



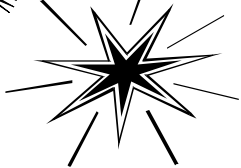
The Role Of RAEME Is To :-

*" Provide Maintenance Engineering , Materiel Maintenance ,
Modifications , and Recovery Support to the Army."*



A Merry
Christmas
and a Happy
New Year to
all.

*From the President
and Committee of
the RAEME
Association of WA.*



The Horse's Mouth

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

Summer 2006-07

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, Bayswater Hotel, 78-80 Railway Parade, Bayswater, in the Function Room. 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 6933

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Colonel Ernie McCart
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DEADLINE

All contributions for the next edition of THE HORSE'S MOUTH must be with the editor no later than the 23rd of FEBRUARY 2007.

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.

Back on deck again after my little jaunt overseas. I did enjoy the trip and to be with family which I had not seen for over thirty years. They made me feel at home for 8 weeks, but I was looking forward to going back to my own family in Australia.

I had the pleasure of having my daughter and grand daughter accompanying me. To them it was an eye opener to see where I was born and raised and to meet my extended family. We tripped through London for a few days

and travelled from there by fast train to Paris, where we spent time at Disneyland, but I had to get used to hearing Micky Mouse and Minnie speaking French. "Disneyland Paris" does not have a patch on the real thing in the USA.

From Paris we travelled again by fast train through Brussels to Amsterdam where we were received by the clan I had not seen for all that time.

I am glad to be back at the helm and from what I have heard Vice President Peter Humpston did a sterling job during my absence and I have to thank

With a screech of brakes he pulled off the road and ran over to the blonde.

What the heck are you doing here?" he demanded, "I gave you \$100 to take these chimpanzees to the zoo."

"Yes, I know you did," said the blonde," but we had money left over—so now we're going to Sea World.

The Bottle Of Wine

For all of us who are married, were married, wish you were married, or wish you weren't married, this is something to smile about the next time you see a bottle of wine:

Sally was driving home from one of her business trips in Northern Arizona when she saw an elderly Navajo woman walking on the side of the road.

As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped the car and asked the Navajo woman if she would like a ride.

With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into the car.

Resuming the journey, Sally tried in vain to make a bit of small talk with the Navajo woman. The old woman just sat silently, looking intently at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Sally.

"What in bag?" asked the old woman.

Sally looked down at the brown bag and said, "It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband."

The Navajo woman was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said:

"Good trade....."

Scot's Lotz

Two Scots, Archie and Jock, are sitting in the pub discussing Jock's forthcoming wedding.

"Ach, it's all going grand," says Jock. "I've got everything organised already: the flowers, the church, the cars, the reception, the rings, the minister, even ma stag night..."

Archie nods approvingly.

"Havens, I've even bought a kilt to be married in!" continues Jock.

"A kilt?" exclaims Archie, "That's braw, you'll look pure smart in that!"

"And what's the tartan?" Archie then enquires.

"Och," says Jock, "I'd imagine she'll be in white..."

Ed's Note: This was sent in from Anony Mouse. Damn! Where did I put that rat trap!!!

Inner Peace

I am passing this on to you because it definitely worked for me, and we could all do with a little calm. By following the simple advice I read in an article, I have finally found inner peace.

The article read: "The way to achieve inner peace is to finish off all the things you have started".

So I looked round the house to see all the things I had started and hadn't finished. And before leaving the house this morning I finished off a bottle of red wine, a bottle of white wine, the Baileys, three Bacardi Breezers, the Jack Daniels, the Prozac, some Valium, some cheesecake and a box of chocolates.

You have no idea how bloody good I feel.

Have a great Christmas and an even better New Year.

John

Arte et Marte

13. The last fight was my fault though. My wife asked "What's on the TV?" I said "Dust!"

Investment Advice

If you had purchased \$1000.00 of Nortel stock one year ago, it would now be worth \$49.00.

With Enron, you would have had \$16.50 left of the original \$1,000.00.

With WorldCom, you would have had less than \$5.00 left.

But, if you had purchased \$1,000.00 worth of beer one year ago, drank all the beer, then turned in the cans for the aluminum recycling REFUND, you would have had \$214.00.

Based on the above, current investment advice is to drink heavily and recycle... It's called the 401-Keg Plan

I'LL DRINK TO THAT!!!!!!!

Robber Sues Victims After They Beat Him

Monday, June 12, 2006

ROCHESTER, N.Y. - A man is suing an auto-parts store for assault and battery after he attempted to hold up the business and employees responded by beating him with a metal pipe.

Dana Buckman, 46, walked into an auto shop brandishing a semiautomatic pistol last summer, only to have it turned on him by two AutoZone employees, police said. The men beat Buckman with a metal pipe and held him with his own gun.

Buckman escaped and was arrested a week later.

He pleaded guilty to first-degree robbery and was sentenced to 18 years in prison as a repeat violent felon.

Buckman claims the men chased him out of the store and continued to beat

him. He is suing the auto shop and the men for the injuries he suffered and for emotional distress.

"In some respects, you wonder if a case like this even needs a defense. It speaks for itself," said lawyer Patrick B. Naylor, who represents AutoZone and the employees.

But lawyer Phillip R. Hurwitz, who represents Buckman, said the employees crossed the line by pursuing Buckman and attacking him.

"The danger was past," Hurwitz said. "These two employees took it upon themselves to go after Mr. Buckman after he left the store."

Best blonde joke so far

A blonde lady motorist was about two hours from San Diego when she was flagged down by a man whose truck had broken down. The man walked up to the car and asked, "Are you going to San Diego?"

"Sure," answered the blonde, "do you need a lift?"

"Not for me. I'll be spending the next three hours fixing my truck. My problem is I've got two chimpanzees in the back which have to be taken to the San Diego Zoo. They're a bit stressed already so I don't want to keep them on the road all day. Could you possibly take them to the zoo for me?"

I'll give you \$100 for your trouble."

"I'd be happy to," said the blonde. So the two chimpanzees were ushered into the back seat of the blonde's car and carefully strapped into their seat belts. Off they went.

Five hours later, the truck driver was driving through the heart of San Diego when suddenly he was horrified!! There was the blonde walking down the street and holding hands with the two chimps, much to the amusement of a big crowd.

Peter for a job well done.

We had a successful dinner at the Workshops and I think we should look forward to more of these. I thank the people responsible for the organisation.

Let's not forget our Corps Dinner on Friday 1 December 2006. A great time was had by all at the Bayswater Hotel. A report follows in this issue.

Well this is it from me hoping you can make our next get together, we would certainly like to see you there.

John Klein.

Corps Birthday Dinner

After three years of having to cancel the Corps Dinner through lack of numbers (we had to have 70 persons to have a dinner in the Sgt's Mess at Karrakatta) we have finally had a dinner. 51 people sat down to a well presented Buffet Dinner at the Bayswater Hotel on the 1st of December. The hotel did themselves proud in that they had set the room up with our place mats and table runners and the tables were very presentable.

Full marks to those who organised the Dinner. They did a creditable job getting it all together. Full marks also to the Baysie as the Dinner was a culmination of good service the hotel has given the Association over the past year. They have welcomed us and have made sure that we lack for nothing. Included in their service to us is the use of the Function Room for our meetings at no cost to the Association.

Central to the evening was the cutting of our Corps Birthday Cake. One of our younger veteran members was asked to cut the cake and the crowd sang "Happy Birthday to Us". One thing for sure is we would never make a choir. Nor would we make our fortune singing on the stage. The main thing is that we

enjoyed ourselves. The cake tasted quite good as well. We have to thank Tom Goodlich and Marilyn Pethick for getting us the sword to cut the cake with.

During the course of the evening a raffle was run to boost our coffers. We have to thank Lee Beaumont for organising the raffle prizes. Lee organised them for our Dinner in 2004, which, unfortunately had to be cancelled. We also thank the Shell Oil Company for providing the prizes.

We hope that there will be many more dinners at the Baysie.

John C

ASM Awarded Commendation

It was announced for the Queen's Birthday Honours that WO2 Russell George Peet from New South Wales has received a commendation for 'Distinguished Service' for: "Distinguished Performance of Duty as Artificer Sergeant Major of C Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment and of Combat Team Eagle, Al Muthanna Task Group-One, Iraq". Congratulations to WO2 Peet from the RAEME Association WA Inc., well done.

Aslav Program Continues To Deliver Capability

The Australian National Audit Office report on the Management of the Australian Light Armoured Vehicle (ASLAV) program shows, "The ASLAVs have proven to be significant addition to the Army's capability". (ANAO report para 9, p13)

Over the past 15 years, the program has successfully delivered 257 new and upgraded vehicles to Army.

The \$35MASLAV upgrade program will be completed on time and within budget on 31 October, when the last two

vehicles roll off the upgrade line.

“The ASLAV vehicles have been supplied to the Australian Defence Force generally in accordance with the provision of the Contract and within the approved cost envelope.” (ANAO report para 10, p13)

The ASLAV Program is also responsible for the sustainment of the in-service fleet that maximises operational availability and continues to improve the capability. In 2005, the Program delivered the first group of 40 enhanced ASLAVs for the deployment to Iraq and continued to provide support overseas.

The 62 ASLAVs deployed to the Middle East today are the best-equipped and most capable light armoured vehicle in their class. The stabilised turreted 25mm cannons and Remote Weapon Station systems have day sights, thermal night weapon sights and integrated laser range finders. The vehicles and their crew are also well protected with enhanced ballistic steel armour and spall liners to improve protection against blast, bullets and fragmentation.

The vehicles in the ASLAV fleet have also achieved impressive availability rates of greater than 90%. This has ensured that training and operations can be conducted effectively at all times. The ASLAV Program, within the Defence Materiel Organisation and working closely with defence industry, has delivered this capability to meet the needs of soldiers in the field.

Defence agrees with the single ANAO recommendation that DMO review its measures for document management and control.

The Australian Government is committed to further enhancing the organisational efficiency, business processes and information management systems in Defence through the es-

tablishment of the Defence Management Review and the Defence Business Improvement Board.

Meritorious Unit Citation

Members of the Australian Medical Detachment deployed to Balad, Iraq from May to September 2005, were today presented the Meritorious Unit Citation by Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Geoff Shepherd, AO, for Meritorious Service and outstanding professional competency in the provision of health care in support of the United States Air Force Theatre Hospital, Balad, Iraq.

During their deployment as part of Operation Catalyst in 2005, the detachment was involved in the treatment of over 5000 patients.

The detachment comprised 45 regular and specialist reserve medical personnel from the Army and the Air Force across Australia.

The Citation states:-

“The Australian Medical Detachment has displayed outstanding professionalism, loyalty, initiative and selfless dedication to duty, whilst enduring frequent indirect threats. The Australian Medical Detachment has made a significant contribution to coalition health services during times of mass casualties to tense and traumatic periods. Outstanding devotion to duty, confidence and humanitarian spirit characterised by the attitude of the Australian Medical personnel has significantly enhanced the reputation of the Australian Defence Force and the Medical Fraternity.”

In presenting the award, the Chief of Air Force acknowledged the hard work of all the men and women who deployed in medical roles in support of Operation Catalyst.

and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year. More than 95 percent of all births took place at HOME .

Ninety percent of all doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND the government as “substandard.”

Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen. Coffee was fifteen cents a pound. Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.

Five leading causes of death were:

1. Pneumonia and influenza
2. Tuberculosis
3. Diarrhea
4. Heart disease
5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars. The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was only 30!!!!

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and ice tea hadn't been invented yet. There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.

Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write.

Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores. Back then pharmacists said, “Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health.” Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.

There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE ! U.S.A. !

Now I forwarded this from someone else without typing it myself, and sent it to you and others all over the United

States, & Canada possibly the world, in a matter of seconds!

Try to imagine what it may be like in another 100 years.

IT STAGGERS THE MIND, EH . ?

Ed Skelton's Recipe For The Perfect Marriage

1. Two times a week, we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesdays, I go on Fridays.

2. We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in California and mine is in Texas.

3. I take my wife everywhere..... but she keeps finding her way back.

4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. “Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!” she said So I suggested the kitchen.

5. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.

6. She has an electric blender, electric toaster and electric bread maker. She said “There are too many gadgets and no place to sit down!”. So I bought her an electric chair.

7. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because there was water in the carburettor. I asked where the car was; she told me “In the lake.”

8. She got a mud pack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.

9. She ran after the garbage truck, yelling “Am I too late for the garbage?” The driver said “No, jump in!”

10. Remember: Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.

11. I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was Always.

12. I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her.

Jim's Life in the US

Jim is an expert when it comes to things about his own country.

May I extend to each of you.....

May I extend to each of you, my "brothers" from down under, the American tradition of "Thanksgiving". The act of "thanksgiving" started in 1621. Pilgrims at what would come to be known as Plymouth, Massachusetts, had a bountiful harvest, thanks to the local Indian (Native American—for you "Politically correct" people) tribes who taught the naive newcomers what to grow, and how to grow it. The Pilgrims, after the harvest in the fall, invited the Indians to a 3 day feast of giving thanks and sharing. Today with families so spread out across the US and the world, the last Thursday in November has become by law "Thanksgiving Day", a national holiday and one where families gather to rebond once again in family friendship and love and of course the big "feast"

My family, gathers always the Sunday before as all but 2 of our 10 children are married and so there is their other family they go to on Thursday. Our big meal consist of baked ham, oven roasted turkey, dressing, sweet potato/yams, mashed potatoes, gravy, string beans, cranberry sauce, hot rolls, tea, coffee, soda for the kids, and for desert (IF you have room—well there's always a couple of hours later for that) mince meat, apple, and pumpkin pies. Before the meal we all gather around the LARGE table and give thanks to God for his many blessings, for each of our families being there, and naturally ask God to bless our military personnel around the world, and I **ALWAYS** give thanks to my Australian "brothers" for them giving me my "Welcome Home" in Sydney on Saturday, October 3, 1987. So this e-mail is just to let each of you know that in our celebration of "Thanksgiving", I remember my brothers for that wonderful Satur-

day that you all gave me.

So on Thursday, while the rest of our family goes to their other family for Thanksgiving Day, Judy and once again will be working—delivering food to those less fortunate families so that they may have a "Thanksgiving Day".

Finally one of my many blessings that I am most grateful for is that I have indeed been "Down Under" to meet and visit with my "brothers" and that you all gave me a lifetime of wonderful memories crammed into 2 weeks. Please do NOT be offended by the following: May God bless each of you and your entire families.

Jim Otto

The Year 1906 -

This will boggle your mind, I know it did mine!

The year is 1906. One hundred years ago.

What a difference a century makes!

Here are some statistics for the Year 1906 :

The average life expectancy was 47 years.

Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower!

The average wage in was 22 cents per hour.

The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500

"Our medical personnel are very highly regarded amongst our international colleagues who were most impressed by the professionalism and dedication they displayed in support of Operation Catalyst. Their invaluable work as part of coalition medical facilities in Balad, often in very challenging circumstances, is something for which we should all be very proud", Congratulations and well-done to each and every one of you, "Air Marshal Shepherd said.

Australian Army Pilot Honoured By The Queen

I am privileged to congratulate Major Scott Watkins, who will tonight be awarded a United Kingdom Distinguished Flying Cross medal for operations in Iraq.

Major Watkins served on exchange with the British Army in the Joint Helicopter Force in 2004/05. A first rate Army helicopter pilot, he received the award for providing support to the 1st Black Watch Battlegroup.

Major Watkins recently received the award from the Queen at Buckingham Palace. He is the first Australian to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross since the Vietnam War, and one of a number of Australians to have been presented with the UK award.

In recognising Major Watkins' outstanding efforts, Lieutenant-General Peter Leahy, Chief of the Australian Army, said, "Despite a very real threat to his aircraft, he repeatedly placed himself in exposed positions in order to provide support to other aircraft and the ground forces they were supporting".

"In the opinion of his Commanding Officer, Major Watkins actions undoubtedly saved the lives of a number of soldiers in the Battlegroup."

In one incident during his service in Iraq, Major Watkins took control of the Brit-

ish Lynx helicopter, in which he was the co-pilot, after its pilot was injured by small-arms fire while flying in support of Black Watch operations south of Baghdad.

Then-Capt Watkins, who was not injured in the attack, piloted the helicopter to a nearby coalition base, Camp Dogwood, and the pilot was evacuated to hospital.

All Australians should feel proud of the courage showed by Major Watkins.

His courage highlights the importance of Australia's contribution to Coalition efforts in Iraq. In particular, it reinforces the high regard in which our soldiers are held – their courage, training and professionalism.

Australian Army M113's To Be Upgraded With State-Of-Art Navigation System

A new navigation system will provide the Army's fleet of M113 armoured personnel carriers with an unprecedented capability which also is expected to benefit Australian industry.

The Defence Materiel Organisation recently contracted Honeywell Germany to supply the new TALIN 500 Inertial Navigation Unit for the M113 vehicles at a cost of \$11 million.

The TALIN 500 has been designed and built by Honeywell Germany to meet the requirement for an inertial navigation unit at a cost and specification appropriate for armoured vehicles.

Acquired under Project JP5408, the TALIN 500 is the central component of a navigation system for the M113 armoured vehicles being upgraded by prime contractor Tenix Defence under Project Land 106.

The new system integrates a global positioning system (GPS) and the inertial navigation functions which will

enable the M113 to navigate effectively and accurately in all environments, including regions where GPS is unavailable due to terrain masking or enemy jamming. The new system will provide full navigation capability to both the commander and driver of the M113.

Australian industry will play an important role in the project, developing and supplying system components including the screens, data entry devices and the turret azimuth encoder, a device to measure the direction the turret is pointing.

As Australia is one of the first nations to invest in this technology, significant export potential is expected.

Installation of the navigation units in the M113 vehicles is expected to commence in 2007.

Help A Researcher

The following message has been received from Noel WEBB who is researching about Rottnest Island during WWII.

Contact is needed to close off a research project on Rottnest Island during WW2. Maybe family of the service persons listed below may be able to locate these people.

I am seeking members of the 2nd AIF and Militia who served on Rottnest Island (WA) during the period January 1941 to April 1942. I am also interested in contacting members of the 2nd AIF and Militia who served on Garden Island (WA) during November of 1941.

I would like to contact any RAN Serviceman who was at sea up to 200 nautical miles off Fremantle (WA) between 01 and 10 March 1942. Similarly, I would like to contact any 2nd AIF or Militia from Rottnest or Garden Islands who were transiting the islands by ferry between 01 and 15 March 1942

Finally, I am also searching for any 2nd AIF or Militia member who served on the staff of LT COL Herman A KURING MC MI during 1941.

I can be contacted by email at nkwebb@wn.com.au or telephone (08) 9351 8122.

Regards
Noel WEBB
5 Boliver Place
LANGFORD WA 6147

Copperhead Armoured Ute

The success of the Bushmaster has led to further developments by ADI with the concept. Also due to the IED attacks in Iraq and Afghanistan, nowadays even transport vehicles need to be armoured against kinetic energy weapons. ADI are developing a vehicle named Copperhead based on the original Bushmaster(4x4) Infantry Mobility Vehicle(IMV). Copperhead is a 4x4 version which maintains the protection , off-road and highway mobility of Bushmaster but allows the carrying of significant loads in high threat environments.

Copperhead has the same powertrain and driveline as Bushmaster. A 300hp (226kW) Caterpillar 3126E 7.2 litre 6cyl turbo charged and air-to-air after -cooled diesel coupled to a ZF 6HP502 Ecomat G2 6- speed auto transmission. It has a modified crew cabin for survivability, run flat tyres and central tyre inflation. The rear cargo tray on this 4x4 is 10 sq metres in area and payload is 4 tonne.

Its all up weight is around 15 tonne which is important as the general rule of thumb for IED survivability is that 10 tonne is the lightest a vehicle can be without being tossed into the air. A 6x6 version of the Copperhead is under development already. Its payload would be around 10 tonne.

sheriff sends out the county workers and they put up a new sign: “ “SLOW: “CHILDREN AT PLAY

That really sped them up. So Farmer John called and called and called every day for three weeks. Finally, he asked the sheriff, “Your signs are doing no good. Can I put up my own sign?” The sheriff told him, “Sure thing, put up your own sign.” He was going to let the Farmer John do just about anything in order to get him to stop calling every-day to complain.”

“The sheriff got no more calls from Farmer John. Three weeks later, curiosity got the best of the sheriff and he decided to give Farmer John a call. “How’s the problem with those drivers. Did you put up your sign?”

“Oh, I sure did. And not one chicken has been killed since then. I’ve got to go. I’m very busy.” He hung up the phone.

The sheriff was really curious now and he thought to himself, “I’d better go out there and take a look at that sign, it might be something that WE could use to slow down drivers. “So the sheriff drove out to Farmer John’s house, and his jaw dropped the moment he saw the sign. It was spray-painted on a sheet of wood: “

**“NUDIST COLONY “
“Go slow and watch out
for chicks!! “**

XMAS Cake

Make sure to follow the recipe and let me know how you went?????
Do NOT sent me a sample.....

Tequila Christmas Cake

1-cup water
1-tsp. baking soda
1-cup sugar or Splenda
1-tsp. salt
1-cup of brown sugar

Lemon juice
4 large eggs
Nuts
1 bottle tequila
2-cups dried fruit

Sample the tequila to check quality. (I already sampled it...several times to check the quality)

Take a large bowl, check the tequila again. To be sure it is of the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat.

Turn on the electric mixer. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.

Add one teaspoon of sugar. Beat again. At this point its best o make sure the tequila is still OK. Try another cup...just in case.

Turn off the mixerer thingy. Break 2 leggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit.

Pick the dieddie fruit up off the floor. Mix on the turner.

If the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterers just pry it loose with a drewscraver. Sample the tequila to check for tonsistency.

Next, sift two cups of salt. Or something.

Check the tequila.

Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table. Add a spoon of sugar, or somefink. Whatever you can find.

Greash the oven.

Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over. Don’t forget to beat off the turner.

Finally, throw the bowl through the window. Finish the tequila and wipe counter with the cat.

CHERRY MISTMAS!

songs above?

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

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

10 Commandments of Marriage

Commandment 1

Marriages are made in heaven. But so are thunder and lightning.

Commandment 2

If you want your wife to listen and pay strict attention to every word you say; talk in your sleep.

Commandment 3

Marriage is grand — and divorce is at least 100 grand!

Commandment 4

Married life is very frustrating. In the first year of marriage, the man speaks and the woman listens. In the second year, the woman speaks and the man listens. In the third year, they both speak and the neighbours listen.

Commandment 5

When a man opens the door of his car for his wife, you can be sure of one thing: Either the car is new or the wife is.

Commandment 6

Marriage is when a man and woman become as one. The trouble starts when they try to decide which one.

Commandment 7

Before marriage, a man will lie awake all night thinking about something you

say. After marriage, he will fall asleep before you finish.

Commandment 8

Every man wants a wife who is beautiful, understanding, economical, and a good cook. But the law allows only one wife.

Commandment 9

Marriage and love are purely matter of chemistry. That is why wives treat husbands like toxic waste.

Commandment 10

A man is incomplete until he is married. After that, he is finished.

Thanks to "P S"

Farmer John and the Chickens !!!

"Farmer John lived on a quiet rural highway. But, as time went by, the traffic slowly built up at an alarming rate. The traffic was so heavy and so fast that his chickens were being run over at a rate of three to six a day." "So one day Farmer John called the sheriff's office and said, "You've got to do something about all of these people driving so fast and killing all of my chickens." "

"What do you want me to do?" asked the sheriff.

"I don't care, just do something about those crazy drivers!" o the next day he had the county workers go out and erect a sign that said: " SLOW: " "SCHOOL CROSSING "

"Three days later Farmer John called the sheriff and said, "You've got to do something about these drivers. The 'school crossing' sign seems to make them go even faster." So, again, the

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.

This would be a great vehicle for use by engineers especially if equipped with a decent HIAB or similar crane.

Copperhead :

Crew: 3 incl Dvr

Weight Unladen: 11,000kg

Combat Weight: 15,000kg

Overall Length: 7.33m

Maximum Road Speed: 100km/h

Maximum Road Range(Cbt Wt) : 800km

Camp Hart Jilakin Via Kulin WA An Australian Defence Force Veterans Me- memorial Project

CAMP HART OBJECTIVES

- To recognise all ADF Personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty since 1945.

- To provide a location where all ADF Veterans can enjoy either fellowship or solitude.

- To bring together the country community and ADF Veteran community for mutual benefit.

CAMP HART HISTORY

In 1995 the community of Kulin, a town in the South East of Western Australia 3.1/2 hours from Perth, re-created the Kulin Bush Races to rejuvenate and revive their shire and town at the same time bringing the community together for mutual gain.

In 1999 three ADF Veterans (2 Vietnam, 1 New Guinea) and their partners attended the Kulin Bush Races. They identified the community spirit, the bush races and the location as an excellent destination for veterans and their families from all over Australia to come together once a year as mates, in the ANZAC tradition, enjoying each others fellowship and support. The Camp Hart dream was born.

In 2002 a chance meeting in Hollywood

Hospital between the founding veteran and a veteran with architectural and project management skills saw the dream turn into reality. From this meeting nine veterans with a diversity of skills came together and were named the "Project Pioneers". This team of nine have both built and funded the project to date, but it was only possible due to the cooperation and support of the local landowner, the people of Kulin, Kulin Shire Council, Kulin Bush Race Committee and members of the wheat belt community.

CAMP HART MEMORIAL

Following a suggestion from the Kulin community, Camp Hart was named after PTE Peter R Hart, whose parents managed the Kulin Post Office. Peter, a member of 6 RAR, was wounded in action on 21/03/67 and died of his wounds at 2FDAMB SVN on the 29/03/67. At his request Peter Hart is interred at Woronora Cemetery in NSW, his home prior to moving to WA and that of his girlfriend.

The Project Pioneers, with Peter's mother Mrs Ella Hart's permission, built a memorial which is situated within Camp Hart and positioned so the sun rises over the lake, 3 flag poles flying our nation's flags and the memorial giving a surreal feeling during the annual dawn service held at the memorial on race morning of each year.

The memorial was dedicated at a dawn service, attended by Mrs Ella Hart and members of the Hart family, on October 9, 2004 followed by the parading of Peter Hart's and Brian Water's flags to honour their supreme sacrifice to Australia. Both were members of 6 Royal Australian Regiment, killed in separate incidents 4 weeks apart, and both were from the Western Australian wheat belt.

CAMP HART REST & RESPITE PARK

Located 14 kilometres east of Kulin, beside Jilakin Lake and in the shadow of Jilakin Rock, Camp Hart is on a combination of private and crown land vested with the Shire of Kulin. To facilitate an area to meet, greet and eat, a sheltered barbecue and bush kitchen were designed and built along with a new fireplace in 2003/04. The barbecue and fireplace are available throughout the year for use by veterans and locals alike and they are situated amongst a grove of mature gum trees near the lake within the park. Just prior to the 2004 races an ablution block was donated by the landowner, relocated, repaired and installed by the Project Pioneers providing clean toilets and hot showers. Funds are being sought to replace and upgrade the ablution block facilities to meet the expected increase in veterans.

At present the park can accommodate approximately 50 caravans plus numerous tents. During 2006 and beyond more trees will be planted to complement those already growing, the fire places and BBQs will be extended and permanent power possibly introduced. The sons and/or daughters of Veterans will be given an opportunity to dedicate each of the park bays to their parent veteran. The Park is available year round welcoming Veterans and locals at no charge, but donations are always welcome.

AVENUE OF HONOUR

An Avenue of Honour has been created on Jilakin Rock Road, which is a public road and the main entrance to the Kulin Bush Race Ground and Camp Hart. Following the Shire of Kulin preparing the road verges, the Project Pioneers sourced and planted 800 Black Butt Trees in 2004 under supervision from local botanical experts. Eventu-

ally approximately one thousand trees will be planted. Each tree will be dedicated to an ADF Service Person who died in the line of duty after 1945. The end of WW11 saw the end of conventional warfare and the introduction of "conflicts" and "peace keeping". It started with the post WW11 occupation forces in Japan then followed Korea, Malaysia, Vietnam, Rwanda, East Timor, Solomon Islands, Gulf War, Iraq and other conflicts. When funds permit and in conjunction with the Shire of Kulin a memorial will be constructed at the end of the Avenue of Honour to recognise those men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty since 1945, whether it was in combat, training or accidental and whether it was overseas or in Australia. It is envisaged that this memorial will become a must see landmark for travellers as the only memorial acknowledging all Australian Defence Force Service personnel killed in the line of duty as opposed to KIA or DOW.

PROJECT PIONEERS

Harry DAINTON (106 Batt) * Bruce DALBY (1 Fld. Sqn) * Terry GOTT (5 RAR) Kevin GREEN (4 RAR) * Roger LINGARD (3 Cav.) * Rod McLENNAN (9 RAR) Barry TOD (RAN) * Garry WILLIAMS (7 RAR) * Gary VANARKEL (6 RAR),

All enquiries to Roger Lingard: PH: 08 9527 8000 Mob: 0419 944 627. Email lingard@istnet.net.au

Army Celebrates 10 Years Of Service To Indigenous Communities

Today marks the 10th anniversary of the Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Program (AACAP), a Howard Government initiative in partnership with the Army and Indigenous communities that has provided improved health and living conditions for Indigenous people

sinated instead of just murdered?

If money doesn't grow in trees then why do banks have branches?

Since bread is square, then why is sandwich meat round?

Why do you have to "put your two cents in"...but it's only a "penny for your thoughts?" Where's that extra penny going?

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up like every two hours?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

If you drink Pepsi at work in the Coke factory, will they fire you?

Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

How come we choose from just two people for President and fifty for Miss America?

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway.

If a 000 operator has a heart attack, whom does he/she call?

Why is "bra" singular and "panties" plural?

Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet soup?

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!"

Or watch a white thing come out a chicken behind and think, "that ought to taste good."

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

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

When your photo is taken for your driver's license, why do they tell you to smile? If you are stopped by the police and asked for y license, are you going to be smiling?

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

Can a hearse carrying a corpse drive in the carpool lane?

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

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

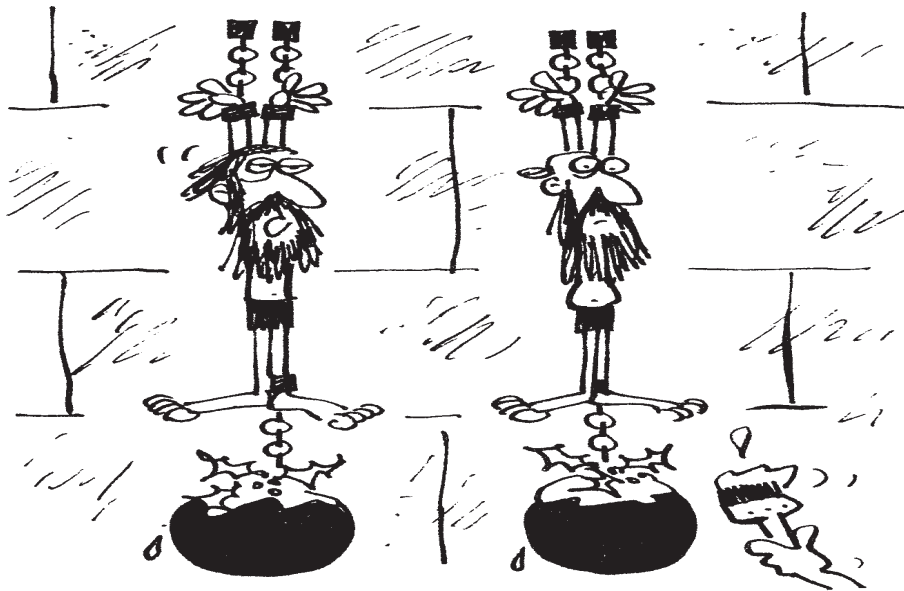
If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

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

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

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

Why did you just try singing the two



" SHIT , MUST BE CHRISTMAS AGAIN! "

Life According to Perry

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

Three Little Pigs

Three Little Pigs went out to dinner one night The waiter came and took their drink order

"I would like a Sprite," said the first little piggy

"I would like a Coke," said the second little piggy

"I want beer, lots and lots of beer," said the third little piggy

The drinks were brought out and the waiter took their orders for dinner

"I want a nice big steak," said the first piggy

"I would like the salad plate," said the second piggy

"I want beer, lots and lots of beer," said the third little piggy

The meals were brought out and a while later the waiter approached the

table and asked if the piggies would like any dessert

"I want a banana split," said the first piggy

"I want a cheesecake," said the second piggy

"I want beer, lots and lots of beer," exclaimed the third little piggy

"Pardon me for asking," said the waiter to the third little piggy, "But why have you only ordered beer all evening"

(You're gonna LYNCH me for this:

The third piggy says -

"Well, somebody has to go 'Wee, wee, wee, all the way home!

PONDERABLES

Can you cry under water?

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assas-

Albie Cunningham

across Australia.

Projects mainly involve construction of new houses, medical centres, airfields, roads, rubbish tips, sewer works and other infrastructure. They also include health screening, men's health programs, dental health screening and dog treatment programs. There is an emphasis on skills transfer and building strong relationships between Army personnel and Indigenous communities.

Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Mal Brough, representing the Prime Minister and Senator the Hon Sandy Macdonald, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence, attended the welcome home parade of the 21st Construction Squadron in Enoggera, Queensland to mark the anniversary

"I congratulate the Construction Squadrons for their hard work and commitment over the past 10 years to improve living conditions for Indigenous people in remote Australia," Mr Brough said.

"Since 1996, the Howard Government has committed nearly \$60 million to AACAP."

AACAP has constructed over 100 houses in 21, mostly remote, communities across Australia including Oak Valley, South Australia; Docker River and Borroloola, Northern Territory; Jumbun and Palm Island, Queensland; Fitzroy Crossing and Pandanus Park in Western Australia.

Parliamentary Secretary for Defence, Senator Sandy Macdonald, said AACAP provides the Army with invaluable skills for overseas deployments.

"AACAP is a unique program that delivers critical services to communities and provides training for soldiers in skills they will use overseas," he said.

For those who know Albie Cunningham and haven't yet heard here is a message from Bev Cunningham which she would like broadcast:

This is a short message to say that Albie had a heart attack on 2 October BUT is OK. He went from Myrtleford to Wangaratta by Ambulance then a few days later by Air Ambulance to Melbourne Private. Apart from complications, that are now fixed, all went well.

He will be back to normal in a very short time.

Regards
Bev Cunningham

SO2 Corps Report

Corps Funds

The RAEME Corps funds are managed by the Corps Committee on behalf of the members of the Corps. The purpose and procedures for the management of Corps Funds are outlined in Corps Instruction 14. In summary the purpose of the fund is:

- Purchase appropriate items which are not available through service supply channels, for use by members of the Corps;*
- Provide suitable prizes and trophies for Corps awards and Corps Committee awards for Corps members;*
- Purchase suitable items for presentation or reciprocal presentation to sister Corps of other nations and kindred association.*
- Sponsor events to raise the Corps profile;*
- Provide financial assistance to the Corps Historical Collection; and*
- Fund other activities as considered appropriate by the Corps Committee for the benefit of all Corps members.*

Over recent years the ability to expend Corps Funds has been significantly

reduced due to a very limited income stream. A number of recent initiatives have gone part way to redressing the situation with the potential for this to further improve. Recent income activities include the Craftsman Port productions which have been well supported by corps members, the sale of the Corps Banner miniatures, again well supported and the reintroduction of corps subscriptions, not so well supported as yet. Corps Funds provide a valuable resource for the corps which members of the corps are encouraged to support. The Corps Committee has approved the production of a unique Corps Medallion that will be presented to Corps subscribers. The medallion is modelled on the St Eligius coin (see our Website for photo).

Banner Miniatures

After the very successful release of the foundation issue of the Prince Philip Banner miniature in 2003 the Corps Committee has approved the second release of the Banner miniature. We are now taking orders for the second release of the Banner miniature. An order form is included in this edition of the Craftsman. Order forms are also available on the Corps intranet website, from the regional RAEME Associations or by contacting the SO2 Corps RAEME, Latchford Barracks, Bandiana, Victoria, 3694.

This release will be significant in that it will mark the 20th anniversary of the presentation of the Banner by HRH in 1986 and will more than likely be the last production of the Prince Philip Banner Miniature so don't miss out. The release is to be a limited numbered series. The cost of the miniature is \$190 each. The Banner miniature is of exceptional quality made by Spear of Fame, who produced, amongst other Banners, the Australian Army Banner.

Corps Painting

Over the past few years there has been a steady demand for prints of the Corps Painting. There have been nil stocks of the print for a number of years. At the recent Corps Committee meeting, approval was granted to produce a print of the Corps Painting 'AFV in Light Green' by Mr K.G. McFadyen. The print will be of the highest quality on white satin art board 300 gsm to a finished size of 640mm x 465mm. The prints will be available at a price of \$7.50, plus postage and packaging. Orders will be via the Head of Corps cell, Latchford Barracks or via the Army Museum, Bandiana.

Remembrance Day Commemorative Address

Family epitaphs to the dead, in so few words, say so much – of love, life, loss and us.

**Private A. Murray, 11th Battalion
31.7.1918 (33)**

**ONE WHO HAS HELPED
TO WRITE AUSTRALIAN HISTORY
IN BLOOD**

**Private I. D. Hart, 60th Battalion
27.11.1916**

**I GAVE MY SON
HE GAVE HIS ALL HIS LIFE
FOR AUSTRALIA AND EMPIRE**

**Second Lieutenant H.V. Swain, 47th
Battalion**

LIFE IS SERVICE

**Private P.W. Martin, 1st Pioneers
22.2.1917 (23)**

**AUSTRALIA IS
PROUD OF HER HERO
WHO WAS ONLY A PRIVATE
THAT'S ALL**

On most brands of Christmas lights "For indoor or outdoor use only." (as opposed to what?)

On a Japanese food processor "Not to be used for the other use." (now, somebody out there, help me on this. I'm a bit curious.)

On an American Airlines packet of nuts "Instructions: Open packet, eat nuts." (Step 3: say what?)

On a child's Superman costume "Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly." (I don't blame the company. I blame the parents for this one.)

On a Swedish chainsaw "Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands or genitals." (Oh my God! Was there a lot of this happening somewhere?)

Have A Laugh.

A lady goes to the bar on a cruise ship and orders a Scotch with two drops of water. As the bartender gives her the drink she says, "I'm on this cruise to celebrate my 80th birthday and it's today.."

The bartender says, "Well, since it's your birthday, I'll buy you a drink, In fact, this one is on me."

As the woman finishes her drink, the woman to her right says, "I would like to buy you a drink, too."

The old woman says, "Thank you. Bartender, I want a Scotch with two drops of water."

"Coming up," says the bartender.

As she finishes that drink, the man to her left says, "I would like to buy you one, too."

The old woman says, "Thank you. Bartender, I want another Scotch with two drops of water."

"Coming right up," the bartender says. As he gives her the drink, he says,

"Ma'am, I'm dying of curiosity. Why the Scotch with only two drops of water?"

The old woman replies,

"Sonny, when you're my age, you've learned how to hold your liquor. Holding your water, however, is a whole other issue."

Old-timers should stay fit !!

They say we should exercise and stay fit as long as we can !!

My sentiments exactly... unfortunately.

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

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

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,

You could walk this over to your friends, but why not just e-mail it to them !!

You came home and ate in two minutes, and went straight to sleep after watching the game. You don't tell me you love me anymore, you don't touch me or anything. Either you're cheating or you don't love me anymore, whatever the case is, I'm gone.

P.S. If you're trying to find me, don't. Your BROTHER and I are moving away to West Virginia together! Have a great life!

Your EX-Wife

Dear Ex-Wife

Nothing has made my day more than receiving your letter. It's true that you and I have been married for seven years, although a good woman is a far cry from what you've been. I watch sports so much to try to drown out your constant nagging. Too bad that doesn't work. I did notice when you cut off all of your hair last week, the first thing that came to mind was "You look just like a man!" My mother raised me to not say anything if you can't say anything nice. When you cooked my favourite meal, you must have gotten me confused with MY BROTHER, because I stopped eating pork seven years ago. I went to sleep on you when you had on that new negligee because the price tag was still on it. I prayed that it was a coincidence that my brother had just borrowed fifty dollars from me that morning and your negligee was \$49.99. After all of this, I still loved you and felt that we could work it out. So when I discovered that I had hit the lotto for ten million dollars, I quit my job and bought us two tickets to Jamaica. But when I got home you were gone. Everything happens for a reason I guess.

I hope you have the fulfilling life you always wanted. My lawyer said with your letter that you wrote, you won't get a dime from me. So take care.

P.S. I don't know if I ever told you this but Carl, my brother, was born Carla. I hope that's not a problem.

In honour of the Human race!

-or-

In Honour of Stupid People.

In case you needed further proof that the human race is doomed through stupidity, here are some actual label instructions on consumer goods.

On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom) "Do not turn upside down." (well...duh, a bit late, huh!)

On Sainsbury's peanuts "Warning: contains nuts." (talk about a news flash)

On Boot's Children Cough Medicine "Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication." (We could do a lot to reduce the rate of construction accidents if we could just get those 5 year-olds with head-colds off those bulldozers.)

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding "Product will be hot after heating." (...and you thought????...)

On a Sears hairdryer Do not use while sleeping. (That's the only time I have to work on my hair.)

On a bag of Fritos. You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside. (the shoplifter special?)

On a bar of Dial soap "Directions: Use like regular soap." (and that would be????....)

On some Swanson frozen dinners "Serving suggestion: Defrost." (but, it's just a suggestion.)

On packaging for a Rowenta iron "Do not iron clothes on body." (but wouldn't this save me time?)

On Nytol Sleep Aid "Warning: May cause drowsiness." (..I'm taking this because????....)

Today we pause with awkward humility, free and confident heirs to a legacy of self-sacrifice in commitment to one another, our nation and the ideals of mankind.

The guns fell silent on this day, at this hour, eighty-eight years ago. No words can do justice to the lives of the 61,720 Australians who were then dead.

How do we bring meaning to 155,000 Australians wounded, returning as they did forever changed into the arms of families?

Much that is precious was left behind.

In the soils of Gallipoli, Passchendaele, Fromelles, Messines, Hamel, Pozieres, Mouquet Farm, Villers-Brettenoux, Bullecourt and so many other places remained mates, innocent youth and all that can be cherished.

We did not see them in battle, their courage, support of one another and irreverent humour. Nor did we sense their heroic fear.

In retreat at Moquet Farm, Captain Harry Murray, saw a bomb drop two men in front of him. One fell, assumed by Murray to be dead. But as he jumped over him, the man's eyes opened. Murray later wrote,

"His leg was doubled and twisted, and although he did not speak, his eyes were eloquent. It was then I fought the hardest battle of my life, between an almost insane desire to continue running and save my own life, or to comply with the sacred traditions of the AIF. I often dread to think what I might have done. I was safe enough at the time, and all I had to do was keep on going; and despite that poor twisted leg, those mute lips, and pathetic eyes, it was only the mechanical habit engendered by strict discipline, that forced me to do what I did. I dropped to my shaking knees, caught him by the arms, and pulled him on to my back. He helped

me like a hero with his one sound leg, and off we staggered with Fritz just coming into our bay."

They forged national identity in values that are ours. Ones that make us who we are.

The nature and magnitude of their sacrifice, from a nation of barely 5 million people who twice rejected conscription, laid the foundation for belief in ourselves.

Our young nation emerged to take its more confident place in the world.

No group of Australians has given more, nor worked harder to shape and define our identity than those who wore – and now wear – the uniform of the Australian soldier, sailor or airman.

It is easy from the safe distance of this century to settle for the abstract, the broad brushstrokes of history – to forget sacrifices made in our name.

Each of them had only one life – only one chance to use it in a way that served the interests of others and the welfare of our nation.

All who wear Australia's service uniform remind us that there are some truths by which we live that are worth fighting to defend.

We honour them by the way we use our lives and shape our nation.

Let us recommit ourselves to never place position above principle. None of us is "just a private".

Their Australia – our Australia, will always judge values more important than value and our responsibility to one another will always transcend and define our rights.

In responding to an American DJ complimentary of her song, "Poster Girl" and Australian soldiers, Australian country music singer Beccy Cole said by e-mail only this week;

"My Australia is a country of fiercely loyal buggers who stand by their mates and who won't back down from their beliefs."

We now face distant horizons and new but no less ubiquitous or dangerous threats to that for which this nation has stood in its short history. We need these qualities more than ever.

To feel some connection with this place, with the Unknown Soldier and the names on these walls is to be fully Australian.

After the bloodbath that was Fromelles, Sergeant Simon Fraser spent three days bringing in the wounded.

Exhausted, a voice rose through the fog from no man's land, "Don't forget me, cobbler."

He didn't. We won't. We never will. Lest we forget.

2006 Remembrance Day Commemorative Address by Dr Brendan Nelson, Minister for Defence

Our Poster Girl, Beccy Cole

In the last edition of Defence Direct, I referred to Beccy Cole and her song, Poster Girl (Wrong Side of the World), which was written in response to the harsh reaction she received from a fan for having gone to entertain our troops in Iraq.

Poster Girl had already received a lot of attention, having topped the country charts earlier this year. It now appears to have a second wind and a new audience, after the short passage in Defence Direct was picked up by Melbourne blogger, Andrew Llanderyou, which was the source of Andrew Bolt's Herald Sun blog, which in turn was the source for some American blogs like Blackfive, from which Poster Girl appears to have

"gone viral". The spread of Poster Girl across the internet caught the attention of the Australian newspaper and even the Toronto Sun.

A flurry of visits to Beccy Cole's website in the final week of October produced, I am told, an eight-fold increase in traffic volume over the previous month. Judging from the quantity and quality of messages on her guestbook, many more people are proud to have Beccy Cole as their "Poster Girl".

The fact that a simple, monthly e-mail service with a modest number of subscribers can provide one ripple, which along with others can help build a wave and help a good idea (in this case, a fantastic song) be heard around the world, is testament to the power of free and open communication.

Under Saddam Hussein, Iraqis did not have access to free and open communication. By May 2006, Iraq had 54 commercial television stations, 114 commercial radio stations, 268 independent newspapers and around 200,000 internet subscribers (not including internet cafes).

This new right, of everyday Iraqis to hear diversity of opinion and voices from around the world, is itself a powerful reason to defend this new democracy.

Eds Note: Check out <http://www.beccycole.com/> and listen to Beccy Cole. If you watch the music video you will find that she is singing in front of a RAEME Workshop in Iraq, complete with the RAEME Flag.

Operation Care Launched

In partnership with the RSL & Services Clubs Association the Australian Defence Force is pleased to announce the official launch of Operation CARE.

Under Operation CARE, Navy, Army and Air Force personnel who have been

intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say.

"Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet. It's too bad you missed your daughter's "dance recital" he continued. "Let me tell you something that has helped me keep my own priorities." And that's when he began to explain his theory of a "thousand marbles."

"You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about seventy-five years. "Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3,900, which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime. Now, stick with me, Tom, I'm getting to the important part."

"It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail", he went on, "and by that time I had lived through over twenty-eight hundred Saturdays. I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy. So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round up 1,000 marbles. I took them home and put them inside a large, clear plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear."

"Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and thrown it away. I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out, to help get your priorities straight."

"Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign-off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure that if I make it until next Saturday then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time."

"It was nice to meet you Tom, I hope you spend more time with your family, and I hope to meet you again here on the band. This is a 75-Year Old Man, K9NZQ, clear and going QRT, good morning!"

You could have heard a pin drop on the band when this fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few hams to work on the next club newsletter.

Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss. "C'mon honey. I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast." "What brought this on?" she asked with a smile. "Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. And hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles...."

Letter of Divorce

Dear Husband:

I'm writing you this letter to tell you that I'm leaving you for good. I've been a good woman to you for seven years and I have nothing to show for it. These last two weeks have been hell. Your boss called to tell me that you had quit your job today and that was the last straw.

Last week, you came home and didn't notice that I had gotten my hair and nails done, cooked your favourite meal and even wore a brand new negligee.

Afghanistan	AASM—clasp ICAT OP Slipper 02 December 2001– For service only within Afghanistan	OP Slipper 19 July 2005 onwards	Avn Element SOTG's RTF
Iraq	AASM—clasp Iraq 2003 OP Catalyst— 90 Days to Qualify	OP Falconer—30 Days to Qualify 20 March 2003– 15 July 2003 AMTG	SECDET AATT-I IED Teams
		For service only within Iraq OP Catalyst 16 July 2003	SASR Gp OBG-W

The Withdrawal Syndrome

Hi Folks ! Thought you may be interested in the results of some of the military education we received at Arborfield . This is a message received from my old ex-boy mate in Melbourne .See you at the Baysie ! Cheers Peter Humpston.

If you consider that there has been an average of 160,000 troops in the Iraq theatre of operations during the last 22 months, and a total of 2,112 deaths, that gives a firearm death rate of 60 per 100,000 soldiers.

The firearm death rate in Washington D.C. is 80.6 per 100,000 for the same period. That means that you are about 25% more likely to be shot and killed in the U.S. capital, which has some of the strictest gun control laws in the nation, than you are in Iraq.

Conclusion: The U.S. should pull out of Washington immediately.

The Final Word On Nutrition

After an exhaustive review of the research literature, here's the final word on nutrition and health.:

1. Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
2. Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
3. Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

4. Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

5. Germans drink beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

CONCLUSION: Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

Marbles

The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings. Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable.

A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the garage with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other. What began as a typical Saturday morning turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time. Let me tell you about it:

I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning swap net. Along the way, I came across an older sounding chap, with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the kind; he sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business. He was telling whomever he was talking with something about "a thousand marbles." I was

wounded in combat operations and repatriated to Australia for further treatment may be entitled to spend up to one week with their immediate family in rest and recuperation, funded by the RSL & Services Clubs Association.

This scheme could not have been possible without the generous support of the RSL & Services Clubs Association and provides recognition from the Veterans Community for the sacrifice made by current serving ADF personnel and their families.

The focus of the scheme is to assist Defence members in the recovery process and to provide their families the opportunity to be a part of that process.

The Australian Defence Force would like to thank the RSL & Services Clubs Association for their support and initiative in forming Operation CARE and for their ongoing support and compassion for today's servicemen and women.

New Special Operations Vehicle Named In Honour Of SASR Warrant Officer

The replacement vehicle for SASR's Afghanistan and Iraq workhorse, the Long Range Patrol Vehicle (LRPV) is to be named in honour of SASR Warrant Officer Class 2 David Nary who was killed in an accident during mission rehearsals on 06 November, 2006.

Bayswater Hotel

We have finally found a home thanks to the generosity of the management of the Bayswater Hotel in Bayswater. The Baysie, as it is called, is a bright and breezy hotel with excellent facilities.

The Baysie has allowed the Association the use of their Function Room every month for our meetings. This they have done at no charge as the Association is a non-profit veteran's organisation. All members are welcome to come along. Remember that our meetings are on the first Thursday of each month except January.

Dinner, at the Baysie, is from 1800 hours to 2030 hours and is relatively cheap, wholesome food. It is served as a Buffet Style meal and you can have hot dinners or a cold salad style meal. Should you wish to go more up-market you can order from the Al-a-Carte menu. If you wish to have a private function with a buffet style meal the Baysie staff is only too pleased to cater for you.

One thing that is a big plus for the Baysie is the friendly manner which the staff treat all their guests. They are probably the friendliest group of people you would want to meet.

If a function is organised at the Baysie, one real big plus is the very comfortable rooms in the Hotel or in the adjoining Motel. You can go to a function, relax and enjoy yourself and have no fear of having to drive home trying to avoid the "Booze Buses". The tariffs for the rooms in the Hotel or the Motel are very reasonable.

If you drive to the Baysie there is a Carpark at the rear with room for about 100 cars. Alternatively you can get to the Baysie by train. The Hotel is about 100m the north side of the railway line from the Bayswater Railway Station.

Further information can be supplied by the Secretary.

Our catch cry now is "Come to the Baysie and enjoy yourselves."

The Nary SOV will replace Special Operations Command – Australia's aging fleet of Land-Rover based LRPVs.

Chief of Army Lieutenant-General Peter Leahy said the Nary SOV was yet another step in achieving the Hardened and Networked Army.

"It will provide greater payload capacity with stronger drive-train, transmission and suspension components and provide an enhanced suite of command, control and communications equipment," Lieutenant-General Leahy said.

"Naming the vehicle after Warrant Officer Nary is important recognition of his years of dedicated service to Australian Special Forces and the Australian Army."

Warrant Officer Class 2 Nary had a long association with the vehicle mobility program within SASR and was instrumental in the continual upgrades that have been applied to the LRPV fleet over the span of its service.

New Family Stability Initiative For Defence

The Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence Bruce Billson announced today that Australian Defence Force members will have more flexibility in choosing geographical stability for their families to reduce the impact of postings on children's education and spouse and partner employment.

The new ADF Family Stability Initiative gives military personnel who are required to relocate on posting the opportunity to choose geographical stability for their families.

This means that families may elect to remain at their present localities to maintain housing and employment continuity for spouses and partners.

Upheavals associated with packing up the household and moving away from friends, extended family and other community networks may also be avoided.

Importantly, this initiative also allows children to remain at their current schools in familiar education programs and among their friends.

Under the Family Stability Initiative, ADF members who choose locational stability for their families will proceed to their new posting locations unaccompanied. To help overcome difficulties associated with family separation, ADF members will receive a comprehensive conditions of service package that includes accommodation or rent and meals assistance, up to six family reunion visits a year and assistance with additional costs associated with living away from their families.

The ADF has a highly mobile workforce and Defence is mindful of the impact that frequent relocations might have on military personnel and their families.

Recent ADF surveys have shown that locational stability for families increasingly is becoming a key retention factor and I am confident that this Family Stability Initiative, along with the range of other family-friendly Defence programs, will go some way to encouraging continued military service.

This significant initiative is all about giving flexibility and choice while maintaining military capability needs. It is a great advance and I am sure that it will be welcomed by ADF members and their families.

Nevertheless, leaving your family in one location while going on a posting unaccompanied is a big decision and one that should not be taken lightly. The mutual benefits to the ADF member and their family accompanying each other on posting will continue to be emphasised, as together they consider

ARMY COMBAT BADGE—QUALIFYING SERVICE SINCE 16 JUNE 1948

Campaign Medal Awarded	Eligibility	Units
Malaya GSM—clasp	Malaya 16 June 1948–31 July 1960 (Malaya) 16 June 1948–31 January 1959 (Singapore)	1 RAR Bn Gp 3 RAR Bn Gp
Korea Korea Medal	01 July 1950–27 July 1953	1, 2 & 3 RAR Bn Gps
Borneo GSM (1962)—clasp Borneo	24 December 1962–11 August 1966	3 & 4 RAR Bn Gps 1 & 2 SAS Sqn
Malay/Thai AASM—clasp Border	01 August 1960–16 August 1964 Thai/Malay	1, 2 & 3 RAR Bn Gps
South Vietnam GSM (1962)—clasp South Vietnam	24 December 1962–28 May 1964	1 Armoured Regt 3 Cavalry Regt 1 APC Sqn 4/19 PWLH APC Tp
Vietnam Medal (Eligibility terminates 20 December 1972)	29 May 1964–27 January 1973	1, 4 & 12 Fd Regts 131 Div Loc Bty 1 Fd Sqn 161 Ind Recon Sqn 161 Recon Flt 1,2 & 3 SAS Sqns AATTV 1 ATF Def PI 1 to 9 RAR Bn Gps
Malaysia GSM (1962)—clasp Malay Peninsula	17 August 1962–12 June 1965	3 RAR Bn Gp
Kuwait AASM—clasp Kuwait	17 January 1991–28 February 1991	Exchange pers serving in zone
Somalia AASM—clasp Somalia	UNITAF 10 January 1993–21 May 1993	1 RAR Bn Gp Land components of UNOSOM2 Elm of SASR
East Timor AASM—clasp East Timor	OP Faber/Stabilise 16 September 1999– 23 February 2000	2 Cav Regt Tp 2/14 LHR Tp
OP Warden—60 Days to Qualify	OP Warden 16 September 1999– 10 April 2000	B Sqn 3/4 Cav Regt Tp 3 CER
OP Tanager	20 February 2000– 19 May 2002	Elm 1 & 5 Avn Regts 1,2, 3 & 4 RAR Bn Gps
OP Citadel	20 May 2002– 18 August 2003	5/7 & 6 RAR Bn Gps SASR

or similar unit/sub-unit, and who has served for a specified period of time on warlike operations. In exceptional circumstances, service on operations whilst serving in other than warlike activities, such as peacekeeping operations, or for units outside those designated above, may be recognised with the award of the ACB.

Eligibility

2. Any member of any Corps who were force assigned to an infantry, armour, artillery, aviation or combat engineer based combat team/battle group or similar unit/sub-unit, and has given either continuous or an aggregate of 90 days satisfactory service on warlike operations for a single deployment or operation is eligible to wear the ACB. The Chief of Army may alter the eligibility criteria depending on the operation or deployment.

3. The ACB may also be awarded to members on exchange/attachment duties for service with allied units. Extant procedures to apply to wear the ACB in these circumstances apply.

4. The ACB may also be approved in the following special circumstances:

a. except as regards length of service, satisfies the requirement of paragraph 2 and who, in respect of service, has been decorated for gallantry, wounded in action, or evacuated from the theatre of operations because of a disability (not self-inflicted) attributable to that service; or

b. been involved in direct combat with an adversary in an other than warlike operation (such as a peacekeeping operation) and has served on that operation for a period of 90 days; or

c. serves in a conflict either with Australian forces or on exchange, but where that operation is less than 90 days, but in all other circumstances, the nature of the conflict would qualify

for the ACB. Applications are to be recommended by the senior Australian Army member in theatre or the Head of Defence Staff for the country with which the member was deployed.

5. The ACB can only be awarded once and the award of the ACB is retrospective to Malaya 1948.

RETROSPECTIVITY

6. The following processes are to apply for distribution of the ACB to members eligible by retrospectivity and having served in units designated in table below.

Prior to 1989

7. Corps associations have been requested to provide the respective HOC with a list of eligible persons for endorsement, noting the requirement for the list to contain members of all corps who served with the appropriate unit.

8. Respective HOC are to endorse the list and forward to DGPERS–A. DGPERS–A approves the list and dispatches the requisite number of ACB to the Corps association. Corps associations are responsible for distributing the ACB to eligible members including postage and handling costs.

1989 onwards—ex-serving members

9. Ex-serving and all Standby Reserve members who believe they fulfil the eligibility criteria listed in paragraph 2-5, may apply for the ACB using the application form available from the Association Secretary. The application form must contain proof that the member served for the period claimed either by a certified true copy of the record of service (usually attached to the Certificate of Discharge) or using a Statutory Declaration.

10. For more details and assistance with applications contact MAJ Dick Fenton on (08) 93836484 or Richard.fenton@defence.gov.au.

the options under the Family Stability Initiative.

Advice and professional guidance through Chaplains, Defence Community Organisation social work staff and the military chain of command will be readily available to help ADF members and their families reach the right outcome for them.

The Family Stability Initiative will be introduced before the ADF's end-of-year posting cycle and removes previous policy and administrative limitations for unaccompanied postings.

The ADF remains committed to keeping family units together where possible and ADF members whose families accompany them on taking up their new postings will continue to be supported by the full range of existing relocation and housing entitlements.

The Family Stability Initiative delivers alternative ways of meeting family needs and gives the ADF members and their spouses the power to choose what is best for them.

Missing Persons

One of our Corps members is being looked for, if it is you, or you know of them, could you please contact the Secretary of RAEME NSW, Ivan Grasis or the Editor of the Horses Mouth. The member is:

John (JC) Taylor, he was a Vehicle Mechanic. Was with both 2nd Cavalry Regiment and Training Group. Last known rank was either Sergeant or Warrant Officer Class 2. Possibly discharged around 2000.

Australian Commandos Receive Decorations For Gallantry

The Governor-General His Excellency MAJ GEN Michael Jeffery, AC, CVO, MC, joined with Prime Minister of Aus-

tralia the Hon John Howard, MP, the Hon Dr. Brendan Nelson, MP and the Chief of the Defence Force ACM Angus Houston AO, AFC, to welcome home Eastern Australia-based members of the Afghanistan Special Forces Task Group (SFTG) in a ceremony at Tobruk Lines, Holsworthy Barracks today.

The soldiers, predominantly from the Sydney-based Fourth Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (Commando) (4RAR(Cdo)), formed part of the 200-personnel strong SFTG operating in Southern Afghanistan since late last year.

During the ceremony the Governor-General and Prime Minister praised the professionalism and courage of the SFTG who were involved in some of the most ferocious fighting since the Vietnam War during their 12-month deployment to Afghanistan.

The dangers faced by the SFTG were highlighted by the presentation of Australia's first Star of Gallantry and a Medal for Gallantry to 4RAR(Cdo) members by the Governor-General.

Commando Sergeant "A" and Commando Corporal "B" were decorated for gallantry in recognition of their outstanding actions, leadership and bravery in Afghanistan.

During the awards presentation the Governor-General praised the actions of the two soldiers and described them as being "in the highest traditions of the Special Operations Command-Australia, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force."

The Governor-General also announced the awarding of a Unit Citation for Gallantry to combat elements of the SFTG, whilst the Task Group as a whole has been awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation. These awards will be formally presented at a later date.

**To Be Awarded
The Star Of Gallantry
Commando Sergeant "A"**

For conspicuous gallantry in action and leadership as a Commando Section Commander in the Special Forces Task Group, whilst deployed on Operation SLIPPER 2006.

During the conduct of an operation in Southern Afghanistan in 2006, a combined Coalition Force conducted a Direct Action mission against a target in the Oruzgan Province. Upon insertion, the assault force, provided by another Coalition partner, was soon surrounded and suffered two soldiers wounded and one soldier killed in action.

A Commando Reaction Force was deployed and tasked to assist the extraction of the assault force by securing the helicopter landing zone and covering their withdrawal. As Sergeant "A's" section was the lead element of the Commando Reaction Force, he received the most intense weight of fire from the Anti-Coalition Militia.

Upon arrival at the landing zone the Commando Reaction Force immediately came under a heavy weight of rocket and small arms fire from multiple flanks. Due to the requirement to secure the extraction site, the Commando Reaction Force held the position for over an hour. Sergeant "A" was responsible for securing the northern flank, repelling a number of assaults whilst being engaged from ranges as close as 50 metres.

Once the extraction was complete, the Commando Reaction Force began its return to base. The Anti-Coalition Militia had anticipated the Commando Reaction Force's extraction route and had prepared a series of ambushes to prevent their safe return. As the lead vehicle commander, Sergeant "A" led his section with distinction and courage. Critically, he was the first to be

engaged at each of the ambush locations. In each instance, Sergeant "A" led his section to assault and clear opposition from the route in a rapid and aggressive manner, despite the frequent heavy and effective fire. On one occasion, with absolute disregard for his own safety, Sergeant "A" personally conducted an assault on a machinegun position not more than 30 metres to his front. This action resulted in the neutralising of the threat from the Anti-Coalition Militia allowing the Commando Reaction Force to continue their manoeuvre.

On at least two other occasions, whilst being engaged from positions as close as five metres and receiving multiple bullet strikes on his vehicles, Sergeant "A" was forced to fight his way through ambushes by driving directly through the killing ground, which he did without hesitation. These positions were neutralised through the use of small arms fire and fragmentation grenades. Through his outstanding leadership and composure under fire, he successfully manoeuvred his section and led the Commando Reaction Force through several ambush locations, returning them to base without injury.

During the operation, Sergeant "A" led his section with distinction, displaying multiple acts of conspicuous gallantry whilst in combat with the Anti-Coalition Militia over a protracted period of time. His actions directly contributed to the success of the mission and ultimately the safe return of the Commando Reaction Force. His conspicuous gallantry in action was of the highest order and is in keeping with the finest traditions of Special Operations Command-Australia, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

**To Be Awarded The
Medal For Gallantry
Commando Corporal "B"**

For gallantry and leadership in action as a Commando Team Commander, of the Special Forces Task Group whilst deployed on Operation SLIPPER, Afghanistan in 2006.

During the conduct of an operation, Corporal "B's" commando platoon was tasked to carry out the clearance of an Anti-Coalition Militia sanctuary in the Oruzgan Province, Afghanistan. The platoon was partnered in support of a Coalition infantry company. At approximately 1pm the infantry company came under heavy rocket propelled grenade and small arms fire on multiple flanks resulting in six wounded and one soldier killed in action, effectively halting their advance. Through thick vegetation, facing large numbers of dispersed Anti-Coalition Militia and under heavy fire, the commando platoon commenced manoeuvring to provide assistance to the element which was pinned down. During this move, the commando platoon received a volley of four rockets which impacted in the centre of the platoon's position resulting in six Australian soldiers wounded in action. Unknown to the Commander at the time, Corporal "B" had also been wounded in the foot by fragmentation from the rocket propelled grenade barrage.

In order to regain the initiative, Corporal "B's" team was tasked by the Commando Platoon Commander to assault forward and clear a group of compounds from which they were receiving Anti-Coalition Militia fire. Under these daunting conditions Corporal "B" commenced this task without hesitation, completing a rapid and aggressive clearance of numerous threat compounds. Once achieved, Coalition elements were free to con-

tinue with the battle providing the necessary time to effect the back loading of the wounded by helicopter to the Forward Operating Base.

Throughout the afternoon, numerous and relentless probing attacks by a determined opponent followed. Corporal "B" displayed extraordinary leadership and courage, inspiring his team and the remainder of the commando platoon to repel the continued attacks. He then successfully led a team to infiltrate the Anti-Coalition Militia held territory killing several Anti-Coalition Militia. Only after the engagement had been completed and the threat to the platoon subsided did Corporal "B" inform his Commander of the fragmentation wound that he had sustained during the original contact earlier that day. Corporal "B" was then evacuated to the Casualty Collection Point where he was provided with medical treatment and later extracted.

Corporal "B's" actions as a Commando Team Commander were testament to his leadership, fortitude and sense of duty to his team and the platoon. His determination to continue to lead his team during the battle in extremely hazardous circumstances despite being wounded ensured that the commando platoon regained the initiative and contributed significantly to a decisive victory. His gallantry and leadership in the face of the enemy has been of the highest order and in keeping with the finest traditions of Special Operations Command-Australia, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

THE ARMY COMBAT BADGE

Reference: DI(A) PERS 119-1

1. The purpose of the ACB is to recognise any member of the Army who was force assigned to an infantry, armour, artillery, aviation or combat engineer based combat team/battle group,