

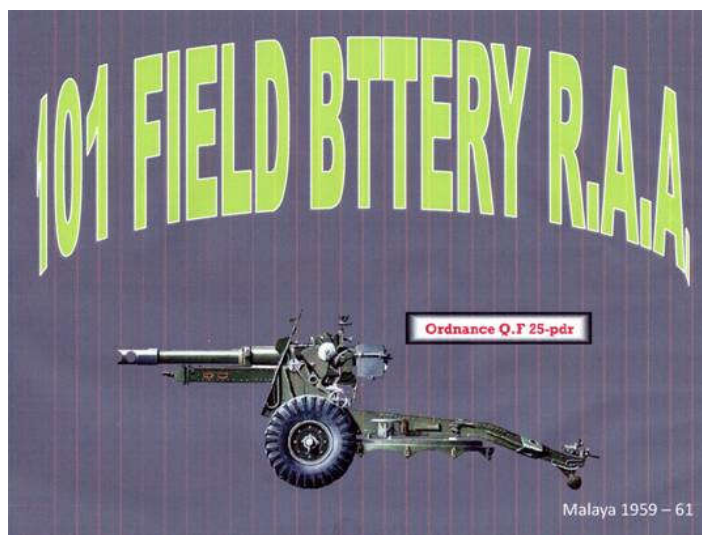


101 Field Battery RAA

Malaya 1959-1961

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January 2019 Newsletter.



The work of Rex Martin, he is worth more money.

This year marks 60 years since we sailed for Malaya on the 18th September.

As the 2019 National Gunner Dinner is being held on 23rd and 24th August at the Event Centre at Caloundra we are booking tables under the "**101 Battery Last Stand**" to celebrate our 60th Anniversary.

We would like to get together as many of our members and partners, widows and children to make this anniversary something to remember.

You can go the 'Australian Artillery Association' web site, 2019 National Gunner Dinner for the details.

If you don't have access to a computer you can contact me and I will send you the details.

We can get together at the Happy Hour on the Friday night, maybe get together for breakfast on Saturday morning and all be together for the dinner.

Our call for donations to top up our Battery funds was extremely successful, we now have enough money to continue to send out Birthday and Christmas Cards and Newsletters and cover any other expenses that come to hand.

I would like to thank everyone for their generous support.

Sick Report:

Clive Castles is not too well and his wife Merlyn sent me the following-

Clive first started to notice swelling in his right leg after our flights to Florida more or less nonstop. We went cruising right around South America with the Chadburn's. Most of the Doctors seemed to think Clive had Lymph edema and he was fitted out with a stocking. As his leg got bigger and the lump behind his right knee seemed to be swelling Clive was sent to a Vascular Surgeon who diagnosed an Aneurysm in the femoral artery behind the right knee, Bakers cyst and squashed veins. The first week of November the vascular surgeon got Clive into hospital where he was to have the removal of Aneurysm, Bakers Cyst and new plastic veins. With that we were told Clive could lose his leg above the knee. The afternoon before the operation, unbeknown to us the Aneurysm burst and he couldn't walk but I managed to get him to hospital where I knew staff would help. A 3 1/2 hour operation, one week in intensive care where he developed double pneumonia. I think they let him out far too soon and he only lasted 2 nights before the ambulance was called. His foot was white, cold, very swollen and he couldn't feel heat or stimuli. He went quietly in the ambulance and this time to a Public Hospital. More antibiotics but nothing was done with the shadow behind the knee. It is still warmer than the rest of the leg. Clive has been left with a floppy foot and has a special splint. This droopy foot has stopped him driving but it has been estimated that it could clear up in a few months. His Pneumonia still troubles him and now has to wait until March for the left leg to be operated on. This is much smaller and it shouldn't be a big operation. All DVA help that was organized to help Clive has been cancelled or sent back.

You may or may not be aware that you are entitled to get help through DVA for Domestic Assistance as well as garden maintenance.

Phone DVA and they will be able to give you the details. It is all done over the phone.

Since our last Newsletter 8 more members have passed on.

Mick Seats passed away on 21st March 2018.

Mick suffered from Dementia and was in full time care when he passed away

Michael Anthony Seats

WP37853/53491/212970

Born 4th November 1928. Kent, England.

World War 2 Service

Merchant Navy, signed on 9th May 1942, Empire Waimana, Steward's Boy, Last Engagement 14th June 1943.

Enlisted Interim Army 4th August 1945.

Discharged 24th November 1948.

Enlisted ARA 3rd September 1952.

Korea: Private, Royal Australian Infantry, 3 RAR 30th December 1953 to 9th November 1954.

Sergeant (RAAMC) Headquarters Eastern Command 1954.

111 Light Anti-Aircraft Battery 1958.

Discharged 4th October 1958.

Re-Enlisted 7th April 1959.

Malaya: Corporal (RAAMC) 101 Field Battery, Butterworth 4th October 1959

101 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery/26 Field Regiment Royal Artillery,

Malacca 17th October 1960.

1 RAR (Australian Component) 30th September 1961.

Sergeant Infantry Centre 1963.

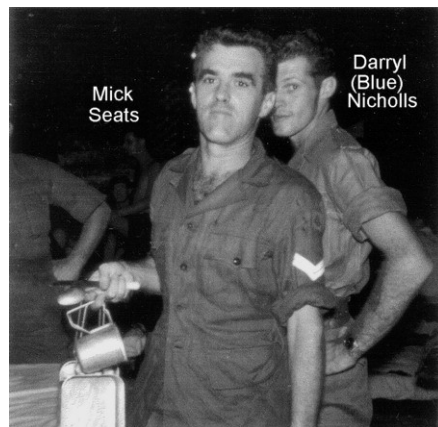
SVN: Staff Sergeant (RAAMC) 5 RAR 10th May 1966 to 1st April 1967.

Warrant Officer Class 2, CSM, 2 Camp Hospital 1967.

Warrant Officer Class 1, RSM, 7 Field Ambulance 1971.

Discharged 6th April 1971.

Mick's family were living in Hong Kong in 1942 and his father signed him into the Merchant Navy to get him out before the Japanese invaded.



Medals:

War Medal 1939-1945. AASM (Korea, Malaya & Vietnam) United Nations Service Medal (Korea) GSM (Malaya) Vietnam Medal. ASM (SE Asia) Australian General Service Medal (Korea) Defence Force Service Medal (1 Clasp) National Medal. Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal. ICB. ACB.

Bill McMillan passed away on 27th May 2018.

Bill suffered from Dementia and was in full time care when he passed away.

William Wallace McMillan

29459

Born 21st September 1938. Melbourne, Victoria.

Enlisted 8th January 1957.

1 Field Regiment, 102 Battery 12th August 1957.

1 Field Regiment, 101 Battery 1959.

Malaya: Gunner 101 Battery (BHQ-Batman) 4th October 1959.

101 Field Battery Royal Australian Artillery/26 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery 17th October 1960.

4 Field Regiment, 101 Field Battery 30th July 1961.

Lance Bombardier September 1962.

Bombardier July 1963.

Sergeant, School of Artillery 7th January 1966.

4 Field Regiment 23rd May 1969.

Staff Sergeant 3rd April 1969.

SVN: Staff Sergeant, 4 Field Regiment, 106 Field Battery 28th January 1970 to 4th February 1971.

8 Medium Regiment 4th August 1971.

Warrant Officer Class 2, 11th October 1972.

Battery Sergeant Major 103 Medium Battery 1974.

School of Artillery 1978.

1 Army Recruiting Unit 19th May 1980.

Warrant Officer Class 1, ASIT, 6th December 1982.

Discharged 4th July 1986.

In loving memory of



William Wallace McMillan

"Bill"

September 21st, 1938 - May 27, 2018

TUESDAY, JUNE 5TH, 10.30AM, FOREST LAWN MEMORIAL PARK, LEPPINGTON

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional: Soft music

"you're the best friend" - Isla Grant

Welcome & introduction

Ray James

Eulogy from

Ken Murphy and Dave Trodell

RSL Poppy service

Ken Wheeler

Reflection- Family & Friends to pay their respects and place flowers on the coffin

"There goes my everything" - Engelbert Humperdinck

23rd Psalm

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for

thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with

oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house

of the LORD for ever.

Concluding comments

The Lords prayer

Recessional song- *"The carnival is over" - The Seekers*

The following eulogy was delivered by Ken Murphy.

Many of us have attended services that by the conclusion the deceased was challenging Mother Teresa for her position in the roll call of saints.....no such challenge will be forthcoming today!

You will not hear high flown words, gratuitous statements or maudlin sentimentality but rather the celebration of the life of a man and all that is inherent in that life, the imperfections, the disappointments and mistakes....along with the victories, successes and satisfaction of a life well lived by that man we called family or mate.

William Wallace MacMillan was born 21st September 1938 in Victoria into a proud Military family with a long history of service. He was named after that great Scottish patriot William Wallace and what an inspired decision....one could just imagine our Bill in the front rank of those brave warriors of Bannockburn and being the first to turn around, bend over, raise his kilt and wiggle his bum at the British!!

His Great Grand Father Artilleryman Warrant Officer James Ramsey MacMillan served in India during the mutiny. Grand Father William served 46 years in the British/Australian Artillery, his Father was the legendary "chin" Major Bob MacMillan who was the Commandant of 2 Military Corrective Establishment. His brothers; Ron a Warrant Officer in the Royal Regiment, Bob a Warrant Officer in Engineers and Ian a Sergeant in the Guns. He had three sisters one now deceased, of Bill and Janice's sons and daughter the services got not a single recruit, however the tradition continues within the extended family today. He had a fairly normal upbringing as far as a military family can provide. After leaving school he was employed at STC in Liverpool and remained there until the service called.

During that period he met Janice through the mutual friendship of their parents. He attended a number of church dances to impress her but I'm reliably informed he couldn't dance a step and thankfully there wasn't one recorded roof collapse of a church hall when Bill entered!!
And so to his Military career:

David Troedel then read out Bill's military service:-

2/9459 William Wallace McMillan (Bill)

Enlisted Eastern Command Personnel Depot, 8th January 1957

1 Recruit Training Battalion Kapooka, 16th January 1957

School of Artillery, 9th May 1957

1 Field Regiment, 102 Field Battery 12th August 1957

1 Field Regiment, 101 Battery November 1958

Malaya: Gunner, 101 Battery, Butterworth, 4th October 1959

101 Battery, RAA/26 Field Regiment RA, Terendak, 17th October 1960

4 Field Regiment, 101 Battery, Wacol, 2nd October 1961

Lance Bombardier, September 1962

Bombardier, July 1963

Sergeant, School of Artillery, 11th January 1966

Staff Sergeant 3rd April 1969

4 Field Regiment 23rd May 1969

SVN: Staff Sergeant, 4 Field Regiment, 106 Battery, 28th January 1970 to 4th February 1971

8 Medium Regiment, 5th February 1971

102 Field Battery 15th September 1972

Warrant Officer Class 2, 11th October 1972

8 Medium Regiment 29th June 1973

8/12 Medium Regiment 16th November 1973

BSM, 103 Medium Battery 1974

School of Artillery 2nd December 1974

2 Army Recruiting Unit 19th May 1980

Warrant Officer Class 1, Army School of Instructional Techniques 6th December 1982

Discharged 4th July 1986 (29 Years and 6 Months Service)

Employment:

Gun Number, Artillery Signaller, Operator Command Post Field, Instructor

Overseas Service:

Malaya: 20th September 1959 to 1st October 1961

New Zealand: 11th September 1964 to 19th October 1964

Vietnam: 28th January 1970 to 29th April 1970 and 3rd May 1970 to 4th February 1971

United States of America: 7th January 1976 to 24th February 1976

Medals:

Australian Active Service Medal, Clasps Malaya & Vietnam

General Service Medal, Clasp Malaya

Vietnam Medal

Australian Service Medal, Clasp S E Asia

Defence Force Service Medal, 2 Clasps

National Medal, 1 Clasp

Australian Defence Medal

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal

Army Combat Badge

Returned From Active Service Badge

Nothing we can say or do here today can add or detract from what is the essence of Bill MacMillan he has already written his story. We can however recall those special moments in time that were for us Bill MacMillan

For.... If you knew Bill for more than ten minutes you had a story about him!

John Butler met him on his first day in the Army and for the ensuing 61 years remained firm friends.

"I met Bill at Marrickville early in January 1957 and became friends instantly, we seemed to be joined at the hip, with each other going to Kapooka together, then onto School of Artillery, then to 102 Battery and later posted to 101 Battery for training to go to Malaya in 1959. Many an afternoon, Bill and I would go to Liverpool for a few beers, then at 6 pm the pub would close, we would buy a bottle of plonk and go to a nearby park and consume, then back to the pub to continue our night out.

I always got the blame for anytime Bill was late home, I found this out many years later. We can look back over the years and search for genuine and true friends and if we are lucky, we would count them one hand. To me, Bill was one of the best, we will miss you Brother.... REST IN PEACE"

Bill was one of those among us who, through word and deed showed up and dealt with...in his own unique way....those who were pompous, pretentious or just plain posers. His way throughout his life was this; if you were fair dinkum, you were met with an extended hand and an open heart.

Fact...in all the years I knew him I never knowingly met an enemy of his or heard someone speak ill of him.....well.....that's not strictly true. During his service in Malaya Bill was part of the Battery Basket Ball team that won through to the final of the Minor Units Championships, we were to play C Coy. 2/2 Gurkha Bn. Their O.C. and team Captain was the then, the tallest man in the British Army (around seven feet). Watching him line up with his team was a sight to behold (average five feet)!!

By half time the score was tied at 22 each. It was then I called our Bill over and said " the seven ft. fellow is killing us and your job in the second half is to be his shadow".....and shadow he was for the next 15 minutes, the 7 ft. fellow ran into, tripped over, hit against and stumbled onto or over our Bill.....suddenly with 5 minutes to go I heard from further down the court a loud shout.....I turned and saw the 7 ft fellow leaning over our Bill with both fist clenched and issuing the mother of all spray's.....now I couldn't make out what he was saying but I KNEW WHAT HE MEANT!! Our Bill was as close to losing his life to an allied attack than at any time during the Emergency!

I suspect that qualifies as being spoken ill of!! Mind it didn't finish there, during the after game celebration I made my one big mistake of the day....I told our Bill he won the game for us.....and for the next 58 yrs he never let me forget it!!

There is another who recalls some special family moments that involves her Brother in Law. Lorraine along with her other Sisters had a wonderful relationship with our Bill that involved a great deal of light hearted torment and now she is going to square up for all those years. (Lorraine then related a number of hilarious incidents)

I'm certain as I look around there are many of you recalling a Bill MacMillan moment, I hope when we gather together at Ingleburn RSL to raise a glass or two you won't remain silent....while he can't join us in person the stories about him is exactly how he would like you to remember him.

It's time for us William Wallace to say....Stand Easy Gunner your mission is well and truly completed and you may take your leave knowing that your fellow Gunners will join you soon enough on that distant GUN LINE. We, your friends take great comfort from that.....your family.....although you can never know fully know the heart of any man there are these things I do know about Will.....he loved his country.....the Regiment.....his friends and more importantly family, whom he spoke of with a deep and abiding love and pride.

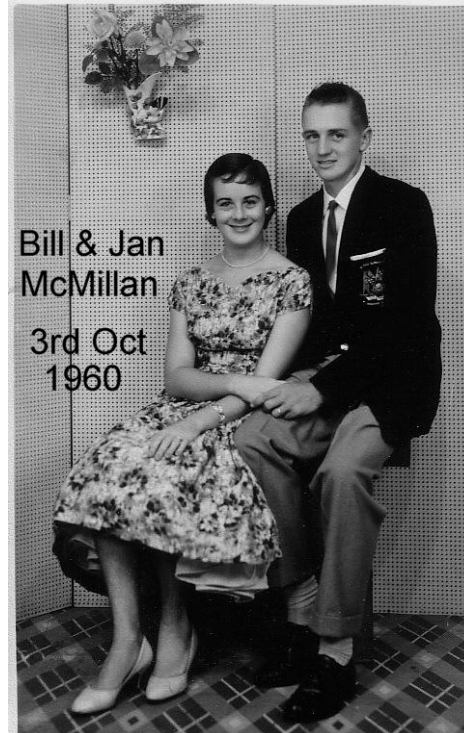
In these past difficult days his Sisters-in-Law and Family have provided inspirational strength to Bills widow Janice. Janice you are special in many ways but for us younger soldiers in Malaya you were our den mother a role you never asked for but are remembered

forto this very day. We hope the fond memories you shared with Bill.....the love all of us feel for you and the courage you've shown.....will warm and sustain you in the melancholy days ahead.

William Wallace MacMillan you were my friend for 60 years and I thank you for the unforgettable memories

I WILL MISS YOU

Lest we forget



Sadly Janice McMillan passed away on 3rd November 2018 after a long battle with Liver Cancer.

From Bill's Eulogy by Ken Murphy.

Their O.C. and team Captain was the then, the tallest man in the British Army (around seven feet)

Jonny Gurkha 'Friends in the Hills' - E. D. Smith (Page 88)

Before we leave the infantry regiments in Malaya it is well worth telling a story about a very tall officer - about 6' 7" - who joined the 2nd Gurkha Rifles. It is not surprising that the Quartermaster had no jungle boots to fit his shoe size of 14.

Eventually a solution was reached; the officer would wear size 12s, the largest available jungle boots in the QM's stores, with the toes cut out and two pairs of grey worsted socks to keep out the thorns while, in the meantime, a special order for 10 pairs of size 14 boots was sent to the factory, who promised delivery within a few months.

It transpired that the officer had to face a busy period of jungle operations which meant going through many size 12s and worsted socks as well as suffering badly-stubbed toes. Finally, on returning from an operation and with a few days' leave to spend in Singapore, he was overjoyed to hear that his new, specially prepared, jungle boots had arrived and his orderly was told to collect them from the QM.

Leave over and preparing for the jungle once more, the tall Sahib discovered, to his horror, that his faithful Gurkha orderly had carefully cut out the toes from all ten pairs of the new boots. So it was back to size 12s, the worsted socks and stubbed toes.

Trevor Sherwood (Charlie) Passed away on 12th June 2018.

Trevor passed away on the Sunshine Coast after a long battle with throat Cancer. He lived in Rosewood and moved to Townsville living close to his brother where his throat cancer was diagnosed and his brother and sister-in-law looked after him.

After his Keno win Trevor moved to the Sunshine Coast and bought a Town House but sadly did not have long to enjoy living there.

Trevor Charles Sherwood

14330

Born 22nd December 1939.

Enlisted 27th December 1956.

1 Field Regiment, 102 Battery 12th August 1957.

1 Field Regiment, 101 Battery 1959.

Malaya: Gunner 'A' Battery 13th March 1959.

101 Field Battery (BHQ- Ammo No) 4th October 1959.

101 Field Battery RAA/26 Field Regiment RA 17th October 1960.

131 Divisional Locating Battery 15th March 1961.

Discharged 26th December 1962.

Medals:

AASM (Malaya) GSM (Malaya) ASM (SE ASIA) ADM. Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal. ACB



78-year-old wins \$1.6 million on Keno, gets bus to pub

OLIVIA GRACE-CURRAN, Townsville Bulletin
December 29, 2017 9:12pm

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A true-blue Townsville battler hopped on a public bus to the pub after winning more than \$1 million in a Keno jackpot.

The 78-year-old Currajong man who wishes to be referred to only as 'Charlie' was catching up with a mate at the Cowboys Leagues Club on Friday when he won the big prize.

He played seven games of Keno with six of the same numbers he has been using since 1997, plus an additional four.

"I don't put ten numbers very often and I've had the same six numbers since the beginning.

The retiree then watched as 10 out of the 10 numbers from his \$7 ticket appeared on the Keno screen, scoring a massive \$1,636,024 cash prize.

"I saw six of my numbers come up and I knew that I'd won \$900," he said.

"I was pretty happy with that. And then I saw more of my numbers come up. I counted them up and I thought 'that can't be right'.

"I went over to the counter and said, 'I think I've got ten out of ten'.

"I don't think the girl believed me until I showed her the ticket."

In true-blue Aussie battler style, he continued on with his normal day, jumping on his usual 12:15pm bus to the Dalrymple Hotel before having an afternoon nap.

"It hasn't sunk in yet," the winner said.

Charlie plans to use his cash prize to help his family and buy a house in Rosewood near Ipswich, where he lived for 12 years before moving to North Queensland.

"It was my birthday on the 22nd and Christmas on the 25th, so it wasn't bad."

Keno's Queensland manager David Dicker congratulated the state's latest jackpot winner.

As Trevor did not want a funeral a wake was held at the Geebung RSL Club in May 2018.

There was a large attendance of his family and friends and an impressive slide show that was put together that was a great story of Trevor's life.





Brian James Crilly passed away on 7th July 2018.

41918

Born 25th November 1938, South Australia.

Enlisted 21st June 1956.

1 Field Regiment, 104 Locating Battery 1957.

1 Field Regiment, 101 Battery 7th May 1957.

Malaya: Gunner 100 (A) Battery 28th November 1958.

101 Battery (Charlie Troop-Gun No) 4th October 1959

101 Field Battery Royal Australian Artillery/26 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery 17th October 1960.

RTA 30th October 1960.

4 Field Regiment 18th February 1961.

Discharged 31st October 1961.

Medals:

AASM (Malaya) GSM (Malaya) ASM (SE ASIA) ADM. Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal. ACB



Ray Clarke passed away on 27th August 2018.

Raymond John Clarke

29219

Born 13th December 1938.

Enlisted 18th January 1956.

1 Field Regiment, 104 Locating Battery 1956.

1 Field Regiment, 101 Battery 7th May 1957.

Malaya: Gunner 100 (A) Field Battery 28th November 1958.

101 Battery (BHQ-1st Reinforcements) 4th October 1959.

4 Field Regiment 19th October 1960.

Gunner 103 Battery, Royal Australian Artillery/26 Field Regiment Royal Artillery 1961-1963.

1 Field Regiment 1963.

Gunner/ Bombardier 121 Light Anti Aircraft Battery, Darwin October 1964.

111 Light Anti Aircraft Battery 1966.

Sergeant 1 Field Regiment 1968.

Jungle Training Centre 1969.

19 Composite Regiment 1969.

Staff Sergeant 8 Medium Regiment.

Staff Sergeant Discharged 17th January 1971.

Re-Enlisted 30th September 1971.

Sergeant 11 Field Regiment.

113 Light Anti Aircraft Battery August 1972.

4 Field Regiment July 1976.

LS&GCM.

Warrant Officer Class 2 Discharged 31st January 1978.

Medals:

AASM (Malaya) GSM (Malaya) ASM (SE ASIA) Defence Force Service Medal. National Medal. ADM. LS&GCM. Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal. ACB

Ken White passed away on 4th October 2018.

Winston Kingsley White (Ken)

41984

Born 18th May 1936. Laura, South Australia.

16 National Service Training Battalion.

Enlisted 16th April 1957

Malaya: Gunner 'A' Battery 17th January 1959

101 Battery (Delta Troop-Dvr Op) 4th October 1959

101 Field Battery RAA/26 Field Regiment RA 17th October 1960.

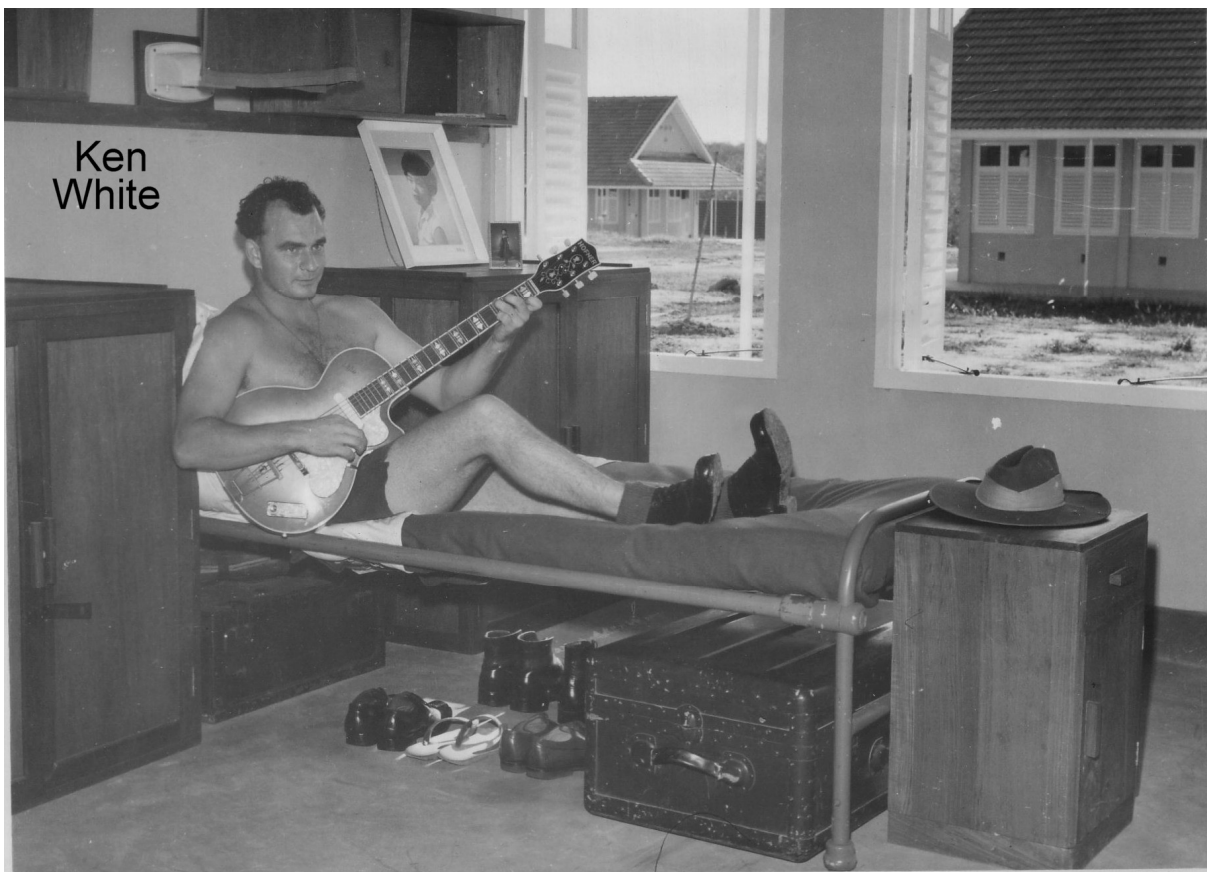
111 Light Anti Aircraft Battery 14th January 1961

Discharged 15th April 1963

Medals:

AASM (Malaya) GSM (Malaya) ASM (SE ASIA) ADM. Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal. ACB.





Eulogy written by Roxanne (Ken's Daughter)

Winston Kingsley White 'Ken'

8-5-1936 – 3-10-2018

Aged 82 years

Born in Laura in the mid-north of South Australia, he was the youngest of eight children. His father, Giles, died from complications due to a farming accident, when Ken was just a toddler.

Not long after Giles' death, Ella (his mother) moved the family to the city to live. They lived in North Adelaide; on South Terrace in the building which then became the Girl Guides Headquarters; and in Rundle Street, above where the Miss Gladys Sym Choon emporium is currently located. When living on South Terrace, Ella rented out spare rooms for extra income. Ken recalled sleeping on shared beds on the back verandah and getting wet when the rain poured.

Ken attended Gilles Street Primary School. It was during these years of living in the south-east corner of the city that he met his lifelong friend, Gerry Hinton. In 2017, Ken revisited his old primary school to talk to the students about what life was like in the 1940s.

During his primary school years, Ken helped the local milkman with deliveries early in the morning and did pharmacy deliveries on his bicycle after school.

Ken started school at Adelaide High School on West Terrace but only attended for a few months. Instead, Ken sought work to help his Mum with extra money.

In the early 1950s, when he was about 15 or 16 years of age, one of his brothers, James (Jim) got him a job as a Cowboy on Faraway station, north of Burra. His jobs on the station included bringing in the cows for milking, fixing fence posts and checking the dams. He had his own 2 room cottage with a bathroom which was unusual for a Cowboy. During the warmer months, Ken would sometimes sleep on the front porch on a canvas. Jim had lied about Dad's age to the bosses so they would pay him more.

After leaving Faraway, Ken returned to Adelaide and found work at Cox Foys Department Store. Ken never stopped folding his jumpers in the 'department store' style.

During this time, Ken started working with PMG (or Telstra as most of us would know it). A few months later, at the age of 20, Ken joined the National Service and trained at Woodside in the Adelaide Hills.

On 16 April 1957 he enlisted in the Army and undertook three months training in Kapooka. This is where we met another life-long friend – Norm Harden. In January 1959, he was deployed to Malaya as a Gunner. Ken was a Radio Officer where he used Morse Code to relay messages. While serving in Malaya, Ken joined a band where he played the bass and guitar. As far as we know, his musical abilities were self taught as he never talked about having music lessons and we doubt his mum would have been able to afford it. Ken met another mate in Malaya – Les Ashby.

During a deployment, Ken was carrying a load of equipment up a hill when he experienced a sharp pain through his back and was unable to continue with the assignment. Unbeknown to him at the time, he had fractured a vertebrae in his spine. An injury he carried for the rest of his life.

On his return from Malaya in 1961, Ken was posted in Sydney. It was at this time Ken was introduced to Gwen through mutual friends who needed a fourth person for a game of squash. Ken must have been smitten; they were married just 11 months later, in August 1962.

Just a few months later, Ken and his new bride, moved back to Adelaide, specifically Piccadilly in the Adelaide Hills where they first rented and then bought their home. They have fond memories of their dog, Mick; Billy the Goat and blackberry bushes galore. Ken was officially discharged from the Army on 15 April 1963 and recommenced his long career with PMG (Telecom) as a linesman, sitting over manholes, installing and repairing telephone cables.

Also living in Piccadilly was Ken's brother Jim, with his wife Betty and their 10 (yes 10!) children. The kids were often at Ken and Gwen's house. When David, (the 10th child) was a baby, Betty died suddenly and the children were sent to their Aunties and Uncles to be cared for. David stayed with Ken and Gwen for a while.

About 5 years later, Ken received a job transfer back to Sydney, living in Milson's Point (now a very affluent suburb).

Then it was back to Piccadilly for a while, before heading to Sydney again, this time to Reevesby where Ken and Gwen's eldest daughter, Kae, was born in 1968.

Later in 1968 it was back to Adelaide again, where they briefly lived in Semaphore before purchasing their family home in Pasadena.

Three years later, Roxanne was born.

A few years later, Ken met John Raymond through a mutual friend. It was John who introduced Ken to fishing. It wasn't long before Ken was hooked. Many camping trips followed that inevitably involved fishing. Never one to do things by halves, Ken soon had worked out the best rigs, baits and tides to get the best results. He knew that if the fish hadn't bitten within an hour, it was time to try another spot. Just some of the places the family went to were Pt Giles, Wool Bay, Coobowie, Edithburgh, Marion Bay, Butlers Farm, Pt Lincoln, Venus Bay, Cape Jervis and Rapid Bay. The girls have fond memories of being carried to the back of the silver station wagon in very early hours of the morning where they slept amongst the camping gear; cooking hot cross buns on the camp grill; making billy tea; sleeping on the jetty; packing up tents in the rain and/or wind; air mattresses going flat during the night; Gwen spending hours at the kitchen sink filleting bags of Tommy Ruffs; crabbing and sunburn on Thompsons Beach.

There was a particular trip to Pt Lincoln where Ken had returned to camp from a day of fishing, somehow with his feet sunburnt. Sitting on a camp stool with his feet firmly planted in a tub of ice and cold water, the stool gave way under him and he fell to the ground with his feet still in the tub. Well, the group dispersed quickly, trying to hide their laughter. Other times the girls found themselves sleeping in the back of the car were on road trips to Sydney to visit Gwen's family and friends.

Ken always found time to pull out his guitar, stick on a country music record and strum and sing along. It's no wonder Kae and Roxanne know the words to Grandma's Feather Bed, Country Road and Annie's Song – John Denver classics.

In the late 1970s Ken was promoted from Linesman to Estimator and found himself behind a desk.

Around 1980, Ken took up leather carving. He kept himself very busy in the shed making belts (such as the one sitting on top of the coffin today), handbags, purses, keyrings and stubby holders. He continued this hobby for about five years.

Always keen to do as much of the work around the house as possible, Ken, with the help of family and friends, laid most of the concrete around the house.

In the early 80s, the camping trips dwindled as Kae became involved in St John's First Aid and Roxanne's calisthenics commitments increased.

Again, never one to do things by halves, Ken became involved in the calisthenics club, serving as Secretary, Vice President and President of the Committee. He also fundraised for the club through the Mitsubishi Social Club Movie Nights and spent summer holiday mornings delivering promotional flyers throughout neighbouring suburbs – always in a very coordinated manner with maps given out to everyone highlighting their areas.

Not a shy man, when Ken was asked to participate in a Christmas item at a calisthenics concert, he embraced it whole-heartedly and took on the role of the Fairy on the Christmas Tree.

In 1983 it was time to give the family home a facelift. Ken had found a new skill – hanging wallpaper. Consequently, almost every room in the house had wallpaper applied to it.

Ken retired from Telecom in 1991, when Gwen also retired.

In 1992 they ventured on their first overseas trip together. Over eight months, they visited Hong Kong, Rome, Paris, and many parts England, Scotland and Wales. It was on this trip that Ken discovered he had developed Type II Diabetes.

Ken needed to keep busy so he joined the local Neighbourhood Watch Group and the Pasadena Residents' Association. Again taking up roles on the Committee.

During his retirement years, Ken re-engaged with his Army history. Unable to locate any Veterans groups from his Regiment, he joined the Korea and South East Asia Forces Association - KSEAFA.

Ken fell in love with the 'English-ness' of Tasmania and frequently mentioned the township of Strachan following their holiday in 1997.

In 1999/2000, Ken and Gwen visited Malaysia and Thailand. Ken was keen to show Gwen some of things he had seen while serving in Malaya during the 1950s. Then in 2001 they were off again – this time to New Zealand. The highlight of this trip was a helicopter ride over snow-covered peaks.

Medals:

AASM (Malaya) GSM (Malaya) ASM (SE ASIA) ADM. Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal. ACB.

Shakey Matthews.

Lindsay Barry Matthews (Shakey)

2411842

Enlisted April 1959.

1 Field Regiment.

Malaya: Gunner, 101 Field Battery, 14th September 1960 (Driver Operator)

101 Field Battery, RAA/26 Field Regiment, RA 17th October 1960.

4 Field Regiment 27th October 1961.

Possible Discharge April 1962.

Died 19th September 2018, New South Wales.

Matthews Lindsay Barry.

Passed away Wednesday 19th September 2018 after a long illness. Devoted and much loved husband to Barbara.

Rest in Peace.

As per Barry's wishes a private service will be held.
Sydney Morning Herald 22Sep2018



1. Snow Stuart, 2. Brian Cutts, 3. Merv Hawley, 4. Shaky Matthews.

Medals:

ASM (SE ASIA) ADM. Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal.

Ken Edwards passed away on 8th November 2018.

Kenneth Mountcashel Edwards.

3/718636 /3410380/ A316133

Born 24th June 1934, Warnambool, Victoria.

14 National Service Training Battalion August 1953 to November 1953.

Enlisted RASR-(O) 23rd April 1956.

1 Field Regiment, 104 Locating Battery August 1956.

1 Field Regiment, Q Battery, 101 Battery 7th May 1957.

Malaya: Bombardier (Charlie Troop) 101 Battery 4th October 1959.

101 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery/26 Field Regiment Royal Artillery, 17th October 1960.

4 Field Regiment 21st October 1961.

Discharged 11th June 1962.

Enlisted RAAF 16th September 1962.

SVN: Corporal, HQ, AFV/5ACS, 2 Squadron 14th March 1968 to 19th February 1969.

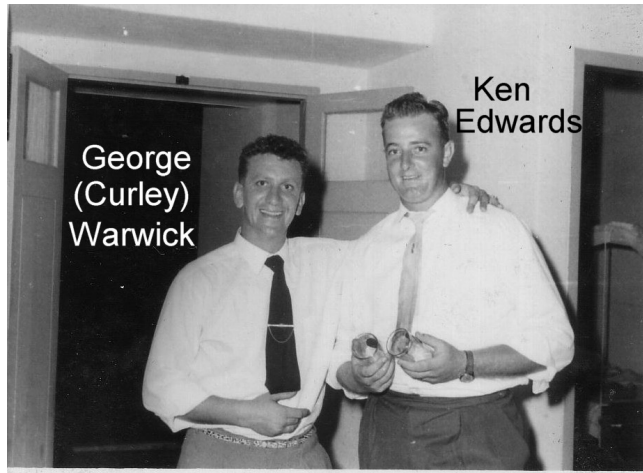
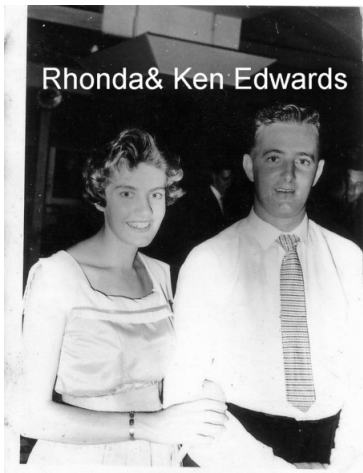
Malaysia/Butterworth June 1972 to December 1974.

Sergeant Discharged 31st January 1978.

Ken was an original member of 104 Loc Bty, Q Bty and 101 Battery.

Medals:

AASM (Malaya & Vietnam) GSM (Malaya) Vietnam Medal. ASM (SE Asia) Defence Force Service Medal (1 Clasp) National Medal (1 Clasp) ADM. Anniversary of National Service Medal. Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal. ACB



Sadly Patricia Warwick (Wife of Curley) passed away on 16th May 2017 on the Sunshine Coast.



The Christmas Card I sent to Kath Lincoln in 2017 was returned "no longer at this address"

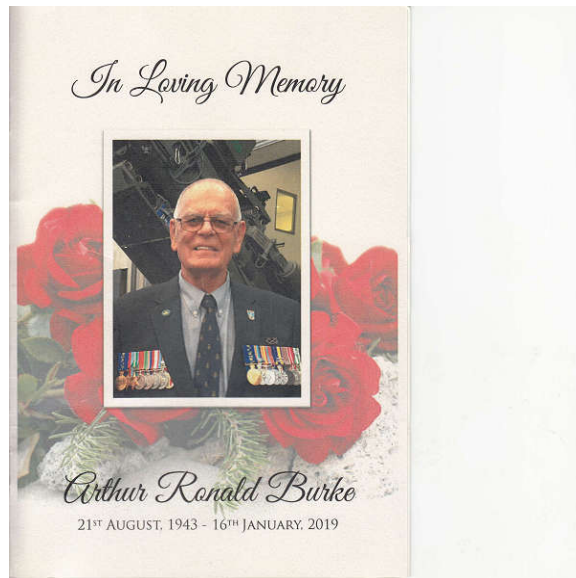
Of the 225 members that served in Malaya with the Battery, 134 have passed on, we have lost contact with 23 members which only leaves 86 of us still living.

I have prepared an Obituary for the 134 Members that have passed on complete with photos from the 101 Battery Photo Disc.

Have also prepared a history on each of the 23 members that we have lost contact with. I have tried everything I know to find them but to no avail.

On Thursday 24th January 2019 the funeral service at the Albert Street Uniting Church Brisbane was held for Arthur Ronald Burke O.A.M. Colonel (Retired). There was a very large attendance including the Premier of Queensland Annastacia Palaszczuk. Major General Paul Stevens, AO (Ret) delivered the Eulogy.

Arthur was the Colonel Commandant Northern Region.



Anzac Day is not that far away.

Last year only Jim King and I from 101 Battery Malaya marched in Brisbane under the 101 Battery Association Banner.

The numbers marching under the Gun Battery Banners are shrinking each year.

Maybe it is now time to group together and march under the Royal Australian Artillery Association Banner.

After the march we again went to the Pig & Whistle but it is very crowded, noisy and quite expensive. Apart from the river cruise I don't know of an alternative meeting place.

Kevin Salter pointed out an interesting coincidence.

Bill McMillan enlisted in the ARA on 8th January 1957 at Eastern Command Personnel Depot in New South Wales.

Kevin marched into 17 National Service Training Battalion at Swanbourne in Western Australia. to commence his military career.

The following may be of interest and brighten up the Newsletter.

In researching my family history the youngest sister of my grandfather, Augustus Rudolph Troedel was to be engaged to Philip John Rupert Steel when he returned from World War 1. Sadly he did not return.

The Steele family lost three sons -

Captain Frederick Wilberforce Alexander Steele. 4th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers.
Died 26th October 1914. Neuve Chapelle. France.

Lieutenant Philip John Rupert Steele of 4th Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, who died of wounds in the British Red Cross Hospital in Rouen on 8 January 1917.

Second Lieutenant Norman Leslie Steele of 1 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps, who died of wounds as a prisoner of war after his Martinsyde aircraft was shot down during a bombing raid over Hareira, Palestine. Died 20th April 1917. Israel.

The sole surviving son, Corporal Henry Cyril Augustus was promptly recalled home to Australia to be with his family and assist his father in running the family business, Steele & Company.

In honour of the three Steele brothers, the area at Melbourne Grammar known as the Wilderness was reconstructed and named the Steele Memorial Ground. There is also a commemorative plaque in St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne.

1. Frederick Wilberforce Alexander Steele.

Born in 1885, Steele was the eldest of four boys born to Philip and Johanna Steele. Raised in Melbourne and educated at Melbourne Grammar School, at the age of 20 he was commissioned a second lieutenant with the Australian Field Artillery in 1905. Eager for active service abroad, two years later Steele transferred to the British Army's reserve 2nd Battalion, Royal Fusiliers.

Steele was one of thousands of Australians who served with the armed forces of allied nations in the First World War, often long before Australians fought under their own flag at Gallipoli in April 1915. In particular, many Australians travelled to Britain to enlist at the outbreak of war, some out of a sense of adventure, others because of strong political convictions or familial connections between Australia and Britain.

For Frederick Steele, a career with the British Army offered all the opportunities for full time military service that were unavailable with Australia's domestic militia. In April 1914, after ten months stationed in Calcutta with the 2nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers, Steele transferred to the regular 4th Battalion, City of London Regiment, Royal Fusiliers. Despite his fears that the war would be over before he could do his bit, his transfer came in time for him to experience the active service and the adventure he had craved as a young man.



The 4th Battalion, which formed part of the 3rd Division of the British Army, had mobilised remarkably quickly and embarked for Havre within days of the British declaration of war. Steele and his battalion travelled by train across France to Landrecies where they disembarked and marched toward Mons to meet the First German Army.



The first major contact of the British and German armies took place at Mons on 23rd August 1914, and is often remembered for the British retreat which followed. The British infantry at Mons were attempting to halt the German advance through Belgium and form a line of resistance on the Mons-Conde Canal, for which Steele and his battalion would prove integral.

Here, Lieutenant Steele witnessed many acts of bravery during the battle and retreat at Nimy, two of which left such an indelible impression that he recommended the men involved, Lieutenant Dease and Private Godley. Dease had repeatedly left his trench on patrol to inspect the bridge defences and was severely wounded each time. The last patrol cost him his life for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously. Godley had volunteered to man the last machine gun as the Fusiliers retreated. Thought dead at the time Steele wrote his recommendation, he was praised for 'Coolness and gallantry in fighting his machine gun under a hot fire for two hours after he had been wounded at Mons on 23rd August'. However Godley who had been taken prisoner was notified of his award in a German camp.

Steele is among the first officers to make recommendations for the Victoria Cross in the war. A total of five Victoria Crosses were recommended that day: two by Steele.

Soon after Steele was promoted to captain and took command of a company. Writing home after the retreat from Mons, Steele remained positive about his experience and his future in the conflict:

"I am very fit and happy and enjoying myself. I fancy I must have been lucky. I just managed my exchange in time for this. I have looked forward to active service for so long. At present I am in command of a company and two machine guns that have done well. I was personally complimented by Sir John French.

It was not long after his family received this cheerful correspondence that Steele was killed in action on October 26 at Neuve Chapelle.

The Man Behind The Bearskin
(27 June 2013 by Eleni Holloway)



Concealed beneath the fine jet black hairs of this bearskin headdress is the gilded flaming grenade badge of the Royal Fusiliers. The bearskin headdress worn with the traditional scarlet full dress uniform during ceremonial and state occasions by British soldiers is an impressive sight, emblematic of the sartorial military splendour of the 18th and 19th century.

The British tradition of wearing bearskin headdresses began a century before the First World War, when it was adopted as a symbol of victory after the Battle of Waterloo. On 18th June 1815, the British 1st Regiment of Foot Guards (later the Grenadier Guards) was given the right to wear the bearskin headdress of the defeated French grenadiers of Napoleon's elite Imperial Guard. Soon this symbolic right was extended to the full five regiments of Foot Guards, and remains their privilege today.

This particular bearskin headdress, however, was worn by an Australian: Captain Frederick Wilberforce Alexander Steele who served with Royal Fusiliers, from 1910 to 1914.

2. Phillip John Rupert Steele

Born 1889. Camberwell. Victoria.

WW1 Service.

Name: Phillip John Rupert Steele
Regimental number: 6416
Place of birth: Camberwell Victoria
Religion: Church of England
Occupation: Warehouseman
Address: Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria
Marital status: Single

Age at embarkation: 26
Next of Kin: Father, P J Steele, Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria
Enlistment date: 20 September 1915
Rank on enlistment: Sergeant
Unit name: Field Artillery Brigade 4, Battery 10
Embarkation details: Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A18 *Wiltshire* on 18 November 1915
Regimental number from Nominal Roll: Commissioned
Rank from Nominal Roll: Lieutenant
Unit from Nominal Roll: 4th Field Artillery Brigade
Fate: Died of wounds 8 January 1917
Age at death from cemetery records: 27
Place of burial: St. Sever Cemetery (Officers, Plot B, Row 3, Grave No. 32), Rouen, France
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial: 13
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records: Parents: Philip John and Johanna Albertina Steele, 195 Swanston Street, Melbourne Victoria
Family/military connections: Brother: 6417 Corporal Henry Cecil Augustus Steele, 4th Field Artillery Brigade, returned to Australia, 17 March 1917.
(Australian Government, Department of Veterans' Affairs)

Died of Wounds Received in Action 8th January 1917. No 2 British Red Cross Hospital. Rouen. France (G.S.W. Head, and Leg Amputation)

Buried St. Sever Cemetery (Officers, Plot B, Row 3, Grave No. 32), Rouen, France.

Lieutenant P. J. Rupert Steele
Killed at the Battle of the Somme.

Son of Mr. P. J. Steele, J.P., 'Normanhurst,' Denmark Street, Kew. Mr. P. J. Steele, J. P., who is an exemplary patriot, has contributed four sons to King and Country. Lieutenant P. J. Rupert Steele, whose portrait is here given, left Melbourne in November, 1915, with Colonel Grimwade's Field Artillery Brigade, and had been twelve months on active service when he was hit by shrapnel in sixteen places. He died at No. 2 Australian Hospital, Rouen, on 8th. January of this year. His brother, Corporal Cyril Steele, who left Melbourne, with the same battery, was with him at his death. The brothers were inseparable companions from their earliest youth, and it will be a great blow to Corporal Cyril Steele. Lieutenant Steele's eldest brother, Captain Fred Steele, of the Royal Fusiliers, London, whose portrait is given on page 2, was present at the Battle of Mons and subsequent battles, until 26th October, 1914, when he was killed in action at Neuve Chapelle. He was twice mentioned in despatches by Sir John French for distinguished service. His youngest brother, Norman Steele, is a lieutenant in the First Squadron Flying Corps, and has won his wings. All four brothers were educated at the Melbourne Church of England Grammar School.



3. Henry Cyril Augustus Steele.

Born 1891. Hawthorn. Victoria.

WW1 Service.

Name: Henry Cecil Augustus Steele

Regimental number: 6417

Place of birth: Auburn Victoria

Religion: Church of England

Occupation: Warehouseman

Address: Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria

Marital status: Single

Age at embarkation: 24

Next of Kin: Father, P J Steele, Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria

Enlistment date: 20 September 1915

Rank on enlistment: Bombardier

Unit name: Field Artillery Brigade 4, Battery 10

Embarkation details: Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A18 Wiltshire on 18 November 1915

Rank from Nominal Roll: Corporal

Unit from Nominal Roll: 4 Field Artillery Brigade

Fate: Returned to Australia 17 March 1917

Other Details:

Family Connections: Brother (6416) Lt Phillip John Rupert Steele, 4th Field Artillery Brigade, died of wounds, 8 January 1917

(Australian Government, Department of Veterans' Affairs)

Died 1939. Werribee. Victoria.

Bay Tragedy

Many employees of Steele and Co Pty. Ltd attended the funeral at the Box Hill Cemetery yesterday of the managing director of the firm Mr Cyril Augustus Steele, a victim of the speedboat tragedy in Port Phillip Bay on Wednesday.

Members of the 10th Battery of the 4th Brigade AIF with whom Steele served marched in front of the cortege. Pallbearers were the 10 employees of Steele and Co Pty Ltd who had been longest in the company's service.

Canon Crotty of Christ Church St Kilda conducted the service at the grave.

A service at the Melbourne Grammar School chapel was taken by the chaplain the Rev P St John Wilson and a lesson was read by the Rev R G Nichols.

Representatives of many city commercial interests were among those present.

Chief mourners were Mr Steele's son Mr Rupert Steele, Messrs H Steele and G Ekman (uncles) Mr T Duckett (father-in-law) and Mr Jack Steele (cousin) Pall bearers were Messrs D H McDonald J McConachie S Sheldon H Slater W Wallace R H Mead L Southgate F Marchant A Hayes and H Buckingham.

Arrangements were made by A A Sleight Pty Ltd.

The Argus (Melbourne, Vic.: 1848 - 1957) Tuesday 24 January 1939

Oarsmen Mourn Death Of Cyril Steele

By "Rudder"

The recent death in tragic circumstances of Mr Cyril A. Steele, who was lost in a speed boat in Port Phillip Bay, removes from the Victorian Rowing Association one of its staunchest and most unostentatious friends. The family had been associated with rowing for a great many years, a trait derived from their father, the founder of the firm of Steele & Co. Pty. Ltd., who in his younger days was himself a prominent oarsman, and later took delight in attending the river to follow the training of his boys, Cyril and Rupert, whenever a race was in the offering.

Cyril was a member of the Banks Club, with whom he won several races. Rupert was in the then Civil Service Club, with which he won a maiden eight, rowing 7 to Jack Waldron, now mine host of the Argus Hotel, and later with the late E. Rowe at No. 2 and T. S. Flint in the bow seat, won a maiden four at Henley, 1914, and a junior four at Nagambie in the same year. At that time Waldron was in the External Affairs Department, and had already earned a reputation for himself as a bushman and explorer, and early in 1915, accompanied by Rupert Steele, set out from Adelaide for Darwin. The party was well advanced into the Territory by camel when news was received of the death overseas, in action, of Steele's elder brother, an officer in the British Army.

This brought Rupert straight back to Melbourne to enlist, to meet his own death later somewhere in France. Cyril, meanwhile, had also joined up, and on his return, had to devote his attention to his business rather than to rowing.

His friendship to the sport and to the V.H.A. was frequently made manifest in many ways. When the King's Cup race was rowed in Melbourne last year, and the Prime Minister was anxious to see the Tasmanian crew in training, it was Cyril Steele who placed his speed boat at the association's disposal. On other occasions, he has carried the umpire aboard his craft when the association has been in difficulty in obtaining a boat for that official in championship races. By the irony of fate one of his last associations with his own old club was to damage in a collision under Princes Bridge a new practice eight, fresh from its christening, before it had been in the water ten minutes. Needless to say the damage was made good. Victorian oarsmen, particularly those who were actively associated with him and his brother in the immediate prewar period, join with other sporting associations, in expressing to the widow and family their sincere condolences in their bereavement.

Weekly Times (Melbourne, Vic.: 1869 - 1954) Saturday 28 January 1939

Steele Will Dispute

£1,000 a Year for Widow

By the terms of a settlement approved by Mr Justice Martin in the Practice Court yesterday, the widow of Henry Cyril Augustus Steele, aged 47 years, of Toorak road, Toorak, furniture warehouseman, who was drowned in the bay on January 18, will receive from his estate an annuity of £1,000 for life.

Mr Steele set out from Mornington in his £1,000 speedboat, with his chauffeur, Arthur Jackson, on the afternoon of January 18, to wave to his niece, who was a passenger on the Nieuw Zeeland for the East. They did not return, and after a long search Mr. Steeles body was found three days later near the mouth of the Werribee River. The chauffeur was drowned also.

By his will, which was dated only two days before his death, Mr. Steele left the whole of his estate, of a net value of £113,860, to his two sons – Phillip John Rupert, aged 19 years, and

Norman Cyril, aged 12 years, subject to the payment of an annuity of £200 to his widow during her widowhood. He appointed his sons and the Union Trustee Co of Australia Ltd executors and trustees.

He stated in his will that he had already given his wife a "substantial property" - Lillimur, in Queen's road, Melbourne - in addition to having made two settlements on her. The property is valued at £8,000.

The widow, Doris Ellen Steele, aged 47 years of Toorak road, Toorak, lodged a caveat against the grant of probate, claiming that, having regard to the standard of living and comfort which she had enjoyed during her married life, the annuity of £200 during her widowhood was wholly inadequate and insufficient. She also claimed from the City Mutual Life Assurance Society Ltd £25 830, being the value of three life policies taken out by her husband, and threatened to institute legal proceedings to establish her claim. She alleged that the policies had been taken out for her benefit. However, the society decided to retain the proceeds of the policies pending the de-termination of her claims under the Administration of Probate Act and the Administration of Probate (Testator's Family Maintenance) Act 1937. The manager of the Trustee Company (Mr Samuel Cooke), in an affidavit, expressed the opinion that the settlement arrived at was in the best interests of the estate and the beneficiaries.

In consideration of the increase in the annuity from £200 during widowhood to £1,000 for life, and the freeing of the Queen's road property of encumbrance, Mrs Steele abandons her claim on the £25,830 due on the three life policies.

Mr. Justice Martin approved the settlement, subject to certain conditions and also sanctioned the withdrawal of the caveat.

Mr Gorman K C and Mr J V Barry (instructed by Messrs Bullen and Burt) appeared for the widow, and Mr L Jones (instructed by Messrs Slater and Gordon) for the trustee company.

The Argus (Melbourne, Vic.: 1848 - 1957) Friday 14 July 1939

As a side note, my mother worked for Steels Furniture prior to her marriage in 1938.



Steele + Co store, Swanston Street, Melbourne, 1930s. Now occupied by the Swanston Hotel. Harold Paynting collection, State Library of Victoria

4. Norman Leslie Steele.

Born 1896. Kew. Victoria.

WW1 Service.

Name: Norman Leslie Steele

Regimental number: 240

Place of birth: Kew Victoria

Religion: Church of England

Occupation: Warehouseman

Address: Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria

Marital status: Single

Age at embarkation: 21

Next of Kin: Father, Philip John Steele, Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria

Previous Military Service: 22nd Battery, Australian Field Artillery

Enlistment date: 8 February 1916

Rank on enlistment: Private

Unit name: Australian Flying Corps, No 1 Squadron, B Flight

AWM Embarkation Roll number: 8/4/1

Embarkation details: Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A67 Orsova on 16 March 1916

Regimental Number from Nominal Roll: Commissioned

Rank from Nominal Roll: 2nd Lieutenant

Unit from Nominal Roll: Australian Flying Corps

Fate: Died of wounds whilst a Prisoner of War 20 April 1917

Age at Death from Cemetery Records: 21

Place of Burial: No Known Grave

Commemoration details: Jerusalem Memorial, Palestine

Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial: 188

Miscellaneous information from cemetery records: Parents: Philip John and Johanna Albertina Steele, 195 Swanston Street, Melbourne, Victoria
(Australian Government, Department of Veterans' Affairs)



Studio portrait of 240 Private (Pte) (Air Mechanic) Norman Leslie Steele, No 1 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps (AFC) of Kew, Victoria. The youngest son of Philip John Bickett and Johanna Albertine nee Eckman, Pte Steele was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant in the Australian Flying Corps on 27 October 1916. 2nd Lt Norman Leslie

Steele's Martinsyde aircraft crashed behind Turkish lines in Hereira, Palestine on 20 April 1917 and he was reported missing. A message dropped by enemy aircraft several months later stated that 2nd Lt Steele had been wounded by anti-aircraft fire and had died soon after capture as a prisoner of war. His service record states on 23 July 1918 that 2nd Lt Steele "was buried under a memorial erected at Hariera by the enemy to our airmen" His eldest Brother, Captain Frederick Wilberforce Alexander (Fred) Steele, 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers was killed at the first Ypres Battle on 29 October, 1914. His second eldest brother Lieutenant Phillip John Rupert (Rupert) Steele, 4th FAB died on 8 January 1917 of wounds sustained in France on 15 November the previous year. A third brother, Sergeant Henry Cyril Augustus (Cyril) Steele, 4th FAB, had been discharged for urgent family reasons after the death of his brothers Fred and Phillip (Rupert) and was on his way home from England at the time Norman was killed.

Posted by FrevFord, Friday, 21 April 2017. AWM

"Missing – Flight-Lieutenant Norman Leslie Steele is officially reported 'missing' since April 20. He was vice-captain of Melbourne Grammar School, captain of football and cricket, and captain of Rusden House. He is a brother of the late Captain Fred Steele, of the Royal Fusiliers, who was killed in action; Lieutenant Rupert Steele who died of wounds; and Corporal Cyril Steele who is returning to Australia."

The Argus (Melbourne, Victoria) Saturday 5 May 1917

Died 20th April 1917. Israel.

The book -

Monash

The Soldier Who Shaped Australia

Author - Grantlee Kieza

Page 30-31

"Bertha is certain that the boy she calls 'Johnnychen' will become a great man. While the family's Germanic background is important to her, she resolves that John will grow up as an Australian, a loyal subject of Queen Victoria. Over the next few years Bertha cultivates influential and stimulating friends, both German and Anglo-Australians. Surrounded by older people with sharp intellects and a wide array of opinions on the world, 'Johnnychen's' confidence and poise blossom. Visitors to the Germania Cottage include Wilhelm Alexander Brahe, the Hawthorn-based consul for the newly federated German Empire, and the writer and publisher Hermann Puttmann Junior, founder of the Association for German Schools (Deutscher Schulverien) of Victoria. Hamburg-born Charles Troedel is also a frequent guest as he builds up a lithographic printing business that will employ apprentices such as the emerging artist Arthur Streeton.

Johannis Theodore Charles Trödel/Troedel was my great-grandfather, he emigrated from Hamburg to Victoria in 1860.