



**BRIEF HISTORIES
OF A NUMBER OF THE
SENIOR SOLDIERS
OF
WESTERN REGION
FROM 1955 TO 2013**

By Lt Col J. W. (Jim) Richardson, OAM, RFD, ED, RL



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AUTHOR'S FOREWORD

This book is a tribute to those who have held the honorary appointments of Honorary Colonel; Colonel Commandant; Honorary Corps Representative or Regimental Colonel in Western Australia. As I regard them as the Senior Soldiers of their Corps or Regiment, I have named this book accordingly. They have given their time freely to the service that they love and respect.

Regrettably, there is no known record or central data base from which the relevant information can be accessed, and for various reasons I have not been able to fully record the details of all who are mentioned in the book. You will therefore see some where the details are sketchy and I apologise for this, but I considered it more acceptable to record even sketchy details than to not record them at all.

It is hoped that readers may be able to fill in some of the missing detail (it is possible that some who held these appointments are not recorded at all) and if so, they can do so by email to me at richnichols@westnet.com.au or to Graham Donley at pronto5@bigpond.com

Western Australia has been renamed by the Army over the years from Western Command to 5th Military District to Western Region to Western District, and it is not impossible that this may alter in the future, but the service has been rendered equally under all of the names.

In Western Australia, we have a unique organisation called The College of Honorary Colonels, which is not replicated in any other State. It is simply a banner for those who have held, or are holding, these appointments and opportunities are taken to get together socially to talk about old times, or any other topic that is of interest at the time. The 8th March 2010 marked the 30th year of regular quarterly meetings of this College, and it is hoped that this will continue until we do as all old soldiers do – just fade away.

Writing this book has been a labour of love and I trust that readers will gain some knowledge of the Senior Soldiers in Western Australia from it.

In Army fellowship

James Richardson

INTRODUCTION

CORPS OF HONORARY COLONELS **WESTERN REGION**

Service details and experiences of Members during their Army Service and afterwards

2014 Inaugural Edition

The appointment to the prestigious position of Honorary Colonel, Colonel Commandant, Regimental Colonel or Honorary Corps Representative, makes the appointee the Senior Soldier of that Regiment or Corps in Western Region for the period of his or her appointment. The appointment is made by Chief of Army or the Governor General, in the case of a State Governor.

Honorary Colonels are to be accorded the highest precedence due their personage in accordance with the Commonwealth Table of Precedence. This may make it inappropriate for them to act as host on some formal occasions and other arrangements will need to be made.

Usually a senior ex-service officer, preferably of the same Corps or Regiment as the unit concerned but in exceptional circumstances, a prominent citizen of high standing in the community, may be appointed by Chief of Army.

Candidates are selected with great care to ensure they have both the time and commitment to carry out the tasks involved in fostering esprit de corps and general welfare of the Regiment/Unit and its standing in the community. Assisting with recruiting, assisting with the maintenance of alliances with other units with whom alliances are maintained, advising on purely Regimental, Corps and Unit matters. Advising on any other matters on which they are consulted in their honorary capacity.

As Senior Soldier, the Honorary Colonel should act as host at any Ceremonial Occasion conducted by the Regiment/Units he represents, and should be consulted in the planning of such Ceremonial Occasions.

The position is not one of Command and no attempt is to be made to influence the running of the Unit under any circumstances.

Most Corps and Regiments in Western Australia have an Honorary Colonel, Colonel Commandant or Honorary Corps Representative appointed for a four to six year period. The Royal Western Australia Regiment, being the State Infantry Regiment has established the precedent of appointing the State Governor as the Honorary Colonel. In this case a Regimental Colonel is appointed to assist with administrative duties.

The appointment of Honorary Colonels is made in all States after recommendations, firstly, by the Regiment/Unit concerned, to the Head of Corps and then to Chief of Army for ratification. The process is time consuming and at least 12 months lead-time should be made when making a recommendation for a new appointment.

Regiments/Units should keep their Honorary Colonel up to date with Unit happenings and arrange for him to visit at appropriate times during training and social occasions. Regular written briefings should be sent and a calendar of dates and times for him to visit during each training year offered for his approval. He should be kept advised on the date of the annual

Corps Conference and any other meeting which would affect the Corps or Regiment he represents and arrangements made for him to attend.

The trend to appoint Honorary Colonels, Colonels Commandant and Regimental Colonels below the substantive rank of Colonel began when no suitable senior officer was available and retired officers of Major and even Captain were sometimes appointed to fill the role in minor Units in Western Australia. However in 2013 this practice was changed and only retired officers of the substantive rank of Colonel were to be considered. It is likely that in the future these appointments will disappear altogether as sizes of Units and combat groupings are reduced to fit special operational requirements of the future.

Corps of Honorary Colonels

Individual Honorary Colonels have been appointed to Units in Western Australia for many years prior to WWII and worked as individuals in support of their Corps/Unit. During his term as Assistant Commander 5 FFGp/5MD, Colonel Bob Mercer noticed that the Senior Soldiers of WA were not being used to their full potential in assisting their Units. With the assistance of Brigadier Bill Jamieson, the commander at that time, it was decided to form a more cohesive group that could more easily fulfill their tasks if assisted by the headquarters. As a result the first luncheon was held on the 20th of August 1980 at the Swan Barracks Officers Mess. Colonel Mercer was the first chairman of the group and was subsequently followed by Colonel Don Rae and then Lieutenant Colonel Jim Richardson. These functions have continued on a quarterly basis and are enjoyed to this day, with a Ladies Dinner and a Mixed Sunday Luncheon added later.

Initially titled the College of Colonels and later changed to the Corps of Honorary Colonels, the group has no official status within the Department of Army, but is a means of keeping contact between current and past members who have held the post of Senior Soldier of their respective Regiment or Corps. Our group currently has 57 members, some of whom are unable to attend functions because of poor health. Many are now retired from their civilian careers, pursued after retirement from the army and are now volunteers in a wide variety of community and service organisations. These details are shown in the individual member records.

The collective amount of actual service in years that our members have given to the Nation would amount to approximately 1800 years, quite apart from their voluntary service to the civilian community of Western Australia. Their contribution to the progress and modernisation of the Army at every level of command and senior appointment is found in the detail listed against their name in the following pages. In nearly every case their involvement in similar community projects and organisations after leaving the service, highlights their character as true Citizens of Australia.

This record lists those members who were actively part of our group as at 1st of July 2007. In 2013, details of some members who passed on before this record was begun have been included where their details were available. Unfortunately not all members have submitted their details and they are only recorded as the date of their appointment, or other details as known, some even lacking their dates of appointment. There are others, some outside the scope of the years stated, where little information has been able to be gathered. It has been decided that their names will be included, with as much detail as has been located, in order that they will not be forgotten and possibly at a later date the position may be able to be redressed.

Regiments/Corps represented by our group are:

Special Air Services Regiment, Royal Western Australia Regiment, Pilbara Regiment, 10th Light Horse Regiment, WA University Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery, Royal Australian Corps of Signals, Royal Australian Engineers, Royal Australian Army Medical Corps, Royal

Australian Army Ordnance Corps, Royal Australian Corps of Transport, Royal Australian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers, Royal Australian Army Pay Corps, Australian Army Cadets and Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps.

Authors Note.

In compiling these brief accounts of the military and civilian careers of these very dedicated Australians, I have been amazed at the magnitude of the years of service and wealth of experience our group possesses.

Quite apart from successful military careers, almost without exception, everyone has become involved in community service organisations, working on a voluntary basis at local, state or national level. While many are now justly retired from active involvement, I wonder just what potential the Corps of Honorary Colonels as an advisory group, could provide as additional service to the Nation. We may be 'old soldiers' but we have not lost the expertise which enabled us to reach the outstanding levels of achievement as detailed in the following pages.

It has been an honour to initiate this small volume to publicise in some small measure these outstanding Australians, each of whom should have written a volume of their own.

James Richardson.

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NOTE 1

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ABBREVIATIONS USED

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
10 LH	10 th Light Horse Regiment
2 IC	Second in Command
2Lt / 2 nd Lt	Second Lieutenant
A/Tk	Anti-Tank
AA Cadets	Australian Army Cadets /Australian Army Cadet Corps
A/	Acting or Assistant
AA	Anti-Aircraft
AAT	Administrative Appeals Tribunal
AAWMS	Australian Army Women's Medical Service
ABCA	Australian, British, Canadian, American
AC	Companion of the Order of Australia
ACMF	Active Citizens Military Force
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
ADC	Aide De Campe
ADF	Australian Defence Force
Adjt	Adjutant
Admin	Administration
ADMS	Assistant Director, Medical Services
advert	advertisement
AFV	Armoured Fighting Vehicle
AGH	Australian General Hospital
AHQ	Army Headquarters
AIF	Australian Imperial Force
AK	Knight of the Order of Australia
AM	Member of the Order of Australia
AMF	Australian Military Force – Militia
ANZAC	Australian and New Zealand Army Corps
ANZAM	Australian, New Zealand, American
ANZUK	Australian, New Zealand, United Kingdom
AO	Officer of the Order of Australia
AOM	Medal of the Order of Australia
AQMG	Assistant Quartermaster General
ARA	Australian Regular Army
ARes	Australian Army Reserve
Arty	Artillery
Assoc	Associate
ATO	Ammunition Technical Officer
Aust	Australia / Australian
AUST AACCS	Australian Anti-Aircraft Central Control System
AWAS	Australian Women's Army Service
BA	Bachelor of Arts

BAOR	British Army on the Rhine
BCFK	British Commonwealth Forces, Korea
BCL OXON	Bachelor of Civil Law, Oxford
BCOF	British Commonwealth Occupation Force
Bde	Brigade
BE	Batchelor of Engineering
Bn	Battalion
BOD	Base Ordnance Depot
BP	British Petroleum
BS	Bachelor of Science
CBD	Central Business District
CGS	Chief of the General Staff
CP Eng.	Certified Practicing Engineer
C St J	Cross of St John
CAD	Central Ordnance Depot
Capt	Captain
CB	Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath
CBE	Commander of the Order of the British Empire
cc	Cubic Centimetres
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
Cert	Certificate
Cit WA	Citizen of Western Australia
CMF	Citizens Military Force
CO	Commanding Officer
Co	Company
COD	Central Ordnance Depot
Col	Colonel
Comd	Command / Commander
COO	Chief Ordnance Officer
Co-ord	Coordination
Coy	Company
CPA	Certified Practicing Accountant
CQMS	Company Quartermaster Sergeant
CRAEME	Commander, Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical engineers
CRE	Commander Royal (Australian) Engineers
CSM	Company Sergeant Major
CV	Curriculum Vitae
D MOVT	Director of Movement
DAAG	Deputy Assistant Adjutant General
DADOS	Deputy Assistant Director, Ordnance Services
DAST	Director, Army Stores and transport
DC	District Columbia

Dec'd	Deceased
Dept.	Department
Dip	Diploma
DO	Doctor of Ophthalmology
DQ	Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General
DSM	Distinguished Service Medal
DSO	Distinguished Service Order
ES & A	English Scottish and Australian
ED	Efficiency Decoration
Eng.	Engineering
Engr	Engineer
eqpt	equipment
FAIM	Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management
FCIT	Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Technology
Fd	Field
FIE	Fellow of the Institute of Engineers
FRACS	Fellow of the Royal Australian College of Surgeons
FRCS	Fellow of the royal College of Surgeons
FTSE	Fellow of the Technical Society of Engineers
G	General
GDD	General Duties Depot
GRes	General Reserve
G2	General Staff Officer Grade 2
GD	General duties
GOC	General Officer Commanding
Gp	Group
GR	Ghurkha Rifles
Grad	Graduate
GSO3	General Staff Officer Grade 3
GWN	Golden West Network
HAA	Heavy Anti-Aircraft
HMAS	His / Her Majesty's Australian Ship
Hon	Honorary
Hons	Honours
HQ	Headquarters
HRH	Her / His Royal Highness
hrs	hours
IE Aust	Institute of Engineers, Australia
Inc	Incorporated
Inf	Infantry
ISO	Companion of the Imperial Service Order
JP	Justice of the Peace
K Force	Korea Force

KCB	Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath
KCMG	Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George
Kia / KIA	Killed in Action
Kt /KT	Knight
L of C	Lines of Communication
LAA	Light Anti-Aircraft
LLB	Bachelor of Laws
LMGs	Light Machine Guns
Log / LOG	Logistic
LSG	Logistic Support Group
Lt / LT	Lieutenant
Lt Col	Lieutenant Colonel
Lt Gen	Lieutenant General
Ltd	Limited
LVO	Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order
LWC	Land Warfare Centre
Man	Manual
MB	Medical Bachelor
MBBS	Medical bachelor, bachelor of Science
MBE	Member of the Order of the British Empire
MC	Military Cross
MD	Military District /Medical Doctor
Mech	Mechanical
MG	Machine Gun / s
MID	Mentioned in Despatches
Milops	Military Operations
Mk / MK	Mark
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly
mm	Millimetre
MMGs	Medium Machine Guns
MND	Motor Neurone Disease
Mngt	Management
Mt	Mount
NCO	Non Commissioned Officer
NOC	Naval Officer in Charge
NS	National Service
NSW	New South Wales
NVA	North Vietnamese Army
NZ	New Zealand
NZEF	New Zealand Expeditionary Force
OCS	Officer Cadet School

OBE	Officer of the Order of the British Empire
OC	Officer Commanding
OCTU	Officer Cadet Training Unit
OPS / Op	Operation / s
ORBAT	Order of battle
P/L	Proprietary Limited
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PIR	Pacific Islands Regiment
PI	Platoon
PMG	Post Master General
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PNGDF	Papua New Guinea Defence Force
POW	Prisoner of War
Prob	Probationary
psc	Passed Staff College
QM	Quartermaster
R	Royal
RASigs	Royal Australian Corps of Signals
RR and GD	Recruit Reception and General Depot
RA	Royal Artillery
RAA	Royal Australian Artillery
RAAC	Royal Australian Armoured Corps
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
RAAMC	Royal Australian Army Medical Corps
RAANC	Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps
RAAOC	Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps
RAAPC	Royal Australian Army Pay Corps
RAASC	Royal Australian Army Service Corps
RACT	Royal Australian Corps of Transport
RAE	Royal Australian Corps of Engineers
RAEME	Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
RANR	Royal Australian Naval Reserve
RAR	Royal Australian Regiment
RCSC	Reserve Command and Staff College
recces	Reconnaisances
Regt	Regiment
Regtl	Regimental
Rehab	Rehabilitation
Ret'd	Retired
RFD	Reserve Forces Decoration
RL	Retired List
RMC	Royal Military College, Duntroon

RNZASC	Royal New Zealand Army Service Corps
RRC	Royal Red Cross
RSL	Returned and Services League
RTB	Recruit Training Battalion
RUSI	Royal united Services Institute
RWAR	Royal Western Australia Regiment
SAS	Special Air Services
SASR	Special Air Services Regiment
SE	South East
SEATO	South Atlantic Treaty Organisation
Sgt	Sergeant
Sigs	Signals
SME	School of Military Engineering
SO1	Staff Officer Grade 1
Spt	Support
Sqn	Squadron
St	Saint
SVN	South Vietnam
T/	Temporary (rank)
Tac	Tactics / tactical
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
TB	Tuberculosis
TF	Task Force
TN	Transportation
Tp	Troop
Trg	Training
TS	Training Ship
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations (Organisation)
UNDOF	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force
UNEF	United Nations Emergency Force
UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Authority, East Timor
UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation
US	United States of America
USA	United States of America
UWA	University of Western Australia
VAD	Voluntary Aid Detachment
VC	Victoria Cross
VD	Voluntary Decoration (Later ED)
Vic	Victoria
W Comd	Western Command
WA	Western Australia
WAFL	West Australian Football League

WAUR	Western Australian University Regiment
Wksp	Workshop
WW1	First World War
WWII or WW2	Second World War
yds	yards

**MAJOR IAN D. ABERCROMBIE, RFD, ED, RL
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF TRANSPORT
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
17TH NOVEMBER 1987 TO 16TH NOVEMBER 1989**

Ian passed away in 2004.

**DOCTOR DONALD HECTOR AITKEN, AO, ISO, BE, HON D ENG,
FTSE, HON FIE AUST, FCIT, FAIM
HONORARY COLONEL
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY REGIMENT
1984 TO 1986**

Don was an Honours Graduate in Engineering from UWA in 1946 and the Foundation Chairman of the Engineering Graduates Association. In 1943 and 1946 to 1947 he played 34 games for Swan Districts Football Club in the Western Australian National Football League.

As a National Service man, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the 13th Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers.

He was an outstanding engineering leader who made a sustained contribution to engineering practice and learning in Western Australia. He spent the majority of his career with Main Roads and was the Chief Engineer of the Main Roads Department before holding the position of Commissioner of Main Roads from 1965 to 1987, having been, in 1946, the youngest Engineer to ever be employed.

While Commissioner, he oversaw a period of rapid expansion of the road network across the State. Iconic projects such as the Hamilton Interchange; North West Highway; Mitchell Freeway; Leach Highway; Mount Henry Bridge; Kwinana Freeway; National Highway Extension and the Canning Interchange were advanced under his watch.

Don also drove the introduction of technology, including positioning Main Roads as a leader in Information Technology and computer aided design.

He was also well known as a supporter of the University of Western Australia. Don was a member of the UWA Senate from 1967 to 1991 and served as Pro Chancellor before being appointed as Chancellor, a position he held from 1981 to 1990.

He held the positions of: -

- President of the Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australia.
- Chairman of the Australian State Road Authorities
- Chairman of the Australian Road Research Board
- Chairman of the Western Australian Road Traffic Safety Authority

He was awarded the Companion of the Imperial Service Order in 1971.

In 1982 he was the Western Australian Citizen of the Year.

Don's achievements were recognised by his peers with the awarding of Engineers Australia's highest award, the Peter Nicol Russell Memorial Medal, in 1982 and his election as an Honorary Fellow of Engineers Australia in 1984.

He was awarded the Officer of the Order of Australia in 1988 for services to engineering and learning.

He lived the ideal of professional work ethics, innovation of thought and technology and the constant striving to achieve more for one's self and for one's work.

In 1993 the office building of the Main Roads at East Perth was named in his honour.

He passed away on 2 September 2010.

COLONEL NEIL A. J. ANDERSON
REGIMENTAL COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
WESTERN REGION
1985 TO 1988

Neil Anderson enlisted, aged 18, as a private soldier, in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders at Fort George, Inverness, in the North of Scotland in 1949 and was selected to enter the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, six months later. He was commissioned into the 6th Gurkha Rifles and joined the 2nd Battalion in Kluang, Malaya in January 1952, to begin a seventeen year adventure ranging through Platoon Commander, Adjutant, Company Commander and Staff Officer. This included 6 months as 2IC of the 250 strong Gurkha Contingent, drawn from all 8 Gurkha Battalions, sent to tour UK in 1960 and culminating in a parade in the gardens of Buckingham Palace for the State Visit of the King and Queen of Nepal.

He served eight years in the Malayan Emergency and after attending the UK Staff College was appointed Brigade Major of 48 Gurkha Brigade Group for two and a half years on the Hong Kong – China border during a rather troubled time. This was followed by over two years as a Company Commander in Sabah and Sarawak during Indonesian Confrontation, again with the 2nd Battalion of what was now the 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles. The 6th had been alongside 16 Battalion, Australian Infantry Battalion in Gallipoli and they share the Battle Honours Suvla, Sari Bair and Gallipoli 1915.

After graduating from the UK Joint Services Staff College he was posted to a G2 staff job in Whitehall working on long term planning and force levels. Massive cuts in all three British services saw him opt for early retirement based on his decision to immigrate to Western Australia with his wife (a Royal Perth Hospital nurse) and their three sons at the end of 1968.

Initially, he was employed in a well-known City real estate company as a residential salesperson, while studying at night school to complete a Diploma in Real Estate Management and another in Valuation. Subsequently he worked as sales manager of a building company, in commercial and industrial real estate and as a valuer in the Office of the Valuer General. He was later recruited by TAFE as a lecturer at Perth Technical College in real estate and valuation subjects including rewriting the syllabus documents in a much more military format. Tasked with revitalising the course at the Distance Education College and teaching country students he wrote five text books for the above subjects.

In 1974, after a break of service of five years, he joined the Army Reserve and was posted to the Tac 5 course at 5 Training Group. In 1975 he served as second in command of 16 RWAR and was then promoted to command 16 RWAR for three years. This was followed by four years as the Commander 5 Training Group during the Malcolm Fraser expansion phase.

A highlight of his service was being an Honorary ADC to Sir Zelman Cowan and Sir Ninian Stephen, which he thought was a bit of alright for a Ten Pound Pom, though if pressed he will admit that his paternal grandfather was born in Melbourne and his grandmother in Launceston.

While at TAFE and since retiring he has led fifteen treks, principally in the Nepal Himalayas, allowing him to meet up with many of his retired Gurkha mates, but trekking also in India, Pakistan and Northern Thailand.

Since the death of his wife from MND he spent most of his time at the beach cottage right on the ocean at Dunsborough, keeping very fit swimming, on his mountain bike and his surf ski and in spite of long liquid lunches at the many nearby vineyards.

In 2008 he attended the 6th Gurkhas Regimental Reunion in Pokhara, Western Nepal where, on scoring 3 goals in the Elephant Polo Competition, he was declared Man of the Match, about which he continues to bore his friends.

A recent operation saw him get two new knees, guaranteed for twenty years, affording him plenty of scope for planning future adventures.

In 2013 he attended another 6GR Reunion with over 1,000 retired Gurkha soldiers and over 300 wives. He believes he may have set both a 6GR and RWAR Regimental record by marrying, at 82, Kim the WA widow of a 10th Gurkha officer friend.

And so life continues on a very happy and relaxed note.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT DOUGLAS ARNOLD, DSM, MID,
JP (RET'D.)
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS
WESTERN REGION
1990 TO 1994**

Bob Arnold was born in Carnarvon Western Australia in March 1929. His family moved to Perth in 1941 when his father volunteered for service in the Australian Army.

Bob enlisted in the Army as a private soldier on 18 March 1947. As a young soldier he was part of the Australian Component of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan and was able to witness the change from a country devastated by war to a major economic power. Whilst serving with the British Commonwealth Occupation Force Japan the Force was re-designated British Commonwealth Force Korea (BCFK) and its role changed to support the operations in Korea.

From the time of his enlistment and recruit Training at Greta in NSW and until he was commissioned in 1957 he undertook a Clerk GD Course at the Trade Training School in Ingleburn NSW, to which unit he was posted as the Orderly Room Corporal. Then followed postings to 5 BOD, BCOF/BCFK; then back to 5 BOD, Midland Junction and Nungarin and then to 1 COD Bandiana, Vic. It was from this posting, at the rank of Staff Sergeant, that he attended an Officer pre-selection course at the RAAOC Centre followed by courses at the School of Infantry and the School of Tactics and Administration.

His first appointment as a commissioned officer was as E Coy Admin Officer, 20 National Service Training Battalion Puckapunyal Vic. Following the closure of the Battalion he was posted to 3 BOD Detachment, Seymour, Vic, then in 1960 he was appointed Adj/QM 3 CAD Marrangaroo, NSW. This appointment was followed by a 36 weeks Ammunition Technical Officer's Course (ATO) and then a return to 3 CAD as that Depot's ATO.

A staff posting in 1966 as Ordnance Officer on HQ Eastern Command began a series of postings on major Headquarters and as an instructor at the RAAOC Centre.

In 1978, now a Major he was appointed to his first command, that of OC 3CAD. His next posting was to command 2 Advanced Ordnance Depot, Vung Tau, South Vietnam and he counts this period as one of his most satisfying appointments with a very efficient unit with a high morale and great sporting achievements, while supporting the Australian fighting units in South Vietnam.

A move to Army Headquarters as Deputy Assistant Director Ordnance Services (DADOS) followed his return from Vietnam in 1970 and this included a 21 months training attachment to the Ministry of Defence UK, NATEK Laboratories USA and the Directorate of Clothing and General Engineering in Ottawa, Canada. On his return he was again posted to AHQ as DADOS.

His next appointment was as COO 2 Central Ordnance Depot Broadmeadows, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel followed by a move to Director of Supply of Papua New Guinea Defence Force in 1974 for two years. This was a most memorable period while PNG was moving to total independence which required training of locals to manage their own administration of the defence force. His last appointment prior to retirement was as COO of 5 BOD.

His name was placed on record on 18 March 1970 "*as mentioned in a Despatch for distinguished service*" (MID). He was also awarded a Distinguished Service Medal "*in recognition of distinguished leadership in action in Vietnam*" (DSM).

He retired from the Regular Army in 1978 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was subsequently appointed Honorary Colonel of the Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps in Western Australia.

Civilian employment following retirement was as an executive officer with a sporting/recreation association, administration manager with a property developer and as a manager of a real estate agency from which he finally retired at the age of 74 years.

He has been a member of Perth Legacy for 35 years in which his primary role is as first approach to newly bereaved widows of ex-servicemen. He notes that although this role is often tinged with sadness it is also rewarding and highly satisfying particularly when it is evident that a widow's burdens have been eased.

He is also a committee member of the RSL (Highgate Sub-Branch) and was the editor of the Sub-Branch newsletter until May 2011, a member of the Defence Forces Welfare Association, a founding member of the WA Self Funded Retirees Association and librarian of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society.

In 1999 he was recognised by the Federal Government with a "Commonwealth Recognition Award - Outstanding Senior Australians - International Year of Older Persons" and in 2005 he was awarded a WA Senior's Award - Certificate of Recognition Community Achievement - Service.

He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1979 from which appointment he retired in 2013.

On 23 February 2013 he will have been married to Gloria for 61 years. They have three children, five grandchildren and one great grandson and reside in the Perth suburb of Duncraig. Bob is contactable by phone on 9448 2757 and 0407 329 353 or email at arnold@wn.com.au

**COLONEL KENNETH CHARLES ASHMAN
HONORARY COLONEL
10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
2009 TO 2013**

Colonel Ashman was educated in Canberra before graduating from the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1966 and was allocated to the Armoured Corps and posted to the 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Holsworthy NSW as his first command as Troop Commander.

ADC to GOC Eastern Command preceded further postings as Troop Commander with 3rd Cavalry Regt and a move to WA as Adjutant of 10th Light Horse Regiment for 2 years before posting as a Captain to ANZUK headquarters in Singapore in 1973 and promotion to Major and 2IC of Australian Defence Liaison Group a year later.

He moved back to Puckapunyal and Squadron Commander in 1st Armoured Regiment (Tank) in 1975 before a move to Pakistan as a student at the Command and Staff College at Quetta, and now qualified to a posting to Senior Instructor, Tactics at RMC from 1977-79 preceded promotion to Lt. Col. and now SO1 on HQ 3rd Military District in Melbourne.

Appointed to Command the 1st Armoured Regiment (Tank) saw him back in Puckapunyal between 1981-82 before another move as instructor at Command and Staff College, Queenscliffe, in Victoria for 2 years.

Australian Special Project Officer in Washington saw him overseas again for 2 years before back to Canberra for 4 years again as Director of Operational Requirements and Director of Vehicle Procurements.

1991-93 heralded a move to the 'West Australian Army' as Commander 13th Brigade at Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

His final posting before retirement from the Army was as Director of Training at HQ Land Command in Sydney, NSW.

Ken's vast experience in organisation and training both in Australia and overseas has earned him in 1986 the US Army Meritorious Service Medal.

After retirement, he began his civilian career in 1997 as Manager Trailswest, with the Ministry of Sport and Recreation, Perth, promoting all types of outdoor recreational activities and acquiring the funding and other development ideas and staff management for Mountain Biking, Bushwalking and Horse riding.

**515309 MAJOR KEITH VERNON BENWELL, ED, RL
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
21ST MAY 1973 TO 20TH MAY 1979**

Keith was born on 8th November 1919 in Victoria and served in the prewar Militia Australian Corps of Signals (the title "Royal" was not granted until 1948) and joined the Militia when World War 2 erupted. On 25th February 1941 he was appointed Lieutenant (Probationary) in 3rd Military District.

On 30th April 1942 he was posted to 3 Aust Corps and on 7th July 1942 transferred to the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) then on 10th April 1943 was posted as an Instructor to 3 Aust Corps Sigs.

On 26th June 1943 he was seconded to 3 Aust Corps Sigs training centre WA Line of Communications (L of C) until 20th December 1943.

On 1st May 1944 his appointment as Lieutenant was confirmed and he was posted as OC 5 Aust Despatch Rider Section AIF.

On 19th October 1945 he was transferred and posted to 8 Inf Bde Sigs Section, then on 5th January 1946 posted to HQ L of C Sigs.

On 6th May 1946 he was promoted Temporary Captain and appointed QM 8 MD Sigs until 15th June 1946.

On 18th August 1946 he was placed on the Reserve of Officers 3 MD, transferred to the Reserve of Officers, 5 MD on 22nd July 1948.

On 19th March 1954 Keith was appointed to Regimental Group R Aust Sigs and allotted to 13 Inf Bde Sigs until 24th November 1954 when allotted to 3 Fd Regt Sig Tp as Troop Commander.

On 20th February 1956 he was allotted to 13 Inf Bde Sig Tp then on 13th April 1956 promoted to Temporary Captain, and appointed OC 13 Inf Bde Sig Tp and on 14th November 1958 promoted to Captain.

On 1st January 1959 Keith was appointed OC W Comd Sig Sqn and on 5th February 1959 promoted to Temporary Major until 30th June 1960 when he relinquished OC and temporary rank.

On 1st July 1960 he was seconded to W Comd Officers Staff Group then on 1st October 1960 appointed SO2 Sigs (ACMF) W Comd.

On 13th December 1960 he was promoted to Temporary Major, with the rank of Major confirmed on 7th December 1961.

On 22nd February 1963 he was transferred to the Reserve of Officers W Comd.

He was appointed GSO2 (ACMF) W Comd on 8th November 1965 (in effect the Chief Signals Officer, CM F).

On 18th November 1966 he was appointed as the first OC of 109 Sig Sqn (TF) and his retirement age extended to 8 Nov 67, then on 1st July 1967 placed on the Retired List.

On 21st May 1973 Keith was appointed Colonel Commandant RASigs 5 MD until 20th May 1979 when his appointment ceased as six years was the maximum term of service at that time.

Keith Benwell served the Australian Corps of Signals and the Royal Australian Corps of Signals for over 40 years: -

- Pre World War II in the Militia – the much maligned force that was to inflict the first defeat of World War II on the seemingly invincible Japanese Army;
- Second World War in Australia, Papua and New Guinea and other South West Pacific islands, from 1942 to 1946;
- Post War in the Citizens' Military Forces / Australian Army Reserve 1954 to 1967;
- Royal Australian Signals Association (WA);
- Colonel Commandant 5 MD 1973/1979; and
- Continued support to the Corps and the Association while his health allowed it – including a strong hand in the publication of *"Bring Decent Signallers"* – the memoirs of Colonel J. L. Mc Kinlay, OBE, MM, MID, ED.

This service was recognised by: -

- 1939 / 45 Star;
- Pacific Star;
- War Medal 1939/45;
- Australia Service Medal 1939/45;
- Efficiency Decoration (at the age of 29 years);
- Life Membership of the Royal Australian Signals Association (WA);
- Certificate of Recognition of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals; and
- The respect of all who served or worked with or under him.

As well as being a devoted family man, Keith was eminently successful in his professional life, retiring from a senior position with the University of Western Australia in 1984. He also applied himself in the Masonic Lodge, where he rose to be the holder of a senior Degree.

In 1963, Keith was transferred to the Reserve of Officers, but in 1965 he was tempted back into harness to form the Signals Squadron for 2 Task Force, which was established on 1st July 1965. This Squadron was 109 Signals Squadron (TF) and Keith was appointed OC on 18th November 1966 – this was his final posting, as he was placed on the Retired List on 1st July 1967, as the retirement age then was 47 years. During his CMF / A Res service, Keith commanded a number of Units: -

- 3 Field Regiment Signals Troop;
- 13th Infantry Brigade Signals Troop;

- Western Command Signals Squadron (which later became 405 Sig Sqn then 123 Sig Sqn);
- 109 Signals Squadron; and
- He was also the CMF equivalent of a Chief Signals Officer in Western Command.

He told of having been “OC Pigeons” during the war in New Guinea. These birds were used to good effect in quick and effective message carrying – from what Keith said, these feathered warriors faced a threat from enemy fire, birds of prey, dangerous terrain and those soldiers supposedly on their side but who saw them as being an attractive change of diet. As the Troop Commander responsible for the pigeons, he was able to keep them out of the kitchen.

Keith was fair, firm and approachable with a good sense of humour. He was consistent so you always knew where you stood. He was able to criticise a poor performance without demeaning those involved and quite willing to give praise for a job well done. A man to win the respect of subordinates and peers and all in all a good boss, he was one of nature’s gentlemen in the best meaning of the word.

Keith passed away on the 26th August 1998 after a long and debilitating illness and was cremated at Karrakatta Cemetery. He was survived by his long time wife and love Trish and his son Greg,

**MAJOR RAYMOND S. BIRD, RFD, ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
WESTERN REGION
14TH JULY 1994 TO 30TH APRIL 2001**

Raymond Bird was born in NSW and grew up in the Sydney suburb of Sans Souci while attending Kogarah Intermediate and Canterbury High School.

Based on his great love of cars he became an apprentice Motor Mechanic at a privately owned Ampol branded service station where in his qualifying year he was named "Apprentice of the Year".

National Service called to him at the age of 18 and he spent his 98 days of continuous training with 12 NS Training Battalion at Holsworthy. In 1956 he was allocated to 18 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RAA unit at Kogarah. Over the next four years he held several NCO postings as well as studying for his First Appointment to commission in the Citizen Military Forces.

1959 was a most memorable time as three special events occurred that were to shape his future life. Firstly he was commissioned as a 2Lt in the RAA. He joined Ampol as a service station Manager, and he married his teenage love, Alison.

The opportunity to join Ampol came about when the Oil Industry began building service stations everywhere and they were open 13 hours a day, every day, with only the manager on site most of the time. Managing civilian work with Regimental requirements made satisfying both employers very difficult at times as the work at the service station entailed a break of 2-3 days off, every three weeks.

Television stardom saw Ray become "Captain BORON" and the face of Ampol in the campaign to promote their new fuel additive. However, his real reward came when he was appointed as a Merchandiser and allocated to a sales territory in Sydney, then to Dubbo in Western NSW. By this time Ray had been promoted to Captain and was posted to a local Infantry unit and his military activity was minimal but in 1966 he was made District Manager - Retail, South Coast and the family moved with their first born son Stewart, to Wollongong.

This move enabled him to re-engage with 18 LAA Regt and he was appointed Battery Commander of Q Battery as a Captain and he travelled each week to Sydney from Wollongong for parades. This was a most enjoyable time except that his immediate supervisors at Ampol were not always supportive when time off for unit exercises came round and he had to take part of his annual leave to attend the unit annual camp.

By now number two son, Andrew had arrived and Alison had her hands full, Ray being either away during the week or at unit training on weekends. The wonderful support and encouragement from Alison enabled him to continue to serve both masters.

In 1968, Ray was awarded the School of Artillery prize for being the outstanding student which was presented to him by the then Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler VC - also a Gunner.

During this time his military activities, particularly his time as an instructor on several technical gunnery courses, his managers at Ampol became aware of his potential and he was offered the position of Dealer Training Manager in WA.

This was a big decision for the family as Alison was expecting their third child and to move across the country, away from family and friends, but on Easter Monday 1969 the family arrived in Perth with a third son, Mathew, born just three weeks earlier.

Ray had been transferred to 3 Field Regiment and appointed Battery Captain of P Battery to commence his conversion to Field Artillery.

His career at Ampol continued with promotion as Retail Manager and then as Country Sales Manager, WA, so the family began to think of WA as a place to live permanently.

1976 saw some significant changes for Ray when 3 Field Regt was reduced to a Battery status and he was appointed Battery Commander. He resigned from Ampol and became Director of Marketing for the WA Department of Tourism. This move enabled the family to settle permanently in Perth and for Ray to establish himself in both his commercial and military careers.

The 7 Field Battery camp in 1976 was conducted at Holsworthy on the new 105mm Pack Howitzer newly to be issued to the army replacing the old 25 Pounder. The three years as Battery Commander were extremely enjoyable and culminated in the unit being awarded the Mt Schanck Trophy for the most efficient ARES Field Artillery unit in Australia.

Staff appointments now followed, first as SO2 Recruiting and two years later as SO2 Operations on HQ 5 MD but the demands of his Tourism job made limited time for his ARes involvement, however, he always gave as much time as he could, even to the detriment of his family. When in 1984 he retired from the ARes, the family was pleased to see him assign his uniforms etc, into storage.

The position at Tourism WA became very demanding and the need to satisfy politicians, the tourism industry and the public was increasing dramatically and with the success of winning the America's Cup, Ray was appointed to head up a special America's Cup Marketing Unit. This role saw him travel the globe to encourage visitation to WA for the Defence races.

In 1986, just prior to the America's Cup Defence, Ray was extremely frustrated with the level of political interference and left the public service to create his own Tourism Consultancy business. To finance this new venture he and Alison purchased a media monitoring business called News Research. The operation of this was conducted by eldest son Stewart and Ray concentrated on the tourism consultancy called Ray Bird and Associates. The Consultancy offered a wide range of services and established an extensive client base in Perth. Ray served on Boards and executive committees of several WA Based industry bodies and was appointed to the

Pacific Asia Travel Association as a Board Member. The Consultancy flourished as it undertook many part time roles in several Australian Travel organizations.

For his outstanding contribution to the tourism industry in WA Ray was awarded 1998 Sir David Brand Medal and the Tourism Legends' Award by the WA Premier. Between 2006 and 2010 he was the Chair of the Judging Panel for the annual GWN Top Tourism Town Awards.

Ray and Alison handed over their business activities to their sons in 2008.

On the Military side, Major Bird was appointed Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Artillery, Western Region in 1994 for a period of 2 years, which stretched to 2000.

He has been President of the Royal Australian Artillery Association of WA and the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society of WA, associations he still maintains close contact with today.

**COLONEL MICHAEL JOHN BRENNAN
REGIMENTAL COLONEL
109 SIGNAL SQUADRON
2006 TO 2012**

**COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
WESTERN, NORTHERN AND CENTRAL DISTRICTS
2012 TO CURRENT**

Colonel Mike Brennan was born in Three Springs, Western Australia in 1956. He enlisted as an Army Apprentice at the age of 15, in 1972. After completing a four year apprenticeship as an electronics technician he was posted to 126 Signal Squadron (Special Forces). He was selected for officer training in 1978 and graduated from the Officer Cadet School, Portsea, in June 1979 as a Second Lieutenant.

Colonel Brennan's Regimental appointments include

- Troop commander, 1 Signal Regiment (1979 – 80);
- Troop commander, 152 Signal Squadron, Special Air Service Regiment (1982 – 84);
- Operations officer and Squadron commander, 1 Signal Regiment (1982 – 84); and
- Commanding Officer 8 Signal Regiment (1997 – 98).

In 1990 he was selected to attend the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, UK and trained as a technical staff officer. During this period he was awarded membership of the City and Guilds of London Institute (MCGI) for a military project. Colonel Brennan's technical staff appointments include: -

- Materiel Division – Army (1991 – 92);
- Logistic Command – Army (1994 – 95)
- And the SO1 Command, Control, Communications and Information Systems, Force Development (Land), Australian Defence Headquarters (1996).

In 1999, following his appointment as the Commanding Officer, 8 Signal Regiment, he was posted as the SO1 Communications and Information Systems Development (J68), Headquarters Australian Theatre. During late 1999 he deployed to US Pacific Command, Hawaii, as a liaison officer to assist with the planning for Operation Stabilise, East Timor. He was also involved in a number of planning activities in East Timor including the establishment of commercial communications infrastructure for the newly established East Timor Defence Force. During July - December 2000 he was deployed to Bougainville on Operation Bel Isi as the Commanding Officer, Monitoring Team, - Wakunai, Peace Monitoring Group.

Colonel Brennan completed a Grad Dip Eng. (Telecommunications Systems Management) at the Swinburne Institute of Technology. He is a graduate of the UK Command and Staff Course, Division II, Shrivenham and a graduate of the Australian Army Command and Staff College, Queenscliff.

He was promoted to Colonel in January 2004 following a two year posting as the Australian Army Liaison Officer to US Army Communications Electronics Command, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

His final appointment in the Australian Regular Army was as the Director Combat and Operational Support Systems, Defence Materiel Organisation (2004 – 2005). He retired in January 2006 and he has continued to work on a range of defence projects as an Army Reserve Officer.

Colonel Brennan is married to Irene and they have three adult children. He enjoys travel; military history; reading and working as a volunteer at the Army Museum of Western Australia. He has been President of the Royal United Service institute for the past two years.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT HAMILTON CLEMENT
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
24TH JANUARY 1977 TO 23RD JANUARY 1981**

Bob Clement attended Hale School, passing his Leaving Certificate in 1944.

While at Hale School he achieved the following: -

- In 1944 he was vice captain of the school;
- Captain of the athletic team for two years;
- Won the 220 yards championship at the Interschool sports – 1944;
- Played in the first 11 – cricket;
- Played in the first 18 – Australian Rules Football;
- A member of the Army Cadet detachment 1943 to 1944;
- Lieutenant in the Army Cadet detachment in 1944;
- Prefect 1943 to 1944;
- Member of the Debating Society 1941 to 1944; and
- On the “Cygnet” committee.

In 1945, he was accepted for the course at the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

From January 1954 to April 1955, Captain Clement was an exchange officer to the UK and an instructor at the School of Military Engineering, Chatham.

After his retirement from the Australian Regular Army, Bob was the Executive Officer of the National Trust of Australia (WA) from 1976 to 1986 inclusive.

**373 AND VX51 LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILLIAM G. CLEMENTSON,
OBE, MID (X2), RL
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
WESTERN COMMAND
18TH MARCH 1968 TO 30TH APRIL 1973**

“Bill” Clementson was born in South Melbourne on 11th November 1907. He joined the Australian Regular Army and was a career Officer.

He is shown as enlisting in the Second AIF in Melbourne on 24th October 1939, but was serving before that date with the Militia. He was married to Winnifred Clementson.

In April 1942 he was appointed CO Signals 3rd Australian Corps, and at that time he had already served in the African campaign.

In June 1942 when a special Signals Unit was needed for “C” Force (later Milne Force) Lt Col Clementson raised the Unit in Sydney.

On 21st August 1942 the Unit relocated to the Milne Bay area of New Guinea and they were involved in the first land battle in which the Japanese land forces were defeated. The HQ of Milne Force was at Gili Gili then at Hagita.

In January 1943 the Unit moved to the Port Moresby area in New Guinea and later became 11th Australian Corps Signals.

Lt Col Clementson sought a move of the Unit to an operational area and it was placed on standby to go to the Wau-Ramu Valley area. The move was vetoed by Officers of the Army Medical Service who ruled that the Unit was 95% unfit as a result of vitamin deficiency.

In July 1943 an advance party went by air, the remainder of the Unit by an American Liberty ship the *Van Outhoorn*, to Dobodura.

On 31st July 1943 he was Mentioned in Dispatches for gallant and distinguished conduct in the South West Pacific Area.

On 20th September 1943 Lt Col Clementson was transferred to Signals 9th Australian Division.

On 26th October 1944 he was Mentioned in Dispatches for exceptional services in the field in New Guinea.

On 13th April 1945 he was appointed as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished and consistent devotion to duty in New Guinea.

Lt Col Clementson, OBE, MID was OC 17th National Training Battalion at Swanbourne in 1952 and 1953.

He was placed on the Retired List on 11th November 1957.

Lt Col "Bill" Clementson, OBE, MID passed away on 18th May 1980 and was cremated at Karrakatta Cemetery.

**BRIGADIER DOUGLAS JAMES COLLINS RFD, ED, (RET'D)
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
9TH OCTOBER 1974 TO 31ST DECEMBER 1978**

Douglas James Collins was born in Taree, NSW and educated at Goulburn, Cooma and Sydney before commencing early employment with the Accounts Dept. of the St. George County Council. Enlisting in the 14th Field Brigade in 1938 (Under age) he transferred to the 18th Field Regiment whose depot was closer to home, beginning as a wheel driver on the horse drawn 18 pounder MK IV, later moving to the gun layers seat.

When recruiting for the 7th Division began even using his sister's birth certificate, nicely doctored, was not able to gain his selection for the AIF - having a baby face and not shaving gave the game away. During this period, an error with the strength of inoculations put over 90% of the Regiment into Ingleburn or Liverpool hospitals for a couple of days.

October 1941 saw 18 Field Regiment called up for the duration and located at Ingleburn (Regtl. No now N50815). Now as a junior NCO, with responsibility for training recruits, improvisation was all the go and his "Gun" was a chimney pipe, supported on two drums, with a cross bar. Later, some ancient MK 2 guns were found and they achieved some quite good shooting.

A move to Bathurst under a new CO where all officers and NCO's were tested before the unit was brought up to full strength by a large number of recruits from Northern NSW. At this time Bombardier Collins was detached to a team calibrating the guns of the 2nd Division and was quartered at Wallgrove.

After returning from a short Ordnance course on the 25 pounder at Sydney Show grounds, where he finished in top spot, they found that new guns were arriving and the team was to head the instruction for the unit. On arriving back in camp one day about 1500hrs, at the conclusion of a strenuous exercise, he received 2 messages: 1, he was now promoted to Sergeant Collins, and 2 he was now Sgt. of the Brigade Guard and he had better get a move on.

Training progressed at an urgent pace with the unit deploying all over Country NSW. During one such exercise, now as Acting Troop Sergeant Major, with the responsibility of keeping the troop dry and fed during the ten days of continuous pouring rain, they were quartered on a property owned by a well to do family who were most gracious in their assistance. Every man was given a hot shower or bath and their clothes were dried before the troop returned to camp. Soon after that exercise he was called to the Battery Commanders office and told to attend a three month course for promotion at the Holsworthy School of Artillery.

Rejoining the unit, now in Western Australia, he was appointed as Lieutenant in December 1942 and the unit was transferred to the AIF, then began almost continuous mobile deployments around WA as the fears of the Japanese invasion saw almost an Army Corps located in the State. During this time Lt. Collins managed to find time to woo and wed Lilian Mary Prout (Betty) in November 1943.

The unit returned to NSW in 1944 and located at Audley, near Royal National Park with major activities being labouring on the Sydney wharves along with some firepower demonstrations in the National Park.

With the unit now scheduled for disbanding, Lt. Collins was transferred to 'Disposals' at Sydney Show grounds and later delivered home to WA and a return to civilian life for a year with the Dept. of Agriculture, before three years as a Rehab student. Joining the State Housing Commission in 1950 and qualification for membership of the Australian Institute of Valuers, and some years later was elected to Fellowship and part of the Planning team in support of Professor Gordon Stephenson preparing a report on the Metropolitan Region for the WA State government.

Posted to 3 Field Regiment when the CMF was raised in 1948 and appointed as a Lieutenant and later promoted to Captain in 1951 and attached to the Officer Training Unit at University of Western Australia, returning to 3 Field Regt in 1952 and normal regimental duties and examinations for Major and Lt Col over the next six years finally earned his promotion and command of the Regiment in 1959 for three years.

Returning to Command and Staff Training Unit in 1962 as instructor and later Chief Instructor preceded his appointment to command 2 RWAR in 1965 (Later 11 RWAR). Command of an almost full strength Infantry Battalion was a very rewarding experience and lasted, an all too short, two years at a time when the Vietnam War made funds for ARes units extremely difficult.

Promotion to Colonel and Command of CSTU, appointment as Hon ADC to the Governor General preceded his promotion to Brigadier and command of the 2nd Task Force in 1968.

Parallel promotions in his civilian career ranged through a series of activities with the Town Planning Department, culminating in his appointment as Deputy Planning Commissioner in 1973. The following year a Town Planning Institute study tour of United Kingdom, Europe, Scandinavia, Canada, USA and New Zealand covering new towns and town centre renewals gained valuable knowledge of overseas trends. Retiring in 1982 he continued to serve on many boards and authorities, including: -

- State Housing Commission;
- Joondalup Development Authority; and
- Member of the Town Planning Appeals Committee.

Leisure activities have included:

Rugby Union at UWA and Western Suburbs in his early years.

Golf at Karrinyup Country Club and bowls at City Beach Bowling Club while caravanning, fishing and radio controlled yachts made for a very busy lifestyle.

Doug and Betty now live in quiet retirement in the Perth suburb of Wembley Downs and are contactable on 9245 1974.

**COLONEL MALCOLM ALWYNE COUNT, MBE.
HONORARY COLONEL
10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
WESTERN REGION
2nd October 1993 TO.1st October 1997**

Malcolm was born in Newmarket, England in 1935 and was endowed with a typical rural country accent which his Headmaster, Dr. Skinner, took great pains to convert to one befitting an English Gentleman by the use of attacks on his posterior, in his early school days. Malcolm would always reflect on the rigors of an English Public School, which had prepared him for any challenge which confronted him, including a long and eventful army life.

Britain in the late 1940's saw the return of Malcolm's father and his evacuated sibling to the family, after a six year absence where a decision was made to immigrate to Australia. Sailing in the "Esperance Bay" as 'Ten Pound Poms' meant a 31 day voyage and a first home in Australia at the former army camp at Point Walter, in WA, while a later transfer to a tent in rural Northam Camp allowed all members of the family to secure local work.

As a seventeen year old, his first job was with an aboriginal bricklayer; later a bank manager offered him a job as a ledger keeper, when all entries were handwritten. It was dull and boring work, but it meant working indoors out of the 100 degree heat. His goal was to sit a Leaving Certificate and enter university. Study/work/sleep/exercise was now becoming important routines in his life.

1950's were a time of Compulsory National Service in Australia and to Malcolm it was three months of regular meals, a bed; and the rank of Sergeant. He resigned from the bank and joined the Australian Regular Army.

Life in the Quartermaster's Store was wonderful, counting blankets, sweeping floors and washing returned vehicles, until the CSM recognised his potential and enrolled him for Officer Training at Portsea. He graduated in 1956 and was allocated to the Royal Australian Armoured Corps.

Malcolm's eventual life went on to include marriage, a family and twenty one years of Commissioned Service including seventeen army service re-locations which included many overseas exchange postings.

Armoured courses followed a posting as Tank Troop Leader, during 1957-1959, and in 1963 he was Instructor, Gunnery at Lulworth in England, followed by Tank Technology at Bovington Camp and a Tank Missile Course.

Did early life prepare Malcolm for his reputation as a raconteur? There was a lifetime of fantastically embellished, mostly true, stories. Confidence to tell them increased following a glass of two of red wine.

Discovered in his papers was the anonymously written:
MURPHY'S LAW OF COMBAT OPERATIONS

- 1, Incoming fire has right-of-way.
2. If the enemy is in range, so are you.
3. Never draw fire- it irritates everyone around you.
4. The only thing more accurate than incoming enemy fire is friendly incoming fire.
5. When you have secured an area, don't forget to tell the enemy.
6. No battle plan survives contact with the enemy.
7. If your attack is going well, it is an ambush.
8. The easy way is always mined.
9. If it is stupid and it works, it ain't stupid.
10. The enemy only attacks on two occasions. When you are ready and when you are not.

Following the Tank Gunnery Course, Malcolm was posted as OC of the Tank Gunnery and Missile Wing at the Armoured Centre with promotion to Major. Staff College at Queenscliffe through 1969 led to the post of DAAG on HQ Western Command followed in 1969 as DAAG on HQ, 1st Australian Taskforce, Nui Dat, South Vietnam.

These were life-changing years. He raised A Squadron of 4th/19th Prince of Wales Light Horse as the first Armoured Regiment Reconnaissance Unit since World War Two.

The Australian government recognised his service and awarded him the honour of Member of the British Empire (MBE) along with South Vietnamese awards.

In 1972 he joined the 2nd Cavalry Regiment as 2IC, until 1973 when he moved to Senior Instructor, Tactics at Waiouru, New Zealand for three years. The family lived in the army camp on the volcanic slopes of Mt. Ruapehu. Malcolm was very proud to be named as an overseas member of the NATETUFERAATOIA tribe and personal friend of Chief Natetu.

His post army life included the position of CEO of the prestigious Weld Club for Perth for twenty years. This post was held concurrently with Command of the Officer and Staff Training Group, Western Command and RSL Parade Marshal on Anzac Day March in Perth.

On his retirement he was appointed as Honorary Colonel 10th Light Horse Regiment, Royal Australian Armoured Corps, Western Region from 2nd October 1993 to 1st October 1997.

Sadly, Malcolm lost his life at the age of 74 years in 2009. A holiday to Mauritius in 2008 resulted in a malaria-like illness from which he failed to completely recover. His energy levels demanded he rest, which was unheard of in his vocabulary.

He did not regret a moment of his life. He was tough, romantic, self taught and showed little respect for unearned authority. He was gentle, but with a stubborn ability to survive on swagger and wit.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR CHARLES COURT,
AK, KCMG, KT, OBE (MIL DIV)
HONORARY COLONEL SPECIAL AIR SERVICE REGIMENT
1976 TO 1980**

**HONORARY COLONEL
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY REGIMENT
1969 TO 1974**

Charles Court was born in UK, and was brought to Western Australia at an early age. He was educated at Rosalie State School and then Perth Boys School and showed a strong musical talent for the cornet very early. This talent developed so quickly that by the age of 12 years he was invited to join the brass band formed by WWI ex-servicemen as RSL Band – later named the RSL Memorial Band - to allow for sons of ex-servicemen to join. Initially, the band wore the uniform of WWI khaki, complete with putties and boots and the instruments were those of the 44th Battalion (WWI). This was where he got the taste for infantry soldiering, which he took very seriously. The band had to be available for many engagements required by the RSL, including an Army camp as part of the deal with the Army about uniforms and instruments. On one such camp, the solo cornet could not attend and permission from his headmaster was obtained for Master Court to attend the camp in his place.

On completion of his schooling he began his career as a junior with a firm of accountants in Perth and continued his love of music through his membership of the band. This association with the 44th Battalion and the experience of parade drill, marching and weapons handling, strengthened his desire to become an infantryman.

Delighted at the introduction of National Service, he reported for duty as it meant that he could receive more infantry experience. Sadly, this did not last long, because as soon as it became known about his musical experience, he was directed into the band. He objected, but it was made clear that he would do as he was told and bands were his specialty.

Saved by the early suspension of National Service, he joined the 44th Battalion of the time to continue with his aim of being an infantryman. Again he was thwarted and again directed into the band. Protesting to the CO, he was asked his reasons for not wanting to be in the band. His reply was, "This is the worst band in the State and I come from the best" (The RSL Memorial Band). The CO was not amused and Bandsman Court took his discharge, as he only wanted to serve in the infantry.

Years later World War II was declared and now a junior partner in the accounting firm of Hendry, Rae and Court, he felt it his duty to enlist. This would mean some difficulties as the older partners were intending to retire, however, being WWI veterans they were understanding and decided to keep the firm going to allow him to enlist in the Second AIF. There was another problem in the form of "Manpower" and although not an employee of the client concerned, they considered him a key part of their organisation and made it clear that if he enlisted, they would have no alternative but to have him "Manpowered"

Where there is a will, there is a way, as the saying goes, and he found out that manpower regulations did not apply to service in units of the Australian Military Forces (AMF) and it was possible to transfer to the AIF from an AMF unit after some months service. Making enquiries about available units which did not have bands, he found out from an experienced WWI veteran that the Australian Army Service Corps seemed safe from having a band, and so, Private Court enlisted in the AASC unit of the AMF in Perth and things went well, with promotions through Lance Corporal to Sergeant and not long after, appointment as Lieutenant was announced.

The unit was training more as an infantry unit as the Adjutant was an experienced Australian Instructional Corps Captain with WWI experience and Lieutenant Court became his Assistant Adjutant. Things were progressing nicely when, to his horror, the CO called him in and told him he had permission to form an unofficial ASC band and he was again in charge. After striking a bargain with the CO to form a good band, he found that some members of his old RSL Memorial Band were wishing to join up and they were enlisted 'en masse'. Unfortunately the CO got quite excited about 'his' band and went around challenging other units to band competitions. Fortunately the band was quickly successful and now as T/Captain Court, he was released back to his normal military training.

About this time the opportunity occurred to transfer to the AIF and although having to revert to Lieutenant, he moved with several other officers to the First Australian Armoured Division in Puckapunyal, commanded by Major General "Red Robbie" Robertson of WWI and Middle East fame in WWII.

Promoted to T/Captain and posted as Adjutant of the Support Group, under Lt. Col. D.G. Mackenzie, he had frequent contact with "Red Robbie" and his GSO 1, Col. Ragnar Garrett. The Division moved into very high powered training and Captain Court was posted to Duntroon for a highly specialised course at the Junior Staff College for four months before returning to the Divisional HQ as DAQMG, with almost daily contact with the Divisional Commander and the GSO1.

The Division had been moved to Western Australia when the threat of a Japanese invasion was feared and was concentrated around Mingenew. Again things were progressing well when one day "Red Robbie" sent for him with the news that the Commander-in-Chief had approved the formation of an official First Australian Armoured Division Band and he was again in the 'chair'. This was a serious blow, and there was no way out, as the Div Commander had done his homework and was well aware of his background and talent as an instrumentalist and trainer of bands. Again a bargain was struck and if he could produce the 'Best band in the Australian Army' he could return to normal military duties.

Captain Court was given 'carte blanche' in the search for quality players and was fortunate to secure one of the most famous band trainers and conductors in Australia, named A.H. (Bert) Baile. With Baile and with the whole of the Division to select from, they soon formed a top class band. "Robbie" was delighted and started challenging other formations to a band competition. The competition was duly held in Geraldton as a full scale Championship Band Competition on civilian lines. The Armoured Divisional band won all music and marching events. "Robbie", true to his word, released the now Major Court, to return to his military duties. This continued for a short time before a posting to the headquarters of Major General "Tubby" Allen

in Darwin. This was a very busy time working on projects far beyond the normal scope of his rank. The main one was an Appreciation for the possible use of Darwin and the Northern Territory as a base for a possible major assault against the Japanese. The Commander in Chief (General Blamey) flew to Darwin to be personally briefed in fine detail by Major Court on the extensive Appreciation and took the proposal back to Melbourne with him.

Shortly after this he was sent to the Senior Wing of Staff College, now located at Cabarlah near Toowoomba in Queensland. Successful completion of this very demanding course saw promotion to T/Lieutenant Colonel and posting to AQMG of the Third Australian Corps in Bougainville, under Lt. General Stanley Savige.

After a difficult start with the Corps Commander and with guidance from the now Brigadier Ragnar Garrett (Formerly the GSO1 of the 1st Armoured Division) things soon settled down to many demanding projects successfully completed. After the Japanese surrender Lt. General Savige appointed T/Lt Colonel Court to take charge of the disarming of the main Japanese force near Buin, including a number of Generals and Admirals. The successful plans for the eventual repatriation of these thousands of Japanese formed an understanding of their culture which would be vital in negotiations with Japan in post war development of Western Australia's mineral potential.

For his service in Bougainville he was awarded the OBE (Mil Div) on the recommendation of General Savige, and which he holds very important in view of his difficult start with Savige.

Discharge in January 1946 and return to civilian life he continued his association with the Army and in 1969 was appointed Honorary Colonel of Western Australian University Regiment and also in 1976 as Honorary Colonel of Special Air Service Regiment. Later he became the Patron of the SASR Association.

Entering WA State politics and rising to be the Premier and leader of the WA Parliamentary Liberal Party, he served the State for many years before returning to a busy civilian life. His love of bands and conducting saw him take up the baton on occasions, much to the delight of those present, as happened at the Gala Dinner celebration of his 95th birthday in 2006.

Sir Charles passed away in 2008.

**BRIGADIER ROBERT DAVIS, ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
WESTERN COMMAND**

**BRIGADIER DAVIS SERVED TWO TERMS AS
COLONEL COMMANDANT, BUT THE DATES HAVE NOT BEEN
DETERMINED**

Bob Davis was a West Australian and a veteran of WWII, with the service number of WX25.

He was commissioned in the 3rd Field Brigade in the mid-1930s and volunteered for active service in the 2/3rd Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery at the outbreak of World War 2, serving in the United Kingdom; North Africa; Greece; Crete and after returning to Australia served in New Guinea.

He joined the CMF in 1948 when it was reformed and was appointed Battery Commander, P Battery, 3rd Field Regiment RAA, progressing through the ranks of the Artillery unit; he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and command of the Regiment from 1954 to 1956.

Bob was appointed to command 16th Battalion, Cameron Highlanders of WA in 1956 for three years. He strongly embraced the Scottish Traditions of his new unit and encouraged Scottish Country dancing within the Officers and Sergeants Messes. Hogmanay and other New Year social activities were enjoyed and the Unit Children's Christmas Party was always anticipated each year.

The Unit ceremonial full dress parade to Kings Park with the Pipes and Drums leading up Malcolm Street was revived to be a spectacular event for the City of Perth, to remember the Battle of Bullecourt in April of 1916.

He continued his service in Staff appointments when 1960 saw the grouping of all Infantry Reserve units into the Royal Western Australia Regiment, while all the Units of other Corps became part of Western Command Troops under command of the now, Brigadier Davis on promotion as Commander, Headquarters Group, 13th Infantry Brigade.

In his civilian employment he worked for the West Australian Forrest Department rising to be head of the Mapping and Survey section.

On reaching the age for retirement he was appointed as Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Artillery in Western Command.

He was Patron of the Royal Australian Artillery Association WA; a member of the 3rd Field Regiment Association and an honorary member of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society of WA (Inc).

He took great pride in his daughter Judy, the celebrated Film and theatre actress and the many awards for her fine performances throughout the entertainment world.

Brigadier Bob Davis passed away on 27th September 2004 at the age of 90 years.

Author's comment:

I joined 16 Battalion in 1957 and still remember the interview when he said; "*Tell me why I should have you in my Unit*"? And I said. "*Well I am of Scottish parents and I come from an Artillery Unit, so that must be at least 2 points in my favour*".

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN DEWAR DEYKIN, RFD, ED
HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
1986 TO 1989**

John Deykin is a West Australian, educated at Guildford Grammar and Hale Schools before attaining his Leaving Certificate at Night School part time.

He joined the London & Lancashire Insurance Co. Ltd in Perth as the "Office Boy" in December 1948 initially to clean inkwells; change blotters, postage, collection of mail and filing. Then working up to fire endorsement, locality register, renewal card register followed by cover notes, marine insurance declarations and open policies. Work involved writing to clients for proposal forms and following through to the issue of the policy, checking for correctness and collection of the premium.

The five years apprenticeship learning the business of Insurance and then it was 1951 when he registered for National Service and was initially allocated to the Air Force but his family objected.

1953 saw him in the Army for 98 days of continuous training at Swanbourne (Campbell Barracks amid the tee trees). This was followed by two years as a member of the Citizen Military Forces with 10th Light Horse. About this time he moved to the Accident Department, underwriting mainly motor vehicle and Workers Compensation claims and two years later, became Head of the department and fully responsible for the entire operation of the department from Underwriting through to Claims Handling.

In 1956 he resigned and joined National & General Insurance Co Limited, Perth as Chief Clerk as well as Motor Vehicle Underwriting and all claims. This was also a busy time of study, teaching courses on insurance for the Insurance Institute and study for Associateship in Accounting at the Perth Technical College.

May 1966, a move to London as Local branch Manager for National & General heavily involved in the London Market and Lloyds in placing Australian business and understanding international business methods including re-insurance and Treaties.

John served with the Kent and County of London Yeomanry as A Squadron Commander and London & Kent Regiment RA as Battery Comd and 3 tours of the BAOR on 4 week annual exercises with 10th Royal Hussars in 1966, 67 and 68 with their Armoured Cars.

Two years later, back in Australia with National & General in their Head Office in Sydney and now in the Re-insurance area and also head of the Branch Inspection Team, ensuring that procedures were being adhered to.

He had a change of job in 1969 and back in WA working for Brian Coppin P/L, which later became Australian Insurance Brokers, then back with 10th Light Horse Regt as 2IC 1970 – 72 and later Commanding Officer 1973 – 75.

He formed the Broking Company; Westside Insurance Brokers P/L in 1980 and in 1997 formed Parkside Insurance Brokers and was able to handle all types of Insurance needs in Western Australia.

John's whole working life has been a continuous series of study to qualify in every aspect of the Insurance business, achieving qualifications second-to-none. Qualifications in both Accounting and Business Management, round off a most impressive Business CV.

He has played Hockey with Hale Hockey Club for over 50 seasons, in all grades from school to Vintage Grade and held positions of Secretary, Vice President and President between 1952 and 1990. The club is the only club in WA to own its own international standard hockey ground.

Other activities include: -

- Regular attendance at the local Parish Church and Parish Treasurer for 24 years;
- Committee Member of the Bible Society 1975 to 2005;
- Member, Church Missionary Society from 1949 -1975;
- Army Museum of WA Foundation including, Secretary and Chairman of the Board during the "Battle for the Barracks" which was successful in saving the Barracks for the Museum, and the Inaugural Life Member;
- Old Haleien's Association, including, Committee Member, Magazine Editor, Chairman, Member of Board of Governors Selection Committee;
- He was recently awarded the Faulkner Award for Long Service; and
- John still works full time and enjoys being involved with his special interests and resides in the Perth suburb of Claremont.

**MAJOR GRAHAM NEALE DONLEY, RFD, (RET'D)
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
11TH OCTOBER 1984 TO 10TH OCTOBER 1990**

**HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
WESTERN REGION
7TH MARCH 1995 TO 6TH MARCH 2001**

Born in Perth, educated at North Perth Primary and Perth Modern School, Graham began his working life as an Insurance clerk, then a Tyre Retreader then back to a Fire and General Insurance Co as a clerk. During his career in Insurance, Graham qualified as an Associate of the Australian Insurance Institute and was also an Associate of the Australian Institute of Management.

In 1951, while a member of the Cottesloe Surf Life Saving Club, Graham qualified for his Instructor's Certificate in Surf Life Saving and was selected in the Western Australian Junior State Team to compete at Scarborough. However, he did not return to Surf Life Saving after National Service.

Called up for National Service with 17 NS Training Battalion at Swanbourne in 1952, he served the 98 days full time training where he represented his Platoon in Australian Rules Football and Athletics, being runner up in the Battalion half mile foot race, before completing the following five years allocated to HQ Western Command Signal Squadron, RASigs.

Promoted through all ranks to Warrant Officer Class II and Squadron Sergeant Major, with the responsibility for training new recruits on his own without any other staff or instructors, brought added satisfaction to see civilians become soldiers.

Qualification and appointment to commissioned rank in 1964 began his rise to eventual command of 109 Signal Squadron and staff appointments on the Headquarters of 2nd Task Force, Western Command and later with 3rd Division and 2nd Division after moving to the Eastern States for his civilian employer. Graham always felt strongly about his army commitments and used his annual leave to attend camps. In 1970 he resigned from his civilian employer of 15 years to attend the CMF Officers Visit to South Vietnam, where he was attached to 104 Sig Sqn and 110 Sig Sqn.

On 1st April 1970, Captain Donley was appointed as Administering Command of 109 Signal Squadron, and from 1st January 1976 to 31st December 1979, Major Donley commanded the Squadron. He was pleased some years later when his daughter, Major (now Lieutenant Colonel) Gaye Donley took command of 109 Signal Squadron.

A keenly active player in the sport of Fencing he has competed at the highest levels, representing Western Australia for sixteen years between 1965 – 1981 winning a number of State titles and holding the appointments of State Captain and State Coach, as well as State President of the WA Amateur Fencing Association. Duties from coaching, umpiring and administration tasks kept him close to the sport until his retirement in 1982.

In 2000 he was awarded the Australian Sports Medal for his contribution to the sport of Fencing.

He also competed in track and field athletics; swimming; diving and played badminton and tennis. He was a boundary umpire for the Western Australian Football League (now the WAFL) for five years.

Promotion in the CMF was matched by civilian achievement which saw him appointed as Manager of a Fire and General Insurance Co for New South Wales and the ACT, before moving back to WA where he was later appointed as State Manager.

Ill health caused him to voluntarily step down from the position of State Manager but he continued with the Company until reaching retirement age.

Retiring from the Army Reserve in 1982 he was honoured by appointment as Colonel Commandant RASigs for the 5th Military District from 11th October 1984 to 10th October 1990 and later as Honorary Colonel of Cadets Western Region from 7th March 1995 to 6th March 2001 (he had been an Army Cadet in 1948 at Perth Modern School and an Officer of Cadets in the 1980s).

A keen interest in all things Signals has seen his valuable contribution to military History by several writings on badges, particularly of his Corps and his nine years as Keeper of Heraldry at the Army Museum of W A. Specialising in Honours and Awards as well as badges, he maintains an extremely rare and valuable collection of records of Militaria pertinent to the military history of Western Australia. His writings on these subjects, mainly for Association Newsletters, are numerous and one has been published by the Australian War Memorial in its Online Journal. One book "*Australian War Badges of World War I and World War II*" has been published by the Army Museum of Western Australia and another "*Australian Corps of Signallers 1906 to 1912*" has been published by the RA Signals Association of W A.

His other books: -

- Signals and Signallers Badges in the Australian Army 1870 to 2006;
- Voluntary Ballot Enlistment Scheme 1918; and
- Australian Army Reserve Force and Militia Efficiency Badges 1939 are as yet unpublished.

Listed as highlights of his army career among many too numerous to mention are the satisfaction of being a member of the team that won the Princess Royal Trophy for the most efficient Signals Unit in Australia in 1961 and serving in Units that were always occupied on tasks that were related to the role they would play in combat operations, that of communications at all levels. From first command as Second Lieutenant Troop Commander to OC of a Signal Squadron, the life skills and experience gained over a major portion of his life in Australian Army uniform has been worthwhile.

Two events stand out from his time as Colonel Commandant RASigs: -

- On 29th November 1986 he represented 5th Military District in Melbourne at the presentation by the Governor General of the Princess Anne Banner and was later introduced to Sir Zelman Cowan, the Governor General.
- On 9th February 1987 he attended the parading of the Banner for 152 Sig Sqn at Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne, and was later presented to Her Royal Highness Princess Anne who was the Colonel in Chief, Royal Australian Corps of Signals.

He continues to be actively involved as:

- Life Member of Cavalier School of Fencing;
- Life Member WA Amateur Fencing Association;
- Life Member Royal Australian Signals Association;
- Life Member Defence Reserves Association;
- Member WA Arms and Armour Society;
- Member Cottesloe Surf Life Saving Veterans;
- Member Australian National Flag Association (WA); and
- Member Corps of Honorary Colonels.

He has been married to his wife, Dorothy (nee Marshall), for over sixty years and they reside in the Perth suburb of Yokine and enjoy visits of their three daughters, five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

They are contactable by phone on 92763696, or on the Net at pronto5@bigpond.com

**COLONEL GEORGE WILLIAM MOREY EARNSHAW, ED, RL
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
21ST OCTOBER 1979 TO 20TH OCTOBER 1985**

George was born in East Fremantle on 4th July 1923, the second son of William and Freda Earnshaw. He was educated at Bicton Primary and Fremantle Boys' Schools then did clerical work until he joined the Australian Military Force (Militia) in January 1942 at the age of 18 years, and then transferred to the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) later that same year. His initial training was carried out at Swanbourne then as a Gunner in the 13th Field Regiment at Northam, followed by service in the 4th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery at Buckland then to Darwin in the same Unit.

Whoever coined the phrase – “An Officer and a Gentleman” – must have had George Earnshaw in mind – he truly was An Officer and A Gentleman.

In early 1945 George was a member of the British Borneo Civil Affairs Unit in Labuan (North Borneo), now Sabah. He returned to Australia in March 1946 and was discharged 2 months later, joining the Commonwealth Bank of Australia soon after thereby beginning a career that lasted some 40 years.

In 1947, George married Doris Roche in Fremantle after they had met playing at a social tennis match, and they had four daughters.

In 1953 George joined the CMF (Citizen Military Forces) – 3 Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery at Karrakatta. During the 15 years that followed he served in numerous postings including Regimental Transport Officer, Regimental Signals Officer, Gun Position Officer and Troop Commander and in 1968 was appointed to what many Gunners would describe as the ultimate posting – Commanding Officer of the Regiment.

After the term as CO 3 Fd Regt, George was posted to a key role with the Command & Staff Training Unit as the Senior Tactics Officer for students studying to be promoted to the rank of Lt Colonel. Upon retirement from the Army in 1973, Lt Col Earnshaw was granted the military title of Colonel.

Some 6 years later Colonel Earnshaw was appointed Honorary Artillery Head of Corps in WA – as Colonel Commandant, a position he held for over six years and during that time he demonstrated a continued keen interest and involvement in Gunner affairs.

His decorations and awards included:

- 1939 – 45 Star;
- Pacific Star;
- Defence Medal;
- War Medal;
- Australian Service Medal;
- National Medal & Clasp; and

- Efficiency Decoration & Clasp

In such a long and distinguished military career, George would have had countless memorable moments three of which are: –

- The mining of the troopship “*Joseph Carrigan*” off Labuan (North Borneo) in 1945;
- Being appointed as Commanding Officer of his Regiment; and
- The thrill of being the Regimental Guard Commander at Government House on the occasion of the visit to Perth by Her Royal Highness - Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.

In his civilian capacity, George moved with the Bank around Perth and to Bunbury; Kellerberrin and Rockingham where he was Manager between 1966 and 1983. He was very well accepted, helping many people get out of money problems. He played a significant role in the community life with a 40 year association with Rotary, in 1967 becoming a charter member of the Rockingham Rotary Club and rising to be elected President and a Paul Harris Fellow. He had a few years earlier helped charter the Kellerberrin Rotary Club.

George was the driving force behind the establishment of the Rockingham / Kwinana State Emergency Service, of which he is a Life Member. He was also: -

- Past President of the Rockingham Bowling Club;
- A member of the Legacy Club of Fremantle, where he assisted many needy families in the Rockingham / Kwinana area; and
- An honorary auditor for many clubs and groups.

George and Doris enjoyed extensive overseas holidays and at home George could be found in his workshop – he originally wanted to be an Engineer, and he has built a working model of a steam train.

He passed away on 3rd December 2004 and was survived by his widow, Doris and his daughters Jeanne; Lynette; Marilyn and Roselea; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

He is remembered as an Officer and a Gentleman who genuinely cared for his Officers and Soldiers and took the time to understand their wants and needs and demonstrated by example the art of being an effective Gunner.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL WARREN G EVANS
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS
WESTERN DISTRICT
2007 TO 2014**

Colonel Evans served from 1967-89 in the Australian Army after having been called-up for National Service on 1 February 1967. Initially posted to 7 RAR, he was transferred to RAAOC following a training injury. He served in 5 BOD Midland as a Private and then Corporal before attending OCS in 1969, graduating as a 2nd Lt. He then served as a stores officer and then Adjutant at 1 BOD Queensland before serving in South Vietnam in 1970-71. This was followed by numerous appointments throughout Australia and a six-month detachment to the 4th Armoured Regiment BAOR in Germany in 1983.

During his overall service he undertook extensive and diversified training, gaining considerable experience across a number of disciplines, including aviation, administration, logistics, recruiting, Special Forces and intelligence.

In 1978-79, he was Honorary Aide-de-camp to Sir Roden Cutler VC, Governor of NSW. From 1986-89 whilst SO1 Armaments and Ammunition at Logistics Command Melbourne, he was the Chairman of the Defence Armaments Committee and on the Steering Committee of Monash University Logistics Degree Course. Retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1989, he became the State Manager (Logistics) for Myer Stores in Western Australia thence undertook various CEO appointments, directing several successful company recoveries.

After establishing his own company in 1996, Warren concentrated on corporate forensic intelligence work which led to his operating with the Commonwealth and State Governments on major projects, interspersed with private sector activity. From 1997-2000 extra-curricular activities include his being on the supervisory staff of Curtin University, responsible for students undertaking PhD studies in logistics management; being a member of the State Government's Aviation Training Advisory Committee; a member of the Department of Main Roads WA Consultative Committee and member of Jandakot Airport Chamber of Commerce and several flying clubs.

From 2001-2005 he held a senior appointment with the Defence Materiel Office, associated with the \$6 billion ANZAC Ship Project. Warren is an experienced company director, company secretary and business consultant. In 2006, he was instrumental in the successful retention of Jandakot Airport at its present site, despite commercial pressure for its closure. He continues to champion the retention of the airport at its present location.

Warren Evans was appointed by Cabinet to the Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal as a part-time member in September 2006. Since February 1994 he has been President of the RAAOC Association WA Inc and in January 2007 was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps –

Western Region for seven years. He has been a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management since 1995.

In retirement, Warren works at request at the AAT and does a lot of pro bono work in his long time role as a forensic investigator for persons having suffered some form of misdemeanour by “crooks.” He also spends a lot of time on issues related to Jandakot Airport and is a consultant to the Jandakot Airport Chamber of Commerce and other businesses at the airport.

He also spends a fair bit of time on RAAOC Association business throughout the year, arranging dinners, etc.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL PETER FITZPATRICK, AM
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
WESTERN REGION
11TH OCTOBER 2000 TO 10TH OCTOBER 2006**

**REGIMENTAL COLONEL
152 SIGNAL SQUADRON
2006 TO 2012**

Peter was educated at St Louis School WA (now John 23rd College).

He served for 20 years in the Australian Regular Army, Royal Australian Corps of Signals, including service with 152 Signal Squadron of the Special Air Services Regiment. He also served as an exchange officer with the British Army in West Germany and the UK and a multinational force in Singapore. He then pursued a career outside the military, retiring as Lieutenant Colonel. He commanded a major Communications Regiment and served in South Vietnam with 152 Signal Squadron.

He was awarded the AM in June 1984.

In the civilian world, he has been: -

- Trustee director of the Australian Defence Force Assistance Trust 1985 – 1996;
- Inaugural chair of Youth Focus from 1990 – 97;
- Strategic adviser to Prime Minister John Howard 1997;
- Chair of the Youth Focus Foundation 2004 – 08;
- A State finalist for the Australian of the Year, 2008 – 09
- Had his own family business, project landscaping and irrigation;
- Chief Executive Officer, Motor Trades Association of WA;
- Serves on a number of charitable not for profit and industry boards;
- Currently coach and mentor to a group of 18 high performing CEOs that are committed to leading profitable and effective organisations while maintaining balanced personal lives; and
- A facilitator for the Australian Institute of Company Directors on the Company Directors' Course and provides training for Companies and not for profit organisations on Governance; Finance; Strategy and Risk Leadership.

**JUSTICE ROBERT SHENTON FRENCH, AC
HONORARY COLONEL
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY REGIMENT
C 2002**

Robert Shenton French was appointed Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia in September 2008, the first Western Australian to be appointed to this position. At the time of his appointment he was a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia, having been appointed to that office in November 1986.

He graduated from the University of Western Australia in science and law. He was admitted in 1972 and practised as a barrister and solicitor in Western Australia until 1983 when he went to the Western Australian Bar. From 1994 to 1998 he was President of the National Native Title Tribunal. At the time of his appointment he was an additional member of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory and a member of the Supreme Court of Fiji. He was also a Deputy President of the Australian Competition Tribunal and a part-time member of the Australian Law Reform Commission. From 2001 to January 2005 he was President of the Australian Association of Constitutional Law. Chief Justice French was appointed a Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2010.

In his first year at University, he was elected to a committee of the Guild of Undergraduates and became involved with the First Year Science Students' Association and the University Debating Club. In the following year he was President of the Science Union, which was the Science Students' Society. At the end of 1966 he was elected to the Guild Council and to the office of Guild Treasurer.

He engaged in debates at general meetings about the Vietnam involvement, the legalisation of marijuana and euthanasia.

The many other activities, and those he particularly enjoyed, involved the organisation of public lectures and seminars on matters of current interest. In this vein they had a week of lunchtime lectures about the history and politics of the Vietnam War, and another about communism.

He was also a member of the Western Australian University Regiment, rising to the rank of Lieutenant in charge of the Intelligence Platoon. Many years later he returned to the Regiment for a number of years as its Honorary Colonel, which he found to be a great pleasure.

**COLONEL NEVILLE GEAR
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
WESTERN REGION
21ST OCTOBER 1991 TO 13TH OCTOBER 1995**

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL NEVILLE A. GILBERT, RFD, ED, RL
HONORARY CORPS REPRESENTATIVE
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY PAY CORPS
WESTERN COMMAND / 5TH MILITARY DISTRICT /
WESTERN REGION / WESTERN DISTRICT
1984 TO 2010**

Lt. Col. Gilbert was born in Western Australia and educated at Midland Junction Senior High School (Now Governor Stirling High School) and he joined the staff of the Command Pay Office, Perth as a clerk in 1952. On completion of 98 days National Service Training at Swanbourne, the same year, he was allocated to 5 RAAPC Detachment, before being specially assigned to Royal Australian Special Reserve as a Sergeant for attachment to the Chief Paymasters Office in Kure, Japan in 1953. Being part of the British Commonwealth Forces, Korea, was a great practical experience for a 21 year old and he gained valuable insight into the army financial system which was to be of great benefit in his future service.

On his return from Japan he rejoined the Pay Detachment, completed studies for promotion through the ranks and was commissioned in 1955. Various postings, both in the CMF unit and his civilian employment ran parallel for most of his working life and he was promoted to Major and command of 5 Pay Unit in 1968. Within Department of Defence after qualifying and being admitted as an Associate of the Australian Society of Accountants, he was appointed to Finance Inspector (Army). During this time he developed a reputation as a stickler for correct financial procedures and both Regular and CMF units were the recipients of many detailed questions in their Annual Audit Report.

Appointed as a Staff Officer on HQ 5th Military District in 1978, the Regimental Audit Boards and Non-Public Monies Accounts of all Army units in WA became his responsibility for two years.

Appointed as an instructor at the Reserve Command and Staff College within 5 Training Group in 1980, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and the post of Senior Instructor, Administration in 1986, before his retirement on age in 1987.

Meanwhile, his civilian career was progressing smoothly and in 1975 he was promoted to Civil Secretary and Accountant - Navy, duties which involved interaction between NOC Naval Forces in WA and the Regional Office of Defence. One can only imagine the problems involved with the winding down of the Junior Recruit Training at HMAS Leeuwin and the construction of the new Naval base at HMAS Stirling, on Garden Island, which was commissioned in 1978. He served at HMAS Stirling until March 1981, before another move to Director of Internal Audit at the Defence Regional Office in Perth.

Neville was appointed Regional Finance Officer in March 1984 a position he held until moving to Acting Regional Secretary, Defence WA, in 1989, a position he held until his civil retirement on the 3rd of May 1991. This completed forty four years with the Commonwealth Public Service.

Neville was appointed Honorary Corps Representative of the RAAPC in Western Region in 1984, an appointment he continuously held until 31 December 2010.

In retirement, he is involved in the executive of the Defence Reserves Association, as Treasurer and later as Honorary Auditor. He is a Life Member of the PROBUS Club of Attadale.

Neville is married to wife Margaret and they have one son and two grandchildren. They lived in their home in Ardross for 49 years but now live in the St. Ives Retirement Village in Murdoch.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL KEVIN GRAHAM
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS
WESTERN REGION
1995 TO 2002**

Kevin was born in Perth WA and educated at South Perth Primary School and Guildford Grammar School.

He enlisted as an Army Apprentice in January 1952 (Aged 15 years and one month) and trained at Balcombe as a Plumber and Gasfitter. On graduation as a Tradesman in Royal Australian Engineers he was posted to 23 Construction Squadron at Warradale in SA as part of the unit that built the El Alamein camp near Port Augusta which is now the Baxter Detention Centre. He was later transferred to Regimental Duties as an instructor at 16 NS Trg Bn at Woodside.

In 1958 he was accepted as an Officer Cadet at OCS Portsea and graduated into RAE and posted as Platoon Commander at 20 NS Trg Bn Puckapunyal as Assistant Supervisor of Training in January 1959.

Then came a change of Corps as he transferred to RAAOC and in 1960 moved to his first posting in WA as Adjutant/QM of 6 Ammo Depot Springhill just near Northam.

Long term student at RAAOC Centre on Ammunition Technical Officers Course, before moving as Ammunition Technical Officer at 4 Central Ammunition Depot Mangalore, then to Deputy Chief Ordnance Officer 2 Central Ammunition Depot Denman.

March 1965 saw him move to Papua New Guinea as a Staff Capt Q HQ PNG Command Port Moresby for 2 years and back to Springhill before a tour in Vietnam on HQ Australian Force, Vietnam as Force ATO, where in March 1969 he was injured in Ammunition Demolition and Medevac to Australia. After convalescence another posting to 5 BOD Midland as Admin Comd and 12 months Leave Without Pay.

Posted as Senior Instructor at RAAOC Centre 1973/74 then overseas courses in UK, Canada and USA then to AHQ in Clothing and General Stores Development before his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and CO of 4 Army Quality Unit at 21 Supply Battalion in Central Command.

He retired from the Army in January 1980 after 28 years.

Now a civilian he joined the WA Sports Federation as CEO at Perry Lakes. After two and a half years he resigned and joined the Royal WA Bowling Association for five years as the State Secretary, then took up the position of Executive Officer of the WA Licensed Clubs Association for four years.

In 1995 he was honoured by his appointment as Honorary Colonel RAAOC and handed this on to Lt Col Vic Hayes in 2002.

Retiring from the work force he became an Authorised Marriage Celebrant, marrying people and conducting funerals. Somewhat like being a good officer and taking a great part in the welfare of your soldiers!!

He continues his tale in his own words.

When I joined the Army, I was so small I had to have my Battle Dress and Ceremonial uniforms tailor made. (It was six months before he had a real uniform to wear). I had to wear civilian clothes, - My first pair of long trousers which my Father bought for me to wear on my way to camp - to the mess each night.

As Honorary Colonel in 1995, I went to the Clothing store and again, they did not have a uniform to fit me so I had to again wait for a set to be tailor made. Seems nothing changes (except waist lines!)

Best posting was to PNG Comd as it prepared for independence with an expansion of its defence force.

Most memorable posting was to Vietnam, interesting, satisfying and at the time worthwhile.

Most enjoyable was the 18 months tour of UK, Canada and US forces.

He married Peggy Belleville widow of Graeme Belleville KIA Vietnam Feb 1966. Marriage lasted 19 years and produced one daughter Elizabeth who lives in Margaret River with her daughter Alice.

I remarried to Jan in 1996 and very happy, living in Nedlands about 400 metres from the Cemetery so no more BIG moves planned.

As I was originally from farming stock, it is appropriate that my interests apart from my wife, lie in gardening vegetables and quite successfully too.

I am a member of the North Cottesloe Surf Life Saving Club and try to make a visit to the gym and swim most days.

Another interest is as a Funeral Celebrant whereby I have been able to conduct meaningful ceremonies especially for persons who have had military service. Too often you will find a celebrant or clergyman who knows nothing about the services making a real hash of the ceremony.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL L. G. GURNETT
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS
WESTERN COMMAND
13TH JUNE 1957 TO 12TH JUNE 1967**

**BRIGADIER GEOFFREY HAND, AM, RFD
REGIMENTAL COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
CURRENT**

The 1st of January 2004 saw Colonel Geoffrey Hand, RFD, promoted to Brigadier and appointed to Command the 13th Brigade of the Second Division. Notable among his many achievements are:

- Graduated from No. 10 OCTU course in 1976/1977.
- As a Lieutenant, attended Ex. Pacific Bond in Hawaii with the US Army.
- Two weeks attachment to the Swedish Army's King's Life Guard Regiment.
- Graduated from the Australian Joint Service's Staff College with recommendation to join the college Directing Staff.
- As Commanding Officer of 16 RWAR, commanded the first WA unit to have a Regular Company integrated with the GRes unit and answerable direct to Chief of Army.
- During his time Lt Col Hand, RFD, was CO 16 RWAR in 1997 to 2000, when the unit deployed soldiers to Rifle Company, Butterworth for the first time and also in support of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney.
- He left the posting of Director, Army Personnel Agency Perth, to take up his new appointment.
- In 2014, Brigadier G. Hand, AM, RFD, is the Regimental Colonel, RWAR and Patron, RWAR Association

In his civilian career, Brigadier Hand began as a teacher with the WA Education Dept, working all over WA as well as Cocos (Keeling) Islands before starting his own business as a Training Consultant in Industry.

Geoff is married to Liz and they have two children, Ingrid and Tim.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL VICTOR HAYES
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS
WESTERN REGION
2002 TO NOT DETERMINED**

**COLONEL ATHOL JOSEPH HOBBS, ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
WESTERN COMMAND
DATES NOT DETERMINED, BUT POSSIBLY THE INAUGURAL
APPOINTEE**

Athol Hobbs was born on 2nd February 1899 in the incomplete family home *Bungalow*, the fourth child of Joseph John Talbot (Sir J.J. Athol Hobbs, KCB, KCMG, VD) and Edith Ann Hobbs.

He was educated at Scotch College from 1908 to 1912 then at Bedford School in England from 1913 to 1916. He joined the British Army in late 1916 and completed a short course at Sandhurst then moved to India as a Lieutenant for further training. He served with the Ghurkhas during 1917 to 1923, attaining the rank of Captain.

In 1919, Lt Hobbs was engaged to Isabel (Babette) Hearn and in October 1920 they were married in India. In July 1922, they came to Perth where their first child was born, but tragically Babette took her own life. Athol had to return to India from leave and the baby was left to be raised by the grandparents and a nanny.

After six years' service in the Indian Army, Athol resigned his commission to commence study at the Architectural Association in London, where he also served in the Territorial Army, Royal Artillery. By December 1926 he had passed his final qualifying examinations and was admitted as an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, returning to Perth in 1927 to join with his father in practice at Hobbs, Smith and Forbes and then marrying his second wife Evelyn Croxon, producing a son in 1931. After Evelyn's death in 1969, he married for a third time to Aileen Hamilton.

In 1929, he joined the Citizens' Military Force and was posted as a Regimental Officer with 3rd Field Brigade. In 1937 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed to command his unit.

In November 1937, Athol was elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Architects of WA (FRIAWAA) and as a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) in March 1938.

With the raising of the 2nd AIF in October 1939, he was appointed to raise the 2nd / 3rd Field Regiment with soldiers from South Australia; Western Australia; Northern Territory and New South Wales, beginning basic training at Woodside Camp in November 1939 before moving to Ingleburn for further training. Interestingly, at this stage, the Regiment did not have any guns.

In May 1940, the unit, as part of the 6th Division, was deployed to the UK to defend against a possible invasion following the fall of France. They were established at Tidworth in Wiltshire and later in Colchester. He left the unit in September 1940 and was seconded to special duty.

This caused a temporary interruption to his professional career and after his War service he returned to his practice, designing, as honorary architect, a Court of Contemplation which was built in King's Park.

In 1946 the practice was renamed to Hobbs, Winning and Leighton who produced many fine buildings such as the State Government Insurance building (1956) and the National Mutual Life Insurance building (1958) in the Perth CBD.

In the early 1960s, they designed and built new premises for the practice at 37 Ord Street, West Perth.

Athol retired in the early 1970s and enjoyed sailing from the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club.

He passed away at Peppermint Grove on 29th October 1979, aged 80 years, bringing to a close a family tradition of military service covering a period of more than 70 years.

**COLONEL KEITH D. HOWARD RFD, ED, (RET'D)
HONORARY COLONEL
10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
1981 TO 1985**

Keith Howard was born in Sydney NSW, educated at North Perth State and Perth Modern Schools, before joining the staff of the ES & A Bank in 1937, serving until the end of 1940. Meanwhile, he enlisted in the 16th Bn, Cameron Highlanders of WA at the age of 18, as a private soldier. Following promotion through Corporal and Sergeant, he was commissioned in September 1940 and spent some months as an instructor at Western Command Training School in Guildford while awaiting acceptance into the AIF. Proceeding to Palestine early 1941 he joined the 2/16th Aust Inf Bn and served for several months as Pl. Comd. A spell in hospital saw him left behind as the 2/16th as part of the 7th Division, was recalled to Australia to fight the war against the Japanese.

On discharge from hospital, Lt. Howard was transferred to the 2/43rd Aust Inf Bn, a South Australian unit of the 9th Division and served with it in the Western Desert at El Alamein. He remained with that unit on return to Australia in 1943 and served with it in the South West Pacific/South East Asia theatre, including the invasion of Labuan and British North Borneo.

After the Japanese defeat in Borneo, Captain Howard volunteered for a staff appointment in a new force to disarm and repatriate the 60,000 Japanese Naval personnel on Ambon. With this task completed in 1946, he returned to Perth for discharge at the age of 25.

A civilian once again, he joined the family business to assist in rebuilding the firm after its wartime difficulties.

Re-enlisting in the 16th/28th Battalion, Cameron Highlanders of WA as a Captain, Company Commander, immediately the CMF was raised in 1948; he served until 1955, with promotion to Major in 1951.

Appointed as Commanding Officer of 10th Light Horse Regiment, on promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 1955, he oversaw dramatic changes to the unit with new armoured vehicles and a new depot at Irwin Barracks. This period included attachment to a British Armoured Car unit in Malaya during the Malayan Emergency against the so-called Communist Terrorists. Personal operational involvement and studies there resulted in his writing of a Report on the Employment of Armoured Cars in Tropical Warfare which was adopted subsequently as official training doctrine by RAAC.

After four years with the Light Horse, Keith moved to assist with the formation of Western Command Training Group, a new organisation to provide all promotion courses for the CMF in WA, including Officer Cadet Training, formerly conducted by

WA University Regiment. Two years later another move saw his appointment as Deputy Commander of 1 RWAR Battle Group, and in 1964, he was promoted to Colonel and command of the Battle Group for 2 years. This posting included duties as Hon. ADC to successive Governors-General, Lords De Lisle and Casey.

Next move was to command Western Command Training Group in 1966, together with Chairmanship of the Officer Career Planning and Officer Selection Boards. His civilian membership of the Chamber of Commerce and Perth Rotary assisted him as Chairman of the Employers Committee assisting retired Regular Army personnel into the work force.

In 1967 Colonel Howard requested a reduction of 2 ranks to Major, to accept an assignment as a United Nations Military Observer in the Middle East. For the next 10 years he lived and worked for the United Nations Truce Supervision (UNTSO) monitoring the actions of the Israeli and the Arab forces, but was selected early for staff postings at UNTSO Field Control HQ in Damascus, Tiberius and along the Suez Canal.

He was promoted to Lt. Col and commended for his work by the Australian CGS, Sir Thomas Daly in 1970.

Following the war of 1973, Keith was appointed Chief of Personnel and Logistics of the new UN Emergency Force, raised to interpose between the Israeli and Egyptian armies. When the situation stabilised in 1974, he was recalled to UNTSO and appointed Senior Staff Officer (Deputy Commander), directly responsible for over 300 officer observers from 17 different nations.

Delay in appointment of a new Head of the UN Mission (a Major General) Lt. Col. Howard became acting Head for six months, reporting directly to the Secretary General of the United Nations in New York. At UNs request, Australia restored his original rank of Colonel and he remained at UN HQ in Jerusalem as Colonel and Acting Head of Mission for the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization monitoring between Israel and armies of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Egypt until his retirement from the Australian Regular Army in 1977.

On his return to Australia in 1978, he studied Classics and History at UWA, graduating with a BA (Hons) degree, subsequently qualifying with a Masters Degree with a Thesis on the military and social impact on Australia of its National Service Scheme of the 1950's. This work was acknowledged by the examiners as the new standard authority on the subject, and copies are lodged in universities around Australia.

Colonel Howard has been honoured for his commitment in many ways some of which are listed below: -

- Honorary Colonel of 10th Light Horse in 1981;
- Patron of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps, WA;
- Patron of the 16th Cameron Highlanders of WA Assoc ;
- Patron of the WA Military Historical Society; and
- Prime Minister's Centenary Medal in 2004.

He was an active member of Highgate Sub Branch of the RSL and a Sub Warden of the State War Memorial in King's Park.

With wife Joan, his boyhood sweetheart whom he married in 1947, they enjoyed residential holidays in Mediterranean Europe and the Middle East, as well as visiting their adult children in various parts of the world.

Colonel Howard passed away in January 2010 at 89 years of age and was succeeded by his widow, Joan.

**MAJOR GEORGE HOWELL, RFD, ED, (RET'D)
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
1985 TO 1991**

George Howell was born in Singapore in the early 1930's. His father was a Colour Sergeant who fought at the Siege of Ladysmith and later became Superintendent of the Singapore Prisons Dept after retiring from the British Army. He later re-enlisted for service in WWII.

George was educated in Dorchester Secondary School, near Portsmouth, England where he excelled in sports of soccer and cricket as well as digging slit trenches and air raid shelters during the "Blitz" after houses across the road were destroyed with 6 people killed.

George migrated to Australia in 1947 via Singapore and secured an apprenticeship as a spray painter with Winterbottoms in Perth.

Called up for the first intake of National Service in 1951 and allocated to Royal Australian Engineers with 13th Field Engineer Squadron.

He married Lesley in 1955 while working as a truck driver for Foy and Gibson's in Perth and they subsequently have three sons and a daughter. By 1963 he had been promoted through the ranks to Warrant Officer Class II and was now commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant.

Field Squadron projects included building the Demolition Bunker at Bindoon Training Area and developing airstrips around the Trg area.

Promoted to Captain in 1968, he was then posted as OC 36 Water Transport Squadron RAE and responsible for the dumping at sea of tons of old explosives and ammunition.

Now as WA manager of Nelson and Co, Primus and hardware, he supervised the building of their new office and store in East Perth. In 1972 he did a tour of overseas suppliers in Japan, Germany, Sweden and England. Another building project for the company in 1974 saw a new office and store in Victoria Park.

Promoted to National Sales Manager the family moved to Sydney in 1986. The company was sold in 1987 and he was paid out and the family moved back to WA in 1988 and purchased Griffin Caterers, specialising in Corporate Lunches and Special Events with mobile kitchens and catering with son Tony as General Manager.

He opened a restaurant in East Perth overlooking Gloucester Park with full Restaurant and Bar for weddings and Special Events, finally disbanding the company and retiring in 1992.

Many interesting projects like mapping the location of wells in the Lancelin and Bindoon training Areas, courses and camps at the School of Military Engineering at Liverpool, NSW prepared him for his promotion course at Training Group and subsequent promotion to Major in 1978 and command of 13 Field Squadron.

George retired from the army in 1980 after a short time on the Command Headquarters doing special projects such as Surveys on accommodation and other projects required by AHQ.

He still has vivid memories of growing up in Britain during the War Years and seeing the Dunkirk survivors returning, the smoke machines turning the sky black and the barrage balloons in the fields, gas mask drills in school and collecting the shrapnel in the mornings after air raids.

Honoured in 1983 by appointment as Colonel Commandant Royal Australian Engineers for six years and in this capacity he officiated at the Disbandment Parade of 22 Construction Squadron the same year.

Now in Civilian life he works to aid Army Recruiting and Save the Children Fund and is the Patron of the National Servicemen's Association, WA Branch.

He now lives in active retirement with wife Lesley in the Perth suburb of Scarborough.

**BRIGADIER B. HUSSEY
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
WESTERN COMMAND
1967 TO 1972**

BRIGADIER WILLIAM DRAYTON JAMIESON
HONORARY COLONEL
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY REGIMENT
1989 TO 1992

Bill Jamieson is a Victorian and after leaving school at age 17 in 1940, enlisted in the CMF 32nd Battalion, City of Footscray Regiment and was soon promoted to Section Commander of men nearly twice his age. They were very loyal and off duty they had lots of good times together. Looking back he cherishes those experiences which stood him in good stead before entering RMC Duntroon in 1942 and graduating in 1943.

Normal courses in Jungle Training, Small Arms and Infantry Tactics prepared him for joining the 2/6 Infantry of the 6th Division as a Rifle Platoon Commander which was then training for their second tour in New Guinea.

In December 1944 the 17th Brigade sailed from Cairns for Aitape and was allocated the Inland sector — the Torrecelli Mountain Ranges --- in the drive to capture Wewak. It was a Platoon Commander's war operating in remote localities, usually in thick jungle ideal for ambushes, raids and fighting patrols. *"We accounted for many of the enemy and regrettably some of our own men also paid the price"*. He grew up very quickly.

Returning to Melbourne when the war ended he was posted to the Directorate of Military Intelligence, at Army HQ as Intelligence Officer, the Director was Colonel Charles Spry, an outstanding leader, who later became Chief of ASIO. A move to Adelaide as GSO 3, Intelligence on HQ 4 MD preceded a posting to the CMF 27th Infantry Battalion, South Australian Scottish, a requirement before an officer could attend the Staff College and in 1950 he was selected to attend the Staff College in Wellington, India. This was a great experience for Norma and himself.

Returning to Australia as a Staff Captain on HQ Northern Command before joining 1 RAR as a Company Commander when the Battalion sailed for Korea and a 12 month Tour of Operations in 1954. Postings to HQ Tasmania Command, Army HQ and RMC Duntroon in administration staff appointments came before moving to Australian Staff College, Queenscliffe, as an instructor to gain experience before being posted to the British Staff College Camberley, in Surrey as an instructor in 1961.

On return to Australia in 1965 he was responsible for raising the 2nd Recruit Training Battalion at Puckapunyal, with a staff of over 300, training 1500 National Servicemen in each intake, four intakes a year for 2 years.

A return to Canberra prior to a posting to Bangkok on SEATO HQ in the Planning Office as Senior Australian Defence Officer and other moves between Canberra and Saigon on HQ AFV as Chief of Staff preceded his promotion to Brigadier.

His appointment as Commander Western Command in 1972 was the eighteenth family move during his army career and they enjoyed the friendly lifestyle and the prominent place the Army held in the Western Australian community. He reflects that it is not the same today, unfortunately.

On his retirement they decided to settle in Perth where their two grown up children live nearby and he became a Director with six Public companies including Boans Ltd.

During this time he was invited by the King of Thailand to establish a Consulate-General in Western Australia, a post he held for 32 years.

Notable among his many honours are:

- Consul General for Thailand in WA since 1978 (Now retired);
- Honorary Colonel WA University Regiment 1989-92;
- Kt Comd Order of White Elephant, Thailand 2004;
- Kt Comd Order Crown of Thailand, 1997;
- Founder, Army Museum of Western Australia 1977;
- Chair, Save the Children Fund WA 1988-94; and
- Awarded Centenary Medal 2003.

Marriage to wife Norma for 65 years is considered the highlight of his life and he acknowledges the difficulties that confront all Army Wives but Norma excelled where some found it too hard.

They live in the Perth suburb of Nedlands and enjoy golf, fishing and gardening as recreation activities.

**HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL JEFFERY, AC, CVO, MC**

**HONORARY COLONEL SPECIAL AIR SERVICE REGIMENT
1994 TO 2013**

**HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
1995 TO 2003**

Michael Jeffery was born in Wiluna Western Australia and is a graduate of the Royal Military College Duntroon, the British Army Staff College, the Australian Joint Services Staff College and the Royal College of Defence Studies, London.

He is an Honorary Doctor of Technology, an Honorary Life Member of the Returned and Services League and a Paul Harris Fellow for Rotary.

As an Infantry and Special Forces Officer he served operationally in Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam where he was awarded the Military Cross and the South Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. He had two tours of duty in Papua New Guinea.

He was privileged to command Special Air Service Regiment, the 2nd Battalion of the Pacific Islands Regiment, the 1st Mechanised and Airborne Brigade in Sydney and the 1st Division in Brisbane.

Appointed Governor of Western Australia in 1993 for 6 years, he and his wife Marlena involved themselves in Youth movements and other projects to improve many social areas for the communities. They oversaw the refurbishment of Government House in Perth to heritage standards.

He became a Companion of the Order of Australia, a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order and jointly with Marlena, a Citizen of Western Australia for services to the State.

On retirement as Governor of Western Australia in 2000, he established in Perth, Future Directions International (Formerly known as The Centre for International Strategic Analysis), a not for profit organisation with the primary aim of conducting integrated analysis of important issues facing Australia.

Michael Jeffery was appointed a Governor General of Australia and was outstanding in that prestigious position.

He and Marlena have four children and four grandchildren. They enjoy classical music; fishing and golf and reside in Canberra.

He remains the Honorary Colonel of the Special Air Service Regiment.

**COLONEL KENNETH T. JOHNSON, MBE, ED.
HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
6TH DECEMBER 1974 TO 5TH DECEMBER 1979**

KT Johnson as he was well known, was born in West Leederville and educated at the local primary school, Perth Boys High, Perth Technical College night school, studying Commercial Law and Accounts, before joining the firm of Cook's Travel Service in 1936 for 2 years. He joined City Mutual Life Assurance Society Ltd as a junior clerk in 1938.

At age 16 he applied to join the RANR but was under age for enlistment. Finding that no birth certificate was required to join the army, he assumed a new birth date and joined 16th Battalion after it was unlinked from 11th/16th City of Perth Regiment. Serving with A Company as Private and Corporal and member of the Bn Basketball and Rugby Union teams until the 3rd of November 1939, when he enlisted with the 2/11th Australian Infantry Battalion, of the Second AIF.

He was a Private for 3 days, a Corporal for 7, then Staff Sgt, CQMS, until March 1940 when appointment to Lieutenant occurred after attending the first Infantry AIF OCTU at Liverpool with some 70 plus Cadets from 17th and 18th Brigades of the 6th Australian Division.

After re-joining 2/11th Battalion, then at Ingleburn, the unit returned to WA by ship and three trains, given pre-embarkation leave and billeted at the Claremont Showground. The unit embarked at Fremantle for overseas service on the 20th April 1940, arriving in Palestine (Israel) in May.

Service with his Battalion on operations in the Western Desert Campaign in Libya-Bardia, Tobruk, Derna and the area South of Benghazi, until the 2/11th, as part of the 6th Division, embarked for the Campaign in Greece in April 1941. Disembarking at Piraeus, as the new Mortar Platoon Commander, he lobbied strongly to return to C Company to replace a newly posted Platoon Commander, in hospital after advance party duties. The CO approved.

Further changes occurred, when the Battalion was swapped between 17th and 19th Brigades, the CO medically evacuated and Lt. Johnson acted as Company 2IC, as well as his job of Platoon Commander, when the Company OC was catapulted into the job as Bn 2IC.

The confusing situation of the campaign and the casualties from the bombing and strafing made rapid promotions necessary. The defensive positions in Northern Greece were not able to be held and the withdrawal to Brallos Pass and Megara, preceded the evacuation to Suda Bay, Crete.

After the gallant defence of the Retimo Airfield against German airborne assault over a period of ten days, and severely wounded by aircraft strafing, he was evacuated to

the 2/7th Field Ambulance before the defenders were forced to capitulate on 30th May 1941. Medical evacuation by the Germans through Retimo to several hospitals in Athens over the next several weeks, until relocation to Salonika via the hold of an Italian freighter and finally a cattle truck journey by rail to Stalag 8b, Lamsdorf on the German/Polish border. Thus began four years as a POW and many moves around Germany, until his liberation by the US 3rd Army commanded by General George Patton, in April 1945.

Repatriation over the next months, through France and UK, then by the TS *Mauretania* with 5000 Ex POW's, through Panama, Honolulu, Wellington and Sydney, finally arriving at Fremantle on the 27th August 1945, for leave and discharge on the 4th of October. (*The details of those four years and the journey home would make interesting reading and should be recorded*).

Rejoining the City Mutual Life Assurance Society, Ltd in his civilian capacity, he was to rise to the position of Administration Manager, WA, at the time of his retirement in January 1983.

Re-enlisting as a Lieutenant in the CMF in 1948 with 16/28th Cameron Highlanders of WA, he served at depots in Perth, Fremantle and Victoria Park, over the next 5 years, before a spell on the Reserve of Officers for 12 months.

Re-enlisting with 28th Bn the Swan Regiment, he was posted as 2IC of Support Company and subsequently OC, until the unit was amalgamated with the other 2 Infantry Battalions to form the new State Regiment in 1960, and was made a Member of the British Empire in 1960 while posted to 1 RWAR.

Now a Major with the Royal Western Australia Regiment, and OC Support Company, he was Senior Major at the Presentation of Colours Ceremony in November 1962. Posting to the Command and Staff Training Unit as a student and later an instructor, he qualified for Lt. Col. at LWC, Canungra before being posted to 2 RWAR as Second-in-Command.

Appointed to command the newly raised 28 RWAR in 1966, Lt. Col. Johnson was instrumental in establishing the unit for those National Servicemen who could not comply with their obligations of normal part-time service. This included those in the country, shift workers, police and those whose jobs required them to move on a regular basis.

Retiring as a Colonel in 1972, he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Australian Army Cadet Corps in 1974

In civilian life Ken has been involved with the WA Police and Citizen Youth Clubs Federation Council for 16 years and Perth Legacy for 10 Years. Fiercely proud of his 2/11 Battalion, he has served as Association President as well as co-coordinator of the second edition of the Battalion's wartime history which was published in 2000 and records the wartime history in 2 books on the subject.

Ken was married to wife Nancy who is also a WWII veteran as an AAWMS with service in Buna, PNG. Together they raised 3 sons and one daughter and have 9 grandchildren. Colonel Johnson passed away on Easter Saturday 2007.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN W. JONES, RL
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
WESTERN COMMAND
19TH DECEMBER 1967 TO 28TH FEBRUARY 1974**

THEN, WITH THE CHANGE OF NAME OF THE COMMAND

**COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
1ST MARCH 1974 TO 4TH OCTOBER 1976**

**JUSTICE GEOFFREY ALEXANDER KENNEDY, AO, BA,
LLB W AUST, BCL OXON
HONORARY COLONEL
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY REGIMENT
WESTERN REGION
C 2002**

The Honourable Justice Geoffrey Kennedy was born on 6th September 1931 in Cottesloe. After completing his secondary education at Scotch College, Justice Kennedy went on to study at the University of Western Australia, completing his studies in 1953 by obtaining a Bachelor of Laws degree (First Class). He also completed a Bachelor of Arts part time, majoring in economics with a particular interest in history and won a full blue for hockey.

The judge commenced articles in 1954 with what was then Robinson Cox and Co before leaving to further his studies in the following year. As the 1955 Rhodes Scholar for Western Australia he spent two years at Wadham College in Oxford completing a Bachelor of Civil Law (First Class).

When he returned from England, he completed his articles and was admitted as a barrister and solicitor in December 1957, becoming a partner of Robinson Cox and Co in July 1958 and remained in practice with that firm until December 1975, practicing in the commercial litigation section with a particular emphasis on local government work, taxation and equity.

The Judge joined the Independent bar on 1st January 1976 and became a Queen's Counsel in the following year. While practicing as a barrister, he continued to specialise in commercial work, with equity and taxation his major areas of practice, leaving the Bar in December 1980 he enjoyed a brief stay in England before moving to the Supreme Court in February 1981 at the age of 49 years.

Prior to that appointment he had sat on occasion on the Town Planning Appeal Tribunal and undertook a number of arbitrations, having a total of 23 years in practice before becoming a Judge.

He served as Chairman of the Royal Commission into the Commercial Activities of Government (the WA Inc Royal Commission) in December 1990, returning to the Supreme Court at the beginning of 1993.

He enjoyed adjudicating cases which were challenging and well-presented and admitted that life on the bench is demanding and unremitting as there is no limit to the amount of work that can go into judgements. He enjoyed his role as a Royal Commissioner, in particular working as part of a strong legal team as he felt that the position made an interesting change from his regular duties. In retrospect, he felt that there was insufficient opportunity due to constraints to consult publicly and to develop recommendations for reform.

Justice Kennedy held the positions of: -

- Board member Princess Margaret Hospital from 1970 to 1988;
- Chairman of Scotch College from 1974 to 1983;
- Chairman of the Legislative Review and Advisors Committee from 1978 to 1981;
- Chairman of the National Council of Independent Schools from 1979 to 1981;
- Pro - Chancellor of the University of Western Australia from 1981 to 1988;
- Chairman of Trustees of the Western Australian Museum from 1984 to 1991; and
- Chancellor of the University of Western Australia from 1990.

He was made an Officer in the Order of Australia in 1994 for services to education and the law.

Justice Kennedy passed away on 16th July 2012.

**MAJOR ALAN JOSEPH KING, AM, MID, BS, MBBS
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
WESTERN COMMAND
14TH JANUARY 1970 TO 13TH JANUARY 1974**

Alan King was born in Ascot Vale, Vic, on 26th June 1911 and was a Medical Doctor after having studied at Melbourne University. While studying there, he was Captain of the hockey team which won a silver cup in Adelaide and was a member of the Victorian hockey team that played against India.

In 1937, while a Flying Doctor, he left Wyndham to answer a call at Victoria River Downs Station but the aircraft did not arrive at the Station which prompted a search for the aircraft, pilot and Dr King. After frantic searching for some days, they made their own way back and it turned out that they had landed safely elsewhere but could not take off again from the position.

When World War 2 broke out, Alan was studying in Scotland for further medical degrees, but he postponed the examinations and returned to Australia through America. After spending a few weeks with his parents in Melbourne, he came to Perth to enlist.

Captain King went overseas as a member of the 2/7th Field Ambulance and had the misfortune to become a Prisoner of War during the abortive Greek / Crete campaign. During his incarceration Doctor King's interest in the treatment of chest/lung ailments was increased.

Before word of his whereabouts were known, other than that he was posted as "missing in action", his father was presented, on behalf of his son, with the Membership of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem (surprisingly there are no post nominals for this award) by the Victorian Governor Sir Winston Dugan. Captain King's wife, Margaret, was doing wartime related work at Swan Barracks in Perth at that time and she felt confident that her husband was safe.

In 1945, Captain King was Mentioned in Despatches for gallant and distinguished service whilst a POW.

Doctor King was awarded the AM for his services to Medicine.

After repatriation, he again took up his profession in the Medical world and he passed away on 18th December 2011. It is considered fitting to quote from part of the eulogy:

"..Loving husband of Margaret (Dec'd) and father of Patricia; Mary; Sue; Thomas; Angus and Alan, he passed peacefully away at Annesley House, Rowethorpe at the time of his choosing after a well lived century and a lifetime of great achievements. A stoic gentleman who lived his life with a sense of duty and sincere dedication to his family, friends and community. Lest we forget."

**BRIGADIER RICHARD ANTHONY LAWLER
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
WESTERN REGION
1ST JUNE 2001 TO 30TH JUNE 2007**

**HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
WESTERN DISTRICT
DATES NOT DETERMINED, BUT CONSIDERED PROBABLY C 2004**

Brigadier Richard (Dick) Lawler was educated at Katanning Senior High School and Aquinas College, Perth. He entered the Army as an Officer Cadet at the Officer Cadet School, Portsea and was allocated to the Royal Australian Artillery on graduation in June 1966.

After Corps training, 2nd Lieutenant Lawler was posted to 4th Field Regiment and served with that unit on active service in South Vietnam as Forward Observation Officer supporting Rifle Companies of the 7th and 2nd Battalions, The Royal Australian Regiment.

This was followed by postings to the 28th Commonwealth Brigade, Far East Land Force at Terendak Garrison, Malaysia, as a gun position officer with 14th Light Regiment, Royal Artillery. He was promoted to Lieutenant during this time. After the withdrawal of the British forces from the Far East in 1969 he was posted to 108th Field Battery (Independent) at Selarang Garrison, Singapore.

On return to Australia in September 1970 he was promoted to Captain and posted to the 2nd Recruit Training Battalion at Puckapunyal as a Training Company Second-In-Command. This was followed by a posting to Headquarters Puckapunyal Area as a Staff Captain (Accommodation and Works).

In 1972 he returned to Regimental duty with 4th Field Regiment serving as Adjutant and Battery Commander. On promotion to Major in January 1977 he was posted as the Training Officer of 23rd Field Regiment. This was followed by an exchange posting as an instructor at the UK Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill from October 1977 to November 1979.

He attended the Australian Staff College in 1980. Following this Major Lawler was posted to Headquarters Training Command in January 1981 and served as a Staff Officer Grade 2 in Doctrine Branch. His main responsibility was managing the production of publications in the Manual of Land Warfare Part Two for the Armoured, Artillery, Engineers and Aviation Corps.

On 12 May 1984 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and posted as Staff Officer Grade One (Operations) on the Divisional Artillery Headquarters Staff at Headquarters 1st Division, Enoggera.

His final appointment in the Australian Regular Army was as the Project Director of the AUSTACCS Test bed in Enoggera for phase two of that project throughout 1986 and 1987.

On 21 December 1987 he transferred to the Australian Army Reserve and was posted to the Reserve Command and Staff College, initially as a tactics instructor in 1988/89, then as Chief Instructor from 1990 to 1994. On 5 April 1994 he was promoted to Colonel and appointed as Director Army Personnel Agency, Perth. He was then appointed Commander 5th Training Group on 29 April 1996.

On 10 January 1998 he was promoted to Brigadier and assumed the appointment of Commander 13th Brigade until December 2000. He was appointed as the Colonel Commandant, Royal Australian Artillery, Western Region with effect 1 June 2001.

Brigadier Lawler is married and he and his wife Jude have three adult sons.

**COLONEL LELSIE ERNEST LE SOUEF, OBE, ED, MID, FRCS,
FRACS
INAUGURAL HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
WESTERN COMMAND
1957 TO 1963**

Leslie Ernest (Ernest) Le Souef was born on 28th January 1900, the son of Ernest Albert and Ellen Grace (nee Hagenauer) Le Souef and educated at Perth Modern School, University of Western Australia and Melbourne University (Trinity College), graduating in Medicine in 1922. He was a distinguished surgeon in both peace and war and a supporter of rowing.

His father was invited by John Winthrop Hackett to assist in establishing the Perth Zoological gardens in 1897 and he was a Director of the Zoo until 1912, which saw the family living on the Zoo premises.

In 1921 Ernest earned an athletics blue for hammer throw and his record breaking shot putt at the Brisbane Intervarsity championships. He did not row for his College, but was in a winning Elliott Fours crew.

After school Cadets in Perth, he was active in the Melbourne University Rifles and then his medical and military interests came together when he joined the Australian Army Medical Corps (the title "Royal" was not granted until 1948).

Having completed his MD in Melbourne, he studied in England for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons then began surgical practice in Perth in 1929. In 1931 he was admitted to Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of Surgeons.

During the inter war years, he was promoted to Major and in 1938 to Lieutenant Colonel in the 13th Field Ambulance (Militia).

When war was declared in 1939, he was the part time Principal Veterinary Officer for the WA Citizen Forces. After helping to obtain suitable mounts for the Light Horse, he was requested to form and train the 2/7th Field Ambulance, so as WX 3326 Ernest enlisted in the Second AIF on 29th May 1940 in Perth. He took his Unit to war in the Middle East – Libya and North Africa then to the abortive Greek and Crete campaigns where he was taken as a Prisoner of War on 1st June 1941. He was awarded a Mentioned in Despatches during the campaign against the Italians in the Western Desert and awarded an OBE for his services against the Germans in Greece and Crete. He was an unwilling POW, but as he had been ordered to surrender his Unit he had no choice. However, he decided to remain with his Unit rather than attempting to escape. While he was waiting for the inevitable, he pursued his duties in a makeshift hospital in the tiny village of Komitades.

Perhaps his most meritorious work was as a Senior Medical Officer in POW camps, for which he was twice decorated with medals of honour by the French : -

- Medaille d' Honneur du Service de Sante Militaire; and
- Medaille de la Reconnaissance Francaise.

He later wrote a book on his wartime experiences "*To War Without a Gun.*"

In his profession, Ernest showed his strong public spirit through his services to: -

- The Princess Margaret Hospital;
- The British Medical Association, of which he became Secretary of the W A Branch in 1930 and President in 1940 and 1946;
- The Royal Perth Hospital;
- The University of W A being a member of the Senate from 1936 to 1977 (Excluding the war years), and from 1965 to 1968 he was also Warden of Convocation. In recognition of his services to the University and the community he was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws in 1977;
- Patron of the W A Rowing Association;
- Established the plastic and burns units at Royal Perth Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital in 1948;
- Instrumental in establishing the W A Medical School; and
- Co-founder of the Anti-Cancer Council.

In 1950 he commenced development of his farming property "*Glenelle*" in Margaret River, continuing there until March 1967 when he retired to Perth.

Ernest Le Souef passed away in 1996.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID LEWIS, AM, (RET'D)
REGIMENTAL COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
2004 TO NOT DETERMINED**

David Lewis was born in country Victoria and grew up in a variety of towns due to his father's business as a building contractor.

His Education was through correspondence due to the isolation with higher studies being undertaken through Charles Stuart University. Post school, David worked briefly with the PMG service (now Australia Post), then on a large sheep/cattle station with his parents.

He joined the ADF in 1965 as a National Serviceman and was selected for the Special Air Service Regiment in 1966 where he remained until 1976, having seen operational service in South Vietnam in 1969/70.

He was commissioned in 1976 and has served in a variety of command and staff appointments including, Instructor at Royal Military College, Squadron Commander SASR, for four years and Grade 1 Staff appointments in Operations and Personnel. Overseas service with the United Nations in the Middle East, Israel, Syria, and Beirut with the final phase with the US Special Operations Command and ending as SO1 Operations at Leeuwin Barracks in Perth.

He is married to Cathy and they have two children and one grandchild.

Since leaving the Army David is a consultant and is currently National Chairman of the SAS Association.

Actively supporting the Veteran community as a member of the RSL and Legacy having served on the Executive body, Vietnam Veterans Federation and Peacekeepers, he is also a Trustee of the SAS Resources Trust.

He has played most sports and has a preference for Rugby League, squash, horse riding and Triathlons.

They reside in their own home in the Perth suburb of Hamersley.

**BRIGADIER RUSSELL DAVID FERRERS LLOYD, OBE, MC
HONORARY COLONEL
SPECIAL AIR SERVICE REGIMENT
7TH MARCH 1985 TO 6TH MARCH 1991**

**HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
16TH MARCH 1991 TO 15TH MARCH 1993**

Russell David Ferrers Lloyd was born in West Perth in 1930, the youngest of three to farmer and Brigadier John Lloyd who had twice won the Military Cross on the Western Front in WWI and, in WWII, was awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

As a child Russell played around the river and in Kings Park near the family home and after being educated at Hale School (then in Havelock Street) went to RMC, Duntroon. In July 1955 he wed Stephanie Stokes and they had four sons as his career saw his family move home about every two to three years.

After completing four years at the Royal Military College he and most of his classmates were sent to Korea as platoon commanders of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. Conditions on the peninsula in the winter of 1952-53 were miserable and he and his men were ill-equipped for snow. He gratefully relied on the battle-hardened subordinates with experience from WWII.

At the time, China's intervention in the Korean War would help secure a stalemate which was to last over fifty years. On the night of January 6-7, Lt. Lloyd led his platoon on a fighting patrol to set an ambush, their progress impeded by heavy snowfalls and the glare of a full moon. Unfortunately the Chinese surprised them, wounding several men. Despite his own two head wounds from grenade shrapnel, Lt. Lloyd fought on and led the patrol to safety under heavy fire but without loss of life. For this he was awarded the Military Cross. He later blamed searing headaches on remnants of Chinese shrapnel in his head.

His career advanced steadily and in 1969/70 he commanded the Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam, a specialist unit with the task of helping South Vietnamese forces in the war. Four of the Team were to win the Victoria Cross in Vietnam, two while he was in command. For his leadership, Lt Col Lloyd was made an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) forming a remarkable number of accolades between himself and his father.

Russell Lloyd served twice in Papua New Guinea before independence. Firstly as Second-in-Command of the 1st Battalion, Pacific Islands Regiment, in Port Moresby and then as Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion in Wewak, and during one tour in PNG he played hockey for PNG in a game against Queensland.

Postings in Canberra included instructor at Duntroon. Elsewhere he was a Colonel and Defence Attaché in the Philippines capital at the time of the Marcos regime. Later as a Brigadier, he was Commander Western Command and consecutively

Honorary Colonel of the SAS Regiment and the Royal Western Australia Regiment after his retirement from the Army.

His civilian career in the mid 1980's began as a tribunal member of the Veterans Review Board, working in the interests of Australian War Veterans and later on the Administrative Appeals Tribunal where he helped adjudicate on citizen's complaints about decisions made by government agencies. In later years he suffered from chronic severe pain which did not respond to pain killers.

He served until he was 77 years of age and passed away in 2012 at age 82 - he is survived by his wife Stephanie and four sons.

**BRIGADIER LEONARD CUTHBERT LUCAS, DSO, OBE, MC,
(MID X 2), VD
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
WESTERN COMMAND
7TH MARCH 1955 TO 6TH MARCH 1962**

Leonard Lucas was born in Townsville, Queensland, on 6th November 1894 and little has been located regarding his civilian activities, other than that he was a journalist in 1915 and an architect in 1919, then in 1954 he was employed as the Director of the Commonwealth Department of Works in Perth. He served in World War I and World War II and was decorated in both conflicts.

On 1st July 1912, he was attested into the Kennedy Regiment, promoted to Corporal, then to Sergeant in 1913 then appointed Second Lieutenant (Probationary) on 24th September 1913. He embarked for the Thursday Islands on 9th August 1914 and was appointed Acting Adjutant, Kennedy Regiment, Thursday Islands in November 1914.

He enlisted into the AIF at Liverpool, NSW, on 10th March 1915 with the Regimental Number of 25 and on enlistment he was described as being single, 5 feet 7¾ inches tall with fair complexion, grey eyes and brown hair. He was posted to 18th Infantry Battalion of the 5th Brigade as a Signaller on 21st June 1915, promoted to Sergeant on 25th June 1915 and embarked on the *Ceramic* on the same day.

On 22nd August 1915, he was wounded in action at Gallipoli with a gunshot wound to the left arm and went by ship to the 3rd Australian General Hospital, Base Details, Mudros, returning to duty at Gallipoli on 28th September 1915.

He was treated for jaundice at 5th Field Ambulance on 13th October 1915, sent to Floriana Hospital, Malta on 24th October 1915, to All Saints Camp, Malta on 12th November 1915 then to Egypt on 2nd December 1915, disembarking at Alexandria on 6th December 1915, reporting for duty with 18th Infantry Battalion on 10th January 1916.

He was appointed Second Lieutenant (Probationary) on 24th February 1916, embarked at Alexandria on 18th March 1916 and disembarked at Marseilles on 25th March 1916, appointed Temporary Lieutenant in France on 16th June 1916.

T/Lt Lucas transferred to the 2nd Division Signal Company on 13th February 1917 and was appointed Lieutenant on the same day. He was seconded for duty with the 1st ANZAC Corps School on 25th June 1917 and resumed Regimental duties on 30th June 1917.

He was awarded a Mentioned in Despatches on 4th October 1917 and then on 9th November 1917 was awarded the Military Cross.

On 16th October 1917 he had leave in England, re-joining 2nd Division Signal Company on 27th October 1917 then was wounded in action in Belgium with shell wounds to the left leg and feet on 5th November 1917, to 3rd Field Ambulance for treatment then to 10th Casualty Clearing Station on 6th November 1917, to 3rd London General Hospital on 10th November 1917 then to Sutton Veney on 13th February 1918.

Lt Lucas was deemed fit for General Service on 16th March 1918, left for France on 1st April 1918 and re-joined 2nd Division Signal Company on 11th April 1918 to then be attached for duty with 2nd Machine Gun Battalion on 18th April 1918, ceasing attachment on 28th May 1918. He was promoted to Captain on 14th June 1918, appointed to 1st Infantry Regiment as Signals Officer on 1st October 1918, and then went on leave to London from 14th October 1918 to 29th October 1918 before returning to France.

On 20th March 1919, he returned to England and on 28th March 1919, in Glasgow, he married Miss Wilhelmina Shields. He was granted non-military leave to study architecture with Bridgman and Bridgman, Architects and Surveyors in Torquay on 16th April 1919, and this leave was cancelled on 21st July 1919. He returned to the Depot on 22nd July 1919, had leave from 30th August 1919 to 27th September 1919 then on 30th October 1919 returned to Australia on the *Wahine*. His appointment was terminated on 14th March 1920.

In 1920 he was the Signalling Officer, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment then posted to 8 Double(?) Field Company, AMF on 31st March 1921, promoted to Captain, Australian Engineers, on 1st July 1924. He was appointed Adjutant and QM, 1st Division Engineers from 22nd November 1926 to 30th June 1927, promoted to Major 1st Division Engineers on 13th March 1930.

On 1st June 1933, he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel and to command 1st Division Engineers then on 1st August 1939 was transferred to the unattached list. On 15th August 1939 he was appointed Deputy Assistant QM General, 7th Military District (Northern Territory), then on 4th September 1939 to Full Time Duty, Darwin, Royal Australian Engineers (Militia) and then seconded to the AIF, Royal Australian Engineers (Field) on 4th April 1940 after being attested for the AIF with Regimental Number of DX200, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on 2nd April 1940 and posted to command RAE 6th Division on 4th April 1940. At the time of his attestation he was described as being 5 feet 11 inches tall with grey eyes, fair complexion, grey hair and with bullet scars to his left chest and shoulder, left buttocks and thigh, left leg and right foot.

Lt Col Lucas embarked on 15th April 1940, disembarked at Port Said on 18th May 1940, embarked for Greece on 1st April 1941. He was awarded a MID for the period December 1940 to February 1941 for his services in the Middle East. In February 1941 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for highly skilled and meritorious service in the Cyrenaica campaign.

His next move was to embark for the Middle East on 12th March 1942, disembarking in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) on 27th March 1942, on 6th April 1942 he relinquished command of RAE 6th Division and was appointed Temporary Brigadier and Chief Engineer 6th Division.

He embarked in Ceylon on 27th May 1942, disembarked in Alexandria on 27th May 1942 and on 5th June 1942 he transferred from 2nd Australian Army and was posted to Land Headquarters G Branch Staff as Deputy Engineer in Chief.

On 9th June 1942, he was appointed to duty Line of Communication, HQ, Port Moresby, returning to LHQ on 8th August 1942, and then on 1st September 1942 was promoted to Colonel and to retain the rank of Temporary Brigadier.

Then followed detachments for duty: -

- Advanced echelon from 24th December 1943 to 28th March 1943;
- LHQ from 30th March 1943 to 5th April 1943;
- LHQ from 28th February 1944 to 4th March 1944; and
- LHQ from 5th August 1944 to 18th October 1944.

Then: -

- To Advanced LHQ from forward echelon , 12th December 1944;
- To special duties Lae from 14th February 1945 to 25th February 1945;
- Visits to Hollandia and Morotai 17th March 1945 to 24th March 1945; and
- Appointed Chief Engineer, HQ 2nd Australian Army and to command 1st RAE Training Centre, 18th May 1945

He relinquished these appointments on 8th November 1945 when he was transferred to the Regimental Supernumerary List (Retirement) on 8th November 1945 and his duty terminated on 17th December 1945. He was then transferred to the Reserve of Officers with the rank of Colonel and Honorary Brigadier on 18th December 1945.

On 17th January 1946 he was appointed as ADC to the Governor General, relinquishing this appointment on 9th January 1947.

Brigadier Lucas was awarded the King George V Jubilee Medal, 1935; the OBE (Civil) on 1st January 1954 and then appointed as the inaugural Colonel Commandant, RAE, Western Command on 7th March 1955.

For his long and distinguished service to Australia, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order; Officer of the British Empire (Civil); Military Cross; Mentioned in Despatches (Twice); 1914/15 Star; British War Medal; Victory Medal; 1939/45 Star; Africa Star; Pacific Star; Defence Medal; War Medal; Australia Service Medal; King George V Jubilee Medal 1935 and the Voluntary Decoration (later the Efficiency Decoration).

**MAJOR MARK MACKENZIE
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS
WESTERN DISTRICT
2004 TO 2007**

Mark was born in Perth and now lives in Canning Vale with his wife and two sons. He fills in his spare time with helping coach his sons' soccer team, President of the Brooklands Greens Residents' association and some tutoring.

Mark's military service, in reverse order, is: -

2001 – SO2 RAM, Land Engineering Agency
2000 – Exchange Analyst, Us Army Evaluation Centre
1997 to 1998 – OC 10 Terminal Regiment Workshop
1995 to 1996 – SO3 Marine, Maintenance Engineering Agency
1991 to 1995 - OC 4 SHOP, Bandiana Logistic Group
1989 to 1990 – 2IC Vehicle Wing, RAEME Training Centre
19 88 to 1989 – Staff Cadet – Royal Military College, Duntroon
1987 to 1988 - Long Term Student, 1 Training Group
1986 to 1987 – Acting Troop Sergeant, 7 Field Squadron
1985 to 1987 – Well Drilling Section Corporal, 22 Construction Squadron
1983 to 1985 – Well Drilling Section Corporal, DCP Vanuatu
1980 to 1983 – Well Drilling Section Corporal, 22 Construction Squadron
1979 to 1980 – Trainee, School of Military Engineering
1979 – Recruit 1 Recruit Training Battalion

QUALIFICATIONS

- Master of Science in Reliability and Quality Engineering, University of Arizona;
- Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) (Hons), University of Southern Queensland; and
- Associate Diploma in Personnel Administration, Royal Military College.

CURRENT POSITION

Reliability, Availability and Maintainability Engineer – Raytheon

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

- CPEng
- Member IEAust

AWARDS

- US Meritorious Service Medal
- Land Commander's Commendation

KEY SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Mark has over 24 years of military experience where he has focused on maintenance and logistic support. He is a highly qualified engineer with a mechanical engineering background.

He has specialist training and experience in reliability and logistic engineering. Mark is the Obsolescence Team Leader and has recently set up reliability monitoring processes and simulation modelling to conduct supportability analysis of the COLLINS Class combat system. He has written a new Supply Chain Management process too for repairable items on the COLLINS Combat System.

He has run the Australian Army's centre of Excellence for reliability engineering where he conducted reliability training and provided reliability input for major Army projects. He spent a year with the US Army as an exchange analyst where he received a US Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding work and contributions. Mark has managed marine and armoured workshops where he was responsible for the operational availability of Unit equipment.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL W. R. MAWSON, RFD, ED, RL
INAUGURAL REGIMENTAL COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
1979 TO 1985**

Lt Col Ray Mawson was born in North Fremantle and educated at Rosalie State School and Perth Boys School before beginning his accountancy career. He enlisted as a private soldier with 5 Pay Corps in 1957, was promoted to Sergeant in 1958 and qualified for first appointment in 1959. Promotion to commission and transfer to Infantry were delayed due to impending changes to the new State Infantry system, until 1961 and his subsequent posting as a PI Comd with A Coy 1 RWAR, when he completed his Change of Corps examinations and regimental postings preceded his promotion to Captain and GSO3 on HQ 1 RWAR Battle Group in 1964.

Dramatic changes took place in 1965, with the formation of 2 Task Force and the dividing of RWAR in two, making 1 RWAR and 2 RWAR. These were later changed in 1966 to 11 RWAR and 16 RWAR when the traditional Battalion numerals were re-introduced and now Captain Mawson was Mortar PI Comd 16 RWAR.

Visiting 1 and 2 Bn PIR in Papua New Guinea (1965) with an Ares Observer Group and qualification at the Tac 3 promotion course at 5 Training Group preceded his posting as Captain to OC Support Coy, 16 RWAR in 1967. A highlight of his career was his attachment in Oct/Nov 1967 to 2 RAR in South Vietnam as an ARes Observer. On return from SVN he was promoted to Major and continued as OC Support Coy.

Two years as Second in Command of Western Australian University Regiment and another visit to Land Warfare Centre, Canungra, for the Tac 5 course in 1972, before being appointed as Admin Comd of 28 RWAR. The Battalion was in the process of being reduced to an Independent Rifle Company and Major Mawson was appointed Commanding Officer of 16 RWAR on promotion to Lt Col in July 1974.

More changes to ARes in WA saw HQ 2 Task Force disbanded and ARes Control placed with HQ 5 MD in January 1976.

In December 1976 Lt Col Mawson completed Command of 16 RWAR and was posted as a Senior Training Officer, Tac 5 course where he remained until his retirement on age in March 1978, after 21 years of service.

The following year a Regimental Colonel was needed to assist the Honorary Colonel who was the State Governor, and Lt Col Mawson became the first Regimental Colonel of RWAR in 1979, an honorary position he held until 1985.

During his last year in 16 RWAR he took an active interest in the formation of the Army Museum of WA, serving as Treasurer for 16 years and then as a Museum Guide, a role in which he is still active.

On retirement from the ARes, Ray was invited to join the Rotary Club of North Perth. This was a very active club and helped fill the gap on leaving the ARes. In his

capacity as Community Director, Ray was responsible for forming a PROBUS Club in the Mount Lawley/North Perth area. He was appointed President for the 1985/6 year when he assisted the development of the Life Education Movement, a drug awareness education for primary schools, into this State. He remained with the club until moving overseas in 1992.

In his civilian profession, Ray was a Fellow Certified Practicing Accountant and Associate Chartered Institute of Company Secretaries and Managers, serving in several Local and National Companies at senior executive level, resisting approaches by two Companies to move him interstate.

Ray is assiduous in walking for exercise. In the 1980s he visited Nepal three times, twice as trekker. On his retirement in 1991 he volunteered his services to the United Mission in Nepal. His voluntary services were accepted and he, with his wife Hazel, left for Nepal in January 1992. His first posting of three years was to the very remote and small village of Amp Pipal, situated at 4,200 feet. This entails a 3 to 4 hour walk in from the closest dirt road. Here he acted as Business Manager to a fifty bed hospital, a nearby community project and TB project, which was a 5 hour walk from Amp Pipal. On completion of the three years in Amp Pipal Ray and Hazel returned home remaining only for about 13 months when they were asked to return to Nepal, for another three years. This they did, moving to the Town of Tansen to a 150 bed hospital where Ray served initially as Hospital Administration Manager and then as Hospital Director. In both hospitals, Ray was required to carry out the usual duties of the position he held and also responsible to train young Nepalis in hospital administration. The satisfaction in the job alone with the additional satisfaction of seeing the Nepalis he trained, move into good responsible positions was sufficient reward for him.

On his return to Perth in November 1999, Ray resumed his membership with the RSL branch of Highgate, serving for a small period again on the committee, and then as a Sub-Warden to the State War Memorial in King's Park. This service he still enjoys.

After living in Wembley for 47 years, Ray and Hazel, in 1995, downsized to a new villa in Innaloo where Ray is involved in community groups such as

- All Saints Uniting Church, Floreat;
- RWAR Association;
- 16 Bn Cameron Association;
- 28 Bn Swan Regiment Association;
- Army Museum of Western Australia;
- Highgate RSL;
- PROBUS Club of City Beach; and
- Interserve WA.

In late 2012, Hazel died from a virulent lung disease which she had been battling since their return from Nepal. Between household duties, gardening, walking and a little golf, Ray spends some time trying to work out the intricacies of his computer and is contactable on 9204 5321.

**COLONEL ERNEST FRANCIS MC CART
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECAHNICAL
ENGINEERS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
16TH MARCH 1987 TO 15TH MARCH 1991**

Ernest Mc Cart was Patron of the RAEME Association in 2011.

**CAPTAIN IAN W. MC CULLOCH
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF TRANSPORT
DATES NOT DETERMINED**

**MAJOR FRANK MCGRATH, RFD
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF TRANSPORT
WESTERN REGION
2002 TO 2004**

Frank McGrath enlisted as a Gunner in 3 Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery in February 1962 and was promoted to Bombardier a year later, moving through all ranks to Warrant Officer Class 2 in 1971.

He was selected to attend the Officer Cadet Training Unit and commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the RAA in 1974.

After serving 14 years with 3 Field Regiment he changed Corps to RACT and in 1976 was posted to 36 Water Transport Company on the Swan River at East Fremantle prior to the unit being renamed Perth Water Transport Unit in March 1977. He served there as Watercraft Troop Commander and Terminal Troop Commander for a further 3 years and was awarded the National Medal in 1978.

Promotion to Captain and now at 5 Movement Control Unit as Staff Officer, Movements, he later became Administrative Commander of the unit now located in the former Fremantle Port Authority Signal Station in East Fremantle, described as the 'Most Unique location in Australia'.

In 1982 as OC 26 Transport Troop he was heavily engaged in the move of the unit from Leighton to the new purpose built depot in Helena Valley.

**COLONEL JAMES LUMSDEN MC KINLAY, OBE, MM, MID (X3), ED
INAUGURAL COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
WESTERN COMMAND
5TH JULY 1959 TO 5TH JULY 1964**

BORN 3RD AUGUST 1894 IN PERTH, DIED 26TH JUNE 1984 IN PERTH

World War I Number 151, World War II Militia Number W237582, AIF Number WX3379.

The late Colonel Mc Kinlay (or “Colmac” or “Mac” or “Boss”) had two great loves in his life – his family and the Signals Corps. In fact, he flew the Corps Flag in front of his home every day. As a tribute to him and his dedicated service to Australia, the 109 Signal Squadron lines in Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta, are named “The Mc Kinlay Lines”. His biography, *“Bring Decent Signallers”* is a good chronicle of his life and a great read.

He was educated at Scotch College then worked for his father in Perth as an apprentice jeweler.

In 1910 he was a member of 88th Infantry Battalion, Signals Section, under the Universal Training (Compulsory Military) Scheme when night parades were held in Swan Barracks and Saturday parades were held at the Remount Depot in South Guildford. The 1910 annual camp was held at Tammin with Lord Kitchener present and at the end of the camp Lord Kitchener ordered that they be marched to Northam, about sixty miles (eighty kilometres), but his OC, when he knew that Kitchener had departed, marched them back to Tammin as he considered the march to be dangerous in the 100 degree heat.

On 4th August 1914 when war was declared, Corporal Mc Kinlay reported to Swan Barracks in uniform, was told to report to Blackboy Hill on 12th August 1914, did so and on 25th August 1914 enlisted in the AIF at Blackboy Hill.

On 26th August 1914, Sapper Mc Kinlay (he did not retain his rank) embarked on the *Dimboola* for Melbourne and the Broadmeadows training camp.

On 20th October 1914, he embarked on HMAT *Karoo* in Melbourne for service in the Middle East, Gallipoli (and later France and Belgium) with 1st Division Signal Company.

After training in Egypt, on 25th April 1915, at sunrise he landed at Gallipoli.

On 9th May 1915 Sapper Mc Kinlay was wounded by a gunshot wound to the neck and evacuated to Heliopolis for treatment. When he considered that he was fit enough, he made his own way back to his Unit on Gallipoli.

He was promoted to Lance Corporal on 18th November 1915, and then following the evacuation of Gallipoli he went to Tel El Kebir from where they were marched for three days over the desert to Serapeum. This venture could have had disastrous effects had not some mounted New Zealanders brought out supplies of water to the marching troops.

When he arrived for European service, he landed at Marseilles and on 9th March 1916 he was transferred to 4th Division Signal Company and promoted to Corporal.

For actions at Chalk Pit on 13th; 14th; 15th and 16th August 1916 Corporal McKinlay was Mentioned in Dispatches.

On 9th March 1917 he was promoted to Sergeant. For actions at Noreuil on 2nd April 1917, Corporal (sic) McKinlay was Mentioned in Dispatches.

On 9th October 1917, Sergeant McKinlay was recommended to be awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for actions at Westhoek Ridge and was awarded the Military Medal. During all of this time, he was operating as a linesman, which had a notoriously short life expectation at the front.

He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the field on 6th November 1917 then on 6th February 1918 promoted to Lieutenant.

On 8th November 1918 Lieutenant McKinlay was Mentioned in Dispatches for gallant and distinguished services in the field.

During his service on what was known as the Western Front (*it was actually the German Western Front and the Eastern Front for the Allies*) he also saw service at such places as Messines; Delville Wood; Pozieres; Ypres; Hamel and the Somme.

While waiting to return to Australia, he was based at Sutton Veney in England then on 23rd March 1919 returned to Australia on the *Czar* which broke down en route and he was transferred to the *Dongala* at Gibraltar.

On 14th July 1919 his appointment was terminated.

He was employed by Foy and Gibson, a large retailer in Perth City but it is not known as to what his actual duties were.

He was Commissioned as a Lieutenant (Militia) with service in Engineers; Signals and Infantry (44th Infantry Battalion) on 1st July 1920. He served in the 13th Brigade Mixed Signals at the Remount Depot in South Guildford which later moved to the Vincent Street Training Depot in Leederville, was promoted to Captain and command of the Unit and later promoted to Major. He resigned from Signals so that others could command the Unit, and about 1 year later he was approached by Major Collard (Later CGS) who was the Adjutant of 44th Infantry Battalion to join that Unit as 2IC, parading at the Drill Hall in Nicholson Road, Subiaco.

After World War II was declared, he was called up for full time duty on 1st May 1940 and appointed Chief Instructor Western Command Training School then on 1st July 1940 promoted to Major.

On 16th July 1940 he was appointed to the 2nd AIF as 2 IC Signals 8th Division at Casula, NSW and the Unit later moved to Ingleburn, then on 5th November 1940 moved again by road and train to Bathurst.

On 2nd January 1941 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and on 2nd February 1941 he had to remove his kit from the *Queen Mary* as he had been transferred to the 9th Division as CO Signals. Little did he know at the time that he was to therefore avoid the fate that befell the 8th Division in Malaya and captivity under the ruthless Japanese.

On 16th April 1941 he embarked at Fremantle on the *Queen Elizabeth* for service in the Middle East as Assistant Signals Officer in Chief, 9th Division. They travelled through the Suez Canal on smaller craft to Kantara, by train to Gaza to Advanced Land Head Quarters. They then moved to Musirat a few miles from Gaza.

On 26th May 1941 he was transferred to 1st Australian Corps Signals then on 14th June 1941 took command of 1st Australian Corps Signals at Nazareth, with a later move to Aley in Lebanon.

On 7th February 1942, the Corps moved to Gaza by road then to Kantara then on to a staging camp near Port Suez.

On 16th February 1942 he embarked on the *Strathallan* bound for Australia and disembarked in Port Adelaide.

On 6th April 1942 he was appointed as Chief Signals Officer 3rd Australian Corps and promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. The HQ was established in Mount Lawley.

On 19th April 1944 he was transferred to HQ Norforce as Chief Signals Officer – the HQ was located 50 miles South of Darwin. Part of the duties there saw the erection of hundreds of miles of overhead wires from Darwin to Adelaide River (72 miles); Mataranka (276 miles); Larrimah (326 miles) and patrolling of the line as far as Alice Springs (947 miles).

From 17th February 1945 to 24th February 1946 he served overseas in the South West Pacific Area with Advanced Land Head Quarters and HQ Morotai Force as Assistant Signals Officer in Chief.

Following the end of the war, he was appointed as President of the War Crimes Trials on Morotai.

On 22nd March 1946 he was transferred to the Reserve of Officers as Honorary Colonel and on 14th June 1949 placed on the Retired List.

From 5th July 1959 to 5th July 1964 he was appointed as the first Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals in Western Command.

He was instrumental in having formed the Guild of Signals (now the Royal Australian Signals Association) to replace the former Divisional Signals Associations. This turned out to be a far sighted move as by effluxion of time Divisional Signals Associations would by now have disappeared.

Decorations, Awards and Medals

First World War

Military Medal;

1914/15 Star;

British War Medal;

Victory Medal;

Mentioned in Dispatches (3 times); and

ANZAC Commemoration Medallion

Second World War

Officer of the Order of the British Empire;

1939/45 Star;

Africa Star;

Pacific Star;

Defence Medal;

War Medal; and

Australia Service Medal

CMF

Efficiency Decoration

COLONEL ROBERT D. MERCER, AM, RFD, ED, (RET'D)
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
1985 TO 1991

Colonel Mercer was born in WA and educated in North Perth, Sandstone and Wesley College, before joining his family company of Fruit and Vegetable Agents and Exporters in 1946, first as a general hand and retiring as General Manager.

Enlisting in the CMF before it was officially reformed in 1948; he joined the 16/28th Battalion, Cameron Highlanders of WA. He rose through the ranks and was commissioned in 1950.

Regimental postings and staff appointments on HQ 13 Infantry Brigade followed before, as a senior Major, he was selected to become the first Company Commander of B (Cameron) Coy of the new State Regiment, 1 RWAR in 1960. In 1961 selected to attend an exchange tour of duty of six weeks duration with the US Army and hosted by the 25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning) in Hawaii. Moving to 5 Training Group as Chief Instructor in 1964, he was part of the CMF Observer Group to Vietnam in 1967, attached to 2 RAR, before qualifying at LWC, Canungra on the Tac 5 Course for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. His appointment to command 11th Battalion, Royal Western Australia Regiment at the Nicholson Road Depot in Subiaco followed the same year.

11 RWAR was in camp at Northam when the earthquake struck the town of Meckering in 1968 and Colonel Mercer immediately dispatched the Assault Pioneer and Medical Platoons to assist the civilian residents of the town. HQ W Comd did not view this with much favor because they were not informed and he received a reprimand for using his initiative. The matter was finally resolved when it was explained that the communication system with W Comd HQ suffered a breakdown of major proportions due to the quake.

Grade 1 staff postings followed until 1976 when he was promoted to Colonel and appointed as Assistant Commander, 5th Military District and 5th Field Force Group. During this period he was Honorary ADC to the Governor General of Australia, Sir John Kerr. In 1979 he was honoured by being made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the military division, for services to the Army Reserve. Colonel Mercer continued service with the Command and Staff Training Unit as Chairman of the Board for Officer Direct Entry and retired in 1985, awarded the Queens Silver Jubilee Medal.

On his retirement, Colonel Mercer was appointed as Honorary Colonel of the Royal Western Australia Regiment for two terms 1985-1991. From private soldier to Honorary Colonel of his Regiment is a notable achievement.

As with most ARes officers, their commitment to voluntary community service continued both during their army service and after their retirement. Bob Mercer was no different and listed below are some of his part time involvements:

- Board Member Metro Market Trust 1975-83;

- Board Member Chamber of Fruit & Vegetable Industries, 1977-86. State & National President 1985;
- Board Member of the Order of Australia Assn, 1979-90;
- Board Member, Police & Citizens Youth Clubs WA 1983-97;
- RSL State Executive 1990-2006;
- RSL Trustee, Sub Warden State War Memorial, Listening Post Committee, Member Highgate Sub Branch, Honoured in 2011 with Life Membership of the RSL, National Level;
- Patron and Life Member Cameron Highlanders of WA Assn;
- Volunteer worker WA Ostomy Assoc. 20 yrs; and
- Judge WA Agricultural Society 1990-2006.

The National Executive of the RSL honoured him, together with six other Australian citizens, by the award of “Anzac of the Year” in 2010.

One of our other Honorary Colonels, Professor Robert Pearce AM was one of the previous awardees in WA in 1990.

As Honorary Colonel of RWAR Colonel Mercer was honoured with an invitation to attend the Beating Retreat of the Massed Pipes and Drums and Military Bands of the Scottish Division on Horse Guards in 1990 and a Reception immediately afterwards at the Banqueting House, Whitehall.

Bob now lives in quite retirement in Applecross with wife Jean. They have two daughters and a son and are contactable by phone on 9364 2066.

**HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
DOCTOR KENNETH COMNINOS MICHAEL, AC
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
2006 TO 2011**

Doctor Ken Michael was born in Perth in 1938, the son of migrants from the island of Castellorizo in Greece.

His father arrived in Australia in the 1890's as a young boy, was naturalised in 1905 and served with the 11th Australian Infantry Battalion, AIF, in the First World War.

Doctor Michael is an Australian academic and former public servant who studied at the Imperial College, London and was the 32nd Governor of Western Australia from 2006 to 2011, resigning on 2nd May 2011.

He has held the positions of

- Chancellor of the University of Western Australia;
- Chairman of the East Perth Redevelopment Authority;
- Member of the Economic Regulation Authority; and
- Commissioner of Main Roads.

He was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1996 then elevated to a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in the 2006 Australia Day Honours List.

In 2001 he was named Western Australian Citizen of the Year and in 2003 received the Centenary Medal for service to the public, engineering and the Greek community.

In 2006 he was named as Patron of the Fremantle Football Club – he has been an inaugural Quay Club member since 1994.

Doctor Michael is the State Patron of the Boys' Brigade, and Mrs Michael is the State Patron of the Girls' Brigade.

**COLONEL IAN CHARLES MILLER, AM, ED
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
29TH JUNE 1988 TO 28TH JUNE 1992**

Ian Miller was awarded the AM on 26th January 1985 for his services as Director of Medical Services in 5th Military District.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEOFFREY CHARLES MORLET, AOM, MB,
BS, DO, FRACS
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
DATES NOT DETERMINED**

Geoffrey Morlet is an ophthalmic surgeon. He was President of the Australian College of Ophthalmologists and an alumnus of the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital.

He wrote a book on his father called "*Eyes Right.*"

**BRIGADIER J. C. NEWBERY, CBE, ED
HONORARY COLONEL
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY REGIMENT
1975 to 1979**

Colin Newbery was born in Perth on 22nd July 1911 and educated at Hale School and was a chartered accountant.

He served in the 2nd Australian Imperial Force in World War II as WX3391 with the 2/28th Infantry Battalion in the Middle East; Western Desert; Syria; El Alamein; South West Pacific, Papua New Guinea and Borneo.

He continued to serve in the Australian Army after the War, retiring as the Commander of the 13th Infantry Brigade in Western Australia.

Colin Newbery passed away in 1992.

**BRIGADIER COLLIN HUGH BOYD NORMAN, DSO, MC
HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
WESTERN COMMAND
20TH NOVEMBER 1962 TO 19TH NOVEMBER 1966?**

Hugh Norman was born on 20th February 1904 in Sydney. Little information, other than his brilliant military career, has been located other than it is understood that his occupation was as a stock buyer.

On 2nd February 1939, WX3421 Norman was a Trooper in 10th Light Horse Regiment and on 1st May 1939 Corporal in the 25th Light Horse Regiment (Machine Guns).

He was commissioned on 28th September 1939 and on 5th July 1940 Assistant QM and Catering Officer at the recruit reception centre in Claremont. On 8th August 1940 he was promoted to Captain in 2/28th Infantry Battalion, then on 9th August 1940 seconded as OC to 24th Brigade Anti-tank Company.

On 28th June 1941, he was awarded the Military Cross for which his Citation reads: -

“On the morning of 2 May 41, Capt NORMAN who was in charge of the 24th Aust A/Tk Coy was ordered to place his guns in position near the Western perimeter defences at TOBRUK. He selected the sites for the guns and caused them to be placed in position. At about 0800 hrs 60 tanks entered the perimeter. The guns of the A/Tk Coy (reconditioned Italian 47 mm, without shields or protection) were responsible for putting 4 tanks out of commission even though subject to Arty and MG fire from the tanks and MG fire from the ground positions. The recesses made by Capt NORMAN and control of his Company during the action were largely responsible for the success gained.

Throughout the morning, the bearing of and cheerfulness of this officer did much to inspire his men, and the excellent handling of his guns was a big factor in holding up the penetration by large numbers of enemy tanks.”

Then followed attachments to HQ AIF Middle East and HQ 9th Division and Liaison Officer, with attendance at Courses interspersed through the following years.

On 30th January 1942 he was promoted to Major and on 6th August 1942 he returned to 2/28th Infantry Battalion as 2IC. He returned to Australia (Fremantle) on 18th February 1943 then on 18th July 1943 was attached to HQ 9th Division. On 22nd July 1943 he was appointed Temporary Lieutenant Colonel and CO 2/28th Infantry Battalion, an appointment he retained until 30th June 1945.

He arrived in Milne Bay on 11th August 1943 and on 6th December 1943 was awarded the Distinguished Service Order, which was well and truly deserved from the following Citation: -

“In the campaign against LAE 6 to 15 Sep 43 the 2 / 28 Bn were commanded and led by Lt Col H. B. NORMAN, MC.

Lt Col NORMAN led and fought his Bn to a physical standstill, accounting for hundreds of Japs killed and an unknown number wounded, Field Guns, LMGs, MMGs, 20 mm AA guns, all fell before his onslaught. Every objective given him by his Bde HQ was taken with the utmost despatch. On more than one occasion he was cut off from the bulk of his Comd so keen was he to be in everything. By his outstanding and courageous offensive leadership Lt Col NORMAN set the standard for the whole Bn, and his opposed river crossing paved the way for the subsequent successful operation of the Bde. He established a bridgehead for the Bde killing 111 Japs and capturing enemy weapons and eqpt. By Sep 14, Lt Col NORMAN had led action after action without pause or rest until he was astride the main North South Road at MALAHANG Anchorage. This outstanding Officer was ordered to cross the BUSU River – a raging torrent some 40 yds wide. Repeated attempts to cross by small units had failed. At 1730 hrs 9 Sep Lt Col NORMAN advanced with his whole Bn in battle formation, entered the river and although Coy after Coy were swept off their feet and carried downstream there was no faltering. Lt Col NORMAN landed the great bulk of his Bn and rapidly reorganising, led them against the enemy.”

His promotion to Lt Col was confirmed on 2nd January 1944 and back dated to 22nd July 1943, and then on 28th January 1944 he returned to Australia (Townsville).

Then followed attachment to HQ 9th Division and a number of Courses before he arrived at Morotai on 21st April 1945, then to British North Borneo on 30th May 1945. He relinquished command of 2/28th Infantry Battalion on 30th July 1945 and returned to Australia on 12th August 1945 to be placed on the Reserve of Officers on 27th October 1945.

Following the reformation of the Citizen Military Force in 1948, he was appointed CO 11/44 Infantry Battalion on 1st April 1948; from 11th January 1949 until 11th January 1953 he was appointed ADC to the Governor General.

He was promoted to Brigadier and appointed Commander 13th Infantry Brigade on 1st July 1951, and after that posting was placed on the Reserve of Officers on 2nd February 1953.

Brigadier Norman was appointed as Honorary Colonel, Australian Army Cadets, Western Command on 20th November 1962.

He passed away in 1996 after many years of dedicated service to Australia.

**MAJOR GENERAL BARRY NIGEL NUNN, AO
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS
WESTERN DISTRICT
DATES NOT DETERMINED, BUT CONSIDERED PROBABLY C 2008**

Barry Nunn was born in 1935 and educated in NSW. He attended Sydney Boys High School and graduated from the University of NSW in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering.

His military career began with National Service in 1953, followed by the Citizen Military Forces, in which he was commissioned into the Corps of Infantry in 1955. He served with the Defence Reserves for 41 years, retiring in 1994 with the rank of Major General. He held command and staff appointments in Australia and on secondment with civilian employment to the UK (Parachute Regiment). Key military appointments have included

- Commander, 3rd Division;
- Assistant Chief of the General Staff – Reserves; and
- Assistant Chief of the Defence Force – Reserves.

He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (Military Division) in 1989 and was awarded a Centenary Medal in 2003.

Barry was employed by the Shell Group of Companies in Australia and overseas for 36 years. He worked in a number of technical, marketing, human resources and management positions. His experience included process development, General Manager of Shell Chemicals Australia and international chemical business development from a base in London. At retirement in December 1990 he was a member of the Board of Shell Australia and was Executive Director of Human Resources and Public Affairs for the Company.

He began private management consultancy work in 1991, with special interest in business planning, change management, and organisation development. He has also worked for KPMG Management Consulting and for the Australian National Training Authority. His work as a consultant continues. He was chairman of a Perth-based building products company, Brady's Building Products, with manufacturing activities in WA, Malaysia and Singapore.

From February to August 2001 he chaired the Australian Defence Force Remuneration Review. This study examined all aspects of pay and conditions for Regular and Reserve Forces with particular reference to the impact of employment conditions and management on recruiting and retention.

His recent work as a consultant has included work with the Water Corporation of WA on project evaluation and team facilitation, together with risk evaluation for projects in Perth and on the Burrup Peninsular.

In 2000/2001 he participated in a major study for the Government of Brunei, preparing a master plan for the development of an oil and petrochemical industry in Brunei. He is at present working with major contractors as a change manager in alliance work with the WA public sector.

**CAPTAIN THE HONOURABLE SIR DESMOND O'NEIL, KT
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
1980 TO 1982**

(Regrettably his original appointment was cut short by ill health)

Desmond Henry O'Neil was born in Subiaco in 1920 and educated at Convent schools, Aquinas College and Claremont Teachers' Training College then joined the Education Department in 1939 as a Monitor.

In 1940 he joined the Citizens' Military Force and was commissioned as a Lieutenant in July 1940.

He enlisted in the AIF in August 1941, promoted to Captain in September 1942 and served with the Australian Corps of Signals (The title "Royal" was not granted until 1948), 3rd Division, in Australia; New Guinea; Bougainville and New Britain and was discharged in March 1946.

He married Nancy Jean Culver at St John's Church, Fremantle in 1944.

After discharge, he undertook a 3 month refresher course with the Education Department, was headmaster Roebourne State School from 1947 to 1949; Dowerin Lakes 1950 – 1951; Wilga 1952 – 1953; Nyamup 1954 – 1955; Donnelly River 1956 – 1957; Deputy Headmaster at Collier School 1958.

He joined the Liberal Party in 1958, was elected as an MLA in 1959 and continued in the Western Australian Parliament until retirement.

During this time he represented the electorates of Canning 1959 to 1962; East Melville, 1962 to 1980.

He held the positions of: - Minister for Housing and Labour; Deputy Leader of the Opposition; Minister for Works, Water Supplies and the North West; Deputy Premier; Chief Secretary; Minister for Police and Traffic; Registration Administrator and the North West; Member Joint House Committee; Member Select Committee on the Fremantle Buffalo Club (Private) Bill 1964. He represented Western Australia branch CPA at general conference, Malawi 1972 and at 8th Australian Area Conference, Hobart, 1965.

Sir Desmond was Chairman of the Lotteries Commission; Chairman WA Greyhound Racing Association; Secretary North West Jockey Club and President Donnelly River Mill Workers' Club.

He passed away on 25th September 1990.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL THE HONOURABLE O. N. B. OLIVER, RFD,
ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF TRANSPORT
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
17TH SEPTEMBER 1979 TO 16TH SEPTEMBER 1985**

Neil Oliver was born in .Caulfield, Vic, and was called up for National Service in April 1952 with 14 NS Trg Bn at Puckapunyal where he was selected for cadre training, became the only Corporal along with 2 Regular Sergeants for a platoon of 45 privates.

With his 98 day National Service obligation complete he was to spend the next eight years virtually in the RAAF as part of RAASC (Air Despatch) and the School of Land Air Warfare based at Williamstown. His commissioning as a Second Lieutenant (Prob) in December 1954 led to his first command as OC of an Air Supply Platoon and heavily involved with the growing Air Delivery systems and the newly introduced Caribou and Hercules aircraft in the mid 1950's.

It was an exciting time to be in at the start of the new delivery method of stores and equipment for the Armed Forces of Australia and swift promotion, albeit temporary, saw Neil move to Captain and Major in command of Air Supply Platoon and Company in swift succession followed during this time.

During this period he was involved with flood relief of isolated communities in the Hunter Valley and various air sea rescue operations and the testing of aerial delivery systems of heavy equipment by multi parachute rigs and finally qualifying as the first Air Despatch Testing Officer in December 1959. During this period until 1967 he was required to travel all over Australia visiting and inspecting RAASC units, ultimately reporting directly to Director Supplies and Transport (DST) at Army Headquarters.

Now as Second-in-Command of 6 Transport Column RAASC in Melbourne, the various companies were spread from Sandringham, Ballarat, Stawell, and Horsham in Victoria. One exercise involved all units converging in the Riverina District of NSW involving 240 vehicles and he was responsible for the recognisance and planning of the whole exercise over a period of a month. At this time he was President of the Officers Mess at Stuart Street, which was also the Corps Mess and Miss Joy Treloar had become his fiancé and ultimately his wife. They were married at Melbourne in 1961.

In August 1963 his civilian career transferred him to Western Command as DAST (CMF) at HQ W Comd but he had very little contact with CMF units. His job involved Annual Training for all ARA units in WA which ranged from Hamlin Pool in the North to Pemberton and Collie in the South. They used the first Jungle Training Area in WA at Collie which included live firing ranges on the sides of the Collie River.

He also attended as his Annual training commitment, the Armoured Centre where he qualified in the ARA Corps 3 Promotion to Major and the invitation to change Corps to RAAC. He declined the offer and remained with RACT.

Ten years after it was initially planned, he finally passed his TAC 5 course at Canungra in 1970 and was posted to OC B Company 28 RWAR, Special Conditions unit for those CMF soldiers who lived away from normal CMF depots or units. They attended 2 camps each year instead of a night a week and a weekend a month.

In 1971 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and posted as Commander of 7 Movement Control Group (RAE) which was a Staff Unit and as Movement is a Staff function it was arranged for the Unit to be dispersed across Australia to provide relief when regulars were on leave or exercise. His Unit HQ was used to form the Task Force Maintenance Area in Lancelin, for 2 TF Annual Exercise under the command of Brig. Ian Stock. The enemy group was combined SASR and 1 Commando Coy from Sydney.

In 1973 the Royal Australian Corps of Transport formed from the Royal Australian Army Service Corps and Neil commanded the Inaugural parade at SAS Barracks, Swanbourne, which was reviewed by the CGS, Lt Gen Sir Mervyn Brogan.

In 1977 Neil was elected to the Legislative Council as the Member for West Province, serving as Chairman of various Committees until his retirement from Parliament in 1989.

As a result of his election to Parliament, Neil was required to retire from the Army and did so in 1977.

He now lives in semi – retirement while maintaining a lot of overseas contacts in the wool industry.

**BRIGADIER ERNEST L. PALMER AO
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
9TH OCTOBER 1978 TO 8TH OCTOBER 1984**

**AND REPRESENTATIVE HONORARY COLONEL
15TH NOVEMBER 1985 TO 14TH NOVEMBER 1987**

**AND HONORARY COLONEL
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
7TH MARCH 1989 TO 6TH MARCH 1990**

Ernest Laurence (Laurie) Palmer was born in Subiaco in October 1923, the eldest of five children. He attended Carlisle State School and later Perth Boys School, often referred to in those days as 'Carlisle College'.

At the age of 13, while coming home from Perth Boys School, he saw an advert for a boy for afterhours work and applied, was accepted on a wage of 10 shillings a week, and another on Saturday mornings, tuning pianos helped the family to pay for his violin lessons.

On leaving school a job with the PMG as a telegram delivery boy expanded his work experience and at the outbreak of the Second World War he applied for a position as a Junior Storeman with the Ordnance Service at Midland Junction.

The family had moved to Victoria Park by now and also working at Midland was a very pleasant young lady by the name of Rosa Luck who lived a few streets away from Laurie in Victoria Park.

Travel to Midland each day was much improved when Laurie was able to purchase a motor bike and he and Rosa would travel together to work each day.

Laurie was a budding violinist and on examination he gained the extraordinary pass of 100% and had the war not intervened, he would have gone to London to take up a scholarship awarded following the WA exams.

When Laurie retired from active service he and Rosa returned to Western Australia. First he worked for Dampier Salt as a consultant for approximately two years.

Together they joined the Melville Glades Golf Club where he was asked to work on the Committee, then as the elected Vice-President and later the President. During these years he reworked the Club's constitution and oversaw the new Club buildings. In the previous constitution the women were limited to being associate members, never full members. Laurie worked hard to change this concept and the new constitution allowed women to be fully participating members at Melville, the first golf club in Western Australia to do so.

He was then involved in the Order of Australia Association and served as Chairman. He organised for the Association to have regular, annual dinners to celebrate the members' many achievements and welcome new members to the Order.

Laurie and Rosa purchased a RSL Rockingham Beach house for themselves and their family and Laurie became part of the RSL Rockingham Recreation Committee. During this time he also rewrote their constitution.

Laurie also found time throughout all of his retirement to be an active Legatee helping widows and their families. He had served as a Legatee in the Eastern States, before retiring, for 20 years. Laurie continued this work for another 30 years and was honoured with a 50 years' service citation to acknowledge his work in this field.

Laurie was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Ordnance Corps and served in this capacity for 13 years. Laurie led the WA ANZAC day parade in approximately 1978. He was present at the formal opening of Palmer Barracks, the Ordnance Barracks that bear his name.

Laurie was an active member of Highgate RSL and collected for the RSL each year with the sale of poppies. Laurie was Warden of the King's Park Memorial and was the Guest of Honour at many ANZAC dawn services at Palmer Barracks and was a popular guest speaker at many school ANZAC day services.

He passed away on 3rd May 2013.

FROM THE EULOGY AT HIS FUNERAL: -

Ernest Laurence Palmer was born in Subiaco on Saturday the 6th of October 1923. He was the first of five children born to Ernest Charles Palmer who had married Olive Maud Bateman. Ernest had served in 16th Battalion in the First World War and on his return worked as a tram driver. The family lived at 17 Planet Street in Carlisle and after Laurie there came Don, Alan, Glenys and Joan and it is good to know that they are all with us today to farewell their big brother.

Laurie attended the Carlisle State School and later, Perth Boys School. It was a source of some family humour that Laurie, on occasions when discussing educational upbringing with others whose background may have been more "privileged", would claim that he had attended "Carlisle College".

Times were hard and money was short. He was fortunate in finding part-time employment about which Bob Arnold will tell you more shortly.

In his early employment in the Stores Supply system at Midland there was a very pleasant young lady- Rosa Luck- who also happened to live a couple of streets away from Laurie in Victoria Park. The public transport system in those days was not as good as it is today. Now Laurie, through his industry and hard work, had managed to buy a 250 cc motor bike which he rode to work at Midland each day from Victoria Park. This was very fortuitous and Rosa soon found that she had a reliable means of transport to and from work.

The friendship developed as they were both moved to the stores depot at Nungarin approximately 278 kilometres (173 mi) east of Perth. By now Rosa was in the Australian Army Women's Service which had been formed in 1941. Laurie was also in Uniform and was posted away interstate but the romance thrived during the war and in 1946, after formally asking Rosa's Father for permission, they married at Wesley Church in Perth on 10th August.

After the first night at Araluen, they spent the rest of their 10 day honeymoon down at the Wickepin Hotel owned by Laurie's aunt. It was difficult to get staff in the hotel and Laurie and Rosa found themselves being co-opted to help out. Rosa had absolutely no experience in the liquor trade because her Father was pretty strict about things like that. So one day a customer in the bar asked for his usual whiskey and water. Rosa filled one glass with whiskey and another with water and passed them over. The customer thought that this was very good service and promptly asked for another one. When Laurie heard what she had done he explained what a whiskey and water was and they did not tell Laurie's aunt.

They bought their first home in Midland for £630 and settled down to a happy married life which was blessed with the arrival of Pamela in 1948, Graeme in 1950 and Ian in 1959.

The family travelled the world in the course of Laurie's service and did not return to Perth until his retirement. To tell you more about that service, I now call on Bob Arnold who knew him longer and better than I did.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANK R. PARKER, RL
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
5TH OCTOBER 1982 TO 4TH OCTOBER 1984**

Frank Parker was born in Perth on 28th February 1923, completed his education at Northam High School and enlisted in the Australian Army on 31st August 1939.

He commenced work at the 5th Military District Ordnance Workshop as an apprentice fitter and turner on 4th September 1939 as a Cadet after having seen an advertisement in the newspaper for Army Apprentices. Out of 182 who applied, he was one of the two who were accepted. These two were the first apprentices to be taken into the Ordnance Corps and the enlistment was for five years. During his early training, he covered all aspects of general engineering, some of which included working at Garden Island.

After three years Frank changed over to the Australian Imperial Force, which then gave him the right to serve anywhere in the world. At approximately the same time in 1942 the Corps of the Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers was formed, which meant also a change of Corps.

In 1948, he changed over to the newly formed Australian Regular Army, and in the same year, the Corps of AEME became the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, of which Frank became very proud.

The next major change came early in the 1950's with the start of the Korean War and Frank being posted there on 7th April 1952 to 9th November 1952 in the 16th British Commonwealth Infantry Workshop. On completion of his Korean service he returned to Australia, serving in many other postings for the Corps until he finally retired and settled down in WA.

This was not the finish of his dealings with the Corps of RAEME as he then was asked to carry out the duties of the Honorary Colonel of WA and as always carried it out to a level far above and beyond the call of duty.

Lt Col. Frank Parker was accepted as an Army apprentice on 31st of August 1939 at age 16. He and some other boys were due to start training at 5th Military District Ordnance Workshop on Sep 4th 1939, the day after war was declared. Of this episode he said; *"On Monday the Boss came early. The staff did not know whether it was because the war had started or the apprentices had started, but the apprentices got the blame for it"*.

Frank Parker passed away in 2007.

**COLONEL ROBERT PATRICK, RFD, RL
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
WESTERN REGION
2002 TO 2008**

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT PEARCE, AM, RFD,
CSTJ, CITWA
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
WESTERN REGION
2006 TO 2012**

Robert was born in Stanthorpe, Queensland and attended Gympie High School. He studied medicine at Queensland University graduating in 1965. He was called up for National Service during the Vietnam War and deferred until completion of his university studies. He then enlisted in the (CMF) Army Reserve while working at the Princess Alexandra and Royal Children's Hospitals in Brisbane. With the rank of Temporary Captain on enlistment he served with 1 Military Hospital in Yeronga treating casualties from service in Vietnam.

Following post graduate studies in Edinburgh and Oxford he returned to Australia with a Senior Registrar appointment in Plastic Surgery at Royal Perth Hospital. He confirmed his Army rank and was posted to 7 Field Ambulance in 1975. He was appointed to 10th Light Horse Regiment as Regimental Medical Officer after which he attended the School of Army Health at Healesville and was promoted to Major.

Following his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel he took command of 7 Field Ambulance in 1980 and two years later had the unique distinction of leading his unit when it was granted Freedom of Entry to the City of Fremantle in 1982.

Staff appointments usually follow command of units and now he moved to Staff Officer Grade 1 (Medical) on Headquarters 5th Military District and Consultant Surgeon to all 3 Services in Western Australia.

Active Service in Bougainville as Consultant Surgeon to the multinational Peace Monitoring Group in 2000 preceded his retirement from the Army in 2005. He remains as a consultant to the Army and was appointed Honorary Colonel RAAMC for the Western Region in 2006. With a private practice located in the Hollywood Specialist Centre, Nedlands, he has attended the Repatriation General Hospital and Hollywood Private Hospital as Senior Visiting Plastic Surgeon since 1975.

He is an Adjunct Professor of Medical Education at Curtin University and Associate Professor of Surgery and Pathology, Molecular Biology at UWA and Edith Cowan Universities and is Director of the Perth Melanoma Clinic.

He has been recognised for his achievements by the following honours:

- Member of the Order of Australia in 1991;
- Anzac of the Year in 1990;
- Perth Civic Gold Medal in 1987;
- Simpson Award (RAAMC) in 1990;
- French Order of Merit (Officer) 1997;
- Citizen of Western Australia (Professions) 2010;
- Reserve Forces Decoration and CStJ; and

- Life Member Save the Children Australia.

Robert has been married twice and has six adult children and eight grand-children. He is currently Medical Director of Royal Life Saving and President of Rotary Bayview Claremont. Until 2013 he was President of the WA Chapter Naval Historical Society and has recently accepted the position of Vice-President of the Military History Society of Western Australia. He is also keen on painting, photography and sculpture as recreational activities and has a collection of over two hundred cameras.

**THE HONOURABLE KEVIN PRINCE, LLB, MLA
HONORARY COLONEL
10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
WESTERN REGION
2000 TO 2008**

Kevin was born in Oxford, United Kingdom and came to Western Australia via Kenya, in his late teens. He completed his secondary education at Hale School and then read Law at the University of Western Australia where he joined the CMF with Western Australian University Regiment while studying in 1968. He rose through the ranks of Corporal, Sergeant to acting CSM before qualifying for First Appointment as a Lieutenant and being allotted to Infantry.

He chose to go to Armour and was marched into 10th Light Horse Regiment, RAAC in 1971.

Moving to Melbourne and a position as a trainee with the Australian Secret Intelligence Service in 1972, he transferred to 4/19th Prince of Wales Light Horse for a year spending a fair amount of time on courses at the Armoured Centre.

After moving back to Perth in 1973 to complete his articles, he and his wife Sheena moved to Albany where he established his business as a Barrister and Solicitor.

Now a Troop Leader with 10th Light Horse, he was posted as Depot Commander of the 11 RWAR Depot in Albany until 1978 when his business and politics called and he transferred to the Reserve of Officers in Armoured Corps.

The law practice grew and he became involved in a range of voluntary activities and local sports, including Rugby Union, Pennant Squash. He is a Pastoral Assistant in the Anglican Church and Diocesan Chancellor of the Diocese of Bunbury. He has a special interest in military history and ornithology and is a home handyman.

Kevin was elected to State Parliament in 1993 and at the end of the year was appointed the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Housing. Later he took on the Health portfolio and then in 1998 he became the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, a position he held until a change of Government in 2001.

He is regularly called upon to give the annual address at the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial in Albany to commemorate the Battle of Beersheba in October.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALAN J. PRITCHARD, RFD, RL
REGIMENTAL COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
25TH OCTOBER 1993 TO 24TH OCTOBER 1997**

**HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
WESTERN REGION
6TH MARCH 1991 TO 6TH MARCH 1995**

In 1987 to 1989, Lt Col Pritchard, RFD, was CO of 16 RWAR.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL M. D. QUEALY
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
1981 TO 1984**

**COLONEL DONALD RAE, AM, RFD, ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
21ST OCTOBER 1985 TO 20TH OCTOBER 1991**

Don was born in February 1929 and lived at Manjimup until moving to Perth in 1936. He was educated at West Leederville Primary School, Perth Boys School and Wesley College.

He joined the Shell Group of Companies in 1946 as a Junior Clerk and spent the next 39 years with Shell retiring as the Materials Manager for Shell Development (Australia) involved in land and offshore Oil and Gas Exploration.

In an almost parallel career Don enlisted in the Citizen Military Force in 1948 as a Gunner in 3 Field Regiment RAA. He was commissioned in 1951 and spent the next couple of decades in Regimental and Staff appointments. He commanded 3 Field Regiment from 1973 until 1975 and then transferred to HQ 5th Military District.

Promoted Colonel in 1982 he served as Assistant Commander under Brigadiers Alan Wells, Ken Taylor and Russell Lloyd, during which period he was appointed Honorary Aide to Governors General Sir Zelman Cowan and Sir Ninian Stephen.

Don was admitted as a Member to the Order of Australia (Military Division) in the 1982 Australia Day Honours List. He retired in February 1984.

The highlight of his Military career was his attachment to 4th Field and 12th Field Regiments RAA in Vietnam in 1968 as part of Defence CMF Officers' Observer Scheme.

Don was appointed Colonel Commandant RAA Western Region in 1985, a position he held for 6 years.

In 1988 he was the "co-architect" in founding the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society of WA (Inc) and served as the inaugural president for 5 years. He is still heavily involved with the Society – particularly at the Leighton Battery Heritage Site Buckland Hill.

For a little excitement to celebrate his 70th Birthday Don and his son David trekked in Nepal for two weeks and ten years later for a little more excitement tandem jumped from an aircraft - he has not yet finalised his plans for his 90th Birthday but watch this space!

Don is married to Anne and they have 5 children, 8 grandchildren and 5 Great grandchildren.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES W. RICHARDSON, OAM, RFD, ED,
(RET'D)
REGIMENTAL COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
1989 TO 1993**

Born in Fremantle and educated at Fremantle Boys School, Jim wanted to join the army through the Army Apprentice Scheme but his parents would not agree. He began his working life as an Outward Shipping Clerk for a Customs Agent in Fremantle for a year, before gaining an apprenticeship in carpentry and Joinery with a local builder. National Service interrupted his apprenticeship in 1954 as he reported for his 98 days training with 17 NS Trg Battalion in April of that year.

Allotted to 24 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment at Artillery Barracks, Fremantle, he was promoted through Bombardier and Sergeant as he studied for First Appointment, while still on Regimental duties with his unit. His commission was approved while attending a HAA Gun Instructors Course at the School of Artillery in Sydney, where he finished in first place.

The introduction of ground-to-air missiles sealed the fate of Anti-Aircraft Artillery, so the Regiment was disbanded in 1957 and Lieutenant Richardson was accepted into 16th Battalion, The Cameron Highlanders of WA. In 1960 he became a foundation member of the Royal Western Australia Regiment on 1st of July of that year.

Civilian employment saw him take a building contract on Cocos Island for 10 months before marriage to Margaret in 1961. On his return to WA he took a position as foreman of one of the largest joinery companies in WA, with over 50 tradesmen under his direction.

Regimental postings with 1st and 16th Battalions of RWAR followed until 1967, when he was seconded to the ARA on Full Time Duty with Western Command Recruiting Unit and later as Quartermaster with 11 RWAR.

Now a Captain and a posting as Quartermaster of 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, saw the family move to Holsworthy in NSW. During this time he was attached to 2 Field Survey Squadron for 10 months, as Admin Officer for the mapping of SE Sumatra, under the Australian Aid Program. Additional to his duties as Adjutant and Quartermaster for the detachment were negotiations with the Indonesian authorities for the Immigration and Customs clearances of the 4 aircraft of the detachment as well as every C130 flight to and from Australia. While on this project he received a posting order to 1st Battalion, Pacific Islands Regiment and the family of five moved to Port Moresby in 1971.

This began a very enjoyable period as Quartermaster and Company Commander but the education system in PNG was not suitable for his three children and the family returned to Perth in 1974. A short time as Adjutant of 16 RWAR followed, before promotion to Major and command of B (Cameron) Company followed.

The Company moved to Land Warfare Centre, Canungra, in 1978 for 2 weeks and was the first WA unit to conduct an Annual Field Exercise at the centre. His next posting, as Second-in-Command of Western Australian University Regiment in 1979 preceded his return to 5 Training Group as a student on the last Tac 5 course before going back to LWC for qualification for Lieutenant Colonel.

His appointment to command Perth Water Transport Unit, RACT for two years almost caused a change of Corps, but he resisted the pressure and remained in Infantry. Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 1982 and a posting to 5 Training Group as Tactics Instructor for the new Senior Officers Course was followed two years later by a staff appointment as Staff Officer Grade 1, CO-ORD on HQ 5th Military District. This ended his Army Reserve service in December 1986 after 32 years.

The same year he was invited to serve on the Regimental Committee of the Royal Western Australia Regiment and in 1989 he was honoured by appointment as Regimental Colonel of his Regiment. He continues to serve as Regimental Historian and is compiling a history of the Infantry units that are the predecessors of RWAR from 1861 to the present day.

Jim Richardson returned to the Building Trade after Full Time Duty in 1974 and began his own joinery firm in 1977, finally retiring in 1999. He continues to make Polished Jarrah furniture and small timber projects in between allotting time to his other passions and interests listed below:

- Regimental Historian, RWAR;
- School Volunteer assisting Primary students by delivering Drug Awareness and Personal Safety instruction on a weekly basis in Fremantle;
- Community Policing Committee, Fremantle;
- Cabinet and woodwork support, Tour guide for visiting groups, and Coordinator for the Back-to-the-Barracks Presentations at the Army Museum of WA, Foundation from 1994 until 2008;
- Facilitator for Anti Drugs Parents Program;
- Counselor, Dealing with Drug Issues in Schools;
- Founding Chairman, Fremantle Local Drug Action Group since 1996;
- Coordinator of "Corps of Honorary Colonels";
- Member, Leeuwin Barracks Officers & Sergeant's Mess, representing Honorary Members;
- Founding President of the RWAR Association in 2003;
- Facilitator for Protective Behaviors Program for Children. (Stranger Danger);
- Member of Board of Management of Local Drug Action Groups Inc. 2003 to 2007;
- Life Member and Past President of 16th Battalion the Cameron Highlanders of WA Association;
- Life Member of the Royal Western Australia Regiment Association in 2011; and
- Life Member of Local Drug Action Groups Inc. 2012.

In the Australia Day Honors List of 2007, he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to the community of Fremantle with the Local Drug Action Group and to the local ex-service community.

Following the violent death of his only son Grant, Jim founded the Lobby Group, JUSTICE.FIRST with the aim of changing some of the unjust legal systems affecting Victims of Crime. This passion is ongoing.

Leisure activities include holidays in the Mandurah region, fishing, crabbing, and reading for Regimental History research, and overseas travel with wife of 52 years, Margaret.

Margaret and Jim live in active “retirement” in the Perth suburb of Melville now that their three adult children have moved on, but they enjoy their four granddaughters on regular family occasions.

COLONEL WALTER P. RILEY
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF TRANSPORT
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT / WESTERN REGION
1990 TO 1997

Walter Riley was born in Sydney in 1929. His father returned to New Zealand after WWI and then to Australia where he met his wife and where Wal was born. With an impending recession likely the family moved back to New Zealand when Wal was only 3 months old.

Wal received his primary education in the town of Whangarei before the family moved to Gisborne where he attended secondary schooling.

His interest in matters Military began as a High School Cadet before moving to the Gisborne Battalion of the Home Guard in the early 1940's. In 1947 he qualified at a selection board for entry to the Royal Military College, Duntroon. Four months later he joined a class of 65 Australian and New Zealand staff Cadets on the first year of the course. He had never heard of calculus and starting from scratch was very hard but in the second year the class was divided between science and arts and with the change Wal never looked back, graduating 12 in the class of 45 graduates. His order of choice of Corps was Artillery, Armoured, Infantry, Service Corps and only one of the NZ graduates got his preferred choice. Wal was told that RNZASC needed a RMC graduate and he was it.

His first posting was as an instructor of recruits for K Force at the Burnham Camp near Christchurch which proved very satisfying. By this time he was engaged to his beloved Margaret Pearl, who was still in Canberra and he confirmed with his Corps Director, that if he was not going to Korea, there was no point in delaying the wedding. After a short honeymoon in Australia he returned to New Zealand to set up a home only to be asked by that same Corps Director whether his inoculations were up to date, as he was to proceed on a 12 month posting to Korea, forthwith. 12 months became 15 months as usually happens. His new wife remained in Canberra for the duration.

KOREA 1953-54

On arriving at 10 NZ Transport Company he was immediately despatched to a helicopter resupply operation across the Imjin River before joining his platoon. To his horror, he found the platoon morale was poor and he set about correcting it and he had little choice but to take a hard line. One Sgt sent home and 2 Corporals reduced to Private - not at all popular. The ensuing few months were a time of 'Team building' which meant back to basics of Infantry, endurance and small arms training. The results amazed him with platoon morale lifting rapidly, even to the point where he was no longer "That Duntroon Bastard" but simply 'The Boss'.

His first big job Commanding his platoon plus elements of other platoons, was a 'Relief-in-the-Line' operation involving British, Canadian and Australian battalions in and out of the line. The Chinese reaction was minimal, although there were some

scary moments. This Operation involved a detailed knowledge of the Divisional Area, unit locations and identifying tactical signs and numbers - a must for Divisional Transport Officers and NCO's.

Six months before his 15 months were up he was promoted to Captain and 3 months later was reposted to command the Divisional HQ (NZ) Transport Platoon of over 100 all ranks, which, at Main Division, was located in a dirty, scrubby, unhealthy valley adjacent to a tank stand -- to area. The centurions of the Royal Tank Regiment regularly churned up the mud and dust beside the messes and living tents. Wal complained and requested a change of location of his platoon area. He succeeded with support from the Divisional ADMS and CRE. The men of the platoon worked like Trojans to develop the new and much more suitable and comfortable area aided by a gift of funds from the Division Welfare Fund by the GOC.

Captain Riley returned to New Zealand in 1954, firstly to get his name on the urgent housing list and get Margaret over from Australia, then to report to HQ Northern Military District, Auckland, where he was told that it was Army Policy that junior regular officers promoted to substantive Captain in K Force, would revert to their Regular Army substantive rank (LT) and that Lieutenants could fill Captains appointments without being granted temporary rank or Higher Duties pay. Hence, for the next four years, he occupied a series of Captain's appointments as a Lieutenant, culminating in a posting as a Staff Captain and OC Headquarter Company on HQ of the NZ Division.

He attended the Australian Staff College and was promoted to Major and posted as Chief Instructor of RNZASC School during which time he joined a small team examining the military implications of the Vietnam War. This reached interesting and accurate conclusions.

Various staff appointments preceded the start of his planning career when he was posted as the Army Member of the Defence Admin Planning Staff in the Ministry of Defence, Wellington, to work mainly on SEATO and ANZAM Operational Planning.

In early 1969 he was promoted to Lt. Col. and posted to HQ 3 NZEF/HQ LSG (LSG /Field Force/Log Spt Gp) as senior Regular Cadre Officer, during which time he led a Defence Delegation to SEATO HQ Bangkok.

In 1970 he was posted on exchange to Aust Army HQ Canberra as SO1 Log Plans, involving SEATO, ANZAM, ABCA, Peacekeeping and PNG Independence planning. Of all the interesting tasks in which he was involved he regarded PNGDF the most significant and most satisfying.

After a period of heated arguments with OPS, Army and Defence he was allowed to take a Joint Staff Team in 1973, to work with the PNGDF staff, to design Admin and LOG systems and organisation for the new PNGDF. This was completed in three months.

On completion of his 2 years exchange, he joined the Australian Army and remained as SO1 LOG/PLANS until 1975 when he was promoted to Colonel on posting to D MOVT- ARMY. In 1980 he was posted as Director of Logistics Development (DLD Army for 2 years).

His final posting was to Computing Services Division in Department of Defence where he progressed through two Director's Appointments before finishing as Director of Strategic Policy and Planning.

He retired from the Australian Army in August 1987 when he and Margaret Pearl and daughter Barbara moved to Perth leaving his 2 recently married sons in Sydney.

Walter Riley joined the Legacy Club of Canberra while still in the army and continues to serve Legacy in Perth to this day. He became chairman of the Swan Districts Group after a period as Secretary. He also served as a Director of the ACT Handicapped Citizens Association for a period.

His strong community spirit has seen him heavily involved in:

- Princess Margaret Children's Hospital, State wide Door Knock Appeal for four years, raising over 1 Million Dollars; and
- Australian Red Cross Doorknock to extend the scope to cover WA Regions. He ran this for 8 years and raised 3 Million Dollars. He retired on compassionate grounds in 2001 to care for his beloved Margaret and disabled daughter Barbara. He has a grandson in Sydney.

Walter's total Military Service was 40 years plus a further 12 years community involvement. From the rank of Major he was involved in high level Logistic Planning in the NZ and Australian Armies 1970 to 1982.

In 1990 he was honoured by the appointment as Colonel Commandant, Royal Australian Corps of Transport, a post he held until 1997.

He now lives in quiet retirement in Boya, an outer suburb of Perth where he continues to write papers from time to time to stir up the Dept of Defence.

**MAJOR WILLIAM RITCHIE
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
WESTERN REGION
1ST MAY 2007 TO 3RD DECEMBER 2010**

Bill Ritchie was born in Victoria Park on 15th September 1943 and completed secondary education at Aquinas College in 1959 before joining the Shell Oil Company as a finance trainee. While working at Shell he joined 3rd Field Regiment as a Gunner in 1960 and during the next four years rose through the ranks to be commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1964.

Seeking a more exciting career than the Shell Company could provide he left Shell, resigned his Citizen Military Force Commission, and joined the Regular Army to attend Officer Cadet School at Portsea for the class commencing January 1965.

Graduating in December 1965 he was sent to the School of Artillery to attend a young officers' course which he successfully completed in March 1966. A posting to 4th Field Regiment followed where he was allocated a job as gun position officer 108th Field Battery. He remained in this position for the next two and a half years and this included a one year tour of duty in Vietnam from 9th June 1967 to 28th May 1968 with 4th Field Regiment.

On return to Australia he was posted to 110th Air Defence Battery for a 12 month tour of Malaysia. Prior to embarkation he married his wife Michele.

On return to Australia he was transferred to 8th/12th Medium Regiment and served as Forward Observer, Battery Captain and Adjutant until August 1973. During this service he played rugby for 8th/12th Medium Regiment, Eastern Command and Combined Services. While serving in 8th/12th Medium Regiment he attended several courses including Gun Position Officer, Forward Observer and Regimental Officer Gunnery.

A posting to England was received in July 1973 and he and his family departed for Larkhill to attend the Long Gunnery Course for 12 months. After successful completion he was sent to Germany as an instructor for three months. On return to Australia he was assigned as an instructor at the School of Artillery, Gunnery Wing, where he served for the next three years.

Training Command was the next assignment and he was promoted to Major to take up this position. At that time the Army was reviewing its training methods, converting schools to "The Systems Approach to Training". He assisted six schools in conversion to this new and revolutionary method.

Command of 102nd Field Battery followed in 1977 and 1978. During this time he was involved in support to the School of Artillery, Mechanised trials with 5th/7th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment, and general training of the Battery to carry out its allotted support tasks and demonstrations for the Australian Staff College.

He also commanded an exchange programme with the United States in Hawaii where a contingent of 120 Australian soldiers was mixed with American units for exercises.

Staff College was next in 1979 and the family moved to Queenscliffe to undertake this course which he successfully completed. A posting to the School of Artillery followed and he served there as Training Officer for the next four years. Finally a home posting to Western Australia was received and he continued in his job as Staff Officer Grade Two Operations until discharge in December 1985.

His current civilian employment is as owner of Southlands Fabric and Sewing Centre. He has been in this business for over twenty years and is still trading as a retailer of fabrics, haberdashery, sewing machines and overlockers.

Happily married to Michele, he has three children, two daughters and a son and six grandchildren. He enjoys jogging, camping, walking the dogs and supporting the Dockers football club.

**BRIGADIER JOHN B. ROBERTS, ISO, MBE, OAM, ED, (RET'D)
HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
WESTERN COMMAND
1967 TO 1974**

**HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
1974 TO 1978**

John Bertram Roberts was born in Staffordshire, UK and moved with his family to WA as a young boy. He attended state schools in Perth before joining the staff of Parliament House as a messenger boy in 1928. Apart from war service, he served continuously at the Parliament, rising to become Clerk of the Upper House at his retirement in 1978, a total of 50 years.

He enlisted as a private soldier in 1935 with 13th Mixed Brigade Signals, rose through the ranks and was commissioned in 1938.

When WWII broke out he resigned his commission and joined the AIF with 6th Australian Division Signals, promoted to Sgt and embarked for the Middle East with the Advance Party in December 1939. He was promoted to Lieutenant and Captain while serving in Palestine, Libya, Greece and Syria before returning to Australia in 1942 then promoted to Major and staff postings on HQ 1 Aust Army and 2nd Aust Corps in New Guinea, Morotai and Borneo, before returning to Australia and discharge in January 1946.

On the formation of the CMF in 1948, he enlisted and was appointed to command Western Command Signals Squadron as well as some time as Chief Signals Officer on HQ Western Command in 1954.

A change of Corps and posting as Second-in-Command of the 28th Battalion, The Swan Regiment, preceded his Tac 5 course at Canungra, promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and command of the 28th Battalion in 1956.

This was a time of great change towards the Pentropic Division and Tropical Warfare operations for the Australian Army and a visit to army units in Malaysia provided up to date experience in the new training requirements.

July 1960 saw the formation of State Regiments in all States and his promotion to Deputy Commander of the 1 RWAR Battle Group. This only lasted six months before his promotion to Colonel and command of 1 RWAR, which was now the senior formation in Western Australia and was actually a Brigade Group.

Command of the new Battle Group at full strength, co-coordinating the supporting arms and services into a cohesive force, introduction of new training and preparation for the Battalion to receive its new Queens and Regimental Colours was a massive task.

In November 1962, the eight old colours of the four old infantry regiments of WA were marched off parade and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh presented the new colours.

Two years later he was promoted to Brigadier and Commander of the newly formed 2nd Task Force before his retirement from the active Army Reserve in May 1968 after 33 years of service.

During his service career Brigadier Roberts held the honorary appointments of ADC to the Governor General from 1962-65 and ADC to Her Majesty the Queen from 1965-67. Awards of Imperial Service Order, Order of the British Empire, Medal of the Order of Australia, and the Efficiency Decoration have recognised his outstanding service.

Appointments as Honorary Colonel West Australian Cadets followed in 1967-74 and Honorary Colonel of Royal Western Australia Regiment, 1974-78 followed his retirement.

Brigadier John Bertram Roberts, Imperial Service Order, Member of the Order of the British Empire, Medal of the Order of Australia, The Efficiency Decoration, passed away on 4th of January 2007 after an outstanding military and civil service career in service to Australia.

**COLONEL A. E. (ALF) ROGERS
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY**

DATES NOT DETERMINED

**HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN SANDERSON, AC
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
2001 TO 2005**

Lieutenant General Sanderson is a Western Australian, born in Geraldton and educated in Bunbury, the Royal Military College Duntroon and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

Trained as a military and civil engineer, he has commanded at all levels and saw service in North Borneo and South Vietnam on military engineering projects under combat conditions. He has served as an international instructor and lecturer and was the Airborne Force Commander for the ADF and Chief of Defence Force Policy and Development.

In 1991, General Sanderson was seconded to the Secretary General of the United Nations to complete the U N Transitional Authority in Cambodia and subsequently commanded 16,000 troops of the international force from 34 nations securing Cambodia and supported the conduct of the election of a constitutional assembly.

On his return, he was the first Commander of Joint Forces, Australia until 1995 when he was appointed Chief of the General Staff.

After a military career of four decades that culminated in his appointment as Chief of the Australian Army, he retired and was appointed as Governor of Western Australia in August 2000, and has served two terms in this position.

His dedication has seen him travel the length and breadth of the State and also lead a trade mission to China representing WA industry.

For his service in Cambodia, he has been recognised at the highest levels, both nationally and internationally.

He will retire to the Eastern States where his children and grand – children now reside.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL PETER L. SEWELL, RFD, ED, RL
REGIMENTAL COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT**

DATES NOT DETERMINED

Peter Sewell is a scientist with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

He joined the Citizens Military Force (now the Australian Army Reserve) in January 1959 as a Private in the Western Australian University Regiment.

In the following nine years, he was promoted through the ranks to be commissioned and posted to 16 RWAR as a Lieutenant. Then followed postings to: -

- Officer Cadet Training Unit;
- 11th Independent Rifle Company RWAR;
- OC of B Company 16 RWAR;
- 1981 to 1983, Major Sewell was OC of 28 Independent Rifle Company, RWAR;
- CO of Western Australian University Regiment on 5th December 1983;
- 1985 to 1986 Lt Col Sewell, RFD was CO 16 RWAR; and
- 1987 to 1989 Lt Col Sewell, RFD was CO 11/28th Battalion, RWAR.

**COLONEL GEOFFREY SIMPSON RFD, BE, GRAD DIP ADMIN
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
WESTERN REGION
2002 – CURRENT**

Geoff Simpson was born at Subiaco and educated at Subiaco Primary School. His father was then transferred in the bank and they lived in Katanning for 3 years. He attended Katanning Senior High School and had his first taste of the military when he joined the cadet unit and being part of the shooting team in Year 10. Geoff spent years 11 & 12 at Christ Church Grammar School, again in cadets, the shooting team and finished as the Intelligence Sergeant. On completion he accepted a BP Scholarship to study Engineering at UWA and resided at St Georges College for the next 4 years.

Enlisting in the CMF with Western Australian University Regiment in 1967, he began his studies for his BE (Mech) and completed the Officer Cadet Course during the same period. Graduating in 1971 and commissioned into Infantry, he served with 11 RWAR for two years training recruits before Corps transferring to Royal Australian Engineers. During this time he found time to marry Margaret and start a family while working at his civilian job as a project engineer at BP Refinery in Kwinana. In 1974 he joined the Water Corporation to further his experience and spent the next 33 years there.

Regimental duties with 13 Field (Engineer) Squadron at Karrakatta until 1979 resulted in his promotion to Captain and Second-in-Command of the Squadron.

Posted to the Reserve Command and Staff College as an instructor Military Operations and studies for Major, preceded his promotion and appointment to Officer Commanding 13 Field Squadron in 1982 which included the opportunity to take the Squadron to the School of Military Engineering for the annual camp in 1984.

Progress in his civilian employment to Branch Manager and sporting interests in hockey and rowing continued to occupy his spare time away from work and army commitments, together with 3 young children.

After 3 years of OC, it was back to RCSC as a Milops Instructor before attending the Senior Course in 1987. Promoted Lt Colonel and posted as CO Western Australian University Regiment in January 1988. Challenged by the GOC Training Command to find the unit a role in the Army or get off the ORBAT, he spent the next three years transforming the unit from a pseudo Rifle Battalion, back into a training organisation.

Back to RCSC for a 2 year posting as the Course Manager, Military Operations before being promoted to Colonel and posted as Commander 5 Training Group in Jan 93.

In those days the Unit conducted a variety of courses varying from recruit training, Subject 1 for Corporal and Sergeant, Trade Courses including Cooks, Drivers,

Storemen and Clerks, and had under command WAUR, RCSC, OCTU and Pay Corps. Once again Training Command was trying to reorganise and over a 12 month period Geoff attended some 23 meetings in the Eastern States endeavouring to keep both WAUR and 5 Trg Gp on the ORBAT. He succeeded in his time, but today it is a different story.

In 1996 he was posted as the Director of Army Personnel Agency - Perth and 3 years later was invited to retire to let someone else be promoted – ousted at the ripe old age of 49 after 32 years service, a far cry from the 64 year olds now in service!

Rotary International became Geoff's passion to fill his non-work hours. He joined the West Perth Club, was its President in 2000 and retired from full time employment to become the District Governor with an area stretching from Perth to Kununurra.

After 33 years with the Water Corporation, Geoff retired in 2008 after successfully being the Commissioning Director for the Perth Sea Water Desalination Plant at Kwinana.

A member of Highgate RSL Sub Branch, Geoff is currently the Deputy Warden of the State War Memorial.

Appointed Colonel Commandant RAE - Western Region in 2002, he is still filling the position, pending the axe falling on Hon Cols positions.

Still happily married to Margaret after 41 years, he will become the proud grandfather of his 7th grandchild in March 2014.

**COLONEL PHILLIP GRAEME SKELTON, AM, (RET'D)
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
WESTERN REGION
11TH OCTOBER 1996 TO 6TH OCTOBER 2001**

Colonel Skelton is a graduate of the Royal Military College, Duntroon and later the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, and the Royal Military College of Science (UK).

Promoted through the officer ranks, his service career spans a wide range of postings from training officers and technicians in the communications - electronics field, to command of a Signals Regiment in 1976-77.

Gaining first place in his graduating class at the Australian Staff College, he also attended the United States Armed Forces Staff College before moving to the post of Australian Communications - Electronics Representative in USA, 1978-80, during which time he was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

In 1982-84 he held the post of Director of Communications - Army at Army Headquarters before his retirement after 28 years service.

His subsequent civilian career was with the WA Government where he was responsible, amongst many other things, for creating the Westlink talk-back television network, delivering TAFE and other education courses throughout the whole of Western Australia.

In semi-retirement, he did occasional consultancy work on telecommunications and broadcasting policy, strategy and business planning. He retired in 2009.

Current interests include: -

- Past President of Royal United Services Institute of WA;
- Past President of Perth Rotary Club;
- Past Governor of Rotary District 9455;
- Patron Royal Australian Signals Association WA; and
- Member Highgate RSL.

He keeps his interest in national security and defence through attending lectures and participating in discussions at the RUSI, the Curtin University Strategic Flashlight series, and as a member of Australian Defence Association. His activities in Rotary include assisting organise the annual Santos Great Bike Ride (4,500 riders and raises over \$100,000 for charities); assisting creation of a one day interactive program for influencing young people about road safety before they get behind the wheel; assisting create a major poverty reduction and village development programme in Lao PDR; and working towards creation of a Peace Park in Perth to remember the huge number of civilians killed in all wars.

Past community service covers: -

- Community Council President;
- School Foundation Director;
- Family and Marriage Counselling Service Director;
- Order of Australia Assoc. WA, Committee member;
- Deputy Warden of the State War Memorial;
- Patron of three Police Recruit Squads;
- Board member of Access 31 Community TV station; and
- Fund raiser for a High School Chaplaincy.

Once active in the team sports of Rugby League and Union, Australian Rules, and Hockey, and individual sports Tennis and the Modern Pentathlon, he now limits his activity to walking and riding his bicycle. Static hobbies include: environmental ecology, climate sensible house design, astronomy, electric cars, and forensic science.

With his wife the artist Leonie Dobrowolski, they live in Kenwick while enjoying the delights of their 14 grandchildren. They are contactable on 9452 1883.

**COLONEL CECILY S. SMITH, RRC, RL
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING CORPS
WESTERN COMMAND
1981 TO 1995**

**REPRESENTATIVE HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING CORPS
1985-86**

Cecily is a West Australian, born in Claremont soon after the end of the Great War and educated at Glenara Private and Claremont Central Schools. At the commencement of WWII she joined the Claremont Voluntary Aid Detachment gaining skills as an assistant nurse, before enlisting as an Enlisted VAD in 1941.

1942/43 brought the introduction into the Australian Army of two Women's Services - AWAS and AAMWS. From this time, in respect to AAMWS (Australian Army Medical Women's Service) all serving enlisted VAD's and all later female medical enlistees served as members of AAMWS.

Cecily was posted to 118th Australian General Hospital at Northam and to various camp hospitals around Western Australia, eventually rejoining 118 AGH remaining there in NSW and finally in Rabaul, New Britain until 1946. She was discharged in 1946 in the rank of Sergeant (X-ray Technician).

After completing General Nursing Training at Royal Perth Hospital in 1956, she was appointed to the Citizen Military Force RAANC Company in Perth in the rank of Lieutenant. On completion of Midwifery Training in NSW in 1958, she transferred to the Regular Army in 1959 and was posted to 3 Camp Hospital at Puckapunyal Victoria for six months, before a move to the British Military Hospital at Kanmunting, Malaysia.

In 1966, as a Captain, she was posted to 1st Battalion, Pacific Islands Regiment, at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, for two years. Returning to Australia and promoted to Major, she filled Senior RAANC postings in NSW and Queensland until 1971, when she was promoted to Lt. Col. and appointed Matron of ANZUK Military Hospital, Changi in Singapore until 1973.

Being the senior ranking female officer in the ANZUK Force, her position required her presentation to Royalty on many ceremonial occasions and prestigious events.

Appointment as Director of Army Nursing Service and Matron-In-Chief at Army Headquarters preceded her retirement in 1976, after 25 years service.

For services to Army Nursing, she was awarded the Royal Red Cross, First Class in 1977 and appointments as Honorary Colonel RAANC and Representative Honorary Colonel RAANC from 1981 to 1986.

In retirement, Colonel Smith enjoys membership of the RAANC Association, the Corps of Honorary Colonels and RSL Perth Branch. The study of Art at diploma level, Ikebana, ceramics, genealogy and reminiscing, occupy her time these days. Cecily lives in the Perth suburb of Booragoon.

**COLONEL T. (TOM) STACK, ED, RL
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS**

DATES NOT DETERMINED

**COLONEL FRANK W. STATHAM, OBE, ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS
5th MILITARY DISTRICT
5TH OCTOBER 1976 TO 4TH OCTOBER 1982**

Frank Statham was born in 1916, but little information has been located regarding his early life.

During World War II, he was a member of HQ 6th Division and he sailed on the first convoy to the Middle East, then transferred to and served with the 9th Division at Tobruk from March 1941 to May 1942.

On return to Australia in 1943, he was appointed CRAEME, 1 Armoured Division and deployed to the Moora – Geraldton area, then considered to be the most likely location for a Japanese invasion. When this threat abated, he saw service with the Headquarters First Army, Papua New Guinea and served there from December 1944 to September 1945.

Post war, he served in 3rd Military District for 8 years.

In the 1950s, he was the proprietor of a Trade Repair Company, maintaining some 50 Grant Tanks at Puckapunyal, Victoria.

From 1965 to 1981, he was the Director of the Commonwealth Department of Works in Western Australia and responsible for the construction of the Garden Island Naval Base and facilities.

In the mid-1980s, he married Sister Vivian Bullwinkle.

He was a most competent and outgoing Officer and a thorough gentleman.

COLONEL VICTOR LEWIS STEFFANONI, MBE, ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
WESTERN COMMAND
1962 TO 1967

Victor Steffanoni was born in Perth on 12th November 1901, employed as a Commonwealth civil servant, married to Alice, lived in Mount Lawley and served in the Militia pre-World War II with the Royal Australian Engineers. In about 1927, he was commissioned as a surveyor to create the layout of the Western Australian Golf Club.

In his medical examination in Guildford on 8th January 1941, he was described as being 6 feet tall, weighing 173 pounds with a chest measurement of 40 ½ inches, expanded 43 inches. His Militia Number was W4186, his AIF Number WX33371. He enlisted in the 13th Field Company, RAE, in Perth on the 19th September 1941 when he was called up for full time duty.

He was a member of the Council of the Institution for Surveyors for 30 years and President for 2 years, and a member of the Western Australian State Board of the Commonwealth Institute of Surveyors for 34 years. On 12th June 1965 he was awarded a Member of the British Empire (Civil) for his work as President of the Young Australia League in Western Australia. Steffanoni Crescent in Monash was named for him on 10th October 1990.

The only other information located about him is a series of postings and movements.

His promotions were: -

10th August 1925 Commissioned Lieutenant;
2nd May 1930 Promoted to Captain;
18 Sep 1944 Promoted to Major; and
11th January 1944 Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

His postings / movements were: -

19 Sep 1941 – Enlisted as a Major when called up for full time duty;
22 Sep 1941 - 13 Fd Sqn, Marched out to leave without pay;
01 Oct 1941 – 13 Fd Sqn, Marched in ex leave;
27 Oct 1941 - 13 Fd Sqn, Marched out on leave without pay;
01 Nov 1941 – 13 Fd Sqn, Rejoined Unit ex leave;
13 Nov 1941 – 13 Fd Sqn, Marched out on leave with pay;
14 Nov 1941 – 13 Fd Sqn, Rejoined unit ex leave;
17 Nov 1941 – 13 Fd Sqn, School of Instruction for Senior Officers, Guildford
Western Command Training School, Attached to attend Senior Officers
Course;
19 Dec 1941 – 13 Fd Coy, Rejoined Unit ex Senior Officers Course;
22 Dec 1941 – 13 Fd Coy, Marched out on leave without pay;

11 Mar 1942 – 13 Fd Coy, Detached, marched out on special duty;
 14 Mar 1942 – 13 Fd Coy, Rejoined Unit ex special duties;
 1 Sep 1942 - 4th Division, Enlisted in the AIF and allotted Number WX33371;
 30 May 1942 – LHQ 4 Aust Div, Transferred from R A E (Militia)
 Field 4th Military District;
 12 Dec 1942 – 13 Fd Sqn, Leave from 12 Dec 1942 to 22 Dec 1942;
 17 Dec 1942 – 13 Fd Sqn, Awarded the Efficiency Decoration; HQ RAE 4th Division,
 Ceased to be attached;
 30 Dec 1942 - 13 Fd Coy, Detached to H Q R A E 4th Division for duty;
 31 Dec 1942 - HQ RAE 4th Division, Attached for duty as CRE 4th Division;
 17 Feb 1943 – 13 Fd Sqn, Rejoined Unit from detachment to H Q R A E 4th Division
 as A/CRE;
 16 Mar 1943 – 13 Fd Coy, Entrained for South Australia L of C area;
 23 Mar 1943 – 13 Fd Sqn, Detrained for South Australia L of C from WA L of C;
 06 Apr 1943 – 13 Fd Sqn, Entrained South Australia L of C for Northern Territory;
 09 Apr 1943 – 13 Fd Sqn, Detrained Northern Territory from South Australia L of C;
 16 May 1943 – 13 Fd Sqn, Marched out to attend School of Military Engineering
 Course at Liverpool, NSW;
 23 Jul 1943 – 13 Fd Sqn, School results, qualified at above Course;
 26 Jul 1943 – GDD, Caulfield, Vic, Marched in from GDD Sydney GDD, Caulfield,
 Marched out to Adelaide;
 08 Aug 1943 – 13 Fd Coy, Rejoined Unit from School of Military Engineering;
 01 Sep 1943 – This appeared in his records and shows us how the rank was handled
 when transferring from the Militia to the AIF: -

“In secondment in his unit of the Active Citizen Military Forces or in such other unit of those forces to which he may be transferred, for services with the Australian Imperial Force, with effect from the date specified opposite his name, that he retain his present substantive rank, and temporary rank, if any, in accordance with the terms of his appointment to that latter rank and regimental seniority, and continue to hold his appointment, and that any substantive or temporary rank hereafter granted to him in the Active Citizen Forces, whilst he remains so seconded shall be deemed substantive or temporary rank, as the case may be, in the Australian Imperial Force.”

27 Sep 1943 – RAE (Field) Regimental List Transferred to RAE (Field) OC 13 Field
 Company;
 26 Nov 1943 – AMF, Appointed to command 6 CRE (Works) RAE (Field) Northern
 Territory Force and ex RAE (Field) 4th Australian Division;
 03 Dec 1943 – GD Caulfield, Transferred to 6th Australian Division CRE and
 appointed to command
 - 13 Fd Coy, Marched out to 6th Australian Division CRE
 - 6 Australian Division, CRE, Marched in, taken on strength from
 13 Fd Coy RAE;
 31 Dec 1943 – Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel;
 01 May 1944 - AMF, Transferred to RAE works from posting to
 CRE 6th Australian Works (AIF);
 30 Oct 1944 – 13 Fd Coy, Detached to 10th Australian CRE works;
 4 Dec 1944 – 13 Fd Coy, Marched out to NSW L of C area 13 Fd Coy, Ceases to
 be attached to 10th Australian CRE works;
 22 Dec 1944 – 13 Fd Coy, Relinquishes appointment of 6th Australian CRE and is
 placed on the Retired List;
 02 Jan 1945 – W Comd RR and GD, Marched in on leave for disposal;

08 Jan 1945 – W Comd RR and GD, Admitted 110 Australian Military Hospital (Renal Colitis);
11 Jan 1945 – RR GD, Marched in for disposal;
17 Jan 1945 – W Comd RR and GD, Discharged from 110 Australian Military Hospital to W Comd RR and GD;
26 Jan 1945 – LHQ 2 Echelon, Discharged from Army General Hospital to GDD W Comd RR and GD, Transferred to Reserve of Officers (RAE) Appointment terminated and placed on the Reserve of Officers;
01 Mar 1945 – AMF, Transferred to the Reserve of Officers, RAE, WA;
11 Jan 1948 Promoted to T/Lt Col then Lt Col;
20 Nov 1962. – Appointed Colonel Commandant, RAE; and
30 Apr 1967 – Relinquished the appointment of Colonel Commandant, RAE, WA.

Colonel Steffanoni passed away in 1974.

**MAJOR IAN LEIGHTON STEWART, AM
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS
WESTERN REGION
17th MARCH 1993 TO 16TH MARCH 1997**

Ian Stewart was born in Quirindi NSW on 9th February 1933 and in 1941 he went to Sydney to be reunited with his parents after they had been separated during World War II. He attended Randwick High School where he excelled at rugby league before achieving similar results in athletics; tennis; cricket; baseball and Australian Rules Football. As a youngster he spent time catching rabbits to sell the skins for pocket money and his first job was washing cordial bottles at the Narrabri Cordial factory.

Ian excelled at Rugby League, and represented NSW against Queensland and also played tennis, cricket, baseball and Australian Rules football and appeared in the Guinness Book of Records for the fastest time round a baseball diamond and also ran second in a Stawell Gift.

He joined the Australian Army Apprentices School, Balcombe in 1949 at the age of 15 as an apprentice motor mechanic and was allotted to Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

He met and married Marion Smith in 1954 and they had two sons.

Ian had a number of overseas postings during his service, spending two years in the UK and Germany in 1958 before his posting to Vietnam in January 1968 where he was responsible for heavy vehicle machinery around Vung Tau and Nui Dat. On his return to Australia in 1970, when he was commissioned, he met and married his second wife Julie in 1970 and they had a daughter Nikki in 1972.

In 1969, when he was posted to Melbourne Area Workshop, Wednesday was sports afternoon and many of the soldiers put their names down for swimming, but instead went to the Mauri Chief Hotel. Ian went to the Richmond Baths but found to his surprise that there were none of his soldiers there. On the next morning's parade, he announced that as there were so many keen swimmers in the Unit, he was going to enter a team, and maybe a water polo team, in the inter service swimming carnival. The next week the soldiers put their names down for golf and turned up. Ian's comment was that "*it was good that we switched sport as we would have been the only water polo team in history to drown during the game*".

Posted to Darwin, he was at home in Larrakeyah Barracks when Cyclone Tracy struck and the family hid behind the fridge in the carport, protecting a suitcase containing their cat, Satan. All four survived unharmed though Tracy killed 71 and caused \$837 million in damage. Julie and Nikki were sent South and Ian remained in Darwin for several months helping to clean up the damage. He rejoined the family in Adelaide.

He moved to Perth in 1976 as Officer Commanding Perth Workshop Company, located in Midland, where in 1983, a year before he retired, he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for services to the Army.

In civilian life Ian joined the WA Justice Department as a senior judge's associate until his retirement in 2008.

Ian passed away on 26th June 2011.

BRIGADIER IAN D. STOCK, RFD, ED, RL
HONORARY COLONEL
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY REGIMENT
5TH OCTOBER 1979 TO 4TH OCTOBER 1983

Ian Stock was born in Western Australia and completed his secondary education at Scotch College, Claremont, where he participated in the school Cadet Unit, rising to the rank of Senior Cadet Under Officer. Entering RMC Duntroon and graduating in 1948, he was allocated to Royal Australian Engineers. After courses at the School of Military Engineering he was posted to the British Commonwealth Occupation Force, Engineer Regiment in BCOF at Kure, Japan.

Returning to Australia in 1949 he attended courses at the School of Military Engineering and in 1950 started a Bachelor of Engineering Degree course at the University of Western Australia where he graduated with first class honours. During his time at University he was promoted to Captain.

Now in the role of Adjutant of 2 Field Engineer Regiment in Sydney where he spent two years interesting and rewarding service, only marred by the traumatic experience of having the parents of 3 Sappers who were drowned while trying to cross a flooded creek during an exercise at Singleton NSW.

Moving to Western Australia and command of 22 Construction Squadron he was promoted to Major after 2 years. Later as OC, he was called to Western Command and informed that he was being posted to Deputy Chief, Royal Engineers in Malacca. When he tried to find out where that was, he was told it was a small island in the Pacific Ocean. Army Intelligence Staff finally found out it was located on the West coast of Malaya. He flew to Malaya and was fortunate to be able to see his new born son the day before he flew out.

It had been planned that a Brigade sized camp was to be built in Malacca, funded by England and Australia and manned by British and Australian troops. This cantonment was named Bukit Terendak after a nearby dominating hill which resembled the head-dress worn by the local population. The construction was carried out by Malay building contractors, supervised by our staff plus a large, directly employed local labour force. The latter operated the earth moving plant, rock quarrying plant, road construction, and even a large female force of turf girls, who planted turf to stabilise the banks to prevent erosion. The project took two years and after the first British troops moved in Ian moved back to SME as a Bridging Instructor.

After the birth of their fourth child he transferred to the CMF and returned to Perth to take up a position with Civil and Civic for two years before being transferred within Lend Lease to the position of Managing Director of Connolly Windows. Finally being frustrated with the problems of running a window factory, he resigned and took a position with the Shire of Perth as an Executive Engineer.

Then followed his appointment as Officer of Works with the University of Western Australia, a position he held for twenty years until retiring at the age of 60.

Service with the Army Reserve in WA was spent with Western Command Training Group, OC of 13 Field Engineer Squadron and later as Second-in-Command of 10th Light Horse Regiment and later as Commanding Officer. During this time he was Honorary ADC to the Governor General.

He was appointed to Command of Western Australian University Regiment, then as Commander of the Training Group before promotion to Brigadier and the Command of 2nd Task Force before it was eliminated to make way for the new concept of Battle Groups.

After his retirement .he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Western Australian University Regiment from 5th October 1979 to 4th October 1983.

Ian and his wife now live in quiet retirement in the Perth suburb of Claremont.

**COLONEL CHARLES STUART, MC, ED
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
WESTERN REGION
DATES NOT DETERMINED**

Charles Stuart was born on 28th August 1917 in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Northumberland and was educated at the Royal Grammar School; Newcastle then studied medicine at Durham University graduating in 1941. He spent six months as a resident at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle before being called up for service in the British Army in 1942.

He was commissioned into the Royal Army Medical Corps and after general army training at Aldershot and a course in Urdu at the School for African and Oriental Language at the University of London, he joined the Indian Army serving on the North West Frontier and in the Punjab as a medical officer. He later recalled that he had got a wide medical, surgical and cultural training in India and loved the environment, medicine and cross culture.

In 1943 he joined the 1/9 Ghurkha Rifles based in Syria and subsequently became medical officer in the 5th Brigade of the 4th Indian Division. In Cairo he treated wounded soldiers from the desert war, recalling that he received casualties from the Battle of El Alamein although he was not involved in the battle itself.

After service in North Africa and the Middle East, he was posted to Italy and served as medical officer to the 1/9 Ghurkhas during the fierce battles for Cassino in 1944. From January until May 1944, American; Indian and New Zealand troops assaulted the German Gustav Line, symbolised by the Benedictine monastery atop Mount Cassino, and suffered heavy casualties. At one occasion during the battles he was captured briefly by German troops, but was returned to the Allied lines accompanied by fifty wounded soldiers.

He was awarded the Military Cross during the battles for his bravery in retrieving wounded soldiers in terrible conditions from the mountainous terrain, accompanied by ten Ghurkha stretcher bearers. Later he wrote of his love and respect for them as men, soldiers and for their selflessness. In later years he named his Australian farm at Boddington "*Bahadur*"- Ghukali for "the brave".

After the war, he undertook post graduate studies in radiology at the Hammersmith Hospital in London before emigrating to New Zealand in 1949 and then to Perth in 1953.

He resumed a military career in the Citizens' Military Force/Australian Army Reserve rising to the rank of Colonel and appointed Director of Army Medical Services in Western Australia.

In 1970 at the age of fifty three he volunteered for service in South Vietnam becoming CO of the 1st Australian Field Hospital in Vung Tau.

His military medical report relating to the use of radiology was reproduced in the 1996 study *Australasian Radiology – a History*, and is the only report of its type by a radiologist working in a military field unit overseas to have appeared in print since World War II.

In his civilian life, he was a distinguished consultant neuroradiologist and was co-editor of the Proceedings of the College of Radiologists of Australasia. From the 1970s he travelled widely overseas, serving as a radiological consultant in Europe for the Australian Department of Immigration, and also undertook various visiting positions at hospitals in the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Jordan in the 1960s and 1990s.

He was a man of fine intellect with exceptional leadership skills that were demonstrated in his career as a medical officer. He loved the Australian lifestyle and developed his love of exotic cars and was a devotee of military history and classical music.

He passed away in 2003 and was survived by his widow, Margaret and two sisters, three sons and seven grandchildren. The eulogy at his funeral was delivered by former Western Australian Cabinet Minister Bill Hassell.

**MAJOR WAYNE G. TARR, RFD, ED, (RET'D)
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF TRANSPORT
WESTERN REGION
1997-2001**

Wayne Tarr was born in Western Australia and educated at Kent Street High School before starting a career with the Crown Law Department.

He enlisted in the CMF in 1959 with 10 Company Royal Australian Army Service Corps (RAASC). He was promoted through the ranks to Sergeant and was commissioned and appointed to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in 1966. He served in postings as Transport Officer, Supply Officer and Admin Officer until 1969 when he visited South Vietnam on a familiarisation tour and was attached to 1 Transport Coy RAASC.

A transfer to the country with his civilian employment in 1971 made it necessary to transfer to 28th Battalion, Royal Western Australia Regiment, a special conditions unit raised to cater for National Service Deferees, in order to continue with the CMF. He served as Transport Officer and then an Infantry Platoon Commander before changing Corps to Infantry.

Promotions to Captain and Major followed with postings to Western Australian University Regiment, 28 Independent Rifle Company as Second-in-Command and 28 RWAR as Company Commander.

Now posted to 28th Battalion, Royal Western Australia Regiment, a unit specially raised to cater for country National Service Deferees, he filled the post of Transport Officer and then became an Infantry Platoon Commander. Promotions to Captain and Major followed and postings with 16 RWAR, 28 RWAR as Company Commander and on HQ 5th Military District, staff postings as SO2 Operations, second-in-command of 11/28th RWAR and Brigade Major of 13th Brigade, completed his Army Reserve service, retiring in 1989.

In 1984 he was nominated for attendance at the Tac 5 Course at LWC, Canungra for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, but because of civilian employment promotion examinations, had to defer taking the course several times and the opportunity was lost. (This once again highlights the difficult decisions that have to be made by Reserve soldiers trying to serve the army and their own civilian employers).

Study for the Stipendiary Magistrates Course and qualifying in 1987, made it necessary to transfer to the Inactive Reserve until his retirement on age in 1989 after 30 years service.

He was appointed Colonel Commandant of RACT, Western Region in 1997 and served until 2001.

His civilian career continues as Stipendiary Magistrate of the Central Law Courts, Perth and travels the State to fulfill his duties.

In July 2003, he was appointed Trustee of WA Branch of the Returned and Services League and a member of the National Tribunal in 2004.

As President of the RACT RAASC RAE (TN) Association in 1993 he held that position for four years and is still an active member as well as the Highgate RSL Sub Branch, The Naval, Military and Air Forces Club and the Western Australian Club.

Wayne is married to Eleanor and they have 3 adult children and live in the Perth suburb of Wembley. They are contactable on 9425 2212 and email: wetarr@inet.net.au

**MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH J. TAYLOR, AO, (RET'D)
HONORARY COLONEL
A SQUADRON 10TH LIGHT HORSE
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
2ND OCTOBER 1987 TO 1ST OCTOBER 1991**

**HONORARY COLONEL
THE PILBARA REGIMENT
23RD JUNE 1988 TO 1994 22ND JUNE 1994**

Major General Taylor was born and educated in Subiaco before entering the Royal Military College, Duntroon as a cadet in 1947. After graduating in 1950, he completed a Bachelor of Science degree at UWA and was allotted to RASigs and posted to AHQ Signals Regiment prior to a posting to 4 RAR for Infantry experience before posting on Active Service in Korea with 1 RAR and 2 RAR in 1953/4.

Service with the British Army of the Rhine followed his completion of a post-graduate course at Royal Military College of Science, at Shrivenham, UK. Returning to Australia, he moved to the office of the Scientific Adviser, Operations Research Group on AHQ, before attending Australian Staff College, Queenscliffe in 1961. Another overseas posting saw him posted to Operations Branch on HQ Far East Land Forces, Singapore, before returning to Australia and the task of raising, and commanding, 103 Signal Squadron in 1964. Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and appointment to command of the First Signals Regiment followed in 1966.

Overseas again in 1967 saw him on the headquarters of South East Asia Treaty Organisation, Bangkok, as Head of Communications - Electronics Branch (Military Planning Office). He returned to Australia for a short time before attending the Joint Services Staff College in UK as a student.

Grade 1 Staff appointments as GSO Training in Eastern Command and Director of Army Recruiting in Canberra, preceded his promotion to Colonel and his appointment as Director of Military Arts and Deputy Commandant of Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1970.

Promotion to Brigadier and appointment as Director of Computer Operations in Department of Defence was followed by command of 5th Field Force Group and Commander 5th Military District in Western Australia for two years.

Promotion to Major General and appointment as Chief of Materiel saw him return to Canberra in 1982.

Major General Taylor was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in the New Year's Honours List in 1985 and resigned from the Army in May 1985 after 38 years service to the nation.

He was the Honorary Colonel of A Squadron 10th Light Horse Regiment; and Honorary Colonel the Pilbara Regiment, a Warden of the Fremantle Monument and worked to re-introduce the Anzac Day March in Fremantle.

His electronics background has seen him involved with a Multinational and International Electronics Firm as well as a keen interest in manufacturing, venture capital, financial services and geographic information systems to Australia and SE Asia as well as development of Australian exports to the Gulf Area and Saudi Arabia.

He was a member of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for 11 years, before retiring recently.

Together with Sir Charles Court, he was instrumental in the founding the Council for the National Interest, working to address matters affecting the nation at national and international level.

Although a keen yachtsman for some years, his leisure activities now include swimming in heated pools, and golf.

General Taylor passed away in 2008.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN TICK
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
WESTERN REGION
1ST JULY 1991.TO 30TH JUNE 1995**

John Tick graduated from Portsea 1966, served most of his military career in Royal Australian Engineers mostly in Field (Combat Engineer) Squadrons, serving as troop commander in 7 Fd Sqn and as troop commander 2 Tp 1 Fd Sqn in support and under command of 3RAR in Vietnam.

He later served variously as 2IC and OC 2, 3 and 7 Fd Sqn and 24 Spt Sqn, 2IC 55 Engr Wksp and Park Sqn Vietnam on extension of tour in 1972.

John was the troop commander 2 Fd Troop that searched and conducted the demolition of the 3/33 NVA bunker system and the adjoining D445 bunker system during Op Overlord. He was also the Engineer advisor to Lt Col Peter Scott the CO of 3RAR.

He also conducted Engineer intelligence reconnaissance throughout Phuoc Tuy Province before and after Op Overlord.

John resigned from service in 1987 and served a further 10 years on the inactive Army Reserve on special projects in Australia and overseas.

**MAJOR GENERAL RONALD EUSTACE WADE, CB, CBE
HONORARY COLONEL
A SQUADRON, 10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
WESTERN COMMAND**

**DATES NOT DETERMINED, BUT IT IS CONSIDERED PROBABLE
THAT HE WAS THE INAUGURAL HONORARY COLONEL
FOR 10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT**

Ronald Wade was born in 1905 and attended the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1927.

In 1928 to 1929 he was training in India.

1939 to 1940 as Brigade Major 4th Infantry Brigade

1941 to 1942 as Brigade Major 2nd Armoured Brigade.

1942 to 1943 as Commanding Officer 2/10th Australian Armoured Regiment.

1944 to 1945 as General Staff Officer 11th Australian Division, AIF

1945 to 1946 as Colonel, Advanced Land Headquarters

1953 as Military Secretary Army Headquarters

1953 to 1956 as Brigadier Commanding 11th Infantry Brigade, Queensland

1956 to 1957 as Head Australian Joint Services Washington, DC, USA

1957 as Adjutant General

1961 to 1966 as General Officer Commanding Northern Command

**BRIGADIER A.G. WARNER, AM, LVO, BSC HONS
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
WESTERN REGION
4TH DECEMBER 2010 TO CURRENT**

**REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
7TH DECEMBER 2013 TO CURRENT**

Gerry Warner is a West Australian born in Subiaco into an army family whose father was a Rat of Tobruk and a POW of WWII. He was educated at Aquinas College and followed a natural progression to RMC Duntroon graduating in 1971 and allotted to RAA. Normal postings for a young officer followed through Section, Troop Commander to Adjutant and Battery Commander to CO of 16 Air Defence Regiment in 1989-90.

His career now moved outside the RAA and saw him heavily involved in preparing detachments for service overseas including Afghanistan, Singapore, Malaysia and Germany as well as personal appointments to the staff of Governor's General and personnel staff appointments and Peacekeeping in the Middle East.

As a Captain he was appointed ADC to Sir John Kerr and awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal during this service.

His marriage to Gerri was generously hosted at Government House, Yarralumla by Sir John and Lady Kerr only days before Sir John left vice regal office.

The Warners returned to Yarralumla again in 1986 as Military Secretary to Sir Ninian Stephen when Australia's Bicentennial Year afforded them the opportunity to meet many Heads of State, Monarchs and members of our Royal Family. Gerry also accompanied Their Excellency's on State visits to Malaysia, Singapore and China.

Extensive service with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization as Military Observer and Duty Officer on the Golan Heights before moving to HQ UN Disengagement Observer Force in South Lebanon and Damascus.

Now a Colonel, Gerry's career returned to Canberra in Career Management, before he moved to the US Army War College in Pennsylvania in 1993-4. Returning to Australia and as Colonel Operations, Land Headquarters, Victoria Barracks, in Paddington NSW, responsible for the Army's deployment on operations, the most significant being our commitment to Rwanda. He also exercised command over a number of Land Command, Direct Command Units.

Following promotion to Brigadier in 1995, he was the senior Defence representative in WA, holding appointments as Head of Defence Centre, Perth and Army Commander, Western Region, returning to Holsworthy, NSW as Commander of the 5th Brigade and Commander of the Liverpool Area.

His final posting as Chief of Staff, Land Headquarters in Sydney involved a period of intense operational tempo including support to the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. Operational responsibilities required almost constant travel to places such as, Cambodia, Bougainville, Malaysia, East Timor, Eritrea and Mozambique. Other duties required visits to the USA, UK, Canada, Singapore, Italy and Denmark.

Formal recognition of his service to Australia came in 1988 when he was appointed as Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order by the Queen and later in 2000 as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM). His further studies include:

- Dip of Military Studies(Applied Science);
- Bachelor of Science (honours); and
- International Fellow from the US Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Gerry and Gerri returned to settle in Western Australia on his retirement from the Australian Regular Army and his hectic working career continued in service to the community with appointments to:

- The Board of Western Power;
- Senior of the State Administrative Tribunal;
- Member of the WA Mental Health Review Board;
- Member of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal sitting mainly on Veterans Matters; and
- Trustee of the WA Government Anzac Day Trust.

In 2005 Gerry became CEO of the RAAF Association Club in Bullcreek and supervises Retirement Villages, Residential Aged Care facilities and an Aviation Museum as a full time job.

During 2007 Gerry was appointed by the Prime Minister to serve on an independent panel to review the Battle of Long Tan in 1966 and the merits of further service medal recognition for RAAF Ubon personnel.

Gerry is married to Gerri and they both enjoy reading and walking.

Practicing the culinary arts and swimming occupy Gerry's spare time as well as suffering the highs and lows of being a Dockers supporter.

**BRIGADIER DUNCAN WARREN, AM, RFD
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT
2013**

Duncan Warren was born in 1946; in 1968 he served his National Service obligation and graduated from the Officer Training College, Scheyville. As a Second Lieutenant, he served as a Platoon Commander with 8 RAR in South Vietnam from 28th November 1969 to 14th June 1970 and was wounded in action in the Battle of the Long Hai Hills in February 1970.

He joined the Australian Army Reserve and as Major D. Warren he served as Officer Commanding 11th Independent Rifle Company, RWAR, from 1985 to 1987

From 1989 to 1991 Lt Col D. Warren, RFD, was CO of 11/28th Battalion, RWAR

In the year 2000 as a Brigadier he was the Commander, 13th Infantry Brigade

He has held the positions of: -

- Member, Perth Legacy;
- Member, RAR Association;
- Honorary Treasurer, Perth Legacy;
- Past President, Perth Legacy;
- Patron, 2/28th Battalion Association;
- Patron, 24th Anti-tank Company Association;
- Patron, WA Branch, RAR Association;
- Board member WA Branch RSL;
- Trustee of the ANZAC Day Trust; and
- Trustee, WA Aged Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Relief Fund.

Duncan was awarded the AM in 1998, and has been appointed Warden of the State War Memorial for the 2015 year.

**COLONEL DOUGLAS JAMES WEBB
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF TRANSPORT
WESTERN REGION
2008 TO CURRENT**

Doug was born in Casino NSW in 1954 and raised and educated in Kyogle, Northern NSW where he was School Captain before joining the Australian Army at the age of 18 in 1973. He attended the Officer Cadet School, Portsea in Victoria where, on graduation he was allocated to the newly formed Royal Australian Corps of Transport and posted to 176 Air Despatch Squadron in Sydney West.

He held a diverse range of appointments in the rank of Captain that included a regimental posting to 26 Transport Squadron, a detachment as an Army Careers Lecturer where he promoted Officer Careers at Duntroon, Portsea and the Army Apprentice's School to High School students across WA then as an ADC in Melbourne, a Staff Officer posting to Headquarters 3rd Brigade, then as instructor and adjutant at the Army School of Transport. These appointments took him to Puckapunyal (twice), Melbourne, Townsville and Western Australia.

A move to Shrivenham in the United Kingdom in 1986 and attendance at the Royal Military College of Science preceded a promotion to Major and return to Canberra as assistant Project Director for Project "PERENTIE" for the replacement of the Army's Land Rover fleet.

Attendance at Command and Staff College, Queenscliffe, in 1990, preceded a posting to HQ 6th Brigade in Brisbane, as SO2 (DQ), Personnel and Logistics.

Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 1993 and command of the 9th Transport Regiment for two years followed before attendance at the Joint Services Staff College in 1995. He then held a number of senior staff appointments in Canberra.

Doug was promoted to Colonel and appointed Director of Materiel Policy in Army Headquarters in Jan 2000. During this tenure he was detached to the Solomon Islands as the Commander, Australian Service Contingent, OP TREK and then later to East Timor as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Support on the HQ Peace Keeping Force for the UNTAET Mission. On return from East Timor Doug was posted as Director Land Support Development.

Doug's last posting was as the Regional Manager, Corporate Support and Infrastructure in Perth, which later became Defence Support Group, Western Region. He was the last Regular Officer to hold a senior Army appointment in WA.

During his career, Doug has had a number of overseas visits for work related issues and exercises which include the UK, Germany, Hawaii, New Zealand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. He saw operational service in the Solomon Islands and again in East

Timor for which service he was awarded the Australian Active Service Medal and the Australian Service Medal in 2001 and 2002.

He holds the Defence Force Service Medal with 4 Clasps and the UNTAET Medal.

Doug was married to Margaret for 25 years before losing her to cancer in 2007. He has 2 adult stepdaughters, Kylie who is married and living in the UK and Renae who lives in Perth. Kylie has provided him with 2 beautiful granddaughters.

On retirement from the Regular Army Doug was honoured by his appointment as Colonel Commandant, Royal Australian Corps of Transport, Western Region in 2008. Apart from the duties involved with that appointment, he has done some Reserve Project work for Army Headquarters and a small amount of consultancy work.

He enjoys golf, gardening, and home brewing, fishing and keeping a 1972 Falcon alive. Together with partner, Rhonda, he is enjoying retirement. Doug lives in the Perth suburb of Greenwood and is contactable on 9203 6507 and mobile 0418 588 432.

**51288 MAJOR KELVIN MILTON WEIR, RL
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT / WESTERN REGION
11TH OCTOBER 1990 TO 10TH OCTOBER 1994**

Kel was born in Leederville, WA, on 6th August 1928.

He enlisted in the Australian Regular Army at Karrakatta in 1946 and saw service in every State of Australia during his 37 years of service in the Australian Corps of Signals/Royal Australian Corps of Signals (The title "Royal" was not granted until 1948).

He also saw service with the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan and Korea, then in Borneo, Vietnam and Singapore.

His two great loves in life were his family and the Australian Army – particularly the Signals Corps in which he served for his entire long career.

He was placed on the Retired List in 1983 having reached the then retiring age of 47 years, then worked at the Hollywood Hospital for ten years, finally retiring in 1993.

He was a tireless worker and office bearer for the Royal Australian Signals Association in Western Australia and was rewarded with Life Membership in recognition of his service to the Association.

He put in many hours of productive voluntary work at the Army Museum of Western Australia, (where he was the Keeper of Heraldry), by use of his extensive knowledge of badges; colour patches; medals and the like as well as being an honorary guide.

While posted in Victoria, he had a big hand in the Corps Museum of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals.

At the time of his appointment as Colonel Commandant, Royal Australian Corps of Signals in Western District, Kel was President of the Association and he resigned from this position as he felt that there may otherwise be a conflict of interest.

He wrote many papers on various military subjects such as the Army Numbering System for Soldiers; Badges; Colour patches; Medals and Military Currency.

It was due to his research and work that the 109 Signal Squadron gained approval for the Colour patch that they now wear with pride.

Kel passed away on 20th July 2001 after a long battle with cancer and was cremated at Karrakatta Cemetery. His widow, Doreen, passed away soon after his death on 6th October 2001.

**COLONEL E.A. WHITE, RFD, ED
HONORARY COLONEL
10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
1977 TO 1981**

Ted White was born in Katanning Western Australia and attended the local Primary School before moving to Guildford Grammar School and later joining the Commonwealth Bank of Australia as a junior in 1941.

Volunteering for active service with the AIF in May 1943, he trained with 13th Infantry Training Battalion, before being transferred to 33 Aust Field Security Section, Australian Intelligence Corps in January 1944.

Overseas service with the Aust Intelligence Corps included New Britain, January to August 1945 and British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan from January 1946 to May 1947, before discharge as a Sergeant in that year.

CMF Service began in 1951 with 16/28th Battalion, Cameron Highlanders of WA. He transferred to 10 West Australian Mounted Infantry and a change of name to 10th Light Horse Regiment in 1956.

He remained with the Armoured Unit until 1973, having been promoted through all ranks to Lieutenant Colonel and Commanding Officer for three and a half years.

Promotion to Colonel in 1976 and Commander 5 Training Group then saw him transfer to the Reserve of Officers and the end of his service career.

He was honoured by his appointment as Honorary Colonel of 10th Light Horse Regiment in 1977 to 1981.

Ted rates his most interesting period of service was with the Intelligence Activity with the Occupation Force in Japan and the most satisfying as his time as a Squadron Commander with 10th Light Horse which allowed both close liaison and development of all members of the Squadron.

His civilian employment with the Commonwealth Bank included all areas including Managerial, Inspectorial and Administrative.

Community involvement included Rotary and the RSL while other interests involved athletics, (pre and Post war) golf, and fishing and later, lawn bowls.

**BRIGADIER PHILLIP WHITE, AM, RFD
HONORARY COLONEL
A SQUADRON, 10TH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
WESTERN REGION
2013 TO CURRENT**

Phillip White was born in 1955, and educated at Scotch College from 1967 to 1972. He attended the Curtin University of Technology from 1973 to 1975, qualifying for his Bachelor of Arts, then again in 1976 qualifying for his Graduate Diploma of Education. He attended the University of Western Australia from 1994 to 1995 qualifying for his Master of Education (Man).

In 1975 he qualified at the OCTU Course at 5 Training Group, and in 1977 was the Reconnaissance Troop Leader, A Squadron, 10th Light Horse Regiment.

In 1985 he was a Course Commander, OCTU, 5 Training Group;
1987 Training Officer;
1991 Major, OC A Squadron, 10th Light Horse Regiment;
1994 SO2 Plans, HQ 13th Infantry Brigade;
1996 Instructor, 5 Training Group;
1998 Lieutenant Colonel, CO, Western Australian University Regiment;
2001 Project Officer RMC – A;
2003 Commandant, LWC – WA;
2007 Commander, 13th Infantry Brigade January 2007 to December 2008;
2009 Senior Project Officer AHQ; and
2010 Brigadier (Standby Reserve) ADF

He is the Principal of the Melville Senior High School.

Phillip was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2005.

**COLONEL MICHAEL A. S. WILLIAMS, MID (X2), ED
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
WESTERN COMMAND
1970 TO 1974**

Michael Williams was born in 1920 in the UK and joined up in April 1939 as a Driver with 55 Divisional Troop, Royal Army Service Corps of the Territorial Army. He progressed through Corporal and Sergeant to Officer Cadet Course in 1940, graduating a year later as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers.

He was posted as Troop Commander to 230 Field Engineer Company and served with that unit in Italy where he was Mentioned in Despatches in September 1943 and North Africa and another MID in July 1945, before being de-mobilised in May 1946.

He re-enlisted in the Territorial Army the same year with 106 Field Engineer Regiment as a Troop Commander, progressing through to command the Squadron as a Major in 1957.

In 1957 he transferred to the Reserve of Officers in the Citizen Military Forces in Western Command before again becoming active in 1958 as Staff Officer Royal Australian Engineers on HQ Western Command until a posting as OC of 13 Field Squadron in 1959 for four years.

Attendance at Land Warfare Centre, Canungra and the TAC 5, Senior Officers Tactics course gained his qualification for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and his appointment to Commanding Officer of Western Australian University Regiment in 1963.

His appointment as Executive Officer of the newly formed Royal Western Australia Regiment, Battle Group followed for a year before his return to WAUR as CO for 4 years in 1965. His transfer to the Retired List in Western Command and his Appointment as Colonel Commandant Royal Australian Engineers, Western Command in October 1969 ended this exceptional military career.

Michael passed away on 25th November 2013 leaving three children.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAUL G. WILMOT (RET'D)
COLONEL COMMANDANT
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
WESTERN REGION
1997 TO 2002**

Born and educated in Warnambool, Victoria, he was called up for National Service with the 1/65 Intake at Puckapunyal and allocated to Royal Australian Engineers. Normal Engineer Corps and specialist training followed as he progressed through the ranks and was selected to attend Officer Cadet School, Portsea, Vic, in 1966-67. Now a commissioned 2Lt, postings as Platoon Comd at 1 RTB and as a student at School of Military Engineering, preceded his posting to 22 Construction Sqn in WA as Construction Troop Comd in 1968.

He moved to Papua New Guinea as a Lieutenant, 2IC of PNG Construction Squadron in 1969 and the administrative control and training of 120 tradesmen on construction tasks, until September 1971. Another move saw him back in WA to 22 Construction Squadron, as a Captain, Plant Troop Commander. Camped at Marni's Well in Bindoon Training Area, he was responsible for 30 plant operators in the construction of the Army Airstrip and new roads for the newly opened training area.

May 1973 began his first staff appointment at Dept of Defence, Army Office, Canberra, as SO3 Materiel for eighteen months before a posting to Israel in 1974 with UNTSO, as UN Observer at Tiberius and on the Golan Heights for UNDOF, patrolling and reporting ceasefire lines for fifteen months, our senior Australian Army Officer being Lt. Col. Keith Howard based in Jerusalem at that time.

A new posting to Egypt in November 1975, negotiating ceasefire lines and setting out new national borders between Israel and Syria, occupied the next 3 months for UNEF, before a return to SO3 Intelligence on the staff of the Directorate of Engineers in Canberra.

Promoted to Major in 1978, he was appointed OC of 23 Support Squadron, of 1 Field Engineer Regiment at Holsworthy NSW, with 130 troops involved in operational training. This lasted the normal two years until his first experience with ARes units in 1980, as SO2 Operations, with 20 cadre staff and 2000 Reserve soldiers at 5 Engineer Group at Haberfield in Sydney.

In Jan 1981, he attended the Australian Staff College, Queenscliffe for 12 months and qualification for Lieutenant Colonel, before another sojourn as SO2 Personnel at Directorate of Engineers, AHQ Canberra, and career management of 1200 ARA non-commissioned engineers.

Overseas again in December 1983 as Senior Instructor (Grade 2) at the Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham in Kent, with 8 subordinate instructors teaching Demolitions, Mine Warfare, Water Supply and Field Defences.

This posting had the added advantage that his family was able to accompany him for the two years in UK.

Western Australia again beckoned with a Grade 1 posting as SO1 Personnel and Logistics on HQ Western Command and responsibility for career management and well being of 1300 Regular and 2400 Army Reservists in WA. This posting also carried the position of Executive Officer of the Defence Reserves Support Committee and on his retirement/discharge in 1987, he attended as an ARes employer, until 1995, before becoming Chairman in 1996 - 97.

Lt. Col. Paul Wilmot was honoured by appointment as Honorary Colonel Royal Australian Engineers, Western Region in 1998 until 2002.

In civilian life he was the CEO of the Anglican Homes a large provider of nursing homes, hostels and retirement villages, from 1987 until his retirement in 2003. Anglican Homes had 1500 residents and 1000 staff with an annual turnover of \$45m. He was then a Board Member of the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency during 2003 to 2006.

His passions now are golf and extensive interstate travel. He is Chairman of the Energy Industry Ombudsman's Board having been so since 2004. He remains a Membership Ambassador of the International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (Based in Washington USA), having been a Director during 1994 - 2003, and chairman from 1999 to 2003. He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Perth since 1990.

Paul now resides in the Perth suburb of Cottesloe with wife Barbara. They have two adult children, a son Tony, a graduate of RMC Duntroon, now a Naturopath and a daughter Belinda, a graduate of Notre Dame University, a Marketing Manager.

They are contactable on 9385 0154.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALAN WRIGHT
HONORARY COLONEL
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
WESTERN REGION
DATES NOT DETERMINED**

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ADRIAN YOUNG, RFD
HONORARY COLONEL
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADET CORPS
WESTERN REGION
2001 to 2003**

Adrian Young was born in 1944 in Northern Ireland.

1982 to 1985 – Captain, Psychology Corps;

1983 Leadership Instructor, 5 Training Group, promoted Major RCSC Intermediate
Promotion Course;

1986 to 1995 OC 15 Psychology Unit;

1995 Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel;

1996 to 1999 Assistant Director Army Psychology; and

2001 to 2003 Honorary Colonel, Australian Army Cadet Corps, Western Region.