

RAE CORPS NEWSLETTER ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION (Vic) Inc



Once a Sapper, Always a Sapper

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Sapper Summit

From the President RAE Association (Vic) Inc

ANZAC DAY 2015

Dear fellow Sappers

It is with great pride that I am able to advise that the RAE Association (Vic) Inc has been allocated a position in the 2015 Anzac Day March by the Chief Marshal LTCOL David Blackwell RFD (Retd).

This is a wonderful opportunity for the Association to participate in such a significant anniversary event being celebrated in 2015. All Sappers are invited to participate in this historic occasion, both ARA and Reserve, serving and retired.

The Association is currently having an Engineer banner made in Victoria, behind which we will proudly march.

I have written to LTCOL David Blackwell on behalf of the Association to thank him for this historic privilege and wonderful opportunity for our inaugural activity for the Association. More information will follow as it comes to hand. May I reinforce that this is a great opportunity for all sappers to march and acknowledge Australia's wonderful tradition.

OBE (Over Bloody Eighty)

It is with great pleasure that on behalf of the RAE Association Vic (Inc) Committee of Management that the Association has decided that when a member reaches the age of 80 years (OBE) they will be granted an honorary life membership of the Association and no fees will be required to be paid, ie, they become life members and will receive a membership certificate from the committee upon receipt of an application form see p11)

2015 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscriptions are now due for 2015. An invoice will be sent to you shortly. The cost for 2015 is \$15.00.

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Sapper Summit is edited by
Graeme Lambert for the Royal
Australian Engineers' Association
(Victoria) Inc

SAPPER SUMMIT

Sapper Summit is produced four times a year
By the RAE Association (Vic) Inc
The President is Lt Col Colin Bowater (Retd)
The Secretary is former WO1 Jim Davis
The Editor is Graeme Lambert

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RAE Association (Vic) web site is under development.

Visit: www.raevictoria.asn.au

Members who are 60 years of age and over may elect to pay a once off subscription of \$150 which will entitle them to a concessional life membership and no further subscriptions are necessary.

AWARDS TO 22 ENGINEER REGIMENT

The RAE Association (VIC) Inc is keen to establish a strong working relationship with the Regiment and to this end the Association will provide three (3) trophies to be awarded to Sappers in the following categories:

- Sapper – RAE soldier
- JNCO – RAE soldier CPL and below
- Junior Officer – Lt

These trophies are a small acknowledgement of the efforts of the soldiers and the prizes are to be awarded to members of the Regiment deemed to have displayed outstanding service or contribution during 2014.

In addition the RAE Association (Vic) Inc in conjunction with the Southern Region Corps Committee will have an Honour Board constructed and inscribed with the recipients' names to be displayed in a prominent position in the Ringwood Barracks.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

It is planned to hold a social activity for members and their partners in March 2015. It will have a WW1 Anzac theme with displays and memorabilia. Drinks will be available at bar prices and finger food. Similar to this year's back to the Regiment function.

This is a warning order with more information to follow.

A FAREWELL AND A WELCOME

On behalf of the RAE Association (Vic) Inc I wish to thank LtCol Glen Pilbeam whose term of office finishes in November this year.

Glen has been the CO at 4CER for two years and then CO of 22 combined ER for this year 2014.

Glen has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Association and has through his efforts helped the Association to grow. His assistance with the Back to the Regiment reunion function in March was excellent, firstly in being able to use the Oakleigh Barracks and by providing support staff and with his personal contribution, support and involvement the night was most successful. Good luck Glen and we wish you all the best for the future.

WELCOME

We welcome the new Commanding Officer LtCol Michelle McCormack. Michelle joined the ARA in 1994, studying at the Australian Defence Force Academy and being awarded a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) (Honours). She graduated from RMC to RAE.

From 2000-2002 LtCol McCormack completed a Masters of Engineering Science Degree part time at the University of New South Wales.

Her first posting in 1999 was to 17th Construction Squadron. Michelle has had a number of Corps and Non Corps postings. Please see Lt Col McCormack's biography within this issue of SS.

Once again we take this opportunity to welcome LtCol McCormack to 22 ER.

PATRON

On behalf of the RAE Association (Vic) Inc I have great pleasure in announcing that Col John Wertheimer has accepted the position as Patron of the Association. We see this as a very significant appointment as we continue to build the Association. John has been a magnificent benefactor for the Corps both in his ARA and ARES service. Sir, we thank you again for accepting this appointment.

Ubique
Colin Bowater
PRESIDENT

MILITARY HISTORY

Rob Youl's Column

Malaysia

Continued from Sapper Summit 87.

This operation required 60 000 artillery shells, 30 000 mortar rounds, and 2000 bombs for 35 terrorists killed or captured. Each represented 1500 man-days of patrolling or waiting in ambush. But it brought the end of the emergency one step closer.

The Malayan Emergency saw herbicides first employed tactically, with 2,4D and 2,4,5T used to clear roadsides to reduce their potential for insurgent ambushes, destroy crops and eliminate large belts of cover. On their part, after Gurney's death, the CTs changed their tactics by reducing attacks on economic targets and civilians, improving their political organisation and subversion, bolstering supply networks and doing more jungle farming. (But where did they get their weapons and ammunition? Presumably via Thailand as the navy covered the seas.)

Policing and politics

Besides ensuring civil rights for Chinese Malays, Templer accelerated the formation of the Malayan army, and emphasised that the Emergency itself was the main impediment to decolonisation. He also increased bounties for useful intelligence from civilians and expanded the Special Branch. In late 1955, the Malayan and Singapore governments announced, with intensive publicity, an amnesty, including the possibility of *laissez-passers* to China, but refused to negotiate with the MNLA. However, few surrendered as the MNLA had had time to strengthen resolve internally. This led politicians to consider negotiations with the MCP. Moreover, realising that conflict had so far been fruitless, Chin Peng felt similarly. A conference in a school at Bal-ing, Kedah, the northern state, between Chin and two lieutenants, one a Malay Muslim, and Tunku Abdul Rahman and Dato Cheng-Lock from Malaya and David Marshall, Singapore's Chief Minister, all elected, saw Chin's demands totally dismissed. Accordingly, the conflict heightened. (In response, Commonwealth countries sent in more troops; New Zealand SAS personnel and three RNZAF squadrons arrived at this time.)

The Tunku rescinded the amnesty on 8 February 1956, five months after its announcement, decreeing that he would only accept 'complete surrender'; soon after the government intensified the war. The MCP wanted to resume talks, without success. In July 1957, weeks before independence, the MCP again sought talks, requesting that its members

should be given privileges enjoyed by citizens, and armed members of the MCP not be punished. Rahman did not respond, and when he became prime minister of an independent Malaya on 31 August 1957, the insurrection lost its rationale as an anti-colonial war. The last serious MNLA resistance in 1958 at Teluk Anson ended in surrender, with MNLA remnants fleeing into Thailand. On 31 July 1960 the Malayan government ended the emergency, and Chin Peng left southern Thailand for Beijing where he was housed in the International Liaison Bureau, alongside other Asian Communist Party leaders.

Diggers

Australia had become involved in 1950 when RAAF aircraft and personnel came to Singapore. Dakotas from 38 Squadron flew cargo runs, moved troops and dropped paratroops and leaflets in Malaya, whilst 1 Squadron's six Lincoln bombers (elongated Lancasters) increasingly assaulted Communist positions. A major military success in July 1954, east of Ipoh in Perak state, was Operation Termite, when eleven RAAF and RAF Lincolns simultaneously attacked camps. Paratroop drops and ground attacks followed, with further bombing runs ten days later; some 13 Communists died and one surrendered. Later the RAAF deployed Canberra bombers and Sabre fighters in action.

When Second Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (2RAR), arrived in Penang in October 1955, the Emergency seemed quenched but lengthy 'mopping up' remained. Crossing to the mainland in January 1956, 2RAR started on this task and for 20 months, as part of 28 Commonwealth Brigade, fought in Perak: extensive patrolling, surveillance and protecting New Villages. Contacts were rare, however, and the battalion killed two Communists in an ambush on 25 June 1956 but lost three of its own. In October 1957, 3RAR replaced 2RAR and, following six weeks jungle training, began pushing insurgents into the Perak and Kedah jungles, separating them from food and other supplies. Early successes confirmed the Communists were weakening, and, by April 1959, Perak, a guerrilla stronghold, was declared secure. By late 1959 many more Communists had moved north into Thailand. When 3RAR left Malaya in October 1959, its replacement, 1RAR, operating along the border, made no contact with the enemy, and of course could not enter Thailand, even when intelligence located enemy concentrations. The battalion stayed on after hostilities ceased, going home in October 1961, when 2RAR returned. In August 1962 it undertook operations in the northern states of Perlis and Kedah, finishing its tour in August 1963.

Australia also provided artillery and engineering support, and a RAAF airfield construction squad-

ron built the main runway for Butterworth base. RAN ships serving in Malayan waters fired on suspected communist positions in 1956 and 1957, and probably at other times. Strategically, Australian forces in Malaya formed part of the Far East Strategic Reserve, created in April 1955 to deter external communist aggression against south-east Asian countries, especially Malaya and Singapore.

Lasting thirteen years, the Malayan Emergency was our longest continuous military commitment. Thirty-nine Australian servicemen, mostly soldiers, were killed in Malaya; 15 of these were in combat. Other Commonwealth troops, besides the NZ units mentioned earlier, came from Southern Rhodesia, and its successor, the Rhodesian and Nyasaland Federation (the all-White C Squadron SAS and the Rhodesian African Rifles [White officers and Black NCOs and soldiers]), and 1600 soldiers from First Battalion, Fiji Infantry Regiment, which lost 25 men in action—Malaysia and Fiji remain close.

Despite the communists' defeat in 1960, doughty Chin Peng revived his campaign in 1967. It lasted until 1989, becoming known as the Communist Insurgency War, but failed; by now it was a Malaysian conflict.

The ledger

The conflict saw 6710 MNLA guerrillas killed, and 1287 captured; 2702 surrendered during hostilities and some 500 more did so at the end. Malayan troops and police killed during the fighting numbered 1345, with 519 Commonwealth personnel. Moreover, 2478 civilians were killed, with another 810 recorded as missing. Internet sources list a small number of war crimes and allude to more, acknowledging that, as guerrillas wore civilian clothes, identification in the jungle was difficult.

Comparisons with Vietnam include the number of combatants (40 000 versus 8000 Communists, as against perhaps 1 200 000 US and ARVN versus 250 000 NVA and 100 000 VC); international support, including modern weaponry, from China and Russia across borders, compared with the geographic isolation of the MNLA; equally the MNLA's political isolation; Britain's non-conventional approach; the fact that the Japanese campaign had forged many good British-Malayan relationships, as against French acquiescence in Indo-China; British emphasis on training individual soldiers and sub-units in jungle warfare schools; and whereas the MNLA only had Thailand towards the end, Laos and Cambodia were havens for the Vietcong and NVA. On the other hand, both conflicts saw expensive and inaccurate area bombing, questionable resettlement programs, disruptive search and destroy operations; gross intimidation of civilians by both sides; and, as ever, huge challenges for

ordinary soldiers. And in both theatres, national service officers and men fought alongside regulars.

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

USE OF ARMY RANK FOLLOWING DISCHARGE

This information is provided to members to ensure proper procedures are followed and no one is embarrassed by using their former rank inappropriately.

Use of military rank upon retirement is not an automatic entitlement. The following is an extract from an email I received on this matter from DOCM. (Ed)

UNCLASSIFIED

Good morning

Thank you for your email. If you wish to seek approval to be included on the Retired List, grant of an Honorary Army Title and permission to wear uniform relating to former service, you will need to apply in writing to the Delegate who is the Director General Career Management – Army, BRIG P.M. Nothard, AM, CSC. An email or letter can be forwarded direct to myself for processing through this office.....

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me direct.

Kind regards

Directorate of Reserve Officer Career Management - Army

Brindabella Business Park
BP29-04-128

<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/sites/DROCMA>

Please consider the environment before printing this email



Your Royal Australian Engineers Association (Victoria) Inc Committee

President: Colin Bowater
Vice President: Don Hughes
Secretary: Jim Davis
Treasurer: Maureen Rundell
Members: Cliff Parfitt
 Tony Jackson
 Eric Howatt
 Margaret Handte
 Graeme Lambert



Caps
 \$15 pickup
 \$22 post-
 ed
 Orders to
 Treasurer
 Maureen
 Rundell

The Stigma of Mental Illness

Thought provoking podcast.

With many serving and retired sappers dealing with mental health problems, this podcast is presented to offer readers the opportunity to consider matters related to understanding and dealing with mental health issues. The podcast summary is:

About one in five Australians is grappling with a mental illness at some point in his life and the number is growing. Stigma is – still today - the main obstacle to progress in the field of mental health. Why is this stigma so difficult to overcome and how can we develop effective intervention against it? If you are worried about your mental health you can contact Beyondblue on 1300 22 4636 - or Lifeline on 13 11 14. Ctrl+Click on the link below for this podcast:

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bigideas/stigma-of-mental-illness/5601960>

100th Anniversary of Anzac - Military History Podcasts

Brendan Nelson Director of The Australian War Memorial:



In this podcast, Brendan Nelson discusses, what can we learn from the archival collection of the Australian War Memorial? And why is it important to guard the records which the WWI soldiers themselves made? Brendan Nelson explains how these records demonstrate the spirit of the Great War soldiers and how they can help understand a generation that gave a nation its story.

Ctrl+Click on the following link to listen to the podcast:

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bigideas/here-is-their-spirit/5863356>

Duty and Service in The Great War

In this podcast, Historian Bart Ziino explores some of the conflicting and complex attitudes towards duty and service.

Ctrl+Click on the following link to listen to the podcast:

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bigideas/duty-and-service-in-the-great-war/5826288>

RAE CORPS SHOP

If you wish to get items from the Corps Shop:
 Telephone them on (02) 8782 5401 on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 1000 and 1400 hrs, or email them at: corpsshop@aamme.com.au

Sapper Summit from 2015

Sapper Summit is produced for members of RAE Assoc (Vic). From 2015 Sapper Summit will be available free of charge to all members. Electronic copies will be provided and hard copies will be sent to members without email addresses. Some hard copies will be available to 22 ER and organizations that have regular columns in Sapper Summit. Individuals who wish to have Sapper Summit must join the RAE Association (Vic).



From The Regiment

Welcome
Commanding Officer
22nd Engineer
Regiment

8229085 LTCOL Michelle McCormack, RAE



LTCOL McCormack was born on 9 July 1976 in Brisbane. She joined the Australian Regular Army (ARA) in 1994, studying at the Australian Defence Force Academy and being awarded a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) (Honours) in 1998. In 1997, LTCOL McCormack graduated from the Royal Military College to the Royal Australian Corps of Engineers. From 2000-2002, LTCOL McCormack completed a Masters of Engineering Science degree part-time through the University of New South Wales. Her first posting in 1999 was to the 17th Construction Squadron, where she commanded a detachment in an Aboriginal community in 1999 and a Troop in 2000. In January 2000, LTCOL McCormack deployed to East Timor as part of INTERFET where, as Troop Commander, she was responsible for the provision of shelter, power, water supply and sanitation to the whole Battle Group deployed to the border region.

In 2001 LTCOL McCormack was promoted to Captain and posted to Headquarters Land Command Engineers at Land Headquarters in Sydney as the Staff Officer Grade 3 (Engineer Operations) and the Formation Resources Manager. In 2003, LTCOL McCormack was selected for the John Holland Constructions detachment, working initially as a Site Engineer on Sydney's new Nuclear Research Reactor and later as a Site Engineer on the construction of a 350m long concrete and steel wharf with a 150m long concrete access

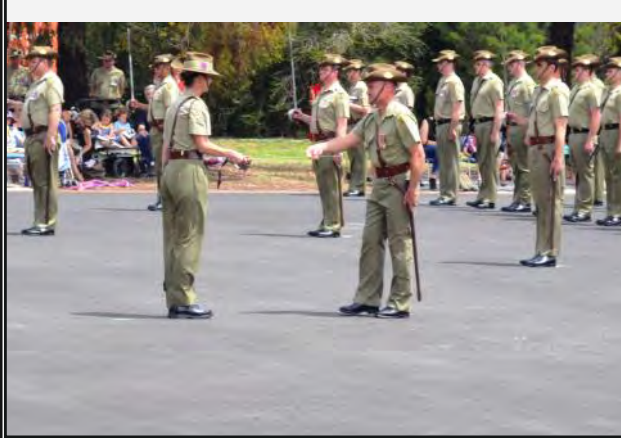
jetty, for the expansion of BHP Billiton's iron ore exports in Port Hedland, Western Australia. In 2004 LTCOL McCormack was posted to 19th Chief Engineer Works and, whilst on Higher Duties, was appointed Officer Commanding and Senior Project Manager for one of the Works Sections, and for half of that time also the unit's Operations Officer. During this period LTCOL McCormack was concurrently responsible for project delivery in several Aboriginal communities and Pacific Island countries. Further, during her posting to 19th Chief Engineer Works, she deployed to and commanded an Engineering Works Team in Aceh, Indonesia as part of Operation Sumatra Assist.

In 2007, LTCOL McCormack was promoted to Major and posted to the Replacement Main Battle Tank Project at the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) in Melbourne, where she was the Project Manager for the Battle Management System and the Multi-Spectral Camouflage System.

LTCOL McCormack transferred from the ARA to the Standby Reserve in April 2009 where she undertook project work for the ASLAV and M113 projects at DMO, as well as for Army Personnel Agency – Melbourne (APA-M). In early October 2010, LTCOL McCormack transferred to the Active Reserve and was posted to APA-M as Staff Officer Grade 2 – Plans, and later as Careers Advisor. She continued in this role when the Directorate of Reserve Officer Career Management – Army (DROCM-A) was formed. In 2014 LTCOL McCormack was posted to Melbourne University Regiment (MUR) as the Officer Commanding Monash Company, responsible for the training of officer cadets.

In 2004, LTCOL McCormack was selected as the Institution of Engineers Australia (Sydney Division) 2004 Young Professional Engineer of the Year. Her civilian employ-

ment has been as a Senior Project Manager for Building and Infrastructure projects with Davis Langdon (now AECOM) and Sinclair Knight Merz (now Jacobs). In 2013, LTCOL McCormack chose to take a career break from her private sector job in order to prioritize her Army and home life. She is happily married to Sean and a mother to two highly energetic future Sappers and St Kilda players, aged 6 and 4. She enjoys travelling (when time allows), physical fitness and dining out.



With the handing over of the Parade Commander's sword, LTCOL G. Pilbeam hands over command of 22 Engineer Regiment to LTCOL McCormack on 22 November 2015.

SAPPER SUMMIT SUPPORT

Can you help with news items, suggestions, and letters to the editor, etc.?

Articles, essays and reviews are welcomed.

Please forward your contributions to
Editor, Sapper Summit
PO Box 610
HEATHMONT VIC 3135
or email:

sappersummit@gmail.com

The target dates for articles for the last edition in 2014 is: March issue by 15 Feb 15
Please send items in MS Word format.

Note that articles or opinions of authors or contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Royal Australian Engineers Association (Vic) Inc. The format and clarity of the articles is the responsibility of the contributor.

RAE Association (Vic) ANNUAL AWARDS

The RAE Association (Vic) Awards are made on an annual basis to the sapper selected for outstanding performance in the preceding year in the following categories:

- Sapper
- Junior Non Commissioned Officer
- Junior Officer

The RAE Southern Region Corps Committee has funded the construction of an Honour Board. This will display the names of each award winner and it will be prominently displayed at 22 ER.

2014 award winners are:

LT Steph Hogan,
CPL Hamish Goddard
SPR Rory Williams

The President and members of the RAE Association (Vic) congratulate the winners of this year's awards. The Association also recognizes and congratulates all members of 22 ER for their dedicated service to the Regiment, the Corps and the country.

2014 awards were presented on parade by Vice President RAE Association (Vic) LTCOL Don Hughes (Retd)



RECENT PROMOTIONS

The RAE Association Victoria and all sappers recognize and congratulate the members of 22 ER who have been promoted since the last edition of Sapper Summit:

Mark (Sharky) Helmuth promoted to CPL
CAPT Tony Johnston - to MAJ
LCPL Daniel Bush - to CPL
LCPL Simon Hawley - to CPL
LCPL Anthony McAuliffe - to CPL

HIGH COUNTRY RAIL TRAIL

Since 2012 22CR (the predecessor of 22ER) has been actively involved in the production and supply of timber materials in support of the restoration of timber trestle bridges located along the High Country Rail Trail. This trail was recently converted to a spectacular cycling route in North-East Victoria.

Originally, the High Country Rail Trail (HCRT) was constructed as a timber haulage route for the forestry industry, rapidly growing in the area at the beginning of the 20th century. From the early 1950s, the HCRT was converted to a heavy material supply route to support construction of the Snowy Mountain Hydroelectric Scheme. It was exclusively used for this purpose and later hydroelectric scheme operations, until its closure in 1981.

The HCRT Committee proposed the establishment of a cycling trail along the former railway route in 1993 and since 1998 it has been appointed to manage the re-development of the rail trail. In the early stages of the re-development, a number of timber trestle bridges had to be repaired to meet the requirements of the new cycling trail.

At the beginning of 2012, 22ER was requested to assist the HCRT in the restoration of the first trestle bridge at Koetong. Following a squadron reconnaissance to the area, 22ER elected to support the HCRT by providing its forestry and field timber milling capabilities.

Over the last three years, sappers were able to assess the timber yield of the selected harvesting coupe and produce bridge construction grade timber to a standard required by the bridge construction team.

Squadron forestry operations involve the establishment of a forestry harvesting coupe and its autonomous operation in field conditions. All materials are harvested by hand felling and crosscutting, supported by light plant equipment.

Immediately after felling, all trees are assessed for timber yield and transported to the landing site for milling.

Milling is carried out by the use of the portable Lucas Mill, operated by skilled sappers from 22ER. The milling operations often require innovative skills, as the size of the produced bridge bearers exceeds lengths of six metres and one tonne in weight. It is very challenging to safely manoeuvre such a heavy structure in a field setting using only light plant equipment.

Once the milled timber is graded, it is transported to the storage location, and prepared for air drying and long term storage.

At the beginning of 2014, reconstruction of the first of the trestle bridges was completed using only timber milled by Sappers from 22ER. In October 2014, 22ER is conducting another exercise in the Koetong area to establish new forestry coupe and to further develop its forestry capability within the Corps of Engineers. Timber milled during this October exercise will allow restoration of the next timber trestle bridge along the High Country Rail Trail.

CAPT David Ferwerda, OC 10 CES

Ex CHONG JU

Exercise Chong Ju is the annual firepower demonstration conducted at the Puckapunyal Military Training Area. RAE Association (Vic) President, Colin Bowater and Vice President, Don Hughes attended the 2014 exercise as guests of LTCOL Craig Madden.



See **“More from the Regiment”** for WO2 Ince’s article on Exercise Chong Ju 2014.

**RAE Association (Vic) Proudly Announces
PATRON (designate)**

COLONEL John Wertheimer AM, RFD (Retd)

As the President advised in his column, Colonel John Wertheimer (Retd) has accepted an invitation from the Committee of Management to assume the role of Patron of the RAE Association (Vic) Inc. Ratification of this appointment will be formalized at the 2015 AGM.

John Wertheimer completed secondary school at Melbourne High School in 1954 and graduated to the Royal Australian Engineers from the Royal Military College, Duntroon in December 1958.

After completing the Fellowship Diploma (Civil Engineering) at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, he was posted to 21 Construction Squadron at Puckapunyal. During his three years with this unit, he served in Wewak, New Guinea (he was a member of the 3 man reconnaissance party for the relocation to New Guinea and then leader of the advance party) for twelve months.

Projects included the Wewak-Maprik Road and the Vanimo airstrip. Other service periods were at Hobart, Queenscliff, Broadmeadows and Sydney.

During 1964 he was appointed Second in Command 7 Field Squadron at Enoggera, Queensland.

This unit was the first to move to Sabah during the confrontation period with Indonesia as part of 17 Gurka Brigade with HQ in Brunei. He was a member of the 3 man reconnaissance party from Australia and then leader of the advance party of 7 Field Squadron.

Following the return of 7 Field Squadron to Australia, in 1965 he went to Popondetta, Papua as the District Works Engineer which was a Major's appointment within the 19 CRE Wks unit. His responsibilities included the road construction Popondetta to Kokoda, including the investigation work for the bridge over the Kumusi River; water supply to Popondetta and an airstrip at Tufi.

He returned to Australia to take command of 18 Field Squadron at Wacol, Queensland prior to training manoeuvres at Shoalwater Bay, Queensland and the move of the unit in 1967, to the then new Lavarack Barracks in Townsville. Major work included roadworks in Shoalwater Bay and support to units training for deployment in Vietnam.

January 1969 he went to Vietnam as Officer Commanding, 17 Construction Squadron Group which had detachments throughout Phuoc Tuoy Province with Headquarters at Nui Dat and a total strength of 430 sappers. Engineer support work was provided to all Australian forces and the local community in the Province. Land clearing in the

Long Hais, Hospital on Long Son Island, Task Force & ALSG water supply and road bridges around Dat Do were some of the tasks.

On return to Australia, he was posted as General Staff Officer at 6 Task Force (Brigade), Brisbane.

Following transfer to the Army Reserve he served in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Army Reserve appointments have included Commanding Officer 7 Field Engineer Regiment at Ringwood, Commander 6 Engineer Group at Swan Street, Melbourne and Colonel Reserves, Victoria.

He has had over 50 years association with the Royal Australian Engineers including the appointment as Honorary Colonel Commandant, Representative Colonel Commandant (1992 – 2000) including an audience with Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace in 1998. He is currently Chairman, Royal Australian Engineers Foundation. He was the Chairman of the RAE Corps Committee to publish "Paving the Way" the 1000 page Volume IV History of the RAE for the period 1945 to 1972.

Engineering work with the Royal Australian Engineers included road design and construction, particularly in tropical areas, water supply, army and civil bridge design and construction, hospital construction, airfield design and construction, mine warfare and land clearing.

Since 1970, he has worked on many major projects such as the Sydney Opera House; Reserve Bank Note Printing Works, Craigieburn; World Trade Centre, Melbourne; Melbourne Central; Monash Medical Centre; Collins Place; National Rail Upgrading Melbourne to Adelaide; Automated Fare Collection, Melbourne; Knox City Shopping Centre; Victoria and Albert Apartments; ANZAC Ship Contract, Melbourne to Adelaide Gauge Standardisation, the Regional Fast Rail Project, Victoria and the Regional Rail Link, Melbourne.

During 3 years with PA Management Consultants at the Sydney Opera House, he was the PA

Team Leader for the project planning and co-ordination. During this time, the Sydney Opera House project moved from a shell only status to the opening by Queen Elizabeth and \$70 million of \$110 million project cost was expended (say \$2,000 million in 2013 dollars).

John Wertheimer moved back to Victoria where he was the Deputy to the Executive Director, Myer Shopping Centres, responsible for development and operation around Australia for Myer owned department stores and discount stores. Annual capital expenditure was \$1,000 million (2013)

John Wertheimer was the developer for Melbourne Central from the time of signing the development agreement with the Government on 20 August 1985, to opening on 11 September 1991.

He was the senior person full time on the project with overall responsibility including consultant appointment, concept, design, construction, commissioning, leasing, public relations and marketing. From a start of 4 people, the project peaked at 2,000 on site.

Prior to the sale to Coffey International, John Wertheimer was the Director of John Wertheimer Consultants and Asia Pacific Rail, substantial (60 professional staff) management consulting, railway engineering and project management companies in Melbourne. They have provided project management for the \$300 million Automated Ticketing System for Melbourne's trams, trains and buses.

Other projects include the Multi Purpose Venue, Olympic Park, Melbourne, RACV Centre, Standard Gauge Conversion, new AWB Head Office, Dandenong Rail Upgrade, One Nation (1992-1995) Rail Program Manager, Sunshine Rail Study, Tasmania Rail Network Review (2007) and Victorian Country Rail Freight Network Review and the Regional Fast Rail (2001-2007).

In 2010 he was appointed the Independent Overviewer for the \$5 billion Regional Rail Link, Melbourne project.

During 1992 he was the Chairman of the Independent Panel to select the preferred consortia to tender for the Build, Own and Operate the \$2,000 million CityLink project.

John Wertheimer has been Chairman of The Institution of Engineers, Victoria Division very successful Excellence Awards program. In 1996, 100 entries were received, 100 judges were involved and over 1600 attended the Annual Dinner and Excellence Awards in August 1996.

He was the inaugural Chairman of the Melbourne Awards for the Melbourne City Council 2003-2005.

Other community activities supported include Patron, RAE Vietnam Association (1982 to present);

Patron, Old Sappers Association (1984 to present);

Past Member, Advisory Committee, Civil Engineering Faculty, R.M.I.T.;

Foundation Member, Committee for Melbourne (1986);

Trustee, Committee for Economic Development of Australia (1979);

Member of the Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia;

Past Patron in Chief GMB Association of Melbourne High School;

Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Australian Engineers, Australia (1992 to 2000);

Trustee of Shrine of Remembrance since 2000 and Acting Chairman in 2011,

Chairman Royal Australian Engineers Foundation since 1999.

Chairman Order of Australia Association, Victoria 2003-2006,

Chairman Melbourne High School Foundation (since 2012).



Colonel John Wertheimer AM, RFD (Retd)
Accepts Colin Bowater's offer to serve as
Patron of RAE Association (Vic)



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS FOUNDATION

For information about the Foundation and news of events and projects, visit the Foundation's web site or click this link:

www.raefoundation.org.au



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
RAE ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC
ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP



Jim Davis
Honorary Secretary
28 Ireland Avenue
WANTIRNA SOUTH, Vic 3152 E-mail: jdavis01@bigpond.net.au

SURNAME: _____

GIVEN NAMES: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: / / NAME OF PARTNER/WIFE/NOK: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (H): _____ (W): _____ (M): _____

E-MAIL: _____

REGIMENTAL/PMKEYS No. _____ RANK: _____

DATES OF ENLISTMENT AND DISCHARGE / / TO / /

AWARDS/DECORATIONS/AWARDS HELD: _____

DETAILS OF SERVICE AND UNITS (*any approximate dates would be useful*)

If more space is needed please use back of form.

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: _____

SIGNED: _____ / /

Wish to become a member of The Royal Australian Engineers Association of Victoria Incorporated (RAE Association (Vic) Inc. for the time being in force. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to:

1. Support the purposes of the Association.
2. Comply with the rules of the Association.

Note: Under the Application for Membership clause in the Association Rules, a person who wishes to join the Association must submit a signed written application to a committee member, and agree to the two items 1 & 2 listed above.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE FOR 2015 HAS BEEN SET AT \$15.00 AND IS PAYABLE NOW WITH YOUR APPLICATION. PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY CHEQUE OR DIRECT CREDIT (see below). SHOULD YOU WISH TO MAKE A DONATION, REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT, IT WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Electronic Banking: Payment can now be made by electronic transfer. Please use the details below and during the transfer please ensure that you show your full name and write in "subscription" in the reference box. **Show here that you sent subs/donation electronically on / / and amount \$**
Don't forget to post off the original application to the Hon Secretary-address is above.

BANK – Westpac Banking Corp: BSB 033181 - Account No 169032 Account Name RAE Association (Vic) Inc.

MORE FROM THE REGIMENT

(continued from p8)

EX PLATYPUS SUSTAINS

10 – 19 OCT 14

By: LT PR. Daniels

The 22nd Engineer Regiment conducted EX PLATYPUS SUSTAINS over the period of 10 – 19 OCT 14 at the Army Logistics Training Centre (ALTC), Bandiana. The EX combined a challenging set of horizontal construction tasks led by a composite Plant-Construction Troop undertaken in a scenario of rear area security operations.

ALTC's request for assistance from 22ER was aimed at delivering a site suitable for advanced training for junior officers in defensive operations. Four extant TEWT sheds occupied the site along with a deteriorated road. In response to the needs of ALTC, 22 ER successfully delivered a 450m ring road network connecting the TEWT sheds, allowing year-round all-weather vehicle access to each shed. The road construction was overseen by SGT Geoffrey Smith and LCPL Stephen Devenish, whose expertise and experience at the task dovetailed their civilian backgrounds with military training.

Fronting the TEWT sheds, a separate team of combat engineers, led by CPL John Emmerly with plant in support, installed eight concrete fighting bays. This created the bulk of a defensive position, with tent and generator hardstands completing the site. Nearby to this position, SPR Crase oversaw the construction of a sandbag filling point, the product of a creative design from the 203 Works Section which involved craning in two large box culverts laid down on their sides and back to back for the creation of the bays. Further intentions are to install a centralised underground command post to allow for more realistic and advanced training.

Other tasks included creating an access ramp, for one of the rear gates to the training area,

overseen by site foreman SPR White. The task once again combined the skills across the regiment to provide a secure worksite which utilised trade, combat engineer and plant specialisations. Importantly, the SPRs working on the site were constantly amused by the morale-raising antics of SPRs White and Crase.

A further task undertaken was the creating of a water resupply point alongside an extant dam. The site now allows for a fire truck or similar vehicle to reverse to the dam and reload from the water reserve.

Plant and construction elements operating in a threat environment reflects a true merger of 4 CER with 22 CR into 22 ER, with combat engineers undertaking infantry minor tactics alongside manual labour. Carrying out construction tasks in a threat scenario also yielded more realistic training for potential future overseas operations where engineers are increasingly met with an array of construction tasks in complex environments.

22 ER AT WORK

Construction of Bailey Panel Footbridge at Puckapunyal. Below—completed footbridge.





John Shaw (Puffing Billy Preservation Society), Bill Tilley (MP, Member for Benanbra), MAJ Gavin Cooper (OPSO 22 ER) at the Koetong bridge opening ceremony.



The Koetong Bridge, constructed from timber won by 39 Const Sqn (2012-13) and 6 MS Tp, 10 CES (2014).



Rear access ramp remediation (culvert with wing wall and drainage) complete.

Exercise CHONG JU 13-16 October 2014

Exercise CHONG JU is an annual live fire capability demonstration conducted by the School of Armour at Puckapunyal. It is named after a battle that occurred in the Korean War on 29 Oct 1950, involving elements of the 27th Battalion Commonwealth Brigade including the 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment supported by tanks from the US Army, which successfully fought a series of company-level combined arms actions. Exercise CHONG JU is designed to provide the Combat Officer Advanced Course students with a practical demonstration of the employment, synchronisation and orchestration of battlespace effects at Combat Team (CT) level against a doctrinal enemy in defence. For this scenario, the enemy was a Mechanised Battalion with a platoon-sized outpost forward of the Mechanised Battalion defensive position, with equipment including BTR armoured personnel carriers, T80 Main Battle Tanks, small arms infantry weapons and anti-tank guided missiles.



Figure 1: M1A1 Abrams firing.

Exercise CHONG JU is designed to demonstrate the capabilities of equipment employed in combat and combat support corps; manoeuvre and employment of those equipments, weapons and firing signatures; and the practical aspects of integrating the Battlespace Operating Systems for a CT attack. The exercise illustrated employment of the full spectrum of CT assets, including the M1A1 Abrams Tanks, ASLAVs, M113 Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC), artillery, infantry, engineers and support assets such as equipment and casualty recovery, with air support from Army Aviation and RAAF assets.

The initial phase demonstrated the employment of both ground and air Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) assets to gain information to guide the command decision-making process and thus enable the CT main assault force to engage and destroy

the enemy. The ISR function was performed by Armed Reconnaissance Helicopters (ARH) and ground based surveillance equipment and then confirmed by a cavalry troop.

In the initial stage of the assault, offensive fire support was used to suppress the enemy and obscure their observation of the CT main assault force approaching their location. During this stage the M1A1 tanks provided suppressing fire from a Support By Fire (SBF) position.

The CT main assault force comprised M1A1 tanks and M113 APC's, and utilised dismounted infantry for the final assault on the enemy's defensive position. The assault included an in-stride breach of the protective obstacle belt at Franks Creek, which incorporated the creek with catwire and a minefield.

22 Engineer Regiment provided an engineer splinter team whose role was to provide realism to the battlefield scenario by conducting a simulated in-stride obstacle breach. This simulated breach was accomplished by detonation of a Battlefield Noise Simulation (BNS) serial comprising detonating cord and PE4 and electrically initiated. The effect achieved was that of a Projected Explosive Line Charge being employed to breach the minefield. The BNS was emplaced prior to commencement of the battle run and initiated by a team of 3 engineers from the rear of the M113 APC in which they were travelling. The lane was then proved by a M1A1 tank with mine plough attachment before the main assault force passed through to continue on to assault the objective.



Figure 2: FGM-148 Javelin Anti-Tank Missile

Once the objective was secured, the conclusion of the exercise was the withdrawal of the CT to a SBF position to destroy the enemy's counter-attack force with support from two ARH and two F/A-18F Super Hornets. The man-portable Javelin guided missile was also demonstrated.

After the exercise concluded, spectators were able to view a static display of various equipment employed in the demonstration and ask questions of the operators.

Overall, Exercise CHONG JU was a resounding success and highly enjoyable for all participants and spectators. It was a particularly valuable experience for personnel to participate in a joint activity with air and ground assets and to be able to work closely with other combat and combat support corps, operate in and around equipment not normally accessible, and to share knowledge and make new friends.



Figure 3: 22ER Splinter Team - (L-R) SPR Haberecht, LCPL Thomson and SPR Chaves

Special Thanks

Special thanks to LT Brad Cree and all contributors from 22 ER to this edition of Sapper Summit. (Ed)

Postscript

Photo submitted by an anonymous attendee at Ex Chong Ju entitled "Secret Musorian Manually Propelled Mine Clearance Device—Man Portable" Presumably the CES includes steel capped boots—not included in the photograph.



22 Engineer Regiment Parade 22 Nov 14 in Pictures



UNIT HISTORY WRITING PROJECT

4 Combat Engineer Regiment and 22 Construction Regiment

A message from the Secretary, RAE Association (Vic)

As we move towards the historic military year of 2015 and observe the wonderful way in which documents and memories are being produced to illustrate the deeds, hardships, friendships and achievements of many it has become evident that there is a substantial black hole in the recorded history of the Victorian RAE Regiments/Units and unless something is done now to address this deficiency our legacy to future generations hungry for historical military information will be sadly lacking. In future years the achievements of the Victorian RAE Regiments/Units will form an integral part of the Corps history and be researched by many but at the moment there is considerable lack of documented evidence that would assist.

Acknowledging the need to address this shortfall Colonel Commandant RAE Southern Region (BRIG P.J. "Hutch" Hutchinson, DSC Rtd) has formed a small group whose task is to address this problem by collating enough information to enable the publication of ongoing history and events of both Ringwood East and Oakleigh depots. This will not be an overnight fix but a project that will take several years. Chairmanship of the History Group is under MAJ Russell (Rip) Kirby. Whilst the group does have depth in its knowledge it is not going to be able to complete the task without the input from the sappers of Victoria.

There are some excellent publications available covering various periods such as the Swan Street Sapper, 16 Construction Regiment Unit history (1951-1975), History of the RAE 3rd Division CMF (1948-1972) plus others by MAJ Bruce Campbell (Rtd) and minor publications from 22 Construction Regiment but there is very little on Ringwood East depot from 1975 onwards during which time units such as 7 FER, 7 ESR, 10 Field Sqn (independent) and 4 CER occupied the depot.

I am sure that many of us believe that what we contributed during our period of service was, in most cases, unimportant and would not be worth the effort of contacting the history group but nothing could be further from the truth. We are not expecting "letters from home" or the like but are looking for contributions no matter how small or insignificant they may seem to be submitted – please let the history group decide what is relevant or not.

The huge task of collating the material will be under the

control of MAJ Cliff Parfitt (Rtd) who has asked that the following email be sent out

Friends, Sappers and Engineers all, the next instalment of the Sapper history in Victoria is being put together and we need your help, I ask that each of you check your garage, loft, cellar, shed, bookshelves, photo albums and any other storage facilities that you have and locate any information that you may have squirrelled away on any of the Engineer Regiments that were based in Victoria. As a priority we are looking for any information, reports, instructions, photographs, etc. from 22 Construction Regiment and 4 Combat Engineer Regiment, if you have or can supply the information in an electronic format please do so, as this would make our task of collating the information so much easier. Send the electronic information to sapper.history.vic@hotmail.com.au and we will store it for you. Any hard copy information please contact us on the same address and we will endeavour to collect, scan and return the information.

Thank you in anticipation, we need to ensure that our history is retained.

*Cliff
MAJ "Cliff" Parfitt, Rtd*

*Mob: 0459625433
Email: sapper.history.vic@hotmail.com.au
"Once a Sapper, Always a Sapper"*

The rest is up to each and every one of us to think about how we can assist – the task is substantial but there is a group of people committed and dedicated enough to try to rectify the deficiency so that future generations will have an understanding of the Victorian RAE history.

In the words of a famous US President – "ask not what the RAE can do for you but what you can do for the RAE"!!!!

Unit Histories– Making a Start

Don Hughes has already made significant inroads into writing the history of 4CER whilst he was Commanding Officer. He has submitted the following piece to Sapper Summit to advise readers of the form the project for 4 CER's history will take. He has also submitted his "history" of the *Rampant Platypus*.

If you have photos or items (legally obtained) or a story to tell that might enhance the unit history project, please follow up with these points of contact:

4 CER HISTORY—Don Hughes

22 Construction Regiment—Noel Tipton

Or email: sapper.history.vic@hotmail.com.au

RAMPANT PLATYPUS
By
**A Team Approach (CO, 2IC, OPSO,
RSM, ADJT, OC,SSM etc)**



Proudly published
By the Royal Australian
Engineers Association of
Victorian Incorporated

endorsed by
Brigadier "Hutch" Hutchinson DSC
Colonel Commandant
Royal Australian Engineers, Southern Region
2014

Contents

Chapter:

1. *The Background:*
2. *The New Vibrant 4CER;*
3. *Consolidation:*
4. *The Golden Years:*
5. *The ? Years,*
6. *The ? Years*
7. *The ? Years*
8. *The ? Years*
9. *The Transition Years?*
10. *The Future for Reserve Com-
bat & Construction Sappers
in Victoria,*

The Unit Emblem:

The Platypus

The Platypus, 4 CER's unit emblem and mascot, embodies all the great attributes of a Combat Engineer:

They work hard by day and by night, on land or in water; they are good diggers, tunnellers and builders, and are especially good at camouflage and concealment. They are most capable in amphibious, close country or riverine operations.

They have extremely sharp claws and "should not be harassed", they can fight back with ferocity and explosive vengeance! They can also find there way through difficult and dangerous obstacle systems and then construct a comfortable and safe habitable abode!

The Platypus in Latin is "Ornithorhynchus Anatinus", and in the Aboriginal Wurundjeri people's language, (who first inhabited the area in and around the Yarra Valley in Victoria, Australia), is "Wad-dirrang".

The Platypus is a unique and most capable creature: just like the Sappers of 4CER!

Chapter 4 of "Rampant Platypus" will soon be published on the RAE Association (Vic) web site at:
www.raevictoria.asn.au

RAE Association (Vic) IS NOW "ON LINE"

The RAE Association Victoria is building an on line presence with its own web site. The web site is currently under construction but new sections are being added each week. In time, you will be able to keep up with the Association's activities and projects, communicate with the Association and follow easy links to fellow sapper organizations, welfare organizations and other sites of interest to members and friends. Log onto:
www.raevictoria.asn.au
to follow our progress.

FROM THE ASSOCIATIONS

22 Regt Group Reunion Report



The 2014 22 Construction Regiment Group Reunion was held at Nagambie on the weekend of 24 -26 October last. The reunion was based at the Nagambie Lakes Leisure Park which is in a lovely setting on a peninsula formed between the Goulburn River and the Nagambie Lake.

The reunion kicked off with a meet-and-greet on the Friday night at the Chinaman's Bridge Café in the Park over dinner and the usual refreshments. From the start, the warmth and friendship amongst the group was terrific.

A usual feature of the Saturday of these reunions is a bus tour. This year, we visited firstly the Longwood Rockery and Gem Shop and from there it was off to the Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Wall at Seymour. This fantastic memorial includes a replica of the Luscombe Bowl entertainment stage where many Vietnam Veterans have fond memories of seeing some of the great Australian popular acts of the sixties from Little Pattie to Denise Drysdale. Another feature was the recently acquired Houie helicopter which is mounted high above the ground on a pole to command the site. The most striking feature of the memorial though is the Wall itself which includes the names of almost every Australian to serve in Vietnam.



Neville Johnson beside the paver he contributed to the memorial

The next stop was the Tabilk Winery for lunch, a boat cruise on the wetlands on the winery property, a guided tour of the winery, and the opportunity to taste and purchase the winery product. A terrific feature of this winery is that it was established in 1860 and vines planted then are still in production, and equipment installed and used then is still in productive use.

Our annual reunion dinner was held this year at the Kirwan's Bridge Winery which is located near the historic Kirwan's Bridge crossing of the Goulburn River not far upstream of Goulburn Weir. We had 32 sit down for dinner, the Dining President of which was Shane O'Keefe. The dinner followed (or at least imitated) the usual formalities of a Dining-in Night. There were variations however with some musical items presented by the Dining President (well, it was a captive audience) and a raffle of some 70 prizes.

It all finished up after breakfast on the Sunday morning before bidding each other farewell and the old "see you next year". So ended a great reunion of good fun and excellent fellowship.

Next year's reunion is to be held at Lakes Entrance.

Shane O'Keefe

Former Members of 7FER and 4 CER

7 FER/4 CER annual BBQ function – Paul Matthews

On 4th October 2014 Paul Matthews once again opened up his home and put on a BBQ to welcome past members of 7 FER and 4 CER, their families and friends to his annual reunion– there were approximately 30 people there on the night.

This is an informal function with people coming and going throughout the night.

Over the last few years this activity has become a popular event giving people the opportunity of catching up with friends that they only see on occasions like this.

The purpose of this function is simply to keep flourishing military friendships made over many years. The night produced lots of old

photos and memorabilia which brought back good memories.

There is no doubt that in this hectic day and age that people do get so occupied with work and family commitments that they neglect to keep in touch with people you spent a lot of time with. This activity gives people the opportunity of coming together in a very pleasant social atmosphere for a few hours to recall some great times. And renew friendships.

The other common theme is the loyalty still held by everyone for the Engineers but in particular the old Regiments. ***“Once a Sapper always a Sapper”***

Many thanks to Paul for making his home (garage) available and for taking the time to arrange the evening and for all those who attended and contributed with photos, stories and memorabilia – you helped make it a success.

Jim Davis



SAPPER PROFILE



Name: Ben Healy

Age: 34

Rank: CAPT

Unit: 22 ER

Enlistment date: 16 Nov 2004

Posting history:

- MonUR
- 4 CER
- 22 ER

Promotion history:

- OCDT: Nov 04
- 2LT: Feb 07

- LT: Mar 08
- CAPT: Jan 14

Appointments:

- Act ADJT
- TP COMD 5 Tp
- SQN RECONO
- TP COMD 6 MS Tp
- Regimental Operations Officer

Awards and decorations

- ADM

Highlights of military service

Working with 4 CER members and the local community during the Black Saturday Vic Bushfires in 2009. It was a really positive feeling being able to support the local community of the affected areas and utilise the training that we (4 CER) had all been undertaking to make a significant difference.

Civilian Qualifications

- Project Management
- Engineering (Robotic and Mechatronic)

Civilian Employment

- Project Manager

Ambitions in military and civilian careers

Provide quality, focused training to support the Regimental readiness of the 22 ER and the development of soldiers.

To be involved in and deliver projects that support a transition to a more efficient energy industry within Australia.

Family

Partner: Cheryl Laks



CAPT Ben HEALY (2nd from left) 22 Engineer Regiment
ANZAC DAY 2014

WELFARE and SUPPORT

Sapper Summit recognizes the demands placed on individuals through their military service. Through Sapper Summit, the RAE Association (Vic) aims to provide advice to the Sapper Community on support and welfare services available both locally and nationally. The Association also aims to promote welfare and well being awareness and education. Members have suggested the following support services.



EAGLE HEALTH RESOURCES

Phone: 0418 326 670

8/23 William Road, Croydon Vic.

E-Mail: info@eaglehealth.net.au

P.O. Box 1062, CROYDON VIC 3136

WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED HEALTH PROMOTION – Physical, Brain, Emotional

for organisations and individuals who contribute to
the health and wellbeing of men, boys, families &
communities

This Professional Development Workshop is positive, proactive and practical. It can be conducted over 3 hours / ½ day as below, or each module can be expanded to provide for a 6 hour / 1 day workshop.

AIMS:

- To provide a valuable professional development experience for participants.
- To explore samples of three complementary aspects of men's health and wellbeing – physical, brain and emotional health, fitness and training.
- To experience some practical applications in the three areas.

To provide readily available resources – for both agency representatives and the men they serve - to assist member organisations to incorporate new positive, proactive, practical elements in their work.

STRUCTURE:

0. **Registration** and incoming tea/coffee 15-30 minutes beforehand.
- 1 **Introduction.** 5 mins.
2. **Why Men's Health Matters'** presentation. This will include a few stats as part of an overview, then look at a smorgasbord of projects that have taken place in various parts of Victoria. 40 mins.
3. **Men's Physical Health, Fitness and Training.** An experienced, practical personal trainer will present some practical ideas on how men can improve their health and fitness. 40 mins.
4. **Tea Break.** 10 mins
5. **Men's Brain Health, Fitness and Training.** A simple, focussed, practical intro to brain health is provided, followed by a live demonstration of one brain training program (Lumosity) session in front of the audience. 35 mins.
6. **Men's Emotional Health, Fitness and Training.** A short Introduction to the concept of Mindfulness (relaxation, breathing, gentle exercise), and then a CD by Jon Kabat-Zinn (Director of the Stress Reduction Clinic, Uni of Massachusetts Medical School) will be used to take everyone through a seated Body Scan. 45 mins
7. **Summary and Conclusion.** 5 mins.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Each attendee would receive a **takeaway sample resource pack** containing male-specific brochures from BeyondBlue, YouthBeyondBlue, Diabetes Australia Victoria, Cancer Council Victoria, Leukaemia Foundation, Proactive Ageing, Eagle Health Resources, and appropriate others.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Both the Brain Training and Mindfulness sessions are not dependent on an external instructor to be pursued/continued.

Brain training is done individually online – usually at home.

Mindfulness can be done individually at home or any quiet place using an inexpensive set of four CDs to gain the skills. Further information can be provided on request.

Eagle Health Resources is available to advise and support the training if required.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Specialist Meeting for the Services: Current & Past members including; Police, Fire, Ambulance, Army, Navy, Air Force, Prison etc

The Phoenix Group **Unity Service Recovery** **1800hrs First Friday each Month**

AA Victoria Central Service Office
Level 1, 36 Church Street (Corner Elizabeth Street)
RICHMOND 3121 Melbourne, Australia

www.aavictoria.org.au

24 HOUR TELEPHONE: (03) 9429 1833 (1300 AA HOPE)

“Emergency & Armed Services personnel who have a problem with alcohol and want to do something about it, can now access dedicated support through Alcoholics Anonymous in Melbourne, Victoria.

Alcoholism is a battle that can be overcome with the right kind of attitude and help as hundreds of thousands AA members can attest.

The AA “Phoenix Group” can help personnel with a drinking problem “Rise from the Ashes!”



The “Angel Squad” – a new initiative for young veterans.

As a result of working with young Veterans and observing the aftermath of war service on our young men and women on their return from deployment, it is obvious that many are suffering from various forms of Post Traumatic Stress and are floundering in their attempts to reintegrate back into civilian life.

A common theme in my observations is the issue of alcohol and substance abuse which only serves to compound existing mental health conditions, and in many cases becomes an ever-increasing form of self-medication for many young veterans. My views are shared by others such as the Social Workers at the Austin Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital, ESO Welfare Officers and other professionals who work within the Veteran community.

Indeed it has become obvious through the course of my work that a large percentage of ‘multiple return’ cases to Ward 17 (Psych) at Heidelberg are there because of the lack of ‘Veterans only’ support once they have gone through their initial detox and managed programs within the hospital. Alcohol/substance abuse patients are generally released after 28 days and either receive no follow-up, or are referred to various civilian support groups where they have nothing in common with other group members, so do not persevere with their recovery. The cycle then repeats itself.

It is this issue that the “Angel Squad” aims to address.

We believe that a program along the lines of the following would assist many to escape their dependence on drugs and alcohol and enhance their chances of better managing their PTSD and other mental health issues. The idea has already received overwhelming support from a wide range of health professionals and in fact, we are already receiving referrals from a number of civilian counsellors who are desperate to find suitable programs for veteran clients, even though the program is not yet up and running.

It is proposed that our target group is ‘contemporary veterans’ who have previously presented with alcohol and/or substance abuse and have already participated in detox and professional managed programs.
(It is acknowledged that specialist expertise is required for those still drinking/using and is beyond the aims and capabilities of this group).

The program we will run aims to provide the following;

A ‘veterans only’ support mechanism which enables participants to continue their efforts to escape drug and alcohol dependence among

people who understand their particular problems, share their experiences, know the environment in which they served and speak their "language".

A supportive environment for Veterans which encourages participants to resolve problem behaviours.

Promotion of positive, functional and non-addicted lifestyles.

Assistance to develop practical alternate ways of coping with stressors.

We have already taken extensive advice from various prominent Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation organizations and will be featuring various Guest Speakers from these organisations from time to time as part of the 'Angel Squad' program. Likewise, we have also been approached by, or made contact with, a number of truly inspirational people who have made major improvements to their lives through escaping drug and alcohol dependence and we have invited these people to be Guest Mentors to the group.

The program will be run in the City (close to public transport) and will consist of a twice-weekly meeting in which the previous few day's difficulties and triumphs are discussed, and both individual and group support and mentoring are provided.

The meetings will then be followed by a group health/bonding/fun activity which we believe is fundamental to the program in order to instil peer support and break the house-bound isolation so common to sufferers of these problems. It is imperative that we achieve these two aims if we are to succeed overall. These activities will include Tai Chi, Meditation, Fitness training, Hiking, go-carting, surfing and a wide range of other activities.

We have also secured an early model VL Commodore, engine and gearbox, and have located a secure lock-up workshop where group participants will work on restoring the vehicle with a view to using it for speedway drag racing and burn-outs once completed. This concept has already received an overwhelming response from would-be participants.

As with all new initiatives, the sticking-point is always the funding and the "Angel Squad" has been no exception. After an initial promise of funding evaporated, we have been pleading our case elsewhere – particularly to the various Associations who represent the Corps to which most of our participants belonged. Though we have received overwhelming praise and support for the idea, the very modest amount of dollars required (only \$3000 in total) have been more difficult to find. At present we are about half way there and hope to

have the program up and running early in the New Year if further support is found. In the meantime, we are accepting referrals and participants on that basis.

Funding for some Veteran's health initiatives is available through the Dept. of Veteran's Affairs but submissions for this funding must be "evidence based". After commencing the program on private donations, we are hopeful that a successful, documented outcome over a 12 month period will provide us with the evidence to attract DVA funding for our future operation.

Our aim is to assist these young men and women towards a happier, healthier and longer life. Following the establishment of this first group, our vision is for "Angel Squad" groups to commence in other parts of Melbourne and be run by 'graduates' from the first group. There is no reason why "Angel Squad" groups could not commence in other capital cities and become a nation-wide entity.

Colleen McKenna.
Pensions & Wellbeing Officer.
Peninsula Young Veteran's Wellbeing
Centre. Call: 0423 408 993

SOLDIER ON

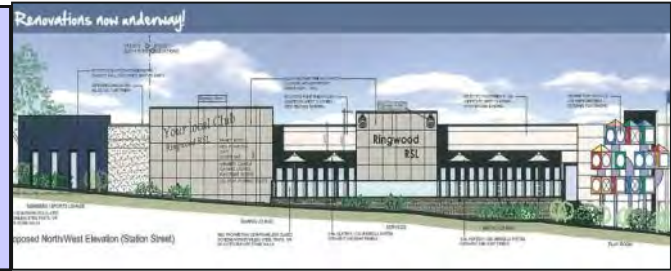
"Supporting Our Wounded Warriors"

Visit: www.soldieron.org.au

RAE Association (Vic) is a proud supporter of
SOLDIER ON



RINGWOOD RSL COLUMN



We are now into the four year commemoration of the Centenary of ANZAC with commemorative activities planned right across the country. The Ringwood Sub Branch marked the occasion of Remembrance Day with a Service of Remembrance at the Ringwood Clock Tower Memorial Park at 11:00 hrs on the 11th November. A very good crowd was in attendance for the service which was followed by a light lunch at the Sub Branch. There was also a school children's service coordinated by the Maroondah Council at the Karralyka Centre on the 10th November.

The redevelopment of the Ringwood RSL is proceeding well at the moment and the revamped building is starting to take shape. Thankfully the work is on budget and within schedule. However our trade is suffering because of the disruption so we can't wait for completion in 2015. We continue with our welfare work although the budget this year is very tight. Feel free to visit us to see how the redevelopment is progressing and to sample the services we continue to provide. Of course if you need assistance to claim your entitled support for DVA services or have any welfare issues, please contact us.

Our Sub Branch now has an app that can be downloaded to any smart phone (android or Iphone). The Ringwood RSL App keeps all its Members and Guests up-to-date on day to day activities, featured events, live entertainment and performing artists, dining menus, daily specials. It notifies you of special events, and provides you with all the Sub Branch information at your finger tips.

We continue in our efforts to convince the Government to abandon its budget proposal to wind back the level of indexation for the Veteran Disability Pension. I sent a letter to the PM on behalf of most of the ESO members of the Ex Service Organisations Round Table asking for this. He has responded saying it was a necessary change and the Government does not intend to reverse its decision. This is disappointing and I have to say I'm very sceptical as the projected savings are only \$65m over the next four years which is a drop in the bucket in an overall budget in the order of \$420 billion! I am still optimistic this measure will fail as we have the support of the Opposition, the Palmer United Party the Greens and most if not all of the independents in the Senate.

The other recent major development has been the ADF pay case. The Government has offered ADF members an increase of 1.5% per year over the next three years and to achieve this they are to lose up to 6 days leave a year (5 days ERL & 1 day granted by the CDF between Christmas and New Year) as well as have some tightening of travel entitlements, the replacement of the daily food allowance for those that are MWD(U) by a one off Larder Allowance and an increase in the HDA qualification period from 5 to 10 days. When the "agreed deal" was announced, the Defence Force Welfare Association went live with a survey to canvass opinion from ADF members. It was overwhelmed with the response (11,500 or 20% of the fulltime ADF) and the facebook posts have in excess of 60,000 hits. There was almost universal rejection of the offer (90%) by ADF members. Comments were quite illuminating and not very complementary concerning the offer or the process. Feedback continues to be received by DFWA via phone, email and facebook and the reach has been far greater than the official ADF "road shows" which had about 3,300 attendees all up. The DFWA Vice President (Conditions of Service) developed a substantial submission calling for an increase to at least match the movements in the Employee Living Cost Index to keep up with cost of living increases. This was then presented to the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal by the DFWA Honorary Workplace Advocate who was also able to enter into evidence the many thousands of comments from ADF members (unattributed). The RSL also voiced its opposition to the "deal" before the tribunal. The Tribunal has now accepted the "agreed" case which was put before it at the behest of the Minister and this unsatisfactory deal is now locked in for the next three years.

I along with the other leaders from the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations continue to meet with parliamentarians to seek their support for serving and former ADF members and veterans calling particularly for a fair wage outcome and continued adjustment of the Veterans Disability Pension using the existing indexation method.

David Jamison President Ringwood RSL

VALE

CAPTAIN TONY BOURKE (RTD)

9TH October 1939 – 31ST August 2014.



A good representation of Army Reserve personnel including Ex Members of 22nd Construction Regiment attended the Funeral of Captain Tony Bourke held at the Funeral Director's Pioneer Chapel, Springvale on 5th September 2014.

Tony enlisted in the 20th National Service Battalion, Puckapunyal, on 3rd January 1959. After completing his initial 3 months training he transferred to 2 Topographical Survey Company, Royal Australian Survey Corps until he was discharged as Lance Corporal on 30th June 2014. Tony's working career over 36 years with the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works was as a Draftsman – Cartographer making him a natural for the appointment to the Survey Corps.

Tony enlisted in the MMBW sponsored 106 Construction Squadron (SR) as a Sapper on 14th September 1962 where he quickly qualified and became the SSM of 106 Construction Squadron for around fourteen years. He qualified as a Prescribed Service Officer (PSO) and became RQM Captain 22 Construction Regiment approx. 1983 where he remained until his discharge on 19th August 1987.

Tony's long term as SSM earned himself much respect from members of the Squadron and from the hierarchy. He was always vocal, could spin a good yarn or join in serious debate putting his case across in a very convincing manner. He was innovative, an example being at SME when he demonstrated how to upgrade a single/double Bailey Bridge to double/double using only man power in a way not seen before by the ARA present. Tony was always willing to take on a good challenge. What a great Sapper.

Following Tony's discharge in August 1987, he continued his interest in Military matters by becoming involved in the RAE (Vic) Historical and Heritage Association. He assisted this organisation for many years.

He also continued his interest in 22 Construction Regt. by attending the annual reunion, reminiscing and reminding fellow members of the wonderful times and experiences we enjoyed in our years together going back to the 1960's camps.

Tony's other many interests included:-

Chief Ranger at the Ancient Order of Forrester - a Friendly Society.

VAME - the Victorian Association for Miniature Enthusiasts involving the skill of building miniature displays such as elaborate homes and furnishings.

Burden Park Bowling Club as Secretary, Board Chairman and President earning a Life Membership in that club.

Rotary Club of Noble Park Charity Bowls.

Councillor with the RVBA – the Royal Victorian Bowls Association.

Our sincere condolences go to Jan in her huge loss of her life long loving Husband, Friend and Partner.

R.I.P. Tony, You gave a great deal to this world, a good Sapper.

Jeff Brumhead.

PS Tony joined the RAE Historical and Heritage Association when it was formed. He became the Association's curator in 2003 when the position was created. He retired from this role in 2009 due to ill health.

A sapper, sadly missed.

The Secretary RAE Association (Vic) received the sad news that Australia's oldest sapper has passed away.

Part of the email advice is reprinted below as is the eulogy delivered at the funeral of Charlie Brown. It is published here to recognize the life of this fine sapper and to lament his loss to the family of sappers.

Subject: Charlie Brown Funeral

Hi Ken,

Thankyou for speaking to me yesterday.

Charlie Brown was my grandfather and was the oldest former RAE Sapper and served during WW2 in Darwin during the Japanese bombing Wewak and Aitape along with Bougainville .

He also had brothers that served one was a Rat of Tobruk and north Africa another served as a tail gunner bombing Germany in a liberator Bomber out of England all who have passed away. He also had a Brother in law who was a POW in Changi.

He had his 100th birthday in February and the army sent out a major and WO2 to present him with plaque's certificates and mementos from your head of corps RSM A and Chief of Army.

He was on the front page of the army newspaper a few weeks later and they did a lovely story on him.

EULOGY

I met Charlie at his 100th birthday and he recalled to me that the last time he had received any attention from an officer was because he was in trouble for missing parade. I was quick to put him at ease by assuring him he wasn't in trouble on that day.

Charlie enlisted into the Australian Army in 1941 and served through to 1946, and whilst he left the Army, Charlie is a Sapper, and that honour is something he always has. Once a Sapper, always a Sapper.

Charlie's Service history, his time around Australia, but particularly Darwin where he prepared defences for the invasion of the Japanese, his time in Bougainville and New Guinea, his story is one that has played out time again with those that Serve and I couldn't help but draw comparisons to the Sappers that Serve today.

Working in austere conditions; complaints about the food, time away from family, the constant exposure to danger, are a part of Service life and part of what Charlie experienced during the Second World War. But Charlie is a Sapper which requires him to be a bit of a larrikin, such as the time he assisted in the highly orchestrated capture of a pig from Brigade HQ resulting in a rare treat of pork for the Darwin Engineers and despite the knowledge from Brigade HQ that the Engineers must have effected the raid, Charlie and his guys were never caught.

In New Guinea Charlie worked with the Fuzzy Wuzzys and proved the life of a Sapper requires ingenuity to make the best of the little that you have. He worked on the construction of a hospital and was responsible for the provision of potable water to the camps. When Charlie left the Army however he felt the sensation that so many others have felt. He said 'I was lost'.

Charlie resumed his life in search of the next adventure as he travelled Australia, but found himself when working on the land. Charlie's life echoes the corps motto – Ubique – meaning everywhere.

At the time of his passing Charlie was Australia's oldest Sapper, a man who displayed the standards demanded of those in the Corps not only whilst Serving, but throughout his life. Charlie will be remembered not just by all of us here today, but by all Australians.

We will remember them. Lest we forget.



VALE CPL Gordon LARK

Sapper Summit received the following email from Jim Davis, the Secretary of the RAE Association (Vic). It is reprinting here to mark the sad passing of former Sapper, Corporal Gordon Lark.

I have received some very sad news that Gordon Lark passed away last night (Wednesday 29th October 2014).

Many receiving this email will not be aware of Gordon and his contribution as he was just a quiet worker who got on with his job as a regular parade attendee who was always willing to support many activities including AFX and drivers courses (Instructor-mechanic).

From memory Gordon contributed over 20 years' service to the Reserve and when discharged held the rank of CPL – Gordon would have enlisted somewhere in 1981/1982 and completed his RAE IET training course at SME – his civilian trade was that of boiler maker and he later trade transferred to RAEME. Gordon spent considerable time at both Ringwood and Oakleigh – Gordon discharged a few years back now but kept in touch with his large circle of Engineer friends by attending social functions.

Gordon's wife Vicki was also a member of the Reserve and it was through this association that they meet and married.

It is a sad occasion when we have to say goodbye to a fellow soldier.

Funeral details are to be confirmed but tentative indications are that it will be held on Wednesday 05th November 2014 at Lilydale (to be confirmed) – please refer to family notices for confirmation and timings.

Vale CPL Gordon Lark may you rest in peace.

Jim

Jim Davis.
Hon Secretary,
RAE Association (Vic) Inc.

Special Message to all readers of Sapper Summit from the President RAE Association (Victoria) Inc LTCOL Colin Bowater (Retd)

Dear fellow Sappers

Sapper Summit Publication

I believe that you will appreciate that the association must review its operations to ensure that its members are receiving value for money. We are a not for profit organisation but not immune from rising costs. Therefore the printing and distribution of the Sapper Summit needs to be reviewed.

In the past the Sapper Summit has been made available to all those who paid the subscription fee.

With the establishment of the RAE Association (Vic) Inc. a review of our processes has been undertaken, not to reduce the number or quality of the publication but rather its distribution method. We are finding that the costs of sending the publication out in the mail is becoming very expensive.

After many discussions and reviews on how to address this process, a decision has been taken by the Executive and committee that as from 01st January 2015 a person must be a member of the Association to receive a copy of the Sapper Summit.

What does this decision mean? – for those who are members of the RAE Association (Vic) Inc. and who pay their annual fee, nothing has changed. However, for those people who only subscribed to receive the Sapper Summit, then the decision has been made that for you to continue to receive this excellent publication, then it will be necessary for you to join the RAE Association (Vic) Inc. Should a person elect not to join the RAE Association, then regretfully, there will be no avenue available to receive the Sapper Summit publication.

The fee for being a member of the Association is \$15.00 per annum (subject to review)

which includes at least four, sometimes five, editions of Sapper Summit. Again due to rising costs our preferred delivery method is by electronic means (email) but we appreciate that not everyone has this medium available and the committee will certainly consider an alternative method of delivery for those members.

The Association has been established, with the support and encouragement of the Colonel Commandant RAE Southern Region (BRIG P.J. Hutchinson, DSC) (Rtd) with the view of not infringing or taking over from the existing Victorian RAE Associations but to work hand in hand with them to ensure that Victorian Sappers have a visible and viable presence on national occasions such as ANZAC Day and Reserve Forces Day. The RAE Association (Vic) Inc. will be the principal Sapper Association for Victoria.

At this point it would be appropriate to state the objectives of the RAE Association (Vic) Inc. which are;

1. To foster esprit-de-corps between all Sappers.

2. To foster and maintain the history of the Royal Australian Engineers in Victoria, and in particular to provide a custodial service for historical and heritage items:

(a) To ensure that all items of historical significance – books, photographs, training publications, Honour Boards, models, etc. are retained.

(b) To record catalogue and photograph items of historical significance.

(c) To present items of historical significance in an appropriate setting or settings so that their significance be realized.

(d) To encourage and foster the ongoing concept of the retaining of historical items and records and descriptions of events through the forum of meetings, newsletters, displays, seminars, excursions, luncheons and dinners.

(e) To promote an understanding of the military, technical, social, functional or personal background to an item's history.

3. To encourage the restoration of engineer sites of significance and the establishment and/or restoration of engineer memorials.

4. To promote the military education of all Sappers whether serving, retired, or on the reserve.

5. To produce and issue, gratuitously or by way of sale, journals, pamphlets or other publications in furtherance of the objects of the Association.

6. To disseminate information relating to Sapper activities or news to serving and retired Sappers.

7. To raise funds by all lawful means for the attainment of these objects.

8. To promote and provide welfare education, awareness and support to serving and retired Sappers.

For the Association to be a viable and relevant group it must have the support from all spectrums of the Sapper family irrespective if serving, retired, ARA, Reserve, young or old. Without support from people such as yourself then the Association is destined to fail.

Victoria deserves to have a strong and well organised RAE Association that can be a focal point for all Sappers and you are therefore encouraged to take a moment to fill out the application form included in this issue of Sapper Summit and return it to the Secretary.

I appreciate that there are going to be people who do not agree with this course of action and I encourage anyone with concerns to contact me personally on 0400 809 444.

We wish to build a strong Association in Victoria which will last for many years to come and one that everyone can be proud to say that they are a member of and abide by its principal charter to maintain the history of the RAE Victoria.

We are looking forward to a long and rewarding association with you

Regards

Colin J Bowater
President

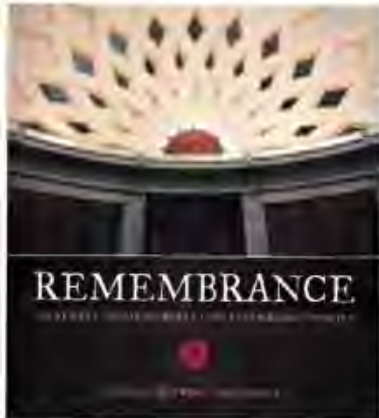
BOOK REVIEW

A beautiful and respectful production (Ed)

REMEMBRANCE

100 Years • 100 Memorials • 100 Australian Stories

Atkins || Hocking || Millowick



Thousands of young Australians, the pride of the Empire, made the supreme sacrifice for 'King and Country' in the Great War, 1914 – 1918. They have earned a special place in the hearts of Australians.

Remembrance is a pictorial essay commemorating the 100 years since the outbreak of World War One, told through 100 memorials that were created in their honour and the 100 stories that enshrine them.

'In the "War to End all Wars" Australians paid an extraordinary price. A generation of Australians was never the same. The ricochets have continued since, 100 years on, the search for understanding and the connections of family, place, institutions and community grow stronger every year. "Remembrance" is a timely tribute which captures the breadth of Australia's commitment and the endless quest to honour those who served and establish contemporary connections.' **Ted Baillieu MLA**

Remembrance was created by a community of photographers spread across all Australian states and territories who share a passion to document our culture and our values.

Many of the photographers travelled hundreds of kilometres just to get that single shot as dawn rose above the horizon and lit the face of the memorial in a remote location. Others were on the spot to photograph their local memorial or Anzac Day service. The end result is a rich mosaic of a book about the persistence of memory.

Selected for their unique design, their grandeur or their simplicity, the one hundred memorials in **Remembrance** have been arranged alphabetically and represent the diversity of memorials to the Anzac spirit from each state and territory across the nation.

Touching memorials to those thousands of young men, farm boys, bank clerks, salesmen and railway engineers, nurses and doctors who gave both their youth and for many, their lives are remembered in the memorials that were built across this 'wide brown land'.

Christopher Atkins is a contributing photographer and writer based in Melbourne, **Geoff Hocking** is an author, artist and graphic designer based in Castlemaine and **Julie Millowick** is a professional photographer and is the coordinator of Photojournalism online at La Trobe University. They are all lecturers at La Trobe University, Bendigo Campus, in country Victoria.

Remembrance – 100 Years • 100 Memorials • 100 Australian Stories
Published by The Five Mile Press, October 2014, A\$49.95 (Hardback)

Victorian Sappers A History in Photographs Feature 2

OLD SAPPER'S ASSOCIATION WATERLOO DINNER 1993

Sir Edward (Weary) Dunlop,
Mrs Elsie Ferguson (wife of member),
Major Don Hughes RAE (HQLSF Engrs),
Mr Ray Knight BEM (life member OSA).



7 FER Bicentennial Military Tattoo Team 1988



Range Practice Puckapunyal—7FER—1984



50' Bailey Tower built by 10 Fd Sqn at the Royal Melbourne Show 1989

If undeliverable, return to

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RINGWOOD VIC 3134

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