



COMMENTARY

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURD CORPS ASSOCIATION

September 2019 edition

Postal: 25 Bentley St Stoneville WA 6081 Phone: 0892952281
Email: secretary.raacawa@gmail.com Website: <http://www.raacawa.org.au/index.htm>



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93325634

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94994685

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93075654

Robert C Norris

93023529

Peter Williams

0428948458

Editor

Ian Goodall

0414376756



FROM THE PRESIDENT

JOHN DWYER

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Officers and soldiers of A SQN 10LH are to be commended for their turn out and drill at the parade held at ARMY Museum WA in Fremantle to commemorate the return of the "Glorious Tenth" to Australian shores after WW1 and the requirement for them to remain in Egypt to quell the uprising that occurred shortly thereafter. The Tenth were one of the few units to return from that War as a unit and of course being formed in WA it was very appropriate they disembarked at Fremantle. Association members were guests of the Officer Commanding MAJ Duane Nurse at the parade. The reviewing officer was the HON COL of the unit BRIG Phil White. MC of the Parade was CAPT Wayne Gardiner RAAC Assistant Manager of the Army Museum. The parade was enhanced through participation of the Re-enactment horse troop from Kelmscott, The Track located at the Museum and a PMV from the current unit. Surrounding the parade ground were many Armoured vehicles of the Regiment and other units of the CORPS.

In this edition of Commentary you will find information in regard to the Cambrai Parade and Luncheon and an invitation to all members, partners and friends of the Association to attend that event on the 17th of November. It will be held at the new function centre located at the Royal Australian Airforce Association. You would have also received information in regard to a visit to Leane's Trench and other points to interest on a social weekend to Geraldton in October. Travel and accommodation at the individual preference of members with Ross Leighton working on a program of events over the weekend based on advice from those attending.

The Association has a healthy membership with four new members signing up over the last month and I seek your help in talking with those that have the same interests as you in the CORPS in regard to joining. A membership application form is attached to this edition of Commentary. Younger veterans of the CORPS are especially welcome and can be assured they have the membership support required to ensure they have opportunities to mix with people of like mind and interests.

In recent times two stalwarts of the Association Norm Manners and Doreen Clements passed away and we have received thanks from both families in regard to member support for them. Our condolences to members Craig, Barry and Tanya and your families.

On the National front through the RAAC Corporation a lot of work is being done in regard to transition of members from the ADF upgrade of DVA for life tracking processes (including Reservists), suicide prevention and outcomes of the Productivity Commission report in regard to the DVA.

A reminder to all serving and past serving members can register with DVA through the My Service Portal. No matter how long you have been out of the services you can still register your detail. Just google My Service and follow the instructions. If you need assistance please give me a call.

Yours in Armour

John Dwyer



VALE | Norman Manners OAM

Our highly esteemed member, 544729 Norm Manners OAM, passed away on 21 Jun 19, aged 87.

He was for many years a member of our Association and was also Chairman of the Honour Avenues Group and received the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2016 for service to Veterans and families.

Norm joined the Royal Australian Armoured Corps, 10th Light Horse Regiment and was attached to the United States 25th Tropic Lightning Division, Hawaii in 1965.

Subsequent postings were with Western Command as SO3 Air Training and Public Relations for both Australian Regular Army and Citizens Military Forces, with total service of 16 years.

Norm was also a President of Highgate RSL and of the Naval, Military & Air Forces Club

Many of us enjoyed Norm's company at Dick Jones Wedge Island shack where the older we got the bolder we where stories flowed along with a nice red or more.

Our condolences to Norm's family



MANNERS (Norman) OAM:
The President, Committee
and Members of RSL
Highgate Sub-Branch

MANNERS (Norman) OAM:
Dearly beloved husband of
Pauline (dec).
Cherished Dad of Julia,
Brett, Craig and Mark.
Treasured Grandad and
Great Grandad of many.
Reunited with Mum.
RIP

MANNERS (Norman) OAM:
A wonderful leader and
character of the Honour
Avenues Group in Kings
Park, Norm leaves us with
fond memories and a great
legacy to the community.
Our sincere condolences
to Norm's family and all
members of the Honour
Avenues Group. Farewell
Norm, you will be sadly
missed.
From the Botanic Gardens
and Parks Authority staff

Radio's military man

NORM MANNERS OAM

Radio presenter, author

Born: Kalgoorlie, 1932

Died: Perth, aged 87

Proud to have become the youngest announcer on an Australian metropolitan radio station, 16-year-old Norm Manners felt like a media star. He had started as an office boy at 6PR soon after leaving Perth Boys School. Now he was on air, walking on air, almost.

Six years later, in 1952, he moved to 6IX, a top-rating station owned jointly by West Australian Newspapers and Musgrove's music store. Now 20, Norm's programs included the popular Swing Shift. It was a boom time for radio in WA, which then had no competition from television. TVW Channel Seven was to add sight to sound in 1959.

Norm had a clear, authoritative voice, took well to training and advice, and exuded charm and confidence.

Eventually joining 6KY, he was to become one of the station's five announcers billed as Jolly Jokers, shown on playing cards wearing jester hats with bells. "The inimitable Lionel Lewis starts the deal at 5.30am," ran the promotion. "The ace team of Buddy, Norm, Eric and George stack the rest of the day with more music and fun ... and offer a full house of entertainment."

Buddy Clarke was an American who teamed up with Norm in a successful partnership. Making up the five were Eric Fisher and George Chapman. 6KY billed itself as the "top station in the West" and quoted the "Latest Anderson Analysis" as authentication.

As a radio presenter, Norm was never short of a joke, but later in life developed a passion for the serious business of military involvement. Joining the army reserve as a trooper in the 10th Light Horse Regiment led first to membership of the Highgate sub-branch of the Returned and Services League (RSL) and, in 2003, chairmanship of the Kings Park Honour Avenues Group.

The centenary of placing the first honour plaques, paying tribute to fallen Australian service personnel, was celebrated in the park (on August 3). One name stands out because it led to Norm becoming an author. Vivian Bullwinkel

was the only survivor of 22 female nurses shot by their Japanese captors in the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) on Bangka island, off Sumatra, in February 1942. Norm got to know Vivian and her husband, Col Frank Statham, and in the 1990s went on to write the biography, Bullwinkel.

The Perth Boys' headmaster would have been proud of the lad he had recommended to radio stations as a talent.

Norman Gibson Manners was born in Kalgoorlie on April 28, 1932 second son of Myrtle/nee



Norm Manners developed a passion for military involvement.

Hinkley) and Alec Manners. Norm revered his brother, Alex, 10 years his senior. While Norm was at primary school, Alex joined the Royal Australian Air Force as a trainee pilot and was posted to England. In 1943 news of his death when his Beaufighter crashed in Cyprus hit the family hard.

Norm was with 6IX in 1954 when he and a station colleague, John Fryer, went to a ball on a blind date. He introduced himself to Pauline White, a dental nurse from Cottesloe, expecting her to be thrilled to meet a household name. Her response: "Sorry, I've never heard of you, I listen to the ABC." The evening improved. Pauline and Norm agreed to meet again and in January 1954 began a 63-year marriage that ended with her death in 2017.

Used to the city and beaches, she would not have chosen to live in Northam after Norm's

father suggested he — now a father — get a "real job" that paid more. Dutifully, Norm became a sales representative for Shell Oil in the town. In 1959 6KY's general manager, Bob Mercer, phoned to offer him a job as announcer and program manager. The family returned to Perth at once.

Norm thrived at 6KY and was a kind and charismatic boss to recruits including 18-year-old Paul Gadenne, who recalls the "considerate, gentlemanly and professional" man who gave him encouragement. Gadenne

has two reasons to remember Saturday, November 23, 1963. On the midnight-to-dawn shift he was hearing unconfirmed reports on the Voice of America station that president Kennedy had been killed.

At 3.15am he called Norm. "Norm drove from home and though cautious, we felt confident enough to put the news in the 5 o'clock bulletin. 'It is being reported that ...' was our wording. We were the first outfit in Australia to break the news." Gadenne's other reason to remember the date is that it was his wedding day. Dog tired, he got to the church on time.

In 1967 the lure of television prevailed and Norm became program manager at Channel Nine, which had become WA's third channel after Seven and the ABC. He went on to hold senior positions in advertising, including commercial connections with shopping centres.

Norm Manners is survived by his daughter Julia, sons Brett, Craig and Mark, 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The family have happy memories of fun times at Kallaroo, where Norm and Pauline lived for 35 years, but they also have his Order of Australia Medal awarded for valiant commitment to honouring people who, like his brother, went to war but never came back.

Patrick Cornish

CHRISTMAS IN JULY 2019

A SLIGHTLY SMALLER ATTENDANCE THIS YEAR, BUT ALL ENJOYED CATCHING UP. CONGRATULATIONS TO TANIA WELLS ON WINNING THE DOOR PRIZE.



Return of the Tenth Parade held on the 10th August 2019 at the Army Museum, Burt St Fremantle.

The day was fine and slightly breezy, the members of RAACA were invited guests and the unit put on a splendid parade. The following are pictures of the parade for those that couldn't attend.

The video is up on the Defence video gallery. The link is here: <https://video.defence.gov.au/play/6305#>



Return to Australia

After the conclusion of hostilities, the 10th Light Horse Regiment was marked to return to Australia. Prior to that action, one of the saddest actions occurred for the Australian Light horsemen, they had to farewell their best friends, the horses. All the Light Horse unit horses' health was ascertained with the fit horses being transferred to the Indian Cavalry while those in poor condition were destroyed by the Veterinary units.

On 13 March 1919 the 10th Light Horse Regiment was deployed to assist in suppressing the Egyptian Uprising. When the revolt collapsed, the 10th Light Horse Regiment embarked on the 10 July 1919 for the long voyage to Australia where the unit was disbanded.

Commanding Officers

Lieutenant Colonel Noel Murray Brazier
Lieutenant Colonel John Burns Scott
Lieutenant Colonel Percy Phipps Abbott
Lieutenant Colonel Clive Lanyon Nicholas
Lieutenant Colonel Thomas John Todd
Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Edward Grimwood
Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Charles Niquet Olden

Decorations earned by the 10th Light Horse Regiment

1 VC - Victoria Cross
1 CMG - Companion in The Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George
3 DSO & 1 Bar - Distinguished Service Orders
1 MBE - Member of the British Empire
9 MC & 1 Bar - Military Crosses
15 DCM & 1 Bar - Distinguished Conduct Medals
15 MM- Military Medals
3 MSM - Meritorious Service Medal
48 MID - Mentioned in Despatches
2 foreign awards

Campaigns

Gallipoli

Defence at Anzac
Suvla
Sari Bair
Gallipoli 1915-1916

Egypt

Defence of Egypt

Sinai

Romani
Maghaba
Rafa

Palestine

First Battle of Gaza
Second Battle of Gaza
Third Battle of Gaza
Beersheba
El Mughar
Nebi Samwill
Jerusalem
Jericho
Es Salt
Megiddo
Sharon
Palestine 1917-1918

Casualties suffered by the 10th Light Horse Regiment

237 killed
479 wounded



Cambrai Day 102 Years Remembrance

Sunday 17 November 2019

At

RAAFA Airforce Memorial Estate

2 Bull Creek Drive

BULL CREEK WA

Guest Speaker: to be advised

11.30 am for 12 noon Wreath Laying Ceremony

At

The Spitfire Memorial

12.30 pm move to RAAFA Dining Room

For 3 Course Lunch

1 bottle of red wine, 1 bottle of white wine and a bottle of soft drink per table.

Tea/Coffee/Mints station—self serve.

FINISH 3.30 pm

Additional drinks are available from the Bar at own expense

Dress: Association dress with medals

Cost: Members and Partners \$25.00 each (subsidised by RAACA)

Non-Members \$45.00 each

*****ESSENTIAL WE KNOW NUMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**
RSVP TO: Noel Moyes at secretary.raacawa@gmail.com or 0402149755

Payment can be made by – By direct transfer to Association Bank Account, details for Direct Deposit - RAACA
Inc. CBA

Warwick BSB 066 192 a/c 1032 9559 (please add your name).

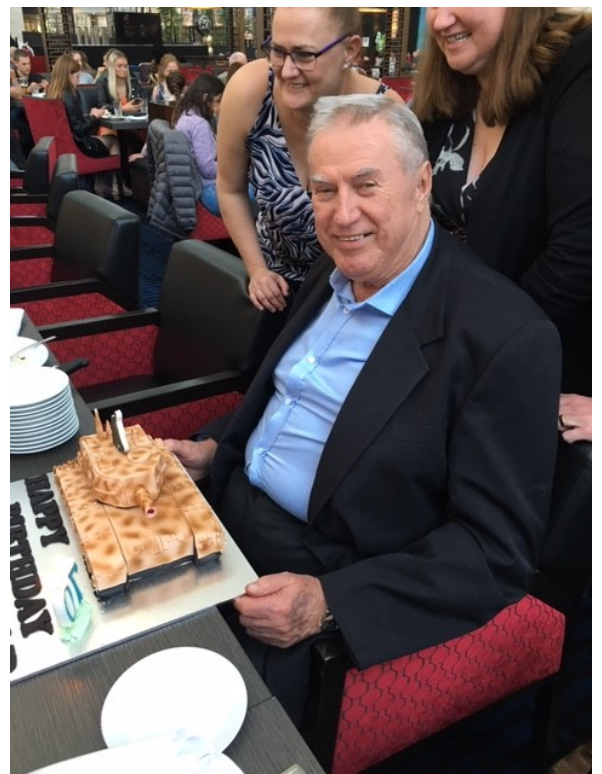
OR

Cheque to **RAACA Inc.** posted to **The Treasurer, Ross Leighton, 52 Bramwell Rd, NORANDA 6062**



Ken Williams celebrated his 70th birthday recently.

His daughter Sharon made him his birthday cake from a picture that was taken when the unit went to Puckapunyal, by the smile on his face I think the cake was a hit!



THE GALLIPOLI TRENCH EXPERIENCE

WHEN: WEEKEND 18/19/20 OCTOBER 2019

WHERE: GERALDTON

COST: A DONATION WILL BE MADE ON BEHALF OF MEMBERS ATTENDING, IF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS WISH THEY CAN ALSO MAKE A DONATION.

ACCOMMODATION:


IF YOU WISH TO CAMP, USE YOUR CARAVAN OR CAMPER TRAILER, YOU CAN DO SO AT THE FARM WHERE THE TRENCH IS, FOR FREE. LIMITED FACILITIES AT THE SITE.

ALTERNATIVELY YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN ARRANGEMENTS IN GERALDTON. TO REDUCE COSTS GET A GROUP TOGETHER. CONTACT ROSS LEIGHTON AS HE HAS CONTACTED THE IBIS IN GERALDTON AND THEY WILL GIVE A BETTER RATE FOR MEMBERS.

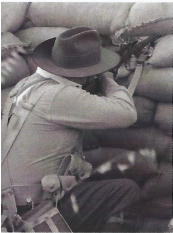
IT IS ENVISAGED THAT WE WILL VISIT OTHER SITES AROUND GERALDTON ALSO.

FINAL DETAILS WILL BE SENT OUT TO THOSE ATTENDING, CLOSER TO THE EVENT.

We have about 20 nominated to attend at present.




THE GALLIPOLI TRENCH EXPERIENCE



History

It's called *Leane's Trench* after 11th Battalion AIF's Captain Raymond Leane who planned and led the attack.

This is a replica of the Turkish trench taken by the 11th Battalion on 31st July 1915.

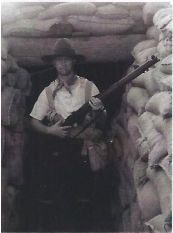


Experience

Enter the trenches of Gallipoli in 1915 two metres below ground.

Experience what your ancestors experienced, with the constant guns of the Turks all around you, rifle fire, jam tin bombs, smoke, flies, and dysentery.

Would you have survived?



For further details please call

Geraldton Visitor Centre

Ph: (08) 9956 6670

The Trench is open every **third Saturday** of the month.

www.11thbattalionaiif.com



The 11th Battalion AIF

Raised on 17th August 1914, the 11th Battalion was Western Australia's premier Unit and among the first to land on the beaches of Gallipoli on 25th April 1915 as part of the 3rd Brigade.

We are proud to represent this Unit and its traditions by upholding the motto they held dear until it was disbanded on 9 May 1919;


'Deeds not words'


Entry Prices

Adult	\$5.00
Children under 16	Free
Concessions	Gold Coin
Schools	Negotiated

Location

Highway Route 123
Geraldton - Mt Magnet Road
Featured at Valley View Farm





www.11thbattalionaiif.com



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS ASSOCIATION W.A. Inc.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

25 Bentley St Stoneville WA 6081

secretary.raacwa@gmail.com Phone 0892952281

Surname _____ Other Names _____

Home Address _____ Suburb _____ Post Code _____

Date Of Birth ____/____/____ Occupation _____

(If Retired, Pre Retirement)

Details of Military Service including serial number, rank on discharge or current rank, units with whom you served. _____

Name of your wife/partner _____

(Or next of kin if applicable with address and phone number)

Home Phone Number: (____) _____ Business (____) _____

Mobile Phone Number _____ Email Address: _____

Name desired on Name Plate _____

Additional Name Plate is available for Wife/Partner at a cost of \$10.00

Wife/Partners name desired on Name Plate _____

Nominated By: _____

Joining Fee \$20.00. Annual Subscription \$ 30.00 Total \$50.00 (to be enclosed) and covers period 1 January to 31 December.

Joining Fee includes Corps Lapel badge, this badge always remains the property of the RAACA WA and if resigning must be returned.

Remitted \$50.00 or \$60.00 if extra Nameplate required for Partner (please tick one)

I hereby apply to join the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association WA Inc and in doing so pledge to promote the objectives of the Association, maintain the spirit, comradeship and tradition of the Corps and abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Association in accordance with the Constitution of the Association.

DATE ____/____/____

Signature _____

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
Tuesday 8th October	1300	Committee meeting	Cambrai House
Weekend October 18/19/20th October		Geraldton, Leanes Trench and other sites	Geraldton, details to be sent to those attending
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	TBA
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.	

We would like to thank our Major Sponsor,
Remembrance Funerals and Funeral Director Susie Lombardi
for their continued support and renewal of Sponsorship for 2019



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& AVAILABLE

*conditions apply



Below are the Services offered by Robert Gesmundo, current Vice President and a previous serving Officer of XLH.

Robert is available to any member and friends as an independent Celebrant and not affiliated with any specific Funeral Director. The Family can choose their own Celebrant.

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Cert IV in Celebrancy
Funeral Celebrant

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www.absolutecelebrancy.com.au

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Robert Gesmundo AIMM CMC
Cert IV in Celebrancy
Authorised Marriage Celebrant

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EMAIL robert@absolutecelebrancy.com.au
PO BOX 3266 SUCCESS WA 6964 • 40 FRANKENIA TURN SUCCESS WA 6164
www.absolutecelebrancy.com.au

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.

Need a plumber? Try Laurens West at this website

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

Thermowest has supported the association with printing etc.



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