



Vol 1 No 4
December 2001

The WAURior

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

In this edition...

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Contributions sought!!

I hope you are enjoying WAURior. Although as your humble editor, I really enjoy putting WAURior together - but I would be delighted to receive your contributions! Please think seriously about writing a short blurb on your time in the unit, or about something funny or strange that happened. If you can't quite manage to write something, then please let me know what you want to see in WAURior. I appreciate any feedback look forward to hearing from you!

Ramblings from the Treasurer

By Shaun Chapman

Well here we are the fourth and final WAURior for 2001, It has been a busy and enjoyable time being on the committee for the WAUR Association, the disappointment of reunion 2001 flopping would be the low point, the highlight is being able to reflect on what we have achieved in such a short time: Four full Colour WAURiors, a top notch ever expanding Website, a presence at WAUR amalgamating past and present personnel and the cataloguing of the majority of WAUR memorabilia held at Artillery Barracks.

We also marched in the ANZAC Day parade, held a Sundowner and met monthly at the Barracks. Future directions in 2002 will see an Association Birthday function in February, Anzac Day, WAUR Regimental Ball and Reunion 2002 in October. We will also squeeze in a sundowner and a family day. A program of events will be available soon.

On a personal note it has been a great pleasure being involved in the Association, I have enjoyed meeting past WAURiors from different eras. It struck me that we all have a WAUR story to tell - we all have a common bond and I get immense satisfaction from bringing everyone together.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their hard work and dedication it has been a pleasure working with Mike and John in 2001 and I look forward to 2002 with relish. Finally, I would like to wish all members and their families a safe and happy festive season.

★ **AGM/SUNDOWNER – 7 DEC 2001** ★

Don't miss this important event in the Association's calendar! The AGM starts at 1700 h SHARP on Friday, 07 Dec 01. The venue is the Anzac Club, next to the Central Law Courts, St Georges Terrace, Perth!

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:

August 2001:

John Griffiths (1965), William Gaynor (1981-83 & 92-94), and Ian Gaynor (1981-86).

September 2001:

Daniel Garstang (1988-91), Adrian Hinds (1956-58), Viktor Komaromi (1995-2000), Tony Lambe (1980-87), Tim Mazzarol (1975-83) and Gavin Sonsee (1985-86)

October 2001:

Ken Keesing (1954-1968), Bill Hawthorn (1958-65), Chris Hill, James Blythe, Roger Jones (1949-1951), Ernest Polis (1969-1975) and George Pollini (1984-96)

CURRENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

We now have 71 fully paid up members with a further two awaiting approval. We are still hoping to crack the magic 100 before too much longer, so if you know anyone who hasn't yet joined – get on to them! Current Association members are:

Colin Abbott 1994-98, Trevor Arbuckle 1980-83, Peter Arbuckle 1983-87, Kevin Bailey 1999-, James Blythe, George Boucher 1982-87, Michael Bruce 1986-90, Dorothy Cantoni 1980-83, Shaun Chapman 1982-92, Charles Crouch 1983-86, Barry Cugley 1984-90, Andrew Curtis 1996-, Vanessa Darrell 1983-91, Mark Davis 1982-87, Phil De Saint Jorre 1983-87, Robert Edel 1983-86, Paul Evans 1978-81, Greg Evans 1986-87, Bob Farrelly 1975-, Sue Field 2000-, Ray Galliot 1968-, Daniel Garstang 1988-91, William Gaynor 1981-83 & 92-94, Ian Gaynor 1981-86, Ron Gregor 1955-92, John Griffiths 1965, Bill Hawthorn 1958-65, Chris Hill, Adrian Hinds 1956-58, Jamie Hislop 1985-89, Marisa Hislop 1989-90, John Horvarth 1986, Andrew Jackson 1990-99, Andrew Jarvis, Michael Jenkin 1983-87, Roger Jones 1949-1951, John Kargotich, Ken Keesing 1954-1968, David Knight 1983-88, Viktor Komaromi 1995-2000, Tony Lambe 1980-87, Brendan Lewis 1984-86, Stephen Mathers 1986-89, Michael Mathews 1978-, Tim Mazzarol 1975-83, Dean McAuliffe 1993-96, Stephen McCarthy 1979-, Tasman Nolan 1993-99, Ernest Polis 1969-1975, George Pollini 1984-96, Justin Reading 1989-94, Hugh Ritchie 1982-83, John Rozentals 1959-63, Bart Simpson 1990-01, Vincent Smith 1984, Greg Smith, Gavin Sonsee 1985-86, Matthew Stacey 1987-98, Les Stewart 1955-91, Phil Sutherland 1979-85, Jerry Szymakowski 1982-87, Grant Thompson 1985-98, Steven Trewin 1983-95, Paul Tubman 1983-85, Julie Vintiner (Associate), Andrew Webb 1984 - now, David Wee 1981-85, Chris West 1983-86, Greg Willis 1980-82, Bruce Willis 1983-87, Alan Wright 1967-79, Dario Zaffiro 1981-87.

PERTH-BASED ARMY RESERVIST RECOGNISED FOR ACHIEVEMENT

The Governor of Western Australia, Lieutenant General John Sanderson, last night presented Perth-based Australian Defence Force Reservist Captain Paul Sofield with the Prince of Wales Award for achievement in military and civilian employment. The Prince of Wales endorses the awards, which acknowledge the importance of the Reserves, who comprise about 42 per cent of the Australian Defence Force. An Award-winner has the opportunity to travel to Canada, the United Kingdom and the USA for four weeks to undertake military and civil employment development. Captain Sofield was one of six Reservists to receive the award from a field of 15 national finalists. For his military attachment, he plans to attend the US Army Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, to learn about large-scale artillery tactics, while his civilian attachment will be spent at an FBI negotiator course. A Detective Senior Constable in the Major Crime Division of the WA Police Service, Captain Sofield will train officers at the Major Incident Group in the basic negotiator skills he has learnt in the US. The awards are an initiative of the Defence Reserve Support Council and the Citizens in Support of Reserve Forces Trust; and are sponsored by Qantas, DEFCOM and the RSL.

[Paul is a serving member of WAUR – on behalf of the Association – Well done!!]

Article from Staff Cadets postponed

We had hoped to bring you an article from the Staff Cadets, but unfortunately the deadline came around too quickly for this edition. We will bring you the article in our first edition of WAURior for 2002.

Late breaking news...Archival footage copied

Shaun Chapman reports in his History Committee Report on page 7 that your Association was arranging for several old 16 mm films in the unit's archives to be copied onto videotape. The big news is that this project has just been completed! I picked up the tape and have to say I am delighted with the results - in all, some 33 minutes of vision. The first few minutes appear to have been taken in Broome and show several Indonesian looking guys diving for pearl shell using brass helmets and canvas suits. I have no idea where this footage comes from - does anyone know? The rest of the tape shows:

1. An exciting black and white sequence presumably shot at the Show Grounds, possibly during Army week. Plenty of gung-ho action and an inspection by Sir Charles Gardiner;
2. Brilliant colour footage of the presentation of the unit's Colours at UWA on 25 May 1958;
3. Two Annual Camps at Rottnest one featuring a visit from Brigadier Collins circa 1970's.

We will be previewing the tape at the AGM. The raffles we are running will help to cover the cost of converting the 16 mm footage. The footage is priceless especially the Colours presentation! Not many units have such gems amongst their archives!

Association member Ken Keesing responded to a photo of WAUR Annual Camp at Rottnest we ran in the West Australian on 17 Sep 01. This is just the sort of feedback we need from our members. Thanks Ken!

"I have just seen the photo you had published in the West Australian "Can you help?" column (Mon 17 Sep). If I can I would like to help. I am fairly sure I was at the camp and am in the photo. If not I would know many of those who were. I served in the unit from 1955 to 1967 when I went on the R of O with the rank of captain. We had many camps at Rottnest which in March was preferable to the earlier ones held at Northam. On one occasion (maybe 1964) we travelled by Water Transport barge from Bickley to Garden Island and scrambled ashore at dawn to begin our exercise. On an earlier occasion at Rottnest the exercise had to be abandoned when we lit a fire with Aldershot grenades. We stayed in the field for days getting the fire under control. I could not identify anyone in the photocopy I saw and would appreciate it if you could e-mail me an original copy which may be able to be enlarged on the screen. Two of my contemporaries were Rod Willox and Peter Sewell who both many years later served as CO's of the unit. If you have not yet contacted them they would be good contacts to make. My friend and fellow officer DO "Ossie" King and I attended the WAUR 50th Anniversary parade at the Fremantle Artillery Barracks in 1999. I have attached a photo of us enjoying using our mess tankards after a break of about 35 years."

Regular contributor and Association webmaster Bart Simpson sent in a couple of Darwin Award nominees. The Darwin Award is presented posthumously to the person who kills themselves in the dumbest way, thus preserving the gene pool...

(15 May 2001, Cairo) Two whisky-swilling men tried to dodge their bar tab by downing one last drink, jumping in the Nile, and swimming for the far shore. One, a 27-year-old taxi driver, misjudged his ability to stay afloat. He drowned en route, successfully avoiding paying the \$180 bill. His companion reached the far shore a few hundred meters away, only to be arrested by police who had been summoned by the short-changed nightclub employees. Next time you and your friends try to dodge a bar tab, don't drink yourself senseless first. You might die or, even more dreadful, be stuck with the entire bar tab!

(March 2001, Delaware) Two toll collectors were involved in a friendly snowball fight when one reached out to scoop some snow from a passing tractor-trailer rig. Manning a tollbooth is not the most interesting job, so it's only natural that collectors would engage in some freestyle entertainment. But scooping snow from a moving vehicle is not the safest of sports. The toll collector's hand caught in the rig, and he was pulled from his booth and dragged to his death.

Bart's Fave...(2001, Scotland) Electric trains in Glasgow collect power from the overhead cable, and transmit any excess through the rails to a solid copper cable that routes it to a power redistribution box. Copper is a favourite target for thieves. One enterprising fellow with a good knowledge of the electrical system planned to cut the copper cable during the time between trains, when no electricity was travelling through it. His plan might have worked... but for one small flaw. In the pocket of his charred overcoat, police found an out-of-date rail timetable. The train arrived ten minutes before he thought it would, sending hundreds of volts of electricity through the hacksaw he was holding. **[Ed: Ouch]**

UNIT HISTORY FILE

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Letter to all officers of WAUR in camp at Northam - January 1967

[Ed: Nothing like starting the boys off on the right foot!]

Gentleman, as this year's Annual Camp starts I want to bring the following points to your notice: This Regiment is an organisation for the production of Army Officers. We are neither a uniformed club for young men nor an excuse for social grogging. An officer's duty is to lead men and the leadership of men in war must be his constant study. The power of leadership depends on the following, among other things:

- i. Personal Control of oneself and one's temper.
- ii. Sound professional knowledge, as intelligent men will never follow an ignorant one.
- iii. Personal sympathy for the troubles and short-comings of ones subordinates.
- iv. Personal integrity both on and off duty and the realisation that there are some things which an officer cannot do or say.
- v. Personal belief that it is the man that counts even in this nuclear age, and with good men anything is possible.
- vi. Personal conviction that ultimately, war is decided by victories won by men on the ground and that therefore the aim of all training is victory in battle.

The high morale already shown augurs well for future of this camp - put into it your best endeavours and you will be well rewarded.

C.O. W.A. University Regt.

RSM'S OF WAUR

WO1	H.C. VAISEY	1/1/50 TO 31/12/55
WO1	I.E. LUNN-GARNER	1/1/57 TO 31/12/60
WO1	L.A. REID	1/1/70 TO 31/12/74
WO1	J. CLARK	1/1/75 TO 13/1/76
WO1	B. ARMITAGE	14/1/76 TO 2/12/78
WO1	A.E. GEE	3/12/78 TO 30/9/80
WO1	W.H. VAN WEGBERG	1/10/80 TO 28/2/81
WO1	F.C. BROWN	1/3/81 TO 31/12/83
WO1	I.J. BALDWIN	1/1/84 TO 30/6/85
WO1	J.P. McALISTER	1/7/85 TO 30/11/87
WO1	N.S. HOWARTH	1/12/87 TO 31/1/89
WO1	J.P. McALISTER	28/6/89 TO 20/2/95
WO1	J.O. GRACE	21/2/95 TO 16/10/96
WO1	V. MATTHIES	17/10/96 TO 30/4/99
WO1	K.C. BAILEY	1/5/99 TO PRESENT



A bit Fishy?

Association members Paul Tubman and Barney Clarson spent some quality time fishing in Broome – undoubtedly swapping bullshit war stories along the way – It looks like a more than reasonable feed was caught judging by the “hangovers” in evidence!

Unbelievable!

Former WAUR legend in his own lunch box Martin “Mr Obnoxious” Richards famous for his lack of tack and miraculously marrying WAUR super model Lisa Johnson made the front page of the *Bunbury Mail* on 24 October 2001. Not bad for a bloke who sleeps in a pink bedroom!! Watch out for an newspaper clipping featuring Marts in the next WAURior.



Paul Tubman & Barney Clarson

On the subject of fish – ex A Coy legend from the late eighties Steve Reynolds runs a Fishing page in the Woodside newsletter as well as holding down a head shed position with the Pilbra Regiment.



[Ed: if you must have to have an excuse for not attending the AGM this will do I suppose...]. We received the following e-mail from Association member Kath Callow:

"I would like to send my apologies for not attending the AGM, as I will still be here in East Timor. Congratulations for making it this far. I couldn't wish for a better bunch of blokes to have known. I won't be able to make it for the next couple of years as we have been posted to Butterworth, Malaysia, in January 2002. Have a great AGM! Regards, Kath Callow"

Association member and A COY legend from the late 80s Danny Garstang has a new addition to the household - Ryan Jack (Tom Clancy would be impressed!) born at a healthy 8lbs on 9 November 2001. Congratulations to Dan and family!!

The WAUR History project is advancing at a great rate of knots! We have over 1000 individual images mostly photos but also newspaper clippings, parade cards, and invites. We have also found some detailed unit histories from 1949-66 and 1975-78 and these typed pages have been scanned into Word documents.

The big find is a box of 16 mm reel film which is being put on video tape. There is film of Rottneest in the 70's and the Colour presentation ceremony at UWA in 1958. A movie night will be held in the near future. **[Ed: see update on page 3]**

We were unfortunately unsuccessful in our Museums Australia grant application. This package was to have provided software, hardware and training in cataloguing the memorabilia we are collecting. Apparently, we were very close and have been encouraged to apply next year.

The history sub-committee technical team of Viktor Komaromi and Bart Simpson are coming up with a cataloguing system and we hope that early in the new year a searchable interactive CD will be available to Association members. On things technical, more and more memorabilia will be made available on the Website and through future editions of the WAURior. There are also plans to Webcast Association events and create a downloadable screensaver.

As we close towards the end of the Association's first year I thought it prudent to look to the future, we have big plans for the history of WAUR and some of our ongoing missions are:

- 1) Setting up of a WAUR Museum at the Artillery Barracks;
- 2) Interviewing of our members to create a living history bank;
- 3) Preparing a chronological report of every annual camp run by WAUR from 1949 with facts figures and the highlight stories; and
- 4) The continued gathering of photos and paperwork from the units past

About 80% of the memorabilia stored at Artillery Barracks has been scanned and copied the remaining 20% is hanging on the walls. Weathercock Amber permitting, we are going to have a scanfest at the Barracks to finish the job. Association members are encouraged to send in photos etc for the collection - one of the biggest headaches is confirming photo details hence the ever expanding X files collection - your input is vital on this regard.

I would like to finish by giving a heart felt thanks to all who have helped on the Unit History Project: Julie Vintiner who has scanned some 250 photos, Paul Tubman and Greg Smith who drew the short straws and are scanning the Officers / Sgt's mess Visitors books and Chris West for his efforts, also a big thankyou to those who have sent in photos for processing – keep them coming!



A VERY MODEST MILITARY MEMOIR

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With passing reference to W.A.U.R

By Roger Jones

[Ed: We are delighted to present the following article by Association member Roger Jones. Roger was one of the first two officers commissioned in WAUR.]

As a 14-year-old entrant to Year 4 at Perth Modern School in 1946, one of the more unexpected experiences I was subjected to was being drafted into the school Cadet Unit. But having had various older members of the family involved in both World Wars, it seemed to be something of a privilege to be issued with the coarse woollen uniforms, the pipe clayed puttees, the huge, studded brown boots and the well-oiled long-barrelled SMLE Mk3*. Travelling by tram and train from my home in East Fremantle to the West Leederville station nearest the school every Thursday, the day on which you wore your uniform and carried your rifle, made you feel just that little bit bigger. The signal section which I eventually joined had its own arcane mysteries of Morse code, heliographs and No. 5 wireless sets – they might have seemed, in retrospect, to have a flavour of Lawrence of Arabia (and I hope he had never been cursed with the size, weight and unreliability of the No. 5), but they had a certain cachet.

Leaving Mod I thought I had left the Army. But the Army fought back – in early 1949, as I recall, there were indications that a University Regiment was to be formed, and as a second-year Education undergrad I began to feel the call. It wasn't until July of that year that I turned 18, the earliest age for recruitment in those days, but shortly after I became the first recruit into the newly-formed unit - 533649 Pte Jones RT, as I believe the proud possessor of the first unit regimental number allocated after the then designated OC of the unit, one Captain Hilary Morton who I recall was ex-RAAF and on the staff of the science faculty. 'Regiment'? Well, for the first twelve months there were exactly eight of us (counting the OC), so in our first annual camp on Rottnest Island (in the old tin-hutted Bickley Camp, as I recall) we had to be tucked up into a company of the then 16/28 Bn, The Cameron Highlanders of WA. We didn't grow very quickly as a unit, in spite of some rather exciting recruiting campaigns in the university grounds - during one of which I made myself extremely unpopular by letting loose a brief blank burst with our prized Vickers MMG in the Winthrop Hall Undercroft. But they were great days, with fond memories of bivouacs at places like Yanchep (with the morning winter chill kept at bay per medium of RSM 'Chum' Vaisey's trick with a milk churn and a number of bottles of rum), arms and promotion courses, range practices at Swanbourne and Guildford and further camps at Rottnest and Northam. As the unit grew, so did our eagerness and capacity for taking on some of our CMF competitors and rivals in a variety of nefarious activities both in camp and out, with the inevitable mixed results! In spite of such activities, I eventually managed to make sergeant.

Being commissioned in my final fourth year, I had to leave WAUR, spending a brief period in an infantry company of the then 28 Inf Bn before being posted as Brigade Intelligence Officer with HQ 13 Infantry Brigade in its old two-storey building in Lord Street. For the next two years, while being a teacher and assistant senior boarding-house master at Christ Church Grammar School, I enjoyed more camp and course activities.

A VERY MODEST MILITARY MEMOIR

[Continued]

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Family business took me to Sydney in early 1954, and I missed the start of the school year. For a while I did regimental duties with 45 Bn, The St. George Regiment based at Arncliffe, but a chance encounter led me to the Paddington barracks and enlistment into the ARA in June 1954 as a lieutenant in the Australian Army Education Corps (in 1960 the Corps was granted the prefix 'Royal'). The next four years I was to spend at the Army Apprentices' School, then at Balcombe on Port Phillip Bay in Victoria, conducting courses in English and history up to matriculation level, followed by a couple of years as Command Education Officer in WA and a short period in the Education Directorate at AHQ, then in Albert Park Barracks, Melbourne.

However, wider fields still beckoned, and having subsequently qualified in the 'all arms' range of promotion subjects for captain and major and completed a Tac3 course at Canungra, I was the first education officer since World War 2 to undertake the Staff College course at Queenscliff. There were a few other West Australians on the 18-month course in 1961/62, including the then Major Phil Bennett who was later to become a major-general and Governor of Tasmania. Many and varied were the subjects covered, including such arcane topics as mountain warfare (in which it was maintained that the 'mule artillery' could always be distinguished from the 'mule GS' by the handkerchief tucked up its hoof).

A couple of non-corps appointments in the rank of major followed, both at AHQ in Canberra - one in officer policy in the Directorate of Personnel Administration and the second (and much more frantic and interesting, given the reintroduction of National Service, re-organisation from the infamous 'pentropic' organisation and the build-up in Vietnam) in the Policy, Planning and Mounting section of the Directorate of Staff Duties (known universally as PPM or 'Peter, Paul and Mary' - and there were three of us, too).

There are many memorable stories from that period, one of the best concerning a remarkable phone-call from the wharf in Sydney, where HMAS SYDNEY was completing loading a task-force build-up to Vietnam, advising that a certain field regiment had managed to load all its trailers (some undoubtedly containing the mess silver) but had had to leave its guns on the wharf! Somebody in AHQ - thankfully not in our section - had forgotten to take trailers into account in preparing the complex loading tables!

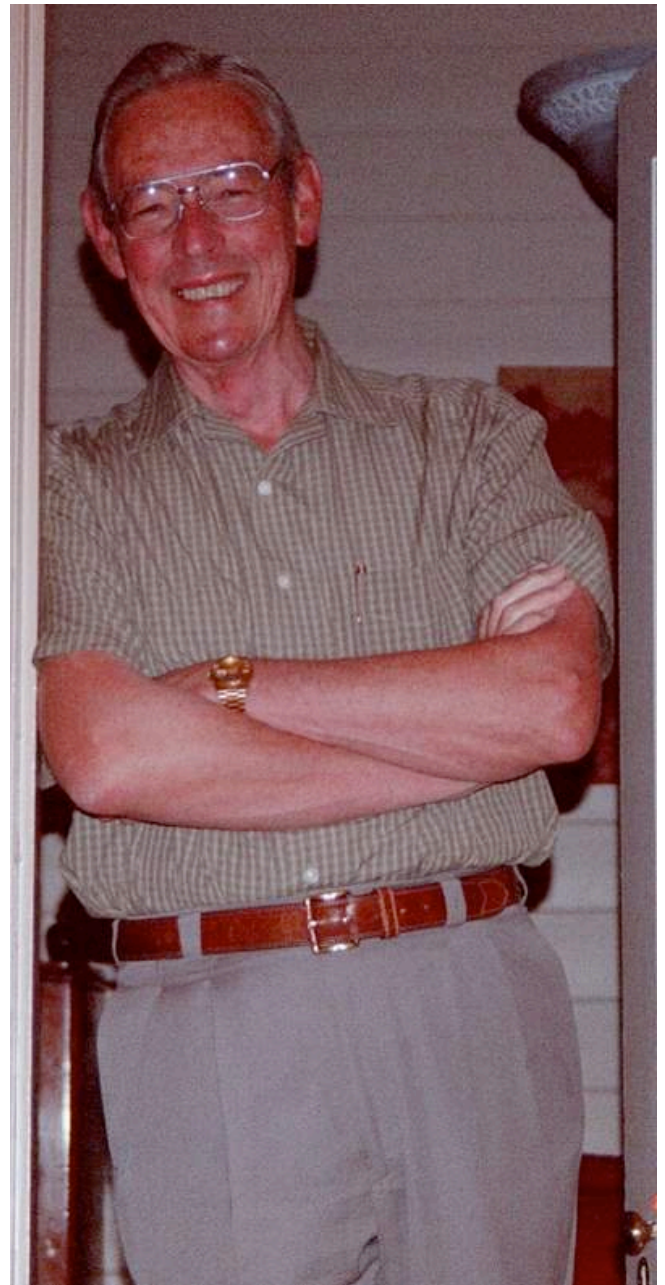
Back to the Education Corps for a stimulating 2½-years in Papua New Guinea, as Assistant Director (LTCOL) Army Education, HQ PNG Command in Port Moresby, with the biggest education unit since World War 2 (including over 20 National Service sergeants and lieutenants, all well-qualified teachers) conducting general education and pre-officer training courses for the soon-to-be-independent PNG Army. Then back to Staff College but as an instructor this time, with primary responsibility for the Communication and Thinking Skills stream (so becoming known to many Staff College graduates as 'CAT-man'), military history and civil-military relations, but also - because of my pre-existing 'psc' - doing a number of terms as a 'syndicate DS' (quite a privilege for a 'non-arms' instructor).

I was to spend something of a record 5 years at Queenscliff, and undoubtedly one of my strongest memories of that period is of the mess party in December 1972 with the announcement of the final withdrawal of Australian troops from Vietnam; some of my students that year had completed up to three 'tours' in the 'Nam, and the relief to them and to their families was palpable. My biggest surprise, though, was still to come. In early 1974, MAJGEN Alan Stretton, who had been my boss at AHQ in the PPM days and had just been appointed as Director General of the newly formed Natural Disasters Organisation, picked me as his first Principal Staff Officer (Operations and Plans). So as a Colonel I shared with him (and many others) the experiences of Cyclone TRACY and other such events. At the end of 1975, an opportunity arose for me to combine my teaching skills and new found interest in emergency management, so I took the uniform off to become Deputy Director (later Director) of what is now the Australian Emergency Management Institute at Mount Macedon in Victoria, and I'm still active as a consultant. But those 28-odd years with the Army, including my time with W.A.U.R., will remain among my fondest memories.

About the author

Born in Fremantle WA in 1931, Roger Jones completed his secondary education at Perth Modern School, entering the University of Western Australia at the age of 16 and subsequently graduating with the four-year degree of Bachelor of Education. He served with the Australian Regular Army from 1954 to 1975 in a variety of command, staff, education and training appointments, and holds both the National Medal and the Defence Force Service Medal. He subsequently pursued a career in emergency management, and is today recognised nationally as a foremost authority in public safety risk management policy formulation, planning, preparedness, organisation, education and competency-based training. He has had extensive experience in emergency management consultancies both in Australia and overseas on behalf of Australian Government and international agencies, and has published and presented papers on emergency management and public safety risk management topics in a variety of forums and to Government and parliamentary inquiries.

He is a member of the Court of Directors of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia and is involved in a range of community activities. He lives at Mount Macedon in Victoria with his wife, Lesley, and has three children and seven grandchildren.



...Just prior to the Annual Camp in March 1954, the appointment of five new officers was notified. They were:

Lieutenant J.G. Collins	appointed on 19 February 1954
Lieutenant F.G. Beyer	appointed on 19 February 1954
Lieutenant A.J. Anderson	appointed on 19 February 1954
Lieutenant J.C. Balalas	appointed on 19 February 1954
Lieutenant L.H. Little	appointed on 4 March 1954

Nine officers and two hundred and fifty nine other ranks marched into Camp, these included attached personnel from Adelaide, Melbourne and Queensland University Regiments, who had left their home state for study and returned for the long vacation. The strength of the unit and the degree of co-ordinated training was not yet at a pitch to attempt a battalion exercise so two 2 day exercises were conducted, each company augmenting the numbers of the other. The first exercise was carried out by 'B' Company which pursued its enemy from Clackline to Northam with periodic skirmishes finalising in a dawn attack. During the preceding night, walkie-talkie wireless sets not only brought in reports from patrols and posts, but musical interludes from Radio Indonesia.

The Exercise conducted by 'A' Company was similar in aim with the exception that the culmination was a night withdrawal over ground liberally covered by rabbit warrens, barbed-wire fences and slumbering cattle.

It was a successful camp, but was hampered a little in the latter stages by the gradual march out of the 1952 intake of National Servicemen. This was brought about by the reduction from one hundred and seventy six days to one hundred and forty days training to be done by National Service Trainees with their Citizen Military Force Units. It had not been possible to adjust the Home Training syllabus and so avoid this disruption. Altogether, 58 men who had completed their NS obligation chose to be placed on the inactive list. By 1 July 1954 the Regiment had:

	Officers	Other Ranks
National Servicemen	2	168
Citizen Military Force	7	12
	9	180

At this time, the tour of Australia by Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, was drawing to a close. A welcome to Western Australia was given to the Royal Couple on Saturday 27 March 1954 when the Western Australian University Regiment, together with all other units of Western Command, lined the Royal Route, along the Esplanade. Three days later, WAUR and the Western Australian University Air Squadron lined the driveway into the University for Her Majesty and His Royal Highness when they visited that place. A photograph of the occasion hangs from the wall of the Officers Mess.

It had been a period of great progress and acknowledgment of the standard attained was made when Army Headquarters advised that the Western Australian University Regiment had won the Returned Sailors', Soldiers, and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia Challenge Trophy for the period 1953/54. The trophy itself is a bronze statuette of a Great War Digger on a rock pedestal.

Donated by the Returned Servicemen's League in 1935, the trophy was reported to have been sculptured by a Commandant of the Military District of Western Australia in pre War years, Brigadier General Carl Jess. Adelaide University Regiment gained it in 1948 before it came to this regiment and it is interesting to note that University regiments of Sydney and Adelaide were second and third in 1953/54. WAUR held the trophy for three consecutive years. **[Ed: see article on page 14 for more]**

Further promotions were promulgated on the 8th December 1954. The Officer Commanding 'A' Company, Captain A. McD. Coward, was promoted to the rank of Major and Lieutenants G.J.H. Melrose, D.O. King and J.J. Le Tessier received their Commissions. The latter passed through the School of Military Intelligence Kapooka, NSW during November 1955 and was appointed Intelligence Officer. On 22 December 1954 Major G.H. Wright was appointed Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General, Headquarters 13 Infantry Brigade and his position of Adjutant/Quartermaster to WAUR was filled by Captain C.P. Yacopetti, MC, a graduate of the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

On 2 February 1955 a ten day course commenced at Irwin Training Centre, Karrakatta, to provide transport drivers for the Unit. All ten members attending qualified as drivers for transport vehicles which were allocated at the Unit for the Camp of continuous training in March 1955. Twelve Officers and 159 other ranks marched into Camp. The presentation of the RSS & AILA Trophy was made before a parade of the Regiment by the then W.A. President of the League, Mr. F.C. Chaney, AFC, during this Camp. Among those who also attended were representatives of Headquarters 13 Infantry Brigade, Claremont Teacher Training College and civic authorities from the town of Northam.

The Camp ran smoothly, featuring in the first week a one and a half day exercise with 'A' Company tactically opposed to "B" Company. It was generally agreed that 'A' Company won the "battle" but more important was the valuable experience gained by all ranks. Another successful exercise was one in which the Unit deployed as two companies in jungle warfare. This was "Exercise Tropic", the culmination of the training which had been conducted since the beginning of Camp.

The briefing for the exercise was given from a large-scale clay model built by the intelligence section. Fifteen trestle tables were joined together to give an area 181' x 15' with a scale of eighteen inches to the mile. Construction was made with the aid of aerial photographs and ground reconnaissance in conjunction with existing maps. The ground portrayed was the several miles of country covered from start to finish.

The exercise savoured much of its title when, on the second day, all troops had to face the negotiation of tough bush country in temperatures little below the century. Water discipline became a very realistic term. The exercise was punctuated with detonations and machine gun fire of the enemy, a terrorist band led by "The Spanner", an evil little man with the nasty habit of infiltrating positions at over-night halts and releasing explosions outside the Commanding Officer's tent. The lower ranks did not escape his attention as one rifleman could testily testify, when a verey flare descended into his foxhole with him. At the completion of Camp forty-two National Service soldiers were transferred to the Inactive List, and on 3 April a further transfer of 10 men was made.

On 21 March 1955 a new intake of 92 National Servicemen moved in from 17 National Service Training Battalion and in April another 28 men came. These induction's brought the Regimental strength to 12 officers and 197 other ranks by 22 June 1955. Lieutenant B.J. Silbert received his commission on the 20th day of that month.

The next six months saw rapid progress within the Regiment. It had been decided to add to the establishment a Support Company consisting of Vickers Machine Guns and 3" Mortars. A small Headquarters Company was to include a Signal Platoon. Sergeant A.B. Burns passed a 3" Mortar course held between 25 April and 6 May 1955 at the School of Infantry, Seymour, Victoria and Sergeant K.E Byrne gained highest placing in a similar course for Signal Officers and non-commissioned officers selected from all States, from, 31 October to 11 November 1955, also at the School of Infantry. Admirable keenness was shown by twenty soldiers in specialist courses. University examinations were approaching, yet they found time to pass a unit course in Signals, Medium Machine Gun and 3" Mortar. Instruction was given daily over the period 8 - 12 August. On 10 November 1955 Captain S.B. Blanchard was transferred from Headquarters 13 Infantry Brigade to be appointed Officer Commanding the newly formed Support Company. At the same time Captain J. R. C. Fisher was transferred from 16 Infantry Battalion to command Administration Company as the unit was being re-organized to the tropical scale, however he was further transferred to Headquarters 13 Infantry Brigade as Liaison Officer with the rank of Major. Some weeks later he returned to command 'A, Company.

Two weekend bivouacs were held at Trigg's Island on 24-25 September and 3-4 December 1955. During the former, the regiment occupied a defensive area just before night and withdrew the next day. It was on one of these bivouacs that astonished subalterns awoke to find a pack of horses picking their way through recumbent forms. Promotion examinations in subjects A and B were passed by all sixteen candidates at the latter bivouac. One of the highlights in the Regimental History was the approval granted by Her Majesty, The Queen, of the affiliation of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Regiment with the Western Australian University Regiment.

Later, in December 1955, some of the Officers of the Regiment had the pleasure of meeting the Second in command of the "Ox and Bucks", Lieutenant Colonel R.A.St G. Martin, MBE, when he paid a visit to the Officers' Mess whilst in Western Australia in his capacity as Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, GOB, GCMG, GWO, CBE, DSO, MC. Colonel J.E. Barrett, OBE, was appointed to the post of Honorary Colonel of the Regiment the first to hold the position, on 16 January 1956. This news came at about the same time that it was learned that two more subalterns were appointed to commissioned rank with effect from 15 December 1955. they were Lieutenants A.B. Durns and G.I.I. Paterson. A good year was rounded off well when it was leaned that the Regiment had retained the RSS & AILA Trophy by winning the award for the year 1954/55. Not only had the unit been successful regimentally, but its social life had increased and mixed social functions in the Officers' and Sergeants' messes had been held. A fencing demonstration as a preliminary to the formation of a club had been given by the State foil, sabre and epee Champions. The club, however, failed to come to fruition. Other activities, such as a Social for employers was held in the Officers' mess, this was attended by prominent members of the University and reflected a growing interest by this body in the work of the Regiment...[to be continued...]

WAUR makes history

[In 1955 that is!]

14

WAUR made history in early 1955 when, for the first time in 15 years, a West Australian Citizen Military Force unit was been awarded the Army trophy for the most efficient CMF Unit in the Commonwealth. The Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia (RSS & AILA or RSL as it is now known) sponsored the event.

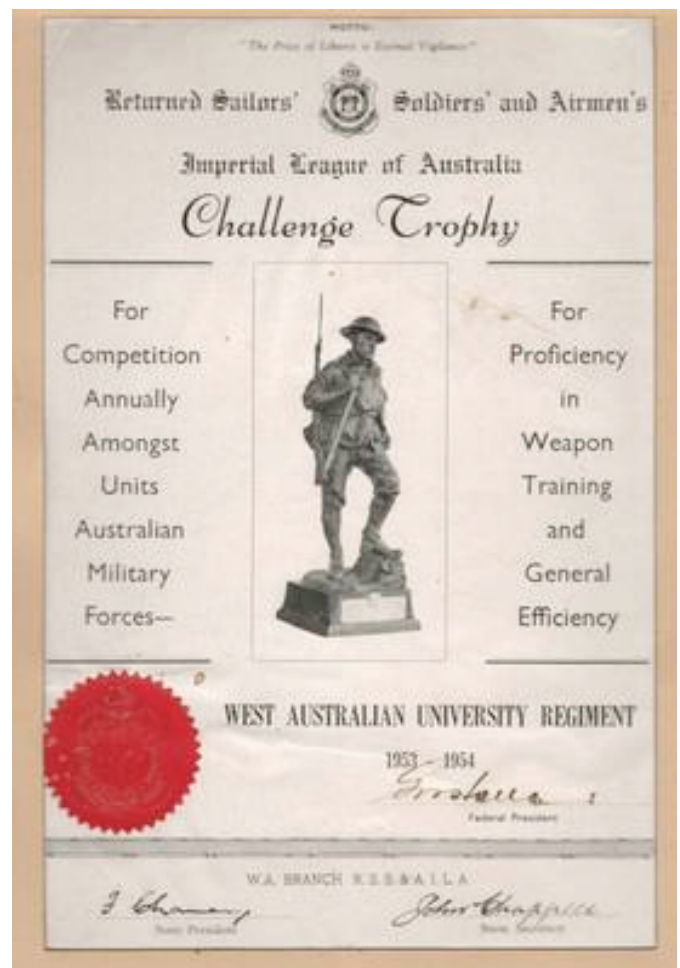
The trophy was awarded annually to the unit gaining the most points for home and camp training, weapon training, and general efficiency. It was held by WAUR for three successive years after taking it from the University of Adelaide Regiment who had held it from 1948.

The trophy was presented by the president of the Returned Servicemen's League in W.A. Mr. F. C. Chaney who made the presentation at the Regiment's annual camp at Northam in February 1955. He also gave the unit a framed certificate commemorating the win. (shown below). The General Officer Commanding Western Command, Major-Gen. L. G. H. Dyke inspected the regiment and later took the salute.

The trophy had been won only once before by a WA unit – the 11th Battalion in 1937-38. The trophy is a bronze statuette of a World War I digger on a rock pedestal. It is mounted on a piece of wood from the original H.M.A.S. Sydney. Donated by the R.S.L. in 1935, the trophy was reported to have been sculptured by a commandant of the military district of W.A. in pre-World War I years, Brigadier General Carl Jess.



CO WAUR LT. COL. Bray
ADJT CAPT Yacopetti
RSM WO1 Vaisey
lead the WAUR march-past
at the presentation parade
for the trophy and certificate



The certificate

www.rememuseum.org.uk

Royal and Electrical Mechanical Engineers Museum in England site. Lots of good pictures and easy to read history on REME vehicles and equipment from World War 2 and beyond.

www.olivedrab.com

Owens Export Service. A US site with military vehicles and spares for sale.

www.crusaderbooks.com.au

A site for a Canberra based book, video and print military book shop sale site. Pay by credit card, home delivery arranged.

www.audiemurphy.com

The name says it all really. Photos, history and items for sale.

www.army-technology.com

A site that has hundreds (or thousands?) of defence technology projects from all over the world profiles for all to see. Any item of military technology being developed or updated seems to be included here.

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

DEFENCE WEBSITE EXPANDED

The Australian Defence Force's newest site is open 24 hours a day seven days a week and is sure to see plenty of activity. You can tour it anytime, with the click of a mouse. Defence Force Recruiting Organisation (DFRO) has just unveiled the revamped Recruiting website, which offers a greater insight into life in today's Navy, Army or Air Force.

You can discover benefits such as how to be paid while studying for a university degree, exciting travel opportunities, the huge range of job options in the Army, what an Air Force fighter jet controller is paid and even what's on the lunch menu on a Navy warship.

"The expanded web site has been developed over the last six months and is based on extensive research. It's designed to answer the questions most young people ask," DFRO Director, Colonel Mark Bornholt said. "There's been a strong improvement in recruiting this year, through the "lifestyle" campaign we're running. The web site information emphasises recruits not only get a satisfying job, but also shows how they can enjoy their time off," Colonel Bornholt said.

The site, at www.defencejobs.gov.au provides the latest job information, details of pay and conditions, prerequisites for Defence careers, and other benefits of a job in the military. Computer users can look behind the scenes at a Defence base, and view the high standard of job training, equipment, accommodation, food and leisure facilities. Men and women already in the job tell their experiences in the latest ADF Recruiting television commercials. The web site will be further upgraded next year with videos on specific jobs included.

Anyone interested in a Defence career should log on to www.defencejobs.gov.au or call 13 19 01.

The photos below are the winning team from the 1978 Karrinyup Cup 12km endurance march from Perry Lakes to Karrinyup which was completed in one hour, 29 minutes and 46 seconds carrying full gear and weapon. This put them 9 seconds ahead of the second team – eerily the following year the WAUR team was to finish second – the margin 9 seconds (cue Twilight Zone theme). The team consisted of the then Adjutant Capt. N. Partridge, Lt P. Hopkins, Sgt B. Farrelly Sgt D. Hosking and Pte M. Stewart. A second team consisting of Lt Tindale, Nigel Bennett, Peter Towngrove and Colin Newland also ran, finishing in good time. Victory was celebrated in the traditional manner of consuming enough alcoholic beverages to anaesthetise a rogue bull elephant before passing out in a poor impersonation of a respect yourself commercial.



Unit History file

Colour Presentation - Draft Speech

Below is the draft address for the then Governor of Western Australia Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Gairdner, KCMG, KCVO, CG, CBE on the occasion of the presentation of Colours to the unit on 25th May 1958. It is taken from the orders for Instructions on Ceremonial Procedure for the Presentation of Colours to WAUR (Appendix 1 to Annex G).

“Colonel Coward, Officers and Men of the Western Australian University Regiment. It gives me great pleasure to be here today to present these colours to the regiment and to inspect you on parade. These colours are consecrated, blessed and dedicated as a reminder to you that you must always do your duty as Christians. They are a symbol of your allegiance to the Sovereign and loyalty to your Regiment. In handing these Colours into your care, I charge you to remember all they stand for and to guard them well and do them honour and through your conduct and example, pass them on with pride to your successors.”

1960's- the issue pack and webbing was rubbish, cheap, and falls apart.
2001- the issue pack and webbing was rubbish, cheap, and falls apart.

1960's- the Army enjoyed heaps of funding, bottomless pits of resources, and commanded absolutely zero respect in the eyes of the community.
2001- the Army enjoys little funding, no resources, and commands absolutely the highest respect in the eyes of the community.

1960's- drug dealers and thieves in uniform had seven shades of shit kicked out of them on the way to being dishonourably discharged.
2001- drug dealers and thieves formerly in uniform are paid large amounts of money to appear on 60 minutes, where they tell Richard Carleton about what the big bad NCO said to them that made them cry.

1960's- Risk management meant being good at playing that cool board game where you get to dominate the world militarily.
2001- Risk management means being able to push blame progressively down the chain of command.

1960's- Competent soldiers where the ones who had passed their infantry IET.
2001- Competent soldiers are the ones who have passed their infantry IET. Plus have a stack of files reaching the ceiling, signed and witnessed in triplicate, to authenticate that they have the competency to use a Knife Fork Spoon combination in a field environment.

1960's- Platoon commanders got to lead from the front.
2001- Platoon commanders get to lead from the front of a desk full of paperwork covering OH&S, Risk Management, Competency testing, and pr66's.

1960's- The army trained to chase an insurgent enemy to destruction, offering him no safe havens, no let up, and a promise of early death in a contact with the RAR. Rules of engagement were kill or be killed.

2001- The army trains to chase an insurgent army to the border, bid them a fond farewell, and offer them a chance to come back after the wet season if they could be troubled to. POW's are given a pat on the back and rehabilitated into society. ROE's consist of letting the lead scout get drilled several times over before the patrol can yell "stop! we're with the U.N.!" Contact drills centre on looking right at the enemy in a nasty way.

1960's- we trained conscripts because we didn't have enough soldiers.
2001- we train reservists because we can't get conscripts.

1960's- The soldiers rifle was a feared awesome instrument of death, known widely as an "elephant gun".
2001- The soldiers rifle is a plastic toy that has lots of accidents and is often referred to as a "poodle shooter".

In this new section we aim to bring you snippets of information, however dubious, about the lives of present and former WAURiors. Please send stories to the Editor. [Ed: As I said in the last edition, Thanks Chook, I can hardly wait!!].

The Story of Horse Reading:

In the environment of the Tampa refugee crisis and terrorist attacks in the US a Norforce patrol embarked for a operational exercise with ex A Coy legends Barney Clarson and Horse Reading on board. Setting up harbour near the edge of a cliff a forward OP was set for the first night of the patrol. In the early hours of the morning a prolonged blood-curdling scream echoed around the valley – pandemonium broke loose – Croc attack? Had someone falling over the cliff? What terrible event could cause a hardened soldier to behave in such away. Enter Horse, sitting bolt upright in his sleeping bag, pale and shaking...the true story? In the middle of the night he felt a hand across his face grasping at him thus causing the scream – fortunately it was his own hand as he had slept awkwardly and his arm had “gone to sleep” flopping over his face when he rolled over in his sleep. Needless to say Horse got enough pay out to last a lifetime.

The Committee wishes all members of the Association a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous and fun-filled New Year!



**FINALLY...DON'T FORGET THAT YOUR
ASSOCIATION WEBSITE IS
UP AND RUNNING!
THE ADDRESS IS:**

www.waurassociation.iinet.net.au

Back in Vietnam, there were two fine SAS troopers, Jeff and Dave. One day, the two were enjoying a couple of VB's in the Delta Hilton, when a SOG man walked into the bar with an NVA's head under his arm. The CO shakes his hand and says, "I hate NVA; last week the bastards burnt an A-camp to the ground, shot up the troops and killed some Indig troops." The CO then says, "If any man brings me the head of an NVA I'll give him one thousand dollars."

The two SAS troopers look at each other and walk out of the bar to go hunting for an NVA. They were stalking around in the jungle for a while when suddenly they see one. Jeff, in order to be silent, throws a rock which hits the NVA right on the head. The NVA fell down, but lands seventy feet down a ravine. The two troopers made their way down the ravine where one of them pulled out a knife to claim their trophy.

Suddenly, Dave said, "Jeff, take a look at this." Dave replied, "Not now, I'm busy." Jeff urgently tugged him on the shoulder and says, "I really think you should look at this." Dave says, "Look, you can see I'm busy. There's a thousand dollars in my hand." But Jeff was adamant. "Please, take a look at this." Dave looked up and saw that standing at the top of the ravine were five thousand NVA. He just shook his head and said, "Oh my God, we're going to be millionaires!"

If you think today's pay rates are bad, take a look at this:

DAILY RATES OF PAY (Male)

	\$ c
Private	4.97
Lance Corporal	5.26
Corporal	5.71
Sergeant	6.80
Staff Sergeant	7.25
Warrant Officer II	7.68
Warrant Officer I	7.99
Second Lieutenant	7.82
Lieutenant	8.60
Captain	10.91

DAILY RATES OF PAY (Women's Services)

Private	3.39
Lance Corporal	3.58
Corporal	3.88
Sergeant	4.78
Staff Sergeant	5.08
Warrant Officer II	5.37
Warrant Officer I	5.57
Second Lieutenant	5.43
Lieutenant	5.94
Captain	7.48

OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES AND FARES

An allowance of 15c a day is included in the above amount to compensate for travelling costs to and from parades. Where transport costs exceed 30c a day further allowance may be claimed.

MARRIAGE ALLOWANCE

An allowance of \$1.02 a day is payable to MALE members only in respect of attendance at Camps, Schools and Courses, when such attendance is full-time and continuous for not less than 4 days.

SEPARATION ALLOWANCE

An allowance of 70c a day is payable in addition to marriage allowance to MALE members in respect of attendance at Camps, Schools and Courses, when such attendance is full-time and continuous for not less than 10 days, and includes at least two Saturdays and two Sundays.

EFFICIENCY GRANT

The CMF Efficiency Grant will be changed in 1966 from \$20 per year to:

- First year — nil
- Second year — \$20
- Third year — \$100
- Fourth and succeeding years — \$40

The Efficiency Grant is awarded to all ranks who:

- (a) attend not less than 19 days' Home Training
- (b) attend a 14-day Annual Camp
- (c) qualify at the annual Small Arms Practice (not applicable to Women's Services)
- (d) are certified as proficient in their rank/posting by the unit Commanding Officer.

SKILL AT ARMS

Prizes of varying amounts are payable for "skill at arms".

**The pay earned while serving in the
Citizen Military Forces
is exempt from Income Tax**