



NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (SA BRANCH)



THE NORTHERN CENTRAL AREA BURBLE

NORTHERN CENTRAL AREA SUB BRANCH NEWS LETTER

Page

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SEPTEMBER 28TH 2014

Greetings Members, last month's meeting was reasonably attended, and now that the spring weather is with us, the days are slightly getting warmer slowly getting rid of the aches and pains from a rather cold and wet winter. One of the main discussions from the August meeting is, trying to somehow get permission through the Anzac Day Committee RSL HQ to be able to use a bus in the march 2015, we can get a bus a 22 seater through the Port Adelaide/Enfield Council at a small cost to each person who wishes to travel that way, let's face facts, climbing up into the back of a Land Rover or a WW2 Jeep is old hat especially for those members who have wonky knees, aches and pains and any other thing that ails you, and makes it hard to climb up into a vehicle. Consideration must be given not only to us Nasho's but also to the other Allied Ex-Servicemen including the women who served. Keith once again has taken challenge to try and get a bus in on the march; hopefully he might get an answer before the 2015 Anzac Parade. Remembrance Day 2014, again we will be selling Poppies, and other Memorabilia leading up to the 11-11-014 on, **Friday 7th, Saturday 8th November**, this year we have been extremely lucky just to get one shop at Gilles Plains to sell Poppies, with a change of management at both shopping centres they wanted to charge us for the floor space, but with Keith bartering he did manage to get Gilles Plains Shopping Centre free of charge. **Tuesday 9th November**, hopefully we will get permission to place poppies once again on the **Wall of Remembrance, Enfield General Cemetery**. As usual help will be needed at both venues, names please to Keith, so he can work out some type of roster system. Guest speakers at the moment seem to be on the short list and also some of these speakers look forward to a reasonable donation to pass on to the organisation that they are representing and at the moment and although the bank balance looks reasonable' a freebie guest speaker is much better, so put on your thinking caps and see what you can come up with as a speaker. By now you should have all received your copy of the Nasho News regarding the **Christmas Luncheon on Sunday December 7th 2014 to be held at the North Adelaide Football Club Rooms**. Over the past number of years numbers have dwindled of members attending the luncheon not only from our Sub Branch but also from other Sub Branches including HQ. State treasurer John Piep puts a lot of time into organising these luncheons/functions and for the cost of \$15 and \$20 for non members including a free drink, just where else do you think you can get a luncheon for that price Besides it is a new venue so let's back H.Q come along and enjoy the company of fellow members we at Northern Central always had one long table at the other venue with up to 24 people attending now days we are lucky to have six sitting around the table. Think hard about it make up a party and come along and enjoy the afternoon. Birthday greetings have been or will be sent to the following members -: Harry Gregory 24th Sept, Daryl Mathews 26th Sept, Garry Ford 30th Sept. Winners and Grinners from the monthly raffle -: 1st Raelene Cabot, 2nd Barbara Camplin, 3rd Rosemary Ford. Malcolm Kruss > President

The Origins of Officers Rank Badges

Sourced from the 3rd 9th SAMR magazine

From medieval times, devices such as pennants and shield patterns through to the full development of heraldry have been used to identify very senior ranks such as the monarch and other leaders of armies. With no nationally organised army, such practices were largely a matter of personal choice and contemporary protocol. More formal military structures evolved out of such developments as Cromwell's New Model Army formed in 1645.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, rank was generally denoted by the quantity of lace and through other decorations used on uniforms. While a crossed sword and a baton device was already used by Generals by 1810, the different grades of general were only distinguished by the grouping of buttons on their coats until the Crimean War.

Badges for Field Officers were first introduced in 1810 and for Captains and Subaltern Officers in 1855. These badges consisted of (and still do) crowns and stars, the later being more likely to be called 'pips' today (although this term is technically incorrect).

The star or 'pip' is that of the Order of the Bath, except in the Household Regiments, The Life Guards, Blues and Royals, Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards and Welsh Guards use the star of the Order of the Garter, the Scots Guards that of the Order of the Thistle, and the Irish Guards that of the Order of St Patrick. The Crown has varied in the past, with the King's Imperial Crown being used from 1910 until it was replaced by the Edward's Crown from the coronation of Elizabeth II in 1953.

All officer's badges on service dress were originally of gilding metal, except for rifle regiments and the Royal Army Chaplains' Department, which use bronze instead. A variety of alternative materials and prints have been used on various styles of dress.

Originally insignia were worn on the collar, but were moved to the shoulder boards in 1880 for all officers in full dress, when the system of crowns and stars was recognized. From this time till 1902, a Captain had just two stars and Lieutenant one star. From 1871, the rank Ensign (Cornet in cavalry regiments) was replaced with the rank of Second Lieutenant, which had no insignia. The 1902 change gave the latter a single star and the insignia of Lieutenant and Captains were increased by two and three stars. In addition to the shoulder badges, officer's ranks were also reflected in the amount and pattern of gold lace worn on the cuffs of the full dress tunic.

From 1902, a complex system of markings with bars and loops in thin drab braid above the cuff (known irreverently as the asparagus bed) was used for the first, but this was replaced in the same year by a combination of narrow rings of worsted braid around the cuff, with the full dress-style shoulder badges, on a three pointed cuff flap. Based on equivalent naval ranks, Colonels had four rings of braid, Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors three, Captains two and Subalterns one. In the case of Scottish regiments, the rings were around the top of the gauntlet style cuff and the badges on the cuff itself. The General Officers still wore their badges on the shoulder strap.

During WW1, some officers took to wearing similar jackets to the men, with rank badges on the shoulder, the cuff badges made them too conspicuous to snipers. The practice was frowned upon on our side of the trenches but was given official sanction in 1917 as an optional alternative, being made permanent in 1920 when the cuff badges were abolished.

Brigadier-Generals wore crossed sword and baton symbol on its own. In 1922 the rank was replaced with Colonel-Combatant, a little that reflected the role more accurately, but which many considered inappropriate in the British context. From 1928 the latter was replaced with the rank of Brigadier with the rank insignia used to this day.

HISTORICAL RANKS

Captain-General: (17th century) a full General.

Sergeant-Major-General: (17th century) shortened to Major General.

Brigadier-General: replaced by Colonel-Commandant in 1922.

Colonel-Commandant: replaced by Brigadier in 1928.

Sergeant-Major: (17th century) shortened to Major.

Captain-Lieutenant: (ca. 17th & 18th century) the Lieutenant of the first company in a regiment, whose captaincy was held by the Regimental Colonel. On promotion to full Captain, the period in this rank was treated as having been a full captain for pay and pension purposes, since he effectively commanded the company.

Ensign: Lowest Subaltern rank in the infantry regiments; replaced in 1871 by Second Lieutenant.

Cornet: Cavalry equivalent of Ensign replaced in 1871 by Second Lieutenant.

Snow White and the Labour Party

The seven dwarfs always left early to go to work each morning in the mine.

As always, Snow White stayed home doing her domestic chores.

As lunchtime approached, she would prepare their lunches and take them to the mine.

One day as she arrived at the mine with the lunches she saw that there had been a terrible cave-in.

Tearfully, and fearing the worst, Snow White began calling out, hoping against hope that the dwarfs had somehow survived.

'Hello. Hello! She shouted. 'Can anyone hear me? Hello!'

For a long while, there was no answer. Losing hope, Snow White again shouted.

'Hello! Is anyone down there?'

Just as she was about to give up all hope, she heard a faint voice from deep within the mine,

“VOTE FOR BILL SHORTEN”

Snow White fell to her knees and prayed,

Oh, thank you, God! At least Dopey is still alive!