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

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waurassociation.com.au

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Upcoming Events



WAUR Open Night - 29 May 18 (1830 h kick-off)

The CO, WAUR has invited all WAURiors to a special Open Night on **Tue, 29 May 18** at WAUR, Leeuwin Barracks, Riverside Road, East Fremantle.

Meet at the Front Gate at **1830 h** for signing-in procedure. Plan is as follows:

1830: Meet at the front gate of Leeuwin and be escorted to the Unit

1900 - 2000: OPSO and RSM will give a presentation to the Association on the current Unit through-put and our activities and will discuss the manning and intent for support with Association members. Also upcoming events that we will invite you to and a quick discussion on the new colours that we will be presented in 2019.

2000 – 2130: Hands on weapons, Night Fighting Equipment and observe training.

2130 – 2200: Final questions on what you have seen then we make our way to the Unit Mess for some presentations and a sausage sizzle and refreshments.

This is a fantastic opportunity to get to know get WAUR personnel and to view some current training. It would be appreciated if you could let Jenks know if you are able to come - mainly for catering purposes.

Text / email to 040 225 3290 or jenkin@iinet.net.au

Let's make the most of this offer! See you there.

Not sure where Leeuwin Barracks is? Click **HERE**

Association Website is back!

The Association's website was offline for a time but is now back - with a fresh new look.

The new website's address is: waurassociation.com.au

To visit the website click **HERE**

Be aware that this a work in progress - so please be patient and check back frequently!



Contributions Sought!!

Thanks to Stuart Jarvis, Mick Matthews, Russell Smith and Trevor Arbuckle for their respective contributions to this edition.

For the rest of you useless bastards thanks for nothing. No, in all seriousness, if there is something you would like to see in your Newsletter, please let me know. As Chook often said: "I would be delighted to receive your contributions - no matter how small"

Regards, Michael Jenkin (Editor)

Want more?

Back issues of previous WAURiors are available from the Editor and once the Association Website is functional again, they will be available there as well.

Facebook

The WAUR Association is on Facebook, you are welcome to join or add to the group as a way of keeping in touch with other WAURiors.



CLICK **HERE** FOR THE WEBSITE

From the Editor

WAURiors, Welcome to the first edition of the Association Newsletter using MailChimp - a web-based program that enables us to send the Newsletter out via email - and not clog up your inbox with a massive PDF file. Mailchimp also allows us to include links to documents and websites and to publish photos at a resolution optimised for laptops and mobile phones.

Anyhow, I hope you like the new look Newsletter. Any feedback, positive of negative is welcome.

The Association's website is back too. Amazingly, I managed to get something back online in a couple of hours using a service called (wait for it) "Go Daddy"... Anyhow, the basics are back up and I will be adding to the site over the next few weeks. Please bookmark the page and check back frequently. Any advice re content, style etc would be greatly appreciated.

The new site is **HERE**

Bernard Caunce made a great suggestion for a new section in this Newsletter. Essentially the idea is a "5 Minutes With" interview with a WAURior with perhaps a then and now photo and some details about service, memories etc. Any volunteers to be first cab off the rank? Email the Editor at" southern.cross@icloud.com. This Newsletter goes out to 400 members - so surely one of you will step forward. If I don't get a volunteer, expect a call.

Recently, Barney Clarson and I travelled to Leeuwin Barracks to meet **WO1 Adam West**, the RSM, WAUR. We had an excellent discussion about the ways in which the links between the Association and the Unit can be re-established and strengthened. The first step in this process will be the Unit visit and briefing we have all been invited to on 29 May 18 - details at the start of this Newsletter.

Adam is a passionate advocate for the Unit and its present and former members. There is no doubt that thanks to Adam's drive, enthusiasm and interest, the Association has regained its position as an integral part of the Unit family.

One of the things that Barney and I spoke to Adam about was the fact that in 2019, WAUR will be presented with new Colours. As readers will appreciate, this is a once in a generation experience - and in fact - in the case of WAUR, even more than that. Unit buffs will know that WAUR was presented with its current (and indeed original) Colours by the then Governor of Western Australia, Lieutenant **General Sir Charles Gairdner GBE KCMG KCVO CB** on 25 May 1958 - almost 60 years ago...!



Photo: Unknown Subaltern carrying the Banner Who is this person? Was this photo taken on 25 May 1958? It is clearly UWA.

Anyhow, I told the RSM that in the archives passed on to me by Shaun "Chook" Chapman, I was sure I had seen the Parade Instruction and Official Program for the 1958 parade and further, I was sure that we had some footage of the event. The RSM's face lit up! "That would be brilliant", he said. After the meeting, Barney kindly dropped me back to the City (and headed home). Enthused, I raced to my office to dig out the items I had promised the

RSM. I quickly located the Instruction and Program and duly emailed them to the RSM. He was a happy man.

Now for the footage.

In the archive box was a likely looking CD in a cover labelled "WAUR Backup". This, I thought to myself, had to be the disc that contained the 1958 footage.

I eagerly inserted the disc into my work computer and waited impatiently as the disc spun up and loaded. I have two screens and as the disc loaded, the left hand one flickered into life and showed a blue screen with some odd looking numbers, then an FBI Warning. Curious, I glanced across to the right hand screen which showed the disc's file directory to see what the disc was playing. To my horror, I read the title of the file my work computer was loading. The file name was shocking and sadly, modesty prevents me from typing out in full here. Let's just say that it was a movie of a kind that was: (a) Not Suitable For Work; and (b) not the sort of thing you could watch with the family. I frantically stabbed at the CD drawer button to get the bloody disc out of my computer before the movie started or worse, the sound began.

After what seemed like an age, but was in reality about 10 seconds, the wretched disc finally (and it seemed to me, reluctantly) ejected from my work computer. Given what had just happened, I thought it appropriate to call our IT guy to find out what sort of a digital signature had been generated by my inadvertent previewing of this clearly inappropriate material. Jeremy (the IT guy) was clearly out to have some fun. "Look Jenks" he said conspiratorially, "If this is the sort of thing you want to watch during work hours...well then, we can easily set up a private room for you...". After some further banter, he finally assured me that all was well and that no digital signature had been created. Further, he said, had I not called to confess, he and the other geeks in his section would have been none the wiser. However, given that I had done so, they (and presumably half the office) would all have to be fully briefed.

I called Barney and told him my news. He was still on his way home in the car - and I honestly thought he was going to drive off the road he was laughing so hard.

My only remaining question is that given that this disc contained "TITLE DELETED Vol 4" - where the hell are Vols 1, 2 and 3? I am only grateful I didn't send the disc through to the RSM sight unseen. I am happy to report that it has been discreetly destroyed.

Anyhow, until next time, stay healthy and happy - and I'll see you on **29 May 18** at the Open Night.

Cheers,

Michael (Jenks) Jenkin

Editor...for the moment

WAUR PT shirts for sale

Whilst you are enjoying WAUR's hospitality at the Open Night on **29 May 18**, why not buy a snazzy Unit PT shirt. These stylish items (see below) are available in a range of sizes from normal to fat bastard.

If you would like a shirt, sling Jenks an email at **jenkin@iinet.net.au** ASAP and I will pass your order on to the RSM, WAUR.

The shirts sell for the very reasonable price of \$30.





From the RSM's Desk

To the Association committee, members and families I would like to firstly say thank you, on behalf of the Commanding Officer and members of the Western Australian University Regiment, for allowing us to keep the Association informed of the Regiment's activities. We are truly elated that we are establishing this vital link between the association and its current generation of men and women who are either commencing their career or instructing the new generation of soldiers and officers.



Current Operations:

WAUR has had a significant start to 2018. It began with the Regional Induction Company being moved from Irwin Barracks and re-consolidated with the Unit at Leeuwin Barracks.

The other significant change is the 2nd Division conducted a large restructure in 2017 and has allocated all University Regiments under command of the 8th Brigade in Sydney. For the Unit it means no tangible change and we continue to support 13th Brigade by training its soldiers and officers.

We enjoyed the success of six officers completing their training and graduating at the commencement of 2018. All these men and women are currently putting all their taught skills into practice as brand new platoon commanders within 13th Brigade.

WAUR continues to run Driving, Combat Arms Module (CAM) and Infantry specific courses. We are committed to two Accelerated Training Option (ATO) Platoons; we have hosted three training weekends to mitigate the degradation of skills and completed a Driver Instructor Course.

The ATO is a rapid throughput concept that is structured to turn out fully qualified reserve soldier to 13 BDE within six months. Recent successes in the ATO have seen these soldiers deployed on operations with medals pinned on their chests within their first year of service; proof alone to continue this style of throughput. We are currently training 34 ATO soldiers which will be a big boost to the declining numbers in 13th Brigade.

Awards

Recently the Unit gathered at the Unit club where the CO, LTCOL Natalie Wigg presented the following awards:

- CPL Howell and CPL Dastlik were awarded the Military Instructor Badge
- CPL Tate was awarded the Defence Long Service Medal for 15 years' service to the Army
- CPL Caruso was awarded his second clasp to the Defence Long Service Medal in special recognition of 25 years' service to the Army.



Photo: CPL Tate receives his Defence Long Service Medal from CO, WAUR, LTCOL Wigg



Photo: CPL Howell receives his Military Instructor Badge and certificate from CO, WAUR, LTCOL Wigg

Staff movements

WAUR has had a significant turn over in staff this year which has provided us an opportunity to review our practices and procedures. I personally would like to thank the efforts of the 2017 staff for their hard work especially in uncertain times with the restructure. The Regiment is currently in steady state operations, with the intent of becoming a proactive organisation and one that prides itself on its reputation that you all worked so hard to achieve.

Open Night invite

WAUR warmly invites all Association members to be at the Unit on **Tue, 29 May 18** (1830 h at the Front Gate of Leeuwin Barracks, Riverside Road, East Fremantle) where we will

provide a brief on the Unit and its capabilities, the future relationship goals for the association and the Unit, facetime with the Command Group, a tour and an opportunity to observe training. We will conclude the evening at 2200h and will invite the association to join its current soldiers and officers for refreshments.

On behalf of the CO WAUR we hope you had a great ANZAC Day and look forward to seeing you on the 29 May 18 at our Open Evening.

Seek Wisdom

Adam West, DSM

Warrant Officer Class One Regimental Sergeant Major Western Australian University Regiment

Barney's Rumblings - From The Vice-President

G'day WAURiour's

Well, another ANZAC Day has been and gone and, although mine involved an ad-hoc ceremony conducted on the foredeck of a Cape Class Patrol Boat off Darwin, I was heartened to see and hear reports of the efforts of members to commemorate the event in Perth. This was especially heartening, given Rod, Connor and Jemma Chapman's participation - so WELL DONE to all - you've done Chook proud.

Having been away (again) for ANZAC Day, I was very grateful to receive reports and updates via social media and email. That work doesn't just happen and I think we should recognise the efforts of Jenks and Bart who between them have continued to work hard to ensure members are kept informed, advocate for the Association and provide outstanding technical support (at least in Bart's case). So on behalf of members, thankyou gentlemen! Their hard work has put the rest of us on notice so let's step up.

As detailed by Jenks in this swanky new newsletter, I had the pleasure of meeting the current RSM WAUR, WO1 Adam West during a visit to Leeuwin Barracks. There is a lot of change going on with Army at the moment and I encourage all interested members to head out to the Open Evening, (details at the start of the Newsletter), to get across it all. We can all then stand around and regale current members with tales of the "old times" and remonstrate about how things were much better "back in our day"!

I encourage you all to embrace the Unit's desire to reconnect with the Association and ex-members in a meaningful way, starting with the WAUR Open Evening. Jenks and I discussed a number of opportunities with the RSM for the Association to appreciably engage - including reintroducing some of Chooks initiatives like Association sponsored award presentations.

In order for us, as an Association, to fully explore these exciting opportunities we need to meet, discuss and vote on issues. That said, knowing you bunch of slackarse bastards as well as I do, I don't expect miracles. But, but keep an eye out in the near future for a call to Association business. You have been warned!!!

Cheers

Barney

How about this for an Association Banner...?

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to **LCPL Julian Zlyinski** for designing this excellent artwork for the proposed Association Banner. I reckon it looks fantastic. Do you agree? I suggest the next step is to get get some quotes for having it knocked up...



ANZAC Day 2018

For me, ANZAC Day started with the Dawn Service at King's Park. It was an honour to lay a wreath pin memory of The Fallen on behalf of the Association. It was not lost on me that Shaun Chapman was not at, as usual, by my side and I missed his presence more than usual. Wreath laid, and the service over, Jamie Hislop and I drank a toast to Chook and Absent Friends and headed to Rigby's for break and a cleansing ale.



Photo: ANZAC Day 2018 Dawn Service - State War Memorial, King's Park



Photo: Association Wreath



Photo: Your humble Editor about to lay the Wreath (Photo by Scott Simpson)

Next, we galloped to Sherwood Court to the form up point for the march and had the pleasure of hosting Shaun Chapman's Dad, Rod and his kids Gemma and Connor. They marched with us and did a great job - in fact they kept in step far better than the rest of us. Rod is a former National Serviceman and was wearing his medals, Gemma wore Chook's DFM and Connor wore his grandfather's WW2 medals. After the march we met up with Shaun's mum Liz and had a really excellent chat and took the obligatory photos.



Photo: Gemma, Connor, Rod Chapman and the Boys



Photo: The Team after the March

After the march we headed to Rigby's again for some more cleansing ales and stories. It was great to see a number of members there - not as many as I had thought would turn up, but it is a busy day.



Photo: After the march at Rigby's (L-R: David Knight, Greg Smith, Stuart Jarvis, Peter Arbuckle, Jamie Hislop)

We have been invited to join WAUR for their ANZAC commemorations in 2019 - more on that in subsequent Newsletters.

I hope whatever you did, you had an enjoyable and meaningful ANZAC Day.

Text: Michael Jenkin

Photos: Michael Jenkin, except where shown







Hiking Tips

With Andrew ("Jarvo") Jarvis

Here are Jarvo's top 5 tips for walking the Bibulman Track:

- 1. Do no pre-hike training whatsoever and make sure your trail buddy does none either;
- 2. Choose a weekend when the weather is likely to be terrible, preferably with thunderstorms and lightning;
- 3. Once you are on the Track, send bleating text messages to family members about how hard, difficult, tough etc the walk is but how brave you are for having ventured out in the first place (see actual text and emoticon response from family member below):



- 4. Set unrealistic goals for your weekend in terms of the number of kilometres you will achieve each day (in this case 110 kms in 3 days) and finally;
- 5. After you get home, tell everyone who will listen how brilliant you are for having walked a massive 7 kms on the Track and how you can't wait to go bush again.

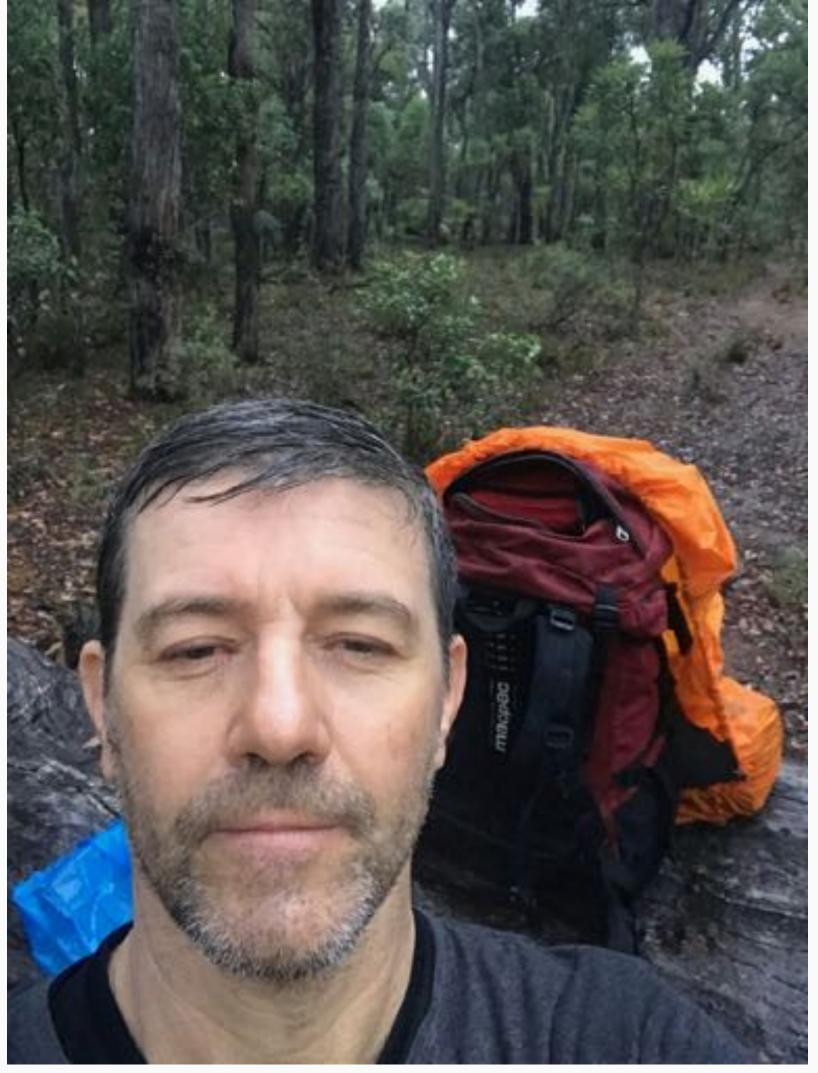


Photo: Our fearless correspondent, Andrew Jarvis facing nature and ?winning...

Reader Contributions

Arthur Lowe visits WAUR (circa 1980)

Dear Mike,

I don't know whether this has surfaced before, but Arthur Lowe and his wife Joan Cooper appeared in a play at His Majesty's in 1980 or so.

[Editor: a Google search reveals that the play was "Beyond a Joke" and it started its run at His Majesty's Theatre, Perth on 27 Oct 1980 - so Trevor's memory is spot on!!]...

I went backstage and invited them to come to the Unit for supper on the next Tuesday. On the Tuesday night, Wayne Tarr (then a Captain), picked them up in the staff car and brought them to the Officer's Mess. Arthur Lowe (aka Captain Mainwaring of Dad's Army fame) was a great hit and explained that Dad's Army made greater impression in Australia than in UK because he was appearing in 4 series concurrently in the UK, whereas the ABC only bought Dad's Army.

After a very pleasant evening the Lowes decided that they didn't need a lift back to the Parmelia Hilton and walked back.



Photo: Wayne Tarr, Joan Cooper, Arthur Lowe, Ian Sutherland (2IC), Trevor Arbuckle (CO) and Mrs Iris Arbuckle (CO's wife)

[Editor: For more on Arthur Lowe, click **HERE**]

This is YOUR ARMY!

Jenks,

I thought members might be interested in my Dad's copy of "Welcome to YOUR ARMY". It was issued to National Servicemen on joining. Makes for interesting reading ...

Click **HERE** to have a read.



"The *National Service Act 1951* ... provided for the compulsory call-up of males turning 18 on or after 1 November 1950 for service training of 176 days." National Archives Factsheet 163. To read the Fact Sheet, click <u>HERE</u>

Dad was born on 7 Dec 1932 ... so just got caught. I believe he was in the initial intake.

"On 24 November 1959 Cabinet decided that National Service call-ups should be terminated and that arrangements for the January 1960 intake would be cancelled." Factsheet 163

Cheers,

Mick Matthews

Association Merchandise

The Association flogs a range of **quality** items at **bargain** basement prices.

Express post = \$11.50. CBD pickup is available with prior arrangement.

Lapel pin: \$7.50



Cufflinks: \$20No image - Gold, Unit crest

Stubby holder: \$7.50



Tie: \$45.00



Tie bar: was \$12.50 - now \$5.00* SPECIAL



*(Reason for special: it's a shit design and we want to quit this stock and get a different design - happy now Smithy...?)

WAUR PT Shirts: \$30

Don't forget to include chest size - allow up to 4 weeks for delivery of this item





HOW TO ORDER

Download an Order Form by clicking <u>HERE</u> fill it out and email it to: southern.cross@icloud.com, or post to: 102 Coogee Street, Mount Hawthorn, 6016.

Check out the Order Form for the various packages we have and save yourself some \$.

Missing In Action file

Mystery Sergeant Identified



Photo: Russell Smith (no longer MIA)

FACT FILE:

Name: Russell James Smith Date of Birth: April 9, 1948. Regimental number: 534340 Date of enlistment: early 1967

RSM at the time of enlistment: WO1 Duncan Straun

Service: Served with WAUR 1967 - 1971. Transferred to 28 Battalion in 1971/72, as I

was being transferred north with my work in 1972 discharged 1973. Reinlisted with 16 Battalion RWAR in 1982 for a further 4 years.

Russell included a note with some of his memories from his time in the Unit:

"As you are aware WAUR occupied a two story building in Mounts Bay Road the ground floor was the Drill Hall & training area. The building was flanked with an alley way along the side and back of the building where most of our marching took place.

Our annual camps were conducted at Northam and weekends mainly at Bindoon. A memory at the time was the legal drinking age was 21 yrs and only being 18 yrs, we were able to drink at the Canteen and Annual Camp at Northam!

I enlisted at the same time as Phil Sumner both Phil and myself were promoted to Sgt at the same time, Phil remained in the reserves for quiet some years and went on to become a Captain and I caught up with him years later when I signed up with 16 Battalion. Another person of note in the WAUR at the time was John Dawkins."

Can you identify these unknown WAURiors?

Details names, places, dates please



Photo: 2IC48-Unknown Colour Party 1

Editor: the SGT of the right is clearly SGT Dave Thompson (as he then was) and this photo was taken at Leeuwin Barracks. Who are the others? What year is this?

What was the occasion?

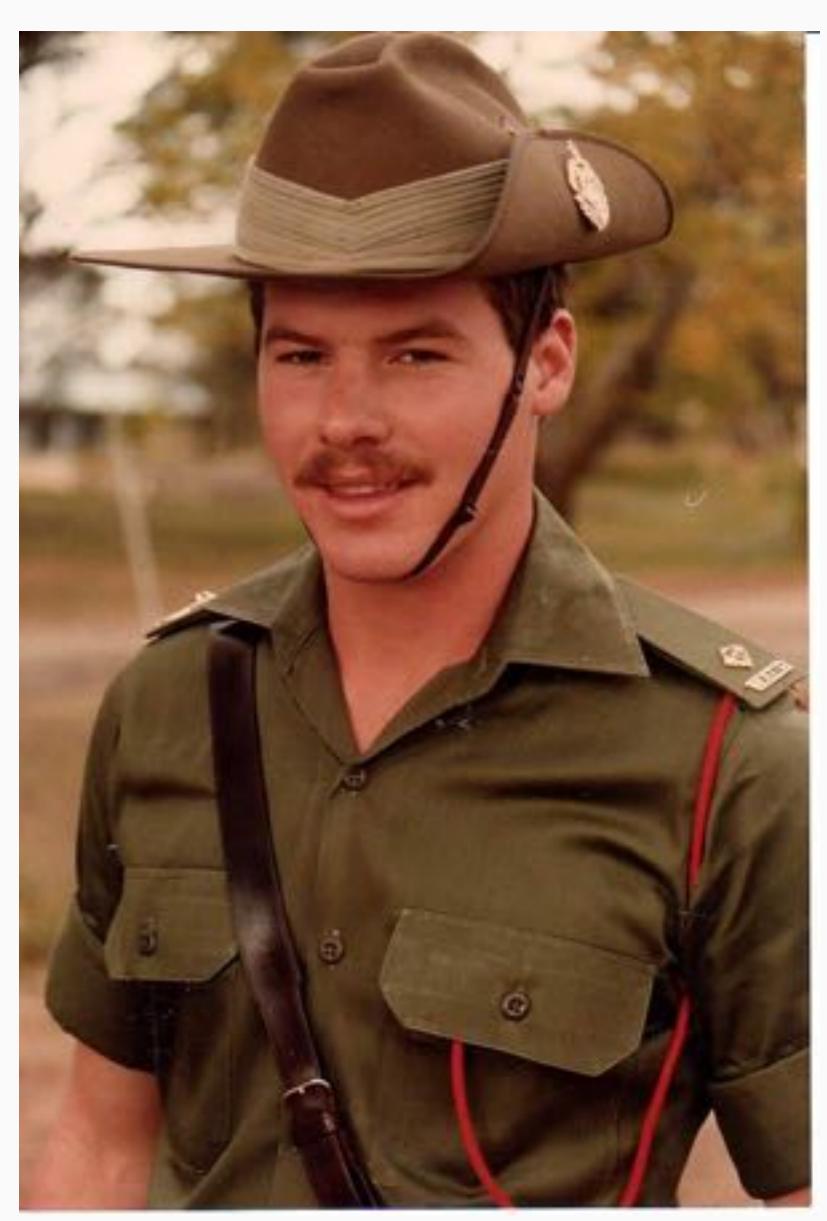


Photo: 2IC58-Unknown suby ?early 80s



Photo: 2IC55-Unknown Group Shot

[Editor: the CO front row, far left is LTCOL Brian Houliston. The gentleman in the suit is The Hon. Justice Kennedy (as he then was). The photo must have been taken between 1991 - 1993. Who are the rest?

Unit History File

Amazing WAUR Album - circa 1950's - 1965

Amongst the Unit archives is an A3 sized photo album which is crammed with photos and documents (circa 1950 to about 1965). It appears to be the work of **Captain John LeTessier** but if anyone can clarify this - please let me know.

The album really is worth a look. I have scanned the pages and you can view them by clicking **HERE**

Be aware that the file is 132 MB in size and depending on your internet speed, it may take a few minutes to download.

WAUR in the News - 1962

The photo which appears in the Newsletter Banner was first published in the *West Australian* on 02 Feb 1962 and relates to dawn assault at Rotto:



IET Training circa 1984

Here we see Geoff Meys and (I think) Simon Bodycoat performing for the cameras at Bindon in about 1984. Note the number of attendees...!

WAUR take to bush



* ABOVE: Section 21C, Lcpl Geffrey Meys, leaps over a log while directing his gun group in a section assault during WAUR's annual camp. The individual training in Infantry minor tactics, attended by more than 200 A Res soldiers, was conducted in the Bindoon Training Area, 90km north of Perth. Other training included Subject Two for corporal and

sergeant as well as communications and driving courses.

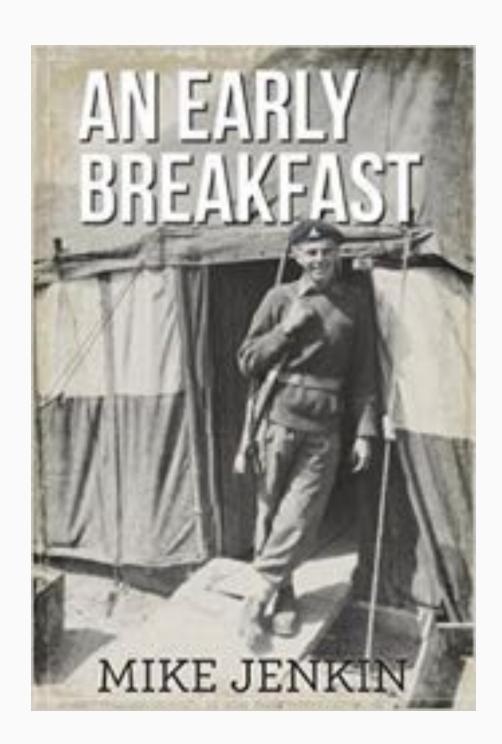
Bookshelf

In this new section of the Newsletter, readers can suggest books for members to read. I will start us off...with an absolutely shameless plug...(by the way, I am **not** on commission)

Shortly before his death in November 2017, my father, **Mike Jenkin** published a book about his time in Korea as a national serviceman in the British Army. The book is called: "An Early Breakfast".

You can buy the paperback **HERE**

You can buy the eBook **HERE**



Review:

This is an incredibly detailed and accurate account of one man's experiences as a National Service soldier in the British army during the 1950's.

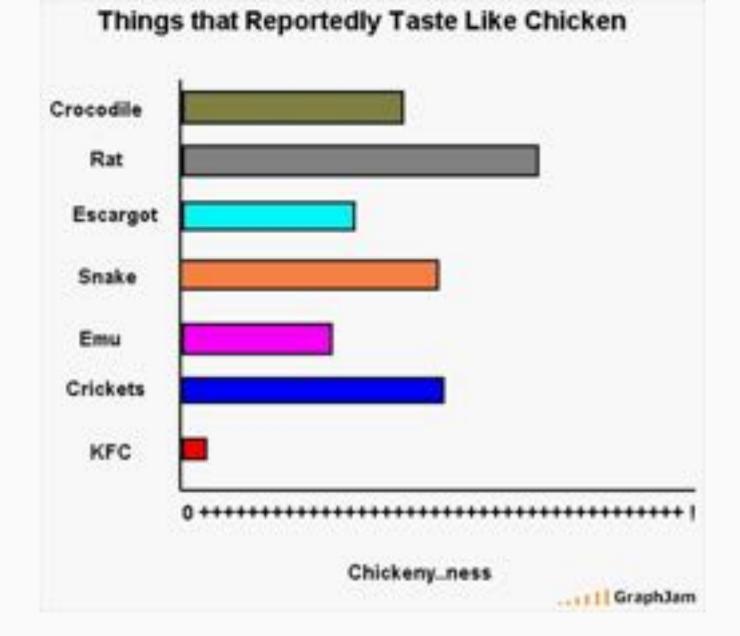
From the early days as a new and inexperienced recruit who was somewhat reluctant to leave home, it follows his journey through basic training and then half way around the world to the battlefronts of the Korean War. On arrival in Korea he was assigned to the Counter Bombardment Troop, a division of the Royal Artillery and mobilised to the conflict zone. The seasons and battle conditions in Korea varied considerably during his time, including the ceasefire and ensuing tense standoff which is still present today. The author has written this book six decades after the events which makes the accuracy even more impressive. He has also been able to include some original photographs which add immense value to the historical record this book creates.

This book is sure to bring back memories to anyone who was in Korea at the time, and will be of interest to the descendants of Korean War Veterans, as it tells the story of the day to day army life and not just the battles.

This is an important part of the history of the Commonwealth and the United Nations and their efforts to maintain peace and order in the world, which does not always turn out the way it was intended. The efforts, suffering and sacrifices of the people involved in these events must not be forgotten.

That's it for shameless plugs - over to you for suggestions for the next Newsletter...

Back Page Filler







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Seek Wisdom

PS: All errors of whatsoever kind are entirely my fault. Feel free to point them out to me. Contact details above.

de minimis non curat lex

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