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Jerusalem's Liberators
Australia's Lighthorsemen

HERITAGE

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The Australian Heritage Society

The Australian Heritage Society was launched in Melbourne on 18th September, 1971 at an Australian League of Rights Seminar. It was clear that Australia's heritage is under increasing attack from all sides: spiritual, cultural, political and constitutional. A permanent body was required to ensure that young Australians were not cut off from their true heritage and the Heritage Society assumed that role in a number of ways.

The Australian Heritage Society welcomes people of all ages to join in its programme for the regeneration of the spirit of Australia. To value the great spiritual realities that we have come to know and respect through our heritage, the virtues of patriotism, of integrity and love of truth, pursuit of goodness and beauty, and unselfish concern for other people - to maintain a love and loyalty for those values.

Young Australians have a real challenge before them. The Australian Heritage Society, with your support, can give the necessary lead in building a better Australia.

"Our heritage today is the fragments gleaned from past ages; the heritage of tomorrow - good or bad - will be determined by your actions today."

SIR RAPHAEL CILENTO
First Patron of the Australian Heritage Society

By Jeremy Lee

War Games - Who Should Make the Decision?

UNDER Australia's Constitution the Governor-General is the Head of State. Acting on the advice of the Federal Council, his signature finally consigns into law the decisions made by the elected representatives in Parliament.

Sections 61 and 62 specify how this is done:

61. The executive power of the Commonwealth is vested in the Queen and is exercisable by the Governor-General as the Queen's representative, and extends to the execution and maintenance of this Constitution and of the laws of the Commonwealth.

62. There shall be a Federal Executive Council to advise the Governor-General in the government of the Commonwealth, and the members of the Council shall be chosen and summoned by the Governor-General and sworn as Executive Councillors, and shall hold office during his pleasure.

Sections 63 and 64 clarify the matter:

63. The provisions of this Constitution referring to the Governor-General shall be construed as referring to the Governor-General acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council.

64. The Governor-General may appoint officers to administer such departments of State of the Commonwealth as the Governor-General in Council may

establish. Such officers shall hold office during the pleasure of the Governor-General. They shall be members of the Federal Executive Council, and shall be the Queen's Ministers of State for the Commonwealth.

The above is the only reference to the Prime Minister or the Cabinet in the Constitution.

Is it, then, proper and legitimate for the Federal Executive Council to demand the Governor-General's compliance in the matter of declaring war and consigning Australia's armed forces into action?

Again, the Constitution is quite clear. Section 51 (vi) tells us:

51. The Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to . . .

(vi) The natural and military defence of the Commonwealth and of the several States, and the control of the forces to execute and maintain the laws of the Commonwealth.

In other words, defence decisions should be made by the full Parliament, which consists of Crown, Senate and House of Representatives.

It is NOT a matter for the Executive to decide. An Act for a declaration of war should have been voted on by ALL elected members, before being consigned, via the Executive Council to the Governor-General – who is also the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

But, unlike the American Congress or the British House of Commons, the Australian Parliament was never given a vote about the war in Iraq. Instead, the Prime Minister and his Cabinet colleagues, all holding offices-of-profit under the Crown, took unto themselves a decision which was not theirs to make.

It seems the Governor-General acted on illegal advice. That illegal advice was provided by the Prime Minister and his Cabinet.

Prime Minister Howard stepped right out of line.

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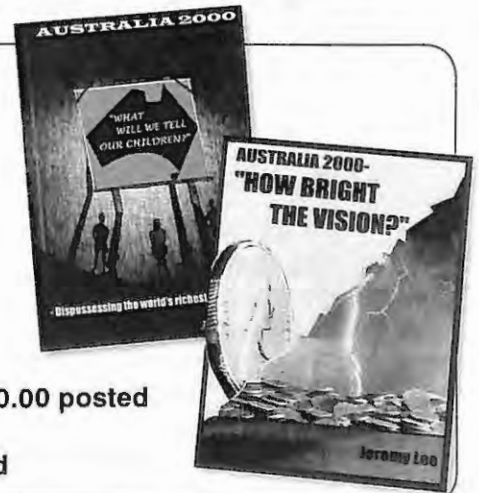
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The Lighthorsemen Jerusalem's Liberators

From *Discovering Australia's Christian Heritage*
By Col Stringer

GOD'S History Makers - The "Mad Aussies"

Most Australians are unaware of their rich heritage, such as the fact that it was the Australian Light Horsemen who were predominantly instrumental in the liberation of Jerusalem (God's chosen city) from centuries of rule by the Muslims. This fact is even more astonishing when we realise that this is something that the combined forces of Europe, during the eleven Crusades of the Middle Ages, the might of Napoleon (the greatest military genius to live) and the British Army, were unable to achieve.

Jerusalem - City of God, City of Peace, City of David. No city on earth has ever been more fought and disputed over than Jerusalem. As the Roman Empire declined, Muslim invaders began to move in and occupy the vacuum. Waves of Muslim warriors from Mahommet himself to Abu Bakr and Saladin the Great, carried their "Jihad" (holy war) to the gates of the Holy Land and beyond. Soon, not only all of the Middle East, but much of Europe, lay under their cruel control. A little known fact is that it was their intention to wipe Christianity from the face of the earth and this plan came perilously close to fulfillment.

In 1095 Pope Urban the second delivered an address that launched the first Crusade. He declared of Jerusalem, *"This royal city.................. is in subjection to those who do not know God, to worship of the heathen. Therefore, she seeks and desires to be liberated and does not cease to implore you to come to her aid."*

What followed was the first of a series of tragic blunders. Eleven bloody crusades took place in a quest to liberate Jerusalem from its Muslim conquerors.

The First Crusade

In 1099 Godfrey of Bouillon and his knights conquered Jerusalem, following a five week siege. There followed the wholesale slaughter of the city's inhabitants, including all of its Jewish citizens, many of whom were burned alive in their synagogues. The defeat stung the Muslim empire into retaliation and in 1187 Saladin defeated the Crusaders, re-entered Jerusalem, stripped the cross from the Dome of the Rock and destroyed the Church of

Light Horse slouch hat with emu plume.
Photograph courtesy Col Stringer.

the Holy Sepulchre. Jerusalem was to remain firmly in the hands of the Turks for a further 800 years, right up until this century when 800 "Aussie" Light Horsemen - "God's History Makers" rode into history and opened the gateway to the chosen city..

Napoleon Bonaparte

In 1796, the military genius Napoleon Bonaparte landed in the Middle east, with an army determined to liberate Palestine (including Jerusalem) from its Muslim masters. At first things went well and he triumphed at the Battle of the Pyramids. His victorious army then pushed on into Palestine, even after his fleet was sunk by the British at the Battle of the Nile. Confident of ultimate success Napoleon issued a proclamation to the Jewish people of the world, urging them to return to their homeland, as he intended to restore the nation of Israel once he conquered Jerusalem. Unfortunately his army was defeated at Accra by a much larger Muslim army and he was driven out of Palestine.

It appeared as though Jerusalem could not be liberated. In fact, apart from two minor periods when the Crusaders entered the city it had been under Muslim rule for centuries! 1914 World War I began, with Turkey entering the fray on the side of the German/Austrian alliance. Australia declared war on these powers and immediately began to raise an army to send to battle. Part of this army was the famous "Australian Light Horsemen". Everyone of these mounted troops was a volunteer, a superb horseman and crack shot. Most were raised in the rugged Australian bush. Easily distinguishable by their slouch hats, sporting emu plumes, the Australians were noted for

their good humour under almost any conditions, their boldness in combat and sense of "fair play".

These rugged horsemen lived by an unwritten code of ethics - you never left a "mate", no matter what the cost! After several years of fighting the Anzac Desert Mounted Corps had pushed their way from the shores of the Suez canal deep into the waterless Sinai desert, much to the surprise of the British, who were content to remain on the defensive, and their Turkish enemies.

Beersheba - Well Of The Oath

The key to the liberation of Jerusalem were the Gaza-Beersheba fortifications. Beersheba, meaning "well of the oath" was so named by Abraham in the book of Genesis. The well had provided water not only for Abraham, but for Moses and David. Any army approaching its life-giving wells has to march for days through the waterless Sinai desert. Despite constant assaults by the combined forces of the British and Anzac forces, the place could not be taken. Then came the fateful day of October 31, 1917. General Allenby was desperate after 50,000 British infantry with tank support had been driven back into the desert. With the sun about to set and with no water for many miles, they faced disaster. The Australian Light Horse Commander Chauvel's orders were to storm Beersheba. It had to be won before nightfall at all costs.

Odds of six to one

Chauvel concocted a bold plan. Why not let his 800 horsemen charge the Turkish artillery? A cavalry charge across 6000 yards of open terrain straight into the face of the massed Turkish guns. Some 4600 Turkish

Young sixteen year old trooper Hendrick.
Photograph courtesy Col Stringer.

troops were already entrenched in anticipation of the attack - odds of six to one in their favour! Behind them were nests of machine guns with interlocking fields of fire and behind that artillery commanded by battle hardened German officers. The whole plan sounded like a recipe for disaster. No wonder the German commanding the defences described the Aussie Light Horsemen as "madmen!"

But left with virtually no alternative the desperate General gave the order. The young men mounted their magnificent "Walers" and lined up to face the Turkish guns. There they waited, faces bronzed and tanned from the desert sun, emu plumes fluttering in the breeze, rifles swung across their backs and bayonets in their hands. History was about to be written, these men were about to commence the liberation of Jerusalem! Let me quote from my book "800 Horsemen - God's History Makers": *"The wells had to be taken and by nightfall. Repeated attempts by British infantry had been thrown back with heavy losses by a firmly entrenched and determined enemy. Brigadier-General Grant of the 4th Light Horse stepped forward to speak to the Commander of the Desert Mounted Corps, Lt.-General Sir Harry Chauvel. "I believe we can take the town!" he quipped to Chauvel. The Australian Commander replied, "And how do you propose to do that?" he inquired. "A cavalry charge sir! But I must have a free hand!" Chauvel hesitated for some time and then turning to his staff he barked the order that would change the course of nations. "Put Grant straight at it!"*

Then came the historic command "Mount!" Almost as one 800 horsemen swung into the saddle of their trusty "Walers" and trotted forward in precise formation. Ahead, some six kilometres across the open plain, lay 4,600 seasoned Turkish troops in their trenches.... Heavy machine guns were sighted in such a way as to sweep the entire approach and to the rear stood the artillery, manned by seasoned German gunners who had been given ample time to sight their guns onto every square yard of approach to these ancient waterholes. And all of this was being attempted by men in 50 degree temperatures riding horses, many of whom had not tasted water for between 48 and 70 hours!

Into the jaws of death

The Australians paused nervously, their huge warhorses snorting and stamping in anticipation, the very air pregnant with tension and excitement. And then came

Picture of General Sir Harry Chauvel, display showing Light Horse Infantry uniform and original Desert Mounted Corps Battle Standard
Photograph courtesy Col Stringer.

the order: "Forward!" Almost as one the big war-horses surged forward. On they came – like fearsome ghost riders, their silhouettes etched against the crimson sky and swirling dust, their unsheathed bayonets flashing. The thunder of hooves echoed across the desert, striking fear in the heart of the Muslim soldiers. As one the Anzacs broke into a gallop and surged forward, their distinctive emu plumes fluttering from their slouch hats. The dust billowed up in clouds, masking their approach and blinding every rider until all they could make out was the horse and rider directly in front. Laughter and "Cooee", (the yell of the Australian bushman) could be heard above the crescendo of hooves.

Three batteries of Turkish heavy guns opened fire on the advancing horsemen. The first shells roared overhead and exploded in a burst of smoke and flames. Horses reared, men shouted - some fell, but the squadrons thundered on. Adding to the noise and confusion were the German aircraft as they swooped in low and began to rain bombs down on the charging ranks. As one horse or rider went down the remaining riders leapt their faithful "Walers" over their fallen mates. Riderless horses swept along in formation, their hearts bursting in a desperate and valiant attempt to keep pace with the rest of the troop. One man said he could feel the concussion blasts of the shells on his face.

"The most beautiful sight I ever saw!"

They thundered on, horses snorting, lungs bursting, veins popping, wild eyed

men shouting - but not for one moment did the line falter. Five hundred metres, one mile and then the German gunners were horrified to discover that they were unable to adjust their artillery pieces fast enough to range in on the galloping Australians, their shells passing overhead and exploding harmlessly behind them. From the flanks machine-gunners took over the defence, their staccato sound adding a new pitch to the battle. One man's horse was shot straight through the head, sending horse and rider crashing to the ground in a confusion of arms, and legs. Another Light Horseman recounted how he could hear the machine gun bullets whistling past his horse's ears like "angry bees". But it had no effect on the galloping horsemen. Seemingly nothing could stop them as they swept on "in magnificent order". Once committed there was no turning back. This was the magnificent flower of Australian manhood, many lying flat along their huge pounding war-horses' necks, shouting words of encouragement to their beloved mounts. It was a grand, grim, magnificent scene. One observer described it as "the most beautiful sight I ever saw!"

Panic desertion

By now the first squadrons of the charging horsemen had reached the two mile point and this began to rattle the Turks in the trenches. They could see the wild Australians bearing down on them with incredible speed. The Turks knew the Australians by reputation when it came to hand to hand fighting. Some, wild-eyed with panic broke and ran. They could hear the wild bush yells, they could see the flashing bayonets, and then the huge horses leapt the first trenches. Imagine if you can the magnificent effort of these men and horses.

After days without water, after being bombed and shot at and after charging across three miles of desert sands, despite the combined weight of rider, rifle, ammunition and personal belongings these magnificent horses steeple-chased over the enemy trenches. The riders hurriedly dismounted and leapt into the trenches, eager to come to grips with "Johnny Turk". Screams added to the din as the fate of not only the battle, but ultimately a nation, hung in the balance. History was being made that day. British officers, observing the wild charge from the sidelines, leapt to their feet and broke into wild cheers and applause. Squadron after squadron thundered over the trenches and into the town. Squadron

leader Lawson would be recommended for the highest decoration of valour - the Victoria Cross.

Beersheba taken

As the last of the sun's rays began to slip from the desert sky, Beersheba, the key to the Holy Land, was firmly in Australian hands and thousands of men and horses from the Anzac Desert Corps were watering at the "Well of the Oath". For the first time in centuries the road to Jerusalem was open and the Muslim stranglehold on the Holy Land was broken. What eleven bloody Crusades, the military genius of Napoleon and the might of the British Army had been unable to achieve, had been accomplished by 800 young fresh-faced Australians. God had used one of the smallest and youngest nations in the world as His spearhead to open the gateway to His chosen city - Jerusalem. **And Australia was just 16years old as a nation!**

Equal to the best

The British Commanding General remarked, as he walked over the ground where the charge had taken place, "Words fail me. I cannot see how these men were able to achieve what they did. Every rule of war says that they should have been annihilated!" (Stringer C, page 82-86). In a letter to the Light Horsemen, he later wrote: **"The Australian Light Horseman has proven himself equal to the best. He has gained the gratitude... and the admiration of the World."** While British Poet Laureate - John Masefield added: **"They were the finest body of young men ever brought together in modern times. For physical beauty and nobility of bearing, they surpassed any men I have** ever seen. **They walked like kings in old poems. There was no thought of surrender in those marvellous young men. They were the flower of the world's manhood, and died as they lived, owning no master on this earth."**

"Beersheva, the town associated with the Jewish patriarch Abraham -thereafter became a strong connecting point for Israel, the British and the Anzacs. For on the day that Beersheva was captured, the British War Cabinet agreed to what has become historically known as the Balfour Declaration - the promise of a Jewish homeland in the Land of Israel, then known as Palestine." (Crombie K).

Many of these young Light Horsemen were deeply and visibly moved when they realised how they had been used to open the gateway to the Holy Land. Many of these men carried Bibles

in their packs and furthermore they used them: "Biblical scenes and events ... crowded the minds of men as they fought for and gained place after place of which they had heard from their parents and ministers. It was not unusual for the officers to inform their men regarding the historic significance of the places before they were taken. This is no romantic nonsense, but can be discerned by reading the diaries that many soldiers kept. Major John Robertson said in his book 'With the Cameliers in Palestine': "I have seen a group of a dozen men lying around a trooper who had a copy of the Bible, and who was reading out the story of Samson at Gaza." (Adams A. Page 7 1).

Visions of Angels

With the battle for Jerusalem approaching a feeling spread from trooper to trooper and padre to padre that biblical prophecy was about to be fulfilled. One of the most extraordinary aspects of the liberation of Jerusalem (largely as a result of the Anzacs involvement) was the claim by many of the men that they had seen visions of angels: "From the Lt. General Sir Harry Chauvel down through the officers and the troopers, visions of ancient buildings, strange animals, lighted villages and angelic beings were witnessed en masse. During debriefing, the stories of hundreds of men were corroborated through cross-checking examinations. As there was no logical explanation, officially the incident was recorded as 'lack of sleep'.......... Reports of angelic beings appearing during the fighting occurred right up to the cessation of hostilities in Palestine in 1918. They are too numerous to detail ... Statements were also taken from captured Turkish and German officers who had witnessed the same manifestations. General Allenby called for detailed reports and interviewed some witnesses himself." (Ibid - page 155).

Historical entry to Citadel of David

On December 11th 1917 the Light Horsemen rode triumphantly through the streets of Jerusalem to be greeted by throngs of hysterical Jews and Christians. Centuries of Muslim rule were over. As General Allenby entered the city his honour guard included fifty Anzac Light Horsemen and upon his arrival at the Citadel of David he was greeted by another honour guard of Light Horsemen! Their magnificent effort was being honoured by the world: "In 1917, the women of Jerusalem strewed palm leaves in front of the victorious

Australians as they entered the ancient city ... Others wept as monks sang, "Kyrie Eleison, Christie Eleison", at midnight Mass, to celebrate the birth of Christ." (Clark Professor M).

Let me quote the military book "The A.I.F. in Sinai and Palestine": "...As the Australians rode on through the streets, they were rushed by the populace...... In all that great army it is doubtful if a single man entered Jerusalem for

Henry Stringer of the Third Light Horse. He had three horses shot from underneath him in battles to liberate Jerusalem.
Photograph courtesy Col Stringer.

the first time, untouched by the influence of the Saviour. War is not a Christian mission. But for a brief spell the soldier's mind was purged of grossness, and he knew again the pure and trusting faith of his childhood." (Gullett H.S.).

Fewer than two hundred of these young men are buried in the military cemetery on Mt Scopus (Jerusalem) overlooking the very site to which Jesus will return. (For further information read "800 Horsemen" by Col Stringer). In Genesis 12, (speaking of Israel) God said that He would "bless them that bless you and curse them that curse you." **American Christians believe the USA is blessed because of their support for Israel:** "President Truman said to David Ben Gurion and the nation of Israel, 'Come, I'll walk you into the United Nations and see you are seated' At that moment, the USA picked up its major prophetic assignment: becoming the official sponsor of the nation of Israel. This role brings our nation under the canopy of God's Abrahamic blessing." (Sutton H). No country has blessed Israel like Australia - so, if we believe God's Word, then this nation is blessed. Should we not be reminding the Lord of His promise instead of speaking curses? This nation is blessed of God. His Word declares and promises it! **Should we not teach our children this is part of their Godly Heritage?**

AUSTRALIA IN THE SIXTIES

By Roger Hughes

Sir Robert Menzies hands over to his successor, Harold Holt: January 1966

AUSTRALIA during the 1960s experienced radical social changes, political controversy and division, and other serious challenges. Nevertheless the country prospered and enjoyed sound economic growth.

The Australian economy during the sixties tended to be generally buoyant. Even during the credit squeeze of 1961-62 the economy grew by 1.25% and the unemployment rate rose only to 3.2%. During the rest of the decade unemployment never went beyond 2.3% and was generally much lower. Inflation was low by today's standards, down as low as 0.4% in 1962-63. As late as 1970-71 it never rose above 4.9%.

Surge in migration

The buoyant economy attracted a large number of migrants. In fact 41% of our population growth came from immigration. The influx of permanent and long-term arrivals ranged from 124,985 in 1962, to 258,618 in 1970. The net figures (i.e. excess of arrivals over departures) ranged from 64,638 in 1962, to 140,331 in 1969. The large migrant intake enlarged the workforce, and increased total demand, including demand for social capital such as housing, roads, hospitals, schools and energy.

From the middle of the decade there was a radical change in the racial composition of our migrant intake. Up until the start of 1966 the White Australia Policy was maintained and very few non-whites had been allowed to immigrate. From that year the policy was changed and increasing numbers, around 10,000 a year, came from the Third World.

Billion dollar foreign investment

Foreign investment flowed into Australia. In the early sixties it was worth hundreds of millions of dollars a year. By the end of the decade foreign investment ran to over a billion dollars a year. Foreign firms were attracted by expectations of high growth. It also allowed them to get around our tariff barriers and import restrictions. This probably did make a positive contribution to economic growth but it also meant that a larger proportion of local industry was foreign owned.

Although Australia maintained tariffs and other forms of protection for local industry it did make some changes so as to free up trade. In 1960 the embargo on iron exports to Japan was lifted and this had the potential to stimulate the mining industry.

Huge growth in mineral earnings

Nevertheless the mineral boom did not really take off until the second half of the decade. At the beginning of the 1960s ores and metals accounted for 10% of our exports, by the end of the decade it was 30%. Gold, silver, zinc and especially lead were initially our main mineral exports but these were overtaken by coal, iron and bauxite. Coal exports earned us $10 million in 1959-60 but this rose to $100 million by 1968-69 and $1,000 million in 1975-76. Iron ore was an even bigger earner while bauxite production rose from 16,000 tons to over 5 million tons by the end of the sixties. While Australia's BHP played a very important part in developing our mineral resources, overseas firms such as Conzinc Rio Tinto of Australia (which in fact was 83% owned by its British parent company) played an increasingly large part. The American owned Utah Construction and Mining Company played a major part in developing and profiting from iron ore at Mt. Goldsworthy. Canadian, French, Swiss and other foreign companies owned parts of our mining industry.

Japan overtakes Britain

Changes in trade patterns saw Japan replace Britain as the main destination for our exports. By 1971 Japan was taking 71% of our metal ore exports and 84% of our coal exports. The balance of trade with Japan was well in our favour but the balance with the United States ran well in their favour. The European Economic Community that had been founded in 1957 tended to be an important customer and South East Asia was taking an increasing amount of our goods.

Overall however our share of world trade actually fell from 2% in 1960 to 1.5% in 1972. Surprisingly while the proportion of the workforce involved

Mount Tom Price: estimated to contain 500 million tons of iron ore
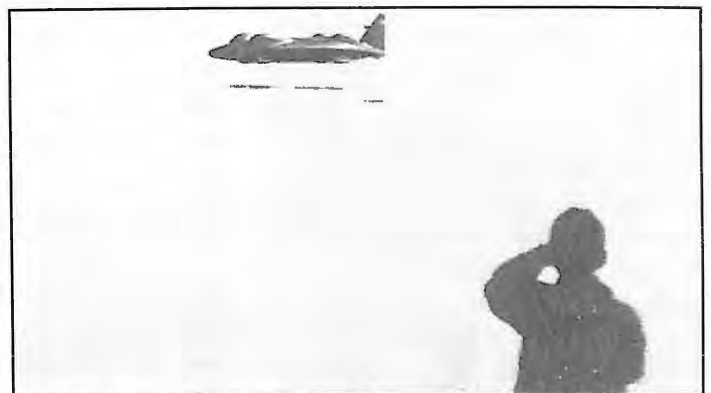
Donald Campbell breaking the world land speed record in the "Bluebird"

in manufacturing fell, the proportion of manufactured goods in our exports rose from 17.7% in the mid-60s to 20.5% in 1972-73.

During the Vietnam War some Australians gained benefits when an "R and R" economy sprung up as American servicemen sought a respite from the war.

Australia in Vietnam

Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War began in 1962 when Robert Menzies was Prime Minister. In that year thirty military advisers were sent to Vietnam. By 1965 this had grown to 100 advisers. In the same year the government announced that a battalion of our troops would be committed to the war. When Harold Holt became Prime Minister he showed he was willing to "go all the way with LBJ" and beefed up our commitment by two more infantry battalions. The necessity of keeping up the numbers in our defence forces caused the government to introduce conscription. This did not make the then Liberal regime popular but nevertheless they stayed in power until late in 1972. Meanwhile, Harold Holt disappeared while swimming at Victoria's Cheviot Beach in 1967. His body was never found.

There were more than a few protests against our involvement in Vietnam, the biggest being in 1971 when an estimated one million people took to the streets.

These protests were only part of the changes facing Australian society in the sixties. The post-war baby boomers were reaching teenage and young adult stages in the 1960s and this contributed to the development of a separate youth culture. The introduction of oral contraception, popularly known as the "pill", was accompanied by a general relaxing of moral attitudes to sexual relations.

Meanwhile the relationship between Aborigines and the rest of Australia was changing. In 1962 they were allowed to vote in elections. In 1967 a referendum was passed which allowed the Federal government to pass specific legislation relating to Aborigines and ensured they would be included in the Census. The first protests for land rights and equal pay for Aborigines were made in the sixties.

Killer Ronald Ryan apprehended

Troops march off to war in Vietnam

Higher education and pop music

Australia was becoming more educated. In 1960 there were 53,391 students enrolled in universities but by 1970 the figure had reached 11 6,778.

Australian society in the sixties was marked by what could be called an explosion in pop culture, exemplified by the growing rock music industry.

Our popular music at the start of the decade was comparatively staid. In 1962 Lucky Starr had his big hit, *I've Been Everywhere* and a year later the Aboriginal singer, Jimmy Little, was voted Popstar of the Year following the success of *Royal Telephone*.

More radical music came on the scene and soon we were hearing the likes of The Easybeats, Normie Rowe, and Billy Thorpe and the Aztecs. Many of these pop stars reached almost god-like status in the eyes of their fans. One 14-year-old carved the initials of her favourite star into her flesh, the concerts

were marked by hysterical crowds and sometimes turned into riots. It was not unusual for stars to return to their hotel rooms to find fans waiting inside.

Fanatical pop culture

Normie Rowe at one time was charged with carnal knowledge of a 13 year-old girl. Rowe was acquitted of the charge and his fans became even more determined. A more serious setback to his career came in 1968 when he was conscripted into the Army and served in Vietnam.

Overseas performers such as The Beatles and P.J. Proby drew an equally fanatical response. In 1964 there were 300,000 people lining the streets of Adelaide to meet The Beatles. Students of an exclusive girls' school went on strike when they were told not to listen to an account of the Beatles' arrival on their transistors.

Notable visitors

Other notable people to visit Australia during the sixties included Donald Campbell who established a new land speed record on Lake Eyre in 1962, Billy Graham, the famous evangelist who attracted a crowd of 250,000 in Melbourne, Ronny Biggs, the infamous train robber, and Lyndon Baines Johnson, President of the USA. It was during the Johnson visit that NSW Premier, Bob Askin made his infamous "ride over the b-------s" response when demonstrators blocked the official car in Liverpool Street.

On the darker side there were some notorious and still unsolved crimes that occurred. On New Year's Day in 1963 the bodies of Dr Gilbert Bogle,

PM Harold Holt welcomes President Johnson to Australia: October 1966

Pop star Normie Rowe in action

Private Rowe answers the call

Australian group The Seekers hit
the big time in Britain

Melbournians pack Bourke Street in
peaceful protest to support moratorium

a CSIRO scientist, and Margaret Chandler were found near Sydney's Chatswood Golf Course. Whether they were murdered, suicided, or overdosed on some mysterious drug has never been determined.

On Australia Day, 1966 the three Beaumont children, Jane 9, Anna and Grant 4, disappeared during a visit to Adelaide's Glenelg Beach. No sign of them has been seen since.

Last hanging sentence

One crime that was solved was the killing of a prison officer by an escaping prisoner, Ronald Ryan in 1965. Ryan was caught, convicted, and in February 1967 became the last man to be hung in this country.

Australia's movie industry was largely in the doldrums during the sixties. Only a small number of feature films were made and some, such as "The Sundowners" were basically American movies using Australia as a backdrop. Nevertheless in 1966 we managed to produce "They're a Weird Mob" based on John O'Grady's novel. In 1969 "Age of Consent" was made with the English producer-director Michael Powell. In contrast to the small number of mainstream movies was the dozen or so surf films produced. This reflected the surf and beach culture of many young Australians.

Despite the ructions caused by the Vietnam and conscription controversies the sixties strike one as a period of optimism, perhaps even naivety. Doubtless this had something to do with the youthfulness of the population, the economic prosperity, and possibly our relatively homogenous society.

Australia had yet to face the stagnation and chronic unemployment, the fall of Saigon and the flood of refugees, or the rising crime and social problems that characterised the last three decades of the Twentieth Century.

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"The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Australia" (1990)

Swan River Transport Services

AS EARLY as April 1833 there was a regular weekly cargo service between Fremantle and Perth. The pioneer of that service was Lionel Lukin, who found employment therein for his craft 'Fanny of Perth', a vessel of about 10 tons. The little cutter left Fremantle every Thursday, and returned from Perth every Saturday, wind and weather permitting. Goods were landed at Perth at 30/- a ton, with special rates for smaller parcels. In May of the same year, in consequence of arrangements entered into between Lukin and a man named Anderson for the conveyance of goods from Fremantle to Guildford and Upper Swan, the Fanny left Fremantle on Mondays instead of Thursday.

An odd contraption that was used on the Swan River for cargo work was a whaleboat fitted with a paddle wheel worked by a crank handle turned by manpower. Three men were necessary to propel this unwieldy craft, but it proved quite serviceable. Many a cargo it took from Guildford to Fremantle for shipment abroad. At one stage the traffic on the river became so great that it was thought expedient to dig a channel across the spit at Preston Point, thus saving the long journey skirting the sweep of Rocky Bay. The channel was dug, and Point Walter became a halfway house from Perth. Crews rested in a small tavern erected near the point, and a careful survey of the locality now reveals traces of that tavern. Years later a carefully conceived plan to form a steam boat company on the river failed because of the lack of finance.

JJ Doyle

Australian Medals and Awards

MILITARY GALLANTRY DECORATIONS

Victoria Cross for Australia (VC)

The Victoria Cross for Australia was created in 1991. It recognises persons who perform an act of the most conspicuous gallantry or daring or pre-eminent acts of valour or self-sacrifice or display extreme devotion to duty.

96 Australians have been awarded the Victoria Cross, the last Australian being Warrant Officer Keith Payne in 1969 during the Vietnam War.

Three new military gallantry decorations were introduced in the Australian system of honours and awards in 1991.

There are three levels of awards:

Star of Gallantry (SG)

For acts of great heroism or conspicuous gallantry in action in circumstances of great peril.

Medal for Gallantry (MG)

For acts of gallantry in action in hazardous circumstances

Commendation for Gallantry

For other acts of gallantry which are considered worthy of recognition

AUSTRALIAN SERVICE/CAMPAIGN DECORATIONS

Australia Service Medal 1939-45

This Medal can claim to be the first truly distinctive Australian medal. The Medal was created by King George VI in 1949 and counter signed by Prime Minister Ben Chifley to recognise World War II service by members of Australia's armed forces and the Volunteer Defence Corps.

This Medal was in addition to a range of British medals and campaign stars that could be earned by Australians for service in World War II. The qualifying service criteria for the Medal - 18 months for full-time service or 3 years for part-time service - was amended in 1996 to 30 days and 90 days respectively.

Civilian Service Medal 1939-1945

This Medal was established in 1994 and since then over 8500 Medals have been issued. It recognises the service of civilians who served in Australia during World War II in organisations that were subject to military-like arrangements and conditions of service, in arduous circumstances, in support of the war effort.

The Medal is made of bronze and portrays the Southern Cross symbolising Australia, surrounded by Golden Wattle. which represents the civil population combining in defence of Australia. The ochre colour represents the soil of Australia and green represents the land and food production; and the white stripes represent communications and construction.

Australian Active Service Medal 1945-1975

Prime Minister John Howard announced the establishment of this active service medal in December 1997 to recognise the service of veterans who served in the Korean War, the Malayan Emergency, the Indonesian Confrontation and the Vietnam War.

The establishment of this new medal followed on from the government's 1996 election commitment to the veterans' community to create a distinctly Australian award to recognise warlike service between 1945 and 1975.

Those veterans who received, or have an entitlement to the Korean Medal, a General Service Medal for service in the Malayan Emergency 1948-60 or the Indonesian Confrontation 1962-66, are eligible for this Australian Active Service Medal 1945-1975.

When the Prime Minister announced The Queen's formal approval of this Medal, he also indicated that the Medal would be extended to those personnel who have received the Vietnam Medal and for some categories eligible for the Vietnam Logistic and Support Medal.

This Australian Active Service Medal 1945-1975 is placed at the same level as other war medals and is worn immediately after World War II medals but before the Korean War Medal, the General Service Medals, the Vietnam Medal and the Vietnam Logistic and Support Medal.

The Medal has the following clasps:

Korea	Malaya
Malaysia	Thai/Malay
Thailand	Vietnam

Australian Service Medal 1945-1975

Established in 1995 to recognise a large number of Australian service personnel who did not receive any award for their non-warlike operational service in the period 1945-1975. The creation of this award was one of the recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry into Defence Awards that reported to government in 1994.

The Medal's design features the Commonwealth Coat of Arms on the obverse, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward. The reverse of the Medal features the Federation Star overlaid with a plinth on which the wearer's name is engraved. The obverse and reverse are decorated with clusters of mimosa blossoms symbolising the presence of Australian service personnel in overseas peacekeeping and other non-warlike operations. The ribbon has bands of dark and light blue, khaki, green and gold.

The Australian Service Medal 1945-1975 is on the same level as the Australian Service Medal in the Australian Order of Wearing Australian Honours and Awards.

The Governor-General has approved a number of clasps for the Medal including the following:

Berlin	FESR	Germany
Indonesia	Japan	Kashmir
Korea	Middle East	PNG
SE Asia	SW Pacific	
Special Ops	Thailand	
W New Guinea		

Australian Bravery Decorations

Acts of bravery in the Australian community happen more often than many people realise. Decorations were created in 1975 as one of the original elements of the then completely new Australian system of honours and awards.

All awards may be made posthumously and presented to the next of kin.

Nominations are submitted to the Australian Bravery decorations Council, which makes recommendations to the Governor-General for approval of awards.

There are four levels of awards to individuals. They are:

The Cross of Valour (CV)

Awarded for acts of conspicuous courage in circumstances of extreme peril

The Star of Courage (SC)

Given for acts of conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril

The Bravery Medal (BM)

Offered for acts of bravery in hazardous circumstances

The Commendation for Brave Conduct

Conferred for other acts of bravery that are considered worthy of recognition

Group Citations

In addition to individual awards for bravery, a collective act of bravery by a group of persons in extraordinary circumstances may have their actions recognised by a Group Bravery Citation.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

The Order of Australia was created in 1975. Since then over 14,000 Australians have been recognised for their service to Australia or to humanity.

Anyone can nominate a fellow Australian for an Order of Australia

award. Nominations are assessed by the Council for the Order of Australia for recommendation to the Governor-General for approval.

The four levels in the Order are:

Companion in the Order of Australia (AC)

For eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.

Officer in the Order of Australia (AO)

For distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.

Member in the Order of Australia (AM)

For service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

For service worthy of particular recognition

DISTINGUISHED/CONSPICUOUS/ NURSING

Distinguished Service Decorations

Three new military distinguished service decorations were introduced in the Australian system of honours and awards in 1991.

There are three levels of awards:

Distinguished Service Cross (DSC)

For distinguished command and leadership in action

Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)

For distinguished leadership in action

Commendation for Distinguished Service

For distinguished perf-ormance of duties in warlike operations

Each decoration may be awarded posthumously

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE DECORATIONS

The Conspicuous Service Decorations were established in 1989 to recognise outstanding or meritorious achievement or devotion to duty in non-warlike situations by members of the Australian Defence Force and certain other persons.

There are two levels of award and both carry a post-nominal entitlement:

Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC)

For outstanding devotion to duty, or outstanding achievement in the application of exceptional skills, judgment or dedication, in non-warlike situations.

Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM)

For meritorious achievement or devotion to duty, in non-warlike situations.

Each decoration may be awarded posthumously.

Nursing Service Cross (NSC)

This decoration was established in 1989 to recognise outstanding performance of Australian Defence Force nursing duties in both operational and non-operational situations by members of the Defence Force and certain other persons

The decoration may be awarded posthumously and a person awarded the Nursing Service Cross is entitled to use the post-nominal NSC.

The Governor-General makes awards of the Cross on the recommendation of the Minister for Defence.

Other awards of the Nursing Service Cross are usually announced in the Australia Day and the Queen's Birthday Honours Lists.

MERITORIOUS

Public Service Medal (PSM)

This medal was established in 1989 to recognise outstanding service by members of Australian public services (Commonwealth, State and Territory) and other government employees including those in local government.

Only one award is ever made to an individual and recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal letters "PSM".

Recommendations are made by the responsible Minister in the Commonwealth and each State and Territory.

An annual quota exists for each government public service, with a total of 100 Medals available throughout Australia each year.

Australian Police Medal (APM)

This Medal was established in 1986 to recognise distinguished service by members of Australian police forces.

Each Australian police force may award one Australian Police Medal for every 1000 members or part of 1000 members in every calendar year.

Recommendations are made by the responsible Minister in the Commonwealth and each State and Territory to the Governor-General for approval.

Only one award is ever made to an individual and recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal letters "APM".

Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM)

This Medal was established in 1988 to recognise distinguished service by members of Australian fire services.

Recommendations are made by the responsible Minister in the Commonwealth and each State and Territory to the Governor-General for approval.

Only one award is ever made to an individual and recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal letters "AFSM".

Ambulance Service Medal (ASM)

The Ambulance Service Medal was created in 1999 and recognises distinguished service by the men and women of Australia's ambulance organisations. [IMAGE: Ambulance Service Medal - ASM]

Recommendations are made by the responsible Minister in the Commonwealth and each State and Territory to the Governor-General for approval.

Only one award is ever made to an individual and recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal letters "ASM".

Emergency Services Medal (ESM)

The Queen approved this Medal as part of the Australian system of honours and awards in 1999. The Medal recognises distinguished service by the men and women of Australia's emergency service organisations across the nation.

When the award was formally announced, Prime Minister Howard said, "The status of the award is reflected in its placement in the order of precedence of Australian honours and awards together with other civilian awards recognising distinguished service and meritorious service."

Each Australian emergency service organisation may award one Emergency Service Medal for every 1000 full-time members or part of 1000 full-time members in every calender year; and in addition each ambulance service may award one Medal for every 5000 or part of 5000 part-time, volunteer or auxiliary members.

Recommendations are made by the responsible Minister in the Commonwealth and each State and Territory, as defined in the Medal's regulations, to the Governor-General for approval.

Only one award is ever made to an individual and recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal letters "ESM".

The first awards of this Medal were announced in The Queen's Birthday 2000 Honours List.

Australian Antarctic Medal (AAM)

This award was established in 1987 to recognise outstanding service by people connected with Australian Antarctic expeditions. The Australian Antarctic Medal replaced the British Polar Medal and its variations which date back to 1857 for service in the Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Each Australian Antarctic Medal is differentiated by a date bar indicating the period of service in the Antarctic. A person receiving a subsequent award of the Medal wears a further appropriate date bar on the ribbon or the original insignia.

Recipients of the Medal are entitled to use the post-nominal letters "AAM".

Awards of the Australian Antarctic Medal are announced in a special Midwinter's Day honours list each year. This day is of special significance to Antarctic expeditioners.

The Governor-General makes awards of the medal on the recommendation of the Commonwealth Minister responsible for the Antarctic Territory.

COMMEMORATIVE

80th Anniversary Armistice Remembrance Medal

On 11 Nov. 1998 the Prime Minister the Hon John Howard MP announced that the government would recommend to The Queen that a special commemorative medal would be struck for all surviving Australian World War I veterans who commemorated the 80th anniversary of the armistice that ended the Great War. The Queen approved the Medal design and regulations on 7 January 1999 and it became the first commemorative medal in the Australian system of honours and awards.

The Medal was manufactured in record time which enabled all surviving veterans to be personally presented with their Medals prior to Anzac Day 1999 by either the Prime Minister, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs or other members of the government. In all, only 70 Medals were presented to veterans who are a living reminder to all Australians of the conflict that gave birth to the Anzac tradition and marked Australia's nationhood on the world stage.

The Medal's design features on the obverse the statue of the "Bullecourt Digger" and the reverse depicts the apt words "LEST WE FORGET" surrounded by a spray of wattle. The ribbon colours of red and black mirror those of the poppy flower worn as a mark of respect by so many Australians each year on Remembrance Day.

Australian Sports Medal

The Prime Minister John Howard announced on 31 December 1998 the creation of an Australian Sports Medal. The Medal is a commemorative medal awarded during the year 2000, as Sydney hosted the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Medal was not restricted to athletes and others connected with the Games.

The Medal recognised a cross-section of those whose efforts have made Australia a nation of sporting excellence. These include former competitors and those who have provided the support base of sport, for example, coaches, sports scientists, office holders, and those who maintain sports facilities and provide transport

The majority of Medals presented were awarded to persons following their nomination by the sports community itself. Peak sports bodies recognised or funded by the Australian Sports Commission were given quotas according to a formula based on the number of their registered competitors. All Australian parliamentarians were able to nominate persons from any sport enabling other persons whose contribution transcended one area of sporting activity to be recognised. Over 18,000 Australian Sports Medals were progressively distributed and presented during the year 2000.

The Medal design symbolises Australian sport with imagery of a partial view of the Australian Sports Stadium and a sky filled with the stars of the Southern Cross. The reverse repeats the stadium design with the numeral "2000". The ribbon's colours are Australia's national (and sporting) colours of green and gold.

The Medal provided a wonderful opportunity for the nation to honour many of those Australians which the sports community regards as having made a significant contribution to Australian sport as players or in a support role.

The Australian Sports Medal does not carry post-nominals.

Centenary Medal

The Centenary Medal was announced by the Prime Minister on 28 December 2001. The Medal was created to honour living persons who have made a contribution to Australian society or government. This includes those Australians who have lived through our first century of federation ("Centenarians"), and others who have made a contribution to the nation or their locality

The Medal will enable the community to thank those who have made Australia's first hundred years as a federal nation such a great success and who have laid solid foundations for Australia's future. The award of the medal to them will be a fitting acknowledgement from the nation of their long contribution to Australia.

Designed by Balarinji, Sydney, the medal features a seven-pointed Commonwealth Star, representing the six Australian states, with the seventh point representing Australia's territories. At the centre of the Star is an indigenous styling of Aboriginal traditions at the heart of the continent. The colours in the ribbon are crimson for Federation (Sir Henry Parkes "the crimson thread of kinship") and blue and gold for the beginning of the 21st Century. The seven gold and red lines represent the pathways to federation of the states. There are 100 dots around the outer edge of each of the obverse and reverse symbolising 100 years of federation.

"Centenarians", namely Australian citizens born on or before 31 December 1901 and who lived to celebrate the centenary of federation on 1 January 2001, have an entitlement to the Medal.

Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal

On 26 April 2001, the Prime Minister announced the Anniversary of National Service 1951 - 1972 Medal. The Medal was created to recognise the service of more than 300,000 national servicemen between 1951 and 1972.

The Medal is a way to publicly acknowledge those who played such an important role in the defence of our nation through the two post-war national service schemes. Of the 325,800 national servicemen over the 21-year period, 187 gave their lives on active service and some 1,500 were wounded.

The Medal joins the honours and medals awarded to full and part-time members of the Australian Defence Force, both current and former. These include gallantry and bravery decorations, distinguished, conspicuous and meritorious service decorations, service and campaign medals and commemorative medals.

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Defence Long Service Awards

The following three medals were established in 1982 to replace the National Medal in recognising 15 years' diligent service in the Defence Force:

Defence Force Service Medal

Awarded to all full-time service personnel.

Reserve Force Decoration (RFD)

Awarded to Reserve Force officers.

Reserve Force Medal

Awarded to Reserve Force other ranks.

The Reserve Force Decoration is the only long service medal with a post-nominal entitlement - RFD. A clasp is awarded for each additional 5 years' qualifying service.

The Chief of the Defence Force makes

recommendations for the Medal to the Governor-General for approval. Members of philanthropic organisations serving with the Australian Defence Force are eligible for nomination.

Note: The Defence Force Service Awards were overtaken by a single medal in 1998 - see the entry for the Defence Long Service Medal.

Defence Long Service Medal

In 1998, a new Defence long service medal was approved by The Queen to replace the family of Defence Force Service Awards that recognised long service in the Australian Defence Force. The introduction of this new Defence long service medal was the result of a recommendation of the 1994 Committee of Inquiry into Defence and Defence Related Awards. The Medal will be awarded for 15 years' service and clasps are issued for each subsequent five years' service.

The new award will also allow recognition for service that might otherwise have gone unrecognised such as that previously lost by individuals who changed their service between Regular and Reserve Forces. This Medal does not discriminate between rank levels, Regular or Reserve service and does not carry a post-nominal entitlement.

National Medal

The National Medal was one of the first three elements of the Australian system of honours and awards introduced in early 1975. When the Medal was introduced it recognised 15 years' diligent service by members of the Defence Force, Australian police forces, and fire and ambulance services. In 1982, the Defence Force Service Awards provided for long service in the Australian Defence Force and eligibility for the National Medal was varied to enable persons who had participated in part-time and volunteer service in organisations other than the Defence Force to qualify for the National Medal. Progressively since then, members of the Australian Protective Service and correctional and emergency services have become eligible for the award the National Medal. A clasp to the Medal is given for each 10 years' additional service.

Following decisions of the government in 1997, the regulations for the National Medal underwent a comprehensive review and reworking. As a result The Queen approved new regulations in 1999.

Two significant new features of the National Medal are:

· **The regulations were amended to allow members of qualifying volunteer search and rescue groups to receive the Medal.**

· **Provision was made for persons to more easily aggregate their service should they serve in different qualifying organisations for the Medal.**

· **Since 1975, some 60,000 National Medals have been awarded for 15 years' diligent service and a further 25000 clasps to the Medal.**

Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal

The Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal was created in December 1999. It recognises long and efficient service by officers and instructors in the Australian Cadet Forces.

The Medal is awarded for 15 years' efficient service and clasps are awarded for each further period of 5 years' efficient service. This Medal is the Australian successor to the British Cadet Forces Medal that ceased to be used in Australia in 1974.

The Medal ribbon features vertical stripes of gold and blue, the traditional colours for long service medals, with navy, red and blue stripes to signify links with the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Army and the Royal Australian Air Force. The Medal shows the Cadet Forces logo on the obverse and the federation star on the reverse.

CHAMPION SHOT/UNIT CITATIONS

Champion Shots Medal

This Medal was established in 1988 to recognise skill at arms in the Australian Defence Force. Each year, target-shooting competitions are held with standard issue weapons conducted by each arm of the Defence Force.

Three Medals - one for each Service - are awarded annually to the winner of the Champion Shot competition.

The award of the Medal is made with a clasp to denote the year of the competition and any subsequent award to the same person is made in the form of another clasp.

Unit Citations

These citations were established in 1991 to recognise gallantry in action or outstanding service in warlike operations by units of the Australian Defence Force and/or units of the defence forces of other countries.

There are two citations:

· **Unit Citation for Gallantry - for extraordinary gallantry in action.**

· **Meritorious Unit Citation - for sustained outstanding service in warlike operations.**

Each Citation consists of a certificate of citation to the Unit signed by the Governor-General and insignia for each recipient.

Insignia may be awarded posthumously.

Three recent examples of the award of the Meritorious Unit Citation occurred during the Australian Defence Force's deployment to East Timor following the 1999 consultation ballot:

· **Task Unit 645.1.1, Royal Australian Navy** - For sustained outstanding service in warlike operations in support of the International Force East Timor during Operation STABILISE.

· **3 Squadron Group, the Special Air Service Regiment** - Australian Army - For sustained outstanding service in warlike operations as the Special Air Service Regiment of the Response Force for Operation WARDEN.

· **No 2 Airfield Defence Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force** - For sustained outstanding service in warlike operations in support of the International Force East Timor during Operation WARDEN and Operation STABILISE.

THE MEDALS - IMPERIAL HONOURS

This section features medals awarded to Australians under the British Imperial system of honours used by Australia from 1901 to recognise its outstanding citizens.

British Imperial Honours and Awards from 1901:

The Order of the Garter

The Most Noble Order of the Garter was established in 1348 by King Edward III and is one of the most ancient in Europe. It is the premier Order of Great Britain.

The appointments are in the gift of the Sovereign and made as a gesture of the Sovereign's personal esteem. The Order comprises the Sovereign and twenty six Knights. Further Knights may be admitted by statute.

The motto is 'Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense'. "Evil to him who evil thinks". The ribbon is in dark blue.

Only three Australians have been admitted to the Order, all Governors-General.

The Order of the Thistle

The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle is the premier Order of Scotland. It is thought to have first been instituted in 787. It was later revived in 1687 and was re-established in 1703 by Queen Anne.

Membership is limited to the Sovereign and sixteen Knights and is awarded to persons of Scottish descent who have won the personal esteem of the Sovereign. Appointments are in the gift of the reigning monarch.

The motto is 'Nemo Me Impune Lacessit' ... "No one provokes me with impunity". The ribbon is a plain dark green.

Only one Australian has ever been appointed - the Right Hon Sir Robert Gordon Menzies KT AK CH QC.

The Order of the Bath

The Most Honourable Order of the Bath was established in 1399 and revived in 1725. In 1815 the Order was extended from two to three classes.

The Order has a Civilian and a Military Division and appointment of females is possible. It is mainly awarded to senior military officers for services in action and to people who give distinguished service at senior levels in political and government service.

The motto is 'Tria Juncto in Uno'..."Three joined into One". The ribbon is of crimson for all three classes.

Since 1901 some 30 Australians have been appointed to the Civil Division and 169 to the Military Division.

The Order of St Michael and St George

The Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George was founded in 1818. It was established to give recognition to British subjects who have served abroad or within the British Commonwealth. It was also used during WW I to acknowledge military exploits. There are three classes of award.

The motto is 'Auspicium Melioris Aevi'... "Token of a Better Age". The ribbon is saxon blue with a central scarlet stripe.

Australians have been recognised in all three classes with a total of 990 awards.

The Royal Victorian Order

This Order was founded in 1896 by Queen Victoria to give recognition to those who have rendered outstanding service to the Sovereign or to the Royal Family. The awards are in the personal gift of the Sovereign.

The Order has one division with five classes of awards including a Medal of the Order. The ribbon is blue with thin stripes of white and red on each edge.

Australians have received awards at all levels, totalling 459.

Although most traditional awards are no longer available to Australians, the Royal Victorian Order continues to be available and may be made following a Royal Visit to Australia or in acknowledgment of exceptional service to Vice Regal representatives.

The Order of Merit

Established in 1902 to acknowledge distinguished service in cultural activities - art, drama, music and literature. May also be awarded to senior officers of the armed services for exceptionally distinguished service in wartime.

The Order consists of the Sovereign and up to 24 members in a single class and includes a civil and a military division. The ribbon features two equal stripes of blue and crimson.

Four Australians have been or currently are members of the Order, including,

Sir Macfarlane Burnett, Lord Florey, Sir Sydney Nolan and Dame Joan Sutherland.

The Order of the British Empire

This Order was formed in 1917 to reward service to the British Empire in the United Kingdom and abroad. Originally having only a civil division, a military division was added in 1918 to acknowledge distinguished military service of a non-combative nature.

The Order has five classes of appointment in each division and a medal of the Order. In descending order, the classes are:

Grand Cross (GB)
Knights and Dames Commander (KCB and DCB)
Commanders (CBE)
Officers (OBE)
Members (MBE) and
Medal BEM (see added note below).

Originally the ribbon for the civil division was purple with military division awards identified with a central scarlet stripe, however in 1937, this was altered to a rose pink ribbon with light grey edges with an additional central light grey stripe for the military division awards.

The military division medal was discontinued in 1922 and replaced by the Medal of the Order for Meritorious Service (BEM) and the Medal of the Order for Gallantry (EGM). The latter was replaced in 1940 with the establishment of the George Cross/George Medal awards. Note: The Medal for Meritorious Service could also be awarded for gallantry (as could be the CBE, OBE and MBE) with, from 1957, an added emblem for the ribbon in the form of a silver oak leaf to identify use as an award for gallantry. Use of this medal to acknowledge gallantry ceased in 1974 with the establishment of the Queen's Gallantry Medal. Use of the BEM in the military division ceased in 1993.

Australians figure prominently at all levels in the awards made with some 16,900 recipients.

The Order of the Companion of Honour

Instituted in 1917 to reward nationally important service in Great Britain and its Dominions. It has only a single class and is limited to 65 members. The post-nominal is CH.

The ribbon of the Order is a bright red with the edges defined with gold thread.

The limited membership availability and its access by the Dominions meant that a quota system per country applies. In Australia, most appointees were Prime Ministers and Deputy Prime Ministers excepting those from the Labor Party. The last Australian appointment was in 1982 to the Hon D Anthony, then Deputy Prime Minister of Australia. Further appointments are unlikely because, in accord with the wishes of the

Sovereign, Australia has ceased making recommendations for Imperial awards.

Since 1928, 14 appointments were made including one to the Rev P Clayton, the founder of Toc H and another to Essington Lewis, a prominent industrialist.

The Knights Bachelor

By far, this is the most frequently awarded Knighthood made available to the community with 936 Australians distinguished in this way since 1901.

The origins of appointment as a Knight Bachelor reach back into medieval history. It is not within an Order of Honour as are other knighthoods. The distinction dies with the holder.

Knights Bachelor are appointed to give recognition in any sphere of action or achievement. Women may not be appointed as Knights.

Persons appointed as Knights Bachelor are entitled to be addressed as "Sir" but there is no post-nominal entitlement. The wife of a Knight may use the title "Lady".

The ribbon is of scarlet with yellow borders and the badge features a design featuring a central sword and a pair of spurs. This insignia is relatively recent, dating from 1926.

The last appointment of an Australian as a Knight Bachelor was in 1989.

The Sea Gallantry Medal

Originally instituted in 1866, then discontinued with the introduction of the Albert Medal. Reinstated in 1876 to acknowledge acts of gallantry not quite to the standards of the Albert Medal.

Administered by the British Board of Trade. Awarded for saving life from British or foreign shipwrecks or for the rescue of life from British vessels.

Last awarded in 1973, the ribbon is of light red with narrow white stripes at each edge.

In 1912 the Medal was awarded to five Australians who fought a fire aboard a ship carrying explosives at Port Adelaide in 1910.

The Albert Medal

Originated in 1866 and created in two separate classes for gallantry, distinguishing between the saving of life on land from the saving of life at sea.

The level was determined on the basis that the Gold level was for acts of extreme or heroic daring with the Bronze levels for incidents that did not deserve the Gold level.

The ribbon varies according to the level and location of the incident as follows:

Gold Sea - Blue with four red stripes
Bronze Sea - Blue with two white stripes
Gold Land - Red with four white stripes
Bronze Land - Red with two white stripes

The Gold levels were discontinued in 1945, replaced by the George Cross.

The Albert Medal has been awarded to 27 Australians; 17 Bronze Sea, 2 gold Land and 8 Bronze Land. The last Australian Albert Medal was awarded in 1969.

In 1971 all living holders of the Albert Medal were deemed to be persons awarded the George Cross (regardless of level or location of incident) and the Albert Medals were requested to be returned to the British authorities, to be replaced by the insignia of the George Cross.

The Edward Medal

Instituted in 1907 as a medal to recognise the saving, or attempt to save life in mines or quarries. In 1909 the range of eligibility was extended to take in incidents in industry.

Established with two classes, with the insignia being in silver for the upper level and bronze for the lower.

The ribbon is the same for each of the four variations, being dark blue with a narrow yellow stripe at each edge.

Eight Australians have been awarded the Edward Medal; 3 silver and 4 bronze for incidents in mines and 1 bronze for industry.

The last award of the Edward Medal was in 1924.

Like the Albert Medal, living holders of the Edward Medal were asked in 1971 to return the insignia in exchange for the insignia of the George Cross which they had been deemed to have won in lieu.

The Queen's (King's) Commendation for Brave Conduct

Instituted in 1939 to acknowledge brave acts by civilians and members of the military in non-warlike circumstances during a time of war or in peacetime where the action would not otherwise be recognized by an existing award. In 1954 it became the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct.

There is no ribbon, but the award was evidenced by a certificate and in the first stages, by a gold and red coloured badge bearing the design of a sword in a wreath, surmounted by a crown. The badge was replaced at a later stage by another badge - in the form a silver oak leaf for civilians and a bronze oak leaf for the military - the leaves being attached to the ribbon of the War Medal or Defence Medal if held by the recipient.

The Commendation has been awarded to 405 Australians including 286 civilians.

The award was discontinued for Australians in 1982 and is effectively replaced by the Commendation for Brave Conduct in the Australian Bravery Decorations.

The George Cross

Created in 1940 by King George V to recognize bravery of the highest order by civilians and members of the armed forces. regardless of rank, in peacetime.

The George Cross ranks second only to the Victoria Cross in the Order of Wearing of medals.

The ribbon is plain dark blue and the ribbon bar is distinguished by the placement of a small replica of the cross at the centre.

Between 1940 and 1972, when the last George Cross awarded to an Australian was presented, 14 Crosses were awarded, 5 of this total going to civilians. This total does not include substitutions of the George Cross for the Albert Medal and the Edward Medal carried out in 1971.

The George Medal

Instituted in 1940 as a second level to the George Cross. It is awarded for acts of bravery in a non-war setting by civilians and members of the armed services involving circumstances of extreme danger where military honours are not otherwise available.

The ribbon is of crimson with five equally spaced narrow blue vertical stripes.

The last award to an Australia was in 1982 representing the 118th awarded to Australians since 1940. Forty-nine of the 118 awarded were presented to civilians. Uniquely, three former members of the Royal Australian Navy won the George Medal a second time (known as a Bar to the George Medal) as did one civilian.

The Queen's Gallantry Medal

This medal was instituted in 1974 to recognise those who perform exemplary acts of bravery whether as a civilian or as a member of the military where military awards for gallantry are not available.

The ribbon is of three equal stripes of dark blue, pearl grey and dark blue with a narrow rose pink stripe in the centre.

Forty Australians have been awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal (QGM) which have been superseded by Australian Bravery Decorations. The last award to an Australian was in 1982.

The Royal Red Cross

Instituted in 1883, the Royal Red Cross was the first example of an Order exclusively for women. Men became eligible only in 1976.

Awarded to members of the officially recognised nursing services without restriction to rank who have *'shown exceptional devotion or competency in performance of nursing duties with the Army in the field, or in Naval and Military or Air Force hospitals or in an Auxiliary War hospital over a continuous or long period or who has performed some exceptional act of bravery or devotion to the post of duty'*

Awarded in two levels - First Class with post-nominal RRC and for a lesser degree of service in a Second Class (known as the Associate) with post-nominal ARRC.

The ribbon for both classes is of dark blue edged with crimson.

From 1901 until the last award of this decoration to an Australian was made in 1982, there were 87 awards of the RRC plus 2 bars to the RRC, and 258 awards of the ARRC in all major conflicts in which Australia has been involved.

The Distinguished Service Order

Instituted in 1886 originally for military officers only for *'distinguished services under fire or under conditions equivalent to service in actual combat with the enemy'*. In 1994 the award was opened to all ranks for *'command and leadership'*.

Recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal DSO after their name.

The ribbon is of crimson with dark blue edges.

From 1901 to 1972, when the last Australian to receive the DSO was announced, 1,018 Australians were awarded this medal over the major conflicts, along with 70 first Bars and a single second Bar.

The Distinguished Conduct Medal

Created in 1854, discontinued in 1993.

Awarded to non-commissioned officers and other ranks of the Army for *'distinguished conduct in action in the field'*. From 1942 members of the Navy and the Air Force were eligible for service on the ground.

The ribbon is of crimson with a dark blue central stripe about one-third of the width of the ribbon.

The last award to an Australian was made in 1972 arising from the Vietnam War.

Since the Boer War, the Medal has been awarded to 2071 members of the Army and 3 members of the Air Force. Thirty first Bars have been awarded, all to members of the Army. The majority of the Bars came from incidents in the First World War.

The Military Cross

Instituted in December 1914 and originally intended for lower ranking Army officers (Captain or less) and Warrant Officers for *'distinguished and meritorious services'*. The award carries the post-nominal initials MC.

In 1916 the award was extended to similar ranks of the Navy and Air Force but only for World War 1. Subsequently in 1931 the Cross was extended to lower ranked Air Force Officers for actions on the ground.

In 1920 the reason for the award was changed to be for *'distinguished services in action'*.

In 1953 the ceiling rank for availability was extended to Majors and to all ranks in 1993 with the discontinuation of the other ranks counter part the Military Medal.

The ribbon is of three equal stripes of white, rich purple and white.

Australians figure prominently among recipients, particularly from World War 1, with 2,403 awards, 170 first Bars and 4 second Bars. In total between 1901 and 1972, Australians were awarded 2,930 Military Crosses, with 188 first Bars and 4 second Bars.

The Military Medal

Created in 1916 for other ranks in the Army to correspond with the Military Cross instituted two years earlier, but eventually back dated in availability to 1914. Awarded to other ranks for *'acts of gallantry and devotion to duty under fire'.*

In 1916, the Medal was extended to other ranks of the Navy serving in France, but only for actions in World War 1. In 1931, the availability of the Medal was extended to other ranks of the Air Force for gallant conduct on the ground.

Discontinued in 1993 when the Military Cross was made available to all ranks.

The ribbon is principally of dark blue with three white and two crimson vertical stripes in the central third.

Australians have won a very large number of Medals in the campaigns to 1972 when the last award to an Australian was made. 11,038 Medals were award to Army personnel and 14 to Air Force members. 478 first Bars were awarded, 15 second Bars and a unique third Bar to a stretcher bearer with the 55th Infantry Battalion AIF in World War 1, Private E A Corey, meaning he had won the Medal four times.

The Conspicuous Gallantry Medal

Instituted in 1885, but discontinued in 1993.

Awarded to petty officers and seamen of the Navy *'who distinguish themselves by acts of pre-eminent bravery in action with the enemy'.* Carries an entitlement to use the post-nominal initials CGM. Later, availability extended to include non-commissioned officers and men of the Air Force and Army serving afloat and persons holding similar ranks in the Merchant Navy.

The ribbon was changed in 1921 from one of two stripes of dark blue flanking a central white stripe to a white ribbon with narrow blue edges.

The sole award to an Australian came out of the Battle of Crete, in World War II, awarded to Ordinary Seaman Dennis Rhodes.

The Distinguished Service Cross

Instituted in 1914, originally for naval officers below the rank of Lieutenant Commander for *'valuable services in action that did not meet the requirements for the award of the Distinguished Service Order'.* Recipients may use the post-nominal initials DSC after their name.

In 1930 the Cross was extended to Lieutenant Commanders and Commanders and in 1931 to officers of the Merchant Navy. During World War II it was made available to officers and warrant officers of the Army who were serving afloat. In 1993 it was extended to all ranks when the Distinguished Service Medal was discontinued.

The ribbon has three equal stripes of dark blue, white and dark blue.

The last award of the DSC was made to an Australian in 1972. To that point, 182 awards had been made with 13 first Bars and 3 second Bars. Not to be confused with the Distinguished Service Cross established in the Australian honours system in 1991. Though sharing post-nominal initials the two awards have quite different criteria.

The Distinguished Service Medal

Instituted in 1914 but discontinued in 1993.

Originally intended for Chief Petty Officers and other ranks in the Navy who *'set an example of bravery and resource under fire without performing acts of such pre-eminent bravery as would render them eligible for the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal'.* Extended in World War II to non-commissioned officers and men in the Army and Air Force serving afloat.

Recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal initial DSM after their names.

The ribbon is dark blue with two medium width white stripes at the centre.

The DSM has been awarded to 179 Australians and 2 first Bars were awarded. All recipients were based in the Navy.

The Distinguished Flying Cross

Instituted in 1918 for air force officers for *'an act or acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty performed whilst flying in active operations against the enemy'.* This was altered in 1932 to the simpler *'for exceptional valour, courage or devotion to duty whilst flying in active operations against the enemy'.*

The availability of the decoration was extended to the Army and the Navy during World War II.

Made available to all ranks in 1993 when the Distinguished Flying Medal was discontinued. The post-nominal is DFC.

The ribbon was originally of violet and white in equal horizontal stripes but this was altered in 1919 to have the stripes run at 45 degrees downwards from left to right.

The last Australian recipient received this decoration in 1972. From 1918 to 1972 the DFC was awarded to 2,391 Australians, along with 144 first Bars and 5 second Bars. Most of the awards were won in World War II.

The Distinguished Flying Medal

Instituted in 1918 but discontinued in 1993.

Awarded to non-commissioned officers and men of the air force for *'an act or acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty performed while flying in active operations against the enemy'.*

As with the Distinguished Flying Cross, this was altered in 1932 to read *'for exceptional valour, courage or devotion to duty whist flying in active operations against the enemy'.*

The award carries the post-nominal DFM.

During World War II the Medal was extended to the Navy and Army. It was discontinued in 1993 when the DFC was extended to all ranks.

The ribbon was originally of fine violet and white horizontal stripes but his was altered in 1919 to have stripes in the same width running at 45 degrees, downwards from left to right.

The last award of the DFM to an Australian was in 1971.

In all 436 have been won by Australians plus two first Bars. All 436 were won by members of the Air Force.

The Air Force Cross

Instituted in 1918 for air force officers for *'an act or acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty performed whilst flying though not in active operations against the enemy'. This was altered in 1932 to the simpler 'for exceptional valour, courage or devotion to duty whilst flying though not in active operations against the enemy'.*

The availability of the decoration was extended to the Army and the Navy during World War II. Made available to all ranks in 1993 when the Air Force Medal was discontinued. The post-nominal is AFC.

The ribbon was originally of red and white in equal horizontal stripes but this was altered in 1919 to have the stripes run at 45 degrees downwards from left to right.

The Air Force Cross was last awarded to an Australian in 1983. Since 1918 some 444 have been awarded to Australians together with 2 first Bars. The Cross has been awarded to members of all three armed Services and 4 to civilians.

The Air Force Medal

Instituted in 1918 but discontinued in 1993.

Awarded to non-commissioned officers and men of the air force for *'an act or acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty performed while flying though not in active operations against the enemy.'*

As with the Air Force Cross, the rationale for the award was altered in 1932 to read *'for exceptional valour, courage or devotion to duty though not whilst flying*

in active operations against the enemy'.

The award carries the post-nominal AFM.

During World War II the Medal was extended to the Navy and Army. It was discontinued in 1993 when the AFC was extended to all ranks.

The ribbon was originally of fine red and white horizontal stripes but his was altered in 1919 to have stripes in the same width running at 45 degrees, downwards from left to right.

The last award of the AFM to an Australian was in 1980. The last appointment of an Australian as a Knight Bachelor was in 1989.

In all, 33 have been won by Australians plus two first Bars. All 33 were won by members of the Air Force.

The Queen's (King's) Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air

Instituted in 1939 and continued to 1994 when replaced by the Queen's Commendation for Bravery in the Air.

Awarded for *'gallantry or for meritorious service while in the air on the part of civilians or members of the military forces, whether in war or peace where the action did not merit the award of the Air Force Cross or Air Force Medal'.*

There is no entitlement to a post-nominal and there is no specific ribbon for the award. The award is worn on the uniform in the form of a silver badge below any medal ribbons held.

The last award to an Australian was in 1983. Between 1939 and 1983 367 Commendations have been awarded to Australians, 8 of these to civilian aircrew.

The Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying)

Instituted in 1942 as an additional gallantry award. Awarded to non-commissioned officers and men of the Air Force *'for acts of conspicuous gallantry while flying in active operations against the enemy.'* It is the Air Force equivalent to the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal with a white ribbon with narrow dark blue edges used mainly for the Army and Navy.

Instituted in 1942 as an additional gallantry award. Awarded to non-commissioned officers and men of the Air Force *'for acts of conspicuous gallantry while flying in active operations against the enemy.'* It is the Air Force equivalent to the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal with a white ribbon with narrow dark blue edges used mainly for the Army and Navy.

The Medal was discontinued in 1993.

The ribbon is of light blue with a narrow dark blue stripe at each edge. The award entitles the holder to use the post-nominal initials CGM.

The last award to an Australian was in 1968 bringing to 11 the total awarded, all

of whom were members of the RAAF. Only one award of the CGM (for the Navy) has been made to an Australian.

The King's Police and Fire Service Medal

One of the older awards, instituted in 1909. Discontinued in 1954 when separate medals for police and for fire service were substituted. Originally titled the King's Police Medal even though it could be awarded for fire service.

Given to police or fire personnel who perform *'acts of exceptional courage and skill or who had exhibited conspicuous devotion to duty'.*

In 1933 steps were taken to better identify whether the medal had been given for gallantry or performance of duties with appropriate inscriptions added to the reverse of the medallion and a thin red line added to the centre of the medal ribbon when awarded for gallantry.

Recipients of the medal are entitled to use the post-nominals KPFSM, the name adopted from 1940.

The ribbon was originally dark blue with silver edges, but was altered in 1916 to add a central silver stripe. As noted, a thin red central stripe distinguished the awards for gallantry.

Between 1909 and 1954 when the last award was made to an Australian, 209 Australians were recipients, including 70 for gallantry.

Replaced by the Queens' Police Medal and the Queen's Fire Service Medal. Later still replaced in Australian honours with the Australian Police Medal.

The King's Medal for Courage in the Cause of Freedom

Rarely awarded medal instituted in 1954 intended to acknowledge those who performed 'acts of courage entailing risk to life or for service entailing dangerous work in hazardous circumstances in furtherance of the allied cause during the war'.

There are no post-nominals.

The ribbon is white with two narrow dark blue stripes in the centre flanked by broad red stripes at the edges.

Two residents of Papua New Guinea were awarded this medal for service in World War II. At the time of the awards Papua New Guinea was a trust territory of Australia.

The Queen's Police Medal

Instituted in 1954, the Queen's Police Medal is intended for issue to members of recognised police forces in Britain and Commonwealth countries.

Awarded for 'acts of exceptional courage and skill at the cost of their lives' or for the 'exhibition of conspicuous devotion to duty'.

Recipients are entitled to use the post-nominals QPM after their name.

The ribbon for the Army and Navy MSMs was of crimson with white vertical stripes at each edge and in the centre. The air force ribbon is of crimson blue and white with wider white stripes.

Australians have been awarded 1222 MSMs including 4 to members of the Navy and 34 to members of the Air Force. One first Bar was a warded to an Air Force member. Some 31 of the awards made were to recognise gallantry.

The Kaiser-I-Hind Medal

Instituted in 1900 and continued until the independence of India in 1947.

Literally translated the medal's title is the 'Emperor of India's Medal' and was awarded for meritorious public service in India.

The medal has no post-nominal entitlement.

The ribbon is of a blue green colour.

Three Australians were recipients of the Kaiser-I-Hind Medal, the last in 1939.

The Imperial Service Order
The Imperial Service Medal

Instituted in 1902 to recognize distinguished public service by senior officers and at junior levels of the British and of the civil services of Commonwealth countries.

Both awards have post-nominal entitlement: ISO for senior officers who had served at least 25 years and the ISM to junior officers for 25 years service. The service requirement is reduced to 16 years for service in adverse conditions.

The ISO was abolished in 1993. People who render h service that would have seen the award of the ISO will now be accommodated within the Order of the British Empire at OBE level. The ISM will continue for service by junior officers.

The ribbon is of three equal stripes of red, blue in the centre and red.

Many in Australia received awards of this type. The ISO was awarded to 425 Australians and the ISM to 7356.

The last award to an Australian was in 1989.

The Polar Medal

Instituted in 1904 to recognize distinguished service in the Arctic and Antarctic.

The ribbon is of plain white with a watermarked or moire pattern.

There is no post-nominal entitlement.

The last award of the Polar Medal to an Australian was in 1982.

Between 1902 and 1982, 289 Polar Medals were issued to Australians.

The Polar Medal has been replaced in Australian honours by the Australian Antarctic Medal.

The funniest cartoon of them all?

THE English-speaking people have a sense of humour all their own - and the art of the cartoon captures its uniqueness. Whether in Australia, Canada, Australia or Britain, the humour is strongest and most pungent in times of adversity.

The weekly magazine - now, sadly, gone - was for well over a century the grand focus of English humour. Through wars and depressions it highlighted the idiosyncrasies of the British character - from the aged couple having a "nice cup of tea" amid the ruins of their blitzed home, to the Tommy giving a drink to the captured enemy soldier.

In Australia the uniqueness of the Digger, the drover, the sod-buster and the "Sheila" was captured by earlier cartoonists and humourists, who all tickled a nation's funny-bone.

And who more brilliant than the legendary Stan Cross, whose "Wally and the Major" and "the Potts" were followed avidly by Australians in city and country alike?

Acknowledged as the most brilliant in a brilliant stable of writers and artists, with *Smith's Weekly,* Stan Cross kept Australia laughing through the Depression.

Spending his school years in Perth, Stan Cross then spent a year at Art School in London, where his first works were accepted by *Punch.* Returning to Perth he freelanced for a while, with some success, before being offered a post with *Smith's Weekly.* He was a contemporary of fellow cartoonist David Low, and of Henry Lawson.

When *Smith's Weekly* changed ownership in 1940, Cross worked for the Melbourne *Herald,* where he started the *Wally and the Major* series.

He finally retired to the New England tablelands, dying at the age of 82 in 1977.

On his tombstone in Armidale appears the phrase "For God's sake stop laughing! This is serious!" - a mute testimonial to what many say was the funniest, and certainly one of the best known cartoons of all time, displaying the precarious misfortunes of two steeplejacks. The original caption read *"For gorsake stop laughing - this is serious!"* modified slightly for memorial respectability.

The cartoon became famous world-wide.

Stan Cross had a great interest in monetary reform, and became a follower of Social Credit.

His body lies in the Armidale lawn cemetery in northern New South Wales.

Cartoonist Stan Cross
1888 - 1977

'For gorsake stop laughing — this is serious!'

BOOK REVIEW

Anthony Cooney

Re-inventing the Pyramids

The Scheme for Full Employment: Magnus Mills: Flamingo, AD2003, ISBN 0 00 715131 4 h/b £10

"The Satanic ideology of work, employment .... is not an ideology of achievement .... It is an ideology, of sabotage, destruction, corruption and decay" (C.H. Douglas - "The Big Idea")

THERE is endless speculation about how the pyramids were built but the question never asked is *Why?* The answer is "To solve the unemployment problem."

"Gold" was, we are told, "like dust in Egypt." The fertile Nile Valley with its two harvests per year could have been a paradise of ease and leisure, but surely one could not allow all these people to hang around doing nothing, except for a little leisurely gardening and wild-fowling? Better that thousands and tens-of-thousands be fully employed dragging blocks of limestone around! Hard, laborious work is no more "natural" to Man than racing is to horses. No horse will "race" unless it has a man on its back making it do so, or it has, over many generations, been bred into a running machine bearing little resemblance to a natural horse, and requiring feeding with high protein grains rather than the wild grasses upon which its ancestors browsed.

Genetic engineering has replaced selective breeding and, as a means of "Solving the unemployment problem," mankind trembles on the brink of Huxley's *"Brave New World,"* rather than Orwell's *"Nineteen Eighty-Four."* Meanwhile fastidious critics shrink from Chesterton's optimistic prophesy of *"The Napoleon of Notting Hill"* because in Chesterton's vision men fight with swords and die for things worth dying for. And so from blocks of limestone to Magnus Mills' "UniVans."

We are introduced to "The Scheme" by one of its participants:

"The Scheme for Full Employment was the envy of the world; the greatest undertaking ever conceived by men and women. It solved at a stroke the problem that had beset humankind for generations. Participants had only to put the wheels in motion, and they could look forward to a bright, sunlit upland where idleness and uncertainty would be banished forever. Planned to the finest detail by people of vision, The Scheme was watertight, and could not possibly go wrong."

But what is The Scheme? Mills only slowly reveals the details in a flat, understated prose reminiscent of the verse of the *Movement* poets. It's most obvious manifestation is the "UniVan," a state of the art delivery van which can be taken apart or re-assembled in a day. The long lines of UniVans leaving their depots each morning and traveling up and down the main roads

are the visible sign of the success of The Scheme. We see it working through the eyes of the narrator, a UniVan driver. He arrives at his base, Blackwell depot, at 8am and collects the keys of his UniVan, his co-driver, George, and his load of crates for Long Reach depot. An unexplained detail are the dozen cakes, baked by his wife, which George delivers during the course of the morning, collecting orders for the next day as he goes along. We assume that this is a harmless perk of the job.

The UniVan drivers work from 8.00 to 16.30 hours, though they seldom have enough journeys to occupy the whole day. Several Old *Spanish Customs* have crept in, the first of these is innocuous, permitting the drivers to start handing in their keys at 16.20 hours so that everyone will be "clocked off" by 16.30. This is known as "Ten off the Eight." The second poses a more serious threat to The Scheme. Drivers who have completed their schedules by mid-afternoon "knock off" by getting a supervisor to sign their cards and take their keys. This is known as an "Early swerve." These Old Spanish Customs have led to some friction between the drivers. On the one side are the "Early Swervers" who maintain that once they have completed their schedule of collections and deliveries they should be free to go home. On the other are the "Flat Dayers" who maintain that "swerving" is a threat to the scheme and should be banned. The "Flat Dayers" are in turn divided between those who accept the "Ten off the Eight" custom and the "Extremists" who insist that clocking off should not begin until 16.30. A slight complication are the "Enthusiasts" who congregate at road junctions to collect UniVan numbers.

The mystery of what The Scheme is, and how it works, is revealed to the increasingly puzzled reader, when the Narrator explains it to a trainee driver, Jonathan, who asks:

" 'So what exactly's in all these crates?'

'You must know. Didn't they tell you during training?' 'No, they just said the contents were very important.'

'Oh, they're important alright. The whole Scheme depends on them............ presumably they told you that these UniVans were custom built: specially designed with interchangeable parts .... Well that's what's in the crates ... Wheels, panels, mudguards, mirrors, lamps, not to mention all the engine components....... It's

self-perpetuating. We move the parts from one depot to the next, and it keeps us all in work'."

Insanity however knows no end. Under pressure from the 'Flat Dayers," "Swerving" is banned, and then, after long negotiations, permitted "with conditions," so the "Flat Dayers" strike, "To protect the Scheme!" The "Extremists" block the depots with their UniVans, but this does not involve any financial hardship since one of the provisions of The Scheme is "Strike Pay!" "The Enthusiasts" enter the fray by volunteering to drive the UniVans around the country. When the strike finally ends road users object, and become hostile to the return of the UniVans and their utterly pointless journeys. Sanity finally asserts itself and The Scheme is closed down, the "Enthusiasts" eagerly buying the UniVans at knock-down prices. As the Narrator explains:

"There's a difference between full employment and being fully employed. True, there is a lot of spare capacity in The Scheme, but it's better for people to be paid to do very little than have no job at all."

"The Scheme for Full Employment" is described as a "satire" and it is a biting satire, but, for the sake of the impact of the satire of the pointless strike from pointless labour, it leaves out the factor which would have derailed "The Scheme" much earlier. All costs must be recovered in prices; a miniscule element of the cost of the Battle of Waterloo still lingers in the price of a loaf today. The total cost of The Scheme would enter all prices via the taxation necessary to fund it. In effect this means that the cost of living would be forever ahead of the wages of those involved in The Scheme - the story of the Welfare State since its inception. The only way the *detritus* of past costs can be eliminated from prices is by the *discounting* of prices proposed by Clifford Hugh Douglas, and known as "Social Credit. "The obverse of the discount is the payment to men of the *wages of the machine* by means of a "National Dividend." You may take your pick - either pay people for doing all the many things that people actually *want* to do, or pay them for driving trucks around all day, from nowhere to nowhere, or even for dragging blocks of limestone around to build pyramids - the latter is undoubtedly the least wasteful of resources.

Record of the past – key to the future

Tom Fielder's legacy to twenty-first century Australia

Tom Fielder

"**FREEDOM** of Information" is a term we use quite a lot nowadays, and in Australia our politicians and academics are wont to remind us how lucky we are to live in a free country where we may read, view and listen to more or less whatever we like.

"User pays" is another current buzz phrase, also dear to the hearts of those who govern our affairs so, of course, if you want information you mostly have to pay for it, even if your taxes paid for the gathering of this information and for the storing and disseminating of it in the first place.

Compared to some eastern countries we do have access to a great deal of information, and if we are prepared to put in some effort we can indeed access it. The internet has broken down many invisible barriers, carefully built up over many decades, to "politically incorrect" points of view.

Twenty-five years ago this was not so. Information available through the newspapers, radio and television was either politically correct or was not available. That holds true today in the case of what we might call the mainline media who, with rare exception, conform to a regulated slant on events. However, the uncontrollable hemorrhage of eye-witness information and unbiased reporting of events now available to all through the internet has provided courageous journalists and commentators with much-needed back-up for truly uncensored information. Australia's SBS television station airs programmes nowadays that would have been unthinkable only a few years ago. The politics of the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organisation are openly scrutinized and commented on, the results of their disastrous policies on communities world-wide filmed graphically. Interpretations of history to make university-chair-resident historians duck for cover are becoming more and more frequent.

It's hard to say how much credit for this new state of affairs can be sheeted home to people like Tom Fielder, but the service provided by his Melbourne Education Association over the last twenty to thirty years, in making audio tapes available of informed speakers on controversial issues, has reached every corner of Australia, and many overseas countries as well. Patiently, consistently and relentlessly his information service has been wearing away the wall of silence surrounding the creation of credit, the international grain cartels, the creation of the United Nations, the IMF and the World Trade Organisation; exposing the global plan to dispossess family farmers, the media moguls, the conspiracies in agriculture, education, health and law.

Tom recounts in his book, *Candle of Light* (reviewed by Geoff Muirden in this issue), that on one of the close brushes with death he has experienced during his life he bargained desperately with his Maker, promising to try and do something useful with his life if it was spared. Many people have made similar commitments in precarious situations, conveniently forgotten later.

Tom did not forget, years later forming the Melbourne Education Association.

The world war which allegedly started to defend the integrity of Poland, and during which Tom, serving as a wireless operator in an R.A.F. bomber, was shot down in 1944 and imprisoned in the German prisoner of war camp, Stalag IVB, north of Dresden, ended in 1945, with the Allies for whom Tom fought ostensibly the victors. Tom was in his very early twenties at the time, but even so it did not escape his notice that post-war Poland was not liberated at all, being worse off under communism than the Nazis.

Perhaps it was this revelation, that all is not always as it seems, that sharpened Tom Fielder's vision on returning home, and made him aware that events do not happen by chance, and that those elected to govern Australian affairs more often did so in the interests, not of Australians, but of shadowy forces powerful enough to make or break industries, banks, and certainly politicians that stepped out of line.

A long association with the Australian League of Rights followed, providing Tom with an incomparable education in how the world works, and most importantly how money is manipulated. In return he spent long days and nights, traveling many thousands of miles over many years, painstakingly recording League lectures and the speeches delivered by guests from overseas invited to address League functions, building up an enormous bank of information covering every aspect of the battle in which, he came to realize, Christian civilization is engaged.

Why has the British historian, David Irving - noted for his meticulous recording of original-source material on the second world war and its origins - been banned from entering Australia? Why does the world-wide distribution of narcotic drugs seem to prosper despite huge expenditure and effort on its control? Who was really responsible for the bombing of Dresden? Why have Australian farmers been leaving the land by the thousand every year for decades? Who controls the mass media? Do Australian schools have a problem? What is the case against compulsory vaccination? The Melbourne Education Association provides a priceless resource of information on a host of such subjects, covering every aspect of life, and built up over many years, graphically tracing the slow decline of the true wealth of our nation, the corruption of our institutions, culture and sovereignty.

The Melbourne Education Association now offers nearly a thousand audio tapes on subjects including health, education, the environment, entertainment, censorship, the constitution, Social Credit, gun laws, local government, property rights, psychology, philosophy, the New Age, finance, corruption in government, globalism, and history. There can be few collections to match this one for its coverage of views and information not generally available in newspapers, magazines or the electronic media.

Tom Fielder has kept faith with his Lord, and done something truly valuable with his life. In failing health and advancing age, he often looks with despair at young Australia, lamenting its lack of concern or appreciation for its precious inheritance, which is being so ruthlessly undermined and destroyed by an enemy that certainly does understand its value, and is determined to erase it, by degrees, from our consciousness. While he has been privileged to make recordings of some speakers of exceptional courage and awesome intellect, and has trod the road of dedication and self-sacrifice in the company of some great Australian patriots, it is at times a lonely, uphill journey, and Tom can be forgiven for wondering, sometimes, if there is anybody out there listening.

One small candle of light can, eventually, set a world on fire. The job of a pilgrim is to keep that light burning, no matter how small. What happens to it after that is, thank God, not our concern.

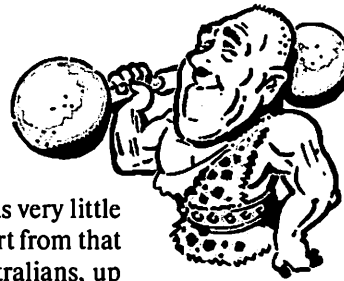After all, Tom, and those like him, are on the winning side!

Well done, good and faithful servant!

Power & Authority

By John Brett

AUSTRALIA became the first nation in history to successfully separate power from authority. Successful, because on the only occasions the concept has been challenged, the principle has held fast.

Out of the 42 attempts to change our Constitution under Section 128, on 8 occasions only has the electorate authorized the changes sought. On the only other two occasions an extension of power was sought, the electorate again used its authority to determine the outcome of a power struggle.

In 1974, when Prime Minister Whitlam attempted to govern without 'supply' from the Parliament, the Governor General prorogued parliament and called for an election, so the electorate's authority was used to resolve the problem.

The other occasion occurred recently when a *power movement* sought to change our system from a Constitutional Monarchy to Republic. The question again was put to the electorate for a decision, and again the electorate decisively refused to authorize any change.

The historical significance of this separation can only be grasped in the context of the definition of dictatorship. A dictator or group of dictatorial people are only so because they have *both Power and Authority* in their hands, either legally or illegally. Two thousand years ago Caesar not only had the power to destroy his adversary, he had the authority to do so. Further back, the Caesar of the day could kill all first born males, because he had the *Authority* to do so and the *power* to do so. Parents, the owners and authors of the child, lost their authorship to 'Caesar'.

CONTROLLING POWER

Recorded history is almost all about the *Power* of one man over others. Controlling the power of man, without disposing of him, has been the objective of civilizing all men. Great civilizations reached their apogee at the point where power was dispersed as far as possible, and the powerful were subject to some control or sanction from their subjects. Civilisations all declined as those vested with power started to exercise authority as well, and take their citizens where they would not consent to go. As the great Lord Acton put it: *All power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.*

Before federation there was very little government in Australia apart from that exercised by the States. Australians, up until then, had become one of few successful *self-governing* people in all history. Because the law had come with them, they were free to pursue whatever they could achieve. The results were amazing. But the formula was simple. Like the Aborigines before them, communities began around a water supply, the first and immediate need was shelter, easily achieved with help of neighbours. But as the communities expanded so the need for infrastructure increased.

The earliest community needs were halls, roads and bridges, ports and, later, railways. To build all the required structures, which was beyond the capacity of individuals, associations were formed which had to gain communal consent about what would be built and how the available labour would be organized. The organisations the settlers had left behind in the United Kingdom had grown over a very long time for different objectives and the very slow evolution of infrastructure building. These people found themselves in a virgin continent equipped with accumulated experience and know-how, just getting to know each other, but not with the vision to create the nation they eventually founded.

The towns and cities of today grew from the original isolated communities. Some started with just a married couple, others from a family, others still from gold mining or woolgrowing, or other developing resources. What is of importance to us two hundred years on, apart from the physical effort of this great achievement, is the *organisation* that was used to achieve what had never been done before, that finally was to attract a massive migration from the rest of the world.

In a small village comprised mainly of tents and huts, somebody convenes a meeting to discuss the building of a community hall. Everybody turns up and after a lot of talk and perhaps an argument or fight or two, they agree to build a hall of certain dimensions. The only question to be resolved is how and who will do it. Not a problem!

The meeting elects a committee with a chairman, secretary and treasurer, which is authorized by the meeting to raise any required money, organise the local labour into a workforce and build the hall. In time the hall is complete and is used, over a very long time, by the whole community, including generations to come. It happened thousands of times all over Australia, with every type of community structure, while in some nations to our north it still does not happen at all.

There are four simple principles involved, which make it all so easy to achieve. First the people in the group have to agree about what it is they want to construct, which on agreement makes them the authority. They are the authority which then authorises the elected committee to exercise its newly acquired power and build the hall. The whole community has given power to a small group to exercise power on its behalf. While they were all involved in the decision process about the objective they desired, only a few would be involved in the power part of directing and actually building the Hall.

SEPARATE POWERS

As long as the respective group's functions are kept separate, there is no end to what can be achieved. Chaos sets in when those with the power operate without the consent of the benefiting community, or those who authorised the action. Keep power and authority separated, and it works like magic, combine them and there is chaos and corruption.

In following this process two other important principles contribute to making everything work desirably. In deciding what is going to be constructed and where, the whole community is involved, including experts and morons, and that is the *democratic* part. But actual construction which is for experts with know-how, is an *autocratic* process that makes the desired result so easy to obtain. The decision, or policy is a *democratic* process, but construction is an *autocratic* process. *Both are complementary opposites, like power and authority, and men and women themselves.*

For the first one hundred years, with only human and animal labour in the beginning, these were the principles employed that brought this partly constructed country to federation. All the major ports were constructed, the state railways had nearly reached their total mileage, the whole continent had been mapped and most of the roads

were constructed, and we had the largest horse-drawn coach system in the world. All the towns and cities were developed and about to have reticulated water installed, a world first by a long way. At the same time, the invention of wire took place in the United Kingdom. This was imported into Australia as soon as it became available, allowing the nation to be divided into millions of paddocks – another world first.

This staggering achievement, forged with less than three million people in the first one hundred years, has no precedent. Even at federation Australia had become the most successful nation in history, but in the next fifty years, under our own newly forged Constitution, we had become an industrialized nation exporting to the world, as well as feeding, clothing and being able to house another nation three times our population.

We became the first nation in history to design and select our own constitution, as well as our Flag, and nobody can say we made a mess of either. People from all over the world have flocked to our shores from every other nation on earth to enjoy the fruits of our forefathers' wisdom and genius.

None of it just happened. Our forefathers had learnt from history, and knew the fruits of separating into their correct places, *POWER* and *AUTHORITY*. A principle occurring naturally, as the father has the power in the family, so it is the mother who is the author of the child and exercises authority in the family.

Letters to the Editor

QUARANTINE BACKFLIP

Sydney Daily Telegraph on 23 April reported NSW Premier Bob Carr as bringing SARS under the Public Health Act, which allows any policeman to arrest and detain anyone who might even be suspected of carrying the SARS virus.

How different matters were with another epidemic 20 years ago. Back then, even the mildest recommendations to quarantine persons who had knowingly and callously transmitted AIDS to innocent victims were invariably howled down as "homophobic", not least by those pathologically careerist invertebrates quaintly known in local parlance as "Right-wingers".

SARS' death rate is 5.6 per cent, according to The Age's 23 April issue. (Even the notorious 1918-19 "Spanish" flu death rate was a mere 1 per cent.) AIDS' death rate in 1983, by contrast, was 100 per cent.

The moral? If you want to spread a deadly disease with governments' blessing, make sure you're a sodomite.

Yours faithfully,

R.J. Stove
Gardenvale
Victoria

HEALTHY HOME GARDENS

Thank you so much for your article about Esther Deans' gardening method . . . .A friend gave me a copy in 1981 and since then I've always had a vege garden, strawed as she recommended. In 20 years I have spoken about her method to several people and to my knowledge none of them has ever tried to have a small Deans garden.

So I was absolutely delighted to see that garden article in the most recent Heritage. I do so hope other people will be inspired enough to give it a try. . .

I've been widowed for 22 years now and I can vouch for the fact that fairly fit elderly folk could manage such a garden on their own.

I also save a lot of my own seeds, although some things do cross. This year I've had yellow and green cucumbers on the same vine, and hybrids of stringless, ordinary, Giant of Stuttgart and Purple King beans. . .

My daughter has a farm, and when she says to her sons, "Let's go shopping boys!" it means they pick some veg. Then, occasionally, the boys won't let her pick something. "Grandma says we've got to let a couple go to seed!" When he was only 4 the elder boy picked a strawberry, and said "Thank you, Mr. Strawberry!" I wonder what Rowan Atkinson would have thought when he said later, "Thank you, Mr. Bean!" These two boys still show a delightful 'duty of care' to their vegetables, and a delightful sense of gratitude too. . .

A Polish neighbour used to grow nettles deliberately because the nettle roots were supposed to bring trace elements and minerals nearer the surface. I've since read that nettle is a good accelerant in the compost heap. . . .

When I was growing up, people shared cuttings and seeds, but they don't seem to do that now. It makes looking at one's garden just that much more fun. Mr. Mac (long since dead) gave me a hippeastrum in about 1977, so each year when it flowers I remember that nice old chap. . . .

I have some lilies that flower in early December. I have taken 15 to 20 bunches to the local shops and given a bunch to elderly folk or mums with little kids and babies. The responses I get from those people make it one of my most enjoyable activities at Christmas time.

All the best
Jenifer Jefferies
Seaford, South Australia

MARATHON

By Alan Barton

WHILE forgotten now, the decisive battle between civilisations of the east and west fought on the Plain of Marathon, the distance of the modern Olympic race of that name from the Greek city of Athens, has affected history to modern times. Some say it was history's greatest battle.

The Persian Empire, ruled then by Darius, was all-powerful, covering much of today's Middle East.

Athens, a small freedom-loving city State, had sent twenty ships to aid the small colony of Ionia, which was struggling to gain its independence from the Persian Empire.

Darius realized if Athens wasn't crushed, this rebellion by Ionia might induce others in his vast empire to secede also.

Athens in this period produced such great names as Herodotus, Plato and Sophocles, to name just a few. We do know many Scythians lived in Athens, and her small but well trained army was deployed in ten tribes, each under its own General.

There were probably more than 600 ships in Darius's great Armada, which transported his army to Greece.

This Persian army landed at Marathon in the year 490 BC, in overwhelming strength to any armed force Athens could muster.

The Persian Army was invincible at that time. Herodotus tells us that Greeks had never before stood their ground against a Persian Army. Before Marathon, the Greeks preferred to defend themselves in their cities.

Yet, on the landing of the Persian army twenty two miles away from Athens, the small Greek army marched out to meet the invader, probably on the advice of one of their Generals, Miltiades.

Like Australia in the 1940's with our "Brisbane Line", Athens may have been a divided city with an active Persian Fifth Column, and many who wanted to surrender or deal with the enemy. For many in Athens a victory over the Persian army was an impossibility. Marching boldly to meet the enemy removed the Greek army from defeatist elements. The Persians were also said to be experts at taking cities.

Greece's rugged terrain made communication by foot runner preferable to horseback. On the approach of the Persians, a famous runner – Phillippides – was dispatched to Sparta about 150 miles away for their help. Philippides covered the distance within two days.

Sparta was famous for her army. Her boast was that her cities needed no walls - her soldiers were her walls.

Sparta was also proudly conformist, and at that time engaged in a festival. Sparta's reply to the Athenian runner was she would march to Athens' assistance at the full moon, in six day's time. By then it would be too late for Athens, and Philippides set off again for home.

CITIZEN ARMY

The small Athenian army that marched from Athens to Marathon to fight the Persian invader was a citizen part-time army, probably numbering 9,000 men. Its soldiers, called Hoplites, wore some body armour and a bronze helmet. They were equipped at their own expense with shield, short sword and spear.

Arriving at Marathon, the Greeks probably took up a strong position on a slope of Mount Agrieliki, which covered the two approach roads to Athens. One road led south along the coast, the other west over the hills.

The only support the Athenians were to receive was from the tiny Greek State of Plataea, which sent all its men, maybe 600 all told, to help. While not much assistance, this noble gesture lifted the army's morale, who were also fighting for freedom, homes and families.

The Athenian Generals took turns to lead their army, but here they may have been influenced by Miltiades, a General who was experienced, with a good knowledge of Persian fighting methods.

The Persian army, on the shore near their ships, may have been as small as 20,000, which still outnumbered the Greeks two to one, but was possibly 30,000 or more men. It was guided by the Athenian traitor and ex-tyrant of Athens, Hippias, and one of its two leaders was a veteran Mede General named Datis.

For some days both armies stayed in their positions on hillside and plain. The Persians believed this wait to be
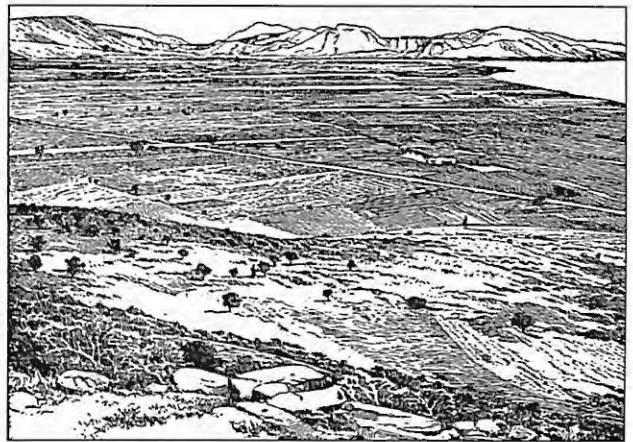
The Plain of Marathon

The Persian camp was at the very shore line, where their ships were moored. The Greeks held a position in the hills overlooking the plain and commanding the road to Athens, which is 25 miles distant. When the Persians began to move along the shore road toward the right, the Greeks crossed the plain and attacked.

to their advantage, allowing time for their Fifth Column to gain control of Athens.

Miltiades was in favour of attack, it may have been his turn to take command. Two other factors leading to battle may have been a declining Athenian morale due to waiting, and also the Persian army may have started to march south along the coast road to Athens.

The Persian army, while lighter armed than the Greeks, were better organized and faster in manoeuvre. Their troops' main weapon was the bow, and they won many of their battles at a distance.

For battle, Miltiades weakened the centre of his Greek army, using these extra men to strengthen and extend his wings, so as the Persians could not easily get round behind his formation on the small plain.

The other notable fact is the Greek army charged the Persians. Some suggest the Greeks charged at a run,



Amphora painting of a Greek hoplite in war regalia

for the mile of distance from the hill to the engagement. It is more likely the Greeks advanced slowly, maintaining their formation until within bow shot of their enemy, then the quick charge at the double to get in and make contact under the arrow fire.

The Athenian centre was pushed back, while their strengthened wings closed around behind the Persians, or threatened to do so. The Persian army in defeat retreated to their ships, seven of which were captured by the Athenians. 192 Greeks died in the battle, while the Persian losses amount to 6,400.

Athens was still at risk, as the Persian fleet now moved off towards Athens. It could capture the city while the Athenian army was twenty-two miles
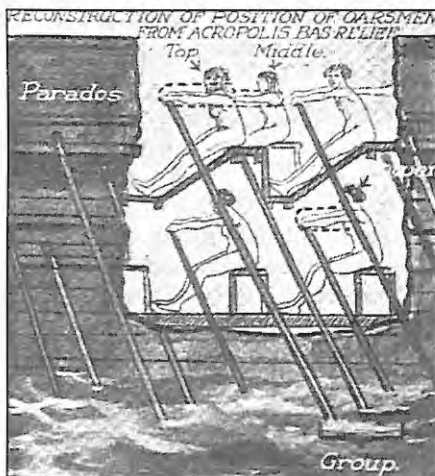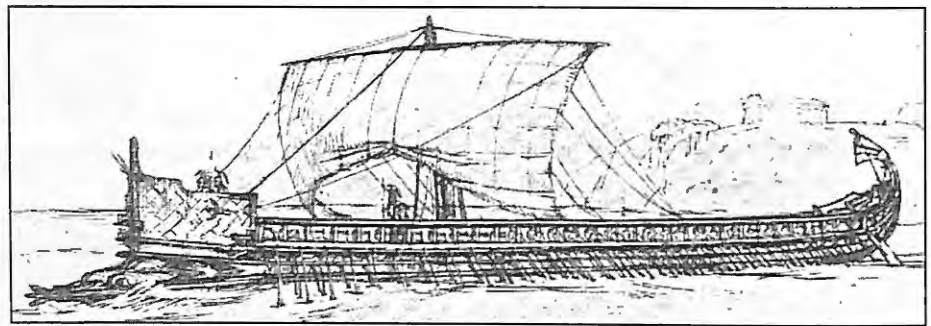
Greek Galley with sail and oars

Rowers in a trireme

away. Somehow the news of victory had to be sent to Athens, to prevent the city's surrender.

The runner Philippides had returned from Sparta, had fought in the battle, and now set off in a race against the rowers in the Persian triremes, warships with three banks of oars.

Winning the twenty-two mile race to Athens, Philippides died after telling the good news to the city.

The above are the known facts on the Battle of Marathon. No eyewitness account has come down the years. The famous historian, Herodotus, the father of written history, wasn't born until 484 BC, six years after the battle

I believe the known facts also fit another scenario.

Suppose, instead of marching on Athens, the Persians had suddenly started to embark their army on their ships again, planning to row to Athens

and capture the city when their Fifth Column there threw open the gates for them, while the Greek army was absent.

If this happened, and the Greek army charged the shore when the Persian army was split between its ships and the land, this could explain the big difference in casualties – over 33 Persians slain for every Greek soldier killed. It would be human nature to play down such an event and all the more to impress the Spartans when they arrived.

After Marathon, European civilization developed from a Greek and Roman foundation instead of an Asian one.

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BOOK REVIEW

Roger Hughes

It's Not the Money It's the Land

by Bill Bunbury

Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 2002, ISBN 1 86368 366 6

WHEN outback sheep and cattle stations were established the Aboriginals were not so much dispossessed as retained to become part of the pastoral industry. Some stations had hundreds of Aboriginals living on the property many of whom were employed as stockmen, gardeners or domestic staff.

Although Aborigines in remote areas often received a pittance, if anything, in money for the work they performed they were also given rations, clothes and rudimentary shelter for themselves and their relatives. The system had benefits for both the Aboriginals and the station owners, the Aboriginals stayed on the land their ancestors had inhabited for centuries, they could go walkabout and retain aspects of their traditional culture. The stations had a ready source of cheap labour.

The system seemed to work until the advent of equal wages following a judgement by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in 1966. It's this judgement and its consequences that forms the subject of Bill Bunbury's book.

Bill Bunbury, as many readers no doubt know from Radio National's history program, "Hindsight" based the book on much the same material that he used for the radio series. This included interviews with Aborigines and pastoralists.

As equal wages came into force, the effects were not always favourable to the Aborigines. Station management were generally not inclined to pay award wages as well as support numerous relatives of their workers. The upshot was that many Aborigines were removed off the stations and ended up in reserves, or more often, in small towns that had nowhere near the facilities to accommodate them.

Alcoholism and unemployment came to replace the active participation of the station lifestyle. There was no longer the dignity of work and the sense of making a positive contribution. In addition they lost contact with the land and traditional life.

While no doubt the judiciary and unions acted with positive motives they seem not to have given enough thought to the consequences of equal wages. On the other hand a system verging on the feudalistic could hardly have continued forever. Like many social problems the questions are easy but the answers elusive.

Fortunately the book doesn't pretend to have the answers and tries for a balance of views. It's not pedantic or judgemental. And I can't recall seeing the word "racism" once in the book – which is a good reason to recommend it.

It's Not the Money It's the Land

Order direct from:
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Men of Kent

IT IS not known definitely when the first cricket match was played in Western Australia, but the earliest recorded mention appears to be an advertisement in the 'Perth Gazette' of April 5, 1835, by which the 'mechanics' building the Commissariat Store challenged those erecting the Government House 'to play them one or more games of cricket, on any terms to be agreed on.' A week later the builders of Government House replied by the same means they were willing to accept the challenge of cricket or any other game. Nothing remains to show if the match were played. Years elapse before the game is again referred to, but 'The Perth Gazette' of April 13, 1839, states that 'this manly exercise has been started with some spirit within the last fortnight at Perth, and we also understand that a club is likely to be formed at Guildford.' The Perth club consisted of 22 members who met every Saturday afternoon at the Flats and although 'it does not number many efficient hands; there are however some Gentlemen, amongst whom are two men of Kent, who play an excellent game, both in batting and bowling.' On Easter Eve of the same year the Perth Club beat the Guildford Club at Perth by 40 runs, and a few weeks later the 'Gentlemen of the Stirling Cricket Club of Perth, challenged the Gentlemen of the Swan, Guildford and York to a match.' Again the result is lost in the outfield of the time, but it was reported several months later that the Country Gentlemen, who apparently had been beaten, were rallying their forces for another match.

JJ DOYLE

Candle of Light

by Thomas L Fielder

(Self published) Distributed by M.E.A. Tapes, PO Box 248, East Caulfield,Vic.3145. 170 p.

THE adage says that: *"it is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness."*

This is the moral taken into consideration by Tom Fielder in his book. He has tried to illuminate the darkness of the times. He endured experiences during WWII that have shown him the falsity of the claim that it was "a battle for democracy", and he understands that the Allies committed many crimes in the name of "freedom". This was a preliminary to a constant life of service to truth and promotion of the League. For many years he was active in M.E.A. Tapes, in which he heard many speeches from a variety of speakers, in addition to his own research, so that overall he must be counted as one of the best qualified writers on the issues he raises.

It tends to assume that the reader is already familiar with many issues raised by the League over decades. For those that need an introduction to the topics, here is solid, concentrated research in a very readable format. Those who are newcomers must undergo that learning which the League and other freedom movement organizations provide.

He takes up several themes in his book. One is that of Social Credit, long ago established as a workable alternative to the debt- written financier structure that is ruining our society and creating havoc. A good introduction to the role of the financiers is the video sold from www.themoneymasters.com. At a time when the United States is hovering on the brink of financial collapse, and sees the need to invade Iraq as a method of staving off depression, seizing oil reserves, promoting petrodollars over its rival, the euro, and obeying the push by Israel to invade neighbouring countries to create a de facto Israeli Empire, a sane and rational system to supply money and credit without exploitation is very topical, indeed essential, but will it be applied? Not while the Money Masters keep control. The rush towards globalist slavery is likely to continue.

He understands that the debt system is in contrast to Arab systems of finance, which do not work on manipulation by "usury" or "interest" and that one underlying cause of the battle in Iraq is the attempt to impose the "money-lending" debt structure.

He understands that just informing the public about the nature of the lies going on is not enough: they are motivated by events, which alone can goad them into action, if they act at all. But the sad reality is that, through history, an active if hidden minority has succeeded in foisting its will on the rest of society.

As he says (p. 128) "the conflict between the philosophy of freedom and the philosophy of power has existed for the whole of recorded history. Those who seek power over others go into those areas of society where they can gain power. Those who defend freedom are often on the defensive and many times have had to fight to the death to retain freedom for those who remain." One of the saddest things to see has been the apathy of so many in the face of incursions into what little freedom remains. A terrorist society is being built under the pretext of "stopping terrorism" and few see the contradiction.

The "failure of the intellect" he mentions means that telling people the truth is not enough. "The majority of people find it more comfortable to live with a hundred lies than to accept one truth" (p.121) The pioneers of the American Revolution understood how vital it was for the people to be well informed if liberty was to be preserved. But now truth seems less valued.

Owing to the magic of Doublethink, we have racial vilification laws which fashionably vilify whites in the name of "fighting racism", an era in which "truth is no defence" and lies flourish. Traditional Anglo-Saxon society is in its death throes and other races threaten to take over. Tom Fielder is well aware of this and seeks to provide a ray of hope for those who remain in this declining society. Where there is no vision the people perish, and he seeks to provide a vision.

In health matters, he emphasizes the need for wholesome food and proper dieting to overcome obesity and health problems, especially rising cancer rates. As one who has come close to death, he has a vital message to convey to those who now live and who will come after him, that the fight must go on to inform those who will listen of the myths that are destroying our civilization, and to choose life rather than death. Maybe it is a theme that can only be realized when we realize how sick and evil our society is becoming and how much we need to turn to God in repentance. The challenge of his book is to understand and act on the need for change, before it is to late. His book is a concentrated dose of wisdom for those who will heed it. His book is a concentrated dose of good medicine for those who heed his diagnosis.

THE DIGGER WHO WOULDN'T 'KOW-TOW'

By "W.P."

William Morris Hughes was a uniquely Australian Prime Minister. The idea of 'bowing the knee' to bigger nations would never have occurred to him.

An early portrait of
William Morris Hughes

Prime Minister of Australia from
October 1915 to February 1923

HAVING served in the New South Wales government at the end of the nineteenth century, he stood for West Sydney in the first federal election, and became a member of Edmund Barton's government. By 1904 he was Minister for External Affairs – controversial, acerbic and newsworthy.

Hughes was one of those who pushed for the establishment of the Commonwealth Bank in 1912, and by the time World War I broke out was Attorney-General and Deputy Prime Minister in Andrew Fisher's government.

It was Hughes, more than anyone, who organized the economy for a successful war effort. Wheat exports to Germany were stopped. Factories and steel refineries were established – in Tasmania and, by 1915, the BHP mill at Newcastle.

Although part of an Allied war effort, Hughes ensured that Australian troops would never be bound by British military war. When Fisher resigned in 1915, Hughes became Prime Minister and was immediately a thorn in the side of both Britain and America.

In January 1916 he visited England and caused a *furore* by taking to the British War Cabinet. He forced a reorganization of food distribution and war materials to the front, allowing no discrimination against the Diggers. His aggressive style gained much publicity and admiration from the French, the media and the public. He would not accept for an instant that Australia was anything but equal among the Allies.

In 1917 America joined the war effort, and Hughes was in London when Germany surrendered in November 1918.

He insisted on representing Australia at the peace talks, to the consternation of the British who still saw Australia, Canada and New Zealand as very much junior members of the family. Hughes immediately clashed with President Woodrow Wilson. He fought successfully to have New Guinea, previously German territory, put under an Australian mandate. He insisted on the retention of the White Australia policy, at that time supported by all political parties.

He was no man's lap-dog.

Following the war, Hughes' controversial career in politics continued. He changed parties more than once. In 1929 he was expelled from the Nationalist Party, becoming an Independent for North Sydney – a place he should probably have been in from the beginning. He was very much his own man. But by 1932 he had joined the United Australia Party, and became Australian representative in the League of Nations.

The outbreak of World War II found Hughes serving as Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for the Navy and member of the Advisory War Council under Robert Menzies. He was 77

When John Curtin took over in 1941, Hughes – a great friend of Curtin – was asked to stay in the War Council. He was expelled from the United Australia Party, but continued in Parliament as an Independent – once again. When Robert Menzies formed the Liberal Party in 1944, he made Hughes his Deputy.

In 1952 politicians of all parties, public servants and diplomats joined in Canberra to help William Morris Hughes celebrate his 90th birthday, and 50 unbroken years in the Federal Parliament. Within a few short months he died of pneumonia – one of the last statesmen who put country before personal ambition.

Hughes was a favourite of
cartoonists, who took advantage
of his physical appearance and
intense personality

Hughes' support of Australia's
armed forces made him a
popular figure with those who
fought in World War I

This cartoon shows the storm
caused by Hughes in 1916
at the Imperial Conference
in London

In 1952 Hughes celebrated his
90th birthday with politicians,
public servants and diplomats
in Canberra

Making a clean sweep at Morpeth

By Penny Reynolds, and with acknowledgment to The Land, February 2003

FORGET wanting to become a train driver, a doctor or a fireman; as soon as you walk into John Wright's workshop on the banks of the Hunter River at Morpeth, you'll want to take up the traditional trade of broom-making. Mr. Wright has been making brooms for 15 years on his 32-hectare property, "Phoenix Park", right beside the historic Morpeth Bridge.

And to get to his workshop, you actually have to drive through the field where next year's broom crop is growing.

"Phoenix Park" has about eight metres of rich topsoil in which Mr. Wright grows corn, lucerne, vegies, millet and gourds.

And when he's not out on the farm, he spends his days in his workshop sorting bundles of crisp, clean broom millet neatly into lengths on the grading table, stacking it into holding bins by the walls and hanging it in bundles from every beam in the ceiling, as well as actually making brooms.

Mr. Wright is the fifth generation on the property, and he fondly remembers when he was a boy and his father grew millet to provide for the broom market.

"When I was about eight, plastic brooms came on the market and they spoilt the market for millet," he said.

However, it seemed Mr. Wright was destined to be thrown back into the broom industry when someone randomly gave him some millet seed 15 years ago, and he decided to grow it as "a bit of a novelty".

Upon hearing millet was once again being grown in the area, the local newspaper published a story about Mr. Wright and the fact no-one else had grown the crop for such a long time.

In response to the article, Mr. Wright was contacted by an antique collector who wanted to know if he was interested in some century-old equipment for making brooms which the man had in storage.

After acquiring the equipment and having "two or three" lessons from a broom maker in Maitland, Mr. Wright took up his new hobby.

"I made some fairly funny-looking brooms to start with," he said

It takes about 0.4 hectares (or one acre) of millet to keep Mr. Wright in broom production for the year and he grows "more than enough" right outside his workshop door.

In fact, he can claim each and every straw in every broom has been sown from seed, harvested and processed by his very own hands.

Mr. Wright spends an average of one day a week on his craft and said he "makes hay when the sun shines and brooms when it rains".

He made a concession this year, however, saying if the weather had had anything to do with it, he wouldn't have had any brooms made.

Mr. Wright grows his millet crop in rows (similar to maize) until it reaches about three metres in height, before hand harvesting and processing the millet so it is suitable for broom production.

The harvest involves Mr. Wright walking through the rows, bending two rows of millet over in a crisscross fashion at waist height to form a "millet table".

This process brings the millet heads to a working level so he can move along the "table" cutting the heads off.

He leaves the millet to dry out in the paddock for three to four days before bundling it up in bunches and moving it into his workshop.

Mr. Wright said that although there were machines available for this labour intensive task, "they're just not as successful".

Once in the workshop, the millet is thrashed in a 100-year-old millet hackler to remove the seed before being graded for different-sized brooms.

The largest broom Mr. Wright makes is a seven-tie - a tie being the coloured row of stitching around the top of the broom and the smallest, a child's four-tie broom.

The time then comes for the millet to be attached to the broom handle in a process made more simple by a 1878 broom binder and the plastic nylon string Mr. Wright hand-sews around the millet to secure it.

"This string is the best I found so far - it seems to have the longest life and it is very strong".

Once finished, the broom proudly joins the collection adorning its maker's walls, but if demand for the brooms is anything to go by you can be sure it won't be there for long.

Mr. Wright sells his handmade brooms directly from his workshop by the bridge and through a local store in Morpeth.

"You have to come to Morpeth to get a John Wright handmade broom," said Mr. Wright, who averages a busload of tourists to his workshop once a week.

He enjoys his hobby, describing it as something unique - there's not many broom-makers around", and he has sold brooms all over Australia and even to the US.

Keeping a tradition alive, John Wright makes 100 percent millet brooms in his workshed on the banks of the Hunter River at Morpeth, using millet from his own crops.
Photograph courtesy THE LAND

"I've always had an interest in brooms, I guess since my dad grew millet," he said, confessing he always inspected any brooms he saw in the shops to see how they were made.

"I make brooms because I enjoy it."

"I've met a lot of people through it and hope to continue doing it for some time yet."

Australia Post celebrates the Queen's Golden Jubilee

THE coronation of Queen Elizabeth II which took place 50 years ago has set an endnring measnre for royal ceremony.

The planning and execution of the historical ceremony using historical traditions and regal pomp dating back centuries took on huge proportions involving more than twelve months planning.

Although Queen Elizabeth II acceded to the throne on February 6, 1952, the actual coronation of Queen Elizabeth II was 2 June 1953, more than 12 months after her accession.

Hundred of thousands of Britons and more than 200,000 tourists from other countries descended upon London for the coronation. Representatives of the House of Lords and the Commons, and other public interests and organisations in Britain, the Prime Ministers and leading citizens of the Commonwealth countries, and representatives of foreign states were also present.

The Queen rode from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey in the ornate State or 'Glass Coach', preceded by a long procession, which included members of the royal family and other dignitaries.

The coronation ceremony, which was conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, has remained essentially the same since before the Norman Conquest in 1066.

Elizabeth swore the coronation oath whereby she undertook to rule according to law, to exercise justice with mercy and to maintain the Church of England. She was then anointed, blessed and consecrated and crowned by the archbishop - at which point trumpets sounded, the Abbey bells pealed, and guns at the Tower of London saluted.

Following the long and colourful procession back to Buckingham Palace, the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and other members of the Royal Family, together with the maids of honour, appeared on the balcony to acknowledge the hundreds of thousands who had gathered outside the palace to cheer the new sovereign.

Later that evening a huge fireworks display entertained the crowds on the Embankment and Westminster Bridge. Across Britain and the Commonwealth bonfires were lit and street parties were held to celebrate the new monarch's coronation.

BOOK DETAILS
LIFE OF MONARCH

Re-launched with the 2003 Australia Post Coronation-Golden Jubilee stamp issue is a pictorial essay of the Queen, titled Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.

The cover of the book features a young monarch photographed by celebrated English photographer, Dorothy Wilding. This pose became the basis for the first Australian series of base postage royal stamps featuring Elizabeth II.

The 40-page book was specially commissioned by Australia Post to complement the two most significant milestones of Queen Elizabeth II – her Jubilee accession in 2002 and the 50th Anniversary of Coronation in 2003.

Written by Australia Post Philatelic Researcher, Mary Hoban, the book traces the life of one of the world's longest serving monarch and head of state.

"I looked at the project as a working life in progress and accordingly structured the book to reflect the many personal and professional facets which make up the life so far of Elizabeth II," Ms Hoban said.

The quality publication features dozens of high quality photographs and narrative text encapsulating the life and times of Elizabeth II.

The book has been published at $16.95 and is available from selected Australia Post outlets along with the Coronation Golden Jubilee stamp issue.

CORONATION-GOLDEN JUBILEE STAMP ISSUE FEATURE HISTORICAL IMAGES OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND THE SYMBOLS OF MONARCHY

50-CENT DENOMINATION
Queen Elizabeth II

This stamp features one of the most recognized and most loved formal portraits of the Queen over the last 50 years and was taken in Buckingham Palace by renowned photographer Cecil Beaton in her coronation year of 1953.

$2.45 DENOMINATION
St Edward's Crown

This stamp features the Crown used in the coronation dates from 1660 when it was commissioned for the coronation of King Charles II. The arches are depressed at the center to indicate it is the crown of a kingdom. The framework is of gold set with about 440 precious and semi-precious stones.

Tradition has it that this crown is worn only once in a sovereign's lifetime - at the coronation. When the sovereign retires into St Edward's Chapel at the end of the coronation service, it is replaced by the Imperial State Crown. This image on the stamp comes from the Royal Collection Picture Library at Windsor Castle.

THE MINIATURE SHEET

The miniature sheet features one of the iconic images of the coronation – that of the newly crowned monarch in all her robes and holding the Orb and Scepter. The crown worn is the Imperial State Crown. It is adorned with 2,700 diamonds and other precious stones, most conspicuous of which are the great ruby of the Black Prince, the sapphire of Edward the Confessor and the four long pearl drops known as Queen Elizabeth's ear-rings.

The second 'star of Africa', cut from the famous Cullinan Diamond, is in front of the crown. The Cullinan Diamond, the largest ever discovered, was found in 1905 in South Africa and presented to Edward VII. The sovereign wears the Imperial State Crown on all state occasions. The new Queen is arrayed in the robe of purple velvet that denotes a crowned and consecrated monarch. Photographer Cecil Beaton also took the photograph.

STAMP ISSUE DESIGN:
Cathleen Cram,
Australia Post Design Studio.

NATIONAL POSTMARK:
Elizabeth South Australia 5112.

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PRINCE WILLIAM'S 21ST BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATIVE COLOURED COIN 1OZ SILVER PROOF COIN.

The design will depict a coloured, head and shoulders image of the Prince and feature the inscription "H.R.H. Prince William of Wales twenty-first Birthday 21.6.2003 and his coat of Arms in frosted finish. The obverse side features the effigy of Queen Elizabeth II. The coin will retail for $60.00 and will be housed in a terracotta – coloured presentation box, accompanied by a serial-numbered Certificate of Authenticity. 20,000 coins will be minted for worldwide distribution.

AUSSIE TRADITIONS KEPT ALIVE

Reprinted with acknowledgement to the *Macarthur Chronicle*, NSW.

FARMING in Australia can be a cruel way to earn a living.

People living off the land have had a trying time in the past 12 months as the savage drought has gripped properties and threatened their livelihoods.

But for patriotic Thirlmere resident Fred Platt, who said "it means one hell of a lot" to be Australian, it is just a fact of life of living in the sunburnt country.

"It's something I've seen many times and I've also been involved in many floods in the 1950s when I was shearing," he said.

"But I think we all know that as Australians we learn that that's a part of it. Droughts, floods and fires, they're all part of Australia."

Today Mr. Platt is keeping quintessential Australian traditions alive at Mowbray Farm where local and international guests are taught the great traditions of the land.

Photo courtesy Robert Pozo, Macarthur Chronicle

FROM REPUBLICAN AMERICA

OVER the past several years we in the states have been hearing of an increasing amount of sentiment to abolish the British Monarchy, establish a republic, or, less drastically, to further weaken the House of Lords.

One hopes that all this talk will remain a fad as a more disastrous occurrence cannot be imagined. Here in America we are all fed a lot of mythology about democracy and equality , and a lot of subtle anti-monarchism, yet America is becoming economically more and more unequal every day, and this is a direct result of its republican form of Government.

Washington, Jefferson and other so called "founding fathers" were not poor people grovelling under the heel of an oppressive monarch, as we are taught from the cradle to believe. They were the fat cats of their day, and in devising a republic, they set up a system they knew would always be dominated by "big money", whether the big landholders of two hundred years ago or today's multinational conglomerates.

Even our hallowed right to vote is illusory. Anybody running for anything more important than dog-catcher has been thoroughly vetted by entrenched special interests. Rare indeed is the candidate who climbs this high on the ladder without having to sell his political soul to these same interests.

I would like to know that my political leaders don't owe their positions to a tiny but powerful few who are interested only in their continual financial aggrandisement at the expense of the rest of society. I'd also like to see a government where continuity and long time thinking are valued, rather than the incessant quest for re-election. The periodic reshuffling of the political deck by elections also makes a system increasingly incapable of addressing serious issues.

The American experience proves one incontrovertible fact: if political power is transferred by other than the hereditary principle, the country will be up for sale to the highest bidder.

Yours faithfully,
Antoinetta Stadlman.
San Francisco. USA

DUSTY DAYS

Ewes to the right, wethers to the left and rams down the middle,
The drafting boards keep shuffling on with a monotonous, creaking rhythm.
Then ... one old ewe stops just up the shute, waiting for ... a yap or boot!
And in a an instant her face does change, to that of agony and rage,
For she is bitten on the thigh by a tired dog, who knows the run's end is nigh.

The shed is stopped, the plant is quiet, a thousand we've done today,
The pressers and the sweeps clean up, ready to hit the hay.
The dogs lie quietly in the troughs, cooling from the day long sun,
For tomorrow its up again at six, and ready for the run.

And in the yards the smell and dust is ever slowly leaving,
And in the west the setting sun turns day to cooling evening.
For I'll never leave this dust and grime,
While the Southern Cross in the heaven shines,
In this, the Australian outback divine,
With my back turned to the world and time.

JULIAN STANWIX
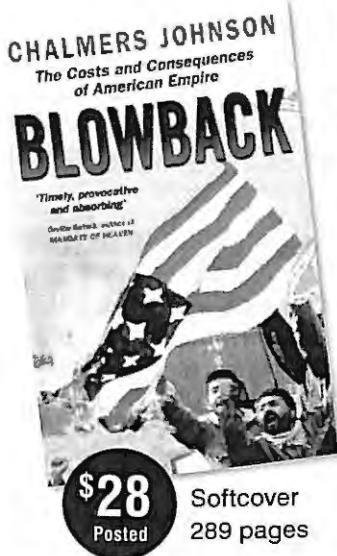
BLOWBACK The Costs and Consequences of American Empire
by Chalmers Johnson

An explosive account of the resentments American policies were sowing around the world before 11 September 2001, and the economic payback that will be their harvest.

Blowback - a term originally coined by the CIA, to describe the unintended consequences of American policies. In his devastating critique, Chalmers Johnson shows how this concept has challenged America's superpower status in the twenty first century.

In essence *Blowback* updates the old adage that you reap what you sow; except that in the case of US foreign policy, the American people are often unaware of what has been sown on their behalf. And while the US government condemns attacks against American citizens and property as being the work of 'terrorists' and 'rogue states', Johnson shows that they are often acts of blowback from earlier covert operations.

Johnson argues that nothing short of a thorough reanalysis of America's post-Cold War role is required - the longer it attempts to sustain its global empire, the greater the political and economic retribution will be. *Blowback* is a much needed wake-up call for American policy makers - a warning to demobilise the global empire before the full force of blowback takes effect.

'No one else has exposed the short-sightedness, hubris, corruption and instability of our country's imperial overreach with such impassioned incisiveness - *Blowback* is a wake-up call for America.' *John W. Dower, author of* Embracing Defeat, *winner of the National Book Award.*

A New Lord's Prayer

Since the Pledge of Allegiance and The Lord's Prayer are not allowed in most U.S. public schools anymore because the word "God" is mentioned . . . . a teenager in Arizona wrote the attached NEW School Prayer. I liked it . . . .

Now I sit me down in school
Where praying is against the rule
For this great nation under God
Finds mention of Him very odd.

If Scriptures now the class recites,
It violates the Bill of Rights.
And anytime my head I bow
Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange or green,
That's no offense; it's a freedom scene.
The law is specific, the law is precise.
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

For praying in a public hall
Might offend someone with no faith at all.
In silence alone we must meditate,
God's name is prohibited by the State.

We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks.
They've outlawed guns, but first the Bible.
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.

We can elect a pregnant senior Queen,
And the 'unwed daddy', our senior King.
It's 'inappropriate' to teach right from wrong,
We're taught that such 'judgments' do not belong.

We can get our condoms and birth controls,
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles.
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,
No word of God must reach this crowd.

It's scary here I must confess,
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.
So, Lord, this silent plea I make:
Should I be shot, my soul please take!

Amen.

THE 91ST BRIGADE

WW1 soldiers of the 91st Brigade agreed to recite the 91st Psalm – the Soldiers' Psalm – daily.

The 91st Brigade was engaged in three of the bloodiest battles of WW1; Chateau Thierry, Belle Wood, and the Argonne.

While other units similarly engaged had up to 90% casualties, the 91st Brigade did not suffer a single combat related casualty!

IN GOD WE TRUST

1. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
2. I will say of YHWH, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God; in Him will I trust.
3. Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.
4. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.
5. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
6. Not for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.
7. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh to thee.
8. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.
9. Because thou has made YHWH, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;
10. There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
11. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.
12. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
13. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.
14. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because He hath known my name.
15. He shall call upon me and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.
16. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

PSALM 91

GREY BEARD - RONALD MORLEY

JULIAN STANWIX

SOME times you read a book and you feel you are better for knowing those characters even though you've met them only in print and throughout the following years things crop up and you remember those friends' experiences once more. One such person was Ronald Morley who came to fame in Western Australia as "Grey Beard the bank robber" in the early '80's"!

I can always remember this amazing case which set newspapers – TV – radio alive with such a talking point of a successful bank robber. So calm and professional in the way he carried out his choice of vocation he really did not cause much trouble to anyone other than the banks financially and the police who seemed to be baffled. Finally he was arrested as the game is supposed to end and it was announced this dastardly fellow was a business man who due to personal problems decided to take up armed robbery! It went out of my mind till one day looking through the shelves at a second hand book shop I came across a book written by Ronald Morley, printed by Fremantle Arts Centre Press – 1990 and title of "Grey Beard". I purchased the copy and being a Saturday sat down at lunch to read a little and have to admit I stopped Sunday at the back cover, the first time I have ever done this and in writing this critique and reading it a second time some years later, I still say it is one of the best and compassionate stories I've read and can relate to problems of small business, leading Ronald to the actions he took – inspired by the Australian Taxation Office and creditors. Now the Story:-

BUSINESS FAILURE

After migrating from cold grey England in 1970 with his wife and two girls he became the manager of a couple of companies owned by an English investment firm who, due to the looming recession decided to down size their company business back to U.K. and sold off their investments and offered Morley one of the companies at a very attractive price as part of his redundancy package. This company was specialising in ship repairs and due to the recession and the increase of larger container vessels he found he had to diversify into other fields to have sufficient cash flow. He successfully did this for some time but finally the recession and the bank appointing an uncooperative receiver the business finally ceased trading.

After selling every thing including his home to pay the bank etc he was left with a shortfall which he felt he could repay if he could start another business and not have the stigma of bankruptcy. Still the recession persisted even though he started the first media monitoring service in W.A. supplying business with information. As time went on with an insight into the problems of this industry he started to fall short on his taxation obligations so after a visit to the ATO he left after being told "We are not concerned with your problems. We don't care if you beg, borrow or steal to find the money!"

HOLD UP IDEAS

Perth was at this juncture, in the middle of a spate of bank hold ups and on a visit to his own bank on business and noticing the amount of cash in the teller's drawer the seed of the idea developed from this point. He felt the current criminals were very unprofessional in the way they carried out the crime and started to think of a system which may be more successful. He describes how by chance he went to a wig shop and bought an amount of material to make false beards then how when pressures built up, the rest of the kit required to transform his appearance quickly. Then the plan, practising changing in toilets close to banks – entering them as a business man, leaving in his costume, returning after the crime, changing and dressed as a business man to drive away while the police were arriving!

After the arrest we are taken through the procedures of statements and charging, then he was taken to the cells and the following day to Fremantle Jail and a description of this 1800s facility which was already infamous for its inhumane conditions which were to lead soon after to riots and its closure – here, he is bailed out till the court case. Whilst out on bail he returns to his business and the attempts to sell it ready for his internment. The vultures circle the carcass. In the name of business, transactions happen and one wonders in regard to conscience, do they rate as a legal crime? The outcome is Ron, his family and creditors finish with nothing!

Ronald at this point faces his family as to what he has done! He admits, getting caught never ever had entered his mind and that unreality has now become fact! After the subsequent court case and the sentence of a minimum of five years and leaving Perth law courts was taken to Fremantle to start his sentence. He serves two and a half years in this four storey hell hole built in the mid 1800s where it meant going down to the yard for showers and slopping out their toilet buckets etc. - and previously stated, leading to riots in later years and its closure - now a tourist attraction of the city!! The place where in the yard were bloodstains from the fights that took place and as he said when it rained they all stood (150 men) under the shelter on a cement floor out of the rain and the cockroaches came out of the drains to join them!

The state appeals his sentence and it is increased by two years which Ron accepts grudgingly. Working in the school lobrary, until. he relates a funny incident when he and his friend as free labour are made redundant by a woman who comes in on subcontract to catalogue the library subsequently appoints herself an assistant and two trainees. He then goes on to work in the prison library proper before being transferred to Canning Vale Prison which is far more modem.

This he finds far better and easier to serve out his sentence and again works in the library, at this point he decides he will appeal his increase of sentence and writes to his solicitor who tells him all his files have been lost or destroyed.

He then learns that at a price he can get a copy from Crown Law Dept and because he has no funds applies to the Attorney general that the fees be waived - this dept again tells him the files no longer exist. therefore will not grant financial assistance. but his letter from the Crown Law states they would gladly send the copies of the files for a fee of $100.00! Ron, having no money, decides to carry on without these and reads and compiles relevant cases and successfully gets a hearing only to come before what he later finds out are the two judges who increased his term and now hearing his appeal! He

of course, having no representation and no training and not being able to afford the case files, is rejected and realises he must serve his sentence as is laid down.

He goes on to serve this at Canning Vale and later at Bunbury Regional Prison giving a good description of prison life and a cross section of friends and prisoners he met including the Mickleburg Bros. Some of these fellow inmates turn up as he passes through the system making it easier when he shifts institutions.

In conclusion, it is a great story, if you chance to see a copy it is definitely recommended as a buy. As I usually make it a rule never to read a book a second time, but as an exception, this book I really did enjoy even far more than the first time and feel it is similar to reading a 250 page letter, from the first line to the last it is written from the heart from a man 'who did the crime and served the time.'

May I quote the last three paragraphs of the book:

'After five years of imprisonment I am aware I have changed, not only physically, but mentally as well; and I don't say that the change has all been good. I have boxed in my emotions and built a wall around me to keep out the hurts and despairs and doubts. I have forgotten how to cry and can view most things dispassionately.

Disillusionment sets in very early in the piece, when you realise that the friends you thought you had were not friends at all, and you never see or hear from them; when the mail starts to dwindle, when at Christmas time the cards you receive drop from over thirty to below ten for the last; when you realise that all you really have in this world is yourself and your family.
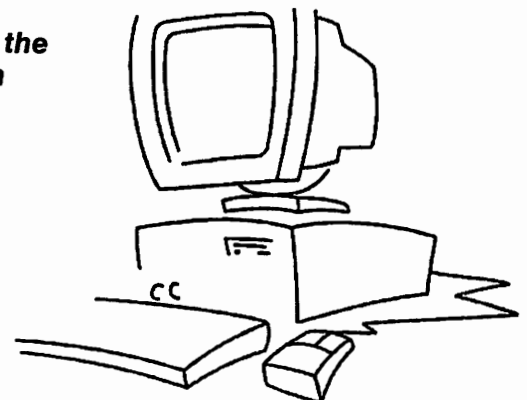
What I have not lost is my love for my family, my sense of humour and my enthusiasm for the future. I am determined to pick up the pieces and succeed in building a new life, to work hard and to get our home once more, to add something worthwhile to the community and regain my own self respect.'

Bill Gates vs General Motors

For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on. At a recent computer expo (COMDEX), *Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, 'If GM had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving $25.00 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon'.*
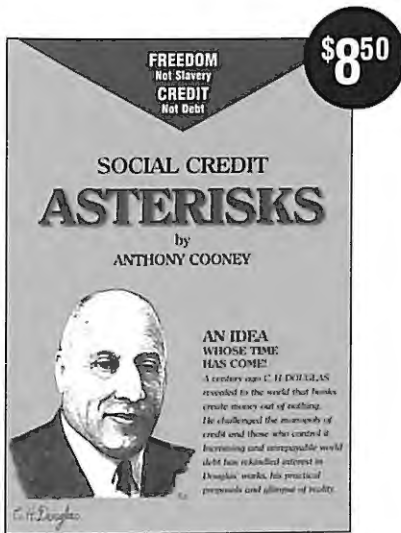
In reponse to Bill's comments, General Motors issued a press release stating: *If GM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:*

1. *For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.*

2. *Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.*

3. *Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull over to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.*

4. *Occasionally, executing a manoeuvre such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.*

5. *Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast ansd twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.*

6. *The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single 'This car has performed an illegal operation' warning light.*

7. *The airbag system would ask 'are you sure?' before deploying.*

8. *Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.*

9. *Every time a new car was introduced, car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.*

10. *You'd have to press the 'start' button to turn the engine off.*

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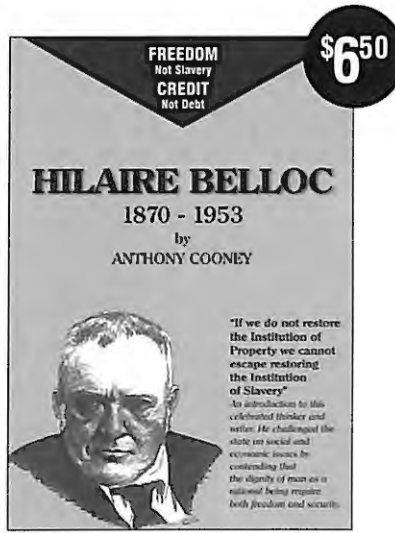
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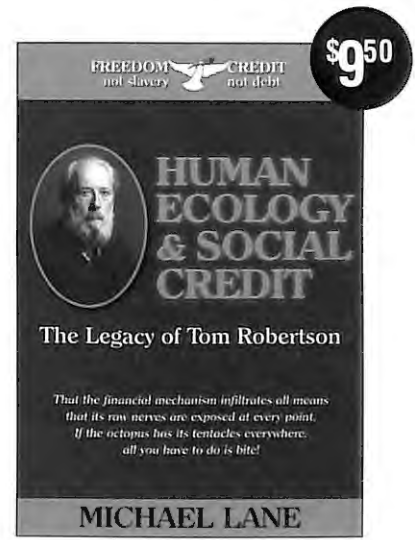(28 pages.)
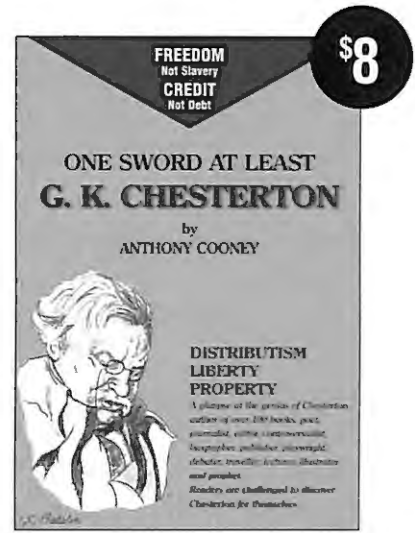
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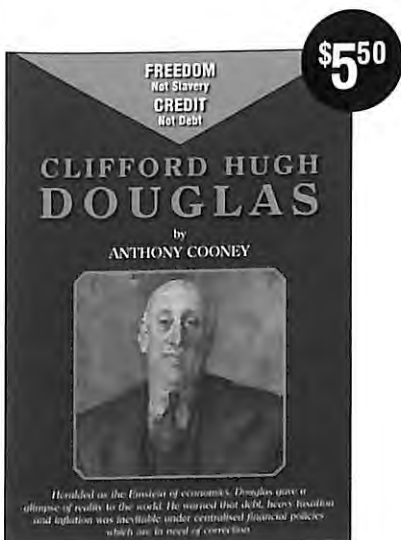
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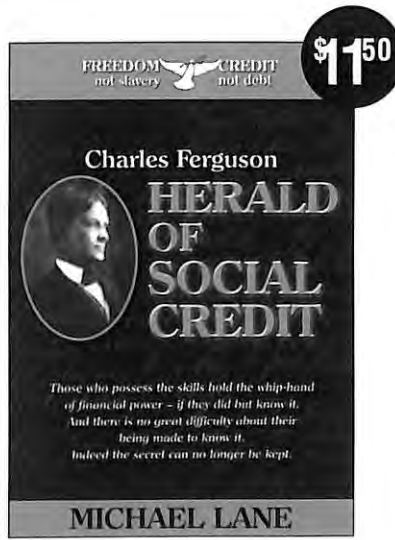
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