



COMMENTARY NEWSLETTER
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURD CORPS ASSOCIATION WA Inc
1/2021 EDITION

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ANZAC DAY

Dawn Service

5.30am President
 lays wreath on be-
 half of Corps

Perth March 8.30am

All Black Hats invit-
 ed to join Associa-
 tion members

10LH Regiment

Function at Irwin
 Barracks after Pa-
 rade

Full information fol-
 lows in Commen-
 tary.



PRESIDENT – ROBERT GESMUNDO

Welcome to our first Commentary Newsletter after the AGM of 14 March 2021. The attendance at the AGM was sufficient to comply with the Quorum requirements of the Constitution.

Nominations were received for the Committee as follows: President – Robert Gesmundo, Vice President – Peter Williams, Treasurer – Vacant, Secretary – John Dwyer, Committee – Richard Jones, Colin Davies. Tony Beekwilder. There being no further nominations the President confirmed the appointment of the above Committee members. Three members LM Bob Norris, Ross Leighton and Ross Flint did not renominate, and they were appropriately thanked at the AGM for their contribution as Committee Members.

It is very pleasing to acknowledge Our Patron Col. Ken Ashman (Ret'd) for accepting to be our Patron again. His guidance and support are invaluable.

Your new Committee met on 13 April 2021 and to ensure that all Executive positions are filled, John Dwyer resigned as Secretary and was co-opted as Treasurer and Noel Moyes who is a financial member was co-opted as Secretary. The Committee is still three committee members short and any financial member that would like to devote time to support the vibrancy and continuity of our Association, is welcome to contact myself or any other Committee member and can be co-opted to the Committee. Roles and responsibilities have been allocated to each committee member to ensure that we offer the best service to our Membership.

To ensure that your Committee can be as caring as possible towards our members it would be greatly appreciated if you become aware of any member in difficulty through illness or otherwise, that you contact myself or any committee member so that we can follow up as required.

On a different note, ANZAC Day is with us and all details are in this Newsletter. This gives you the opportunity to take the necessary direct action. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on ANZAC Day.

In closing I again strongly advise that as our only direct method of communication by the Committee to all the Membership is via the Commentary Newsletter, please do read it and take any action required.

We do need your co-operation and support so that RAACAWA can continue to provide a great service to our membership.

I wish you and your families good health and stay safe.

Yours in Armour

Robert Gesmundo President

ANZAC SERVICES

Dawn Service

Kings Park and Botanic Garden on Sunday, 25 April, but is limited to 10,000 people this year because of Government COVID-19 restrictions. To manage numbers and meet the restrictions, RSLWA have had to adapt and register the event process. What this means is that patrons need to register online. Registration is free, but is limited to six people for each registration.

You can register here: <https://www.trybooking.com/BPRFY>. Registrations will close once the 10,000-person limit is reached. This process enables RSLWA to manage numbers and fulfil COVID contact-tracing obligations.

The Dawn Service will start at the State War Memorial in Kings Park at 0600. RSLWA recommends that participants arrive from 0400 onwards. Please note that at 0550, the lights will go out and all will be quiet as the Service begins. Please note that face masks are encouraged and social distancing of 1.5m will be in play. Our President Robert Gesmundo will lay a wreath on behalf of all CORPS past and serving members.

Due to access problems the normal coffee plus meeting after the service will not be held.

Gunfire Breakfast

Government House Gardens from 0700-0900 on Sunday, 25 April

The community are invited to attend a Gunfire Breakfast for a gold coin donation, to share the spirit of ANZAC Day. The breakfast is organised and prepared by Rotary Club of Perth. RSLWA will provide tables and chair for community to sit at. The event will cater for 2000 people pending Covid restrictions.

The March

Perth CBD from 0900 on Sunday, 25 April

The Australian Defence Force will step off from the corner of Barrack St and St Georges Tce at 0900, followed by veteran-carrying vehicles and military jeeps and the Ex-Services Unit, Corps and Regimental Associations. The March will move down St Georges Tce, turn right down Victoria Ave and disperse at Langley Park.

Form Up in St George's Tce between Barrack and Trinity Arcade ARMY Section D41 at 9am. Black Hat Parade Commander Col K Ashman—Association led by President Robert Gesmundo. Association Dress with medals or coat with Black Beret and medals.

Commemorative Service

Perth Concert Hall from 1100 on Sunday, 25 April For the third year, the Commemorative Service will be held at Perth Concert Hall. The Service will start at 1100 and be broadcast live by ABC. The program will include Salvation Army Perth Fortress band and the ANZAC Day Choir, brought together from the Perth Modern School Chamber Choirs and Perth Modern School Alumni Singers. This is a free community event, but tickets are essential. To secure your tickets, please email eventsmanager@rslwa.org.au, or phone 9287 3799.

Black Hat Perth event.

All Black Hats are invited to the Lane Bar Globe Hotel Wellington St Perth after the event—commencing 11am. Details yet to be confirmed.

A SQN 10LH 10LH EVENT

All Past Serving Members and friends of the unit are invited to attend this event—full details next page

01 April 2021 THROSSELL VC CLUB ANZAC DAY EVENT

Throssell VC Club is pleased to inform you that a family friendly event is to be held for this year's ANZAC day function. All members and friends of 10th Light Horse are invited to attend and are encouraged to bring their partners and children.

The function will be held at the Throssell VC Club. **A guest list will be kept at the front gate.** There is parking available in the carpark to the front of the Es Salt Lines. Afterwards, there will be a bus to the city.

Where: Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta, WA, 6010.

When: 25 April 2021. Time: 1130- 1700 Cost: Nil to attend

Food and Drink: Assorted food vans, variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, will be available for purchase through the club.

Dress: smart/ business attire (no inappropriate language or signs, scary death images etc on clothing),

Photo ID.

RSVP: include friends and family by 20 April 2021, to social committee member at lj.mondy@hotmail.com.au. Kind regards, TPR L. Mondy Committee Member - Social Throssell VC Club A Squadron 10th Light Horse .



TOP DOGS AT GRAVITY CENTRE

A group of members visited the centre and enjoyed an informative and entertaining evening. Unfortunately the night event was cancelled however all attending received a return voucher. Some have already used them. Those that have not please make contact with the centre as per the voucher

Corporal Sutton Henry (Sid) Ferrier

Brigadier Brett Chaloner and the Soldiers and Officers of 13th BDE are proud to officially recognise Corporal Sid Ferrier from 10th Light Horse, who has been posthumously awarded a Medal for Gallantry, for his heroic efforts at Gallipoli in 1915.

On 28 Aug 15, a troop from 10 ALH was ordered to capture and occupy a section of trench at Hill 60, on the northern flank of the main ANZAC positions on Gallipoli. Following two days of heavy fighting incorporating small arms, bombs and hand to hand combat, the Australian forces under LT Hugo Throssell met with success but suffered severe casualties and losses.

As a result of their actions LT Throssell was awarded the Victoria Cross, four men were awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and a number of others received a Mentioned In Dispatches for their gallantry and devotion to duty.

CPL Ferrier had been shot and suffered other wounds, but threw more than 500 bombs. One Turkish bomb he caught blew up in his right hand. He was evacuated to a hospital ship where surgeons removed what remained of his arm. Unfortunately he succumbed to tetanus and was buried at sea a few days later.

Sid Ferrier's actions and bravery in holding the trench at Gallipoli went unrewarded. Subsequent investigations and reviews identified that his Troop Leader LT Throssell did write of his actions and made formal recommendations to his Commanding Officer to recognise his gallantry. These were never acted upon.

Following numerous submissions and detailed investigations, the Governor General recently approved the award of the Medal for Gallantry to CPL Ferrier.

In the Australian Government Gazette issued on 4 Dec 20, it was noted:

Corporal Sutton Henry FERRIER – Medal for Gallantry For acts of gallantry in hazardous circumstances during an assault by 10th Light Horse Regiment on Hill 60 at Gallipoli, Turkey, on 29 August 1915.

CPL Ferrier will be invested with the Medal for Gallantry this year. Direct descendants of CPL Ferrier will receive the award on his behalf.

As part of the transformation of 13th BDE, the 10th Light Horse Regiment will be re-raised for the first time since 1976. It is the courage and fortitude of Corporal Ferrier that has made 10th Light Horse the most storied unit in Western Australia.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

H06012

Prototype vehicles arrive for assessment

The Hanwha Redback Infantry Fighting Vehicle , above , and the Rheinmetall Lynx Infantry Fighting Vehicle, below, have been delivered to Defence to support test and evaluation activities conducted as part of the Land 400 Phase 3 Risk Mitigation Activity.

Six prototype infantry fighting vehicles have arrived in Australia as part of the Land 400 Phase 3 program.

Hanwha Defense Australia and Rheinmetall Defence Australia each delivered three vehicles – two for test and evaluation and one for blast testing – as part of a two-year risk mitigation activity.

Defence Minister Linda Reynolds said the deliveries allowed Defence to assess the shortlisted tenderers' performance claims, focusing on the highest areas of technical risk.

“These include Australian soldiers participating in user evaluation and testing, with a particular focus on the armour, firepower and mobility of the platforms,” Senator Reynolds said.

“The risk mitigation activity will undertake important analysis on each vehicle’s ability to integrate with other key ADF land, sea and air capabilities, including amphibious lift.

“These advanced vehicles will provide increased protection, mobility and firepower for the ADF.”



The Hanwha Redback Infantry Fighting Vehicle, above, and the Rheinmetall Lynx Infantry Fighting Vehicle, also above, have been delivered to Defence to support test and evaluation activities conducted as part of the Land 400 Phase 3 Risk Mitigation Activity.

The \$18.1 billion to \$27.1 billion project will acquire up to 450 infantry fighting vehicles capable of carrying six soldiers in addition to a crew of three.

“When delivered , the infantry fighting vehicle will allow Army to successfully sustain mounted close-combat operations against emerging and future threats as part of the joint force,” Senator Reynolds said.

The risk mitigation activity will include detailed testing and evaluation of the tendered vehicles and provide Defence with evidence to inform a government decision in 2022.

Source:
Defence News
03 March 2021

Rheinmetall's new Military Vehicle Centre

Rheinmetall confirmed it has opened its Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence (MILVEHCOE) in Redbank, Queensland, Australia and said the event establishes a new national sovereign military vehicle capability that enables the design, development and local manufacture of military vehicles, platforms and turrets for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and export to like-minded nations. The MILVEHCOE is an 11-hectare precinct incorporating a regional headquarters for Rheinmetall and a major manufacturing hub that will deliver vehicles into the ADF including Boxer 8×8 Combat Reconnaissance Vehicles (CRV) under Australia's project Land 400 Phase 2 and high mobility logistics trucks under the Land 121 Phase 3B/5B program.

Rheinmetall Chief Executive Armin Papperger said the MILVEHCOE heralded a new era in Australian manufacturing as the company transferred technology and systems from Germany to establish a global hub for the continuous design, manufacture, export and support for military vehicles, platforms and turrets. Papperger said the MILVEHCOE's export focus would also drive the sustainable growth of a military vehicle industry in Australia that would draw on an expanding supply network across the nation to deliver products and services from local industry into Rheinmetall's global supply chain.



"This state of the art MILVEHCOE establishes a leading edge military vehicle capability that will build on the strong partnership between Rheinmetall and the ADF," Papperger said. "Moreover, it will enable Australian developed technology and systems to be exported to the world and opens the way for Australian companies to deliver into our programs for current and future nations including NATO members such as Germany and Hungary," Papperger said.

The MILVEHCOE precinct includes:

- Engineering and manufacturing for vehicles, turrets, weapons, armour, electronics and electro-optics and simulators;
- A vehicle test track and electromagnetic test chamber – used to confirm that vehicles meet the agreed performance specifications prior to delivery to the Australian Army;
- An indoor firing range – a fully-enclosed, state of the art firing range;
- A systems integration laboratory – used to integrate and optimise performance of Australian Army systems and equipment into the vehicles; and
- Facilities for engineering, training, procurement, project management, finance, legal, marketing and management.

Rheinmetall Defence Australia Managing Director Gary Stewart said the MILVEHCOE would transform the company's ability to deliver for the ADF and Rheinmetall customers globally. "This facility has dramatically advanced our business in Australia and the way we engage with the Australian Defence Force and industry," Stewart said.



Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds is shown the Australian Army's first Boxer vehicle by Head of Armoured Vehicle Division Major General David Coghlan.

Rheinmetall is currently delivering 211 Boxer vehicles to the Australian Army under Land 400 Phase 2 and is also delivering more than 2,500 protected high mobility trucks to the Australian Army under the Land 121 Phase 3B program and building on this logistics backbone for the ADF by supplying a further 1,000 trucks to the commonwealth through the Land 121 Phase 3B/5B program. Rheinmetall has also offered the Lynx KF41 – a tracked, highly protected Infantry Fighting Vehicle – to meet the stringent military requirements of the A\$15 billion Land 400 Phase 3 program. The Australian Army needs a new IFV for close combat – to close in and defeat an enemy in the most dangerous and lethal environments for Australian soldiers.

Rheinmetall also announced an export order in excess of A\$150 million dollars from Australia to the Hungarian Armed Forces to supply digital Lance turrets to be designed and manufactured at the MILVEHCOE. Last month, the Hungarian government announced it had entered into a joint venture for the delivery of 218 Lynx vehicles to the Hungarian Armed Forces. The program includes the digital Lance turret to enable the crew to access sensor systems, advanced automatic tracking and targeting capabilities and weapon-integrated battle management all in one connected and enabled.

Postal corps up to the task

Maj Ian Barnes, Australian Army History Unit

Today, many have little memory of the position the letter played in Australian society up to the late 1970s. On deployment today, soldiers largely keep in contact with family and friends virtually. However, receiving a letter or a parcel from home while deployed is a welcome occurrence. The importance of mail to soldiers was so well known, and remains so today, that it is recognised as a main contributor to the maintenance of morale.

Prior to federation, mail for a soldier moved from centralised colony commissariat locations to the military post the soldier was assigned too, using military transport and supply trains and civil wagoners hired to deliver goods. With federation and the creation of the Australian Military Forces (AMF), the Army Service Corps (ASC) was established to support the needs of the AMF Field Force – providing transport, engineer, postal and logistical support. This model was envisioned by Maj-Gen Hutton, the first appointed general officer commanding AMF, and drew on his experiences as a junior officer in the Sudan and Boer wars. This organisational development embedded postal delivery to the transport and logistic trains and engineer transport units, which formed the capability of the nascent ASC.

The first specialist capability, the Army Postal Service, was established in September 1914 from AIF volunteers to provide “telegraphic and postal services”. This later included supplementary staff enlisted from the civil postal service in Australia and volunteers from serving units who had postal experience.

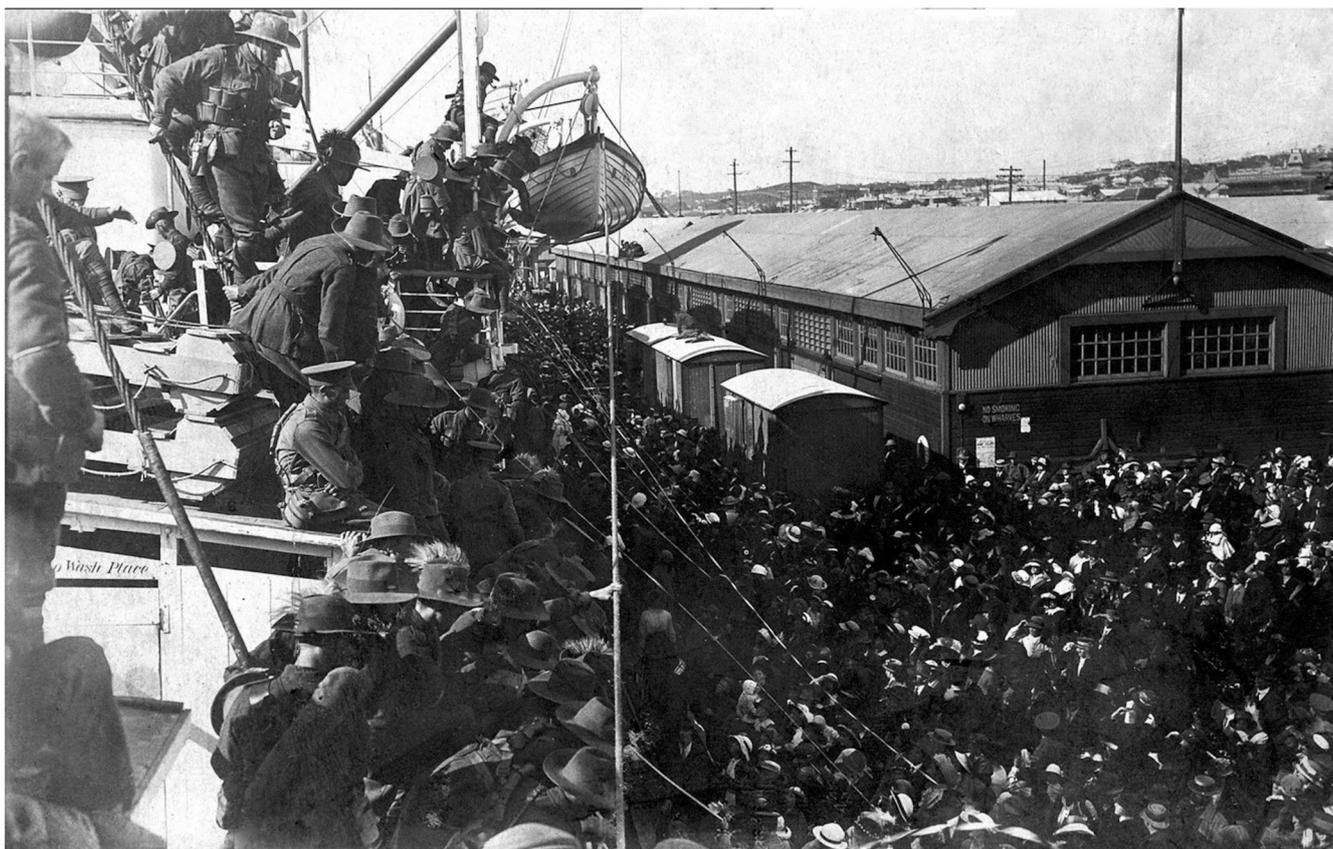
The Australian Postal Corps was officially formed on March 10, 1916, and provided all postal units and postal services from the Base Post Office (such as that in London and Cairo) down to brigade, barracks and units.

Postal services have been inextricably linked to the logistics services field. The impact and logistical impost of providing a postal capability can be somewhat surprising. This was revealed during the major conflicts of the 20th century, as demonstrated in the notes of the draft publication *Postal History of Australian Forces*: “The Base Post Office was established in mid-1916 on arrival of the four Australian Infantry Divisions from Egypt. In the first six months of 1917, they dealt with 101,034,000 letters, 175,360 registered letters and 815,640 other items (cards etc.), using only 500 staff; 400 of them women.”

The burden of individually identifying and sending mail to soldiers was enormous: Identifying a soldier’s location, collating it with other letters for soldiers of that unit, bagging that particular unit’s mail in a separate bag, placing it in the applicable higher formations collection (brigade then division), then moving it via ship and land, breaking the bundles down again in the rear areas of various operational theatres and finally (in the case of WWI Western Front) moving it forward through the trenches to the soldier. This creates a vivid picture of a daunting task.

After the end of WWI, the Corps was disbanded and the postal function was assigned to the RAE where it performed this function during WWII and the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces. With the RAE showing little interest in maintaining the function, the role was transferred to the Royal Australian Army Services Corps (RAASC) in January 1966 to meet the needs of operations in Vietnam.

Subsequent disbandment of the RAASC in May 1973 meant the postal services returned to the Royal Australian Transport Corps where it remains today



Departure of 10th Reinforcements to 10th Light Horse

Original Caption:

Departure of 10th of the 10th Fremantle 13/10/15

Photo: R.G. Hummerston Collection. (A member of the 10th reinforcements.)

The original 10th Light Horse left for overseas in the first weeks of February 1915. HQ, A and B Squadrons sailed from Fremantle aboard HMAT A47 (Mashobra) on 8th February 1915, and C Squadron followed aboard HMAT A52 (Surada) on 17th February 1915. The Regiment then received successive drafts of reinforcements, starting with the 1st reinforcements who sailed with C Squadron aboard the Surada, up to the 33rd reinforcements who sailed aboard RMS Ormonde on 3rd March 1918. After that the Regiment still received reinforcements from men who had been sent to general reinforcement regiments in Egypt, and then assigned to 10th Light Horse.

The photo shows members of the 10th reinforcements leaving Fremantle aboard HMAT A32 (Themistocles). Some men who had trained as the 11th reinforcement draft also left on the vessel at this time.

Several men from the 10th reinforcements became members of the elite group of 3rd Light Horse Brigade scouts, and served with distinction. Some of these were:

- Tpr C. Foulkes-Taylor: who was commissioned in the field and as leader of the Scout Troop led the troop in front of the 10th Light Horse, and the rest of the Brigade into Damascus on 1st October 1918, to be the first allied troops into Damascus.
- Tpr W.C. (Bill) Martin: who rose to the rank of sergeant.
- Tpr D.H.R. Viveash who died of wounds received on 27th September 1918, near Benat Yakub in Palestine.
- Tpr H.P. Bostock who survived the war and years later wrote a book titled *The Great Ride*, about his time as a scout.

VALE TED BORRELLO

Throughout his working and personal life Ted's success was built on being very ethical and professional at whatever he put his hand to. His business ventures included a printing works, promotional goods through to running a coffee shop. Ted was also a keen golfer and duck shooter keeping himself fit with daily swimming and walking.

Ted served with the 10LH Regiment during his CMF days and was an active member of the Association. Members of the Association provided a guard of honour at his funeral with the family expressing appreciation to the Association, To Trish, Carl, Leigh and families we offer our condolences.

LETTER FROM LIFE MEMBER KEN MANSOM'S FAMILY

Dear Robert and members of RAACA WA

On behalf of Ken's Family we would like to extend our thanks for attending dad funeral. He would have felt very honoured to have you there. For many years dad (and mum) had fundraised for your organisation, had BBQ's in the back yard and Christmas tree functions for children, which they (and us enjoyed), they are the ones we remember, but there were other events.

Fundraising was dad's life and after mum passed away he lost his enthusiasm for this, and he was excited when he reconnected with your organisation. With many thanks to Ross Leighton who did visit dad after his accident when he was in transitional care at Ascot and then in permanent care, Brightwater Birralea, he really appreciated this. Thanks Ross.

Also just to let you know that the photo on dads booklet for his funeral was a photo of him (and mum) at function of CAMRAI, which was published either in the West Australian or local paper (not sure which).

Once again many thanks and we wish you well for the future.

Kind regards to all

Denise Greenhalgh and Larry Mansom

MEMBERS BUSINESS DIRECTORY



CHARLIE KOALA'S
Not for profit advocacy's helping
the well being of past and present
armed services personnel.

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