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THE APPRENTICE ABOUT

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INC.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED (ACT Incorporation No A04404)

PO BOX 4091, KOGARAH BAY, NSW 2217, www.austarmyapprentice.org

Patron: Major General Andrew Mathewson, AM

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May 2016

From the President

By Harry Hoger 20th Radio Mech, President AAAA
president@austarmyapprentice.org

From the results of the survey conducted earlier this year, a number of key initiatives have been identified, which are being implemented. More features will be on our Website. A Committee Member has been appointed as a social media administrator. This is to improve our service to you, the membership.

Calling all videos! Our YouTube channel, Australian Army Apprentices Association, is operating - take a look (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGcrL-Vhwn5PbRIhZVFTJcQ>). There will be links on the Association Website and Facebook to take you there directly, for your viewing pleasure, all in the one location. If you have videos of grad parades, reunions, or other Army Apprentice activities, please consider downloading them or send a copy or a link to our Vice President, Vice_president@austarmyapprentice.org.

Membership renewal notices have gone out for March and more will follow in September. Please continue your membership. The Committee needs your support to effectively manage your Association.

Please put more photos from your Intake reunions onto the photos location on our Website. Thank you.

Vale – Mal Campbell, 22nd Elec Fitter

From Keith Lowe, 22nd Intake Fitter & Turner

It is with much sadness and regret I have the unpleasant task of advising that Mal Campbell, 22nd Intake Elec Fitter and ASM of C Company in 1969, passed away peacefully at 1635 on 28th April 2016. His wife and sons were with him when he passed away following a gallant fight against terminal leukaemia.



I am sure you will all join with me in wishing Mal's wife Barb, sons Andrew and Daniel and their wives our sincere condolences at this time. Kind regards.

A full vale notice will be on the Association Website in due course (Ed)

10th anniversary of the AAAA

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the raising of the current incarnation of the Australian Army Apprentices Association on 12th April 2006. See page 3.

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Walking Across the UK | Soldier On Funding Platform

Input from Phil Edwards and Dave McGahey, 27th Intake

Dave McGahey, 27th VM and Phil Edwards, 27th ET have been friends for over 40 years. Within a short time after this Newsletter is published, both Dave and Phil will be embarking on an adventure to raise funds for Soldier On to help veterans who have, and continue to, put their lives on the line to serve their country and now need help.

The walk, 309 km (192 miles) across the UK from St Bees on the west coast to Robin Hood's Bay on the east coast, commences on 22nd May 2016. The Coast to Coast Walk (or Wainwright's Walk) crosses the UK from West Cumbria to the North Sea, and includes the Lake District, the Pennines, the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors.



The route is mostly unsignposted and will take about two to three weeks to complete. This should further their friendship as they together deal with the British late spring weather, hill climbs up to a total height of 2,560 ft, public footpaths, tracks and minor roads.

Dave and Phil are seeking donations, aiming for at least \$40,000. As at 14th May 2016, they have raised \$23,315. To make a tax-deductible donation, visit <https://soldieron.giveeasy.org/campaigns/walking-across-the-uk/>. You can also visit their blog at www.walkingacrossuk.wordpress.com

SPAASSM

By Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, Editor, moderator@austarmyapprentice.org

February 2016 Newsletter competition – who was the mystery man!

Congratulations to John Pronk, 15th Radio Mech, who was quick off the mark, correctly identifying Frank (Speed) Maloney, 13th VM as the mystery man.

SPAASSM May 2016 competition



In this edition, the question is, “What is being built here?” The first person who emails me with the correct answer receives a copy of the SPAASSM DVD. A clue is that the photo was taken about 1958. As usual, Committee members may not enter.

Membership matters

By Craig Malcolm, 31st ET, Membership Secretary, membership@austarmyapprentice.org

Thanks to Gary Byard

Firstly, I would like to thank Gary Byard for filling in as Membership Secretary for the last few years; it can sometimes be an onerous task but extremely rewarding. I have now returned as the Membership Secretary and I look forward to growing our membership and connecting with you all.

Current membership status:

If you are unsure as to when your membership is due for renewal, or you have changed your contact details, please give me a call on 0438 808 233 or e-mail me at membership@austarmyapprentice.org

As at 23rd April 2016, we had 568 financial Members, comprising: 271 Ordinary Members, 286 Retired Members, 3 Life Members, and 8 Associates.

Since the last Newsletter, we have gained 13 new Members, which is a good increase; however, we still have a number of Members (46) who need to renew their membership for the March renewals. If you have moved house or changed your contact details, please let me know, as I am getting a number of renewal letters returned as “no longer at this address”.

Newsletter contributions

If you have any items of news or other suitable material for inclusion in **The Apprentice About**, please email the Editor, moderator@austarmyapprentice.org or contact a member of the Committee.



The AAAA 10th anniversary

Background history

Thanks to Harry Cole, 7th VM, Heritage Officer,
heritage@austarmyapprentice.org

The Australian Army Apprentice Scheme commenced with the formation of an Army Apprentices School at Balcombe, Vic on 2nd August 1948.

The present Australian Army Apprentices Association Inc. is the most successful of three attempts to raise an association of ex-Army Apprentices and School staff members.

The first attempt was during the late 1960s by members of the earlier Intakes and it was held at the old Caulfield RSL Club rooms at Hawthorn Rd, South Caulfield, Vic. This initial effort failed after the inaugural meeting.

The second and more successful attempt took place in the early 1970s at the Victorian Police Auditorium at which Robert Scott (1st Intake bricklayer and the first recipient of the Governor-General's Medal) was elected as President and Jack Westernhagen (3rd Intake VM) was elected Vice President, as well as the Vic State Secretary.

Following this successful meeting, the formation of the ACT Branch took place at the Duntroon Royal Military College, ACT on 13th May 1970, chaired by Garth Gorlis (1st Intake C&J). The NSW meeting was held at Vic Bks, Sydney on 11th July 1970, chaired by Brian Stapleton (1st Intake F&T). The WA meeting was held on 5th February 1971, the SA meeting on 12th February 1971, the Tasmania meeting on 24th February 1971, and the Southern Queensland meeting on 23rd April 1970. Jack Westernhagen, as the elected Vic Branch Secretary, was invited to the ACT, NSW and SA inaugural Branch meetings as a guest speaker.

With these State Branches now formed, ex-Apprentices attending a graduation parade at Balcombe in the 1970s were invited to a meeting in the Apprentices School NCO Club, with the view of forming a national Australian Army Apprentices Association. At this meeting, Bob Scott (Vic Branch President) and Jack Westerhagen (Vic State Secretary) were duly elected as the first National Apprentices Association President and Secretary. The inaugural meeting was presided over by LTGEN Sir Sydney Fairbairn Rowell, KBE, CB (ex-Chief of the General Staff), who was elected as the Association's first Patron.

The Victorian Branch, acting as the National HQ of the Association, introduced a national newsletter titled

"The CruX", which was printed by ex-Apprentices who were posted to Army HQ, Albert Park Bks, and was distributed to all members of the newly-formed Branches. Copies of the newsletter have survived and were donated to the AAAA's first Heritage Officer, Chris Moon (32nd Intake TBA), and are now part of the Association's SPAASSM history for prosperity.

Sadly, this second attempt to form a National Apprentices Association only lasted for about five years and was disbanded. The reason was that members wanted to join up with members from the same Intakes but, due to the various interstate postings from Balcombe, most contact was lost.

On 22nd July 2006, a third and more successful effort was made in Canberra, ACT, resulting in an active committee being elected and the development of a very successful Website following a suggestion at a previous Balcombe reunion. This third Association committee was also instrumental in the undertaking of the groundwork for the erection of the Australian Army Apprentices Memorial at South Bandiana, Vic and the inclusion of the Army Apprentices section of the Army Museum, which is also at South Bandiana.

10th anniversary

It is worth reflecting on the actions and activities that the current AAAA has achieved in the last 10 years, including construction, dedication and upgrades of the Apprentices Memorial, Project SPAASSM, National reunions in 2008, 2011 and 2015, and the Back to Balcombe Commemoration in 2013, including rededication of the Marine Gates, Mace Oval and carpark (Parade Ground).

Potted history "of the birth of the Australian Army Apprentices Association

Researched by Frank Poole – April 2016

"In the beginning was ..." – a potted history of the birth of the Australian Army Apprentices Association, researched by Frank Poole, will be published on the Association Website in the near future. The raising of the Association was far from a straight forward event and this history will trace its early life from "pregnancy", through birth, and up to the first AGM.

Where are they now – inaugural Committee and Appointees

The inaugural Committee and Appointees of the AAAA comprised:

- President - Frank Poole 10th Architectural Draughtsman
- Vice-president - Jack Westernhagen 3rd Intake



- Secretary - Stephen Hladio, OAM 27th Intake
- Treasurer - Ray Wilson 15th Plumber
- Membership Secretary - Les Sutton 32nd Intake
- Public Officer - Greg Mulcahy
- Promotions & PR Officer - Frank Maloney 13th VM
- Welfare Officer - Russell Evans 23rd Intake
- Heritage Officer - Chris Moon 32nd Intake
- Social Officer - Bill Mertin 22nd Intake
- Webmaster - Glenn Jones (replaced by Rod Eagleton)
- Committee Members: Andrew Bishop 46th Intake, Jeff Heron 21st Radio Mech, Ian Morris, 12th Intake, Tim Wilde 40th Intake
- Regional Representatives:
NT - Edward "Chips" Carpenter 30th
N Qld - Jim Van Reyk 21st
S Qld - Frank Maloney 13th VM (replaced by Brian Daley 14th VM)
NSW - Shane Stevenson 41st
N Vic - Ian Pullen 34th
SE Vic - Graeme Horne 32nd
S Vic - Matt Bouma 30th C&J
Vic Metro - Jack Westernhagen 3rd
SA - Gary Deaton 28th
Tas - Mick Koerber 27th
WA - Brian Cooper OAM 9th
- Legal Advisor - Gib Owen 10th
- Auditor - Greg Mulcahy
- Patron - Ken Gillespie 23rd Bricklayer
- Trustee - Don Dalton

Event reports

21st Intake 50th anniversary of enlistment

Over the weekend of 19th - 21st February 2016, the 21st Intake celebrated the 50th anniversary of enlistment in January 1966. As reported in the last edition of TAA, the group of about 65, including partners, spent the weekend on the Mornington Peninsular and enjoyed a meet and greet at the Dava Hotel, a short visit to Balcombe, a visit to Beleura House and Garden in Mornington, a dinner at the Frankston RSL, and a farewell BBQ at El Rancho, Bittern.

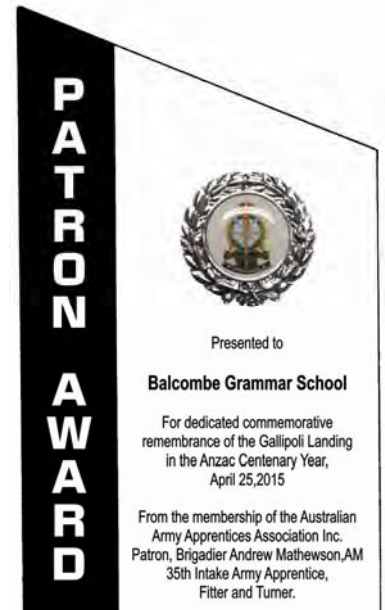
During the Balcombe visit, reunion attendees witnessed a presentation to representatives from Balcombe Grammar School. On behalf of the Association, Richard Pike, 21st VM and Treasurer, presented the first Patron Award, plus a copy of the

book *From Boy to Soldier*, a copy of the 2013 Balcombe Barracks Commemoration video, and a copy of the Balcombe sketches, 1948-1982.

For the 2015 Centenary of Anzac Day, on their own initiative, the School students camped out on Mace Oval on the night before and conducted their own Anzac Day dawn service next morning.

To commemorate our national identity with this significant event, the School was presented with this Association's

Patron Award, for outstanding achievement, contribution and support of our first Anzacs.



Pictured are Balcombe Grammar Deputy Principal - Secondary Warrick Wynne, School Captain Jack Hadaway and Vice-captain Hannah Mowat with Richard Pike at the Memorial Gates.

Balcombe Grammar School in brief

In his President's Update of 19th April 2006, Frank Poole wrote "It has been brought to my notice that a new Anglican Grammar School is to be built at Balcombe, on land that is believed to include Mace, the Gates and the Parade Ground. I have been in contact with the developers to express our interest in the site and requesting further information.



It is opportune that this has happened just as the AAAA has been formed as we are able to represent our views far more strongly. I will keep all advised of developments."

The School **was** built, being founded in January 2007. The Senior Building opened in 2012, accommodating the VCE and VCAL students and, in 2015, the Innovation Centre opened. Balcombe Grammar is a co-educational Foundation to Year 12 school, a member of the Victorian Ecumenical System of Schools and a member of Independent Schools of Victoria.

Mt Martha House

Some of the 21st Intake anniversary attendees visited Mt Martha House, on the Esplanade, also a "stone's throw" from Balcombe.

Built in 1889-90, the House started life as a hotel/guest house. For a short time during WW2 it housed servicemen and, from 1952 until its closure in 1974, the House was the No 30 WRAAC Barracks.



Mt Martha House is now on the Victorian Heritage Register and is currently in use as the Mt Martha Community Learning Centre.



Unknown to many is the fact that the original plaques from the Balcombe Marine Gates were removed to Mt Martha House when the Camp closed in 1983. The plaques were rededicated on 23rd April 1988.



Anzac Service – Balcombe Grammar School – 21st April 2016

By Harry Hoger, President AAAA, 20th Radio Mech
president@austarmyapprentice.org

Mathew Dodd, Principal, Balcombe Grammar School, issued an invitation to all Apprentices to attend and support the School with their Anzac programme. The invitation was further extended to me to be the guest speaker on behalf of the AAAA at the School's Anzac service, in the gym.

I was supported by ex-Balcombe apprentices, in particular Harry Cole 7th Intake VM, who is the son of a first Anzac. His father was wounded at Lone Pine, which was significant to know for this event. Frank Maloney, 13th Intake VM presented the Principal with a Balcombe AAS flag and the 1st Division USMC flag, which was donated at the back to Balcombe reunion, because of our connection via the Marine Gates.



Neil Bennett, Association Secretary, also a 13th Intake VM, organised a wreath, with which he and student leaders did the honours.

The students, parents and staff gave a resounding applause to us all, which we appreciated very much.



I would like to to thank everyone in attendance for their support. I appreciate it very much.

Some more photos, thanks to Barry Minster, 20th Radio Mech and Harry Cole, 7th VM, Heritage Officer



Presentation of the US Marines 1st Division flag to the Principal by Frank Maloney. Both this and the AAS flag were gratefully accepted and later flown at the School. Frank also gave a brief history of the time the US Marines were at Balcombe from 1942-43, five to six years before the AAS began in 1948.



Neil Bennett with the wreath presentation assisted by two year 4 students.



Frank Maloney, Harry Cole, Harry Hoger and the Principal, Matthew Dodd.

Canberra Region lunch – 16th March 2016

By Frank Poole, 10th Architectural Draughtsman
memorial@austarmyapprentice.org

The regular quarterly Canberra Region Apprentices lunch was held on the 16th March at our usual watering hole at the Golden King Restaurant in Phillip. This was the 16th lunch (16th lunch on the 16th in 2016) we have held, the first in April 2010, and we have, until recently, rotated through Vietnamese, Indian, Mediterranean, Ethiopian, Chinese, Thai and Malaysian cuisine and travelled from the far reaches of Canberra on the east, west and south sides and the CBD. We finally settled on our present choice due to their service, food, price, parking and bar.

At this lunch, we had 18 Apprentices attending, including Harry Hoger, Harry Cole and Kerry Tunbridge from Sydney. Harry Hoger, our President, briefed the diners on the proceedings of the last Apprentices Association Committee Meeting and answered some questions before we all settled down to a Chinese banquet, finishing with “doggy boxes” for those who wanted to take home some of the residual food.

The group was polled on their views on later in the year having a family event with inconclusive results. I will suggest a few ideas at the next lunch to determine whether it is worthwhile pursuing and what a preferred form should be.

The next lunch will be on Wednesday 22nd June. I will send out to all Association Members my usual notice. Any Defence Service Apprentice from any service or country is welcome to attend but please contact me on memorial@austarmyapprentice.org so I can include you on my contact list, or else join the Association and I can then contact you from our Membership list.

Kind regards to all

Upcoming events

Celebrating 68 years of Army Apprentices – 1948-2016,

Venue: Bulimba Bowls Club, Thynne Rd (access off Quinn St), Balmoral, Brisbane **Dress:** Casual

Date/time: Saturday, 4th June 2016, 1100 – 1600

Catering: Sausage sizzle at lunch, but feel free to bring your own if you wish. There is a large outdoor barbecue available for use. Drinks available at the bar.



Open to: Apprentices, their families, ex-members of staff and any other personnel who were associated with Apprentices and wish to renew old friendships.

Advertising: If you know of anyone who may not be aware of the reunion, please pass this information on. Also if you have access to any means of advertising the reunion, please feel free to do just that.

RSVP: Brian Daley - 14th VM, 1 Michael St, Bulimba QLD 4171, Tel: (07) 3399 1300, Mobile 0412 721 761, Email: bjdaley@hotmail.net.au

24th Intake reunion - Cairns 12th - 14th August 2016

Contact Paddy English for information 07 4033 1933, englishe@tpg.com.au

The 24th Intake is having a reunion in Cairns on the 12th to 14th August 2016.

22nd AAS Intake - 50 Year Reunion - 27th - 28th January 2017

Contacts Keith Lowe, 22nd F&T keith_lowe@optusnet.com.au, mobile 0416 765 921 or Nobby Clarke, 22nd VM bob@clarkecoaches.com.au, mobile 0407 941 366

There WILL be a 50th anniversary enlistment reunion of the 22nd Intake. All members and families are invited. Please contact any other 22nd Intake Appies you know who might be interested. Bob attended the 21st Intake's 50th anniversary last February and clued himself up on what to do to make sure the 22nd reunion goes off at least as well.

Memorial Sub-committee report

By Frank Poole, 10th Architectural Draughtsman memorial@austarmyapprentice.org

Donations. I would like to start this report by thanking all those members who have included a donation towards the continued upkeep and development of our Memorial. Besides paying for items such as cleaning materials, garden upkeep, wreaths, flag, printing, etc, it also allows for continuing development of the Memorial such as the pathway discussed below. Without your generous support, we would have to dip more often into the general funds of the Association.

Access. Over the past months, access to the Memorial and the Army Museum has been difficult and confusing. The following is the current policy:

- This procedure applies to both families/individuals and group visits.

- To book a time to visit you will need to book at least 24 hours in advance.
- Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays between the hours of 10am to 3pm are the only days that the Museum is open to the public. Memorial visits have to be escorted and staff will only be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Call Sharon on 02 6055 2525 to make a booking and advise that you wish to visit the Memorial. As Memorial visits have to be escorted, Sharon will advise if staff will be available.
- For Intake visits or Memorial services, please make initial enquiries through me at memorial@austarmyapprentice.org.

ALL VISITORS OVER 18 MUST HAVE PHOTO ID or you won't be allowed on base.

- Once you have a booking date and time, please ensure you arrive on time. Pull over outside the Barracks entrance gates and all visitors walk to security for issue of visitors' passes. The security guard will then notify Sharon that an escort is required, which she will send to meet you and bring you to the Museum and the Memorial (subject to staff availability).

We are continually seeking ways to ease the restriction on Association Members for Memorial visits, particularly for wreath laying, services, ashes scattering and remembrance plaque unveiling, whilst still meeting the security requirements of the base.

Pathway. We are starting work on a pathway from the rose garden to the Memorial and the Committee has been asked for ideas for its design. One suggestion is that the path could incorporate the Intake plaques from the Bonegilla trees and that the path be an "intake pathway" with each intake "step" incorporating a recovered and refurbished intake plaque (including the RIP ones where applicable) and showing the years and graduating numbers of Apprentices and include an explanatory plaque at the start. These are very early stages of planning, but your donations will go a long way in meeting the costs.

Plaques and pavers. This is just a reminder that inscribed pavers from individual Apprentices, bronze Intake or trade plaques and Remembrance plaques are available and details can be found on the Association Website.

<http://austarmyapprentice.org/aas-memorial/>



Website review - Army Apprentice National Memorial (UK)

Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, Editor and Website Forum Moderator moderator@austarmyapprentice.org

A thoroughly enjoyable and thought-provoking Website to visit is the British Army Apprentice National Memorial site at <http://www.armyapprenticememorial.org.uk/#>.



Featuring a 7m diameter base of light-grey granite; a central, engraved dark-grey polished circular granite slab; four light-grey granite benches at the perimeter (one for each of the four principal Apprentices Schools - **highlighted below**); engraved commemorative stone tablets at the perimeter of the base; and a rough-hewn block of dark granite featuring the Army Apprentices School Badge, the Memorial was completed and dedicated on 7th September 2011.

The Memorial is located at the site of the National Memorial Arboretum (The Royal British Legion), Croxall Road, Alrewas, Staffordshire, about ½hr NNE from Birmingham, on the A38. It is about ½hr walk from the main entrance, and only about 40m from the REME Memorial, which itself is about 200m from the central Armed Forces Memorial.

An interesting page is the “Potted History”, which includes known Apprentice training locations from 1900-2004 (all badges); that is:

Aldershot, **Arborfield**, Ashvale, Bramley, **Carlisle**, Catterick, Chatham, **Chepstow**, Church Crookham, Deepcut, **Harrogate**, Hilsea, Jersey, Taunton, Woolwich and Worthy Down.

I hope you visit and enjoy it.

Association merchandise

Contact Richard Pike, 21st VM, Merchandise Officer merchandise@austarmyapprentice.org

The Association has the following items for sale.

Order form and contact details are on the Association Website: <http://www.austarmyapprentice.org>

- Polo shirts (AAS badge, M,L,XL) \$35.00 +\$9.50 P&H
- Association tie \$25.00 +\$7.50 P&H
- Lapel badge \$10.00 +\$1.00 P&H
- Car sticker \$5.00 +\$1.00 P&H
- Plaque \$45.00 +\$10.00 P&H
- Baseball cap \$12.50 +\$7.50 P&H
- Key ring \$5.00 +\$1.00 P&H
- AAAA flag \$175.00 +\$9.50 P&H
- DVDs:
 - 60th Anniversary (2008) \$10.00 +\$7.50 P&H
 - Balcombe Commemoration (2013) \$15.00 +\$7.50 P&H
 - SPAASSM Collection \$25.00 +\$7.50 P&H





G.H. Gray's design for a tank and transporter

A brief history - by Don Gray, 22nd Radio Mech

The August 2015 edition of The Apprentice About included an article from Don Gray on his father's model self-transporting tank. Don sought assistance from a skilled modeller to help restore the model.

Here's a follow-up.

My father was the elected Federal Member for Capricornia between 1961 and 1967. He had a lifelong interest in the military and this prompted him to develop a new design of tank and transporter for the Australian Army.

He enlisted the skills of his friend and then Deputy Principal of the Rockhampton Technical College, Jack Duffield, who built the model transporter and modified the turret of the model tank. In August 1966, my father brought the models to Canberra and presented the basic design to the Government as his gift to the defence of Australia. A formal presentation and photo opportunity was held on the steps of (Old) Parliament House where the then Minister for Army, Malcolm Fraser, accepted these. The Canberra Times was on hand and a photo of my father with the model tank and transporter appeared in the Canberra Times on 26th August 1966.

At the time, my father was the Shadow Minister for Defence which meant that, in the event of the opposition Labor Party winning an election, it was likely he would have been Minister for Defence. As he died in August 1967, this opportunity simply did not arise, which I think is unfortunate, as I believe he would have been an excellent Minister for Defence. It is up to readers to choose what they wish to believe, however I present the following as his credentials:

- His original military service record book shows he commenced in the school cadets in February 1917
- He was then enlisted into the Australian Militia, compulsory under Federal law at the time
- In the Militia, he was promoted to Sergeant and then Lieutenant
- In 1923, he obtained employment with Chinese Maritime Customs in Shanghai, China
- While in Shanghai, he joined the British North China Armoured Company which formed part of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps
- After the outbreak of World War II, he re-enlisted in the Army and was granted the rank of WOII

- Like many other Australians, he served in New Guinea until the end of the War, rising to the rank of Captain.

Hansard records show that my father went into bat for service men and women regarding employment conditions and for the acquisition of the best defence equipment available. Few Ministers for Defence can demonstrate my father's record of military service including being a returned serviceman.

Returning to the present, I have spent considerable time and money to restore the tank and transporter to near original condition of some 50 years ago. I have made some small modifications and additions that I believe improve the presentation. I removed the old battery container and wiring used for remote control of the tank as it is now a static display, and the wiring and container were awkward items. Additions I made are miniature 44-gallon fuel drums and ammunition boxes, placed in the cargo carrying section of the transporter, which was designed for this purpose.



Before (above) and after (below)



Melbourne lunch – 2nd April 2016

By Lucas McGann, 35th Elec Fitter

Thank you to all those who attended (at the Sunshine RSL) and all who put in their apologies – it made organising a lot easier. Twenty eight Apprentices plus 8 partners attended with a pretty good spread of intakes, from memory: 7th, 12th, 23rd, 25th, 28th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 35th, 40th, 43rd and 45th. Apologies if I have missed anyone. Thank you to Craig Malcolm and Joanne Cornelius for their help in organising and effort on the day. Along with Craig and Joanne, I will try and organise a get together every 6 months or so.



If you have any suggestions for a venue feel free to contact me via email at lucas.mcgann@gmail.com.

These photos were taken by Craig Malcolm, 31st ET.



AAAA Committee

Congratulations and thanks to Craig Malcolm for again volunteering as Membership Secretary. Many thanks to the outgoing Gary Byard, for his hard work and excellent results in keeping our membership records for nearly three years. And welcomes to Kevin Noon, our latest Committee Member and Kevin Forster, our new NT Regional Rep.

Management Sub-committee, comprising:

Office Bearers:

President - Harry Hoger, 20th Radio Mech
 Vice President - Greg Haggett, 40th Plumber & Gasfitter
 Secretary - Neil Bennett, 13th VM
 Treasurer (and Merchandise Officer) - Richard Pike, 21st VM

And:

Membership Secretary - Craig Malcolm, 31st ET

Public Officer - Ray Wilson, 15th Plumber
 Welfare Officer - Damien Tyrrell, 40th ET
 Events Manager - Otto Aberle, 21st Veh Mech
 Memorial Sub-committee Chair - Frank Poole, 10th Arch Draughtsman - Life Member

Other Committee Members:

Heritage Officer - Harry Cole, 7th VM
 Webmaster - Ian Morris, 12th Radio Mech - Life Member
 Member (and Social Media Administrator) - Joanne Cornelius, 43rd VM
 Member (and Newsletter Editor and Forum Moderator) - Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech
 Member - Lucas McGann, 35th Elec Fitter
 Member - Frank Maloney, 13th VM
 Member - Barry Minster, 20th Radio Mech
 Member - Kevin Noon, 14.5th Musician

Appointees:

Honorary Trustee - Jim Hislop, 9th F&T
 Chaplain - Rev Alan Kelb, OAM, 25th F&T
 Chaplain - Rev Craig Potter, 38th F&T
 Auditor - Michael Farrar, 17th VM
 Legal Adviser - **Vacant**

Regional Representatives:

NT - Kevin Forster, 28th VM
 NQld - David Young, 30th Fitter Maint
 SQld - Brian Daley, 14th VM - Life Member
 NSW - Richard Pike, 21st VM
 ACT - Frank Poole, 10th Arch Draughtsman - Life Member
 Northern Vic - Jim Hislop, 9th F&T
 Southern Vic - Matt Bouma, 30th C&J
 Central Vic - Mark Ryan, 33rd Motor Mech
 SE Vic - Neil Bennett, 13th VM
 Vic Metro - Lucas McGann, 35th Elec Fitter
 SA - David Miller, 22nd Elec Fitter
 Tas - Gary Byard RFD, 21st VM
 WA - Tom Esze, 36th Motor Mech



Committee meeting 1st March 2016, Kirribilli Club, Lavender Bay: (L-R) Otto Aberle, Ian Morris, Harry Cole, Neil Bennett (Sec), Harry Hoger (Pres), Greg Haggett (VP), Joanne Cornelius, Richard Pike, Rev Craig Potter, Jeff Heron (Ed)