

TRIBUTE

The Newsletter of the Military Historical Society Australia, Queensland Division

President: Neil Dearberg Website: <u>www.mhsa.org.au</u>

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Australian soldiers in Kabul, Afghanistan, celebrate Christmas in 2016 away from home.

(Facebook: Australian Defence Force in the Middle East)

President Report

First up, may I wish all members and your families a most wonderful Christmas and New Year season. Stay healthy and safe please.

Sadly, I reflect on the passing of a long-term member and, until recently when illness knocked him up a bit, a dedicated attendee, Alex Wajer We will miss his humour, blessed accent and great company.

In summary of the years near end we recall overcoming Covid, rain, floods, the passing of members but also, some amazing presentations enjoyed by those who could attend. Last Saturday's presentation by Lt Col (Retd) George Hulse OAM about war dogs of the pat, robotics and real dogs of the future was a ripper. Accompanied by Mac (ex-RAN) and his beautiful Labrador PTSD Assistance Dog.

Hopefully 2023 will allow a return to attendance in larger numbers of members and guests to hear more entertaining and informative presenters and displays - for example, in March we are planning a display of warplanes and jeeps from years gone by and hear about their feats of aviation and ground activities. Venue could be Gympie airfield at Kybong - something different but also fascinating.

January's meeting will be the third Saturday (21 January), allowing you to recover fully from that seasonal spirit that slows many of us in early January.

The ADF is heavily involved with Ex Talisman Sabre in 2023 (this involves US, UK and other national forces so is a BIG deal). Lead up to this requires extensive training and preparatory "time off" for the Diggers after the high demands of this year. So, the nearest a Military Spectacular Mk2 will be is mid to late 2024 - watch this space.

Afghanistan is now behind us and into history. I'm not sure if the CDF, General Campbell, was present for the Leadership 101 class that indicated a leader should support his soldiers before admonishing them without evidence of each individual. His reported call to have recipients of Honours and Awards for service in Afghanistan "justify their awards" is NOT what we expect a CDF to bleat out - if that report is accurate. Similar words reportedly came from the Defence Minister, Richard Marles, whose background is law and union legal representation and union official. His knowledge of Defence protocol and leadership would be limited, one suspects, and offering little prospect of admiration by the ADF personnel and their advocates. Perhaps the reports are wrong....

Keep up the spirit of gratitude, respect, and admiration for all our Defence veterans and currently serving personnel and enjoy your research of their exploits.

From the Editor

A little indulgence please with the December issue of *TRIBUTE* or you might call it a Christmas present for the Editor. Whilst doing my weekly search of Defence article suitable for inclusion in *TRIBUTE*, I came across the story of the ADF defeating the NZ Defence Force in Rugby Union. After 50 years we finally beat our brothers across the ditch. During my time in the Army, I was involved with ASRU and Defence Rugby so I had to include the story. I also took the opportunity to do the feature article on two men who served their country and were also Wallabies, William Watson Wallaby No 123 and Max Carpenter Wallaby 312.

I am going to take a short break over the Christmas/New Year period so their will not be a January *TRIBUTE* next year, but your newsletter will be back bigger, better and with a few changes in 2023.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and thankyou to all those who have provided me with feedback. I'm so glad many of you enjoy *TRIBUTE*.

As always look forward to your contributions.



LIEUTENANT WILLIAM THORNTON WATSON, DSO, MC DCM

by Ian Curtis



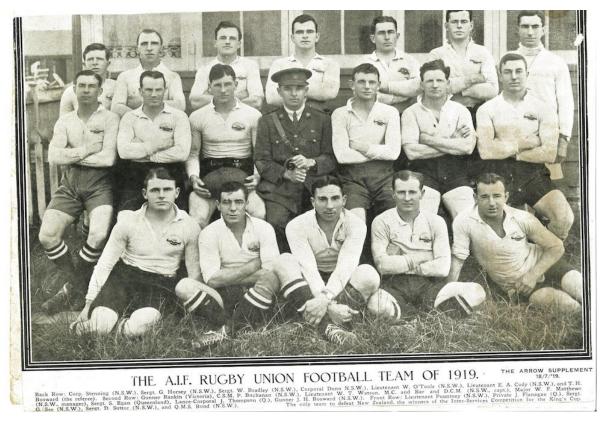
William 'Billy' Thornton Watson was born on 10 November 1887 at Nelson, New Zealand, son of Tasmanian-born Robert, blacksmith, and his Victorian wife Annie, (née Harford) Watson. William was educated at Nelson, and served in D Battery, Wellington NZ. He took a discharge prior to leaving for Australia.

At age 24 William relocated to Sydney in 1911 and joined the inner-city Newtown Rugby Union Club, playing at prop. In 1912 he made his representative debut for New South Wales and that same year was selected for the 1912 Australia rugby union tour of Canada and the USA. The tour was a disappointment with the squad billeted out in college fraternity houses where the hospitality played havoc with team discipline and as result the team lost against two California University sides and three Canadian provincial sides. William played in the sole Test match of the tour as well as ten other tour matches of the total possible sixteen. He made appearances for New South Wales in 1913 against the visiting New Zealand Maori and he toured New Zealand with the 1913 Wallabies captained by Larry Dwyer, appearing in a total of eight of the nine matches played including all three Tests packing the scrum in a consistent front-row combination with Harold George and David Williams.

When the All Blacks toured to Sydney in 1914, William was picked to play against them for New South Wales, as a Wallaby in the first Test in at the Sydney Cricket Ground and in a Metropolitan Sydney side in a mid-week game. An injury prevented his selection in further representative appearances against them. World War I which broke out during the tour, cut short William's rugby career as it did for so many other promising players yet would provide ample opportunity for grave displays of valour and courage. Giving his occupation as salesman, William enlisted in the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force on 8 August 1914 and took part in operations in New Britain and New Ireland. Discharged in January 1915, he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on 19 March and, as a gunner, was posted as a reinforcement for the 1st Divisional Artillery. He embarked from Sydney on 26 June on board HMAT A35 *Berrima*. In August he was in the trenches at Gallipoli. He wrote to an old Newtown mate, Ralph Hill, '*This war is a slow affair, here we are in practically the same position as the day they made the landing. I tell you this is a tough proposition, and nothing like what the Australian Press make it out to be. Our boys can fight, but so can the Turks and this system of trench warfare makes it terribly hard to advance.'*

After service on Gallipoli and in Egypt, in March 1916 he proceeded with his unit to France where his temporary promotion to sergeant was confirmed on 22 April. During operations on the Somme from 26 October 1916 to 15 January 1917 William showed 'conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty' by going to the aid of wounded men under heavy fire. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and posted to England for officer training at St John's Wood. Commissioned on 7 September, he joined the 2nd Field Artillery Brigade that month and was wounded in action in Belgium on 17 November with a gunshot wound to the abdomen.

Promoted lieutenant on 7 December, he returned to duty in April 1918 and was at Foucaucourt on 27 August, acting as forward observation officer with the infantry. When the advance was impeded by enemy machine-gun fire, William worked his way forward and directed three batteries barraging the German machine-gun posts. For his conduct he was awarded the Military Cross (MC). At Nauroy on the night of 2-3 October William's battery was bombarded with gas shells; although gassed himself, he stayed with the unit and attempted to save the life of a wounded officer. His 'energy and devotion to duty' won him a Bar to his M.C.



The arrival of war in Europe in 1914 meant the sharp and willing decline of rugby in Australia. State unions and clubs encouraged their players to enlist and do their duty for the Mother Country on the battlefields of Europe. All competitions outside juniors and social competitions ceased.

Rugby league, which was still in relative infancy, elected to not shut down, believing a warweary public needed the distraction of sport. The 13-man duly took a popular foothold in the war years, and kicked on. The respective choices of the two codes have been a heated source of debate since, but many leading rugby league players also enlisted and were killed or wounded.

As it with everything it touched, war took a horrific toll on the Australian rugby community.

In 1919 William captained the A.I.F. Rugby XV in the King's Cup competition six decades before the International Rugby Board would launch the Rugby World Cup, the Kings Cup was the first-time teams from the northern and Southern Hemispheres had played in a round-robin tournament.

The six-week competition had troop teams from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Imperial Army (who were known as Mother Country) and the Royal Air Force, beginning on 1 March 1919. Due to being gassed during the War William body was covered with large, festering sores. To enable him to play team manager Wally Mathews had to cut open the sores with a sterilised penknife before he could take the field. Although Australia beat New Zealand 6-5 in front of over 7000 spectators, the Kiwis were the winners of the Cup. It is said by some historians it was the Kings Cup that saved Rugby Union. Australia lost to the Royal Air Force and the Mother Country.

Prior to the kings Cup William lead the Australian 'French Team' which defeated the Australian Headquarters Team on 12 February 1919.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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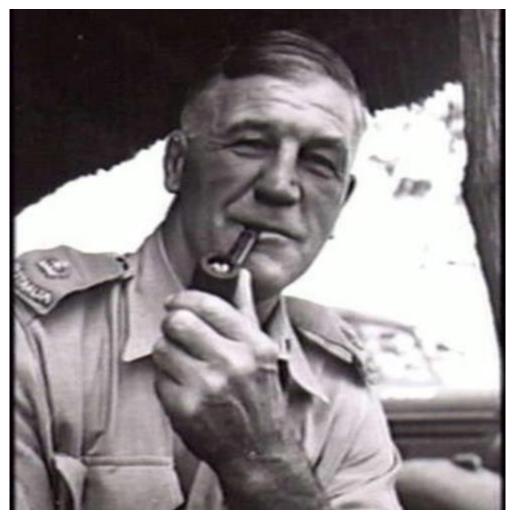
Group portrait of the Australian 'French' rugby football team which defeated AIF Headquarters by twelve points to six . Back row, left to right: 26356 Gunner James Hamilton Bosward, 5th Field Artillery Brigade (FAB); Lieutenant (Lt) Cody; Sapper Dunn; 4486 Driver James Clarken 4th AMTS; Sergeant (Sgt) Bradley; Lt William Charles O'Toole, 2nd Pioneer Battalion; Lt William Thornton Watson MC & Bar DCM, 2nd FAB. Middle row: Private (Pte) Lyons; Sgt Suttor; Pte Leahy; Company Sergeant Major Buchanan, captain; Captain Beith; Pte Stephenson; Pte Thompson. Front row: Pte Flanaghan; Quartermaster Sergeant Bond

On return to Australia the AIF Team played games against NSW, Australia, New England, Queensland AIF, Australia, North West Union and Australia. William played in five of ther games all as captain. The team won all the games scoring 268 to 78 points.

After his A.I.F. appointment was terminated and his name transferred to the reserve of officers., In 1920 William played the season with the Glebe-Balmain Club and he captained New South Wales against New Zealand in three games which in 1986 were re-classified as Test Matches. William Watson was Wallaby No 123 and was awarded 8 Caps.

He them moved to New Guinea, in 1920-25 and 1932-39 he engaged in copra production and gold-mining and was recognized in the Highlands Districts as a very colourful character. Having married American-born Cora May Callear on 14 September 1929 at St Stephen's

Presbyterian Church, Sydney, in 1935 they established their home at Columbiana, Ohio, United States of America, raising a son and daughter.



With the outbreak of World War II William returned to Australia and served in the 2nd Australian Garrison Battalion from March 1940. He wanted to enlist in the AIF but he was told he was too old. In June he was promoted temporary captain and posted to the Papuan Infantry Battalion (PIB), a unit comprising Papuan soldiers and Australian officers and non-commissioned officers. As 2IC soon after Japan entered the war, William became commanding officer of the P.I.B. The battalion, an element of Maroubra Force, was dispersed between Awala and the north coast when the Japanese landed at Buna and Gona on 22 July 1942. Outnumbered, the P.I.B. fell back before the advancing Japanese; its remnants linked up with leading troops of the 39th Battalion, fought rear-guard actions at Gorari and Oivi, and rejoined Lieutenant-Colonel William Taylor Owen, the Maroubra Force commander at Deniki. WO Jerry Brown who was with William at Wairope, between Kokoda and Buna when they first clashed with the Japanese, said after the war, that he took down in the back of his paybook the signal that William sent announcing the first clash with the enemy.

Having abandoned the position prematurely, Owen reoccupied Kokoda on 28 July, his force reduced to about eighty men. The Japanese attacked that evening. With Owen mortally wounded, William 'a bluff outspoken man, quick in thought and speech' took command. The defenders withdrew to Deniki where he remained in command until 4 August when he was relieved by the arrival of a more senior commander. For his bravery and example during the

withdrawal, William was awarded the Distinguished Service Order and promoted major on 1 September 1942. The P.I.B. subsequently carried out useful work, patrolling the flanks of the Australian-American forces as they pushed northward. William relinquished his command on 30 March 1944 and on 7 July was transferred to the reserve of officers. Late in the war he joined the United States Army and was made a colonel.

After the war William returned to the United States and was Australian vice-consul in New York (1945-52). Survived by his wife, daughter and son, he died on 9 September 1961 in the Veterans Administration Hospital, Brooklyn, New York.

William Watson was a great leader, a great rugby union player and a great Australian.

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A POWER HOUSE TEAM

by Ian Curtis



Harold Blundell - Lisle Barnaten - Bruce MLeish - Fred Herr - Jack Redhead

This is the Power House 1938 team not the 1936 team photo as advised on the club website.

It is very rare that three players from one club team (unless they are from NSW) are selected in a Touring Wallaby Team. Prior to World War Two rugby union was strong in Victoria and when the 1939 Wallaby Team left for a tour of Great Britain four Victorians were included in the side, three from the Power House Club, Andy 'Nicky' Barr, Stan Bisset and Max Carpenter. The fourth Victorian was George Pearson, who also played with Power House for one season but represented Melbourne University that year. When the team was selected, in Melbourne a capacity crowd assembled at the Victorian Rugby Union headquarters in Middle Park to hear the news. One back and three forwards had been selected from Victoria.

Why was Victorian rugby so strong in the 30s?

Part of the reason lies in the fact that Melbourne was still the economic and business capital of Australia at that time. This was still the age of sea travel, and ships traveling from Europe around the Cape of Good Hope and across the Indian ocean, stopped at Melbourne before Sydney.

Because Melbourne was the business capital of Australia, some good players from Sydney, Brisbane and New Zealand gravitated there for work, and ended up injecting their quality into the local competition and state team.

The Victorians played against both the All Blacks and Springboks in the 30s, and beat NSW and Queensland at least once. Another player of note who played in Victoria in the 1930's was Weary Dunlop. Bissett, Barr and Dunlop all became highly decorated for their achievements during the war. A number of books have been written about Weary Dunlop.

Stan Bisset story is told in the book, 'Stan Bisset, Kokoda Wallaby' by Andrew James and Andy Barr story is told in' Nicky Barr, An Australian Air Ace' by Peter Dornan.

Who was Max Carpenter who only appears as a footnote in many books and stories of the era?

Max Carpenter was an exceptional all-round athlete, sprint champion, state tennis champion, hockey and cricket player. A rugby nomad of sorts, who became the first Test capped Wallaby to have represented Western Australia before moving to Victoria. He also remained in the Army after World War Two, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Ordnance Corps in 1964.

Maxwell Gordon Carpenter was born 17 April 1911 the son of Archibald Stanley and May Rose (nee Gordon) Carpenter in the small rural town of Trangie, NSW. He was educated at Randwick Intermediate High School where he won the school 100-yard sprint each year. In 1925 and again the following year Carpenter represented New South Wales in rugby league against Queensland at schools level however he was better known in tennis circles. . In 1929 Max won the Queensland junior tennis championship and he also represented New South Wales in the Linton Cup (interstate junior matches). In the 1930 Linton Cup quarter-final he defeated future triple Australian Open men's single champion Adrian Quist 6-3, 6-2 before he upped and moved to Western Australia and joined the Perth rugby club. That same year he debuted for his new state, in something of a baptism of fire, against the British Lions. In 1932 Max was placed third, by the West Australian Rugby Union, on a graded list of that state's nominations for the Australian trials.

Small, agile and fast, he could run the 100 yards in even time, was a winger of repute who was also a star centre and on occasion a more than capable fly half. It was said that Max had a flair for 'absolute genius in his football make-up' and at one point was acclaimed as Australia's greatest wing three-quarter of the 1930s. Max was also a good goal kicker.

The Australian selection committee evidently regarded him more highly as they elevated him to number one position. Max then endured a horror near-six-day train journey from Perth in order to attend the Sydney-based trials where he played fly half for a combined New South Wales-Victoria selection against Queensland. Although he 'impressed with his speed, especially off the mark, and his handling and passing left nothing to be desired' he was not selected for the touring team to South Africa. He relocated to Victoria in late 1936 and joined the undefeated Footscray club who went on to record an emphatic 27-0 grand final win over Power House. After the game Stan Bisset sought Max out. It was a fortunate move by Stan as Max decided to move to Power House in 1938 and he and Stan became close rugby companions.

Although Max represented Victoria against the touring Springboks in 1937, he did not make the Test team however that changed the following year after he starred as Victoria split their two match series against New South Wales. In response he was selected in the Wallabies' first ever three-quarter line to not include a Waratah for his Test debut against New Zealand in Sydney. He scored 20 of Australia's 23 points in the first two games before illness ruled him out of the final Test. In 1939 Max captained Australia against The Rest and went on to be one of four Victorians picked in the Second Wallabies tour to Great Britain.



Andy 'Nicky' Barr, Max Carpenter and Stan Bissett

In July 1939, Australia's Wallabies rugby union team embarked on a 6-week boat trip for a 10-month tour that was to start in the United Kingdom. The tour was to include 28 matches, culminating in an international match against England at Twickenham Stadium. Travelling by ship allowed for stopovers at Colombo and Aden

The team arrived at Plymouth on Saturday 2 September and the United Kingdom declared war on Germany the following day.

After a little uncertainty, the matches were abandoned. The players discussed signing up in England but their manager convinced them they should return home first.

The fortnight in England now involved filling sandbags at their hotel in Torquay, whilst waiting for the return ship passage to be organised. They were presented to King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, made a brief visit to the already re-purposed Twickenham Stadium, and attended a farewell cocktail party at The Savoy, organised by the British Sportsman's Club. A game was organised on the way home against a Ceylon XV for those who had no played for their country to register a match.

On return to Australia most of the Wallabies enlisted in the services. Albert Stone was a laboratory Chemist and his job was considered a reserve occupation. George Pearson was a minister and did not enlist. He served as a curate of St Augustine's Moreland from 1940 –

1943 the became a missionary working in in Tanzania till 1961. He passed away in 1990. Max married Alice Irene Pearl Hammond in 1939.

In June 1940 after both Max and Stan Bissett enlisted. Power House then undefeated leaders of the 1940 competition was disbanded. Max at the time was the team coach. He initially enlisted in the Survey Corps. He was posted to the staff of the Frankston Officer School and quickly rose to the rank of Warrant Officer and head of the Army Physical and Recreational Section, also at Frankston. He maintained his sporting competitive edge winning the AIF championships at Puckapunyal in both the 100 and 220 yards sprint in great style. By June 1941 he had been posted to Sydney and after two years he pulled on the rugby boots again representing Combined Services in a game against the City side at North Sydney oval winning by 30 points to 29. Max scoring 13 of the points, (a try, two conversions and two penalty goals). During the game Max wore the same pair of pants he wore when he attended his first Wallaby trial.

Max's military records are unavailable as he (like my father) remained in the Army after the war but it is known that he served as a Captain in an Ordnance Corps position in Port Moresby, New Guinea. In 1944 back in Sydney he was 2IC of an Army unit lead by Major Beddowes a South Australian, and a Australian Rules enthusiast until Max converted him, watching his unit team lead by Max in mid-week games. He was noticed by Western Suburbs a Sydney grade team who invited him to play against Parramatta in April, ensuring a large crowd to witness an ex-Wallaby take the field.

Back in New Guinea in 1945 Jack (Strawb) Turnbull, and ex-Wallaby, Max and Jack Reardon a Queensland Rugby League centre organised a surf carnival which drew a record crowd. Max was successful in winning the 100-yard beach sprint.

Deciding to remain in the Army after World War Two he lived in Sydney and spent most of his service life in Moorebank, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He also kept his involvement with rugby initially taking up the coaching position at Drummoyne in 1946. He also played a few games at the end of the season after his team suffered a large injury toll, assisting his team as they made a last dich effort to make the semi-finals. He retained the coach's position in 1947 after initially resigning. The players holding a meeting and giving him a vote of confidence.

When the 1947 United Services team to play City at North Sydney oval was selected, the captain was Max Carpenter who was still playing mid-week rugby with his unit. The team also toured the New England area and Max was asked to address the students at The Armidale School. They were so impressed with him the school invited him back. Max was the Combined Service Team coach between 1948 – 1951 and also spent a year at Parramatta in 1950.

Max in his final year in the Army coached the Australian Service Ruby Union Team in 1964. On retirement he was living in Carramar. He and wife Pearl moved to Ettalong in 1972 before returning to live in Carlingford. They them moved to Orange NSW where Max passed away on 28 June 1966 at the age of 77 years.

There is still much to uncover on Maxwell Gordon Carpenter.

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From the News



Australian Government-donated Bushmaster protected mobility vehicles bound for Ukraine at RAAF Base Amberley, Queensland, in April

From January next year, Australia will join an international military operation to provide critical training for Ukrainian troops in response to Russia's continuing the war. Up to 70 ADF personnel will deploy to the United Kingdom to support British-led Operation Interflex, a major training operation with the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The announcement of the training mission was the latest update in the government's continuing assistance for Ukraine, which also included an additional 30 Bushmaster protected mobility vehicles. This brings the total number of gifted Bushmasters to 90.

Australians will join personnel deployed from New Zealand, Canada and various European countries already helping to generate additional capacity within the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

No ADF personnel will enter Ukraine.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Richard Marles, said military assistance was at the centrepiece of Australia's support. "Our soldiers will be part of a large

training program in the United Kingdom to help prepare their Ukrainian mates for their struggle against Russia's unwarranted and unlawful aggression," Mr Marles said. "Since their arrival, the Bushmasters have been used extensively by the Ukrainian Armed Forces, with more requested by the Ukrainian President, Minister for Defence and the ambassador."

Australia has provided Ukraine with about \$655 million in support, including \$475 million in military assistance.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said Australia would continue to stand for freedom and democracy. "Australia has been unequivocal in its bipartisan support for Ukraine and its condemnation of President Putin," Mr Albanese said. "This is not just about Ukraine's sovereignty; the brave people of Ukraine are defending international law, rules and norms.



(Source: Contact)

HMAS Arunta fires her 5-inch naval gun during Exercise Malabar 2022

The Australian Defence Force joined key regional partners India, Japan and the United States for Exercise Malabar 22 off the east coast of Japan. This year marks the 26th iteration of the Malabar series of exercises, and the third time that all four nations integrated to advance collective planning, integration and employment of advanced warfare tactics.

Royal Australian Navy ships HMAS *Arunta* and HMAS *Stalwart*, submarine HMAS *Farncomb* and a Royal Australian Air Force P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft deployed on the exercise, which ran from 8 to 15 November 2022.

Deputy Chief of Joint Operations Air Vice-Marshal Michael Kitcher said routine exercises and operations with Australia's military partners strengthened our ability to meet shared regional challenges. "The inclusion of a RAAF P-8A Poseidon for first time, along with RAN ships and a submarine, provided a valuable opportunity to focus on complex maritime warfare, interoperability and air-maritime integration," Air Vice-Marshal Kitcher said. "Australia regularly participates in exercises and training with regional partners to build mutual understanding and interoperability in support of an open, inclusive and resilient Indo-Pacific."

The at-sea component of Exercise Malabar this year included a variety of high-end tactical training activities ranging from joint warfighting planning scenarios, communications drills and multinational replenishments-at-sea through to submarine operations, anti-submarine warfare, air defence, naval gunnery exercises and maritime-interdiction operations.

HMA Ships *Arunta* and *Stalwart* will continue with their regional presence deployment, returning to Australia in early December.

HMAS Farncomb will continue to do what submarines do - in secret.



(Source: Contact)

Sapper Jack Arrowsmith carries the ball in attack with Corporal Joshua Allen and Lance Corporal Siaka King in support, during ADF v NZDF rugby union test, Brisbane

In front of almost 1000 raucous fans at North Brisbane Rugby Club, the Australian Defence Force Men's team (ADFRU) broke a 50-year drought by defeating the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) Defence Blacks for the first time. The two teams have met eight times since 1970, with NZ emerging as victors on six occasions and the teams drawing twice. However, on a beautiful Saturday afternoon in Brisbane, the ADFRU team rose to the occasion and defeated their Anzac counterparts 27-22 in a highly entertaining match.

The ADF started strongly, dominating their Kiwi opponents in contact, and sending Sapper Jack Arrowsmith over for a try within the first five minutes. Aussie forwards laid a strong platform for their backline, as debutants Lieutenant Calum Marr and Craftsman Shaun Coel sent their opponents flying with strong defence while constantly threatening with ball in hand. Craftsman Coel said the game had very fast pace and incredibly high intensity. "They definitely didn't want us to win, but that's too bad for them," Craftsman Coel said. "We didn't know about the 50-year drought going into the game which might've been a good thing. "To find out afterwards what it means to the teams before us is an honour."

They were complemented by team stalwarts Craftsman Jack Kent and Signaller Sam Fermor, with the latter scoring a blistering 60-metre try that lifted the crowd to its feet. From this strong platform, the Aussie backline were clinical with internationally capped halfback Corporal Kyle Galloway and debuting five-eighth, Flying Officer Dominic Chamberlain controlling their talented backs with precision passing and kicking.

Despite the ADF carrying a 12-3 lead into half-time, NZDF came back in the second half, scoring 3 tries in quick succession to level the scores 22-22 with five minutes to play. "It was the longest five minutes of my life," Flying Officer Chamberlain said. "We knew it was close the whole game so getting the last try, we knew we had to hold out for the rest of the match."

With their backs against the wall and an unrelenting NZDF side pouring on pressure, Aussie hooker Corporal Joshua Allen dug deep to power over in the corner and secure the match in the 78th minute.

Corporal Allen was subsequently awarded man of the match for a stellar 80-minute effort capped off by his final try.

ADF Coach Lieutenant Commander Dave Carter was extremely pleased with his team's performance. "Early in the week we established an attacking game plan that would enable us to maintain possession, be patient, and take opportunities only when we had multiple options," he said. "In defence we practiced a fast-paced pressuring system, and the team were brutal in contact, our second efforts to be in place to do it again were outstanding, I could not be prouder of that commitment and effort. "Overall, we have established a solid platform on and off the field in preparation of touring in 2023".

While victorious, this year's test match represents the final milestone for the ADFRU team in their preparations for next year's International Defence Rugby Competition in France.

The quadrennial tournament sees the world's premier Defence rugby teams congregate to crown a champion, with ADFRU looking to overcome stiff opposition from British and Fijian forces.

(Source: Contact)

Navy



ADV Cape Naturaliste.

Austal announced yesterday that it had delivered the third of eight evolved Cape-class patrol boats (ECCPB's) to the Royal Australian Navy. The vessel – ADV Cape Naturaliste – has now been officially accepted by the Commonwealth.

Austal CEO Paddy Gregg said the delivery of the third evolved Cape-class highlighted Austal's proven productivity and reliability to deliver naval shipbuilding programs in Australia. "Austal has now delivered three evolved Capes to the Royal Australian Navy since the contract was signed in May 2020," Gregg said. "Our productivity has improved with each new vessel, to the point where Austal is launching a new Evolved Cape after just 12 months construction. "The fourth vessel, the future ADV Cape Capricorn, is alongside now and we have four more at various stages of production, here in Henderson. "With the continued support of our trusted supply chain partners, the Austal shipbuilding team is well on track to deliver all eight evolved Cape-class patrol boats to the Navy by mid-2024, on schedule. "Austal is leading the way in delivering effective capability to the Navy and adding value to the National Naval Shipbuilding Enterprise and we couldn't be prouder."

The 58-metre aluminium monohull patrol boat is the third of eight to be delivered to the Royal Australian Navy.

The first two – ADV Cape Otway and ADV Cape Peron – were delivered in March and August 2022, respectively.

Evolved Capes feature new, larger amenities to accommodate up to 32 people, improved quality-of-life systems and advanced sustainment intelligence systems.

(Source: Contact)



Navy sailor Leading Seaman Musician Henry Liang and Navy Indigenous Cultural Performer, Able Seaman Aviation Support Lynton Robbins, play traditional instruments during the recording of a music clip for the Japanese International Fleet Review 2022, at Garden Island, Fleet Base East

Australia's partnership with Japan has been highlighted through music, in an unusual demonstration on Sydney Harbour.

The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Band released a special video clip featuring the popular Japanese folk song *Umi (The Sea)* blended with the Australian song *Waltzing Matilda*. Australian Navy musicians performed on the ancient Japanese instrument, the shō, and didgeridoo. The musical tribute has been timed to support the 2022 Japan International Fleet Week.

The multinational maritime event, involving navies from around the Pacific Rim and beyond, is running from 29 October to13 November in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Japan Maritime Self-Défense Force.

The destroyer HMAS *Hobart*, Anzac-class frigate HMAS *Arunta*, Collins-class submarine HMAS *Farncomb* and auxiliary oiler replenishment ship HMAS *Stalwart* will represent the RAN at Japan's 29th International Fleet Review. Their crews will take part in numerous activities involving ship open days, military band concerts, parades and the Fleet Review itself, on 6 November.

RAN Indigenous cultural performer Able Seaman Lynton Robbins played the digeridoo, accompanying Leading Seaman Henry Liang, playing the well-known Aussie and Japanese melodies on the shō. The shō is an ancient wind instrument first used in the imperial court music of Japan (Gagaku) from about the 7th century.

It is made of 17 slender bamboo pipes, bundled together and mounted over a bowl usually made from resin, wood or copper. "I have always been an admirer of Japanese culture," Leading Seaman Liang said. "The shō is such a beautiful instrument to play and I hope the Japanese people will find that I have done it justice."

Able Seaman Robbins agreed the composition paid a unique tribute. "I am honoured to be representing Indigenous Australian culture in this celebration of our nation's heritage, culture and friendship," Able Seaman Robbins said. "The Australian Navy and people have so much in common with Japan. Understanding each other's cultures can only lead to closer ties between our countries."

(Source: Contact)

Army



Three Australian soldiers of the First World War have been formally identified more than 105 years since they were killed on the Western Front.

Minister for Veterans Affairs' and Defence Personnel Matt Keogh said identifying the soldiers, whose remains were found in 2006 and 2010, was the result of historical, anthropological, archaeological and DNA analysis by the Australian Army.

"After giving their lives more than a century ago, it is remarkable that we can now name these three individuals who served our nation, and hopefully bring some peace to their descendants this Remembrance Day," Minister Keogh said. "When we say 'Lest We Forget' at the end of the Ode we mean it – we will remember them. "These were people who had names and loved ones who never learnt their fate."

Minister Keogh said two of the soldiers had died near the village of Fromelles in northern France in 1916.

"Private Walter Allen Grace was born in Derbyshire, England and worked as a labourer when he enlisted in Brisbane, Queensland in July 1915.

"He was discovered near **Private Edwin Charles Gray**. "Edwin was born in Riverton, South Australia, and worked as a chauffeur and mechanic when he enlisted in Keswick, South

Australia in July 1915. "Their identification is the result of diligent and painstaking work by professionals and volunteers. "Walter and Edwin now rest in Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery – their identities restored."

The third identified soldier was recovered in Belgium in 2006, one of five unknown Australian soldiers recovered from a wartime cemetery.

Known as the 'Westhoek Five', three of the soldiers had been identified by 2007.

"The Army's Unrecovered War Casualties team are now able to name the fourth soldier of the Westhoek Five, buried at Buttes New British Cemetery," Minister Keogh said.

"Private Thomas Allen Gibbens, from the 29th Battalion, was born in Carlton, Victoria and worked as a plumber when he enlisted at Broadmeadows in February 1916. "The important work to identify the last of the Westhoek Five will continue. "I want to personally thank everyone who has been part of finding and identifying these soldiers, particularly the families who provided vital DNA. "I acknowledge the volunteers of the Fromelles Association of Australia who work tirelessly to find the families of Fromelles soldiers. "While those who knew them could never visit their graves, their sacrifice is not forgotten, and can now be reflected upon where they lie, side by side with their mates."

The three newly identified soldiers' headstones will be rededicated in 2023.

(Source: Contact)



Air Force

Republic of Korea Air Force KF-16U Fighting Falcon and Royal Australian Air Force F-35A Lightning II conduct a flight together during Exercise Pitch Black 2022.

The Royal Australian Air Force and the Republic of Korea Air Force (ROKAF) have signed an arrangement formalising their cooperation in air-to-air refuelling. Air Commander Australia Air Vice-Marshal Darren Goldie and Commander ROKAF Operation Command Lieutenant General Park Ha Sik signed the agreement in September 2022. The arrangement acts as an opportunity for alignment in procedures for air-to-air refuelling and to help further promote interoperability between the forces of Australia and the Republic of Korea. RAAF regularly conducts training and exercise activities with ROKAF, with the conduct of aerial refuelling a key component of collaboration between the two.

Air Vice-Marshal Goldie said the agreement was an important step forward in enhancing the partnership between the two air forces. "This helps further ensure that our two air forces can support one another in the skies, during exercises and training activities and on any future operations," Air Vice-Marshal Goldie said. "The transfer of fuel when required to sustain and prolong our presence in the air is critical to our aircraft being able to successfully project air power."

Lieutenant General Park Ha Sik said the agreement would contribute to the expansion of the two air forces' area of air operations and to the enhancement of the combined operational capability. "This implementing arrangement will be the ironclad foundation for the development of the military cooperation between Australia and the Republic of Korea," Lieutenant General Park said. "As strategic partners, various collaboration between the two countries should take place in the future."

The deployment of a ROKAF KC-330 tanker to Australia for Exercise Pitch Black was the most recent refuelling interaction between RAAF and ROKAF.



(Source: Contact)

A C-27J Spartan pulls a small-plane manoeuvre at Avalon Airshow and a RAAF C-130 Hercules on the ground at Tarin Kowt, Afghanistan.

Defence has announced it intends to replace its current fleet of 12 C-130J Hercules air mobility aircraft with an expanded fleet of C-130J – under a project that is widely believed to also include ditching the C-27J Spartan.

CONTACT notes that aside from today's announcement, there are no other search-findable references to "Project AIR 7404" on the Defence web site.

Today's statement went on to say that the C-130J Hercules variant was a reliable and combatproven aircraft operated by the Royal Australian Air Force since 1999. "Defence has approached a number of aircraft manufacturers and received information on all available medium air mobility options. "The relative merits of each aircraft type have been assessed against Australia's capability requirements. "Defence seeks a low risk, certified in all roles, proven, mature and affordable replacement aircraft that meets Australia's air mobility needs. "Project principles have incorporated lessons learned from previous major Defence acquisitions as well as the in-service experience with the current C-130J fleet. "Defence has identified that the new C-130J aircraft represents the only option that meets all of Australia's capability requirements and assures Defence's medium air-mobility capability without introducing substantial cost, schedule and capability risk. "As a result, new C-130J aircraft will be the only option that Defence will progress for government approval under Project AIR 7404 Phase 1 in 2023."

While Defence's statement today did not specify the size of RAAF's C-130J fleet expansion, other media are reporting that the fleet will grow from the current 12 Hercules and 10 Spartans to possibly 30 Hercules – and that six to eight of those will come in the KC-130J air-to-air refuelling configuration.

While the prospect of new Hercs on the ground in Australia is some way off, it is also believed that this project has actually been fast-tracked.

Australian government approval next year will then require US government foreign-militarysales approval (which shouldn't be a problem), with the first aircraft likely to arrive 2030 by which time, our current C-130Js will be about 30 years old.

While 30 years isn't particularly old for a Hercules, Australia was one of the first customers for the then-new J-model aircraft, and there has been a lot of improvement in cargo-handling, navigation and other systems over the years. Australia's current Hercules fleet has also worked harder than previous fleets, with an almost continuous two-ship presence in the Middle East from 2008 to 2020.

Before the current fleet, the Royal Australian Air Force has operated C-130A, E and H models, beginning in 1958 and operated 24 Hercs from the mid 1960s until 2006 when one of the air-mobility squadrons upgraded to C-17s.

This project is estimated to cost somewhere between \$9- and \$14-billion.

(Source: Contact)

Quiz

Answers Quiz Questions TRIBUTE No 17

- 1. Who is Queensland's, born in Blackall, most decorated VC Winner? Answer; Major Thomas Edgar Towner, VC MC FRGSA
- Which VC Winner lived in the Richmond, Queensland area after WW1? Answer; Lieutenant Colonel Henry William Murray, VC CMG DSO and Bar DCM C de G

- Name the ship. This ship is the third in the RAN fleet to bear this name, which it shares with a city. The city was named after the 4th earl of Buchinghamshire?
 Answer; HMAS *Hobart*
- Name this ship. Its motto "Defend the Weak' is testimony to the WW2 hero it is named after? Answer; HMAS *Rankin*

Show and Tell



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

PAIU1993/286.06

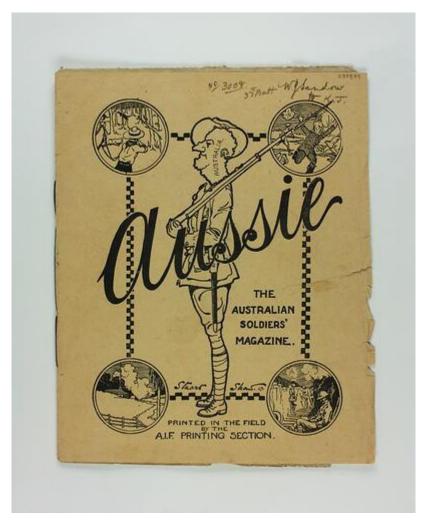
Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT. 11 November 1993. Entombment of the Unknown Australian Soldier.

On the 75th anniversary of the end of the First World War, the body of an unknown Australian soldier was recovered from Adelaide Cemetery near Villers-Bretonneux in France and transported to Australia.

After lying in state in King's Hall in Old Parliament House, the unknown Australian Soldier was interred in the Hall of Memory at the Memorial on 11 November 1993. He was buried with a bayonet and a sprig of wattle in a Tasmanian blackwood coffin, and soil from the Pozières battlefield was scattered in his tomb.

The inscription on the tomb reads, "An unknown Australian soldier killed in the war of 1914–1918". The head of the tomb is inscribed "Known unto God", and at the foot, "He is all of them and he is one of us."

The Unknown Australian Soldier represents all Australians who have been killed in war.



(Source: Australian War Memorial)

Issue No.2, February 1918, of World War I era publication titled '**Aussie**', 'The Australian Soldiers' Magazine'. Printed in the field by the AIF Printing Section.

One of a collection of copies of 'Aussie' magazines in Museum Victoria's collection dated 5 June 1918 - 15 January 1929.

'Aussie' (1918- circa 1929) was a commercial magazine of opinion, review and

entertainment. It was edited by Lieutenant Phillip Harris and published in France 1918 -1919 on a small printing press that Harris brought with him to France. Initially the print run was only 10,000 copies, but soon it reached 60,000 and later 100,000. The magazine celebrated a distinctive 'Aussie' identity through language, humour and imagery. It distributed news, provided light-hearted ways of seeing the war experience and gave soldiers an outlet to express dissent or dissatisfaction. It also provided a voice for Australian authors such as Banjo Paterson, C.J. Dennis and Bernard O'Dowd. The magazine also frequently contained racist and sexist imagery and references.

After the war, Phillip Harris produced a monthly in Sydney and renamed it 'Aussie: the Cheerful Monthly' from 1920. It built a sizeable circulation and for several years it published the major Australian writers and cartoonists of the day. It set out to sustain the digger culture and defend the rights of the veterans, while also embracing the re-adjustment of returned soldiers into civilian life.

Physical Description

Magazine printed on A4 paper in black ink, double sided, 10 pages. The magazine is comprised of stories, illustrations, songs and poetry from the First World War. The front cover features the title printed across the centre, with a drawing of a soldier in uniform standing sideways, and holding a gun. Four drawings within circles are positioned in each corner, joined by a wreath and ribbons bearing the names of the war fields. His head is in the shape of the map of Australia.

Significance

This object provides an Australian soldiers' view of the political and world climate during World War I, and also represents the bond between Australian soldiers. The magazine celebrated a distinctive 'Aussie' identity, through language, humour and their assertion of what it meant to be an Australian. It allowed news to be distributed, gave the soldiers an outlet to express any dissent or dissatisfaction, thus preventing any greater form of rebellion and promoted Australian authors like Banjo Paterson, C.J. Dennis and Bernard O'Dowd. After the war, Phillip Harris produced a monthly in Sydney from 1920 and renamed it: 'Aussie: the Cheerful Monthly'. It built a sizeable circulation and for more than a decade it published the major Australian writers and cartoonists of the day. It set out to sustain the digger culture and defend the rights of the veterans, while also embracing the re-adjustment of returned soldiers into civilian life.

'I claim no credit for the success of Aussie. That belongs to the Diggers. Aussie was not a paper done for the Diggers, but by them. That's why it reflects their spirit.' - Phillip L. Harris, Editor, taken from 'The Story of Aussie'

(Source: Museums Victoria)

Poetry and Humour

The Farmer Remembers the Somme

by Vance Palmer, 1920

Will they never fade or pass! The mud, and the misty figures endlessly coming In file through the foul morass, And the grey flood-water ripping the reeds and grass, And the steel wings drumming.

The hills are bright in the sun: There's nothing changed or marred in the well-known places; When work for the day is done There's talk, and quiet laughter, and gleams of fun On the old folks' faces.

I have returned to these: The farm, and the kindly Bush, and the young calves lowing; But all that my mind sees Is a quaking bog in a mist - stark, snapped trees, And the dark Somme flowing.

A Naval Airman's Christmas Carol

Or "Who me, Joss?" (Courtesy - HMAS Albatross - Naval Historical Society)

Jossman Wencelas looked out On the Feast of Stephen, When the R.P.O.s stood round about, Blancoed, crisp and even.

Loudly swore the Joss that night Like a London coster, when he found an N.A. bright, Missing from his roster.

"Hither Crusher, stand by me, If thou know'st it, spill it. This here N.A. – who is he? Where the hell's his billet?"

"Joss, he lives a good league hence, And his name is Taffy. 'Spect he's having plonk and pies In Happy's Heavenly Cafe".

"Izzat so? Fall in, two men! Let us go and nick him. Thou and I will find him then And on defaulters stick him!

Joss and Crusher forth they went Though the night was lousy; Found the N.A. sweating hard In a game of Housey.

In the Jossmen's steps he trod, With two men as flankers, Trembled at the Commander's nod And got ten days Jankers.

Therefore N.A.s all, be sure, When you're warned for duty, If you're not there on the dot, You've had it – like this beauty. -P.O. Foster.

Glossary – for non-naval members.

- "Jossman" Master-at-arms
- "R.P.O." Regulating Petty Officer Ship's police.
- "N.A." Naval Airman "Crusher" (See R.P.O.)
- "Housey" Housey Housey Bingo
- "Jankers" Punishment such as leave stopped, extra work etc..

Royal Australian Air Force – Amberley

Two Brisbane Patrol Officers were conducting speeding enforcement on Cunningham Highway SH15, just west of the Amberley Air force Base at Ipswich.



The officers were using hand held radar devices to check speeding vehicles approaching the crest of a hill.

The officers were suddenly surprised when their radar guns began reading 500 kms per hour.

The officers attempted to reset the radar guns, but they would not reset and then turned off.

Just then a deafening roar over the treetops revealed that the radar had in fact locked on to an RAAF F/A-18 Hornet which was engaged in a low flying exercise near the location.



Back at the Queensland Traffic Control Headquarters the Patrol Sergeant fired off a complaint to the RAAF Base Commander.

The reply came back in true RAAF style:

Thank you for your letter.

We can now complete the file on this incident.

You may be interested to know that the tactical computer in the Hornet had detected the presence of, and subsequently locked on to your hostile radar equipment and automatically sent a jamming signal back to it, which is why it shut down.

Furthermore, an Air-to-Ground missile aboard the fully armed aircraft had also automatically locked on to your equipment location. Fortunately, the Senior Pilot flying the Hornet recognized the situation for what it was, quickly responded to the missile system alert status and was able to override the automated defence system before the missile was launched to destroy the hostile radar position.

The pilot also suggests you cover your mouths when cursing at them, since the video systems on these jets are very high tech.

Sergeant Johnson, the officer holding the left radar gun, should get his dentist to check his left rear molar. It appears the filling is loose. Also, the snap is broken on his holster

Thank you for your concern.

Wing Commander Brown, SFO RAAF, Amberley, Ipswich, Queensland

Important Dated - DECEMBER

- 1 December 1942 HMAS Armidale sunk by Japanese aircraft near Timor
- 1 December 1951 Air battle over Sunchon, North Korea
- 1 December 1972 3rd Field Engineer Regiment
- 1 December 1988 8th Signal Squadron
- 1 December 1987 141st Signal Squadron
- 1 December 1975 Army Logistics Training Centre
- 2 December 1914 First Australian Aircraft despatched to war

2 December 2010 – Protective Service Officer Ronald Lewis AFP – drown whilst serving with RAMSI in the Solomon Islands

2 December 2021 – Army Aviation Command formed.

3 December 1915 – Siege of Kut begins in Mesopotamia. The Kut garrison surrendered in April 1916

3 December 1911- First AIF disembark in Egypt

3 December 1954 - No 77 Squadron RAAF returns from Korea

3 December 1968 – 1st Australian Task Force participated in Battle of Hat Dich as part of Operation GOODWOOD

- 3 December 2001 Arrival of first SASR forces in Afghanistan
- 3 December 1973 Raising of 5/7th Battalion RAR
- 3 December 2006 5/7 RAR de-linked
- 4 December 1983 Deakin University Company
- 4 December 1990 RAN involvement in the Persian Gulf approved
- 4 December 2015 HMAS Adelaide (111) Commissioned
- 5 December 1939 First official RAAF operation of the Second World War
- 5 December 1950 Evacuation of Chinnampo, Korea
- 5 December 1987 2/17th Battalion RNSWR
- 6 December 1951 HMAS Sydney begins its second patrol off Korea
- 7 December 1915 Evacuation of ANZAC forces from Gallipoli begins

7-8 December 1941 – Pearl Harbour. Japanese aircraft attack the American Pacific Fleet. World War Two was now a global conflict.

- 8 December 1941 Japan invades Malaya and Thailand
- 8 December 1941 Australia at War with Japan

8 December 2007 – Commissioning of HMAS Maryborough (11)

- 9 December 1917 Jerusalem occupied by the Desert Mounted Corps
- 9 December 1942 Australian occupy Gona, New Guinea
- 9 December 1997 Death of the last surviving Gallipoli soldier Ted Mathews
- 10 December 1941 HM Ships Repulse and Prince of Wales sunk
- 11 December 1941 Germany and Italy declare war on the United States
- 11 December 1952 Operation Fauna, Korea
- 12 December 1917 HMAS Australia damaged
- 12 December 1998 Commissioning of HMAS Arunta (11)
- 12 December 2021 Decommissioning of HMAS Beltano
- 13 December 1915 Light Horse fight at Un Rakham
- 13 December 2011 Commissioning of HMAS Choules
- 14 December 1941 Japanese forces land at Penang, Malaya

14 December - Infantry Corps Birthday

15 December 1900 – Australia's first Governor General the Earl of Hopetoun arrives, aboard HMS Royal Arthur

15 December 2013 – C Commando Company, 2nd Command Regiment was the last Commando Company to be withdrawn from Uruzgan Provence Afghanistan. This ended Australia presence in the province which began in August 2005.

16 December - 1944 - Battle of the Bulge

17 December 1915 - A game of cricket on Shell Green Gallipoli was held to distract the Tur's from the imminent departure

17 December 1967 – HMAS Perth under fire off Dong Hoi, Vietnam

17 December 2008 – Rifleman Stuart Nash British Army 1st Battalion, The Rifles died from small arms fire during operation Herrick Afghanistan. An Australian citizen, Rifleman Stuart Nash was born in Sydney on 19 April 1987, and enlisted in The Rifles on 9 March 2008 in Gloucester. He attended the Combat Infantryman's Course at the Infantry Training Centre in Catterick, where he quickly established himself as a popular and confident character with maturity beyond his years and a positive influence on his peers.

18 December 1944 - 'Arty' Hill, Bougainville, captured

18 December 1945 – HMS Implacable returns from Wewak, New Guinea, with men of 6th Division into Sydney Harbour.

18 December 2021 - Decommissioning of HMAS Sirius

19 December 1951 - HMAS Sydney completed a tour of operations off Korea's west coast

20 December 1915 - Last Australian troops evacuated from Gallipoli

20 December 1917 - Second conscription referendum held in Australia

21 December 1916 – Light Horse capture El Arish

22 December 1916 - Battle of Magdhaba, North Sinia

22 December 2004 – Protective Service Officer Adam Dunning AFP – died of a gunshot wound in the Solomon Islands during RAMSI

24 December 1941 – Benghazi recaptured

24 December 1962 - Start of the Malaysian - Indonesiaqn Confrontation

24 December 1974 – Cyclone Tracey – all three services respond to Operation Clean up.

26 December 1941 – Japanese forces capture Hong Kong

27 December 1941 - Prime Minister Curtin announces that 'Australia looks to America'

27 December 1940 – 7th Division capture 'The Pimple' Shaggy Ridge, New Guinea

27 December 1942 – Margaret Hope Maberley survived 52 days at sea before being rescued on this day by a Brazilian corvette. She was presented with the British Empire Medal for her gallantry at sea.

- 28 December 1940 6th Division in their first action near Bardia. 2nd AIF first battle
- 29 December 1860 Action at Matarikoriko, New Zealand
- 30 December 1944 Australians of 25th Battalion occupy Pearl Ridge, Bougainville
- 31 December 1914 The Second convoy of the first AIF departs Albany
- 31 December 1967 3 RAR arrives in Vietnam
- 31 December 2014 Conclusion of Operation SLIPPER, Afghanistan

31 December 1982 - Army Apprentices School Balcombe, closed. Decommissioned in 1983

December 1994 – Army Chief of Staff announces the under-aged soldier trade training scheme would cease and the school facilities would be used by Army Adult Trade Trainees.

December 1984 – OCS Portsea closed

December 1988 - The Army School of Instructional Training Closed.

On 25 December 1916, 13055 Driver Thomas Charles Doe sent Christmas wishes to his family in Melbourne in a handwritten note which he sealed inside a bottle and threw overboard his troopship sailing for the war in Europe.

The note read, 'Thrown overboard in the Great Australian Bight, Amas Day 1916. Love and kisses to my loved ones hoping they are enjoying themselves. This is to show they are still and always will be, in my thought till I return. T C Doe.'

Thomas Doe was born in Croydon, England in 1884, and enlisted in Melbourne in September 1916. He embarked from Melbourne onboard HMAT *Persic* on 20 December and served in France with 2nd Auxiliary Mechanical Transport Company. He survived the war and returned to Australia in 1919.

The bottle was found on Western Rock Beach, Port Sinclair, south of Penong in South Africa. In 1968 the bottle was broken to extraxct the envelope inside. The envelope fell apart but the letter was largely intact. The letter was returned to the family before being passed to the Australian War Memorial.

Unfortunately, Thomas Doe passed away in 1963 never knowing what ever happened to his letter. He is buried in the Box Hill Cemetery, Victoria.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



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	

IMPORTANT EVENTS	FELLOWS of MHSA						
 AND DATE 21 January 2023 – Bi-monthly Meeting 11 March 2023 – Bi-monthly Meeting 25 April 2023 – Anzac Day 13 May 2023 - Bi-monthly Meeting 8 July 2023 - AGM 9 September 2023 – Bi-monthly Meeting 11 November 2023 – Remembrance Day 18 November 2023 – Bi-Monthly Meeting 	 John Meyers (Deceased) Anthony Staunton Donald Wright <u>NEW MEMBERS</u> 						

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PO Box 243	Ordinary Member \$50
Maleny, Queensland 4552	Family Membership \$55

TRIBUTE No 18 December 2022 Page 35



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 joine	d the Soc	eiety	 	 		 			
Military Interes	ts		 	 		 			

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)

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

Treasurer, Qld Division Military Historical Society of Australia PO Box 243 MALENY Q 4552 Email: curtisir131@gmail.com

Or,

Direct deposit to the Qld Division MHSA Westpac Account at Maryborough, Qld.

BSB No. 034-128 Account No. 23-3618

If paying by Direct deposit, reference your name and forward the application form as well.