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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



There are a lot of things happening in the world today that we would prefer that it wasn't so. The Ukrainians are

showing the results of a people who have demonstrated the benefits of being a resilient people in the face of extreme adversity. Australians would be well served to take stock of this lesson and adopt a lifestyle that is less reliant on Government handouts and more of one dependent upon their own initiative and endeavour. Alas, I think the horse has well and truly bolted on this for us and we won't be able to be spared from the self-inflicted hard times now looking at us fair and square in the face. It seems to me that we have to cop it sweet and in doing so maybe we can extract ourselves from the deep coma we as a nation are in. Last week, Jan and I together with a friend went up to

Dartmouth dam and stood on top of the dam wall at a place reserved for visitors to look over the spillway and take in the information inscribed on large brass tablets which gives the very interesting history and details of the dam. The design of the dam was carried out by the Snowy Mountains Development Corporation and the works commenced in 1972 and completed in 1979. The waters of the Dartmouth via the Mitta Mitta River end up in the Hume weir and are used to irrigate farmland along the Murray. All in all, it serves to generate electric power along with flood and drought mitigation, and it is a marvellous feat of engineering. The point is, try doing something like that today. Thankfully we did it then, because if we didn't, we would be in a much larger mess than we are in today.

The national reunion in November will probably be the last large-scale reunion which I think in future will give way to state events with the ability to visit other states from time to time as one would so desire. Unfortunately for me, I won't be in attendance and thankfully, our Vice President, Bill Forrest, will represent Victoria at the State President's meeting. Our normal service at the Shrine in Melbourne has been brought forward to the 6th of November and I look forward to catching up with those in attendance and to enjoy a yarn over lunch and a drink afterwards.

In closing, I wish you well and on behalf of our Association commend our Late Queen for the service she has given to the Royal Australian Regiment for what has been almost the entire history of the regiment since it was formed. We also wish King Charles all the best in his new role as the King of Australia.

Stan Sutherland

9RAR NEWS

SHRINE SERVICE 6/11/2022

The Shrine service will go ahead on the 6th of November at 1230 hrs, the date has been brought forward this year, so members can attend both the Shrine Service and National Reunion in QLD

The Wreath laying service will be held within the Sanctuary. Assembly time will be at 1215 hrs.

Dress code, jacket, 9RAR tie, slacks and medals. The ceremony should take around 20 minutes in total and seating will be provided within the Sanctuary.

We have not as yet finalised our lunch arrangements, we hope that it will be Rosco's, then we will consider the College Lawn Hotel, at 36 Greville St, Prahran.

Once we have a clearer picture, we will send you an email with the details.

NATIONAL REUNION

Sunshine Coast, 10th to 13th November 2022

Those members going, enjoy this reunion as it may be the last National Reunion to be held.

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY 18th August 2022

This is the first time in many years that I have had nothing to report on this event.

This is the last Vietnam Veterans Day which will be supported by the Victorian Government. Future VV Days will most likely be arranged by local RSL's in combination with the VVAA

Editor

ARMY NEWS

TEACHING DOGS TO DETECT AND PROTECT

Posted by Mike Hughes, 3rd Combat Engineer Regiment,

With tails wagging and snouts at the ready, explosive detection dogs (EDDs) are more than just cute faces. These canines and their handlers provide Defence with a specialist capability employed to save lives.



Explosive Detection Dog Archie from the 3rd Combat Engineer Regiment undergoes agility training on 20 September 2022 at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville.

Story by Captain Diana Jennings. Photo by Brigadier Guy Sadler.

The 3rd Combat Engineer Regiment at Lavarack Barracks delivers a range of niche capabilities, from demolition to construction, bridging, chemical hazard detection and reduction, as well as a highly trained EDD section.

Section commander Corporal Chris Latimer said his team was constantly training in a range of different environments to ensure the dogs and handlers were challenged and enhancing their skills.

"We train our dogs in the detection of explosives, ammunition and weapon caches, so their daily training includes search, agility and odour recognition," Corporal Latimer said.

"We often go to various civilian venues around Townsville as well as military training areas to train so that the dogs understand when the harness goes on, it's time to work and look for that target odour."

Conducting search training at large event spaces such as the

Townsville Casino, Entertainment Centre and on public transport, enables the EDD teams to be used at public or VIP events, as well as combat exercises and operations.

"Working as part of the G20 Summit and Commonwealth Games was one of my standout moments as a handler, and I hope to support the upcoming Olympics," Corporal Latimer said.

"Our section operates in most field environments. We are attached to a section or battle group and have deployed on almost every exercise, from the Townsville field training area all the way to Shoalwater Bay and even on naval ships."

While the environments may be different, the dogs and their handlers remained focused on one objective – to keep others safe.

"When attached to a section on exercise we are mostly used to provide support in route search, personnel search, threat identification and battlefield clearances," Corporal Latimer said.

"I'm always setting up different searches with altered time frames at different times of the day and with changing target odours.

"We don't just do the generic search. We break down a lot of our training into small individual training sessions, so that when we combine it as one we get the best out of our dogs."

Ever since 2012, when he first worked alongside the EDD section as a combat engineer in Darwin, Corporal Latimer knew he wanted to pursue a career as a dog handler.

Completing his EDD basic course in 2016, Corporal Latimer hasn't looked back and is extremely proud of his dog, Pablo.

"I started training Pablo in 2019 and it's a pretty proud moment when your dog executes and finds a target odour. You spend all that time training for it all to be executed perfectly," he said.

"It's cool to go on exercise with your best mate; they go everywhere with you, so it's a pretty good job."

The future is looking bright for the section as they have recently taken on a fluffy new addition to the team, EDD Ash, a clever border collie who is picking up the training like a natural.



Corporal Chris Latimer, left, Sapper Glenn Newman and Sapper Dalton Gilbee with explosive detection dogs, Pablo, Vallah, Ash, Archie and Ned at Lavarack Barracks.

Photo by Brigadier Guy Sadler.

GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND

Posted by Mike Hughes 6th Engineer Support Regiment, AACAP, Indigenous



Sapper Donald Currie, a Plumber from 6th Engineer Support Regiment, works on the construction of an Independent Youth Centre in Gapuwiyak, NT. Story by Captain Evita Ryan.

Photo by Corporal Lucas Petersen.

The son of a Yugambeh man from the tribe of Mununjahli in Bundjalung Nation, near Beaudesert in Queensland, Sapper Currie felt inspired to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather Private Cyril Currie, who served in the 2nd Australian Imperial Force.

Originally intending to enlist in the Royal Australian Infantry

Corps in early 2018, the qualified plumber changed his mind and enlisted in the Royal Australian Engineer Corps after learning that plumbers were a critical trade in the Australian Army.

As Sapper Currie left his family home in Aspley to complete the ADF Indigenous Pre-recruit Program at RAAF Base Wagga, followed by soldier training at the Army Recruit Training Centre, Kapooka in mid-August 2018, his eldest sister's parting words were clear: "You come back as an Australian soldier, my boy."

Four months later, Sapper Currie graduated not only as an Australia Soldier, but was named the most outstanding recruit of his pre-recruit course.

"Those four months away were really tough, as my sister was going through chemo treatment for cancer at the time," Sapper Currie said.

"It was an honour to receive the award for best recruit – not so much for me in hindsight, but an honour for my family."

In 2019, Sapper Currie started Initial Employment Training at the School of Military Engineering and was posted to 6th Engineer Support Regiment at RAAF Base Amberley in Queensland in late 2020.

Within four months, Sapper Currie found himself on his first deployment overseas in support of the Tropical Cyclone Yasa recovery efforts to rebuild a local school.

"It was sad seeing what the cyclone had destroyed," Sapper Currie said.

"Even though their homes were destroyed, all the lovely people had big smiles on their faces. Experiences like that are really humbling."

While deployed to Fiji in November 2021, Sapper Currie learnt that he'd been awarded the Royal Australian Engineers Award for the Most Outstanding Sapper for 2021.

"I was blown away when I found out that I'd been awarded Most Outstanding Sapper," Sapper Currie said.

"I was in Fiji at the time and I wondered if I deserved it. But then I remembered that I never said no to any tasks, exercises or developmental opportunities. I was motivated to help out anywhere I could."

Then in late 2021, Sapper Currie was awarded a commendation by the 6th Engineer Support Regiment's Commanding Officer for exemplary service in support of the regiment and presented with the Soldier's Medallion for exemplary service as a plumber while posted to the regiment.

"To be awarded Most Outstanding Sapper and receive a commendation as well as the Soldier's Medallion was the best feeling," Sapper Currie said.

"I don't know that anyone's ever gotten that trifecta before. I couldn't believe it. I'm very proud of that."

Now deployed on what Sapper Currie hopes will be the first of many deployments to the Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Program, (AACAP) he is enjoying not only his plumbing role but assisting other trades and learning about the Yolngu culture of East Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory.

"I'm blessed to be here for AACAP. I love helping the other trades and learning from them about the skills they bring to their trade," he said.

"My main focus on AACAP is the job site for the Independent Youth Centre in Gapuwiyak but engaging with the community is on my mind all the time as well.

"We're hoping to get an Army team together to play in the local AFL comp. They're going to smash us but it'll be about having fun and we'll get a bit of cardio up at the same time."



AUSTRALIA'S 96-GUN SALUTE FOR HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Members of Australia's Federation Guard fire a M2A2 howitzer ceremonial gun during a 96-gun salute held at Parliament House in Canberra to honour the passing of Her Majesty the Queen.

Photo by Corporal Cameron Pegg.

For 70 years, Queen Elizabeth II reigned as Australia's Head of State. During her reign, she visited Australia 16 times and saw more of this country than most Australians, visiting every state and territory.

To mark the death of The Queen, Australia's Federation Guard conducted a 96-gun salute on the forecourt of Parliament House in Canberra on September 9.

In accordance with tradition, 96 rounds were fired at 10-second intervals to mark each year of Her Majesty's life.

Six M2A2 105mm howitzer Australian Defence Force ceremonial guns were employed for the gun salute.

His Majesty King Charles III's accession to the throne was marked in a Proclamation Ceremony at Parliament House on September 11.

The ceremony was conducted by Australia's Federation Guard and the Band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

A 21-gun salute was fired by 53 Battery, School of Artillery, from the Australian Army.

MILITARY STUFF MUSEUM OF ARROGANT HUBRIS



T-Wall murals representing D Company, 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (5RAR) and 2nd Cavalry Regiment (2 Cav Regt) Sabre Squadron, 'Charlie V Snoop Troop', Camp Terendak, Ali Air Base, southern Iraq.

One of a series of photographs taken by Mike Cecil, Head of Military Heraldry and Technology, as part of The Australian War Memorial's Curators in the Field program.

Mike travelled to Iraq in May 2008 to record the early stages of withdrawal of the Overwatch Battle Group (West) (OBG-W)

Most of the images and designs in this collection were worn proudly as morale-boosting emblems on shoulder patches or PT shirts in informal settings.

They were mainly only sanctioned and/or tolerated as informal, good-natured, internal representations of unit or even sub-unit camaraderie – otherwise known as esprit de corps.

But, these are all now **banned** in the Australian Defence Force – especially Army – yet still remain as fond memories – and treasured 'illegal contraband' – for many serving and ex-serving Australian military.

Editor: Words fail me regarding these rules.

IN THIS MAN'S ARMY

A book by Stan Sutherland, 9RAR:
Continued from Vol 72 Edition.



30th September. At 0800 hrs we flew out of Nui Dat on **Operation Jack** into an area named Apache, in AO Stuart. AO Stuart is in the southern part of Bien Hoa Province. Bien Hoa stand for 'land of peaceful frontiers' which it might have been once upon a time, but it no longer qualifies for such a nice name now.

We got there to find a desolate place, previously defoliated. We moved only five hundred metres from the landing zone before we harboured up for the night. Next morning, we returned to Apache to pick up some American Engineers we have to escort for three and a half kilometres to a river they wish to check out for a possible bridge site. The bridge will be required to move heavy equipment used by the land clearing teams across the river.

The next day (2/10) we marched back to Apache and by the time we got there the diggers were very tired. Unfortunately, we still had to go another fifteen hundred metres to a track we're going to ambush for the night.



Next morning, we packed up the ambush and marched back to Apache. We arrived there at 0800 hrs and boarded choppers to fly to an area five kilometres east, along the Firestone trail. A re-supply was received at this point, before marching eight hundred metres north to a river.

We had our midday meal there and then crossed the river and went a further fifteen hundred metres to a night position



. By this time my shirt and trousers were badly torn, and I had sore feet. My pack felt it was getting heavier by the minute. The day's march covered four kilometres. This is an unusually hard day. Three thousand metres is generally considered a good day's work in jungle and thick scrub. The following day we were joined by company headquarters and Five Platoon. We didn't move for the day and were thankful for the rest.

The next day (5/10) we marched to feature where we met up with the forward elements of the land clearing team. We remained there for the night.

6th September. The platoon rejoined the rest of the Company the following day and received a re-supply. At 1415 hrs we left that position and marched two thousand metres northwest, to harbour up. There were a lot of monkeys in the trees, and it was interesting to watch them jumping from limb to limb.



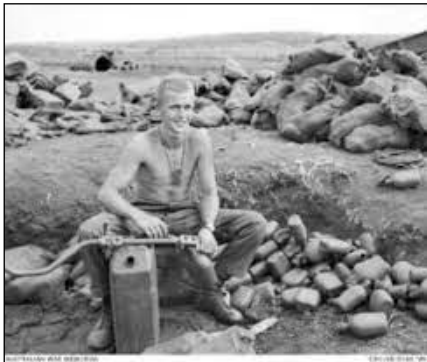
Sometimes they miscalculated the length of the jump and had to quickly move to plan B. While I was watching the small monkeys a very large monkey, which looked like a Gibbon came swinging through the trees. I thought it must be a Gibbon because it was the size of an Orangutan. He nonchalantly swung through the trees above our heads and continued on his

way. The other monkeys hung around all night and never gave us a moment's peace in which to get some sleep.

7th September. We broke harbour at 0700 hrs and marched to a former landing zone and spend the night

8th September. The following morning, we marched a thousand metres northwest, looking for a clearing positioned on the map. The clearing wasn't where we thought it would be and we had to march nearly double the distance to find it, the men were quite thirsty by this time. I've got two new reinforcements in my section; one is Bluey Bert and the other Graham Pollock. We're having a rest and something to eat in the shade of some bamboo.

Bluey looks across to Pollock and says, "Graham me old mate, I'm right out of water – can you spare me a drink." Graham, reaching for his water bottle, handed it over and said, "Here ya are Blue, take a small swig out of this, but not too much though, that's all I've got."



Water resupply Vietnam

Bluey took the bottle and unscrewed the cap, then tilting his head right back he raised the bottle to an inch above his wide open mouth. The cool clear water poured straight down his throat in one continuous stream, glug, glug, glug and the lot was gone in a blink.

"You bastard Blue! You bloody bastard! I said you could have a small swig to keep you going but you've drunk the lot, you prick!"

Bluey, wiping his mouth and with a big grin on his face, said. "I just couldn't help myself Pollock. Once the cool water was trickling down my throat, I didn't have the strength to pull the bottle away.

"You're nothing but a bastard Blue! Now I don't have a drop myself, ya prick."

I was listening to all this, and at the same time watching a couple of scrub fowls pecking around amongst the dry bamboo leaves on the ground. They didn't seem to mind me sitting only a couple of metres away. They're colourful little things, about the size of a bantam. I made sure not to move, as I knew they'd dart away in a flash. It was a good little spot to have a rest. Apart from the scrub fowls there were also red squirrels running around on the ground, then darting up the bamboo and jumping down to the ground again. Squirrels are quite a common sight.

Turning to Pollock I said, "Well Graham, you know what to do next time mate. A bottle of water, or part thereof, is ten bucks to arseholes like Blue. It's cash up front or die of thirst. No dough, no drink.



It rained all night, and it was impossible to keep the water from running into our hootchies.

We used entrenching tools to dig gutters to take the water away, but the rain was too heavy, and we were camped on some slightly sloping real estate. The gutters overflowed and in poured the water. It was a miserable night to say the least.

HISTORY OF ARMY UNIFORMS & CUSTOMS

The Sam Browne belt

Browne began his service in India in April 1849 as Second in Command of the 2nd Regiment of Punjab Cavalry, the unit which also later took his name (22nd Sam Browne's Cavalry).

On 31 August 1858, at Seerporah, Browne silenced a field gun, single handed, which blocked the advance but during the fighting he received two sword cuts, one on the knee, and the other on the left shoulder which cut off his arm.



The Sam Browne belt is named after Sir Samuel James Browne, VC.

The dress regulations for British Officers of the 2nd Punjabis required members to wear their waist belts under their tunics. Browne found this ungainly with his left arm missing, and devised an external belt, supported on the left-hand (sword) side by a shoulder strap. The belt had two shoulder pieces when a pistol was added.

In the Australian Army a brown leather Sam Browne is worn on ceremonial occasions by officers and Warrant Officers Class One of all corps, except those who wear silver dress embellishments (Armoured, Aviation and Nursing Corps); these members wear a black Sam Browne.

The Slouch Hat

The slouch hat is an object strongly associated with Australian identity.

The Army refers to the slouch hat by its official designation; Hat khaki fur felt (KFF) - to everyone else it is a 'Slouch Hat'.

The word 'slouch' refers to the sloping brim. The brim is made from rabbit-fur felt or wool felt and is always worn with a puggaree.

History has it that the origins of the Slouch Hat began with the Victorian Mounted Rifles; a hat of similar design had been worn in South Africa by the Cape Mounted Rifles for many years before 1885. The design of the Victorian Mounted Rifle hat originated from headgear of native police in Burma where Lieutenant-Colonel Tom Price had recognised its value.



The Victorian hat was an ordinary bush felt hat turned up on the right side. The intention of turning up the right side of the hat was to ensure it would not be caught during the drill movement of "shoulder arms" from "order arms".

By 1890, State military commandants had agreed that all Australian forces, except the artillery corps, should wear a looped-up hat of uniform pattern that was turned up on the right side in Victoria and Tasmania, and on the left side in all other States to allow for different drill movements.

The Slouch Hat became standard issue headgear in 1903 and its brim position was mostly standardised. The slouch hat became a famous symbol of the Australian fighting man during World War One and continued to be worn throughout World War Two. Its use since that time has made it a national symbol.

General Bridges, the first commander of the 1st Australian Imperial Force, was found wearing his slouch hat back to front when he was fatally wounded at Gallipoli. As a mark of respect and remembrance for Bridges, when the slouch hat is worn at Royal Military College - Duntroon, it has become traditional to wear the chinstrap buckle on the right side of the face and the brim down.

This tradition commenced at the Royal Military College in 1932. However, when the slouch hat is worn ceremonially, for example on ANZAC Day, it is worn in accordance with the wider Army custom - brim up and chinstrap buckle on the left-hand side.

Today, Army members wear the slouch hat with the brim down to provide additional protection from the sun when not performing ceremonial duties.

The Salute



Saluting is a military custom by which a soldier signals acknowledgement of the due respect to a superior rank.

Salutes are reciprocated at the highest levels up to and including Heads of State and are indicative of a feeling of mutual trust and respect.

The exact origin of the military salute has been lost in time, but it is believed that it originated by showing that the right hand (the fighting hand) was not concealing a weapon.

Another explanation is that when men-at-arms took to wearing armour, the approaching generals or king would ride forward and, holding the reins of the horse with the left hand, they would raise the visor with the right to identify each other.

By the beginning of the nineteenth century, the salute with the hand palm to the front was firmly established.

Editor: I recall when I did recruit training at Pucka, our Lance Cpl used to say to us, you are not saluting the uniform in front of you, you are saluting the Queen. Hmmm.

Our 'Skippy' Badge

Courtesy of 1RAR



Upon the establishment of the Australian Regiment a regimental badge and motto were required. Despite the badge being created for the Regiment, much of its inspiration came from the vision of soldiers and officers of the 1st Battalion.

Suggestions for a regimental badge were tendered to the then Director of Infantry, Brigadier I.R. Campbell, in early 1949.

The favoured design was drawn up by **Sergeant E.J. O'Sullivan of Intelligence Section**

1 RAR and was originally intended solely for 1 RAR.

The design featured a kangaroo, which gave the badge its affectionate moniker, the 'Skippy Badge'. It also featured a wattle wreath creating a distinctly Australian character, coupled with the boomerang, which had been used in the tactical symbology of the 2nd AIF from which the original units of the 34th Brigade (which comprised if the 65th Bn (1 RAR), 66th Bn (2 RAR) and 67th Bn (3 RAR)). were raised. The crossed rifles were chosen to signify the personal weapon of the infantryman. Finally, the badge was surmounted with a crown because of the Royal title bestowed upon the Regiment.

Three Badges were then made by pioneer platoon, 3 RAR.

They were presented to the original battalions of the Regiment in 1952 (1,2 & 3 RAR). This original, 'Skippy Badge' which is surmounting 1 RAR's gates shows its longevity by featuring the King's crown rather than the Queen's as the current regimental badge now displays.

Aside from graphic adornments, the badge is emblazoned with the simple yet highly appropriate motto, 'Duty First'. The motto was suggested by Major K.B. Thomas MC, who was also serving within 1 RAR. The badge did not begin to be issued in place of the rising sun badge until 1954, however it was appearing on regimental Christmas cards as early as 1949 (Horner).

In early 1949, the Director of Infantry, Brigadier I.R. Campbell DSO wrote to the battalions of the Regiment asking for suggested designs for a Regimental Badge. Several designs were submitted and the one eventually accepted was that submitted by 1RAR, then serving at Ingleburn, NSW. In the early stages of the preparation of a design, it was intended to be the badge for the 1st Battalion only, but subsequently it was decided that one

badge would be worn by all battalions of the Regiment.

On the 10 Mar 49 it was announced that "His Majesty King George VI had been graciously pleased to give his approval to the prefix "Royal" being appended to the title of the Australian Regiment".

In the final form of the badge was the combination of many suggestions put forward by several persons.

Those involved in 1RAR's design was SGT E.J. O'Sullivan and MAJ K.B. Thomas MC. LTCOL J.K.A. Kelly DSO Commanding Officer of 1RAR, MAJ T.E. Archer, and the Intelligence Sergeant, (sic E J O'Sullivan)

The Intelligence Section of the Battalion prepared sketches and assisted in the design. In deciding upon the various heraldic devices for inclusion in the motif of the badge, an early intention was to incorporate the identification signs of the AIF Divisions, which contributed personnel to the 34th Australian Infantry Brigade for the occupation forces in Japan. This proved impracticable because the Sixth Division had a kangaroo, the Seventh Division a kookaburra, and the Ninth Division a platypus, all surmounting a boomerang. At this stage it was decided that it should be a regimental and not a battalion badge, so it was decided to adopt an animal typically Australian but differing somewhat from those of the Divisional Signs. A kangaroo was selected, and the heraldic posture of the beast was to be standing (the Sixth Division kangaroo was leaping) to prevent a direct connection with a divisional tactical sign.

The devices in the badge have the following meaning: the kangaroo, uniquely native fauna and universally accepted as an Australian symbol. The original sketch showed the kangaroo with its forepaws relaxed, but in the badge its forepaws are outstretched. This occurred

because the die casters could not achieve proper definition with the paws hanging. The boomerang, a weapon closely associated with our Aboriginal peoples and also related to the tactical signs of the 2nd AIF from which the 34th Australian Infantry Brigade was formed. The wattle wreath, a symbolic Australian flora in bloom, and variation of the laurel wreath which is part of many British and Australian Badges. The Crossed Rifles, this was to signify the personal weapon of the Infantryman. The rifle was the .303-inch, Short Magazine, Lee Enfield, Number 1, Mark 3. The Royal Crown, it is a representation of the Saint Edward's or King Edward the Confessor's Crown and has been used in the Regimental Badge since new issues became available following the accession of Her Majesty the Queen. Previously a representation of The Imperial Crown was used. A motto for the Regiment was called for and it had to be original, short, and in English. "Duty First" seemed appropriate and was selected because, "The unhesitating and unquestioning performance of his duty is the fundamental requirement of a soldier".

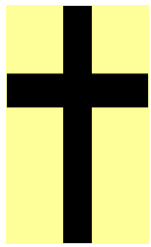
The Regimental Badge was reproduced on Christmas Cards in 1949, but was not issued as a hat badge until early 1954 when the new badges were issued to 2 RAR in Korea, replacing the Rising Sun.

In June 1950, 3 RAR then serving in Japan, had four large badges cast out of spent brass shell cases by members of the Assault Pioneer Platoon. One of these badges was sent to each of the three battalions and the fourth to 1 Infantry Brigade Headquarters. The 1st Battalion's Badge is situated in front of the Guard Room

Editor: I have no idea why LTCOL Kelly DSO and MAJ Archer are even mentioned in this article, they had nothing to do with the design, maybe

they get a MID because they approved the design as head honchos of 1RAR at the time.

VALE



AT THE GOING
DOWN OF THE
SUN, WE WILL RE-
MEMBER THEM
“LEST WE
FORGET” OUR
FALLEN AND DE-
PARTED COM-
RADES

LIONEL LESLIE CORRIE

SVN 1968/69, Aslt Pnr Pl, Spt
Coy

Passed away 10/10/2022

JAMES ALLEN CONNELLY

SVN 1968/69, 10 Pl, D coy
Passed away Sept. 2022

KEITH DALE EVANS

SVN 1968/69, Anti-Tank, Track-
ers, Spt Coy

Passed away 25 Sept 2022

BRIG LAURENCE JOHN LEWIS, AM MID

SVN 1968/69, OC C Coy, also
3RAR

Passed away 12 Sept 2022

RICHARD JOHN LANCASTER

SVN 1968/69, also **1RAR** 1969.
Passed away 11 Sept 2022

COLIN HAMMOND MM

SVN 1968/69, 1 Pl, A Coy
Passed away 9 Sept 2022

SGT ALLAN DENNIS BYRNES

SVN 1968/69, 12 Pl, D Coy,
Passed away 5 Sept 2022

TREVOR RONALD CHAPMAN

SVN 1968/69, 1 Pl, A Coy
Passed away 4 Sept 2022

ROBERT EDMUND CAMERON

SVN 1969, Craftsman, Royal
Corp of Australian Mechanical
Engineers, also **HQ ATF** 1969
Passed away 17 July 2022

MICHAEL WILLIAM FRANK- LIN

SVN 1968/69
Passed away 13 July 2022

JOHN RICHARD WATSON

SVN 1968/69, C Coy
Passed away 13 July 2022

JOHN HAROLD KEEFE

SVN 1968/69, 9 Pl, C Coy, also
HQ ALS 1969

Passed away 7 June 2022

JOHN HENRY PARCELL

SVN 1966/69, Tracker Pl, Spt
Coy

Passed away January 2021

EDITORS CORNER

Victoria Cross: The Awards Tribunal sug- gests the following draft citation

August 26, 2022

RICHARD LESLIE NORDEN DCM

Private Norden enlisted in the Australian Army on 27 April 1966 and was discharged three years later, having completed his three-year period of service.10 Relevant to this application, he arrived in Vietnam on 5 December 1967, on posting to 1 Australian Reinforcement Unit. On 31 January 1968, he was posted to the 7th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, and on 10 April 1968 was posted to the 1st Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment (1 RAR).



He left Vietnam on 13 August 1968 after being wounded in action on 5 August 1968. For his service, Private Norden would be eligible for the following: a) Distinguished Conduct Medal; b) Unit Citation for Gallantry; c)

Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 with Clasp 'VIETNAM'; d) Vietnam Medal; e) Australian Defence Medal; and f) Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Upon discharge, Private Norden served with the Australian Capital Territory Police when, on 26 October 1972, he was involved in a traffic collision while on duty. Whilst there are conflicting dates (30 and 31 October 1972), Private Norden succumbed to his injuries.



The Richard Norden DCM Club within the Duntroon Garrison is named in his honour.

Draft Citation.

Having concluded that Private Norden met the eligibility criteria for the Victoria Cross for Australia and that there is no countervailing reason to not award that honour, the Tribunal suggests that the following draft citation would be appropriate to accompany the conferral of that honour:

For most conspicuous acts of gallantry, for pre-eminent acts of valour and self-sacrifice, and for extreme devotion to duty in the 'AO Surfers' Area of Operations in the Bien Hoa province, Vietnam, on 14 May 1968 during the Battle of Fire Support Base Coral. Private Richard Norden enlisted in the Australian Army on 27 April 1966 and discharged three years later, having completed his three-year period of service.

He arrived in Vietnam on 5 December 1967, on posting to 1 Australian Reinforcement Unit. On 31 January 1968, he was posted to the 7th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, and on 10 April 1968 was posted to the 1st Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

He left Vietnam on 13 August 1968 after being wounded in action on 5 August 1968. On 14 May 1968 during Operation Toan Thang, 5th Platoon, B Company, 1RAR, were ambushed and came under heavy fire from an estimated squad of 7-10 North Vietnamese Army regular soldiers in established positions dug into the ground or in trees, each armed with an automatic weapon. In the initial contact both the forward scout and the section commander were wounded some twenty to thirty metres in front of the remainder of the leading section, which was in turn isolated from the remainder of the platoon due to heavy and accurate enemy fire. Aware that the scout and section commander had been incapacitated and entirely of his own initiative Private Norden, a member of the leading section, asked for covering fire and ran forward to the wounded section commander across ground that provided him little or no effective cover under heavy enemy fire. He killed one NVA soldier whilst moving forward and having expended his ammunition, recovered that enemy's automatic weapon which he used against further NVA soldiers. He then half-carried, half-dragged the severely wounded section commander back to the section. Due to this initial action the life of the section commander was saved under intense enemy fire. Although himself relatively seriously wounded in his initial move forward, Private Norden again advanced to the forward scout. He was fired on by an enemy soldier but pressed forward and reached the scout, killing the

NVA soldier who had been using the scout as a shield. Private Norden, having determined that the scout was dead, then returned to the section, collected grenades and, moving forward for a third time, cleared the area so that the body of the scout could be recovered. His three attacks into the enemy position on his own resulted in the enemy position being secured and likely saved the lives of other members of the platoon. Private Norden showed a complete disregard for his own personal safety, and by his courage, selfless acts and devotion to duty ensured the evacuation and saved the life of a severely wounded man, allowed the recovery of the body of the forward scout, and avoided the potential for further deaths of platoon members. Private Norden personally killed at least three NVA soldiers in this action.

HISTORIC OCTOBER

1ST 1908 – Henry Ford 's Model T, a "universal car" for the masses went on sale.

2ND 1452 – England's last Plantagenet King Richard III is born.

3RD 1283 – Dafydd ap Gruffydd, Prince of Wales, became the first nobleman in Britain to be hanged, drawn and quartered.

4TH 1582 – The Gregorian Calendar took effect in Catholic by order of Pope Gregory XIII. Britain and the American colonies adopted the Gregorian Calendar in 1752. In **1911** - Britain's first escalator opens in London's Earls Court.

5TH 1930 – The British airship R101 crashed near Beauvais, France killing 48 people.

6TH 1927 – The first "talkie" opened in New York. *The Jazz Singer* starring Al Jolson was the first full-length feature film using spoken dialogue.

7TH 1920 – Women became eligible for admission as full

members of Oxford University and are given the right to take degrees.

8TH 1871 – The Great Fire of Chicago erupted. Over 300 dead, 90,000 homeless, 17,450 buildings destroyed, over 3.5 square miles. Allegedly caused by a cow kicking over a lantern in a barn.

9TH 1940 – John Lennon was born in Liverpool, England. Murdered New York City 8 Dec 1980.

10TH 1954 – Ho Chi Minh entered Hanoi after withdrawal of French troops, after a seven-year struggle between Communist Vietnamese and the French.

11TH 1899 – Start of the Anglo-Boer War.

12TH 54 AD – Roman Emperor Claudius died after eating mushrooms poisoned by his wife, the Empress Agrippina. Emperor Nero takes over from Claudius.

13TH 1884 – Greenwich was established as the universal time from which standard times throughout the world are calculated.

14TH 1066 – The Norman Conquest began with the battle of Hastings in which King Harold II of England, the last of the Saxon kings was killed by William of Normandy's troops.

15TH 1917 – World War I spy Mata Hari was executed by a French firing squad at Vincennes Barracks, outside Paris.

16TH 1793 – Queen Marie Antoinette was beheaded during the Reign of Terror following the French Revolution, best saying from her, "Let them eat cake"

17TH 1944 – The Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle in history, took place off the Philippine Islands during WWII. It involved 216 U.S. warships and 64 Japanese ships

18TH 1945 – The Nuremberg War Crimes Trial begins and lasts for 10 months.

19TH 1781 – British general Lord Charles Cornwallis surrenders to George Washington at Yorktown, Virginia, ending the American War of Independence.

20TH 1968 – Jacqueline Kennedy married multi-millionaire Greek businessman Aristotle Onassis.

21ST 1805 – Battle of Trafalgar took place between the British Royal Navy and the combined French and Spanish fleets. Admiral Horatio Nelson died aboard his ship *Victory*.

22ND 1957 – The children's hero Captain Pugwash makes his TV debut in the UK.

23RD 1942 – General Bernard Montgomery launched a major offensive against German forces under Erwin Rommel at El Alamein, Egypt.

24TH 1931 – Chicago gangster "Scarface" Al Capone was sentenced to 11 years in jail for Federal income tax evasion. Paroled in 1939, suffering from syphilis. He died in his mansion in Miami Beach in 1947.

25TH 1854 – Lord Cardigan leads the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava during the Crimean War against the Russians.

26TH 1881 – Shoot out at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, occurred between the feuding Clinton and Earp families. The Earp's won by killing two Clintons and two others.

27TH 1728 – British navigator James Cook is born in Yorkshire, England

28TH 1886 – The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor. The statue was a gift from the people of France

29TH 1618 -British explorer Sir Walter Raleigh was executed in London for treason on orders from King James I. **1929** The US stock market crashed as over 18 million shares were dumped amid tumbling prices. The Great

Depression followed, lasting until the outbreak of World War II.

30TH 1925 – The first TV transmissions of a moving image is made by Scottish inventor John Logie Baird. **1990** – Rail tunnel under English Channel opens connecting Great Britain and Europe.

31ST 1941 – Mount Rushmore National Memorial is completed after 14 years of work, featuring Presidents, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2022/23

Membership dues for 2022/23 remain unchanged at \$30.00 PA, payable as from **1 April 2022**.

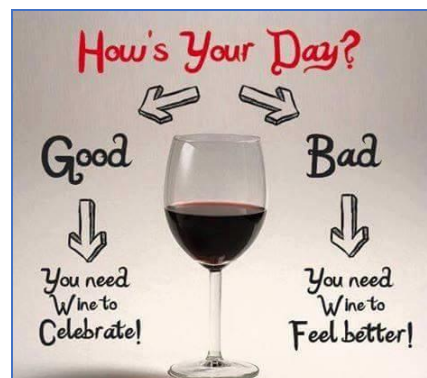
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HANGOVER FINALIST WINNER

WARNING

When you drink Vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure.

When you drink Rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.

When you drink Whisky over ice, it can give you heart problems.

When you drink Gin over ice, it can give you brain problems.

Apparently, ice is really bad for you;

warn all your friends!!!



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