



Vol 1 No 3
September 2001

The WAURior

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

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Ramblings from the Secretary

By Michael Jenkin

Since last time, there has been a lot happening in your Association. The sundowner at the WA Club was a great success and our membership drive has seen us grow to 58 fully paid up members, which is not bad for such a young Association! We also have a post office box address - PO Box 317, Kalamunda, 6926, and of course, the big news this month is the launch of the Association website. This came about because of hours of hard work put in by Bart Simpson, who for his sins has been appointed Association webmaster! The website is a fantastic resource and we are very lucky to have it. Please take a look, and let the Committee have any constructive suggestions. We will pass these on to Bart. The other big news is of course the Reunion, coming up on 20 October 2001, see below! Finally, don't be shy about contributing to The WAURior. It is your newsletter – and we at The WAURior don't discriminate on the grounds of gender, race or literary merit. Just send it in!

★ REUNION ★ SAT 20 OCT 01 ★

Yes its on again. Just when surrounding farmers thought it was safe to take the cows off *Vallium*, the Association's second Annual Reunion is on again. The reunion will be held on Saturday, 20 October 2001 at 1700 hrs. The venue will be as for last year - John Kargotich's dairy farm, a pleasant 40 minute drive south of Perth. Members are encouraged to make a night of it and sleep over at the farm. The ticket price of \$70 covers: unlimited premium beers, wines, soft drinks and some spirits, buffet dinner (hot and cold dishes, carvery, salads, rolls, tea and coffee and desserts), an 8 x 10" laminated group photo, a stubbie holder, entertainment, a song book (for those that need one) and the recovery breakfast on Sunday morning! The Joining Instruction for this excellent event has already been issued. Grab our ticket now!

★ REUNION ★ SAT 20 OCT 01 ★

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

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

June 2001:

Dean McAuliffe (1993-96), Phil De Saint Jorre (1983-87), John Horvarth (1986), Stephen Mathers (1986-89), Greg Evans (1986-87), Mark Davis (1982-87).

July 2001:

Colin Abbott (1994-98), George Boucher (1982-87), Michael Bruce (1986-90), Andrew Curtis (1996-), Robert Edel (1983-86), Andrew Jackson (1990-99), Bart Simpson (1990-01), Matthew Stacey (1987-98), Paul Tubman (1983-85).

SUNDOWNER REPORT

By Michael Jenkin

The Association's second social function for 2001, a sundowner at the WA Club on 6 July, was an outstanding success. Twenty six hardy souls braved a torrential downpour to relax in the leather bound ambience of the Diggers & Dealers Bar of the WA Club. The event was made possible by Association member Steve MacCarthy (who conveniently also happens to be a member of the WA Club). The event was notable for the attendance of former CO WAUR, Trevor Arbuckle and current 2IC WAUR Steve Goldie. There was also that the fact that four new members joined up on the spot. The food platters went down a treat and as the beer flowed so did the stories. Of course, the one man show that is Ray Galliot kept members enthralled with a spicy collection of anecdotes and his seemingly endless supply of jokes. The event looks like becoming a regular feature of the Association's program - so watch out for the next one. Shots from the earlier part of the evening appear courtesy of Michael Jenkin and Bart Simpson:



Barry Cugley and George Boucher



Ray Galliot and Trevor Arbuckle



Dave Knight, Den Helliam and Shaun Chapman



John Kargotich and Paul Evans



Chris West, Andrew Jarvis and Steve Goldie



Dean McAuliffe, John Kargotich and Bart Simpson



Mick Mathews and Vince Smith



Andrew Jackson, Dean McAuliffe and Bart Simpson

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS



Charles Crouch sent in this great shot of the WAUR component of the Defence Reserves Association contingent that marched in Perth on Anzac Day 2001. You can make out Association members Dave Knight, Shaun Chapman, Barry Cugley and Charles Crouch.

[Ed: also note the excellent demonstration of the correct way to carry a golf umbrella on parade]

CURRENT UNIT NEWS - "WAUR Out in the Cold"

Story by David Knight/Photos by Scott "Bart" Simpson

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Roving reporter Dave Knight and intrepid cameraman Scott Simpson filed this report after a recent excursion with the Regiment's Officer Cadets...

In the coldest and driest winter in Western Australia for many years, WAUR's Officer Cadet Training Unit (OCTU) set off for a two-week module of training in the wilds of the Bindoon Army Training Area, which as we all well know is about 1½ hours North-East of Perth. Twenty- nine officer cadets and 31 training and support staff battled it out over the period 7 to 22 July 2001. The focus of the two-week module was section tactics. The aim was to qualify Officer Cadets in the roles of rifleman and section second in command, and to provide them with exposure to the role of section commander. Having achieved these competencies, cadets will undertake the remaining four training modules needed to graduate at Royal Military College, Duntroon before.

Cadets were drawn from University Regiments across Australia. Fifteen were from WAUR, two from Melbourne (MUR), nine from Adelaide (AUR), two from Monash (MonUR) and one from Sydney (SUR). Instructors and support staff come from WAUR, AUR, 11/28 Battalion RWAR, SUR, 7 Field Battery and 13 Field Squadron. The Course Manager, Captain Mark Fowler said: "Students started their training in January 2001 with a six week recruit type course and, in old terms, would be called junior cadets but now they have 5 modules to pass".



11B advances through smoke during a contact

Cadets spent the first 3 days of the course in barracks at Bindoon undergoing instruction in section tactics, staff duties and the Army's combat and support arms. During this period, the course experienced the only period of rain, very unusual for Bindoon in July! The course then moved to one of the campsites in the training area where, for a further 3 days, cadets received field instruction and practised section level tactics including patrolling, section attacks and section and platoon harbour drills. The emphasis was on receiving, preparation and delivery of verbal orders. The remaining ten days of the course was made up of the terminal assessment phase. During this phase, cadets lived and worked in the field, practicing and refining skills and being tested on what they had learnt so far. Scott and I joined 2 Section, (call sign 11B), two days prior to the end of the terminal assessment phase of the camp. The eight members of 2 Section carried two Minimi Machine Guns, six AusSteyr Rifles, two M-79 Grenade Launchers, one M-72 Short Range Anti-Armour Weapon and a Raven radio set. Section DS WO2 Steve Brown said: "They are doing four section attacks a day and my main aim is to get them to have faith in the skills and drills they have been taught, especially their navigation".

CURRENT UNIT NEWS - "WAUR Out in the Cold"

Story by David Knight/Photos by Scott "Bart" Simpson

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OCdt Bryan Tolmie about to provide fire support

One of the members of 2 Section was Officer Cadet Craig Cowdrey. He is studying Economics and Asian Studies at UWA. Since the six week induction course in January, he has been putting in two and sometimes three weekends a month. Officer Cadet Cowdrey told me: "I feel much fitter now than when I started, and I train in my spare time. Even so, I have found this camp physically demanding, and I've been on a steep learning curve. I think WAUR members have been well prepared for the course, and several instructors have gone out of their way to help get us ready."



OCdts Tom Courtice (left) & Will Madden stand to.

Another 2 Section member, Officer Cadet Stephen Cliff (11B signaller) hailed from Melbourne University Regiment and is studying Civil Engineering at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. Officer Cadet Cliff agreed that the physical demands of the course were taxing but said: "I have been so impressed by the great teamwork within the section. We started well and we have improved every day" he said. I asked him why he joined the Reserves and he had no glib answer. He said: "I hadn't done anything like this prior to joining and I can tell you it certainly isn't for the money. I first thought about doing it four or five years ago, and I am glad that I did. My Reserve commitment complements my degree course because it has improved my management and human resource skills. It has also given me a greater sense of discipline as well as "kick in the arse" to be better at everything I do."

YOUR ASSOCIATION WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING!

THE ADDRESS IS:

www.waurassociation.iinet.net.au

Thanks to the skill, dedication and all round brilliance of Association member and computer wizard Bart Simpson, the Association now has its own brand new web-site. The site is currently under construction and more great stuff is being added every day! Please visit your Association's site and let us know what you think. All constructive criticism will be directed to our Webmaster!!

ONCE WERE WAURiors

(Mr Gravity can be very unkind)



**Ray at the pinnacle of his ARES
career – circa 1973**



Ray Galliot July 2001

SIGHTINGS

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By Shaun Chapman & Michael Jenkin

Wet mess legend Jeff “Rudeman” Peterson has a new posting. Squadron Leader Peterson will be based in Townsville doing something or other with the flyboys [Ed: *who cares what*]. Jeff advises that he has a spare kennel for anyone wishing to avail themselves of his hospitality. He and his lovely wife Julie may also be over for Christmas which will give us a good excuse to meet up for drinks. Stay tuned for details.



Jeff Petersen

[Ed: *What that is around his neck?*]



Jeff and Julie Petersen

Dirk (“Norsca Man”) van Noort, who continues to assure us his membership form is on its way, has been a busy boy! Since the last Reunion (which for reasons best left unsaid he was unable to attend), he has bought a new house, started his own business and become a pillar of society as a Shire Councillor in the City of Bunbury. Presumably none of his constituents are aware of Dirk’s murky past – and perhaps it is better if things stay that way. The picture opposite appears on the official City of Bunbury website - it looks to us by the way, as if the Norsca man has been indulging in too many liquid lunches!





Also in the news recently was Association member Mark Davis. Mark recently hit the jackpot socially by making the “Out and About” section of that august read the “Sunday Times” looking more like a cardboard cut out than the good big boy that he is (see clipping opposite).



**Killerby's Wine Dinner:
Verity Wright and Mark Davis**



Kelly Renout and Andrew Moore from Xanadu Wines.

Association stalwart, Andrew “Moorey” Moore has been a busy boy lately. As many members would know Moorey heads up the world famous Xanadu Wines – here he is in the Sunday Times Food column quaffing a rival Chardonnay. Moorey was overheard saying to his companion “Look, its a naïve domestic little Chardonnay, but I think you’ll be mildly amused by its presumption”. As you can see from the angle, this was yet another liquid lunch. Still, it hasn’t done Moorey any great physical harm, as members will see from the item at the bottom of this page...

Rumour has it that Steve Trewin, long banished to the wilds of Kalgoorlie may be posted back to the city shortly – see you at the next Association function big Steve!



Moorey sent the following e-mail around on Wednesday, 8th August, for those who missed it:

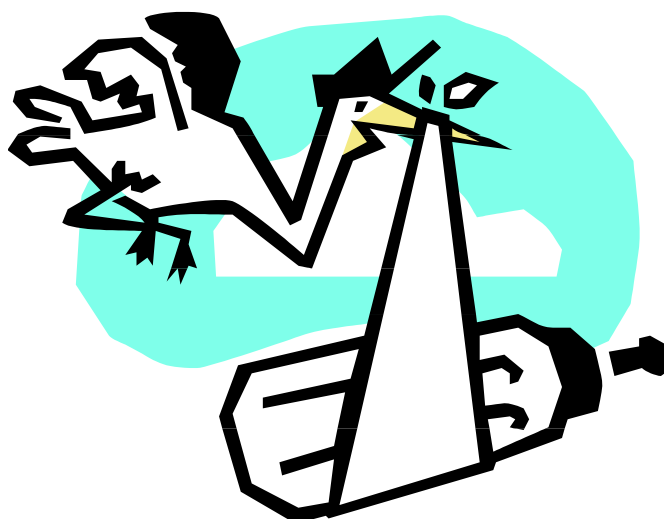
Dear All

Matthew A Moore arrived Yesterday at 1.22 pm Mother and baby are well enjoying a break in Hospital.

Dad was in town this time so no mad drive back from down south.

stats Weight 3600 or 7,15 Length 52.5 cm

Cheers, Andrew



Well first off, a big thankyou to all the Association members helping with the mammoth task of recording and cataloguing the life and times of WAUR. Since April 1949 when WAUR came into existence there have been several attempts to assemble a record of WAUR activities. This has resulted in a couple of photo albums covering several years. By and large the bulk of the Unit's memorabilia is stored in cardboard boxes and on shelves in various offices and walls around Artillery Barracks. The items are currently in random order and a large number of items are MIA presumed ditched or pilfered during the units six relocations. With modern technology (scanners, CD burners and photo editing software) our mission is to assemble and organise all the available WAUR memorabilia (photos, letters, parade cards, newsletters etc) into an easily assessable and available format. The end result will be an interactive CD or two with everything you could want to know about our glorious WAUR.

At present we have over 600 images on file, recently Ernie Polis sent in 34 pics from 1973, Trevor Arbuckle 37 from the 1980 graduation parade, David Knight 100 photos from the mid 1980's. These were all scanned and returned by yours truly. Paul Tubman is working on the Officers mess visitors book 1955-86, Greg Smith the Sgt's mess visitors book 1966-95, Chris West has some photos from the mid 60's, a 1998 parade program and a letter from Sir Charles Court from 1975, Julie Vintner scanned 50 photos, details on the 50th anniversary ball and did some typing and Michael Jenkin has provided 5 old WAURiors - a big thankyou to all the aforementioned who have given up their most valuable time to work on the unit history project.

Of course scanning everything is only a part of the process. Identifying faces, places and dates is the hard part. We have a quite sizeable "X File" of unknowns and work is afoot to display these on our Association webpage in the hope that we can tap into the huge source of knowledge that exists in our Association. We are also going to interview key players from WAUR and start sorting the original copies of photos etc into a Museum quality display.

Anyone wishing to help in the Association's history projects should contact me.

Media Release Funny

Below is an extract from a recent Government press release regarding local ammunition production – nice to know someone in Canberra still has a sense of humour!

"Australia has been producing world class propellant since Federation and it is fitting that the Government has made a long-term commitment to retain Australia's national capability in this Centenary of Federation year", Dr Nelson said.

Dr Nelson observed that "Australians can relax in the knowledge that Dick Smith will not have to step into the breach and consider making ammunition. Australia's domestic production of high quality ammunition is now guaranteed for at least the next 20 years."



CEREMONIAL PARADE

On the occasion of the Presentation of Colours by His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia

Sunday, 25th May, 1958 AT 2.30 p.m.

Enclosed are entree cards showing your seat(s) for the parade. The route to the enclosure is shown on the enclosed site plan.

It is requested that you should use the route to the enclosure marked in red on the site plan.

Officers will be in attendance to show you to your seat(s). It is requested that you be seated for the parade NOT later than 2.20 p.m.

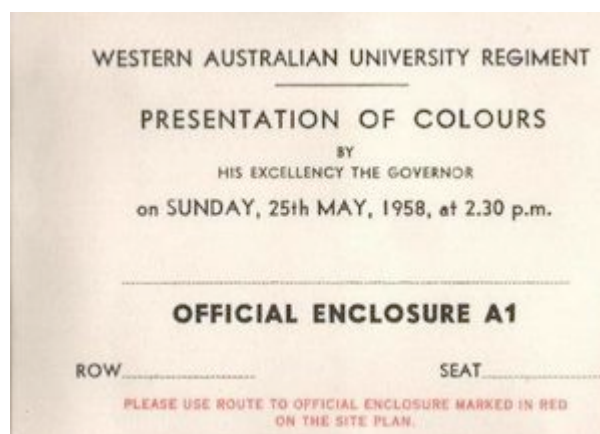
Afternoon tea will be served in the Sunken Garden in the University Grounds after the parade.

Again it is requested that you use the route marked in green on the site plan. Please present your entree card at the entrance to the Sunken Garden.

Notes for the guidance of visitors can be found on page 9 of the Programme of Parade.

Officers of Her Majesty's Services should wear No 1 Dress or the Dress appropriate to the occasion as required by Service Regulations.

Should the weather be wet the ceremony will be held in WINTHROP HALL. In this event Guests are requested to be seated by 2.30 p.m.





HISTORY FILE

The Regiment's Commanding Officers

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CAPT	A.H. MORTON	31/8/48 TO 31/7/51
LTCOL	F.H. SUBLET DSO MC	31/8/51 TO 28/2/53
LTCOL	W.R. BRAY	1/3/53 TO 30/6/57
LTCOL	A.M. COWARD	1/7/57 TO 31/7/58
LTCOL	I.G. MEDCALF	1/8/58 TO 2/1/63
LTCOL	M.A.S. WILLIAMS ED	3/1/63 TO 31/10/69
LTCOL	I.D. STOCK	1/11/69 TO 10/5/71
LTCOL	C.J. BENSON	11/5/71 TO 31/12/74
LTCOL	H.G. MAWSON ED	1/1/75 TO 17/3/78
LTCOL	R.M. WILLOX RFD ED ADC	18/3/78 TO 9/1/80
LTCOL	T.J. ARBUCKLE	10/1/80 TO 4/12/83
LTCOL	P.L. SEWELL	5/12/83 TO 31/10/85
LTCOL	T.W. GOODE RFD ED	1/11/85 TO 31/1/88
LTCOL	G.P. SIMPSON	1/12/88 TO 31/1/91
LTCOL	J.B. HOULISTON RFD	5/2/91 TO 31/12/93
LTCOL	J.D. HEWETT RFD	1/1/94 TO 31/12/94
LTCOL	P.E.R. JOPPEK	3/1/95 TO 31/12/97
LTCOL	P.T. WHITE RFD	1/1/98 TO 28/2/01
LTCOL	R FARRELLY	1/3/01 – current

HISTORY FILE

1984 Newsletter - LT COL SEWELL

As 1983 comes to a close it is possibly opportune to make mention of targets achieved by the Regiment. In March the unit encamped to Bindoon to take part in the Annual range practice of which the results were not very satisfactory when the weapon handling was taken into consideration. *[ED: Nothing like positive encouragement from the top!]* With the training to be conducted during the Annual Camp in 84 this is sure to improve. The month of April saw the Regiment parading as a unit in WA's only major ceremonial activity. For those that took part it was an effort well done considering the short period of time in which we had to prepare. Be prepared for the next one. officer Course 3 graduated on this particular parade and the sword of honour was collected by LT N.G. Grimes. The remainder of the year was taken up with Regimental training weekends with the emphasis for Trg Coy on IET Training, A Coy conducted scouting and machine gun courses to prepare selected members to be employed in these jobs during the Annual Camp in 84. The unit shooting team competed in the Annual competition between major units of the Australian Army but the results were not sufficient to achieve a position worth mentioning. Two items that did occur during 1983 which will have an effect on training and retention within WAUR were the management of training days and the Governments intention to apply tax to 50% of Army Reserve pay. On the second the Chief Clerk has written an explanatory note. It is recommended that you all read this so that you are all fully aware of what is required. The management of Army Reserve Training days by units saw a general tightening up of training resources. Once this first year of accounting is over the unit will be able to get down to the task in hand and that is, to train members of WAUR in their particular ECN's so that they can take their place as members of the Australian Defence Force.

In conclusion, November saw LT COL T Arbuckle ED hand over the reins to LTCOL P.L. Sewell and therefore the unit's new commanding Officer has included his notes on what he requires and sees WAUR doing.

...Where as the Oxford University Officer Training Corps, at this time commanded by Lieutenant Colonel A.D. Taylor, DSO, MC, had an establishment catering for Armour, Artillery, Signals and Infantry training, WAUR was solely an Infantry Unit. To cope with the additional work involved in the training and administration of the Officer Cadet Training Company, the Australian Regular Army Cadre was increased to one officer, the Adjutant/Quartermaster who was Major G. Wright, two Warrant Officers Class Two as instructors, a Corporal Clerk and a Private Storeman. A new Lower Establishment was issued. In October 1951, the first intake of Officer Training Company arrived for the fourteen months course. Some students, for private reasons or reasons submitted by their Units, failed to complete the course, but in all, forty one qualified in subjects 'A' and 'B' and fourteen in Subject 'C'. The first members of the Unit to receive their Commissions were Lieutenants R.T. Jones and M.N. Heenan when they were promoted in November 1951. Mr. Heenan left the Regiment to enlist in the Australian Regular Army.

On 17 March 1951, the National Service Act became law so that by the time these young men who had served in the first NS intake at Swanbourne came to WAUR they swelled the existing ranks by an additional seventy six. On 1 June 1952 the Regimental strength was six officers and one hundred and seventy two other ranks. Appointments to Commissioned rank were not very frequent. Lieutenants M.J. Hood and A.B. Lawrence gained their Commissions on 22 October 1952 and 17 April 1953 respectively. Later, in December, Lieutenants B.J. Parkes and J.F. Hoare received Commissioned rank, the latter being the first National Serviceman of the Western Australian University Regiment to have this distinction. January 1953 witnessed the arrival of a new intake of Members for the Officer Cadet Training Company, this time attached for training and administration only; whereas the first group attended WAUR camps this new group attended the camps of their parent unit. This course which lasted for six months was the last Officer Cadet Training course conducted. The strength of the course waned from thirty-two members in January to twenty-four members in June. Of these twenty-four qualified for subject 'A' but only four for Subject 'B'. The sudden influx of National Servicemen had created a serious shortage of officers throughout Western Command, and, for that matter, throughout Australia. In July 1953, the Regiment was deprived of its position as an Officer Training Unit and, to overcome this scarcity of Officers.

Note: The dropping off of attendances and the lack of numbers passing the Subject 'B' for 1st Appointment may be attributed to the influx of National Service conscripts and the consequent wane in interest shown by members, many with war service, who now saw the "fun" go out of part time soldiering. When the second intake of National Servicemen was absorbed into the Unit it included Pharmaceutical, Architectural and Engineering students from the Perth Technical College in addition to the students of the University and Claremont Teachers' Training College. A new Lower Establishment was issued and a new Rifle-Company, 'B' Company Teachers' College, and Regimental Headquarters formed. On 31 July 1953 the strength of the Regiment was:

	Officers	Other Ranks
National Servicemen	1	187
Citizen Military Force	6	22



For several years in the early eighties a series of legendary clashes occurred when 11/28 RWAR would meet WAUR in a grudge football match, the team of 87 ably coached by Matt Mackay (now a pilot in the RAAF) put on a display as variable as the skill levels within the team, Peter Byrne won man of the match with a show that would shame the Matera brothers while the rest of us mere mortals struggled with the concept of holding a ball and kicking it.



WAUR Football Team 1987 at one of the 11/28 grudge matches

Rear: Wayne Turly, Peter Holmes, Mark Davis, Shaun Chapman, Martin Richards, Brendan Parker, Andrew Russell, Chris Hill, Mick Bruce, Brendan Burns, Jim Townsend, Peter Byrne, Tom Goode.

Front: Jeff Peterson, Chris McCarthy, Geoff Millar, Steve Bryce, ?, Steve Trewin, Matt Mackay

Bart Simpson sent in this choice item, supposedly a letter in a "personal problems" advice column of an Australian magazine:

"I am a sailor in the Australian Navy. My parents live in the suburb of Redfern and one of my sisters, who lives in Canberra, is married to a Kiwi. My father and mother have recently been arrested growing and selling marijuana and are currently dependent on my other two sisters, who are prostitutes in Kings Cross. I have two brothers, one who is currently serving a non-parole life sentence in Long Bay Jail, Sydney, for the rape and murder of a teenage girl in 1994, the other is currently being held in the Parramatta remand centre on charges of incest with three of his children. I have recently become engaged to marry a former Thai prostitute who lives in Chatswood and indeed is still a part time "working girl" in a brothel, however, her time there is limited as she has recently been infected with an STD. We intend to marry as soon as possible and are currently looking into the possibility of opening our own brothel with my fiancée utilising her knowledge of the industry working as the manager. I am hoping my two sisters would be interested in joining our team. Although I would prefer them not to prostitute themselves, it would at least get them off the streets and hopefully the heroin. My problem is this: I love my fiancée and look forward to bringing her into the family and of course I want to be totally honest with her. Should I tell her about my brother-in-law being a Kiwi?"

www.waurassociation.iinet.net.au your Association's own website - check it out and let us know what you think.

www.1earth.com.au an Australian collectables web site.

www.looksmart.com.au a shop direct site. Under cars and collectables/unique I found several sub directories by "members" of the site. One, a growing site, on Deuce and a half (American WW2 and beyond trucks including photos), a register of locations for Studebaker, GMC, International Harvester and DUKW vehicles.

www.militaria.com an American site on military collectables and history with a large number of links to other like sites.

www.vvaa.org.au Australian Vietnam Veterans site. Look under the Table of Contents tag to see lots of links to other Australian military sites and memorabilia although the memorabilia page didn't work when I tried it.

www.nitpickers.com seen anything in a film that bugged you? Chances are it's listed in this site that picks up continuity error in films. The sites lists by movie title and or type continuity errors. The most reported is for "Titanic" although "Star Wars - Phantom Menace" and "Saving Private Ryan" make the top 10 as well.

www.82d-airborne.com calls itself a site by regular Army paratroopers based at Fort Bragg. Information on the history, activities and some photos of US paratroops being and doing things they do.

www.filmwise.com think that you're up with the latest movies? Got a memory like an elephant for films of old? Test your skills on the film wise web site, a quirky collection of mostly visual trivia (i.e. who's the B-grade actor on the left etc.), but with same standard, Trivial Pursuit-style questions for die-hard trivia fans.

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

YOUR CONTRIBUTION HERE

Can you help with Who, What, where ad When?



Northam Army Camp - ?Year
We assume its Kevin Prince on the left,
but who are the rest?



Presumably Anzac Day in Perth.
Which year, and who are the diggers?



Can anyone explain how this photo
(presumably showing Japanese POW at the end of WWII)
got into the Unit archives?

In the last Newsletter, I wrote a few words about Anzac Day on the Gallipoli Peninsula. After Gallipoli, a place I did not want to leave, my travelling mate Simon and I made our way to the Battlefields of Flanders in Belgium and the Somme in Northern France, via Waterloo, Calais and Dunkirk. To give our journey some focus, we decided to undertake several little projects. For example, we decided to visit the graves of Private Emmanuel Vienna (Villiers-Bretonneux Cemetery, Somme) and Captain Herbert Curnow (Courcelette British Cemetery, Somme). Both men were served in the 22nd Battalion and are linked in an extraordinary way. On 5 August 1916, Private Vienna was standing in a trench in the Pozieres area when he was shot in the head by a German sniper. Vienna's Company Commander Captain Curnow who was next to him at the time was so enraged, he drew his revolver and shouted: "I'll get the chap who did that". You can guess the rest...after leaping up over the parapet of the trench, he made about two yards before a German bullet (probably from the same sniper that dropped Private Vienna) finished his bold charge. In one way, this little vignette typified much of what we saw in the whole region – unbelievable acts of mateship intertwined with a too often futile heroism played out in the context of a brutal and bloody War. Stories like this one seemed to be all around.

Another of our goals (and one we achieved) was to visit all five Divisional memorials and the ANZAC Corps memorial itself. The story of the ANZACS in Europe is of course fascinating. All I will attempt to do here is merely describe the memorials we visited.

5th Division: after a visit to Calais and Dunkirk, we headed South to the Passchendale area in Flanders, Belgium. 5th Division's memorial is situated in the middle of Polygon Wood near Zonnebeke in Belgium. For me, this was the most moving of all of the memorials we visited. The grey stone obelisk (with its brass Rising Sun and plaque showing the Division's Battle Honours) stands on top of the firing butt of an old pre-1914 firing range.

During heavy fighting in 1917, 5th Division recaptured the ground around this spot. So many graves for guys in their early 20's, the lines went on and on. I saw some of the saddest inscriptions of the whole trip, for example: "I'll be alright Mother"; "Could we be at your grave to see you laid to rest", "Oh for the touch of the vanished hand" and on and on they went.

The woods around the cemetery have an eerie, though not unpleasant feel about them - there is a real an energy about this place.



Polygon Wood typical view of the ground surrounding the cemetery



5th Div memorial - detail



1st Div memorial

1st Division: by now, the hire car (an Audi A6 – which was curiously appropriate, seeing as how we thrashed the shit out of it) was getting used to the drill. We piled in about 0730 hrs, stowed the croissants and rolls we had pinched from the motel breakfast buffet and roared off to the next port of call. At one stage, I asked Simon how fast we were going. When he casually answered “About 190 kms, I haven’t checked for a while”, I thought it best not to disturb him again! We headed South to the village of Albert. The memorial to 1st Div is just off the Albert-Bapaume Road near Pozieres in Northern France. Opposite the 1st Div memorial is a viewing platform which gives a great view over ploughed fields towards places like Thiepval and Mouquet Farm. Just behind the platform are the remains of a German pill box, called “Gibraltar” during the War, because it was virtually impregnable, it was finally captured by 1st Division in July 1916. The remains are being excavated, and despite the warning signs, I clambered in and had a quick look around. Amazing things these German blockhouses - thick concrete with massive iron reinforcing bars.

2nd Division: not far from the 1st Div memorial on the Albert-Bapaume Road is the extraordinary 2nd Div memorial. The memorial incorporates the “Windmill site”, a square of shell torn ground on which a windmill once stood. This area was the scene of ferocious fighting during the great Somme offensive of July-August 1916. This memorial, located on the Thiepval - Pozieres ridge, saw more Australian casualties than any other area during the War. Across the road is the Tank memorial, commemorating the first use of tanks in battle in April 1917.

3rd Division: we eventually found this memorial to 3rd Div after another early start. This was actually the hardest of all five memorials to find, and we almost gave up. The Commonwealth War Grave signs are pretty misleading, but eventually we found it. It is located near the village of Sailly-Le-Sec, just out of Albert, France. Surrounded by farming land, it is located right on a cross roads. This memorial looks out across the old battlefields towards the Somme River itself.

ANZAC Memorial: next we headed to the village of Le Hamel to find the memorial to the ANZAC Corps itself. I am afraid I was a little disappointed. In my humble opinion, this memorial is, by comparison to the Divisional memorials, gaudy and pretty tacky to look at. Set in rolling fields just outside the village of Le Hamel, it consists of a curved black marble backdrop on which is etched a huge Rising Sun, a picture of General Monash and various other Anzac scenes. Surrounding the backdrop are a series of low curved walls on which coloured tiles depict the badges of every element of the Corps. Surrounding the memorial are a series of very interesting interpretative panels which explain various aspects of the Corp's role in France. Although the memorial was only erected a couple of years ago, it is already in very poor repair. Many of the marble tiles are displaced, others are cracked and white stains (presumably from the mortar used to stick the tiles onto the concrete base) have marred the memorial's appearance. For me, this memorial has none of the solemn grandeur of the Divisional memorials, and I think this is a pity, given its status as the Corps memorial. In my respectful opinion, it should be removed and replaced with something more appropriate. You can judge for yourself:



ANZAC memorial at Le Hamel - close up of the backdrop

[The inner curved wall can be seen at the centre of the photo
White stains can be seen on the right of the Rising Sun badge]

After the disappointment of Le Hamel, a visit to Villiers-Bretonneux fired us up again. There is a fantastic museum located in the local Victoria School (so named because it was built with donations from the Vics). The National memorial at Villiers-Bretonneux was also stark and very beautiful. The Anzac Day ceremony for France is held here every year. Not far away is the famous village of Bullecourt. Outside the local church is a brilliant memorial called, pretty obviously I guess, "The Slouch Hat memorial". The slouchy is the real thing – specially coated in brass via some mysterious process. Quite a stunning piece of kit. In the village itself is an excellent private museum owned by Monsieur Laillant. It is full of gear and equipment found on the surrounding Battlefields and we spent two fascinating hours there – he is a great guy!



Slouch Hat memorial – Bullecourt



Australian National Memorial and cemetery – Villiers-Bretonneux

4th Division: after Bullecourt, we drove to the village of Bellenglise, near St Quentin in France to visit the 4th Division memorial. This is the furthest East of all five memorials. The familiar grey stone obelisk stands on high ground close to where the Hindenburg Line once ran. To get to it, we thrashed our beautiful Audi A6 down the roughest muddy track we could find - when we had finished, the car looked like it was ready for the wreckers. Luckily for us on the way down to Normandy, the rain sandblasted all traces of mud etc off the duco! Next stop – the D Day Landing beaches...

It started as a cold and rather uninspiring day at Artillery Barracks in Fremantle. However, just before the parade was due to march on, the sun shone and things began to look better. The setting was perfect - the historic precincts of Artillery Barracks looked terrific. Some three hundred Returned Servicemen, Reservists and Cadets marched onto the Parade Ground under the command of Brigadier Duncan Warren. The Parade was reviewed by His Excellency the Governor. Following the parade, there were various activities including a sausage sizzle and a presentation by the Royal United Services Institute. A Government media release by the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence, Bruce Scott said in part: *"In 1998, the Government instigated Reserve Forces Day and its status has grown since the inaugural parades. The inaugural parades marked the 50th anniversary of the Citizens Military Force or Army Reserve and were so successful it was decided to make Reserve Forces Day an annual event. At the time of Federation, the Defence Forces of the six Colonies numbered 28,293 and was made up of 18,063 militia, 8863 unpaid volunteers and 1457 permanent soldiers. Since the end of World War II more than one million men and women have served in the Australian Reserve Forces. Today Reservists make up about 42 per cent of the total ADF, with some 22,000 regarded as active Reservists."*



Media Release - ESP to benefit Reserve employers

Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence, Bruce Scott

Employers of Australian Defence Force Reserves and self-employed Reservists will benefit greatly from the introduction of the Coalition Government's Reserves Employer Support Payment Scheme, the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence, Bruce Scott said today. Speaking at the Parliament House, Canberra, launch of the Australian Defence Force Reserves Employer Support Payment Scheme, Mr Scott said the Reserves are a vital component of the Australian Defence Force and play an important role in maintaining Australia's security. "Increasingly we are drawing on their skills, expertise and qualifications to support military operations. Moreover, they can provide skills that are not readily available in the permanent forces or only held in small numbers," he said. "The increase in Reserve and Defence capability also seeks the positive commitment of employers in releasing their employees for defence service. In recognition of this dependency, the Government has introduced an Employer Support Payment Scheme (ESP) to compensate employers and self-employed Reservists for allowing their employee-Reservists to undertake periods of continuous defence service. The ESP, which will be provided for most categories of Reserve service short of call-out, will be payable to an eligible employer from the third and subsequent weeks of Reserve service. Mr Scott said the payment equates to the average weekly full-time adult earnings, which is currently \$804.70 and rising to \$809.70 from 1 July, and is subject to taxation. Payment will be paid for a maximum of 78 weeks for a single period of defence service. Many employers already value the benefits and skills that Reservists can bring to their civilian workplace as a result of Reserve service. These include a more disciplined and planned approach to tasks, a self-reliant but team focus, specialist employment and supervisory skills and an ability to communicate effectively in the workplace".

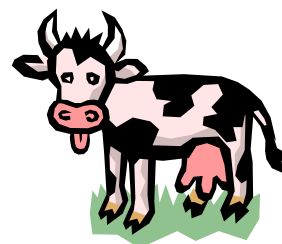


In this new section we aim to bring you snippets of information, however dubious, about the lives of present and former WAURiors. Please send stories to the Editor. [Ed: Thanks Chook, I can hardly wait!!].

He-man and all-round macho type Geoff "Barney" Clarson returned home from a hard day's slog saving the rest of us mere mortals from the tyranny of the Evil Empire to find his four year old son prancing about in a pink frilly tutu complete with tiara, mum's high heels and a magic wand. Affronted by this overtly feminine display by his son and heir, Barney suggested to his son that he may care to remove the outfit – "But Dad, I want to be a Fairy" shot back the lad, reports a shell shocked Barney.

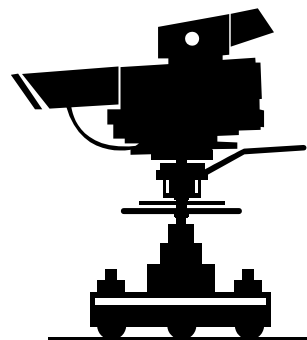


Then there was the Association member who visited our illustrious President and was served black coffee because there was no milk – fair enough until you consider that Kargo runs the largest dairy farm in Byford!!



Vince Smith was heard giving a compelling interview on Channel Two News on Monday 30 July, earnestly explaining why greed is not good.

[Ed: Well at least someone other than bloody Chaz Crouch got his head on the box – although, come to think of it, haven't seen much of Chaz lately...]



Member Contribution

From Dean McAuliffe

From the "that's not what I meant"? file...

An Army patrol is out in the boonies of East Timor when their medic falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing and his eyes are rolled back into his head. The radio guy whips out his handset and calls base. He gasps to the boss, "Our medic is dead! What can I do?" The boss, in a calm soothing voice says, "Just take it easy. I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead. OK." There is a silence, then a shot is heard...The PTE says, "OK, now what?"

"BURMA-THAILAND RAILWAY" TOUR 7-16 NOVEMBER 2001"

Peter Winstanley advises: At this stage, 19 people have paid deposits. We can take a further 15 or so. The price is \$1,650 which includes airfares, accommodation and most meals for the stay in Thailand. Add \$280 if you want a room to yourself. Our tour is a modification of the well tried Quiet Lion Tour (we have permission to work from their itinerary). If you want more information contact Peter Winstanley on 9341-6883, 9304-5248 or mobile 0407-083669 or e-mail: pgwinstanley@bigpond.com. (Tour agent is Laurie Elliott - Voyager Tour 9321-7525)

INITIAL ITINERARY

Day	Date		Accommodation
1	Wed 7 Nov	Perth to Bangkok	Air Port Hotel
2	Thu 3 Nov	Bangkok to Home Phu Toey Resort Visit Ban Pong (start of Burma Thai Railway) Visit Nakhon Pathom Temple Kanchanaburi & Chengkai War Cemeteries en route.	Home Phu Toey
3	Fri 9 Nov	To Three Pagodas Pass on Burma Border, visiting Khao Laem Dam (a Snowy Mountains project), Sanghlaburi monastery. Evening - Light & Sound show. History of the Bridge Over the River Kwai.	Home Phu Toey
4	Sat 10 Nov	To Hintock Road & Hintock River POW camps. Visit Sai Yok Yai waterfall and raft down river (lunch on board) Free late afternoon	Home Phu Toey
5	Sun 11 Nov	Morning: Hell Fire Pass War Museum Observe Remembrance Day 11 am. Afternoon: Walk Burma Thai Railway Memorial Kanchanaburi Trail	Pang Waan Hotel
6	Mon 12 Nov	Visit Prasart Muang Singh 12th century walled settlement & cross the Wampo Viaduct by train. Walk over the River Kwai Bridge. Visit Jeath Museum & Ban Kao Neolithic Museum	Pang Waan Hotel
7	Tue 13 Nov	Return to Bangkok Visit ancient capital of Ayutthya Lunch cruise Chao Phraya River Dinner at "Condoms & Cabbages Restaurant"	Royal Benja Hotel
8		Wed 14 Nov Day at leisure	Royal Benja Hotel
9	Thu 15 Nov	Morning at leisure - 1300 hrs return to Perth	
10	Fri 16 Nov	Early hours arrive Perth	

INITIAL ITINERARY MAY BE SUBJECT TO SLIGHT CHANGES



[Artist unknown]

Lt van Blomstein: Cpl Peterson, are you having a sexual relationship with your pit?

Cpl Peterson: No Sir! With us, it's the real thing!



Seems like good advice!