



Another successful ANZAC march has come and gone. Our numbers are dwindling but our presence will always be felt, as the Descendants who marched alongside our brave men will forever be remembered and respected with honour for their sacrifice with gratitude.



**Representation of the Mice of Moresby ANZAC MARCH 2009**

### **THE MORESBY MICE**

Dedicated with admiration to the boys of the A.M.F.,  
who fought so valiantly against the Japanese in New Guinea.

The Moresby Mice----unused to battle---had to bear the brunt  
When Tojo's army got ashore down on the Gona front;  
They blew the bridge at Kumusi and fought a running fight,  
The dumps and stores they couldn't take along they set alight

At Deniki they were cut off, for war to them strange,  
But some of them at last got through that towing mountain range.  
The Japs, they said, have gotten in and now they hold Kokoda,  
In jungle fight he beat the white, so far from his pagoda.  
There are thousands of his yellow men, like fleas upon a dog,  
The jungle road is trampled up and now's a sticky bog.

Their tucker, too, was running out---no bully, tea or rice---  
A merciless baptism for those "Chockos" Moresby Mice;

By Sapper H. BEROS.  
Written in New Guinea

## Interesting Facts

I found another great battlefield where our mice were victorious.

After all leave had been taken the order of the day was “TO GET FIT” play as much sport as possible. So in 1943 MAJOR MICK HENRYS started recruiting players to form a football team. This team was to play other Army units in the area. Big win NO losses. Then came the big battle, all fronts were covered the heavies “Townville Railway Team” arrived they were unbeaten, the best North Queensland had to offer, little did they know the spirit of the fighting mice.

Mick Henrys match cry as he ran around the oval “ Did you get on”. We laid out a substantial amount about 1000 pounds. Micks concern was then turned to the bookies so he ordered the CHALKER BOYS (Our own underbelly it sounds like) to keep a sharp eye on the money.

The battle was fierce no mercy was spared with knocks been felt on both sides. The Mice were to defeat the heavies and then take on all comers as word had got around so along came other army units, Navy and Air Force teams but these too felt the determination of the mice and the mice remained the victors, and as I am lead to believe still undefeated.

Related by Mic Riotto front row second from the left

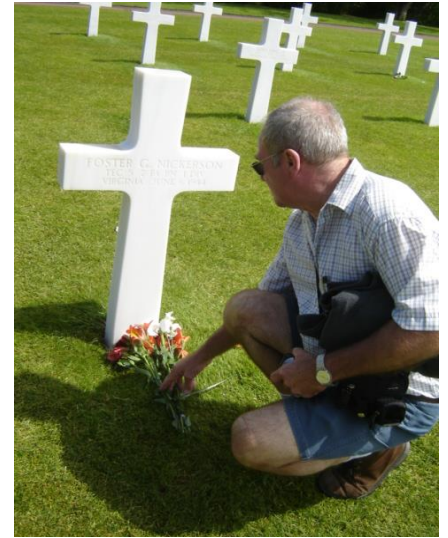


**“Mice of Moresby Immortals” undefeated 1943 –1945**

### **“The Perimeter”**

The perimeter, in the infantry, is a circle of men. It is half a squad, platoon or company. One half is on guard, staying vigilant, watching for the enemy, while the other half rests, sleeps and carries on with life as it is. They are more than just men; they are a brotherhood in uniform. They share their plans, dreams and hopes for each other. In hard times they share their sadness, fears and pain. They face the enemy together, some like brothers, others like father and sons, and always true friends. They find a spirit in each other that binds them to one another in a bond that lasts forever. As time passes, they will leave the service and each other for now they are our “**Veterans**”. They will travel different paths of life. Somehow along these paths they once again will find their brothers of the past, “**Brothers of the Perimeter**” that circle of safety, This Perimeter is a circle of iron that has never broken, the circle will last forever” Excerpt T. Blackstock 5RAR

Beverley & Kevin Dawson went on an overseas trip and visited the beaches of Normandy where they laid a floral tribute on behalf of the battalion on the grave of the “unknown soldier”



### **LEST WE FORGET.**

So proudly our descendants banner was carried in this year ANZAC Day March behind the surviving members that are able to march and hold their heads up high for all their mates who were not present but in heart and spirit we know that they are always there.

We have been requested that one descendant per veteran wears the veteran medals they are representing and marches with the main contingent.

I have been receiving a good lot of correspondence to boost up the “orderly room” gossip pages so please no matter how large or small your titbits may be, they are always welcome as they build to our memorabilia cabinet which is installed at the Glebe library



### **Prayer for Eternity**

Many a mother in Australia, when the busy day is done,  
Sends a prayer to the almighty, for the keeping of her son;  
Asking that an angel guide him, and to bring him safely back-  
*Excerpt from Blood and Mud Issue July/September during WW1*

These words are as true today as they were then for mothers of Australia are still praying for their sons, to return home for today are still fighting somewhere in the world or freedom.

# **THANK YOU**

**ON BEHALF OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY.  
WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION  
TO OUR ANZAC DAY CEREMONY.**

**YOUR MESSAGE OF PEACE AND MATESHIP  
AND THE RESPONSIBILITY WE HAVE TO PROTECT OUR FRIENDS  
AND STOP BULLYING WAS INSPIRING AND WELL RECEIVED.**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU NEXT YEAR.**

**GOD BLESS YOU ALL.**

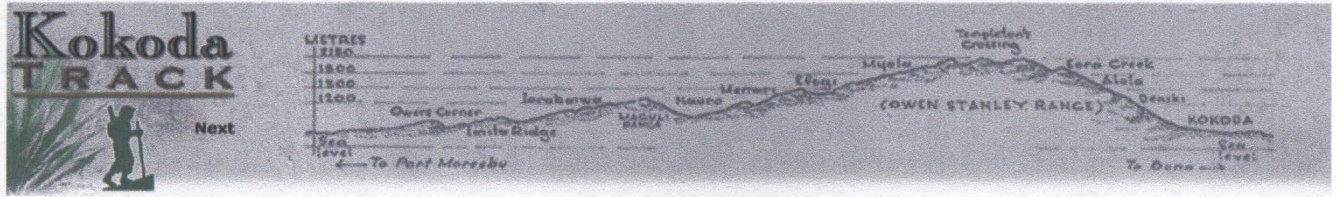
**FROM THE STAFF AND STUDENTS AT I.H.M SEFTON 2009**

**55/53 Association members and friends attended:**

**Charles Jennings, Ray Gentles, Jack Stevens, Mark Edwell and Bob Bazely**

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**Let us not forget the Kokoda Track Memorial at Concord** where our members attend on a weekly basis providing many school groups and interest groups over the track and explaining the events that occurred during those harrowing times. It is an unforgettable outing so the effort is worth the trip to view the track and hear their stories.



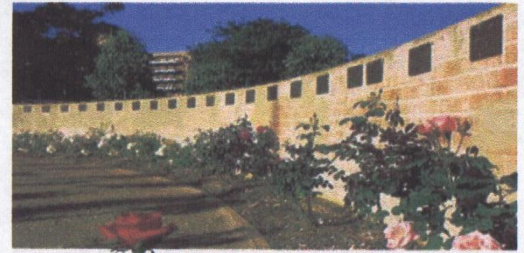
## MEMORIAL ROSE GARDEN

### Introduction

The campaign in Papua from July 1942 to January 1943, of which the fighting on the Kokoda Track formed a large part was, with respect to the direct security of Australia, the most important ever fought by Australian soldiers.

After the Japanese entered the war in December 1941 they advanced rapidly towards Australia, over-running much of south-east Asia and landing in New Britain and on the north coast of New Guinea. In February 1942 the Japanese high command in Tokyo postponed a decision as to whether to invade Australia. Instead they decided to isolate Australia from United States by seizing Port Moresby on the south coast of the Australian territory of Papua, and by advancing through the Solomon Islands towards Fiji. In May 1942 a Japanese attempt to take Port Moresby by sea was thwarted by the battle of the Coral Sea. The Japanese then decided to take Port Moresby by two approaches. The first was by landing on the north coast of Papua and advancing over the Owen Stanley Ranges. The second was by landing at Milne Bay on the south-east tip of Papua.

The landing at Milne Bay on 26 August was repulsed by Australian troops with the help of Australian fighter aircraft. However, the Japanese thrust over the Kokoda Track, which also began in force on 26 August, caught the Australians unprepared. If the poorly supplied and lightly equipped Australian troops had not slowed the Japanese advance over the mountains they might well have reached the Port Moresby area in early September. The consequences would have been severe for the security of the Port Moresby airfields. If the Japanese had taken Port Moresby their planes could have dominated the Coral Sea and they would probably have bombed northern Queensland. Who knows, the early decision not to invade might have been modified to allow some



Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway

## The Men Who Make The Stew

We may point out all the factors that we think had won the war;  
 We may boast of decorations men have won;  
 We may talk about the good work of the Army Service Corps,  
 Or the men who stood behind a Lewis gun;

But there's just one group of Diggers to whom words of praise are due;  
 It's the greasy, grimy chaps that kept the troops supplied with stew.  
 We may think back on the dangers of the old days on the Somme,  
 We may prate about hard times in Palestine

But we never had to worry where our food was coming from  
 When we stood in mud and water in the Line.  
 For we knew that, black and grimy, somewhere just beyond the Fuss,  
 Were some good old brother Diggers making army stew for us.

We may brag about the dangers that we faced through nights of storm,  
 When the Huns threw hurtful scraps of steel about;  
 While we cursed old Kaiser Willhelm till the atmosphere grew warm,  
 And we wondered when the Heads would pull us out.

But the cooks were ever cooking, through the cold and rain and heat  
 For they had to feed the army; and the troops must always eat.  
 We may growl about the marches that we did on blistered feet,  
 With backs that almost broke beneath the strain;

But the blessed cooks were with us and we had some grub to eat,  
To feed the worms and ease our stomach pains.  
And an epicurean pleasure, and a certain peace of mind  
Was engendered by the knowledge of the cookers on behind.

Armies march upon their stomachs, so old Bonaparte has said.  
And thoughts like this have come to not a few  
There's a great sustaining power for the fighting men ahead  
In a dixie full of hot and steaming stew.

And our hearts were singing praises as we backed our carts for more  
To the grimy, greasy Digger cooks who helped to win the war.



## TWO UP OR "SWY" THE DIGGER'S GAMBLING GAME



A gambling game. Two coins are tossed in the air and bets placed on a showing of two heads or two tails. The two coins are placed tails up on a flat board called the **kip** or **paddle**. The **ring-keeper** (the person in charge of the **two-up ring**) calls "come in spinner", and the **spinner** tosses the coins. First recorded 1854. (As in boxing the "ring" is sometimes square.)

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Toss the coins (using a 'paddle' or 'kip' ) and two heads you win, one of each toss again, or a pair of tails you lose.

"Come in Spinner"

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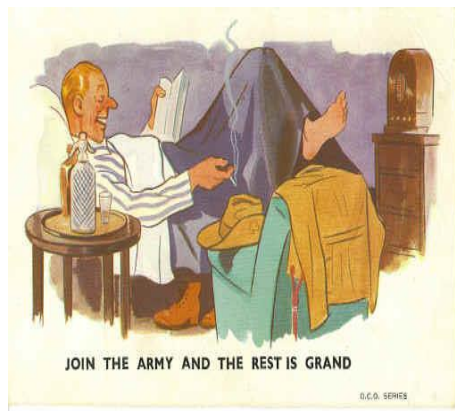
ARE YOU HAVING A GOOD SPIN?

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