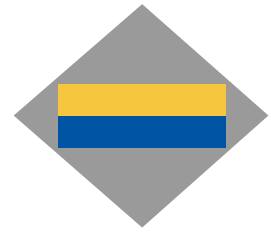


# COMRADESHIP

[www.2nd14battalion.org.au](http://www.2nd14battalion.org.au)

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## President's Report



This has been a busy time of the year for us with a focus on young people.

The support from the students, staff and parents of Kingsbury Primary School was again displayed at our service in the Shrine Sanctuary in September. The students proudly held the 2/14 banner and looked resplendent in the gold and blue colours of the Battalion and of their school. Many of the committee members have been involved in schools programs recently. We have the Speech Masters program at the Kingsbury school and at the Graduating Class of 2015 awards nights we will hear the thoughts and words of students who honour our veterans and the Battalion heritage with a wonderful understanding of our history and a vision for Australian culture.

At Reservoir High School we are involved in the 2/14 Bruce Kingsbury scholarship program and will attend their awards night in December to make the presentation. We take a great amount of pride in the young people who receive the 2/14 Battalion Association scholarships and I am confident that as with previous winners, this year's recipient will make a significant contribution to our country's future in their chosen field.

On Remembrance Day I spoke at several country schools in districts where the Great War honour roll contains many names of members of the one family. Those family names are still reflected in the current student roll, but now alongside the added diversity of cultures that we see in metropolitan schools. These small schools may only have student numbers of around 50, but they echo the understanding of sacrifice and service for which we honour our veterans. I am heartened by the understanding, respect and maturity that our young people show for our history and for veterans of all conflicts.

There is an absolutely wonderful travelling exhibition, entitled **Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience**, that I found to be very moving and informative. It's the Australian War Memorial's 100 years of Anzac display and will be at South Wharf in Melbourne between 8 -23 February, 2016. The exhibition tells the story of Australia's involvement in the First World War, and the ensuing Century of Service by Australia's armed forces in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations in which Australia has been involved. The Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience follows a chronological timeline spanning from pre-war Australia to the present day, using a mix of arresting visuals, artefacts, audio and film to engage visitors.

Entry is free but due to its popularity you do need to book. I recommend this as well worth while if you can get the opportunity. Details are at [www.spiritofanzac.gov.au](http://www.spiritofanzac.gov.au)

*I wish all our veterans and widows a merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.*

**Craig Iskov**  
President

Merry Christmas



## THE SIMPLE POPPY



I am not a badge of honour,  
I am not a racist smear,  
I am not a fashion statement,  
To be worn but once a year,  
I am not glorification  
Of conflict or of war.  
I am not a paper ornament  
A token,  
I am more.

I am a loving memory,  
Of a father or a son,  
A permanent reminder  
Of each and every one.

I'm paper or enamel  
I'm old or shining new,  
I'm a way of saying thank you,  
To every one of you.

I am a simple poppy  
A Reminder to you all,  
That courage faith and honour,  
Will stand where heroes fall.

Paul Hunter, 2014

## MEMORIAL SERVICES 2015

### RESERVOIR HIGH

The work of the year 7 students at Reservoir High was again on display at the Kingsbury Memorial Service this year. Several of the students shared a powerpoint presentation, reflecting on the sacrifices made by Bruce Kingsbury, and others who served with the Battalion on the Kokoda Track.

In her speech of welcome, Acting Principal of Reservoir High, Lea Volpe, acknowledged that, although she was the daughter of migrants to this country, she was a beneficiary of the sacrifices made by those who had fought to preserve the freedoms and way of life this country holds dear.

Current Kingsbury Scholarship holder, Lucy Lu, again thanked the Battalion Association for their support.

On behalf of the Battalion, Jill Bear shared her presentation on "Kingsbury's Mates", describing the close bond that forms among those who live, train and face battle together, and the friendship that existed between Kingsbury, Alan Avery and Gunditjmarra man, Harry Saunders.



Students from Year 7 at Reservoir High and Grade 6 at Kingsbury Primary prepare for the wreath laying.

### AUSTIN HEALTH

Once again, Rob Winther and his team hosted the annual service at what was formerly the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital.

Craig Iskov shared the poem These he loved by Desmonde Florence Downing, before the names of the Fallen from the Owen Stanley Campaign were read by cadets from Ivanhoe Grammar. The service concluded beside the Battalion memorials in the Memorial Garden, with Howard Cornish providing the traditional bugle calls, as he did earlier in the day at Reservoir High.



Joan Mann and daughter, Karen Brkic place poppies on the Battalion Memorial at Austin Health

### GILLISON SERVICE: Healing the Wounds of War

A small group were in attendance for the Gillison Memorial Service, at St Michael's Grammar School performing arts centre (former building of St George's Uniting Church), East St Kilda, on Saturday, 22 August.

The service, under Army chaplain, Major Robert Vun, was organised by Iraq veteran, Gordon Traill, the Veteran Peer Support Worker for Creative Ministries Network. Gordon shared the speech given by Andrew Gillison's son, Douglas in 1965, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Andrew Gillison's death at Gallipoli.

The 4th/19th Prince of Wales Light Horse Regiment Association Band was on hand to provide musical support, and the flowers, in Battalion colours, were provided by Elvala Ayton, in memory of her husband, 2/14 Battalion original, Phillip Ayton.

### SHRINE PILGRIMAGE

Following a successful AGM held amidst the fascinating display of memorabilia at the Rats of Tobruk Hall in Port Melbourne, the annual Pilgrimage was held at the Shrine of Remembrance on 27 September.

Sadly, for what is probably the first time, no veterans were able to join us this year, but the next generation of members held faith with those who have gone before; Gavon Armstrong reading the list of names of the Fallen of the Battalion.

Howard Cornish again provided the bugle calls; children from Kingsbury Primary held the banner, and laid a wreath, with President Craig Iskov.

*Jill Bear*

## REMEMBRANCE DAY, 2015

2/14 President Craig Iskov spoke at a number of schools as part of Remembrance Day. None was more personally moving than at Carrarrargarmungee school where the year 6 students researched information, made short films and wrote poetry about their family members who had served in WW1. Craig's father R.F (Bob) Iskov was a regular guest for Anzac ceremonies at this local school. 10 years ago Bob presented the school with a Lone Pine seedling propagated at the Yarralumla Nursery in Canberra. These seedlings were derived from a pine cone from the ridge at Gallipoli known as Lone Pine, where the Turks had cut down all but one pine tree. Lance Corporal Benjamin Smith of the 3rd Battalion sent a pine cone back to his mother Australia where it was later grown at Inverell. A seedling from that tree was given to the Department of the Interior at Canberra. Other seedlings were planted, including one at the Shrine of Remembrance.

Since Bob's death in June 2014, family research has revealed a much greater connection to Lone Pine. Craig's Great Uncle James Daly was killed at Lone Pine at the age of 19 and is buried at Gallipoli. Sadly, two of James's uncles, Jack and George also died

during WW1. Craig's grandfather Wilfred who also left Melbourne in 1915 and spent over three years in France, was wounded late in the war in 1918. After hospitalisation in England, he was returned to Australia in January 1919 and started a family.



Carrarrargarmungee School captains Callum Dart-Bell and Alexandra Haigh being shown the war records of Private James Daly in front of Bob's Lone Pine tree



# QUEENSLAND REPORT

by Trevor Pryor

On a recent caravan trip through Queensland I came across a couple of places with significance to the Battalion.

The first was a visit to **Rocky Creek Memorial Park** which recognises all those units who spent time on the Atherton Tablelands during WW2.



Entrance to the park

Individual monuments abound in the park, including that for the 21 Brigade, and are the centre of commemorative services for VP (Victory in the Pacific) Day each each year.



21 Brigade Monument, including 2/14, 2/16 and 2/27 Battalions

The second stop was in **Dalby**, where I had a delightful visit with 2/14 veteran, **QX29571 Jim Callaghan**. Jim enjoys life in the Ningana Retirement Village where he has been for a couple of years after losing his wife of over 60 years. He enjoys pretty good health and has family who drop in regularly and, until earlier this year, had 39th Battalion veteran **Rolly Jeans** as a neighbour.



## Naming and Dedication Service.

Vice President David Webb represented President Craig Iskov at a service at Enoggera Barracks in Brisbane on 29 October. The new lines of the Warrant Officer and Non Commissioned Officer Academy, South Queensland Wing were named after the Battle of Isurava and in part, the wording on the plaque reads,

"This memorial is dedicated to the men of the 2/14th and 39th Battalions who fought so gallantly at the Battle of Isurava."



Dedicatory plaque at Enoggera Barracks

In her speech, Brigadier Gallasch, Commandant of Duntroon, spoke of the leadership shown by all of those who fought at Isurava, which is used as a specific example to the trainees going through their leadership training program for NCOs at the Gallipoli Barracks. (It was an effect, noted at the time, where all over the battlefield, sergeants, corporals and even privates were required to take command as their platoon commanders were killed. (Russell, p 135))

2/14 veteran QX52024 George Priestly joined George Palmer and Jim Stillman of the 39th in representing the battalions at the service which also included the naming of two lecture theatres after Ashley Birt and Jared MacKinney who both lost their lives in Afghanistan.



George Palmer, Jim Stillman and George Priestly with VC recipient Daniel Keighran at Enoggera Barracks



## 70th Anniversary of the Balikpapan landings tour June/July 2015

The Battalion Tour Group that travelled to Balikpapan in June/July this year was privileged to be in the company of Clarrie Cunningham, a 2/14 veteran of the Balikpapan campaign.

Clarrie, in his 90's, was an imposing figure not quite as tall as he was some 70 years ago but none the less a towering presence when seen against the local Indonesian people. Imagine Clarrie when he landed on Borneo a six foot five strapping young man weighing 18 stone and extremely fit after his rugby and axe chopping exploits in his youth. The sight of Clarrie must have put the fear of God into the Japanese troops.

Clarrie accompanied the tour group on all of its outings and was an invaluable source of information as to what had transpired on all the battle sites. From listening to Clarrie's recollections at each site we visited it was clear that he saw himself at each of these sites exactly as it was at the time of the battle. He gave an extremely vivid and insightful account of what had transpired on the day of the battle.

Clarrie travelled with his son also called Clarrie. Clarrie Junior told us that it was the first time that he had heard many of the recollections that his father passed on to the tour group.

This article is a lightly edited version of a question and answer session that Clarrie graciously consented to do on a bus trip. It ranges over the battles in Borneo to more general matters about his army experiences and last but not least some personal information.

We all found Clarrie to be a great example of the quality of the men who served in the 2/14 Battalion and it was a unique opportunity to hear firsthand about the events at Balikpapan some 70 years ago.

More recordings were made about Clarrie's recollections of individual battles and these will be published in future editions of Comradeship.

Particular thanks go to David and Zita Webb for transcribing the conversations.

### Q & A with Clarrie Cunningham

#### ***Can you tell us about the approach from Seppinggang Airport up to the battle across the Manggar River?***

We didn't have any trouble crossing the river at all. It was quite good. We sat back for a while and had a good look around the bridge and thought 'she's right to go across'. No sooner had we got across when the Nips blew the decking off the bridge behind us.



*Repairs being carried out on the Manggar River Bridge. Thorpe's Tower at rear.*

After we picked up a few Nips, which were very few on the ground, it turned out from information obtained from the secret pockets [see next question] that they were to kill every Australian on the airstrip by hook or by crook. They failed badly because we didn't move out of our holes in the dark of the night and they had their little fellas trying to find us in the dark of the night with no 'go'.

But they did give us hell for three days and three nights. You couldn't talk to your best mate they were so cranky!

#### ***Could you tell us about the significance of the shape of the Japanese Helmet, please?***

Yes. I had a bit to do with the Japanese helmets. The important thing was that when we came across one that had paid the supreme sacrifice we would dive on the helmet and take it off the head. Inside

on the roof was a secret pocket. It carried all the information as to who they were; where they'd come from and what they were supposed to do. It was just a small pocket in the lining of the helmet. We used to grab that paperwork out and pass it on to 'runners' who would get it back to our Intelligence. They could decipher all this information to work out what the Japs were trying to do. All the Australian diggers knew to go straight to this little pocket.

The helmet was designed a bit like the American and the German shape while ours was round with just a plain rim. Theirs came down over the forehead and down the back of the head quite a bit. You could pick theirs a mile away, really.



*Japanese helmet from WWII.  
The 'pocket' could be formed from leather or cloth.*

Some of the information we found was passed on to two American born Japanese soldiers who travelled with our unit all the time. They were guarded all the time and worked with Intelligence. They'd work together to decipher the information and then let us know what we needed to know. Sometimes we thought they were a bit 'skimpy' with information, but luckily we all got away with it.

#### ***The popular myth before our troops met the Japanese on the Track, was that they were going to be little blokes; pretty easy to knock over; but it turned out they were pretty big fellas and difficult to knock over. In terms of Borneo was that the case for you?***

In New Guinea the Japanese were much better trained than the ones we struck here in Borneo for some reason or another. The ones here were of all shapes and sizes. Two or three I came across were as tall as

## Q & A with Clarrie Cunningham - Continued -

me but not too many that big. Most of them were very small; little 'squirly looking' blokes; very small in stature.

**Could you give us a bit of a description of the Bren Gun which was a very handy weapon and also tell us about the Owen gun that came in towards the end of the war?**

The Bren gun was originally made in Czechoslovakia and turned out to be very good for us. There was a bit of argument that it could be too accurate but that could be overcome with just scattering it about a bit.

We had the Vickers as well. It was the same size cartridge but the Bren was air cooled and the Vickers gun was water cooled. The Bren was a lovely gun to use. All the power of it was taken up in the mechanism of the gun itself. There was no kick with it. Actually, I really fell in love with it and could use it pretty well.

Now the Owen gun was designed by a Corporal Owen in the Australian army. He put it up a couple of times to one of the biggest arms makers at the time. I think it was at Lithgow.

The Owen had a different cartridge to the 303 and the Bren. It was a 9mm cartridge. Quite a bit bigger in the round and didn't always have the distance but was a very good jungle gun. It was a short barrel. You could swing it around and it was a very quick firing gun. On automatic it was very quick and a known better firing gun than the others. Better than the Thompson or the Sten. You could drop it in a muddy pool and pick it up and use it ... it would still go! There wasn't any other light machine gun that you could do that with.

**Can you tell us a bit about how it felt when the war ended?**

We had a very rough time of it toward the end of the trip especially at Manggar.

We felt really good when it all finished and it was time to go home. We thought "Here we go!! Time to go home!"

But, as it turned out, we didn't go home for another couple of months and we had to keep everything under control for a bit longer. We finally went home on the Old Kanimbla.

**Were you made aware when the Americans dropped the Atomic bomb? What did you hear?**

We had heard two days before; they had stopped us from going out on patrol. They said 'something's going to happen'...they knew what it might be but they didn't tell us, of course.

We didn't mind sitting back for a day or two and when it came over the radio we threw our hats in the air I can tell you.

Admiral Mountbatten came and saw us and had a yarn when the war was finally over. We all mustered up so he could talk to us all. He said, "I'm very thankful for the job you fellows have done. And I'm grateful that the capitulation has taken place," because our next big action was to be somewhere on the Malay Peninsula and that was 'lousy' with Japanese; right the full length of it; to guard it. We were very thankful!

**Part 2 of Clarrie's chat will appear in the next edition. One of the several poems he recited during the Q & A appears in the next column.**



Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten addressing troops in the Manggar area in October 1945 (AWM 122241)

## THE FUZZY WUZZY ANGELS

Many a mother in Australia,  
When the busy day is done,  
Sends a prayer to the Almighty  
For the keeping of her son,  
Asking that an Angel guide him  
And bring him safely back  
Now we see those prayers are answered  
On the Owen Stanley track,  
For they haven't any halos,  
Only holes slashed in the ears,  
And with faces worked by tattoos,  
With scratch pins in their hair,  
Bringing back the wounded,  
Just as steady as a hearse,  
Using leaves to keep the rain off  
And as gentle as a nurse.

Slow and careful in bad places,  
On the awful mountain track,  
And the look upon their faces,  
Makes us think that Christ was black.  
Not a move to hurt the carried,  
As they treat him like a Saint,  
It's a picture worth recording,  
That an Artist's yet to paint.  
Many a lad will see his Mother,  
And the Husbands, Weans and Wives,  
Just because the Fuzzy Wuzzy  
Carried them to save their lives.

From mortar or machine gun fire,  
Or a chance surprise attack,  
To safety and the care of Doctors,  
At the bottom of the track.  
May the Mothers in Australia,  
When they offer up a prayer,  
Mention those impromptu Angels,  
With the Fuzzy Wuzzy hair.

**Sapper H "Bert" Beros**

NX 6925, 7th Div., RAE, AIF

## EVENT CALENDAR

### 2016

#### Committee Meeting

11.30am on Sunday, 6th March 2015  
East Malvern RSL

#### 2016 Reunion

Friday, 22nd April 2016  
(Details to be advised)

#### 2016 Anzac Day March

25th April 2016

#### Committee Meeting

11.30am on Sunday, 5th June 2016  
East Malvern RSL

## THE "ORIGINALS"

I received a query from Barry Edwards, son of VX 52452 John Edwards, asking who were the "Originals" of the 2/14 Battalion who had served in all campaigns. This prompted some discussion between Ross Wilkinson and me, as to what constituted an "Original". Was it only those who had joined the Battalion in its initial establishment or should it include everyone who embarked on the Aquitania in October, 1940? Large drafts of recruits arrived at Puckapunyal on 17, 21 and 24 May but arrivals from 8 June, once the Battalion had reached establishment, were referred to as Reinforcements.

However, following the returns through July to Sept, it is clear that the Battalion was still undergoing a degree of sorting until

18 Oct, when the Battalion entrained at Dysart with 39 officers and 903 other ranks (including First Reinforcements).

On page 307 of the History, Russell refers to the 117 men who had embarked with the Battalion, and were still serving with the Battalion at the close of hostilities in August, 1945, however, this would have included about 20 men who had missed a campaign because they were recovering from injuries.

Listed below are 103 men who marched into the Battalion before 10 Oct, 1940 and served with the Battalion in all theatres of war. Those marked R marched in between June and October, 1940.

VX17273	Cpl.	ADAMS	J.H.		VX15513	Cpl	HENDERSON	G.F.	
VX17772	Lieut.	AVERY	Alan R.		VX15597	L/Cpl	HULL	L.A.	
VX22153	Pte.	BARMBY	E.	R	VX17837	Pte	JACOBS	F.T.	dow
VX17695	Cpl.	BASSETT	R.F.		VX37162	Sgt	JOHNSON	L.H.	R
VX17821	Lieut.	BEAR	L.A.		VX17589	L/Cpl	JONES	J.E.H.	
VX14698	L/Sgt.	BOYS	F.R.		VX15203	W02	LACEY	W.H.	
VX15316	Pte.	BROOKS	J.W.T.		VX17093	Capt	LAING	W.B.	R
VX12975	Sgt.	BROWNING	C.M.		VX421 15	Sgt	LANE	A.J.	
VX25318	L/Cpl.	BURR	J.H.	R	VX36518	L/Sgt	LANG	E.K.	
VX22405	Cpl.	CAELLI	B.J.	R	VX41218	Sgt	LETHLEAN	J.W.	R
VX15860	Cpl.	CLARK	G.K.C.G.	kia	VX16457	Pte	LOCKE	W.A.	R
VX30930	Capt.	CLARKE	E.R.	R	VX13168	Cpl	LYNCH	H.J.	
VX14608	Pte.	CONWAY	A.		VX15652	Cpl	LYNCH	J.A.	
VX23439	Pte.	CROTON	H.	R	QX4175	Cpl	LYONS	H.M.	
VX15779	Sgt.	CUNNINGHAM	J.E.		VX15266	Pte	MAHER	W.M.	
VX15505	Sgt.	CURR	H.H.		VX15496	Sgt	MARTIN	K.P.	
VX17280	Cpl.	DAVIES	D.J.		VX16526	Cpl	MATHERS	E.I.	
VX31608	Sgt.	DAVY	K.H.	R	VX16368	W02	MAXWELL	W.E.	
VX15379	Cpl.	DIXON	W.C		VX17034	Sgt	McCARTEN	M.D.	
VX16530	Pte.	DUGGAN	L.F.		VX15998	S/Sgt	McCORMACK	M.G.	
VX15644	S/Sgt.	FAIRBAIRN	C.R.		VX24412	Pte	McGAVIN	P.E.	R
VX16002	Sgt	FERGUSON	L.M.		VX16488	Cpl	MEADE	L.A.	
VX19181	Cpl	FLOATE	C.N.		VX13050	L/Sgt	MEAGHER	T.C.	
VX22729	W02	FOREMAN	P.E.	R	VX15288	W02	MILBOURNE	J.A.	
VX15259	Sgt	FORREST	E.		VX15227	L/Cpl	MILLER	E.S.	
VX16026	Pte	FULLER	E.C.		VX30934	Sgt	MUNRO	A.J.M.	R
VX24485	Sgt	FYFE	H.H.	R	VX21073	L/Cpl	MURPHY	M.J.	R
VX16521	W02	FYFE	W.I.		VX16505	Cpl	NAGEL	A.E.	
VX8254	Sgt	GARTH	V.F.		VX18891	L/Sgt	PASCOE	R.E.	
VX22782	S/Sgt	GRAHAM	E.W.J.	R	VX16218	Sgt	PERKINS	B.E.	
VX23592	Cpl	GREEN	C.S.	R	VX16374	Sgt	POWER	M.R.	
VX16997	Pte	GREEN	L.A.		VX16213	Pte	QUIRK	D.M.	
VX30190	L/Cpl	HANDCOCK	N.C.	R	VX14272	Capt	RAINEY	D.W.	
VX17696	Pte	HARDS	W.H.		VX19442	Cpl	RAINSBURY	H.J.	R



VX23199	Pte	RANSOM	L.F.	R	VX17954	Capt	THOMPSON	R.N.
VX22070	Pte	REED	R.	R	VX16377	Pte	THOMPSON	C.G.
VX15285	Cpl	RETALLACK	B.		VX14386	Wol	TIPTON	L.E.
VX18150	Sgt	RETALLACK	J.		VX15502	Pte	TORNEY	H.R.
VX14250	Lt Col	RHODEN	P.E.		VX13510	Cpl	TURNER	F.J.
VX23509	L/Sgt	RITCHIE	R.O.	R	VX15462	Sgt	VANDENBERG	J.L.
VX22830	L/Cpl	ROBERTS	A.G.	R	VX15476	Cpl	WALTERS	L.A.
VX16484	Pte	ROBERTS	J.H.		VX15317	Sgt	WARHURST	D.A.
VX21802	Pte	ROBINSON	J.S.	R	VX15522	Lieut	WATSON	R.R.
VX15904	Sgt	ROUTLEDGE	G.F.		VX15189	Sgt	WATSON	C.H.
VX14035	Maj	RUSSELL	W.B.		VX15466	L/Cpl	WESTBURY	N.J.
VX16826	L/Cpl	RYAN	W.		VX23671	Sgt	WHITECHURCH	J.H. R
VX17142	Sgt	SELLWOOD	F.A.		VX13591	Pte	WHITING	G.C.
VX21993	Cpl	SHORES	T.M.	R	VX15892	Pte	WILSON	R.I.
VX15901	Cpl	SLATTERY	R.J.		VX15922	L/Cpl	WOODWARD	R.F.
VX15348	Cpl	SMITH	C.H.		VX16157	Capt	YOUNG	N.H.
VX35437	WO2	STEWART	J.	R	VX22617	Pte	ZANTUCK	F.A. R
VX18149	Pte	SWARBRICK	F.					

These eleven men fought in all campaigns, but marched into the Battalion in the Middle East, prior to the end of the Syrian Campaign:

VX46589	Pte	BUNGE	W.M.		VX47967	Cpl	MALE	J.L.
VX14945	Sgt	CALLAGHAN	John P.		VX42732	Sgt	McDONALD	H.S.
VX43694	Pte	GILES	L.F.		VX27657	Cpl	McLACHLAN	A.J.
VX27302	L/Cpl	HUNTER	G.J.	dow	VX38512	L/Cpl	TAYLOR	W.M.
VX45073	Cpl	HYDE	E.J.		VX51072	Pte	WHITE	G.A.
VX43740	Pte	JONES	W.M.P.					

These tables are based on the nominal roll in McAllester's Men of the Second Fourteenth, and may not be completely accurate.

*Jill Bear*

## CAPTAIN REG SAUNDERS GALLERY

The brother of one of the Battalion's bravest sons has had a gallery and courtyard in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra named after him.

Private Harry Saunders, of 9 Platoon , A Company, was tragically killed while fighting the Japanese at Gona, in November, 1942, but older brother, Reg, became the first indigenous soldier to be commissioned as an officer, serving with distinction in both World War II and the Korean War. A strong advocate for breaking down discrimination against indigenous Australians, he later became one of the first liaison officers in the Office (later Department) of Aboriginal Affairs, and after his retirement, served on the Council of the Australian War Memorial.

On Remembrance Day, just passed, about 70 of Reg's family gathered for the opening of the Captain Reg Saunders Gallery and Courtyard - the first and only space inside the War Memorial to be

named after any Australian. Memorial director, Brendan Nelson said the Memorial's council voted unanimously to name the space (formerly the Western Gallery) after Captain Saunders.



*Reg Saunders receiving his commission in November, 1944*

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## AROUND THE TRAPS

### Scholarship Award

Darryl Clark has shared with us the news that his grandson, Mitchell Clark, great grandson of **VX41816 Walter Allan Clark** who gave his life at Brigade Hill, on 8 September, 1942, has been awarded a scholarship for achievement at his school, donated by Watsonia RSL.

### Bakti Haji orphanage in Balikpapan

In the last edition of Comradeship it was reported that the Association had provided funds to repair a septic tank system at a local orphanage in Balikpapan.

Due to the generous support from Coates Plant Hire Indonesia and its resident director, Russ Wood this project is about to commence with a completion date by the end of November 2015.

The cost of the work is more expensive than first anticipated so Coates have kindly made up the shortfall. Moreover Russ and his Executive Assistant Devina are overseeing the work and using local contractors who they know, to undertake the project.

We will receive a report when the work has been completed and will in turn report back to members in the next edition of Comradeship.



*President Craig and Kingsbury Primary School Principal, Barbara Hinsley with the staff and residents of the orphanage in July this year*

### SPECIAL 2015 CHRISTMAS OFFER

OPEN IMMEDIATELY TO END OF JANUARY 2015 FOR YOUR ORDERS

Now is the time to be thinking about Christmas gifts and to help you, the 2/14 Battalion Association is offering the History of the Battalion at the special price of \$50 (incl P&P) or \$45 (incl P&P) if two or more copies are ordered by the same person.

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