

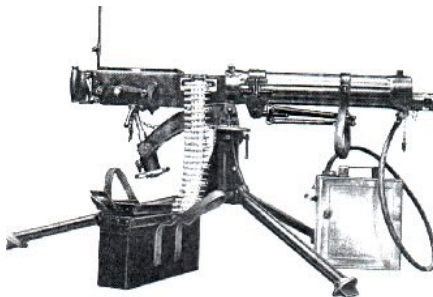
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**THE 2/2ND AUSTRALIAN  
MACHINE GUN BATTALION  
ASSOCIATION**

**MUZZLE BLAST**

**March 2013**



*www.2nd2ndmachinegunbn.com*  
*muzzleblast22@gmail.com*

## 2/2nd AUST MG BN ASSOCIATION

**President:** Ron Myers Ph: 9983 1919  
52/28 Currugul Rd, Nth Turramurra, 2074

**Immediate Past President:** Adrian Simpson Ph: 98780525  
201/153 Epping Rd, Macquarie Park, 2113

**Chairman:** Barry Izzard [barryizzard@bigpond.com](mailto:barryizzard@bigpond.com) Ph: 9671 7914  
6 Sutton Street, Blacktown, 2148

**Vice Chairman** Denis Riley [denriley@hotmail.com](mailto:denriley@hotmail.com) Ph: 96596863  
17 Lisa Crescent, Castle Hill, 2154

**Treasurer:** Denis Riley Ph: 9659 6863  
17 Lisa Crescent, Castle Hill, 2154

**Editor:** Lindy Gyles [muzzleblast22@gmail.com](mailto:muzzleblast22@gmail.com) Ph: 94981843  
22 Browns Road, Gordon NSW 2072

**Editorial Assistant:** Adrian Simpson

**Secretaries:** Helen Callaghan Ph: 98041297  
34 Denistone Road, Eastwood, 2122  
Denise Herman Ph: 9489 9707  
74 Roland Avenue, Wahroonga, 20741

**Committee:** Bill Harley, Michele Lavan, Denise Herman  
Helen Callaghan, Di Symon, Jason Symon, Lindy Gyles

**Hon.Life Members:** Ron Myers, Adrian Simpson, Dave Martin,  
Denis Riley, Di Symon

**Hon. Member:** Ralph Short

**Deceased Hon. Life Members:**

Charles Armitage, John Boughton, Hugh Brown,  
Ron Bruncker, John Cockram, Jim Cuddihy, Clyde Davy,  
Jim Dods, Gerry Ferguson, Charles Gold, Nev Green,  
Norm Ihlein, John Kenyon, Frank Lavan, Ian Mills, Les Reid,  
Mick Riley, Bok Rowe, Keith Sloss, Reg Somerville,  
Lon Villiers, Wes Ward

## FROM THE COMMITTEE

### **ANZAC Day Thursday 25th April 2013**

We are looking forward to sharing lunch at the Reunion with as many as are able to attend. The details of the wreath laying ceremony, the Parade and the Reunion Lunch commence on **page 7** of this newsletter, together with payment information, seating preferences and dietary requests, up to and including **page 9**

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS, Members and Associates**

are held on the *fourth Saturday of the month.*

*at 11.30am, Roseville Memorial Club, 64 Pacific Highway, Roseville, conveniently opposite Roseville Station.*

An exception is in April, when there is no meeting. It is replaced by the ANZAC Day function, at the Menzies Hotel

The November meeting is always the Annual General Meeting. That will be Saturday November 23rd, 2013 this year

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

*Of \$20 are due annually, in April. If you are not an original member or a widow and you receive this Muzzle Blast , please subscribe now*

### **MAIL**

It is always a pleasure to receive mail from our members and after the December newsletter Muzzle Blast heard from :

**Michelle Campbell** ( Daughter of Frank Lavan) who enjoyed the newsletter :D

**Julie Owens** (daughter of Bert Wynn) who was thrilled to see her Dad perched on a camel

**Richard Stewart** (son of Jim Stewart) was touched by the image of his Dad on the camel

**Margaret Cameron** (widow of Richard /Darkie) always enjoys the newsletter

**2/2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Machine Gun Battalion Association  
Minutes Annual General Meeting No. 67  
Roseville RSL Pacific Highway Roseville  
November 24<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**PRESENT**

Ron Myers  
Jason Symon  
Barry Izzard  
Rachel Izzard  
Lindy Gyles  
Denis Riley  
Michele Lavan  
Denise Herman

**APOLOGIES**

Adrian Simpson  
Helen Callaghan  
Bill Harley  
Brendan Jack  
Di Symon

The meeting opened with a minutes silence in remembrance of departed comrades.

Minutes from the last General Meeting held November 26<sup>th</sup> 2011 were read by Michele Lavan

Accepted by                      Barry Izzard  
Seconded by                     Denise Herman

Treasurer's Report was prepared and presented by the Hon. Denis Riley moved to be accepted by Lindy Gyles.

Accepted by                      Jason Symon  
Seconded by                     Michele Lavan

Amendment to the Rules of the Association:  
Item 6 was amended to the following:

*The Senior Executives of the Association shall comprise of a President and a Chairman.*

*The office of the President is an elected position appointed from members of the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion. When a member of the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion is no longer available, the position will cease to exist.*

*His duty shall be*

*\*To oversee, in general, the conduct of the Association*

*\*To be responsible for and preside over the proceedings for the Anzac Day ceremony*

*\*To preside over the AGM*

*The office of Chairman will be an elected office for a period of two years when nominations for that position shall be called for at the AGM and if two nominations are received than a ballot will be called for.*

*His duty shall be:*

*\*To preside over the ordinary meetings*

*\*To prepare the monthly Agenda*

*\*To ensure that a report of the previous meeting is received and accepted*

*\*To ensure that the treasurers report be recorded and accepted*

*\*To ensure that a report of the previous meeting is received and accepted*

*\*To ensure that the treasurers report be recorded and accepted*

*In general, to oversee that the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion Association continues to uphold the tradition of the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion as it existed from 1940 to 1946*

*The Committee shall be comprised of The President, The Chairman and a Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Minute Secretary, Editor and not more than ten (10) Members, who will be elected to office every two years. (Always, providing that the Committee may be at any time co-op for any Member or Associate Member to serve on the Committee to fill a vacancy, or for special duties).*

*The Members of the Executive Committee will consist of the President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer.*

Ron Myers moved that the changes be made and accepted. The motion was voted on and all were in favour.

Election of office bearers was held with the following positions being unanimous.

President:	Ron Myers
Immediate Past President:	Adrian Slmpson
Chairman:	Barry Izzard
Vice Chairman:	Denis Riley
Treasurer:	Denis Riley
Minute Secretaries:	Helen Gallagher & Denise Herman
Editor:	Lindy Gyles
Committee:	Bill Harley, Michele Lavan, Brendan Jack, Jason Symon, Di Symon

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.15pm and all present moved to the dining area of the Roseville RSL for lunch.

# **INVITATION ANZAC DAY LUNCHEON**

THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2013

You are invited to join us at the Anzac Day Luncheon. We hope you will attend. The luncheon, which will be held again at the Menzies Hotel is always a wonderful event, a great chance to catch up with your fellow members. With the diminishing numbers of 'originals' it is a way of supporting them and coming together as the 'Battalion Family'. So if you have attended in the past or if you have considered attending, why not make it this year.

The lunch costs \$55 per person, though veterans and their wives, or widows, are welcome as guests of the Association, free of charge. To allow for the smooth running of the event, notice of intention to attend and payment, should reach Denis Riley as early as practical, but not later than April 17th

**PAY BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER** Please send the form, from **page 9** and your payment to :

**Denis Riley      17 Lisa Crescent,      Castle Hill NSW, 2154.**

Make the cheque out to

**2/2<sup>ND</sup> AUST MACHINE GUN BATTALION ASSOCIATION**

**OR By DIRECT DEPOSIT** to the association's bank account

Account Name:

**2/2<sup>ND</sup> AUST MACHINE GUN BATTALION ASSOCIATION**

Bank	<b>WESTPAC</b>	Branch	<b>FRENCHS FOREST</b>
BSB	<b>032 123</b>	Account	<b>130 610</b>

Put your name as reference on your deposit. Advise the treasurer by email, that you have made the payment, how much was transferred and what the payment was for. (eg Luncheon and Members Name)

Notify Denis Riley at email address:- [denriley@hotmail.com](mailto:denriley@hotmail.com)

## The 2/2nd Machine Gun Battalion Commemorates

### ANZAC DAY

Thursday, 25th April 2013

#### **WREATH LAYING : 7.45AM**

Meet in Barrack Street outside the Combined Services RSL Club.

David Martin, accompanied by Denis Riley, will lead 2/2nd members to the Cenotaph at 8AM sharp. Barrack St is 260 metres from Wynyard Station and 430 metres from Town Hall Station. The link below provides the map of the location of the Combined Services Club

<http://www.combinedservicesrsl.com.au/location.htm> .

#### **THE PARADE: By 10am**

meet under the Battalion banner in Castlereagh Street, between King St and Martin Place and outside the MLC Building.

Non veterans are discouraged by the RSL from marching within the Battalion groups, unless assisting a veteran, though they 'will not be escorted away.' The 2/2nd MG Association has left the decision to join the Battalion in the march as an individual one. They do however stress the need for recognition of a code of attire (shirt with collar, preferably with tie, preferably with jacket for the men and 'modest' attire for women, preferably dress or suit, medals on right chest) and conduct during the march. If unsure of the protocols please contact Barry Izzard on 029671 7914 prior to the March

#### **REUNION: 12 for 12.30**

#### **Your invitation and the details are on page 9**

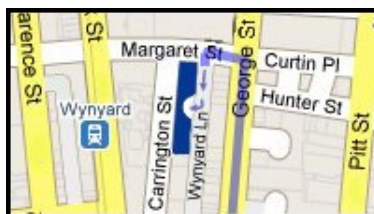
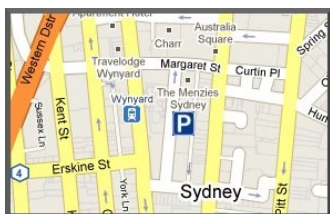
It is at The Menzies Hotel, 14 Carrington St, Sydney ph 0292991000

<http://www.sydneymenzieshotel.com.au/>

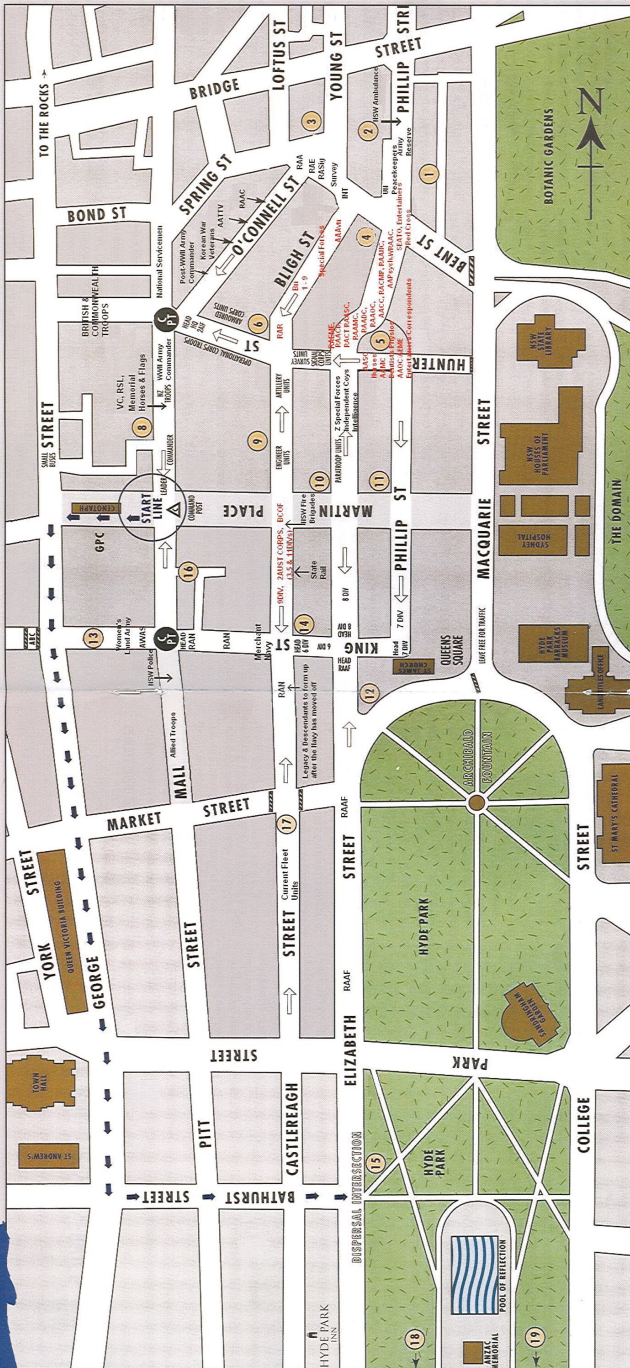
to be seated for lunch by 12.30

***To allow for smooth running of the event, your intention to attend and payment should reach Denis Riley no later than 17th April***

**PARKING** Is available, closeby at Wynyard Lane Car Park (enter via Margaret St) \$25 weekend rate, for the day (payable only to the car park) from 6.30AM <http://www.wynyardlanecarpark.com.au/casual.asp>



# ANZAC DAY MARCH GUIDE



- PORTALOOS IN GROUPS OF 5 (WITH EXCEPTION OF 18 & 19)**
1. Car Bent & Phillip Sts – area in front of State Office Block
  2. Car Phillip & Bent Sts – area in front of Sigal & General Bldg
  3. Car Young & Bent Sts – area in front of Education Building
  4. Car Hunter & Bent Sts – SE corner in front of Bond Building
  5. Car Hunter & Phillip Sts – Chilly Square
  6. Car Hunter & Phillip Sts – area in front of Hunter St
  7. Pitt St – area in front of Macquarie Square, North of Hunter St
  8. Pitt Street & Argel Square – North of Hunter St
  9. Castlereagh St & Park Rd – North of Martin Place
  10. Car Martin Pl & Elizabeth St – in Martin Place
  11. Car Martin Pl & Phillip Sts – in Martin Place
  12. Car Elizabeth St & St James Road – on NE corner
  13. King St
  14. Car King & Castlereagh Sts – in front of High Court
  15. In Hyde Park – 30 metres North of Bathurst St
  16. In Hyde Park – 30 metres North of Bathurst St
  17. Car Market & Castlereagh Sts
  18. Liverpool St – 50 metres from Museum Station entrance (S)
  19. Car Wentworth Ave & Liverpool St – near YWCA (T)

**FIRST AID**  
 SUPPLIED BY ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE AT VARIOUS POINTS IN FORMATION ASSEMBLY AREAS AND ALONG THE MARCH ROUTE STARTING AT THE CORNER OF PITT STREET AND MARTIN PLACE

**ROUTE**  
 Martin Place, George Street, Bathurst Street to Elizabeth Street.  
**TROOPS**  
 in columns of 8  
**CARS**  
 in columns of 2  
**MARCH COMMENCES 9AM**

**LEGEND**  
 14 PORTALOO LOCATION  
 PT CHECKPOINTS



**ANZAC DAY LUNCHEON**

**Thursday 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2013**

**Seating at 12.30 PM**

**I/We intend to attend this reunion-PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME/s**

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**I Prefer To Be Seated With (Optional):**

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**The luncheon will be \$55 per head for Associates and guests.**

**2/2<sup>nd</sup> Veterans, wives and widows are free of charge -  
compliments of the association.**

**The hotel wishes to be notified of special dietary requirements,  
including vegetarian option, prior to April 13th**

**Please indicate the requirement and for whom:**

**(and/or email Di Symon: [diandjohnsymon@bigpond.com](mailto:diandjohnsymon@bigpond.com))**

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**Annual Subscriptions of \$20**

**Subs can be included with your Luncheon remittance**

**Subs paid in 2013 and prior to Anzac day will make you financial  
to**

**Anzac Day 2014.**

**Please nominate who you are paying subs for:**

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**Mark Tull** (grandson of EA Burrows) Has been in touch with the Australian War Memorial. He has donated the colour patch from his Grandfather's uniform, which the Assistant Curator | Military Heraldry & Technology, Paul Taylor, accepted. Mark also enquired of him if other items existed in the archives relating to the Battalion.

**Paul Taylor**

Assistant Curator | Military Heraldry & Technology

[paul.taylor@awm.gov.au](mailto:paul.taylor@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4230 | f 02 6243 4325

Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

Responded with this information:

## THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL COLLECTIONS

The Australian War Memorial is at the same time, a museum, archive and memorial. Its extensive collections were founded by Charles Bean and John Treloar who began collecting records including unit war diaries and relics (the material evidence of conflict) during the First World War. The collections contain items from colonial conflicts to the present day and are incorporated into the curatorial areas of Art, Research Centre, Photographs, Film and Sound, Military Heraldry and Technology (MHT). These collections lie at the heart of the Memorial, helping Australians to remember, interpret and understand the Australian experience of war and its enduring impact on Australian society.

The MHT collection contains an extensive range of objects illustrating Australia's military history and dates from the Australian colonial period to current conflicts and peacekeeping activities. It includes a comprehensive range of Australian, enemy and allied forces' material that has been collected on the Memorial's behalf during war-time, or donated or purchased since.

The **Military Heraldry** collection comprises a wide variety of material, including uniforms, the nation's largest collection of Victoria Crosses, a large collection of other significant honours and awards, regimental colours and flags, souvenirs and personal equipment. In addition, the collection contains battlefield relics, some of which were collected by one of the founders of the Memorial, CEW Bean, and by others charged with this activity in two world wars and current conflicts.

The **Military Technology** collection comprises thousands of items, ranging in size from a surgical needle to a four-engined bomber. The objects include aircraft, vehicles, vessels, communications equipment, weapons, models, meteorological equipment, medical instruments, cameras, and optical devices.

Some of the objects held in the MHT collections which relate to the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion include:

### **REL38225**

A Nazi vehicle identification flag collected by QX17455 Private Leonard Roger Mason of the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion from a German underground storage area during the battle of El Alamein on 3 November 1942. The flag was signed by members of the battalion and bought back to Australia by QX9860 Private William Johnston Murray.

See: <http://cas.awm.gov.au/item/REL38225>

### **REL44976**

The colour patch worn by NX45258 Private Earle Arthur 'Jack' Burrows, 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion.

### **RELAWM32122.002-.008**

Military Medal and medal group to NX27134 Private Ronald George McGregor, 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion. The citation for the Military Medal reads as follows: 'In the TELL EL EISA area on 22 July 42, NX27134, Pte. McGregor, R. G. was No. 3 on a V[Vickers]MG of No. 3 Pl of D Coy of an Aust MG Bn. The Sec went into action but were forced to withdraw about 300 yards after they had suffered heavy casualties, one man being killed and six wounded. There were only six men, including the Pl Comd, remaining. During this withdrawal to the new posn Pte. MCGREGOR went forward again, under heavy fire, and regardless of personal safety, to carry his No. 1, who had been wounded, back. He then returned and brought back his gun, and assisted in manning it. This section was largely responsible for the ultimate success of the attack '.

See: <http://cas.awm.gov.au/item/RELAWM32122.002>

### **REL35918**

Rising Sun sweetheart brooch : 2/2 Machine Gun Battalion

See: <http://cas.awm.gov.au/item/REL35918>

## Regarding El Alamein, ANZAC Day, and Flow On From December News

There are 33 men from the Battalion listed in Battalion history “Roll of Honour” who died at El Alamein. They are listed and honoured:

*DP Naughton, WA Cochrane, DV Jones, GM Clements,  
WG Izzard, JA Kellaher, P Challands, CJ Weston, JF Twibble,  
AL Anderson, MG Bannister, G Benson, JW Sirl, W McHenry, RG Mitchell,  
AS Duckworth, IW Hayes, ER Boyd, AW Wilson, A Weinstein, T Lawrie,  
RJ Montgomery, EW Ramsay, RL Garrett, A Johnston, LR Schulter,  
WG Archibald, F Pardey, H Luxmoore, JFM Gibson, CP Beissel,  
EA Kelaher, JS Bromhead.*

*Two more died in the Middle East, at sea: LN McBeath, and K Morgan*

As a result of the story about the Commemorative 70th Anniversary visit, by our President, Ron Myers, Barry Izzard, our new Chairman shared with us some of his precious photos. He and Rachel, his wife, visited the Cemetery, the resting place of his Father, who died during that campaign

The photos on the following pages highlight the landscape: barren, flat and seemingly unchanged in years that have passed. They show the original more fragile grave site and a newer headstone in the well maintained cemetery.

Those who take the opportunity to visit any Australian War Graves, in my experience, return with high commendations for the Australian Government's War Graves Commission, who responsibly and reverently maintain the graves at home and overseas

[http://www.dva.gov.au/commems\\_oawg/OAWG/Pages/index.aspx](http://www.dva.gov.au/commems_oawg/OAWG/Pages/index.aspx)

Taking El Alamein as an example, the particular web site, with links below, has beautiful photos, valuable information for tourists, maps and a cemetery plan, including a list of those buried in the cemetery:

<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/2019000/EL%20ALAMEIN%20WAR%20CEMETERY>





The barren, sandy ,flat landscape around El Alamein



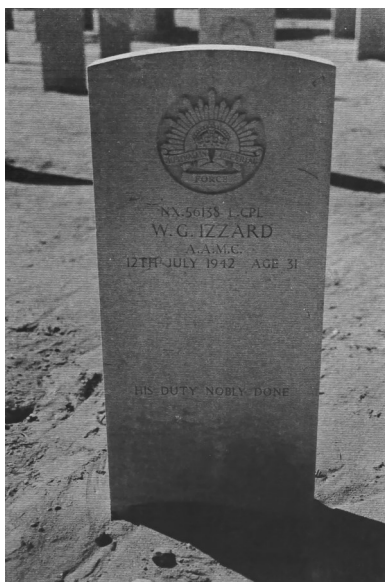
The Railway Stations, old and new



The Memorial and the War Graves



The Original Graves



The Grave site, as it is now,



Barry, and Rachel, at his Father's resting place and those of 'our men'

## For The Fallen

Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)

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 in 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 a 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 uncounted;  
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 day-time;  
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our 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 that shall be bright when we are dust,  
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain;  
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,  
To the end, to the end, they remain.



## LAST POST

*It is with sincere regret that we report the passing of*

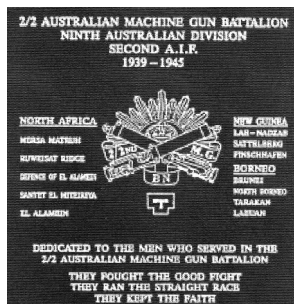
**L J Miller NX 95067**

**Marge Whelan (widow of Ken Whelan NX 26227  
and niece of Herb Rudkin NX 16170)**

**Rita Jackson (widow of Ken Jackson NX 17212)**

*To their families and friends,  
members of the Association extend deepest sympathy*

*'They fought the good fight,  
They ran the straight race,  
They kept the Faith'*



**LEST WE FORGET**