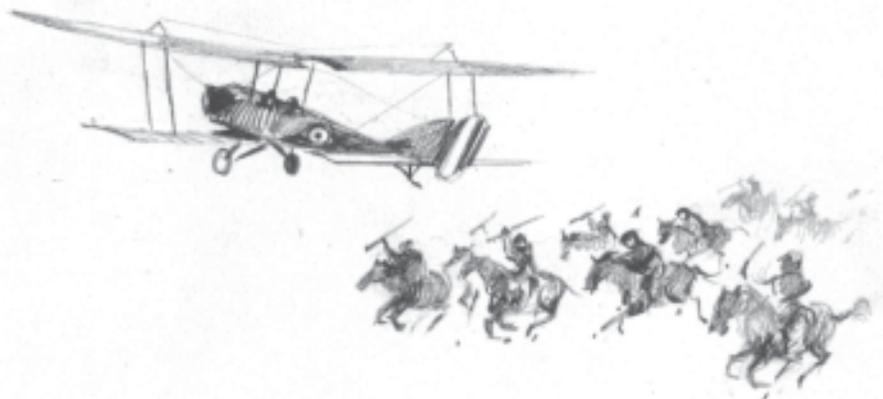


## A Fitting Tribute

A fitting tribute to our modern day heroes.

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings.  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds...and done a hundred things  
You have not yet dreamed of: wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hovering there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air.  
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace  
Where never lark, or even eagle flew.  
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
And putting out my hand, I touched the face of God.

Written by a young Canadian Air Corps pilot during World War One. Shortly after writing it, he was killed in action over France at the age of 22.



*The Role Of RAEME Is To :-*

*" Supply Mechanical Maintenance , Maintenance Engineering ,  
Modifications , and Material Technical Support to the Army."*

# *The Horse's Mouth*

## *The Newsletter of the* **RAEME Association** **of WA (Inc.)**

# **Autumn 2003**

This newsletter is the official journal of the **ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF WA (INC.)**. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month, except for January, at 7.00pm, Kings Hotel, 517 Hay Street, Perth, in Restaurant annex. Membership or other enquiries may be made to any of the committee members. A list is printed on Page 2 of this journal.

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**PO Box 186, Bayswater, WA 6053**

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**DEADLINE**

All contributions for the next edition of THE HORSE'S MOUTH must be with the editor no later than 27th of MAY 2003.

**DISCLAIMER**

Thoughts expressed in articles in THE HORSE'S MOUTH are those held by the writer/contributors and not necessarily those of the Association.

**From the President's Desk**

Again the time is rapidly drawing near for the next Annual General Meeting our 6<sup>th</sup> year and we need to look at prospect of having the younger members to come forward and start taking the reigns. But we seem to have attendance problems and without the support of our membership we are not going to have much success of ever having the younger generation ever taking responsibility of our great organization. So start putting on your thinking caps and come forward and nominate at least for a position.

In the first ever editorial of our "Horses Mouth" the comment was made that this was going to be your journal that you can all have a say in" Bouquets or Brickbats." If you have something that you want others to know please come forward and let us have the information and we will publish it.

Our organisation is going in the right direction but we need the input of all that are interested and we have to put our shoulder to the wheel and start doing the things we should be doing.

Our first responsibility is to attend our regular meetings so that we can dis-

just get more publicity.

There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4:AM. It could be a right number.

Think about this.....No one ever says, "It's only a game" when their team is winning.

How come we choose from just two people for president and 50 for Miss America?

Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.

Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself.

One of the quickest ways for a young man to fail in life is to work so hard the boss will think he's after his job.

A backyard barbecue draws two things....flies and relatives.

The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.

If you don't have a sense of humour, you probably don't have any sense at all.

Seat belts are not as confining as wheel-chairs.

**Hard to Say....**

THINGS THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO SAY WHEN YOU'RE DRUNK:

Indubitably  
 Innovative  
 Preliminary  
 Proliferation  
 Cinnamon

THINGS THAT ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO SAY WHEN YOU'RE DRUNK:

Specificity  
 British Constitution  
 Passive aggressive disorder  
 Loquacious Transubstantiate

THINGS THAT ARE DOWNRIGHT IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY WHEN YOU'RE DRUNK:

Thanks, but I don't want to have sex. Nope, no more booze for me. Sorry, but you're not really my type. Good evening officer, isn't it lovely out tonight.

Oh, I just couldn't. No one wants to hear me sing.

**Sweet Revenge**

One of the blokes in East Timor received a letter from his girlfriend recently. In the letter she explained that she had relations with two guys while he had been gone and she wanted to break up and she wants pictures of herself back.

So the Digger does what any switched on Infantry Digger would do. He went around to his mates and collected all the unwanted photos of women he could find. He then mailed about 25 pictures to his girlfriend with the following note:

"I'm sorry but I can't remember which one you are, but please take the one that belongs to you and send the rest back. Thank you."

**The Church gossip**

Sarah, the church gossip, busybody and self-appointed arbiter of the church's morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several residents were unappreciative of her activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence.

She made a mistake, however, when she accused George, a new member, of being an alcoholic after she saw his pickup truck parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon. She commented to George and others that everyone seeing it there would know what he was doing. George, a man of few words, stared at her for a moment and just walked away. He didn't explain, defend, or deny. He said nothing.

Later that evening, George quietly parked his pickup in front of Sarah's house... and left it there all night.

## Life According to Perry

Here is the latest offering from our own home spun Philosopher Perry.

### Thoughts for the day

I wonder.....

Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, "I think I'll squeeze these dangly things here, and drink whatever comes out"?

Who was the first person to say "See that chicken there....I'm gonna eat the next thing that comes outta it.

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp that no decent human being would eat?

Why is there a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?

If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a song about him?

Can a hearse carrying a corpse drive in the car pool lane?

If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

Why do people point to their wrist when asking for the time, but don't point to their crotch when they ask where the bathroom is?

Why does your OB-GYN leave the room when you get undressed if they are going to look up there anyway?

Why does goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

What do you call male ballerinas?

Can blind people see their dreams? Do they dream??

If Wiley E. Coyote had enough money to buy all that Acme crap, why didn't he just buy dinner?

If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Is Disney World the only people trap operated by a mouse?

Why do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?

Why do they call it an asteroid when it's outside the hemisphere, but call it a haemorrhoid when it's in your ass?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

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### Sayings

Some good ones to think about.....

A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.

Anyone who thinks old age is golden must not have had a very exciting youth.

How come it takes so little time for a child whom is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.

Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?

Scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job.

No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.

There are no new sins....the old ones

cuss a proper program for the ensuing year.

Secondly we should establish and maintain social activities and information services for the benefit of members, which is one principal aim of our association

On another note, John Curtis is starting a project to orally record the history of the Corps of RAEME in this State. Eventually he will have all the oral stories transposed to the written word. Unfortunately he cannot do the whole job himself. Please read the article about his "pet" project, give it some thought, and become a part of helping to preserve the Corps history in Western Australia.

Well this is it from me and I hope that you will give a thought to our comrades away overseas and I hope you can make our next meeting, we'll love to see you and have a natter and a drink afterwards. If you cannot make any meeting we are only a phone call away.

John Klein

Arte Et Marte

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### Clean up in the bag

By Cpl Belinda Mephram  
and the Army News

MANY hands made light work when ACT Workshops snapped on the rubber gloves and cleaned up a pile of filth in Fyshwick.

A vacant block full of domestic and industrial rubbish was the focal point for the section on Clean Up Australia Day.

Cfn Toby Cox organised the event and controlled not only more than 60 bags of carelessly dumped rubbish but also an assortment of dangerous and suspicious material.

"The most disturbing article we had to deal with was used hypodermic needles.

They were contaminated and in some you could see blood and substance.

It is disgusting that people leave them lying around," he said.

"We found almost 100 sharps just off Gladstone Street in a small area."

A freaky and gruesome find was a bunch of bones wrapped in a child's blanket in a garbage bag.

"The police came and checked the contents. The entire bag was sorted through - fortunately the bones were of animal off-cuts.

"Between the needles, the bones and a four litre marked container of white powder we kept the emergency services on their toes during the clean up."

Cfn Cox began organising the clean up after he saw a flyer asking for groups for Clean Up Australia Day in McDonald's.

He applied for the section, had permission granted by DNSDC then attended some local area meetings and recruited his workmates to lend a hand.

During the clean up Cfn Cox rang through progress reports to the area supervisor.

At the completion of the section's enthusiastic contribution they washed their hands and had a BBQ.

Other items found included hundreds of soiled nappies, more than 20 tyres, a computer, other drug taking utensils (bongs), sex toy packages and a lounge chair.

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### Did You Know?

The soldiers that went to the Boer War left Australia as army and militia units belonging to individual States and returned as the Australia Army.

During their service federation was declared and all units were taken over by the Federal Government.

## **Army celebrates 102 years serving the nation**

On March 1, the Australian Army will celebrate 102 years of service to the nation.

Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Peter Leahy, said the Army's birthday was a time for all Australians to reflect on the dedicated service of its men and women - past and present.

"On the Army's anniversary it is important that we remember those who have given their lives in the service of their country," Lieutenant General Leahy said.

"It is also timely to acknowledge the work currently being done by the Australian Army at home and abroad, particularly in peace-keeping missions and humanitarian operations.

"It's a day when we can look to the future knowing that Australia has a modern, capable and professional Army, that is also an integral part of the community and our heritage as a nation."

The Australian Army was born on the battlefield in South Africa 102 years ago. On March 1, 1901, 28,923 colonial soldiers - comprising permanent members, militia and volunteers - were transferred to the new Australian Army. The former colonial militias were serving in the Anglo Boer War at the moment of Federation.

In the past 102 years, Army personnel have served with courage and honour in the Boer War, the First and Second World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, the Malayan Emergency, the Gulf War and in peacekeeping operations around the world.

Today, Australian soldiers serve in peacekeeping, peace monitoring and military assistance operations around the world, including countries such as Bosnia, Bougainville, Ethiopia, Eritrea and East Timor.

Australia has had peacekeepers serving with the United Nations continuously for more than 50 years.

## **DHOC Speech RAEME 60th Anniversary**

1 DEC 2002

Today marks the 60th Anniversary of the formation of the Corps of Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

In 1992, on our 50th Anniversary, HRH, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, said that "Engineering in well established workshops is quite difficult enough; to recover and repair battle-damaged equipment in makeshift conditions, in all kinds of weather and often under fire requires special qualities of ingenuity and endurance. When things get really critical, it is the side that can keep its tanks moving, its guns firing and its electronics working that is most likely to win the day."

This was as true when we were formed as a Corps as it is today and will be when we celebrate our 100th Anniversary in 2042.

It would be tempting today to provide a history of all of the operations that members of the Corps have been involved in and to read out a long list of our achievements. This would be lengthy, it would be self-congratulatory and, I think would be unpalatable to most of us.

I say this because I believe that we are the silent achievers of the Army. Our influence is felt in every corner of the battlefield but we don't sing our praises loudly, maybe we should, but it is not our way. We let our work speak for us. And it does. In the past two years I have had the opportunity to visit units throughout Australia and, without fail, the Commanding Officers of these units sing the praises of their Craftsmen, and

"Oh my," she gasped, "No sex since 1955. Isn't that a little extreme?"

Glancing at his watch, the colonel said, "Oh, I don't know; it's only 2130 now."

## **Irish Humour...**

An Irishman named O'Malley went to his doctor after a long illness. The doctor, after a lengthy examination, sighed and looked O'Malley in the eye and said, "I've some bad news for you. You have cancer, and it can't be cured. You'd best put your affairs in order."

O'Malley was shocked and saddened. But, being of solid character, he managed to compose himself and walk from the doctor's office into the waiting room, to his son who had been waiting.

O'Malley said, "Well son, we Irish celebrate when things are good, and we celebrate when things don't go so well. In this case, things aren't so well. I have cancer. Let's head for the pub and have a few pints."

After 3 or 4 pints, the two were feeling a little less sombre. There were some laughs and more beers. They were eventually approached by some of O'Malley's old friends who asked what the two were celebrating.

O'Malley told them that the Irish celebrate the good and the bad. He went on to tell them that they were drinking to his impending end. He told his friends, "I have been diagnosed with AIDS."

The friends gave O'Malley their condolences, and they had a couple more beers.

After his friends left, O'Malley's son leaned over and whispered his confusion. "Dad, I thought you said that you were dying from cancer? You just told your friends that you were dying from AIDS!"

O'Malley said, "I don't want any of them sleeping with your mother after I'm gone."

"The Irish"...u gotta luv em!

## **The Navajo Woman's Wisdom**

A saleswoman is driving toward home in Northern Arizona when she sees a Navajo woman hitchhiking.

Because the trip had been long and quiet, she stops the car and the Navajo woman climbs in.

During their small talk, the Navajo woman glances surreptitiously at a brown bag on the front seat between them.

"If you're wondering what's in the bag," offers the saleswoman, "it's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband."

The Navajo woman is silent for a while, nods several times and says, "Good trade."

## **Ugly Wife**

This guy comes to the pharmacy and asks for a vial of cyanide. The pharmacist, trying to keep up a professional posture, asks the customer what he might need it for.

"Oh" says the guy, "I want to poison my wife".

"I am sorry Sir," says the pharmacist "but you will have to understand that, under these circumstances, it is impossible for me to sell you the cyanide."

The guy reaches in to his wallet and pulls out a picture of his wife and quietly lays it on the sales counter.

The pharmacist blushes and politely remarks "I'm sorry Sir, I didn't realize you had a prescription.

tack in mid stride, as a look of terror comes over him, and slinks away into the trees. "Whew", says the leopard. "That was close. That dog nearly had me."

Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So, off he goes.

But the dog saw him heading after the leopard with great speed, and figured that something must be up. (Sounds like paranoia). The monkey soon catches up with the leopard, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the leopard.

The leopard is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine Bugger."

Now the dog sees the leopard coming with the monkey on his back, and thinks, "What the hell am I going to do now?" But instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers pretending he hasn't seen them yet.

And just when they get close enough to hear, the dog says, "Where's that damned monkey. I just can never trust him. I sent him off half an hour ago to bring me another leopard, and he's still not back!!".

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### **Well, I suppose this says it ALLLLLLL !!!**

A man walking along a California beach was deep in prayer. All of a sudden, he said out loud, "Lord grant me one wish."

Suddenly the sky clouded above his head and in a booming voice the Lord said, "Because you have tried to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish."

The man said, "Build a bridge to Hawaii, so I can drive over anytime I want."

The Lord said, "Your request is very materialistic. Think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking. The supports required to reach the bottom of the Pacific! The concrete and steel it would take! I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of another wish, a wish you think would honour and glorify me."

The man thought about it for a long time. Finally he said, "Lord, I wish that I could understand women. I want to know how they feel inside, what they are thinking when they give me the silent treatment, why they cry, what they mean when they say 'nothing', and how I can make a woman truly happy."

The Lord replied, "You want two lanes or four on that bridge?"

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### **The Military View**

A crusty old Colonel found himself at a gala event hosted by a local liberal arts college. There was no shortage of extremely young, idealistic women in attendance, one of whom approached the colonel for conversation.

"Excuse me, sir, but you seem to be such a serious Man. Are you always this way or is something bothering you?"

"Nope, just serious by nature," he replied.

She looked at his medals. "It looks like you've seen a lot of action."

"Yes, I have," was the colonel's short reply.

The woman, tiring of trying to start up a conversation, said, "You know you should really chill out and quit taking everything so seriously.

Have some fun! For example, when was the last time you had sex?"

The colonel answered, "1955."

they highlight the advice and wisdom of their ASMs. They talk of the essential role played by their workshops and of the humble, irreverent spirit of the men and women who work in them.

I often get the feeling that we are like the cheeky younger son; we bob up when we are needed, keep out of the way when we are not, always seem to just keep out of trouble, but can be relied upon without fail to do whatever has to be done.

How often have we seen our Crafties appear out of the dust or rain to carry out a battlefield repair or recovery task, to restore power when the generators fail, to do their job and then disappear again? How often have we seen Crafties work late into the night to meet a deadline, and then quietly go off to bed or off to the next task? How often do we win the inter-company or inter-squadron sports, loudly and boisterously? Singing our victory at the unit boozier until we are thrown out? We can certainly do our share of boasting when we need to, but we don't need to boast about our work, our work speaks for itself.

When the historians look back at the successes and failures of armies they look at the decisions of the generals; the courage of the infantry; the shock effect of armour; the fire power of the artillery; and the loggies ability to keep the flow of supplies moving to where it is needed. Rarely do they mention the Craftsmen of the Army. The artisans who keep the equipment going.

We carry no battle honours, no guidons or Regimental Colours. We shun the limelight. Our battle honours are the tanks, guns, trucks and circuit boards that we have repaired and returned to the front line. Our guidons are our qualities for which we are lauded, our initiative and our perseverance, our cheerfulness and our work ethic. And our Regimental Colours are the tools we wield to carry out our work.

We are the silent achievers of the Army, and today we pause to remember our mates who have fought in the conflicts of the past century, those who have died or been maimed, and those who serve today in the conflicts around the globe. We live in uncertain times and the future is not clear. What is clear, is that as Australian soldiers play their part in fighting the conflicts of the future, we will continue to play our part in supporting them with the same dedication, ingenuity and self sacrifice that we have shown in the past.

Arte et Marte

Courtesy "RAEME CRAFTSMAN" Issue No. 49 Summer 2002-2003

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### **Message From Deputy Head Of Corps**

LTCOL Mike Barry CO/C1 Materiel Support Division  
Deputy Head of Corps

My tenure as Deputy Head of Corps is drawing to a close after two very quick years which have seen the process of revitalising the Corps begin to bear fruit. It is with regret that I hand over unfinished business to LTCOL Dave Creagh as there is much work to be done. That being said, I feel confident that we have a clearly defined way ahead and, with the assistance of the S02 Corps, S02 Corps Heritage and Corps RSM, the Head of Corps and new Deputy Head of Corps are in good hands and will receive good support.

This time last year I said that every year seems to be busier than the last and highlighted a number of operations that members of the Corps were involved in East Timor, Bougainville, the Sinai, the Middle East, PNG, the Solomons and a number of other regional locations. We live in turbulent times but who could have foreseen the events of the past year which have seen our world change as never before, caus

ing a complete rethink of strategic policy and national responsibility. The future is impossible to predict, and, even more so now, we need to be able to adapt to a changing world and be prepared for any eventuality.

This was the theme of the Corps Seminar held at Bandiana in October. The seminar was attended by approximately 170 SNCOs, Warrant Officers and Officers of the Corps and saw strong debate on a number of issues. At the close, the outgoing Representative Colonel Commandant, Colonel Larry Foley remarked that as a young officer he had attended Corps Seminars, which were staid, formal affairs. SNCOs and W02s were not invited, W01s were invited but not to contribute, junior officers were to be seen and not heard and the business was conducted by the senior officers. He said that he was delighted by the change over the years and welcomed the healthy, and at times passionate, debate. If the Craftsmen of the Corps are our lifeblood, the SNCOs, WOs and junior officers are the veins and arteries that make the body work.

The aim of the Seminar was twofold: to present the current state of the Corps to the members of the Corps, and to provide the Head of Corps with the key issues impacting on Corps capability which he will present to the Army Capability Management Committee. This committee is chaired by the Deputy Chief of the Army and provides the Corps with the opportunity to raise issues at the highest levels. The seminar achieved these objectives. The range of speakers delivered presentations on command, personnel, training, major equipment systems, operational sustainability, technical mastery and RAEME aviation. A full synopsis of the seminar and outcomes will be provided elsewhere in this magazine.

During the past year we have also initiated the RAEME Newsletter. Distribu-

tion is gradually increasing as we add to our mailing list so keep your eyes open. We intend to change the format to make the newsletter more relevant and easier to read and will attempt to focus on key issues. Included in the Newsletter will be a simple proforma designed to provide you with the opportunity to raise issues to the HOC through myself or the S02 Corps. Simply fax or e-mail this back, or send an email.

The HOC recently thanked members of the Corps for hanging in there during what he termed "the dark years", the past five or six years following the disbandment of the Corps Directorates, during which time the Corps was under threat, and many of our issues were not being addressed. We are now through this bad patch and very much looking to the future. I am pleased to have been part of the rebirth of the Head of Corps team and to have been able to participate in the re-vitalisation of the Corps. From here we can only ever get stronger. Remember the spirit of the Corps belongs to the people of the Corps, and the future of the Corps rests in our hands.

Arte et Marte  
- Courtesy "RAEME CRAFTSMAN" Issue No. 49 Summer 2002-2003

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### Please help

55 EWPS - Borneo + Vietnam

I'm writing to you in the hope that possibly you can help me in my search to find any veterans of perhaps Vietnam but more importantly Borneo. My father Allan Frank Harris served with 24 Construction Squadron in Borneo in 1965 and again in Vietnam. You have possibly had contact from either my mother Gwen Harris or Tom Jehn from the Hervey Bay Veteran's Association. On my mother's behalf I am trying to help her track down anybody that was

### The truth can really hurt at times

A small-town prosecuting attorney called his first witness to the stand in a trial — a grandmotherly, elderly woman. He approached her and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know me?"

She responded, "Why, yes, I do know you Mr. Williams. I've known you since you were a young boy. And frankly, you've been a big disappointment to me. You lie, you cheat on your wife, you manipulate people and talk about them behind their backs. You think you're a rising big shot when you haven't the brains to realise you never will amount to anything more than a two-bit paper pusher. Yes, I know you."

The lawyer was stunned. Not knowing what else to do he pointed across the room and asked, "Mrs. Williams, do you know the defence attorney?"

She again replied, "Why, yes I do. I've known Mr. Bradley since he was a youngster, too. I used to baby sit him for his parents. And he, too, has been a real disappointment to me. He's lazy, bigoted, and he has a drinking problem. The man can't build a normal relationship with anyone and his law practice is one of the shoddiest in the entire state. Yes, I know him."

At this point, the judge rapped the courtroom to silence and called both counsellors to the bench. In a very quiet voice, he said with menace, "If either of you asks her if she knows me, you'll be jailed for contempt!"

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### As We Grow Older

EXERCISE — My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was 60. Now she is 97 years old and we don't know where the heck she is.

It is well documented that for every minute that you exercise you add one

minute to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$5000 per month.

The only reason I would take up exercising is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.

I have to exercise early in the morning before my brain figures out what I'm doing.

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

I have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.

The advantage of exercising every day is that you die healthier.

If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

And last but not least: I don't exercise because it makes the ice jump right out of my glass.

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### Canny dog

A wealthy man decided to go on a safari in Africa. He took his faithful pet dog along for company. One day the dog starts chasing butterflies and before long he discovers that he is lost.

So, wandering about he notices a leopard heading rapidly in his direction with the obvious intention of having lunch. The dog thinks, "Ok Damn, I'm in deep strife now."

Then he noticed some bones on the ground close by, and immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat.

Just as the leopard is about to leap, the dog exclaims loudly, "Well, that was one delicious leopard. I wonder if there are any more around here?"

Hearing this the leopard halts his at-

## First Aid For Non-Medically-Minded People

### **Choking On Food**

Try to dislodge the article blocking the victim's windpipe by punching them hard in the stomach. Do remember to duck before the particles of food hit you in the eye, however. Call the waiter and ask for a 20 percent reduction on the bill. Make a mental note to order soup next time.

### **Concussion**

When the victim comes round, ask them what day it is, who the Prime Minister is, how many fingers you are holding up. To make it more difficult, hold the fingers up behind your back. Then tot up the victims score and send it to me at this address:- Dr. Brain D'Eath, Concussion Quiz, P.O.Box 312, Perth, the highest score wins a mystery prize. Talk in Swahili to disorientate the victim a bit more. Yes, there's a whole bundle of laughs when it comes to concussion. Here's a good one: before the victim comes round, switch of all the lights. When he/she regains consciousness, shout "Thank God! We thought you might be dead, or blinded or something.

### **Cuts and Wounds**

Dress the wound, whatever that means. Try and limit the blood loss by tying a tourniquet tightly around the victims throat unit they experience difficulty in breathing. Ha ha, only kidding. Tie the tourniquet just above the wound. Just my little joke. Stitch up the wound with Aluminium wire. Ha ha! Caught you again! Outsmarted you! Still, I am an expert, you know.

### **Electrocution**

Is he/she still connected to the power supply? If so, switch off the power immediately. Electricity costs an absolute fortune, and it would be going to waste. Check the victims pulse, (if you can find their wrist amongst the stack

of charred bones and greasy, bubbling flesh that was once a human being). And do try not to be squeamish about it. Drive the victim to the nearest casualty ward. You can use him/her to jumpstart the engine as well if need be.

### **Fractures and broken limbs**

Check the injured area to see if the break or fracture has resulted in a tubular shard of shearing white bone jutting outwards through the bloody mass of flesh. If it has, then tell the victim that they are going to die. That always puts the wind up them. Tie a splint to the victim's leg and ask them to walk up and down for a few minutes. They will probably fall down unconscious, making the rest of your job easier. Do not move the broken or fractured limb as this may result in an abnormal position. However, if you're feeling daring, try pointing legs in the wrong direction, bending wrists through 180 degrees, etc. It really is amazing the number of fascinating contortions you can produce. Far better than Play-Dough.

### **Objects Stuck In The Eye**

Rinse the victim's eye in lukewarm water. Do not use soap as well, idiot. Offer to pick the object out of the victim's eye with your teeth. This usually results in the object mysteriously "going away" and not bothering the victim any more before you can get to it.

### **Treating Burns and Scalds**

Run the affected area under a cold tap as soon as possible. (NB If the victim's entire body is a swirling mass of flames it may a little too late for this). If the victim has spilt hot liquid over his/her clothes, then remove clothing immediately. You can never tell, the sight of you parading around naked may cheer them up and take their mind off their injury. Remind the victim that worse things happen at sea. Cite drowning as an example.

**Well there we have First Aid for those who don't know!**

possibly in Borneo in 1965 that may have served with my father and who would possibly have recollection of details relating to my father. I have a few names that my mother can recall from dad's Borneo days ie. Ron Denman; Jeff (Geoff) Crack; Wilfred (Bill) Lock. I would very much appreciate if you can help me in any way to help my mother to obtain these details.  
Sincerely Kym Daly

I think I've been able to help her with a possible Maurice Lock. Can you help with the other names ?? Do you have any contacts in 24 or associates from the Borneo era?? Cheers .... Tony & Jenny Tony & Jenny de Bont Moruya Heads, NSW Australia  
[tonydebont@bigfoot.com](mailto:tonydebont@bigfoot.com)

Cfn Geoff Crack was a very capable RAEME Veh Mech/Plant Fitter with 17SQN WKSP NUI DAT DET 1968. I think I may have heard (subject to confirmation) he passed away not too long ago if my memory serves me right.  
Norm W \_\_\_\_\_

---

### Vale Geoff Crack

I can confirm Geoff Crack passed away on 26 July 2001 at 73 years young. I still have a contact for his wife Nancy if that is of any help.

Alan Pratt  
Immediate Past President/Webmaster  
17 Construction Squadron Workshops  
Vietnam Association  
[www.17construction.org.au](http://www.17construction.org.au)  
[17construction@agn.net.au](mailto:17construction@agn.net.au)

---

### Death of Maj Gen Ross Buchan

I have been advised through the Office of the Chief of Army that MAJGEN Ross Buchan has passed away.

The sympathy of the us all is extended to his wife Carole, his daughter Nikki

and her children, and his daughter Samantha and her husband.

MAJGEN Ross Buchan entered RMC Duntroon in 1954, and graduated into the RAA in December 1957. His service with the Gunners included postings with 1 Fd Regt in 1959, 101Fd Bty Singapore 1959-1961, Adjt 3Fd Regt 1961-63, Adjt I Fd Regt 1964, SI School of Arty 1967, CO 1 Fd Regt 1973, and SO1 Ops HQ RAA 1 Div in 1974.

Ross saw operational service with AATTV in SVN in 1966/67.

Non-Corps postings included service with 13 NS Trg Bn on graduation, as a staff officer on HQ 1 Div and in Canberra, and an exchange posting to Training and Doctrine Command in the USA.

Ross was Commandant 1 RTB, and later served as a Director General in DOD. His last appointment was as GOC Trg Comd between 1987 and 1991.

On leaving the Service, Ross retired to Valla on the mid north coast of NSW. From late 1991 to 1994 he was a Services member of the Veterans' Review Board.

MAJGEN Ross Buchan was well known throughout the Gunner community, and will be sadly missed.

---

### Unknown Turkish soldier's remains returning to Gallipoli

A ceremony was held in Melbourne today to hand over the remains of a World War I Turkish soldier to the Australian Defence Force, to escort back to Turkey for a military burial at Gallipoli.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and

Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence, Danna Vale, said the ceremony at the Victoria Barracks was attended by the Turkish ambassador and representatives of the Australian-Turkish community.

"The Turkish Government has expressed its desire that the remains of this soldier be returned to Gallipoli and interred alongside his comrades," Mrs. Vale said.

"This service is an expression of the very real respect the Australian Government and people have for the wishes of the Turkish people as expressed by the Turkish Ambassador, and our commitment to ensuring honour and dignity is bestowed upon this Unknown Soldier."

The remains of the unidentified man were handed to Victorian police last year. An inquest by the State Coroner last month found that the remains were most likely those of a Turkish soldier who died during the Gallipoli campaign.

"In accordance with the wishes of the Turkish Government, the remains will be escorted by an Australian Defence Force officer to Istanbul, where they will be met by representatives of the Turkish General Staff," the Minister said.

"The unknown Turkish soldier will finally be laid to rest on the Gallipoli Peninsula at a Turkish Military Service on 18 March, the anniversary of the Dardanelles naval battle in 1915.

"Australia and Turkey enjoy a strong friendship, founded on the respect that developed between the opposing forces on Gallipoli.

"In this matter, our Governments have worked closely to ensure that this soldier's story comes to an honourable end, in keeping with the respect held by Australians and Turks for those who have served our nations," Mrs Vale said.

## **A Soldier Died** **Today 29 Jan 2003**

Message below has just come in on the passing of Peter 'Wallaby' Wilkes AATTV. "Have just heard from Lyn Wilkes that Wallaby did not pull out from a heart bypass operation at Prince Charles Hospital yesterday evening. Apparently they worked on him for about seven plus hours but to no avail. An autopsy will be necessary and Lyn expects that the funeral service will be held early next week. Lyn will contact some addressees individually but has asked me to help pass on the bad news. Please advise others you know.

The world is a lesser place.  
Regards,  
David"

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BALCATA 6020**

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**Email, [terry@barhay.com.au](mailto:terry@barhay.com.au)**

he was trying to steal the car's hub-caps.

3. Terrence Dickson of Bristol, Pennsylvania, was leaving a house he had just finished robbing by way of the garage. He was not able to get the garage door to go up since the automatic door opener was malfunctioning. He couldn't reenter the house because the door connecting the house and garage locked when he pulled it shut. The family was on vacation, and Mr. Dickson found himself locked in the garage for eight days. He subsisted on a case of Pepsi he found, and a large bag of dry dog food. He sued the homeowner's insurance claiming the situation caused him undue mental anguish. The jury agreed, to the tune of \$500,000.

4. Jerry Williams of Little Rock, Arkansas, was awarded \$14,500 and medical expenses after being bitten on the buttocks by his next door neighbor's beagle. The beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard. The award was less than sought because the jury felt the dog might have been just a little provoked at the time by Mr. Williams who was shooting it repeatedly with a pellet gun.

5. A Philadelphia restaurant was ordered to pay Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, \$113,500 after she slipped on a soft drink and broke her tail bone. The beverage was on the floor because Ms. Carson had thrown it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument.

6. Kara Walton of Claymont, Delaware, successfully sued the owner of a night club in a neighboring city when she fell from the bathroom window to the floor

and knocked out her two front teeth. This occurred while Ms. Walton was trying to sneak through the window in the ladies room to avoid paying the \$3.50 cover charge. She was awarded \$12,000 and dental expenses.

7. This year's shoe-in could easily be Mr. Merv Grazinski of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Mr. Grazinski purchased a brand new 32-foot Winnebago motor home. On his first trip home, having driven onto the freeway, he set the cruise control at 70 mph and calmly left the drivers seat to go into the back and make himself a cup of coffee. Not surprisingly, the Recreation Vehicle left the freeway, crashed and overturned. Mr. Grazinski sued Winnebago for not advising him in the owner's manual that he couldn't actually do this. The jury awarded him \$1,750,000 plus a new motor home. The company actually changed their manuals on the basis of this suit, just in case there were any other people like Merv who wanted to buy their Recreation Vehicles.

## **It could only happen** **in America....**

When NASA first started sending up astronauts, they quickly discovered that ball-point pens would not work in 0 gravity.

To combat this problem, NASA scientists spent a decade and \$12 billion developing a pen that writes in zero gravity, upside down, under water, on almost any surface including glass and at temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 300 C.

The Russians used a pencil.

## **Don't Forget**

The HORSE'S MOUTH welcomes any correspondence, letters to the Editor, moans or groans. If you have a point of view, let us know. You can send contributions to the Editor at the address on page 2. Remember that you are responsible for what you write. The journal has a disclaimer, also on page 2. So let's have the articles and points of view that are just busting to get out.

Q: The youngest son, the twenty-year-old, how old is he?

Q: Were you present when your picture was taken?

Q: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

A: Yes.

Q: And what were you doing at that time?

Q: She had three children, right?

A: Yes.

Q: How many were boys?

A: None.

Q: Were there any girls?

Q: How was your first marriage terminated?

A: By death.

Q: And by whose death was it terminated?

Q: Can you describe the individual?

A: He was about medium height and had beard.

Q: Was this a male, or a female?

Q: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?

A: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

Q: Doctor, how many autopsies have you performed on dead people?

A: All my autopsies are performed on dead people.

Q: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

A: Oral.

Q: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

A: The autopsy started around 8:30 p.m.

Q: And Mr. Dennington was dead at the time?

A: No, he was sitting on the table wondering why I was doing an autopsy.

Q: Are you qualified to give a urine sample?

Q: Doctor, before you performed the

autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

A: No.

Q: Did you check for blood pressure?

A: No.

Q: Did you check for breathing?

A: No.

Q: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

A: No.

Q: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

A: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

Q: But could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

A: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law somewhere.

---

### **Believe it or not!**

Once again it's time to consider candidates for the 2003 Stella Awards. The Stella's are named after 81-year-old Stella Liebeck who spilled coffee on herself and successfully sued McDonald's. That case inspired the Stella Awards for the most uniquely successful lawsuits in the United States for last year. Actually, joint awards should be given to the plaintiff attorneys who "took" the cases and the juries who awarded anything at all to these remarkable candidates. The following are this year's candidates:

1. Kathleen Robertson of Austin, Texas, was awarded \$780,000 by a jury of her peers after breaking her ankle tripping over a toddler who was running inside a furniture store. The owners of the store were understandably surprised at the verdict, considering the misbehaving little toddler was Ms. Robertson's son.

2. Nineteen-year-old Carl Truman of Los Angeles won \$74,000 and medical expenses when his neighbor ran over his hand with a Honda Accord. Mr. Truman apparently didn't notice there was someone at the wheel of the car when

WO2 P.D. 'Wallaby' Wilkes served in South Vietnam with AATTV from June 1968 to May 1969. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) and the citation reads as follows:

Army Number: 2411081

Rank: Warrant Officer Class Two

Christain Name: Peter Duff

Surname: WILKES

Warrant Officer Wilkes enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in 1957 and served with The Royal Australian Regiment in Malaysia. He joined the Australian Army Training Team in Vietnam in May 1968. On 4 July, 1968 he was battalion adviser with the 5th Battalion, 2nd Regiment, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, which was operating in Quang-Tri Province close to the Demilitarised Zone. The battalion had just completed a successful attack and was preparing to evacuate the dead and wounded. As the medical evacuation helicopter began to set down in the landing zone a heavy volume of enemy fire was directed at the helicopter, wounding the pilot. Warrant Officer Wilkes immediately moved to a position where he could observe the enemy and under heavy fire he then assaulted the enemy position single handed. At close quarters, he killed an enemy soldier about to fire a B-40 rocket at the helicopter. Warrant Officer Wilkes' courage and his disregard for his own life, prevented the almost certain loss of the helicopter and saved the lives of its own crew and the wounded near the landing zone. On 16 March, 1969, when he was serving as commander of 223rd Company of 2nd Mobile Strike Force Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group, the battalion was diverted to clear a North Vietnamese company who were in a fortified bunker system which had formally been a fire support base. Warrant Officer Wilkes was leading his company in the assault, when three of his soldiers were wounded within 20 metres of the enemy wire. Completely disregard his own safety and under heavy enemy fire, he

personally ensured that the wounded were moved to a position of safety in the rear. Warrant Officer Wilkes once again moved forward in full view of the enemy and rejoined the forward elements of his company. Despite very heavy enemy fire, he then personally led his company through the enemy wire, secured the eastern portion of the perimeter and cleared the enemy from their bunkers. This enabled the remainder of the battalion to move safely through the wire and secure the position. Known enemy casualties in the action were 28 killed and most of these were inflicted by Warrant Officer Wilkes' company, which lost only five soldiers wounded in action. Throughout the attack which lasted more than nine hours, Warrant Officer Wilkes was continually exposing himself to heavy enemy aimed fire, encouraging and directing the movement of his company. His outstanding leadership and personal bravery were the major contributing factors to the success of the attack. On a number of other occasions in his 12 months operational service in Vietnam, Warrant Officer Wilkes has shown exceptional bravery. His professionalism, dedication to duty and comradeship have been an inspiration to all Vietnamese, United States and Australian soldiers who served with him and reflect great credit upon himself, the Australian Army Training Team and the Australian Army.

### **Lest We Forget**

I am sure that all Team members will feel the loss of this great warrior.

Rick Ryan

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### **Hollywood's New FREE Bus Service**

Dear President,

Hollywood Private Hospital is delighted to advise that a free bus service will be introduced from January 20, 2003.

There has been some discussion within the Veteran community that it is difficult for the spouses \* of entitled Veterans who live in the outlying areas of Mandurah, Rockingham, Joondalup and Armadale to visit their husband/wife whilst they are an inpatient at Hollywood.

The service has been introduced to help alleviate this issue and because Hollywood is committed to the Veteran community.

The bus will operate four times a week, Monday to Thursday, on the following timetable:

- Monday and Thursday - Mandurah/Rockingham to Hollywood and return
- Tuesday - Joondalup/Merriwa RAAFA Estate to Hollywood and return
- Wednesday - Armadale to Hollywood and return

Bookings are essential. For more information or to make a booking, contact the Community Relations Department at Hollywood Private Hospital on (08) 9346 6664.

Please share this information with your members.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Cass-Ryall  
Executive Director

Monash Avenue Nedlands Western Australia 6009  
Telephone: (08) 9346 6000 Facsimile: (08) 9389 8470 Website: www.hollywood.ramsayhealth.com.au

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### **The Partners Of Veterans' Association Of Australia (NSW Branch) Inc.**

The Partners of Veterans' Association of Australia (NSW Branch) Incorporated formed in 1999. Many partners were looking for assistance, compan-

ionship and understanding. We are endeavouring to improve conditions that are considered to be unfair, unacceptable and of major concern to all partners and children of veterans.

There is a tremendous need for support for partners/carers and children of Australian veterans both now and continuing in the future, as our defence forces are called on to do their duty in strife torn areas of the world. We are here to assist

Sub-Branches, support groups and individuals from across the nation are uniting and presenting one strong voice, independent of existing veteran organisations, but still able to work in conjunction with those existing groups.

Originally confined to NSW, the Association, after being joined by several interstate groups since early 2001, is now progressively incorporating toward a National Association.

We held our 3rd AGM and Annual Conference in August 2002. Many of us have made special and enduring friendships, joy, laughter and fun is also high on our agenda. Our membership is increasing rapidly and now has represented in all Australian states and territories including Western Australia.

Not all members belong to a sub-branch or support group. We have many independent members, who, for various reasons including living in rural and remote areas, are unable to access a group. To keep members updated and informed on current issues, events and activities, a quarterly newsletter is sent to all financial members.

An invitation to come join us is extended to anyone who is, or has been, the wife or partner of a veteran who has served in any theatre of conflict or peacekeeping force in which Australian Armed Forces have been involved. We have a Joining Fee of \$10 (including Association Lapel Badge) and an Annual Subscription of \$10.

## **Jim's Life in the US**

I never ceases to amaze with what Jim can come up with. Here is his latest offering.

### **Statistics**

- a. The number of physicians in the US is 700,000.
- b. Accidental deaths caused by Physicians per year is 120,000.
- c. Accidental deaths per physician is 0.171. (US Dept. of Health & Human Services) Then think about this:
  - a. The number of gun owners in the US is 80,000,000 (yes, eighty-million!).
  - b. The number of accidental gun deaths per year (all age groups) is 1,500.
  - c. The number of accidental deaths per gun owner is .0000188.

Statistically, doctors are approximately 9,000 times more dangerous than gun owners.

**FACT: NOT EVERYONE HAS A GUN, BUT ALMOST EVERYONE HAS AT LEAST ONE DOCTOR.**

Please alert your friends to this alarming threat. We must ban doctors before this gets out of hand.

As a public service, I have omitted the statistics on lawyers for fear that the shock could cause people to seek medical attention.

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### **Classics from court**

**THIS IS TO ALL OF YOU LAWYERS AND "LAWYER WANABEEEE'S" OUT THERE!!!!**

These are from a book called Disorder in the American Courts, and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and now published by court reporters - who had the torment of staying calm while these exchanges were actually taking place. Some of these are excellent ... don't miss the last one!! (The best are the dumb ones asked by attorneys).

Q: Are you sexually active?  
A: No, I just lie there.

Q: What is your date of birth?  
A: July 15th.  
Q: What year?  
A: Every year.

Q: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?  
A: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

Q: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?  
A: Yes.

Q: And in what ways does it affect your memory?  
A: I forget.

Q: You forget? Can you give us an example of something that you've forgotten?

Q: How old is your son, the one living with you?  
A: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

Q: How long has he lived with you?  
A: Forty-five years.

Q: What was the first thing your husband said to you when he woke up that morning?

A: He said, "Where am I, Cathy?"  
Q: And why did that upset you?  
A: My name is Susan.

Q: Do you know if your daughter has ever been involved in Voodoo or the occult?

A: We both do.  
Q: Voodoo?  
A: We do.  
Q: You do?  
A: Yes, voodoo.

Q: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about six years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, "Are you a cop?" "Yes," I answered and continued writing the report. "My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?" "Yes, that's right," I told her. "Well, then," she said as she extended her foot toward me, "would you please tie my shoe?"

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. "Is that a dog you got back there?" he asked. "It sure is," I replied. Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, "....." "What'd he do?"

While working for an organisation that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my four-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit." "And why not, darling?" "You know that it always gives you a headache next morning."

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his five-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton bat-

ting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: "Glory be unto the Faaaather.....and unto the Soonnn.....and into the hole he gooooes."

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write - and they won't let me talk!"

A little boy opened the big family bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think its Adam's underwear."

### Mild mannered men

A mild-mannered man was tired of being bossed around by his wife; so he went to a psychiatrist. The psychiatrist said he needed to build his self-esteem, and so gave him a book on assertiveness, which he read on the way home. He had finished the book by the time he reached his house.

The man stormed into the house and walked up to his wife. Pointing a finger in her face, he said, "From now on, I want you to know that I am the man of this house, and my word is law! I want you to prepare me a gourmet meal tonight, and when I'm finished eating my meal, I expect a sumptuous dessert afterward. Then, after dinner, you're going to draw me my bath so I can relax. And when I'm finished with my bath, guess who's going to dress me and comb my hair ....."

"The funeral director," said his wife.

### RSM-A

To: LEEUWIN-RTC-WA

Subject: SEC: UNCLASSIFIED:-  
SUBJ: RSM-A

100350Z FEB 03

FOR WIDEST DISSEMINATION

SUBJ: RSM-A

1. CA HAS IDENTIFIED 8249580 WO1  
K.J. WOODS AS RSM-A DESIGNATE.

2. IT IS ANTICIPATED WO1 WOODS  
WILL TAKE UP THE APPT IN JAN 04.

3. CA CONGRATULATES WO1  
WOODS ON HIS SELECTION FOR  
THIS APPT

### Reunion 2005 Royal Australian Corps of Signals

Only bit over two years to go for our Reunion. Lets all get behind it, as it could be one of the last great get togethers, most certainly in WA.

We will have representation from World War 11 Signal Units including ASWG, Japan, Korea, Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam, Gulf and Current serving men and women. We could have reps from New Zealand and the U.K. It is also open to the WRAAC and AWAS Associations members and for other Corps members, who served in Signal Units.

Good health and good wishes  
Avis & Brian

### Green Light for Australian Memorial in London

Westminster City Council has approved the proposed design for the new memorial in London to those Australians who served, suffered and died in two world wars. The council unanimously decided to give the design full approval, enabling the project to go ahead. This

For further information please contact: Sandra (Sam) Cross, Secretary, Box 3177, MALAGA DC WA 6945  
Phone: 08 9248 1104  
wsrzcross@bigpond.com-au

### Soldiers Choice website

Soldiers Choice is a new website aimed at Australian Defence Force Members. We aim to provide not only information, but a directory of providers, giving choices for ADF members on discharge, training, and career transition. Our support will also extend to those members being discharged with confusion and without entitlements.

In January of this year, Soldiers Choice made its services available online, allowing easier access to ADF and retired members. The Services offered online will include:

- a. An overview of entitlements including links to the appropriate approving authorities
- b. Information on community support programs to assist the discharged member
- c. Message Board for members to stay in contact
- d. Employment Services
- e. Training providers, and
- f. Outplacement Counsellors

Soldiers Choice is committed to providing members with accurate information, and recent support from the ADF Resettlement Network will ensure information provided is accurate and up to date.

To browse the site, go to;  
[www.soldierschoice.com.au](http://www.soldierschoice.com.au)

will allow on site work to commence in April, with a view to completing the memorial to coincide with the 85th anniversary of the end of World War I on Remembrance Day 2003.

The memorial will be a significant addition to Hyde Park Corner and a fitting tribute to those Australians who fought alongside British forces in the defence of freedom during two world wars. The design for the new memorial features a long curving wall of green granite, reflecting the sweep of the Australian landscape.

The wall will feature the names of the battlefields where Australian and British military personnel fought, superimposed upon the names of thousands of home towns of Australian men and women who served during the two world wars, many never to return home.

In keeping with Westminster City Council's requirement to incorporate a significant light and water feature into the memorial, the Australian design uses water to create shifting patterns of light to highlight different facets of the memorial. The striking design will enhance its location and bring a touch of the Australian landscape and character to the heart of London.

Sydney architectural firm Tonkin Zulaikha Greer and artist Janet Laurence have designed the new memorial. The design was one of four submitted in a limited design competition considered by the Australian Government from an initial field of 12 Australian firms invited to submit expressions of interest. Tonkin Zulaikha Greer's past work includes the design of the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial in Canberra and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier within the Australian War Memorial.

The new memorial will become the focus of Anzac Day services in London from 2004.

## **RAE Vietnam Memorial**

John,

I am Bill Jones, part of the crew trying to get the above memorial off the ground at SME.

A little background;

The original memorial was established as the 1 Fd Sqn Memorial at frog hollow Gallipoli Lines Holsworthy. This memorial consisted of small stainless steel plates, similar to those used in a crematorium, mounted on concrete pegs, again similar to a crematorium. They were round the unit flagpole at the end of the Sqn parade ground.

The new memorial was constructed at the rear of the parade ground and was built to encompass all Engineer Units plus the AATTV. It contained headstones for 45 Engineers and the Honour Rolls for the five units that served in SVN.

A group of fellows designated 45 Memorial Parks and Gardens Squadron RAE (Retired) were tasked with looking after the memorial and generally assisting at all ceremonies held there. With the move of 1 Fd Sqn north to Darwin the memorial was handed over to 17 Const Sqn for activities.

After only 2 Anzac Days, with 17, we were confronted with the news that we, the memorial, had to go.

To this end all the plaques, headstones, badges, corps cyphers, bronze cast tasks of the sapper and unit rolls of honour were removed from the memorial and placed in the museum workshop at SME for safe keeping. Just as well we did, the site was summarily bulldozed and the destroyed memorial consigned to the tip.

Since then we have been raising funds to build a new memorial at SME, the home of the Sapper. We have an approved design and have so far raised more than half of the \$130,000.00 needed to build the memorial. To this

Ordnanceman First Class Matt Wright)

5. Who else gets to describe their home as "Nimitz-class"? (Personelman Third Class Shelly Glascoe)

4. The weekly shuffleboard tournaments (Information Systems Technician Third Class Taquann McKinney)

3. All-you-can-drink jet fuel (Hull Technician Second Class Joshua Chelnick)

2. If you ever have an aircraft that needs carrying, you're in luck (Photographer's Mate Second Class Bryan Dunn)

1. You can get both seasick and airsick at the same time (Boatswain's Mate Third Class Leanne Connelly)

## **Javelin Selected As New Shoulder Fired Weapon For Australian Army**

The Javelin missile system has been selected as the Australian Army's anti-armour and bunker-busting weapon of choice, Defence Minister Robert Hill announced today.

"Australian Special Forces soldiers in Afghanistan were equipped with a number of Javelin weapons prior to their deployment as a defence against armoured threats," Senator Hill said.

"The shoulder-fired direct fire guided weapon, manufactured by Raytheon/Lockheed Martin, was not fired in anger by Australian soldiers. However, it is a highly valuable additional capability for our Special Forces."

The Javelin is a state-of-the-art weapon that provides a 'fire and forget' capability which locks on before launch with an automatic -guidance system. This reduces the risk of a soldier being exposed to enemy fire while trying to guide a weapon to its target.

The weapon systems will equip infantry, cavalry and special forces units with a modern, highly capable weapon.

"The Javelin gives our soldiers the ability to attack armoured vehicles and bunkers at ranges out to over 2000 metres," Senator Hill said.

"The purchase, at a total cost of around \$180 million, will provide enough missile launchers, ammunition, logistics support, simulators and training ammunition to equip high readiness battalions and other units. The weapons are expected to enter service over the period 2005 to 2007."

Senator Hill said the purchase of the Javelin continued the Government's 2000 Defence White Paper commitments.

## **Kids Tales**

Thought you would like these:  
But if you saw them before... what the heck they're still fun.

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, "Mom! That lady isn't wearing a seat belt!"

On the first day of school, a first grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, "The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents."

A mother was showing her son how to zip up his coat. "The secret," she said, "is to get the left part of the zipper to fit in the other side before you try to zip it up." The boy looked at her quizzically: "Why does it have to be a secret?"

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, "What's the matter — haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"

see how he would be able to do that since our phones weren't working. He also requested that we report future outages by email. (Does your email work without a telephone line?).

#### **Idiots at Work:**

I was signing the receipt for my credit card purchase when the clerk noticed I had never signed my name on the back of the credit card. She informed me that she could not complete the transaction unless the card was signed. When I asked why, she explained that it was necessary to compare the signature I had just signed on the receipt. So I signed the credit card in front of her. She carefully compared the signature to the one I had just signed on the receipt. As luck would have it, they matched.

#### **Idiots in the Neighbourhood:**

I live in a semi-rural area. We recently had a new neighbour call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the Koala Crossing sign on our road. The reason: too many Koala's were being hit by cars and she didn't want them to cross there anymore.

#### **Idiot Sighting #1**

I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, "Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?" To which I replied, "If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?" She smiled knowingly and nodded, "That's why we ask."

#### **Idiot Sighting #2**

The stoplight on the corner buzzes when it's safe to cross the street. I was crossing with a co-worker of mine when she asked if I knew what the buzzer was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red. Appalled, she responded, "What on earth are blind people doing driving?"

#### **Idiot Sighting #3**

At a good-bye luncheon for an old and dear co-worker who is leaving the company due to "downsizing," our manager commented cheerfully, "This is fun. We should do this more often". Not a word was spoken. We all just looked at each other with that cow-in-the-headlights stare...

#### **Idiot Sighting #4**

I work with an individual who plugged her power board back into itself and for the life of her couldn't understand why her system would not turn on.

#### **Idiot Sighting # 5:**

When my husband and I arrived at a car dealership to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked. "Hey," I announced to the technician, "it's open!" To which he replied, "I know - I already got that side."

#### **Now don't you feel better?**

### **Top Ten Cool Things About Living On An Aircraft Carrier**

10. It combines all the excitement of going on a cruise with the fun of living at the airport (Nuclear Machinist's Mate First Class Billy Eatmon)

9. There's no more pleasant wake-up call than the roar of an F-18 Super Hornet (Operations Specialist Sherona Peterson)

8. On weekends we turn the deck into the world's largest roller disco (Mess Management Specialist Anthony Sacro)

7. Feel like lasagna? Send a pilot to Italy for takeout (Dental Technician First Class Pete Espinoza)

6. When everyone's asleep, you can climb in one of the planes and pretend you're Tom Cruise (Aviation

### **Third Major Tourism Award for Australian War Memorial**

The Australian War Memorial has confirmed its status as Australia's leading tourist attraction, being named Australia's Best Major Tourist Attraction for the third successive year.

The award was announced in Adelaide last night at the National Tourism Awards.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Danna Vale today congratulated the Memorial staff and volunteers on the result.

"The Australian War Memorial has long held a special and unique place in the hearts of Australians," Mrs Vale said.

"Whilst it attracts thousands of visitors each year, the AWM is more than a tourist attraction. It stands as a testimony to Australia's determination to acknowledge what its citizens have contributed, and what they have lost, in war.

"It is fitting that the institution created in response to the 1914-18 war, Australia's first great test as a nation, should be again recognised in the year marking the 85th anniversary of the armistice of the Great War.

"More than 900,000 visitors from throughout Australia and the world visit this unique institution every year, to pay their respects to the service and sacrifice of our servicemen and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defence of our nation and our national interests.

"This third successive award is a real credit to the AWM staff and volunteers, who work so hard to ensure the legacy of our service personnel is carried on into future generations."

Nominations for the National Tourism Awards are assessed against criteria such as successful business planning outcomes, marketing, service to visitors, the overall contribution to tourism,

end we are asking all to purchase a paver for \$50.00 which will go to the construction of the memorial. The pavers will be placed in the memorial walkway, which will run from the Clive Steele Bridge, to the memorial, and on to the Australian Panel Bridge at SME.

A little background on who we are, the Convenor of the committee is Phil Hurren, who formed the RAE Heritage Society and was its first, and only, President, John Pendergast who a lot will know and myself. I was a 13<sup>th</sup> Intake Veh Mech who graduated to RAE along with Pat Healey. Although I never served with RAEME because of my trade I was fostered and posted by them, Frecks Keenan being the last posting officer I remember (same intake).

So John we are desperate for funds, we wanted to complete the memorial this year, being our hundredth but it looks like that has got away, lots of your guys served with our units and I'm sure they would like to help. See our RAE websites for any further info, or contact me.

Many thanks.

Bill Jones.

Ubique.

**Eds Note:** For all those out there who have served with RAE units and know these gentlemen and those they are wishing to honour, they are looking for your help. Bill Jones can be contacted for further information at Bill Jones billjones@optusnet.com.au or, alternatively you can contact Mick Ryan of the RAE Association of WA. Mick's contact details are Ph 9307 2385, ssm1@iinet.net.au or 4 Milne Street, Ocean Reef, WA 6027.

#### **Note:**

**Peter apologizes to the members of the Association. Due to a monstrous computer crash, he is unable to provide us with this issue's episode of his military life in 1938.**

innovation, programs to attract visitors and staff training. The Australian War Memorial took the award in the face of stiff competition from Australia's leading tourist attractions.

"Over the past three years the Federal Government has invested substantial funding in the Memorial, including for the extensive renewal of galleries and \$12 million for the construction of the new Anzac Hall.

In December this year the Memorial will welcome the return of it's most iconic relic, the Lancaster bomber G for George, to become the centre-piece of Anzac Hall. The Australian War Memorial is Australia's most visited national cultural institution.

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### Sappers in Pubs

#### **ROD AND TRACY CARR**

- **MINE HOSTS BREMMER BAY HOTEL WA**
- **- YEP I KNOW !**
- **-FANCY PUTTING A SAPPER IN CHARGE OF A PUB !**

If you are travelling in Western Australia and need a cold beer and a friendly smile , and some Sapper talk , then head for the Bremmer Bay Hotel just a tad past Albany . Rod Carr and Tracy, his controller and dancing teacher, have taken over the BB Hotel and you couldn't get a better team . Rod was the last SSM of 21 Const Sqn and RSM of most things including 13 Brigade in Perth . He would love to see some old faces and discuss Knots and Lashings or demolition calculations with you . Rod is a member of the RAEA-WA . Lets help a member of our sister Association and ourselves to a bit of pleasant company . Call him at the pub on 08-98374133 or email [rtcarr@westnet.com.au](mailto:rtcarr@westnet.com.au)

Message from mick ryan  
RAEA-WA

### Bushmaster Passes Initial Reliability Testing

The Army's new Bushmaster vehicles have successfully passed the first stage of the new test regime agreed by Government last year, Defence Minister Robert Hill said today.

"I am encouraged by the result," Senator Hill said.

"It demonstrates that ADI has taken the opportunity given by Government last year by continuing to address the reliability issues of the vehicle."

As a result of the positive trial, the Bendigo facility is now preparing for the production and delivery of the vehicles that will be used in the next stage of the reliability testing.

A further trial of a small number of vehicles will be carried out next year. This will determine whether ADI can continue to full-scale production under the revised contract.

Senator Hill said if ADI passed the second critical trial the Government could look forward to the introduction of an excellent vehicle for the ADF with prospects for sales overseas.

Subject to the outcome of the trial of initial production vehicles, Bushmaster will be introduced into Service from 2005, for use by the Army's 7th Brigade in Brisbane and the RAAF's Airfield Defence Guards. The vehicles are designed to transport troops to the battlefield, providing protection for troops against land mines, mortars and small arms ammunition.

Each vehicle will be fitted with a weapon station capable of mounting the Army's family of light machine guns. The Bushmaster can maintain speeds in excess of 90 km/h on Australian roads with a range of up to 800km carrying nine infantry soldiers with sufficient supplies of food, water and ammunition to last three days.

during the course of that action you earned the Navy Cross and were severely wounded."

"Yeah, yeah ... I got shot square in the ass and they gave me the Cross for securing a hot spot about halfway up Suribachi ... bad thing about getting shot up on a mountain is guys gettin' shot hauling you down.

But Johnny, at Iwo I served under the bravest man I ever knew ... we both got the Cross the same day, but what he did for his Cross made mine look cheap in comparison. The dumb bastard actually stood up on Red beach and directed his troops to move forward and get the hell off the beach. That Sergeant and I have been lifelong friends. When they brought me off Suribachi we passed the Sergeant, and he lit a smoke and passed it over to me lying on my belly on the litter and said, 'Where'd they get you, Lee?'

I responded, well Bob, if you make it home before me, tell Mom to sell the outhouse!

Johnny, I'm not lying ... Sergeant Keeshan was the bravest man I ever knew. Bob Keeshan ... you and the world know him as Captain Kangaroo."

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### Medical Item of Interest

Almost 400,000 war veterans could pay more for their medical services because of federal government inaction, the Australian Medical Association (AMA) said recently.

Association president Kerry Phelps said 2,500 doctors had already dropped out of the Veteran Affairs Department's local medical officer's scheme, which provides free medical services to veterans.

She said the memorandum of understanding covering the scheme expired at the end of last year.

Doctors wanted an increase in the fee payable for their services, but the government was failing to move in the issue.

Dr Phelps said this meant hundreds of thousands of veterans could face hefty payments for medical services because of the government's inaction.

"Almost 15 per cent of doctors have already been forced to pull out of the scheme because the current fee is too low for the services provided," she said in a statement.

"If the fee issue for the care of veterans is not urgently addressed, the existing special arrangements for their care will collapse and veterans will have to rely on Medicare, paying out-of-pocket expenses for the first time."

Dr Phelps said all contracts for service under the scheme would expire by the end of June this year.

"The AMA has warned the government for some time that doctors would leave the scheme unless the fees were increased to reflect the cost of treating veterans," she said.

"The AMA believes the government should honour its commitment to provide fully subsidised private health care to this deserving group in our community, particularly at a time when troops are being deployed overseas."

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### Idiots

#### **Idiots in Service**

Not sure if I feel better or worse...

(Telstra= TELecom auSTRAlia for you non Aussies!)

This week, our phones went dead and I had to contact the Telstra repair people. They promised to be out between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. When I asked if they could give me a smaller time window, the pleasant gentleman asked, "Would you like us to call you before we come?" I replied that I didn't

potential to assist the lives of many veterans, as well as benefiting the wider Australian community," Minister Vale said.

### If RAEME Took Over The World

Asia gets renamed EIR because that's where they make all the nifty radios, computers and DVD players

America becomes VEH 'cause of Ford Mustangs, Chev Impalas & Corvettes

Africa gets RECOV because all they do there is fight, drink and .....

Europe is GE because of the Industrial Revolution and all the heavy industries left behind the former Iron Curtain

Antarctica - RPS, because it is mainly empty and it takes a lot of time to get anything there

Australia - EME Ops as we have the best beaches

### "Captain Kangaroo"

We seldom hear about the other side. Captain Kangaroo turned 75 recently, which is odd, because to me he's never looked a day under 75 (Birthday 27 June 1927). It reminded me of the following story. Hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

#### Can We Help You

The RAEME Association is concerned about the welfare of RAEME members in Western Australia, Particularly if they have a disability or getting a bit on the elderly side. We would like to set up a practical help and support group who can provide a voluntary service such as gardening, home help, transport, or assistance with shopping, etc.

So, if you are fit and healthy and are willing to give a little of your time to help other members of the Corps, contact the Secretary and let him know. We will maintain a database of helpers and expertise.

If you need assistance because of age or infirmity, let us know. We will be only too glad to make sure that you have the help you need. And the best part of it is that it is all part of the service.

Some people have been a bit offended that Lee Marvin (the movie star) is buried in a grave alongside 3- and 4-star generals at Arlington National Cemetery. His marker gives only his name, rank (PTE) and service (USMC). Nothing else.

Now here's a guy who was only a famous movie star, who served his time; why the heck would he rate burial with these guys?

Well, following is the amazing answer:

I always liked Lee Marvin, but did not know the extent of his Corps experiences. In a time when many Hollywood stars served their country in the armed forces, often in rear-echelon posts where they were carefully protected, only to be trotted out to perform for the cameras in war bond promotions, Lee Marvin was a genuine Hero. He won the Navy Cross at Iwo Jima.

There is only one higher Naval award ... the Medal Of Honor.

If that is a surprising comment on the true character of the man, he credits his sergeant with an even greater show of bravery.

Following is dialog, many years ago, from 'The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson' ... the guest was Lee Marvin.

Carson said, "Lee, I'll bet a lot of people are unaware that you were a Marine in the initial landing at Iwo Jima ... and that

The contract seeks delivery of 299 vehicles within the total project funding of about \$316 million.

### Our Man In Iraq Flies Back To Mines 14Jan03

WHILE many people are leaving Iraq as war tensions mount, Townsville man Allan Mansell flew out yesterday to resume his humanitarian mission in Kurdistan, northern Iraq.

Mr Mansell leads a United Nations team clearing mines in an area of Saddam Hussein's country which is still littered with explosives in the wake of the 1980s war between Iraq and Iran.

A decorated former warrant officer in the Australian Army, Mr Mansell has just enjoyed a Christmas break with his family at their Cranbrook home.

He is not daunted by the growing prospect of war against Iraq.

"The northern area is not the focus of attention for the Americans, but we have contingency plans if an invasion starts," he said.

He and his team of about 40 specialists are two hours' drive from the Turkish border.

"The only problem we face in leaving is that the sight of our distinctive white trucks rolling out is likely to have every person in the region hitting the road," Mr Mansell said.

He remains firmly focused on his task of saving lives from the results of past wars.

### RAEME History Research Project

The Association is seeking the assistance of members to plan and conduct a research project on the history of our Corps in Western Australia.

This project is to record, on tape, the voices of our "old 'n' bold" responding to a series of questions about their service in this State. The intention is to build up a verbal history, record and transcribe it onto a computer and then burn CD-ROM's with both the sound and written records. It is also intended to include photographs of the interviewees. The CD-ROM's, when finished, will be available to anyone who wants a copy. Hard copies of the transcriptions will also be available.

All the Interviewers will require is a cassette tape recorder and a bit of time to spend with those being interviewed. Every effort will be made to arrange for the person interviewed to live close to your home. The sound tapes will be provided for the interviewers.

Anybody who is willing to be interviewed should contact the Secretary and let us know when they will be available. It should be pointed out that those being interviewed need not be the elders of the Corps. There are quite a few of the "young Bloods" have had an important input into the Corps in this State. Even if you feel that you have not had much to do in the State, contact the Secretary and you may be surprised what a valuable input you have had. Sometimes a Craftsman can have an input just as important as a Colonel.

This project covers all members of the Corps, both Regulars and Reserves. Many members have served in the Reserves for many years and have taken a major role in the shaping of our Corps in this State.

Any person who has photographs about the Corps and are willing to have them copied for this project should contact the Secretary. Every care will be taken with the photos.

If there are any questions, they can be answered by contacting John Curtis on email [curtisj@bigpond.com](mailto:curtisj@bigpond.com) or by phone (08) 9271 4520.

## Functions for the Association

We need your help!!

After the collapse of the 60<sup>th</sup> Corps Birthday Dinner last year, the committee of the Association wants to know about the members' need for these types of functions.

Please take some time to respond to our request. Write to the Secretary or speak with a member of the committee.

We need to know:

1. Do you want the Corps Birthday celebrated every year?
2. Do you want functions completely catered for including drinks?
3. Do you want functions to be, pay the Association for the dinner and purchase drinks "over the bar"?
4. Do you want a function in the middle of the year e.g. Christmas in July, or visit to an Irish pub?
5. Do you want a formal Regimental Dinner organized in the middle of the year?
6. Do you want a casual dress family barbecue organized for one day on a long weekend where you bring your family and friends?
7. How would you feel about a night out, say dinner at the trots, the dogs or a similar venue
8. In line with 3 (above), how do you feel about all functions being "purchase your own drinks"?
9. Last year the cost of the dinner was \$45 per head, which included a component covering the drinks at \$12.50 per head. Would your preference be to pay a cheaper dinner cost?

Your responses would be appreciated and will be taken to the committee for

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planning of future events. Let us know so that we can organize functions that members would enjoy going to. If you don't want to write, give the committee members a ring and discuss these questions with them.

John C.

### Wellington Quote

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON TO THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE IN LONDON**

— Written from Central Spain, August 1812 (The Peninsular Wars).

Gentlemen,

Whilst marching from Portugal to a position which commands the approach to Madrid and the French forces, my officers have been diligently complying with your requests which have been sent by H.M. ship from London to Lisbon and thence by dispatch to our headquarters.

We have enumerated our saddles, bridles, tents and tent poles, and all manner of sundry items for which His Majesty's Government holds me accountable. I have dispatched reports on the character, wit, and spleen of every officer. Each item and every farthing has been accounted for, with two regrettable exceptions for which I beg your indulgence.

Unfortunately the sum of one shilling and ninepence remains unaccounted for in one infantry battalion's petty cash and there has been a hideous confusion as to the number of jars of raspberry jam issued to one cavalry regiment during a sandstorm in western Spain. This reprehensible carelessness may be related to the pressure of circumstance, since we are at war with France, a fact which may come as a surprise to you gentlemen in Horseguards.

This brings me to my present purpose, which is to request elucidation of my

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instructions from His Majesty's Government so that I may better understand why I am dragging an army over these barren plains. I construe that perform it must be one of two alternative duties, as given below. I shall pursue either one with the best of my ability, but I cannot do both:

1. To train an army of uniformed British clerks in Spain for the benefit of the accountants and copy-boys in London or perchance:

2. To see to it that the forces of Napoleon are driven out of Spain.

Your most obedient servant,

Arthur Wellesley

**Eds Note:** It seems as though military accounting has a long association with trying to cause inconvenience over little things.

### \$1.1M for Veteran Health Research

The New South Wales Cancer Council and Sydney University will receive Federal Government grants totalling more than \$1.1 million for research into health issues affecting veterans, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Danna Vale, announced today.

Minister Vale said she had approved the funding as part of the Federal Government's Veterans' Affairs Health and Medical Research Grants Program. "This Commonwealth funding helps important research into health problems, which afflict veterans and war widows, by supporting new and continuing projects," she said.

"Priority is given to research into prostate disease, alcohol and substance abuse, dementia, post traumatic stress disorder, motor neuron disease, multiple sclerosis, stroke, wound healing and potential causal links between exposure to chemical and cancer or

genetic disorders."

Making the announcement on the eve of World Cancer Day, Minister Vale said the NSW Cancer Council will receive \$578,750 over three years for research into the impact of treatment for prostate cancer.

"Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and with survival rates continuing to improve, the issue of quality of life has become increasingly important," she said.

"This project will provide information not currently available in Australia about the medium and long-term impact of treatment on quality of life, costs and side effects, to help in decision-making about treatment options. "The University of Sydney's Royal North Shore Hospital campus will receive \$309,000 over three years for another prostate disease project, exploring the detection and diagnosis of prostate disease using magnetic resonance imaging and spectroscopy.

"These non-invasive procedures can identify chemical changes associated with different aspects of prostate disease, providing a significant improvement in the management of patients with early and late stage prostate disease." The Minister said the University of Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital campus would receive a grant of \$215,000 over three years to undertake research into the molecular pathogenesis of alcoholic liver disease.

"These researchers will use the new technology of gene array, which scans thousands of genes simultaneously to find those most altered.

"The researchers have already found changes in a number of genes and plan to study the most promising of these in more detail, with the aim of developing new approaches to disease prevention or therapy.

"These are significant projects with the