BUSTED BUGLE

CARDIFF RSL SUB-BRANCH NEWSLETTER

October 2024

RSL NSW
CARDIFF sub-Branch

Sub Branch Executive		
President	Geoff Kelly	
Vice Presidents	Ray Kelly	Jamie Purdon **BEng (Hons), MProjMgt, MSc (FTE), MIEAust CPEng**
Treasurer	Ben Coutman **BBus, PGDAFM, CPA**	
Secretary	Gary (Mick) James **AssocDipEng (Struct) JP**	

Committee		
Des Abberfield	Gary Griffith	Derek Kenyon JP
Peter Sneesby	Jennifer Kenyon	

Trustees		
Paul Feenan JP	Geoff Kelly	Damian Croke

Wellbeing Advocates Peter Sneesby Gary Griffith

Compensation Advocate

Paul McGlynn MBA, MBus(HRM) MEd

Paul has completed the Level 1 Competency and is working on completing Level 2. At present he is working with 51 Veterans supporting their compensation applications.

Editor Bugle Paul Feenan BSocSc (JusticeStud), AssocDip (PolStud), JP

ON THE COVER

Presentation of Queen's and Regimental Colours to the 2nd Battalion the Royal New South Wales Regiment (previously known as the City of Newcastle Regiment) in 1966 at the Broadmeadow showground.

LAST POST

The following members of the Cardiff RSL sub Branch passed away from August 2024.

2286668 Private	*Douglas Rodney Goodworth*	*12 August 2024*	*Army*
Auxiliary Member	*Murial Connie Bartley*	*23 August 2024*	

VALE Connie.

Connie joined the Women's Auxiliary in 2007, following in the footsteps of her mum and sisters. She held the role of Vice President and stepped into the President's position for a short period. Connie sold badges, raffle tickets, and loved making slices. She was always there to lend a helping hand. Connie fancied herself as a bit of a card sharp and continually proved this with more wins than losses during our weekly euchre card games. In the last few years, Connie's health was failing, and she was not as active in the Auxiliary as she would have liked to have been.

Connie loved a joke and life in general. She always asked about the RSL and the friends she knew. For this reason, Connie will be sadly missed by all of us and all members of the Auxiliary.

Farewell to our Life member Doug Goodworth

It is with sincere regret that we acknowledge the passing of Douglas Rodney Goodworth on Monday 12 August 2024.

Doug was 78 years of age - born on 16 July 1946.

Doug served for about 12 months with 3 Battalion RNSWR from November 1967.

Doug then served with 2 Battalion RNSWR from November 1968 to 1971.

He was a member of the 'Friends' of the 2nd Infantry Battalions from 2001.He was the Treasurer of the Friends in 2019.

He was a resolute member of the Cardiff RSL sub-Branch holding various positions from committee member to the President. His commitment earned him life membership of the League.

Doug's wife Lynne has also been an active member of the Friends.

She was a Committee member and assistant magazine editor in 2003 and 2004.

Our thoughts are with Lynne and family at this sad time.

Gone but not forgotten

President's Message.

Hello Members, I hope this message finds you well and in good spirits. Spring is a time of growth, and our sub-Branch is thriving. We've seen increased membership, volunteer participation and community engagement. New projects have blossomed, and existing programs have flourished, thanks to our dedicated volunteers and supportive members. Our collective efforts are making a significant impact, and I'm excited to share highlights from the past three months.

Commemoration Notice: As Remembrance Day approaches on Monday, November 11th, 2024, we honour the sacrifices of our brave service members. This year, the service will be shortened to 20 minutes to accommodate those working or in school, and to ensure the comfort of our senior veterans. If you wish to lay a tribute, please inform our Secretary, Garry James, in advance.

Date: Monday, 11th November 2024

Location: Stone of Remembrance, Cardiff RSL Club

Time: Beginning at 10:40 am

Addressing Veteran Suicide: A Call to Action: The Royal Commission's final report, released in September 2024, presents 122 recommendations addressing systemic failures in veteran support. It calls for committed government action to tackle veteran suicides. Cardiff RSL sub-Branch is proactively implementing local measures and collaborating with the veteran community to enhance support for veterans and their families.

Membership Growth and Community Support: In the past three months, our club's membership has grown significantly to 260 members. This reflects our vibrant community and engaging activities. New members have brought fresh energy, enriched our events and strengthened connections. We're excited to see our club thriving and continuing this positive momentum. Special thanks to Compensation Advocate Paul McGlynn for encouraging veterans seeking benefits advice to join our sub-Branch. His efforts have boosted our membership and support for the community.

Fundraising: The Auxiliary continues its excellent fundraising efforts. A recent event at Glendale Bunnings raised about $2,000, and a cake stall at Cardiff Aldi brought in around $900 for veteran support. The Auxiliary plans to fundraise on Remembrance Day, so please support the sub-Branch by

buying an item or donating.

Wellbeing Update: On September 16th, Cardiff RSL hosted a Wellbeing Support Officer (WSO) course. Newcastle now has fifty qualified WSOs, with seven in Cardiff supporting hospital visits, RSL Tributes, and Compensation work. Shout out to our new WSOs: Dennis Tarran, Noel Hillier, Doug Baldock, Des Abberfield, Garry James, Jamie Purdon and Geoff Kelly.

Compensation Advocate Update: We are pleased to announce that new member Will Thomas has volunteered to train as a compensation advocate. Thank you, Will, and best of luck with your training!

Christmas Lunch: Don't miss our festive Christmas lunch, a great chance to catch up with friends and stay connected. Enjoy a delicious meal and wonderful company as we celebrate the end of the year together. We look forward to seeing you there!

Date: 8 December (following our General Meeting)

Tickets: Contact Vice President Ray Kelly to secure yours.

Cardiff RSL sub-Branch Facebook page has been a great success in keeping members informed and celebrating our achievements and events. It's a vibrant hub for sharing updates, photos, and stories, keeping everyone connected and engaged. The page highlights our community's efforts, recognises individual contributions, and promotes upcoming activities. Thanks to our active online presence, we've strengthened our sense of community and celebrated our successes together.

Sub - Branch Library is open! Members can access the library from 9:30 to 10:00 AM during each General Meeting and borrow up to four books. Big shout out to our new volunteer librarian, Joss Dohmen. If you are interested in volunteering, please speak to Joss or Jamie Purdon. Our library honours and supports veterans by preserving their stories and helping us understand their sacrifices and our heritage.

Security Plan Update: The plan was sent to District Council for local use, then to State Branch, and now to National Branch for consideration. We thank Vice President Jamie Purdon and Trustee Dave Rubetzki for their contributions, drawing on their RAAF and civilian experience to strengthen our security policies.

Social Update: We're excited for our social outing on Friday, 25 October, a bus trip to the Australian Infantry Museum in Singleton. This trip is a fantastic opportunity to strengthen our bonds and enjoy each other's company while exploring the museum's rich history. After our visit, we'll have lunch at the

Singleton Diggers Club. Special thanks to Millar Sneesby for organising this wonderful day. Check the Cardiff RSL sub-Branch Facebook page for a report and photos!

Call for new members: To keep our sub-Branch thriving and continue providing great veteran services, we need your help. If you know any veterans who are not part of a sub-Branch, please introduce them to us. More members will reinvigorate our sub-Branch and help us remain a leading community in Lake Macquarie! Visitors are always welcome at our Coffee catchups.

In conclusion, thank you all for your support. Our sub-Branch thrives because of our collective commitment to veteran care and community service. Together, we make a significant difference.

Volunteer: Your involvement can create a positive impact.

Stay Strong and United: Let's continue to move forward together and I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Luncheon.

With your support, we continue honouring and supporting our veterans with the dedication and unity that define our sub-Branch. Thank you for all you do.

Geoff Kelly,

Sub Branch President.

Marriage Guidance.

If you husband leaves his clothes on the floor, it means he doesn't want them. So it is ok to throw them in the garbage. I'll be back with more marriage tips and guidance shortly.

Cardiff RSL sub Branch RSL Auxiliary

Co-Ordinator	Pearl Abercrombie
Deputy Co-Ordinator	Kerry Forrester
Secretary	Paul Brien JP
Assistant Secretary	Debra Ernst
Treasurer	Kerry Forrester
Purchasing Officers	Stella Brien

Hi from the Auxiliary,

We are getting close to the Christmas period and planning for the Auxiliary Christmas function in November has begun. Invitations have been sent out to the other Auxiliaries in the region and we have even gone further afield with interest shown from a couple of Sydney Auxiliaries in attending. Volunteers have been allocated for fundraising and organising activities on the day, apart from being a day of celebration it is also an important fundraising event for us.

We held a cake stall at the front of Aldi during September with slices and cakes made by the Auxiliary members being sold. Thank you to all the volunteers who cooked and helped on the day. The day was a great success with slices and cakes sold and raising over $1000.

Remembrance Day is fast approaching, and we will be out selling merchandise for the day. We will also be selling crosses that people can write names on and place in front of the Cenotaph.

Thank you to Jack McNaughton and Graham Crawford on making the crosses up. This is something we will continue at ANZAC day as well.

That's all until next time,

Paul Brien

Secretary

This submitted article relates to a commendation for dedication to duty of our sub Branch committee Member Jennifer Kenyon.

This year marks a century of dedicated service by the NSWPF Radio Operations Group and the following is an extract from the NSW Police PR Department highlighting an incident where Jennifer Kenyon, a committee member of the RSL NSW Cardiff sub-Branch played an important role in the apprehension of an armed fugitive.

THE DUNOON ACTIVE ARMED OFFENDER SHOOTING:

Dunoon is a quiet country town approximately 20km north of Lismore. But on the evening of Saturday, 6 March 2021, it became the scene of a highly dangerous situation where an unknown offender armed with a shotgun and rifle began shooting into the homes of residents. Communications Officer (CO) Jen Kenyon was performing the night shift at Newcastle Radio Operations Centre as the main dispatch operator.

Jen was a highly experienced CO with 24 years of service. Prior to joining the NSWPF, she had served 16 years in the Royal Australian Air Force in a similar role as a Communications Operator.

At 9:05pm, a Priority 2 – urgent job – dropped onto her console screen. Jen would subsequently broadcast the following transmission to police operating in the Richmond Police District, “Standby Lismore car, car to back up Raywood Road, Dunoon, cross of Duncan Road. The informant has reported gunshots fired. One has gone into informant’s living room. Calls received; gunshots heard. Lismore car, car to back up thanks.”
Within minutes, further Triple Zero calls were being received. Coupled with this, multiple responding police crews were acknowledging the job and attending the location under lights and sirens.

Jen had the responsibility of accurately logging the callsigns of attending crews and recording where they were specifically attending to try and locate the offender. Genevieve was contacting each informant to try and gather more information.

As crews were arriving on scene and they reported hearing multiple gunshots, this was logged by Jen. It was clear that police were dealing with an active armed offender.

(Continued on page 10)

At 10:48pm, things took a dramatic turn when an attending Sergeant made an urgent call to radio, informing Jen that a police vehicle she and three other officers were standing next to had sustained direct gunfire. In response the Sergeant returned fire – the only police officer to do so that night, and the offender ran for cover.

After several hours of constant and intense management of a high volume of radio traffic, Jen was relieved by an SCO (Senior Communications Officer). Finally, at just after 1:30am, the offender – a 63-year-old man – was taken into custody by police at the scene. He was later charged with several serious offences.

During the four-and-half-hour ordeal, multiple rounds were discharged by the man but incredibly, no one was injured.

In July 2023, Jen retired from the NSWPF. Looking back at the events of that night she said, “It was an extraordinary experience and the police on the ground did a fantastic job. It was such a relief that no one was injured. I just remember going home after the end of the shift thinking I had done the best I could.”

The senior police officer on scene that night is still attached to the Richmond Police District. with 29 years of service with the NSWPF, the incident was something that she had never experienced before or since, and she believes if it were not for the actions of the COs that night, a very different outcome may have occurred. I cannot commend their professionalism enough. Their measured and composed radio management of the situation was the key to a successful resolution. We often forget the radio operators who are situated remotely from the incident. They are operating blind, having no visual insight into what is occurring on the ground. They are in the unenviable position of deploying their workmates into situations of danger. It takes an exceptional person to be able to operate in those conditions and we thank them for guiding us to safety on that night.”

Newcastle is wrapped in Military History

The earliest reference to Newcastle highlight its military heritage. In 1804 Governor King recommended to the Duke of Portland the establishment of a penal settlement with a military garrison. Many place names in Newcastle originate from early military personnel.

Military presence actually began in 1801 when Corporal Wixstead arrived with five soldiers, followed by Sergeant Dodd and four men of the New South Wales Corps on March 30, 1804. That same year, Newcastle became an authorized penal settlement with Charles Throsby as its first Commandant. Convicts erected various military buildings, including a flagstaff and beacon on the hill now known as Fort Scratchley.

In 1813, Lieutenant Skottowe succeeded Charles Throsby as Commandant. The garrison as part of H.M. 73rd Regiment, grew with two additional Sergeants and forty-three rank and file, along with Assistant Surgeon William Evans and Commissary John Tacker.

In 1812, Major Morrisett of H.M. 48th Regiment took command. By 1814, Lieutenant Thompson of H.M. 46th Regiment was appointed Commandant, soon succeeded by Captain Wallis, who initiated several civil projects and is mentioned on the foundation stone of Christ Church Cathedral. In 1823, Captain Gillman succeeded Morrisett, followed by Captain Francis Allman.

Captain J.T. Baker and the Newcastle Volunteer Rifles.

Captain John Thomas Baker was appointed Captain of the Newcastle Volunteer Rifles around the 20 December 1860 and he died on the 22nd March 1861 at Maitland.

The militia unit was formed after the withdrawal of the British Army from Newcastle in order to protect the fledgling settlement.

His appointment lasted at most for 3 months and 2 days, however, around the 16th March 1861 at the presentation of colours to the ‘Rifles’ Captain Charles Bolton had been appointed Captain of the Newcastle Volunteer Rifles on the resignation of Captain Baker.

Captain J.T. Baker had been appointed magistrate at Dundee NSW on the 5th December 1954 while living in Newcastle.

As a sideline, there is a Notice of Disposal of J.T.Baker's goods' notifying that the goods will be given to J.T. Baker's brother Mr Henry Baker. It seems that Henry Baker was the father of William Henry Baker who was the founder of the law firm of Baker Love, then J.T. Baker was his uncle.

SALUTING ... HOW IT BEGAN

There are a number of theories about the origin of the salute with the hand, but the one accepted by students of military customs is that, in the days of old, friendly knights, on meeting one another, placed themselves in an attitude of defencelessness by removing their helmets or by raising their helmet visors. This act was designed to show friendly intentions and mutual trust and respect.

For a long time in the history of soldiering in Britain and in other countries, troops actually removed their hats to officers. Gradually, however, this custom was modified to a point where the lifting of the hand to the head - as though to remove the hat - was accepted as sufficient salute.

In the British Army, in the mid-years of the 18th Century, determined bids were made by officers to force men to get back to the habit of removing their headgear when passing officers. In the Coldstream Guards in 1745, an effort was even made to get the men to bow while holding their headgear in their hand, but progress won the day.

Another form of salute, the Present Arms, also is based on the idea of showing defencelessness and trust. The rifle is held in a position in which it can do no harm to the person saluted.

The salute fired by vessels entering foreign ports began in the days when to reload a cannon took quite some time. Vessels entering port fired a salute to make it clear to port fortifications that their guns were now empty, while the fort returned the favour firing to empty their cannons.

For a long time tradition required that the salute be fired with live ammunition, but this was discontinued and blank rounds used after many fatalities had been caused by wildly-fired salutes.

Sydney Mail NSW : Saturday 29 September 1860

THE NSW VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT

Volunteer Cap Badge 1860

The roll of the Sydney artillery is being added to day by day. The members at present enrolled are 206. Drilling is progressing with assiduity and perseverance. It appears that the rifle corps are the most popular throughout the country. We find, on reference, that the numbers enrolled are — City of Sydney, 660; South Sydney, 85; Paddington, 100; Newtown, 65; Glebe, 60; Balmain, 110; North Shore and its district, 45; Randwick, 50; Parramatta, about 100; Penrith, 50; Windsor, about 36; Mudgee, 60. The numbers in the aggregate give a total of 1401 enrolled volunteers, which return is almost exclusively from the county of Cumberland.

In the county of Northumberland several meetings have been held, and corps are in course of formation. Among those places that have begun to move in the matter we may mention Newcastle, Borehole, East and West Maitland, Morpeth, and Singleton.

The miners at Newcastle are about to form a separate corps. 106 have enrolled at West Maitland. The Australasian Steam Navigation Company, we are informed, are about to make such arrangements as will enable their employees to join the movement. Appointments.— Captain Charles Neville Lovell, R.A., to be Captain Commandant of the Companies of Volunteer Artillery; also, Lieutenant Henry Dowdeswell Pitt, R.A., to be Adjutant of the same corps.

Greg Piper MP

Member for Lake Macquarie

Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly

ANZAC Day is central to our national identity. It's a day when we commemorate those who served and gave their lives in WWI and other conflicts since that time. It's a day to remember the ongoing sacrifice of our troops who continue to serve. It's therefore a day that deserves the utmost respect and solemnity.

To recognise the importance of ANZAC Day, the NSW Parliament passed a law requiring retail traders, including supermarkets and fashion stores, to remain closed until midnight on ANZAC Day, rather than opening at 1pm. The restrictions don't apply to certain businesses, including small businesses, businesses not considered retailers or exempt businesses such as chemists and cafes.

Every year, I'm thrilled to see how the Lake Macquarie community supports our veterans. I'm hopeful this change will allow people to further immerse themselves in the many services held on ANZAC Day. Lest We Forget.

I also want to take this opportunity to spotlight the vital work of Survivor's R Us Incorporated (SRU) at Cardiff. This self-funded charity looks after survivors of domestic violence and homelessness. Despite facing significant demand for their services and cost increases, including a massive rent hike, they don't turn anyone away.

SRU is facing closure due to rising costs and budgetary constraints. The loss of this service would be harshly felt by our community's most vulnerable. I spoke about this issue recently in Parliament and made representations to the Government on behalf of SRU to seek funding. More information about SRU, including how to support them, is available on their website: www.survivorsrusincorporated.com.

As always, please reach out to my office if you need support with State government issues such as housing, public health and transport. You can reach my staff on 4953 3200 or lakemacquarie@parliament.nsw.gov.au, or visit my office at 126A Cary Street, Toronto.

Kind regards

Newcastle's Military History commenced in 1855

A military presence had been in Newcastle since the first settlement and convict labour was used to erect various military buildings, In 1812, the notorious Major Morrisett of H.M. 48th Regiment was appointed to command the Newcastle settlement followed in 1814 by Lieutenant Thompson of H.M. 46th Regiment soon succeeded by Captain Wallis of the same regiment. Wallis commenced a number of civil enterprises and is mentioned on the foundation stone of Christ Church Cathedral.

Early artillerymen at Newcastle

Newcastle Costal battery

In the early days of the colony a company of Imperial Regular troops was stationed in Newcastle, on account of the convict labour being employed to build the Nobbys breakwater. These troops were quartered in the imperial barracks at the top of Bolton Street, behind the position of the Newcastle Court House.

One notable event occurring at Newcastle was the display of the newly designed Union Jack flag from the top of Nobbys, marking only the second time the flag had been displayed in the colony.

Parade and farewell for Newcastle troops going to the Boer War November 1899

In 1822, Beacon Hill, where the obelisk now stands, was developed. It was initially a coal-fired beacon until Nobbys Lighthouse was built. It was then converted into an artillery position for seven heavy guns in an earthen

emplacement. The position was unstable, and several gun mishaps caused mutilations to gunners, leading to the nickname “Fort Fiddlestick.”

In 1855, the British garrison left Newcastle, and the defence of the settlement was taken over by citizen soldiers. These volunteers formed an artillery and rifle corps, providing their own uniforms and equipment without receiving payment, except for land grants for long service.

In 1886, the naval artillery brigade was formed under Captain Allen with sixty gunners. In 1885, a company of volunteer infantry, designated as the Northern Battalion Volunteer Newcastle Rifles.

By 1897, Newcastle was strongly fortified with volunteer manned garrisons at Fort Scratchley and Shepherds Hill. The 4th Regiment of Australian Infantry, comprising companies from Newcastle, West and East Maitland, Singleton, Morpeth, Wallsend, Tamworth, Muswellbrook, Lambton, Armidale, and Glenn Innes, fell under the command of Lieutenant Colonel C.M. Ranclaud. This Regiment deployed troops directly from Newcastle to the Boer War, and a universal military training program was introduced in 1911.

At the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, many members of the militia were recruited into the AIF, while others remained in the Militia, tasked with defending Newcastle port during the war.

Recruitment drives in the Hunter Region saw 49 percent of the strength of the Second Battalion AIF that landed on Gallipoli coming from the local area. Later that battalion was known as ‘*The City of Newcastle Regiment.’*

The strength of the recruiting drive in the Hunter area in 1915 provided enough men to form other battalions; the 34th Battalion AIF at Maitland, and the 35th Battalion at Newcastle’s Broadmeadow showground, known as “Newcastle’s Own.”

Both battalions were part of the Third Division 9th Brigade AIF and saw exemplary service in France and Belgium after sailing from Sydney on May 1, 1916.

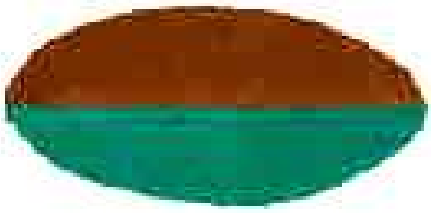
Reflecting the pride of Newcastle’s military, on June 29, 1936, 2,200 returned men of the 9th Brigade AIF marched in columns of four through the flag-draped streets of Newcastle to the town hall. This event commemorated the 20th anniversary of their departure from Australia for the battlefields of World War I.

The 9th Brigade had spent 716 days in France, with only 171 days not in contact with the enemy.

It was also acknowledged that the Newcastle City Council had designed the city flag based on the colour patch of 'Newcastle's own battalion', Brown over Green. This flag was displayed to the troops and was lowered at the town hall as the battalions marched past.

Between the two wars, Australia's defence relied on Citizen Soldiers, with units maintaining the same battalion numbers as the First AIF. Thus, the identities of the 2nd and 35th AIF battalions were retained as Newcastle Militia battalions, inheriting all battle honours.

Newcastle City flag Brown over Green.



Newcastle's Own colour patch Brown over Green

After a reorganisation of the army in 1932, the two battalions were linked as the 2nd/35th Battalion. This led to an extraordinary event on December 2, 1934, *'Trooping of the Colour'* ceremony at the Newcastle Sports Ground when the battalion became the first militia battalion to troop the colour.

2nd/35th Battalion trooping of the colour at Newcastle Sports Ground 1934.

The battalion received recognition from the Newcastle City Council as the *'City of Newcastle Regiment,.'* This year 2024 marks the 90th anniversary of that special event.

During the parade, artillery fired 12 rounds before the ceremony reached its climax with the troops' firing of the 'Feu de Joie,' or 'Fire of Joy.' This celebratory gunfire, is a salute performed by firing arms in rapid succession, provided a fitting end to the ceremony.

Of interest is that the battalion's commanding officer was Lieutenant Colonel F.G. Galleghan, later known as Black Jack, who became the senior officer in charge of the Australian prisoners of war at Changi camp.

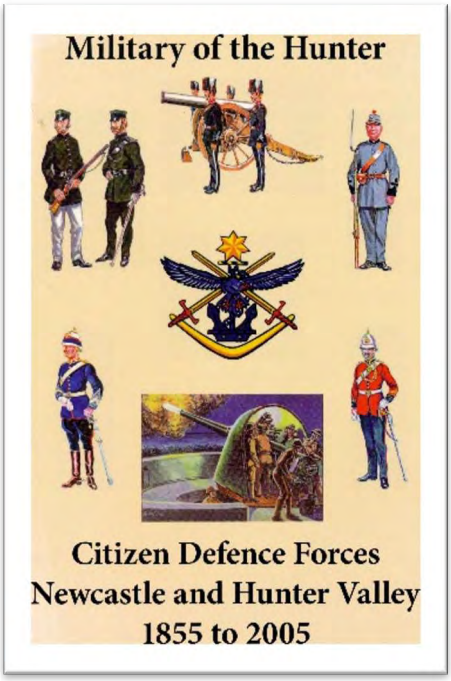
Battalions of the 9th Brigade AIF leaving Broadmeadow train station on the 30th April 1916 on route to the Great War and to sail the following morning.

9th Brigade AIF returned men, marched past Newcastle Post office memorial and through the city —comprised of the 33rd, 34th, 35th and 36th AIF battalions in 1936.

Decorated Newcastle Memorial in front of the Post Office

The 2nd/35th battalion separated on September 4, 1939, at the commencement of World War II, into the 2nd and 35th Battalions. In 1948, with the establishment of the Citizens Military Forces, (CMF) the 2nd Infantry Battalion formed at Lindsay Street, Hamilton. In 1965, it reformed as the 2nd Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment, with Lieutenant Colonel J.A. Fox as the Commanding Officer.

And so, the military of Newcastle evolves. The 2nd Battalion now is linked with the 17th Battalion becoming 2/17 Battalion, but still wear the original 2nd battalion colour patch Purple over Green. Newcastle still houses a strong and continuing relationship with the military this article is only meant as synopsis of the long history of the military in Newcastle with a lineage back to 1855.



Editor's note: I have referred to and recommend the excellent and in-depth publication, **MILITARY OF THE HUNTER – CITIZEN DEFENCE FORCES OF NEWCASTLE AND THE HUNTER VALLEY – A HISTORY: 1855 TO 2005.**

This is a detailed history of the local military and edited by our member Lieutenant Colonel Laurie Kelly AM, Ret) contributions by other sub Branch members Major Charlie Stevens OAM (Ret) and Major John Ross (Ret).

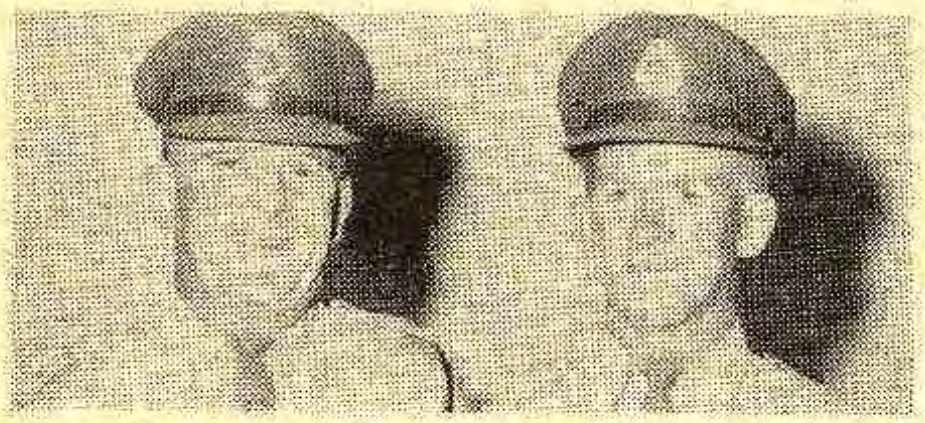
Lieutenant Roden Cutler after his Victoria Cross investiture at Admiralty House Sydney June 1942.

Sir Roden Cutler VC,

In December 1966 The Second Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment (2RNSWR) was presented with its new Queens and Regimental Colours by Sir Roden Cutler VC at the Broadmeadow Showground.

Sir Roden Cutler VC, AK, KCMG, KCVO, CBE (1916-2002), was a distinguished Australian diplomat and the longest-serving Governor of New South Wales. He is renowned for being awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry in the face of the enemy, which he received for his actions during the Syria-Lebanon During the campaign, particularly in the battles around Merdjayoun and Damour, Cutler displayed extraordinary bravery. He repaired a telephone line under heavy fire, repelled enemy tank attacks, and set up an outpost to target enemy movements. Despite being seriously wounded and eventually losing a leg, his actions significantly contributed to the Australian forces' efforts.

Big day for brothers and their Battalion



Two Maitland brothers played key roles in the ceremonial Presentation of Colours to the 2nd Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment, at Newcastle Showgrounds last Sunday.

The brothers are Lt. John Threlfo and WO Peter Threlfo.

Lt. John Threlfo was the Colour Ensign to receive the Queen's Colour, and WO Peter Threlfo was Senior Escort of the Colours at the ceremony.

Lt. Threlfo is Officer Commanding, Assault Pioneer Platoon of the Battalion's Support Company at Hamilton, NSW, while WO Threlfo is CSM of C Company at Maitland.

The Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 2RNSWR by the NSW Governor, Sir Roden Cutler, Honorary Colonel of the RNSWR.

More than 400 CMF soldiers took part in the ceremony, which was one of the most colourful military parades in the Newcastle area for many years.

The Colours were consecrated, blessed and dedicated by Senior Chaplain O. W. Cooper, representing the Chaplain General, Church of England; Chaplain General J. A. Morgan, Roman Catholic, and Senior Chaplain H. G. Durbin, representing the Chaplain General, Protestant denominations.

A blast from the past.

Maybe of interest to some sub Branch members who served in the 2nd Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment.

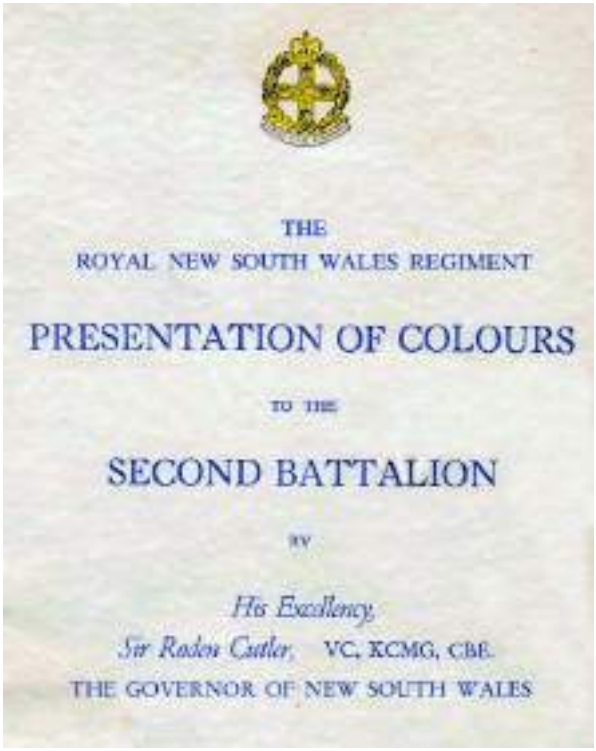
This article found in a distant past copy of the Army Newspaper from 1966.

Both these men were well know and very well respected in the Second ,but sadly, both have passed.

Passing of the last man standing of a famous Battalion aged 101 years.

Corporal Cec Creswick N°.NX72177 believed to be the last surviving digger of a famous Second World war AIF battalion the 2/2nd Infantry Battalion, has passed away on the night of the 29/30 July 2024. The battalion contained many Newcastle and Hunter Region men

Regimental Colour



Queen's Colour

C company 2 RNSWR passing in slow time before the Governor Sir Roden Cutler VC at the Newcastle Showground in 1966. A number of Cardiff sub-Branch were on the battalion parade or had service with 2RNSWR.

and was part of the 6th Division AIF which was amongst the first to deploy overseas in 1939. Cecil Roy Creswick enlisted on the 27th March 1941 at the age of 18 years 4 months and served until discharge on the 14 March 1946 serving in the Middle East and the Pacific Islands.

The 2/2nd received 15 battle honours for it actions in the war, Those battle honours were entrusted to the 2nd Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment from 1961. and are now maintained by the 2/17 Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment.

Newcastle gaol 1818 – 1860 Military controlled.

Newcastle settlement was under the control of the military when Newcastle gaol was constructed in 1816 – 1818.

Located on a site overlooking the ocean above Newcastle beach it was divided from the inhabited portion of the town by a tract of sand. The vegetation was removed from these sand hills to prevent escaping convicts concealing themselves. The building was initially a two-story building that was later surrounded by a stone wall twelve feet high with foundations of stone and brick walls.

Inside the building were wide corridors running the entire length of the building and on either side were barred cells. The design was duplicated on the upper story. Housing for the gaol keepers and turnkeys were located outside the walls and gardens.

The Gaol yard held various instruments of torture where the convicts

were flogged by Scourgers while public Executions were carried out until 1842. This was a time when the gaol was becoming too crowded to contain the numbers being incarcerated; There were 111 men and 53 women behind the walls, and in 1842 there were five escapes. This with overcrowding saw a call made for the construction of a new gaol at Maitland that was started in 1844.

Completed in 1848 the Newcastle prisoners were transferred by steamer to Maitland while some Newcastle prisoners were retained to work on constructing the Newcastle Breakwater.

Are you responsible for the propagation of myths?

Have you ever believed and repeated the myth that the Great Wall of China is the only human made feature that is visible from space?

A very popular myth, but it is not true.

Astronauts and scientists have conformed that the great wall is not visible to the naked eye from the moon or even from low earth orbit.

The walls colour and the surrounding landscape make it blend in too well to be seen without aid.

It is between 6 and 7 metres wide and that is about the width of most suburban roads and less than most highways. So while the wall is not visible from space there are many man made features that be distinguished from space including extensive highway networks, dams, and especially the Palm Island artificial islands in Dubai.

Welfare benefits should be as hard to get as Veteran benefits.

211 Army Cadet Unit (ACU) Newcastle

211 ACU as members of 21 AAC Battalion took part in the NSW AAC Brigades Annual Field Exercise (AFX) over the first week of the school Holidays. 211 ACU had 43 cadets on the ground which brought the 21 Battalion compliment to 143 cadets contributing to the 1253 cadets from all over NSW.

NSW 1st AAC Brigade at AFX 2024

All Cadets were able to take part in an EF88 Range Shoot, an endurance march of 5 kilometres. beep test, Navigation exercises, Vehicle Check Point (VCP) training. They were able to put into practice their fieldcraft skills while enjoying cooking their own Ration pack meals. I organised a Church parade in the field where cadets were treated to discussion with LT(AAC) Riley a QLD Padre & LTCOL(AAC) Dunn a VIC Padre.

21 Bn cadets were honoured with a visit by Brigadier Ben Slaughter the Commander of the Australian Army Cadets.

Brigadier Slaughter speaking with 21 Bn Cadets

Hootchie accommodation

Five kilometre endurance march.

Cadet's packs and webbing being weighed to ensure all were within specifications.

Church Parade

211 ACU contributed greatly in the success of this years AFX, they supplied the eight cadets that made up the work force of the Advance Party the day before the rest of the Battalion arrived. SGTCDT Duffy, CDTSGT Freeman, CDTSGT Givens, CDTCPL Bilkey, CDTLCPL Simpson, CDT Ball, CDT Bennett & CDT Garbutt all did an outstanding job setting up the Ops Tent, RAP tent, Q Store Tent & the Field Kitchen.

With AFX over, the Staff & Cadets will be focusing on their end-of year Formal Parades & Dining -In Nights. 211 dinner is on the 09NOV24 with their parade 13DEC24

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Cardiff RSL Sub-Branch for all their on-going assistance. The Sub-Branches generous donation will assist the unit with equipment that the Army does supply us. We will be ready, willing & able to assist Cardiff RSL Sub-Branch, when requested.

MAJ (AAC) Peter Lockwood
CO 21 AAC Bn

Many Novocastrians will remember the original Army Drill Hall at Lindsay Street, Hamilton.

The drill hall was originally built as the Artillery Drill Hall and was opened on the 22nd December 1925 by General Charles Brand. It was typical of the period with high trusses iron roof over an indoor parading area, with offices and gun bays, armouries, latrines and quartermaster stores. There was an outbuilding for limbers and wagons and a small bore miniature rifle range with a gravelled parade ground.

While there were numerous of military drill halls during the 19th and 20th century, this deport was one of the major centres for soldiers enlisting into the army for overseas service during World War Two.

From 1948 until 1987 the building was occupied by Infantry units until relocation of the Army Reserve Units to the Adamstown multi complex at Adamstown and the hall was demolished for housing development.

Reference to :. Military of the Hunter 1885—2005 Kelly, Ross and Stevens

Lambton Drill Hall

1885 saw the government authorise the formation of voluntary Infantry Corp at Lambton. A drill hall constructed in De Vitre Street was opened in 1898 to parade while shooting was conducted at the rifle range at North Lambton.

The hall was the training depot and at the outbreak of World War One after the recruiting march from Narrabri when *'the wallabies'* walked 300 miles to Newcastle, the men numbering over 200 were accommodated overnight in the drill hall.

Again in World War Two the hall was used as a recruiting base, and medical examinations. Following the war it was utilised for a number of civilian activities until 1955 when it was again used by the army. In 1990 the hall was demolished and replaced with town housing.

Australian Military Bands

The tradition of military bands in Australia dates back to the colonial period, with each of the colonies maintaining its own military forces and bands. The Headquarters Band was attached to the 9th Regiment in 1909, and there were militia bands such as those from the 16th or 41st Batteries, Australian Field Artillery in Tasmania around 1913. Additionally, the 52nd Australian Infantry Battalion (Victorian Scottish Regiment) had its own band in Melbourne around 1914.

During World War I, Australian military bands attached to battalions of the AIF played a significant role in boosting morale and providing musical support to the troops, but still faced challenges during the war, including high casualty rates. Military regulations allowed 25 bandsmen to remain behind the lines, but they were often used to move transport lines and serve as stretcher bearers during emergencies. In World War two the structure of the army changed, and bands then supported both the permanent and the much larger part time militia. (CMF)

The lineage of the military band in New South Wales through the linked 2nd and 17th Battalions RNSWR traces back to 1860, and carries the battle honours of Mahdist War, the Boer War, World War One and World War Two. These early military bands laid the foundation for the development of the Australian Army Band Corps, which was officially formed in 1968.

The Australian Army Band Corps (AABC) consists of five full-time bands and six part-time bands, each attached to different units and commands. The key units:

Full-Time Bands:

Australian Army Band - Sydney

Australian Army Band - Melbourne

Australian Army Band - Brisbane

Australian Army Band - Adelaide

Australian Army Band - Kapooka

Part-Time Bands:

Australian Army Band - Tasmania

Australian Army Band - Perth

Australian Army Band - Darwin

Australian Army Band - Newcastle

Australian Army Band - Townsville

Australian Army Band - Wagga Wagga

These bands support various ceremonial and training activities, as well as community engagement events.

Newcastle and Hunter Region boys in training at Rutherford NSW Camp before being deployed as part of the 3rd Division AIF to the Western Front in 1916.

Battalion marching tunes.

Australian battalions have their own particular marching tune:

1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (1 RAR) - "Waltzing Matilda"

2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (2 RAR) - "The Queenslander"

3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR) - "The Warrior"

5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (5 RAR) - "Dominique"

6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR) - "Waltzing Matilda"

7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (7 RAR) - "The Farmer's Boy"

8th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (8 RAR) - "Advance Australia Fair"

9th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (9 RAR) - "The Lincolnshire Poacher"

2/17 Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment (2/17 RNSWR) - "Waltzing Matilda"

41st Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment (41 RNSWR) - "Cock O' The North.

Hunter Region reinforcements for 33rd, 34th, 35th and 36th Battalions leaving the Rutherford Camp marching with relatives to Farley train station on route to the Western front on 3rd September 1916. Photograph from the personal collection of Private Samual Apthorpe, 34th Battalion Reinforcements. He was wounded in action on three separate occasions. He survived the war to spent the remainder of his life in Abermain.

Same location on Wollombi Road, Farley from where they left

Colours of the original 35th Battalion AIF laid up in the Newcastle cathedral 18 June 1966 by the 2nd Battalion Royal New South Wales Battalion.

There are 3 kinds of people; those who can count and those who can't.

Old Man's War?

In 1941 the comparison was made between the ages of the 1st and 2nd AIF Senior officers.

In the First AIF the average age of the battalion commanders were 27 years, while in the second AIF it was 47 years.

Brigade Commanders in the 1st AIF in 1918 averaged 33 years old, while the average age of brigade commanders in 1941 was 53 years.

REAL HEADLINES PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS.

- PSYCHIC ARRESTED AGAIN—STILL DID NOT SEE IT COMING.
- ARSENIC IN CITY WATER, NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
- ROOMS WITH BROKEN AIR CONDITIONERS ARE HOT.
- WOMAN FALLS IN HOSPITAL, TOLD TO CALL AMBULANCE.
- TOTAL LUNAR ECLIPSE WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON PUBLIC RADIO.
- POSTMAN'S SPEED FINE GOT LOST,,, IN THE POST.
- SCIENTISTS TO KILL DUCKS TO SEE WHY THEY'RE DYING.

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

Fortress Newcastle

In World War two Newcastle received a disproportionate amount of protection compared to the rest of Australia. Protection of the BHP which was the biggest steel making plant in the British empire, and the deep-water port was crucial. Newcastle was given the name fortress Newcastle.

Only two places in Australia were protected to any extent in WW2, Sydney and Newcastle. Newcastle was protected by a network of artillery, anti-aircraft guns with searchlights, radar stations and bases as the city had everything of importance for the war effort.

Industries were making munitions and helmets, rifles and especially the Owen submachine gun, uniforms, and all things necessary including food. Industries that were here were easily converted to war factories, with Tube Makers manufacturing gun barrels.

The port was exporting coal that was needed to fuel the coal fired ships while the State dockyard as well as building ships was also repairing ships that were damaged at sea and bought in for repairs.

A city of less than one hundred thousand had protection in abundance as military installations were here on a major scale. Two air force bases were here, Rathmines and Williamtown, with five army bases including Greta, Rutherford, Raymond Terrace, two naval bases, and four forts.

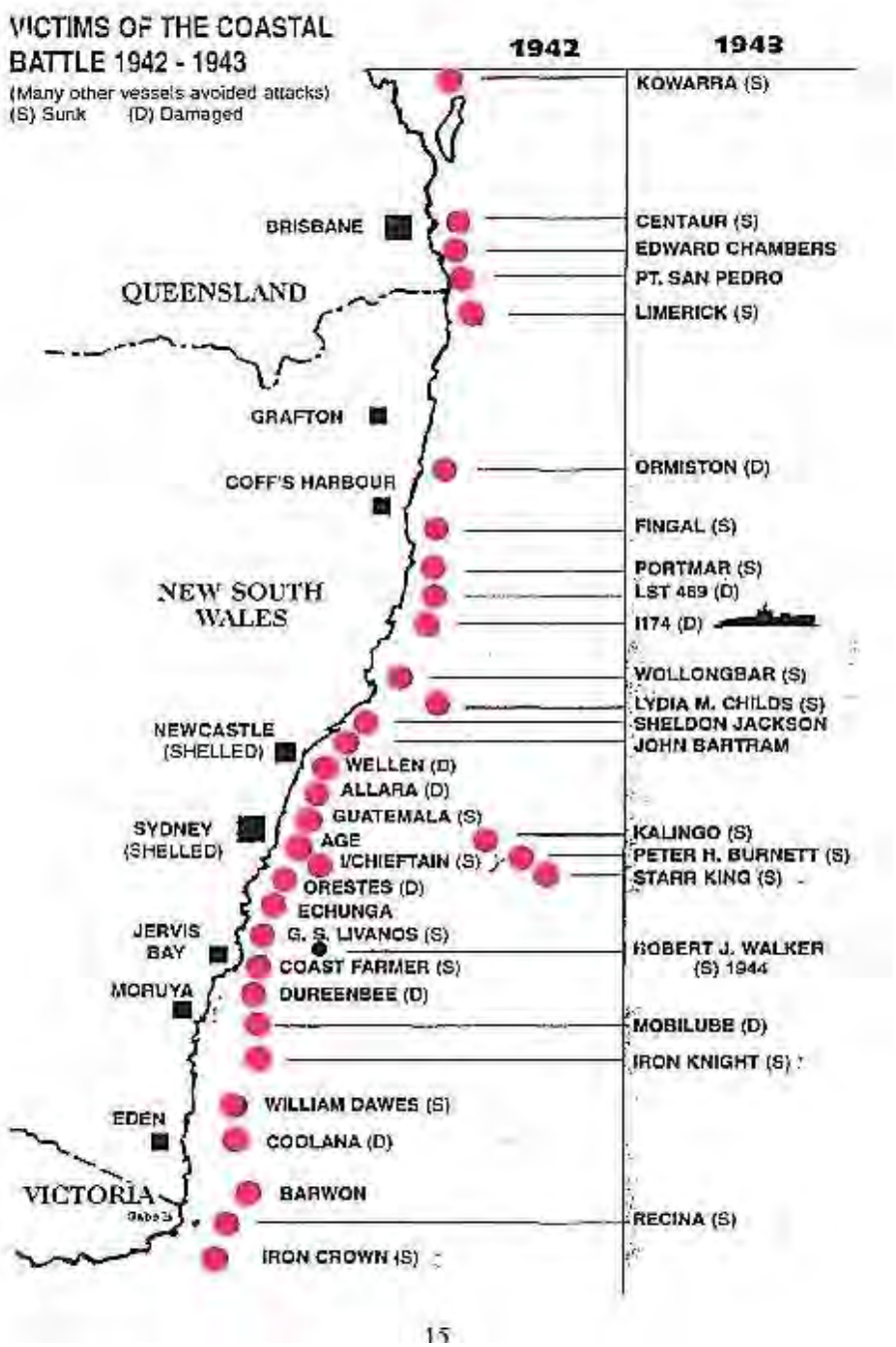
The major facilities were probably why the Japanese came to attack Newcastle by shelling. The Japanese reportedly had a good knowledge of the city and industries, especially the BHP. It is reported that ‘allegedly’, a visiting Japanese delegation just before the commencement of the war were escorted around the Industrial plants by the then Prime Minister, Mr Robert Menzies who also instigated sales of scrap iron to Japan. When the war started Menzies was given the nickname of pig Iron bob from the sale to Japan that people said came back as shells.

Newcastle dockyard was called on to build 75 foot long tug boats with the order for 50 for the US army and 50 for the Royal Navy. These were designed here and built at the rate of one tug boat being launched onto the Hunter river every two weeks, and immediately deployed to the Pacific islands.

The east coast of New South Wales including the Newcastle coast saw the sinking of some 39 ships by Japanese submarine activities, creating a feeling of a real threat amongst the people of Newcastle. It was also

realised that if the port of Newcastle was wiped out, it would have damaged the war effort to a serious degree.

Newcastle was attacked in June 1942 by the mother submarine I-21 that had launched the midget submarines to attack Sydney harbour ,and then on its way up the coast it laid off Newcastle and fired several shells. Some landed exploding in the city and a couple were fired into the BHP steelworks.



Fort Scratchley crew reacted and fired the two guns on the submarine with the first shell landing almost on the sub, which stopped firing and submerged. This is the only land base fort in Australia to fire in anger at the enemy.

The submarine crew knew enough about the city's defences to approach Newcastle under the radar of the larger gun at Fort Wallace, Stockton that could not depress to engage enemy closer to the shore, and the was the submarine's position.

Ironically, and not all that surprising, but with the wisdom of hindsight, in the 1930's Japanese ships were visiting Newcastle where the crew would hire a taxi and have a day around the port and facilities, getting themselves photographed against military installations.

Acknowledgement to the Battle for Australia, Newcastle Commemorative Committee Inc per Member Laurie Kelly

Australian defence Force Personnel endear themselves.

In August 2024, the Busted Bugle reported that Australian Army Sappers from the 6th and 19th Engineers were deployed to Amata in Central Australia to build a complex. After six months, the Sappers returned home to Amberley, Queensland, having completed the project.

While working to benefit the Indigenous people of the outback, the Sappers also formed unexpected bonds with some stray animals. Upon arrival, they noticed a group of undernourished and timid dogs watching their camp. Rather than driving them away, the Sappers lured the dogs into the camp with food.

The strays coached into the camp by diggers with fruit

Months later, these once strays had been nurtured and cared for, becoming the Sappers' constant companions. They were no longer just strays but healthy and well-cared-for animals.

Some of the dogs after four months of care and attention.

On their last day at Amata, the Sappers decided to climb the highest mountain they could find, located 4 kilometres from Amata. The climb took them four hours to complete, and the dogs happily accompanied them. Among them was Dwayne, a dog they had befriended, who had an old

injury—a dislocated hip—but managed to hop along on his good legs all the way up and back.

Injured dog 'Dwayne' also completed the climb with the diggers.

The Sappers' care and compassion transformed these dogs into confident animals. Departing was difficult; so much so that several Sappers could not leave their newfound friends behind. They adopted the dogs and took them on the road trip back to Queensland.

Well done, fellas!

If people make you sick, maybe you need to cook them longer!

Killer Squad

A group just enjoying their Christmas day off. These are Auschwitz concentration camp staff enjoying their quite time before going back to work killing people. Look happy in their jobs don't they?

Auschwitz Concentration camp

The pictorial reminder of the holocaust is the notorious gateway into concentration camp most people know as Auschwitz.

As intimidating as the name is, Auschwitz was not a single concentration camp rather it was a complex of three supplemented by 45 smaller sub camps.

The primary camps were Auschwitz main Camp or Auschwitz I, Auschwitz II known as Auschwitz Birkenau and Auschwitz III known as Buna Monowitz or just Buna.

All three were built surrounding the town of Oswiecim, Poland which is situated some 60 kilometres west of Krakow. It was the largest complex of the Nazi concentration camps, the Main Camp Auschwitz I being established in April 1940 from an area that was formally a polish army barracks where the primarily prisoners were Germans transferred from the Sachsenhausen Camp near Berlin. This was supplemented with Polish political prisoners from Dachau and Tarnow all for use as forced labour. At its peak, Auschwitz I contained over 18,000 prisoners, mostly men.

Auschwitz I

Auschwitz I did have a single gas chamber and crematorium; however, it was not heavily utilized and after Auschwitz-Birkenau became operational, the facility was turned into a bomb shelter for Nazi officials who were located in offices in the vicinity.

Auschwitz-Birkenau

Auschwitz-Birkenau, also known as Auschwitz II, was located less than 3 kilometres away from the main camp, and is well recognised by the gate house.

This camp was established in October 1941 as a concentration and death camp. It is estimated that 1.1 million of the 1.3 million individuals deported to Auschwitz were killed in its three years of operation until the Soviet Army liberated the Auschwitz complex on January 27, 1945.

Buna-Monowitz

Buna-Monowitz, known as Auschwitz III or ‘Buna,’ was established in October 1942 to house labourers for neighbouring industrial facilities. Located several miles from the main complex, Auschwitz III bordered the town of Monowice, home of the Buna synthetic rubber works.

The initial purpose for the camp's establishment in October 1942 was to house labourers who were leased out to the rubber works. Much of its initial construction was funded by I. G. Farben, a company that benefited from this slave labour. It also contained a special Labour Education Department to re-educate non-Jewish prisoners who did not follow camp structure and policy while Monowitz, like Auschwitz I and Birkenau, was surrounded by electrified barbed wire.

Elie Wiesel the founder of the Ekie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity spent time in this camp after being processed through Birkenau with his father.

Prisoners in all of the Auschwitz camps were forced to wear striped pyjama type cloths and have their heads shaved. While it was stated this was for hygiene it was clearly for the purpose of dehumanizing.

All three Auschwitz camps implemented the tattooing numbers on the inner forearms of prisoners as part of German attention to detailed recording. This was differed from other camps where numbers were only on the uniform worn.

Block 10 was known as the "Krankenbau" or hospital barrack. It had blacked out windows on the first floor to hide evidence of medical experiments that were being performed on prisoners within the building by doctors such as Josef Mengele and Carl Clauberg.

Further on page 51.

Camp Commandant Rudolf Höss was hanged just outside the crematorium of Auschwitz I on April 16, 1947.

The infamous “Arbeit Macht Frei” (“Work Shall Set You Free”) gate stands at the entrance of Auschwitz I.

Something that does not get much of a mention when discussing the life of detainees in Nazi Concentration camps and their barbarous treatment is the toilet conditions they were forced to use.

This is one of the toilet sheds at Auschwitz where detainees were forced to use communal toilets with a two minute time allocated to each user.

It was not hard to find yourself in a concentration under the Nazi regime?

Under the Nuremberg Laws of 1935, anyone with three of four Jewish grandparents was considered a Jew, while those with two Jewish grandparents were designated Mischlinge (half breeds). So even if your were a limbless veteran of World War One fighting on the German side, your were not immune.

The Stockton Bight disaster

The Stockton Bight disaster of 1954 was one of Australia's worst peacetime military tragedies that occurred during a routine CMF training exercise off Newcastle NSW.

In 1954 16 Company AASC was before its separation from the 15th Northern Rivers Lances entering onto its annual training camp when the disaster occurred.

"The following extract explaining the calamity was taken directly from the publication, **Military of the Hunter – Citizen Defence Forces of Newcastle and the Hunter Valley – 1855 to 2005 †††.**

Annual camp for 1954 commenced on a note of high adventure and enthusiasm but unfortunately ended in tragedy. The Regiment commenced camp with a weekend bivouac on 6/7 March during which fuel and stores were drawn and vehicles finally checked. The intention was for the Regiment to move by water in a series of bounds to the Mungo Brush area. By Sunday evening 7 March, all vehicles were ready and drawn up on the Wave Trap Beach at the rear of Camp Shortland. (near Nobbys) A weather forecast of good conditions was obtained from Government Weather Bureau and promptly at 0200 hrs 8 March with the Commanding Officer's DUKW at the head, the Regiment passed the start line (end of the Breakwater) and headed out to open sea. The Regiment fell into line astern, the convoy comprising 20 vehicles: seven DUKWs, eight LVT 4As, and five LVT 4s. The order of march was Regimental Headquarters, A Squadron, 16 Company and at the rear a RAEME Workboat. Operation Seagull had commenced.

LVT's enter the Water at Stockton

The night was fine and warm with clear skies, moderate seas, and an 8-10 mph wind, but within three quarters of an hour the wind changed

(Continued on page 42)

direction and increased, the seas became rough with large choppy waves. By 0315 hrs control had become difficult as wireless sets became drenched and vehicles began encountering trouble. As the dawn broke the convoy had become scattered, several vehicles had sunk, and the crews rescued by other vehicles. When attempting to land through mountainous surf breaking 250 yards offshore other vehicles foundered. The Commanding Officer's DUKW was sunk towing a broken down LVT 4A (Corporal Hole) to shore and both crews had to take to the water 200 yards out.

Further down the beach Sergeant Sharp's LVT had foundered however fortunately most of the crew managed to reach shore. Sergeant Sharp, a non-swimmer, was caught in a rip outside the breakers and remained there afloat in his life jacket for several hours, during which members of Stockton Surf Club attempted to reach him without success. About 0530 hrs the Regimental Second-in-Command, Major Beirne, having crossed the Harbour in his DUKW, came up Stockton Beach and Corporal Bowditch (Regimental Aid Post Corporal) dived into the surf and swam 200 yards to Sergeant Sharp and single-handed brought him through the breakers to within 50 yards of shore when Surf Club members took out a line to assist in the rescue.

The DUKW again moved up the beach arriving on the spot just after the Commanding Officer's vehicle went down; here again Corporal Bowditch played a prominent part helping survivors. It was here that the Regimental Medical Officer (Captain T.E. Edmeades) and the Adjutant (Captain S.J. Bryan) rescued Lieutenant P. Smedley. Six miles up Stockton Bight towards Cemetery Point several vehicles sank endeavouring to land through the terrific breakers, it was here the Regiment lost three members: Corporal N. Moran, (an original member of 1948) and Trooper N. Mornement of *"N"* Squadron, and Trooper R. Blackie (presumed drowned) of 16 Company.

Of the original eight LVTs which left the Wave Trap Beach at 0200 hrs only one got through without mishap, this was the vehicle of Corporal N.J. Sharpe who was both crew commander and driver. Of the others, one (Sergeant Robinson) was towed back to Camp Shortland and five had sunk, one was taken in tow by an LVT of 16 Company (Sergeant H.H. James) and beached near Cemetery Point; of the five LVTs, one (Sergeant E. Grazier) had foundered in the surf, one (Lieutenant P. Langwill) was towed back to Camp Shortland, and

(Continued on page 43)

(Continued from page 42)

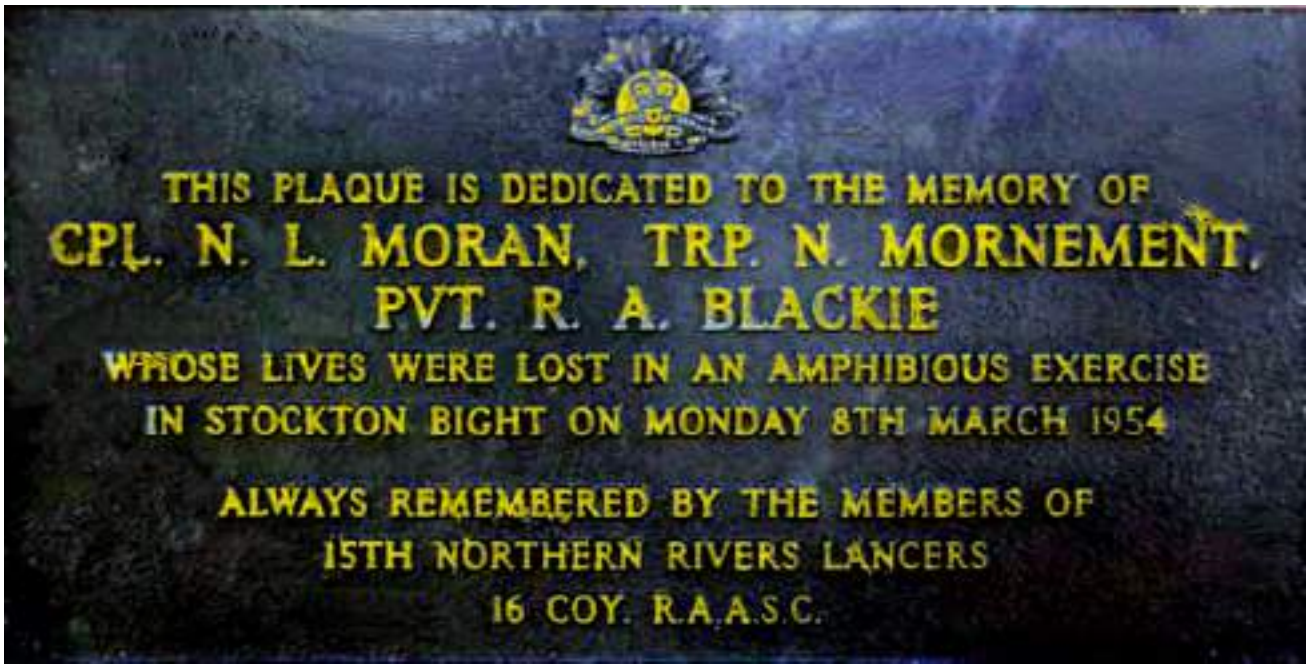
three got through safely. Of the seven DUKWs, two sank, (Lieutenant Colonel J.A. James and Corporal W. Wyorn), one (Major R.K. Mullumby) towed back to Newcastle by an RAEME Workboat, the other four survived. The exhausted survivors were assembled at HMAS *Assault,* Nelson Bay, Brigade HQ and HQ Eastern Command were advised, and arrangements made to move the Regiment into Gan Gan camp.

The next day the GOC Eastern Command (Lieutenant General Woodward) and Brigade Commander (Brigadier K.M.H. Arnott) visited the Regiment. The GOC later said, he had *"rarely seen a unit with such high morale after such a disaster and certainly never in peacetime".*

On Wednesday 10 March the entire Regiment, clad in new berets, khaki drills, webbing, and side arms moved by road to Newcastle for the joint funeral of Corporal Moran and Trooper Mornement, (Trooper Blackie was still missing), who were buried with full military honours.

The service was held at Christ Church Cathedral, following which the cortege led by the firing party, moved down Church Street to a slow march played by the pipes and drums, before mounting vehicles to follow the two hearses in convoy through the city to Sandgate Cemetery.

The GOC Eastern Command Lieutenant General Woodward, the brigade Commander, Brigadier Arnott, and senior staff officers from



Eastern Command marched at the head of the Regiment with the commanding officer.

The Regiment then resumed training the following day and continued with the amended syllabus".

††† Edited by our member Lieutenant Colonel Laurie Kelly AM, (Ret) with contributions other sub Branch members, Major Charlie Stevens OAM (Ret) and Major John Ross (Ret).

ABBREVIATIONS

The DUKW is a six-wheel-drive amphibious modification. of the 2½ -ton CCKW trucks. DUKW colloquially known as the Duck is a amphibious vehicle the name derived from General Motors Corporation the manufacture.

D represents the year of production

U stands for Utility

K indicates the all wheel drive

W refers to the tandem read axles that were both driven.

LVT 4A Landing Vehicle Tracked Armoured.

LVT 4 Landing Vehicle Tracked.

The disaster bought out the best in men with a number of the soldiers decorated with awards for bravery.

Temporary Sergeant Donald Gordon McHattie

the George Medal.

Sergeant Jack Bowditch

the British Empire Medal.

Warrant Officer Class 2 L Whitting

the British Empire Medal.

Private Desmond Herbert Burns

the Queens Commendation for Brave Conduct.

The Bogie Hole.

Newcastle's Bogey hole history enhances the savage harshness of the life of the convict under the military.

One of the best examples of severe treatment of prisoners must be the Bogey Hole at Newcastle, a construction that captures the hardship of being a convict.

Lieutenant Colonel James Thomas Morisset was the British Commandant of the Newcastle settlement from 1818 to 1823 when he decided he would like a personal bathing pool. He ordered the convict labour force to carve a pool from solid rock at the base of Shepherds Hill for his personal pleasure. Convicts worked to hew out the rock pool exposed to the ocean for hours each day while exposed to the pounding of the waves over the worked area.

It became known as the Commandant's Bath and then "Bogie" or "Bogey" Hole from the local Aboriginal language.

What happens if you get scared half to death, twice?

France's Controversial Paramilitary Force During World War two. More hated than the German occupiers.

The Milice française, or simply la Milice, was a paramilitary organization established by the Vichy regime in France on January 30, 1943. Created to assist Nazi Germany in combating the French Resistance, the Milice became one of the most notorious symbols of collaboration during the War.

Formation and Leadership

The Milice was formed with the support of Nazi Germany and was officially headed by Pierre Laval, the Prime Minister of Vichy France. However, its de facto leader was Joseph Darnand, a fervent supporter of the Nazi ideology. Darnand's leadership ensured that the Milice operated with ruthless efficiency, often surpassing even the Gestapo in its brutality.

Resistance fighters captured by the milice

The Milice attracted a diverse range of members, from the French population, including:

- Far-right political activists: Many members came from pre-war far-right parties.
- Working-class men: Some joined for the promise of employment and regular pay.
- Petty criminals: Others were enticed by the incentives offered, such as exemption from forced labour in Germany.

By 1944, the Milice's membership had reached an estimated 25,000 to 30,000. The majority of members were not full-time militiamen but devoted only a few hours per week to their Milice activities. The primary role of the Milice was to suppress the French Resistance where their activities included:

Summary executions and assassinations: They targeted resistance and

political opponents. They rounded up Jews and resistance fighters and were responsible for deporting many to concentration camps.

Intelligence gathering: Their local knowledge made them effective in infiltrating and dismantling resistance networks.

The Milice's actions earned them a fearsome reputation among the French populace, who often viewed them with more disdain than the German occupiers. The relationship between the Milice and the French people was fraught with tension and hostility. Their collaboration with the Nazis and brutal methods made them deeply unpopular. Many French citizens saw them as traitors, and their presence often incited fear and resentment.

Repercussions After the War

With the liberation of France in 1944, the fate of Milice members varied: there were Immediate reprisals where many were executed in the chaotic period following the German retreat.

Legal prosecution were implemented by the provisional government who conducted formal trials, sentencing approximately 120,000 collaborators to various punishments.

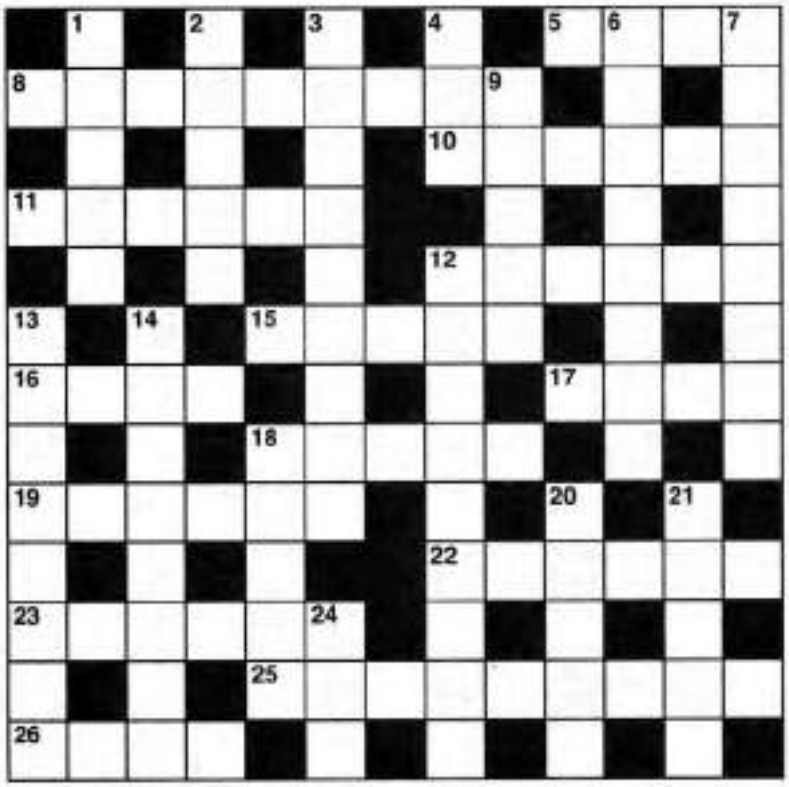
Some members managed to evade capture by going underground or fleeing abroad. Notable figures like Paul Touvier were later prosecuted for their wartime crimes.

The legacy of the Milice remains a dark chapter in French history, mobilising the depths of collaboration and the complexities of wartime loyalties.

Don't give up your dreams—go back to sleep.

Crossword No.26

(Solution on page 50)



ACROSS

5 Absconded (4)
8 Unconfined (9)
10 Hockey-like game (6)
11 Cold symptom (6)
12 Hot milk and ale (6)
15 Avoid your duty (5)
16 Active, nimble (4)
17 Bird feathers (4)
18 Salad plant (5)
19 Hate, detest (6)
22 Like melting snow (6)
23 Felt hat (6)
25 Lovely (9)
26 Barking pets (4)

DOWN

1 Animals in a pride (5)
2 Frogman (5)
3 In another place (9)
4 Beast of burden (3)
6 Lucky guess (4,4)
7 Mortarless (wall) (8)
9 Quivered (5)
12 Garment fastener (5,4)
13 Apart, removed (8)
14 Suffering audibly (8)
18 Brand-name lock (5)
20 Spiky flower (5)
21 Gesture of indifference (5)
24 Craving (3)

31

Word search No. 26

(Solution on page 50)

26 Horror Icons

K	N	K	C	Q	X	V	L	V	S	R	S	M	A	S
A	S	B	R	M	T	Q	R	T	N	A	A	U	F	U
R	W	D	H	U	A	V	R	P	I	T	V	N	G	S
L	N	A	M	R	O	C	A	O	K	Y	R	V	I	T
O	T	T	S	T	E	E	L	E	T	U	O	A	S	B
F	E	L	L	O	V	E	C	R	A	F	T	X	E	R
F	N	G	U	U	R	U	A	R	C	E	Z	O	Y	U
N	A	E	N	G	L	U	N	D	A	O	D	I	E	C
C	A	A	B	I	O	R	K	Q	M	M	V	Q	L	R
A	E	M	C	O	H	S	O	B	P	M	P	B	E	A
Q	A	G	B	U	T	S	I	M	B	M	L	T	S	V
S	N	E	N	T	R	E	U	R	E	I	Z	O	O	E
Q	L	J	S	I	T	R	U	C	L	R	A	D	M	N
L	R	A	L	K	K	U	Y	X	L	C	O	D	U	K
C	Q	V	X	R	F	V	A	K	X	S	O	N	Y	R

ATKINS
CAMPBELL
CORMAN
CRAMPTON
CRAVEN
CURRY
CURTIS
CUSHING
ENGLUND
KARLOFF
KING
KUROSAWA
LOVECRAFT
LUGOSI
MOSELEY
POE
ROMERO
SCRIMM
STEELE
TODD
ZOMBIE

Crossword solution No. 26

No. 26

■	L	■	D	■	E	■	A	■	F	L	E	D
L	I	M	I	T	L	E	S	S	■	O	■	R
■	O	■	V	■	S	■	S	H	I	N	T	Y
S	N	E	E	Z	E	■	■	O	■	G	■	S
■	S	■	R	■	W	■	P	O	S	S	E	T
I	■	G	■	S	H	I	R	K	■	H	■	O
S	P	R	Y	■	E	■	E	■	D	O	W	N
O	■	O	■	C	R	E	S	S	■	T	■	E
L	O	A	T	H	E	■	S	■	L	■	S	■
A	■	N	■	U	■	■	S	L	U	S	H	Y
T	R	I	L	B	Y	■	T	■	P	■	R	■
E	■	N	■	B	E	A	U	T	I	F	U	L
D	O	G	S	■	N	■	D	■	N	■	G	■

Word Search No. 26 solution

26

K	N	K	C	Q	X	V	L	V	S	R	S	M	A	S
A	S	B	R	M	T	Q	R	T	N	A	A	U	F	U
R	W	D	H	U	A	V	R	P	I	T	V	N	G	S
L	N	A	M	R	O	C	A	O	K	Y	R	V	I	T
O	T	T	S	T	E	E	L	E	T	U	O	A	S	B
F	E	L	L	O	V	E	C	R	A	F	T	X	E	R
F	N	G	U	U	R	U	A	R	C	E	Z	O	Y	U
N	A	E	N	G	L	U	N	D	A	O	D	I	E	C
C	A	A	B	I	O	R	K	Q	M	M	V	Q	L	R
A	E	M	C	O	H	S	O	B	P	M	P	B	E	A
Q	A	G	B	U	T	S	I	M	B	M	L	T	S	V
S	N	E	N	T	R	E	U	R	E	I	Z	O	O	E
Q	L	J	S	I	T	R	U	C	L	R	A	D	M	N
L	R	A	L	K	K	U	Y	X	L	C	O	D	U	K
C	Q	V	X	R	F	V	A	K	X	S	O	N	Y	R

Josef Mengele the notorious concentration camp doctor of World War two and responsible for thousands of deaths escaped detection and lived a peaceful life while in plain sight.

On the run for decades from punishment for his notorious crimes at Auschwitz camp where he performed sadistic experiments on inmates, preferably twins he spent several years working as a farmhand in Germany before escaping to South America where he lived in anonymity, even gaining citizenship in Paraguay using the name Jose Mengele. The one letter change of his name helped protect him. He was swimming at a resort in Brazil in 1979 where he suffered a stroke and drowned. He never faced any sanctions for his crimes.

If you are ever on life support, get them to unplug you and then plug you back in, and see if that works.

RSL NSW CARDIFF SUB-BRANCH

2025 MEETING DATES

RSL NSW CARDIFF sub-Branch

RSL NSW CARDIFF sub-Branch

Note: - General Meetings start at 1015 hrs.
- Coffee Catch-Up from 1000 to 1200 hrs.

- Office will be closed on Wednesday 18 December 2024 and re-open on Saturday, 11 January 2025.

General Meeting (Sunday)	*Coffee Catch-Up (Saturday)*
12 January 2025	*No Coffee Catch-Up on 26 January 2025*
9 February 2025 (AGM Only)	*22 February 2025*
9 March 2025	*22 March 2025*
13 April 2025	*No Coffee Catch-Up on 26 April 2025*
18 May 2025 (3rd Sunday) (Mother Day 11th May)	*24 May 2025*
8 June 2025 (Kings Birthday Holiday on Monday)	*28 June 2025*
13 July 2025	*26 July 2025*
10 August 2025	*23 August 2025*
14 September 2025	*27 September 2025*
12 October 2025	*25 October 2025*
9 November 2025 (Remembrance Day Tuesday)	*22 November 2025*
14 December 2025 (Christmas Luncheon)	No Coffee Catch-Up on 27 December 2025

- Office will be closed on Wednesday 17 December 2025 and re-open on Saturday, 10 January 2026.

Other important dates for 2025.
- ANZAC Day – Friday 25 April 2025.
- Remembrance Day – Tuesday 11 November 2025.