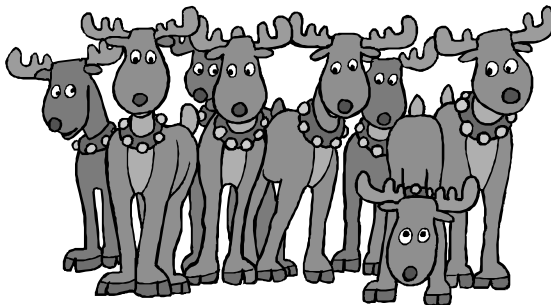


THE 2/2ND AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN BATTALION
ASSOCIATION

MUZZLE BLAST

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2006



2/2ND AUST MG BN ASSOCIATION

President:	Adrian Simpson 201/153 Epping Road, Marsfield 2122	Ph: 9878 0525
Vice President / Welfare:	Ron Myers 38a Station Street, Pymble 2073	Ph: 9983 1919
Vice President:	Mick Riley 1 Wasdale Place, Bomaderry 2541	Ph: (02) 4421 8382
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	Dianne Symon 12 Spurwood Road, Turramurra 2074	Ph: 9488 9778
Minute Secretaries:	Sally Butcher Denise Herman	
Editor / Delegate 9 Division Council:	Adrian Simpson	
Committee:	Neville Bargwanna, Bob Fitzsimmons, Ron Bruncker, Bill Harley, Frank Lade, Julie Owens	
Hon. Life Members:	Ron Bruncker, David Martin, Ron Myers, Mick Riley, Adrian Simpson	
Hon. Padre:	Canon Ray J. Bomford 19 Coomassie Avenue, Faulconbridge 2776	Ph: (02) 4751 6465
Hon. Member:	Ralph Short	
Deceased Hon. Life Members	Charles Armitage, John Boughton, Hugh Brown, John Cockram, Jim Cuddihy, Clyde Davy, Jim Dods, Gerry Ferguson, Charles Gould, Nev Green, Norm Ihlein, John Kenyon, Frank Lavan, Ian Mills, Les Reid, Bok Rowe, Keith Sloss, Reg Somerville, Lon Villiers, Wes Ward.	

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

One more year almost gone! Your committee wish all members and their families a joyful and Holy Christmas with the hope that you all enjoy a good measure of sound health, happiness and prosperity in the coming year and beyond.

The next important event of the year is the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday, 27th November at Legacy House, York Street, City. The meeting will open at 11.00am. We are hopeful of a good attendance as in the past. It is realized that the tyranny of distance and indifferent health is a problem for many, but if you cannot attend send an apology and your support will be recorded. We would welcome any suggestions, relative to our activities, any member would like to put forward for consideration.

The year to date has been eventful. The main event, of course, was Anzac Day with an attendance of 122 as against 125 last year — a very good result. There were 15 'Old & Bold' there with 53 Associate Members, 39 visitors, with wives and widows making up the balance. The figures show how the future of the Association is dependent on the continued enthusiastic support of the Associates. Already, several have been appointed to executive positions which has assured the future of the Association for, we hope, many years ahead.

There is in this issue a separate report on the 9th Division events — the Church Service and the Reunion. We are quite pleased with the support our Association was able to give. The fact is, of course, the availability of members to attend the various functions is diminishing for obvious reasons.

During the year, the third generation Battalion tie was produced with a very successful outcome. There are only a few ties left in stock so if anyone wants a tie/ties they should be ordered now. We thank Sally Butcher, Dianne Symon, Denise Herman for their major role in this undertaking.

Finally, we thank and appreciate the continued support of all members which is vital to the future of your Association.

With best wishes to all.

The Committee.

VALE

LIEUT. GEOFFREY WILLIAM WENTWORTH BOUCHER NX22934**20.04.1921 – 18.09.2006**

Geoff was born in Corowa in Victoria. His father was employed by the Bank of New South Wales which resulted in the family being moved to various locations, e.g. Balranald, Taralga, Campbelltown. He attended the Hurlstone Agricultural College where he was involved with the Boy Scouts and commenced competitive cycle racing with which he achieved considerable success.

Geoff joined the Bank of New South Wales at Camden Branch and when World War II broke out he was serving with the Royal New South Wales Lancers based at Parramatta. He joined our Battalion when 'Torpy' (Brigadier D.A. Whitehead, CBE, DSO*, MC, ED) C.O. of the Lancers, formed the Battalion and brought with him a number of Lancers.

He was an original member of the Battalion and served in the various campaigns in the Middle East, including the Battle of El Alamein. He was wounded in action and was lucky to escape with one small wound in the shoulder by a bullet which narrowly missed his head. Mick Riley, who was with him at the time, said Geoff remained on duty and the wound was not reported, hence it is not recorded in the Unit History.

On his return from the Middle East he was commissioned into the R.A.A.S.C.

He rejoined the Bank on discharge and was posted to various branches including Sydney, Suva in Fiji, Nauru and Robinvale (Vic.). He retired in 1982 from the Lane Cove Branch where he was Manager. At that time the Unit History was published and he looked after the finances for that project.

Geoff was a keen traveller. He did a trek in Nepal and walked the Routeburn and Milford Tracks in New Zealand. With his late wife they visited most countries in the world, ten months touring U.K. and Europe and five months in the U.S.A.

It was only deteriorating health that caused these globetrotters to cease their travelling.

Geoff served on the Association's Committee for many years and was always a keen supporter of all our activities. He displayed great courage, although very ill, to go the full distance of the March on Anzac Day with the help of his carer and then to attend the luncheon.

All members of the Association extend sincere sympathy to Geoff's family for their sad loss.

This tribute is based on the eulogy delivered by Geoff's brother, John, at the service conducted by our Chaplain, Canon Ray Bomford. Our Association was represented by Neville Bargwanna, Sally Butcher, Bob Fitzsimmons, Denise Herman, Beth Mackay, Betty Myers, Ron Myers, Julie Owens, Denis Riley, Adrian Simpson, Dianne Symon.

VALE

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN RAYMOND BROADBENT CBE, DSO Ed

Major General Broadbent passed away on 27th October at the age of 92 years. He was an outstanding soldier, well known and highly regarded by all troops, particularly of the 20th Brigade and the 2/17th Battalion. He joined the A.I.F. early in 1940 from the Sydney University Regiment and served with the 2/17th Battalion for the duration of the war. The battalion was heavily committed in all the battles in Tobruk and El Alamein, and then he was Commanding Officer in the New Guinea and Borneo campaigns.

He was Hon. Life Member of the 2/17th Bn. Association and President of the 9th Division Council.

The General led the 9th Division in the Anzac Day march in April this year.

ANZAC DAY 2007

Your committee is already giving serious attention to next Anzac Day, which is not all that far away. For many years our Anzac Day march and reunion has been an outstanding success thanks to the wonderful support afforded by all members and friends. Needless to say, we look to 2007 being of equal success, and the readers of *Muzzle Blast* are invited to give their consideration to the possibility of attending the functions. You will be advised full details at the appropriate time.

A booking has been secured at the Menzies Hotel for 2007 — we are fortunate to have this excellent venue available to us.

This year quite a few large family groups attended, so hopefully this will be repeated next year. It is an ideal time for families to gather together and remember, in particular, those of our comrades who did not return from distant battlefields.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

We are pleased to welcome to our Association Malcolm Muir who is the grandson of that well-known member of 'A' Company, the late Charlie Stewart. (We also had serving with the Battalion Charlie's brother, the late Jim — see the photo of the boys on the camels.)

Malcolm was introduced by Lindy Gyles (Jim's daughter) whose son, Andrew, is also an Associate Member.

Malcolm is a Queenslander — he has been invited to join us on Anzac Day if it is possible to make the trip. Both Lindy and Andrew were with us for the Anzac Day functions and we hope to see them again in 2007.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

At 9.40pm on 23rd October, 1942, a bombardment by 900 artillery guns commenced to open the main Battle of El Alamein in which the 9th Australian Division played a prominent role. (The Division took up its position at Alamein in July 1942 and was involved in much fighting prior to the October battle.)

On the 64th anniversary, it is appropriate that we remember our men who did not return home from the Middle East, New Guinea, Tarakan and Borneo.

Anderson, A.L.	Deem, R.V.	Kelagher, J.A.	Rudd, B.R.
Archibald, W.G.	Downing, P.E.	Kerin, B.D.	Schluter, L.R.
Ashley, L.N.	Duckworth, A.S.	King, W.R.	Sirl, J.W.
Ball, C.A.	Ewing, T.McD.	Lasker, J.L.	Smith, D.C.
Bannister, M.G.	Forrest, N.E.	Lavercombe, A.	Sparke, J.
Bastrup, N.J.	Foster, H.A.	Lawrie, T.	Steen, H.A.
Beard, E.J.	Garrett, R.L.	Lee, L.	Street, D.L.
Beissel, C.P.	George, L.M.	Longhurst, A.W.	Sullivan, J.P.
Benson, G.P.	Gibson, J.F.M.	Luxmore, H.	Tancred, J.F.
Blake, W.W.	Gillard, W.H.	McBeath, L.N.	Thompson, S.F.
Bonwick, V.J.	Goldsmith, H.S.	McHenry, W.	Twibble, J.F.
Boyd, E.R.	Gorlick, A.H.	Mitchell, R.G.	Wallinger, F.
Bromhead, J.S.	Hayes, I.W.	Monaghan, J.L.	Walker, M.B.J.
Burr, J.E.	Hobday, T.	Montgomery, R.J.	Ward, N.E.
Burrows, E.A.	Hogan, J.L.	Mooney, A.H.	Weathered, J.F.
Challands, P.	Hughes, D.C.	Morgan, K.	Webb, W.
Chandler, R.S.	Hume, E.A.	Naughton, D.P.	Weinstein, A.
Clements, S.M.	Izzard, W.G.	Pardey, F.	Weston, C.J.
Cockrane, W.A.	Johnston, A.	Ramsey, E.W.	Wilson, A.W.
Coles, L.W.	Jones, D.V.	Riddell, R.F.	Wyatt, L.
Deane, E.A.	Kelagher, E.A.	Roberts, L.C.	

LEST WE FORGET

In addition, about 180 of our Battalion troops were wounded in action.

In the various campaigns the 9th Division suffered 2,732 killed in action, 7,501 wounded and 1,836 taken prisoner. It was the most highly decorated of all the 2nd A.I.F. Divisions, receiving 393 awards for bravery, which included seven Victoria Cross Medals. The Division also received a total of 681 Mentioned in Despatches.

ANZAC DAY

I saw a kid marchin' with medals on his chest.
He marched alongside Diggers, marchin' six abreast.
He knew it was Anzac Day, he walked along with pride,
He did his best to keep in step with Diggers by his side.

And when the march was over the kid was rather tired.
A Digger said "Whose medals, son?", to which the kid replied:
"They belong to my daddy but he did not come back,
He died up in New Guinea on a lonely jungle track."

The kid looked rather sad, then a tear came to his eye.
The Digger said: "Don't worry my son, and I will tell you why.
Your daddy marched with us today — all the bloomin' way.
We Diggers know that he was there — it's like that on Anzac Day."

The kid looked rather puzzled and didn't understand.
But the Digger went on talking and started to wave his hand.
"For this great land we live in, there's a price we have to pay,
And for this thing called freedom, the Diggers had to pay.

"For we all love fun and merriment in this country where we live.
The price was that some soldier, his precious life must give.
For you to go to school, my lad, and worship God at will,
Someone had to pay the price, so the Diggers paid the bill.

Your daddy died for us, my son — for all things good and true.
I wonder if you can understand the things I've said to you?"
The kid looked up at the Digger, just for a little while,
And with a changed expression, said, with a lovely smile:
"I know my daddy marched here today, this our Anzac Day,
I know he did, I know he did, all the bloomin' way!"

Anon.

The above was in a publication, *Veterans, Peacekeepers & Families*, by the Australian Government — Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Service.

Thanks to Ron Myers for suggesting it worthy of inclusion in our journal. It certainly 'strikes a chord'.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The meeting will be held on Monday, 27th November, 2006, at Legacy House, York Street, City, and will commence at 11.00am. Following the meeting, arrangements have been made for the traditional Christmas Luncheon at the Occidental Hotel which is just a few yards from Legacy House.

This is an important event in our calendar for the year and it is hoped that our members and friends are able to join us. If you cannot make the meeting you can join us at the hotel at about 12.00 noon.

If you intend to attend please advise either of the Hon. Secretaries (see list of Office Bearers) or any member of the committee, for catering purposes. The cuisine at the hotel is first-class with a reasonable cost.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

We are informed that recently the 2/3rd Anti-Tank Regiment Association has ceased to operate.

As all 9 Division members know, this was a very famous regiment that was involved in all the campaigns of the Division — Middle East (including Tobruk and the Battle of El Alamein), New Guinea and Borneo.

In an introduction to the Unit History, Major-General W.J.V. Windeyer, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D. wrote (in part):

“It is a story of heroic tasks discharged with heroism, and of commonplace tasks done uncommonly well.”

B2 Platoon have every reason to remember the Regiment with affection. At the Battle of El Alamein when things were really ‘hot’ and the Platoon had its gun pits near the ‘Blockhouse’, the Germans positioned an 88mm field gun at short range and the gun crew immediately went into action. Behind our positions the 2/3rd Anti-Tank Regiment had a battery of 6 pounders and the crew was able to shoot — the first round hit the porte (ammunition carrier) and, of course, that put the 88 out of action with considerable loss of life on the enemy side.

After the battle, members of B2 inspected the 88 gun and found a round in the barrel which was aimed directly at the gun pit of Ron Myers — so he and his team were fortunate that the 2/3rd Anti-Tank got their round away before the Germans could shoot.

The 2/3rd Anti-Tank Regiment Association was a great supporter of the reunions held in Orange, Tamworth and the City with very good attendances, and our members had many friends in that Unit. It is a sad end to a famous Regiment.

DIGGERS ON LEAVE

Thanks to Dave Garland for the photo and to Mick Riley for the historical details.

The group were:

L-R: Jimmy Stewart, Bill Whittaker, Bruce Young, Bert Wynn and David Garland.

They were on seven days leave in Cairo in December 1942, only a few weeks before we sailed for home.

The Alabaster or Chephren's Pyramid (son of Cheops) is in the background behind the Sphinx, and the small pyramid to the left is that of Mycinerus (son of Chephren).

A very interesting reminder of our Battalion's service in the Middle East.



A FATHER AND TWO SONS

The father was James Lynch (NX24868) and his sons, Joe (NX178055) and James (NX99052) — J.M. and J.A. respectively. All three joined our Battalion and served in 'A' Company.

Jim Lynch (father) saw active service in World War I with the 1st Infantry Bn. where he was awarded the Military Medal (the actual medal is in the possession of Joe). On joining the A.I.F. he was 50 years of age but presented himself as 40 and was accepted. He joined our Battalion and saw service in the Middle East. On his return he was discharged.

When Joe decided to join the Army he was 17 years of age and asked his father's approval to present himself as an older candidate. He was accepted and joined our Battalion.

Joe's older brother, James, had already joined our Battalion and they both had service in the Islands and Borneo.

Joe tells us that "some of the originals like Alex Starkey and Scotty Dill used to tell me some wonderful stories about Dad".

Another in the family, Peter, younger than Joe, served in the Korean War.

This is a story well worth telling as an outstanding contribution of the Lynch family in the service of our country.

Joe is the only one with us now. He usually reports to the assembly in O'Connell Street on Anzac Day and goes the full distance of the march assisted by his grandson, Bobby Broadhurst. Next year he is hopeful of joining us at the Anzac Day luncheon. He and Bobby will receive a warm welcome.

ANOTHER FAMILY THAT SERVED OUR COUNTRY WELL

Ron Brunker's father served with the 4th Battalion A.I.F. in World War I. He enlisted on 12th August, 1914, was wounded in action at Lone Pine, Gallipoli in 1915, and was discharged in Sydney in 1916. If that was not enough action, he enlisted again on 22nd June, 1940 (NX56725) and served with the 22nd Brigade A.I.F., 8th Division. As a P.O.W. he worked on the Burma-Siam Railway and died on 9th September, 1943, after a leg amputation. He is buried in the Thanbyazayat War Cemetery, Burma.

Ron's brother, Esmond (NX87902) served with the 2/33rd Battalion. He enlisted in 1942, and was in New Guinea (Kokoda Trail), Ramu Valley, Dutch Borneo and Balikpapan. He was discharged in Sydney in 1946.

Ron Brunker has been a committeeman for many years and is a very active member of our Association. He served with 'C' Company of the Battalion.

9 DIVISION CHURCH PARADE

The Garrison Church 24th September, 2006

This was a memorable occasion when, in particular, we paid tribute to those of our comrades who did not return from active service and those who have passed on since.

The 9 Division wreath was laid by the Chairman of the 9 Division Council, Mr. Ray Widdows (2/12th Field Regt.), and Major 'Tex' Morton (Salvation Army) delivered the sermon. Both were 'Rats of Tobruk'. A pipe band added colour to the ceremony.

Our Association was represented by Peter Anley & Myra Smith, Neville & Mary Bargwanna, Ray & Verna Bomford, Sally & John Butcher, Bob Fitzsimmons, Warren & Robyn Keating, Frank Lade, Ron & Betty Myers, David & Nan Martin, Beth Mackay, Dianne Symon, Adrian Simpson, Bruce & Kath Curtis.

David & Nan Martin made the long trip from Bonville to attend the Service — their effort is appreciated. David, Bob Fitzsimmons, Frank Lade and Ron Myers took an active part in the conduct of the Service.

As a matter of interest, the Garrison Church has a long history that goes back to the very early colonial days when the British garrisons held their church parades there. In 1997 our Battalion plaque was placed on the north wall of the church. The dedication was to perpetuate the memory of the Battalion and its achievements for future generations. It was at this ceremony that the late Lt. Col. Frank Lavan introduced the concept of Associate Membership, which has proved to be so successful.

It is recommended to members and friends that a visit to the Garrison Church is well worthwhile, if at all possible.

IRISH HUMOUR VIA OSCAR WILDE

I sometimes think
That God, in creating Man,
Somewhat overestimated
His ability.

9 DIVISION COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

20th October, 2006

Fifty-one members of the various 9 Division Units gathered at the Cenotaph for a memorable Service to honour our comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice.

Our Association was represented by Neville Bargwanna, Bob Fitzsimmons, Frank Lade, David Martin and Adrian Simpson. Bob had the honour of laying our Battalion wreath, and David and Frank attended to the flags. In addition, David recited *The Ode*.

The address was delivered by Brigadier O.H. Isaksson M.C., who served with the 2/48th Battalion and was a personal friend of the late Frank Lavan, who also served with that Battalion after transfer from our Battalion — both were distinguished soldiers.

Following the Service the troops attended luncheon at the Combined Services Club where old comrades had the opportunity to meet and exchange stories of experiences all those years ago.

Congratulations to David Martin who made the long trip from Bonville especially to attend this function.

DAVISTOWN MINI REUNION

On 24th August, 2006, a small group gathered at the Davistown R.S.L. to carry on a function that was started many years ago by the late Jack Marsh, Bill Webb, Terry Geany and the late Bill Stockman.

The following attended:

Lyle & Elva Brown	Beth Mackay
Neville & Mary Bargwanna	Margaret Nelson
Fay Connell	Dot Stockman
Terry & Thelma Geany	Adrian Simpson
Frank & Marie Lade	Noelene Taylor
Mavis McCallum	

Frank Lade does a good job in organising the luncheon and Dot Stockman for making the necessary arrangements with the club. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 16th November.

AUSTRALIA AT WAR — AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION

It is of interest that at its peak in 1944 employment in aircraft production exceeded 44,000. Australia built over 3,000 aircraft during the war — 1940-1945:

Beaufort	700
Beaufighter	329
Wirraway	717
Wackett Trainer	200
Boomarang	250
Mustang Fighter	18
Tiger Moth	1,070
DH Dragon	87
Mosquito	115

Not a bad effort considering our population at the time was approximately 7 million.

WEBSITE

Our website address is: www.2-2ndmachinegunbn.com

A sub-committee of Associate Members — Sally Butcher, Michele Campbell, Denis Riley and Dianne Symon — have worked for several months to establish our own website. Special thanks to Michele Campbell (nee Lavan) who designed the front page and put the project really on track.

The website is now ready to accept material relative to the Battalion and to effect this positive steps are being taken by the sub-committee.

Your committee is sure that all members will be pleased that our Battalion history, including details of all who served, will be recorded for all time and available for worldwide viewing.

* * *

Relative to the website, a certain volume of typing will be necessary. The sub-committee is seeking the assistance of any member who is able to undertake typing jobs.

If you are able to help please contact:

Mrs. Dianne Symon
12 Spurwood Road, Turrumurra 2074
Phone: (02) 9488 9778 or 0404 461 950

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

We acknowledge, with many thanks, receipt of subscriptions and donations from the following:

Peter Anley	Andrew Gyles	Matthew Lamb	Heidi Symon
Bruce Ballard	Sophie Gyles	Robert Lamb	Jason Symon
Ron Brunker	Lindy Gyles	Anthony Lamb	Basil Staniland
Ken Brunker	Pauline Graham	Josie Lord	Fiona Schroeder
Neville Bargwanna	John Graham	Mary Murray	Russ Sutherland
Louise Bargwanna	Kim Graham	John Miller	Anthony Selmes
Geoff Boucher	Terry Geany	Ron Myers	Kevin Selmes
Ray Bomford	Thelma Geany	David Martin	Muriel Selmes
Sally Butcher	Eric George	Harry May	Richard Stewart
Tom Butcher	Bill Harley	John Monks	Robyn Spedding
Charles Butcher	Bruce Harley	Joanna Mason-Jones	Pauline Spedding
Antony Butcher	John Harley	Andrew Mason-Jones	Joan Sanders
Lyle Brown	Malcolm Harley	George Mehieloff	Roslyn Sippel
Robert Brown	Anne Harley	Andrew McVey	Norma Sippel
Peter Brown	Denise Herman	Jeff McVey	Bert Street
Leanne Bendall	David Herman	Peg McVey	Bill Somerville
Ken Bendall	Ross Hutchison	Bruce McVey	Ben Somerville
Loraine Bowan	Julienne Hudson	Rob McVey	Jock Somerville
Joan Boughton	Barry Izzard	Darcy McInnes	Adrian Simpson
Charlie Birrell	Mary Ihlein	Mavis McCallum	Tony Simpson
Dianne Boydell	Dyana Ilievski	'Midge' Oliver	Roy Thorburn
Michele Campbell	Jan Johns	Julie Owens	Dave Thomas
Elizabeth Crossley	Frank Jordan	Beryl Payn	Norma Whiteman
Helen Callaghan	'Curley' Kirton	Cynthia Pearce	Joanne Whiteman
Margaret Christie	Molly Knight	Les Poole	Bruce Williams
Rowley Cann	Frank Lade	Ruby Purdon	Ron White
Sue Crompton	Deborah Lavan	Christine Quinn	John White
Kevin Culph	Kerry Lason	Bert Ridyard	John Wagland
Beryl Duffy	Meredith Lane	Ron Ridyard	Nell Welsh
MarylN Dawson	Bridget Lane	Bruce Robinson	Bruce Wyllie
Ian Dawson	Lenore Larsson	Ian Robinson	Margaret Zacheria
Charlie Dicker	Joe Lynch	Jack Rinaldi	
Matthew Forbes	Tony Lavan	Sue Ruse	
Bill Freeman	Robyn Lamb	Dianne Symon	

These are payments made since 1st March, 2006.

**2/2nd AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE — YEAR ENDING 31/10/06**

INCOME	\$
Subscriptions and Donations	5,016.00
Anzac Day Legacy Collection	1,180.85
Anzac Day Luncheon Receipts	4,960.00
Sale of Association Ties	2,610.00
Bank Account Interest Received	46.10
Total Income	\$13,812.95
Funds on hand as at 31st October 2005	\$8,273.19
TOTAL	\$22,086.14
EXPENDITURE	\$
Muzzle Blast Production 3 issues	1,876.80
Muzzle Blast Postage	363.00
Anzac Day Collection Paid to Legacy	1,201.00
Anzac Day Luncheon	7,274.00
Anzac Day Advance Booking Deposit	500.00
Ties — Purchase cost and postage	1,988.55
Web Site — Establishment Costs	150.00
Annual General Meeting	292.00
Contribution to Costs, Padre & Melbourne Reunion Luncheon	200.00
STD Phone Costs	136.79
Other Administrative Costs	137.50
Total Outgoings	\$14,119.64
Funds on hand as at 31st October 2006	\$7,966.50
TOTAL	\$22,086.14
Total Expenditure	\$14,119.64
Total Income	\$13,812.95
Shortfall	\$306.69

We thank our Hon. Treasurer, Denis Riley, for the efficient manner in which he manages our finances since taking over last year from his father, Mick Riley. The job means quite a lot of effort, but is so very important. Our financial position is sound despite generous subsidies, this and previous years, for the Anzac Day reunion, and, of course, we want to keep it that way for the successful operation of the Association in the years to come.

Also, we thank members generally for their continued support, without which the Association could not survive.

LAST POST

It is with sincere regret that we report the passing of former comrades:

GEOFF BOUCHER
C. GOODMAN (Q)

META HOOLE (Q)
EDDIE DAY (Q)

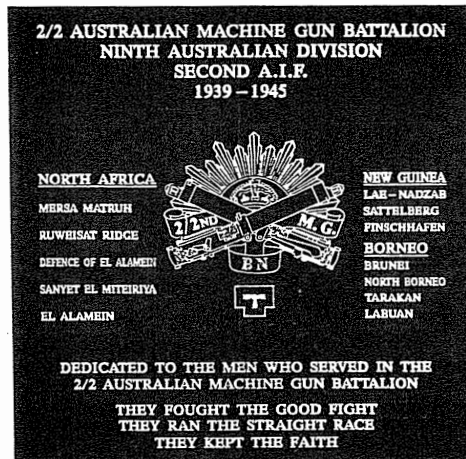
JACK TAYLOR (Q)
A.J. (ALLAN) WOODS

Also: MRS. VAL BOUCHER

KATHLEEN BOURKE (daughter of Mick Bourke — Queensland Association Patron)

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

ODE

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.

The Ode is part of a very famous poem, *For the Fallen*, written by Laurance Binyon who served in France in WWI. He was born in England in 1869 and died in 1943.