

THE DUNTEROON SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 2/2011

DECEMBER 2011





Graduating Class June 2011



Graduating Class December 2011

The Duntroon Society Newsletter

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Report on Centenary Activities

[In Newsletter 1/2011, we reported on the two main opening events the centenary year of the RMC. In this issue, we report on the remainder of the major events. The photographs of RMC events are courtesy of the Defence Publishing Audio Visual, Duntroon (Phillip Vavasour and Grace Costa, photographers). Ed]

Trooping of the Queen's Colour followed by the exercise of the Freedom of Entry of Canberra—11 June 2011

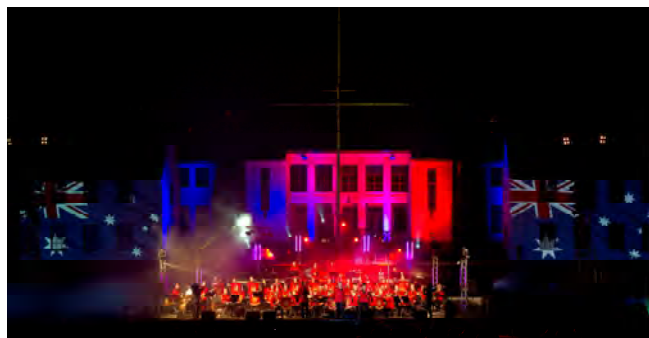
The trooping took place on the foreshore of Lake Burley Griffin at the lower end of Anzac Parade. Freedom of Entry was exercised on Anzac Parade.



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## 'Leadership on Fire Concert'—25 June 2011

An 'open-to-the-public' presentation by the Royal Military College Band. Seating and the stage were set up on the parade ground with the backdrop being 'Ack' and 'Beer' Block and the CSC Mess.





## Presentation of New Colours—22 October 2011

Peter Evans

At an early stage of planning for the centenary of the opening of the College, a decision was taken to seek approval for new Colours to be presented during the centenary year. From the outset it was hoped that HM Queen Elizabeth II, would perform the task and an invitation was duly sent to Buckingham Palace.

Given that CHOGM was to be in WA in October 2011, it became obvious that it would be unlikely that the Queen would make a second visit to Australia to present new Colours at the Centenary Parade. A proposal was put for the new Colours to be presented either before or after CHOGM but there was considerable uncertainty in official circles that this could occur. As a fall back, it was initially proposed that new Colours would be presented on the December Graduation Parade but this was later revised and a decision was taken that a presentation Parade would be held on 22 October but without confirmation of who would make the presentation. It was not until 11 October that the College was officially informed that the Queen would attend.

I have included this rather lengthy foreword so that members might better understand the administrative difficulties faced by the College in getting invitations and entrée cards out to members. Policy on seating was very favourable towards the Society with over 500 seats being allocated to us. In my view an excellent job was done under great difficulty and I have, on your behalf, thanked those concerned.

The parade itself went extremely well and was a credit to all involved. The RMC Band was, as usual, superb and added much to the occasion. I was sitting near two ex-RSM members of the Society who were very complimentary towards the drill, dress etc. I freely admit that my overwhelming feeling at watching the parade was of immense pride at being an alumnus of the College and I'm sure this sentiment was shared by most, if not all, fellow alumni.

After the old Colours were marched off, an altar of piled drums was prepared for the blessing and dedication of the new Colours. The parade commentator, Major Robert Morrison, remarked that from ancient times drums were piled for religious services because "drummers were a fidgety lot who could not be trusted to keep silent". As an ex-drummer, I object to this scurrilous remark but I have been advised by the SO2 Protocol, Major Steve Hladio, also an ex-drummer, that there is some basis for the story.

HM and HRH Prince Philip arrived in one of the new special Range Rovers built to withstand terrorist attacks. These vehicles lack the gravitas of the Vice-Regal Rolls and seem a little more demanding for dignified access and egress but are, no doubt, appropriate for this day and age.

Following the inspection of the parade by HM, the new Colours were blessed and dedicated by the three Chaplains General with their three assistants.

After an address by HM, the Colours were received by the Corps of Staff Cadets. There followed an excellently executed March Past in slow and quick time and an equally excellent Advance in Review Order. After giving three cheers for HM led by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Jason Hedges (1992) the Corps farewelled the royal couple, the CDF and the Commandant.

During the Garden Party which followed at Duntroon House, three members of the Society were presented to HM. These were Mrs Margaret Morrison, widow of the founder of the Society; Lieutenant Colonel "Bushy" Pembroke, MC who had been presented with his award by HM; and long-time editor and now associate editor of the Duntroon Society Newsletter, Colonel R.R. (Ross) Harding (1948).

Apparently the Queen had wanted to meet veterans of earlier royal visits, especially the big one in 1954. Colonel Ross Harding had been a captain in the Royal Car Company, specially formed to provide all road transport for that 1954 royal visit. He was quite stunned to be identified on Saturday morning and invited to meet the Queen.

Many cadets were also presented to HM and HRH, an event which, no doubt, will be long remembered by them.



*After the Parade in the gardens of Duntroon House.*



*Mrs Margaret Morrison is presented to HM. Centre rear is the Chief of the Defence Force, General D.J. (David) Hurley (1975) and on the right is the Chief of Army, Lieutenant General David Morrison (OCS Dec 1979).*



*Colonel Ross Harding (centre) is presented to HM.*

## “On The Square 1958”—A Centenary Presentation by the Class of 1961

Neil Horn

For many years, the members of our class have preferred to describe ourselves as the 1958–61 class, incorporating those who entered RMC in 1958, joined by those repeating and later entry members in 1959. Nonetheless classes are identified by their final year and so our presentation is by the Class of 1961.

At various reunions during the nineties, the class discussed options for a gift to RMC on the occasion in 2011 of our fiftieth anniversary and the centenary of the College.

In 2001 and 2002, we resolved to present a sculpture as a memorial of an enduring nature.

An item of interest from 1958 involved the rifle and field equipment of the time. The rifle was the .303 Lee Enfield and the pack, haversack, basic pouches, steel helmet, entrenching tool and water bottle were all 1939–45 vintage. In late 1959, the 7.62mm SLR replaced the .303 rifle, which meant that members of the 1958–61 group were the last to train with the 1939–45 field equipment and rifle for their whole time at the RMC.

This point of significance led to the proposal for the development of a commemorative statue, dressed as were most of those who attended Duntroon from the 1939–45 period until 1961. In this time some 1,300 staff cadets were trained at Duntroon.

The statue is a sculpture of a cadet on Defaulters Parade, dressed in marching order, carrying the rifle at the slope. The rifle, dress and equipment reveal the legacy of the 1939–1945 and Korean Wars and the focus of Duntroon on training infantry platoon commanders. It is the dress that our class remembers well. We preferred the cadet having just stepped off following a “quick march” order—symbolising his advance to the future.

To make this happen, in 2006 three class members and I went to the Australian War Memorial where Officer Cadet Ryan Sharpe from ADFA became our model for the statue. The staff of the AWM assisted us to kit out the model in the uniform worn in 1958. We took many photos and made a short video of the model cadet dressed as we would have the statue. After the modelling we invited artists to tender for the work of creating a bronze statue.

We chose Dorothea Saaghy as the artist for the sculpture based on the experience of Fred Pfitzner with her work. She first made a 40cm model of the sculpture using plasticine-like material that remains pliable for some time. Fred and I visited Dorothea twice at her studio in Landsborough, Victoria. We were able to critically view the model with Dorothea and offer suggestions for changes.

Dorothea Saaghy is known for her military related sculpture works. In particular she produced the Vietnam Memorial sculpture in ANZAC Square Brisbane.

After our first visit to Landsborough in 2007 Dorothea made a clay maquette 40cm tall that was fired in a bronze colour so as to represent the finished Sculpture. The model was taken to Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane to be viewed by Class members and then, given our final approval, Dorothea began the life size model from which mouldings were made for the bronze to be cast. Our second visit to

Landsborough in May 2009 was to critically view the full size model.

Coates & Wood Fine Art Foundry of Northcote Victoria was invited to cast the bronze. The statue was completed in late 2010 although a few minor corrections were made before the statue was transported to Canberra.



*Staff Cadet Ryan Sharpe who modelled for the statue in 2006. Ryan became BSM at RMC in 2007 and is now serving in Infantry.*



*The maquette.*

*The statue in place.*

The entire project was funded by donations from members of the 1958–61 Class group with a significant contribution from Arts ACT sponsored by the then Chief Minister, John Stanhope.

The statue is at a site adjacent to Cork Block and the CSC HQ Building on a grassed slope to the south west. The statue stands on a dark grey granite plinth at the site originally chosen and now prepared by the District Support Group, RMC. The statue was unveiled by Lieutenant General David Morrison, AO, Chief of Army, on Tuesday 13 December 2011.





*Seated: Maurie Barwick, Neil Horn, Russ Bielenberg, Peter Green, Ken Heldon, Reay Tuck, Kellie Beale, Nev Pinkham  
 Standing: Lieutenant General David Morrison, Peter Berry, Bill Middleton, Arthur Fittock, Phil Davies, John Sanderson, Don McDonough,  
 Keith Hall, Simon Hearder, Jack Innes, Peter Anderson, Jim Hull, Peter Shaw, Mick Bindley  
 Rear: Laurie Pilling, Jack Leggett, Dave Childs, Lindsay Nelson, Fred Pfitzner, Rod Dredge, Stuart Nicholls, Mick Carroll, Jack Byrnes,  
 Hank Harker, Ian Willoughby.*

## Classes of 1956 Celebrations

### Garth Hughes

The Duntroon Society has always promoted ecumenism in the broader sense. Since the Society was formed, all members, whether they have been RMC, OCS, WRAAC OCS, or OTU graduates have enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship of fellow members.

And so it was in this spirit that I decided to celebrate Duntroon's centenary in June this year, by combining the RMC and OCS graduates of 1956 into one group.

The Class Convenors did a great job in promoting the idea. Jock Stewart for the OCS June Class, Ian Gollings and Brian Edwards for the OCS December Class, Graeme Loughton (Queensland), Cliff Dodds (NSW), Vin Musgrave (Victoria), Neville Bergin (SA), John Gatley (NZ) and me for the ACT group, for the RMC Class.

A total of seventy two members, including partners, joined the group for most activities. We particularly enjoyed the excellent "Leadership in Fire" Concert on Saturday night 25 June and the first-rate Graduation and Centenary Parade on Monday 27 June. Some of our members expressed regret that the Parade did not include the presentation of new Colours, but most expert opinion was that the Parade was one of the finest in recent years.

However, the highlight for the combined group was luncheon at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on Sunday 26 June. Peter and Nelda Hotop and Ken Gordon came from NZ, but the Queenslanders had the greatest representation: Paul and Jan Jones, Graeme and Sue Loughton, Rod and

Margaret Althaus, John and Margaret Browne, Ian and Jan Darlington, and Mary and Joanne Warland. The South Australians were not far behind: Karl and Frances Cameron-Jackson, Pam and Sharon Jenkins and Neville and Nan Bergin all travelled across the Hay Plain to be here. Victoria was represented by Vin Musgrave, and Don and Charlie Fenwick. The Loughtons' special guests were daughter and son-in-law, Anna and Jim Hammett. Jim is the son of the late A.W. (Tony) Hammett (1958).

Amongst our group were three past Commanding Officers of the Corps of Staff Cadets: Paul Jones, John Moyle, and John Sheldrick.



*Graeme Carlton, Margaret McBride, Shirley Gollings, Paul Jones, Jan Jones, Kevin Cole, August Cole, and Ian Gollings.*





*May Warland, Nan Bergin, Neville Bergin, Gaenor Edwards, Brian Edwards, and Pam Jenkins and Joanne Warland (both with back to camera).*



*Ken Gordon and Neville Smethurst.*



*Melva Phillips (partly obscured), Irene Lawler, Rolly Brazier, Vin Musgrave, Maxine Sheldrick, John Sheldrick, Barry Phillips (back to camera).*



*Parade spectators.*



*Jock Stewart, Jim Devitt, Del Moyle, John Moyle, and Grace Stewart and Bev Burnett (both with back to camera).*



*Jan Darlington, Nick Marshall, Garth Hughes, Ken Gordon, Margaret Hughes, Ian Darlington (back to camera).*

## 50th Anniversary Reunion RMC Class of 1961

### Neil Horn

The class group who entered RMC in 1958, joined by four who entered in 1957 and later by four who entered 1959 celebrated their fiftieth anniversary reunion from 10 through 13 December 2011. There were 37 class members and 34 partners together commencing with an informal gathering at the back bar of the Ainslie Rex, now Olims Canberra Hotel on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday we gathered for lunch at the Deck at Regatta Point and entertained by fierce storms throughout the afternoon we enjoyed an excellent lunch with guests for the day Simon and Margot Agnew, Colin Kahn, and Norm and Lois Goldspink.

Major S.S. Agnew was a tactics instructor and Company Commander in 1958–59. Captain C.N. (Colin) Khan (1951) was Infantry Minor Tactics Instructor and Rugby Coach in 1958 and 1959. Norm Goldspink was a Drill Sergeant who had a significant impact on us in 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class. He later returned to RMC as RSM. The one other instructor of our time is J.R. (John) Salmon (1946) who was unfortunately unable to join us for lunch.

On Monday the group went different ways, some to the War Memorial, some to the Renaissance Exhibition, and nine people went out to Royal Canberra Golf Club for a game of golf.





Lieutenant Colonel M.W. (Mike) Beale (Jun 1990) (son of Kellie (K.J.) Beale), Jack Byrnes, Mick Harris, Rod Dredge, Lois Goldspink, Dave Childs, Norm Goldspink, Reay Tuck, Ian Willoughby, Jim Hull, Frank Markcrow, Stuart Nicholls, Mick Carroll, Ken Heldon, Ann Carroll, Mick Bindley, Ren Bindley, Simon Agnew, Colin Kahn  
 Neil Horn, Carmel Horn, Michelle Harris, Robyn Byrnes, Laurie Pilling, Jenny Dredge, Sheena Pilling, Heather Tuck, Hank Harker, Robyn Harker, Tony Williams, Liz Nicholls, Simon Hearder, Denise Willoughby, Margot Agnew  
 Bill Middleton, Lisi Anton, Kellie Beale, Lindsay Nelson, Peter Berry, Charlotte Hearder, Jan Heldon, Margie Fittock, Terry Gee, Denise Gee, Helen Pfitzner, Arthur Fittock  
 Don McDonough, Gail McDonough, Jill Pinkham, Terry Beale, Lorraine Sanderson, John Sanderson, Vi Hall, Keith Hall, Judy Aldridge, Jan Berry, Di Innes, Jack Innes, Phil Davies, Sandra Davies, Fred Pfitzner  
 Nev Pinkham, Russ Bielenberg, Helen Bielenberg, Maurie Barwick, Marlies Nelson.



Lois and Norm Goldspink, Margot and Simon Agnew.



Jack Byrnes, Frank Markcrow, and Maurie Barwick.

our class were babysitters in the Morrison household during 1958. In later years many of us served with Alan Morrison and subsequently David served with John Sanderson, Arthur Fittock, Steve Gower and others. In June 2011 David's mother, Margaret Morrison, unveiled the Duntroon Society presentation for the Duntroon centenary. There is a separate article "On the Square 1958" about the centenary gift from the Class of 1961 to RMC Duntroon [see page 3. Ed].

On Tuesday morning we attended the Graduation Parade followed by morning tea.



Peter and Diedre Shaw.

Monday night was our reunion Dinner at Royal Canberra Golf Club where they did us proud. We had an excellent dinner while reminiscing over old photographs being shown continuously on the screen.

The final event of Graduation and the centenary year of RMC was the unveiling of the plaque on the sculpture of the fourth class cadet of 1958 in marching order stepping forth on Defaulters Parade. The Chief of Army, Lieutenant General David Morrison unveiled the presentation plaque. There was a strong family connection between David and our class. In 1958 when we entered RMC David's father Major General A.L. (Alan) Morrison (1947) was for a short time one of our instructors. It is reported that members of



Colin Kahn and Arthur Fittock.



## RMC Cricket Club Centenary Match

### Captain Ken Golder, RMC Cricket Supervising Officer

On 16 October, over 300 spectators gathered at the Royal Military College Duntroon to witness a historic cricket match to celebrate the centenary of the RMC Cricket Club and 55 years of competition with the Molonglo Cricket Club (MCC). Match umpires were Lieutenant Commander Bill Ruse and Wing Commander Grant Pinder.

The game was played in good spirit and, as befitted a centenary match, a tight finish served to characterise the competitive sporting relationship that exists between the teams. MCC batted first. After a slow start—scoring only 3-49 from the first 20 overs—MCC finished strongly, scoring 70 runs in the last 10 overs to reach 5-175 from their 40 overs. The best MCC batsmen were Steve Wilde scoring 59 not out and Rear Admiral Mark Campbell with 34. The standout bowlers for RMC were Captain K.A. (Ken) Golder (Dec 2002) (2-18 from 8 overs) and Staff Cadet Patrick McLaren (2-45 from 8 overs).

RMC started their chase steadily with 2-68 on the board after 20 overs. In the face of tight bowling, runs were hard to come by. With five overs remaining, RMC required a late charge and needed to score at nine runs an over. In an exciting finish, the match was decided on the last ball—RMC required two runs to win or one run to tie. Unfortunately, they were bowled out and the MCC triumphed. The best batsmen for RMC were Captain Ken Golder and Sergeant James Rathbone both scoring 31. For MCC the best bowlers were Brendan Nerdal (3-26 from 7 overs) and Steve Wilde (3-15 from 6 overs).

The winning team of the competition between the RMC and MCC is awarded the Laing Trophy—the cricket bat of Colonel A.W. Laing (1960). Alex Laing was a member of the RMC 1st XI for the four years he was a cadet at Duntroon. After his retirement in 1989, he was a Club Captain of the Molonglo Cricket Club for many years and later became the Club President. When Alex died in 1997 his widow, Dawn, donated his bat which became the Laing Trophy.

The match was augmented with a ‘Ladies Day Fashions on the Field’ which had more than 50 partners dressing up and taking part in a parade.

On the evening before the match, the RMC Cricket Club hosted the centenary cricket dinner in the Corps of Staff Cadets mess, which was attended by more than 80 past and present graduates from the College. Director of the Australian War Memorial, Major General S.N. (Steve) Gower (1961) was the keynote speaker for the dinner where his address inspired the current graduates to gain a greater understanding of the game of cricket and its meaning at the College.



MCC and RMC teams.



MCC team photo including Lieutenant Colonel J.A. (James) Brownlie (Jun 1991) (front row kneeling on the right); and (in jackets and ties, left to right): MCC President Colonel W.H.C. (Wal) Hall (OTU 2/1968), MCC Patron Lieutenant General L.G. (Laurie) O'Donnell (1954) and MCC Secretary Colonel C.H. (Chris) Hunter (OCS Jun 1966).



Lieutenant Colonel J.E. (John) Bullen (1958) scoring—John is the MCC Vice-President and in 1958 was the RMC Cricket Committee President.



Captain Ken Golder running left to right; Staff Cadet Jarvis Black running right to left.



Dawn Laing presenting the Laing Trophy to the MCC captain, David de Carvalho.



# NSW Branch Lunch

## 27 June 2011

**Duncan Spencer**

Due to a number of our normal luncheon stalwarts attending the functions in Canberra, we did not have sufficient personnel to have the lunch at Victoria Barracks. Accordingly, we decided to have the lunch in the Vintage Room of the Royal Automobile Club of Australia (RACA), the venue for the Regular Army Officers' monthly lunch, and the organization that incorporated the Imperial Services Club.

As normal, the RACA did a good job looking after us, and from the verbal and written responses I received after the lunch, I believe it was a success.

In what I believe to be a first for the NSW Branch of the Duntroon Society, included in our group were graduates of RMC, OCS and OTU.

Ian Taylor brought, and presented, memorabilia from times past. These proved to be a hit and brought back memories, so stirring us to overcome our shyness (if you can believe this), stand up, and tell many "warries" from our time at the various training establishments, and subsequent Army careers.

The roll call was: W.G.S. (Gwynn) Boyd (1967), Camilla Boyd, G.E. (George) Ball (OCS 1/52), Diana Ball, G.J. (Gary) Bieser (1985), R.L. (Bob) Guest (OCS 1959), Sandy Guest, W.R. (Russ) Henderson (OTU 4/67) (son of Major General W.G. (Bill) Henderson (1941)), J.M. (John) Hutcheson (1947), P.M. (Peter) Reid (1964), Frances Miller-Karlsen, D.A. (Duncan) Spencer (1962), Jan Spencer, W.E. (Wally) Stinson (1948), Helen Stinson, I.R. (Ian) Taylor (1965), and F.J. (Jack) Wightman (1947).



*Memorabilia from past times.*



*Wally Stinson and Ian Taylor with historical scarfs issued to 4th Class.*



*Diana Ball, George Ball, and Jack Wightman.*



*Duncan Spencer, Wally Stinson, Jack Wightman, Russ Henderson, John Hutcheson, and Gary Bieser.*



*Helen Stinson, Gwynn Boyd, Camilla Boyd, Bob Guest, Sandy Guest, and Jan Spencer.*

# NSW Branch Centenary Lunch

## 6 December 2011

**Duncan Spencer**

At the request of J.W. (John) Sullivan (1951), it was agreed that we would combine the major Centenary Lunch (the other lunch was held on 27 June, and reported previously), and the Class of 1951 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Because of John's political connections, we were able to hold the lunch in the Strangers' Room of the NSW Parliament House. Further, as he had grown up in Narrandera at the same time as the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, she kindly consented to be our Guest of Honour on the day, and was accompanied by her husband Sir Nicholas Shehadie.

Needless to say, changing from our usual arrangements meant there was quite a bit more "organisation" to be undertaken by Ian Taylor (1965) and Peter Reid (1964) with tremendous support from John and indeed the staff of NSW Parliament House.



It was all worth it as some 125 attendees had, I believe, a very enjoyable day. I expect it will be a hard act to follow—I have never seen so many Generals at the same function!

As the Governor was leaving, I overheard her saying to Sir Nicholas “that was a really touching function.”

A week or so later, I happened to meet her again, whereupon she said very kind words about Duntroon and its graduates. We must have done something right.

Included with this report are some photographs of attendees at the lunch, kindly provided by John Hutcheson (1947).



*John Sullivan (1961), Ian Taylor (1965), Duncan Spencer (1962).*



*John Sullivan (1961) addresses the gathering.*



*Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, Governor of NSW addresses the gathering.*



*Her Excellency being presented with a gift from the Class of 1961 by John Sullivan.*



*The Governor is presented with flowers by Jan Spencer.*



*C.M.I. (Sandy) Pearson (1940) chats with the Governor. Sandy was the earliest graduate present.*



*Sir Nicholas Shehadie, Her Excellency, Jan Spencer, ADC to the Governor, and Duncan Spencer (1962).*



# The Royal Military College Centenary Coin



## Presentation of Medals—CSC 2 A.M. Forbes



*1 April 2010. The medals of CSC Number 2, Brigadier A.M. (Alexander Moore) Forbes, MVO, MC (1914), being presented to the RMC Museum by his son, The Honourable Dr A.J.de B. (Jim) Forbes (1942), MC, CMG.*

## From the Chairman, Duntroon Society Committee

**Peter Evans**

The centenary year has been a great success. The year opened with the presentation of the Society's gift to the College and closed with the unveiling of the Class of 1961's presentation of a life-sized statue of a cadet in late 1950's marching order. Full reports on this event, the Centenary Parade, and the December Graduation Parade can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter.

A further highlight of the year was the award by the University of New South Wales of an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters to Lieutenant General H.J. (John) Coates (1955) in recognition of his published work of outstanding merit.

Only one meeting of the Duntroon Society Committee was held in 2011. This was virtually a single agenda item meeting to endorse the new Constitution and By-Laws of the RMC-A Association Incorporated and the new Charter of the Society. These documents can be accessed from the Society web site at [www.dunsoc.com](http://www.dunsoc.com).

The Board of the RMC-A Association Incorporated had its final meeting for the year on 6 December 2011. At this meeting the new Board members were confirmed and an outline programme of work for 2012 was endorsed. In 2012 the Board will concentrate on:

- Developing a Positioning Statement with a three year horizon.
- Defining internal Association dependencies, obligations, and responsibilities with reference to the various trusts (such as the Larson Trust and the Harrison Trust), the Duntroon Society, the Heritage Committee, and Duntroon House.
- Progressing our goals including expanding the Society, growing Association funds, preserving Australia's officer training heritage and promoting the Association.

The new Board and comprises:

Chairman: Commandant, Brigadier David Luhrs

Deputy Chairman: DMA, Colonel John Simeoni

Chairman Duntroon Society: Brigadier Peter Evans (Retd)

Chairman Heritage Committee: Lieutenant Colonel John Bullen (Retd)

Director: Major General Paul Stevens (Retd)

Director: Colonel Wal Hall (Retd)

Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel Mike Taarnby (Retd)

Executive Officer: Major Steve Hladio

The first meeting of the Board for 2012 is scheduled for February and I expect that a meeting of the Duntroon Society Committee will follow shortly after that.

Membership continues to grow and now stands at near 1,800 but we still struggle to attract serving ARA and ARES officers. As always, I would welcome any suggestions on how we might improve our attractiveness to new members.

Under current plans, this will be the last hard copy Newsletter to be printed. Future Newsletters will be published on our web site ([www.dunsoc.com](http://www.dunsoc.com)) but arrangements will be made with Branches to deliver copies to members without convenient access to the Internet.

Again I would like to stress that comments and suggestions for content for the Newsletter and the web site are always welcome and should be directed to the Editor, Dr Mike Ryan, or me.



## From the OTU Representative

**Neil Leckie (Class 3/68)**

OTU Scheyville was set up in 1965 to train the Platoon Commander level officers required by the Army due to the expansion in numbers in the Army caused by the introduction of National Service (NS). The first intake of NS was in July 1965 and the first Class of NS second lieutenants graduated in December 1965. OTU also trained civilian entry Air Cadets for the AAAvn Corps and by 1972 OTU also included the 'overflow' from OCS Portsea. There were four Graduating Classes each year at OTU with courses ranging from 20–22 weeks. NS finished in December 1972, but 22 Nashos, including the late ABC chopper Pilot Gary Ticehurst, served on and graduated in



April 1973. OTU Scheyville closed after that Graduation parade.

In the mid-1980s, an OTU Association was formed. Like all ex-military associations, the OTU Association has had its membership ups and downs. Due mainly to the efforts of Membership Officer Graeme Chester (Class 2/67, who remained in the Army and reached the rank of lieutenant colonel), the Association membership is on the way up again.

2011 was a big year for the OTU Association. April saw Association chapters march in ANZAC Day Parades in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth. In May almost 40 Association members attended the centenary of Scheyville. During the centenary celebrations an extension plaque was added to the Commandant's Plaque in memory of the two Commandants, Brigadier I.A. (Ian) Geddes (the Commandant who set up Scheyville in 1965) and Brigadier K.P. (Paddy) Outridge (Commandant 1972/3) who have passed away since the original Commandant's Plaque was unveiled at Scheyville in 2003 honouring Brigadier C.J. (Kit) Miles, Brigadier J.H. (John) Studdert and Lieutenant Colonel D.N. (David) Kerr. State Governor Professor Marie Bashir performed the unveiling. Paddy Outridge's daughter, Stephanie Outridge-Field, and Ian Geddes son Dougal, along with Major General R.P. (Paul) Irving (Class 2/72, the OTU graduate who achieved the highest rank in the Army) unveiled the plaque.

In 2012 the last of the classes will pass their 40 years since commencement or graduation. Most classes have held well attended 40 year reunions. In 2011 Class 1/71 held theirs in Fremantle in April, while Class 3/71 held theirs in Sydney in November. This reunion included a visit to Scheyville.

On 'Long Tan Day 2011' David Sabben (Class 1/65, Platoon Commander at the Battle of Long Tan) was presented with a Medal of Gallantry during the parade for the presentation of the Unit Citation for Gallantry to D Company 6 RAR at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera.

The OTU Association has chapters in all states and the ACT. The states hold activities of varying complexities from quarterly lunches in a city restaurant, to lavish dinners at Victoria Barracks in Sydney or at the William Angliss College in Melbourne. Individual graduating classes also hold functions ranging from local state reunions to the Class 2/69 Reunion on Norfolk Island.

Once arch enemies in the production of officers for the Army, OTU now has a spiritual connection with RMC as RMC is now the repository for much OTU Memorabilia and OTU ACT Chapter's Wal Hall (Class 2/68, who also remained in the Army and reached the rank of colonel) presents The OTU Scheyville Prize at the RMC Awards Presentation for each RMC Graduating Class.



Former second lieutenant D Coy, 6 RAR, David Sabben receiving his Medal of Gallantry from Governor-General Quentin Bryce.

## From The Podmore Foundation— Handing on a Better Australia

**Bob Breen (1973)**



All members of the Duntroon Society are grateful to past generations for the inheritance of our great nation after their sacrifice and hard work. But they have bequeathed unfinished business that the Podmore Board felt needed to be attended to before handing Australia on to coming generations.

The Podmore Foundation is now focused exclusively on one aspect of this unfinished business by helping educate and mentor members of the next generation of Indigenous Australian leaders through giving talented and determined Indigenous boys and girls from rural and remote communities and towns opportunities to study at Australia's finest independent boarding schools.

Like those of us who began officer training all those years ago, these children have been selected by our implementing partner, Yalari ([www.yalari.org.au](http://www.yalari.org.au)), for their character, intellect, and physical prowess to be leaders. They are an elite group as we are an elite group.

Podmore contributes \$5,000 per annum per student for the duration of their secondary education to assist Yalari with the school fees of specially selected Yalari scholarship recipients. Yalari raises and provides funds to cover the significant financial gap between the means-tested ABSTUDY scheme, and the fees and costs of a boarding education.

In 2011 Podmore donated \$45,000 to Yalari and all nine Podmore scholarship recipients completed their studies successfully.



Mitchell Whiteley, Year 11, from Geurie NSW near Dubbo, who studies at St Ignatius College Riverview, Sydney, received the 2011 Professor Mick Dodson and General Peter Cosgrove Scholarship for Leadership. Mitchell led the Australian Junior Polocrosse Team to South Africa in 2010 and represents his school in Rugby and Water Polo. He is also a member of the Under 16 Rugby Development Squad at the Australian Institute of Sport. The benefactors for his \$5,000 scholarship that is awarded each year for the duration of his secondary schooling are Duntroon graduates G. (Glenn) Crosland (1977), J.D. (John) Hands (1973) and S.D. (Stephen) McLeod (1973).



Two recipients, who received inaugural Podmore scholarships in 2008, graduated from Toowoomba Boys Grammar School (Lincoln is only the second boy to do so in the school's 135 year history), and Scots College, Sydney (Kyol has won a scholarship to St Andrews College, University of Sydney).

When you attend your next Class reunion, the Podmore Foundation is asking you to reflect on the motto Returning Opportunity in gratitude for the good education you received in good company, as well as on handing on a better Australia in gratitude for the nation that gave you your opportunities, but still has to close the gap of educational disadvantage for some talented young Indigenous Australians.

Groups from the Classes of 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, and 1986, as well as several ADFA classes from the 1990s, are contributing to handing on a better Australia. You and like-minded members of your class are invited to join them.

(www.podmorefoundation.org.au).

## From the Branches

### Australian Capital Territory

#### *Branch Office Holders*

Convenor: Brigadier P.J.A. (Peter) Evans (1958)  
Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel J.E. (John) Bullen (1958)  
Treasurer: Lieutenant Colonel M.J. (Mike) Ryan (1981)  
Members: Dr Moreen Dee (WRAAC OCS 1966);  
Brigadier G.T. (George) Salmon (1959); Colonel M.J. (Mike) Ford (1957); Major S.B. (Stuart) Althaus (RMC & OCS 1982)

#### *Autumn Lunch, 2011*

Lunch in Duntroon House was enjoyed by 55 members and guests on Thursday 9 June. Those present included the Commandant, Brigadier D.M. (David) Luhrs (1986), and the Commanding Officer of the Corps of Staff Cadets, Lieutenant Colonel J.J. (Jason) Hedges (1992). Since both are Engineers, our senior Sapper, General P.C. (Peter) Gratton (1952), was placed on the same table to stop things getting too far out of hand. To back up General Gratton's authority, former RSM (1974-76) Colin Swinbourn, was also present.

The occasion was also a 32nd wedding anniversary celebration for Patricia Laird, daughter of the late Associate Professor J.T. (John) Laird who had taught English to so many of those present.

Another who grew up at Duntroon was Sheryl Lipczynski, daughter of Major C.A.R. (Cec) Starkey after whom Starkey Park is named. Sheryl came from Sydney for this lunch where she found herself seated next to her next door neighbour in Plant Road in the 1950s, Colonel R.R. (Ross) Harding (1948), then a dashing young captain.

And, of course, there was Professor H.S. (Syd) Hodges too, Fellow of the Duntroon Society and well into his nineties but still remarkably fit and active.

#### *Annual Lunch & Speech, 2011*

Our annual Lunch & Speech on Friday 18 November was enjoyed by an audience of 75. The speaker was Lieutenant Colonel S.W.P. (Steve) Hart (1958), author of *Duntroon: Its Heritage and Sacred Legacy*, published in 2009 by the

Department of Defence. This book is issued to all cadets on arrival at Duntroon.

Most appropriately for the College's centenary year, Steve gave an informative address on General Bridges in his inimitably entertaining style. Steve presented the background behind some little known facts about General Bridges, the only identified deceased member of the entire British Empire in World War I to be repatriated to his homeland.

### New South Wales

#### *Branch Office Holders*

Convenor: D.A. (Duncan) Spencer (1962),  
daspen@tpg.com.au, (02) 9969 0772, 0414 573 574.  
Treasurer: I.R. (Ian) Taylor (1965), ita01@ozemail.com.au,  
(02) 9953 9441, 0407 539 441.  
Secretary: P.M. (Peter) Reid (1964),  
peterreid2@bigpond.com (02)9460 0741, 0417 274 090

#### *Branch Social Functions*

Activities within the Branch include the NSW Branch Lunch on 27 June 2011 and NSW Branch Centenary Lunch on 6 December 2011 {see reports on page 8. Ed}.

### New Zealand

#### *Branch Office Holders*

Patron: Major General R.G. Williams, CB, MBE (1952).  
Convenor: Brigadier M.J. Dudman, LVO, OBE (1959).  
Secretary/Treasurer: Major P.J. Skogstad (1964).

#### *History of New Zealand Branch*

The New Zealand Branch has operated since the establishment of the Duntroon Society in 1980. The Branch was recognised by the Inland Revenue department as a charitable organisation 1989 and was exempt from income tax. In 2005 a new Charities Act required all charitable organisation to be registered with the Charities Commission to maintain their tax exemption status. A charter was written for the New Zealand branch to meet the requirements of the Act.

Colonel R.K.G. (Ralph) Porter (1944) OBE established the New Zealand branch of the Duntroon Society when the society was formed in 1980 and continued as convenor until his death in early January 2007. He also organised the New Zealand Postal Golf participation and established a pattern of well attended social events including an annual golf trip.

Detailed records are held from 2001, however Postal Golf records are held back to 1987, and copies of newsletters from *Newsletter 1/1980*. It appears that Colonel T.A. (Tom) Aldridge CBE (1961) was secretary/treasurer of the New Zealand Branch from 2001 until he took over as coordinator in 2007 a position he held his death in July 2011. Tom developed a comprehensive record of New Zealand members that is still maintained.

#### *Branch Social Functions*

*Centenary Celebrations.* A number of New Zealand members attended the celebrations in Australia including some who were able to take advantage of a last minute offer from Defence for seats on a military aircraft.

*Auckland Sub-branch Centenary Lunch 2011.* Thirty nine members and their wives and friends gathered at the Northern Club for the centenary lunch on 20 June 2011. The function was organised and hosted by Lieutenant Colonel



Max Ritchie (RMA). The guest speaker, Major General K.M. (Ken) Gordon (1956) (convenor of the Wellington Branch) spoke of his impressions from the centenary celebration in Canberra and challenged members to think of ways to expand the membership of the New Zealand branch.

*Wellington Sub-branch Centenary Lunch.* Thirty six members and wives and friends celebrated the centenary with lunch at the Royal Wellington Golf Club on Sunday 19 June 2011. The highlight was the acknowledgement of our member and new Governor General Sir Jerry Mateparae (OCS Jan 76). He was forgiven from attending functions over the next five years!



*Sir Jerry and Lady Mateparae talking to Jenny Mawson*

*Golf.* The annual golf tournament was combined with the Auckland Postal Golf tournament and played on Friday November 26, 2011 at the Helensville Golf Club. The organiser was Brigadier M.J. (Mike) Dudman (1959). 20 members and partners competed for the three Duntroon Society golf competitions, and the winners were: Porter Cup for mixed pairs: B.D. (Brian) Chippindale (1958) and Lynne Skogstad (75 pts); Acacia Bay trophy for ladies: Gill Harman (38 pts); Acacia Bay trophy for men: Brian Chippindale (38 pts). Participants enjoyed a light meal and prize giving at the Helensville Golf Club.

#### *Membership*

Membership of the New Zealand Branch is 128 including 15 spouses of deceased members.

### **Queensland**

#### *Branch Office Holders*

Convenor: G.J. (Graeme) Loughton (1956).

#### *History of Queensland Branch*

Brigadier C.T.W (Carl) Dixon (Jun 1942) was the first Convenor of the Duntroon Society in Queensland from about 1980 when Alby Morrison initiated the Society. Brigadier F.J. (Jim/Blue) Hartridge (Jun 1942) took over, followed by Colonel J.H. (John) Humphrey (1951) with Colonel D.V. (David) Smith (1953) as co-convenor. The activity pattern in their years revolved around an annual cocktail party plus drinks from time to time in the Victoria Barracks Officers' Mess with good roll ups. In the pre-email era, communication was administratively difficult and potentially costly so access to the resources of the Commander of 1 MD, Brigadier N.J. (Noel) McGuire (1953), was invaluable.

Brigadier B. (Brian) Wade (1956) took over as Convenor and introduced communication by email as well as adding a few more events to the social calendar—occasional mixed lunches, a day at the trots, cruises, a Society table at United

Service Club's annual ADF Dinner—and attendances remained good. Lieutenant Colonel I.R. (Ian) Willoughby (1961) followed as Convenor and I took over from him at the start of 2006. In my early days the above social program continued at the rate of 4–6 events a year and we even enjoyed theatre nights and mixed range practices!

The sad reality now, though, is that we must be getting old because we simply haven't been able to rally the numbers for night time functions or anything other than lunches. The consolation prize is that our lunch together is now held regularly each month at United Service Club for which attendances are usually 6–10 (with the strongest support being from the Class of 1956—anyone want to accept that as a challenge?).

*Finally, about the future.* Our membership is 149 of whom all but a dozen are in the south east corner of the State. We seem to attract very few new members and even these few are mostly just interstate transfers. I've tried making contact with the newly graduating classes to advise them of our existence and of our social program (such as it is) but out of several classes only a single one young graduate has opted to go on the list for social notices. Active members have been asked to rally their class mates but with little result. Meantime our regular monthly lunch attracts modest but reasonable numbers. We shall soldier on.

#### *Branch Social Functions*

Which leads to how we celebrated the Duntroon centenary. Our celebration here in Queensland comprised a centenary mixed lunch at USC in June attended by the Gilmores, the Steins, the Jenveys, the Loughtons, Annie Deacon, Ken Phillips, John Simson, Bob Hagerty and Jack Chipman, all illustrated in the following photos—as is the centenary cake.



*K.R. (Ken) Phillips (1957), J.E.E. (John) Simson (1956), I.G.C. (Ian) Gilmore (1946), J.E. (Jock) Jenvey (1956), R.E. (Bob) Hagerty (1956), J.A.N. (Jack) Chipman (1956), G.J. (Graeme) Loughton (1956), and J.N. (John) Stein (1957).*



*Sue Loughton, Annie Deacon, Marguerite Jenvey, Alison Gilmore, and Ailsa Stein.*





*The centenary cake.*

## South Australia & Northern Territory

### *Branch Office Holders*

Convenor: N.R. (Neville) Bergin (1956).

### *Vale*

While 2011 was a successful year for the South Australia Branch, it sadly marked the loss of two of our longest serving and respected members.

On 6 April, Brigadier D. (Don) Willett AM (1943), died. Don was a founder and, for many years, the Convenor of this branch. Until the last, he remained an avid supporter of all its activities.

On 15 October the South Australian community mourned the death of Lieutenant General Sir D.B. (Donald) Dunstan AC, KBE, CB (Jun 1942). As South Australia's longest serving Governor, Sir Donald was accorded a State Military Funeral at St Peter's Cathedral on 25 October 2011. Eulogies were presented by the Hon Jay Weatherill, Premier of South Australia, Major General Peter Phillips, AO, MC (1955) and Brigadier P.R. (Peter) Badman, LVO (1957). Until illness prevented his involvement, Sir Donald was an active supporter of our branch events.

On 6 December 2011, 34 members gathered at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club for the camaraderie of our centenary of the Royal Military College of Australia Luncheon. A special and much enjoyed feature of this celebration was a presentation by our member, The Hon Dr A.J. (Jim) Forbes, CMG, MC, a Duntroon graduate and son of the late Brigadier A.M. Forbes, MVO, MC, (CSC 2) in the first entry class of 1911.



*South Australian members at the Centenary Luncheon.*

## Victoria & Tasmania

### *Branch Office Holders*

Victoria continues to operate by committee with occasional meetings and primary contact by email. The committee consists of:

Coordinator: R.A. (Bob) Slater (1963)

Treasurer: A.M. (Alan) McDonald (1951)

Members: P. (Phil) Davies (1961), C. (Conrad) Ermert (1962), and R.H.A. (Richard) Coates (OCS Dec 1975) (OCS representative).

Craig Wood remains proxy for Canberra-based meetings.

### *Burke and Wills Re-enactment Presentation*

During 2010–2011 various groups combined to conduct a re-enactment of the Burke and Wills expedition to the Gulf of Carpentaria to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (departure 20 August 1860 to arrival at the deserted rendezvous 21 April 1861).

This scientific expedition was commissioned by the newly founded Royal Society of Victoria (RSV). The re-enactment was supported by RSV, and the RSV Senior Vice President and Chair of the Burke and Wills Commemoration Committee, Dr Peter Thorne, delivered an excellent address to Victoria Branch members and guests on 22 March 2011 over lunch in the RSV Supper Room in which the recovered remains of Robert O'Hara Burke and William John Wills lay in state for two weeks in January 1863 leading up to Australia's first state funeral on 21 January 1863.

Dr Thorne re-counted the circumstances that led to the expedition, the politics that decided the composition of the party and the route taken, and the succession of poor decisions and misfortunes that led to the tragic death of Burke and Wills. He emphasised the importance of this expedition to a scientific understanding of the Australian centre, and to Victoria's standing as a newly independent colony making its mark in an Australian context.

Attendees included: P.W. (Bill) Beiers (1942), D.N. (Doug) Bryan (1950), G.J. (Geoff, 1958) and Leonie Christopherson, K.R. (Keith) and Marjorie Colwill, P.J. (Peter) Cosgrove (1968), R.J. (Ron) Crewe (OCS 2/67), C.R. (Chris, OCS 1960) and Suzanne Elphinston, J.C. (Jim) Hughes (1950), Warwick Isherwood, A.M. (Alan, 1951) and Maria McDonald, A.A. (Allan, 1956) and Ann Nolan, R. (Rex, OCS 2/53) and Noema Rowe, J.G. (John) Sedgley (1938), R.A. (Bob) Slater (1963), Anne Stevenson, P.L.J. (Peter) Swaab (1956).

Note: Later in 2011, Victoria's State Coroner presided over a retrospective on the inquiry held after the tragic expedition, and amongst the expert witnesses Peter Cosgrove gave a reasoned opinion on the leadership style of Robert O'Hara Burke that showed that his limited experience outside structured organisations and his autocratic leadership style were not suited to the expedition leadership role, and that his rejection of advice and poor decisions contributed directly to Burke and Wills not surviving.

### *Victoria Branch Annual Luncheon*

Twenty six members and partners enjoyed the annual Victoria Branch luncheon on Thursday 20 October 2011, this year held at University of Melbourne's Graduate House.

Our earliest graduate, John Sedgley (1938) was our guest speaker on the subject "Life at RMC before WWII". John's time at RMC included two years at Victoria Barracks in



Sydney whilst the distinctive off-white buildings surrounding the parade ground (and are the distinguishing features of the Corps of Staff Cadets) were being built. From John's talk it was clear that the RMC culture, high spirits, pranks, and camaraderie during his pre-war days were no different from what the rest of us experienced during the four decades of four year training post-WW2.

Members and guests attending included:

- J.A. (John) Sedgley (1938) and Yvonne Learmonth
- R.A. (Bob, 1963) and Ruth Slater
- J.C. (Jim, 1950) and Jan Hughes
- P. (Pat) Trost (1948)
- A.M. (Alan, 1951) and Maria McDonald
- Lois Murchie
- P.W. (Bill, 1942) and Vona Beiers
- T.C. (Colin) Bannister (1955)
- J.C. (John) Ross (1957)
- P.J. (Phil) Thomson (1986)
- A.H. (Tony, 1958) and Ros Fairbrother
- P. (Phil, 1961) and Sandra Davies
- S.J. (Stu) Bryan (1951)
- I.C. (Ian, OCS Dec 1956) and Jane Teague
- Frank Hill and Sandy Strong-Hill
- Peter (1956) and Gwenda Swaab

*Reflections on the Duntroon Society*

At the 2011 annual luncheon we took the opportunity to discuss what the Duntroon Society meant to us. Those attending were a fair representation of current active membership, and we all tended to agree that our annual luncheon and the Newsletter were our primary interests. Many members attended class reunions and local get-togethers of common interest groups (corps, unit associations, personal friendships) and various parades at RMC, none of which are directly associated with or organised by the Duntroon Society. Our annual luncheon is a way of maintaining contact with those who live locally but we would be unlikely to see in other forums, and the Newsletter is the only medium for exchanging information of members' activities and well-being across Australia and New Zealand.

Phil Thomson (1986) spoke of the changes in the nature and demands of soldiering and that the needs of current and future generations of RMC graduates of an association such as the Duntroon Society are different and as yet largely undefined.



*Attendees at the Victoria Branch Annual Lunch.*

Comment: The common bond of our current active membership is the shared experiences characteristic of the RMC four-year course, and our active members are typically long retired. The couple of active OCS members have served with and wish to keep in contact with some of the active RMC members. We haven't attracted any OTU or ARes members, probably because those groups have their own close associations and are not seeking any additional social activity, especially if there are no common links.

We are open to any ideas, and if serving members or more recently retired members from other than four year RMC members have ideas for a more active Duntroon Society in Victoria, we will be very happy to explore options with them.



*John Sedgley speaking at the Victoria Branch Annual Lunch.*



*Phil Thomson speaking at the Victoria Branch Annual Lunch.*

**Western Australia**

*Branch Office Holders*

- Convenor: W.R.M. (Bob) Hunter (1985)
- Social Convenor: K.F. (Kevin) Poynton (1974)

Note these positions are both endorsed by members but held informally as no specific constitution is in place.

*Social Functions*

Contact detail for all functions is to WA Convenor through e-mail at [bhunter@oam-group.com](mailto:bhunter@oam-group.com) or 0413 045 355.



# Coming Events

## ACT Branch

TBA May 2012. Annual Autumn Lunch in Duntroon House.

## NSW Branch

TBA December 2012. Graduation Lunch at the Victoria Barracks Officers' Mess.

## New Zealand Branch

Mid-June 2012. Auckland Sub-branch annual lunch (venue and date to be confirmed). Organiser: Brigadier M.J. (Mike) Dudman (1959).

Mid-February 2012. Wellington Sub-branch Summer Lunch at midday at Royal Wellington Golf Club. Organiser: Major General Ken Gordon (1956).

## Queensland Branch

TBA (June/July 2012). Mixed lunch.

TBA September 2012. ADF Dinner at United Service Club.

TBA (November/December). Mixed lunch.

## South Australia Branch (incorporating NT)

TBA.

## Victoria Branch (incorporating Tasmania)

18 October 2012. 1200 for 1230. Annual lunch at Graduate House, 220 Leicester Street, Carlton.

## Western Australia Branch

Contact detail for all functions is to WA Convener through e-mail at bhunter@oam-group.com or 0413 045 355.

## RMC Ceremonial Parades

25 April 2012. Anzac Day Dawn Service at Major General Bridges' Grave beginning at 0530.

9 June 2012. Trooping of the Queen's Colour.

19 June 2012. The Graduation Parade.

Further information is available from SO3 Protocol and Visits, Ms Jenny Pieper—(02) 6265 9515.

# Shorts

- Following the death of Colonel W. Ford (1939), the Elder of the Society from 25 May 2011 is Lieutenant Colonel J.G. Sedgley (1938) who was born on 15 August 1916. Although three years younger than Colonel Ford, our new Elder entered the RMC on 1 March 1935, while his predecessor entered three years later on 18 February 1939 and graduated on 11 December 1939. Corporal Sedgley graduated on the 13 December. Less than a year later Lieutenant Sedgley returned to the RMC on 25 September 1940 as Assistant Instructor in Infantry and Small Arms Training. As Captain Sedgley, and by then on the staff of the Officers' Training Wing, he departed the RMC on 6 Jul 1941. Although now in his 96<sup>th</sup> year he enjoys good health, trains in the gymnasium three days a week and attended the RMC centenary activities by driving from East Sale to Canberra in his sports car. On that basis, and with our good wishes, he has good prospects of becoming our first centenarian.
- Against the spectacle and historical ancestry of the ceremonial of HM Queen Elizabeth II presenting the

Colours to the Corps of Staff Cadets other, lesser, events took place on 22 October at Duntroon. For some, an opportunity was afforded them to meet their Sovereign on the lawns of Duntroon House and for those selected it was more a unique experience than a lesser event. Reasons for being given that opportunity varied widely as two examples may demonstrate. In Korea in 1951, for his courage in commanding his platoon under fire on 6 October during the Battle of Maryang San, Lieutenant A.T. (Bushy) Pembroke (1950) was later awarded the Military Cross. Shortly after arriving in England for infantry training in October 1953, HM Queen Elizabeth presented him with his Military Cross at an investiture at Buckingham Palace. Fifty eight years later to the month. Lieutenant Colonel Pembroke (Retd), met his Sovereign again but this time he was accompanied by his granddaughter, Lance Corporal Harriet Pembroke, a member of the current First Class. As an aside, 'Bushy' Pembroke's CSC number, allotted in 1947, is 1126 whereas Harriet Pembroke's CSC number is 11,748 and was allotted in 2010. It took 36 years for the Corps to reach 1126 but a little under three times those years to increase the CSC numbers by a factor of 10. Another example is that of Captain R.R. Harding (1948) who, in 1954, was responsible for a detachment of some 50 vehicles from Daimlers to Land Rovers, allotted for duty with the Royal Visit in three states and the ACT and therefore had the duty of transporting HM Queen Elizabeth to and from Duntroon on the first occasion of her presenting the Colours to the CSC. Apparently this was considered sufficient to be afforded the opportunity for a further meeting: this time Colonel Harding (Retd) did not trip over his sword as they met.

- In *Newsletter 1/2011*, in an item under this heading, the current oldest living graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point was shown as Colonel T.J. Wells. His date of birth was omitted but it is worth noting in that he celebrated his 104<sup>th</sup> birthday on 28 September 2011. Come on the Corps!

# Profile of Students at the RMC

Current strength (23 January 2012)

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| CSC                      | 420 |
| First Class              | 84  |
| Second Class             | 199 |
| Third Class              | 126 |
| Neville Howse VC Platoon | 20  |
| Special Service Officers | 55  |
| Iraq                     | 1   |
| Malaysia                 | 1   |
| New Zealand              | 3   |
| Pakistan                 | 5   |
| Papua New Guinea         | 8   |
| Philippines              | 2   |
| RAAF                     | 5   |
| Singapore                | 1   |
| Timor Leste              | 3   |
| United Arab Emirates     | 1   |
| Vietnam                  | 2   |
| Females                  | 29  |

# Obituaries

Since the publication of the last Newsletter we have learned of the deaths of the following:

- 5 May 10 Mr J.M. Mathers (1948)
- 6 Oct 10 Colonel N.E. Swan (Jun 1942)
- 21 Mar 11 Lieutenant Colonel P.J. Schuman (OCS 1/64)
- 6 Apr 11 Brigadier D. Willett (1943)
- 13 Apr 11 Major W.J. Wark<sup>1</sup>
- 19 Apr 11 Major B.F. Kelly<sup>2</sup>
- 21 May 11 Colonel R.K. Rutherford (1957)
- 24 May 11 Colonel W. Ford (1939)<sup>3</sup>
- 11 Jun 11 Colonel K.J. O'Neill (1947)
- 17 Jun 11 Brigadier I.R. Way (1953)
- 18 Jun 11 Colonel I.J. Wilton (1944)
- 19 Jun 11 Lieutenant Colonel D.N. Bryan (1950)
- 24 Jun 11 Major P.A.J. Frith (1971)
- 6 Jul 11 Colonel T.A. Aldridge (1961)
- 17 Jul 11 Lieutenant Colonel R.F. Morison (1948)
- 3 Aug 11 Lieutenant Colonel B.R. Fegan (1959)
- 16 Aug 11 Captain J.C. Gorman (1947)
- 18 Aug 11 Captain G.E. Ticehurst (OTU 4/72)
- 20 Aug 11 Colonel P.C. Richardson (Jun 1941)
- 25 Aug 11 Lieutenant Colonel K.A. Patterson (1958)
- 26 Aug 11 Lieutenant Colonel N.P. Farquhar<sup>4</sup>
- 9 Sep 11 Brigadier A.J.F. McDonald (1943)
- 15 Oct 11 Lieutenant General Sir Donald Dunstan (Jun 1942)
- 16 Oct 11 Major C.A. Swain (1961)
- 25 Oct 11 Brigadier I.J. Bryant (1964)
- 29 Oct 11 Captain B.R. Duffy (2006)
- 5 Nov 11 Mrs M.A. Daniel<sup>5</sup>
- 20 Dec 11 Colonel W J Slocombe (1947)<sup>6</sup>
- 23 Dec 11 Major J.B. Bruce (OCS Jun 1968)
- 4 Jan 12 Colonel B.L. Nyman (1952)
- 27 Jan 12 Lieutenant Colonel J.C. Stein (OCS 1/52)

1. In his 90<sup>th</sup> year, having enlisted for service in the RMC on 1 April 1940, but transferred to the AIF in 1941. His total service of 37 years included 22 years at the RMC. His recollections of that time appear on page 12 of *Newsletter 1/1996*.
2. Major Brian Kelly was MA to the Commandant and was instrumental in 1968 (with WO1 Jack Silk (Bandmaster), WO1 Norm Goldspink (RSM), and WO2 Harry Hutton (sound)) in starting the annual Beating Retreat and concert with 1812 Overture.
3. From 7 May 2009 until his death he was the Elder of the Duntroon Society. He is the father of Major General T.R. Ford, a graduate of 1966. An obituary of Colonel W. Ford has been deposited with his personal record in the RMC Archives.
4. Although not a Duntroon graduate, Peter Farquhar was a member of the Duntroon Society. He was a PoW for 4 years in WWII.
5. She was the Research Assistant (Government) for the Faculty of Military Studies from 1972 to 1974 before becoming the Deputy Registrar until 1985 to the Registrar, Mr R.W.O. Pugh (1948). See also *Newsletter 1/1987*. Her husband was Major Bruce Daniel who was the RMO of the RMC from 2 December 1969 to 27 May 1987. They were very early members of the Duntroon Society.
6. The Editor of the Duntroon Society Newsletter from *Newsletter 2/1983* and its Associate Editor from *Newsletter 1/1986* until *Newsletter 1/2006*.

## A State Funeral for Lieutenant General Sir Donald Beaumont Dunstan, AC, KBE, CB (Retd) was held at St Peter's Cathedral, North Adelaide, on Tuesday, 25 October 2011

Neville Bergin

The Premier of South Australia, The Hon Jay Weatherill, gave the first of three eulogies in memory of the man who was the longest serving Governor of South Australia. He was in office from 1982 to 1991. The Premier paid tribute to Sir Donald, describing him as a governor in the traditional mode with a distinguished military background and, unlike his predecessors; born and educated in South Australia. He added that Sir Donald was a very humane man and a shrewd judge of character.

The second eulogy was given by Major General Peter Phillips, AO, MC (1955). He spoke of General Dunstan as an admired and respected leader of men as he reviewed the highlights of his military career, including his operational service in the Pacific Theatre in World War II, his appointments as Deputy Commander 1st Australia Task Force in Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam, and subsequently Commander Australian Force Vietnam. His outstanding ability and military contribution to his country was recognised in his appointment as Chief of the General Staff from 1977 to 1982.

In the third eulogy, Brigadier Peter Badman, LVO (1957) spoke of his personal experiences when he was privileged to serve with General Dunstan, on a number of occasions. He admired the General's calm control in challenging circumstances, his clear and concise orders and his expectation that his staff would get on and get the job done with minimum interference from above. He regarded the General as a firm and fair leader who was always ready to listen to others and was prepared to give guidance and support whenever needed.

Some hundreds of mourners included a very large number of serving and retired military members who knew or had served with General Dunstan, together with representatives of the many organisations of which Sir Donald had been Patron during his term as Governor. Following the service, officiated by Padre Neil Mathieson, Chaplain of the Adelaide University Regiment, mourners gathered on the steps of the Cathedral to pay their last respects and farewell Lieutenant General Sir Donald Dunstan as the military cortège, escorting his flag-draped casket on a gun carriage, slowly proceeded from the cathedral along King William Road. That afternoon, a Committal Service was conducted at the Heysen Chapel, Centennial Park Cemetery.

Footnote: Sir Donald was an enthusiastic supporter of the Duntroon Society and was always the first to respond and pay for his attendance at South Australia branch luncheons, steadfastly refusing to be received as our honoured guest. Members will recall his relaxed enjoyment of these events as he circulated freely and shared jokes and memories with those in attendance. He will be greatly missed. We extend our sincere condolences to Lady Dunstan and her family.



## The First Class

*[To mark the Centenary Issue of the Newsletter, Colonel Ross Harding (1948) and Major General Ken Gordon (1956) have assembled short biographies of the staff cadets of the first class to enter RMC in 1911. Not all graduated when the class was graduated early for World War I, but in the spirit of RMC classes, we have included all those that were in the class at some time. The research task has taken an enormous effort and I would like to thank Ross Harding and Ken Gordon for their authorship, and Ross Howarth, the RMC Archivist, for his support and research on the photographs. I also am extremely grateful to Lieutenant Colonel John Bullen (1958) for his keen eye in helping to proofread this issue. I hope you enjoy reading the short entries as much as we have enjoyed putting them together. Ed]*



### ***The first RMC class (in sports attire) and College staff—1911***

*Front row: (L to R) C.R. McClelland, P.J. Patterson, D.R. Brown, R. Logan*

*Second row seated: (L to R) H.L. Marsland, J.R. Broadbent, A.M. Forbes, Captain James (Adj), Captain Lalor (MO), Professor R. Hosking (Physics), Lieutenant Colonel Sinclair-MacLagan (Director of Drill), Lieutenant Colonel C.W. Gwynn (DMA), Professor R.J.A. Barnard (Mathematics), Professor V.J.R. Miles (English), Captain R.L. Waller (Inst Mil Engineering), A.R. Selby, C.A. Clowes, W.I.K. Jennings*

*Third row: (L to R) Sergeant Major Chumleigh (RSM), N. Clowes, E.L. Vowles, R.C.G. Prisk, C. Carrington, N.E. Biden, P.J. Morgan, V.G. Jervis, G.F. Wootten, D.R. Carpenter, W.H. Dawkins, Sergeant Major Feetham (Inst in PT)*

*Fourth row: (L to R) J.S. Lindsay, C.W. Wolfenden, J.H.F. Pain, N.W.M. Weir, R. Miles, D.I.C. Bryan, G.H. Capes, W.R. Hodgson, W. Urquhart, J.H. Newmarch, J.M. Irwin, A.J. Boase, W.A.B. Steele*

*Back row, left to right; W.A.S. Dunlop, S.F. Rowell, D.F. Hardy, E.A. Wilton, H.G. Allen, J.S. Whitelaw, S.T.W. Goodwin, E.W.T. Smith*



### ***The first graduating class—August 1914***

*Sitting on ground (L to R): SC V.G. Jervis, SC P.J. Patterson, SC P.J. Morgan*

*Seated (L to R): LCPL A.J. Boase, SGT W.H. Dawkins, SGT J.M. Irwin, CPL E.W.T. Smith, SC D.F. Hardy, CPL W.J. Urquhart, SC W.R. Hodgson, CPL R. Logan*

*Standing middle row (L to R): CPL G.F. Wootten, CPL J.H.F. Pain, LCPL S.F. Rowell, CPL R. Miles, on cannon SGT A.R. Selby, BSM A.M. Forbes, COLSGT J.R. Broadbent, standing LCPL D.I.C. Bryan, CPL W.I.K. Jennings, SGT W.A.B. Steele, SC E.L. Vowles*

*Standing last row (L to R): SC C.H. McClelland, SC D.R. Brown, SGT N. Clowes, SC C. Carrington, SC C.W. Wolfenden, CPL N.E. Biden, SC R.C.G. Prisk, CPL J.H. Newmarch (under Prisk), SC G.H. Capes, SC J.S. Whitelaw, SC W.A.S. Dunlop, CPL N.W.M. Weir, SGT C.A. Clowes*

## CSC 1 – W.J. Urquhart



Walter James Urquhart was born on 16 March 1894 in Melbourne, Victoria. Urquhart was allotted CSC number 1—that number was to have been given to N.E. Biden (CSC 42) but, at the critical time, he was absent from Duntroon at the Coronation of King George V. Urquhart became an excellent horse rider and did well in training and studies, ranking third in the Class. In July 1912 he was promoted to corporal and held that rank until graduation.

At Gallipoli, Urquhart served with the artillery. As a gun position officer he was occasionally visited by Major General Bridges, then the commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division AIF, but earlier, his old commandant of the RMC. Bridges, in fact, was mortally wounded as he was leaving Urquhart's gun position. Urquhart was to say later that he had seen the first of Bridges (as Staff Cadet Number 1) and had seen the last of him. For the remainder of the war, Urquhart was with the Australian Light Horse in Sinai and Palestine. In the World War II, he held senior administrative posts in Australia and New Guinea, to retire as a brigadier on 12 November 1946, having been awarded three Mentioned in Despatches.

In retirement he took a keen interest in the RMC and became an early and active member of the Duntroon Society. Late in February of the year he left the Army, his son, Walter Frederick, entered the RMC to graduate in 1948. Walter senior's daughter married an American and their son became an officer in the US Army where he was a captain in 1985.

By 1984 the custom of inviting graduates from the class of 50 years ago as guests of the RMC Commandant was well established. Unhappily there had been no graduation in 1934 but, happily, in its place, the retired Brigadier Urquhart was able to be the Commandant's special guest at the 1984 graduation. Urquhart died 11 months later in his 91<sup>st</sup> year, the last surviving member of his Class. As part of the RMC centenary activities his granddaughter, Carol Urquhart-Fisher, who lives in Dallas Texas, presented a portrait of him as a staff cadet. This now hangs in the Harrison Room in the CSC Mess. After all, he was, and will remain, the first.

## CSC 2 – A.M. Forbes



Alexander Moore Forbes was born on 19 May 1892 at St Kilda, Victoria, the oldest in his Class. He must have made a very early impression on the staff of the RMC, as five days after the official opening he was the first of his Class to be promoted, albeit to lance corporal. By early 1912 he was the senior staff cadet as the Company

Sergeant Major and became the Battalion Sergeant Major early in 1913, but graduated seventeenth in the Class. He received the retrospective award of the Sword of Honour in 1921.

On graduation he was allocated to artillery and joined 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Brigade on its way to the Middle East. On Gallipoli he was wounded and evacuated to Alexandria. By the time he had recovered, his unit was at Tel el Kebir but he was posted from it to the 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade Howitzer Battery in March for the transfer to France. He disembarked on 1 April 1916 in Marseilles and was moved north to the front by train. Later that year he was awarded the Military Cross

and, as a major, he was appointed Brigade Major of 1<sup>st</sup> Division Artillery from March 1917 to October 1918 when he joined the staff of 5<sup>th</sup> Division Headquarters. Forbes became very sick and was evacuated to England. Recovery took many months so it was not until June 1919 that he completed his leave and attended a three-month course at the Ordnance College at Woolwich followed by further leave until he returned to Australia in February 1920.

Once back in Australia and, beginning as General Staff Officer Grade 2 at AHQ during 1920, he undertook a series of command and staff postings that were interspersed by his appointment as Adjutant of the RMC from February 1921 to July 1922 and further training in England during 1937 and 1938. While there he was the organiser of the unveiling ceremony of the Villers-Bretonneux War Memorial by His Majesty King George VI and was later appointed a member of the Royal Victorian Order.

From October 1938 he was on the staff of 4<sup>th</sup> District Base but, in November 1939, he joined the staff of Headquarters 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Division until April 1940 when he took over command of 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Heavy Brigade for the remainder of 1940, followed by the post of the Commander Coastal Defences Western Command until April 1942. A series of brief positions were filled until he became Commander Sydney Fortress in May 1943. He retired as a brigadier on 1 December 1946 having been appointed as a MVO and awarded the MC and a Mentioned in Despatches. He died in May 1961.

His son, A.J. de B. Forbes, graduated in June 1942. When Minister for the Army in 1961, Doctor the Honourable A.J. de B. Forbes, MC, at the Jubilee Parade during that year, presented his father's Sword of Honour to the Battalion Sergeant Major, Senior Under Officer S.N. Gower for use in perpetuity by the holder of that office on all ceremonial occasions.

## CSC 3 – W.A.B. Steele



William Alan Beevor Steele was born in Gympie, Queensland on 4 February 1895, the son of a mining surveyor. Although he did well in his work at the RMC, it was two years before he was promoted to corporal on 16 July 1913, only to be reduced to the ranks 22 days later for being in the billiard room during parade

hours. He was not promoted again but was recorded on graduation as being of very good conduct. He was the sixteenth in the Class and allotted to cavalry.

His posting was to 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Horse Regiment in which he remained throughout Gallipoli, becoming the regiment's Adjutant during August. Back in Egypt after the evacuation he was transferred to 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade as Staff Captain and remained with it during its operations around the Canal and Sinai, but when the 4<sup>th</sup> Division was moved to France in 1916, he returned to Australia (for reasons that are unclear).

Post war he served in a number of command and staff positions, mostly related to light horse and cavalry until he departed for training in England during 1936 and 1937. Steele remained in Australia until March 1943 during which time he commanded in turn, First and Third Motorised Divisions. On their disbandment he served in New Guinea before taking up a series of senior staff postings in Land Headquarters from March 1944.

Steele retired as a major general having been appointed as a CBE.



### CSC 4 – P.J. Morgan



Price Jacob Morgan was born in Launceston on 26 February 1894. He had served as an NCO in his School Cadet Corps before entering the RMC. As a staff cadet, he graduated thirtieth in the Class and was allotted to artillery. While serving on Gallipoli he was mentioned in division orders for acts of conspicuous gallantry during May and June 1915. On 11 March 1916 he became the Adjutant of 21<sup>st</sup> Howitzer Brigade at Tel el Kebir. In May of that year he was posted to 2nd Division Artillery in France. In January 1917, with his promotion to major, came the command of 17<sup>th</sup> Battery. He was registering artillery from an observation post when he was wounded by enemy shell fire on 2 April 1917 and died of wounds two days later. He is buried in Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps, Northern France.

### CSC 5 – E.A. Wilton



Eric Arundel Wilton was born in Hawthorn, Victoria on 5 October 1892. Despite the intensity of the RMC routine, in 1913 Wilton became the inaugural president of the camera club which then faithfully recorded many phases of College life. During his training at the RMC, prolonged absences with sickness delayed his graduation until he did so on 2 November 1914 as a sergeant with Second Class—he was listed as twelfth in that Class.

With 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion he landed on Gallipoli where he was wounded and eventually evacuated to Malta from where he rejoined his battalion on Mudros in October 1915. Illness put him in hospital again, this time in Egypt. In February 1916 he rejoined the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion then in Ismalia and later Tel el Kebir, before the formation moved, during June 1916, to France. Two months later he was wounded and evacuated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> London General Hospital, not to return to his unit until January 1917. After attending a staff course in England from April to July 1917, Wilton was appointed in August 1917 to be Brigade Major of the 4<sup>th</sup> and later the 15<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Brigades. Twice wounded, he was awarded a DSO and was twice mentioned in despatches. In late 1917 he was evacuated to England seriously ill and did not become fit enough for further service in France so, in January 1918, he was posted as Brigade Major in 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Training Brigade at Sutton Veny in Wiltshire. He departed that position in September 1918 and embarked for Australia via Vancouver in November 1918. His AIF service was terminated in March 1919.

Wilton returned to the RMC as Second Instructor in Tactics on 10 February 1920 until 1 January 1924 when he became a company commander there. Further responsibility came with him also being appointed instructor in machine gun and infantry training and officer-in-charge of workshops until 25 May 1926. From the late 1920s Wilton became very involved with the moves to mechanise the Australian Army and in his appointment as Chief Inspector of Mechanical Vehicles, one of his projects was to develop improved transit of light artillery. Somehow his reputation in this work generated such terms as inventor and mechanical genius. Much progress was emerging when, in Melbourne on 10 February 1932, he was killed in a motor cycle accident.

### CSC 6 – W.A.S. Dunlop



William Archibald Shuldham Dunlop was born in Holywood, County Down, Ireland on 30 June 1892. In keeping with most of his contemporaries, on graduation his conduct was stated as very good but there were mishaps on the way. He was first charged with having left a parade without permission. Seven more charges followed mostly to do with parades—the most serious that of having an altercation with an NCO. That cost him 10 days CB with 30 marks deducted and no promotion until 4 May 1912. On 20 May 1913 he was reduced to staff cadet until his graduation with the observation that he was *compulsive*. He was listed as 34<sup>th</sup> at his graduation and allocated to cavalry.

Dunlop was posted to 4<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment (the 1<sup>st</sup> Division regiment) which was originally left in Egypt when 1<sup>st</sup> Division went to Gallipoli, but it and all the remaining light horse regiments followed 1<sup>st</sup> Division in May. In August Dunlop moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade but, after the return of the force to Egypt, he rejoined his regiment in January 1916. By June he was in France with 2<sup>nd</sup> ANZAC Mounted Regiment and became its Adjutant in January 1917. On his promotion to major he transferred again to be Brigade Major of 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade but in August 1918 he embarked from Southampton to rejoin his regiment then at Kantara. At this time arrangements were being made for those who had been serving overseas since 1914 to be granted leave in the UK, so Dunlop embarked in January 1919 from Tripoli to go back again to England.

With that behind him he was returned to Australia and later joined the 19<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment as its Adjutant & Quartermaster. In April 1920, on promotion to major he became the Brigade Major of 16<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Brigade. This set the scene for a series of similar staff postings until 16 August 1935 when he was placed on the Reserve of Officers as a major with a Mentioned in Despatches.

### CSC 7 – G.H. Capes



George Herbert Capes entered the RMC as CSC Number 7 as a tall 18-year old, having been born in Elsternwick, Victoria, on 6 March 1893. His progress at the RMC followed the pattern of those times except that he graduated as a staff cadet. On 16 July 1913 he was promoted to corporal, but on 7 August he was reduced to the rank of staff cadet for being found in the Billiard Room outside the laid down times. Nevertheless, he departed the College as 23<sup>rd</sup> in his Class and, tucked away in his reports was a comment about his linguistic skills emerging.

On graduation he was posted to 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (AIF) as Assistant Adjutant. With his battalion he embarked from Melbourne on 21 October 1914. By the time that he landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915, he was the battalion Machine Gun Officer in which role he was cited for conspicuous bravery during April and May until he was severely wounded at Cape Helles on 9 May. The citation for a Military Cross was downgraded to a Mentioned in Despatches. Via a series of military hospitals and hospital ships, he was invalided to Australia where he was finally assessed as being unfit for further service with his commission to be terminated from 31 January 1916. On 7 January he received an urgent telegram from the Adjutant General to report immediately to the RMC for temporary

duty on the staff. In his appointment as Adjutant his 'temporary duty' extended into January 1920. Together with his classmate, Captain J.R. Broadbent (CSC 16), he was then sent to Japan for two years to study the language. On his return to Australia he became the Staff Officer Grade 3 Intelligence at AHQ until 1928, during which time he was appointed Equerry to HRH the Duke of York for the 1927 Royal Visit to Australia. Also in that year Capes became the uncle of Patrick Trost, later a member of the Class of 1948.

During July 1928 Capes returned to the RMC as Instructor in Modern Languages and Topography and taught Japanese to a selected group of staff cadets. A lectureship in Japanese had been established at the RMC in early 1917. In February 1931 he was promoted to become the Brigade Major of 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade for two years. Early in 1935 he became a features writer for *The Herald* in Melbourne. On his birthday in 1935, in circumstances unknown, he was walking along a suburban railway line when, tragically, he was hit by a train and killed.

### CSC 8 – A.R. Selby



Arthur Roland Selby was born in Armidale, NSW on 16 May 1893. Following service as a gunner in No 1 Battery Australian Field Artillery, he entered the RMC on 22 June 1911 with a note on his medical record as being *physically abnormal*—height at 6'2" chest 38" to 40" and weight at 14 Stone.

When he graduated his conduct sheet had no entries! His place in the Class was fourteenth and he was allotted to infantry.

Selby joined 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion when it was in camp at Blackboy Hill in WA. He trained with his platoon until his unit assembled with the first convoy in Albany to sail to Egypt for the hard training to come. With his battalion he landed on Gallipoli on 25 April 1915, but within three weeks he was badly wounded and evacuated in due course to England for treatment. By October his condition was such that the Medical Board examining him decided that he was permanently medically unfit for service except in Australia. On his return to Australia in 1916 he was posted to the 5<sup>th</sup> Military District in Perth, but joined the staff of the Officer Training School near Duntroon as its adjutant.

During the reduction in the strength of the Australian Army in the early 1930s he transferred to the British Army as a major in the Royal Ulster Rifles on 30 September 1930. During 1932–36, he held grade-two postings in the War Office and in Aldershot Command. As a lieutenant colonel in 1937, he attended the Imperial Defence College, from where he was posted as the General Staff Officer I on Headquarters 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Division until November 1939, after which he was promoted to brigadier. Having served through the War of 1939–45, he reached the rank of lieutenant general with a CB, CBE, the Order of Kutuzov, and six Mentioned in Despatches to retire on 8 February 1946.

### CSC 9 – S.F. Rowell



Born on 15 December 1894 at Lockleys in South Australia, Sydney Fairbairn Rowell was the fourth son of James Rowell, an English-born soldier. After his education at the Adelaide High School he entered the RMC Duntroon. There he did well in all aspects but was reduced from the rank of corporal to lance corporal for being out of

his room at the RMC Hospital. He graduated eleventh in the Class.

After graduation he managed to be posted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Horse Regiment whose commander was then his cousin, Lieutenant Colonel F.M. Rowell. His AIF career was beset by misfortune with pneumonia preventing his sailing with his regiment in November. He rejoined it in Egypt but broke a leg when his horse fell during training, so that it was May before he reached Gallipoli. Then a spell in hospital in Malta interrupted the time with his regiment until August although he was made adjutant in September. Struck down with typhoid, he was evacuated to Egypt in November and thence to Australia where he became an instructor at the Officer Training School (then part of the RMC Duntroon).

As a captain he sailed for England in 1924 to attend the Staff College, Camberley and was promoted to major in 1926. Back in Australia he endured the next five years in Perth during the Depression and the difficulties associated with the suspension of compulsory training. From 1932 to 1934 he developed his experience under skilled mentors at Army Headquarters, Melbourne, whence he was sent to England in 1935 on an exchange posting during which he was recommended to attend the Imperial Defence College. Now a lieutenant colonel he began his studies in 1937 and made friends with fellow student, W.J. Slim.

From late 1938 until October 1939 he again served at Army Headquarters until appointed Chief of Staff of 6<sup>th</sup> Division AIF and, later, brigadier, General Staff of 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Corps. During the retreat south and the evacuation of Greece in April 1941, Blamey and Rowell developed sharp differences about the former's perceived incompetence as a field commander. Although Blamey, on his return to Australia as Commander-in-Chief in early 1942, gave command of 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Corps to Rowell, those strongly felt differences remained. As the commander of New Guinea Force, Rowell took hold of a dangerous situation with the Japanese controlling the Solomon Sea, aggressive enemy air forces and its army pushing south past Kokoda on its way to Port Moresby. With skill and great effort Rowell was in the process of recovering the situation to the extent that, following a two-day visit to New Guinea, Blamey expressed confidence in the outcome in that theatre. Pressed by interference from General MacArthur, the American Supreme Commander of the South West Pacific Area, Blamey returned to Rowell's headquarters nine days later. After three arguments, Blamey dismissed Rowell on 28 September 1942. Rowell began his exile at the General Headquarters Middle East as the Australian Liaison Officer but was later posted as Director of Tactical Investigation at the War Office, London.

In March 1946, Lieutenant General Sturdee became the Chief of the General Staff with Lieutenant General Rowell as the Vice Chief. Together they established the sound basis for the post-war Australian Army with its Regular and Militia components. In April 1950 Rowell succeeded Sturdee as CGS from which position he guided the Australian Army with its infant Regular Army, a reorganized CMF, its introduction of National Service, the participation of the Australian Army force in Korea and the establishment of the Officer Cadet School at Portsea. Despite this heavy load, all this and more had been done when on 14 December 1954, the day before his retirement, he took the graduation parade at the RMC Duntroon, the same parade ground where he began his army career as a staff cadet over 43 years earlier.



In his retirement he became a director in major businesses as well as Chairman of the Australian Boy Scout's Association and involvement with other voluntary organisations. Prompted by the urgings of historians and colleagues, he wrote some recollections of his army life and gave the book the title of *Full Circle*.

As the first graduate to reach the pinnacle of the Army as its CGS, Lieutenant General Sir Sydney Rowell KBE, CB, Greek MC (and six Mentioned in Despatches) was the reviewing officer for the parade to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RMC Duntroon. During his speech on that memorable occasion he mentioned, *inter alia*, three points. He spoke of how he had to fend off a strong move by the then Minister for the Army in the early 1950s to have the RMC permanently relocated to wooden barracks in the central west of NSW; the fact that no one could predict what the RMC would look like, or be, at its centenary; and that, while staff cadets generally considered anyone older than their mid-twenties to have one foot in the grave, they should consider how they would be viewed when the College celebrated that centenary. How right he was!

With his lean, trim figure he continued to lead an active life until his death at his South Yarra home on 12 April 1975.

### CSC 10 – W.H. Dawkins



William Henry Dawkins was born in Rochester, Victoria on 26 October 1892. Having served in the Senior Cadets for two years he then entered the RMC. He excelled in his work and studies although a series of minor infringements netted him five days CB and a reprimand. This did little to prevent him graduating second in the Class as well as gaining first prize for military subjects.

On graduation he was allotted to the engineers and joined 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Company RAE. This unit was included in the first convoy transporting the AIF from Australia. Other ships were to make up the full convoy at Albany so a few days were spent in King Georges Sound. From there in his second letter to his parents he mentions a reunion dinner with 28 of his Classmates—the first of many for graduates over the next 100 years. In early December they landed at Alexandria and trained in Egypt until departure for Lemnos. Dawkins went ashore at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 with his company 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Engineers to search the gullies for water. By next day he had sunk 20 shallow wells to allow a useful water service for men and animals. Pipes had to be laid under enemy fire and, when he went out to cover one of his pipes on 12 May, he was killed by a shell burst. He is buried in Beach Cemetery, ANZAC Cove.

### CSC 11 – R.C.G. Prisk



Ralph Carlyle Geoffrey Prisk was born at Mount Barker, South Australia on 6 August 1894 and was educated at primary schools, Mount Barker, Clare and Unley, and then at Adelaide High School. On 22 June 1911, aged 16 years and 10 months, height 5 feet 4½ inches, weight 132 lbs, he entered the RMC Duntroon. Although his progress in training and studies was generally average and there was but one entry in his Conduct Sheet for Inattention on Musketry Parade which earned him one day Confined to Barracks, he was still a staff cadet at his graduation and thirteenth in the Class.

Prisk graduated to the Permanent Military Forces, enlisted in the AIF (same height but five pounds lighter) and was posted to 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion being raised at Broadmeadows, Victoria. The Battalion came ashore at Gallipoli on the morning of 25 April 1915. Prisk, a platoon commander, was that day wounded in the face and evacuated to Egypt and thence to England to the 3<sup>rd</sup> London General Hospital. He returned to the Battalion as a captain company commander and was badly wounded on the night of 6/7 August. This led to his return to Australia and his discharge from the AIF on 28 July 1916, which was followed by staff postings until 1 January 1918. For the next two years he instructed at the School of Musketry in 2<sup>nd</sup> Military District becoming its Chief Instructor during 1919. Apparently the lone charge when a staff cadet did him no harm as he returned to the RMC on 9 September 1919 as Company Officer and Instructor in Musketry. This preceded his other roles in turn as Staff Officer for Administration, Adjutant and Quartermaster, and Adjutant and Instructor in Military Law until he departed the RMC in July 1926. Staff postings in 4<sup>th</sup> Military District followed until 1936 when he became a student at the Senior Officers School at Sheerness in England until late 1937. From then until 1945 he filled increasingly senior staff postings in AHQ and LHQ except for a year at Headquarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Army during 1943 and continued with staff postings until he retired as a brigadier.

He was a member of Adelaide Legacy from 1929 and joined Melbourne Legacy in 1945. He died on 7 September 1960.

### CSC 12 – C.A. Clowes



Born in Warwick, Queensland on 11 Mar 1892, Cyril Albert Clowes was the oldest child of Albert Clowes who later became a captain in the Militia. With his brother Norman (CSC 22), he entered the RMC with the First Class. His record there was very good one and, despite a comment on his Confidential Report that he was a little diffident, he was promoted to sergeant in July 1912. At his graduation he was placed eighth in the Class and allocated to artillery.

On graduation Cyril Clowes was posted to 1<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Brigade. At Gallipoli he was one of a small group of Duntroon graduates who were chosen as forward observers to direct the fire of the naval fire support for the landing and subsequently. After suffering a shrapnel wound to the head he was evacuated to Egypt where he later became a staff captain in Egypt before moving to France. In June 1916, as division trench mortar officer, he assisted raiding parties under heavy shell fire and was awarded the Military Cross. Further awards of the Distinguished Service Cross, the Serbian Order of the White Eagle, and two Mentioned in Despatches followed before he returned to Australia in April 1919.

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From February 1920, Major Clowes returned to the RMC as the instructor in map reading and field sketching but changed to Military Law and Administration before taking on machinegun and infantry training as well as being officer in charge of workshops during 1924. Early in 1926 he departed the RMC for a series of staff and command postings mostly related to artillery, including almost three years in Darwin during 1934 to 1936. This was followed by two years in England to undertake the gunnery staff course.

Early in 1940 Clowes became the Commander Royal Artillery of 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Corps but was sent to northern Greece where he fended off a serious German attack on the left flank of the Anzac Corps thereby facilitating an orderly withdrawal of that Corps. He returned to Australia, where on 7 January 1942 he was promoted to major general and given command of 1<sup>st</sup> Division to defend the Sydney-Newcastle region. When the Japanese landed at Buna and Gona he was sent to Milne Bay to assume command of the force already there just four days before the Japanese invasion of that area on 26 August 1942. In very difficult circumstances including atrocious weather, General MacArthur's interference at the tactical level and critical lack of a communication network, by 7 September Clowes had won a battle that finally confirmed that the Japanese were not invincible on land.

Under a less than happy state of affairs, Clowes departed Papua to command the Victorian Lines of Communication Area and Southern Command from 1943 to 1946 and then retired on 1 June 1949 as an honorary lieutenant general. During the War of 1939–45 he received the further awards of the CBE, the Greek Military Cross, and two more Mentioned in Despatches. He died on 19 May 1968 at the Repatriation General Hospital, Heidelberg, Victoria.

### CSC 13 – T.N.W. Hill



Thomas Ninian Wardrop Hill was born on 17 February 1895 at Ringwood, Victoria. He was the youngest in his Class, but with service in the Canterbury Cadet Corps from May 1905 to September 1909. Not far into his course, Hill became quite ill with chronic nephritis and, as a result, was discharged from the RMC on 23 October 1911. On the authority of the Minister for Defence, Senator Pearce, Hill was reinstated as CSC 80 in the next Class which had entered the RMC on 7 March 1912. He graduated 25<sup>th</sup> in that class on 2 November 1914 and was killed in action on 8 August 1915. He is commemorated at Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli.

### CSC 14 – G.F. Wootten



George Frederick Wootten was born on May 1893 at Marrickville, NSW, the seventh child of London-born parents. He managed to keep himself out of trouble as he had but one charge in 1911 and another in 1914. At graduation he was fifteenth in the Class and was allocated to infantry.

He was posted to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, AIF and went ashore at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. Next day he became the adjutant of his battalion and soon won a reputation for courage. By the time of the evacuation he was a major. Early in 1916 he briefly joined the forming 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Division under Major General Monash but he soon became the brigade major in turn of 11<sup>th</sup> Brigade and 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade followed by a posting to the operations staff of 5<sup>th</sup> Australian Division. By October 1918 he was a member of the General Staff at Field Marshal Haig's Headquarters. With the six months there he completed a remarkable wartime experience as a staff officer, which was then rounded off by his being sent for training at the Staff College, Camberley. Although only a 25-year old, he had

been appointed a member of the Distinguished Service Order as well being mentioned in despatches four times.

Wootten returned to Australia in January 1920 to serve in a series of junior staff postings that did little to stretch his considerable talents and experience in a much reduced Army. In 1923 he resigned his commission and returned to England to work in a managerial position but the climate did not suit the health of his three children. Back in Australia in 1926 Wootten studied, completed his articles, then practiced law, but the economic times did not enable an adequate income for his family.

As the threat of war increased in Europe and elsewhere he joined the Citizen Military Forces and was appointed to command the 21<sup>st</sup> Light Horse Regiment in 1937. In October 1939 Wootten was seconded to the AIF and given command of the 2/2 Infantry Battalion of that force. As a brigadier he commanded the AIF Reinforcement Depot in Palestine before taking over the 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade from Brigadier Morshead in February 1941. Next month in Libya his brigade captured the Italian fortress at Giarabub, but on 4 April Wootten was suddenly ordered to move 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade to Tobruk where it came under Major General Morshead. After almost five months under siege there, the brigade was relieved and, at the closing stages of the Syrian campaign in Syria, rejoined the 7<sup>th</sup> Division.

Wootten returned to Australia in March 1942 with 7<sup>th</sup> Division and after brief rest and refit, 7<sup>th</sup> Division was ordered to Kokoda in August, but its 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade was sent to Milne Bay to bolster the defences of that location just before Japanese forces invaded their position. From that difficult and significant battle, the brigade then took part in the intensive and stubborn fighting at Gona and Buna before Wootten, in March 1943, succeeded Morshead as commander of the 9<sup>th</sup> Division then training on the Atherton Tableland in Queensland. Between September 1943 and January 1944, Wootten's 9<sup>th</sup> Division was victorious in the operations that captured Lae, Finschhafen, and Sattelberg, before returning to Queensland to rest and retrain. During July 1945, 9<sup>th</sup> Division landed on and captured Brunei and Labuan in Borneo. After establishing civil order in his area, Wootten departed Labuan in September to return to Australia and transfer to the Reserve of Officers on 14 October 1945, having been awarded a CB, CBE, DSO and Bar and mentioned in despatches four times during his Army service.

In retirement he became the Chairman of the Repatriation Commission from 1945 to 1958 during which time he was also, in turn, the commander of the CMF 3rd Division from 1948–50 and the CMF Member of the Military Board from 1948–50. Wootten was elevated to KBE on his retirement in 1958. He died on 31 March 1970 at the Repatriation General Hospital, Concord. A portrait (1956) by Sir William Dargie is held by the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.

### CSC 15 – E.W.T. Smith



Eric Wilkes Talbot Smith was born on 28 April 1892 at Kensington Park, South Australia. He graduated twelfth in the Class and was allocated to infantry. On his posting to 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion he was appointed as a 'half company commander' and Assistant Adjutant.

During the voyage to Egypt he became acting Adjutant. Once in Egypt his excellent reconnaissance



ability made him the ideal leader of the 27 battalion scouts. During the landing at Gallipoli the battalion scouts went in the first boats. Smith energetically led his men up the slope in front of them and, despite being landed in the wrong place, eventually found the Turkish guns that they were to immobilise. During the Turkish counter-attack Smith engaged the advancing enemy until he was mortally wounded in the head.

The initial accounts of the subsequent events were shrouded in confusion. Some witness statements insisted that he had died on the beach and that he was buried there, while others were equally adamant that he was put on a ship en route to Egypt when he died and was buried at sea. Still other reports stated firmly that he was taken to a hospital in Egypt and it was there that he died and was buried. In due course, an inquiry established that he had died on 30 April 1915 in the 15<sup>th</sup> General Hospital in Alexandria and was buried in the Military Cemetery at Chatby, not far from the hospital.

### CSC 16 – J.R. Broadbent



John Raymond Broadbent was born on 18 February 1893 at Ballarat, Victoria. Before his entry to the RMC he had served for two years in the Senior Cadets. He was one of the very few who graduated with a clean Conduct Sheet. There is a character comment in his Confidential Report that he *possesses the power of command to an extraordinary degree*. That may explain his promotion to sergeant by July 1912 and to colour sergeant subsequently. He graduated 22<sup>nd</sup> in his Class and was allotted to cavalry.

On Gallipoli he served on HQ 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade, then as Adjutant 1<sup>st</sup> Light Horse Regiment until October 1915 when he contracted beriberi. This led to him being evacuated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> London General Hospital where he was pronounced unfit for service. He returned to Australia and the RMC to be commander of A Company from September 1916 to February 1920 when he became Brigade Major of 4<sup>th</sup> and then 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigades to September 1920. Late that year he joined his classmate, Captain Capes in spending two years in Japan to study the language. On his return to Australia he became the Staff Office Intelligence at 3<sup>rd</sup> District Base until January 1924 during which time he spent another four months in Japan on Special Duties. He returned to the RMC in January 1924 as Instructor in Japanese and other subjects as well as being the Quartermaster for a time. He departed Duntroon to be placed on the Unallotted List on 23 October 1926 until 24 October 1931 when he went on to the Reserve of Officers.

Broadbent returned to the active Army on 2 June 1935 as a major in the 7<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment and became its Commanding Officer in early 1940 before his posting as a General Staff Officer Grade 1 on HQ 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Cavalry Division. In July 1940 he joined HQ 8<sup>th</sup> Australian Division as its Assistant Adjutant & Quartermaster General (it is unclear whether he then escaped or was posted from it before the Japanese attacked). Thereafter he held the position of Deputy Adjutant and Quartermaster General on the HQs of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Corps until he was placed on the Reserve of Officers on 4 October 1945, having been appointed as CBE and awarded a Mentioned in Despatches.

### CSC 17 – D.R. Brown



David Richmond Brown was born on 17 August 1893 at North Sydney. He was another of the few who managed to graduate with a clean Conduct Sheet, but at graduation he was still a staff cadet. He was tenth in the Class and was allocated to infantry.

His posting was to 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion and landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. Three weeks later he was wounded and evacuated but rejoined his battalion in mid June. In August he was wounded again and this time evacuated to England. By the time he was fit again the evacuation of Gallipoli had been accomplished so he rejoined his battalion in January 1916 when it was at Tel el Kebir. With his unit he shipped to France disembarking at Marseilles in March 1916. During the heavy fighting at Pozzières and Mouquet Farm in July and August that year, Brown, now a major, led his company with such success and gallantry that he was awarded the Military Cross. As 1916 closed he went to Clare College, Cambridge to attend a staff course and rejoined 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion in March 1917. From April to November 1918 he was the Commanding Officer of 1st Australian Training Battalion at Sutton Veny, a large Australian Army area in a larger and permanent British Army training complex on the southern edge of the Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire. Brown returned to Australia in January 1919.

He transferred to the CMF on 15 December 1921 and began studying medicine at Sydney University, graduating in 1926 followed by two years at St Vincent's Hospital. He was appointed a doctor on a Burns Philp ship *Taipung* on the Java run. A return voyage with a docking at Darwin led him to become the Government Medical Officer (GMO) doctor in Katherine. In 1931 he took on the role of GMO in Alice Springs. In response to a request from the Army he bought a practice in the small town of Dora Creek to be near the Greta-based 1<sup>st</sup> Field Ambulance. A medical examination in 1939 deemed him unfit for overseas service, partly due to his wounds from the Great War, so he was appointed the Commanding Officer of 2/1<sup>st</sup> Field Ambulance and continued in that role until being placed on the Reserve of Officers on 22 December 1943. Brown then gained a position in the Royal Naval Reserve as a surgeon commander with the British/American rescue service based out of Sydney. This duty often involved working in New Guinea waters for the two years he gave to it.

In 1946 he joined the Repatriation Department as an examining doctor. Brown died in the 1950s, having been awarded the Military Cross.

### CSC 18 – W.R. Hodgson



William Roy Hodgson was born on 22 May 1892 at Kingston, Victoria. During 1914 he was the Secretary/Treasurer of the RMC Camera Club. He was another of those who had but one entry on his Conduct Sheet. He graduated ninth in the Class and was allocated to artillery.

Shortly after graduation he was posted 5<sup>th</sup> Battery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Brigade and embarked with it for Egypt in October 1914. With his gunners he landed at Gallipoli on 25 April where he was the Forward Observation Officer for his battery. His CO noted his *great gallantry*, but, on the third day, he was wounded in the hip. Although initially reported as dead, he survived to be evacuated to the

3<sup>rd</sup> London General Hospital and remained there from September 1915 to January 1917 when he was discharged with one leg shorter than the other. Invalided to Australia in 1917, he became staff officer at AHQ Melbourne until his appointment in military intelligence in 1925. During 1929 he worked in the Development and Immigration Commission. He was placed on the Unallotted List on 14 May 1934.

Since his return to Australia he had studied part-time to successfully gain qualifications in accountancy and law. These assisted him to secure a position as assistant secretary of the branch in the Prime Minister's Department which dealt with external affairs. In 1935 he became Secretary of External Affairs as a separate department. From 1945 to 1957 he served overseas as head of mission beginning as Acting High Commissioner in Canada and, later that year, as Australian Minister to France. He was heavily involved in the formative stages of the United Nations Organisation with significant roles in a number of its instrumentalities. From 1952, Hodgson was the Australian High Commissioner to South Africa and retired from the diplomatic service in 1957, having been previously appointed in turn as OBE and CMG. He died in Sydney on 24 January 1958.

### CSC 19 – C.W. Wolfenden



Clarence William Wolfenden was born on 23 March 1894 at Prahran, Victoria. With three years of service in the Senior Cadets he did well throughout his course and gained a medal from the National Defence League for highest marks in the Class despite a comment in his Confidential Report about him being indifferent in military subjects. He graduated fourth in the Class and was allocated to artillery.

His posting was to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Brigade and he took the busy route to Egypt and on to Gallipoli. On 25 April, he landed with the first gun of his battery and subsequently proved himself to be hardworking, knowledgeable, and respected by his gunners. While in the battery observation post on 13 May 1915, a Turkish shell burst overhead and killed him. He is buried in Beach Cemetery, ANZAC Cove.

### CSC 20 – A.J. Boase



Allan Joseph Boase was born on 1 February 1894 at Gympie, Queensland. Although his marks did not seem to warrant such a comment, the Commandant opined that he was *a steady worker but not brilliant*. He graduated 24<sup>th</sup> in the Class and was allotted to the infantry.

Boase was posted to 9th Battalion to embark with it in September for Egypt and to land with his platoon at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. That day, with his men, he reached what would be named the Lone Pine but, next day, they were forced to retire under fire, during which Boase was wounded by shrapnel. As he was being evacuated to a waiting ship, he barely survived drowning when his boatload of wounded overturned before reaching the ship. He rejoined his battalion in September.

After his return to Egypt he was posted in March 1916 to Headquarters 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division as a General Staff Officer Grade 3 and went with it on its operations east of the Suez Canal. Later, 5<sup>th</sup> Division followed the other Australian divisions to France where Boase arrived in June 1916. With promotion to major in December he became Brigade Major in 5<sup>th</sup> and then 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigades until October 1917, to return to Australia during January 1918.

With a reduction in rank to captain, Boase was posted to the staff at AHQ and 5<sup>th</sup> Military District from April 1918 to November 1922. He then departed Australia to attend Staff College at Camberley and was back in Australia for a series of staff positions in Perth and Melbourne until March 1937. For two years he was an exchange officer in India to return to Sydney on promotion to colonel as the Commandant of the Command and Staff School. Five months later he was posted to Headquarters 7<sup>th</sup> Australian Division as its Assistant Adjutant & Quartermaster General to embark with the division in October for the Middle East. With promotion to brigadier at the end of 1940, he commanded the AIF Base Area at Gaza, Palestine until August 1941, when he was appointed to command 16<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Brigade. As the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Australian Divisions were being shipped from the Middle East to the Far East, Boase was given the task of General Officer Commanding AIF (Ceylon) in March 1942 and remained there until September when he returned to Australia. Here he took over as Major General, General Staff, Headquarters 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Army, then at Esk near Toowoomba, Queensland. A year later he commanded 11<sup>th</sup> Australian Division in the Finisterre Ranges of New Guinea and moved with it for its rest and refitting in northern Queensland in April 1945. Other postings followed until he became Defence representative in London during 1948 to 1949. Back in Australia and as a lieutenant general, in March 1944 he became the General Officer Commanding, Southern Command until his retirement on 21 February 1951 having been appointed as CBE in 1942. He died on 1 January 1964.

### CSC 21 – W.I.K. Jennings



William Ivan Kirke Jennings was born in Christchurch, New Zealand, on 21 July 1892. He was educated at Christ's College in that city and while at school served for three years in the Defence Cadets. This, plus his high entrance exam marks, may have led to him being senior New Zealand cadet on entry to RMC.

Jennings had a moderate passage through RMC attaining the rank of corporal in 1912. While his civil studies were slightly above average, his practical military skills were highly regarded, especially in physical training. In his final report however, the Commandant rather hedged his bets by remarking *Tho' somewhat lazy seems likely to make a good regimental officer*. This belied what were to become stellar early career years for Jennings. In WWI he served in the infantry and in 1915 sustained a gunshot wound. In 1917 at the age of 25 he was appointed Brigade Major of 1 NZ Infantry Brigade in France and subsequently awarded the DSO. Note: At the same time Miles (CSC 23) and Logan (CSC 40) were also appointed BMs of other New Zealand formations, which was not a bad result out of the four 1911 New Zealand cohort remaining on Active Service at that time.



Returning to the New Zealand Staff Corps after the war Jennings was sent to the Staff College Camberley in 1925–26 for the (then) two-year course. In his final report the Staff College Commandant who had been DMA (Lieutenant Colonel C.W. Gwynne, RE) at RMC in 1911 and had known Jennings said *A very good officer... and (I) have a high opinion of his character and good sense.*

In 1927 the British Government established the Imperial Defence College (IDC) and invited New Zealand to nominate two students. The government decided only to send one and nominated Jennings as he was already in UK! Thus Major Jennings uniquely moved from Staff College to IDC and joined such future military stars as Auchinleck, Brooke, Dawnay, and Dill (Chief Instructor). He stands tall amongst them in the 1927 group photo hung in pride of place today in the College entrance.

Staff and command appointments in New Zealand followed but as a lieutenant colonel in 1938 he resigned. He was posted to the Retired List. He did not serve in WWII other than in the Home Guard. He died in Wellington in 1982 in his 90<sup>th</sup> year.

### CSC 22 – N. Clowes



Norman Clowes was born on 7 October 1893 at Warwick, Queensland. Reports on his results at the RMC are dotted with Excellent and Very Good. Bridges noted that he *promises to be an excellent officer.* With no entries on his Conduct Sheet and the establishment of a number of athletic records, Clowes graduated seventh in the Class and was allocated to artillery.

Clowes joined 8<sup>th</sup> Field Battery and moved, trained, and landed with it at Gallipoli. Just over a week later, he was severely wounded on 4 May and evacuated, not to be part of that battery again as he did not return until January 1916 when he became Staff Captain of the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Division Artillery. A year later, in France, he moved to become the Staff Captain Royal Artillery on the Headquarters of the 1<sup>st</sup> ANZAC Corps in February 1917. Next May, with promotion to major, he took over as Brigade Major of 5<sup>th</sup> Division artillery, but the following month moved to the same role in the 6<sup>th</sup> Imperial Division until September 1918, earning a DSO on the way.

Back in Australia, he returned to the RMC as the Second Instructor in Tactics from 22 February until December 1919 when he left to attend Staff College at Camberley. In May 1921 his next Australian posting was as a staff officer in G Branch 4<sup>th</sup> Division. Once more overseas, this time as an exchange officer with Indian Army, he assumed the role of staff officer of the Peshawar District until late in 1930. With the very serious financial crisis weighing heavily on the Australian defence forces, Clowes transferred to the British Army as a major in the Manchester Regiment on 5 March 1931.

From August 1935 to February 1937 he was on the staff of Headquarters Northern Command, UK, followed by promotion to command the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of his regiment. He took it to Palestine, but in July 1939, he was posted as General Staff Officer 2 with the British Military Mission to the Egyptian Army. He remained there until April 1941.

Clowes retired in 1949 as a major general, having been appointed CBE and DSO and awarded the MC, Croix de Guerre, and five Mentioned in Despatches.

### CSC 23 – R. Miles



Reginald Miles was born in Springston, Canterbury on 10 December 1892 and was educated at Rangiora High School. He was commissioned in the Territorial Force as a second lieutenant but resigned his commission when selected for the RMC.

Miles' time at the RMC was characterized by high achievements. He was promoted to corporal and had consistently good marks, culminating in graduating top of the class. Unlike the Sword of Honour, there was no retrospective award of King's Medal which Miles would have won. Like all New Zealanders he was specially graduated in August in order to join the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF).

After commissioning into the New Zealand Staff Corps he joined 4<sup>th</sup> Battery NZ Field Artillery (NZFA) and sailed for Egypt with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reinforcements of the NZEF in December 1914. He re-embarked for Gallipoli and landed with the initial assault force. He was promoted to captain on 26 July 1915 and wounded and evacuated on 29 July. He rejoined the battery just prior to the evacuation in December.

Transferred to 15<sup>th</sup> Battery NZFA he embarked for France in August 1916 where at the Battle of the Somme he was awarded the MC. On being promoted to command 6<sup>th</sup> Battery and in action on 10 April 1918 at Ploegsteert Wood he was wounded when the battery was overrun. He ensured that the battery engaged the enemy until out of ammunition. He was recommended for the VC but awarded the DSO. After evacuation and convalescence he returned in July 1918 to be made Brigade Major (BM) NZ Divisional Artillery. See also Jennings (CSC 21) and Jervis (CSC 33) as other BMs. In November 1918 he was mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's dispatches.

In the post war years he held a number of staff and regimental appointments. He attended the UK Staff College Camberley 1924–25 followed by specialist courses in UK. This was followed by a steady rise through the ranks until as a colonel he attended the Imperial Defence College in London 1938. On return to New Zealand he became Quartermaster General and Third Member of the Army Board and in 1940 was promoted to brigadier and joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> NZEF as Commander Royal Artillery (CRA) of 2 New Zealand Division. He fought in Greece in March 1941 but because of illness was evacuated directly to Egypt on the withdrawal and was prevented from rejoining his command at the Battle of Crete.

In November 1941, 2 New Zealand Division moved into Libya as part of the Tobruk relief campaign. On 1 December, while inspecting the gun lines at Belhamed, Miles was wounded and captured as a force of enemy tanks and infantry overwhelmed the position. Incarceration in Campo PG 12 ('the General's Prison') near Florence followed. On the night of 29 March 1943 along with five others, and after seven months tunnelling he made a daring escape. Only he and Brigadier Hargest (New Zealand) made it to Switzerland. See *Farewell Campo 12* by Brigadier James Hargest for details of this outstanding adventure. After several months of internment in Switzerland he and Hargest moved separately, with the aid of the French Resistance, across France to Spain.

Miles arrived in Barcelona where he reported to the British Consul on 18 October 1943. Exhausted and dispirited, he died there on 20 October 1943. He was buried

with full military honours in the Municipal Cemetery Figueras, Spain. He was aged 50 years. A sad end to the RMC's first top graduate. During his WWII Service he was appointed CBE, awarded a Bar to his DSO, a Mentioned in Despatches, and awarded the Greek War Cross.

### CSC 24 – J.S. Lindsay



James Stanley Lindsay was born on 29 January 1893 at Yangery, Victoria. After struggling for 18 months he was discharged on 1 December 1912 for failing to attain the required standard.

On 16 October 1914, he joined the AIF as a corporal in the Army Service Corps to become a member of the 25<sup>th</sup> Depot Unit of Supply. He landed at Gallipoli and was appointed second lieutenant on 26 April 1915. Sickness caused him to be evacuated to Malta in October 1915, but he rejoined his unit to become its commander in May 1916, just before the unit moved to France the next month. In 1918, he applied to be a pilot and was sent to No 1 School of Aeronautics at Tetbury in Gloucestershire for flying training to begin in October 1918. In February 1919, he was evacuated to the RAF Officers Hospital in Gloucester Square, London. On returning to Tetbury, he did not continue his flying training. When shipping space was available, he returned to Australia in October, where his appointment in the AIF was terminated on 20 December 1919.

By 1939, Lindsay had become the distribution manager of a large petroleum company so, on being appointed a lieutenant in the AIF on 18 December 1941, he soon found himself posted to a bulk petroleum depot of the Australian Army Service Corps. He remained with this unit until placed on the Reserve of officers on 30 September 1943.

### CSC 25 – J.H.F. Pain



John Henry Francis Pain was born on 15 August 1893 at Homebush, NSW. He entered the RMC with four years service in the Senior Cadets. Although not supported by other commentators, the DMA opined that he *has barely sufficient ability to make a good officer*. He graduated 29<sup>th</sup> in the Class and was allocated to infantry.

Pain joined 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion and with it went to Egypt arriving in November 1914. With his unit he landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 and after being promoted to captain was wounded during August and evacuated to England. He was awarded the Military Cross and a Mentioned in Despatches. He and his battalion moved to France where Pain was again mentioned in despatches. On promotion to captain in June 1916 he was posted to a series of staff positions in brigade, division and corps headquarters until February 1919. Despite being on the staff he was wounded twice during this time and awarded the DSO, but was not evacuated.

Back in Australia, Pain reported to No 1 School of Instruction as an instructor and remained there until March 1920, when he moved to 1<sup>st</sup> Military District as a staff captain and then became its Brigade Major until November 1922. For the next year he attended the Staff College Camberley but, on graduation, remained in England as an exchange General Staff Officer at the War Office until March 1927. Back in Australia he continued in that role at AHQ to January 1932, when he moved to 4<sup>th</sup> Division, again in the same role, until November 1939. Pain was promoted

to be Colonel General Staff at Southern Command headquarters followed by a move to London as the Military Liaison Officer to the High Commissioner's Office in November 1940. He died in Australia on 13 May 1941 having been wounded thrice, and awarded the DSO, MC and three Mentioned in Despatches. His remains are at Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.

### CSC 26 – J.S. Whitelaw



John Stewart Whitelaw was born on 2 August 1894 at Hawthorn, Victoria. He had an undistinguished record at the RMC to be 33<sup>rd</sup> in the Class and was allotted to infantry. His posting was to 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion which embarked during October 1914 in the first convoy to Egypt.

When his battalion landed at Gallipoli on 25 April he was badly wounded in the foot. After recovery in hospitals in Egypt and England he was repatriated as unfit for overseas service. By December he was in Melbourne where he was transferred from the AIF in July 1916 to the Royal Australian Garrison Artillery.

He then progressed through a series of artillery staff and regimental postings in New South Wales and Queensland until 1920. For nearly four years he worked at AHQ as a Staff Officer Artillery in G Branch, followed by a year as an instructor at the Artillery School of Instruction. Whitelaw went to England from August 1928 to November 1930 for artillery training. This led him to become the Chief Instructor of the Artillery School of Instruction from March 1931 and, later, the retitled School of Artillery, until March 1935. He then went onto the artillery staff at AHQ until November 1939, when he was tasked with organising the Eastern Command coastal defences during the critical period to April 1942. In that posting he was instrumental, against some opposition, in the early development and operational application of radar for artillery use.

From that demanding role, he reached the pinnacle for a gunner as the professional head of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery when he was appointed the Major General Royal Artillery at Land Headquarters until June 1945. One of his many achievements there was to oversee the introduction of the shortened 25-pounder field gun for use in mountainous and jungle terrain. A less-demanding posting followed when he became the commander of the Victorian Lines of Communication Area and then Western Command from March 1946. During his time in that posting he served at Rabaul as the president of the War Crimes Tribunal from March to June 1947.

He retired on 27 August 1951 having been appointed as CBE in 1942 and CB that year. In retirement he was active in Legacy, the Victorian Country Fire Authority and his church. Additionally, he was appointed Colonel Commandant and Representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. On 21 April 1964 he died at Berwick, Victoria.

### CSC 27 – H.L. Marsland



Hugh Lambert Marsland was born on 1 May 1893, at Mount Morgan, Queensland. After 18 months of trying, the Board of Studies recommended that he be discharged on the grounds of *failing to obtain the prescribed standards for advancement*. Brigadier General Bridges considered that he would be



a very smart, reliable and steady NCO, so Marsland departed the RMC on 13 December 1912.

Enlisting in the AIF, Marsland embarked as a staff sergeant-major with the 11<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment. He served at Gallipoli with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Horse Regiment and was commissioned there. Returning to the 11<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment he was awarded the Military Cross for his part in the capture of Jerusalem in 1917 and was later Mentioned in Despatches. After serving as Staff Captain on the headquarters of the 4<sup>th</sup> Australian Light Horse Brigade, he returned to the 11<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment where he held the rank of major for four months before reverting to his substantive rank of captain at the end of the war. In January 1919 he was officially reported as *A reliable, self-reliant capable staff officer, should do well*. This report is endorsed *I concur* by Lieutenant General H.G. Chauvel.

He was placed on the Reserve of Officers on 1 January 1920 but served with 11<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment until again placed on the Reserve of Officers on 1 March 1922. He began service again on 2 July 1940 as Brigade Major with 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Cavalry Brigade to March 1942 when he became Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General of the VDC in the Queensland Lines of Communication area. He retired on 1 November 1946 as a lieutenant colonel.

### CSC 28 – S.T.W. Goodwin



Shirley Thomas William Goodwin was born on 6 February 1894 at Ballarat, Victoria. After 18 months, the Board of Studies recommended that he be discharged *for unsatisfactory progress in his studies and physical exercises*. He departed the RMC on 13 December 1912

Goodwin was appointed a second lieutenant in the Royal Australian Field Artillery on 28 June 1915 and was posted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Brigade to land with it on Gallipoli. In November 1915, he was moved to Imbros Island for duty as an aeroplane observer. On 20 December, with Flight Lieutenant Besson as pilot, their aircraft engine failed and they were forced to land behind the Turkish lines. Although uninjured, they were quickly captured and eventually imprisoned at Afion Kara Hissar in Turkey. Goodwin soon succumbed to malaria with bouts of illness almost monthly until he was repatriated to Alexandria in November 1918 and shipped to England. During March and April 1919 he attended a gunnery course at Shoeburyness in Essex, and was then despatched to France to join the 4<sup>th</sup> Australian Division. A month later, he was on his way back to England to prepare for his journey to Australia in August. He arrived in Australia in September and his AIF appointment was terminated on 16 December 1919.

He was posted as Adjutant 1<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Brigade in November 1919 which was the first of a number of similar artillery postings until 7 February 1931 when he returned to the RMC as Instructor in Artillery and Signalling but later became the Adjutant and Quartermaster and Instructor in Military Law until he departed on 14 January 1936. From then until March 1938 he was Brigade Major Artillery of 2<sup>nd</sup> Division followed by regimental duty in 1<sup>st</sup> Heavy Brigade until November 1939. In the flurry of activity for the next six months he became Commander Coast Artillery in Southern Command before becoming the Commanding Officer of 2/12 Field Artillery Regiment in May 1940 and taking it to the Middle East as part of 9<sup>th</sup> Division. As a

colonel in September 1940, he took over command of the Headquarters AIF Reinforcement Depot, but he returned to Australia with his regiment in February 1943. Goodwin was promoted to brigadier in July 1943 and took over the role of Commander Royal Artillery of 9<sup>th</sup> Division.

The division joined the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Divisions on the Atherton Tablelands as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Corps. In September 1943, the 9<sup>th</sup> Division successfully landed near Lae although it was not the first division to enter the town on 12 September. By then, Goodwin had all his guns in position to bombard the area but instead, during October, 9<sup>th</sup> Division pressed on Sattelberg. On 25 October 1943, Goodwin was at 25 Division (US Army) when an early-morning raid by Japanese aircraft struck the headquarters and Goodwin was among those killed. He is buried at Lae War Cemetery. He had been awarded the DSO and three Mentioned in Despatches.

### CSC 29 – P.J. Patterson



Penistan James Patterson was born on 7 August 1894 at Swan Hill, Victoria. He graduated 25<sup>th</sup> in his class to infantry.

As part of the AIF Expeditionary Force, he trained in Tasmania, Egypt and Lemnos and landed with 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion on Gallipoli. He was last seen in the afternoon of 25 April leading a platoon-sized group across

Malone's Gully to aid Captain Margetts in the defence of the hill Baby 700, a position of great importance. Patterson's death is presumed and he was Mentioned in Despatches. He is commemorated on the Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli, and the main headquarters building at Duntroon is named in his honour as the College's first graduate to die in action.

### CSC 30 – E.L. Vowles



Eric Lacy Vowles was born on 13 July 1893 at Melbourne. His record as a staff cadet is undistinguished with various reports of his seeming lack of interest. The Director of Drill thought him unlikely to make a good officer. No promotion came his way and he graduated 28<sup>th</sup> in the class. However, while a cadet he did design the badge of the Corps

of Staff Cadets, a design that has changed little during the following century.

His allocation to artillery led him to 9<sup>th</sup> Battery of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division with which he served at Gallipoli. Despite the earlier misgivings of the RMC staff, Vowles was one of the three RMC graduates chosen for the task of directing fire of the naval guns during the landing. In Egypt after the evacuation he transferred to the artillery of 5<sup>th</sup> Division and went with it to France in June 1916 to take part in the AIF's first major operation at the Battle of Fromelles. Vowles attended a staff course at Clare College, Cambridge in early 1917 before serving in a series of staff postings in France. From August he commanded 54 Battery of 5<sup>th</sup> Division Artillery until he was gassed at Passchendaele and evacuated to England. During late 1918 to February 1919 he served in Palestine with the Royal Horse Artillery. He returned to Australia as the Army commander of a troopship early in 1919.

In August of that year he went back to the RMC as the Instructor in Artillery until February 1920. Like many of his contemporaries, he occupied a series of staff postings, in his case mainly artillery related, but was chosen to attend Staff College at Camberley during 1926–27. On his return to

Australia in 1928 the pattern of postings resumed, but at a higher level. Once more back to the RMC he became the Director of Military Art in March 1939 but, with the outbreak of the war, he was posted as the Director of Military Training at AHQ in November 1939 until January 1942. During 1943–44, he commanded 12<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Brigade then, in turn, two base areas in New Guinea before returning to Australia.

As the second RMC graduate to do so, in March 1945, Vowles became Commandant of the RMC which, that year, also included administrative responsibility for the Army School of Civil Affairs, newly located on the Duntroon site. Vowles had the task of guiding the RMC through the transition from two-year to three-year courses and then from three to four-year courses, plus planning for the training of Staff Corps officers for the post war Army. He retired from that posting and the Army on 13 June 1949 having been awarded the Military Cross, the Italian Silver Cross for Valour, and two Mentioned in Despatches.

### CSC 31 – J.H. Newmarch



John Heathcote Newmarch was born on 11 April 1894 at North Sydney. He graduated twentieth in his Class and was allotted to artillery. Newmarch became Staff Captain Artillery at 5<sup>th</sup> Division in March 1916, where he was wounded and awarded the Military Cross. He was placed on the Retired List on 27 April 1918 but returned to serve as Staff Captain Artillery 2<sup>nd</sup> Division from July 1921 to December 1923 when he was placed on the Unallotted List until July 1940. A transfer to the Ordnance Corps at that time saw him as Assistant Director of Ordnance Service at AHQ until he went to the Middle East in the latter part of 1941 whence, in November 1941, he returned to LHQ as the Deputy Director Ordnance Service. By October 1943 he was the Chief Ordnance Officer of No 2 Ordnance Depot, a very large establishment at Moorebank, NSW, until he retired on 27 September 1945 as a colonel with a Military Cross and three Mentioned in Despatches.

### CSC 32 – D.F. Hardy



Dudley Freeman Hardy was born on 18 July 1894 at Richmond, Victoria. Upon graduation, he was allocated to infantry.

Hardy joined 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion and went with it in the first convoy to Egypt where he became the Assistant Adjutant. He landed with his battalion on 25 April 1915 but was wounded the same day and evacuated to Alexandria. On his return to the unit in June 1915 he was promoted to captain and given command of a company.

After the evacuation from the peninsula he became Adjutant and was given special permission to marry a Russian lady, Lydia Kliagvinia, on 18 January 1916 at Abbassia Garrison Chapel. The battalion moved to France, where he was again given command of a company in March 1916. Hardy was highly commended for his leadership and courage during the fighting at Pozières on 24/25 July 1916 and again at Mouquet Farm nearby, particularly on 18 August. While leading his company forward he was wounded and did not return to the battalion's trench. A thorough search over the next three nights failed to find him. He is listed as killed in action on 18 August 1916 and is commemorated in the Pozières British Cemetery in the Somme region of France.

### CSC 33 – V.G. Jervis



Vincent Gordon Jervis was born in Richmond, Victoria, on 11 December 1884, and after early schooling in NSW, moved with his family to Dunedin, New Zealand. He completed his schooling at Otago Boys' High School where he rose to sergeant in the Defence Cadets.

In sitting the twelve subject entrance exam for RMC he only failed in geometry and then by five marks (495/1000). His time at Duntroon was undistinguished, having not been made an NCO. He was however judged by both the Commandant and the senior instructional staff as likely to make a good officer.

Jervis graduated into the New Zealand Staff Corps and was immediately posted to Active Service with the NZEF. He embarked for Egypt and the Dardanelles in October 1914, serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Canterbury Infantry Battalion. He took part in the landings on 25 April as a company 2IC with the battalion. His service on the Peninsula was cut short when on 27 April he was seriously wounded with multiple gunshot wounds and suffered the amputation of a leg as a consequence. Evacuation to UK followed and then invaliding back to New Zealand in 1917.

Contrary to medical practice he was not medically discharged, but was posted to Army HQ in a staff capacity. His medical downgrade did however preclude further overseas service and clearly restricted his career to Home Service appointments. One such early post was "Officer in Charge of War Records and Trophies".

He continued to serve between the wars and for the period 1921–25 was posted to the Retired List and appointed Librarian and OIC Historical Records at Army HQ. After reappointment to the Reserve of Officers he was re-engaged into the New Zealand Staff Corps in 1936 and appointed Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General Central Military District. In 1938 there was the inevitable query from Treasury over his promotion when he was judged to be disabled. Happily this was seen off by Army HQ and the Minister. During WWII he held the appointment of Deputy Adjutant General as a temporary colonel and for a short period acted as Adjutant General and Second Member of the Army Board.

In 1947 King's Birthday Honours he received an OBE for his services during the war. The citation noted that *during the Second World War [he] was responsible for much of the organisation associated with the expansion of the New Zealand Military Forces*. A true embodiment of the poet's enjoiner "They also serve who only stand and wait".

When he retired as colonel in 1948, Jervis received an especially touching letter from his classmate Sir Norman Weir (CSC 36), the CGS at that time. It was mateship at its best. Vincent Jervis died in Wellington on 15 October 1973 aged 76.

### CSC 34 – J.M. Irwin



John Morphett Irwin was born on 24 January 1894 at Glenelg, South Australia. After an impressive performance as a staff cadet, he graduated eighteenth in the Class and was allotted to artillery. He joined 1<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Brigade and went with it to Egypt and the landing at Gallipoli. On becoming ill in August he was evacuated to Alexandria but, on recovering, was sent back to Australia where in March 1916



he joined the staff of the Officer Training School at Duntroon as assistant instructor in artillery. Irwin was on RMC staff only for a short time, returning to France in May to join 7<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Brigade in July 1916. For his exceptional gallantry, enthusiasm and devotion to duty in command of the 25<sup>th</sup> Battery on 16 and 17 September 1918, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order. He was also three times Mentioned in Despatches.

On return to Australia, he was posted as Adjutant 12<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Artillery Brigade from September 1919 to 23 February 1922, when he was transferred to the Reserve of Officers. Irwin achieved managerial positions with General Motors Holden in Adelaide but later established himself as a breeder of stud cattle. With war declared he returned to serve as the Commander 4<sup>th</sup> Australian Garrison Battalion from 29 September 1939 to November 1942. A series of South Australian base commands followed, including that of Corps Commander of the Volunteer Defence Corps. He retired as a colonel and, on 1 August 1946, he died by his own hand at his home in Adelaide.

### CSC 35 – C. Carrington



Christopher Carrington was born in England on 11 October 1893. He moved with family to Christchurch, New Zealand, where his father was appointed Dean at that city's cathedral. He was educated at Christ's College and served in the Defence Cadets. On completion of schooling he worked as a law clerk, before being selected for RMC in 1911.

His time at RMC was unremarkable. While he was not promoted to NCO his military and civil studies did however attract 'good' to 'very good' assessments. On graduation, after a short initial period in the Infantry, he was transferred to the NZ Field Artillery. Along with all his New Zealand classmates he joined the NZEF and embarked for Egypt and the Dardanelles on 16 October 1914.

Carrington arrived with his unit, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battery, at the Dardanelles in April 1915. He served as a forward observation officer on the Gallipoli Peninsula until sickness saw him evacuated to Malta. On return he was appointed Adjutant 1<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Brigade and shortly thereafter promoted to captain, being described as a keen and capable officer. In supporting his promotion, the Commander Royal Artillery stated: *The same remark applies to him as to other Duntroon ex-cadets that the all round Military Education received makes him much more valuable as Officers [sic] than the Territorial Subalterns.*

After a further period on sick leave and attachment in England, Carrington was back with his unit in France where the NZEF had redeployed. After a further spell acting as Adjutant of the 1<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Brigade on 1 October 1916 Carrington was given command of 3<sup>rd</sup> Battery (which he had first joined as a subaltern) within the Brigade. The Battery was in action on the Somme at Flers. While the NZ Division was relieved on 3 October 1916, their artillery remained in support of the new formation in 4<sup>th</sup> Army.

Heavy artillery and the ensuing counter battery fire preceded 4<sup>th</sup> Army's attack from Les Boeuifs to Destremont Farm, near Le Sars on 7 October. On 8 October 1916 Captain Carrington was wounded in action and died later that day. He is buried in the Guards Cemetery, Les Boeuifs, France. He was 22 years old.

Note: His brother Arthur Hugh Carrington (CSC 78), who graduated in November 1914, also served on Gallipoli and beyond. He was wounded, survived, and served through WWI.

### CSC 36 – N.W.M. Weir



Norman William McDonald Weir was born in Christchurch, New Zealand, on 6 July 1894 and educated at West Christchurch High School. On leaving school, and prior to his entry to the RMC, he became a draughtsman cadet in the Public Works Department.

During his Duntroon years his marks were average to good and he was promoted to corporal. In his final report, under the category of *Likely to make a good officer* the Director of Drill wrote *Yes, but too slow to make a good staff officer.*

On graduation he was posted to the Auckland Infantry Battalion and along with many of his classmates sailed for Egypt with the NZEF in October 1914. During the landing at Gallipoli he was injured by a land mine exploding beside him, and on 8 May he was wounded in the leg and evacuated. This resulted in him returning to New Zealand and being transferred back to the New Zealand Staff Corps.

Many staff appointments followed and in 1930 as a major, Weir was selected to command a special force to go to Samoa. After a further series of staff and instructional posts, he commanded the 1937 New Zealand Coronation Contingent. His time in England was extended to enable attendance at the Senior Officers School at Sheerness. See also Prisk (CSC 11).

Promoted to Brigadier in 1940 he took command of Central Military District, until in 1942 as a Temporary Major General he commanded the 4<sup>th</sup> New Zealand Division in New Zealand. He then joined 2 NZEF in Egypt as Officer in Charge of Administration, Commander 6<sup>th</sup> Division and Maadi Camp. This was by virtue of its Lines of Communication nature, perhaps the most senior staff administration post in the overseas army.

He returned to New Zealand in 1944 to become Quarter Master General (QMG) and Third Member of the Army Board. As the first post war QMG, he successfully tackled both the disposal of war equipment, while confronting the difficulty of keeping the Army equipped with stores depleted by war. This, under the financial constraints of a war weary Exchequer.

In 1946 he was promoted to major general and appointed Chief of General Staff (CGS) until his retirement in 1949. He was the first Duntroon graduate and native-born New Zealander, to become CGS.

Under his guidance the Army was reshaped into its peacetime tasks. He died in Cambridge, New Zealand in November 1961 aged 67 years. Major General Sir Norman Weir had been mentioned in dispatches, appointed in turn CBE, CB and, in 1948, knighted KBE. So much for the remarks of the Director of Drill in 1914!

### CSC 37 – D.R. Carpenter



David Reid Carpenter was born in Hounslow, England, on 23 January 1893 and emigrated to New Zealand with his family in 1895. His father, after regular service in the New Zealand Defence Force, became superintendent of the local Veterans' Home. Carpenter was educated at

Auckland Grammar School where he was a member of the Defence Cadets.

His successful application for entrance to RMC was announced in the local paper, as was the custom at that time. Unfortunately he had an unsuccessful time at College. After two years of attempts to enter Third Class, and with the agreement of the New Zealand Government, he was discharged in December 1912.

Carpenter then commenced law studies in Auckland, articulated to T.H. Dawson, a lawyer who was also a major in the Territorial Force. No doubt encouraged by his employer, in 1913, Carpenter joined and was commissioned into the 3<sup>rd</sup> Auckland Regiment in Major Dawson's company.

On the outbreak of WWI, the Auckland Infantry Battalion was mobilized and embarked with the Main Body for Egypt on 16 October 1914. Major Dawson's company with Carpenter as a platoon commander were part of the battalion. Incidentally in different companies of the same battalion were Weir (CSC 36), Allen (CSC 38), and McClelland (CSC 41), all either to be wounded or killed on Gallipoli.

The Auckland Battalion was the first New Zealand unit to land on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25 April 1915 and in the words of General Godley *fought gallantly all day*. Later the battalion fought at Cape Helles and it was here on 5 May 1915 that Carpenter was killed. The official report says that: *He was an excellent Platoon Commander, and was killed when gallantly leading his Platoon in the attack*. He was aged 23 and has no known grave. His death is commemorated on the Twelve Tree Copse (New Zealand) Memorial near the village of Krithia.

In a letter dated 14 July 1915 to an Auckland MP and commenting on the gallantry of the Auckland Battalion and their casualties, Godley in part said *It is curious that Allen and Carpenter, who went to Duntroon but were returned because they could not quite reach the standard required, should have proved their worth so thoroughly and died such gallant soldiers' deaths*.

### CSC 38 – H.G. Allen



Harold Gordon Allen was born in Liverpool, England on 29 July 1893 and came as a child with his family to New Zealand. He was educated at King's College Auckland, New Zealand, and for five years whilst at school served in the Defence Cadets. He was a marksman at school and, in addition to winning the school rifle championship, came third in the New Zealand Representative team competing for the Lord Roberts Imperial Shooting Trophy in 1909.

His time at Duntroon was less happy and, after twice failing to advance to Third Class through lack of academic success, was discharged in December 1912. On return to New Zealand, Allen took up farming and also joined the Territorial Force into which he was eventually commissioned.

In October 1914 he sailed for Egypt with 16 (Waikato) Company, Auckland Infantry Regiment. As a Lieutenant in that company, and after training in Egypt, he embarked for the Dardanelles where he was killed in action on 25 April 1915. Allen was very possibly the first former RMC cadet, though not the first graduate, to die in action. He was 21 years old and is buried in Baby 700 Cemetery on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

His younger brother Stanley (Sam) Fairgreve Allen (1919) was killed in WWII while CO of 21 Battalion 2 New Zealand Division fighting at Ruweisat Ridge in the Western Desert.

### CSC 39 – D.I.C. Bryan



Douglas Isaac Charles Bryan was born in the South Island West Coast town of Reefton, New Zealand, on 28 September 1892. His father was a timber miller in the town. Bryan was educated at Reefton District High School and served as a bombardier in the Westport Garrison Artillery.

He did not pass the RMC entrance exam but, given that the full quota of ten entrants was not found, was selected on reconsideration. His time at College understandably produced mixed results. While his civil studies were only fair, his military subjects and personal qualities were well above average. Having been promoted to corporal in Second Class he was reduced to lance corporal *for using abusive language to a staff cadet!*

During equitation Bryan was thrown from his horse and suffered *concussion of the spine and loss of memory* (surely the dream of every cadet). Both the General Officer Commanding New Zealand Forces and the New Zealand Minister of Defence wrote personal letters to Bryan's parents, with the Minister writing in red on the file that he was to be kept informed. New Zealand was much smaller and simpler in those days.

On graduation, together with the rest of his New Zealand class, he was posted to overseas service and sailed for Egypt and the Dardanelles on 16 October 1914. He participated in the Gallipoli landings as a platoon commander in the 7<sup>th</sup> Wellington West Coast Regiment, and was seriously wounded in his chest and left arm on 27 April 1915. Evacuation to New Zealand followed and he spent the rest of the war as Assistant Military Secretary and ADC to the GOC New Zealand Forces in Wellington.

With a view to continuing a regular career path he was returned to UK in 1919 and was attached in turn to HQ II Corps British Army on the Rhine and 1<sup>st</sup> Queens Regiment until July 1920. His wound however told against him and he was boarded unfit for any active service and retired on 25 April 1921.

During the inter-war years he remained on the Reserve of Officers and was recalled to the colours on 4 September 1939. Such was the chaos at the time that he was passed fit for overseas service on that date, only to have the Medical Board reconvene next day and downgrade him! He held several Home Service posts including Brigade Major of the Wellington Fortress Area. On 20 March 1943 he was transferred back to the Reserve of Officers and returned to his civilian occupation of timber broker. He died in Palmerston North on 27 July 1968 aged 75 years.

### CSC 40 – R. Logan



Robert Logan was born in Kokanga Otago, New Zealand, on 19 April 1894 and educated at Waitaki Boys High where he spent four years in the Defence Cadets. His father, as well as owning a sheep station, was prominent in the local militia and in 1912 was appointed a colonel in the regular army. At the outbreak of war Logan senior led an expeditionary force in the capture of



German Samoa. He remained the Military Administrator of Samoa for the entire war.

Logan's time at RMC was within the main stream, with reasonable marks and being promoted corporal in First Class. He was noted however as having a conduct sheet entry of *creating a disturbance during study hour*. He was judged 'Excellent' in horsemanship and marked 'Above Average' in officer potential.

As with most of his New Zealand classmates he was posted to Active Service on graduation and appointed Signals Officer in the Wellington Mounted Rifles. He sailed for Egypt and Dardanelles with the Main Body of NZEF. He served with his battalion on the Gallipoli Peninsula, before becoming Adjutant of the Wellington Regiment.

On the New Zealand Division being redeployed to France he was appointed a company commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Canterbury Regiment. He was wounded in the Somme battles, on 20 September 1916 having already being mentioned in Sir Ian Hamilton's dispatches. On being appointed Brigade Major of 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade in November 1917 he joined Miles (CSC 23) and Jennings (CSC 21) as classmate BMs in the Division.

As the war was ending, and holding the appointment of 2IC 2<sup>nd</sup> Canterbury Regt, he attended a Staff School in Cambridge UK. His report recommended that he would be suitable for an appointment as BM.

Once back in New Zealand he was posted to Army Schools of Instruction in Wellington. Unfortunately his wife died in 1920 and, in the interests of his young daughter, he was anxious to relocate to the UK, where his parents had retired. Accordingly he applied for a position in the Imperial or Indian Armies. It was an application strongly supported by the Commandant New Zealand Military Forces. The British response in rejecting the application noted that Logan's qualification, when compared with other candidates, was not sufficient to earn him a place on the selected list!

He was posted to the Retired List in 20 January 1921 and then obtained an appointment in the Colonial Service. He served as a District/Police Officer in the Northern Provinces, Nigeria, between the wars.

In 1940 he contacted the New Zealand High Commission in London and offered his services to the 2<sup>nd</sup> NZEF. Perhaps because of his age it was declined. He died on 1 April 1964 in Auckland, New Zealand, aged 74 years.

### CSC 41 – C.H. McClelland



Charles Harold McClelland was born in Wellington, New Zealand, on 16 August 1894 and educated at Wellington College. While there, as was common at the time, he served in the Defence Cadets.

His time at RMC was reasonably rewarding. Although he never made NCO rank, he was above average in his studies. Civil Studies in particular attracted excellent marks, and two prizes (Chemistry and Languages). A report by the Commandant in 1913, in a letter to New Zealand Army HQ, stated that McClelland was one of 'the five most distinguished cadets in his class. In that year he headed Miles (CSC 23) in marks (Miles eventually graduated top). In his final report the DMA noted that among other qualities he was *keen on machinery!*

McClelland was commissioned into the New Zealand Staff Corps and posted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Auckland Regiment, which together with other elements of the main body of the NZEF

sailed for Egypt and the Dardanelles on 16 October 1914, just two months after graduation. Weir (CSC 36), Carpenter (CSC 37), and Allen (CSC 38) sailed with him.

During the Gallipoli campaign he was slightly wounded and in December 1915 was sent to England to convalesce. He rejoined his battalion in Egypt. In April 1916, the unit as part of the New Zealand Division was deployed to the Western Front, where, during the period of that campaign McClelland was twice wounded. With the exception of several training secondments and hospitalisation in UK, he served on the Western Front for the rest of the war. He held the usual junior officer appointments and was eventually promoted to major as a company commander in his battalion. While holding that appointment he was awarded the DSO for an act of gallantry in the field. In August 1918, when his CO became a casualty, he assumed command of the battalion 'and handled his men with remarkable coolness and skill'. He was shot in the arm and leg but refused to leave his command or to have his wounds dressed until the battalion was relieved three days later. His courage was described as inspirational. He was 24 years old. At a later date he was also mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's dispatches.

On return to New Zealand in 1919, McClelland left the Army. He was posted to the Reserve of Officers. He left New Zealand to live in England in that same year and remained there for the rest of his life. It is thought that the cumulative effect of his three wounds affected his health as he died in England in 1947 aged 52 years.

### CSC 42 – N.E. Biden



Noel Ernest Biden was born on 26 December 1892 at Armidale, NSW. His entrance examination results put him first in line of entrants to the RMC, but he was a member of the Australian Cadet Contingent at the June 1911 Coronation of King George V, so was unable to enter the College until 28 October 1911. Apart from the examinations held two months later, Biden gained the highest marks for the next three annual examinations. If his marks had been adjusted to reflect his absence, he would have graduated first in the class but, on raw figures, he graduated fourth and was allocated to engineers.

His first posting was to 1<sup>st</sup> Field Company Australian Engineers and he went with that unit to Alexandria in 1915. After landing at Gallipoli on 25 April, he was given the task of road building for bringing guns forward. After assisting the infantry to consolidate their trenches, he was sent to the beach to construct piers and landing stages, often under shell fire. By October, he was able to command the company in the commander's absence. When the company was withdrawn to Mudros, he was admitted sick to the hospital there, to be evacuated to 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian General Hospital on Lemnos. Biden died there on 21 December 1915 from pneumonia and paratyphoid and was buried in the Portianos Military Cemetery, Lemnos. His promotion to captain, dated from 26 July 1915, was notified to his unit a few days before his death.

*[Of the 42 staff cadets who entered the first class, in the course of two world wars, 13 were killed or died on active service, 20 were wounded, and three were evacuated seriously ill. Ed]*



*The first Commandant.  
This framed signed photographic portrait of Bridges is located in the RMC  
Sergeants Mess. It was given to the Mess in 1920 by Lady Bridges.*



