



Respect, Gratitude, Admiration

TRIBUTE

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A Royal salute is accorded by the Corps of Staff Cadets for the Trooping of the Queen's Colour at the Royal Military College – Duntroon, Canberra

(Source: Contact)

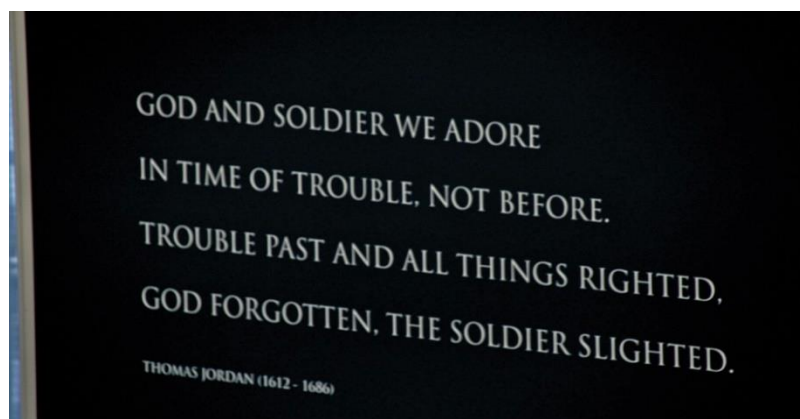
President Report

Along the Warrego Highway, 54km east of Quilpie, is this Memorial, erected by the Quilpie townspeople and the Quilpie Shire Council, to honour one of their sons – killed in Afghanistan by a bad guy pretending to be a good guy while receiving training in the Afghan National Army. That bad guy killed three Australian soldiers that day – ‘blue on green’ contact. This memorial also recognises Private Robert Poate and Sapper James Martin.



Sandra and I spent quite some time at this memorial on our way to the Simpson Desert four weeks ago to pay our respects to “Milo” and his mates, having spoken with his widow a week or so before our departure. Kellie and her two children are getting on with their lives, as they have to do. The family will attend the official launch of this memorial in August, the 10th anniversary of those deaths.

Significantly, this memorial and others like it recognise the service and loss that discounts the age-old verse;



The purpose of the Military Historical Society of Australia is to research, talk about and write about our military heritage and history and those men and women who have made our country one of the best in the world. Let’s get out there and honour those men and women.

From the Editor

Thankyou for your feedback, without it *TRIBUTE* cannot provide value to MHSA (Q) members. You will note that our long running Show and Tell featuring the development of the Infantry Uniform and ICLE does not appear in the is issue. Thanks to the excellent comments and feedback for the Curator 2 RAR Museum I have put the final section of this on hold whilst further research is completed.

In this edition we continue with three more Casualties from Afghanistan all being killed in a helicopter accident on 21 June 2010. All three men are remembered today through the efforts of family and friends who continue to honour their memories. Note that Gary Wilson who was badly injured in this crash will be a speaker at the Military Spectacular in October.

If you have something to contribute to *TRIBUTE* please send it to me. Thankyou this month to John Meyers and Russell Linwood for their contributions.

Enjoy the read.

Australian Defence Force Casualties in Afghanistan - Part 3

By Ian Curtis



During the period 20-21 June 2010, Afghan and Coalition Forces, including Australian Special Forces and a United States Army Aviation unit (5th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division) based in Tarin Kowt were part of a Special Operations Task Group (SOTG) element conducting a disruption operation against insurgents.

At 0339 hours 21 June 2010, four US Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters of Task Force 'No Mercy' were transporting Coalition personnel into the Shah Wali Kot region of Kandahar

Province. During the approach to the final check point the first helicopter of the four (carrying ten Australian soldiers and a four US Army personnel) crashed at high speed into a slight embankment in open desert terrain. The impact caused the helicopter to roll and the fuselage to catch fire. The three remaining Black Hawks responded immediately, some of these landing close to the crash site to provide initial medical assistance and a security cordon around the area.

The crash claimed the lives of three Australian soldiers. 8251206 Private Timothy James Aplin and 8230813 Private Scott Travis Palmer were killed instantly, while 8491591 Private Benjamin Adam Chuck was pronounced dead from his wounds shortly after arriving at the NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Facility in Kandahar. One of the US Army crewmen on the aircraft, 25-year-old Staff Sergeant Brandon M. Silk was also killed. All three Australian soldiers killed were from the Sydney based 2nd Commando Regiment. The wounded were stabilised and were flown to the American Military Hospital at Landstuhl in Germany.



Private Timothy James Aplin

'A brave and courageous soldier

A father, a son, a true friend

A man for all seasons.'

Timothy Aplin, known as “Tim”, (or to his mates Apps or Apples) was born 26 May 1972, the only son of Margaret Aplin of Indooroopilly, Queensland. He spent most of his formative years surrounded by a large extended family of cousins, aunts, and uncles in the Western suburbs of Brisbane, where he attended Kenmore Primary and began his secondary schooling at Indooroopilly State High School. He and his mother lived briefly in Sydney, where he was involved in the army cadets, igniting a passion for life in the military. Tim later returned to

Queensland and continued his education as a boarder at Toowoomba Grammar School and, later, as a day student at Brisbane Boys' College.

Tim was an all-round sportsman playing schoolboy AFL from an early age. He also represented Toowoomba Grammar and BBC in seconds rugby and would later play for his various regimental rugby teams. In later years he was an avid Bronco supporter.

In the mid-1980s Tim travelled with his mother to Europe, where he relished visits to the Imperial War Museum and the National Army Museum in London, as well as the Arch de Triumph and Musée de l'Armée in Paris. According to his mother, "Tim was letting me know where his future was heading". By then, he had become the loving stepson of Richard Gunnell and stepbrother to Jonathan.

After completing year 12, Tim studied Agricultural Science at Gatton College, Brisbane, before enlisting in the Australian Army under the Ready Reserves Scheme in February 1992. After training at Kapooka and Singleton, he served as a private in 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (RAR), rising to the rank of corporal. After 12 months of full-time service Tim went part-time and for the next two years continued studying in Brisbane. He enlisted in the Regular Army in 1995 and was posted to 1RAR in Townsville, fulfilling a lifelong dream to become a full-time soldier. There he met Jenny, whom he married in April 1998, and they soon began a family. In 2000 the couple welcomed their daughter, Josie, followed by their son, Daniel, in 2002.



Tim developed into a proficient soldier. Rising to the rank of sergeant, he deployed to East Timor in October 2000 to help provide security during the country's transition to independence. He went with 2RAR to Iraq in 2003, forming part of the first security detachment to ensure the safety of Australian government and military personnel in Baghdad following the overthrow of Ba'athist dictator Saddam Hussein. Whilst with 2 RAR he was the Pioneer Sergeant.

Tim's marriage to Jenny ended after his return, although the two remained good friends and he continued to cherish his time spent with Josie and Daniel on weekends.



In 2006 Tim was posted to the Royal Military College, Duntroon, as a drill sergeant for officer cadets. By then he had met Natasha, whom he married in 2008, becoming step-father to Ty and Shinae. He returned periodically to Queensland for holidays with his children on the Gold Coast, skiing in New Zealand, camping with his brother, and visiting family and friends in Brisbane.

Tim was determined to undertake the Special Forces selection process, and after a gruelling six-week selection and training course he qualified for entry into 4RAR (Commando) at the age of 36. Based at Holsworthy in Sydney, he willingly accepted a reduction in rank to private, whereupon he trained as a team demolitions specialist and deployed to Afghanistan with the Special Operations Task Group in January 2009.

Based at Camp Russell at the multinational task force base at Tarin Kot, Aplin was involved in counter-insurgency operations in Uruzgan and neighbouring provinces in southern Afghanistan. At that time the commandos were involved in heavy fighting in neighbouring Helmand province in an effort to disrupt the supply of arms feeding the insurgency in Uruzgan.

After a brief return to Australia in 2009, Tim deployed once again to Afghanistan, where the Special Operations Task Group continued to target the insurgency. In Operation Hamkani, a four-day disruption operation in the Shah Wali Kot district of northern Kandahar province, the commandos contributed to the defeat of more than 100 Taliban insurgents. For this, Special Operations Command received the first battle honour awarded to an Australian Army unit since the Vietnam War.

In the early hours of 21 June 2010 an American UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter crashed while transporting Australian commandos near Shah Wali Kot. Among the 14 casualties on board was Private Timothy Aplin, who was one of three Australians who died in the crash. Tim was killed instantly. He was brought home and his funeral was held in Brisbane's St John's Anglican Cathedral. A family friend read a poem on behalf of Natasha, describing the sacrifices made by army wives and the pain they go through when their husband is at war.

'I am a silent soldier, I am a commando wife, no uniform, no rank, just pride in knowing I live a commando's life'

Private Timothy James Aplin was buried with full military honours in the Native Garden at the Mount Gravatt Crematorium in Brisbane. He was 38 years old.(picture below)



Tim was a highly skilled and professional soldier who lived life to its fullest. He was well-respected by those who served alongside him, who continue to remember their mate “Aps” or “Apples” by his character, professionalism, humour, and “shoddy attempts to grow a beard”. He was, in the words of one Australian soldier, “the best platoon sergeant a new digger could ever get”. Those who trained with Tim remember his calming and reassuring influence on those around him. For them, he was an “old mare in a stockyard with young, nervous and excitable horses”.

Tim loved the army and his mates there, but above all he loved his children and extended family. He was an adoring husband to Natasha, and a loving father and stepfather to Josie, Daniel, Ty, and Shinae. Time has not diminished their sadness, and his loss is still felt today. For his family, Tim’s humour, kindness, and practical no-fuss approach to life provides them with the courage to navigate through what continues to be an extremely difficult time.

Private Timothy James Aplin’s name is listed on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial, Indooroopilly War Memorial, Australian Commando Memorial, Two Wells Afghanistan War Memorial, Yungaburra Afghanistan Avenue of Honour and 42for42 Afghanistan Memorial Garden.

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Private Scott Travis Palmer

'Pain is weakness leaving the body'

Scott Travis Palmer (known to his mates as Slugger) was born in December 1982, one of two children to Ray and Pam Palmer of Katherine in the Northern Territory. An active child involved in scouts, Scott attended Clyde Fenton Primary School and later Katherine High School, where he completed his year 12 certificate. He was an avid football player, enjoying both Rugby League and Rugby Union, representing his Territory. At one time towards the end of high school Scott was shortlisted to play full-time for the Queensland Reds, but decided to complete his schooling instead.

Scott travelled to Darwin in January 2001 with two mates and enlisted as a rifleman in the Australian Army. After basic and corps training, he was posted to the 5/7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (RAR), at Robertson Barracks in Darwin. Scott's first deployment overseas was in February 2003, when his battalion formed part of the Australian Combined

Battle Group that supported the United Nations mission in East Timor. In May 2005 he deployed to Southern Iraq with his rifle company and formed as part of the Al Muthanna Task Group, assisting in the training of local Iraqi Army troops.

Scott was a highly skilled and experienced rifleman who was determined to become a better soldier. After his return from Iraq, Scott fulfilled a lifelong dream by applying for and passing the arduous Commando Selection Training Course, which ultimately enabled his transfer to the 2nd Commando Regiment at Holsworthy Barracks in Sydney, one of the Australian army's elite Special Forces units. After months of rigorous training Scott made the first of three deployments to Afghanistan attached to the Special Operations Task Group in November 2007.

Throughout his tours of the country Scott was actively involved in conducting counter-insurgency operations against the Taliban in Uruzgan and neighbouring provinces. In June 2010 Afghan the coalition forces, including troops of the 2nd Commando Regiment, were part of a Special Operations Task Group operation aimed at disrupting Taliban insurgents in the Shah Wali Kot region of Kandahar province. In the early hours of 21 June, one of the American UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters transporting the commandos crashed as it made its final approach to the designated landing zone. Among the 14 Australian and American casualties was Scott Palmer, who was killed instantly



Scott was brought home and his funeral was held in the Darwin Christ Church Anglican Cathedral. The Chief of the Defence Force Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston, Prime Minister Julia Gillard, Defence Minister John Faulkner and Opposition Leader Tony Abbott joined Pte Palmer's family, friends and colleagues at the funeral. He was buried with full military honours in Darwin, where he rests today. He was 27 years old.

Scott lived life to its full. He was popular and well-respected to those who knew him. To his parents, Ray and Pam, and his brother Adam, Scott was a larrikin who made them laugh. He had mischief in his smile and love in his heart, and was completely generous regardless of the

circumstance. Time has not diminished their sadness and grief, but they remain proud of Scott's service and sacrifice.

Scott's name is listed on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial, Katherine War Memorial, Australian Commando Memorial, Two Wells Afghanistan War Memorial, Yungaburra Afghanistan Avenue of Honour and 42for42 Afghanistan Memorial Garden.



Ray and Pam Palmer unveil the new plaque to commemorate the life of their son killed in Afghanistan, Scott Palmer at the Katherine War Memorial on Anzac Day 2019.

In 2015 University Pirates Rugby Club Darwin commenced an annual game between themselves and Palmerston Crocs for the Scott Palmer Trophy in honour of their good mate. Money raised throughout the day was donated to Walking Wounded, a charity assisting in the psychological recovery and rehabilitation of returned soldiers from recent conflicts. Six of Scot's previous team mates played in the game. They remembered him as a machine when he was training. He would run from Robertson Barracks to train at Casuarina, do training and then run back to the barracks.

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Private Benjamin Chuck

'Chucky was made for this job. A real professional'

Ben Chuck was born in Atherton, Queensland on 18 June 1983, the son of Gordon and Susan Chuck. He grew up on the family farm at Yungaburra in the Atherton Tablelands along with his older brother Jason and younger sister Tiffany.

Known as a quiet and gentle boy, Ben loved the outdoors and the creatures that inhabited it, particularly reptiles. During a family barbeque on the Herbert River, he disappeared only to return with a large python in his shirt. He sat near the campfire and had a mischievous grin on his face as the python slithered up to perch on his hat, which freaked out his friends and family. He loved the water and spent many blissful days kite-surfing and skiing behind the family boat on Lake Tinaroo, only minutes from his home.

When the family moved to Hobart, Ben and his brother Jason quickly settled into the Hutchins School where Ben became popular amongst his classmates. He was an enthusiastic participant in school activities, in particular sailing, where his talents saw him represent Australia in the 1995 International Cadet World Championships. He finished the competition in 9th place.

After leaving school, Ben gained employment at Cairns Crocodile Farm where he learned to manage risk as a crocodile catcher in the Northern Territory. This work led him to demonstrate his skills as a presenter of the Crocodile Attack show at Hartley Creek Wildlife Park, a popular tourist attraction north of Cairns. To improve his fitness and agility, Ben took up Muay Thai kickboxing. His skills quickly became evident when he won two bouts at

Cairns Ringside.

Ben wanted to do more with his life and confided to his father that he wanted to become a helicopter pilot. Despite the cost associated with gaining a pilot's licence, Ben set to his goal with dedication.

An Australian Defence Force advertisement in The Australian newspaper gave Ben his greatest challenge, which would prove most rewarding. Part of the ad said; 'if you think you have what it takes ... come and see us ... we'll tell you!' It was an appeal for motivated Australians to enlist in the Australian Army's Special Forces Direct Recruiting Scheme. After passing the required tests, Ben joined the Australian Army on 11 May 2004, aged 21.

Ben was proud of his family's military service and was keen to add his name alongside those of his two grandfathers, Squadron Leader Bob Maguire and Major Harry Chuck, who had both served with distinction during the Second World War.

The Commando Selection and Training Course started out with 250 participants. By the end, only 18 remained. Ben's performance was exceptional, and he was given the most outstanding soldier award.

In February 2005 he was posted to the 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (Commando) at Holsworthy. The unit would be renamed 2nd Commando Regiment in June 2009. Four months later, Ben and his unit were sent to Rifle Company Butterworth in Malaysia, where training focused on jungle and amphibious operations.

Back in Australia in 2006, Ben spent the majority of the year training. He passed his initial employment training, qualified on a wide variety of weaponry, including small arms and mortars, and passed the freefall sky diving course.

In May 2007, Ben deployed to Afghanistan with A Company, 4RAR, as part of Operation Slipper. By this time he was a member of the reconnaissance team.

After returning home in September, Ben continued to gain qualifications on weapon systems such as the Javelin. He successfully passed the gruelling sniper's course and became part of a six-man sniper team. Ben's caring nature led him to put his hand up to become the team's medic and he set about gaining the necessary qualifications.

Ben returned for a second tour in Afghanistan in June 2008. In the latter half of the year, his unit took part in a disruption operation in Helmand Province to assist coalition forces transporting a large turbine to the Kajaki Dam hydroelectric facility.

After returning to Australia in November, Ben continued his helicopter pilot training. He met Tess Crane, a cousin of one of his flatmates, who had come to Sydney for a visit. Their attraction was immediate and the two began a relationship. Ben considered Tess to be "the sweetest, kindest and prettiest girl I've ever met". As his third deployment to Afghanistan neared, he confided to his parents that he was going to propose to Tess when he got home.



Before his final deployment, Ben achieved his goal of becoming a qualified helicopter pilot. It had been a long process, and to celebrate he took his family for a flight over Sydney Harbour. He had also quietly applied for and been accepted to attend the July 2010 selection course for entry into the Special Air Service Regiment.

Ben deployed to Afghanistan in February 2010. In June, A Company, 2nd Commando Regiment was involved in the battle of Shah Wali Kot, a Coalition effort to drive the Taliban out of the Shah Wali Kot Valley.

On 21 June, in what was the final offensive in the Battle of Shah Wali Kot, four Blackhawk helicopters from the US Army's 1st Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, operating as Task Force No Mercy, were in the process of conducting an early morning heli-borne assault on Taliban positions.

In the pre-dawn darkness, the helicopters, carrying Australian and US Army personnel were flying low and fast across the desert floor. At 3.39 am as the lead helicopter neared its final checkpoint, with Ben and his Sierra One sniper team on board, the Blackhawk crashed into a small rise in the valley floor. The helicopter rolled as it hit the ground and the fuselage caught fire

The other helicopters turned around and landed near the crash. Some commandos formed a secure outer perimeter, while others went into rescue mode. Several men ripped an engine cowling off the crashed Blackhawk and it was used as a stretcher. The most critically injured, including Ben, were loaded onto another Blackhawk, which was airborne and on its way to Kandahar within four minutes.

Despite desperate attempts to stop the bleeding from Ben's injuries, he was unable to be saved. He died during the 25 minute flight back to Kandahar. He had only just turned 27.



Private Chuck's body was carried to the funeral on a gun carriage through a military guard of honour formed by his 2nd Commando Regiment. Soldiers from the Townsville-based 1 RAR led the funeral procession.

In an emotional tribute read to mourners at the funeral of Private Benjamin Chuck in North Queensland, partner Tess Crane spoke of her love for the popular boy turned elite soldier.

"He was my protector, my shield and my guardian angel and I know he's still looking after me," she said.

"Yes, he died a hero, but he was my hero the moment I saw his face."

Julia Gillard, attending her first military funeral as Prime Minister, Opposition Leader Tony Abbott and Queensland Premier Anna Bligh were among hundreds who gathered on the banks of Lake Tinaroo, near Private Chuck's home town of Yungaburra, for the service.

A source of good-natured jealousy amongst his mates, Ben was thought of as the best-looking man in 2nd Commando Regiment and what made him impossible to dislike was that he was also the nicest as well, always thinking of others above himself. Ben's death, along with those of Privates Aplin and Palmer, hit the unit hard.

A comrade said that he "knew Ben Chuck as a true gentleman. He was a real professional, an amazing friend and a down to earth Australian." Another stated that "Chucky was made for

this job, he loved being a commando. His mental strength showed in his courage under fire.”

After hearing of Ben’s death, the headmaster and board of the Hutchins School created” The Ben Chuck Good Man Award” in honour of their former student. The annual award is voted on by Year 12 students and presented to a peer who possesses the qualities of integrity, compassion, humility, courage and kindness: the traits of a good man.

Ben’s name is listed on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial, Australian Commando Memorial, Two Wells Afghanistan War Memorial, Yungaburra Afghanistan Avenue of Honour and 42for42 Afghanistan Memorial Garden. The Hutchins School Memorial

In June 2013 thousands attended the opening of Avenue of Honour that originally honoured 39 diggers who had been killed in Afghanistan. Ben’s family had tirelessly campaigned to raise the \$300,000 needed to build the memorial at Lake Tinaroo, Yungaburra. Ben’s father Gordon, said that the Avenue of Honour is a’ living memorial’

The idea for the Avenue of Honour arose from a speech given by Ex National Serviceman John Hardy at the Yungaburra Anzac Day Ceremony in 2012 when he said that "There should be a living avenue of trees on the Tinaburra Peninsula to represent every digger we have lost in the Afghanistan Campaign." These words proved to be the catalyst for Benjamin Chuck's parents, Susan and Gordon, to begin the push to build the magnificent Avenue of Honour which now serves as Australia's first living memorial to all who served in the Afghanistan Campaign.

With strong support from the Yungaburra Business Association, a fundraising campaign began to turn John Hardy's idea and the Chucks' vision into reality. An active campaign to promote the concept to the highest levels of the Defence Force and all three levels of Government followed.

(Ed: John Hardy is a Member of MHSA (Q) and conducts military tours .in the Atherton Tablelands Area)

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From the News



The New Service Chiefs announced 28 June 2022

The New Chief of Navy is Rear Admiral Mark Hammond, on promotion to Vice Admiral, for a period of four years. Rear Admiral Hammond joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1986 to become an electronics technician and was commissioned as an officer in 1988.

He has had an extensive career as a submariner and currently serves as the Australian Fleet Commander, responsible for the force generation of capable maritime forces.

Rear Admiral Hammond is the first graduate of the Australian Defence Force Academy to become a Service Chief since its inception in 1986.

The New Chief of Army is Major General Simon Stuart, on promotion to Lieutenant General, for a period of four years. Major General Stuart joined the Australian Army as a recruit in 1987 and served as a signalman before commissioning as an officer in 1989.

He had had a diverse career as an infantry officer and has significant command experience. Most recently, as Head of Land Capability, he has been responsible for the design, modernisation and sustainment of current and future land capability.

The New Chief of Air Force is Vice Marshal Robert Chipman, on promotion to Air Marshal, for a period of four years. Air Vice-Marshal joined the Royal Australian Air Force in 1989 and after qualifying as an aeronautical engineer, had an extensive career as a fighter pilot.

He was the Head of Military Strategic Commitments, providing strategic military advice, planning guidance and Defence input to the national crisis management machinery.

General Angus Campbell Chief of Defence who was appointed CDF in July 2018 tenure was extended along with Deputy Chief of the Defence Force Vice Admiral David Johnston.

(Source: Defence News)



Soldiers and officers of the 3RAR Battlegroup stand ready on parade after an equipment inspection at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville

For the first time ever, it is now known that 581,139 Australians have reported they have served or are currently serving in the Australian Defence Force, as announced in the release of Census 2021 data today.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Matt Keogh said there are 496,276 veterans and 84,865 current-serving ADF members, and that understanding these figures along with other demographic and lifestyle data was history-making. "I am proud to announce that for the first time in Australian history, we know that there are more than half a million veterans in Australia, representing 2.8 per cent of the Australian population aged 15 years and over and equating to 1 in 20 households with at least one person who has served," Minister Keogh said.

"Currently around 247,000 veterans receive support from the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), about half of the veteran population. "This is a good sign that not all veterans have needed tailored support services, but I encourage those veterans who do need support and have not yet engaged with DVA or are not sure what help they can access, to reach out."

The Census 2021 data release also outlined key demographic information among current and former-serving ADF population.

"Knowing how many veterans there are and other key factors such as demographics, employment, education and health status is pivotal for the Australian government to target services and support to the right areas," Minister Keogh said. "We now know that 13.4 per cent

of our veteran population are female, the largest age group for veterans is 65-74 years, and 90 per cent of these veterans are male.

“With the largest Army base in the country, Townsville is home to the most veterans (8700) and current-serving ADF members (5500).

“Unsurprisingly, the Census 2021 results show that veterans are more likely to participate in volunteer work compared to the general population, attesting to the incredible contributions our veterans make to the community throughout their lives.

“Better understanding our veteran population through the Census 2021 will help guide the development and delivery of services and support for Australia’s veterans, and will help inform the government’s response to issues veterans are facing, such as health, housing and employment.”

(Source: Contact)



Australian troop carrier makes a difference in Ukraine.

Konstantinivka: Ukrainian soldier Vitaly hasn’t taken his Australian Bushmaster troop carrier back to the front line for two weeks. He can’t. Five of his comrades were captured by the Russians in the open green fields of the sprawling Donbas region of eastern Ukraine before he and his gunner could evacuate them.

Vitaly, who drives the four-wheel-drive armoured vehicle, is now waiting on more men to shuttle back to the battlefield. Two men are required to operate the Bushmaster, the driver and the gunner allowing it to transport five soldiers to and from the action.

Speaking from a secret location in eastern Ukraine, a dozen kilometres from the front line, Vitaly remembers the day he lost his team. When the five soldiers in his unit came under heavy Russian fire in the fields, Vitaly and the gunner Stepan set off in the Bendigo made Bushmaster to rescue them. But as they got close, they lost communications. The five soldiers were captured, their fate now in Russia’s hands.

“I now don’t have the team to man the vehicle. My team has been captured, taken prisoner by the Russians. Only Stepan and I are left,” Vitaly, 42, says.

As Vitaly speaks, a Motanka doll, a traditional Ukrainian good-luck charm hangs from above on the windscreen. On the side of the vehicle, a painted-on kangaroo almost kisses the Ukrainian flag with the words: “UNITED WITH UKRAINE”.

The Bushmasters, designed by Thales Australia for the Australian Army in the late 1990s, proved indispensable in Iraq and Afghanistan as the primary troop carrier. They are now proving their worth in the Donbas, under heavy bombardment from Russian artillery shelling, missiles and airstrikes. The olive-green armoured vehicles are geared like a truck but they move nimbly through all terrains, transporting troops to and from the front line.

Within one-hour last week, we saw three racing to frontline positions near Sievierodonetsk, the focus of Russia’s onslaught in the east. In what is shaping as a long and brutal war, Russia is, centimetre-by-centimetre, making advances in the Donbas region. It has taken most of the ruined factory city and Ukrainian soldiers are pinned down in the industrial area of what was once a major population centre.

From their positions in the occupied streets, Russians batter the sister city of Lyshychansk, across the Siverskyi Donets river, with artillery shells and missiles. Ukrainian and US defence officials estimate that between 100 and 200 Ukrainian soldiers are dying every day across the country, while thousands more are wounded and captured. The war has also cost Moscow dearly, with NATO last month estimating the Russian military death toll at 15,000 or more.

Australia has sent Ukraine 20 Bushmasters and six light-weight towed howitzer cannons. The Ukraine soldiers say they want more Bushmasters, as well as howitzers, tanks and long-range missiles.

Vitaly says the Bushmaster is “a lot better” than Ukraine’s Soviet-era BTR vehicles. “First of all, it’s very comfortable. It has air-conditioning, it’s like a house on wheels. I would have lived inside. I stay in it all the time,” Vitaly says.

Ukraine now only has 19 Bushmasters, after one was taken out by the Russians in an attack near the village of Trypillia. Vitaly, who was close to the attack when it happened, says everyone survived. “I was there, I saw that Bushmaster go in for the first time, bring the guys back and then go in a second time. And then it got hit,” Vitaly says.

The commander of the team, who goes by the nickname Technik, says the attack demonstrated the quality of the Australian vehicle because it protected all the men inside. “It’s armoured inside and that’s a big plus for this vehicle because it protects the safety and

the health of the soldiers inside,” he says. “If we had more vehicles like this, we would save more lives – and the lives of our soldiers are the most important thing.”

Technik says it took his team between two and three days to “master the Bushmaster”. He says he is waiting on Australia to send more of them. “We need the Bushmasters for those units that are responsible for internal safety,” he says.

Technik says Ukraine needs many more vehicles and weapons from countries like Australia to replenish its capabilities. “We need artillery and ammunition for the artillery. We need howitzers, we need more tanks and armoured vehicles – a lot of armoured vehicles.”

(Source: Sydney Morning Herald)

Navy



Mayor of the City of Shoalhaven Amanda Findley, left, Maritime Logistics Personnel Leading Seaman Stephanie Hart and Commander Fleet Air Arm Commodore David Frost, cut a cake to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the FAA

The Navy Fleet Air Arm (FAA) hosted a black-tie reception at the FAA Museum in Nowra as part of its 75th anniversary celebrations.

Former Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Tim Barrett, local Indigenous Elder Uncle Sonny Simms, Shoalhaven City Council Mayor Amanda Findley and past and present FAA

members mingled with other guests on a viewing deck above the museum's historic collection of Navy planes and helicopters.

Commander Fleet Air Arm Commodore David Frost said the FAA has contributed to Australian Defence Force operations in war and peacetime, including the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam and the Middle East. "More recently, it has contributed to humanitarian and disaster relief operations in Fiji and Tonga, and also bushfire and flood relief in eastern Australia," Commodore Frost said. "While we reflect on the distinguished service of our naval aviators, I'd also like to express our gratitude for the enduring support we've received from the public, in particular the Shoalhaven Community, in which we live and work."

Mayor Findley said having a big Navy community in Nowra was important. "We appreciate what it is that you men and women do for our country every single day," Mayor Findley said.

The FAA was built on the shoulders of accomplished aviators such as Korean War veteran Commodore (ret'd) Norman Lee, who joined the Navy as a recruit rating pilot in 1948. "Only claim to fame, 254 Firefly accident-free axial deck landings," Commodore Lee said.

Commander (ret'd) Ian Maxwell 'Max' Speedy, who joined the Navy as a midshipman in 1962, said his most challenging flying was in the famed Bell UH-1H Iroquois 'Huey' in Vietnam.

"I think the remarkable thing is the way we transitioned from essentially sitting out over the ocean in the hover with an anti-submarine mission in mind, to going into a red-hot and steamy landing zone, having people killed and proceeding to doing your best to stay alive."

The retired Commander said the FAA remained a critical arm of the Australian Defence Force.

"Having reached 75 years is a matter of history and the next 75 years will be just as important."

(Source: Defence News)



Lieutenant Commander Matthew Schroder

If you notice a bearded aviator in the bar scenes of *Top Gun: Maverick*, it's probably the Royal Australian Navy's Lieutenant Commander Matthew Schroder. The MH-60R pilot was on US Navy exchange when he got a call from the film's casting agent looking for foreign aviators as extras.

But a makeup artist was unimpressed by Lieutenant Commander Schroder's beard – something not allowed in the US Navy or in keeping with the original movie's aesthetic. The beard was eventually allowed after the director gave his approval.

“After a couple of days, the beard had been seen too much, so I was worried I would be taken out to avoid becoming a reoccurring distraction,” Lieutenant Commander Schroder said.

For 12 hours a day, over eight days, Lieutenant Commander Schroder and a group of US Navy pilots were filmed in a specially made set at US Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego.

“I knew it was going to be tenuous about whether I'd make it in,” he said.

“There were lots of scenes that were shot that didn't make it. If there are people with flying suits in the background of the bar, I'm in there somewhere.”

(Source: Contact)



HMAS Supply conducts CIWS firing trials during a regional presence deployment.

HMAS *Supply* successfully completed a first-of-class firing trial of the Phalanx close-in weapon system (CIWS) during a regional presence deployment.

Electronic Technician Leading Seaman Sam Chiswell said the training performed on board before a firing ensured the ship's procedures were safe and efficient. “In my role I maintain and operate the CIWS and prepare it for firings; this includes all safety checks, pre-firing and

loading the live ammunition,” Leading Seaman Chiswell said. “Our training helps to make sure procedures are fresh in our minds and communication with the warfare team in the operations room is correct, ensuring a smooth firing evolution.”

Successful and safe completion of the firing exercise required careful planning, testing the gun system functionality and the safety mechanisms of the systems required. The team then liaised with the operations crew on specific detail of the planned firing.

The success of the CIWS firing was a milestone moment for *Supply*, the ship’s company and Supply-class vessels. As an auxiliary oil replenishment ship, *Supply*’s primary function is replenishment of the fleet, but having a weapons defence system to defend against anti-ship missiles provides greater capability to the ship and those she sails with.

Leading Seaman Chiswell said having conducted *Supply*’s first CIWS, and the first for its class, was fulfilling. “There are not many people that can say they were the first to do something like this on an Australian warship,” he said.

HMA ships *Supply*, *Canberra* and *Warramunga* are sailing in company as part of a regional presence deployment.

(Source: Contact)

Army



WO2 Cameron Elliott provides training to a Malaysian explosive’s detection dog section during Exercise Anjing Perang in 2017

Warrant Officer Class Two Cameron Elliott received an Order of Australia Medal for dedication across several postings at the School of Military Engineering. One area he dedicated time to was rewriting the military working dog doctrine.

This included WO2 Elliott helping develop policy for care and welfare for all Army canines, then implementation and training techniques for EDDs.

“There’s a saying that if three handlers are having an argument, the only thing two of them agree on is that the other one is wrong,” he said. “So, we would reach out to dog sections asking about how they trained and what needed to be put into doctrine.”

This resulted in aspects that previously weren’t prescribed such as buried hides, low odour and personnel search being included. “That means once those guys who went to Afghanistan and other operations leave Army, their knowledge won’t be lost and we can continue to develop training from it,” WO2 Elliott said.

He deployed to Afghanistan as a dog handler in 2008, then went on to prepare and certify teams before they deployed. WO2 Elliott later served as the detection dog chief trainer and EDD capability manager.

During his time at the school, WO2 Elliott encouraged handlers returning from Afghanistan and Iraq to share what they had learnt and incorporate it into training.

Last year, instructors running the basic handler course continued to improve scenarios, according to WO2 Elliott. “We went from doing a simple search at a race track during my basic course, to now having role players and casualties that the handler needs to think about as well as the threat within the search area,” he said. “That was directly related to corporals coming back and saying, ‘this is what I dealt with – how do we bring it into training?’ “I think it helped having supervisors that were open to their ideas and willing to back them.”

WO2 Elliott recently clocked up 24 years in the Army and loves the varied nature of working with canines. “You can train a dog and it will be doing something perfectly one day, then the next it’s completely forgotten,” he said. “Or you work on something for a week and it won’t remember anything; then one morning it will just click and get it. “We have taken dogs out of the pound that somebody didn’t want, then six or seven months later, it’s going to Afghanistan to serve in the Defence Force.”

While humbled to receive the award, WO2 Elliott said the real reward was working with some of the “world’s best” dog handlers. “Someone somewhere said, ‘Cam and his team did well’, and in that way I got the award,” he said. “But there were a lot of good people that did a lot of the work under my command over the years. “We had guys that went overseas and showed their skills in front of other nations and we were getting reports on how fantastic they were.”

(Source: Contact)



Rabbanit Judith Levitan is sworn into Army Chaplaincy at a ceremony in Sydney.

A lawyer and social worker, Rabbanit Judith Levitan, has been sworn in as Army's first female rabbi at a ceremony in Sydney. Rabbanit Judith Levitan was also the first woman ordained as an Orthodox rabbi in NSW and the second in Australia.

She joined Army because she felt a sense of duty and that she could contribute to the force. "I look for places where I can make a valuable contribution," Rabbanit Levitan said. "If you can make a contribution then you should."

As the first female rabbi, Rabbanit Levitan said she hoped she would be approachable, drawing on her experience as a lawyer and social worker with experience with domestic and family violence. She said this gave her a unique perspective she could offer to personnel facing a range of challenges.

Rabbanit Levitan was ordained by a Jewish Orthodox institution in New York after completing a three-year remote learning package, including multiple trips to the US.

She was invited to join the Australian Defence Force (ADF) by Religious Advisory Committee Senior Rabbi Ralph Genende, who said welcoming an Orthodox woman to the role is in keeping with ADF values and also reflects a trend in Orthodox Judaism to give women a greater public role as religious and spiritual leaders. "Within the Jewish Orthodox tradition, not all accept that a woman can be a rabbi," Rabbi Genende said. "What we are saying is you can be a strictly religious woman in a public leadership role. "Orthodox Judaism is seen as a more traditional body than progressive Judaism, which featured female rabbis for decades."

There are currently three rabbis and rabbanits serving as chaplains in Defence. With only several hundred Jewish personnel, a chaplain's appointment is not based on denomination numbers. Chaplains are appointed to represent all the people within the base they serve. "Part

of the role of Judaism is not to be insulated from society, but to contribute to it,” Rabbi Genende said. “We see serving members of no faith or of other faiths as a positive challenge and opportunity.”

Rabbanit Levitan was sworn in along with Rabbi Ari Rubin from Cairns.

Rabbanit Levitan will serve from Randwick Barracks once she completes her specialist service officer course this year.

Air Force



The RAAF’s newest F-35A Lightning II aircraft arrive at RAAF Base Williamtown.

The Royal Australian Air Force’s fleet of F-35A Lightning II aircraft continues to increase, with two more aircraft arriving at RAAF Base Williamtown in May.

These latest additions to the F-35A fleet bring the number of aircraft currently in Australia to 50. It is planned the fleet will have a total of 72 aircraft.

No. 3 Squadron was responsible for the safe arrival of the aircraft into Australia following the successful ferry across the Pacific Ocean from Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, USA, on Exercise Lightning Ferry.

Commanding Officer No. 3 Squadron Wing Commander Adrian Kiely said the RAAF F-35A aircraft participated in Exercise Black Flag 22-1 and integration activities with the United States Air Force’s 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron before the ferry to Australia. “Exercise Black Flag was a large force integration activity, which enabled us to operationally test our tactics and capabilities with the United States Air Force,” Wing Commander Kiely said. “Operationally representative scenarios such as Exercise Black Flag support the continuous development of our tactics, people and overall preparedness in highly demanding environments.”

Exercise Black Flag provided the USAF and RAAF opportunities to identify ways to enhance their combined capabilities against a peer adversary, specifically seeking to progress the integrated tactical procedures against an advanced air-to-air threat.

Wing Commander Kiely said the consecutive exercises were achievable thanks to the integration of personnel and platforms. “As our F-35A fleet continues to increase, we’re opening the door to new opportunities such as the first-ever forward area refuelling of an Australian F-35A with a United States HC-130J,” Wing Commander Kiely said. “We’ve brought back not only more aircraft to Australia, but also a more highly skilled workforce to further benefit the wider Air Force.”

(Source: Contact)



No. 75 Squadrons Colour Party prepare to receive the new Squadron's Standard at RAAF Base Tindal, Northern Territory

In commemorating 80 years of operational service, No. 75 Squadron celebrated with an F-35A Lightning II display, Squadron Standards consecration parade and sunset dinner.

The parade, held on 24 June, was attended by current and ex-serving No. 75 Squadron members, including then Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Mel Hupfeld. The fighter squadron, which defends Australia from the north, is located at RAAF Base Tindal near Katherine.

Commanding Officer of No. 75 Squadron Wing Commander Martin Parker said the day was a fitting tribute to the squadron’s extensive history. “The Squadron was formed in Townsville, Queensland on 4 March 1942, crested with the Australian magpie and motto ‘Seek and Strike’,” Wing Commander Parker said.

“Operating the Kittyhawk aircraft, No. 75 Squadron deployed to New Guinea only a fortnight after its formation to fight in World War 2.”

Wing Commander Parker said that over the next 80 years, No. 75 Squadron was awarded nine battle honours for distinguished conduct during war-time operations, and a Meritorious Unit Citation for outstanding service in the Middle East during Operation Falconer. "It's extremely humbling to be the commanding officer as we pay tribute to the achievements and sacrifices over the past 80 years, including to all those who have lost their lives during their service."

Since the end of World War 2, No. 75 Squadron has flown an array of aircraft including the Mustang, Wirraway, Vampire, Meteor, Sabre and Mirage and operated from a variety of locations such as Williamtown, Malta, England, Germany, Malaysia and Darwin.

Finally making RAAF Base Tindal home, No. 75 Squadron was equipped with the F/A-18A/B Hornet from 1988 and was the last squadron to operate the iconic aircraft before it was retired in December 2021.

Air Marshal Hupfeld, who took Command of No. 75 Squadron from 2011 to 2013, congratulated all who played a part in the Squadron's success. "I'm extremely honoured to return to the Top End as the reviewing officer for a squadron with such a remarkable legacy," Air Marshal Hupfeld said. "As every proud aviator who has served at No. 75 Squadron will say, **'once a magpie, always a magpie.'**"

(Source: Defence News)

Quiz

Quiz Question

1. Who is considered to be the most successful tank ace in history?
2. What Company produces the Aegis Combat System?
3. Which military methodology is also known as 'lightning war'?
4. What is the largest-calibre rifled weapon ever used in combat?
5. Name the ship. The football team of this suburb has a record for the longest-running premiership drought in history for that code's competition?

Answer Quiz Question Tribute No 13

Who is he?

- He was born in Ipswich and grew up in Toowoomba
- Joined the Army as a soldier in 1974 and was a member of the Intelligence Corps
- Attended OCS Portsea and commissioned into Armoured Corps
- He served in the Gulf War
- He was CO and CI of RMC
- Deployed to Iraq as Director Strategic Operations
- Deputy Chief of Army in 2007
- CO Joint Task Force 633 on Operation SLIPPER and KRUGER
- Retired in 2012 after 38 Years
- Currently lives on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland.

Answer: Major General John Cantwell AO, DSC

Show and Tell



The marble tablet commemorating Captain Alfred Shout (1881 – 1915) a recipient of the Victoria Cross for his actions at Lone Pine, Gallipoli. He later died of wounds as a result of his actions. The tablet was originally located at the Darlington Town Hall.

The tablet of white marble on a slate plinth was designed by Messrs Morrow and de Putron, and made by Anthony Hordern. The entire cost was born by the Mayor and Alderman.

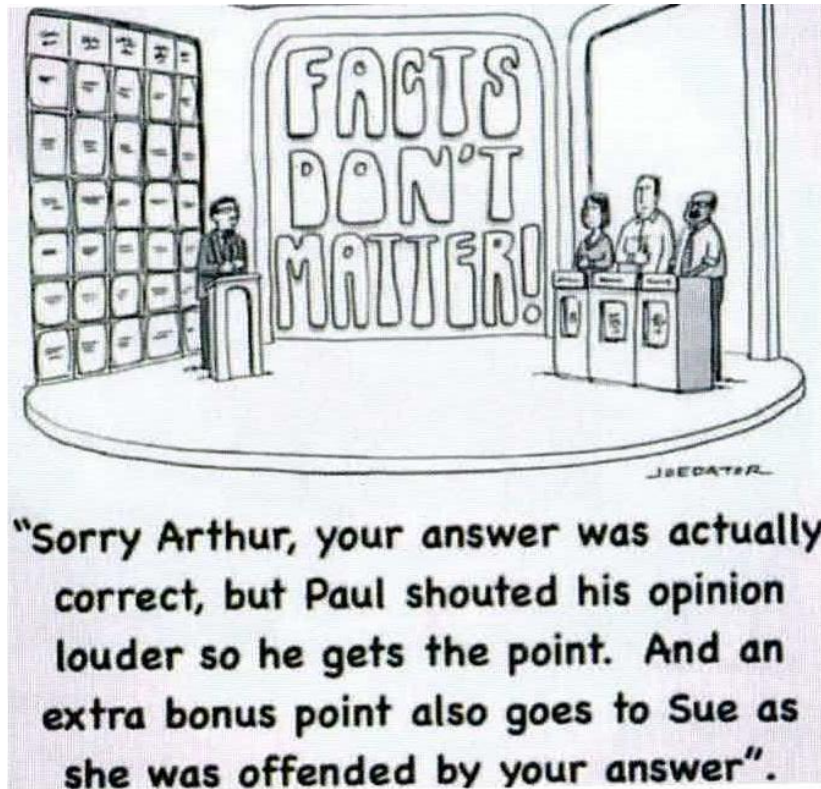
A number of years ago Alfred's Grandson donated the tablet to the Redfern RSL Club. The Redfern RSL Club closed its doors on 30 June 2022 due to lack of numbers and the impact of COVID. The original decision by the RSL was to relocate the tablet to Sydney University. However, due to the efforts of one of its members the Tablet will be relocated to the Anzac Memorial at Hyde Park to be include in its museum under the Memorial.

Humour and Poetry

The Immortal Three

By SGT Caswell 23 June 2010 (2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment)

For those who choose green and gold replaced
By desert cams and boots tight laced
A rifle, knife and greasy gun
Rain, snow and heat, no home no fun
And when the time to fight arrives
A bill is paid not in cash but lives
Usually theirs but sometimes ours
Unwelcome sorry heart felt hours
No time for hugs, no time for flowers
But now the fight has come to an end for three
Not your time and not for me
Timmy, Chucky and Palms too
Sorry boys the price was you
So those that still stand take a knee
Brothers but not blood are we
Today the lord takes his prize
With three new bronzed Aussies lives
So all those men that call them brothers
Weep not for them
But for their mothers
For the heroes three
Have stepped through God's portal
Their bodies to dust
Their names IMMORTAL



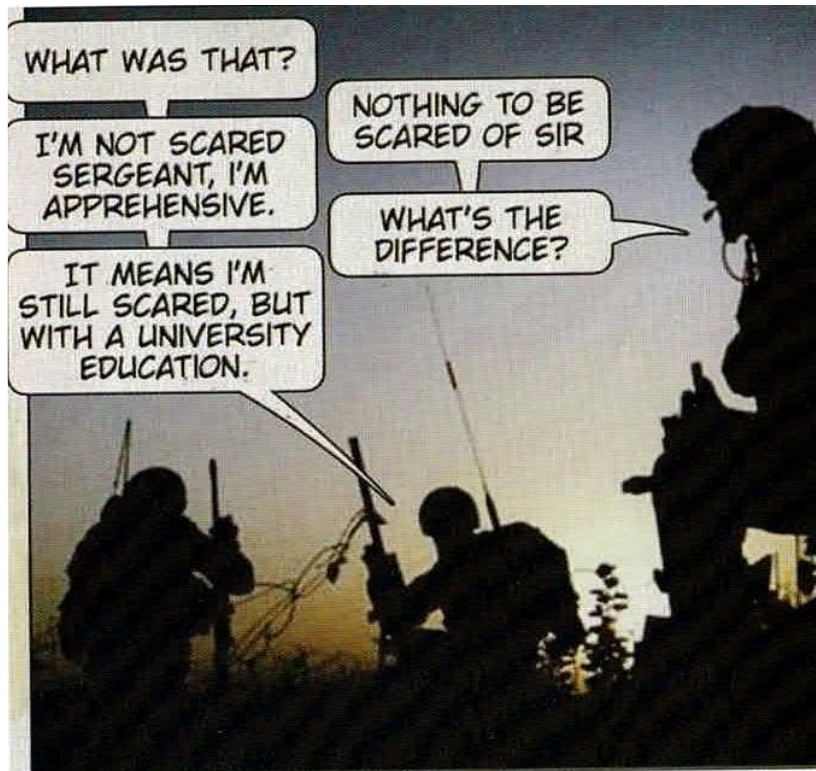
A Senior's Version of Facebook

A Light-Hearted change of Pace to Amuse You

For those who do not, and cannot, comprehend why Facebook exists an unknown writer explains....

- I am trying to make friends outside Facebook while applying the same principle, therefore:
- Every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I had to eat
- How I feel at the moment
- What I have done the night before
- What I will do later and with whom
- I give them pictures of my family, my dog and my gardening
- I show watering the lawn
- Standing in front of landmarks
- Driving around town
- Having lunch and showing what anybody does every day
- I also listen to their conversations, given them a 'thumbs up'
- I tell them I 'like' them

..... this works just like Facebook. I already have four people following me: 2 police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.



A new camp commander was appointed and while inspecting the place, he saw 2 soldiers guarding a bench. He went over there and asked them why do they guard it.

"We don't know. The last commander told us to do so, and so we did. It is some sort of regimental tradition!"

He searched for last commander's phone number and called him to ask him why did he want guards in this particular bench.

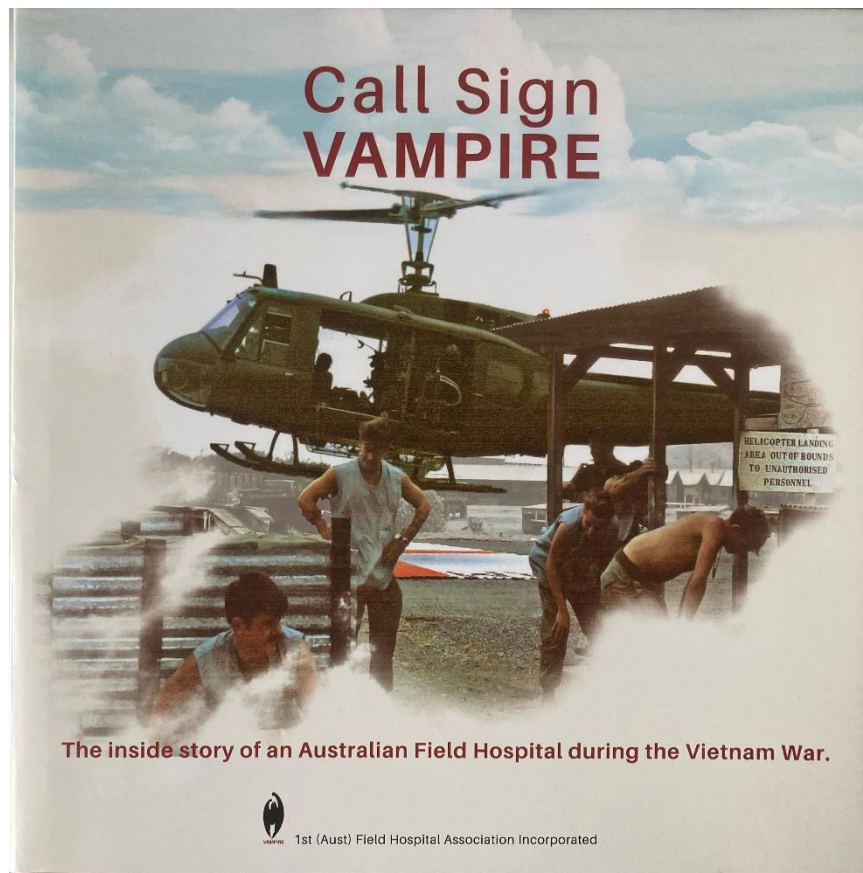
"I don't know. The previous commander had guards, and I kept the tradition."

Going back another 3 commanders, he found a now 100-year old retired General.

"Excuse me sir. I'm now the CO of your camp you commanded 60 years ago. I've found 2 men assigned to guard a bench. Could you please tell me more about the bench?"

"What? Is the paint still wet?!?"

Book Review



Authors: SEARLE, Rod, BELL, Denise, DANAHER, Paul and ANDERSON, Gregory

Title: Call Sign VAMPIRE

Publisher: 1st (Aust) Field Hospital Association Incorporated 2021

Healthcare is fundamental to the maintenance of all fighting forces. The history of warfare reflects the revalidation of this over time which, in the Australian context, is mirrored in the official histories of our wars and other deployments. **Call Sign VAMPIRE** presents an important human face of this view as it addresses healthcare during the Vietnam War and is a great addition to the Australian military medicine literature.

Fortunately, Australia went into the Vietnam War with the very recent experiences of Korea, and then Malaya and Borneo. While those deployments featured coalition arrangements regarding care of the sick and wounded, this book records both the history and the core medical support capabilities provided by the 'all Australian' care facility established from scratch at Vung Tau, miles from the primary fighting base from which most operations of the Vietnam War were conducted. The first major 'helicopter war', the high percentage of anti-personnel mines, IEDs and RPG fragmentation injuries presented unique conditions which changed the face of care in a war zone. New experiences were acquired, challenges confronted and the care of casualties given. This is the story of those who delivered that care, chronicled by those who were there.

Call Sign VAMPIRE is wonderfully structured. Following the deployment of the 2nd Field Ambulance, followed by the 8th Field Ambulance, the expanding Australian forces in Vietnam necessitated the expansion of care to that of the 1st (Aust) Field Hospital and its allied healthcare services. The sequence of the build-up is chronicled as the delivery of the full range of patient care took effect to address the needs of the Australian and New Zealand forces, enemy and even civilian casualties. It is a remarkable story. Successive chapters unfurl the story of the provision of medical care, moving from the famed ‘dust-off’ medical evacuation made possible by the helicopter platform synonymous with the Vietnam War, through the critical care steps of triaging, surgery and post-operative care. The many allied health and logistic support components essential to a fully-fledged healthcare facility are also covered. Nothing is left out.

The ready availability of coloured imagery and a stable environment within which to capture such images enables an unprecedented image component to this book. Indeed, the authors had over 7,000 images from which to select. It is one of the most visually appealing forms of story-telling I have had the pleasure to study. The authors also capitalise upon the availability of participants whose anecdotal evidence is wonderfully presented to give the human face to the history.

A strong and consistent pattern of *pathos* permeates **Call Sign VAMPIRE**. Care for the wounded, respectful administration of the dead, treatment of POW and civilians, all on a triaged basis, stands out as a constant theme. It is an immensely emotive and moving story. There are also many examples of innovation and Aussie ingenuity to adapt to the circumstances of lack of equipment, the identification of/new types of wounding to contend with and unfamiliar issues such as finding live munitions on patients.

Some anecdotes are humorous: getting around officialdom in the procurement of certain supply chain commodities including the time-honoured practice of trading with the comparatively lavishly supplied Americans. Other innovations borne of necessity reflect typical Aussie ingenuity. The focus is always on the patient.

Coverage of non-battle casualties and illnesses is sensitively covered with some of the statistics illuminating. I found the near-50% sexually transmitted disease rate and the very low level of illegal drug usage revealing. Perhaps this suggests where the average Australian serviceman’s interests really lie when off duty in the Vietnam War.

Vietnam was not the first war in which Australian females played a vital role, but it was perhaps the last during which their deployment as doctors/surgeons and other allied health roles previously barred to females would feature. The coverage of the allied healthcare females serving with the unit is good, as is the realization that key issues such as weapon safety and the need for their professional skills far outweigh the then-perceived prejudices surrounding gender. It is a credit to the military of today that many practices in this area, as chronicled in this book, have been derived from the contribution of the females. Employment of females along with other advances in procedures, equipment and practices highlighted in **Call Sign VAMPIRE** has since accelerated military field medical practice, reflecting the true team effort characteristic of the 1st (Aust) Field Hospital.

Many readers, including former staff and patients featured in the book – will draw very favourable comparisons with the quality of care before, during, and since Vietnam. This is the story of how the role of **Call Sign VAMPIRE** played its role in that evolution.

The high quality of layout, excellent proofing, logical sequencing, and a balance of medical terminology with general language makes the book a great (and easy) read. It is successful in capturing a slice of Australian military medical history for the widest possible audience, something that most medical-themed historical products do not do. Its packaging is first class with the overall product in two versions a credit to the authors and their Association. It is a ‘must read’ volume and a professional keepsake suitable for a place on any military history library shelf through which the service of the men and women captured in it is appropriately recorded.

Russell Linwood, ASM, LTCOL (Retd)

Important Days in August

9 August 2000 Corporal Stuart Jones 2 Cav Regt – died of an accidental discharge of weapon during a vehicle transit in East Timor.

12 August 1992 – Queensland University Regiment

14 August 2010 – Trooper Jason Thomas Brown SASR – died from small arms fire during Operation Slipper, Afghanistan

15 August 1973 – 2/4 RAR formed

17 August 2002 – Commissioning of HMAS Stuart (111)

20 August 2010 – Private Thomas James Dale and Private Grant Walter Kirby 6 RAR – died from an IED Explosion during Operation Slipper Afghanistan

22 August 1972 – RAAF Caribou crash in PNG

22 August 2011 – Private Mathew Lambert 2 RAR – died from an IED Explosion during Operation Slipper, Afghanistan

24 August 2008 – Military Police Dog ZIGGY died of unknown causes during Operation Astute Timor Lease

25 August 2010 – Lance Corporal Jared William MacKinney 6 RAR – died from small arms fire during Operation Slipper, Afghanistan

26 August 2006 – Commissioning of HMAS Perth (111)

29 August 2012 – Sapper James Thomas Martin 2 CER, Lance Corporal Stjepan ‘Rick’ Milosevic 2/14 LHR QMI and Private Robert Hugh Frederick Poate 6 RAR – all died from small arms fire during Operation Slipper, Afghanistan

30 August 1975 – East Timor Medical and Evacuation Support provided till 30 October shortly before Indonesia annexation completed.

30 August 2012 – Lance Corporal Mervyn John McDonald 2 Cdo Regt and Private Nathanael John Aubrey Gallagher 2 Cdo Regt – died in a helicopter crash during Operation Slipper, Afghanistan



Military Historical Society of Australia, Qld Division Committee 2022 – 23

President	Neil Dearberg
Vice President	Russell Paton
Honorary Secretary	Ian Curtis
Honorary Treasurer	Ian Curtis
Committee Member	Scott Meares

<p><u>IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 September – Bimonthly Meeting • 14 – 16 October – Military Spectacular • 11 November – Remembrance Day • 12 November – Bimonthly Meeting 	<p><u>FELLOWS of MHSA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Meyers • Anthony Staunton • Donald Wright <p><u>NEW MEMBERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoff Jones
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MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Business Number (ABN) 97 764 781 363

Membership Application

Queensland Division

Membership Fee Ordinary Member \$50, Family Member \$55 (ie 2 or more domiciled at the one address)

Name/s

Postal Address

.....

Telephone

E-mail

Date/year joined the Society

Military Interests

I understand the above details will only be used by the Qld Division and the Federal Secretary of the Military Historical Society of Australia to maintain correct records of my membership and for general branch or administrative business, and by the Journal editor to assist with editorial planning. I understand that the Society's Constitution requires the Federal Secretary to maintain a membership register (including the Journal mailing list).

In addition to information kept for these purposes:

OPT IN I agree to my email details being included on the Federal Secretary's contact list which will be used solely to distribute Society business and convey items of interest to members (including members' notices) **YES /NO (cross out whichever does not apply)**

OPT IN I wish to be included on the members' interests register and give permission for my military interests and my phone/email/address contact details to be included on it (cross out whichever does not apply). **YES/NO (cross out whichever does not apply)**

I understand that I can revoke permission for inclusion on register and contact lists at any time

As part of your membership you will receive a quarterly edition of Sabretache, the journal of the MHSA. **I require a hard copy (mail) / electronic (via email) version. (circle your option)**

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