

7 Field Regiment Association

Yandoo

Royal Australian Artillery

1993

Vol 1 No 7



7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATION
VARRANE ROAD WILLOUGHBY 2068

PRESIDENTS REPORT "YANDOO" 1993

It is with great pleasure that I submit to you my report for the conclusion of another very busy and successful year.

I would like to thank your Committee for their loyalty and for the enthusiastic manner in which they have carried out their duties. I especially wish to thank our Secretary WO2 John Balfour for his great support, his extra workload as Treasurer and his never ending assistance, to Barney Flanagan for his assistance whenever requested and to Laurie Hindmarsh (our collector of things!) what can I say, other than a big thank you, and all, keep up the good work.

The year ended 30th June 93 was another busy one;

Your Committee appointed a new Patron, Lt Owen Saville (Retired). Owen joined 7th Field Brigade RAA as a cadet in 1932. He enlisted in the Regular Army in 1938 and served in various Units until his transfer to 7 Field as RSM from 1954 to 1960. Owen took his discharge from the Regular Army and was appointed Lieutenant Retired. Owen, welcome as our Patron and a big thank you to our outgoing Patron, Brig. Arthur Hanson.

In July 1992, our member John Baynie presented to the Association a video of Unit activities during his service. Thank you John.

On Saturday 8th August 1992, representatives of the Association again attended the Artillery Assembly at the School of Artillery. The Assembly was well attended. Many members of the Association and Regiment enjoyed the Gunner Dinner that was held that night.

Another successful reunion was held on Friday 18th September 92 at the Willoughby Legion Club with a good roll-up (4 guests, 43 members) with some new faces attending. Non attenders missed a great night.

On Saturday 21st November 92 my wife and I were guests at Lodge Ubique, Willoughby for their Remembrance Day address delivered by Maj Gen John Whitelaw AO, CBE, with other Association members present.

On Tuesday night 1st December 92 at Willoughby Depot we presented to Gunner Richard Shunwah of HQ Battery our third award for the "Most Proficient Soldier". Well done Richard.

On Sunday 6th December 92 members attended the RAA Association's Annual Church Service at the Garrison Church.

On Australia Day 26th January 93 Unit member WO2 Alan Ward, BSM 113 Field Battery RAA was awarded the CSM (Conspicuous Service Medal) for exceptional leadership as Instructor Gunnery and Battery Sergeant Major. Congratulations Alan.

On Friday night 19th February 93 various members of the Association and their wives attended the Commanding Officers Reception. Another great night was had by all present. Thanks to LtCol Fairless and Staff.

Our major event for the year had to be the presentation of the Commanding Officers Photo Gallery and this event took place on Tuesday night 18th May 93.

Our special guest for the night was our honorary life member 97 years young Mr(Bdr) Ken Lewis-Hughes. Thank you to the Unit members who collected and delivered Ken safely to and from his Nursing Home.

In all around 110 persons attended. Ex Commanding Officers present were; Col John Crowe, Brig Arthur Hanson, LtCol Neil Hawkins, Col Chris Hogan, Brig John Keefe, Maj Ozzie Rosevear and LtCol Stuart Staziker.

A special plaque was presented to Danny Toplis on your behalf in appreciation of a job well done. Your thanks were also passed on to Barney Flanagan for installing the Board and Mr Keith Gorman of "Pieces of Art" at Baulkham Hills who framed all the photographs. If you have not seen the Gallery a visit to the Regiment at Willoughby would be worthwhile. A big thank you to all who helped to make the night a great one.

It is with regret that I report the passing of 6 members;

Henry Fischer(4/8/92), Ian Hicks(25/11/92), Brig Fred McAlister(23/12/92)
Phillip Nicholas(18/1/93), Alan Pryor(31/5/93), and Reg Thompson(26/7/93)
I extend on your behalf heart felt sympathy.

Membership is now 195 (which includes 36 Life Members and 1 honorary Life Member), with 14 Deceased, 1 resigned and 6 un-financial members; in all we have had contact with 216 old friends.

As this is my second, three year term as your President, it is again time for a change.

In conclusion, I thank you again and extend to the incoming President Barney Flanagan and his committee, best wishes and the continuance of my support.

Max Falconer
President
28 July 1993

HONOURS AND AWARDS

7TH FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE - WORLD WAR 1

	HQ	25TH BTY	26TH BTY	27TH BTY	107TH BTY	TOTAL
Distinguished Service Order	1	2	1	1	2	7
Military Cross	3	4	4	2	3	14
Distinguished Conduct Medal	2	2	2	2	1	7
Military Medal	7	11	8	12	15	53
Meritorious Service Medal	2	1	1	1	2	7
Belgian Croix De Guerre	-	1	1	1	2	5
Medal Militaire	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mentioned in Despatches	5	4	6	2	9	26
Highly Commended	-	2	4	-	-	6
Total	20	26	26	21	35	126

xx

**AWARDS TO MEMBERS OF THE 7TH SERVING IN OTHER UNITS
(As far as is known)**

WORLD WAR 2

VIETNAM

OBE	2	DSO	2	MC	1
MC	3	MID	3		

**AWARDS TO MEMBERS OF THE 7TH WHILST SERVING IN THE 7TH
as far as is known (Post 1948)**

OBE	1	MBE	1	OAM	1
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Laurie Hindmarsh

STORAGE OF MEDALS

Storing your medals correctly is the most effective and easiest way of preserving them.

Museums keep their artifacts in stable, carefully regulated conditions all year round. The temperature is kept at 20 - 22 degrees and the humidity at 55%. Light levels are kept low to prevent overheating and fading.

At home, the best we can do is to keep medals clean and dry, away from extremes of temperature, humidity and light. The metal of medals can corrode from damp, and the fabric can rot. High temperature and a very dry environment make them brittle and weak.

Medals are best stored in boxes made of wood or acid-free cardboard (ordinary cardboard is acidic and can harm metals and fabrics). Before use, wooden boxes must be completely coated with three coats of polyurethane resin, then left to dry thoroughly so that no odour remains.

Wrap the medals in acid-free tissue paper or well-washed fabric, preferably undyed. Soft cotton and linen fabrics such as sheeting, handkerchiefs or teatowels are suitable, but other fabrics such as velvet should not be used because some contain acidic dyes.

Acid-free tissue paper as well as boxes made of acid-free cardboard are available from specialist suppliers of library or conservation materials.

Handle the medals as little as possible, as acid from your fingers can harm them. We recommend wearing soft cotton gloves (readily available and inexpensive) when handling medals or any precious article.

REGIMENTAL HISTORY/COLLECTION

Once again I report that no progress has been made with the History. This situation is of course due to my heavy involvement with the RAA Association (NSW) Inc. and to the various stresses and strains in the work place over the last year.

The status of the Project is that I have completed a fair draft of about 8500 words which takes the story of the 7th to the return to Australia in 1919. Since commencing the Project six years ago considerable additional data has come to hand and as a consequence much of the draft will require rewriting. Nevertheless the draft in its present form is a formidable reference document and is serving me well in that regard.

For the future I would think that it will take me at least three to four years to complete the project. The property in the manuscript will remain with me and my family. On current prices, private publication of 500 copies would cost something in the vicinity of \$15,000.00.

Referring now to the valuable collection of Memorabilia collected on the initiative of myself. This was offered to the National Artillery Museum last year, accepted in principle and publicly acknowledged by the Past President of the RAAHS, Col.R.V.McEvoy, in his annual report.

The physical transfer will take place progressively, item by item. The process has been delayed for the reasons stated in the opening paragraph plus reorganisation at the Museum. I am in close communication with the Museum Management.

Naturally, further data is being sought for the History together with items for the collection and I am glad to say that I have not been disappointed. I gratefully acknowledge contributions received from the following;

Major R.M.Corbett	Sundry items located at RHQ 7 FD Regt
Mrs Patricia Grant	Another box of memorabilia from the G.E.Mason Collection
Mr E.Jeffreson	Notes Eastern Command MT Course No 2 Warwick Farm 16 June 1941
Mr R.C.M.Toplis	Further biographical notes of past Commanding Officers
Major P.J.Walton	A video of an 8mm movie film of a weekend Field Firing Exercise in 1950

LAURIE HINDMARSH

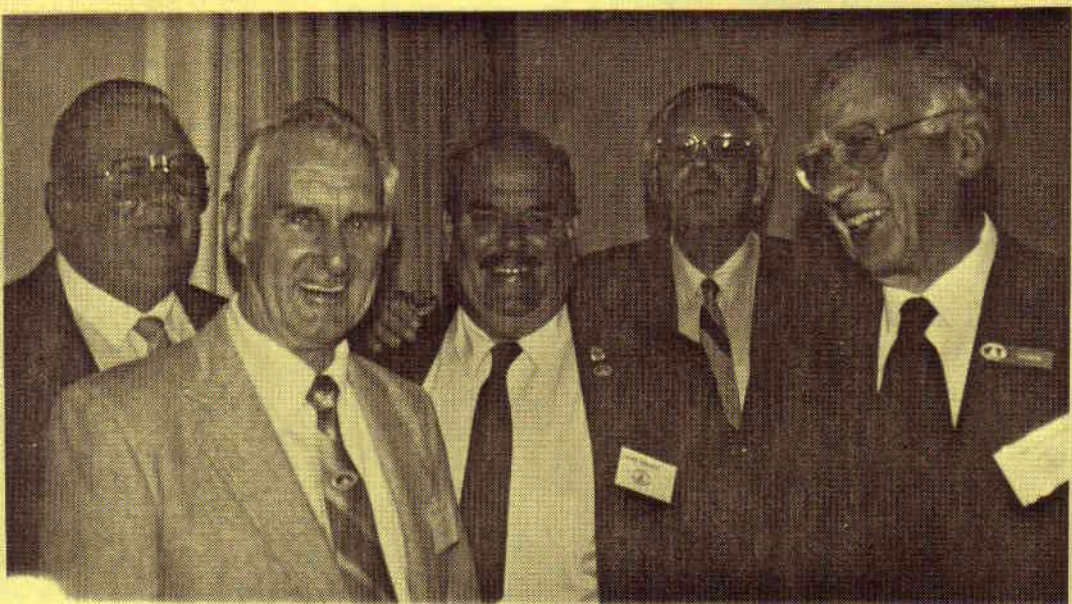


**Presentation of Commanders Officers Photo Gallery - 18 May 1993
Brig Arthur Hanson, Col John Crowe, Col Chris Hogan, Brig John
Keefe, LtCol Neil Hawkins, LtCol Stuart Staziker, LtCol John Fairless**



**Presentation of Most Proficient Soldier Award - Dec 92
Laurie Hindmarsh, Keith Leek, Gunner Richard Shunwah
(HQ Bty)and Max Falconer**

**Graham Elsley, Wal Gresley, Dene Nelson, Allan Jeffreson
and Brig.Arthur Hanson**





GLEN COOTE



MAX FALCONER



PETER MUIR



KEVIN FLANAGAN



OWEN SAVILLE



JOHN BAYNIE

PETER McGRATH, BOB CORBETT, JIM NASH, DAVID MOYSEY





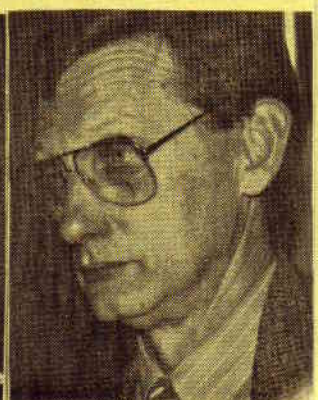
ANNUAL REUNION 1992

TOP; JOHN BALFOUR,
VIRGINIA LONGFELLOW,
DON COLLINS,
JACK GWILYM



CENTRE;
HARRY TAYLOR
AND GAYLE MUIR

BOTTOM;
GLENN MILHAM,
BOB OWENS
ROY FITZPATRICK,
BOB RICHARDSON



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FIGHTING OF WORLD WAR ONE

(Continued from last issue)

1916

- Jan 19 Gallipoli evacuated by British and ANZAC forces
- Feb 2 Heavy fighting between Austrians and Russians
- Feb 21 German attack on Verdun begins
- Mar 25 British Destroyers and planes raid Zeppelin hangers
at Schleswig
- Mar 30 British Hospital Ship sunk by Turks in Black Sea
- Apr 10 Germans gain at Verdun
- Apr 29 British surrender at Kut
- May 15 Heavy fighting at Vimy Ridge
- May 31 to
- June 1 Battle of Jutland
- June 5 Austrians advance in Italy
- June 16 Germans advance to within four miles of Verdun
- July 1 Battle of Somme begins; first use of British Tanks
- Sept 12 French advance on the Somme
- Oct 7 German Submarine U-53 reaches Newport, R.I.
- Oct 8 U-53 torpedoes five ships off Nantucket
- Oct 22 Russians defeated in Galicia
- Nov 18 Battle of Somme ends
- Nov 21 Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria-Hungary dies
- Nov 28 First German Airplane raid on London
- Dec 10 German commercial submarine, Deutschland,
completes second voyage to United States
- Dec 15 French drive Germans back, win victory at Verdun

1917

(continued next issue)

(MLF 10/8/93)

CASUALTY

In "YANDOO 1992", an article was published from the "Sun" of 18th March 1953 concerning a CMF Camp at Singleton where a fellow holding a biscuit as a target for a bow and arrow shot, nearly had his finger whipped off by the arrow.

The Archer was Captain J.E.Flynn and the victim was Major C.R.Lord.

R.C.M.Toplis

EXTRACT FROM 7TH FAB YANDOO 1918

ME & YOU

27TH BATTERY

HAUTMONT

XMAS 1918

Hors d'HAUTMONT

Soups

WART REE a la KILBY, SOUS-Le-BOIS-Tomato

Potage a la SAMBRE

Poultry

DUCK sous la Table

Entrees

Roast Pork de VALENCIENNES. Spoiled Mutton - Ah Wee

Vegetables

Murphies de LILLE. Cabbages, Cabeans & Carrotts

Sweets

Plum Pudding & MONTBREHAIN Sauce

Fruit Compote & MOR(IARTY) Custard

Wines

Point Blanc, Beer by the gallon, Fags galore

Nuts, Dates, Almonds, Raisins & Assorted Fruits

DECEASED MEMBERS - 1992/93

HENRY FRANCIS FISCHER - 4 August 1992 - aged 76
Henry enlisted in the AIF on 21 December 1939, joining 2/1st AGH transferring to 2/1st Field Regiment in the Middle East and was discharged on 11 December 1945 as a Gunner.

IAN HYLTON HICKS - 25 November 1992 - aged 48
Ian enlisted in 9 LAA Regiment RAA in 1964, transferring to 7 Field Regiment when 9 LAA was disbanded on 1 November 1973. Ian was placed on the reserve of Senior NCO's in 1974 with the rank of WO2.

FRED BRIDGES (RED FRED) MCALISTER, CBE, ED, PSC

23 December 1992 - aged 86

Fred joined the Sydney University Scouts in 1924, transferring to Australian Garrison Artillery (Survey Company) where he was commissioned as a Lieutenant on 12 September 1927. He was promoted to Captain on 31 August 1931 and on promotion to Major on 15 October 1935 commanded the Company.

On 13 May 1937 Fred transferred to 7 Field Brigade as Battery Commander of 107(Howitzer) Battery and in May 1939 raised 26 Field Battery.

On 1 May 1940 with the Commanding Officer of 7 Field Brigade, Lt Colonel Ralph Daly and fourteen other Officers of the Brigade, Fred transferred as Second in Command to form 2/6th Field Regiment AIF.

Promoted to temporary Lt Colonel on 9 September 1941, he commanded RAA Training Regiment (Middle East) and on 1 September 1942, having his rank of Lt Colonel substantive had the following postings ; Commanded 18 Australian Field Regiment, GSO 2 Arty 2 Aust Corps, SO 1 Arty HQ RAA 3 Aust Corps, Commanded 2/1st Aust Tank/Attack Regiment, Instructor "B" Wing LHQ Tactical School. He was discharged from the AIF on 8 October 1945.

On the reforming of the CMF Fred was promoted temporary Brigadier on 2 February 1948, becoming substantive on 8 September 1949 and holding posting of CRA 2 Division until 1952. He Commanded RAA 1 Corps 1953 to 1957 and was Colonel Commandant RAA 2 Military District 1962 to 1967. He passed Senior Staff College and was awarded the CBE for his military services in 1952.

Not only did Fred have a distinguished military and civil career at CSR, his many contributions included President of Legacy Club, Sydney, Life Governor, Sydney Hospital and he was also the first Patron of the Association from 1986 to 1989.

LEST WE FORGET

DECEASED MEMBERS (Continued)

PHILIP DIXON NICHOLAS - 18 January 1993 - aged 72

Philip enlisted in the AIF on 21 November 1942, being commissioned as a Lieutenant in RAA reinforcements on 27 October 1942 and joining 13th Australian Field Regiment (Jungle Division) AIF on 26 April 1943. He also served in various Artillery training units before his discharge from the AIF on 13 December 1945. On 1 May 1948 Philip joined 7 Field Regiment, transferring to the Reserve of Officers on 11 May 1950.

ALAN EDWARD NORTON PRYOR - 1 June 1993 - aged 57

Alan came to the Regiment in the mid 1950's following National Service from the Royal Australian Signals. He was commissioned on 7 June 1957 and was promoted to Captain on 7 March 1962, transferring to the Reserve of Officers in the early 1960's. Alan's elder brother Ian, also obtained his commission in the Regiment. Alan in his occupation as a Sign Craftsman built the Honour Board of Commanding Officers on display in the Willoughby Depot.

REGINALD MARTIN THOMPSON ED - 26 July 1993 - aged 58

Reg was called up in May 1954 serving in 12 National Service Battalion then being transferred to 21 Field Regiment RAA .

On 7 June 1957 he was commissioned and on disbandment of 21 Field Regiment on 7 August 1957, transferred to 7 Field Regiment and later allocated to HQ RAA 1 Division from 12 July 1960 until 10 July 1961, after which he transferred back to 7 Field and was promoted to Captain on 6 March 1962. Reg went on the Reserve of Officers in the late 1960's and was placed on the Retired list on 10 July 1982.

The President and members extend sincere condolences to their families, relatives and friends.

LEST WE FORGET

7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATION
1993/94 COMMITTEE

7th Field Regiment RAA
Key Postings - 1993

President	K.E.Flanagan	CO	LtCol J.A.L.Fairless RFD
Vice- Presidents	M.L.Falconer MBE	2IC	Maj R.M.Corbett RFD
	Maj R.M.Corbett RFD	Adjt	Maj J.V.Wilson Capt G.G.Potter *
Secretary	WO2 J.G.Balfour	RSM	WO1 K.F.Schoene OAM*
Treasurer	F.J.Bastock ED	QM	WO1 P.C.Kline *
Publicity	L.P.Hindmarsh ED	BCHQ	Maj M.Dutton *
Committee	A.R.Burke	BSM HQ	WO2 P.G.McGrath
	S.A.Fulcher	SMIG	WO2 M.H.Towns *
	T.J.Gwilym	Rec Offr	WO2 J.G.Balfour
	I.A.Haylen	OCTST	Lt M.W.Cleary
	H.J.Hungerford ED	ASM	SSgt A.J.Brinat
	K.C.Leek	BC 28	Maj K.M.Jackson
	D.B.McVay	BK 28	Capt D.J.Clark
	P.G.McGrath	BSM 28	WO2 S.W.Noakes
	R.C.M.Toplis	BG 28	SSGT D.R.Leek
		SMIG	WO2 P.A.Matthysen *
Patron	O.R.Saville	BC 113	Maj G.K.Milic
Legal Advisor	J.A.Nelson	BC 113	Capt C.Walder
		BSM/SMIG	WO2 N.S.Wheeler *
Hon Auditor	W.J.Neill	BG 113	SSgt P.Sengos

* ARA

ANNUAL REUNION

Friday 15 October 1993 - Willoughby Legion Club

BE THERE*****BE THERE*****BE THERE*****BE THERE*****

MEMBERS AS AT 1 AUGUST 1993

AGNEW	Charles	GILKINSON	Lance	MITCHELL	Frederick
AISTON	Karen	GILL	Oreg	MOONEY	Ronald
ANDREW	John	GLADEN	Noel	MOORE	Dennis
ANGUS	John	GODFREY	Anthony	MORGAN	Robert
BAGSTER	Mark	GRESLEY	Wal	MORISON	Jim
BAILEY	Norman	GRIFFITHS	David	MOYSEY	David
BALDWIN	Murray	OWLYM	Jack	MOYSEY	Robert
BALFOUR	John	HALL	Barry	MUIR	Gayle
BANHAM	Mike	HAMER	Colin	MUIR	Lawrence
BASTOCK	Fred	HAMMOND	Arthur	MUIR	Peter
BATEMAN	Ray	HANSPORD	Jes	McDONALD	Ken
BAYNE	John	HANSON	Arthur	McDONOUGH	Paul
BENNETT	Lloyd	HARGREAVES	Thomas	McLEAN	Russ
BIBBY	Vic	HARLE	Charles	McVAY	Donald
BIRCH	David	HARRISON	Allan	NASH	James
BOWEN	Chris	HARROWER	David	NEALE	Goeffrey
BRADLEY	Herb	HAWKE	Phillip	NEILL	William
BRADLEY	Leo	HAWKINS	Neil	NELSON	Dene
BREWER	Charles	HAYLEN	Ian	NELSON	John
BRINCAT	Alex	HECKENBERG	Brian	NICHOLLS	Eric
BROADHEAD	Ken	HILL	Robert	NOAKES	Steven
BROWN	Ed	HINDMARSH	Laurie	OVERTON	John
BRYANT	Kevin	HOEY	Ian	OWENS	Robert
BURNETT	Jerry	HOOAN	Christopher	OWENS	Robyn
BURKE	Alec	HOOGE	Richard	PINNINGTON	Laidley
BUZACOTT	David	HOPKINSON	Fred	POSENER	John
CARLSSON	Jim	HORTON	James	POWER	Brian
CARMENT	David	HOWARTH	Sue	POWER	Phil
CARRODUS	Michael	HUGHES	Russell	PRIMROSE	Brian
CARSTENS	John	HUNGERFORD	Bruce	RICHARDSON	Robert
CARROLL	Gordon	HUNGERFORD	John	ROGAN	Robert
CASHMORE	John	IRELAND	John	ROSEVEAR	Oswald
CHAD	Allan	JACKSON	Neville	RUSSELL	Robert
CHRISTIE	Carl	JAMES	Ian	RUSSELL	Ross
CLIFTON	Alfred	JAMES	Ken	SABER	Stanley
COLE	Mick	JEFFRESON	Alan	SAFTICH	Rolf
COLLINS	Don	JEFFRESON	Edward	SAINSBURY	Maurie
COOTE	Glen	JEFFRESON	Norman	SAVILLE	Owen
COPPARD	Doug	JOHNSTON	Warwick	SCOTT	Ian
CORBETT	Robert	JONES	Michael	SENOOS	Patrick
COTTLE	Victor	KEEFE	John	SMITH	Colin
CROUCH	Robert	KEEN	Kenneth	SMITH	Grahame
CROWE	John	KEFT	Barry	SMITH	Roger
CUNNEEN	Stephen	KELLY	Wal	STANFORD	John
DAWSON	Roy	KENTWELL	Wilfred	STARK	Olyn
DAVEY	Oregor	KIELY	Douglas	STARKE	Bill
DAVIDSON	Ross	KILKELLY	Graeme	STAZIKER	Stuart
DOHERTY	Carl	KIRKWOOD	John	STEDMAN	James
DICK	Anthony	KISS	Alex	STONE	Peter
DOUGHERTY	Robert	KOHLHAGEN	Paul	SULLIVAN	Kevin
EAGLETON	Harold	KOINA	Jeffrey	TAYLOR	Harry
EDWARDS	Hugh	LANE	Bill	TIMBS	Christopher
ELDERTON	Frederick	LANGFORD-BROWN	Ian	TOBIN	Philip
ELSLEY	Graham	LAURENCE	Michael	TOPHAM	Raoul
EWAN	David	LEEK	Keith	TOPLIS	Danny
FAIRLESS	John	LEWIS-HUGHES	Ken	TRANTER	Peter
FAIRLEY	Jack	LIFU	Patrick	TRUELOVE	Peter
FALCONER	Max	LONGFELLOW	Virginia	WALKER	John
FITZPATRICK	Roy	MASON-JONES	Dick	WATKINS	Kenneth
FLANAGAN	Kevin	MEAKINS	Nicoll	WATSON	Alex
FLIPPENCE	Addie	MEGATT	Ron	WHEATLEY	Murclia
FRAZER	Ian	MENDL	Thomas	WHITE	Ces
FULCHER	Sharon	MILHAM	Peter	WHITE	Peter
GABRIEL	Reginald	MILIC	Glenn	WHITFIELD	Timothy
GATES	Graham	MILLAR	Karl	WILLIS	Kenneth
GIFFNEY	Desmond		Anthony	WILSON	John
				WRIGHT	Colin