



NEWSLETTER 1/2015

APRIL 2015

‘The Best System of Trenches in Australia’: The Duntroon Trench Warfare and Bombing School

Mark Butz

In the First World War years, RMC Duntroon was one of the few aspects of the fledgling Federal Capital to prosper while construction funds were being redirected to the war effort. The AIF centralised Officer Training School was established at Duntroon in 1916, and connected to this was the School of Trench Warfare (later the Trench Warfare and Bombing School). (Moore 2001 p.50).

The School used a ‘train the trainer’ approach to instruct officers and SNCOs in attacking from, and defending, trenches. The officers would then return to their parent units as instructors. (Moore 2001 pp.50-51). The course ran for 18 days with about 32 students. Seven courses ran over 15 months, up to July 1917. (Duntroon Society 1/1986 p.7).

The AWM has two sets of notes taken by students of the course. These show that content included trench and dugout design, breastwork, saps and listening posts, wire entanglements, barricades and occupation of craters. It covered explosives, fuses and detonators for a range of grenades and bombs (including German models), and weapons such as machine guns, spring guns, trench catapults, and trench mortars. (AWM: 3DRL/6049; AWM: 3DRL/7111).

Over the years there have been references to a trench system, which has proved elusive ... until recent historical research on Jerrabomberra Wetlands finally located the area. On Mill Flat, on the opposite side of the Molonglo from the RMC, the School created an instructional system of trenches, dugouts, traverses and communication trenches. (*The Argus* (Melb) 27 Apr 1918 p.7) This was described as ‘similar in every respect to those in Flanders’ (*Queanbeyan Age & Queanbeyan Observer* 31 March 1916 p.2). In a speech to troops in 1916, the Governor-General declared it was ‘the best system of trenches in Australia’ (*Queanbeyan Age & Queanbeyan Observer* 21 Apr 1916 p.2).

The trenches were dug by personnel from ‘The Men from Snowy River’, the recruiting march which started at Delegate near the Victorian border and ended at the training camp at Goulburn. In March 1916 a ‘trench-digging contingent’ of sixty men travelled back to Duntroon to create the trench system. (*Goulburn Evening Penny Post* 30 Mar 1916 p.2) It occupied approximately 10 acres of alluvial river bank land, adjacent to the road to the old Duntroon ford. This had been part of a Lucerne Paddock, now known as the ‘RMC bombing area’ (NAA: A192, FCL

1920/927) or ‘Bombing paddock’. (NAA: A361, DSG21/49).

Newspaper accounts describe the trench system as ‘one of the show features of Duntroon’. Instructors from all parts of NSW were coming to Duntroon and ‘using the trenches as models’. (*Goulburn Evening Penny Post* 30 Mar 1916 p.2) The chief instructor at Duntroon was Major E.L.D. Brownell, assisted by Lieutenant J.C. Vines (based also at Liverpool), both Imperial officers. The historical research has turned up some interesting details about both instructors.

Instructional use of the Duntroon trench system was captured in a motion picture produced as a ‘preparedness war film’, released in 1916 initially as ‘Australia Prepared’ and later as ‘Australia at War’. (*Sydney Morning Herald* 17 Jul 1916 p.4). Some of the film’s trench warfare scenes were filmed at Duntroon and some at Liverpool. A Sydney weekend magazine in May 1916 also featured pictures of the Duntroon system being used for training, with bombs and smoke. (*Sunday Times* 7 May 1916 p.19)

The Duntroon installation was modelled on the ‘Island Traverse System’, considered at that time to be the best trench system, ‘probably due to the fact of Science playing such a leading part in the present warfare’. (Eichler in AWM 3DRL/6049).

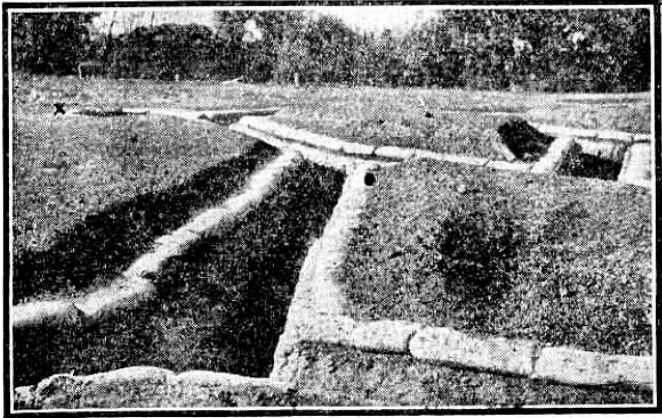
The system was located initially through examination of aerial photographs, and confirmed by references on survey maps and files from 1919–20. With contrast enhancement, the extent of the system was quite evident in aerial photographs of 1940 and discernible in 1951.



Trench system beside the Molonglo, 1940 (National Library of Australia: MAP Aerial Photograph Collection I 55 16 451).

Based on notes and diagrams by attendees at the School (AWM: 3DRL/6049; AWM: 3DRL/7111), the Duntroon trenches appear to be a thin cross-section of a trench system, including:

- a first line fire trench with island traverses;
- an inspection or observation trench;
- a bombing trench (with recessed positions for a spring gun, catapult and trench mortar); and
- a second line fire trench with island traverses and with these intersected at right angles by communication trenches.



Trench system (National Library of Australia: Sunday Times 7 May 1916 p.19)

There are signs of what may be a bombing sap and a listening post or sap forward of the first fire trench.

Road construction in 1936 may have obliterated the line of an attack trench, and there are signs of what may be dugouts or a living trench at the rear. It is likely that the terrain also included craters from bombs or mines. It is known to have included some barbed wire entanglements.

The Officer Training School closed in July 1917, after which it is likely that the trench system remained largely unattended, although it may have been used at times for instruction of the RMC cadets. (Moore p.51).

In 1936, an approach road to a new bridge across the Molonglo (later Dairy Flat bridge) was constructed across the system. The lessee of the dairy at that time took this opportunity to fill in the trenches because they were hazardous for his cattle. (ACT Archives TL4463 Pt.1).

The trench system is being investigated by postgraduate archaeology students from the Australian National University.



ANU students on site—getting to work on sub-surface survey. (Photo: Mark Butz)

With a range of ‘Time Team’ techniques so far proving inconclusive (the site has been repeatedly flooded and much of it heavily disturbed with spoil dumps), trial excavations are planned, under the watchful eye of the ACT Heritage Unit. It is hoped that this work will provide guidance on how best to present and interpret the site, noting that the centenary of the trench system comes around in March 2016.

Sources:

Moore, Darren 2001. *Duntroon: a History of the Royal Military College of Australia*. 2001 Royal Military College of Australia, Canberra.

ACT Archives: TL4463 Parts 1 & 2 Block 3 Section 1 Fyshwick. Dairy Block 3 – S Frederiksen.

AWM F00143 Film: *Australia Prepared: Her Part in the World’s War 1916*.

AWM: 3DRL/6049 Lt A M Eichler - Bombing and Trench Warfare School No.11 – Duntroon Royal Military College - Feb 8th -28th 1917.

AWM: 3DRL/7111 Lt C L Fox – Bombing and Trench Warfare School No.7 – Duntroon F.T. September 1916.

NAA: A192, FCL 1920/927 Molonglo Concentration Camp [Digital copy].

NAA: A361, DSG 21/49 Grass fire Mill Flat.

NLA: MAP RM 3146 (nla_map-rm3146) Plan showing lucerne lands, Federal Territory, available for lease (Lease Ordinance, 1919).

Duntroon Society Newsletter 1/1986 p.7.

Newspapers retrieved via NLA Trove:

The Argus (Melb), 27 Apr 1918 p.7

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 30 Mar 1916 p.2

Queanbeyan Age & Queanbeyan Observer, 31 March 1916 p.2

Queanbeyan Age & Queanbeyan Observer, 21 Apr 1916 p.2

Sunday Times (Syd), 7 May 1916, p.19.

Sydney Morning Herald, 17 Jul 1916, p.4.

~~~~~  
*Mark Butz is a writer/researcher with a background in earth sciences and ecology, and a lifelong interest in palaeontology, history, and archaeology. He worked with government agencies for more than two decades before starting his own business in 2012, as a facilitator, consultant, trainer and coach, mixed with voluntary roles in not-for-profit organisations. He has lived in Canberra since 1980 and before that in the Snowy Mountains and Sydney, while cultivating an increasingly close connection with the Eurobodalla coast. He is currently engaged in writing a comprehensive history of the Jerrabomberra Wetlands and environs, and a history of nature conservation in the ACT.*  
 ~~~~~



The Class of 1963–66 Honours the Class of 1911–14, Albany

**Submitted by:
Brian (W.B.) Armstrong, Class Orderly**

In late 2014, the Class of 1963–66 held its annual “Camp Training” get-together in the Margaret River area of Western Australia. As the dates selected were in the month of October, it was suggested that the class should extend its stay in WA to participate in the Centenary celebrations of the departure from Albany of the first convoy of Australian and New Zealand troops to WW1. This suggestion was agreed and Eric (E.C.) Pearson and Mike (M.J.) Wadsworth commenced planning the Albany visit.

The Class assembled in Albany for the period 28 October to 3 November and participated in the majority of remembrance activities arranged by the City for the occasion. These included attending the Remembrance Service at the Desert Corps Memorial on Mt Clarence on 31 October (the 97th anniversary of the Battle for Beersheba), marching as a Class in the Re-Enactment Troop March on 1 November (the centenary of the sailing of the convoy) and attending the following public Commemorative Service in Albany’s Peace Park on the foreshore of Princess Royal Harbour. Most of the class also attended the RAN Ceremonial Sunset and Light display over the harbour, and on another night a public concert in Albany’s Football Park.

On 2 November, the Class was able to visit the new National ANZAC Centre on Mt Adelaide overlooking King George Sound where the First Convoy had been anchored before sailing. This is a most impressive and moving display that is a credit to all involved in its inception.

As a final activity for its visit to Albany, the Class arranged a formal dinner to be held on the evening of 2 November at the function centre in the Forts Complex on Mt Adelaide overlooking King George Sound and the City of Albany. The dinner for 36 was also attended by the Governor-General, General Sir Peter Cosgrove (1968) and Lady Cosgrove as well as Peter Aspinall, President of the Albany RSL, and his companion, Carolyn White.

This dinner was to emulate the formal dinner held on board the “SS Orvieto” (General Bridges’ flagship) on 28 October 1914 by 28 members of the Class of 1911–14 who had been graduated early, at General Bridges request, to sail on the first convoy. Despite detailed research, the menu and wine list for the 1914 dinner could not be found, but the wine list for the 2014 dinner included only wines from vineyards in existence in 1914, with the red and white wines coming from Houghton’s Swan Valley vineyard which was, coincidentally, founded by three retired Army officers who produced their first vintage in 1859.

Each of the diners with the exception of the Governor-General was asked to represent a member of the Class of 1911–14 with the Governor-General as a past Commandant of RMC, representing General Bridges, the First Commandant of RMC. A short biography of each officer had been researched by Julia Smith and provided at each place.

After the meal and the Loyal Toast (proposed by Ian Ahearn), the Dining President—Bob (R.W.) Smith—gave a short speech of welcome and invited Eric Pearson, who grew up in Albany, to propose a toast to General Bridges and the Class of 1911–14. In proposing the toast, Eric

presented a tribute in verse (written by Bob Smith), which gave a historical summary of the assembly of the first convoy and told the story of General Bridges and the members of the Class of 1911–14 who sailed with it. A copy of this tribute, titled simply “Albany Toast”, follows.

The Governor-General responded on behalf of General Bridges and the Class of 1911–14. In a moving and often witty speech, well received by the Class, he stressed the importance of maintaining class bonds and friendships formed within the RMC, and of also continuing to include in our activities those who did not graduate but went on to other careers outside the Army.

The Centenary celebrations in Albany were a great success and the result of over five years of planning. Their success is a credit to the City and to the members of the Planning Committee with a special mention of the work done by the Albany RSL. The Class of 1963–66 will long remember this event and its very successful commemorative dinner to remember and honour General Bridges and the Class of 1911–14.

{When the class was marching past the saluting dais, the Governor-General was heard to say "take two extras". The Dining President, in his welcoming speech at the dinner, reminded the Governor-General that Fourth Class could not give Second Class an extra drill. The Governor-General agreed, but noted that, as Commander-in-Chief, he could. Ed}



The dining room at Carlyle's, Mt Adelaide, Albany.

ALBANY TOAST

As we sit around this banquet and sip this gorgeous wine,
My mind goes back 100 years to yet another time
When a group of young lieutenants, bright-eyed and bushy-
tailed,
Dined aboard the “Orvieto” – three nights before they
sailed.

Only 10 weeks since graduation from DUNTROON, RMC
The first home-grown product following Kitchener’s decree,
Their mentor there was Bridges, now Commander of the
Force
Assembled here in Albany, prepared for history’s course.

The massive ANZAC convoy lay anchored in the Sound
30,000 troops on board and 12,000 horses bound
For battlefields unknown, to face the “dreaded Hun”
In 3 days time this convoy would sail westward with the
sun.

From northern cattle stations, coastal cities, country towns,
From a thousand farms and factories, and mines built
underground
Across our states and territories, New Zealand islands too.
We drew our ANZAC soldiers from the volunteering
queues.

Recruiting, training, kitting with uniforms and guns,
Injections, health and hygiene – all done on the run,
And what about the horses? They combed the country wide
For Walers – best we could supply and best for them to ride.

The transport ships, all 38, were found and promptly
chartered
They were modified and painted – a chore before they
started
To load the men, the horses, kit and fodder, water too
The Navy tasked 4 cruisers to escort our gallant crew.

Gone were the cabins, the staterooms and the libraries,
To provide standing stalls for horses, and tack rooms for the
saddlery
Build sick bays for the vets, and forges for the farriers
Hammocks slung in messes, for the troops on all the
carriers.

Imagine all this planning, nights burning midnight oil,
To pull the force together, those weeks of mighty toil,
The myriad of details, the problems found and solved,
A massive admin exercise, round which success revolved.

And yet I often wonder, if we could do it now,
With satellites, computers and latest tech know-how,
To gather up a similar force and ship it off to war
On foreign soils in just twelve weeks – a challenge that's for
sure.

And what about our bright young bucks who dined aboard
that night
With Bridges' holy blessings, the adventure now in sight
They were among the junior leaders, who later took the
brunt
Of battle in the Dardanelles, Middle East and Western Front.

Of the 28 at dinner, two sleep beside the beach
At Anzac Cove with comrades, enjoying lasting peace
Another died on Lemnos, from fever caught on shore
Yet another rests on Lone Pine heights along with many
more.

One more lies in Egypt, by Alexandria port
He died from head wounds suffered, up where his battalion
fought
Three more sleep in Flanders Fields – a dreadful price to pay
From such a group of brave young men who dined aboard
that day

General Bridges flag-draped coffin, Melbourne's crowd-
lined streets traversed
Followed by his noble warhorse, with empty boots reversed.
Target of a Turkish sniper, from wounds in May he died
Now lies interred above the "square" upon Mount Pleasant's
side.

These were the men, who by their deeds, initially formed the
mould
Set principles and standards high, right for us to hold
And follow, class by class, for 90 years or more
As we in our turn got the call, and marched away to war.

In foreign theatres jungle-clad, and deserts hot and dried,
We followed their traditions to uphold our nation's pride
Though challenged in adversity, we seem to know just when
To stand up for our principles, as we are "Duntroon men".

To the General and his protégés who fought for national
pride,
These men whose high-set standards were given as our
guide,
For them I'd ask you all to stand and drink a toast with me -
To General Bridges and his Staff Cadets - the First Class of
RMC.

From the Chairman, Duntroon Society Committee

Peter Evans

The full Council, with one apology, met in October 2014.
The meeting was mainly of an informative nature but there
was some discussion on the future of the Society including
possible expansion of the Charter.

The Council approved the election of Mrs June Healy as
a Fellow of the Society in recognition of her great service to
the Society and the ex-Service / War Widows communities.

Council approved modest expenditure on the
development of the Duntroon Society web site. The work
will be completed by the time of publication of this
Newsletter. Please note that there will be a new facility for
the on-line purchase of Duntroon Society memorabilia.

The possibility of a move of the RMC Museum and
Archive within the College campus did not eventuate but
there has been considerable activity by the new curator and
staff to preserve the collection and improve its display. I
anticipate that an article on the Museum and Archive will be
published in the September Newsletter.

Membership has grown to 2,450 including the Class of
December 2014. The growth is pleasing but we still have
trouble attracting serving members. Word of mouth is an
admirable method of recruiting and I urge you all to keep
this in mind when the opportunity arises. Any suggestions
for recruitment would be more than welcome.

Victoria/Tasmania Branch Annual Lunch, 16 October 2014

Bob Slater

Numbers were down but the luncheon was heralded a great
success by those who attended.

Once again the University of Melbourne's Graduate
House extended their warm hospitality, ever conscious of
their military connections with first and current Presidents
being (then) Lieutenant Colonel John Monash and Major
General Professor Geoffrey Rosenfeld respectively. This
year for our luncheon we were allotted the Johnston Library,
commemorating Brigadier Sir William Wallace Stewart Kt

CBE DSO MC KStJ, Australian Army medical officer in World Wars I & II, another distinguished President of Graduate House. The meal was especially well received, with entrees of individual plates of choice antipasto followed by mains of grilled salmon with mango and cucumber salsa and couscous, and platters of cheese and seasonal fruit.

Guest speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Michelle McGuinness (ADFA 1996, RMC 1997), CI ADFA, gave a most entertaining and informative insight into how ADFA operates, the many challenges faced by a military institution in an open academic world, and the ways in which these challenges are met. All others present had RMC experience only, and by the conclusion of Michelle's presentation and question session we all felt much more informed and at ease with the ADFA/RMC process.

Konrad Ermert (1962) then led a short discussion on the current state of DunSoc in Victoria/Tasmania and members were invited to consider and forward ideas to either Konrad or Bob Slater.

Attendees in addition to Lieutenant Colonel McGuinness were Bill (P.W.) Beiers (1942) and Vona, Vern (V.T.) Hauser (1948), Jim (J.C.) Hughes (1950), Lois Murchie, Susan Dove, Geoff (G.J.) Christopherson (1958) and Leonie, Konrad (C.) Ermert (1962), Bob (R.A.) Slater (1963) and Ruth, Roger (R.W.) Greene (1965), Phil (P.G.A) Thomson (1978) and ADFA/RMC aspirant and current engineering student Michael Kelly.



Konrad Ermert and Ruth Slater.



Lois Murchie and Susan Dove.



Geoff Christopherson, Lieutenant Colonel McGuinness, and Konrad Ermert.



Lieutenant Colonel McGuinness with Roger Greene, Phil Thomson, Leonie and Geoff Christopherson.



Jim Hughes, and Vona and Bill Beiers.



Konrad Ermert on DunSoc Future.

ACT Branch Lunch, 13 November 2014

John Bullen

In November 2013, the ACT Branch was entertained at lunch by a very interesting and informative address by Brigadier (ret'd) Tan Roberts, a graduate of the very first class to graduate from OCS Portsea in June 1952. This was considered so successful that it was decided to do something very similar a year later, this time focusing on female officers.

The ideal speaker was available in Canberra—Thea Smith, a 1953 WRAAC OCS graduate from the earliest days when the WRAAC OCS was at Mildura from 1952 until 1957. But out of respect for Thea's age and health we considered it unfair to expect her to stand on her feet and hold an audience with a speech followed by questions and discussion as has been done on previous occasions by a single speaker.

So we came up with a slightly different plan. Instead of one speaker on her own, we would have a panel of speakers representing the full range of Australian Regular Army female officer training from the Mildura days, through the 1957–1984 period at Georges Heights and on to the final year at Portsea in 1985. Our expanded panel now consisted of Thea Smith (Mildura 1953), Merrie Hepworth (Georges Heights 1967), Brigadier Dianne Gallasch (Georges Heights 1984) and Brigadier Alison Creagh (Portsea 1985). To manage this lively group, we found a willing volunteer in Lieutenant Colonel Liz Stephens (RMC 1997).

This panel attracted much interest for many reasons. Thea Smith is a Mildura graduate and they are hard to find these days. Thea's full-time military service ended when she married a Portsea graduate and they have a son who is a 1977 RMC graduate.

Merrie Hepworth graduated within the first decade of WRAAC OCS at Georges Heights. Changes in the Army were occurring then and Merrie became the first officer to continue serving after marriage. Later she became the first officer and mother to continue serving, ultimately retiring as a major. She is very active in WRAAC affairs today and is the President of the WRAAC Association (ACT). She also chairs the Committee organising the 65th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the WRAAC, to be held in Canberra, 12–15 February 2016.

Brigadier Dianne Gallasch is well known to the Society as the current RMC Commandant and also Patron of The Duntroon Society. However she was here today in her role as a member of the final class to graduate from WRAAC OCS just before it closed in 1984. Dianne graduated into the Ordnance Corps.

Brigadier Alison Creagh is the daughter of Dudley and Helen Creagh. Dudley Creagh was Professor of Physics on the RMC academic staff for many years, having succeeded his good friend David Swan in that position. Thus Alison grew up at Duntroon and was encouraged to apply for OCS Portsea by Major General Alan 'Alby' Morrison (1947), then RMC Commandant and the founder of The Duntroon Society. Alby's son David had graduated from Portsea a few years earlier and is now the Chief of Army. Alison was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross for her service in Cambodia as a Captain and has had further active service experience in more senior ranks. Alison graduated into the Royal Australian Signal Corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Liz Stephens graduated from the RMC in 1997 into the Aviation Corps with an honours degree in electrical engineering and later transferred to RAEME. Today she is the Chief Instructor at the RMC and is also the President of the RMC Officers' Mess Committee.

This panel attracted an interesting audience, including Lady Harrison, widow of the inaugural Commandant of OCS Portsea in 1952–54. Lady Harrison was accompanied by two friends, Sue Litchfield and Lisette Amorsen. Lisette is the daughter of Major General Tim (T.F.) Cape (1937) who succeeded Colonel (later Major General Sir James) Harrison (1932) as OCS Commandant in 1954.

In addition to Alison Creagh there were three others present today who had also grown up as girls at Duntroon. Slightly older than Alison, these three have always been close friends, namely Associate Professor John Laird's two daughters Patricia and Margaret, and Professor David Swan's daughter Pam who had come from Queensland for this occasion.

Judy Thomson came from the South Coast, accompanied by Dr Michelle Barrett. Well known in Duntroon circles, Judy is the widow of Brigadier David (D.S.) Thomson (1943), former Tactics Instructor at the RMC, OC Gallipoli Company at the RMC, then CO of 4 RAR, later Director of Infantry and later still Minister for Science in the Fraser Government. Michelle Barrett is a former Australian Army doctor who served in Rwanda. Michelle is the sister of Lieutenant Colonel Richard (R.A.) Barrett (1994), a recent President of the RMC Officers' Mess.

Looking sharp (someone had to keep this lot under control) was a former RMC Adjutant, Jim (J.J.) Shelton (1946), accompanied by Margie Salmon, widow of John (J.R.) Salmon (1946). Ready to lend assistance if needed and looking even smarter was Captain Melinda Salter (Jun 2006), then ADC to the Chief of Army. A Royal Australian Signals Corps graduate, Melinda is posted in 2015 to RMC staff as an instructor. As further disciplinary backup, Col Swinbourn (RSM RMC 1974–76) was there too. Quietly watching all this and knowing he could relax was a former Chief of the General Staff, Laurie (L.G.) O'Donnell (1954).

The total crowd here today was 63 in all, including many regular attendees, far too numerous to name individually. Some of them appear in the accompanying photos.

After lunch, the speakers were introduced in turn by Liz Stephens. In chronological order of graduation, each speaker spoke for about ten minutes on her experiences as an officer cadet and as a junior officer in a steadily changing Army. All four speakers then joined together as a panel, fielding questions from the audience, leading into some particularly interesting discussions.

Plenty of enjoyable anecdotes came forth. Merrie Hepworth had been recruited by an advertisement in that bastion of Australian womanhood, the Australian Women's Weekly. Dianne Gallasch had many memories of the mighty Kathleen Best Memorial gates at the entrance to Georges Heights—and now she lives behind those same gates once more in the Commandant's residence. In contrast to Alison Creagh's encouragement by Alby Morrison, Dianne had been strongly discouraged by her late father Kevin Gallasch (OCS Jun 1953) against joining the Army. So, as a dutiful daughter, she went ahead anyway. Our speakers gave us insights into female life in the Army—wearing comfortable sneakers under a floor-length ball gown, for example, or enjoying the advantage in field exercises when paired with a

former gravedigger classmate who dug magnificent weapon pits with astonishing speed.

On the more serious side, it became very apparent that sixty years ago, WRAAC officers were regarded as ‘fluffy toys’ not only by the male officers but also by their own female hierarchy. They were useful for limited tasks while being required to remain ladies first and soldiers second, even though many of them hankered for more military activity and responsibility. Today’s audience was given a very good impression of how this attitude steadily changed throughout the late 20th century, culminating in women receiving field training alongside men, leading to mutual respect and a level of teamwork not considered possible half a century ago.

Ian Gollings asked Alison Creagh about acceptance of women when she served in Iraq and Alison’s answer was interesting. In uniform, she was given the respect due to her rank and her authority was readily accepted. In civilian clothes—ah, that was a different story.

All in all, the speeches and the subsequent discussion were highly enlightening as well as being most entertaining. The big audience was given plenty to think and talk about. Our panel of four plus their MC did the Duntroon Society proud.



Steve (S.W.P.) Hart (1958), Col Swinbourn (RSM RMC 1974–76), Judy Ingle, Bruce (B.J.) Stark (OCS Jun 1954), Pam Yonge, Sue Sarantos, Peter (P.R.) Rose (1968).



Judy Rule, Dudley Creagh, Dawn Laing, Patricia Laird, Margaret Frisch (née Laird), Pam Gniel (née Swan), Tim Bailey.



Jan Heldon, Mike (M.B.) Taarnby (rear) (1976), Ken (K.J.) Heldon (front) (1961), Steve (S.M.) Goodman (1976).



Thea Smith (WRAAC OCS Mildura 1953).



Shirley Gollings, Ian (I.J.) Gollings (OCS Dec 1956), George (G.T.) Salmon (1959).



Lieutenant Colonel Liz (E.A.) Stephens (1997), Brigadier Alison (A.M.) Creagh (OCS Portsea Dec 1985), Lisette Amorsen (née Cape), Captain Melinda (M.J.M.) Salter (Jun 2006).



Brigadier Dianne Gallasch (WRAAC OCS Georges Heights 1984).



Jock (I.T.) Stewart (OCS Jun 1956), Dinah Morrison, Sue Litchfield (in front), Lady Harrison (obscured), Robert Morrison.



Brigadier Alison Creagh (OCS Portsea Dec 1985).



Merrie Hepworth (WRAAC OCS Georges Heights 1967).



Helen Creagh, Dudley Creagh.



Lieutenant Colonel Liz Stephens (1997).



Judy Thomson, Brian Hepworth, Peter (P.J.A.) Evans (1958), Merrie Hepworth (WRAAC OCS Georges Heights 1967), Brigadier Dianne Gallasch (WRAAC OCS Georges Heights 1984).



Bill (W.P.) Smith (OCS Dec 1953), Thea Smith (WRAAC OCS Mildura 1953), Michelle Barrett, Judy Thomson, Brian Hepworth, Peter Evans (1958).



Donna Sunderland, Del Moyle (facing away), Margie Salmon, Shirley Gollings, Ian Gollings (OCS Dec 1956), Jim Shelton (1946), John (R.J.) Moyle (1956).



Bruce Stark (OCS Jun 1954), Steve Hart (1958), Pam Yonge, Sue Sarantos, Peter Rose (1968), Col Swinbourn (RSM RMC 1974–76).



Merrie Hepworth (WRAAC OCS Georges Heights 1967), Thea Smith (WRAAC OCS Mildura 1953), Brigadier Alison Creagh (OCS Portsea Dec 1985).



Brigadier Dianne Gallasch (WRAAC OCS Georges Heights 1984), Merrie Hepworth (WRAAC OCS Georges Heights 1967), Thea Smith (WRAAC OCS Mildura 1953), Brigadier Alison Creagh (OCS Portsea Dec 1985), Lieutenant Colonel Liz Stephens (1997).

~~~~~  
*Lieutenant Colonel (retired) John Bullen (1958) has been Secretary of the ACT Branch of the Duntroon Society since 1980. Not believing in democracy, the ACT Branch does not hold elections, preferring to await a coup. After well over 30 years they are still patiently waiting.*  
 ~~~~~


From The Podmore Foundation

www.podmorefoundation.org



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 conducted its 2015 Scholarship Certificate Presentation Lunch at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on 15 March attended by 64 benefactors, scholarship recipients and supporters. Professor Mick Dodson, AM presented certificates to seven Indigenous girls from rural and remote communities and towns who are boarding at Canberra Girls Grammar School (CGGS). The most senior girl, Larissa Woosup, Year 12, from Mackay, QLD is the CGGS Vice-Captain in 2015. Mia Hodges, from Cairns, was the recipient of the Professor Mick Dodson AM and His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) Scholarship for Leadership. She is the Year 11 Vice Captain of Robertson House at CGGS and will be a candidate for a senior CGGS leadership position in 2016.



Professor Mick Dodson, AM, 2009 Australian of the Year, Professor of Law at the Australian National University, and Head of the National Centre for Indigenous Studies, with 2015 Podmore Foundation Scholarship recipients from Canberra Girls Grammar School.

Kyol Blakeney, the inaugural 2008 Podmore Scholarship recipient who graduated from The Scots College, Bellevue Hill, in 2011 was the guest speaker at the lunch. Kyol, who is from the remote Indigenous community at Werris Creek, NSW, represents what the Podmore Foundation is all about. After graduation as a Prefect and having served as the Pipe Major of The Scots College Pipes and Drums, Kyol won a scholarship to St Andrews College, Sydney University, where he began studying to become a primary school teacher in 2012. He was elected to serve as the President of the Students' Representative Council at Sydney University in 2015. Kyol emphasised in his address that the Podmore Foundation stood for empowering Indigenous children from the bush who had talent and ambition to get the opportunity for a great education at some of Australia's finest independent boarding schools. This opportunity echoed the chance ambitious and talented young men and women from all around Australia have for a first class military education at the Royal Military College, Duntroon.



Scholarship recipients and attendees at the 2015 Podmore Foundation Scholarship Certificate Presentation Lunch at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on 15 March 2015.



Professor Mick Dodson AM, Kyol Blakeney, inaugural Podmore Foundation Scholarship Recipient in 2008 and President of the Sydney University Student Representative Council in 2015, with President of the Podmore Foundation, Associate Professor (R.J.) Bob Breen (1973) at the 2015 Scholarship Certificate Presentation Lunch.

The lunch was attended by Duntroon graduates, Major General Roger (R.A.) Powell AM (ret) (1971), Major General John (J.J.) Frewen, AM (1986), Colonel Peter (P.J.) Connolly (1990), Major Glenn (G.A.) Crosland (1976), sponsor of the Brigadier Damian 'Dolly' Roche Memorial Scholarship, Colonel Neil (N.D.) Greet (Ret) (1986), Podmore Board Member, and Associate Professor Bob Breen (1973), President. This was the first lunch for Colonel Mike Hyde (Ret), as the newly-elected Vice President of the Podmore Foundation. Mike was one of the original supporters of the Podmore Foundation in 2007.

For those of you attending your Class reunions this year, consider Podmore's motto *Returning Opportunity* and reflect on whether the time has come for you and your classmates to contribute to the work of the Podmore Foundation in handing on a better Australia where there is a new generation of capable, well-educated Indigenous leaders and role models. Contact David Retter, Secretary, secretary@podmorefoundation.org.au or the President, Associate Professor Bob Breen (1973), president@podmorefoundation.org.au.



From the OTU Representative

Neil Leckie (3/68)



Along with the National Servicemen's Association Australia (NSAA), the OTU Association is preparing to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the introduction of the Second National Service Scheme (1965 – 1972). The first intake of the second scheme was inducted into the Army on 30 June 1965 and began ten weeks of Recruit Training at the 1st Recruit Training Battalion (1 RTB) at Kapooka or the 2nd Recruit Training Battalion (2 RTB) at Puckapunyal.

1 RTB could house up to 24 48-man platoons in four companies in newly built three-storey brick accommodation blocks. In later years some 'overflow' platoons would be housed in 'Silver City' the silver painted Nissen Huts at the back of Kapooka. At the same time as training National Service Recruits, 1 RTB would continue to train ARA Recruits.

2 RTB would house 20 64-man Platoons in four companies in purpose built wooden framed, galvanised iron roofed fibro huts. (Note: one half of these huts have been renovated and are still in use today). In later years the 3rd Training Battalion (3 TB) at Singleton would also undertake NS Recruit Training.

A *Canberra Times* article of 1 July 1965 described the scene similar to those happening in all the state capitals:

A TICKET TO THE ARMY

Tickets for two years in the Army were handed to 13 young men in Canberra yesterday morning. The tickets were for bus and train to take them to Kapooka Army Camp, near Wagga. The 13 seemed happy about being the first men from the ACT to be called up under the conscription programme. But some of the mothers and girlfriends were not so happy as their men boarded a bus for Yass to catch the train which took them to Wagga for their preliminary training.

The faces of the women were grim. Some of them cried as the bus slowly pulled away from the Canberra Tourist Bureau. The 13 youths had to wait until they reached Kapooka for their first taste of army life! The only instructions they received in Canberra were from a representative of the Department of Labour and National Service, who gave them the tickets.

The youths and their friends began gathering in the sun opposite the bureau about 9.30 am, an hour before the bus was due to leave. Gradually the crowd swelled until about 75 people waited for the bus. The odd passing motorist tooted his car horn and waved cheerfully.

Well before the deadline privates-to-be J.C. Austin, D.G. Cribb, D. Gordon, W.C.N. Hopkins, B.M. Houston, P.F. Lonergan, R.W. Luton, L.C. McGee, D. Hazel, B.F. Lavering, T.A. Johnson, P.W. Kingston and B. Campbell had reported for travel duty.

They stood hand-in-hand with their girlfriends, or chatted with their parents and relatives then the voice on the loudspeaker called them away.

A last kiss and they were gone.

After ten weeks of Recruit Training the men would receive a further ten weeks of Corps Training before being posted to the unit where they would spend the rest of their NS. The majority would be posted to the Infantry Corps to eventually build up the infantry from four to nine battalions. This was all happening while 1 RAR was already in Vietnam.

An influx of 2,000 men would require an influx of junior officers and to handle this a new Officer Training Unit (OTU) was set up at Scheyville near Windsor in Sydney's west. Colonel (later Brigadier) Ian (I.A.) Geddes (Jun 1942) raised the flag for the first time at OUT Scheyville on 1st April 1965 and with his staff set up the course and facilities in preparation for the first intake in mid-July. The course would be taken from the OCS-Portsea course, but with all the niceties such as weekend leave removed, and compressed to 22 weeks.

After a vigorous selection program in early July 1965 at the RTBs, 120 Nashos were chosen for officer training. Seventy-six would graduate as second lieutenants at the end of the course. One of the graduates would be Canberra's Paul (P.F.) Lonergan (OTU 1/65).

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the commencement of the scheme a gathering will be held in Canberra on 30 June 2015. There will be a march from the rear of the Australian War Memorial to the National Service Memorial on the east side of the AWM, followed by a short service. At the conclusion of the service a light lunch will be held at the nearby Mercure Hotel.

In the evening the OTU Association is holding a dinner at Royal Canberra Golf Club in Yarralumla. In conjunction with the AWM event and the OTU Dinner, individual graduating classes are holding their own reunions. Details of events are available on the OTU Website: www.otu.asn.au.

In other association activities:

- In October 2014 Class 2/69 held its annual reunion in the Newcastle District. The attendees toured the city, enjoyed some fine dining and some fine wine during a Hunter Valley winery tour. The 2015 reunion will be in Port Arthur in Tasmania.
- The Western Australian Chapter held a weekend in Busselton in February 2015. Again there was some interesting touring, good food and good wine on offer.
- All Chapters enjoy a good social calendar with dinners, weekends away and sporting activities on offer.
- Most Chapters will march as a formed body in their state capital ANZAC Day March. Details are available on the OTU Website: www.otu.asn.au.

From the Branches

Australian Capital Territory

Branch Office Holders

Convenor: Brigadier Peter (P.J.A.) Evans (1958)
Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel John (J.E.) Bullen (1958)
Treasurer: Lieutenant Colonel Mike (M.J.) Ryan (1980)
Members: Dr Moreen (M.P.) Dee (WRAAC OCS 1966);
Brigadier George (G.T.) Salmon (1959); Colonel M.J.
(Mike) Ford (1957); Major Stuart (S.B.) Althaus (RMC &
OCS 1982)

Annual Lunch and Speech, 13 November 2014

An immensely successful and enjoyable lunch was held on 13 November, thanks to a panel of five speakers who

informed and entertained their large audience on their experiences as female officer cadets covering the period from 1952 when WRAAC OCS opened at Mildura until 1985 when the OCS Portsea closed and the RMC Duntroon then took over all female Army officer training.

Our speakers were Thea Smith (Mildura 1953), Merrie Hepworth (Georges Heights 1967), Brigadier Dianne Gallasch (Georges Heights 1984), Brigadier Alison Creagh (Portsea 1985) and the panel moderator was Lieutenant Colonel Liz Stephens (RMC 1997). This interesting event is described in more detail (with photos) elsewhere in this Newsletter *{see page 6–9. Ed.}*.

Autumn Lunch, 14 May 2015

This year's Autumn Lunch will be held in Duntroon House as usual. As always, this annual event is open to all Society members and friends.

New South Wales

Branch Office Holders

Convenor: Bob (R.L.) Guest (OCS 1959)
Secretary: Peter (P.M.) Reid (1964),
peterreid2@bigpond.com (02) 9460 0741, 0417 274 090
Treasurer: Ian (I.R.) Taylor (1965),
ita01@ozemail.com.au, (02) 9953 9441, 0407 539 441.

RMC Graduation Lunches

The NSW Branch's attempt to hold a graduation lunch at the Victoria Barracks Officers' Mess in December 2014 was again thwarted by a number of factors. Apart from some difficulties with the Mess, interest in the function by Society members was less than 50% of the numbers required to make it a viable location. An alternative venue will be proposed for the 2015 lunch to be held on 8 December.

Monthly Lunches

Many Society members meet at the Imperial Service Club, now incorporated in the Royal Automobile Club at Circular Quay. They meet on the second Friday of each month at 1200 for 1230 and have an excellent two course lunch and wines for \$60 per head. These lunches are conducted under the auspices of the Regular Army Officers' Luncheon Club and it is hoped that more Society members could join their fellow officers on these monthly occasions. Out-of-state visitors are most welcome but should advise office holders or the Club (02 8273 2320) of their intention to attend.

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).

Branch Social Functions

Auckland Sub-branch. The annual golf tournament for the Auckland Sub-branch was played on 22 Nov 2014 at the Helensville Golf Club. Detailed results of the Duntroon Society Postal Golf competition were forwarded to Canberra in December 14. The three best pairings out of the team of eight had a combined stableford of 209. The winners of the Branch events run in conjunction with the Postal Competition were:

Porter Cup for mixed pairs: Margaret Dudman and John Redward

Acacia Bay trophy for ladies: Margaret Dudman

Acacia Bay trophy for men: John Harman

Wellington Sub-branch. On Sunday 22 February 2015, 28 members and their wives, partners and friends gathered at the Royal Wellington Golf Club for the summer lunch hosted by Colonel D.J. (David) Grant (OCS Dec 1961).

Membership

Membership of the New Zealand Branch is 126 including 17 spouses of deceased members.

Queensland

Branch Office Holders

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

Branch Social Functions

A small group of us meets monthly for lunch at United Service Club on the second Wednesday, the classes of 1955, 1956 and 1957 being well represented. All members with email addresses receive a monthly reminder and the others a calendar update by snail mail about twice a year. Twice a year, about June and November, we hold a 'lunch with partners'. A notice will go out 2–3 weeks ahead. If you think you have missed out, contact Graeme Loughton on (07) 3378 7376 or loughton@bigpond.net.au.

Enjoying the conviviality of the United Service Club dining room at their monthly luncheon in March were: John Simson (1956), Jock Jenvey (1956), Ron Morris (1956), Neville Lindsay (1955), Jack Chipman (1956), Brian Wade (1956), and Graeme Loughton (1956). Others who attend regularly or sometimes but not present at the March luncheon include: Lew Reinhold (1956), John Stein (1957), Jack Newman (1960), Bob Hagerty (1956), Miles Farmer (1955), Ian Willoughby (1961), George Meija, John Faloone.

Apart from the lunches, the other regular event is to enter a team or two in the Postal Golf Competition. We expect to play this at Royal Queensland again this year, but expect to bring it forward to September. My thanks go to Bruce Bond (1960) as the on-the-ground organiser at RQ. Any interested golfer who has not received a notice by early August should make contact as above.



At the monthly luncheon: John Simson, Jock (J.E.) Jenvey (1956), Ron (R.S.C.) Morris (1956), Neville (N.R.) Lindsay (1955), Jack (J.A.N.) Chipman (1956), Brian (B.) Wade (1956), and Graeme Loughton.

South Australia & Northern Territory

Branch Office Holders

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

Branch Social Functions

The South Australia Branch Annual Graduation Luncheon is to be held at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club, Adelaide on Tuesday, 1 December 2015.

The Branch sadly reports the passing of Brigadier E.F. (Fred) Pfitzner, AM *{See Obituary section page 14. Ed.}*. His funeral, at Christ Church, North Adelaide on 17 March, was held before a packed attendance of family, friends and many military representatives from Adelaide and interstate with whom he had served during his long career.

Branch membership is 70.

Victoria & Tasmania

Branch Office Holders

Victoria continues to operate by committee with occasional meetings and primary contact by email.

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

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

Members: Phil (P.) Davies (1961), Konrad (C.) Ermert (1962) (Membership).

Craig (C.A.) Wood (1963) remains proxy for Canberra-based meetings.

Branch Social Functions

A report on the 2014 Annual Luncheon is included in this Newsletter *{see page 4-5. Ed.}*.

The 2015 Annual Luncheon will again be held at University of Melbourne's Graduate House, 220 Leicester Street Carlton, on Thursday 15 October, 12:00 for 12:30 pm until 2:00 pm, cost \$65 per head. Guests are most welcome. This is an excellent venue for our purpose, and we are being made to feel very much at home. Our guest speaker is yet to be determined.

General

We distributed a questionnaire to all listed members in December inviting interest in a variety of ideas other than the annual luncheon. Only eight replies were received without any focus that warranted action.

We remain open to ideas from Duntroon Society members in the Southern region and will be happy to assist with any local connections that Duntroon/ADFA may require from time to time, such as presentations to headmasters and business leaders. Please contact Bob Slater on 0418 317 057 or ruthandbobslater@bigpond.com.

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

The WA Branch conducts regular networking and social drinks gatherings, with a mix of attendees from a cross-

section of eras. The next is scheduled for late September. Contact the convenor Bob Hunter (0413 045 355) if you wish to have notification of these gatherings.

Coming Events

ACT Branch

14 May 2015. Autumn Lunch, Duntroon House.

TBA November 2015. Annual Lunch and Speech, Duntroon House.

NSW Branch

8 December 2015. Graduation Lunch at the Victoria Barracks Officers' Mess.

New Zealand Branch

Mid-July 2015. The Wellington Winter lunch will be held at the Royal Wellington Golf Club.

24 July 2015. The Auckland Sub-branch annual luncheon will be held at the Northern Club

26 November 2015. The annual golf tournament combined with the Auckland Postal Golf Tournament will be played at the Helensville Golf Club.

Queensland Branch

Monthly (second Wednesday). Meet at noon for lunch at the United Service Club.

10 June 2015 (TBC). 'With partners' lunch at the United Service Club.

24 September 2015 (TBC). Golf at Royal Queensland Golf Club.

South Australia Branch (incorporating NT)

1 December 2015. Annual Graduation Luncheon, Naval, Military and Air Force Club, Adelaide.

Victoria Branch (incorporating Tasmania)

TBA October 2015. 1200 for 1230. Annual lunch at Graduate House, 220 Leicester Street, Carlton.

Western Australia Branch

September. Quarterly drinks. For details, please feel free to contact the WA convenor, Bob Hunter on bobhunter@iinet.net.au or 0413 045 355.

Retired Officers Luncheon Club

This Club meets on the first Thursday of every month for lunch at the Royal Canberra Golf Club at 12 noon. Retired officers meet in a very pleasant venue for a convivial monthly gathering which originated in 1985. There is a selected menu which ensures that the cost will be approximately \$30 including pre-lunch drinks and wine. Bookings are essential. If you are interested please contact Don McDonough (1961) on (02) 6259 6583.

RMC Ceremonial Events

1 May 2015. Special Service Officer Graduation.

6 June 2015. Queen's Birthday Parade.

18 July 2015. Army Reserve Officer First Appointment Graduation.

8 December 2015. The Graduation Parade.

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

Shorts

- On a calm, warm Sunday afternoon on 17 July 1994, Fred's Tree suddenly crashed to the ground and expired in spectacular fashion. The story of that death is told in *Newsletter 2/1994*, under the title **Obitutree**, by Lieutenant Colonel Jack (I.R.) Gregg (1976), the PMC of the Officers' Mess, and Lieutenant Judy (J.) Pye, the Mess Manager. Fortunately the story does not end there. The aftermath is outlined in *Newsletter 1/1995* and in *Newsletter 1/1999* which provides a photograph of one of Fred's descendants as a struggling juvenile. Its role was to become a replacement for the then recently deceased 'Bridges' Oak' as described in the same Newsletter by Roy Pugh (1948). Sadly, it too seems not to have survived, but the successor of Fred's Tree, also a descendent of that distinguished oak, is now thriving not far from its ancestor between the old and new dining rooms of the Officers' Mess. In effect it is the grand child of Fred's Tree as its parent was grown by the late Monsignor John Hoare who, in the 1980's, gathered seven acorns from Fred and planted them in the Presbytery grounds of St Mathew's Catholic Church in the Canberra suburb of Page where they all flourished to produce the two seedling oaks in the Duntroon House gardens. Ms Sheila Karney, the Senior Base Support Officer, went to some trouble to be certain that the surviving juvenile is healthy and under the care of the current Head Gardner, who survived the recent change of contractor, and is aware of the significance of the grandchild of Fred. The above is to reassure those who know and care about Fred's Tree and its place in the lore of Duntroon and to give a lead to those who do not, but are now moved to learn of it.

Obituary

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

- 27 Sep 14 Major I.G. McKeown (1953)
- 31 Dec 14 Lieutenant Colonel V.J. Adams (1966)
- 1 Jan 15 Captain M.R. Hill (1980)
- 5 Jan 15 Major P.A. Parkinson (1982)
- 9 Feb 15 Mrs M.E. Fuhrman¹
- 9 Mar 15 Brigadier E.F. Pfitzner (1961)
- 6 Apr 15 Lieutenant Colonel G.M. Salom (1953)²

- Elvina Fuhrman was the widow of Colonel L.H.R. (Bob) Fuhrman (Aug 1940) who in 1969 became the first RMC Archivist, serving in that position until 1981, succeeded successively by Major A. (Bill) Harkness (1953) and Ross Howarth.
- In *Newsletter 2/2010* on page 10 under **Shorts**, Mrs Lyne Salom has set out the details of a remarkable uninterrupted link of RMC graduates within her family over the first 100 years. Her late husband was the second last of this unique continuity.

Letters to the Editor

From Ross Howarth, RMC Archivist 1995–2012

The article on page 2 of *Newsletter 2/2014* mentions how the Bridges medals were transferred to the RMC Museum. I do recall that for many years I had written to various sources in Australia trying to locate their whereabouts. I eventually wrote to South Africa asking that they be donated to the RMC Museum and received a nice reply from Mr Peter Bridges, senior, saying he had them. He offered to lend them

to the Museum, rather than donate them. I wrote back accepting the offer and passed the correspondence up the line to the Commandant. It is worth noting that the medals did not include the WW1 group; replicas were obtained later. This correspondence has been deposited in the RMC Archives.

Profile of Corps of Staff Cadets

Current strength (10 April 2015)

CSC	416
First Class	93
Second Class	203
Third Class	103
Neville Howse VC Platoon	17
New Zealand	2
Pakistan	6
Papua New Guinea	10
Timor Leste	1
Thailand	1
Tonga	3
UAE	4
RAAF	6
Married	61
ADFA transfers	112
Cadets with previous service in ARA	36

Recent Book by Society Member

G.J. Stone, *Duntroon to Dili: Mayhem and Miracles Traumatic Stress and Trust in God*, Echo Books, www.echobooks.com.au.

Newsletter 2/2014 Corrections

As declared in the past, perhaps to excess, maintaining accuracy in the **Obituary** segment is taken very seriously. To err is human so errors have been published, albeit rarely. On this occasion it may seem that one of our Members has managed to die twice. On page 20 of *Newsletter 2/2014* the details are correct but they have already appeared correctly on page 11 of *Newsletter 1/2014*. For those readers who have noticed this error, please delete the entry in *Newsletter 2/2014*. This was a responsibility of an Associate Editor.

Editor

Dr Mike (M.J.) Ryan
School of Engineering and IT
UNSW Canberra
Australian Defence Force Academy
Northcott Drive CANBERRA ACT 2600
Telephone: (02) 6268 8200 Fax: (02) 6268 8443
E-mail: editor@dunsoc.com

Associate Editors

Colonel Ross (R.R.) Harding (Retd)
37 Quandong St.
O'CONNOR ACT 2602
Telephone: (02) 6248 5494
E-mail: r.harding@dunsoc.com

Brigadier Chris (C.A.) Field
E-mail: c.field@dunsoc.com

Firepower: Lessons From The Great War **History Seminar Series**

The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company wants you to be part of its history seminar series entitled *Firepower: Lessons from the Great War*. The series is part of Army's wider contributions to the *Centenary of Anzac* commemorative activities over the period 2015–2018. *Firepower: Lessons from the Great War* aims to provide a comprehensive review of the role of firepower during what is regarded to have been one of the most globally significant conflicts of all time.

The Series theme is *Firepower*: however, inside that wider topic, the seminars will analyse many aspects of the role of firepower within the wider context of warfare. These include: *Command and Control*; *Human Stories – Gunners*; *Human Stories – Commanders*; *Artillery Tactics*; *Technology – Ammunition systems*; *Technology – the ‘Gunnery Problem’*; *Combined Arms – the advent of modern warfare*; *Force Generation and Sustainment*; and *Other Gunners – allies and adversaries*.

Eleven *Firepower* seminars will be held from May 2015 until November 2018, each timed to align with anniversaries of significant battles or events during the Great War. The first seminar, *Gallipoli: the Landing at Anzac*, will take place at the Australian Defence Force Academy on 13 May 2015. Each seminar will have up to five speakers presenting on different topics for ten minutes, followed by an hour of moderated question & answer forum. Proceedings from each seminar will be published in the RAAHC's *Cannonball* magazine, and podcast on the RAAHC's website, with select contributions peer reviewed for inclusion in an anthology of *Firepower* articles to be published through the Australian Army History Unit.

Whether you are a professional historian, a military serviceperson or just someone interested in history and enduring relevance of the profession of arms, everyone is invited to engage in this forum as either a participant or perhaps as a contributor, and in doing so enrich the debate and understanding. Further detail is available on the RAAHC's website: http://www.artilleryhistory.org/history_seminar_series_2015-2018.html , or through the RAAHC's project director and point of contact, Lieutenant Colonel Nick Floyd (E: nick.floyd@defence.gov.au).

DUNTROON SOCIETY **POSTAL GOLF COMPETITION RESULTS** **2013 AND 2014**

The results of the annual Duntroon Society Postal Golf Competition for the past two years are given below. As explained in the 2013 report, the results for that year were not available in time for inclusion in the following edition of the Society Newsletter, and so I am including them with the 2014 results for completeness of the record.

After contacting State and Territory Duntroon Society Branch Conveners in an attempt to increase participation in this long standing competition, the numbers involved have improved slightly for 2014. However the viability of the continuation of the Postal Golf competition still remains marginal. The reasons for this are not clear, but the trend has been obvious for a number of years. Certainly the lack of an enthusiastic and dedicated Golf Representative in a number of branches is a significant factor.

I intend once again to encourage increased participation for the 2015 Competition. Should the situation not improve, I shall sadly have to give serious consideration to recommending discontinuation.

Frank Lehman
Match Committee Chairman

Annual Postal Golf Competition 2013

Below are the results of the 2013 Duntroon Society Postal Golf Competition. I apologise for these results not appearing in the latest Duntroon Society Newsletter, but my absence overseas combined with delayed receipt of some results made it impossible to meet the publishing deadline. A total of only four teams participated this year, one from the ACT, two from Queensland (one with only four players), and one from New Zealand. There were other teams intending to play, but with so many golf clubs heading on to a more sustainable commercial basis, there are increasing difficulties in arranging venues and times which do not clash with other golf club commitments and which suit intending participants.

It is disappointing that the number of teams continues to decline, and if this trend continues it is probable that the continuation of the Competition will not be sustainable in any meaningful way. Despite previous pleas for volunteers to accept the role of Coordinator for each of those states no longer represented, I have so far received no response. I will now be separately seeking the cooperation of Duntroon Society Branch Conveners in appointing suitable representatives in a bid to revive this formerly popular and long-standing event. After all, as there is no longer any fee to become a member of the Society, it should not be so difficult to recruit more Society members from the many serving and ex-service golfers. Once again I invite all those who have been involved in the past to make a particular effort this year to seek new members for the 2014 competition. Details of how to register to join the Duntroon Society are given on the Society's website (www.dunsoc.com).

Congratulations to all those winners listed below, in particular Ken Heldon (ACT) for his fine individual score of 45 Stableford points. The team results were:

1st: ACT (RCGC Reds)

Royal Canberra Golf Club	K.J. Heldon (1961)	45
9 December 2013	D.K. Baker (1954)	37
	R.J. Nattey (RANC)	32
	P.J.A. Evans (1958)	32
	G.R. Ellis (1966)	31
	B.J. Stark (OCS Jun 1954)	31
	Total:	208
	G.T. Salmon (1959)	30
	B.G. Stevens (1969)	30

2nd: NZ

Helensville Golf Club	J.W. Redward (1964)	36
27 November 2013	F.J. Burns	35
	D.B. Slocombe (OCS Dec 1960)	34
	Clive Sinclair	34
	J.M. Harman (RMA)	34
	B.D. Chippindale (1958)	26
	Total:	199
	M.J. Dudman (1959)	25
	R.G. Williams (1952)	25

3rd: QLD (Team 1)

8 December 2013	R.B. Bishop (1964)	34
	N.J. McGuire (1953)	34
	P.J. Lauder (OTU 2/66)	33
	P.J. Purnell-Webb	32
	M.J. Keating (1967)	31
	M.J. Patch (1978)	28
	Total:	192
	P.M. Arnison (1962)	25
	R.J. Carson (1968)	16

4th: QLD (Team 2)

8 December 2013	B.G. Bond (1960)	34
	D. Rankine (OCS Jun 1954)	34
	A.J. Burke (OCS Dec 1976)	33
	D.N. Collins (OCS Dec 1960)	32
	Total:	123

Best Individual Scores

1 st	Ken Heldon ACT	45
2 nd	Don Baker ACT	37
3 rd	Frank Burns NZ	35

Best Fourball Scores

1 st	Ken Heldon ACT	48
	Bob Nattey	
2 nd	Don Baker ACT	44
	Bruce Stark	

Once again my thanks to all who made the effort to participate in the 2013 competition and also to those who organised each of the games. We have never yet seen all Branches represented in any one year—perhaps with a bit of effort it may be achievable in 2014? I would be most delighted to hear from keen golfing volunteers who would like to find out how they can become involved so we can keep this very enjoyable annual competition alive and well far into the future.

Good golfing,
Frank Lehman
Match Committee Chairman

Annual Postal Golf Competition 2014

For the 2014 Competition, there has been an improvement from four to six teams submitting results, although not all were able to make up the full teams of eight. The team results were:

1st: NZ

Helensville Golf Club	J.M. Harman (RMA)	38
29 November 2014	J.W. Redward (1964)	37
	C.W. Sinclair (1968)	36
	B.D. Chippindale (1958)	34
	Colin Dixon	33
	M.J. Dudman (1959)	31
	Total:	209
	D.B. Slocombe (OCS Dec 1960)	29
	F.J. Burns	28

2nd: ACT (RCGC Reds)

Royal Canberra Golf Club	G.R. Ellis (1966)	39
29 November 2014	I.R. Smith (1957)	36
	J.B. Wilson (1967)	34
	R.C. Mounic (USMC)	33
	K.J. Heldon (1961)	33
	B.V. Osborne (OCS Jun 67)	28
	Total:	203

3rd: QLD (Team 1)

8 December 2014	P.M. Arnison (1962)	34
	Andrew Greville	33
	M.J. Patch (1978)	33
	P.J. Purnell-Webb (RAN)	33
	R.B. Bishop (1964)	32
	B.G. Bond (1960)	30
	Total:	195
	L.R. Greville (1946)	30
	David Thom	29

4th: NSW

Avondale	J.W. Stark (OCS Dec 1969)	37
12 November 2014	P.M. Ingram (OCS Jun 1964)	34
	G.J. Kells (1969)	33
	C.T. Barnett (1960)	31
	D.J. Murray (OCS Dec 1971)	30
	Tim Wilson	29
	Total:	194
	K.J. Gillespie (OCS Dec 1972)	25

5th: ACT (RCGC Blacks)

Royal Canberra Golf Club	R.J. Nattey (RAN)	38
29 November 2014	B.J. Stark (OCS Jun 1954)	32
	P.R. Phillips (1955)	32
	G.T. Salmon (1956)	30
	P.J.A. Evans (1958)	29
	R.A. Sunderland (1953)	27
	Total:	188

6th: QLD (Team 2)

8 December 2014	D.N. Collins (OCS Dec 1960)	32
	P.J. Watson (1967)	30
	P.J. Lauder (OTU 2/66)	28
	G.M. Bagot (1967)	26
	G.R. Arnold (1962)	26
	D. Rankine (OCS Jun 1954)	24
	Total:	166
	R.J. Carson (1968)	26
	S.R. Hinton (1962)	24

Best Individual Scores

1 st	G.R. Ellis (ACT)	39
2 nd	John Harman (NZ) – OCB	38
	R.J Nattey (ACT)	38

Best Fourball Scores

1 st	J.B. Wilson (ACT)	46
	G.R. Ellis	
2 nd	R.C. Mounic (ACT)	44
	I.R. Smith	36

Congratulations go to the New Zealand Team for their winning scores, and to the various individual and 4BBB winners. Commiserations to the rest!

Once again, my thanks go to those who put in the time to arrange the various matches, and to those who made the effort to participate. Welcome also to Chris Roe (1987) and Tim Wilson who have stepped up to take on the role of Golf Coordinator for SA and NSW respectively. Let's hope we can get a full field for 2015.

Good golfing,
Frank Lehman
Match Committee Chairman

Match Committee Contact Information

Chairman	F.C. (Frank) Lehman (02) 6282 5401 (H) 0419 278 300 (M) email: lehman@netspeed.com.au	SA	C. (Chris) Roe (08) 8305 6021 (W) 0431 381 513 (M) (08) 8305 6393 (Fax) email: chris.roe@defence.gov.au
ACT	G.T. (George) Salmon (02) 6288 5414 (H) email: gtsalmon@grapevine.net.au	NSW	T. (Tim) Wilson (02) 8335 6638 (H) 0430 220 848 (M) email: timothy.wilson9@defence.gov.au
NZ	M.J. (Michael) Dudman +64 9 377 5892 (H) email: mdudman@xtra.co.nz	VIC	Coordinator Required
QLD	G.J. (Graeme) Loughton (07) 3378 7376 (H) email: loughton@bigpond.net.au	WA	Coordinator Required
		TAS	Coordinator Required
		NT	Coordinator Required