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*Promoting National Security and Defence*

RUSI-SA

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## NEWSLETTER

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In relation to the future of Keswick Barracks, it was disturbing to read a response made by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence, Senator the Hon Sandy McDdonald, to concerns raised by the President of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (SA) Association. In essence, Senator Macdonald claimed that the closure of Keswick Barracks and the transfer of the Reserve units to Warradale "would have a minimal impact, if any, on the recruiting and retention of Reservists in the longer term". Details of the Senator's letter are given later in this newsletter together with the response made by the RSL State President, with which I wholeheartedly agree.

This led me to reflect on the very real problem faced by the Army as a whole in relation to recruiting and retention. Paul Dibb, a former Deputy Secretary of Defence and now an emeritus professor at the Australian National University, wrote an article for 'The Australian' at the end of last year commenting on the Prime Minister's announcement that there would be an extra 2600 troops for the Army during the next decade. In that article, Paul Dibb identified the following three reasons why the Australian Defence Forces have difficulties in recruitment and retention. Quote:

*The first relates to the state of the Australian economy, which has been in a prolonged boom for well over a decade. Traditionally, the ADF has enjoyed better recruitment rates when the economy has been in recession. We have a generation of young Australians who have known nothing of the good times: a tight job market, low interest rates and good housing affordability. Generation Y is notorious for not being*

*interested in a career for life, which is what the ADF has been built on in the past. Falling birth rates and limited immigration prospects offer no short term solutions for the ADF either.*

*The second reason concerns the overly narrow focus of the ADF's recruitment cohort. The fact is the ADF is not entirely representative of contemporary Australian society. It is still typically Anglo-Celtic and male. It has tried to be more attractive to female recruits, but recently well publicised cases of sexual harassment have not done its reputation much good in the wider community.*

*The question also needs to be answered: Why do Australians from other than the Anglo-Celtic backgrounds not find the ADF more attractive? Is this a case of real or perceived discrimination, or are there other reasons? Just why is Australia's experience in this regard so different from that of the US, which has large numbers of African and Latin Americans in its armed forces?*

*The third reason why the ADF has problems with reaching its combat numbers is that too many of its members are still doing essentially civilian jobs, or are in positions that could be contracted out. Why is it, for example, that there are 650 cooks in the ADF? And is it really necessary to have 750 Defence organisation personnel in the US and UK? Then there are the 1800 military officers in the Defence Material Organisation --- if those numbers could be halved, the ADF would have the salaries of 1000 positions freed up for other, more warlike, purposes.*

I trust that you find the above comments "food for thought".

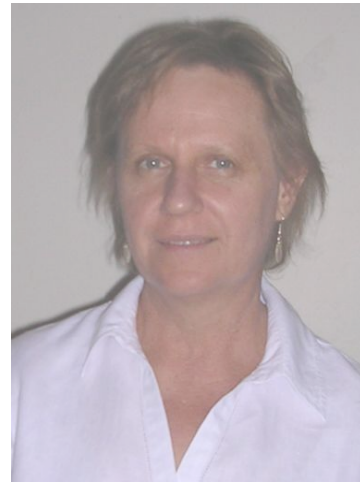
Regards from

David Stoba

President

SECRETARY

Ms Elaine Atkinson has been appointed to the position of Secretary RUSI of SA, following the recent resignation of Doug Paterson. We welcome Elaine and trust that her association with us is a long and happy one.



Ms Elaine Atkinson  
Secretary RUSI of SA

I had my first RUSI Luncheon experience on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Since then I have been learning the duties and the routine of the office. I am only in the office Mondays and Fridays and by the time you receive this Newsletter I would have been in the office a grand total of 14 days!! So I still have my 'L' plates on.

When you are passing the Barracks, please drop in and say hello, borrow a book, have a cup of tea or coffee. Please bear in mind that, Malcolm and I are both at lunch from 12.45 pm to 1.15 pm. If you are passing by on a Wednesday, you will find Malcolm in the office and always willing to take a message and to help you out.

For the past ten years I have been Secretary to the Pastor of the Lutheran Church at Warradale (near Marion). I am currently employed there for a total of 20 or more hours a week. I enjoy the role, as it is a mix of office work and showing care to people, either by helping them directly or informing them how to get help for their situation. I enjoy being around people and listening to them.

A lot of people think I am of direct European descent, but my ancestors are a mix of English/Danish/German, all of three generations ago. I am South Australian born and have lived a lot of my time here in Adelaide. I have a daughter who has lived in Sydney for the past seven years and is planning to marry in early 2008. My son lives with me and has just started University. He has chosen to do a marketing degree and at this stage is enjoying the course and meeting the challenges head on. Family is important to me, as are my many friends. I guess that there are many of you in the RUSI that have formed very long lasting friendships through meeting regularly at your various functions. I look forward to meeting and getting to know you myself during my time here at Keswick.

Regards from Elaine Atkinson

## KESWICK BARRACKS

Following is the text of a message sent from the State President of the RSL in February 2007 to the Federal Member for Boothby, Dr Andrew Southcott, MP.

Dear Dr Southcott

I recently met with the President of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (SA) Association (Mr Ian Hodgson) to discuss matters of mutual interest concerning our two organizations. Mr Hodgson was kind enough to pass a copy to me of the response provided by Senator The Hon Sandy McDonald, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence, in regard to the future of Keswick and Warradale Barracks.

I have great difficulty in accepting the remarks in the fifth paragraph of Senator McDonald's paper, especially those emphasizing that "the proposed rationalisation of Keswick Barracks would have a minimal impact, if any, on the recruiting and retention of Reservists in the longer term". Such an assumption is in direct conflict with the advice that I have received first hand from serving Officers and Soldiers and I am confident that your own discussions with our Reservists would confirm the total inaccuracy of this statement. Whilst some Reservists would be able to relocate to Warradale Barracks with minimal disruption, those that would be required to transfer to the Edinburgh Defence Precinct would no doubt review their commitment to the Reserve Forces.

Any major alteration to the conditions of service under which men and women volunteer to serve will have severe repercussions despite Senator McDonald's assertion that "the current Reservists, and those who will consider serving in the future, will appreciate that this decision is taken in the best interests of enhancing Defence's overall capability".

I would urge that you convey my sentiments to the Parliamentary Secretary as it appears to me that he is far removed from the factual situation.

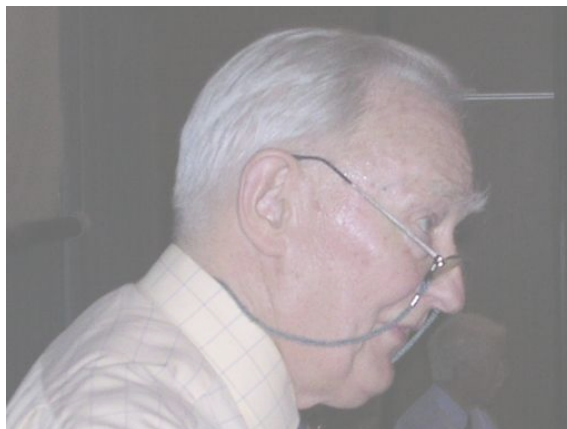
Jock Statton  
State President

## LUNCHEON ADDRESS

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007

**CAPT Derek Oakley MBE (RTD)**

**Royal Marines**



### **THE ROYAL MARINES AND AUSTRALIA'S FOUNDATION**

(The following is an abridgement of the address given by CAPT Oakley MBE).

You will all know of the First Fleet and how it took the first settlers to Australia. My story relates how the Marines fitted in to the overall picture, why they were sent and what they achieved.

#### **Background**

The Marines were formed in 1664 as soldiers for service with the Navy. However, the Marines were generally raised and disbanded as new British campaigns emerged until, in 1755, they were formed as a permanent and separate entity from the Army. (There was always great rivalry between the Army and the Marines – you will note I use the word 'Marines' rather than Royal Marines as the Corps were not granted the title 'Royal' until 1802, some 20 years after the First Fleet settlements in Port Jackson).

The Marines were involved in many actions in the late 1700s around the globe, not least against the French in both Europe and America. Indeed in 1758, MAJ Robert Ross, who was the Commandant of the Marines in the First Fleet,

fought in the battle for Quebec under GEN James Wolfe (who had started his military career as a Marine officer). Several Marine officers fought in the American War of Independence and particularly at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1755, just 13 years before the First Fleet sailed. So when the British Government decided to dump prisoners in the new land discovered by James Cook, they turned to the Admiralty to escort them and naturally, the Marines to accompany them.

### **State of the Marines**

When the First Fleet was being assembled, there was no love lost between the Army and Marines as to who should provide the escorts. The decision taken by the government minister Under Secretary for State for the Colonies, Evan Nepean, was that the Marines should go. (Nepean had been a Marine Captain serving in the war of American Independence). This proved to be the right judgement in view of happenings later when the Army provided soldiers to form the basis of the disastrous New South Wales Corps, which relieved the Marines in 1791.

It is notable that, of the important diaries that were kept during these crucial years, four of the most important are those kept by Marines. Marine John Easty's diaries are the most comprehensive and form the basis of most histories; they are now lodged in the Dixon library in Sydney. Although a comparatively simple man, he relates the story as seen from the lower deck. While his writing is quite legible, he was a man of little education and certainly not a 'model soldier' as he received his share of floggings and was very fond of his drink. A diary was also kept by SGT Scott who traveled with his wife, Jane Boxall, and gives a different aspect of the journey. His diaries are also in the Dixon library. The other two diaries were kept by 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Ralph Clark, after whom Clark Island in Sydney Harbour was named and CAPT Watkin Tench, one of the four Company Commanders. Their diaries are in the State Library of New South Wales. Copies, and certainly extracts, of these diaries are in the Royal Marines Museum in Portsmouth.

Easty wrote in October 1786 that he had scanned the company notice board and saw an order to the effect that '...the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty order that 160 private Marines to embark on board the transports to go to Botany

Bay to guard the convicts for the space of three years and then to be discharged at our own request'. This is the first discernible entry in his diary which he methodically kept.

The convict guard now consisted of one Major (MAJ Ross), four Captains, nine 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenants, one Quartermaster, four 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants, one Adjutant, twelve Sergeants, 160 Privates and eight Drummers. The Marines were allowed to take their families if desired and 28 wives and 17 children were selected to go. This makes a total of 212 Marines and 45 wives and children. The officers were not allowed to take their wives but the other ranks were.

The First Fleet consisted of eleven ships. The Marines were spread around five transports and the three supply ships carried enough stores, food and provisions to last for two years. It is obvious that there had been some careful planning from the outset and that it was realised that a large quantity of farming implements would be required – thus there were some 700 each of spades, shovels, hoes, forks and axes, 40 wheelbarrows, 30 grinding stones and three quarters of a million nails! There was a good supply of fig trees, bamboos, myrtle trees, sugar cane and many forms of fruit trees and plants. There were also over 300 livestock including turkeys, chickens, geese and ducks, but whether they were for eating or breeding is not clear. For the women convicts, there were 40 tents, 589 petticoats, 327 pairs of stockings and 250 handkerchiefs amongst other things.

### **The Officers**

I mentioned the Marine officers earlier; a few words now about the major participants which would form the backbone of the administration once ashore in the new colony. MAJ Ross was aged 47. He was a Marine officer of the old school and was acutely aware of the honour bestowed on him of command of this important assignment. When he thanked Nepean for sending him with his Marines, he said that the Corps occupied a 'subordinate obscurity' from which he hoped it would be rescued by its performance at Botany Bay to become an 'active Corps'. Ross was therefore determined that discipline would be harsh, not only amongst the convicts but also with his own Marines. He was almost universally disliked by his men and it was only the intervention of the younger officers that avoided

more trouble when they arrived in Australia. Ross was mindful of the fact that his Marines must do well and saw their service there as some sort of public relations exercise. However, history shows that the greatest obstacle was the behaviour of Ross himself. He did not see eye to eye with CAPT Arthur Phillip, who had been invested as Governor of the new colony, while Ross was designated LT Governor. Phillip was one who made the important decisions, and as he quickly made clear, did not mean to consult Ross over anything.

### **Ships Return Home**

Most of the transports returned to the UK, taking their seamen crews with them. This meant that the work and administration of looking after the convicts and settling them to work was left mostly to the Marines. It was not long before all the fertile land around Sydney Cove was used up or built upon, so in March 1788, only two months after their arrival, Phillip dispatched 30 Marines and 50 convicts under CAPT Campbell of the Marines to the upper reaches of Port Jackson to cultivate a stretch of land which the natives called Parramatta. A barracks was swiftly built there, even before the one at Sydney Cove, to hold 100 Marines. The convicts were very keen to get on with the farming there and caused little trouble to their guards.

Most of the First Fleet Marines sailed home in the Gordon, the Atlantic and other ships in November, 1791, arriving in England in April and May, 1792. Ross was still of a mind to prosecute a number of his officers and likewise, several of them wished to bring charges against Ross, but it fell on stony ground at the Admiralty. Ross received an official censure from Lord Grenville on his return and was never promoted.

When the decision whether to return to England or remain in Australia had to be made, CAPT Johnson, along with three sergeants and 34 Marines, decided to transfer to the newly arrived NSW Corps in April 1792. The government inducement was a bounty of £3 to each man and a land grant of 80 acres, which was similar to that awarded to the eight Marines who elected to leave the service and settle in Australia. In addition, they would be free of all taxes and only pay a nominal rent of one shilling for every 50 acres. Of course it saved the government paying their fare home and also the cost of sending replacements for the NSW Corps! Johnson subsequently became ADC to

both Governors Phillip and Hunter. The Marines who joined the NSW Corps were grouped together in one company commanded by Johnson.

Thus you can see from these remarks that Marines played a prominent part of the early founding of Australia. In consequence, I felt myself more fortunate when, after joining the Royal marines, my first ship took me on a four month cruise of Australia and New Zealand in 1947.

The Royal Marines and Australian forces have fought alongside each other on numerous occasions. The first main action was at Gallipoli in 1915. It was the Royal Marines Brigade of the Royal Naval Division that reinforced and subsequently relieved the Anzacs who were fighting alongside it during the disastrous months of April and May. Whilst not in any way comparable with the 7000 Australians and 3000 New Zealanders who were killed or wounded, nearly one third of the total troops sent, the Royal Marines lost about 850 killed from their land strength of 4500. Thus we remember that campaign with compassion, as you do.

#### **LUNCHEON ADDRESS**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

**WGCDR D. Cox**

**Commanding Officer JEWOSU**

#### **JOINT ELECTRONIC WARFARE OPERATIONAL SUPPORT UNIT**

The Joint Electronic Warfare Operational Support Unit (JEWOSU) forms part of the Information Warfare Wing (IWWG) capability which resides within the Aerospace Operational Support Group (AOSG) based at Edinburgh, South Australia. JEWOSU's mission is to provide electronic warfare (EW) support to enhance ADF aerospace, land and maritime combat capability. This entails the provision of products that enable threat warning, self-protection, situational awareness and intelligence support to ADF fixed wing aircraft, helicopters, ships and submarines as well as providing EW advice to all three services and EW related projects.

JEWOSU traces its heritage back two decades to the Directorate of Electronic Warfare Adelaide

(DEWADL) which was formed to support the F111C enhancement project. The unit quickly evolved, driven by the 1990 Gulf War requirements to improve threat analysis and subsequently requirements to support the FA-18 Hornet, Navy EW systems and Army helicopter self-protection systems. The unit has changed name over time to reflect its emerging roles and increasing customer base. DEWADL became the Electronic Warfare Operational Support Unit (EWOSU) in 1990 and the Electronic Warfare Squadron (EWSQN) in 1992. JEWOSU formed on 1 July 2002 with the amalgamation of EWSQN with the previously separate elements of Navy and Army electronic warfare support.

ADF operations in high threat areas over recent years have necessitated the development of EW countermeasures against rapidly evolving asymmetric as well as traditional threats to ensure the survivability of ADF platforms. JEWOSU provides specialist advice on equipment such as countermeasure dispensers, jammers, missile approach warning systems and radar warning receivers. In addition, advice is provided on system integration, flare and chaff types and countermeasure dispenser sequencing to enable the highest degree of protection against the widest range of threat systems that may be encountered. Where deficiencies are discovered JEWOSU has provided specialist support to assist with the rapid acquisition of electronic warfare self protection (EWSP) suites such as for C-130 and CH-47.

Advice and EW products provided by JEWOSU are based on rigorous trials such as those recently conducted in conjunction with the Defence Scientific & Technology Organisation (DSTO), Aeronautical Research & Development Unit, 16 (Avn) Brigade and RAAF's 86 Wing to facilitate the deployment of C-130 and CH-47's to Afghanistan. Trials also provide an essential baseline of data to enable new EW techniques to be modelled in simulated environments.

JEWOSU also deploys personnel with operational units to provide situational awareness, intelligence support, resolution of threat ambiguities and an ability to reprogram countermeasure systems in theatre in order to rapidly respond to evolving EW threat environments. Deployed EW personnel have the capacity to 'reach back' to JEWOSU to draw on specialist personnel to assist in the resolution of operational EW issues and when necessary, provide new software loads or countermeasure solutions.

The JEWOSU facility, which is co-located with DSTO, enables the fostering of a close working relationship and the development of combined countermeasure development teams. The integration of operators, engineers, technicians, support, and administration staff from all three services in one facility with specialist intelligence, Australian Public Service, DSTO and

contractors provides a unique capability unmatched in the allied EW community.

After two decades of evolution, JEWOSU is at the forefront of EW development providing operational support for the whole ADF, with a focus firmly on the EW battleworthiness of ADF platforms. The operational deployment of new capabilities such as Project WEDGETAIL, the Air Warfare Destroyer and high altitude long endurance unmanned aerial vehicles along with the evolution of network centric warfare will ensure that JEWOSU will stay at the vanguard of EW operational support.

**Luncheon Speaker**  
**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2007**  
**Dr Robert Williams**  
**Senior Research Scientist, DSTO**  
**Topic: GEOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE:  
KNOW YOUR WORLD THROUGH  
STORY-TELLING**

Most people would agree that our world is complex. We are confronted by increasingly important security and defence challenges and by very real environmental and infrastructure management challenges. Most people would also agree that there is now public awareness of the seriousness of major issues including "national security" and "effects of global warming". But how do we (the spatial information community) translate these issues and challenges into topics, capabilities and strategies that will enable the creation of 'geographic intelligence' and the creation of a 'geospatial information infrastructure' that will underpin decision support systems, modelling and simulation systems, intelligent transportation systems, intelligent weapons systems, and so on?

Dr Williams addresses a number of issues by using a 'story-telling' approach to identify key capability development issues.

## MEDALS – MEMENTOS & MORE

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or at RUSI-SA Office, Keswick Barracks.

*Views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the RUSI - SA Inc*

## MONTHLY LUNCHEONS

All members are invited to attend our luncheons. Indeed you are encouraged to invite partners, friends and colleagues to join us and, if they like what they see, to nominate them for membership. Please book in advance. If you are unsure whether or not your name is on the booking list, please check!

*Cancellations must be reported to the RUSI Office by midday of the Friday before the lunch. Subsequent cancellations will attract a fee of \$20. The caterers have to be notified of the number attending by that time and that number must be paid for. Twelve members booked for the October luncheon but did not turn up. RUSI SA cannot afford such losses.*

The dress code for the luncheon is neat casual, taking into consideration weather conditions. We assemble in Building 34A, Keswick Barracks, Keswick, at approximately 11.30 am for drinks and good fellowship. Members are asked to be seated by 12 noon when our President welcomes members and guests, and lunch is served.

The cost of the buffet is \$20. We also conduct a raffle to help cover expenses. Our caterer has agreed to provide vegetarian meals and sweets for diabetics, but these must be ordered before midday on the Thursday before the lunch.

For those who do not have time to enjoy lunch, but wish to hear the lecture, chairs are provided around the perimeter of the hall. Please be seated before 12.55 pm, as the guest speaker will be introduced at 1.00 pm. The address is of about 30 to 35 minutes duration with 15 minutes for questions, after which coffee or tea is available. We aim to complete the program by 2.00 pm.

## POSITION VACANT

As announced at the Annual General Meeting, LTCDR Ronald C Penglase DSC RFD VFD has decided to stand down as the RUSI-SA Honorary Auditor. The Council and members appreciate the sterling effort that Ron has made over the many years that he held this position.

## AUDITOR

We are now seeking a suitably qualified person to take over this important role. An honorarium is paid for these annual duties. Expressions of interest should be made to the RUSI-SA office or to the Honorary Treasurer, COL Les Thompson.

## SOCIAL CALENDAR 2007

Friday 1st June 2007

**President's Dinner**, Keswick Barracks Officers' Mess at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2007

**Winter Carvery**, Flagstaff Hill Golf Course at 12 Noon.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2007

**Christmas Sundowner**, Keswick Barracks Officers' Mess at 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm.

Members will be reminded of these events closer to each activity and will be given details of costs and RSVP dates. A tear-off slip will be included to allow members to notify the Secretary of their attendance and to pay for the event.

## LIBRARY NON FICTION

The following books and periodicals have recently been added to the library.

Reviews by Malcolm Orchard.

**“Malaria Frontline”** by Tony Sweeney

During the Second World War the hidden killer, malaria, was one of the most powerful enemies of Australian troops in the south-west Pacific. Indeed, casualties from malaria during 1942 and 1943 were so serious that the Australian War Cabinet thought that there would not be sufficient reinforcements to maintain the Army at strength against the Japanese in New Guinea. Thus, in June 1943, the Australian Army formed a special research unit, the Land Headquarters Medical Research Unit, to tackle the problem of malarial infection. By early 1944 the results showed that the drug Atebrin provided complete protection, provided that it was taken scrupulously every day. The rigid Atebrin discipline adopted by the Australian Army resulted in the lowest malaria levels recorded among troops operating for extended periods in highly malarious areas, and helped turn the tide of the war.

**“The Battle for the Rhine 1944”** by Robin Neillands

Robin Neillands lectures in military history at the National Army Museum in London and for the Dept. of Further Education at the University of Oxford. Here in his account of the 1944 post-Normandy campaign he examines the often difficult relationships between the Allied Generals. For example, was Eisenhower’s command strategy either workable or wise, and did Bradley and Paton undermine it? And if Eisenhower had taken Montgomery’s advice, would the Allies have made quicker progress? Could the war in Europe have been won in 1944....?

**“The Cold War”** by John Lewis Gaddis

John Lewis Gaddis is professor of history at Yale University. *The Cold War* traces why wartime allies suddenly became enemies after 1945. And how, also suddenly, the Cold War came to an end. Gaddis looks at the underlying dynamics of the conflict, how changes in society were as important as changes in government, and how, in the end, policy makers at the top, and ordinary people at the bottom, reversed the course of history.

**“The Strength of a Nation”** is a history of Australia and Australians at war, at home and abroad in the six years 1839 to 1945. Nearly one million Australians out

of a total population of seven million joined the armed forces; they made an enormous contribution to the Allied war effort. For example, they inflicted the first land defeat of the Japanese at Milne Bay and played a crucial part in the Battle of El Alamein, the first defeat on land of the Germans.

These victories in battle were, of course, only made possible by the support from home, as McKernan shows....

**“The Weather Makers”** by Tim Flannery

Here, concisely, is the history and future impact of climate change.

**“The Eternal Frontier”** by Tim Flannery

Written with quiet humour, *The Eternal Frontier*, in Flannery’s words “*seeks to identify the forces that have shaped North America*”, and especially after the arrival of Columbus in 1492. But, as he points out, “*although the citizens of the United States of America are colloquially known as Americans, the United States is not synonymous with North America; both Canadians and Mexicans offer very different examples of what being American can mean*”. This is a very readable ecological history of North America and its peoples.

## LIBRARY FICTION