



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION JUNE 2018

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ANZAC DAY (SYDNEY) 2018



One Hundred years ago that “War to end all Wars” was still being fought. Drowning in the mud of trenches, men were under fire and being gassed. It was only three years since Gallipoli, yet Australian and New Zealand Army Corps had left the name ANZAC for history.

Ever since, people have marched in their memory – veterans as long as they could. This year CBers Gordon Gibson and Joyce Grace were offered a ride in a golf buggy. (Joyce's Report Follows.)

They arrived at the Pullman – dare we say 19th hole?. The CB family waited to greet them – this time no-one was breathless.

HOW THINGS CHANGE – ANZAC DAY 2018



I do not know how it all came about, but this year the Army could not supply us with the transport or help those of us unable to march or participate in the March without marching.

‘Someone’ came up with the idea of using GOLF BUGGIES. This was accepted and those of us who were able to get to our usual meeting place in Sydney were advised that we could use the golf buggies.

On arrival, there they were, lined up with volunteer drivers from State Emergency Services (SES).

I shared a buggy with Gordon Gibson, who sat with the driver. I sat behind Gordon with my great niece, Julie Haworth, whose late grandmother (my sister) served in WRANS SIGS, so it was special for her. Then on the rear seat was Gordon’s wife, Sue, and Jacqui Keeling, whose late mother served in WRAAF SIGS – so it was special for her as well.



Due to our use of motor transport, CBICA headed all the 1939 – 1945 veterans.

To our banner bearers, Rob Moore and Mark Brackley our thanks again for their service this year.

There was a band directly in front of us. They played good marching music all the way.

There were huge crowds of people all along the route with lots of flags waving.

The March finished at the southern end of Hyde Park where the Red Cross was set up and ready to supply hot tea, coffee and biscuits. A very welcome service!

Many thanks to all who have participated in organising our ANZAC Day arrangements. It is much appreciated!

Joyce Grace

AROUND THE TABLES

HELEN KENNY: Great gathering – only wish CB had the funds to book us all into the Pullman for a couple of days. (Treasurer wouldn’t agree!)

New faces here – Hullo: Rohan Gibson – and former marchers now having a well-deserved ride in golf buggy. (Col Brackley – R.U.O.K?) Love to old Henry St friends, including Diana.

ALLAN NORTON: What a wonderful 2018 ANZAC Day Function. For me it is soul lifting to see again familiar faces, but essentially and especially I remember my old service friends who have passed away, and my 1 Wireless Unit mates on this special day.

PETER DONOVAN: It has turned out that a friend of mine is married to a niece of Roy Booth. How about that!

DIANA WATSON: I went to Bletchley Grammar School and was Vice Captain in 1961. My first job after left school was a receptionist for the Post Office Training School – the reception desk was just inside the door of Bletchley House – a fabulous six weeks. The school pavilion was unchanged from earlier years as part of the Bletchley Park Estate.

JACQUELINE KEELING: What a delight to see so many young ones both marching and watching. The buggy was a great idea. It gave me a chance to study those watching the march.

ROHAN GIBSON: A wonderful experience to be with my great aunt and the marching band provided much entertainment.

SALLY GIBSON: Great to see the comradeship between the veterans. My mother, Shirley Gibson (Helen's sister) would have loved to have been here.

DICK STANLEY: A special day remembering the great sacrifice and spirit of Australians who have gone before. Thank you for having me – a joy to watch AJ (Aunty Joyce - Joyce Grace) march this year.

JULIE HOWARTH & MARK McKAIL: Thank you for all your efforts to keep the crew together. It has been a highlight for AJ for many years, and for the rest of our family in more recent years. The food and company are wonderful. We look forward to many more years celebrating our beloved veterans.

ANNETTE SALMON: What a fantastic group of people! I had a wonderful time. So good to catch up with everyone.

DAVID DUFTY: Another great ANZAC Day event for Central Bureau. It is always an honour and privilege to be here.

MARK BENTWICH (Bruce's grandson) & **TRICIA BENTWICH:** We are very happy to celebrate this ANZAC Day Lunch with family and friends. Thanks for organizing for us all.

PHILIP GEORGE GRIMSLEY: Son of Phyllis May BROWNSON, 1WU WAAF 99097. Wonderful to meet the group.

DENIS FAMILY: Wonderful ANZAC Day, meeting up with all the old guard, with my family, and seeing Helen, Joyce made my day special. Ailsa Hale loves CB and had a wonderful lot of friends. What an honour to share ANZAC Day with all of you.

GIBSON FAMILY – DEAN, CATHRYN, TIM & SAMMY: The years continue on and the celebrations keep growing and as their numbers fade along with memories of their own, we shall never forget. It's such an honour to be an Australian and have such valiant men and women through all generations as protectors of our country.

GORDON & SUE GIBSON: The golf buggy was a wonderful innovation and made the day so enjoyable for the veterans who rode in such style. Congratulations to the RSL and the SES for making this possible. Gordon has so enjoyed this stress-free day – which is the highlight of his year. Lovely – so lovely – to see again so many remembered faces.

BEAU BABYACK (10 yrs old): Thank you for the special lunch and the drumming – I loved seeing my AJ march.

SHARON BABYACK: Such a special time watching AJ march and spend time with the friends she adores – thank you!

BEYA BABYACK (Age 14): Such a great time talking to friendly people and eating delicious food! Really enjoyed watching AJ (Joyce Grace) participating in the ANZAC Day March and enjoying a well-deserved cup of tea and ANZAC Cookie with her, whilst sitting in Hyde Park.

JOYCE GRACE: Our numbers may be less, but the spirit is still as strong as ever. Wonderful to meet with old friends. My best wishes to all.

PHIL SKALA & JOHANNA: My first time here. I am very proud of my Grandpa / Bruce Bentwitch. A true Hero. Thank you for having me.

BIBES & ALAN BENTWITCH: Another wonderful day. Hope to see all the veterans next year.

STAN & JENNY SKALA: It has been a pleasure to be part of this historic occasion with my father-in-law (Bruce Bentwitch) and his friends.

SAM & AMANDA McCARTNEY: One of our favourite events of the calendar year.

TIM, LIL & ROCKY BENTWITCH: A wonderful day. Thanks for organising a lovely lunch and bringing us all together.

BRUCE BENTWITCH: A very enjoyable event.





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS 2018

While it seems like some time ago now, the memories of our wonderful Anzac Day commemorations are ones that are very special to me and will not be easily forgotten. How lovely it was to see all those who could join us, and for those who couldn't, you were with us in spirit.

Like last year, the day started before dawn for my husband Chris and I, up in the darkness at 4 a.m. to attend the Dawn Service at Roseville Memorial Club and lay a Wreath on behalf of CB. It was a beautiful service, even if it was a tad chilly.

For the March, the weather was mainly sunny and the golf buggy worked really well with clear visibility of our CBers and a lot of space for them to wave at the adoring crowd. It was good to see CBers front and centre in the TV coverage on ABC television again, and the March seemed to go very smoothly which was great.

We extend our heartfelt thanks once again to our brilliant banner bearers, Rob Moore and Mark Brackley. What an amazing job both Rob and Mark do each year!

I'd like to especially thank Mark very much, who still did his banner duty despite a stressful week in the lead up. Big thanks too of course to Rob for stepping in as temporary Treasurer and doing an outstanding job (we are hoping he says on in the role).

Marching and in the golf buggy for us this year were:

Rob Moore	Mark Brackley	Joyce Grace	Julie Howarth
Jacqui Keeling	Gordon Gibson	Sue Gibson	

This year's Reunion Lunch was the 44th for Central Bureau, and it was another wonderful event – a chance to reflect, connect and have a good time together.



There was a lot of lively chatter, laughs, and even a bit of fun competition with the raffle.

Thank you to all those who purchased raffle tickets, as we were able to raise just over \$300 for CB, which was great! Special thanks to David Dufty, Helen Kenny, Annette Salmon and my best friend Alison Race (Cake From The Heart) for their generous donations that made up the raffle prize. Congratulations to Ailsa Hale's guest for winning.

Thanks also very much to Annette and her sister, Pam for creating and setting up the lovely photo displays and booklets, and to RAAF Townsville Heritage Centre for the permission to use photos from their display about the women Kana Operators in 1WU.

Thanks are also due to Philip Grimsley (son of Phyllis May Grimsley nee Brownson) for allowing us to use his photos of the display.

It is always lovely to see the generations represented with many children joining us again this year. Well done to our little volunteer who played the drums so

well with the Army Cadet Band, who are always a highlight, and to our little helper who announced the raffle winner.

Thank you very much to all those who attended our luncheon, and those who could not join us were in our thoughts.

DONATIONS AND GRANTS FOR CB

Since our last issue of Newsletter, we have received many kind and generous donations and I sincerely thank all of those people for their wonderful support. It really does make a big difference to what we can achieve for CB. Thank you so much.

In the last issue of Newsletter, I mentioned that we have been working through a grant application process with the Department of Defence to help fund the printing and mail out costs associated with our Newsletter.

I am absolutely delighted to report that the Minister of Defence, Ms Marise Payne has approved our grant request and the Department of Defence is providing us with funding, which I am exceptionally grateful for. I believe this highlights 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 (huge thanks as always to our fabulous Helen Kenny and Bruce Goudge).

This is wonderful recognition for our CB Veterans, and I am over the moon with the result! Anzac Day was a wonderful day again, and I look forward to seeing many of you for our next CB event, commemorating Remembrance Day. As this year marks 100 years since the end of WWI, Remembrance Day ceremonies are sure to be particularly moving. Details of the Remembrance Day ceremony and lunch will be included in the next issue of Newsletter.

Until then, I hope you stay warm and cosy.

“Long live CB!”

Katy Denis, President

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SECRETARY’S REPORT

ANZAC Day is always special for those of us with links to members of the Services, and CB is ever so special. The use of golf buggies for the “march” was indeed a wonderful innovation. It enabled the older participants to actually take in the bands, the cheering crowds, the horses and the colour of this amazing March. Equally, while the taxis and jeeps have been appreciated, the buggies gave the cheering crowds so much more of a live contact with the participants. There was a wonderful atmosphere present throughout the March – even the weather was kind to us.

The Pullman extended its hospitality to us most generously. Its location is ideal, and their informal, yet quiet, organisation enables the veterans and their families and friends to interact in a beautiful atmosphere.

The photo display at the entrance to “Windows Restaurant” was fascinating.



Thanks to Annette’s sister, Pam, and the RAAF Townsville Heritage Centre for permission to use photos from their display about the women Kana Operators in 1WU.



Thanks are also due to Philip Grimsley (son of Phyllis May Grimsley, nee Brownson) for allowing us to use his photos of the display. Philip came to the Anzac Day luncheon at our invitation. He made a valuable contribution with his photos and has spent considerable time researching the girls of 1WU. His mother, Phyllis, was one of the original 13 women who trained as kana operators at Point Cook (like Annette’s Mum) and were sent up to Roseneath near Townsville to intercept Japanese transmissions.

Can I ask that if any CBers were involved in an ANZAC Commemoration anywhere across our magnificent country (or elsewhere) please feel free to drop me a report, which we can then print in Newsletter.

Thank you all,

Bruce Goudge

(Hon) Secretary bgoudge@optusnet.com.au

MADELINE CHIDGEY

That teenager whom I knew in the Chermside hut and in the garage, grew into a fondly remembered woman.

She was an original member of CBICA, and wrote our very first newsletter – a single roneoed page.

Lilli Pilli was a growing suburb when she and Ron grew their family there. She loved the place, and only left it when age and widowhood meant that daughters in Queensland would care for her. She died on 18th December, 2017 aged 93. She came home in spirit for the service at Lilli Pilli Public School. Family and friends surrounded her.

Helen Kenny – set down on the programme as her “commanding officer and friend” (No – just “B” shift leader and NCO) had been given a confusing address for the Memorial Service. My Danish driver Mette, got us there half way through – disrupting a lovely service...



Someone in the garden of the house next to the Lilli Pilli Primary School said, “there’s the other school up the road – try there!”

Mette sped up the road and we found ourselves in a complex of playing fields and buildings. Suddenly we saw a man emerging from a building. Recognition! David Dufty – our historian. He’d been speaking at the service and was leaving for a wedding. “In there!” he said.

Mette seized my wheelchair and rushed me in at full speed. “Where have you been?” I cried angrily – then fell silent realizing the service was going on.

Ailsa Hale, Madeline’s great friend, made her celebrated Christmas cake for afternoon tea – full of fruit topped with marzipan, and icing. I took a piece home and rang Ailsa the next day.

“I can’t talk,” she said, “I’m in pain. Just had a fall. Have rung for help!”

She needed it; she went to hospital with broken ribs. She’s home again now – sorry Ailsa.
[H.K.]

VALE

MADELINE CHIDGEY

16th October 1924 – 18th December, 2017

A Daughter's Privileged Perspective

Madeline, my mother, was born in Normanhurst, Sydney NSW – the middle child of seven children. Her parents were James and Hazel Bell, and the children were Hazel, Bill, Dorothy, Mum, Helen, Richard and Barbara. Madeline's memory of early family life bore much happiness with her siblings, mixed with great pain and sadness during a time when the whole world was trying to recover from WW1.

Mum spoke to me often, of how poor their family was, (not unlike others) at times with no shoes to wear to school and bread and dripping for the meal of the day. As I grew to understand a little more She would ask, "Margaret, did you ever feel you went without?" My answer was always, "No, Mum not at all." We three children, myself, Adele (dec) and Rex were very loved and well cared for, and our father Ronald and our mother Madeline sacrificed so much, so ensure that we experienced a better way of life than they had as children.

Also, I have come to realise just how much my parents loved and truly adored each other. Mum seemed lost at times without Dad since his passing. She missed him so much. Theirs was WW11 romance, whilst they served their beloved country, Australia. They married in Sydney, 4th August, 1945, and peace was declared on 15th August, while they were on their honeymoon. What a Wedding gift that must have been!

My parents worked exceptionally hard to save for their first home. Dad was able to secure a War Service Loan, which enabled them to build with much pride, not only their first home, but in fact the first home in the street – 1 Daphne St, Dolans Bay, NSW. Mum and Dad were very happy there, as were we three children. Sure they experienced their ups and downs, but they were married for 63+ years – not sure who would have earned the medal though? Probably both. During this period they became loving grandparents, and then great grandparents.

Mum had several passions.

Mum's love for picnicking carried right through her 93 years. She loved nothing more than packing and heading out doors with her family and friends. Didn't matter whether it was the bush or by the sea, she was happy! During this last year my mother's mobility became most difficult for her, so short drives to Coolmunda Dam or a park close by in Inglewood would have to be the order of the day. Loving God's creation, these good fun times deepened her relationship with her GOD immensely, as she spent time with Him and those she loved, and those who loved her.

There was a time when she enjoyed playing tennis with friends and neighbours in South Coogee, developing good and lasting friendships. We lived very close to the water then, and during summer would climb down cliffs at Lurline Bay to go for a swim in the tidal pool. The whole neighbourhood did that together and it was great! We would pick blackberries on the way home, and Mum would either stew them or bake pies. I can still smell them baking.

Mum was a meticulous seamstress and she sewed each item with passion and perfection. She would make children's clothing, often recycling garments. In early married life Mum would sew for friends' children in return for babysitting or suchlike. To help pay the mortgage she would spend hours and hours sewing football jerseys for all the clubs in Sydney, it seemed. There were always what seemed like mountains of football jerseys beside her machine and filling the dining room table. My sister and I used to pin the collars for her, and also the "V" shaped on the front. I think she earned 6d (5c) per jersey. Later her passion became beautiful wedding gowns and ball gowns – one of which was mine. Nearly all my friends' wedding gowns were made by my mother. Aunty Kate also had her wedding dress made by Mum.

Mum had much passion for the Arts. Art, History and Music were shining facets of her life. Dad worked in different airline positions after the War, so they managed to travel the world whenever they could. Thankfully, Mum documented these journeys most informatively, producing good and interesting reading which has placed much desire in me to do the same thing and visited places they would have explored together. Mum had a beautiful singing voice and sang in choirs as well as musical shows – Lilli Pilli Theatre Group for example.

Mum also loved to celebrate birthdays, Anniversaries, Christmas, New Year, Australia Day, Easter, and of course, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. Always celebrated with family and friends. I know Mum's faith in God was special and she thanked God for her life, regularly sharing this with me – especially of late! Her church life was apparent in many ways, again making some wonderful friendships in the Caringbah Presbyterian Church. Some would remember her as their Sunday School Teacher and Religion Teacher.

Hindsight shows me though just how intelligent, humble and understated my mother Madeline truly was. Her love for her country – Australia – and her War Service only came to light in recent years. I was amazed to learn just what her active service entailed. Kept quiet for the required length of time and more ... she quietly began to tell myself and other family members her story. I doubt we have it all but it was with such pride that she spoke of how her unit members were responsible for cracking the Japanese code. This apparently shortened WW11 by two and a half years. How wonderful to know my mother was a cipher operator, one of the "garage girls" in 21 Henry St, Ascot, Brisbane. A story most worthy to be read and be passed down to future generations.

How blessed are we to have known and loved Madeline. A woman of strength and character beyond measure, and a huge passion for those she loved and the life she lived. Madeline is greatly missed and now forever will live in our hearts. Her life has been a blessing to so many I am overwhelmed and also so grateful to be able to call her my mother.

Blessing,
Margaret Guelfi (nee Chidgey)
P.O. Box 17, YELARBON QLD 4388

CONCLUSION

Thanks to Joyce Grace, Judith Goudge and Katy Denis for their photographs from ANZAC Day. Very sorry that through lack of space we haven't been able to use your delightful memories of Madeline. However, we'll pass them on to her daughter Margaret Guelfi to cherish. H.K.