



COMMENTARY

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS ASSOCIATION

July 2019 edition

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

JOHN DWYER



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Thank you to the Executive and committee members outgoing 2018 and incoming 2019 for the work they do in regard to efficient running of the Association. They ensure proper planning is in place and review the areas of finance, membership, advocacy and welfare, membership communication, commemorative/social events and Cambrai House management. Our Association net worth is in good shape and a revised Constitution has been lodged with after approval at 2019 AGM to meet the requirements of the Associations ACT 2015.

Those attending the AGM at Cambrai House were treated to an excellent afternoon tea prepared by Treasurer Ross Leighton. Committee contact details are indicated in Commentary and my report for 2018 is in this edition of Commentary. On behalf of the committee and membership I thank Col Ken Ashman (Ret) MSM for accepting the role of our Patron.

Thank you to all who have renewed membership with the Association and a request to help increase our membership by approaching people you know who have served in the Corps. Information in regard to our Association can be found on our web site www.raacawa.org.au Included in this edition of Commentary is an application form.

Details of ANZAC activities relative to the Association are also included in this edition starting with the Dawn Service at Kings Park and my thanks to Bill Robertson for once again organising the coffee plus activity immediately after that service. All Black Hats are invited to march as one with the Association at the Perth parade.

DVA has announced the issue of Veteran and Eligible Reservists Lapel Pin The lapel pin includes the Australian Defence Force tri-service flag at the centres of the pin, to represent Navy, Army and Air Force. The Lapel Pin is circular copper pin plated in 24 carat gold and nickel-silver coloured red and blue. To apply for the pin including a copy of the Australian Defence Veterans Covenant go the DVA web site www.dva.gov.au and follow the links.

I have also been advised the funding from DVA has been authorised and along with other sponsorship money will enable the Light Horse Statue Committee to complete the project. An interactive bronze statue of horse and trooper, commemorating the formation of the 10th Light Horse Regiment in Guildford will be erected in Stirling Square. Congratulations to all involved in reaching this outcome and in particular our member Laurens West who has worked on the committee since its inception.

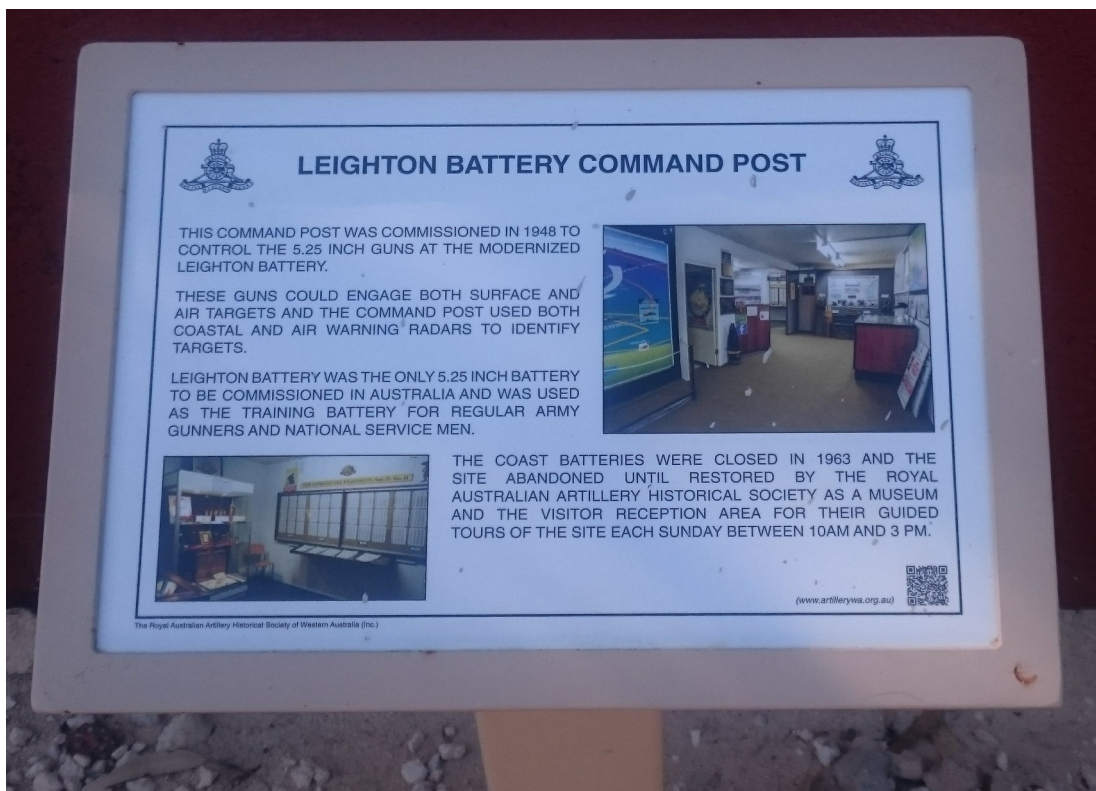
Yours in Armour

John Dwyer



VISIT TO LEIGHTON TUNNELS ON 11 MAY 2019

THIS EVENT WAS WELL ATTENDED AND ENJOYED BY THOSE THAT ATTENDED.



PLAQUE AT THE BATTERY



GOING DOWN INTO THE BATTERY



A GUIDE GIVING HIS SPEIL TO THE GROUP

WEEKEND AT NORTHAM 29/30TH JUNE 2019

THOSE THAT ATTENDED ALL HAD A GREAT TIME CATCHING UP AND ENJOYED A GOOD DINNER, SOME FOLLOWED UP WITH BREAKFAST THE NEXT MORNING ALSO, THE PICTURE IS OF THE HANGERS ON AT BREAKFAST SUNDAY MORNING.



****SOME DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDARS****

(MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW AS SOON AS THEY COME TO HAND)

10TH AUGUST 2019 – 100 YEARS CELEBRATION OF THE RETURN OF 10TH LIGHT HORSE FROM DUTIES OVERSEAS DURING WW1.

12/13TH OCTOBER 2019 – VISIT TO LEANE'S TRENCH IN GERALDTON.

17TH NOVEMBER 2019 – CAMBRAI REMEMBRANCE.

VALE NORMAN MANNERS 1932 – 2019

VALE DOREEN CLEMENTS ____ - 2019

For those thinking of visiting Leane's Trench in Geraldton on the weekend 12/13th October

THIS VISIT IS OPEN TO BOTH RAACAWA AND XLH ASSOCIATIONS

Further information will be following, but for the moment we are still in the planning stage of this.

There will be other places to visit, these are still being investigated by Ross Leighton.

Anyone going, will pay their own way, book their own accommodation etc., people can stay on the farm where Leane's Trench is located, this is camping, camper trailer, caravan, facilities are basic.

Otherwise you can book in Geraldton, organise a group to bring costs down etc..

At the moment we are trying to get numbers so we can make a plan, so if you are interested please let Ross know.

contact: **Ross Leighton** Phone 92764695 Email rv.leighton@bigpond.com

Welcome to the 11th Battalion AIF and the Gallipoli Trench Project.

Based in Geraldton, Western Australia, 400kms north of Perth, 11th Battalion Living History Unit is a living history and commemorative group dedicated to researching and representing Western Australia's first and finest Battalion.

The group also embarked on a major project, recreating a living Gallipoli Trench complete with sound systems, actors and all the paraphernalia of war to make the experience for visitors as real as possible. Officially opened on 19 November 2016, the first cruise ship tour actually started on 15th November and was the first of many projected. From January 21st 2017 the trench will be open every third Saturday of the month. The trench is an authentic replica of a captured Turkish trench as taken by the 11th on the night of 31st July 1915 and named for the commander who led the attack, Capt R. L. Leane.

There are guided tours and re-enactments onsite.



Guildford: Stirling Square one step closer to hosting sculpture of 10th Light Horse Regiment

Written by Sarah Brookes August 27th, 2018, 11:30AM

GUILDFORD'S Stirling Square is one step closer to becoming the home of a memorial sculpture depicting the 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment.

The Guildford Light Horse Statue Committee held a special event on Saturday to announce the selected sculpture artist, Charles Robb, along with an official maquette unveiling.

Committee chair Cr Charlie Zannino said the City of Swan proudly supports the memorial project.

"The City has contributed \$100,000 from its Public Art Reserve toward the completion of the sculpture," he said.

"In addition to our financial contribution, the City has coordinated the entire tendering process for the procurement of the artist.

"In future, our support will extend into assistance with project management, installation supervision and ongoing maintenance at the memorial site in the years to come."

The Committee is made up of City of Swan representatives, community representatives from the Guildford Association and Swan Guildford Historical Society and military historians.

The committee needs to raise a further \$250,000 through donations to meet the costs of the project.

Mayor David Lucas said Guildford has a rich Anzac heritage and is a fitting location for the memorial.

“The 10th Light Horse Regiment was formed and trained in Guildford, prior to shipping to the Middle East,” he said.

“The Guildford Association has campaigned for this commemorative project for a number of years, and the City is proud to support their community-led efforts.

“This memorial recognises and commemorates the area’s wonderful local history, with recognition of the local significance of the Brigade, and the commitment and sacrifice of those who served for Australia.”

Midland MLA Michelle Roberts said the historic project was a real tourist attraction for Guildford and would complement the prospective heritage listing of Guildford.

Christmas in July was again held at the Herdsman hotel, numbers were down a bit on previous Christmas in July functions, but those that attended enjoyed catching up. The meal was slow to come out this year but this was due to not getting orders in before the other patrons of the hotel



The picture below was used on the RSL site to promote Anzac Day this year, think it is either 2016 or 2017 Anzac Day



ARLINGTON CEMETERY

Jeopardy
Question:

On

Jeopardy the other night, the final question was

"How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns?"

All three contestants missed it!

This is really an awesome sight to watch if you've never had the chance.
Fascinating. Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

1.

How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why?

21

It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

2.

How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?

21 seconds for the same reason as answer number one.

3.

Why are his gloves wet?

His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.

He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb.

4.

Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all
the time and, if not, why not?

He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb.

After his march across the path,
he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

5.

How often are the guards changed?

Guards are changed every thirty minutes,
twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

6.

What are the physical traits of the guard
limited to?

For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he
must be

between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and
his waist size cannot exceed 30.

They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb,
live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot
drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of
their lives. They cannot swear in public for the
rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the
uniform or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that
is worn on their lapel signifying they
served as guard of the tomb. There are only
400 presently worn. The guard must obey
these rules for the rest of their
lives or give up the wreath pin.
The shoes are specially made with very thick soles
to keep the heat and cold from their feet.

There are metal heel plates that extend to
the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as
they come to a halt.

There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards
dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a
guard cannot talk to anyone nor watch TV.

All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in
Arlington National Cemetery.

A guard must memorize who they are and where
they are interred. Among the notables are:

President Taft,

Joe Lewis {the boxer}

Medal of Honor winner Audie L. Murphy, the most
decorated soldier of WWII and of Hollywood fame.

Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for
guard duty.

ETERNAL REST GRANT THEM O LORD
AND
LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.

In 2003, as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington, DC, our US Senate/House took 2 days off with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported that because of the dangers from the hurricane, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined the offer, "No way, Sir!" Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person.

The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

God
Bless and keep them.

RAACA WA

EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

DAY/DATE	TIME	EVENT	COMMENT
Sunday 27th January	1700	Committee Meeting followed by dinner at 1800	At John Dwyer's, 37 Barrington Ave, Champion Lakes
Possible multi-day event February 14th for a couple of days		Visit to Albany, visit various places of interest	Make own arrangements to go on this one. Liaise with Ross Leighton.
Saturday 23rd February	1000	Busy Bee includes Feb Committee Meeting followed by BBQ	Cambrai House
Sunday 10th March	1500	AGM followed by Afternoon Tea	Cambrai House
Tuesday 9th April	1300	Committee Meeting Preparation ANZAC events	Cambrai House
Thursday 25 th April	0500	Kings Park Dawn Service	See commentary
Thursday 25 th April	0900	ANZAC PDE Perth	See commentary
Thursday 25 th April	1200	A SQN 10LH ANZAC EVENT	See commentary
Tuesday 7th May	1300	Committee Meeting	Cambrai House
Tuesday 11th June	1300	Committee Meeting	Cambrai House
Tuesday 9th July	1300	Committee meeting	Cambrai House
Sunday 14th July	1200	Christmas in July	Herdsmen *see flyer
Tuesday 6th August	1300	Committee Meeting	Cambrai House
Saturday 10th August	1000	Old Boys Parade & return of XLH Centennial - at Burt St Fremantle museum	***Planning is progressing, XLH has moved date to 10th.
Tuesday 10th September	1300	Committee Meeting	Cambrai House
Weekend 12/13th October		Geraldton, Leanes Trench	Geraldton
Saturday 19th October	1000	Busy Bee and Committee meeting	House
Saturday 2nd November	1800	Beersheba Dinner	10LH ASN Function
Tuesday 12th November	1300	Committee Meeting	Cambrai House
Sunday 17th November	1200	Cambrai Parade and Luncheon	TBA
Sunday 8th December	1200	Christmas Function	
Notes:			
Committee Meeting Dates - include combination with Busy Bees to save having to attend twice		Committee meetings - Members welcome, <u>need to advise</u> <u>John Dwyer at</u> <u>raaca.lighthouse@bigpond.com</u> <u>if attending for security at the gate</u>	
***** the committee is also following up on the possibility that members <u>might</u> be able to attend the Unit range shoot later in the year, BUT this is not a guaranteed event.		Event information in red to be firmed up as well as what will be held.	

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Remembrance Funerals and Funeral Director Susie Lombardi
for their continued support and renewal of Sponsorship for 2019



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Check out the following

If the job is too big or you don't have time or you just need help, some of our members may be able to assist with their expertise.

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<http://www.peregrineplumbing.com.au>

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