

FORWARD

Newsletter #47 - December 2024



The official newsletter of the 2nd/14th Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry) Association



Welcome to our last newsletter of the year for 2024, this year has certainly gone quickly. I hope you all have plans to get together with family and friends over the Christmas and New Year's break; I know I am planning to.

Looking back over 2024 we have had some very successful activities and catchups and I hope you enjoyed the activities you attended. Some activities we are removing from the calendar for 2025, and these are the bike rides, 4x4 day trips and coffee catch ups. These will still go ahead but on an ad hoc arrangement advertised via our social media (association Facebook and Black hats Facebook) and also via member email.

As always if you have a suggested activity or catch up please let us know and we will add it to the calendar.

By far our most successful activity was the Annual Reunion at the 41 Club. The regiment deciding to hold their United Drumhead Service on the same day. This was well attended by past unit members and families. It was also good to see many past CO's and RSM's attend. I would personally like to thank the CO and RSM and the unit for the support they gave for the day; it was greatly appreciated. See the write up by our treasurer Dean.

I hope you all have a great Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you all again in 2025.

If anyone is experiencing difficulties, please do not hesitate to reach out. We the association will help in whatever way we can, even if it is just a chat on the phone or a coffee.

Please feel free to contact me on any matters that we

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may be able to assist you with. My number is 0431 700 696.

FORWARD

Shayne Burley



Also see a YouTube video of a 2/14 LHR (QMI) Boxer on the 4WD 24-7:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VwZMtU_4eic

OTHER GOOD READS!

Ironsides Magazine:
<https://ironside.partica.online/>

2/14 LHR (QMI) Facebook page:
[2nd/14th Light Horse Regiment \(QMI\) | Facebook](#)

2/14 LHR (QMI) Association Facebook page:
[2nd/14th Light Horse Regiment \(QMI\) Association Inc - Facebook Group | Facebook](#)

United Drumhead Service & 41 Club Black Hat Get-together Gallipoli Barracks 9 November 2024





POST EVENT REPORT BY DEAN CHAPPEL

This year's 41 Club Reunion was celebrated with the United Drumhead Service. The Guidons were Consecrated as part of the United Drumhead Service which are now emblazoned with the new Theatre Honour of Iraq 2003 – 2011.

The unit invited all previous CO's and RSM's along with all families and friends of the Regiment, thus ensuring this year's Reunion had a large attendance. The Regiment also provided the BBQ Lunch for all in attendance which allowed members free entry. The 41 Club Bar was well stacked along with a portable external fridge to cater for the large numbers and it was required which allowed us to consume cold drinks throughout the day.

Association attendance was not the largest of recent years, however the Invited Guests, Officers and Soldiers of the Regiment and their families made it the largest attendance ever for an annual 41 Club Reunion. The main official guest was the Div Comd who was an ex CO of the unit, Maj Gen Ash Collingburn. He spoke well being an ex CO at the Service and his attendance at the 41 Club later was greatly appreciated.

The Commanding Officer LT COL Tim Hurley, spoke very well at the reunion informing of the new direction the new army is moving, their strengths and roles for the future and he placed a large emphasis of his speech of the role of the Association with its close links to all ex, current, and future personnel with the Unit. The Hon Col and Patron Steve Salmon, also spoke well about the Unit and the Association and their close alignment. The Association President Shayne Burley thanked all for their attendance and the Unit for its assistance with the day.

Danny Brooks was set free to have a clearance sale of his personal Q Store to the masses, along with 6 Meat trays provided by us to gain some profit for the day. Overall, the day was a huge success where the old and the new mingled to provide a closer link with the Regiment. For me personally it was the best gathering for a 41 Club Reunion due to the United Drumhead Service and thus a greater attendance by current and ex serving members of the Regiment.

Until next year ... **Forward**



ASSOCIATION POLO SHIRTS

Following enquiries at the 41 Club Get-together in November, and for those Association members wishing to purchase an Association Polo Shirt embroidered with the Association logo, these can be ordered directly from:

Fully Promoted Chermside

Address: 739 Gympie Rd, Chermside QLD 4032
 Phone: 3359 5155
 Contact: Daryl Ragen
 Email: chermside@fullypromoted.com.au
 Just quote: 2/14 LHR (QMI) Association Polo short
 Colour: Navy
 Style: JB's wear Style 210,
 Size: Make sure to mention this

Payment can be made directly when placing the order (postage will be a little extra if unable to pick up).



THE COLONEL JOHN HAYNES TRUST

New welfare and educational support available for RAAC soldiers, veterans and their families in time of need.



Colonel John Haynes AM

A career RAAC soldier for 36 years, John enlisted in the CMF in 1948 and soon realised he wanted to pursue a military career. He transferred to the ARA, was accepted to Duntroon and graduated to Armour. He had the rare

distinction of having served in almost every RAAC unit during his career. His long service included Vietnam in 1970.

He always had a strong passion for RAAC members' welfare, especially their families and War Widows. After retiring in 1984 John became a driving force behind the introduction of the Armoured Combat Badge and as the National President of the RAAC Association he set the groundwork and drove the activity that achieved the construction of the excellent Boer War Memorial in Canberra to honour the Australian Light Horse, our horse mounted predecessors.

John died in 2020 bequeathing a substantial sum to the RAAC via the RAAC Association (NSW) which set up the Trust in his name to honour his wish of assisting RAAC members, and their families, when no other means of assistance is available.

As a serving or ex-serving RAAC member if you, or a member of your immediate family, requires assistance because of family trauma, emergency or an educational need you might qualify for a grant or financial assistance from the COL John Haynes Trust.

For more information visit: haynestrust.org



Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association



SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DEFENCE AND VETERAN SUICIDE

Earlier this year I gave evidence during the final hearing block of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide. For three years, the Royal Commission has heard evidence from serving and former-serving members, and their families. The Royal Commission has examined extensive data and sought expert testimony.

The Royal Commission has noted that for most Soldiers¹, service in our Army is a positive aspect of their personal and professional lives. This is an important point to acknowledge but that is not what this Royal Commission is about.

It is about those for whom service has been a negative experience, the effects of which have been life-long, life-altering and in the worst case life-ending. The Royal Commission has heard of many such experiences, historic and recent. Our failings - whether institutional or individual - have had terrible consequences for those we have failed.

The evidence is compelling. Since 2017, for example, we know we have lost 30 serving Soldiers either suspected or confirmed to have died by suicide². Many more have been lost across our wider community.

This is not acceptable. We must do more. These are **our** people, members of our teams and our Army. To fight and win in war our teams must be built on the foundations of trust, respect, and cohesion.

Last year we identified and brought home the remains of Australian soldiers who were killed in the battle of Fromelles in 1916. This reminds us all that *'Lest we Forget'* is not rhetoric, it is a **promise**. We continued the search for our soldiers for over a century, a commitment of which we ought to be proud.

Now is the time to apply the same approach and effort to the challenge of suicide and suicidality among our people. We will not leave our mates behind, fallen on their own personal battlefield.

This Royal Commission presents us with a once in a generation opportunity to reduce the incidence of suicide and suicidality in our community. To make a **step change** rather than incremental improvement. It is both our individual and collective obligation to do so.

I am ultimately accountable for Army's people, culture, mission and resources, but like everything we do - it requires a committed team effort if we are to be successful.

We need not wait for the Royal Commission to publish its findings and recommendations before we act. The opportunity exists today, and we must act on it today.

We will focus on three outcomes: achieving a **measurable** reduction in the incidence of suicide and suicidality amongst Soldiers; building our individual and collective resilience; and strengthening our

¹ 'Soldier' - refers to all whom have worn and wear our uniform today, regardless of rank.

² This figure is according to statistics compiled for the Defence suicide database. While I acknowledge that this number does not represent the entirety with a connection to Army who are either suspected or confirmed to have died by suicide, this number does provide a sobering reminder of the impact that suicide and suicidality have had, and continue to have, on those who serve in our Army and their families.

culture³. When we achieve this, we will have a stronger Army, an Army that is more capable and better able to fulfil its mission.

We must move on this effort together, as one team, and we must stay together. We train and fight in teams. Trust among our teams is our **main effort**.

I am grateful for all that you and your families do in service each day. I am proud to serve in an Army that owns its failures; an Army that is genuinely determined to learn from the past and committed to improving our future.

Our Army's future begins today - with each of us reflecting our values in our thoughts, words and actions today and every day.



Simon Stuart, AO, DSC
Lieutenant General
Chief of Army

*6. July 2024

³ 'Culture' - our culture is how well we translate our values into what we think, say and do every day.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The President and Management Committee welcome new members of the Association:

BROWN Jason Bourke
BROWN Diane Lesley
CASHIN Daniel Graham
OVENDEN Robert George
PROUDFOOT Peter Cameron
BRIDGEMAN Darryl Robert
MARKS Christopher Ross
HENSLER John
KENNEDY Michael Damien
CHALMERS David Hugh
GOMERSALL Ross Lawrence

BOXERS TO GERMANY



(Left to Right) Chief of the German Army Lieutenant General Alfons Mais and Head of Equipment Department Ministry of Defence, Vice Admiral Carsten Stawitzki take a test drive of a Boxer Combat Reconnaissance Vehicle at Rheinmetall Defense Australia at Brisbane, Queensland.

Photo: Marc Dorow.

German parliament has officially approved the purchase of more than 100 Boxer Heavy Weapon Carrier vehicles for the German Army.

Under single largest defence export agreement in Australia's history, the Australian-made armoured vehicles will be built by Rheinmetall at its Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence in Redbank, Queensland before being exported to Germany.

This agreement, now passed through the German parliament, follows Prime Minister Anthony Albanese witnessing the signing of the in-principle agreement between Germany and Australia during his visit to Berlin in July last year.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said today's announcement will see Australian defence industry at the forefront of delivering world-leading defence capability to Germany, a trusted security partner.

"This significant announcement is worth over \$1 billion to the Australian economy in the production and supply of these vehicles," he said.

"The agreement will boost Australia's sovereign defence industry, secure local jobs and contribute to Australia's economic growth.

"This deal secures well-paid jobs in Queensland and across the country."

The deal is considered a significant milestone for Australia's defence industry; worth over \$1 billion to

the Australian economy, boosting sovereign defence industry and securing more than 600 direct jobs in Queensland, with more expected through the supply chain.

"I am pleased to announce the signing of the biggest defence export agreement in Australia's history," according to Minister for Defence Richard Marles.

"The build and export of Boxer Heavy Weapon Carrier vehicles to the German Army highlights a strengthening of the relationship between our two countries.

"The Albanese Government is not only committed to bolstering our nation's growing defence industry, technology and talent, but also supporting ongoing economic prosperity in the region."

Minister for Defence Industry Pat Conroy said the announcement underscores the support and immense effort on the part of the Federal Government in ensuring the nation has a robust defence industry.

"A strong defence industry is crucial to protecting Australians and their interests. This announcement is also a testament to the hardworking Australians employed in this critical industry," he said.

"Today's announcement means more than 600 Australians will secure and stable employment at Rheinmetall's Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence in Queensland, along with many more throughout our defence industry across the nation."

Around 200 Boxer CRVs are currently in production in Queensland for the Australian Army. Late last year, Australian Defence Force personnel tested the new Block II Boxer combat reconnaissance vehicle in Germany. **Three soldiers from 2nd/14th Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry) were involved in testing at the Rheinmetall site in Unterluss, Germany.**

Testing of the Boxer CRV conducted in Germany included firing the MK30-2 cannon and MAG58 machine gun in extreme weather conditions, testing new programmable munitions capability as well as a brief on the Block II vehicle design, operation of the combat intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance system and new weapon control systems.

Source: Defence Connect

21 MARCH 2024 - By: Robert Dougherty

COMBAT RECONNAISSANCE VEHICLE



LAND 400 Phase 2 will modernise Army's Armoured Fighting Vehicle capability, which will provide mounted support to Defence operations for decades into the future, but most importantly will enhance the safety, security and protection of Australian troops. The Boxer CRV will replace the Australian Light Armoured Vehicle, which has seen extensive operational service since its introduction in 1996.

The Boxer CRV will operate in a range of environments, from the littoral environment of our near region, to contested complex urban environments. The high levels of protection, firepower and mobility provided by the vehicle will enable sustained operations, varying from peacekeeping to close combat.

Defence has contracted Rheinmetall Defence Australia to deliver and support 211 Boxer 8x8 Combat Reconnaissance Vehicle (Boxer) for the Australian Army.

The Boxer CRV will be delivered in two blocks, known as Block I and Block II.

Under Block I, Rheinmetall Defence Australia has delivered the first 25 Boxer CRVs (12 Reconnaissance and 13 Multi-Purpose Variants) to Defence, which are currently in use with Army and demonstrating high levels of availability and notable levels and performance.

The remaining 186 Boxer CRVs (known as Block II) are currently in the design and testing phases respectively.

The vehicles will be split across 5 variants:

- Reconnaissance
- Repair
- Recovery
- Command and Control
- Joint Fires and Surveillance.

The majority of these Block II CRVs will be built and assembled in Australia at Rheinmetall Defence Australia's Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence facility in Redbank, Queensland.

Content is current as at February 2024.

SOURCE:

**Australian Government Defence
Combat Reconnaissance Vehicle I Defence**



RAAC CORPORATION LIMITED ~ AGM

By *GRAEME BROWN, EDITOR*



The 12th AGM of The RAAC Corporation Limited held in Canberra on 12th October 2024.

The 2/14 LHR (QMI) Association Inc is a member, with President Shayne Burley attending as the Association's delegate. Also attending were:

- Brigadier Chris Gardiner, DSM - RAAC HOC
- WO1 Jamie Adams - Corps RSM
- Major General Roger Powell, AM (Ret'd) – RAAC Corporation Advisory Board (ex officio)
- Brigadier Mark Holmes, AM MVO – RAAC Corporation Advisory Board
- WO1 Peter Swinfield – RAAC Corporation Advisory Board & Delegate for the 1AR Assn

- Delegates representing other member Associations in four states.

Following the Office bearers' reports, other items on the agenda included, but were not limited to:

- Briefing by the Head of Corps
- Delegates Reports
- Briefing on the Colonel John Haynes Trust
- Blast Injury Update
- Tank Museum Brief and Update

Other business:

Election of Office Bearers.

All eligible positions were vacated following a 4 year tenure and the Returning Officer called for nominations. As there were no other nominations, the following were re-elected unopposed.

Chairman	Noel McLaughlin	(ACT)
Treasurer	Graeme Brown	(QLD)
Director	Tony Crook	(VIC)
Secretary	This position is not due for re-election until next year.	

JAVELIN STOCKS

The US Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) has approved a possible Foreign Military Sale (FMS) of FGM-148F Javelin anti-armour weapons to Australia at an estimated cost of \$US100 million (AUD\$148 million).

Included in the DSCA notification are 350 individual FGM-148F Javelin missiles, four of which are fly-to-buy missiles. The fly-to-buy missiles will be live-fire tested before delivery to Australia as part of a fly-to-buy testing program.

Australia first selected the Javelin in 2002. That year, the DSCA approved a possible sale of 92 Command Launch Units (CLU) and 666 rounds to Australia. Since then, Defence has periodically refreshed the Australian Army's stock of missiles, most recently in March 2023 when the DSCA approved a sale of 255 FGM-148Fs.



3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment's Direct Fire Support Weapons Platoon fire a Javelin weapon system.
Photo Credit: Defence

Source: ADM – 21 August 2024

M113'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE ADF

The M113A1 is an Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) in service developed in the United States of America and introduced into Australian Army service in 1964.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL REL30188.001

The M113 family of vehicles includes seven variants - the APC, Armoured Fitters, Armoured Recovery Vehicle Light, Armoured Ambulance, Armoured Mortar, Armoured Command Vehicle and Armoured Logistic Vehicle.

The M113A1 remained in service with the Australian Army for over 50 years with a heavily modified and 'stretched' Australian version known as the M113AS4 introduced into service from 2007. As of 2022 this vehicle is still in service with the Australian Army and fourteen (14) with the Ukrainian Army.

This particular vehicle (Army Registration Number 134192) was first deployed to South Vietnam with 1 APC Squadron in 1966. It later served with 3 Cavalry Regiment until 1969. The vehicle covered close to 10,000 miles on operations, with an initial callsign of 40A, and later 21. The vehicle's first driver in Vietnam was Keith Jones. Prior to the deployment Keith drove the vehicle from Bandiana to Puckapunyal, from where it was shipped by rail to Sydney. It was then carried by the aircraft carrier HMAS Sydney to South Vietnam.

At the time of its initial deployment the vehicle was fitted with a single .50 calibre machinegun, mounted in a pintle above the crew commander's position. It was subsequently fitted with an Aircrafts Armament Incorporated M 74C turret, and by late 1968, with its current Cadillac Gage T50 turret.

Its second overseas deployment was to Rwanda as part of UNAMIR (United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda) with B Squadron 3/4 Cavalry Regiment and 5/7 RAR, 1994-96. Its callsign was 31A. Painted white with black United Nations insignia, the first time Australian armoured vehicles had been finished in this paint scheme. (The white paint is still present below the current camouflage).

Its third overseas deployment was to East Timor from October 1999 to 2001 during Operation Warden, INTERFET (International Force for East Timor) with B Squadron, 3/4 Cavalry Regiment. It was used extensively for patrol and security duties mainly in border regions in support of 2 RAR infantry companies, and on independent operations by day and night. Thousands of kilometres were covered on sealed roads and rugged cross-country. Its crew commander while in Timor was Captain Steve Wilson, its callsign 20A, and its nickname 'Bare Back'. The departure of B Sqn 3/4 Cav Regt from East Timor saw 134192, along with a number of other armoured vehicles from the Squadron, left in Dili.

These were subsequently crewed by the relieving Troop from 2/14 Light Horse Regiment as part of UNTAET (United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor). The vehicle was transferred to the Memorial in May 2000, and is operable, complete with most equipment. Lieutenant General F J Hickling AO CSC, Chief of Army, has described ARN 134192 as "an excellent historical artefact and encapsulates much of Army's modern operational experience. INTERFET was an important part of the ADF's history and captured the public's attention as few military endeavours have in recent times. As such I believe it to be fitting that it is properly represented within the Australian War Memorial."

Source: AWM Archives



THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE

1. You believe in Santa Claus
2. You don't believe in Santa Claus
3. You are Santa Claus
4. You look like Santa Claus

RAAC RECEIVES OUR FIRST M1A2 SEP V3

Army has received its first M1A2 System Enhancement Package (SEP) v3 main battle tanks, with one example, A27702, on display at Land Forces 2024 in Melbourne. The tank, delivered just weeks ago, is assigned to B Sqn of the 3rd/4th Cavalry Regiment at the School of Armour.

The school, located within the Puckapunyal Military Area, farewelled their M1A1s in early September to prepare for M1A2 Sep v3 conversion courses. Those courses, which will begin within weeks, will train M1A2 Sep v3 crews and maintainers from across the Australian Army.

3rd Brigade in Townsville, which will operate all of Australia's deployable tank capability, will receive its first M1A2 SEP V3s before the end of 2024.

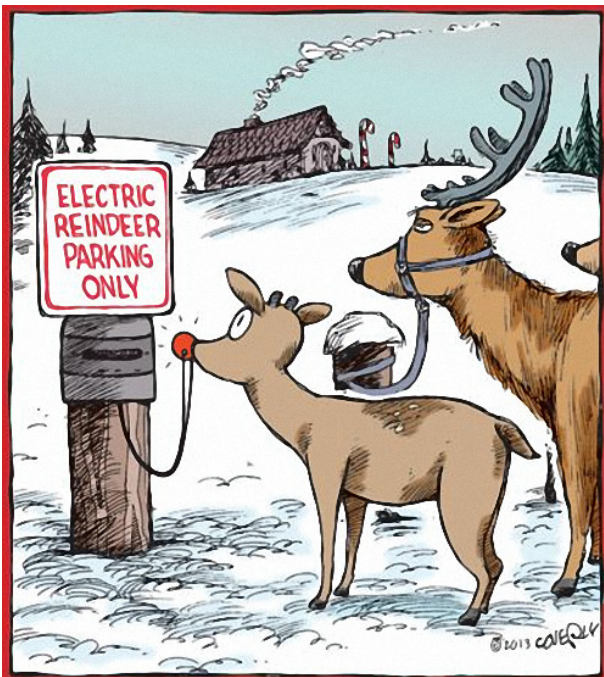
"The first new tanks are expected in Townsville in late 2024 following some training and upgrades in Victoria," the Commanding Officer of 3rd Brigade, Brigadier Dave McCammon, told ADM in July.



An M1A2 SEP v3 at Land Forces 2024. Credit: Ben Felton

ADM understands that General Dynamics Land Systems Australia will provide through-life support for the fleet of 75 M1A2 SEP V3 main battle tanks, 29 M1150 assault breacher vehicles, 17 M1074 joint assault bridges and 19 M88A2 armoured recovery vehicles.

Source:ADM 11 Sept 2024



2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date/Time	Event	Location	Organised By / Remarks
29 Jan 1530-1600 (Wed)	Association Brief to the Regt	41 Club	Unit
06 Feb 1500 (Thurs)	Management Committee Mtg	Legacy House	President/ Secretary
27 Feb (Thurs)	Regimental Birthday (27 Feb)	TBC	RSM
10 Apr 1500 (Thurs)	Management Committee Mtg	Legacy House	President/ Secretary
25 April (Fri)	ANZAC DAY • Dawn Service • March • Post march beers	2/14 LHR QMI Lines Enoggera Brisbane City TBC	TBC by RSM Committee to Organise
03 May (Sat)	Corps Dinner (Arrival Drinks Fri 02 May)	School of Armour (Accom/Travel at own expense)	Via Secretary to Tim Finn
15 May 1500 (Thurs)	Management Committee Mtg	Legacy House	President/ Secretary
23 May 1500 (Fri)	AGM	Kedron-Wavell Services Club	President/ Secretary
14-15 Jun (Sat/Sun) Dates TBC	Association Tall Tales Camp	Baden Powel Park	VP to Organise
20 Jul 1200 (Sun)	Black Hat Catch Up	Beenleigh RSL, Mt Warren Park	Treasurer to Organise
21 Aug 1500hrs (Thurs)	Management Committee Mtg	Legacy House	President/ Secretary
23 Aug 1200hrs (Sat)	Victoria Barracks Tour	Petrie Terrace	Graeme Brown / CAPT Catts
13 Sep 1200hrs (Sat)	Black Hat Luncheon	K-W RSL	Committee
09 Oct 1500 (Thurs)	Management Committee Mtg	Legacy House	President/ Secretary
31 Oct (Fri)	Beersheba Day Celebration	TBC	Committee
08 Nov (Sat)	Black Hat BBQ & Drinks	41 Club	Committee
Nov-Dec (Date TBA)	Dine Out CO, RSM & HON COL	United Service Club	Secretary
11 Dec 1500 (Thurs)	Management Committee Mtg and Xmas Drinks	Legacy House Drinks loc tba	President/ Secretary
12 Dec (TBC)	Regt end of year Parade	Unit	Unit/SB
2025 DATE TBA	RHEINMETALL TOUR	Redbank	RDA / Committee

NOTES

- Ad hoc catch-up coffees: see details on our social media pages
- Ad hoc bike rides and 4WD days: see details on our social media pages

SOCIAL MEDIA

2/14 FB: 2/14 LHR Association and Black Hats FB: Black Hats North Side Brisbane