# "SAPPER SUMMIT"

*RAE CORPS NEWSLETTER*

**VICTORIAN ENGINEERS**

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## Contents


| | |
|---|---|
| Australian Defence Medal | 1 |
| Sapper Summit Support | 2 |
| Rob Youl's Column | 2 |
| Coming Events | 4 |
| - Waterloo Dinner 2006 | |
| - Reserve Forces Day March | |
| Recent Events | 4 |
| - Anzac Day | |
| - 22 Regt Offrs Dine-In | |
| From the Units | 5 |
| - 22 Construction Regt | |
| Association Reports | 7 |
| Reunions (4 CER & 22 Const Regt) | 7 |
| Snippets fron the Past | 8 |
| The History of Fortifications | 9 |



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## AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE MEDAL

*The Minister for Defence has announced a new Medal. It is for four years service since the end of WW2, in either the ADF Regular or Reserve forces. The following are parts of various press releases we received:*

"As advised in the press the Australian Defence Medal is now a reality and members are encouraged to make an early application for this newly struck medal. The medal will be available on a first come first serve basis to all persons who have participated in the defence of Australia, whether as a National Serviceman, or in any other approved roles. An application Form (and the explanatory notes and requirements) is ... available .... for those members who wish to apply for the medal. Members should make themselves familiar with the explanatory notes before sending their application."

"With more than one million Australians being entitled to receive the medal, it will take time to process the applications but the Australian Government, through Defence, is committed to ensuring those eligible receive this important service recognition as soon as possible"

*Most of our readers would meet the requirement for the Medal. Details are available via the web at:* ***www.defence.gov.au/dpe/dpe- site/honours_awards/*** or by calling 1800 111 321.

***We will issue a special edition of Sapper Summit with the forms and guidelines. This will most likely be in July.***

.... *The Editor*

**Sapper Summit is produced four times a year by the RAE (Vic) Historical and Heritage Association Inc. (Reg No. A0046126U.)**

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The Secretary/Editor is Maj Austin Byrne (Rtd)

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*OAKLEIGH SOUTH, VIC, 3167*

## We need Your Articles!

Our deadlines for articles for the rest of 206 are:

- August issue by 12 August
- November issue by 28 October

We are looking for news items, suggestions, letters to the editor, etc, including any constructive criticisms. For the next issue, send them to either:

Austin Byrne on Tel: 9803 1061
email to: austbyrne@bigpond.com OR

Bruce Campbell on Tel: 9568 0320 or 5974 1685
email: bandbcampbell@optusnet.com.au

***Note that articles or opinions of authors or contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Association. The format and clarity of the articles is the responsibility of the contributor.***

## ROB YOUL'S COLUMN:

*This is the end of the series on Monty:*

### MONTGOMERY' S LAST THREE DECADES

December 1943, Monty was called home from Italy to command the land forces that would invade Normandy on D-Day, 6 June 1944. As the US provided most of the men, material and logistical support, General Dwight Eisenhower was appointed Supreme Allied Commander. Early on 8 June 1944, Monty went ashore after two nights aboard the destroyer HMS *Faulknor*. Montgomery directed all land operations until August, when leadership was reorganized and he took command of Twenty-First Army Group, the British and Canadian armies at the northern end of the Allied advance. On 1 September he became a field marshal, the highest rank in the British Army, technically higher than Eisenhower and George Marshall, Chief of Staff in Washington. (Marshall had resisted a similar promotion – he thought 'Field Marshal Marshall' sounded ridiculous!)

Soon after D-Day Montgomery proposed Operation Market Garden, a combined ground and airborne attack to gain crossings over the large Dutch rivers, the Maas, Waal and Neder Rijn, to aid Second Army's armoured advance. On 17 September 1944, three divisions of First Allied Airborne Corps landed in Holland. At the same time the British Thirtieth Corps advanced from the Meuse-Escaut Canal. They took the Nijmegen and Eindhoven bridges, but the Germans counter-attacked at Arnhem. Of 9000 Allied troops at Arnhem, only 2000 withdrew south across the Rhine on 25 September. Responsibility for the debacle, Monty's worst defeat, still inspires controversy.

On 17 December 1944, when the Germans thrust through the Ardennes splitting the Allies' Twelfth Army Group, Montgomery was given temporary command of all British and American forces on the north side of the bulge.

After Market Garden Montgomery began to question Eisenhower's strategies. His comments at a 7 January 1945 press conference drew a severe rebuke from Churchill and General Brooke and he almost lost his job. Montgomery advanced to the Rhine with Operations Veritable and Grenade in February 1945. After a meticulously planned Rhine crossing on 24 March, Montgomery sealed off the Danish peninsula, and on 4 May 1945 on Lüneburg Heath accepted the surrender of German forces in northern Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. On 22 May, Montgomery became Commander in Chief of the British Army of Occupation and a member of the Allied Control Commission.

Montgomery accepted a peerage in 1946, as Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. He was Chief Imperial General Staff from 1946-48; Chairman, Western Europe Chiefs of Staff Committee from 1948-51; and Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Europe from 1951-58; when he retired after 51 years of service life and published his memoirs. Their appearance ended his tenuous friendship with Eisenhower. He died in Alton, Hampshire on 24 March 1976, and was interred in Holy Cross churchyard, Binstead, Hampshire after a state funeral in St Georges Chapel, Windsor.

Evidence of racism, with the 1999 revelation two decades after his death of previously secret CIGS papers from 1947-48, tarnished his reputation. He had been strictly enjoined to keep private his views, which were contrary to British

policy, and agents were assigned to vet his official appearances. He supported apartheid publicly, and Chinese communism under Mao. When his mother died in 1949; Montgomery did not attend the funeral, claiming he was '*too busy*.'

In 1967 Montgomery campaigned against the legalisation of homosexuality in Britain, arguing that the *Sexual Offences Act 1967* was a 'charter for buggery' and that 'this sort of thing may be tolerated by the French, but we're British – thank God!' Ironically, a 2001 book, *The Full Monty,* by Montgomery's official biographer and long-time friend, Nigel Hamilton, alleged that the general was a 'repressed homosexual' who had 'quasi love affairs' with numerous young men and boys which fell short of sexual intimacy. However, there is no evidence of any physical relationship, and Montgomery's ten year marriage was a happy and loving one.

Montgomery was always a cautious, thorough strategist, often exasperating fellow commanders. He insisted on complete readiness of men and matériel before any attempted strike, a policy yielding steady, if slow, successes and ensuring his popularity amongst troops.

Wikipedia, edited, sums Monty up: Though far from flawless, he was a great and successful general through hard work, a refusal to conform to tradition and an open, clear and sensitive mind. He was humane and inspired great loyalty and motivation from staff and troops. These men defended him passionately, as British historian Richard Holmes discovered when he criticised Montgomery after the war. Much of his caution sprang from a desire not to throw away lives, as in the First World War. However, he was personally difficult – Montgomery did not get on with contemporaries and mostly associated with junior officers. He was insensitive, difficult socially, conceited, boastful and excessively sought personal glory.

Often Montgomery's statements about battles have ignited controversy. His orders to subordinates were clear and complete, yet communications with his superiors could be opaque and incomplete. In Normandy he gave the impression to Eisenhower and others that he was attempting a breakout, while playing down this possibility in orders to his subordinates. For example, shortly before Operation Goodwood, he removed Falaise as an objective, but did not forward his new orders to SHAEF. He later claimed his goal all along had been to pin down most of the German armour around Caen, allowing US forces then under his command to conduct the breakout. The practical result however was that, under Montgomery's command, the Allies essentially destroyed the German Army in Normandy, took Paris, encircled large numbers of Germans in the Falaise Gap, and set the stage for rapid advance to the German border.

Monty's press conference statements included the following eulogy to the GI:

*I first saw him in battle in Sicily and I formed a very high opinion of him. I saw him again in Italy. He is a very brave fighting man, steady under fire and with that tenacity in battle which marks the first-class fighting soldier. I have a great affection and admiration for the American soldier. I salute the brave fighting men of America. I never want to fight alongside better soldiers. I have tried to feel that I am almost an American soldier myself so that I might take no unsuitable action or offend them in any way ... Runstedt was really beaten by the good fighting qualities of the American soldier and by the team work of the Allies.*

Of Eisenhower, he said:

*The captain of our team is Eisenhower. I am absolutely devoted to Ike; we are the greatest of friends. It grieves me when I see uncomplimentary articles about him in the British press; he bears a great burden, he needs our fullest support, he has the right to expect it and it is up to all of us to see that he gets it.*

Ike thought Monty had dawdled in Sicily and missed a golden opportunity to race across the Straits of Messina and gain a toehold in Italy. He said of Monty at Falaise: *He was slow. ... And he was always bellyaching that he was being denied opportunities I was giving to other generals ... he's just obsessed with the idea of his own brilliance.'*

Montgomery was most successful with well planned attacks employing overwhelming force, such as El Alamein that took advantage of his Army's strengths. Montgomery's defenders attributed his caution to the fact that he commanded mostly British and Canadian forces which were limited in number and not easily replaced. His American counterparts, Bradley and Patton, in contrast, could call upon almost inexhaustible supplies of manpower from the United States.

Internet sources: – Juno Beach Centre, Digger History, Wikipedia and Grolier. Plus Nigel Hamilton's books on Montgomery and Leonard Mosley's: "Marshall – Organizer of Victory".

*.... Rob Youl*

***Editor's Note.***

*As Editor, I am very appreciative of Rob Youl's articles. They are always of interest to our readers, well written, punctual and can just be dropped into the magazine.*

# COMING EVENTS

## WATERLOO DINNERS

This year's Officers Waterloo Dinner will be held on Saturday 17 June at the Victoria Barracks Officers Mess.
Maj Brent Rodgers has been organizing the Dinner, and he has mailed out flyers to all who have attended in recent years.

Timing is 1900 hrs for 1930hrs. Entry is via the north gate, and bring some photo ID.

The Old Sappers Waterloo Dinner details are on page 6.

* * * * *

## RESERVE FORCES DAY MARCH SUNDAY 2 JULY 2006.

We mentioned this in the March issue; but here are the details again The Reserve Forces Day March will be on Sunday 2nd July.

Marchers should assemble in St Kilda Road, south of Princes Bridge (Melway Ref. Map 2F – G-H7) at 11.00 hrs for step off at 11.30 hrs. We will then march to the Shrine Forecourt for a short service.

This year's March celebrates several milestones including:

- 70th Anniversary of 21 Sqn, RAAF
- 90th Anniversary of Military Police
- 55th Anniversary of National Service

We will have our usual RAE Get Together after the March at Bells Hotel in South Melbourne.

# RECENT EVENTS

## ANZAC DAY

Once again, there were good turnouts to the Anzac Day Parades at the Oakleigh Barracks and at Ringwood Depot as both current and former members and their families remembered those who served in war.
Below is the address by CO, 22 Const Regt.

## ANZAC ADDRESS 2006 – LTCOL Raike, CO 22 Const Regt

The ANZACs largely grew up in the 1890s and the early part of the 20th Century. There were hardly any cars. Most had never seen a phone. There were no radios, TVs and certainly no Internet and laptops. Oakleigh was still largely a market garden area. The ANZACs came from a different era, yet somehow - they were very similar to us. They came from all walks of life: factory workers, labourers, students, engineers, public servants, chemists, storemen, clerks, farmers, and builders. Some were from Gippsland others from Melbourne. Some, for example, had been to Oakleigh State School and then started work, others were studying at Melbourne University. Australia was still a relatively young country. Federation had only taken place 14 years before the war, and many of the original Anzacs were first or second generation Australians. Others had come from all parts of the British Empire as well as other countries.

Exactly 91 years ago, like this morning, it was cold as the ANZACS approached the shore of Gallipoli. The waves lapping against the sides of the boat. Among the early troops that landed were sappers of the 1st Field Company and medics of the 3rd Field Ambulance. By the end of that first day nearly one in three of the first wave of ANZACs to land had been killed. Men of Victoria's 7th Battalion, that was referred to earlier this morning, went on to be awarded four Victoria Crosses in a single action at Lone Pine. By the end of the campaign one in five of the Anzacs in Gallipoli had been killed.

While this morning we commemorate the sacrifices made by the Anzacs, we as Australians are grateful to all those that have served and are still serving. Australia continues to send people into harms way. Private Jacob Kovco, from the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment who sadly passed away in Baghdad on Friday was a Victorian. He was surrounded by his mates in hospital as he lay dying and they draped an Australian flag over him. Their ANZAC day service today will be a particularly sad one. Today our Regiment is deploying CPL David Cooper to the Middle East and we wish him god speed and a safe return.

Some of the key lessons we can take from the ANZACs are the spirit of selfless service, mateship and their fierce loyalty to their Battalions and Regiments. When in 1917 the Army tried to split AIF Battalions to form new ones, the men who had lived through the Gallipoli campaign and had lost mates in their respective Battalions mutinied. Their Victorian Brigade Commander Pompey Elliot appealed to their better nature and they soldiered on.

I like to believe that the ANZAC spirit is alive today. When I served in a rifle platoon as a digger over 25 years ago we shared everything. If someone needed water we gave them water, if their pack was too heavy for them we shared the load, if anyone needed food we shared our food. Everything

was communal, there was no private property. I found it to be the same when I commanded a field troop 10 years later.

Those who are still serving need to train hard, remember to look after each other, work towards the good of the Regiment and the Units you belong to so that whenever we are called upon to deploy we're ready to go and we can say we've done all we can to maintain the traditions passed on to us by the ANZACs.

## "BACK TO 22"
## 22 CONST REGT OFFICERS DINING-IN
## Saturday 22 April 2006

22 Const Regt held a Regimental Officers Dining-In on 22 April. It was well organized and well attended.

The Regiment intends running such dinners in future years.

See page 7 for some snippets from the past produced by Bruce Campbell fot the Dinner.

# NEWS FROM THE UNITS

## 22 CONST REGIMENT

### Exercise Jackson's Hole – 105 Construction Sqn

105 Construction Squadron, 22 Construction Regiment recently conducted exercise Jackson's Hole at Puckapunyal covering 9 days from March 31st to April 9th. A strong turn out of soldiers from all troops including training troop proved early to make for a great exercise kicking off with a weekend of range practices.

Friday night saw the troops arriving at Bridges barracks setting up accommodation for the first weekend and 5 day construction exercise. The range practice proved to be a favourite for the exercise; as for many, this was their first live shoot since basic training. Saturday evening held a surprise for the troops with a night shoot being conducted with tracer rounds, making for a magnificent light show.

Following the excitement from 2 days of live firing and a quick change over of troops coming and going between different commitments, construction started on a number of different objectives set out for 105 Const Sqn. Troops were rallied to assist with the cleaning up of the quarry face in preparation for a blast in June. Plant assets were tasked with ongoing works on the RAA Hardstand in the hope it would be completed before the bad weather halts works for another year. While the remaining Sappers were trucked to the Donavan Joynt for the construction of two external staircases and other minor repair and preparation tasks.

At the Donavon Joynt members overcame issues with equipment and erected both staircase uprights, fully completing one set of stairs, with all materials being exhausted by the Friday afternoon. The RAA Hard Stand was also brought up to an acceptable level to be used at last, not perfect but it could be given a 'restricted use' sticker.

Our final weekend saw another change over of troops with a strong few staying for the last weekend of IMT training. First aid training given by Cpl Kelly kicked off our Saturday morning before the enemy set out to be hunted down and captured by the members of 105. With the aim set on training, the first few runs saw the enemy attack and retreat with a serious lack of bullet holes. For the final attack, the sharp eyed scouts of 105 spotted the enemy setting up a defensive position and quickly pulled troops back to gather for a flanking attack. The members from 105 performed impeccably with a silent approach and surprise, 105 defeated the enemy without setting off any of the enemy's booby traps.

All in all a very good exercise was conducted with many a training objective met. A great time had by all. Ubique

*... by SPR Chris HURWOOD*

## OPERATION ACOLYTE – COMMONWEALTH GAMES

During OP Acolyte I was part of the Engineering Task Group (ETG) Headquarters. The role of the engineering task group was to provide Technical Specialist Search and Explosive Ordnance Disposal support to the Victorian Police in order to reduce the risk of improvised device threats and incidents, or such hazards impacting on the Games.

I was employed on continuous service for 3 months from January to the end of March. I was accommodated at Maygar Barracks and my main employment site was Victoria Barracks. In Jan I was employed as part of the 7-member Search Advisor Group, the majority being fellow local reservists, in a reconnaissance capacity. I travelled out as required to areas deemed significant to the successful conduct of the games. Here I undertook and assisted in the independent assessments of Games related venues for the purpose of contingency planning.

Across Feb-Mar, my principal role was to serve as the ETG LO in HQ JTF 636. Here I was required to provide advice to HQ JTF 636 staff on the planning, conduct and progress of land-based search operations. I was also required to represent the CO ETG on all matters relating to, or affecting the ETG. In addition to these duties I was allocated the responsibility of consolidating the collective results from the Search Advisor Group's efforts during the reconnaissance and planning stage. I was also used as a Search Advisor in a training support function for developing the Security Task Groups also attached to the operation.

It was great to be part of the task group that was OP Acolytes' centre of gravity, to meet and work with full time and reserve members from other services and states (with characters a plenty and cretins unknown), and to be based at the operations "nerve centre." Better coverage of events than CNN, some would say. In total I conducted 5 months of continuous service with some parade nights and weekends allocated to lead up training and preparation for OP Acolyte.

I was fortunate that my civilian employer supports activities that are considered important or of benefit to the community. They were able to accept the significance of this service and enabled leave to be granted for these continuous periods.

The biggest challenge was adapting to the change in lifestyle. Long hours and a high workload, combined with trying to balance a personal/professional life (sporting and family commitments, the occasional civilian employment issues and ensuring financial obligations are met) posed challenges inherent to being deployed on operations in ones home locality. In hindsight, it would have been better to put most of ones personal life and associated factors on hold for the duration of the operation.

As a result of my experiences, I have a greater understanding of some of the personal factors that may need to be managed for ADF members' deploying in their home locations, ie RRF, and overseas.

I very much enjoyed the experience and am thankful of being given the opportunity to apply my training while being deployed. I now have a more robust understanding of venue search operations, and an awareness of the key issues associated with a domestic security operation. This has allowed me to develop my capability as a Combat Engineer Officer and, I hope, able to be considered for future domestic security operations.

.... *LT Misso, 39 CONST SQN*

Apologies, we do not have an update on activities from 4 CER.

# ASSOCIATION REPORTS

## OLD SAPPERS ASSOCIATION INC.

Association members participated in the Dawn Service at Oakleigh Barracks and the Anzac Day March in Melbourne where a number of descendants joined us.

Once again this year, our own Old Sapper Joe Jopling featured on page 1 and page 5 of the Herald Sun Wednesday 26 April.

Our Waterloo Dinner has been confirmed for Sunday 18 June at the Oakleigh Barracks at 1130 for 1200 hrs. Our guest speaker, Major David Bergman, currently serving as SO2 Survivability & Sustainability, Land Warfare Development Centre, will talk on future aspects of combat.

All Sappers are welcome to attend the dinner which will be a three-course meal costing $12.00 per head for members and partners and $15.00 per head for non-members. Drinks are at bar prices.

Those interested should contact our Secretary, Jim Crosling on 9438 2273 by Monday 12 June. Inquiries re membership are always welcome on the same number.

.... *Jim Muir*

## WOODPECKERS RAE ASSOCATION

The Editorial in the last issue is strongly supported by this writer. The Woodpeckers, as I recall, was the only organisation at the meeting at Oakleigh Barracks to support, in principle, the further consideration of a bridging type association. Further, the Woodys by way of the Memorandum of Understanding with 105 Const Sqn and 22 Const. Rgt is trying to engage the young and not so young serving Sappers with ex-members. One objective of this engagement is to enhance the young with some sapper history and encourage ongoing involvement with our association. All associations need new blood not only to keep the cogs turning but importantly to further their objectives. A Youth Policy would be great!!

**Anzac Day** To put words in the mouth of our March Marshall at the Shrine – "a great turnout" to honour the WW11 Forestry Companys. The Banner Party comprised of uniform members – Paul and Cath (Laragy) Cunningham, Fiona Ince, Andy Collins, Robin Smith and Chris Costello*. Our only veteran marching, Laurie Gear was supported by his grandson Mark and his wife Melanie and their children Jordan and Riann. Bringing up the rear were Graeme Spring, Tom Morley, Colin Ely and son Paul, Oliver Raymond, Heather Whelan, Karena Kerr-Scott, Tony Jackson,

Jim Colbert, John Morey and Michael Murray. Rob Youl has promised to turn out next year. We miss the booming "eyes right"!

* Thanks gals and guys – the presence of the uniform is the envy of many other vet groups.

**In The Wind:**

- Membership of Defence Reserves Association
- Meeting with CO 22 Const. Rgt and OC 105 Const Sqn
- AGM: 9/10 September – Melbourne location – TBA

Great to read of the appointment of Maj Brent Rodgers as 21C 4CER. The old "91 Officer Training Scheme" again bears fruit.

**Reserve Forces Day:**

The Woody Banner will be on parade in all its glory. Let's ensure we have a number of members marching and don't forget the lunch afterwards at Bells Hotel. If you are lunching, please let me know or the contacts named in Sapper Summit.

*.... from Michael Murray*
*(President)*

**Calling All Past & Present Sappers.**

***Invitation***

Our RAE birthday reunion function for 2006 is to be held on

**FRIDAY 30th June 2005**

at the 4 CER Depot,
Dublin Road Ringwood East.

Timings 7.30pm onwards.
Costs TBA

***The evening is open to all past and present sappers, plus support staff of the RAE and their partners — It's a chance to catch up with the old and bold as well as the new. Hope to see you there!***

More details will be in the next edition, and on schoolfriends.com.au

**Contact Details**: Margaret Handte / Jenko – 03 9879 2986-voice mail

## 22 CONSTRUCTION REGIMENT REUNION – 2006.

***The next Reunion will be held at Warrnambool in October.***

***Please put the weekend 27 / 28/ 29 October in your diary and keep it free.***

The Downtown Motel has been booked!
(Single $80; Double $84; Triple $105)

***Friday night dinner will be at Macy's Bistro. Saturday is a mystery tour (cheese and ... ), followed by the Dinner at night. Sunday is an endless brunch. All with lots of good company!***

Enquiries and bookings to:
Jenny Eaton,
PO Box 96 Paynesville, 3880
Email: jendsen@bigpond.com.au
Mobile: 0427 196 038.

## SOME SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST.

## 22 CONSTRUCTION REGT RAE

*Maj Bruce Campbell was asked for some historical information for the recent 22 Const Regt's Officers' Dine In. He put the following together:*

The concept of Supplementary Reserve Engineer units arose in the late 1940s as a means of shortening the training time needed to provide military construction engineers. Discussions led by Maj Gen Sir Clive Steele DSO MC resulted in agreement that Government Departments would sponsor the formation of these units, which were to consist basically of engineers in uniform with minimum military training, to carry out construction tasks in the Comm Z.

The Victorian Government led the way when the then CRB, SR&WSC and MMBW agreed in 1950 to sponsor 22 Const Regt, to include 104, 105, 106 and 107 Sqns. The first CO, Lt Col I J O'Donnell OBE and the Sqn OC's were appointed on 4 August 1950 and 221 members of the Regt attended its first Annual Camp at Puckapunyal commencing 30 September 1950. All original officers and most NCO's were WW2 veterans but most of the training at that first camp was provided by ARA Cadre. The training consisted mainly of basic soldiering and a bailey bridge was built on Sunday Creek.

Over the next 6 years training was restricted almost entirely to Annual Camps, apart from limited Offr/NCO training, and with competition for recruits provided by newly introduced National Service and the Korean War. As a result of difficulty in recruiting, unit membership suffered to the extent that in 1956 only 138 all ranks attended Annual Camp. This recruiting crisis led to renewed efforts by the units and their sponsors which resulted in membership increasing again to approximately 200 by 1960 and camp attendances averaging 250 at camps in the period 1965 to 1980.

In the early years all Annual Camps were held under canvas, but from about 1965 we generally enjoyed hutted camps with visits to the luxury of SME about every fourth year.

In 1956 RHQ introduced the policy of no Offr/NCO promotion prior to full RAE qualification and this led to rapid improvements in training standards. Also, strangely by the late 1960s, following the retirement of most of our WW2 veterans, the pressure was on the new breed of Offrs/NCOs to perform and they responded admirably. By the 1960s unit training was benefiting by the attendance by Offrs/NCOs at TEWTs, courses and specialist training, including SME, between camps. Similarly by 1965 recruiting was better organised with the insistence that all recruits completed enlistment procedures and receive their full uniform and kit plus some basic training before attending their first camp.

Training was further improved in the late 1960s when recruits spent their first camp in the newly established recruit training Sqn and then proceeded through a three year FE training program including bridging, watermanship, minewarfare, demolitions, water supply and IMT. Also in the mid 1960's Sqns introduced a number of unit training week-ends between camps, in which training could include subjects eg firing Anti Tank rockets, which could not be fitted into the camp programs. From 1969, these weekends were replaced when Lt Col Bruce Addis introduced a most successful wing training scheme and once again centralised all training under RHQ.

Small arms training became very popular and in the mid 1970's 22 Regt encouraged its members to take part in the Annual 3 Div Small Arms competition. Over a period of 3 successive years individual teams were entered representing three Sqns as well as RHQ, competing against RAI, RAA and all other arms. In that period the 22 Regt teams were most successful, winning the rifle trophy each year, the combined (rifle, SMG and pistol) twice and the SMG once, as well as a number of individual trophies.

Civil engineering projects became a feature of Regt activities when, during the 1952 Camp an Igloo training store was built at Sunday Creek and in succeeding years many projects were completed. These included road and bridge works at Pucka and in various State Forests during Annual Camps as well as individual Sqns carrying out week-end projects including erection and removal of temporary bailey bridges for the CRB and SR&WSC and water reticulation works, eg for Scout Jamborees.

An ambitious project was completed in January 1963 when 84 members of the Regt flew to Wewak, PNG to replace ARA members of 21 Const Sqn and to build 2 timber bridges and carry out road works. Other O/S experience was gained in the period 1967-71 when a limited number of officers spent short periods in SVN.

By the late 1980's members of the Regt were sent as far afield as Queensland and NT to perform engineering tasks for major exercises such as the Kangaroo series.

IMT became an increasingly important part of training, especially following Australia's involvement in SVN. The first exercise held at Pucka in 1956 suffered from 50mm of rain during the two days in the field. As experience was gained in later years the standard improved greatly, the most memorable being that held in 1975, when the RAAF provided helicopter support and approx 200 troops experienced airlifts in a tactical situation.

By the late 1980s the concept of sponsorship collapsed due to the disbandment of most of the State Govt Depts involved and to monetary constraints, and 22 Regt became a normal conditions unit, with consequently greater difficulty in gaining recruits, particularly those with construction skills. In later years the Regt's organization also changed, with the disbandment of 104 Sqn in 1975, 107 in 1992 and the absorption of 106 into105 in 1997. The addition of 39 Sqn to the Regt in 1995 partly offset these losses.

May 22 continue to progress well into the future. All retired officers wish the presently serving members well for the future and trust that the Regiment will continue its present great traditions building further on these in the years ahead.

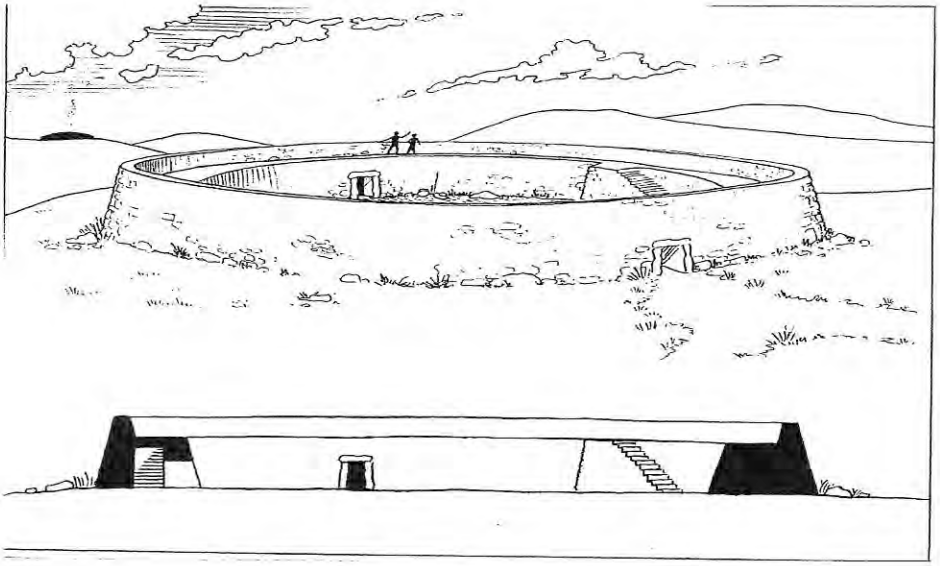
.... *Bruce A Campbell, Maj (Retd) RFD ED.*

# THE HISTORY OF FORTIFICATIONS

*This is Jim Newlands second installment on the history of fortifications. It will be continued later in the year.*

## EPISODE 2 BROCHS AND DUNS

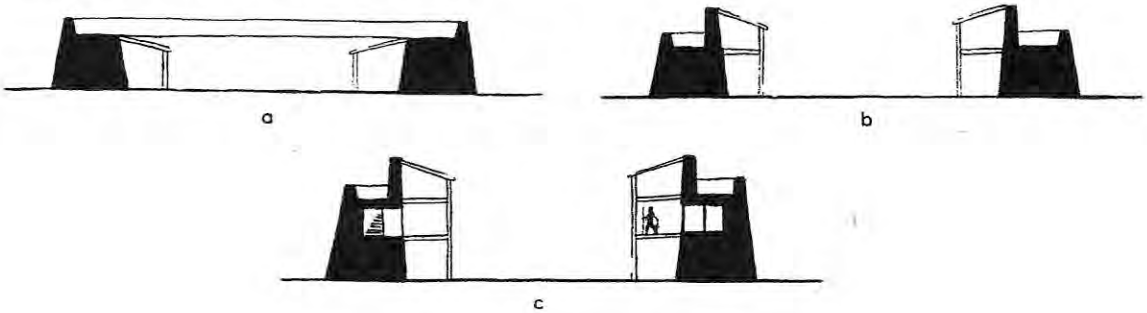
Few examples of rampart hill forts can be found in Scotland or Ireland. The local populace developed two other types of defences which were used both as living quarters and also for protection when necessary. In Scotland and the Orkney and Shetland Islands, the broch became the principal structure. In Ireland, the dun was more common. Both were similar in structure, but had significant differences. Figure 3 shows the appearance of a typical dun, with a cross section below.



***2.1 Schematic representation of a typical dun.***
*From J. Forde-Johnston Castles and Fortifications of Britain and Ireland. Book Club Associates (London) 1977 p36*

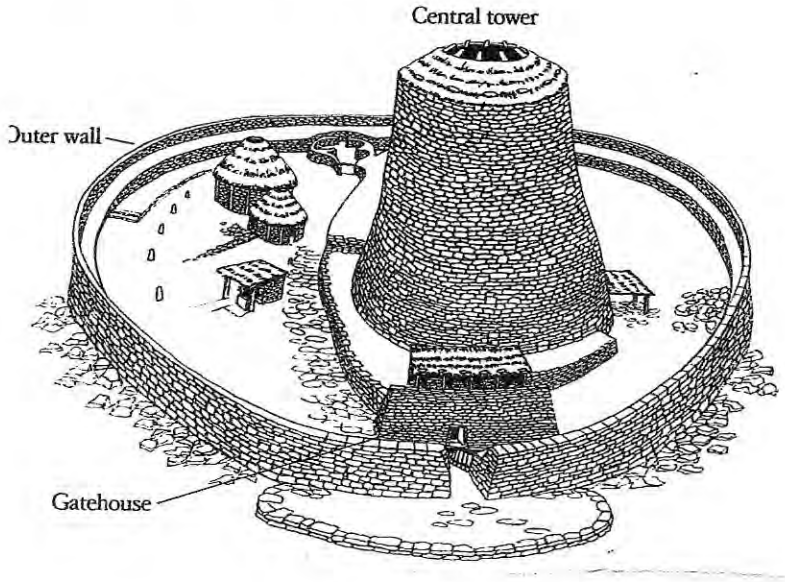
Duns were stone built, often circular, and usually with an inner diameter of at least 20 metres. The outer walls varied from 3 to 5 metres thick, with a solid rubble core, and well constructed inner and outer faces. The entrance passage was small and narrowed to allow a door to be fitted. A staircase in the wall allowed access to the ramparts. It is believed that the smaller duns were built to provide protection/accommodation for a family unit. Forde-Johnston has a detailed description of the distribution and structure of these units.

Duns required more than walls to accommodate a family, or tribe. Shelter was provided by roofed structures within the dun. Where the dun wall was higher, two layers of shelter were built. This was the galleried dun. where people could live or could protect their livestock. The development from simple to galleried dun is shown below.

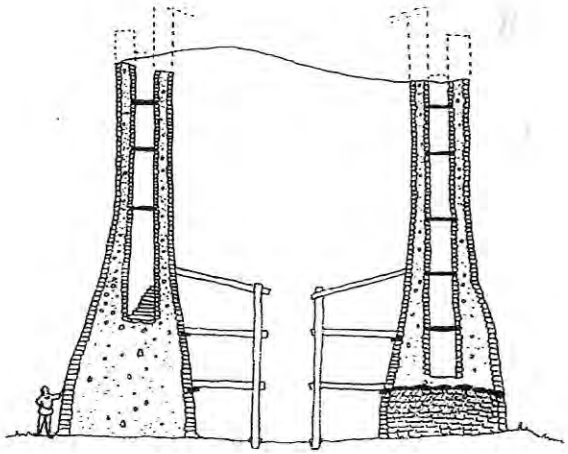



2.2 **Schematic diagram showing the development from Simple Dun to Galleried Dun**
*From J. Forde-Johnston Castles and Fortifications of Britain and Ireland. Book Club Associates (London) 1977 p37*

Brochs were similar to duns, being stone-built. The major difference between duns and brochs lies in the structure of the broch. The broch was built in such a way that the walls were double walls. People could move within the walls by means of a sloping floor. This area could be used for shelter or for storage. The narrow entrance was easy to protect.




**2.3**
**The Scottish Broch of Clickhimmin. The central tower was almost 12 metres high.**
*From Ian Hogg The History of Fortifications – Orbis Publishing 1981 p15*



**2.4 Composite cross section of a broch, showing chambers and galleries within the thickness of the walls, with wooden lean-tos providing shelter in the central courtyard.**
*From Kightly, Charles "Strongholds of the Realm" Thames and Hudson (London) 1979 p15*

In Scotland, the broch at Glenelg, on the West Coast, is readily accessible, and provides an excellent example of the features of this type of structure.

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