

JEEP



news

The e—Newsletter
COROWA SPECIAL
April 2014
Volume 149



Two different pics of the same Jeep!
Les got a bit of a dunking on the way to
Corowa somewhere in the Snowy Mountains
and at Corowa, the destination, but he must
have been off getting dry and Leo stood in.

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STATEMENT and FINE PRINT Information

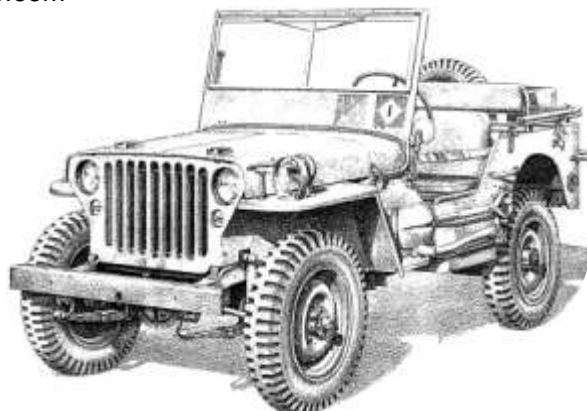
World War 2 Jeeps NSW is NOT a formal Motor Vehicle Club, but more an "Association" of WW2 Jeep enthusiasts, bonded together by this e—newsletter. It's sole intention is to share information about their vehicles, future displays, trips and events. It was founded in 1991 by the late Peter Walker in an effort to bring together genuine users of the legendary Jeep. Contact can be made with the current "Committee" as per the email addresses on the cover.

Joining information for new members is, a sense of participation and contribution to the Association for your benefit and that of others, your email address for sending of the newsletter, (this can be of a family member or friend if you don't have one—Don't forget to tell them!), a good colour picture of your Jeep along with a few words of your Jeep related history, so we can introduce you via a "Member Profile". If you have any Jeep related restoration talents, please let us know and whether you are prepared to offer any advice to fellow members. If you really like what we do, then a "Donation" towards our HQ development.

Members, their relatives, friends or guests are reminded that some Four Wheel Drive activities, events or trips notified herein, can be extremely dangerous. Participation in any activity, event or trip is entirely up to the individuals discretion and that no responsibility, what so ever, can be held against any land holder, group or individual, for what ever situation that may arise, in travelling to or from or during the course of that activity, event or trip. If we are participating in an activity, event or trip organised by others outside of the Association, we do so as a group of individuals at their invitation. Prior contact with the person organising any particular activity, event or trip advertised herein is mandatory, to avail yourself with the most up to date and correct information, as dates and itinerary can change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Finally, views expressed in our newsletter are also individual and do not necessarily reflect the Association as a whole. Membership lists forwarded from time to time are for the benefit of those listed for contact purposes amongst each other only and are not intended for dissemination to third parties or to be used for soliciting of unrequested services and or advertising material.

The image of the Jeep below under the banner "Keeping The Legend Alive" and on the front cover is from an original drawing by Krystii Melaine and is used with permission. Prints on quality art paper, ready for framing are available by contacting Krystii at krystii@krystiimelaine.com



Dedicated to wearing out yesterdays legend,
today for some bugger to preserve tomorrow!

Cliffs Say....



Hope everyone is keeping well.
I am not doing a Cliff's say for this newsletter but please see trip report.

Cliff B

Knocking Noise

Raquel & I went shopping with the Jeep last weekend.
When I was driving I noticed I had a bit of a knocking noise from under the floor at gearbox area.
Anyway after we arrived at the shops I thought it better to take a look
Raquel headed into the shops for a few groceries and I got under the Jeep to see what it was.

After Raquel had finished she returned to the Jeep and found legs sticking out, wearing shorts with no undies on and that a testicle had become exposed.
She carefully manipulated the testicle back under cover only to be greeted with a loud scream and a thump!
She jumped back and saw me standing up looking into the engine bay.
The NRMA man got 6 stitches in his head.

Never did find the knocking noise!

Ken Whyte

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SIGNALS



Some belated News, that long time Association Member, Ed Matheson of Finley in NSW, passed away after a battle with the dreaded Big C. Nephew, Bob Bevan of the "Albury Mob" has allowed us to reprint the article he had in their local Car Club Newsletter.

Plenty of things are on the "The Do" list as you will note from Standing Orders. Do it and send pics!!!

More on Rego stuff. The RMS last June put out a document defining "Shapes" called the Vehicle Shape Codes Guide, which backs up my article on same a few issues back. Jeeps fall in the cat of CON - there words "This vehicle is any vehicle without a roof regardless of the number of doors and seats."

cheers **MITCH**

Vale Edward Matheson 1934—2014



Edward passed away peacefully on the 10th January 2014 at the Finley Hospital after a lengthy illness. Edward was a long standing Finley resident, born and raised in Finley with his 7 brothers and sisters.

Edward joined the Albury Jeep Club in the late 1990's so as to make use of his restored WW2 Army Jeeps. On many occasions, Edward and his brother Henry joined in with the Albury Jeep enthusiasts on many club events in the local area. Together, Edward and Henry host a visit from the KVA Members in 2012 on a visit to the Finley Pioneer Museum where they have both acted as committee members and curators for well over 40 years.

But it is Edward's passion for 'all things military' that saw him restore two WW2 Ford Jeeps. In 1996, Edward tracked down several jeep wrecks in country Victoria. Edward proceeded to completely rebuild these over a 3 year period. These two vehicles are now in outstanding condition and used regularly in club events, local ANZAC Parades and has attended the Corowa Swim In every year since 1999, with one of this Ford Jeeps..

Quiet, dedicated, a perfectionist, and humble, Edward will be sadly missed by those who have had the pleasure of associating with him in activities that they all enjoyed, together. Both the Albury Jeep Club and the Southern Riverina Vehicle & Machinery Club (Finley—of which he was a foundation member) salute Edward Thomas Matheson as one of nature's gentlemen. 'Rest In Peace.'

Article submitted by Bob Bevan.





Mitch , the GPW needed a friend , so decided to continue my WW2 NT theme with a LP2. The old girl needs a bit of work but I wont have to worry about tyres for a while. A BGC in the Top end during the war. *Cheers Michael*



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LAND-ROVER SPECIAL VEHICLES

OFF THE INTERNET (of course! - where else?) Another "Calendar Girl" Isn't she a lovely example, fully kitted up. The drivers not bad either! This time from Liberty Calendars, check em' out on the web



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“Three Brothers” (The Great War) ... written by Luke O’Shea.

Three Brothers side by side in a long forgotten town.
Names engraved in fading gold on another Roll of Renown.
Where are all the men gone? Mothers where are all your sons?
Three hundred thousand marched away, to the beating of a drum.
To the Great War. To the Great Great War.

Now the youngest was the Captain Coach of the local football team.
All the town would come out to watch these glorious machines.
Fearless with the football, he would charge the enemy.
But for all his grace, he only took three steps, on the shore of Gallipoli.
In the Great War. The Great Great War.

Now the second was a Teacher, the school the old town hall.
Same place that he met his love while dancing at the ball.
A lass she never married, well they never stood a chance.
When the shells they rained like tear drops fell, in Pozieres in France.
In the Great War. The Great Great War.

Now the eldest was a farmer, who once loved to laugh and joke.
Three years on the Western Front, something inside him broke.
So much death, the gas, the bombs, few could understand?
When a soldier he lay down his arms, walked into no man's land.
Such a waste Lord. A Great waste Lord.
A waste Lord. Such a Great waste Lord.

So where have all the men gone? Mothers where are all your sons?
We threw them all away, we had only just begun.
A shattered generation, each town they fell apart.
And one hundred years is not enough, to mend the broken hearts.
The Great War. The Great Great War.
The Great War. Such a Great waste Lord.

Well now the land has all been bought up.
The shops have all closed down.
Three Brothers stand beside their mates.
On a long forgotten town.

Yes, the land has all been bought up.
The shops have all closed down.
Three Brothers stand beside their mates.
On another Roll of Renown.
Such a Great War.
Such a Great waste Lord.

Luke's new album "Sing You Up", with the above on it is now available through i-tunes or his website: www.lukeoshea.com





Yes, its all about the kids. A couple more pictures sent to me by a proud mum of her twins, Delaney and Shelayna, having a great time on Australia Day with the Gadget Gatherings Team at Hyde Park. Well done chaps, you are the public face of WW2 Jeeps.



Roger Curnow has found these items on the web if your looking for them. British made, via Halycon Classic Parts at www.classicpartsltd.com they cost about 112 quid plus postage and come in a variety of colours in leather or can come separately.

IF WORLD WAR ONE WAS A BAR FIGHT



Germany, Austria and Italy are standing together in the middle of a pub when Serbia bumps into Austria and spills Austria's pint.

Austria demands Serbia buy it a complete new suit because there are splashes on its trouser leg.

Germany expresses its support for Austria's point of view.

Britain recommends that everyone calm down a bit.

Serbia points out that it can't afford a whole suit, but offers to pay for the cleaning of Austria's trousers.

Russia and Serbia look at Austria.

Austria asks Serbia who it's looking at.

Russia suggests that Austria should leave its little brother alone.

Austria inquires as to whose army will assist Russia in compelling it to do so.

Germany appeals to Britain that France has been looking at it, and that this is sufficiently out of order that Britain should not intervene.

Britain replies that France can look at who it wants to, that Britain is looking at Germany too, and what is Germany going to do about it?

Germany tells Russia to stop looking at Austria, or Germany will render Russia incapable of such action.

Britain and France ask Germany whether it's looking at Belgium.

Turkey and Germany go off into a corner and whisper. When they come back, Turkey makes a show of not looking at anyone.

Germany rolls up its sleeves, looks at France, and punches Belgium.

France and Britain punch Germany. Austria punches Russia. Germany punches Britain and France with one hand and Russia with the other.

Russia throws a punch at Germany, but misses and nearly falls over. Japan calls over from the other side of the room that it's on Britain's side, but stays there. Italy surprises everyone by punching Austria.

Australia punches Turkey, and gets punched back. There are no hard feelings because Britain made Australia do it.

France gets thrown through a plate glass window, but gets back up and carries on fighting. Russia gets thrown through another one, gets knocked out, suffers brain damage, and wakes up with a complete personality change.

Italy throws a punch at Austria and misses, but Austria falls over anyway. Italy raises both fists in the air and runs round the room chanting.

America waits till Germany is about to fall over from sustained punching from Britain and France, then walks over and smashes it with a barstool, then pretends it won the fight all by itself.

By now all the chairs are broken and the big mirror over the bar is shattered. Britain, France and America agree that Germany threw the first punch, so the whole thing is Germany's fault. While Germany is still unconscious, they go through its pockets, steal its wallet, and buy drinks for all their friends.

STANDING ORDERS



THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BIT OF YOUR "NEWS" - Read it and act! No use having a Jeep tucked away in the shed if you don't use it!! REMEMBER THE SLOGAN!!!

CAMP COFFS - Easter - 2014 - If you're a subscriber to Jeep Action, then your either going or yer not! But if your not a subscriber, then you can, if you get a copy and send off your details.

ANZAC DAY - IN YOUR AREA.

Please send photos and a brief report of what you did for the Day. Don't forget Tamworth and Coffs Harbour organise a biggies and you can be apart of those. Email Tamworth - david.mcilveen@raywhite.com or Coffs Harbour - John Small arnie2450@bigpond.com

IRONFEST 25 to 27 April, Lithgow Showground. Ian Rufus will fill you in. Email him at ian.rufus@gmail.com

MAY EVENTS—Watch out for Wings Over Illawarra at Albion Park on Sunday 4th, Riverstone Festival and Parade is Sat 17 May. Forms need to be in by 18 April. (email Mitch), Oil Steam & Kero at Menangle on 17 / 18th and the Search Light Night at North Head on the 31st.

CUMNOCK—Is a definite, with Don as keen as mustard to have us. Give Mitch an Email if your interested, but its looking like the later half year.

CLASSIC not PLASTIC 7 - 9 June Nabiac. This years event will centre on the Nabiac Showground about 3 hours north of Sydney, just off the Pacific Highway. Cliff and a number of others are going.

DD+70 at NORMANDIE FRANCE—Is shaping up to be a huge event and there is a Jeep gathering happening within. Further info at their website www.jeepgathering2014.jimdo.com

TED'S TEN YEARS will be celebrated on weekend of 21/22 June, based out of Shorties at Colo Heights. Contact the Cardinal on 0427 618 105 or email cqp4x4@hotmail.com to register you interest. One day of this weekend will be limited to five vehicles and passengers by NPWS.

(We will have a weekend in honour of our Founder, Peter Walker, who also passed away that year, later.)

KOKODA PICNIC - June 29. Details later.

MARATHON AUCTION - Saturday 6 September.

LINWOOD MV DAY - Sunday 14 September.

CAMP BUNGENDORE - 3 - 7 October

More info in Jeep Action Magazine in coming editions

FOR SALE

Marsden Matting. Anyone interested can contact Graeme Robb, Phone (02) 6026 2365
There are 12 sheets available.



What's on at ... MARATHON?

Well its all happening as these couple of pictures will attest, but interestingly enough, they have been dragged into the 21st century and have launched their new website. More changes are promised with keener pricing of parts, so everyone will be a winner. Check it out at www.marathonspares.com.au
Also, send Neil an email to get on a list that he is creating for sending of specials and other stuff



Plenty of Jeeps under restoration as well as a new ute conversion for the JK Wranglers being trialled. More details are in Jeep Action Magazine April Edition out NOW if you haven't taken up the subs offer yet!



“HANG ON BROTHER”

*Picture selection from Matt McMahon at Oberon.
Who likes getting his toys out and sharing!
JUST BRING PETROL! (and plenty of it!)*



**More—"What can we find
on THE INTERNET?"**

from CAM FINLAY

WW2 Jeeps NSW bonafide members would note a lot of stuff gets forwarded on pronto, but these pages are a continuation of all things Jeep and Military or just plain quirky as found on the net by Cam in his endless research. Some you may have seen before, like the photos over page, others, perhaps not.

Thanks Mate, we say!



*Pilot from 549
Squadron
RAAF - NT*



OUCH!



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Normandie + 70 Gathering - www.jeepgathering2014.jimdo.com

Well we bid bon voyage to several Association Members who have packed their vehicles into containers and sent them to Sicily. Lead by Hans Sprangers and daughter Marielle in a Dodge Ambulance, Graeme Person and Mick Jericevich in a Jeep, The Petersen boys, (Barry and son Robert in a Chev Truck, Peter and Terese in a Jeep and Tim and Wendy in a Dodge Carry-All), plus a Kiwi contingent of 2 Jeeps, 2 Dodge Weapons Carriers and one Dodge Ambulance, will travel via a scenic route to arrive in Normandie in time for the big event. Our European Correspondent is part of a Gathering within the Gathering and hopes to meet our intrepid group of travellers. I also suspect that our English Correspondents, James and Annie plus many more of our members will be there as well. BJ and Kate plan to include this in their European Vacation holiday as well. So no excuses for a great big **"NORMANDIE + 70"** Special Edition of the Jeep News, LATER IN THE YEAR!



A couple of "authentic" looking shots of Ingo's Jeep at previous Normandie D-Day Celebrations



A US Coast Guard Ensign, Louis A. Schulte, serves tea to two infantry officers using a trophy Nazi flag as a tablecloth, Normandy, France, 1944.



Plenty of preparations are going into Ingo's planning for this years momentous event, so if your over there, get involved, give him a holler and send US pictures!



Out & About - COROWA 2014 - Member Selection of their favourite pictures



Nice Jeep from the Vics.
Always good to see something
different! "Don't look so
worried luv, your hubby's done
a great job!"

There is lot of this British Alvis
Amphibian under water!

Association Members, Shorty
and Wash in the Dodge as well
as John Gordons nice GP.



The Section 8 Crew have
a few beers with Fletch
of the TV program
"Classic Resto's"





Brian and Sue made it to the Parade on three cylinders and we have given them a bit of a down hill assistance here with a tilted photo!



Left: Young Thomas Davis Inspecting HIS Jeep and later, "Dad - I think we could use this?" "Whaddya reckon?" Right: Aaron gets a MC ride. Below: Roughies first paying load! On his recent auction purchase.



OUT and ABOUT – COROWA VIA THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS

A trip was planned to go to Corowa Swim-In via the Snowy Mountains which was organised by John Swane and consisting of Les Heness, Brian & Sue Sweet, John (or course) and myself. For me, it was up at 5.30 Wednesday morning, threw in the last bits and pieces in the Jeep and up Bulli Pass to meet Les, Brian and Sue at Pheasants Nest Bridge at 7 o'clock. Arriving at Pheasants Nest all were there. The sky was a little cloudy but not much in it. It looked like it would be a nice sunny day. Heading off towards Goulburn to meet John a storm started to roll in, anyway down she came just before we got to Goulburn so, when we pulled up for morning tea at the Paragon Café for coffee and raisin toast, it was on with side curtains and doors for those who had them.

From Goulburn the trip headed off now lead by John. We headed to Tarago and down to Bungendore and into Queanbeyan for a petrol stop. From there we took some back roads. If you have ever been on one of John's trips you will know what I mean! I can never remember where I have been. Anyway we ended up at a reserve area on Lake Eucumbene. The sign said "Day Use Only" I think, but it was a bit small lettering for us old blokes, so we stayed the night on the side of the lake. Les set up the Taj Mahal tent he had bought and we all crammed in it for a few drinks and a chat as the wind was quite cool outside.

The next morning we headed into Jindabyne to the Pie Shop. They sell the best pies and we had a pie and coffee for morning tea before heading off again down to Thredbo Village and onto Tom Groggin, for some lunch, before heading over the river crossing into Victoria. At this time of the year the river is low, only about 18 inches deep. After crossing the river the trip headed along the Davies Plains Track where poor Les, on a creek crossing, went into a hole and drowned his Jeep. (CHECK OUT THE FRONT COVER!) We towed Les out and with a bit of WD40 we were off again. The track was in reasonable condition as it looked like there had been a dozer through recently. It was very steep in some sections and I had to stop a few times to let the Jeep cool down. I thought there was a problem so that night we camped at Charlie's Creek crossing campground and removed the thermostat from my Jeep. The Jeep ran cool from then on.



Damn f#@%’n thermostats!



Great selection of pictures thanks to Les. The route followed after crossing the Murray River at Tom Groggin was the Davies Plain Track which passes the hut above, thence Charlies Creek, thence west on the Mount Hope - Buckwong Track, thence south west on the Beloka Road and Limestone Road to Omeo.





After a good night's rest we were off again, today being Friday, we wanted to get to Corowa for a Pub meal and a hot shower. We headed into Omeo for some petrol and a chat to some bloke who said that a fellow he knew had a tank and some WW2 trucks just up the road. Not being Jeep related we said, thanks but no thanks, as we were on a schedule. Not far out of Omeo, Brian's Jeep started to run on three cylinders. We tried a couple of quick remedies but the old girl started acting up Ornerly. Brian ran the rest of the way to Corowa, hitting the hills, downhill and staggering up the other side. We made it around 6 o'clock so it was off to the Pub for tea and a catch up with some old friends. The next morning Brian's Jeep was running not too bad so he went into the parade. John and I assumed our usual position out at the front of the local coffee shop to view the parade.

The parade was a good mixture of WW2 vehicles and this year there was quite a few of the newly released ex-Army Land Rovers. After the parade it was down to the swap meet. A lot of good stuff was to be had like usual but I didn't buy anything. After that it was back to camp and down to the river to watch the GPA and other amphibious vehicles do their stuff. That night it was off to the Pub for dinner and some more catching up with old mates. The next morning Brian and Sue left at sparrow fart for home and Les went to Canberra to pick up an Aussie trailer he had bought on eBay, so John and I decided to take a detour on the way home and head into Wee Jasper for the night. From there we travelled to Goulburn and after a pie and coffee we went our separate ways and headed home.

The trip was a fantastic time with a selection of good off roads and beautiful scenery and a bit of history thrown in and some time to catch up with other military vehicle enthusiasts. I will be looking forward to doing this again some day. Thanks, great trip John. *Cheers Cliff*

Vehicle List for Corowa 2014: (Year of the Ford and WW1)

FORDS: 49 Ford Jeeps, 8 GPA's

3 Ford Ute's, 1 Ford Truck. 2 WW1 T-Model Fords, 1 Ford MUTT, 1 Fordson WOT 2,
1 Ford C11 ADF heavy utility.

Other WW1: 1 Albion A10 and of course Shorties 1926 Dodge Model 4.

OTHER VEHICLES.

27 Willys Jeeps, 1 Datsun 200B, 1 Mitsubishi Jeep, 6 bicycles, 11 Motorcycles, 15 Dodges, 11 Blitz trucks

32 Landrovers, 1 Dodge M882 Truck, 1 Steyr- Puch, 5 Studebakers, 2 Austin Champs

2 Bren Gun Carriers, 2 AMG MUTTs, 2 Ferret Scout Cars, 1 International tractor, 1 F1 International, 1 S-Line

1 AR160 International, 1 International Fire truck, 1 International Tipper, 2 Mokes, 1 Toyota Landcruiser

1 Daimler Dingo, 2 Unimogs, 1 VW 82E car, 1 Alvis Stalwart, 1 M274 Mule, 1 Humvee, 1 Chev Truck

1 White Scout Car and of course, Andy Macs Chev Cinema van.



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Albury Jeep Enthusiasts who attended Corowa:

Bob Bevan – Ford Jeep Kevin Day – Willys Jeep Richard Coutts Smith – Austin Champ
Barry Wilson – Ford Jeep Neal Bartel – Ford Jeep Lloyd Alyward – Ford Jeep
Graham Robb – Ford Blitz and Willys Jeep

Most of our Club's Jeep Drivers arrived at Corowa on the Thursday and set up camp in the Ball Caravan Park, which was our home for the next 4 days.

The days were spent participating in the organised events, such as buying and swapping parts, inspecting the wide range of vehicles that had gathered, participating in the event where several GPA's were 'driven' into the Murray River and then attending numerous barbecues. The event culminated in a street parade down Corowa's Main Street on the Saturday morning and the Swap Meet at the Corowa Show Ground, which continues to grow each year.

A highlight of the event this year, as well as the WW1 Military Vehicles, was the display by the North Head (Sydney) Historical Society (I think), who transported their 36 inch WW2 search light to Corowa and for nearly an hour each night, assembled and then operated the searchlight over the skies of Corowa. Enthusiasts, such as myself were invited to assist to direct the beam into the sky, maybe a once in a lifetime experience. The beam which projects 10,000 feet into the night sky had to be witnessed so as to take in the enormity of this particular machine. On the first night, a group of residents from Rutherglen arrived to check out the source of the 'night beam' as they had spotted it in the night sky over their town, which is approximately 15km away. The Search Light certainly created enormous interest to those who witnessed the spectacle.

Report submitted by Bob Bevan .



The WW2 Search Light which was set up at the entrance to Ball Caravan Park – fully operational.



Graeme Robb's (Albury) recently restored Ford Blitz, which has been converted into a tipper, caught the eye of many participants at Corowa.

QUEENSLAND by DIRT or as we called it – **SPEAK EASY 2014** Part Two

In our quest to find the roads less gravelled, we recently decided to undertake another trip via all the back roads and connect with as many WW2 Jeeps NSW Country Members as we could find. Continuing on in the same vein as last year's "Great Outback Pub Crawl", we were destined to find more great places, on what was suggested as the "Speak Easy Tour".

Part One, got us all together at Nowendoc General Store then to spend night one on the Rowley's River, then covered the next seven days to eventually arrive at Copmanhurst on the mighty Clarence River upstream of Grafton.

Day nine we headed north on a circular tourist route we found illustrated on the wall of the Rest Point Hotel. Instead of a plain drive north, it headed over the hill to Jackadgery on the Mann River, which we then followed it basically downstream to the Cangai Bridge and onwards to the Clarence junction. Thence we continued upstream of the Clarence to a little spot called Alice for an overnight camp. The fisherman continued to try and catch a feed, at the various crossings, but only seem to attract the Fishing Inspectors on what was a pretty isolated stream that fed the Mann. Just as well we all had up to date licenses and despite inspection of our fridge / esky, they left without any fines. No undersized beers in there!

Day ten we found our way to Tabulam and whilst restocking the fridges and fuel tanks, were approached by Frank, who easily lured us to his beloved memorial to the creation of the Australian Lighthorse by Harry Chauvel in 1885 right there in Tabulam. After an entertaining time that included the town song, as perceived by him, we wandered into the pub and met up with George and Alison, whose family has had the licence for quite some time. They gave us a great feed, as we listened to stories of the area, before we hit the road to get up to the nights camp at nearby Paddy's Flat again on the Clarence. It is here that, in WW2, they established an elaborate Tank Trap made of pyramid shaped concrete blocks as part of what they called the "Brisbane Line".





From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:-

The "**Brisbane Line**" was a controversial defence proposal allegedly formulated during World War II to concede the northern portion of the Australian continent in the event of an invasion by the Japanese. Although a plan to prioritise defence in the vital industrial regions between Brisbane and Melbourne in the event of invasion had been proposed in February 1942, it was rejected by Labor Prime Minister John Curtin and the Australian War Cabinet. An incomplete understanding of this proposal and other planned responses to invasion led Labor minister Eddie Ward to publicly allege that the previous government (a United Australia Party-Country Party coalition under Robert Menzies and Arthur Fadden) had planned to abandon most of northern Australia to the Japanese. Proponents of the existence of the Brisbane Line proposal often refer to the existence of concrete tank traps near places such as Tenterfield, which were constructed in the late 1930s, as evidence. However the existence of defenses in New South Wales did not suggest any intention of abandoning other parts of Australia.

And from the ozatwar.com website:-

Colonel Sid Huff, General MacArthur's aide-de-camp, wrote in his book "My Fifteen Years with the General" as follows:- The big task of the Allied forces in the South west Pacific was to establish and hold a line against the Japanese, who had moved into New Guinea, directly north of Australia, and were preparing to push on southward. It would be difficult to exaggerate the odds which MacArthur faced at this time. The enemy had proved to be far more capable than anticipated. The Japs had in a few months pushed out over a vast area, capturing Malaya, the Dutch East Indies, Burma, Borneo, New Britain and other islands. Corregidor had fallen in May. By mid-summer there seemed to be nothing to prevent a Japanese landing in Australia. So desperate was the Allied outlook that at one time it was planned to withdraw defence forces from Northern Australia when necessary, to establish a line across the centre of the country, and to try to hold half the continent until help could come from America. It was in such circumstances that MacArthur lived up to the confidence that Australians had placed in him. He threw these defensive plans out the window and decided that the way to stop the Japanese was to attack them before they got to Australia. He had a couple of American infantry divisions, one Australian division which had been recalled from Egypt, the untested Australian militia, about 200 airplanes capable of operating effectively in combat and a small Allied naval force. We still controlled important areas in New Guinea, where the Japanese landed at Buna, on the north coast, in July and started attacking through the Owen Stanley Mountain Range in an effort to seize Port Moresby on the south coast. There was only one answer in MacArthur's mind: stop the enemy on the mountain trails where the small but valiant Australian forces could operate most effectively. (Our Ragged Bloody Heroes!)

Many years later [General Douglas MacArthur](#) stated in his reminisces that the Australian General Staff planned to defend Australia on a line of defence that followed the Darling River from Brisbane to Adelaide.

In January 2001, Dallas Goodwin from Mount Isa told me about the remains of concrete tank traps that he had visited near Tenterfield in New South Wales. They were used to span a bottle neck in the Clarence River Valley east of Tenterfield in northern New South Wales, in an area known as Paddy's Flat. The concrete pillars are still visible in and beside the river near the crossing. Dallas indicated that this was part of the so-called "Brisbane Line" defence plan. Dallas also described some well-known tank traps just north of Tenterfield on the Bald Rock Road. They consist of log pillars and a concrete wall in the valley. The sign posts on the road claim that they formed part of the "Brisbane Line" defences.

An obituary for Julie Theresa Potter (nee Hanlon) that appeared in the Courier Mail in Brisbane on 5 May 2010 stated that Julie remembered her father Ned Hanlon, often regarded as Queensland's best Health Minister, once told her that he had "ordered the destruction of Commonwealth pamphlets advising that the territory north of Brisbane might have to be abandoned in the event of a Japanese invasion." Apparently when the United States consul called to ask if the Queensland Government was moving to Tweed Heads, Ned Hanlon replied "Tell them Cabinet is meeting in Townsville on Monday."



And finally, what the Australian War Memorial have to say on the issue:-

The “Brisbane line” was an alleged plan to abandon Northern Australia in the event of a Japanese invasion. The allegation was made during an election campaign in October 1942 when Edward Ward, the Minister for Labour and National Services accused the previous government of planning this strategy.

The accusation was unsubstantiated by Ward and firmly denied by Menzies and all members of the previous government. Curtin’s initial failure to dismiss the allegation and General Douglas MacArthur’s mention of it at a press conference in March 1943 led to the controversy gaining much momentum. Ward made repeated charges against the Menzies-Fadden government throughout 1943 and backed up his assertions by referring to a missing document.

The allegations created much public controversy and led to a Royal Commission of Inquiry in June 1943. Mr Justice Lowe was appointed Royal Commissioner. The terms of the commission were to focus on whether any document concerning the so called “Brisbane Line” was missing from the official files and if so what was the nature of this document.

The Royal Commission found the documents to be complete and that no such plan had been official policy under the Menzies government.

While Ward’s allegations were unfounded the War Cabinet had put in place strategies prioritising defence for vital industrial areas in time of war. The plans were well known to members of parliament and while they were not connected to Ward’s charges they did form part of his belief in the existence of a Brisbane Line. Ward’s allegations were constructed from these ideas as well as evacuation policies and existing plans for a scorched earth policy.

Paul Hasluck, The government and the people, Australia in the war of 1939-1945, vol.II (Canberra: Australian War Memorial, 1970): pp. 711-717

The papers of the "Brisbane Line" Royal Commission have been digitised and are available for reading on the National Archives of Australia’s [Record Search database](#). Search the database using the keywords 'Royal Commission Brisbane line' to locate the records.

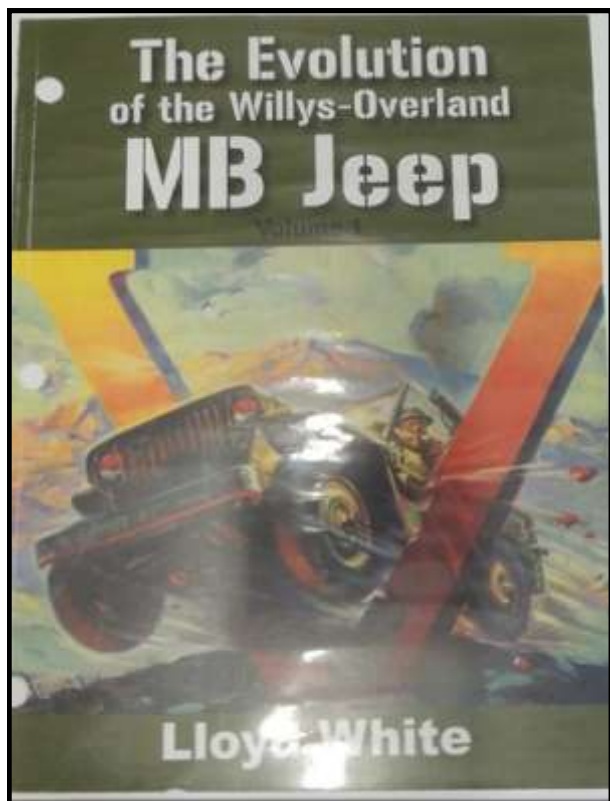
To be continued To Queensland and the Refugee Rabbits! And another Controversy!!!



Queensland authorities hopping mad
as NSW rabbits cross the border
(Headline: Courier Mail 10 March 2014)



*And that’s a true headline!!
(Word must have got out of our trip?)*

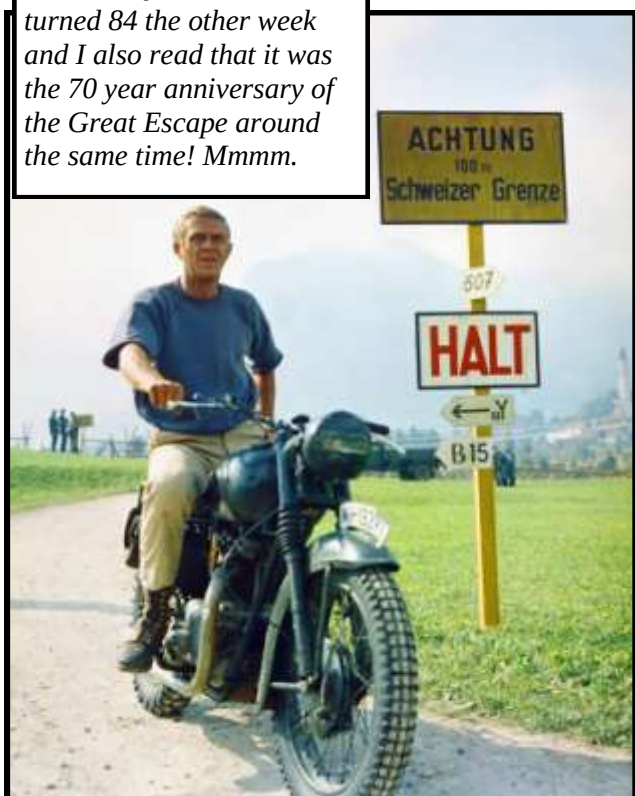


Lloyd White Books

Lloyd White in America, who has the most impressive collection of Jeeps that I have ever seen on photos has put together a book on the Willys-Overland MB Jeep. This will be a four volume set. The first volume will be available soon and is 620 pages. The introductory price is \$80 US for the first volume only. The second volume will be available at the MVPA convention in a few months and is 500+ pages. The third volume will be out at the end of this year with the fourth early 2015. In all there is a total of some 2150 pages on the MB jeep. If anyone in our Association is particularly interested? Mitch will find out a cost to get them shipped perhaps as a job lot. This is a 40 month project that Lloyd has been working on and the book format isn't what you are used to. It is a collection of military technical info/data, drawings and yes there is also written info from several authors on the various topics on the Willys-Overland MB Jeep. **There is no info whatsoever on the Ford GPW Jeep.** There will only be 300 sets printed, so this is a collectors item in itself. It will be expensive perse at probably over \$400 plus US dollars, by the time we get them. So just putting out there!

While we are on the subject of our overseas brothers, Northern Recon Group in California, who we swap stories and Newsletter information is open for free membership by visiting www.northernrecongroup.org Those of you who travel to the States from time to time, are welcome to attend their events, (as they, ours!) and am sure Bill will look after you.

Steve McQueen would have turned 84 the other week and I also read that it was the 70 year anniversary of the Great Escape around the same time! Mmmm.





Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival

June 13 - 15, 2014

BUTLER, PA - BIRTHPLACE *of the JEEP*

REGISTER your JEEP!

Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ★ Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ★ Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Out and About - in Argentina

Hi Mitch, I hope you are all well.
 400 km from Buenos Aires going south ends the influence of Rio de La Plata (river) and begins the Atlantic Ocean. These beaches are our places of resort We ended the season in February, so opted AACVM headed down there this March, all works but with less people.
Cheers Diego del Solar





CABOOLTURE WARPLANE & FLIGHT HERITAGE MUSEUM

VE-Day Tribute Concert *Swing Band Spectacular*

WHEN: Sat 10th May 2014

WHERE: Museum Hangar - 104 McNaught Road, Caboolture

**\$40 per head - Includes generous supper.
Bar - Run by Apex**

Doors open 7pm. Band starts at 7.30pm till late.

17 Piece Brass Swing Band. Enjoy the music and sounds of Glenn Miller, Vera Lynn, Andrews Sisters and many other post WW-2 era Big Band favourites.

Join us for an evening of fun and dancing.
Prizes and joy flights to be won for best military
or period attire.

Bookings to (07) 5499 1144 or by
email: caboolturewarplanemuseum@gmail.com

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