anyway, my nashos commitment stretched into 1959 - and by then they were telling me I should get by commissioned - so I did. I was actually very happy in the Sergeant's Mess and it was a bit of a shock to have to take my commission. Anyway, after 1960 - I got my volunteer number back and I stayed with WAUR for another 4 years.

Did you have a nickname? What was it? Where did it come from?

No not really, you got called all sorts of things as a nasho.

What was the best thing you did while you were with the unit?

Probably the camps at Rottnest - and I also enjoyed the Anzac Day parades. At that stage my Dad was marching - he was President of the 51 Bn Association.



Ken Keesing as part of the Colour party about to take the colours to Rotto on a Barge (try doing that today)

60 seconds with...Ken Keesing

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The latest in an ongoing series of interviews with Association members

The worst?

Well, I vaguely recall having to clean out the sewerage things or grease traps I think they were at Northam Camp - they were as big as swimming pools. Every year, each unit was allocated to a different block and you had to clean out the grease trap and white-wash it. Of course in those days I didn't mind getting my hands dirty but it was a rotten job as I recall.

What is your favourite type of food?

I am partial to a genuine curry, Thai food is nice and I also like a decent bit of fish.

If you had to change one thing about yourself what would it be?

Well I guess I have been pretty lucky health wise and with my family - I guess it might be my job. I was pretty ambitious and I flogged the family all over the State in different postings. I always felt that they missed out on something - although they say it was a good experience. You meet a lot of people, but you don't tend to stay in touch.

What was the last book you read?

Well I am currently struggling through Winston's Churchill - History of the English Speaking People. I am especially interested in the very early stuff about the invasion of Britain by the Romans.

What is your favourite drink?

When I was younger I would have said beer - now I guess it is Coke with a bit of whiskey. I also like a decent red wine.



What is the one thing you never leave the house without?

The door key - I have been locked out before - Oh and the wallet and the mobile phone are pretty important these days too.

History Sub-Committee Report

By Shaun Chapman

Outstanding projects: the following history tasks are outstanding: scanning Officer's Mess Visitor's Book (now scanned, needs to be burned to CD - Paul Tubman to attend to this) and digitising further video footage for Website and computer use (Viktor Komaromi to complete this – expected for July meeting).

We are still looking for old WAURians if anyone has some then contact Shaun Chapman ASAP.

Ongoing & finalised projects: work continues on the Mounts Bay Road project.

Recently completed projects: slides on loan from Trevor Arbuckle have been scanned by Ray Galliot (some outstanding shots in this lot), SC has finished colour printing and binding of research on Regimental Marches and RGJ Affiliation. Mick Mathews has handed over several discs containing photos from the early 1980's.

References:

- A. RSL WA Branch Inc. State Executive Committee Meeting (SEC) of 15 March 2003
- B. RSL WA Branch Inc. Board of Directors Meeting (BOD) of 14 April 2003

At Reference A the SEC resolved unanimously to:

"Cease operations of the ANZAC Club in its current format with effect 1 May 2003; that is it would no longer operate as a fully licensed club; however would operate as a functions only centre."

The State Executive Committee and the Board of Directors have reviewed the RSL's position on the proposed closure date as per Reference B and as a result of statutory requirements, administration and logistic requirements deferred the Club closure until after Congress 2003. The most common Question is why and how could the Executive close the ANZAC Club a facility that is used by members and been operating for several decades, the following gives some insight into the decision, it is an extract from the latest RSL WA Branch Sub-Branch Signal:

"Following extensive research on the financial viability and operation of the ANZAC Club it is clearly evident that to continue trading in its present form will result in the Club continuing to trade at a huge financial deficit. This deficit will seriously erode the League's financial reserves thus affecting the general operations of the State Branch and the League in meeting its core role of welfare and advocacy. The State Executive carefully considered all options offered in the research documents and were faced with the choice of spending tens of thousands of dollars to refurbish a facility that may or may not attract customers or closing the Club. The option to close the Club as a trading entity and use it as a function centre was considered to be in the best interests of user Units and ESO's. "

The final decision however rests with the RSL Congress, if the RSL membership wants the Club to continue there must be direction as to where the money to sustain it is to come from or at least have the Club trade at a break-even level. The State Executive is distressed at having to make such a decision as while on one hand we wished to see the Club continue to trade as a fully licensed Club as it has for decades, we could not consider ourselves acting financially responsible to allow the Club to trade at an Annual loss of some \$60,000 to \$70,000. Unfortunately, trading losses has been with us for well over 10 years and there is no indication of the losses declining in the foreseeable future. It is expected at this time that the Club will have sustained a further loss of some \$30,000 for this trading period when its future will be discussed at RSL Congress 2003. It is acknowledged that this decision has caused a great deal of concern for sub-branch members and ESO Committees and their members, the immediate future of the Club is that it will continue to trade as it has in the past year as a day facility and will be available for sub-branch and user ESO functions and meetings. We must however do all things reasonable to make the Club as financially viable as possible in this period; the League can not and should not be expected to cover escalating losses in the Club from its current revenue resources. It is noteworthy that a number of groups hold regular meetings in the club, however when they hold a social function they go to other facilities, it these occurrences that have aided in the current financial position of the Club resulting in the SEC decision. The SEC considered these issues and many others and anguished over what the future of the Club could or would be, however, had to also consider the financial viability of the RSL in the medium to long term and its Charter and Objects to eligible recipients, clearly the RSL's commitment is to the health, well-being and welfare of ex-service, serving men and women and widows/widowers.

The SEC would welcome any recommendations from sub-branches or user ESO's on how they may see the future operation of the Club and any achievable options for increasing revenue, options must be sustainable and achievable. Please forward your recommendations to the State Secretary in writing by 23 May 2003 to allow for review before the conduct of the RSL Congress in 2003. The RSL State Branch will ensure that those sub-branches and associations that use the ANZAC House facilities will be kept up to date on the future. role of the ANZAC Club.

www.militarymuseum.org

The site of the Californian Military Museum in Sacramento California.

www.historychannel.com/exhibits/military_blunders

A listing and descriptions of some of the costliest military blunders in modern history.

www.anzac.org

A listing of all ANZAC Officers who died in and around ANZAC Cove. Pictures, a short description of each man and links to longer descriptions. Also pictures and associated material.

www.chaser.com.au

A funny, satirical, "Prosh" like newspaper. Worth a look!

www.blogsofwar.com & www.lt-smash.us & www.rooba.net/will

A series of sites by American service people (apparently) and their experiences in Gulf War 2, most written in diary format.

www.ww2roll.gov.au

Some 1 million Australian men and women served in WWII. This site allows you to search them by name, service number, honours received, place of birth, place of enlistment and / or their town or suburb on enlistment.

www.implosionworld.com

The demolitions industries (USA) source of news and information about blowing structures up and down. Some damn fine pictures of things being reduced to chunks of recyclable concrete!

Got any other interesting, unique, weird, odd or strange web sites? Send them to dsknight@bigpond.com for consideration in this column. David Knight.

The Marches of WAUR

By Association Historian - Shaun Chapman

Introduction and Acknowledgments

First up I must confess to having no musical leanings whatsoever (as I am sure anyone who has heard me sing in the wet mess will agree). My motivation to do this write up was in historical notes on WAUR where reference was made to various marches used in the 1950's. This intrigued me and set me off to research the topic. The material hereafter came from a wide variety of sources. I would like to thank Ossie King, Trevor Arbuckle and Grant O'Neill for providing the *Sons of Brave* music. Information on Thomas Bidgood came from the Duke of York's Royal Military School Old Boys Association, primarily Chad Stather, P. Goble and A. W. Cockerill who are researching in detail the life of Thomas Bidgood and the School. Ken Ambrose from the Royal Green Jackets Association went out of his way to provide the music and history of *Nachtlager en Grenada*. The *Soldiers of the Queen* information came from the 2nd Battalion The Queens Regiment Website, information on Leslie Stuart came from the Website of Andrew Lamb who has written a book on Stuart. Information on *Pride of Youth* came from the Gordon Jacob family Website. John Le Tessier 1960's unit historian and WAUR stalwart deserves recognition for a very detailed account of the early years of the regiment, his recollections are the basis for this article.

Overview:

According to Australian Army Ceremonial Manual, Volume 1, Chapter 27 dated 21 February 2003 the Quick March for WAUR is "Pride of Youth" (all Marches mentioned hereafter are featured in detail after this overview). This surprised everyone as all historical references refer to *Sons of the Brave* as the official March of WAUR. Indeed former WAUR CO LTCOL Trevor Arbuckle (1980 to 1983) who has a keen interest in marching music was adamant that the regimental march was *Sons of the Brave*. This is supported by LT COL Rod Willox CO from 1978 to 1980. News of *Pride of Youth* only came to light when a request was put to RSM WAUR Jeff Murray for the title of the official slow march. It turns out WAUR has no allocated slow march and there are no references that can be found that record one. It is known that in the lead up to the 1958 Colours presentation ceremony it was deemed that with only part-time soldiering a satisfactory standard of slow marching could not be attained by WAUR soldiers and rather than mar such an occasion the slow march past by the rank and file was left out of the Colours ceremony.

The Australian Army History Unit (AHU) confirmed *Pride of Youth* was the listed march for WAUR the fact that this march was written in 1970 some 21 years after the formation of WAUR would suggest that either the regimental march was changed or there was an error in the Ceremonial Manual. Brian Manns from AHU and the RSM Army WO1 Peter Zajac were notified of our concerns by Trevor Arbuckle on behalf of the WAUR Association. The results of their investigation have shown that in changing over from printed hardcopy manuals to electronic versions a transposition error was made. The manual has now been changed and official notification delivered to RSM WAUR informing him of the correct march, *Sons of the Brave*.

In John Le Tessier's writings on the events of 1956 he mentions the march *Sons of the Brave* had been in use for two years and further on indicates that WAUR selected the march. This selection was latter acknowledged by Western Command. What was used by WAUR from formation in 1949 to 1954 is unknown and unless a source of back issues of the Army Ceremonial Manual is found will remain so.

In 1955 approval was granted by Her Majesty, The Queen, of the affiliation of the Oxfordshire And Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Regiment with The Western Australian University Regiment. This affiliation was taken very seriously at the time, in mid February 1956, as a contribution to the 1955 Festival of Perth, WAUR presented a short play to mark the event. The play depicted members of Western Australian University Regiment learning from the ghosts of men of the 43rd and 52nd about the battles of Canada, the Peninsula and the wreck of the Birkenhead which were great events in the history of the "Ox and Bucks". This piece was played in period uniform as an interlude between musical offerings by the Western Command Band in the Supreme Court Gardens Orchestral Shell (brand new at the time). A large audience, seated on the lawns, witnessed the presentation of a copy of the Regimental March of the Oxfordshire And Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Regiment to LTCOL. W.R. Bray (CO WAUR 1953 – 1957) by MAJ R.A. Newman, assistant director of the Australian School of Music. The Regimental March was *Nachtlager en Grenada* and as part of the affiliation celebrations WAUR henceforth adopted this march as their own. The British Light infantry marches at 140 paces to the minute and *Nachtlager en Grenada* reflects this. The Australian Army marches at a tempo of 120 paces to the minute. How the soldiers of WAUR adjusted to the new march is not recorded one can only assume they didn't belt along at the British pace overtaking other units on parade.



Double Click for 15 sec sample of *Nachtlager in Grenada*.mp3

The march *Nachtlager en Grenada* was first played before the Regiment when it paraded at Northam Camp during February 1956, the occasion was the presentation of the Returned Servicemen's League Trophy. This trophy was awarded at the time for the most proficient Army Unit in Australia this was the second year in a row that WAUR had won the award. The President of the RSL, Mr. W. S. Lonnie, MVO, MC, carried out the function in the presence of the General Officer Commanding Western Command, Major General L.G.H. Dyke, CBE, DSO, and other officers of Western Command, University officials and members of the Northam Municipality. The presence of the GOC and others from Western Command would indicate unofficial acceptance of the new March.

The next recorded use of *Nachtlager en Grenada* was during the May 25th 1958 Colours presentation Ceremony, an event recorded in detail by LeTessier and a silent movie of the day. The WAUR Band was formed during August 1957 and was deemed not of sufficient standard to play all of the music required during this watershed event. Despite pleas from the Band and even the UWA Guild of Undergraduates for more training and time the Western Command Band was brought in. A letter written on 16 May 1958 to the Guild by Capt. J O Taggart the Adjutant of WAUR at the time outlines a plan for the WAUR Band to March WAUR on and off the parade and participate in the drum piling ceremony with all other duties to be completed by the Western Command Band.

It is known that the Western Command Band preformed the slow and quick march past playing *Nachtlager en Grenada*.

The fact that the Western Command Band knew the obscure *Nachtlager en Grenada* and had played it numerous times before is further evidence of acceptance by Western Command of this march. For the regimental march past *Soldiers of the Queen* was played, on this LeTessier wrote: "For some little known reason *Soldiers of the Queen* attracted musically minded ears and patriotic hearts, so that at the time of the Colours parade, this was regarded as our official Regimental quick march". This conflicting recording of the regimental marches adds to the mystery. It is known that the RSM at the time I.E. Lunn-Garner (WAUR RSM 1957 – 1960) was a big fan of *Soldiers of the Queen* which could explain its use. LeTessier also went on to record that some time later WAUR was directed to revert to using its original choice of March - *Sons of the Brave*, the year and who gave the order is not known but as far as we know *Sons of the Brave* has been in use ever since.

The ironic thing is that the official Regimental march *Sons of the Brave* was not played the day WAUR received it's Colours. *Nachtlager en Grenada* and *Soldiers of the Queen* however, must have a place in the Regimental repertoire and apparently *Pride of Youth* as well.

Look at for the rest of Shaun's article in the next edition of WAURior. The remainder of the article gives the history of all of the marches associated with WAUR as well as further sound clips!

One time I recall when our antics got us into trouble, but it was well worth it. An obliging sergeant on one hot morning agreed to allow us a 30 minute swim in the pristine waters along Swanbourne beach as we had been doing strenuous exercises running around the oval with our heavy Lee Enfield rifles held above our heads. With much gratitude, light heartedness and singing we marched down to the beach, dropped our towels and plunged into the cooling waters of the Indian Ocean. It was divine, we swam, dived, jumped, cavorted, surfed and ran along the beach until the time was up and the sergeant blew his whistle indicating that we needed to reassemble and march in an orderly fashion back to the barracks. To my surprise, the enjoyment of swimming was too much and the guys didn't want to go back to the barracks, so they swam further out to sea pretending not to hear the whistle, nor understand the gesticulating arm waving sergeant who was becoming desperate as the entire platoon started to disappear over the horizon out to sea. Ultimately of course we had to come in. The novelty of defying our poor old sergeant wore off and in dribs and drabs we crawled up the beach to a string of obscenities. For the next two weeks our platoon was denied access to the beach. This really didn't cause much trouble as sometimes on hot nights we would sneak down to the beach for an unsupervised cooling dip as long as they didn't have a bed inspection whilst we were away.



Our platoon was lead by an officer who has trained at Duntroon. He was young and enthusiastic and had never faced the harsh reality of warfare, so everything for him was according to the book. Luckily we had a sergeant who had fought in Korea and was a much more practical down to earth person who understood far better the human psyche. We called our officer 'Duck's Bum', as when marching he pushed his posterior out in an exaggerated manner and strutted about the parade ground like a bantam rooster insisting we adopt the same exaggerated posture when we went into the drill and marching competitions.

At the end of Military training we had a parade and demonstration of our military prowess for our parents and friends. We presented ourselves immaculately for the marching out parade and then changed into battle fatigues for the demonstration of our fighting prowess. I was assigned to a sergeant who was responsible for putting up a smoke screen through which rifle men would emerge and engage a dug in enemy on the far side of the Campbell Barracks oval. Attached to our company attack was a flame thrower and some armoured personnel carriers. With a whistle blast we emerged from the bushes on one side of the oval in full battle gear and camouflage - put in a blood curdling charge and hit the ground in the middle of the oval so the proud parents and friends could see us in full action. It was then that a group of us fired about a dozen smoke canisters from our Enfield Yoke rifles.

These landed well behind the enemy so we were ordered to open the gas ports on the discharger cups, the next wave of smoke canisters landed immediately in front of us amongst our own advancing soldiers obscuring everything and everyone and causing panic and coughing amongst our disorientated supposed advancing infantry. We charged forth out of the smoke with a scorching burst from a flame-thrower on our flank and immediately over ran the so called enemy positions -strategically it was a total disaster or SNAFU, the army term for Situation Normal All Fucked Up. The adoring parents and friends gave us a hearty round of applause thinking we had put in a well orchestrated attack.

Back in the barracks as we were cleaning up I discovered I had blood trickling down from my left cheek, a piece of metal from one of the smoke canisters had blown threw the gas port and embedded itself in my face, I was glad I wasn't doing anything really dangerous. The most dangerous thing I recall in our training was firing the 2" mortar. As I recall it a 2" mortar was bedded in on a hill top overlooking a large valley in the bush land near Campbell Barracks. We lined up to take turns at firing several live mortars into the valley. Each individual was shown what to do, that is one of us would arm the mortar bomb by applying the selected propellant to the bombs fins. The propellant used would determine the force with which the bomb exited the barrel. The bomb was then passed to number 1, who would drop the bomb, tail first down the barrel placing his hands over his ears and bending away ready for the loud explosion as the mortar bomb screamed into the air from the mortar barrel. Unlike the 3" mortar which had a fixed firing pin which automatically fired the dropped in mortar bomb, the 2" mortar had a firing pin cocking device which meant that the bomb had to be triggered before the propellant would ignite. The number 2 man would trigger off the mortar bomb. As it happened the mortar bombs seemed to fail to ignite fairly frequently and a rather bizarre procedure had then to be carried out. The number 2 man would again cock and release the firing pin - if the bomb still failed to ignite the number 2 man would have to violently shake the barrel of the mortar and if again it failed to ignite you had a paralysed group of conscripts, silently watching intently as the supervising sergeant would order the mortar bomb to be removed from the barrel. This was accomplished by number 2 man up-ending the barrel and number 1 man catching the bomb as it came out. He would then proceed to pass the live mortar bomb down the line of petrified men to an ordinance expert who quickly disarmed it and stacked it with the other unexploded, misfired ordinance. Non of us liked this activity, nor did we like the other activity of after firing maybe a 100 mortar bombs we were then employed searching for unexploded bombs. This was carefully controlled by an officer who meticulously recorded visually and pin pointed on a grided reference chart the location of all the unexploded bombs. We were simply used as eyes to spot on the ground the actual position of the bombs - the demolition experts would deal with them once we had located them. I don't know if they ever found them all, still I can't see the Swanbourne firing range being used for housing for some time to come. In a fitting finish to my National Service days I decided to have an end of training party in my room at the University Hostel (now Currie Hall) About 10 other University students in my platoon agreed to share the cost of buying a 10 gallon keg of beer which we would consume on the final night of our National Service. We had to be in uniform and had to inform our commanding officer where we would be partying so that an army truck could pick us up and return us to Campbell Barracks for our official completion of service the following day.

I can't recall how I got the barrel of beer into my room, but I recall realizing that a 6' x 8' room that had a bed and a small study desk in it, left little room for anything else. In order to fit the 10 or so guys into the room I set the keg up on my bed, pierced it and lo, we had draught beer on tap. I remember, because we had no glasses one of the other students who was studying physics had managed to steal from the UWA. Physics laboratory a dozen 500ml glass science beakers that served admirably to drink out of. It was a riotous night. The academic year had just started, so the place was full of students, not all of whom appreciated a room full of shouting singing joke telling NATOS steadily getting pissed. As the night wore on and we all became inebriated I remember realizing that a lot of beer was spilling into my bed, then dripping onto the floor creating a large puddle which gradually flowed out under my door down the polished wooden passage way.

Just before midnight a group of students upset by the continual mayhem coming from my room forced their way into my room and were met by a stream of beer being thrown in their direction. After doing my National Service Training I was assigned to the Western Australian University regiment and issued with more clothing and gear including a 303 rifle which I kept in a cupboard at home. I think we had to attend one evening a week at a drill hall for a parade followed by weapons training, lectures etc. This I am afraid to say was treated with great disrespect by many of the conscripts who turned up because it was compulsory and they got paid. On one memorable occasion one of our members, a tall lanky individual turned up for the evening parade wearing a great coat, boots without socks and a tin helmet and as it turned out he had nothing on underneath. On being questioned whilst on parade for his illegal attire, he quietly explained that whilst lying in bed smoking a cigarette he had thrown the butt into his kit bag which had caught fire and burnt all his clothes other than what he stood up in. He was immediately put on a number of charges including being responsible for destroying government property. Naturally the rest of us were very amused by all this. It seems from memory that many of us were up on various charges, the most common being that we illegally absented ourselves from a place of parade. The procedure for these charges was that the accused was marched up to the Commanding Officer's office by an armed escort. As I recall it, I think the accused had his belt and hat removed and stood to attention whilst the charge was read to him by the CO., with the adjutant and another officer in attendance. "Did you, Private Bloggs absent yourself on such a date at such a place between the hours of 1900 - 2200. Bring forth the evidence sergeant!" A book was produced and beside the accused's name would be a mark indicating an absence. "How do you plead " Guilty, Sir." Record that private Bloggs was fined 10 shillings and sixpence on this date. Dismiss." On marching the individual out of the CO's office, the escorting guard would then hand over his belt and hat and gun and they would swap roles. The previous escort would then be marched up to face the same charge. It became quite an entertaining affair to see how many charges one could accumulate. Weekend bivouacs and the annual camp were much more interesting than the weekly parades. A number of camps were held at Northam usually in January or February the hottest time of the year or at Kingston Barracks on Rottnest Island which was a much more acceptable location. On a camp at Northam, I remember it was important for all of us under 21 year old guys to get into a pub in Northam for some underage drinking. In army uniform we would be driven into town in the back of trucks, the drivers of which, delighted in coasting down a long hill with the ignition switched off so that when the ignition was switched on the accumulated compressed fuel would explode with a resonating bang that sent us all through the canvas canopy on the back of the truck. In town we would head into a back bar of a pub and any one over 21 would order enough beers to supply us all whilst we usually had a sentry posted outside to warn us of any approaching military police. If they arrived on the scene we quickly discarded our beers and held in our hands a convenient glass of lemonade that we always kept close by. No-one was fooled by this procedure, but it meant that when the MPs saw us we were abiding by the law. Because the camps ran, I think for about two weeks, there was plenty of time to organize all sorts of devious procedures for avoiding many of the more onerous camp duties. On one camp I remember a small group of about 7-8 of us found ourselves without sleeping quarters - all the barracks seemed to be full and we were assigned to a small hut some distance from the main sleeping quarters, this proved very beneficial as we seemed to have been overlooked and managed to avoid morning inspections and roll calls and being somewhat enterprising we noticed a cleaning squad that came around each day in a jeep with mops, brooms brushes and buckets etc, so we determined to be another cleaning squad except we would have nothing to clean.

Just in case you were thinking of putting a fake MC up next ANZAC Day...

The following press release was issued on 26 March 2003: Penalties for fraudulently claiming Defence service will increase 15-fold under legislation introduced into Parliament today by the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence, Danna Vale. "Our community holds veterans and serving personnel in the highest regard," Mrs Vale said. "Their service and sacrifice in Defence of our nation deserves protection from those who wrongly seek to claim the same honour and respect." Under the Federal Government's proposals, the penalty for wrongly claiming to be a returned soldier, sailor or airman, or wearing medals to which an individual is not entitled, will increase from a \$200 fine, to a maximum penalty of \$3,300 and up to six months imprisonment. Mrs Vale said Defence legislation specifically excluded family members of service personnel who were permitted to wear the member's medals. "This Bill will also increase the penalty for defacing or destroying Defence medals or decorations from a \$200 fine to a maximum penalty of \$6,600 and/or 12 months imprisonment," the Minister said. Minister Vale said the changes were a result of concerns of the Government and the wider community regarding practices that were unlawful, deceitful and disrespectful to veterans and service personnel. "The increase in these penalties will enable the Government to better protect the honour of Defence veterans and service personnel," Mrs Vale said. "I call on the Opposition parties to support this legislation as soon as possible so that we can provide that increased protection."

Why English is such a stupid language

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) There is no time like the present, so he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) I did not object to the object.
- 9) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 10) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 11) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 12) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?
- 13) I shed my clothes in the shed.

Let's face it - English is a ridiculous language! There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in a hamburger; neither apple nor pine in a pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England, nor French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. Why is it that bakers bake, but grocers don't groce? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? We ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm goes off by going on. English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And finally, how about when you want to shut down your computer you have to hit "START"

Readers of the WAURior may remember previous news of a WAUR Bugle that was picked up in Germany. True to his word the finder of this artefact Peter McGee, has send the Bugle in question to us – it now holds pride of place in the Association room at Artillery Barracks!

Peter writes on himself:

"I am a TV journalist and have, for the last ten years worked as news producer (and some times reporter when I can persuade someone else to speak my pieces - playful colleagues say I sound like Donald Duck in a biscuit tin) for the German equivalent of BBC World and CNN. It's called and can be received world-wide either on cable or by satellite.

It's rather like playing ping-pong with five opponents at once and is NO WAY to achieve longevity. Before that a print hack and before that a very aimless young man with all sorts of jobs behind me. Experience is what you get when you're looking for something else. I live in the middle of Hunland (Berlin) and I do miss the smoke although I get back to Blighty yearly to see my mum and my brother Chris. I'm happily married - We're DINKS. We have five cats. I'm a vegetarian, the worst Catholic since Genghis Khan, I'm into animal rights, believe in re-incarnation (difficult for a Catholic), and my hobby is German history - particularly the Great War and Weimar. I travel to the Somme every July with my life-long friend Peter Groves for a get-together of nuts like me.

I bought the bugle whilst drifting through the flea market on Strasse des 17 June, (which leads up to Berlin's black heart, the Tiergarten). I thought it must be some AIF volunteer regiment of which I had not previously heard and, determined therefore to liberate it, got stuck in to some serious haggling with the Russian stall owner."

Shaun Chapman takes up the story:

It appears some enterprising chap in the sub continent is making bugles complete with a WAUR crest – several have surfaced world wide. It appears that in the early 80's WAUR commissioned 300 brass badges to be made in Pakistan in preference to the plastic ones being issued by the Army at the time – our theory is that some enterprising local held on to the master mould and put it to use!!

A certificate of Appreciation is on its way to Peter!



Peter McGee



The Bugle.

It was with considerable interest and anticipation that the Officers Mess welcomed, on 17 February 1965, the Colonel Commandant of the 1st Green Jackets, 43rd and 52nd, General Sir Gerald Lathbury, KCB, DSO, MBE. Sir Gerald, who at the time was Quartermaster General to the Forces, was paying a visit to Australia and brought to the Regiment greetings from our British sister Regiment. He was particularly interested to meet our Regimental Padre, Chaplain B. Eccleston, whose father and grandfather had served with the 43rd and 52nd in India; Sir Gerald informed the Mess of certain reorganisation within the British Army and that his old Regiment would shortly become known as the 1st Royal Green Jackets. A regimental tie of the 43rd and 52nd was presented to Lt. Col. Thompson but no firm decision was made by any regimental committee that this tie should be adopted as our Regimental tie.

The Army Week display at the Claremont Showgrounds saw WAUR "bring down the curtain" on the day's entertainment with a representation depicting the change in fashion of the Australian soldier over the last 50 years. It had been intended to call the feature "100 Years of Uniforms". Golden Fleece at this time produced a series of cards which were well authenticated and illustrated uniforms worn over more than a century of the Australian soldier from the time when local volunteer forces augmented British garrison troops, to the early Australian permanent soldier, through the wars of the Sudan, South Africa, 1914-18 and on to the present day. Women's service uniforms also were illustrated. While the plan could have been an attractive item, it was found impractical as early uniforms available were in no condition to be worn, and substitution pieces left much to be desired, and the officer scripting, producing and stage managing the item refused to accept anything which was not completely correct. This narrowed down the scope of uniforms and equipment available and in view of 1965 being the 50th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landing, the feature was called "The Digger's Uniform since Anzac".

This started a hue and cry for certain pieces of clothing and 12 soldiers and one apprehensive subaltern were "auditioned" to wear the various pieces. During the first rehearsal and fitting at the Regimental Depot the Quartermaster General, a former GOC Western Command, Major General J.W. Harrison visited the Unit and was obviously interested in preparations. On the dress rehearsal the day before the show there were the usual last minute misgivings and doubts and even when the time came on the day itself, one member nearly didn't "make it". From the spectator point of view, however, the item was smoothly presented and each figure emerging from the entrance was greeted with a generous hand.

The feature started with one of the important, though unglamorous, figures on the Anzac beach. A stretcher-bearer, Cpl. Glinski, in khaki with brown boots, long puttees and sleeves rolled up carried out his stretcher while the commentator Captain N. Manners, broadcast his story. It may be recalled that the special Anzac stamp issued by the Australian Post Office bore the picture of such a man. Private Simpson.

Next, Corporal Turner represented the Light Horse. At Beersheba, where the 10th Light Horse made epic charge, the men on horseback charged with rifle and bayonet, and it was with a Lee-Enfield rifle with the long bayonet that the Corporal strode out with a remarkable gait not seen in today's horseless men. No doubt the leggings, service dress jacket with the Leather bandolier and the emu plumed slouch hat all gave the impression.

The Battle Honours of so many Australian Infantry regiments read like a guide book to certain parts of France and Flanders, so it was only right that the next uniform shown should be that of the Digger who fought in the blood bath of the Western Front. Again in Service dress with brown boots and gaiters, Cpl. Bartlett marched out with his Lee Enfield rifle slung over his shoulder a scrim covered steel helmet and a gas mask on his chest. Had the day not been so warm we might have tried it with the gas mask on.

Corporal Bradfield closed the ensuing twenty odd years by next appearing as the 1939 soldier. In appearance similar, except that the 1938 equipment was worn and the slouch hat replaced the steel helmet. The Desert Rats – Corporal Dry represented this hardy band and most certainly showed his suitability for the part (as it demanded he wear only a steel helmet, dog tags, shorts, boots and anklets and a very heavy sun-tan). Simply dressed indeed, but he stepped right out of a Tobruk photo. The first view of the Owen gun was as Cpl. Muir passed out of the entrance to represent the jungle troops of 1944. The “new” green uniform, the battered slouch hat and the long U.S. pattern gaiters again were typical. A bucket of water thrown over him at the last moment would have improved his would have improved his appearance but we got cold feet, on that one.

A short-lived peace lapsed between this man and our next, a representation of our digger in Korea. Cpl. Gibbs on a warm West Australian day had to pretend it was well below freezing. His Bren Gun was carried in a well insulated mitt and he wore a fleecy lined Parka with a hood.

The scarlet sash and the temporary chest embellishment of medals worn by Sgt. King was a bright note as that member marched out represent the Australian soldier at Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in 1953. This was the last member to display the short web anklet and the 303 rifle for the next soldier, also depicting 1953 was the digger on service during the Malayan emergency. Cpl. Alderson wore the new soft bush hat, greens, canvas rubber patrol boots, '44 pattern webbing and carried a Self Loading. Rifle.

Now came the remaining five men who illustrated the New Army Cpl. Getley, if a trifle oversize, represented the airborne soldier, wearing a parachutists helmet and smock and carrying his main and reserve parachutes. Pte. Evans, depicted the modern infantryman wearing greens, lightweight web equipment and an American type helmet, and M60 General Purpose Machine Gun, and a long belt of ammunition were his matching accessories. The second man in our display having been a Light Horse Man, our second last was his modern counterpart. Dressed in a black tank suit, large goggles and a set of earphones about his neck Cpl. Morris looked ready to leap aboard any passing armoured vehicle. Finally the uniform to contrast with the others – worn by Lt. J. Waltham the new “blues” marking the return of the patrol collar tunic and a thinner trouser stripe. The Women's Services came in for attention by way of a postscript. We were “lent” four young ladies, two from the Royal Australian Army Corps, and two from the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps, who modeled the dress currently worn in summer and winter by their respective corps. Of the nursing Corps it must be said that a very creditable presentation of the history of nursing dress was executed the following year at the same place. As was said earlier in passing 1965 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Anzac landing. The Regiment paraded its Colours through the City of Perth for the Annual Anzac Day parade, along with other Western Command units.

This was the first occasion for some years that the Colours had been paraded. The Regimental Band was also on parade. For many years the Band has been an important part of the Regiment originally under the charge of Bandmaster WO1 W. Robinson, and in more recent years WO1 F. Craven. The weekend 27/28 August featured an officers' TEWT in the area south of Armadale. Most officers attended but none from other Units was able to be with us. The exercise was stimulating and the Saturday night was also an education, many of the students enjoying a rather fatuous film about Roman Gladiators with whom tactics didn't seem, as important as a good punch-up.

In 1964 the conditions governing the award of the Australian Efficiency Decoration were amended to allow as qualifying time 12 years continuous service in place of the 20 years previously required. This meant that throughout Australia many officers became eligible for the award sooner than would have been anticipated and, during the middle part of the year, the Honorary Colonel attended an evening parade to present the award to three serving officers - Lt. Col. L. Thompson, Major P.M.R. Smith and Major D.E. Leslie.

In January of 1966 the Special Air Service Regiment at Swanbourne was expanded and while an intake of regular soldiers was undergoing training the opportunity arose whereby members of WAUR were able to undergo training whilst attached. Sgts P. Dodd and W. Harris and Cpl. R. French were selected to attend and the two senior members spent several weeks with that Regiment even to the extent of qualifying as parachutists at the School of Land/Air Warfare at Williamstown in N.S.W. They were the first CMF members of WAUR to do so since 1958, and, in fact, only the third and fourth members to gain their wings.

Camp was held between 20 January and 6 February, but for the week beforehand additional training was conducted for about 30 members who attended a course in weapon handling and minor tactics. Apart from the additional skills practiced all members were well alert to military thinking by the time the main body moved in so that administrative problems were minimised considerably.

The increased rate of recruitment was evidenced when, with the addition of a handful of members of other units attached for training the Rifle Company had three full-strength platoons on parade. Sharing our lines for the second year were members Of 15 Psychology Unit who conducted their own training, leaving at the end of the first week to move to the Eastern States where they employed in processing young men for National Service. Returned to the Regiment after a period in the United Kingdom where he trained with the London Rifle Brigade/Rangers was Lt. N. Sivewright who had been commissioned in July of 1963 and had gone overseas almost immediately. Towards the end of the fortnight Lt. Foulds left for the Officer Cadet School, Portsea, where he spent an attachment of several weeks to observe the training and gain experience in administration. The Intelligence Officer, Lt. J. Blythe with his Sergeant, A. Pate and Corporal R. French whose attachment to SAS had been of a shorter nature, spent some time, moving through the proposed exercise area, plotting on the map unmarked tracks, naming these and sign posting. These tracks were named after members of the unit, for example, CO's Parade, Anderson Avenue, Le Tessier Terrace, Roe Street, Pate's Place, etc. A Cessna light aircraft made three reconnaissance sorties on the Saturday before the exercise in order for commanders to familiarise themselves with the layout and assist later map reading...

TO BE CONTINUED...

You have to admire this bloke's balls...



An interesting side story from the recent trouble in Iraq...





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