



THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
THE MILITARY IN AUSTRALIA  
ITS CEREMONIES  
AND  
TRADITIONS

**Matt Walsh**

## Table of Content

| Topic   | Page |
|---|------|
| Introduction  | 1    |
| Historical Perspective                                      | 1    |
| - First Defences  | 1    |
| - Early Military Units                                      | 1    |
| - The Loyal Associations                                    | 1    |
| - Persons of Note.  | 2    |
| - The Irish Insurrection                                    | 2    |
| - Early Military Units (Volunteer Units in New South Wales) | 2    |
| - The Naval Brigade   | 3    |
| Moving towards Federalism                                   | 3    |
| Federation and the Military                                 | 3    |
| The origin of the Slouch Hat                                | 4    |
| The Rising Sun Badge  | 5    |
| The Tin Hat   | 6    |
| The Victoria Cross  | 7    |
| History of the Dawn Service                                 | 7    |
| The origin of the 9 o'clock Ceremony                        | 8    |
| Recitations during Commemorative Services                   | 9    |
| - The Ode   | 9    |
| - The Last Post   | 10   |
| - Reveille and Rouse  | 10   |
| Other Commemorative Services traditions                     | 11   |
| - Period of Silence   | 11   |
| - Laying of Wreaths   | 11   |
| - Catafalque Party  | 12   |
| - Resting on Arms Reversed                                  | 12   |
| Flying of Flags   | 12   |
| Lowering the Flag to "Half Mast".                           | 12   |
| The Cenotaph  | 13   |
| The Red Poppy (The Flanders Poppy)                          | 13   |
| Rosemary  | 14   |
| In Flanders Field   | 14   |
| Remembrance Day Traditions                                  | 15   |
| The Unknown Soldier   | 15   |
| The Granting of : The Freedom of the City                   | 16   |
| The Keys to the City  | 17   |
| Lanyards  | 18   |
| The origins of Saluting                                     | 18   |
| Badges of Rank  | 18   |
| Glossary of Terms and Acronyms                              | 19   |
| References  | 26   |
| The Author  | 26   |



This booklet is an initiative of the Defence Reserves Association (NSW) Inc. and the Military Police Association of Australia Inc as part of their Schools Military History Program.

Written and compiled by Matt Walsh JP MLO ALGA. (MCAE) Dip Bus & Corp Law (CPS)

© 2004/2006/2008      Published by Matt Walsh 115 Leacocks Lane Casula 2170

## ***Introduction***

The history of a Nation is an important part of its future development and looks at and records many aspects, such as social, environmental and military.

Whilst Australia is a young Nation by world standards, its Military History is significant, “The Anzac Tradition” is known throughout the world. It is important that this ‘Anzac Tradition’ is maintained by our future generations.

The following is an attempt to provide some information in a brief form of the development of the Australian military traditions and so assist our youth to gain a better understanding of this important part of Australia’s development.

This document is proudly sponsored by the men and women of the Ashfield RSL Sub Branch and the Defence Reserves Association (NSW) as part of their contribution in encouraging our young people to obtain access to information on Australia’s Military History and so enhance their knowledge and understanding.

## ***Historical Perspective***

The military has always been involved in the development of nations. Australia and its Colonies (States) were no exception to this concept. When the Colony of New South Wales was established in 1788, it was the military who, were responsible for its development.

The first defence of the new colony occurred in July 1788 when Lieutenant William Dawes set up 2 x 6 pounder guns in Sydney Cove (in an area now known as Dawes Point) to protect the Colony from invaders. The guns were removed from HMS Sirius

In the early years of the development of the new colony all those appointed to the position of Governor were either Naval or Military Officers, thus maintaining a link between the colonies development and the military.

## ***Early Military Units***

The first military units to be established in New South Wales (Australia) were the Sydney and Parramatta ‘Loyal Associations’. They were part time units made up of volunteers, from former soldiers and free settlers and included former convicts who had obtained their freedom.

On the 6 September 1800, Governor Hunter issued an Order commanding all ‘civil officers and such house keepers, who are free men possessing property, and good character in the town of Sydney “to assemble and from amongst these fifty men were to be chosen to be used as an armed police under the command of the civil officers. A similar order was issued to the inhabitants of Parramatta.

On the 7 September 1800, Governor John Hunter at Government House Parramatta ( still in existence to day in Parramatta Park) signed the Proclamation to establish the Parramatta and Sydney ‘Loyal Associations’, the first volunteer (Part Time) Military Units established in the Colony of New South Wales (Australia), a tradition which still exists today with our Defence Force Reserves.

The men selected were enrolled into two companies; the Loyal Sydney Association and the Loyal Parramatta Association under the command of William Balmain and Richard Atkins respectively. They were enrolled on the condition that 'they are not to expect pay for the voluntary offer of their service. They would be provided with uniforms (the same as the New South Wales Corps) firearms and ammunition.



A Corporal of the Loyal Association

They were to be drilled twice a week, between the hours of 4.30 pm and 5.30 pm by Serjeants Jamiesson and Fleming at Sydney and Serjeant McMullen at Parramatta.

### ***Persons of note***

A number of prominent persons of the time served in the Loyal Associations.

D'Arcy Wentworth (Lieutenant)

John McArthur (Captain)

Thomas Smyth Esq. (Lieutenant). The first Provost Marshal appointed in Australia a position which still exists today.

### ***The Irish Insurrection***

On the 3 March 1804 as a result of a convict uprising at the Government Farm at Castle Hill (Vinegar Hill) members of the Loyal Association were called out to assist the fifty six soldiers of the NSW Corps in their actions against the convicts.

The Loyal Associations remained in service until the arrival of Governor Lachlan Macquarie with his 73<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot (The Black Watch) in 1810. After this they were disbanded.

### ***Early Military Units (Volunteer Units in New South Wales)***

The next time a volunteer unit was raised in New South Wales was in 1854. On the 4 August 1854 an Act of Council was passed to permit the raising of a Volunteer Military Corps in NSW. "Act 18 Victoria No.8 was an:- Act to authorise the formation of Volunteer Corps in the Colony of NSW, and for the Regulation thereof.

In this year the 1<sup>st</sup> NSW Rifle Volunteers was formed its Honorary Colonel was Governor Sir Charles Fitz Roy and the Commanding Officer was Major Thomas Wingate. The units Sergeant Major was Sergeant Major Thomas Baynes.

These volunteer soldiers were required to provide their own uniforms and pay all expenses for their training. Their rifles were .704 calibre muzzle loading rifles with sword bayonets and they were donated by Queen Victoria.

In 1854 a volunteer Troop of Mounted Rifles was also formed under the command of Captain John McLerie, Inspector General of Police, and was known as the Yeomanry Cavalry Corps of NSW, they were the fore runners to the Australian Light Horse Regiment.

Volunteer (Part Time Units) continued in the various Colonies (States) until Federation.

Australians of note who served in these early units were members of the Fairfax Family (newspapers) Sir William Windeyer (Windeyer Legal Family) and (Lt) William Arnott the founder of Arnotts Biscuits who served in the Newcastle Corps.

### ***The Naval Brigade***

On the 2 May 1863 the NSW Naval Brigade (again a group of part time volunteers) was raised and formed into four companies in Sydney and one company in Newcastle. The Naval Brigade saw service in the Boxer Rebellion 1900-1901

Some time during the period of 1863/64 the Naval Artillery Volunteers were also raised and they remained in service until 1902.

In Sydney and Newcastle an 'Ambulance Corps Naval Brigade' was also raised and remained in service until July 1902.



A member of the Naval Brigade

As each new Colony (State) was established, Tasmania [Van Diemens Land] (1825), Western Australia (1829), South Australia (1836), Victoria (1850) and Queensland (1859) the military played an important part in each of the Colonies development.

### ***Moving toward Federalism***

The first moves towards Federalism can be found in 1846 by 1850 we saw the passing of the Australian Colonies Government Act. This Act saw the removal of rule from London and the development of political authority in Australia.

On the 9 October 1889 a report was presented on the 'State of Defence of the Australian Colonies'. The thrust of the report was that the continent should 'federate' for defence reasons.

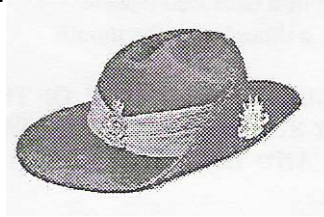
### ***Federation and the Military***

On Federation in 1901 the Colonies handed over their Defence Forces to the new Commonwealth. At e this time our defence forces consisted of predominately volunteers (part time soldiers 25,915) [1,365 Officers and 24,550 Other Ranks] who were also divided into Militia or Volunteers. Militia were paid whereas in theory volunteers were not. They were assisted by 2,697 members of the Permanent Staff of the Volunteer Forces [185 Officers and 2,512 Other Ranks]. These troops were made up of the Army and the Naval Brigade.

The birthday of the Australian Army is celebrated on the 1 March 1901 as that is the day that Sir John Forrest was appointed as the Minister of Defence. Forrest was the Premier of Western Australia. He is also considered to be one of the ‘fathers’ of Federation as he was highly involved with the proceedings which lead to Federation.

The final integration of the Colonial Military Forces did not occur until the 1 July 1903, when a Proclamation disbanding certain State Units and establishing new units under the title of the Commonwealth Military Forces was published in the Government Gazette No.35 of 25 July 1903, during that same year the ‘Defence Act 1903’ was assented to on 22 October 1903. [Act No 20 of 1903].

### ***The origin of the Slouch Hat (Hat Khaki Fur Felt)***



The first time a fur felt hat (slouch hat) was worn by a military unit in Australia was in 1885 when the Volunteer Victorian Mounted Rifles wore a soft felt hat with a woven puggaree with the side looped up. In 1890 an agreement was made with the Colonies that all Australian Forces with the exception of the Artillery should wear a looped up felt hat of a standard pattern. By 1891, plumes and feathers had been added to the Cavalry and Mounted Infantry.

By the time the Commonwealth contingent was sent to the Boer War the slouch hat had become universal, looped on the left side.

### ***Plumes and Rosettes***

Many of the Corps had adopted the practice of incorporating a Plume (from one of our native animals and/or a rosette to signify their particular Corps.

The Light Horse of New South Wales – the black cocks plume

The Light Horse of Victoria- a single eagle’s feather

The Light Horse of Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania – emu feathers

The Light Horse of Western Australia – a feather of the black swan, replaced with a ostrich feathers

The Field Artillery used a similar plume to the Light Horse in its State with the addition of a red and blue rosette of the Artillery Grenade badge.

In 1903 on the formation of the Commonwealth Forces the slouch hat had become universal issue. The use of plumes also continued. In 1906 the, khaki puggarees of seven folds with descriptive colour inserts for each arm or service was adopted. In 1912 a cloth band two inches wide of various colours to indicate the arm or service was introduced. In 1914 the khaki colour was again introduced. In 1930 we again saw the reintroduction of coloured puggarees.

The various arms and services were identified by coloured hat band puggarees:

Light Horse- Khaki with maroon colour fold

Artillery- blue with scarlet

Engineers- blue with garter blue

Signals – blue with purple

Army Service Corps- blue with white

Army Medical Corps- khaki with dull cherry

Army Veterinary Corps- khaki with maroon  
Army Ordnance Corps- khaki with folds of blue & scarlet and blue  
Tank Corps- brown, scarlet & green  
Royal Military College (Australian Instructional Corps) –khaki  
Permanent Force Artillery- red hat band

By World War II the khaki coloured puggaree had again been reintroduced, however this time it included a 'Colour Patch' which indicated the service or arm and even extended to identifying the type of unit. To day we have returned to the khaki coloured puggaree with the service or arm identified by a colour patch and on the front of the hat will be found the '*Corps Badge*' with the traditional Rising Sun still being retained on the left hand side.

The word 'puggaree' is from India (Hindi) –paggari meaning small turban.

A number of Corps are permitted to wear a coloured Beret which is distinctive to that particular Corps.

1. Scarlet – Royal Australian Corps of Military Police (MP)
2. Black- Armoured Corps
3. Khaki- Special Air Services (SAS)
4. Red (Cherry) - Paratrooper Regiment
5. Green- Commando
6. Blue - Any Defence Member who has served in a United Nations Posting.

### ***The Rising Sun Badge***



The original concept for the design of the '*Rising Sun Badge*' can be traced to pre 1895 when Major Gordon of the South Australian Army suggested it design as a 'trophy of arms', the design of Gordon's trophy was given to Captain Creswell the Commander of the South Australian Navy, who arranged for his members to make it up. It was presented to Major Gordon who used it for recruiting purposes. Gordon called his trophy '*The Australian Rising Sun*' to show a distinction from the 'Japanese Rising Sun' who he did not trust.

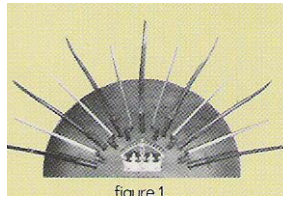
Major Gordon saw service in South Africa (Boer War) and rose to the rank of Brigadier and Commander of the Victorian Army.

Following Federation and the establishment of the Australian Military Forces, Sir Edward Hutton was appointed as the first General Officer Commanding with the rank of Major General later he was promoted to Lieutenant General.

He had a difficult task to combine all the various Colonies (States) Forces and to make them a truly Australian Army in both character and outlook.

Hutton realised that one way to achieve this was the introduction of a distinctive badge which could be worn on the slouch hat which Australians were wearing and so distinguish them from the other British Empire troops in South Africa who were wearing a similar hat.

Major Gordon presented his “*Rising Sun Trophy*” to General Hutton which comprised of mounted cut and thrust swords and triangular Martini Henry bayonets arranged in a semi circle around a brass crown.



Before the departure of the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Commonwealth Horse (1ACH) to South Africa in February 1901, the question of a national Military Badge or Emblem was raised again. On the 7 February 1902, Hutton approved the production and issue of a badge which would reflect the Military stature of the Australian soldier who went into battle. The new badge based on Hutton’s trophy was designed by Captain (later Colonel) Cox-Taylor and was issued to the men of the 1ACH and it was to become known as the ‘Rising Sun’.

Just prior to his return to the United Kingdom at a dinner in his honour General Hutton presented the original trophy and drawings to Captain Creswell of the Navy because of a disagreement between himself and Gordon. It remained with Creswell until his retirement in 1919. After that time it would appear this “*Army Icon*” was lost until 1969 when a Chief Petty Officer mentioned that he knew where it was located.

The original design was modified in 1904 and was proudly worn by the Australian servicemen and servicewomen during World War I and World War II. Since 1904 a small number of modifications have been made mainly to the wording:

- from: Australian Commonwealth Military Forces
- to: Australian Military Forces
- to the current: The Australian Army

In 1969 Hutton’s original trophy that inspired the ‘Rising Sun Badge’ was discovered in a Drill Hall in Victoria. It was dismantled and placed in storage until 1967 when it was restored by the Navy and in 1995 presented as a gift to the Army. It is now in an honoured position at Army Headquarter Canberra.

### ***The Tin Hat***



Because of the steep rise in head wounds in World War I the first generation of steel helmet (tin hats) was approved in 1915. The British, French and the Germans all introduced them.

The helmets weighed between 3 to 4½ pounds (1½ to 2 kilos). They were stamped steel and were not meant to be bullet proof, but rather to save lives and prevent serious injury from shell fragments and shrapnel. Each country had its own particular shape which made them quite distinctive.

The British ‘War Office Pattern’ was a shallow wide brimmed shell. It was designed by John Brodie in the summer of 1915. Its design was improved throughout the war. The same design was used in all wars by the Australians until after the Korean War. It was still in use in the early 1960’s.



## ***The Victoria Cross***



The Victoria Cross was introduced by Queen Victoria in 1856, and is the highest British Award for outstanding bravery *'in the presence of the enemy'* by a member of the military forces.

The Victoria Cross is a bronze cross hanging from a red ribbon. The bronze for the cross comes from Russian cannons confiscated by the British during the Crimean War. On the front of the cross is a lion standing on top of a crown. The lion is in honour of the lion that appear on the Coat of Arms of the British Royal Family. The words "For Valour" are inscribed on a scroll below the crown.

Australians have been awarded ninety six Victoria Crosses in the following campaigns.

- Six in the Boer War (1899-1902)
- Sixty four in World War I (1914-1918)
- Two in North Russian Campaign (1918-1919)
- Twenty in World War II (1939-1945)
- Four in the Vietnam War (1962-1972)

The first Australian to receive a VC was Captain (Dr) Neville Howse on the 24 July 1900 during the Boer War the last VC awarded to an Australian was to Warrant Officer Keith Payne on the 24 May 1969 during the Vietnam War.

When Australia discontinued the awarding of Imperial honours in 1991 the Australian Government introduced an Award called the Victoria Cross for Australia. It is the highest Military Award for Australian Military personnel. No one has been awarded the Victoria Cross for Australia since its inception.

## ***The History of the Dawn Service***

The Dawn Service on Anzac Day has become a solemn Australian and New Zealand tradition. It is part of our ANZAC ethos and tradition. Many wonder how it started.

The story starts with a grave in a small cemetery carved out of the bush a short distance outside the North Queensland town of Herberton. In the cemetery one grave covered by a white washed concrete slab with a white, cement cross with the simple two word inscription "**A Priest**" with nothing else to identify it as the grave of the clergyman who created the Dawn Service.

In recent years a marker has been placed with the words *'adjacent to, and to the right of this marker, lies the grave of the late Reverend Arthur Ernest White, a Church of England, clergyman and Padre 44<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Imperial Forces. On the 25 April 1923 at Albany Western Australia the Reverend White lead a party of friends in what was the first ever, observance of a Dawn Service on ANZAC Day, this established a tradition which endured, Australia wide ever since'*.

Reverend White left Albany with the 1<sup>st</sup> AIF in November 1914, from Princess Royal Harbour and King George Sound Western Australia. He returned in 1919 and was appointed the relieving Rector of St. John's Albany.

He is reported as saying “Albany” was the last sight of land these ANZAC troops saw after leaving Australian shores and some of them never returned. We should hold a service (here) at the first light of Dawn each ANZAC Day to commemorate them.

On ANZAC Day 1923 he held his first Dawn Service. As the sun was rising a man in a small dingy cast a wreath into King George Sound while the Reverend White with a group of about twenty men gathered around him on the summit of nearby Mt. Clarence and silently watched the wreath float out to sea. He then recited the words “*As the sun rises and goeth down we will remember them*”.

Reverend White died on the 26 September 1954.

### ***Timings of Anzac Day Services***

**Dawn Service** - The service should commence in sufficient time to allow the one (1) minutes silence to commence at dawn (as ascertained for the location of the Service)

**Main Service** - The service should commence in sufficient time to allow the one (1) minutes silence to commence at 11.00am.

**Other Services** - For other Services eg those conducted by schools, Unit Associations etc, **not on** ANZAC Day, the timings should comply as close as possible to those of the main service.

### ***The origin of the 9 o'clock Ceremony***

Hundreds of millions of people throughout the world regularly listen to the ringing of Big Ben in London as broadcast by the BBC but only a small number are aware of the significance of the nine lingering strokes of Big Ben at 9.00pm each evening.

Whilst these lingering strokes and chimes have been heard only since the 10 November 1940, their origin goes all the way back to World War I.

It is said the scene is a mountain near Jerusalem, early in December 1917. In a billet at the mouth of a cave, on the eve of battle two British Officers are in conversation. They are close friends. One of the two a man of unusual character and vision, feeling instinctively that his hours of life on earth were numbered, said “*I shall not come through this struggle. You will survive and see a greater and more vital conflict. When that time comes remember us we shall long to play our part, wherever we may be, we shall not fight with material weapons then, but we will help you if you will help us. We shall be an unseen but mighty army – you will have time available as your servant. Lend us a moment of it each day, and by your Silence give us our opportunity. The power of silence is greater than you know....*”

The one who died knew that he would die soon. He also saw in his vision the future, and still greater the Second World War. He enlisted his friend's cooperation and won it. This is how the idea of a daily moment of unity in silence was born. Ultimately it became known as a ‘Silent Minute’ and is now signalled by the chiming and stroking of Big Ben at 9 o'clock each evening. In Australia it is by the reciting of “*The Ode*” and one minute's silence.

It took from 1917 to 1940 before the dying wish of a soldier was fulfilled. The signal for the ‘Silent Minute’ was first broadcast by the BBC on the 10 November 1940. It has been repeated every evening ever since.

The service is still held every evening at the Menin Gate the famous World War I landmark on the battlefield of Ypres Belgium.

*The Menin Gate*



*Recitations during Commemorative Services*

*The Ode*



The Ode used in Military Commemoration Services is the fourth stanza (verse) of the poem “For the Fallen” by Laurence Binyon. It was first published by the ‘Times’ (London) in 1914.

It would appear it was first used in an Anzac Day Service in Queensland in 1921. It was also used at the laying of the Inauguration Stone of the Australian War Memorial in 1929.

*For the Fallen (The Ode)*

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children  
England mourns for her dead across the sea  
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit  
Fallen is the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; Death august and royal  
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres,  
There is music in the midst of desolation  
And glory that shines upon our tears

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,  
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow,  
They were staunch to the end against odds, unaccounted  
They fell with their faces to the foe.

***They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.***

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again,  
They sit no more at familiar tables of home,  
They have no lot in our labour of the daytime.  
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires and hopes profound,  
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,  
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known  
As the stars are known to the night.

As the stars shall be bright when they are dust,  
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,  
As the stars that are stary in the time of our darkness  
To the end, to the end they remain.

### *The Last Post*



The 'Last Post' originated in medieval times, about the year 1622 and was known as the 'Retreat'. It was usually played at 2200 hours (10.00pm) to call the soldiers to retire for the night at the end of the day.

It became the custom over the years to sound the 'Last Post' at military funerals and commemorative services, where the closing sounds of the music sounds out the sad farewell to 'Light out, Lights out'. Most people including servicemen and women would be unaware that there are words to the 'Last Post'.

### *The Last Post*

Come home! Come home! The last post is sounding for you to hear.  
All good soldiers know very well there is nothing to fear  
while they do what is right, and forget all the worries  
they have met in their duties through the year.

A soldier cannot always be great, but he can be a gentleman  
And he can be a right good pal to his comrades in his squad.  
So all you soldiers listen to this-  
Deal fair by all and you'll never be amiss.

Be Brave! Be Just! Be Honest and True Men.

### *Reveille (Rouse)*



Reveille originated in medieval time, possibly around 1600, to wake soldiers at dawn. 'Rouse' was the signal for soldiers to arise. Traditionally, 'Rouse' called the soldiers to arise ready to fight for another day.

Originally, Reveille was performed on drum and fife, to day a trumpet or bugle is used.

Reveille is played only as the first call of the day (Dawn Service) while 'Rouse' can be used at any time.

Today 'Reveille' is rarely used because of its length – two long verses, whereas 'Rouse' is only one short verse. Both have words which can be used.

### *Rouse*

Get up at one, get up at once, the bugle's sounding  
The day is here and never fear, old Sol is shinning  
The Orderly Officer's on his rounds

## ***Reveille***

Rev-eil-lee! Rev-eil-lee is sounding  
The bugle calls you from your sleep, it is the break of day  
You've got to do your duty or you will get no pay.  
Come, wake yourself, rouse yourself out of your sleep  
And through off the blankets and take a good peek at all.

The bright signes of the break of day, so get up and do not delay.

Get up!

Or-der-ly officer is on his round!  
And if you're still a-bed he will send you to the guard!  
And then you'll get drill and that will be a bitter pill;  
So be up when he comes, be up when he comes,  
Like a soldier at his post, a soldier at his post, all ser-ene.

## ***Other Commemorative Service traditions***

### ***Period of Silence***

The idea of a period of Silence (one or two minutes) as a sign of respect is credited to an Australian journalist Edward Honey who was living in London during World War I.

He published a letter in the Evening News of the 8 May 1919 appealing for five minutes silence among the celebrations for the first anniversary of the Armistice (11 November).

On the first Armistice Service on the 11 November 1919 the two minutes silence was instituted as part of the Commemorative Ceremony at the new Cenotaph in London. King George V personally, requested that all people of the British Empire maintain two minutes silence on the Eleventh of the Eleventh.

Records show that the observance of two minutes silence as an act of Remembrance first occurred at 9.00 am on the 25 April 1916 on the first anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli.

### ***Laying of Wreaths***



The ancient Romans used Laurel Leaves woven into a wreath as a symbol of honour to crown victors and the brave.



Flowers have been traditionally placed on graves or Memorials or Cenotaphs in Memory of the Dead.



Rosemary is also commonly associated with remembrance and both laurel leaves and rosemary have traditionally been used in wreaths for Remembrance Services. In recent years the Red Flanders Poppy has also been added.

The red poppy was first used on Anzac Day in 1940 in Palestine, where at the Dawn Service each soldier dropped a red poppy as he filed past the Stone of Remembrance, an Officer laid a Wreath of Red Poppies. These Poppies had been picked from the hillside of Mt. Scopus where they grew profusely, they can be found growing in the fields of France/ Belgium, Turkey (Gallipoli) and Greece and Crete.

### ***Catafalque Party***

A Catafalque is a raised structure supporting a stand upon which a coffin is placed for display before burial.

In time gone by a watch or vigil (Catafalque Party) was mounted around the coffin to ensure the body was not interfered with. Today Catafalque Parties are mounted as a sign of respect around memorials on occasions of Remembrance such as Anzac Day. It could be said that a memorial is a ‘symbolic coffin’ for those who have fallen.



### ***Resting on Arms Reversed***

The origin of the tradition of ‘Resting on Arms Reversed’ is lost in time, however, it was used by a soldier at the execution of Charles 1 in 1649, he was disciplined for doing so.



In 1722 at the funeral of the Duke of Marlborough the troops carried out a formal ‘Reverse Arms Drill’. This drill was especially developed for the Dukes funeral as a unique sign of respect and is still used for military funerals and commemorative services today.

The ‘Resting on Arms Reversed’ is part of the drill of Catafalque Parties after they have mounted at a Cenotaph.

The ‘modern trend’ of sticking rifles upside down into the ground as a temporary memorial to a fallen soldier (with a helmet or a hat over the butt) originated with the introduction of tanks into World War 1. When a soldier fell during an advance his mate would pick up his rifle and stick it into the ground, by the bayonet, as a marker to indicate to the tanks that a wounded or dead soldier lay there; this way the tank would not accidentally run over the body.

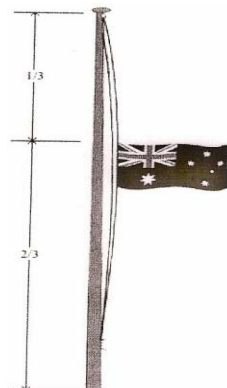
### ***Flying of Flags***

**Anzac Day** -25<sup>th</sup> April- Flags to be flown at “*Half Mast*” till noon then at the “*Peak*” for the rest of the day.

**Remembrance Day** – 11<sup>th</sup> November- Flags should be flown at the “*Peak*” from 8.00am to 10.30am and lowered to ”Half Mast” from 10.30am till 11.30am and then at the “*Peak*” from 11.30am for the rest of the day.

### ***Lowering the Flag to “Half Mast”***

When lowering the Flag to ‘Half Mast’ the flag is only lowered 1/3 the way down the flagpole, **NOT** half way down.



## ***The Cenotaph***

Cenotaph: A monument erected to one buried elsewhere; an empty sepulchre (tomb).



The Cenotaph in Martin Place Sydney is familiar to most of us. We are aware that at one end stands a figure of a soldier and at the other end a sailor. But what do we know about the figures?

The soldier wears a 'tin hat' and the rough unironed serge uniform of the 1<sup>st</sup> AIF which includes the puttees of the time.

The sailor wears the traditional uniform of the Navy (British) of the times, jacket and bell bottom trousers with belt and gaiters. They are both standing rigidly at ease with rifle (.303) and fixed bayonet.

These figures were modelled by Australian Servicemen of World War I. The soldier by Corporal William Darby although born in Ireland he served in the 1<sup>st</sup> AIF at Gallipoli and in France and Flanders. He was a stretcher bearer with the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and then the 4<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance.

The sailor was modelled by Leading Seaman John Varcoe, he served on a number of ships and saw service overseas. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal (DCM) in 1917.

The two bronze statues on the Cenotaph were designed by Sir Bertrand Mackennal an expatriate Australian sculptor who had designed the tomb of Edward VII at Windsor.

The Cenotaph was dedicated on 8 August 1927, unfortunately the two statues were not completed until 1929, when they were unveiled on 21 February 1929 in the presence of General Sir John Monash our leading soldier of World War I.

## ***The Red Poppy (The Flanders Poppy)***



Colonel John McCrea a Canadian Doctor attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Brigade was the first to describe the 'Flanders Poppy' as the flower of Remembrance.

In England in 1919, Field Marshal Earl Haig of the British Legion adopted the 'Red Poppy' as the Emblem of Remembrance. The day chosen for the wearing of the Emblem was the 11<sup>th</sup> November. In Australia the RSL adopted the emblem in 1921.

The little poppies which are worn on Remembrance Day are an exact replica in size and colour of the poppies that bloom in Flanders' Field. Returned and Services Organisation throughout the British Commonwealth and its Allied countries have passed a resolution at their international conventions to recognise the Poppy of Flanders Fields as the international memorial flower.

The original silk poppies used in Australia were made in France by the war orphans in the devastated regions.

Whilst the "*Red Poppy (Flanders Poppy)*" is the modern day symbol of remembrance legend has it that the use of the poppy can be traced back to the time of the Moughal leader, Genghis Khan as the flower associated with human sacrifice. Genghis Khan's Armies would isolate their enemy, surround and completely annihilate them. The legend goes on to say that on the battlefields grew white poppies in vast numbers and they became literally drenched with blood and their colour changed from white to red.

In 2004 the Australian Government decided that the ribbon on the new Australian Defence Medal will include the red and black of the Flanders Poppy.

### ***Rosemary***



Rosemary is an ancient symbol of remembrance and commemoration. Since ancient times this aromatic herb has been believed to have properties to improve the memory. Legend has it that the Virgin Mary, whilst resting, spread her cloak over a white flowering rosemary bush. The flowers turned the blue of her cloak and from then on the bush became known as "Rose of Mary.

Greek scholars wore rosemary in their hair to help '*remember*' their studies and the association with remembrance has carried through to current times.

Even today, rosemary oils and extracts are sold for this purpose. Possibly because of these properties, rosemary became an emblem of both fidelity and remembrance in ancient literature and folklore. Traditionally, sprigs of rosemary are worn on Anzac Day and sometimes on Remembrance Day. Rosemary has a particular significance for Australians as it is found growing wild on the Gallipoli Peninsula

### ***In Flanders Field***

This poem was written on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1915 by Colonel John McCrae a doctor in the Canadian Army following the death of a young friend and former student during the second battle of Ypres on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1915.

His poem was published by "Punch" in London on the 8 December 1915. McCrae's 'In Flanders Field' is a lasting legacy of the terrible battle in the Ypres Salient in the spring of 1915. Colonel McCrae was wounded in May 1918 and died three days later.

#### ***In Flanders' Fields***

Colonel John McCrae

In Flanders' Fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below,  
We are the dead, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders' Fields

Take up our quarrel with the foe;  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold high,  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders' Field



It was an American Miss Moira Michael who introduced the wearing of the Flanders Poppy “to keep faith’ after she was so greatly impressed after reading the poem. She also wrote a reply.

***We shall keep the Faith***

Oh! You who sleep in Flanders’ Fields  
Sleep Sweet- to rise anew  
We caught the torch you threw;  
And holding high we kept  
The faith with those who died.

We cherish, too the Poppy red  
That grows on fields where valour led  
It seems to signal to the skies  
That blood of heroes never dies.  
But lends a lustre to the red  
Of the flowers that bloom above the dead  
In Flanders’ Fields

And now the torch and poppy red  
Wear in honour of our dead  
Fear not that ye have died for naught  
We’ve learned the lesson that ye taught  
In Flanders’ Fields

***Remembrance Day Tradition***

After more than 4 years of non-stop war, at 11.00 am. on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918, the *Guns on the Western Front fell Silent*. After a number of defeats the Germans in November of 1918 called for an Armistice (*a suspension in the fighting*), during which time they negotiated a Peace settlement. The Allies insisted on an unconditional surrender, which the Germans accepted.

In anticipation of the acceptance by the Germans the people of NSW in particular Sydney, gathered in Martin Place on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 1918 to await the signal ( the hoisting of the flag and the ringing of bells) to indicate that the Germans had agreed to the terms to end the War.

The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month attained special significance in the post war years. The moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front became universally associated with the remembrance of those who had died in the war. During World War I about 70 million people throughout the world were mobilised and between 9 and 13 million lives were lost approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> have no known graves.

On the first Armistice Day, on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1919, a two minutes silence was held as part of the commemorative service at the new Cenotaph in London. The silence was proposed by an *Australian journalist* working in London, *Edward Honey*. King George V personally requested all the people of the British Empire to suspend normal activities for two minutes on the hour of the Armistice “*which stayed the world wide carnage of the four preceding years and marked the victory of Right and Freedom*”.

***The Unknown Soldier***

One of the greatest tragedies of modern warfare is the creation of millions of unknown dead. These are the men and women of a country's Defence Force who have died in war and have as the phrase puts it ‘*no known grave*’.

Many nations commemorate their war dead by the establishment of a ‘*Tomb of an Unknown Soldier*’

On the second Anniversary of the Armistice during the commemoration a funeral was conducted at which the remains of an ‘*Unknown Soldier*’ from the battlefields of the Western Front was interred with full Military Honours in Westminster Abbey in London and at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

Of Australia’s war dead of the two World Wars, 35,527 - virtually 35 percent have no known graves and many other are buried as ‘*An Unknown Soldier of the AIF*’ or ‘*Known only to God*’

In 1993 to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armistice on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918 the Australian Government brought home from a grave in the Adelaide Cemetery at the small village of Villers –Bretonneux in France the remains of an ‘unknown Australian Soldier’ killed during one of the battles for Villers-Bretonneux.



On the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1993 the remains of the unknown Serviceman were interred on Australian soil in the Australian War Memorial Canberra.

*He is not missing. He is here  
He is home.*

That same day a new tradition commenced as people were waiting to file past the coffin they placed ‘Flanders Poppies’ into the crevices between the panels opposite the names of the dead. This practice continues to day.

### ***The Granting of the Freedom of the City or the Keys to the City to Military Units***

#### ***Granting of the Freedom of the City***

The origins of the Military privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of a City or Town on all ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating, band playing and colours flying are lost in antiquity.

They probably go back to the unique relationship between the British Crown and the City of London which allowed many autonomous rites and privileges to the City by Royal Charter.

The only other City to claim a similar right with regard to the passage of troops is Edinburgh. Their claim arose in connection with the civic military force it once possessed ‘The Town Guard’. “No other drum but theirs (the town guard) was allowed to sound on the High Street between Luckenbooths and the Netherbow”. The Town Guard has long disappeared.

Though the City of London lost its direct authority over its military forces in 1661, when control of the London Trained Bands was transferred to the newly formed Court of Lieutenancy, the practice grew up shortly after, to ‘raise recruits by beat of drum’.

From this modest beginning developed in the passage of years the suggestion that the City of London had the right to decide which regiment could pass through its streets ‘ with bayonets fixed, colours flying and band playing.

Discussions between the Secretary of War and the Lord Mayor in 1769 show that the City’s privileges in the matter at that date did not go beyond the right to receive, as a matter of courtesy, notification when troops were to pass through. The position today remains little changed from what it was in 1769.

### ***Presenting the Keys to the City***

This custom can be traced back to medieval times, in early Europe, when Cities were frequently walled as a defensive measure. The custom was especially strong in areas such as Italy and the Low Countries, where there was often a measure of independence from the political control of the Ruler.

The custom of the “Granting of the Keys to the City” has been rejuvenated in the course of the last century, perhaps because of the great expansion of Municipal Government during this period.

The custom of handing over the “Key to the City” originated in the importance of symbolising the political power relationship between a City and the King or other Rulers of the territory within which the city is located. When a ruler visited the city for the first time and assuming power, the Corporation would formally greet the Ruler at the city gates and submit the ‘Keys’ as a symbol that the city was under the Ruler’s control and protection.

The Ruler would then formally hand back the Keys to symbolise the intent to represent whatever measure of independence the City possessed (for example freedom from certain taxes or the right to make its own market laws). If a ruler compelled a hostile city to surrender, if for instance it had rebelled or lost a war, then the ‘Keys’ might not be returned to symbolise that the former rights and privileges were cancelled.

The granting of the “Freedom of the City’ or ‘The Keys to the City’ provides a dignified and satisfactory means of enabling a Civic Authority to honour a specific Regiment or Unit. This practice still occurs in Australia to day.

Once a Regiment or Unit has been granted the Freedom of the City it has the right to exercise that Freedom on any occasion it wishes to do so after notifying the City of its intention to do so. The right is only exercised on very special occasions such as the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of a Regiment or Unit.

On the 1 July 2001 a world first was established in Sydney, when two Councils the Council of the Municipality of Woollahra and the Council of the City of South Sydney simultaneously granted the “Keys to the City” of their Local Government Areas to both serving and former members of the Reserve Forces (Part Time Volunteers) of the Navy, Army and Air Force.

*The Granting of the “Keys to the City” to the Defence Reserves by the Councils of the Municipality of Woollahra and the City of South Sydney 1 July 2001.*



## Lanyards

Lanyards were originally cords used by the mountain regiments to attach hay to their saddles whilst foraging.

It is believed that it became the custom due to the convenience to loop the cord over their shoulder whilst foraging. It then became the custom of using various coloured cords as a method of distinguishing a regiment from this it then became an ornamental part of a regiments dress.

## The origin of Saluting

It is believed that hand salute goes back to the days of chivalry (Knights) when friendly on meeting each other placed themselves in a attitude of defencelessness by removing their helmet or by raising their helmet visors. This act was designed to indicate and show their friendly intentions and mutual respect and trust.

For many years soldiers in Britain and other countries would remove their hats when approaching or speaking to an officer. Over time this practice was modified to where the lifting of the hand to the head as if one was about to remove their hat was accepted as sufficient to indicate a salute by a soldier acknowledging an officer.

## The Present Arms

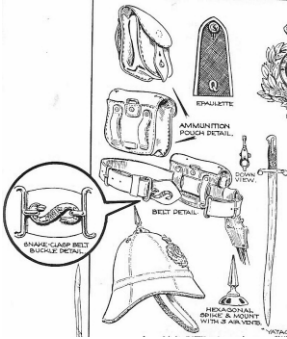

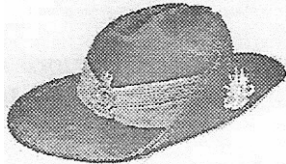
Another form of Salute is the “Present Arms” this is also based on the concept of showing defencelessness and trust. The salute in this form is indicated by the rifle being held in a position in which it can do no harm to the person being saluted.

## Military Badges of Rank



Glossary of Terms and  
Acronyms used  
in the  
Australian Defence Force

## Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Accoutrements</b>       | <p>The personal equipment of a soldier such as belts; pouches; straps; packs; Water Bottle.</p>   |
| <b>ANZAC</b>               | <p>The word <i>Anzac</i> refers to the Australian &amp; New Zealand Army corps Troops who fought at Gallipoli in Turkey in 1915 – the use of the term carried on to the western Front eg. ANZAC PROVOST CORPS formed in 1916.</p>  |
| <b>ANZUS</b>               | <p>A Security Pact for the Pacific Region commencing in 1951 consisting of Australia, New Zealand and the United States.</p>   |
| <b>Conscription</b>        | <p>Compulsory enlistment for Military Service – occurred during World War II and again with National Service 1951-1960 &amp; 1964-1972</p>   |
| <b>Digger</b>              | <p>An Australian Soldier – the term originated on Gallipoli</p>  |
| <b>Gallipoli</b>           | <p>The anglicised name of the peninsula in Turkey where the ANZAC and other troops fought against the Turkish Forces.</p>  |
| <b>Grunt</b>               | <p>An Australian Infantry Soldier</p>  |
| <b>Indo China conflict</b> | <p>Refers to the three IndoChina wars beginning in 1949 and ending in 1979 – includes the Malayan Confrontation and Vietnam.</p>   |
| <b>Pacific War</b>         | <p>That part of World War II that was fought in the Pacific Ocean against the Japanese from December 1941 to August 1945. It was the area which most Australian Troops were involved during WWII.</p>  |
| <b>Provo</b>               | <p>A member of the Provost Corps or Military Police.</p>   |
| <b>Puggaree</b>            | <p>The cloth band worn around a ‘Slouch Hat’</p>    |
| <b>SEATO</b>               | <p>An alliance formed in 1945 by Australia; France; Great Britain; Pakistan; Philippines; Thailand; United States to combat the spread of Communism in Indo China. The letters stand for South East Asian Treaty Organisation. It was disbanded in 1977.</p>   |
| <b>Swagger Stick</b>       | <p>A small cane (could be leather bound) was originally carried by Mounted Troops (a Whip) when walking out on leave. It is still in use to-day by Senior NCO's whilst on duty.</p>  |

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Tommy (Tommy)</b> | An English Soldier of World War I |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|



|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
|                      |  |
| <b>Webbing</b>       | Canvas equipment and accoutrements issued to soldiers to assist with the carrying of their equipment.                                  |
| <b>Western Front</b> | That area of France & Belgium sometime also referred to as the Somme and Flanders in which Australian troops fought during World War I |

**Unit organisation – 1914-1918**

| <i>Unit</i> | <i>Size (men)</i>        | <i>Commanded by</i> |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Army        | 150,00 + men (3 Corps)   | General             |
| Corps       | 60,000 men (3 Divisions) | Lieutenant General  |
| Division    | 18,000 men (4 Brigades)  | Major General       |
| Brigade     | 4,000 men (4 Battalions) | Brigadier General   |
| Battalion   | 1,000 men (4 Companies)  | Lieutenant Colonel  |
| Company     | 250 men (4 Platoons)     | Major or Captain    |
| Platoon     | 60 men (3 Sections)      | Lieutenant          |
| Section     | 15 men                   | Sergeant            |

**Military Abbreviations**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| ADS   | Advanced Dressing Station  |
| AFA   | Australian Field Artillery   |
| AFC   | Australian Flying Corps  |
| AIF   | Australian Imperial Forces   |
| ANZAC | Australian and New Zealand Army Corps                                |
| BEF   | British Expeditionary Force  |
| CCS   | Casualty Clearing Station  |
| CO    | Commanding Officer (usually a Battalion)                             |
| CSM   | Company Sergeant Major (a Warrant Officer Class 2)                   |
| GSW   | Guns Shot Wound  |
| HE    | High Explosives  |
| HQ    | Headquarters   |
| KIA   | Killed in Action   |
| NCO   | Non Commissioned Officer- (Lance Corporal to Warrant Officer Class1) |
| OC    | Officer Commanding (usually a Company)                               |
| RAP   | Regimental Aid Post  |
| RSM   | Regimental Sergeant Major (Warrant Officer Class 1)                  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>General</b>                                 | Gen.  |
| <b>Lieutenant General</b>                      | Lt. Gen.                                      |
| <b>Major General</b>                           | Maj. Gen. (originally Sergeant Major General) |
| <b>Brigadier</b>                               | Brig.   |
| <b>Colonel</b>                                 | Col.  |
| <b>Lieutenant Colonel</b>                      | Lt. Col.                                      |
| <b>Major</b>                                   | Maj.  |
| <b>Captain</b>                                 | Capt.   |
| <b>Lieutenant</b>                              | Lt.   |
| <b>Warrant Officer Class 1</b>                 | WO1 (may also be RSM)                         |
| <b>Warrant Officer Class 2</b>                 | WO2 (may also be CSM)                         |
| <b>Staff Sergeant</b>                          | S/Sgt.  |
| <b>Sergeant</b>                                | Sgt.  |
| <b>Corporal }<br/>Bombardier }</b>             | Cpl.<br>Bdr. (Artillery)                      |
| <b>Lance Corporal }<br/>Lance Bombardier }</b> | L/Cpl<br>L/Bdr. (Artillery)                   |
| <b>Private</b>                                 | Pte - Most units                              |
| <b>Sapper</b>                                  | Spr. - Engineers                              |
| <b>Trooper</b>                                 | Tpr. - Lancers & Special Air Services (SAS)   |
| <b>Craftsman</b>                               | Cfn- Electrical & Mechanical Engineers        |
| <b>Gunner</b>                                  | Gnr. - Artillery                              |
|  |   |

**Ranks no longer in use after WWI**

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Brigadier General                         | Brig. Gen. |
| Able Bodied Driver                        | AB/DVR     |
| Air Craft Mechanic                        | AM         |
| Farrier                                   | Far.       |
| Lance Sergeant                            | L/Sgt.     |
| Mechanical Transport Driver               | MT/Dvr.    |
| Petty Officer (Naval Bridging Train only) | PO         |
| Shoeing Smith                             | S/Smith    |
| Wheeler                                   | Whr.       |

**The Anzac Biscuit**

The traditional ANZAC Biscuit eaten by our troops since Gallipoli 1915 and many other Australian citizens is protected by Commonwealth Law.

Under this law only biscuits made from the original recipe using the original ingredients used during WWI can be called ANZAC Biscuits. The Recipe ingredients:

- Oatmeal
- Treacle
- Bicarbonate of Soda
- Butter.



**VC. - Victoria Cross**



**DSO. - Distinguished Service Order-** (Issued to Officers only.)



**DCM. - Distinguished Service Medal-** (issued to Other Ranks)



**MC. - Military Cross** – (issued to Officers only)



**MM. - Military Medal** – (issued to Other Ranks)



**MID. - Mentioned in Dispatches**

**Bar - Means a decoration was awarded twice.** eg.. MC & Bar this means that the person was awarded a Military Cross on two occasions.

**Corps of the Australian Army**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| RAAC     | Royal Australian Armoured Corps   |
| RAA      | Royal Australian Artillery  |
| RAE      | Royal Australian Engineers  |
| RASigs   | Royal Australian Corps of Signals   |
| RAInf    | Royal Australian Infantry Corps   |
| AAAC     | Australian Army Aviation Corps  |
| Aust Int | The Australian Intelligence Corps   |
| RAACD    | Royal Australian Army Chaplains' Department   |
| RACT     | Royal Australian Corps of Transport (previously Royal Australian Army Service Corps –RAASC) |
| RAAMC    | Royal Australian Army Medical Corps   |
| RAADC    | Royal Australian Army Dental Corps  |
| RAAOC    | Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps  |
| RAEME    | Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers  |
| AACC     | Australian Army Catering Corps  |
| RACMP    | Royal Australian Corps of Military Police   |
| AAPC     | Australian Army Psychology Corps  |
| RAANC    | Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps   |
| WRAAC    | Women's Royal Australian Army Corps – now disbanded.  |

A Short History of Ingleburn Military Camp (aka Balikpapan Barracks & Bardia Barracks) – The Home of the 6<sup>th</sup> Division -16<sup>th</sup> Brigade Australian Imperial Forces and the 13<sup>th</sup> National Service Training Battalion Matt Walsh 2002/6

A Voyage with an Australian Sailor- Ken Cunningham 1997  
Australians and the Menin Gate - Department of Veterans' Affairs 1997

Ceremonial Manual Australian Army - Department of Defence

“Granting of Keys to City” Council of the City of Sydney

“Granting of Freedom of the City”- Municipality of Woollahra

Journal of the Museum of Regiments – Calgary Canada

NSW Police Protocol Unit Notes

The National Serviceman (various Issues) - Journal of the NSW National Serviceman's Association

The Reveille – Journal of the NSW RSL

### ***The author***

Matt Walsh JP. MLO ALGA (MCAE), Dip. Bus & Corp Law (CPS) was called up for National Service in 1957 and received a deferment, by late 1958 he had become tired of waiting and enlisted in the local Citizen Military Forces (CMF) Unit, 19 Coy (Tipper) Royal Australian Army Service Corps (RAASC) at Ashfield. He was to later find out that this was the same unit that his grandfather had served in during World War I.

In 1959 he was finally called up for National Service with the 13<sup>th</sup> National Service Training Battalion at Ingleburn, on completion of his full time training he was posted back to 19 Coy RAASC, until the completion of National Service in 1960.

In 1961 he re-enlisted in the CMF with 5 Field Squadron Royal Australian Engineers (RAE) and in 1963 transferred to 1 Division Provost Company (Military Police) and then to 2 Division Provost Company, until his discharge in 1969 with the rank of Sergeant.

He has served on the Executive Committee of the Defence Reserves Association (NSW), the Military Police Association of Australia the Joint Committee for the Commemoration of the Battle for Crete and the Greek Campaign, the Reserve Forces Day Council, the Ashfield RSL Sub Branch and the NSW National Serviceman's Association and is a Director of The Army Museum of New South Wales Foundation..

He has been awarded the ‘Australian Defence Medal’ and the ‘Anniversary of National Service Medal’ in January 2006 he was awarded the ‘Australia Day Achievement Medallion’ by the National Australia Day Council in 2007 he was appointed a “Member of the Order of Liverpool” by Liverpool City Council.