



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION DECEMBER 2018

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

REMEMBRANCE DAY COMMEMORATIONS 2018

As with last year, Remembrance Day fell on a weekend this year and in order for the school children to take part, which is always so special, Roseville Memorial Club held the annual Remembrance Day wreath laying ceremony on Friday 9th November.

A record crowd of over 150 gathered to pay their respects, 19 of which were our CB members. We were fortunate to have a beautiful sunny day and it was wonderful to see the respectful involvement of the school children from many local schools, and the moving display of poppies.



This year's service was especially significant as it marked 100 years since The Armistice was signed between the Allies of World War I and Germany at Compiègne, France, for the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War I. This took effect at eleven o'clock in the morning - the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month".

During the ceremony the very impressive Major Blair Wark VC, who attended school in St Leonards and North Sydney and was awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery in operations against the Hindenburg Line during WW1, was honoured and as part of this we heard from one of Major Wark's family members, which was lovely. Special thanks to Roseville Memorial Club for all their efforts in bringing everything together so well.

Following the formal proceedings and morning tea, our 19 CBers joined together for lunch. It was wonderful that our Veterans Gordon Gibson, Helen Kenny, Joy Grace, Ailsa Hale, and Coral Hinds could attend. What a beautiful, vivacious and stylish group of ladies! My Dad was very lucky to have them all by his side at lunch this year.

It was a lovely occasion where friends old and new were able to be together to reflect on times passed and catch up on the latest news, on a very significant day.

END OF YEAR REFLECTION

For me, when it hit September the year seemed to speed up and here we are in December already. This year was especially memorable for CB in the fact that our Grant Request was accepted by the Department of Defence. A big highlight for me, and I believe this demonstrates the value the Department of Defence places on Central Bureau and all that our CB Veterans did for our country - and the ongoing importance of our brilliant Newsletter. It was wonderful and very well deserved recognition for our CB Veterans.

It is an honour to serve all our CBers and I have loved receiving the letters, photos and calls from members during the year - thank you! It is with much gratitude that I also acknowledge those who have made kind donations, and of course the invaluable help of our wonderful hard working committee. Thank you very much Bruce, Rob, Annette, Mark and David, and a huge thank you again to our amazing Publicity Officer, Helen Kenny. What an inspiration!

I hope you and your families enjoy a healthy, peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year. I also invite anyone who is able to attend our AGM at Roseville Memorial Club on **Monday 4th February at 2 p.m.** Your input would be most welcome, as we will be planning the year ahead for CB. I hope to see you there. My very best wishes to you all.

Long live CB!

Katy Denis, President

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AROUND THE TABLES AT ROSEVILLE REMEMBRANCE DAY, 2018

CORAL HINDS: Sandy would have loved to have been here – I am so pleased to have such wonderful years of wonderful friends from army days. It is great to be here.

AILS A HALE: It is wonderful to think Joyce Grace and Coral Hinds are here today – three years in sigs together - such terrific years. Lovely to see all the girls together. XXX

JOYCE GRACE: How nice it is to meet up with Helen, Coral and Ailsa once again. We have been friends since 1943.

ROB MOORE: Terrific turnout – 18+ for Remembrance Day, 2018. 100th Anniversary.

LAUREL & KEN AMBLER: Lovely to be here for the first time. Remembering my Dad, Albert (Allen) Jenkin.

GIBSON CLAN: GORDON, CATHRYN AND KATY DENIS: Wonderful ceremony today, but so sorry it may be the last at Roseville RSL. Gordon so enjoyed seeing everyone and was delighted to be here as he only escaped from The San 36 hours earlier. (He had a radio ablation – a needle into the spinal column to rectify chronic pain in the upper spine – hopefully successfully.) He was delighted to be accompanied by two beautiful daughters! See you all on ANZAC Day 2019 – health permitting.

HELEN KENNY: Sad to hear Roseville Sub-branch may be closing. We've been coming here for years. Bruce Bentwitch, an original CBER suggested it. We've been most grateful to him and to you. He wasn't here today. Where you Bruce? But my step-daughter Judith Goudge and her husband Bruce Goudge made sure I was on time. This Bruce, of course, is our Secretary now, and Judith our Photographer.

We're grateful too to the Club's President, Michael Askey for all the assistance we've been given over the years.

So happy to see Gordon and Sue – glad new treatment is helping Gordon. My thoughts and love go to Sue, Noelene (and Bear) and to my old Garage mates, Joy, Ailsa, Coral and welcome to Al Jenkin's family.

RUTH (HANSEN) KEEN: daughter of Noeline and David Hansen – Central Bureau Japanese codebreaker. I have visited Bletchley Park twice. I took my three sons there to learn about their Grandfather's connection. Our guide was very impressed by the work of Central Bureau, Australia. My second son, Caleb, said, "Grandpa's famous." Thank you for your continued friendship that has been shown to the Hansen family. Bletchley Park has an excellent website if accessed: www.bletchleypark.org.uk.

BRUCE & JUDITH: A wonderful commemoration of the end of WW1 with all ages brought together. The recognition of "ordinary" people acting in such "extraordinary" ways serves to remind us all of the sacrifices made.

ANTHONY HINDS: (Son of Coral) Thanks for putting on a wonderful celebration – very memorable.

JOY AND CRAIG: Thank you for sharing your Remembrance Day Celebrations with us again.

DAVID DUFTY: Great to be here again, and to honour our Veterans of Central Bureau.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As the year draws to a close, I'd like to thank all those who made donations to CB in 2018. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to remind you all to be sure to renew your CB membership for 2019 by completing the form included and forwarding your payments either to me by cheque, or by direct debit. That way you will continue to receive our wonderful Newsletter and keep up to date with member news and special events like Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

I join with the other committee members in reflecting on a successful year.
Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas with family and friends,
Rob Moore

SECRETARY'S REPORT

One hundred years since the end of World War I! What great significance this has been to Australia. From the "losses" at ANZAC Cove through to the magnificent Australian victories in France in the latter months of the War, to the final capitulation by Germany, to the outright victory through cessation of hostilities at 11th hour, on 11th day on 11th month in 1918, those brave young and old Australians gave of their all. It was the end of the Great War, and yet, barely twenty five years later, Australian men and women of all ages were engaged in a second bitter battle - WWII.

CB is about those marvellous men and women who worked tirelessly through WWII, largely unaware of the purpose or the value of what they were doing. Capturing messages, translating, sending the messages on to "somewhere". All this time they had no idea of the value of the work they were doing.

The longer than normal embargo prevented their recognition until so much later, but since then, what wonderful memories they have given. Sadly, as the veterans' numbers dwindle fewer of them are able gather together. Hence the importance of ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. Five Veterans (see President Katy's report) were a wonderful component of the 19 CBers at Roseville – Coral Hinds even came from Melbourne!

As I word process Newsletter each quarter for Helen, it is my absolute privilege to read the stories and the articles. These are precious, valuable insights into the wonderful work done by CB, generally credited by those in high places, to "shorten the war by two years"! It is fabulous working with younger members as we strive to maintain these memories. Only this week I had an email from Robyn McKenzie-Smith, advising of the passing of her Mother, Nancy Goldsteen (nee Nelson). Helen remembers Nancy as one of the "Garage Girls" who quietly worked away in the garage at "Nyrambla", 21 Henry St, Ascot. Those Garage Girls laboured in eight hour shifts -the typex machines never stopping - in that garage, little dreaming of the positive effect they were having on the outcome of WWII. On behalf of CB I have offered our sympathy to Robyn, and asked her if she would prepare a reflection for us to publish in March Newsletter.

Again, I would encourage other members of CB to contribute any article of interest – historical or current. Did you have a quiet get together for Remembrance Day? I was asked earlier about copyright for Newsletter. It is not copyright, but if you do reproduce any work

from Newsletter, please acknowledge Newsletter as the source. Also, please feel free to circulate your copy of Newsletter to friends and relations. It is only fitting that work of our wonderful CB Veterans is publicised as a form of gratitude for their work.

You are reminded of the importance of your renewing your annual membership, possibly with a donation. Although we were delighted and are appreciative of the donation from Dept of Defence, the costs of Newsletter, through printing and postage, will not decrease, and I know so many of you delight in receiving Newsletter.

Sadly, at this year's Roseville Remembrance Commemoration, we were advised of the closure of the Roseville Sub-Branch in March, 2019. This is a moment of great sadness as the Members have been so supportive, both of Central Bureau, and the commemoration of our gallant men and women who have done so much for the freedom Australia enjoys.

My best wishes to you, for a blessed and joyous Christmas, and a happy, healthy New Year.

Bruce Goudge

(Hon) Secretary bgoudge@optusnet.com.au

CHOOK CHOOK

The Chermside Chooks story is an old one now.

Peter Hill, the 12 year old boy who discovered chooks scratching up identity discs died aged almost 70 last year. The meticulous lad had put the discs in an album. His post war home had been built near Chermside Camp where only AWAS lived. Rob Isdale, to whom the discs were given, discovered owners were from CB or ASWG.

Here are some of the discs. A few names are known to us. Could you help with others? Please tell Bruce or Helen if you can provide further identification.

BAKER, Charles: b 1915, enlisted Nyngan, NSW and was a Lance Sergeant in CBIC;

DAY, John: b 1925, enlisted Melbourne in CBIC, Lance corporal;

DENTON, Frederick: b 1912, enlisted Adelaide River N.T., in ASWG as a signalman;

EMERSON, Donald: b 1915, enlisted in Victoria and was a Lance Sergeant with 1 ASIP GP;

GILLIGAN, Albert Flanders: b 1910, enlisted Brisbane Qld, corporal, CBIC;

HARRISON, Milton Roy: b 1918, enlisted Brisbane Qld, private, CBIC;

LIDLAW, Donald Hope: b 1923, enlisted Loveday, SA, Captain in CBIC;

LEDERER, Victor Edgar: b 1914, enlisted Paddington NSW, Captain, CB;

LOVELL, John Irving: b 1923, enlisted Paddington NSW, Private CBICPS;

MATTHEWS, Mervyn: b 1917, enlisted Brisbane Qld, corporal at HQ in Central Bureau;

McKEOWN, William Mark: b 1923, enlisted Brisbane Qld, Sgt in CBIC;

PURNELL, Colin Bruce: b 1915, enlisted Royal Park Vic, Captain in 1 ASPIP GP;

REEVE, John Kenneth: b 1922, enlisted Melbourne Vic, Lieut in CBCB GHQ ATT ADV LHQ;

RYAN, William: b 1911, enlisted Bonegilla Vic, Staff Sergeant, ASWG;

SANDFORD, Alastair Wallace: b 1916, enlisted Wayville SA, Lieutenant Colonel in CBIC & TSPS

PAST PRESIDENTS

In our last issue we sought news of past presidents and listed their names. Back came this letter from Steve Mason, President of ASWG and editor of their newsletter INK EMMA INK for 50 years!

Dear Helen,

Congratulations on Newsletter – it is always a good read.

In the last edition you asked about past presidents . I can tell you a little about Dave Charlesworth because he was president of the Australian Special Wireless Group Association for 35 years. He died in 2001, so he must have been President of both our Associations in 1986.

Dave was one of four reinforcements who joined 5WT Section in the Middle east before it returned to form the nucleus of ASWG. He was a most effective trainer of intercept operators. He was a valuable “Mr Fix-it” man, including an excellent hair cutter. He played a main role in organising reunions and other functions during his presidency, plaques were installed at our war-time locations in Perth, Brisbane, Darwin and Mornington. After the war he worked in the Hospitality industry.

Dave was a friend to all.

Best wishes to you and your Association.

Regards,

Steve Mason.

P.S. Regretfully, none of the photos I have found of him are clear enough for reproduction.

[Thanks so much, Steve, for telling us about Dave Charlesworth, who seems to have had remarkable presidency of two organisations. Would someone else have a photograph of him please? We have found photos of Jim Williams, thanks to Rob Isdale, and of young Mike Casey in the SIS Record. We are trying to reproduce them. Please send photocopies to Bruce, and give memories to help us compile our Parade of Presidents. H.K.]

BISHOP DONALD ROBINSON

9th November, 1922 – 7th September, 2018

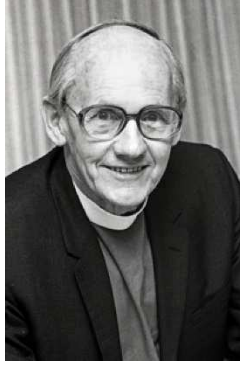
[This eulogy and accompanying photograph were provided to Newsletter by Rev. Di Nicolios, Assistant Minister Christ Church, Lavender Bay. The second extract (Donald Robinson’s codebreaking experience) is from the Eulogy at his funeral, by his daughter Anne Judd. Donald Robinson was the devoted husband of Marie, loved father and father-in-law of Martin and Jann, Peter, Anne and Stephen, and Mark . H.K.]

One of the towering figures of Anglicanism in the 20th century and former Archbishop of Sydney, Bishop Donald Robinson AO, has died at the age of 95.

Born in Lithgow and educated at North Sydney Boys High School, Sydney Church of England Grammar School, the University of Sydney and Queens' College, Cambridge, Donald William Bradley Robinson began his ordained ministry in 1950.

He was a lecturer and Vice-Principal at Moore College, before becoming Bishop in Parramatta and later Archbishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of New South Wales from 1982 to 1993.

Bishop Robinson died early on the morning of September 7 at Hammondcare at North Turramurra.



The first to pay tribute was the current Archbishop of Sydney, Glenn Davies, who described the contribution of Bishop Robinson as ‘immeasurable’. “We have lost a giant in the world of New Testament scholarship” Dr Davies said in a statement.

“Bishop Robinson, who lectured at Moore Theological College for more than 30 years, influenced a generation of future ministers and scholars. His innovative approach to Biblical Theology is one of his many lasting legacies. While a scholar of great intellect, he was also a man of great humility and grace.” the Archbishop said.

“His influence in the Anglican Communion was also highly significant and his becoming Bishop in Parramatta and subsequently Archbishop of Sydney for more than a decade gave opportunity for him to declare the glories of Christ through his commitment to the truths of God’s word, which was exemplified in his godly personal leadership.”

"He taught us how to read the Bible as a whole, to understand its big picture of ‘biblical theology’. His insights have been shared around the world thanks to Graeme Goldsworthy and Vaughan Roberts. He taught us to think about church the way the Bible speaks about church rather than to impose our traditions on the Bible. He taught us to be courageous when our biblical convictions are not shared by others and to do so without personal animosity or venom." Dr Thompson said.

"He could capture the imagination of generations of students as, with a twinkle in the eye, he promised to take them to the moon but not necessarily to bring them back. We thank God for a faithful life as tutor, lecturer, Vice Principal, Bishop and Archbishop, but above all as a disciple of Christ and biblical scholar."

THE CODEBREAKER

“Dad had been a codebreaker during World War Two, a fact he only revealed in the 1990’s. He described his role as a codebreaker as studying everything about the message without being able to read it. This strong pattern recognition would become critical to his approach to the New Testament,” she said. “What was extraordinary to us as a family was that Pa didn’t talk about his war service. Why? Well, he’d signed the Official Secrets Act so he didn’t say a word until a book on the codebreakers was published 45 years after the war. He was a man of his word.”

LIVERPOOL

Although Liverpool NSW was one of Australia’s first settlements, it was still a country town during World War I. Troops of Cavalry trained in the countryside around, sending these forces off to the Middle East and France. Casualties were great.

War damaged men came back, but tragically men had to shoot their horses. This was not just because of quarantine but because horses could not be left to the mercy of strangers.

Liverpool is now a city and hasn’t forgotten that past.

PEACE COMES TO LIVERPOOL (A report from Helen Kenny)

On October 20, this year, I went to Liverpool NSW, accepting the invitation to attend the “Peace Comes to Liverpool” Commemorating the Centenary of Armistice 1918-2018.

With me were my niece, Sally Gibson, her brother James, and his son Rohan, a student At Macquarie University, and James' daughter Amelia could not be there. Missing too was my dear sister Shirley who died in February. I had no children of my own and Shirley's children are very close to me.

I was invited because my father, a doctor, had been posted to Holsworthy/ Liverpool after serving with an Australian medical expedition to the island of Savai'i, Samoa. The dreadful world wide epidemic of pneumonic flu had killed millions and more than 8,000 died in Samoa. (My mother's own brother, Leslie, had died of flu in London after serving in France. I am Helen Leslie, after him.) Australian doctors tried to help but there was no medicine then like penicillin, only aspirin. Dad rode from village to village with an interpreter, and never lost his regard for the noble Samoans or their beautiful islands.

Then – Australia – and Holsworthy where about 8,000 Germans were interned. My father, then with the A.I.F., as Captain Malcolm Frizell, was there only a few months. We have a photograph of him with his fiancée Vera Bull taken outside his tent. They married in 1920 after a four year engagement Vera became his wife and our mother.

While interned, some of the skilled Germans made objects to sell, earning pocket money.

In our family is a small but beautiful box made by a n unknown German, I wish I knew, and paid for by Dad. Its top is inlaid with the Australian Coat-of-Arms, and the interior is fitted with small velvet lined

boxes and drawers. We called it the "German Box" and kept important papers and passports in it. We lent it for display to Victoria Barracks but now it is at Liverpool in a glass case that contained a beautiful painted tray, lent by someone else.

A generation later I was in the AWAS and was a cipher

operator with Intelligence at Victoria Barracks. I'd never heard of Central Bureau when I was sent to Holsworthy on relief duty there. I'd graduated B.A. from Sydney University at the end of 1941. Now it was winter 1942 and another AWAS came with me to Liverpool. She was Joan McDonald – "Mac" – wife of Alexander Hugh McDonald, my lecturer in Ancient History, and a brilliant one too!

I expected us to be in a tent or a hut, but no. The truck drew up in front of a large house, which I know now was called "Kitchener" – after the General who had visited there before WWI. We shared it with three other girls, making us the only five women in the men's camp. Men cooked for us and chopped wood for heating water for baths. The rule was that there must always be three women there. We worked in the small cipher office which was at some distance from the house, near the gate. There was little work to do so Mac showed me how to index a book her husband was writing. It was bitterly cold. We were soon recalled to Sydney.

And now... Liverpool again, where my mother's family, the Bulls, had been amongst the earliest settlers. Our visit was organised by the Liverpool Regional Museum which housed the displays and had a delicious light lunch put on by the volunteers. In the afternoon guest speaker, Major Wayne Clarke, soldier and author, spoke of the 12th Australian Light Horse, formed in Liverpool on 1st March 1915, and which made the world's last cavalry charge at Beersheba.



The Museum's other programs for the week were; Post war Diggers' Care, Impact on the Home Front, Liverpool- Holsworthy Military Railway, kid's badge making workshop to link in with the sale during WWI of badges and pins as part of wartime fundraising, Wartime Fundraising and Book Launch, WWI Historical Tour, and, a talk, Behind The Wires, by Australian historian, Mike Wohltmann, about the internment camps, including one at Liverpool, which held nearly 7,000 Germans and Austro-Hungarians between 1914-1918, ... *was this justified?*

That's just the Museum....now for the City.....

LIVERPOOL REMEMBERS

CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE

1918-2018

With its program was a picture of three poppies- red, white and purple. The Mayor, Wendy Waller, explained that many soldiers believed that these plants on the battlefields came from the blood of their fallen comrades, the white poppy is for peace and the purple poppy in memory of all the animals that have died.

VISIONS OF PEACE

After the October function at the Museum, Visions of Peace, organised by Liverpool City Council will light up the streets with projections of photos and installations.

FREEDOM OF ENTRY PARADE

A Freedom of Entry Parade on November 4 reaffirmed the Freedom of Entry originally granted to the Corps of Royal Australian Engineers in 1959 in recognition of the long association between Liverpool and the Corps, as well as in honour of the end of WWI. On November 11, Centenary of Armistice, there will be a Commemorative Service in Bigge Park- followed by an Armistice Family Picnic which will showcases the music, fashion and people of the 1918 era.

Liverpool – what an imaginative program! We particularly liked the Moorebank Heritage Group's little envelope, handed out. It contains poppy seeds to be planted in memory of Australian men and women who died in World War I, the words of "In Flanders Field", and directions for caring for the seedlings.

May other cities have such projects!

END OF WORLD WAR II

What did it mean? Relief; gladness; end of work.

Al Jenkin (that well-remembered Englishman, or was he Welsh?) describes what happened in the park. A great bonfire of secret documents (was it the same in Nyrabilia – 21 Henry St?) A big incineration. H.K. doesn't know, but we Garage Girls were smartly moved out of our workplace and down to the park – occupying the spacious fire station there.

This, we think, may have been where the punchcard machine – the first computer – had clattered away. It had vanished with its American and Australian operators. What had happened to these most secret Typex machines in the garage?

Secret! Secret! We began finding out what had happened to people in those long war years. Who lived? Who died?

One day ----- "some of you should go down to Hamilton Docks; a ship's bringing back Australian soldiers who were P.O.W.s". We went! Welcome! ----- saw men walk down

the gangway ----- they were silent, scared, skeletal men ----- everyone was silent – even the welcomers.

Back on land peacetime meant packing up and goodbye ----- the closure of the Chermide Camp ----- moving temporarily to Victoria Park. Then, the troop trains started taking us back.

Hard to believe that in 2018 – 73 years since War’s end, and wartime friendships, mateship have lasted and even passed on through the generations.

May the present descendants be spared war, as Australia has been spared.

Love XXXOOO

Helen Kenny

BLETCHLEY PARK RAILWAY STATION



Railway stations have always provided a fascinating backdrop to peoples’ lives. This depiction of Bletchley Station during World War II shows the diversity of people who would have been “fighting on the home front”. Everyone had a role to play and a story to tell. Home Front History is dedicated to keeping those

stories alive. Bletchley Station was once an important freight marshalling yard and its proximity a factor in Bletchley Park becoming a centre of Allied code breaking.

Major BLAIR ANDERSON WARK

Born: 27 July 1894, Bathurst; **Died:** 13 June 1941, Puckapunyal



Blair Wark’s boyhood home was in MacMahon’s Point, where he grew up with his two brothers. Education was at St Leonard’s Superior Public School, North Sydney, which became North Sydney Technical High School, then he attended Sydney Technical College, becoming a Quantity Surveyor.

He had military interests, and was a cadet in the 18th (North Sydney) A.M.F. War came and in 1915 Wark embarked for the filth of the trenches and the Battle of Fromelles where he was wounded. Wark, returned to duty. At age 24 Wark was given temporary command of the 32nd Battalion in operations against the Hindenburg Line, beginning in September 1918. He acted courageously, notably dashing forward and silencing machine guns which were causing heavy casualties.

For his gallantry, on 1st October 1918 Blair Wark was awarded the Victoria Cross.

Blair Wark did get home and enlisted in World War II with the rank of Lt-Colonel. He was at Puckapunyal when he died of a heart attack in June 1941. Like so many he had never recovered from those First War injuries.

On November 11, 2018 the people of the North Shore honoured Major Blair Anderson Wark at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Roseville RSL Sub Branch.

Best wishes to you all for a happy and blessed Christmas,
and a wonderful year of peace and good health.
Bruce Goudge and Helen Kenny

