



Respect, Gratitude, Admiration

TRIBUTE

The Newsletter of the Military
Historical Society Australia,
Queensland Division

President: Neil Dearberg
Website: www.mhsa.org.au

October 2022 No.16



An emotional farewell for The Queen.

39 Australians have joined personnel from the Defence Forces of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth in the funeral procession through the streets of London for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Commonwealth contingent joined the funeral procession that included more than 3,000 predominantly military personnel who marched from Westminster Abbey, past Buckingham Palace, to Wellington Arch to honour Her Majesty.

(Source: Defence)

President Report

Quite a time we have had, mostly sad though...

Passing of Queen Elizabeth II and John Meyers whose service was the same day as QEII passing. Then the postponement of the Military Spectacular (for reasons previously explained).

I have a meeting with the RSM of Joint Operations Support Staff in the next few weeks to look at bigger and better ADF support, probably for a Military Spectacular in June 2023. Should include additional weaponry, equipment, vehicles and air support (including a 'fly-over'). A venue was suggested in Brisbane to attract a larger audience and provide greater outdoor space for displays and demonstrations. The format is also to be reviewed. Watch this space.

But let me also say that MHSA was a miserable response to ticket sales, Australia wide and Qld in particular.

Now putting on my 'happy hat', the ADF formal involvement in Afghanistan is over, Covid restrictions seem to be over and the nasty floods of early 2022 have receded (although there is much clean up still to be done). Not out of it though, seems lots of rain is yet to fall this summer season so please take care and if told to evacuate, get the hell out rather than wait for the water to join you in front of the tele and need SES to get you out at their personal risk and peril.

If you have an interest in how our ADF performed in Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor, here are a few book titles that I have read recently and recommend;

Exit Wounds, Maj-Gen John Cantwell; *Saving Private Sarbi* Sandra Lee; *The Crossroad* Mark Donaldson VC; *Courage Under Fire* Daniel Keighran VC; *One Woman's War and Peace* Sharon Bown; *Blood Seat and Steel* Curtis McGrath; *Commando, The Life and Death of Cpl Cameron Baird* VC, MG Ben McKelvey; *SAS Sniper* Rob Maylor; *In Dogs We Trust* George Hulse; *No Front Line* Chris Masters.

For followers of the Australian Light Horse and General Sir Harry Chauvel, you might like to attend this;

[Australian Light Horse](#)

[‘Battle of Romani’ Celebratory Dinner](#)

[The strategic victory led by Tabulam’s own local hero,](#)

[Lt. General Sir Harry Chauvel](#)

[DINNER, GUEST SPEAKER DR JONATHAN KING OAM,](#)

[FILM and MUSIC](#)

[Saturday 12th November 2022](#)

Tabulam Hall, Commencing 5.00pm
(Doors open 4pm, all seated by 4.55pm)

Bookings: Contact 'Tabulam/Jubullum Regional History Assn Inc' via email

mieke@mountainblue.com.au

Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting in November

From the Editor

WOW what a month is all I can say. The death of Queen Elizabeth 11 and John Meyers followed by the postponement of the Military Spectacular till 2023 has kept me very busy in deed. This month was meant to be a Special Edition featuring the programme, speakers, entertainment and exhibitions of the Military Spectacular, the information I had been gathering over the last few months. Then, in late September, I had to quickly change tac and put together Edition 16.

The Feature article has been taken from an unpublished works I have been working on, telling the stories of Queensland Railways personnel who served during World War One. The 'Man in Grey,' Lieutenant Colonel William Henry Berry DSO, VD served in the Boer War, the Militia and also during World War One along with some of his brothers.

Thank You to Ian Williams who has provided me with two of his poems for publication the first appears in this edition, The Graves of the Western Front. All the regular sections appear in this edition including the answers to the Quiz in *TRIBUTE* No 15.

I have also attached an eight-page coverage by all three services in their newspapers of the death of Queen Elizabeth the II.

Finally, for your information a special article to commemorate the life of John Meyers is being produced by Dianne Molloy and Russell Paton. This will appear in the next edition of Sabretache.

Lieutenant Colonel William Henry Berry DSO MiD VD

By Ian Curtis



‘The man in Grey’

William Henry Berry was born in the Oxley area, Brisbane on 9 January 1874 to Thomas Henry and Mary (nee Sewell) Berry. He would live in Chelmer for most of his life. William was the oldest of eight. The others children were, Florence Baxter Berry (1875 – 1876), Thomas Harold Berry (1877 – 1945), Robert Edwin Berry (1878 – 1902), Percy Sewell Berry (1881 – 1882) Percy Sewell Berry (1884 – 1956), Herbert Louis Sewell Berry (1887 – 1968) and Raymond Hardy Berry (1889 – 1940). Williams father Thomas was born in Portadown, Armagh North Ireland in January 1845 and immigrated to Australia. He married Mary Sewell in Brisbane on 31 March 1873. Their youngest son Raymond was only one when his father died from a drowning accident at Southport on 9 February 1890. Thomas, his brother Robert who also drowned went to Southport by train with George and Thomas Pratten and had been for a few swims earlier. Robert was caught in a rip and when Thomas went to help him, he could not drag him in and when both became exhausted they were carried out further and died. Both their bodies were wash into shore later in the day. The brother’s funerals were held at Sherwood Cemetery with a large number of mourners attending. The Reverend J C Hassall from the Sherwood Church of England conducted the service. The Berry’s were well known in the community as their parents had arrived some 25 years earlier. Robert was a school teacher at Ithuca State School and Thomas left a probate of £5945.3s.7d to his wife Mary.

A memorial to both Robert and Thomas was built over their grave in recognition by the community and is located in St Mathews Anglican Church cemetery, Sherwood..

William and his brothers were all known for their sporting ability particularly cycling. They were all members of the South Brisbane Bicycle Club. William's brother Percy was the Australian Champion in the early 1900's and was remembered for many years after for his performances. In his obituary it stated, 'Give him a fare and send him anywhere and he will bring back a title.' Percy remained an amateur all his career and many felt he would have been a champion professional rider. In his later years he was a publican in North Queensland.

Once William completing year six at school, he obtained a Lad Porter position with Queensland Railways on 9 November 1889 at Roma Street Railway Station and was promoted to Porter on 4 March 1896. In May 1898 William became a checker at Roma Street.

The role of a porter was to assist passengers at railway stations, and to handle the loading, unloading, and distribution of luggage and parcels. They also undertook all types of basic duties such as cleaning, refilling and replacing kerosene lamps behind signals and any job required by the Station Master. The word derives from the Latin *portare*, meaning "to carry." Hence, in railway use, the application to someone who carries baggage and parcels of passengers, among other duties.

Williams first military service was with the Voluntary Forces in No 1 Field Artillery Battery between 13 September 1894 till 30 April 1904 where he rose from the rank of Gunner to Corporal. The No 1 Artillery Battery is the oldest unit in Queensland.

William enlisted with the 2nd Queensland Mounted Infantry during the Boer War. He was 27 ½ years old, weighed 11 stone 3 pounds, stood 6 feet tall, had brown hair and eyes and a fresh complexion. He was appointed to the rank of Sergeant. He gave his address as Kings Street, Woolloongabba. The unit had an original strength of 144, comprising of one mounted rifle squadron, initially commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Hutchison, then Major Harry Chauvel when combined with 1st Queensland Mounted Infantry, then Captain Henry Jennings Imrie Harris. They Left for South Africa on 13 January 1900 on the *Maori King* and serviced from March 1900 - March 1901 in Free State, west and east Transvaal before joined to 1st Qld Mounted Infantry April - November 1900, and then as part of Australian Mounted Infantry Brigade between November 1900-March 1901. They suffered no fatal casualties. Members of the unit that received decorations were Quarter Master Sergeant Teddes Cooney, Private Andrew Alfred Harris, and Private James John Trickett, all who received the DCO. The unit returned to Sydney, on 3 May 1901 on the *Tongariro* and then by train from Sydney back to Brisbane.

There's a very well-built fellow, with a swinging sort of stride,
About as handy sort as I have seen.
A rough and tumble fellow that is born to fight and ride
And he's over here a-fighting for the Queen.

He's Queensland Mounted Infantry-compounded 'orse and foot.
He'll climb a cliff or gallop down a flat.
He's cavalry to travel but he's infantry to shoot.
And you'll know him by the feathers in his hat!

Extract from a poem by A B Paterson (Source: www.bwm.org.au)

On return to Brisbane William was awarded the Queens South African Medal with clasps for Driefontein, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill and Cape Colony.

Two of Williams brothers, 452 Sergeant Robert Edwin (known as Ted) Berry and 279 Private Thomas Harold Berry also enlisted during the Boer War, both joining the 5th Queensland Imperial Bushman. They sailed on board the transport *Templemore* on 6 March 1901 arriving in Capetown on 31 March. After travelling through Pietersburg, they had their first brush with the enemy on 26 April. Both the boys were members of a small cyclist company that was a part of the contingent. In a letter home Thomas told his parents, ‘most of our work is to guard the pom-poms and guns...this is no country for cyclists, and the sooner we get horses the better, although everyone says we have done a good job.’

The bikes were not useful and later the following months the cyclist, were given horses. In July the cyclist accompanying the advance guard following a group of Boers when they came across a good piece of road. Ted Berry described how they “set sail after them, going past the advance guard like mad, and got within 600 yards of 50 Boers.” They engaged the enemy and were able to break them up, capturing a large amount of stock they had been holding behind the lines. Berry “took charge of 400 goats and sheep”, jealously guarding his spoils from some mounted officers who wanted to take it back.

In early 1902 the Queensland contingent again engaged the enemy near the village of Onverwacht. Boer forces made small attacks at various points, drawing the larger force into an area where they were outnumbered. Another member of the 5th Queensland Bushmen, Trooper Charles Bryce, wrote “we simply marched into a huge trap amongst the hills, and we were surrounded in a few minutes. We tried to make a stand, but found it was no use.”

Harold Berry wrote to his mother to tell her what happened:

“We were having dinner when the guide brought word to say that there were 800 Boers on a kopje in front of us. Major Ballantyne gave orders for us to saddle up ... We had not gone 300 yards ... when we got a volley from the Boers ... Then our pom-pom came up and the Boers made a rush at us. Poor Ted was just in front of the pom-pom and that is where he fell. He fired at a Boer on a white horse, at about 30 yards’ range. He shot the horse, and stood up to fire again at the Boer, but the Boer fired first, and hit Ted, the bullet going through his wrist, hitting his second shirt button and then right through his chest. He clasped his hands over his breast and fell. He said good-bye to one of the men, and died.”

Outnumbered, the Australians were forced to withdraw.

Ted Berry was buried nearby with ten other men killed in the same action, in Ermelo Cemetery, South Africa. Harold wrote that Ted “died with a smile on his face – in fact you could hardly tell he was dead. Mr Price said he had seen the same smile on his face hundreds of times when he was asleep in the lines ... there is one thing to be proud of – he died like a soldier and a man.”

Friends of Sergeant Ted Berry and another cyclist killed in the same action, Corporal Macfarlane, raised money to erect a monument in St Matthews churchyard, Sherwood, to their fallen comrades. Members of the contingent attended a service to unveil the monument, many speaking warmly of the two men. The Reverend Ewan concluded the service by saying

that “their thoughts that day were with the boys who were sleeping on the African veldt, under the African sun, and he was sure the deeds of the fifth and other contingents would never be forgotten.¹ Robert is remembered at the Australian War Memorial, he was one of 605 Australian who lost their lives in the Boer War, on the Anzac Square Boer War Memorial, and the Sherwood Boer War Memorial. Thomas returned to Australia, and in 1915 married Rose Boyle. He passed away on 30 October 1945.



Sgt R Berry

William returned to work with Queensland Railways after his service in the Boer War and on 26 February 1912 was appointed Warehouse Manager at Roma Street. On 9 July 1902 he married Florence Mills at St Thomas Anglican Church, North Ipswich. Florence was the fifth daughter of Mr W H Mills who arrived in Queensland on 5 November 1862 and was for many years the well-respected Foreman of the Moulders shop at the Ipswich Railway Workshops. He died at the age of 71 years in May 1909. The wedding reception was held in the Olympic Hall with a large gathering of friends and relatives attending before the newlyweds travelled to Toowoomba by train on their way to Sydney for their honeymoon.

William remained active in the militia, re-joining No 1 Battery and on 4 January 1908 he was promoted to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. He transferred to the Australian Army Service Corps on promotion to Lieutenant on 11 November 1910 and in 1913 after successive annual inputs from cadets he was the Commanding Officer of the Ipswich unit 3rd Company AASC and promoted Captain. The 3rd Company was raised to support 3rd Brigade. By this time, he had become well known in Ipswich and was a capable sportsman. He had also spent 12 months in a newly formed unit 2nd AASC in 1912 – 13 when Universal Training was introduced, the 3rd Infantry Transport and Supply Column was renamed 2nd Company and allocated to the 2nd Brigade.

When the Australian Government committed a force to the mother country to serve in the First World War, William quickly applied for a commission and was appointed on 21 August 1914 the Commanding Officer of the 5th Company Army Service Corps, 1st Light Horse Brigade Train. He stood 6 feet 1 ½ inches tall and weighed 14 stone 10 pounds, Church of England faith and recorded his wife Florence as Next of Kin. His unit farewelled him in Ipswich on 27 August 1914.

“Last night at the drill shed Ipswich Captain W H Berry was on parade with the 3rd Army Service Corps for the last time before leaving with the expeditionary force. He introduced Mr. Griffiths, who will have charge of the company while Captain Berry is away.”

Queensland Times 28 August 1914

Captain William Berry took away some excellent younger officers which would excel, moving quickly to higher ranks and develop the real foundation on which the AASC was built on.



Senior Members of 1st Light Horse Brigade Train, 5th Australian Army Service Corps.

(Source: State Library of Queensland)

Front row: 2nd Lt William Rogers (Accountant) , Lt William Stansfield (Railway Employee), Capt William Berry (Railway Employee), Lt Robert Webster (Public Servant), 2nd Lt Harold Maunder (Public Servant).

Middle row: CQMS James Andrews (Grocer), Staff Sgt August Holz (soldier – farrier), CSM Charles Austin (Telegraphist), WO2 Daniel Glasgow (soldier), Sgt John Montgomery (Railway Employee), Sgt George Paul (Agent), Staff Sgt Frederick Kerr (soldier-saddler)

Back row: Staff Sgt Derek Sellars (Clerk), Sgt Thomas Ware (clerk), Staff Sgt Walter Butcher (Auditor) , Staff Sgt Leslie Alroe (Clerk), Staff Sgt Denis McKeegan (Wheeler-Carpenter).

The additional two officers to join the unit prior to embarkation were; Captain Gerald Fontin Finlay a vet and Lieutenant Gerald Moore Gibson. Whilst undertaking initial training at Enoggera. Williams unit was also tasked with providing supply and transport support for the units in camp in the deficiency of any base AASC structure along with establishing their own bivouac site and basic training.

When the unit embarked at Pinkenba on the 24 September aboard the *Omrah* it consisted of 7 Officers and 153 All ranks. A good number of the men had previous service in AASC units and contained a wide variety of skills.

The unit reached Maadi on 12 December 1914 and William established the unit to support the troops in training in Egypt. When reinforcements were required at Gallipoli he embarked on HMAT *Melville* on 5 May 1915, landing with his Brigade on 12 May. William then returned to Alexandria on the *Melville* on 31 May 1915, where he remained until being taken on strength of 29 Company (ex 5 Coy ASC) on 15 April 1916.



The 29th Army Service Corps Company, 5th Division was formed in March 1916 in Egypt and served in both Egypt and the Western Front.

On 20 June 1916 the unit embarked to join the British Expeditionary Force arriving at Marseilles on 30 June. William served with the unit till 6 November being detached to 3rd Division Train Headquarters as Acting Senior Supply Officer, replacing Major Smith who had been evacuated. On 22 January 1917 William was promoted and given command of Headquarter Company 3rd Division Train. During 1917 he took two periods of 10 days leave in England. On return from the second break, he ceased to command 3rd Division Train and resumed Company duty, with 867 Company, as Lieutenant Colonel Henley who he had relieved returned.

When the 5th Division train arrived in France it drew equipment and horses from the British depots and moved to the line. It's basic resupply system was to draw from a rail head and deliver to a refilling point into the custody of the division, from which the divisional train companies would collect and distribute to the brigade/divisional troops which they supported. Transport was impacted by the extreme weather and road conditions along with enemy ground and air action. Drought horses were extensively used but at times due to the adverse conditions they were casualties as well. Daily work sheets were varied including road works hauling materials.

On 28 February 1918 William was awarded a Distinguished Service Order He also received a special mention in Sir D Haig's Despatch of 7 April 1918.

The citation for the DSO read, Unit AASC 3rd Divisional Train, 867th Coy;

'This officer as Company Commander had throughout shown marked initiative and ability. During period 22nd Sept 1917 to 23rd October 1917 near Ypres he was detached and in charge of transport and supplies of Divisional Troops. The camp was on several occasions bombed and shelled, and numerous casualties were inflicted. His conduct on all occasions had set a splendid example to his men.'

On 26 August 1918 William took further leave in the UK re-joining his unit on the 14 September and remained till the end of the war. On 15 December he was granted Special 1914, 75 days leave and embarked for the UK. On return in March 1919 he assumed command of the 22nd Company AASC and for the next few months undertook appoints until he left France for the final time marching out on his return to Australia on 6 June 1919. He left England on the *Ulysses* 22 July and arrived in Australia 6 September 1919. His appointment with the AIF was terminated on 1 December 1919.

Amongst the original soldiers that left with William was his youngest brother Raymond Hardy Berry who was a motor mechanic. He was 25 years old, stood 5 foot 9 ¾ inches tall and weighed 165 pounds. After arriving in Egypt and accompanying his unit to the Dardenelles and returning on the same ship like his brother in April 1916 he transferred to the Light Horse and after training, joined the 1st Light Horse Regiment Machine Gun Section. He was promoted Corporal on 1 August and Sergeant, 4 November 1916, after attending a school of instruction. He also qualified as a Machine Gun Artificer. Raymond was Wounded in Action on 19 April 1917 with a gunshot wound to his left shoulder during the Second Battle of Gaza and was release back to his unit on 2 June 1917. He remained with his unit till he was granted 1914 leave and departed on the Port Darwin for Australia on 15 November 1918. Raymond was discharged in Brisbane on 26 February 1919. He later married Lillian Cloherty in 1923 and passed away at the age of 50 years on 26 July 1940. He was remembered for his bicycle enthusiasm and was a pioneer of the 16ft skiff sailing class with Victor Lucas. He had success in sailing events for 30 years.

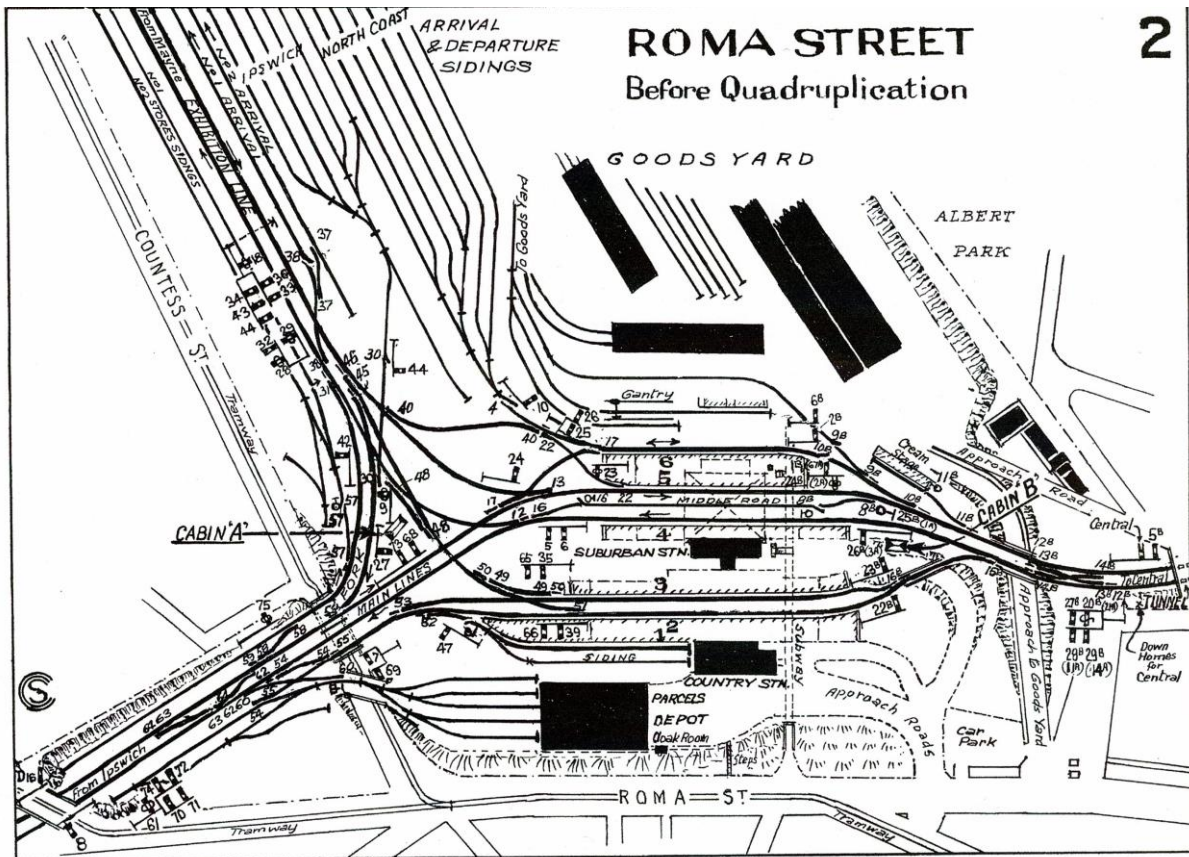
Back in Brisbane William returned to his home in Railway Terrace, Chelmer his family and to the Queensland Railways as Shed Foreman, Roma Street yards. He remained in the Military transferring from AASC (old organisation) to AASC (new organisation) 31 March 1921. He was appointed supernumerary Major with pay and conditions as a Captain in September 1922 before in 1923 being appointed Commanding Officer 11th Brigade S & T Company at Kelvin Grove and appointed Major. He later was the Commanding officer of all AASC units in 1st Military district replacing one of his young Lieutenants during World War One, and Queensland Railway employee, Lieutenant Colonel William Stansfield. He faced restructuring the following year in which the name Divisional Train was disregarded and headquarters retitled to HQ AS 5 Division. Sub-units were also restructured and with the end of conscription and the onset of the economic depression combined to reduce the real size and training to a bare survival level. William was placed on the Retired list with the Honorary rank of Colonel in September 1930, being replaced by Lieutenant Colonel J B Hartshawn.

On the 14 August 1925 William mother passed away. She, his sister Florence and brother Percy who died at a young ages are remembered in the Sherwood Cemetery.

In November 1927 the Commissioner for Railways Mr John Webster Davidson said, 'that it had been represented to him that persons doing business at Roma Street Goods yards and sheds sometimes found it difficult in locating officers who could correctly direct them and make it easy for them to dispatch or take delivery of goods. Therefore, he had arranged to provide certain officers with grey uniforms, which would make them distinguishable amongst the general body of railway employees, whose uniforms are blue material. These officers would wear white helmets, and their grey uniform would have blue facings. They would

stand at the most prominent places in the goods depot. Large notices had been put up bearing the words, "Ask the man in grey."

Telegraph 16 November 1927



Roma Street Yards

Source: ARHS Bulletin No 316 – February 1964)

The first Man in Grey was William Henry Berry who received a large number of favourable comments on his performance.

In response to a letter in the Courier Mail William wrote;

‘Sir- In Saturday’s issue of the Courier Mail in an article about Roma Street Markets there was a reference to the ‘Man in Grey’. I take strong exception to the inference that can be deducted from the article that we are not found ‘on duty.’ In fact, that is the inference that the Commissioner for Railways has taken. In proof of this department sent an officer to Roma Street yards to see if we were ‘on duty’ and easily located. This officer found the three of us, in different parts of the yard, ‘on duty’ within a few minutes. I am, sir

W H Berry, Warehouseman, Brisbane

Courier Mail 5 October 1936.

William retired for the Queensland Railways on 8 July 1939 after a serious illness. He had served for 43 years. William Henry Berry, Honour Avenue, Chelmer died in March 1940 and

was cremated at Mt Thompson Crematorium at 3pm on 18 March 1940 at the age of 66 years. The family requested no flowers. His plaque is located in Section 9, Niche No 122 Wall 2.

Was First "Man in Grey"



The late Colonel William Henry Berry, D.S.O., V.D., whose death was announced yesterday, was for many years associated with the Australian Army Service Corps.

His connection with the Queensland Railways dates from boyhood. He was the original "Man In Grey" who acted as guide, counsellor, and friend for all inquiring persons at the Roma Street Railway Yards.

Fruit and produce merchants and carters over a long period of time found him a real friend. He had devoted his life to both the Queensland Railways and the Australian Military Forces. At the time of his death, he had been awarded the following medals; Distinguished Service Order, Queens Medal with 4 clasps, 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, (including an oak leaf) Victory Medal and Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers Medal.

Florence Berry passed away at the age of 74 years in 1949. They never had any children.

References

NAA: B2455 Berry, William Henry

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NAA: B4418, Berry WH (amalgamated with his WW1 file)

www.bwm.org.au

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Telegraph (Brisbane) 29 November 1890

Courier Mail (Brisbane) 13 January 1900

Queenslander 15 February 1890

Ipswich Genealogical Society, QR at War

State Library of Queensland

www.ancestry.com

historia.net.au/equal-to-the-task

The Australian Railway Historical Society Bulletin No 316 February 1964

From the News



Rouse is played during the unveiling of Rick's 'Jump Up' memorial in Quilpie, Queensland.

For locals in the regional town of Quilpie, reaching the knoll on Warrego Highway overlooking the Western Queensland countryside is a sign that you're almost home. Now it's also a place to remember three soldiers killed in action in Afghanistan: Private Robert Poate, Sapper James Martin and Quilpie local Lance Corporal Rick Milosevic.

On 29 August 2012, the three soldiers were playing cards at Patrol Base Wahab in Uruzgan province, Afghanistan, when a rogue Afghan soldier turned on them, killing them before they had a chance to react. The incident was an unforeseen tragedy, and the feeling of loss was felt throughout the Australian Army.

Ten years later, on 29 August, the three fallen soldiers were honoured at a memorial service on a knoll east of Quilpie known as the “Jump Up”. A newly constructed memorial was unveiled on the day with family, mates, community and representatives from across the Australian Army paying their respects.

Chief of Joint Operations Lieutenant General Greg Bilton was Commander of the 7th Brigade at the time of the incident in 2012, and travelled to Quilpie to attend the memorial. “As an Australian I’m very proud to be here and see a community come together to honour the service of one of their own,” Lt-Gen Bilton said. “The links of family and friendship to this community are important, and there’s a couple of families now that the town has adopted. “The 2nd/14th Light Horse Regiment in Queensland will forever have a bond to Quilpie that wouldn’t have otherwise existed without Rick’s loss of life.”

Lt-Gen Bilton extended his appreciation for all the work that had gone into the new memorial, which holds particular significance to the tight knit Quilpie community. “It’s lovely; a lot of thought has gone into it,” Lt-Gen Bilton said. “I didn’t realise this was a place that Rick and his friends would come in their utes to drink, catch up and enjoy each other’s company, and what a perfect location to place a memorial. “This is personal, and it really illustrates the connection between the community where Rick grew up before he joined his Army family.”

Following the memorial service in Quilpie, a service was held at Gallipoli Barracks for the 6th Battalion’s Private Robert Poate, who was killed in the same incident.

Private Poate’s father, Hugh Poate, was happy to see his son’s service and sacrifice honoured by the 6th Battalion. “We do very much appreciate the fact that Robert’s old battalion has acknowledged and commemorated his service, and have invited us to be part of it; it means a lot to us,” Mr Poate said. “It was really nice to see some of his old friends that he got to know while he was serving, and that friendship continues on.”

Mr Poate described the pride his family has for his son’s service to the nation. “We’re very proud that he served his country, we’re proud that he was part of this battalion which has got such a proud history, and we’re thankful that his contribution has been acknowledged,” he said. “It’s also helpful for his mates that these services continue, so they can talk about the good old times.”

(Source: Contact)



Northrop Grumman has unveiled Australia's first MQ-4C Triton autonomous aircraft with a ceremony at its high-altitude, long-endurance (HALE) aircraft production site in California. Attended by Australian and US government and defence officials, the event highlighted the continued progress of the MQ-4C Triton program for both the Royal Australian Air Force and US Navy.

President of Northrop Grumman Aeronautics Systems Tom Jones said the event marked a significant milestone for Australia and the MQ-4C Triton program. "As we get ready for final system integration and flight test, we are one step closer to delivering this extraordinary maritime awareness capability to Australia," Mr Jones said. "Australia is a cooperative program partner in the Triton program and was critical in helping shape the requirements for the system. "As partners, US and Australian defence forces will be able to share data collected by their respective Tritons, a critical ability in one of the world's most strategically important regions."

Chief of the Royal Australian Air Force Air Marshal Robert Chipman said Triton would provide the RAAF with an unprecedented capability to monitor and protect Australian maritime approaches. "Triton will work alongside the P-8A Poseidon and this unmanned aircraft system will allow us to cover significant areas, at longer ranges and has the ability to stay airborne longer than a traditional aircraft," Air Force Air Marshal Chipman said.

Northrop Grumman initiated the build of the first Australian Triton in October 2020 at its production facility in Moss Point, Mississippi, and met another major production milestone in December 2021 when the fuselage and one-piece wing were mated in Palmdale, California.

The aircraft is scheduled for production completion in 2023 and delivery to Australia in 2024.

Navy



Hobart-class guided missile destroyer HMAS Sydney became the first of class to strike a land target with a Harpoon surface-to-surface missile during Exercise Pacific Vanguard 2022.

In the seas off the tropical island of Guam, five nations have again combined to test their maritime warfare skills during Exercise Pacific Vanguard 2022, with the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) achieving successful missile firings. The guided-missile destroyer HMAS *Sydney* and the Anzac-class frigate HMAS *Perth* joined ships and aircraft from the Royal Canadian Navy, Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force, Republic of Korea Navy and the United States Navy for the biennial integrated air and missile defence exercise.

During the exercise, *Sydney* successfully struck a land target with a Harpoon surface-to-surface missile. Meanwhile, *Perth* also successfully engaged an airborne target with an Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile.

The week-long exercise commenced with an opening ceremony on board the JMSDF Ship *Izumo* attended by commanding officers from all participating nations.

Australian Task Group Commander and Commanding Officer *Sydney*, Commander Andrew Hough, addressed the opening ceremony and later discussed the importance of integrating with like-minded partners for high-level training exercises. “Operating with JMSDF Ships *Izumo*, *Takanami* and *Takashio*, ROKN Ships *Sejong the Great* and *Munmu the Great* and HMCS *Vancouver* during Pacific Vanguard has been a fantastic opportunity for *Sydney*’s crew to test their ability to integrate with partner navies,” Commander Hough said. “We welcome every opportunity to demonstrate and test our ships’ advanced combat capabilities and build on our reputation as a trusted and professional partner. “We are always keen to show our friends and allies that we can work with multiple partners, a variety of ships and aircraft and demonstrate our ability to respond together to challenging threats. “It was especially satisfying for *Sydney*’s ship’s company to prove our ship’s Harpoon surface-to-

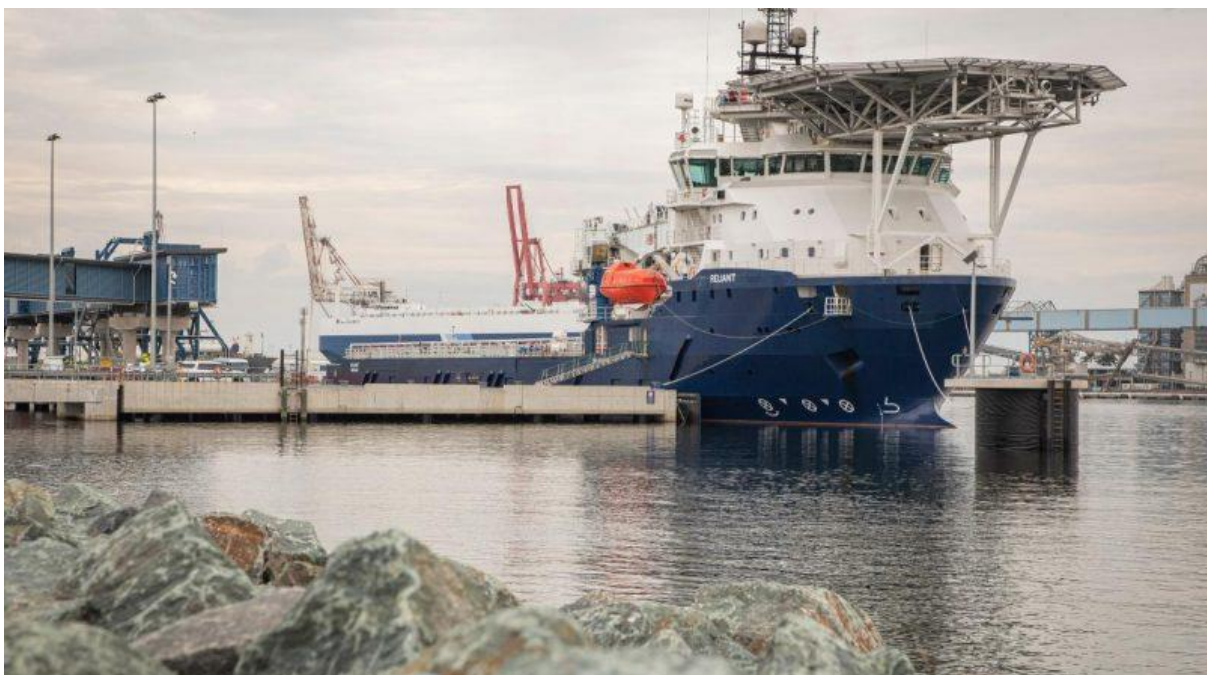
surface missile capability against a land target, joining other ships in the fleet that have previously fired the missile. “I congratulate every member of the team for working so well together, and with our partners, to achieve this milestone.”

The ships’ participation in Exercise Pacific Vanguard 2022 was part of a regional presence deployment, following hot on the heels of multilateral air and ballistic missile defence training in Exercise Pacific Dragon.

Other RAN ships also recently participated in Exercise Rim of the Pacific 2022 – the world’s largest naval exercise, as part of a regional presence deployment. Five RAN ships across two task groups have been conducting regional presence deployments throughout the Indo-Pacific region over recent months. During their deployments the ships and their embarked ADF units have undertaken joint exercises and other engagements with Australia’s regional partners.

Regional presence deployments demonstrate Australia’s commitment and engagement with the region. These deployments play a vital role in Australia’s long term security and prosperity by protecting Australia’s interests, preserving a rules based order, enhancing cooperation and relationships with regional partners and allies and developing capability and interoperability.

(Source: Contact)



Australian Defence Vessel Reliant docked at Brisbane International Cruise Terminal for its flag-raising ceremony.

A vessel that will support Australia’s Pacific family through an almost constant presence has joined the Royal Australian Navy fleet ahead of the 2022 high-risk weather season. A flag raising was conducted in Brisbane, where the vessel will be based.

Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Mark Hammond said the offshore-capable vessel will respond to Australia’s Pacific partners’ needs and requests, including for humanitarian assistance and

disaster relief. “Australian Defence Vessel *Reliant* will spend up to 300 days a year in the Pacific area of operations, ready to assist our Pacific family,” Vice Admiral Hammond said.

The 102-metre-long vessel has a large cargo deck and a crane, and can produce thousands of litres of fresh water per day. “The vessel has the range to reach all corners of the Pacific. It can circumnavigate the globe without refuelling,” Vice Admiral Hammond said. “This highly adaptable ship will deploy with specialist multi-agency teams of personnel and can be used for a range of purposes in concert with the Pacific family, including marine survey, delivering heavy equipment, search and rescue training, and disaster relief and recovery.”

Reliant's missions will be managed by Defence and informed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, in consultation with Pacific Island partners. The crew comprises 18 Australian merchant mariners engaged through Defence industry partners TK Shipping Australia, multi-agency teams for deployment tasks and a permanent Navy liaison officer. Lieutenant Commander BJ Glover said it was a privilege to be part of the *Reliant* team. “We are looking forward to traversing the Pacific to support our mates far and wide,” Lieutenant Commander Glover said.

“*Reliant*'s sapphire blue hull will be seen wherever and whenever there is a pressing need.”

(Source: Contact)

Army



The Governor-General, General (retired) Sir David Hurley, attaches the Streamer, East Timor 1999-2003, to the Princess Anne banner during the 1st Signal Regiment honours parade at Gallipoli Barracks, Brisbane

Two prestigious commendations were awarded to the 1st Signal Regiment during a parade at Gallipoli Barracks this week. An Honour Distinction and Theatre Honour were awarded to the regiment for operations in the Western Sahara from 1991-1994, and East Timor from 1999-2003.

About 150 soldiers from the regiment marched in the parade on 6 September during the awards ceremony in the presence of the Governor-General, General (retd) Sir David Hurley.

Commanding Officer 1st Signal Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Mathew Hegarty, said the parade was an important occasion to honour the efforts of soldiers who represented the regiment in the past, and those who continue to uphold its standards. "Receiving the Honour Distinction and Theatre Honour is very significant for the 1st Signal Regiment," Lieutenant Colonel Hegarty said, "It is recognition of the regiment's important work during these operations. "It is a very proud day for us and we hope our comrades past share the pride that we feel."

It is the only Australian Army unit to have been awarded the Honour Distinction 'Western Sahara', and only one of two Army units to have received an Honour Distinction since the inception of the award.

Honour Distinctions are awarded for exceptional performance by units and sub-units of any corps while deployed on warlike or non-warlike operations.

Between 1991 and 1994, members of the 1st Signal Regiment deployed to Laayoune under Operation Cedilla as part of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). The regiment's primary role was the provision of combat net radio from the force headquarters in Laayoune to sector headquarters and other subordinate elements.

The Honour Distinction recognises the regiment's significant contribution to, and outstanding leadership of, all five contingents (225 personnel in total) deployed on Op Cedilla. It also acknowledges the difficult and austere conditions faced by each contingent as they sought to operate in a hostile and dangerous environment, with limited resources and support from the host nation.

In 1999, the regiment deployed to East Timor (now Timor-Leste) to provide communications and logistical support to the deployed joint force headquarters. This deployment formed a significant measure of Australia's initial contribution to Operation Stabilise and, subsequently, Operation Warden.

The regiment continued to provide individual rotations to East Timor throughout the entire campaign, and its service has been recognised with the addition of a streamer to the Princess Anne banner.

(Source: Contact)

Air Force



Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Robert Chipman and PNG's Chief of Defence Force Major General Mark Goina at the service to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the RAAF Caribou A4-233 crash in Port Moresby

Fifty years ago, 25 Papuans and Australians were killed in the crash of Royal Australian Air Force Caribou A4-233. On 28 August 1972, a Royal Australian Air Force Caribou took off from Lae heading to Port Moresby. Onboard Caribou A4-233 were 25 Army cadets of De La Salle College (now De La Salle Secondary School) and Popondetta High School. Aged between 16 and 18, these young men were considering military careers in the service of their nations. Also on the aircraft were three Royal Australian Air Force aviators and an Australian Army liaison officer.

The tragedy is considered one of the worst aviation peacetime accidents in RAAF history.

Fifty years later, a commemorative service was held at De La Salle Secondary School in Papua New Guinea. In attendance were representatives from the Australian Defence Force, including the Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Robert Chipman.

Air Marshal Chipman said he was honoured to give a speech at the event, paying his respects to the fallen and revealing his personal connection to the accident. "My father was also flying Caribous at No. 35 Squadron in 1972," Air Marshal Chipman said. "We lived in a house in Port Moresby during the months when he flew around the highlands. "He was great mates with Graham, the aircraft captain. "They joined the RAAF Academy together, learnt to fly Caribous on the same course and played sport together. "My younger brother is named Antony Graham, in honour of their friendship."

Air Marshal Chipman spoke about a survivor from that crash, who demonstrated great heroism. "Injured and bleeding, Patrick Tau-Gau of De La Salle Secondary School pulled himself free of the aircraft wreck. "He then returned to the flames and dragged out six of his fellow cadets," Air Marshal Chipman said. "Patrick's story of heroism does not end there –

for the following three days, Patrick led three of the survivors on an arduous trek through the jungle until they were rescued by an Air Force Iroquois helicopter. “Patrick didn’t leave with his fellow survivors, though. “He knew that there was another survivor back at the crash with a broken leg. “Despite his own injuries, and despite having been trekking through the jungle for three days, Patrick chose not to go to hospital, but instead went back to save his mate. “When I think about the actions of Patrick Tau-Gau, I am inspired by his example. “When in times of trouble, when tragedy strikes, good people step forward.”

For his heroism and for his determination to save as many as he could, Patrick was awarded the George Medal.

(Source: Contact)



Air Commodore Robert Lawson, Director-General of History and Heritage – Air Force, addresses family members and friends of Flight Sergeant Richard Hobbs, crew member of Catalina A24-50.

A commemorative service was recently held at the Aviation Heritage Museum in Perth for the family members of Flight Sergeant Richard Hobbs, who died in a World War 2 air crash. Flight Sergeant Hobbs was a crew member of No. 11 Squadron Catalina A24-50, which was lost in September 1943 during a wartime mission. The crash site of Catalina A24-50 was found near Fakfak in Indonesia in 2018, and a commemorative service was held in Cairns in July 2021 for the 10 crew members on board who lost their lives. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the family of Flight Sergeant Hobbs, who served as Catalina A24-50’s wireless operator/air gunner – was unable to travel to the event.

Air Commodore Robert Lawson, Director-General of History and Heritage – Air Force, delivered the keynote address at the service. “It is a great privilege to be here today as we commemorate the crew of Catalina A24-50 and, in particular, Flight Sergeant Richard Hobbs,” Air Commodore Lawson said. “We hope today offers you the chance to commemorate his service and sacrifice.” Air Commodore Lawson presented Flight Sergeant

Hobbs' family with four medals and his Certificate of Service, along with an artefact preserved from the crash site.

The service also included a wreath-laying ceremony at the museum's Catalina.

Catalina A24-50 failed to return from a mine-laying sortie to Sorong in occupied Dutch New Guinea on September 2, 1943. It was not until 2018 that locals from Fakfak located its wreck on top of a small mountain in a rainforest. Historic Unrecovered War Casualties – Air Force (HUWC–AF) sent a team to investigate the wreck.

While HUWC–AF could not recover any remains from Catalina A24-50, they did recover a wide variety of artefacts, including a portion of the aircraft's tail painted with its serial number (A24-50), the aircraft's anchor, the master clock from the pilot's instrument panel and a US-made M9 flare pistol.

Director of HUWC–AF Group Captain Grant Kelly said some of the artefacts recovered from Catalina A24-50 were gifted to the Australian War Memorial for future display. "The story of Catalina A24-50 will now be known and honoured. In reflecting on that sacrifice, we honour our past and use it to guide our future," Group Captain Kelly said.

(Source: Contact)



Australia's newest F-35A Lightning II aircraft A35-053 and A35-054 arrive at RAAF Base Williamtown in New South Wales, at the end of their ferry flight during exercise Lightning Ferry 22-3.

Exercise Lightning Ferry 22-3 was conducted from 24 August to 2 September 2022, seeing the arrival of four more F-35A Lightning II aircraft at RAAF Base Williamtown in New South Wales. The new aircraft will join the No 77 Squadron fleet. They travelled from Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, United States, supported by a RAAF KC-30A multi-role tanker transport from No 33 Squadron, and a C-17A Globemaster III from No 36 Squadron.

Australia has now received 54 of its planned 72 F-35A Lightning II aircraft.

Two aircraft delivered in June first participated in Exercise Black Flag 22-1 in Florida – a large-force integration activity, and opportunity for the USAF to ‘play with’ an Australian E-7A Wedgetail ahead of Wedgetail’s replacement of E-3 Sentry, which is expected to start in 2027.

(Source: Contact)

Quiz

Quiz Questions

1. What armed reconnaissance helicopter will replace Army’s Tiger?
2. What peacekeeping taskforce did Major General Peter Cosgrove lead in what was known as East Timor 1999 – 2000?
3. Which tattoo traditionally meant a sailor had crossed the equator?
4. The Chief of Navy traditionally signs or annotates administration paperwork using a pen or font of what colour?
5. What does the G in G-Wagon, used by the Army stand for?
6. What science studies the motion of projectiles?
7. Which is Australia’s largest Naval base?

Answers to Quiz Questions Tribute No 15

1. Name the ship? Loyal, reliable and hard-working...this recent addition to the fleet is the third to bear this name
Answer: HMAS Stalwart (111) is the second and final Supply Class Auxiliary Oiler Replenishment ship built for the RAN by Spanish shipbuilder, Navantia. It was commissioned on 13 November 2021 and has recently achieved operation capability.
2. Name the ship? Saltwater people from Darwin region whose society was based on a close relationship with the sea.
Answer: HMAS Larrakia (11) is an Armidale class patrol boat whose home port is HMAS Coonawarra. The Larrakia people are the traditional owners of the Darwin region.
3. What class of submarine did Navy’s Collins-class subs replace?
Answer: Oberon class
4. How many members are in the Air Force Roulettes team?
Answer: Seven, six flying and one providing commentary
5. In what year did the slouch hat become standard issue headdress in the Australian Army (a) 1897 (b) 1903 (c) 1915?
Answer: 1903
6. What is the most mass-produced tank in history?
Answer: T-54/55 series
7. What is the world’s most common calibre handgun ammo?
Answer: 9mm

Show and Tell

IT WAS an amateur photographer's dream when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh came within camera distance, below, while reviewing a tri-Nation parade at Kangaroo Barracks, Singapore, recently.

This was the scene as the Royal Couple moved from the review to mingle with the Servicemen and their families.

□ On page 3 is more about the Royal Visit to Singapore.

into Canberra from Sydney yesterday.

They were eight physical training instructors from the School of Artillery, North Head, who ran a team endurance relay, covering 195 miles in about 24 hours.

Victoria Barracks, Paddington, was the starting point and Army Headquarters, Russell Hill, the finishing line.

Aims of the run were to promote the image of physically fit soldiers, further the awareness of physical fitness in the

Army and assist recruiting for PTIs.

The senior instructor at the Physical Training Wing of the School of Artillery, Capt. D. A. Morrison, organised the run.

**45,000
copies for
soldiers**



This was my big event, a photo of myself with the Queen and her husband. The photo was taken in Singapore during her visit to the nation in February 1972. 6 Bn The Royal Australian Regiment formed the boundary guard for the parade. We all had to learn pommy drill, a bit different but manageable. The photo was published in the Army News Paper. May she rest in peace.

Glenn Smith

(Source: Australian Military History facebook page)

Poetry and Humour

The Graves of the Western Front

by Ian Williams

To be with one another forever
In their duty is the way that they fell,
Brothers in life, now in death remembered
Are the legends the stories written will tell,
Their lives were taken from them
It a was a time from a distant past,
When war consumed this countryside
And much death around it would cast.

The battle is now long over
Many years have now been long past,
Since the men of our Australia
Completed with honour their deadly task,
Many never to see their loving homeland
Far off on the rolling seas,
Where the crackling of the gum trees
Their leaves beat with the evening breeze.

But memories still are remembered
When the bugles mournful notes are cast,
To the people gathered to remember
These brave men from a long-lost past,
Who bravely, gave their lives regardless
With honour, their resolute duty was fulfilled
From their country it shows where they came,
Supreme sacrifice given so freedom would rebuild.

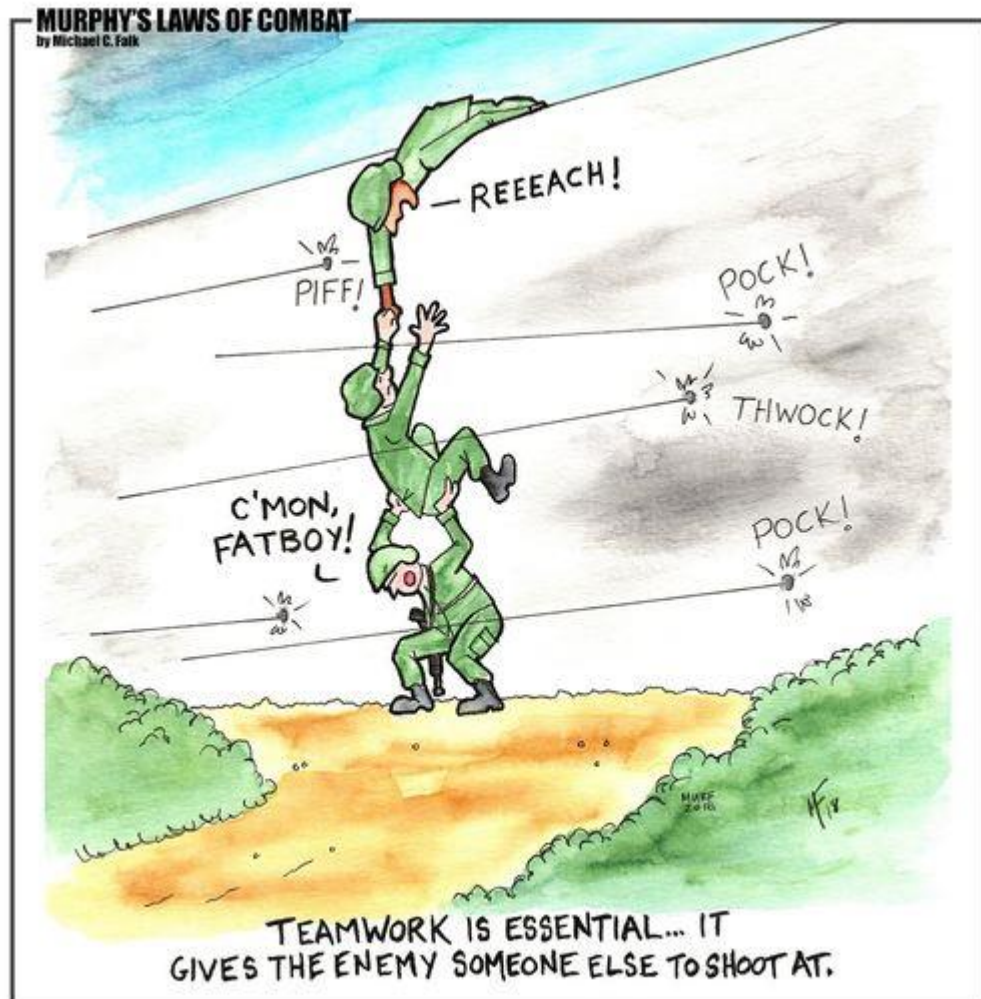
And the fire of life long ago extinguished
Now lay still in sweet repose,
And words on the monuments are addressed
In their memories the writer did compose.
Their task fulfilled with honour
Farewelled with solemn prayer,
Gave for their country, their duty
Now lay here with tender care.

Their sacrifice will long be remembered
At the breaking of the day,
When the men who formed the ANZAC's
Where in other counties their bodies lay,
With crosses and monuments show the honour
Of a national pride and thanks to all,
To remember these who gave this sacrifice
When they answered their nation's call.

Rest peaceful now to all of those
In other countries where you lay,
And we remember service rendered still
Every commemoration service day,
Supreme the sacrifice given by all of you
All those gathered in graves marked near,
Descendants gathering tribute still
And shed a little tear.

And with the closing of the day
In the night hours faded light,
The flame of peace keeps showing

To show all those in sight,
Here is a tribute to the ANZACs
Who came from far away,
No more to roam their homeland
Is here forever they will stay.



Important Commemoration dates in October

- 1 October – 26th Battalion, RWAR
- 1 October – 16th Field Battery, RAA
- 1 October – 133rd Divisional Locating Battery, RAA
- 1 October – RAAF Tindal (1988)
- 2 October – 2nd Training Group
- 3 October – Battle of Maryang San, Korea (1951)
- 3 October – Australian Vietnam Forces Welcome home parade in Sydney (1987)
- 4 October – Commissioning of HMAS Parramatta (IV) (2003)
- 8 October – Commissioning of HMAS Toowoomba (11) (2005)
- 8 October – Trooper David Ronald Pierce 2/14 LHR QMI died from an improvised Explosion Device during Operation Slipper Afghanistan (2007)
- 9 October – Commissioning of HMAS Westralia
- 10 October – Commissioning of HMAS Shoalwater
- 10 October – World Mental Health Day
- 11 October – 4th Cavalry Regiment (1971)
- 12 October – 1st Battalion RAR
- 13 October – Royal Australian Pay Corps (1916)
- 16 October – 2nd Battalion RAR
- 16 October – 30th Anniversary of the first arrival of Australian contingent of UNAMIC in Cambodia (1991)
- 19 October – Queensland War Widows Day (2022)
- 20 October – 3rd Battalion RAR
- 20 October – First arrival of ADF MovCon Unit (MCU) in Somalia (1992)
- 20 – 27 October – Invictus Games Sydney (2018) (founded in 2014)
- 21 October – Battle of Nui Le, South Vietnam (1971)
- 21 October – 7th Training Group
- 21 October – Corporal Scott James Smith Special operation Engineer Regt died from an IED Explosion during Operation Slipper Afghanistan (2012)
- 22 October – Australian Army Psychology Corps
- 23 October – Explosive Detection Dog NOVA died from a vehicle incident during training Operation Slipper Afghanistan (2009)
- 24 October – 11/28th Battalion, RWAR (1987)
- 25 October – Segreant Mathew Raymond Locke MG SASR died from small arms fire during Operation Slipper Afghanistan (2007)
- 27 October – Commissioning of HMAS Brisbane (11) (2018)
- 29 October – National Police Remembrance Day
- 29 October – Corporal Ashley Birt 1 Topo Svy Sqn and Captain Bryce Duffy 4 Field Regiment and Lance Corporal Luke Nathan Gavin 2 RAR all died from small arms fire during Operation Slipper Afghanistan (2011)
- 30 October – Commissioning of HMAS Protector
- 30 October – 31st Battalion RQR
- 31 October – Battle of Beersheba (1917)
- 31 October – Armistice with Ottoman Turks (1918)
- 31 October – 8/9th Battalion RAR (1973)

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
Committee Member	

<p><u>IMPORTANT EVENTS</u> <u>AND DATE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 September – Bimonthly Meeting • 14 – 16 October – Military Spectacular • 11 November – Remembrance Day • 12 November – Bimonthly Meeting 	<p><u>FELLOWS of MHPA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Meyers • Anthony Staunton • Donald Wright <p><u>NEW MEMBERS</u></p>
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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)

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Date/year joined the Society

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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 MHS. **I require a hard copy (mail) / electronic (via email) version. (circle your option)**

.Cheque/Money Order: Military Historical Society of Australia, Qld Division - Please send this form and your membership fee to:

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