



KVE News

Newsletter of Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Inc.
Organisers of the Annual Corowa Swim-In held
at Corowa N.S.W.

Edition 19

October 2014

YEAR OF THE EMERGENCY VEHICLE



YEAR OF



36th Annual GPA Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering 9th - 15th March 2015

Corowa, NSW

* * *

All types of military
vehicles welcomed
ENTER NOW

LATEST NEWS

We will shortly be re-launching the
Corowa Swim-In website.

Same address;

www.corowaswim-in.org

It will be a completely new format and
will be regularly updated with additional
features like photo galleries from past
years along with reports.

All the entry forms will be downloadable
along with past and current editions of
KVE News

Check in regularly to see what is new,
also we are now on Facebook

IN THIS EDITION :

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UPDATE on the New KVE Site Office

Latest news is the Radar Van bodywork is
progressing well
and a Working
Bee will take
place shortly.

We are planning
on using it at
Corowa in March
next year

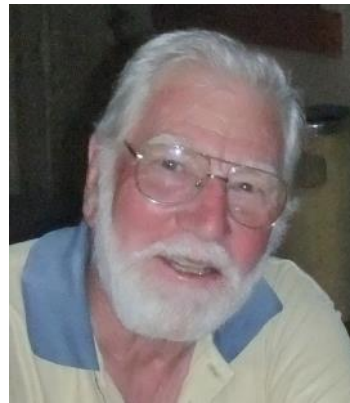




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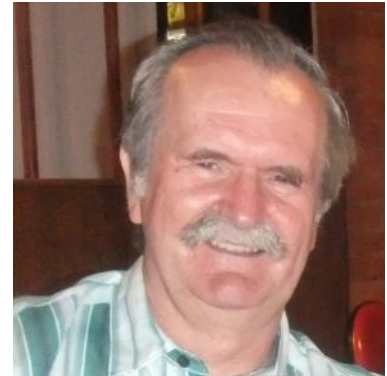
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No. 19**KVE News****Oct 2014****News magazine of KVE Inc.****Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated****Organisers of the Annual Corowa Swim-In
& Military Vehicle Gathering
Held every March at Corowa, NSW.****Contact details: KVE Secretary, 9/1 Millett Road, Mosman, NSW, 2088, Australia****Phone: 0423 943010****Email: kveinc@optusnet.com.au****Website: <http://corowaswim-in.org>****Editorial**

It is that time of year again, with plans coming together for the next Swim-In event. The themes for 2015, Emergency and General Motors vehicles should produce some interesting entries and I know that there are few that are coming that have never been to Corowa before.

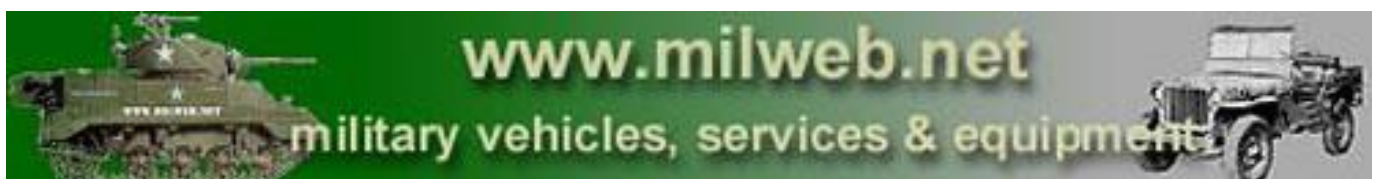
We have been successful once again in applying for money and in-kind services for Corowa Shire under their Tourism Event Grant. This goes to helping us with the event, we are seen as a major tourist event for the area.

Some really good news to pass on to you is that Jan Thompson, our Secretary and contact person for many years regarding Corowa, has become engaged to Troy Creamer in the early part of October. They are planning on getting married at Corowa Swim-In week in March 2016. Not only that, but Jan and Troy now have their own military vehicle, a Land Rover Series 3. We all give our congratulations to Jan and Troy.

Looks like 2016 will now have three themes, the new one being "Year of the Wedding" !

I hope you find this issue interesting, it is a little late as we were awaiting confirmation on a few details. Don't forget to send your entry forms in as soon as possible in order that we can plan ahead for numbers.

Richard Farrant - Editor



**The market place for anything related to military vehicles
Updated daily - Viewed Worldwide**

The President's Report

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October 2014

Where has the year gone? We are just over a month from Christmas and 4 months from the 36th Annual GPA Swim In.

As mentioned previously, 2015 will be a year of anniversaries and none more important than 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings. While Australia is not a military country we do pride ourselves for doing and fighting when we need to.

Back to the good stuff, most I hope would be in good shape to have any restoration for the 36th Swim-In completed. I know of one ambulance which is in the final stages and is a credit to the owner and the people he engaged to help with the restoration. Anyone struggling I can only use the immortal slogan of NIKE "Just Do It" it is great to see new restorations and vehicles every year.

We are looking to continue with the Closure of Sanger Street and have a formal Parade. We will do it slightly different this year if the council is happy, and that is to come down Sanger Street. This will involve a slight change in traffic flow. We will still muster in Bangerang Park but head up Riesling Street onto Short Street. Left onto Honour Parade and Left at the Clock into Sanger Street. We will turn left at the roundabout at the bottom of Sanger Street and exit again by Riesling Street to the top of the town and out to the Showground.

The RSL is on track for their special anniversary event to create a trench scene with re-enactors to show the local community of what life in the trenches was like. This is sure to bring extra people to our display at the Showground.

We have been asked by most of the local RSL and schools to support their Anniversary celebration and this has been the focus of our runs for the 36th. Please support these runs and support the Men and Women who served our country and are part of our hobby. Remember everyone of our vehicles has had a serving member drive them and in some case fight in them.

Both the Corowa Shire and Corowa RSL have been generous to give us grants to help offset the cost of closing roads and the general running cost. So a BIG thank you to them from KVE.

I will leave it there and say "Sun Ray Out".

Roughie

Secretary / Public Relations Report

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Important information for people attending the Corowa Swim-In in March 2015

Secretary's / Public Relations Report

We need to remind enthusiasts that each year we have a theme but you are always welcome to attend with any ex-military vehicle you own or come along in your modern vehicle to be a part of the gathering.

KVE preparations for the swim-in: March 2015:

In July we had a General Meeting at Corowa. A number of KVE Inc members turned up and we can now release our Program of Events.

Official parade for Saturday 14th March: We have received a Grant from the Corowa RSL to go towards KVE having an official parade with road closures.

Use of the Showgrounds: KVE have asked for permission to use the Showgrounds from Thursday 12th March until Sunday 15th March. This will just be for the Swap Meet and vehicle line up. For people wanting to camp you will have to organise to stay at Ball Park Caravan Park, Bindaree Motel and Caravan Park or Rivergum Holiday Retreat. Swap Meet and Stallholders will be the only people able to camp and this cost \$10 per person per night.

Entry Form for 2015:

If you haven't returned your Entry Form for 2015 please do so ASAP so it gives the organisers an indication of the numbers and types of vehicles along with the number of participants we are to expect. It only costs \$20 per vehicle to enter and if you preregister by 28th February you will receive a participant pack upon arrival in Corowa. We have applied again for a Tourism Grant and we should be able to provide participants with some mementoes including a badge, cap, stickers and a special Swim-In information book. Make sure you look in your pack when you receive it for the vouchers from local businesses.

KVE Site Office:

Robert Pearce will be organising the Site Office roster for 2015. We are looking for people who may be interested in helping out. It is a good opportunity to meet some of the participants from far and wide. KVE would like to give thanks to those people who assisted last year. At this stage the office will be open at the following times:

Monday 9th March: 9-11am and 3-6pm

Tuesday 10th March: 9-11am and 3-6pm

Wed 11th March: 8.30-11am and 3-6pm

Thur 12th March: 8.30-11am and 3-6pm

Fri 13th March: 8.30-11:30am, 11:30-3 and 3-6pm

Sat 14th March: from 7.30-8.45am: People who have arrived overnight or just for the parade should go straight to Bangerang Park. You will be able to get your package if you have pre-registered or receive your vehicle number. Site office at the Showgrounds will open at 8.30 to 12.30pm. Voting forms can be submitted up until 12 midday at the Showgrounds Site Office.

Saturday 14th March: 8:30-9:30, 9:30-10:30. 11:30-1:00 including people to help pack up.

To put your name down for a time contact Robert on Email: hrpearce123@bigpond.com or phone: 02 6946 5101.

At the Site Office you are welcome to have a look at various boards and put advertisements up on the

Secretary / Public Relations Report - cont'd

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following boards:

- a) For Sale and Wanted advertisements: there will be a board for you to put advertisements on.
- b) Coming Events: If you want to advertise any future events you will be participating in then feel free to put a notice on the Coming Events board.
- c) Your contact details if you are looking to meet other participants.

Articles on past Corowa Events: please give to Jan if you have any of these. There are a number of notice boards which have copies of articles from past Corowa events. Take a look when you have spare time as you might appear in one of more of these articles.

A whiteboard at the front of the Site Office will advise of 'Today's and Tomorrow's Activities'. Please check this daily in case of time changes.

Coffee & Tea: you are welcome to make yourselves a free coffee or tea.

Vehicle Numbers:

Upon arrival at Corowa you need to go down to Ball Park Caravan Park and register your vehicle. Vehicle numbers will only be given to people with an ex-military vehicle and due to the large numbers of vehicles we are expecting this makes it easier for us to provide a tally of the types and numbers of vehicles at our event. The number must be placed either on the front window or bumper bar of your vehicle. This makes it easier for the organisers to determine if your vehicle has been entered.

Classic Restos: 2015

Mark 'Fletch' Fletcher from the show Classic Restos will be with us for a few days during the week. If you think you would like your vehicle on the show please let Jan know prior.

Classic Restos DVD: 2013 & 2014

If you would like a copy of the Classic Restos Corowa Military show DVD from 2014 please see the form on page 13 and the advert for the 2013 DVD is at the bottom of page 29 and complete ASAP.

VOTING FORM

Please put this form in the Suggestion Box by 12 midday on Saturday 14th March. At 1200hrs this box will be cleared and any forms received after this will not be included. We need time to count and organize the results for the presentations on Saturday night.

Awards: Please give the person's name and the reason for them to be considered for an Award.

Mal Mackay Memorial Award: This award will be given to an individual who appears to get the most enjoyment out of being at Corowa.

Name: Reason why:

Hard Luck award:

Name: Reason why:

Breakdown Award:

Name: Reason why:

Longest distance driven in a military vehicle:

Name: Number of Kilometres driven:

Encouragement Award:

Name: Reason why:

Emergency Vehicle - People's Favorite Choice: For your favorite Emergency vehicle attending this year.

Vehicle rally number: Type of Vehicle:

General Motors Vehicle - People's Favorite Choice: For your favorite GM vehicle attending this year.

Vehicle rally number: Type of Vehicle:

Suggestions for places to visit in 2016

Secretary / Public Relations Report - cont'd

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Accommodation at Ball Park Caravan Park:

For those requiring a powered site at Ball Park Caravan Park it is advisable to contact them ASAP. Some years they have run out of powered sites.

Contact Sonia & Andrew Palmer on (02) 6033 1426

Accommodation at Bindaree Motel and Caravan Park:

The KVE Committee have spoken to Steve and Tania and they will match prices with Ball Park Caravan Park for participants who would like to stay at their motel and caravan park.

Please contact Steve and Tania Trembath on: (02) 6033 2500

or Email: bindareecp@bigpond.com www.bindareeonthemurray.com

Accommodation at Rivergum Holiday Retreat:

The KVE Committee have also spoken to the managers of this facility and they will offer reduced prices for participants of the Swim-In. **Please contact them on: (02) 6033 1990**

Email: rivergum@holidayretreats.com.au www.rivergumholidayretreat.com.au

Other accommodation options are listed on page 12

Memorial Board for enthusiasts who are no longer with us:

Each year we lose some well known military vehicle collectors. KVE has a Memorial Board and would appreciate an A4 size article including a photo of any person who has attended Corowa so we can remember these people.

Daily Newspaper:

Our KVE member Harvey Black will be producing a daily newspaper from Tuesday to Saturday. It will be called Daily Dispatches. Make sure you collect your copy each morning from the KVE Site Office at Ball Park.

Program of Activities:

Wednesday 11th March: Trip to Albury for Commemorations of WWI

Thursday 12th March: Trip to Mulwala/Yarrowonga for Commemorations of WWI

Friday 13th March: Corowa Showgrounds: Corowa RSL trenches

Friday night Guest speaker: In the evening Mike Cecil will be our guest speaker at the Corowa Footy Club. At 7.30pm there will be a parade briefing prior to Mike's talk.

Saturday 14th March: Vehicles will line up at Bangerang Park from 7.30am and participate in the parade to the Corowa Showgrounds where there will be a photo shoot and swap meet. From 8-9pm in the evening there will be presentations.

Sunday 15th March: KVE will have an AGM and General Meeting at 10am. In the evening there will be a meal at the Corowa RSL.

Presentation Evening on Saturday 14th March: from 8-9pm

After a successful change in 2014 we will keep the same format. It will consist of presentations and if there are people who want to give information on trips they are organising in the future they are welcome to do this, eg. Back To The Track reunion, or future events.

Facebook and Website

We now have a Facebook page ([corowaswim-in](https://www.facebook.com/corowaswim-in)) which is open for all to see, giving a link to our website. The website is currently being rebuilt to a new image and format, there will be regular updates and a large photo gallery is being built, going back through the years. All the past and current newsletters and reports will be there. Check it out regularly, www.corowaswim-in.org We look forward to your comments on this.

KVE Radar Van - Site Office - Working Bee

Progress is being made with the Site Office, a Working Bee will take place on **Sunday 16th November**, start approx. **8.30am** at John Oldenmenger's property, **36 Bennett Road, Londonderry, NSW**. Bring your angle grinders and spanners (discs supplied). Aim is to get the external finished before Christmas, and lined before it goes to Corowa. Internal fitments will be decided once at Corowa as regards stowage of display boards and other kit. For more info contact Jan.

Secretary / Public Relations Report - cont'd

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Themes for 2016, 2017 and 2018:

In 2016 the theme will be Year of the Tank and Chrysler (2)

In 2017 the theme will be Year of the International.

In 2018 the theme will be Year of the Land Rover

In 2019 the theme will be Year of the Amphibious Vehicle

For further information on the event please feel free to give me a call on 0423 943 010 or send an email to kveinc@optusnet.com.au To ensure you are kept up to date with details send me an email to get on the database.

Contributions to our KVE Newsletter

We are after articles for our next newsletter so if you are a member or a participant and have anything you would like to contribute please forward to kveinc@optusnet.com.au. This newsletter goes out to members of KVE along with past, present and future participants of the Annual GPA Swim-In and ex-Military Vehicle Gathering at Corowa, NSW, Australia. Let's spread the word about this great event.

Joining KVE Inc

To be a part of the organising of the Swim-In in the future you are welcome to join KVE Inc. You can download a Membership Application Form off the website or ask me for a copy. We will be having an AGM and General meeting at Corowa on Sunday 15th March so you are welcome to attend. By joining KVE you will be given more of a chance to make suggestions for how the event is run in the future.

Until next time,

Jan Thompson KVE Secretary

Guest Speaker

Guest Speaker for Friday night at Corowa is the renowned historian and author,

Mike Cecil

Mike Cecil has been interested in military equipment and history for most of his 59 years, and has been seriously researching the subject for more than 40 years. He has owned and restored several vehicles, but his passion is research and publication. With several books, hundreds of articles, and ten years curating the National Collection at the Australian War Memorial, we are certain his talk will be both varied and interesting!



Mike is pictured here in Iraq, at an observation point above the Australian Compound in the International Zone, Baghdad, in 2008.

Two events to combine with your Corowa trip

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Boorowa Show

For those travelling south towards Corowa, the **Boorowa Show** is on **Saturday 7th March 2015**, not too far from Yass, it would make a good day out. The organisers are looking for military vehicles to be part of their ANZAC theme. Arrival time is 8.30/9.00am and the Grand Parade at approx. 2.15pm and finishes 3.30/4.00pm. Entrants will get a complimentary ticket for the show

Email the Show Secretary, Di Hopkirk for more details: diannehopkirk@activ8.net.au

If you are taking your time on the return journey north from Corowa, another show with an ANZAC theme is the **Camden Show** with their **Military Tattoo** on **Friday 20th March**, details here:

INVITATION from Camden Show Committee To commemorate the Centenary of the ANZACS

The Camden Show Society will be holding the 129th Annual Agricultural Show on Friday 20th and Saturday 21st March 2015. In conjunction with Camden RSL Sub-Branch, the Show Society is holding a Military Tattoo to commemorate the Centenary of the ANZACS. This will be held in the Main Arena at the Showground on the Friday evening of the Show.

Invitations have been sent to the Governor General and the Chief of the Defence Force to attend. The Mounted Police and Police Musical Band have confirmed they are attending.

The 2014 Military Tattoo was a dress rehearsal for 2015 and was a great success. We anticipate that the 2015 event will be much bigger. We are hoping for all those who attended in 2014 to return for 2015 along with many more and that there will be at least 300-400 paraders and 100 vehicles of all descriptions.

We are very excited about our 129th Show and look forward to your favourable response to our invitation and to receiving your entry forms.

Yours faithfully,

Lyndy Cornwell

office@camdenshow.com

(02) 4655 8338

www.camdenshow.com

Camping available on Sat. night

Grand Parade - Saturday - 4.00pm



129th Annual
Camden Show
... 'Still a Country Show'

**FRIDAY 20 & SATURDAY 21
MARCH 2015**

The Camden Show Society
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
**The Camden RSL
Sub Branch**
PRESENTS THE 2015
MILITARY TATTOO
From 5.30pm Main Arena
FRIDAY 20TH MARCH
(MARSHALLING FROM 4.00PM)

VEHICLE REGISTRATION
Applications and further information available on www.camdenshow.com

2015 Themes

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36th Annual Corowa Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering 9th -15th March 2015

As can be seen on the front cover of this edition, 2015 will be another double theme year. The cover might give you ideas or inspiration of the diverse vehicles the themes encompass. Below is a few ideas ;

Year of the Emergency Vehicle

This theme will cover all military emergency vehicles such as ambulances, fire trucks, airfield crash tenders, military police vehicles, bomb disposal and so on. Also there are those ex-military vehicles that had a second life converted to fire trucks and serving with the likes of the bush fire brigades, etc.

Year of General Motors

General Motors being a worldwide auto group encompasses makers who built military vehicles such as Chevrolet, GMC, Bedford, Vauxhall, Opel, GM- Holden, Pontiac, Buick, Cadillac, Terex, Diesel Div. of GM-Canada, Cadillac Gage, Oldsmobile, Maple Leaf, etc.

So we are expecting to see Chev "Yankee Joes", CCKW "Jimmys", DUKW, Chev Blitzs, a Bedford QL, a Maple Leaf, maybe a Churchill tank, Pontiac UteThey are all out there so get them oiled and dusted off and bring them to Corowa next March.

Just to clarify our General Motors theme and which vehicles are eligible, those makes listed above are the main GM ones that produced military vehicles.

It has been heard said that AM-General HMMWV vehicles are GM military products..... this is not correct, AM-General is not part of General Motors and never has been. Check the link here to confirm this:

<http://www.amgeneral.com/corporate/history.php>

Not forgetting that 2015 is the **100th Anniversary of Gallipoli** and of the formation of **ANZAC**. The Corowa RSL will be organising a commemoration event for this.

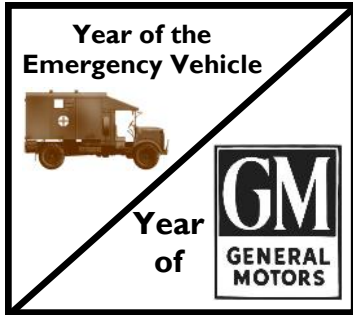
ROSS PRINCE
WWII TRUCK PARTS
2970 HERVEY BAY RD
HERVEY BAY QLD 4652
PH 07 41244075
EMAIL: rossprince@y7mail.com



MB GPW JEEP, DODGE WC, STUDEBAKER
 & GMC 6X6, WHITE, CHEV & FORD CMP
 ORIGINAL MAINTENANCE & PARTS MANUALS

Swap Meet notice

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36th Annual Corowa Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering

*** * ***

SWAP MEET

The Swap Meet at the Showground will have covered and outside pitches available and it is requested that those who wish to book a pitch, do so in advance, to ensure they get their choice of Undercover or Outdoor.

Stallholders only, will be able to camp at the showground from Thursday to Sunday, charges will be \$10 per person / per night. Stalls can be open from Thursday to Saturday and charged per day as below.

Stall rates

\$10 for Outdoor site 6 x 6 metres (approx.)

\$20 for Undercover site 6 x 6 metres (approx.)

Double the rate for 6 x 12 metres (approx.), etc.

Rules which the Showground Trust have requested we abide by:

- Dogs will be allowed and must be on a leash at all times.
- Only Swap Meet stallholders to camp on site.
- Stallholders to remove their own rubbish from site, failure to do so will mean no stall there in at future events.

Stallholders who are camping will be able to use the showers and toilets which are owned by the Show Society. The Racecourse toilet block will be opened either Friday night or Saturday morning.

The Swap Meet will be managed on behalf of KVE. **Jan McKenna** from the Show Society will be organising the sites and collecting all camping and stall fees. Her contact details are as follows:

janandfrankmckenna@bigpond.com

or phone (02) 6033 1148 - Mobile 0427 331 148

**The Booking form is on page 32,
advance enquiries to Jan McKenna as above.**

Accommodation Options in Corowa area

This list is of accommodation in Corowa and surrounding area, for those wishing to come to the event next March. For further information, please contact the Corowa Visitor Information Centre on Freecall; 1800 814 054. They are there to help you and are willing to search and book for you..... or you can go online and do it at www.visitcorowashire.com.au

Business Name	Location	City	Phone
Caravan Parks			
Ball Park C/Park Holiday Retreat	Bridge Road	Corowa	02 6033 1426
Howlong Caravan Park	55 Hume Street	Howlong	02 6026 5304
Rivergum Holiday Retreat	386 Honour Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 1990
Bindaree Motel & Caravan Park	454 Honour Ave	Corowa	02 6033 2500
Corowa Caravan Park	84 Federation Ave	Corowa	02 6033 1944
Motel			
Arcadia Motor Inn	127-135 Federation Ave	Corowa	02 6033 2088
Best Western Heritage Motor Inn	25 Edward Street	Corowa	02 6033 1800
Comfort Inn Federation	330 Honour Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 2022
Corowa Golf Club Motel	Hume Street	Corowa	02 6033 1466
Corowa Motor Inn	69-73 Riesling Street	Corowa	02 6033 1255
Golfers Lodge Motel	71 Hume Street	Corowa	02 6033 1366
Golfers Retreat Motel	57 Hay Street	Corowa South	02 6033 2059
Greenacres Motel	91-99 Federation Ave	Corowa	02 6033 2288
Howlong Country Golf Club	194 Golf Club Drive	Howlong	02 6026 5321
Lone Pine Motel	17 Lone Pine Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 2966
Lovells Motel	203 Sanger Street	Corowa	02 6033 1566
Motel Menere's	146 Federation Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 1066
Motel Wingrove	147 Federation Ave	Corowa	02 6033 2055
Murray View Motel	193 River Street	Corowa	02 6033 2144
Riverside Water Front Motel	7-9 Cadel Terrace	Wahgunyah	02 6033 1177
Statesman Motor Inn	2 Edward Street	Corowa	02 6033 2411
Yarrowonga & Border Golf Club	Gulai Street	Mulwala	03 5744 1911
Self Contained			
19 on Nixon	19 Nixon Street	Corowa	0418 124 850
Coromandel House	14 Tower Street	Corowa	02 6033 1001
John Foord Guesthouse	7 Braintree Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 5284
Kath's Place	15 Wanstead Street	Corowa	02 6033 1001
Murray Banks Holiday Units	76 Federation Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 2922
Murray Lodge Holiday Units	35/41 Tower Street	Corowa	02 6033 1712
Murray Rest Cottages	43 Barkly Street	Wahgunyah	02 6033 3685
Oakleigh	Piggins Rd Hopefield via	Corowa	02 6033 1814
Pete's Place	20 Gitchell Street	Corowa	02 6033 4495
Roseleigh	6a Lindsay Street	Corowa	03 9727 0493
Savernake Farmstay	Savernake Station	Yarrowonga	02 6035 9415
Terminus Flats	Cnr Edward & Sanger Sts	Corowa	02 6033 4071
The Shanty Waterside Cottage	The Shanty, Spring Drive	Corowa	02 6035 3838
The Stable @ Riesling S/Leggo	1/51 Riesling Street	Corowa	0439 456 337
B&B			
Stableford House	22 East Street	Howlong	02 6026 8524
The Old Post Office Howlong	39 Hawkins Street	Howlong	02 6026 8278

Hotels :

The Royal Hotel, 95 Sanger St., Corowa. 02 6033 3760 royalhotelcorowa@westnet.com.au

Hotel Australia, Sanger St., Corowa, NSW 2646 02 6033 1052

Classic Restos at Corowa 2014

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In association with



2014 DVD of Corowa GPA Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering

KVE have pleasure in announcing that we have available to order DVD copies of the Classic Restos episode of the 2014 Corowa Swim-In. These are broadcast quality and a great record of the event.



Once again Fletch came to Corowa for the 2014 Swim-In and featured the event in another episode of Classic Restos

All the action and interviews as seen on TV



See the action on land and water as we feature the two themes of Year of World War One and Year of the Ford

For more details contact Jan Thompson on 0412 078 096 or email : kveinc@optusnet.com.au
 Proceeds going towards bringing Fletch back to Corowa in 2015

Please may I order _____ Classic Restos at 2014 Corowa Swim-In DVD(s) [insert quantity]
 DVD: \$15 each

Payment by cheque or money order payable to "KVE Inc", sorry no credit card facilities.
 Send to Jan Thompson, 9/1 Millett Rd., Mosman, NSW 2088 kveinc@optusnet.com.au
 or by Bank Transfer to Westpac cheque account for:

"Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Inc." BSB: 032521 Account no. 162538

Please ensure your name is on the Bank Deposit/Transfer form with "DVD" added, then post or email this form to above address.

Name:

Mailing Address:.....

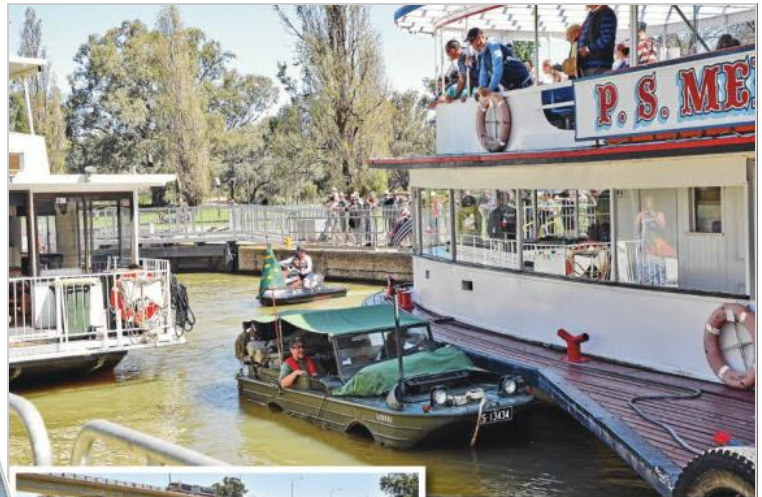
Town/City: State:..... Postcode:.....

Contact phone number:

Email Address:.....

GPA owners in the News

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• **LOCKED AND LOADED:** The ex-military General Purpose Amphibians drew plenty of interested onlookers when they arrived in Mildura on Wednesday... especially when negotiating Mildura's Lock 11. With NSW Maritime's Eric Taylor keeping an eye on things from his personal water craft, the boys in the 'Seep Jeeps' competed for space with vessels that included a houseboat, and the Paddlesteamer Melbourne. **LEFT** - Swapping the Murray for dry land at the Chaffey Bridge boat ramp.



Use these unique vehicles for the purpose for which they were designed, war-time open water beach landings, and they struggle...even capsize...but put them in the Murray River and...

They just go with the flow

By ALAN ERSKINE

They are a group of blokes who come from all over Australia and from different walks of life, and their ages vary - but they have one thing in common - a deep affection for a tough little ex-military vehicle that is just as much at home in water as it is on the road.

And to prove a point, a few owners of these unique amphibians are at the tail end of a road/river adventure that started at Boundary Bend on September 24th, and which will end in Wentworth this weekend. The trip included about 250kms of river travel.

The participants are self-styled Long Range Amphibious Group, belonging to various ex-military vehicle clubs around Australia, with members meeting every two years for a run that always includes a fair stretch of Murray River travel.

Starting this year's epic were eight enthusiasts in four vehicles, until two fell by the wayside. Roger Ross of Bairnsdale had ongoing fuel problems over three days and had to bail out at Robinvale, transporting his General Purpose Amphibian home by trailer. Even more disappointed was Brisbane's David Stafford, president of the Military Jeep Club of Queensland, a 10-year amphibious jeep owner who had to pull out of his first Murray River adventure because of a burnt out valve in his GPA.

The others soldiered on, and the four mates to finish the trip are Bruce Wilshire, 73, John Summers, 79 from the Sunshine Coast. Mitch Holland, 56, from the Blue Mountains and Glenn McAllister, 70, from Geelong.

Bruce bought his amphibious craft - a 1943 Ford, 16 years ago and since rebuilding the motor has completed about 1600kms on the road with about 200 hours of water travel. John has had a similar vehicle for just on 50 years. His amphibian has gone through several speedos and with John at the wheel has completed about 4000kms.

The left hand drive amphibious craft are a rarity these days with only around 20 remaining in Australia from the 150 freighted to Australia from 1942. A total of 12,700 of the vehicles were manufactured in the United States at

GPA owners in the News - cont'd

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the start of World War Two. They were all built, assembled and shipped out to battle zones within a nine month period. The ones that survived the war were sold in 1946.

The vehicles are now a highly sought after collectors item with one restored vehicle recently fetching more than \$100,000.

John said the vehicles were originally designed as a landing craft but with a draft of 900mm and very little freeboard, capsizes at beach landings were happening too often, so the vehicles were confined to creek and river crossings. The amphibious craft, known during the war as "The Seep Jeep", do their best work on downstream runs, cruising along at about 6-8kph. After being driven into the water, the wheels are de-activated, the propeller started, and its full steam ahead. The reverse procedure is followed when the vehicle is ready for "beaching".

The two craft haven't had any problems with road travel during their current adventure, but there have been a few dramas once they hit the river stretches, being "bogged" on several sand bars, and having to use winches to get out of the river in particularly muddy areas. On one occasion the adventurers used the GPA's propeller to dig its way out of a mid-river sand bar.

Once the vehicle enthusiasts pull the vehicles from the river at Wentworth, they will be freighted back to their respective homes.

**This article is reproduced in the KVE News with permission from
Alan Erskine, the Editor of the Mildura Weekly**

An invitation to owners of military vehicles used by ANZAC forces from WW1 to present era:

A Celebration of ANZAC

Display & Family Day

A Tribute to The Centenary Anniversary of ANZAC

Saturday 18 April 2015 - 9.30 AM thru 4.00 PM

**Bella Vista Farm Park, Historic Homestead, Elizabeth Macarthur Drive,
Bella Vista, Baulkham Hills.**

Castle Hill RSL is staging a **Celebration of ANZAC**, a day long family event open free to the public at the historic Bella Vista Farm. Events include music recitals by various bands including Royal NSW Lancers, Castle Hill RSL Pipe Band, Castle Hill Youth Orchestra & various singing / choir groups. Also included are various historic military units including a WWI Gun, strolling 18th Battalion (WWI) diggers and a Light Horse unit.

The official opening will be by the Governor of NSW. Entertainment on stage and around the grounds will be ongoing throughout the day, food & beverage will be available throughout from various stalls.

WE are invited to stage a display of our military vehicles (clubs & individuals alike) that were of a type typical to ANZAC forces in all theatres of operation from WWI through to current era. Especially welcome are any WWI vehicles.... so here is a great opportunity to participate in what will be a very big event. So please bring your MVs, a dedicated display space on the grass in the grounds of the historic Bella Vista house & farm, will be made available .

Please join us on this fun family but very special event as **a tribute to the ANZAC Legend.**

For further information and to register your interest (for planning purposes) please contact

Tony Playle (member KVE, AMVCS, Jeeps NSW) who is the liaison point to manage MV participation.

tonypl@iprimus.com.au 0400 745 376

For details on the historic Bella Vista Farm, house & grounds... www.bellavistafarm.com.au



BLOOD BOXES

An Overview of Australian Military Ambulances.

Part 2: 1956 to 2012

by Mike Cecil

Colbert, WA, USA

Part 1 covered the period from 1914 to 1956. In this second part, the story takes up with the development of a new tactical ambulance to finally replace the ageing fleet still in use from the Second World War.

A specification for a new forward area ambulance was developed during the latter half of 1956. The Australian specification drew heavily on the British War Office ambulance specifications, Australia's experience with the existing CMP-based fleet, and the probability that future operational deployments were likely to be into South East Asia. This latter point in particular dictated that the new ambulance would need to be in a lighter weight class than the existing fleet, and a 1-ton 4x4 was specified.

Various possibilities were looked at. These included readily available models such as the Dodge M43, or the design of an entirely new vehicle in parallel with the development of the International Harvester 3 ton GS truck. The Director General of Medical Services (DGMS) was not at all happy with the possibility of an ambulance based on a 3 ton truck, and was not restrained in voicing his opinion of the concept!

Development of the future Army ambulance was, however, about to make a very significant change in direction. In June 1958, during a liaison visit to the United Kingdom, a senior Australian Army representative was shown the new $\frac{3}{4}$ ton 109-inch wheelbase Land Rover which was to be marketed in Australia from February 1959. An ambulance based on the Land Rover was an attractive proposition, as it was lighter, smaller overall and much more manoeuvrable. Savings in purchase and operating costs were not lost on the 'bean counters' either.

A mock-up was built first, followed by two pilot models, one of which followed the 'Indian Pattern' with only a canvas cloth flap closing the rear. Considering the known deficiencies of the design compared to the fully-closed ambulances, to have even suggested using the Indian Pattern for a modern ambulance simply defies belief, but the designers persevered and the type was trialled alongside the second pilot model. This second vehicle was fully enclosed, and while not perfect in its first iteration, was a fine starting point. Both pilot models were constructed to the Army Design Establishment (ADE) specifications by the Pressed Metal Corporation of Enfield, Sydney. They were completed and available for viewing at ADE on 18th December 1959.



The $\frac{3}{4}$ ton Land Rover Ambulance was developed in the late 1950s as the next tactical ambulance for the Australian Army. This is the fully enclosed pilot model built on a Series 2 chassis.

Mike Cecil's 2nd article for 2015 theme -cont'd

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The new Land Rover could carry four stretcher patients, with just enough room for an attending orderly. This is the fully sealed pilot model after the improvements suggested by the first trial were incorporated. The 'casualties' are civilian employees of ADE.

Tropical trials soon demonstrated the lunacy of persisting with the Indian Pattern and the design was finally dropped from contention. Further trials of the fully enclosed model incorporating all the improvements suggested during the first trials – including the 'cut away' front guards that were to become the 'signature' of the Australian Army Land Rover – confirmed its acceptability. The Australian its next generation of forward area ambulance. It wasn't perfect by any means, but was a very adequate replacement for the more cumbersome CMP vehicles still in service from the Second World War.

There was, however, always a need to have an even less obvious and more nimble ambulance available for use at the very point of contact, especially operating in areas such as South East Asia. The jeep, converted to carrying stretchers, had very adequately fulfilled that need during the Second World War, and during the 1950s, some of the Australian Army's FV1801 Austin Champs had been fitted with racks for this purpose. The short wheelbase Land Rover was also adapted for this purpose, with a specially extended rear canopy to protect casualties from the worst of the weather. With little room for a medical attendant or casualty treatment in transit, these stretcher carriers were a specialised form of ambulance whose principle use was simply to get wounded a short distance back out of harms way. Treatment and stabilization happened at the Casualty Clearing Station – from there, a better-equipped ambulance could take the casualty to the rear.



The Land Rover Series 2 ambulance was deployed operationally to South Vietnam, and would continue in service for an impressive 32 years. (Image: AWM)



The Land Rover 1/4 ton, short wheel base was also developed as a stretcher carrier for forward areas. This is the Series 2 prototype. Note the characteristic extension to the rear canopy.



Left: The 1/4 ton Land Rover stretcher carrier was also deployed in very limited numbers to South Vietnam. This Series 2A, with the signature cut away front mudguards, is being lowered to a barge from the deck of HMAS Sydney in Vung Tau harbour in 1967. The OH&S implications of a large group of personnel standing around on the barge deck below the vehicle, and the driver being in the vehicle while suspended from the crane, don't bear thinking about! It was a very different world in 1967!

Mike Cecil's 2nd article for 2015 theme -cont'd

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The arrival of the M113A1 Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) in early 1965 began a new era for the Royal Australian Armoured Corps. One of the variants was an APC with fittings to carry four stretchers. Known as the APC Ambulance, it provided protected transport for wounded and an attendant medical orderly. Problems arose when the APCs were fitted with the T50(Aust) turret, the basket of which occupied some of the stretcher space. Different arrangements were tried, but a reduction in stretcher-carrying capacity had to be accepted.



The M113A1 APC Ambulance was equipped to carry four stretchers, but the introduction of the T50(Aust) turret changed that. No matter what configuration was tried, the turret basket occupied the space of one stretcher. While not the fastest of vehicles, the M113A1 had outstanding off-road performance coupled with armoured casualty protection.



Of course, neither the Navy or RAAF needed armoured ambulances, and neither did the Army in rear and base areas.



The RAAF and RAN had little call for tactical, all wheel drive ambulances, so generally opted to two wheel drive cars fitted with purpose-built ambulance bodies, usually of two stretcher capacity. This Ford entered service in 1960.



Not all the Army's ambulances needed to be all-wheel drive either. This is a Dodge panel ambulance of the late 1950s. These continued in service well into the 1960s.

As a result, various civilian designs using fibreglass composite bodies were simply re-jigged to accommodate the particular needs of each of the three services. Some fine two berth ambulances, fully equipped and with room for a medical orderly for in-transit care, were purchased. The Ford F100, F150 and F250 series light trucks were particularly popular.



The advent of the fully enclosed composite fibreglass bodied ambulances for civilian ambulance services soon saw similar vehicles entering service with the Army, Navy and Air Force. This Ford F series two stretcher ambulance was in service with the RAAF in the nearly 1990s.

The introduction of the 6x6 Land Rover saw a new and greatly improved ambulance added to the inventory. It was sufficiently well equipped to serve as a tactical ambulance and as a general transit ambulance if the need arose. Using the same basic chassis as all the variants of the Australian Army 6x6 Land Rover fleet, it had a fibreglass composite rear body built by Jakab Industries of Cook Street, Tamworth NSW. But the body was not exclusive to the Land Rover – the bodywork was also supplied in modified form to fit other chassis as well, including small, 4x4 commercial chassis, such as Mitsubishi and Toyota.



The big leap forward for the Army's tactical fleet was the introduction of the 6x6, 2 tonne capacity Land Rover fitted with a Jakab Industries composite fibreglass body capable of carrying four stretcher patients.



Left: The Jakab body was not restricted to just the Land Rover, but was also adapted in modified form to fit various commercial chassis. This version is a 4x4 cab over engine version based at the Army Aviation Centre at Oakey, Queensland, in 2001. It is flanked by a more conventional 4x2 ambulance based on a Ford F250 chassis. A small number of the F250 ambulances were purchased in 1990.

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The mid-1990s saw a wheeled armoured vehicle rejoin the inventory in the form of the 8x8 ASLAV. The Type 2 hull had a commander's weapon station but no turret, so was the ideal basis for the ASLAV Ambulance. Roomy, protected and fast, the type is the wheeled equivalent of the tracked M113A1 ambulance.



The ASLAV 8x8 entered service in the mid-1990s, with one of the early variants being the ambulance. Fast, agile, roomy and well equipped, it provides protected front line casualty evacuation within the limits of a wheeled vehicle.

From the breezy canvas-covered lorries of the First World War to the fully enclosed and equipped ambulance of the 21st Century, the three services have always needed dedicated casualty transport both on and off the battlefield. This two part journey written for KVE provides but a brief overview of the types of ambulances used by the Australian military, and their evolution over the last 100-odd years.

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Bedfords Return to the Battlefields

by Richard Farrant

In June 2014, the 70th anniversary of the D-Day Landings took place in Normandy, France. Many owners of WW2 military vehicles across Europe were making plans to be in Normandy for the week covering that special day, the 6th June. In the UK the two main clubs, the Military Vehicle Trust (MVT) and Invicta Military-Vehicle Preservation Society (IMPS) had organised tours and campsites. Many other groups were camped throughout the region. Myself and my brother Robert, had entered on the MVT tour and this was done some two years beforehand, such is the demand. I did my first tour there with the MVT in 1989 and had been on every one (held every 5 years) to date, except 1999.

We were taking my 1943 Bedford QLD 3 ton 4x4 GS Cargo truck, owned now for 26 years and bought virtually straight out of a Danish Army auction. It had seen service with the British army and then transferred to Denmark in late 1940's as aid to build up their army. We were to be accompanied on our journey by two friends, Martin and Charlie in a 1940 Bedford MWD 15cwt 4x2 truck, this being their first time on a Normandy tour. Their presence was to prove invaluable on the drive down to Portsmouth Docks. We had been driving for about 3 hours, when an ignition failure in the QL occurred, the MW was able to tow the QL from a dangerous position on a narrow main road and with the help of a spare coil, we eventually solved the problem. Apart from that and a persistent leak from the water pump, all went well once we arrived in France. The MVT group assembled the night before leaving Portsmouth, at Fort Nelson artillery museum and we left with around 110 vehicles. The ferry crossing from Portsmouth takes about 4 hours and docks at Ouisterham which is right on the end of Sword Beach and at the mouth of the Caen canal (Pegasus Bridge is no more than a few miles away).

On docking at the port, we unloaded off the ferry and assembled our convoy in the holding area to await the Gendarme escort. Time was clocking on and rumours went around that there were TV cameras coming, etc. Then a police helicopter arrived and continuously circled us, this was when we found out the Mayor's office had forgotten to arrange the Gendarme escort of our convoy to the campsite, some 55 kms away. With 110 vehicles, we would be a lengthy convoy and the helicopter was obviously assessing the task. Presently in ones and twos, Gendarmes arrived on their motorcycles. We had three Scammell Pioneers with us, with a top speed of a little over 20 mph. It seems the Gendarmes wanted them in front to set the pace and keep the convoy together. Bad move, their escort even slowed the Scammells making it a long drawn out journey. Ideally they should have gone off ahead, but it was entertaining to watch the Gendarmes blocking slip roads and as they moved off to leap frog the convoy, the car drivers thought it the signal to go and were trying to slip through the convoy in to the second lane of the dual carriageway. The Gendarmes were a good bunch and really knew their stuff, one of them whipped his camera out at every intersection he stopped at and must have captured all of us for his album.



Finally we arrived at camp with no one left behind. Once we found our allocated pitch we were off to the bar for a well earned beer. This was a 10 day tour so we had plenty of time and during the first few days we rode out with Martin in the MW to show him around the area, and check out the bars and cafes. There were quite a number of Bedfords on our site, from memory we had 3 x QL's and an OY 3ton 4x2 along with a number of MW's including a very early one with aero screens and no doors. One QL which I had not seen before, had a diesel fitted, on enquiring I was told it was a Cummins and that the fuel consumption was a lot less than the original

petrol motor. When out on the roads, we encountered vehicles from numerous nationalities (inc. the Australian and NZ contingent from our camp) and you never knew what you were going to encounter around the next corner. It was like the invasion all over again, except no shots being fired.

During the first few days, there were no arranged trips out, it was "do your own thing" which allowed people to settle in and find their way around, especially if they had not been before. We visited Omaha Beach and several museums, Point du Hoc, Longues Battery and other places of note. Whilst at a museum near the American Cemetery at Colleville, we saw about 80 Gendarmes on motorcycles pass by.

General Motors theme article - cont'd

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The presence of the US President and other World leaders in the area had a lot to do with the high security along the number of military aircraft and helicopters. Whilst at this particular museum we encountered a Belgian owned MW and Martin struck up a conversation with the owner, comparing notes on their trucks.



The middle of the week we had our first convoy run and the preceding evening there was a drivers meeting at which someone asked if the Scammells would lead! One of the Scammell drivers suggested they would leave earlier and the rest of us would catch up nearer to the destination, this worked fine. This trip was to Baron-sur-Odon, about 48 kms away, the village has taken the nearby war memorial on Hill 112 under its wing. Before reaching the village we visited a residential school for children with learning difficulties, here we were to have lunch. Much to everyone's surprise we were led in to the school hall where long tables were set and were given a four course lunch, there must have been nearly 200 people and the children

waited on us all. They were later given rides in Jeeps and other vehicles, before we continued to the village for a welcome, then took villagers to the memorial for a wreath laying and short service. The welcome we get from local inhabitants of this area is wonderful. Our journey back was reasonably uneventful, except where we approached a small village to find all the children grouped by the war memorial and waiting for us to pass, word must have got around!

Our next big event was June 6th - D-Day. We had to be at Arramanches before 6am as the roads would be closed after that due to the ceremonies taking place all along the coast. So it was up at Dark o'clock in the morning and assembled ready to roll. Very impressive in the half light, as a column of 70 year old vehicles drove through the lanes. We reached Arramanches not really knowing where we were to park as it is a very small coastal town on a hill. The IMPS club had arrived first and were single file down the hill to the sea wall, we doubled up and there was just enough room to walk between the two columns of vehicles. The tide was in but on the turn so wreath laying took place at the water's edge. Time for a coffee and croissant in the town, the queues were down the street. Live TV cameras were in place for the ceremonies



later. It was not long before the tide was out far enough for the 250+ vehicles to be assembled in front of the promenade. The sun came out and it was a fine morning. There were landing craft from the British Forces on the beach with Royal Marines assault vehicles wading through the surf. A Sherman BARV, a tank converted to Beach Armoured Recovery Vehicle was ploughing through the water, and one wondered when was the last time it had done that. A number of DUKW's were also in and out of the sea. As for Bedfords, well they were there in numbers now, QL, MW, OY, although not all parked together, that would happen on another day. Early in the afternoon we

left the beach as the tide was on the turn and meandered our way back to camp, what did strike us though, was the hundreds of campervans parked all over the place, I have never seen so many.

The following day a number of us with British and Canadian marked vehicles had been invited by the Royal Marines Commando Association to take part in a parade to commemorate their capture and



General Motors theme article - cont'd

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liberation of the small harbour town of Port en-Bessin which was close to our camp. As we assembled in an industrial area on the edge of town, our RAF's Lancaster was flying around doing its display, a wonderful sight. The parade was to follow vehicles carrying Marines veterans and a pipe band. The people of the town were out in force along with visitors and it was a slow parade around the harbour and to form up on the quay. My QL was near the end and as we got onto the quay someone shouted "the last QL bring it up with the others" and we found ourselves on the end of the row making 6 of them. Not often we get that many parked together. The MW's were nearby as well, although I cannot recollect how many of them.



The following day was our last in Normandy and a very special event for us. The nearby town of Bayeux (well known for the famous tapestry) had invited British and Canadian vehicles to take part in a parade right through the centre of the old town. This was a breakthrough as for years a French military vehicle club had been in control of this event and it had been a parade of predominantly American vehicles. Historically this was incorrect as the town was in the middle of the British sector. This had been rectified this year

and we were set to do a great display. Vehicles were mainly from the two British clubs, but many others had been invited and it was strictly controlled with passes. We assembled in a large supermarket car park. All jeeps and other US vehicles there had to be British or Canadian marked. The vehicles were assembled in makes, such as AEC, Austin, Humber, Bedford, British Ford, Morris Commercial, Scammell, Canadian pattern Fords and Chevrolets, staff cars, motorcycles (in order of makes, Ariel, BSA, Matchless, Norton, etc.), armoured vehicles. We wended our way around the ring road to enter the inner town area and the start of the parade. You cannot imagine how many people thronged the streets, driving a large vehicle you had to be aware of catching someone, they were holding hands out to you and touching the vehicles, then standing in front to take photos with every sort of modern image makers, never had so many photos taken of us during the whole week. It was quite hot and I was a little concerned of the water pump weeping and keeping a close eye on the temp gauge, but all was well.

It must have taken over an hour to get through the town. Very humbling occasion, I look on it as the vehicles being the stars as many of them would have been involved 70 years ago. We had two visitors from Australia and NZ sitting in the back of the truck and they were overwhelmed with it all. From here we elected to return to camp to pack up the tent and kit and make our way towards the ferry port for the early crossing on the following morning. Many others had the same idea and finding



somewhere to park near the docks was difficult with a lot of other people returning to England after all the ceremonies. We got onto the dock around midnight and slept in the trucks, next morning there were many more vehicles parked behind us, many we had not seen during the week as there are many smaller groups who go over.

The drive back home once in England was not so good as it was a hot day and water was still leaking, but regular comfort breaks, for crew and vehicles, we arrived home safely. It was 25 years since our first D-Day tour with the same truck and although I always thought the first time was the best one, I think this year was something special. The reception we had from the French people was terrific. Maybe this story does not seem to be about Bedfords, but it was one of them that took us there and back, wonderful old trucks, nothing like it to hear a 28hp engine and the whine of the transfer box, sheer magic!

General Motors theme article - cont'd

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Left: A group of WW2 Bedfords awaiting the start of the grand parade through Bayeux on June 8th 2014

From the right, MWD late and early models, OYD 3 tonner, QLD 3 tonner and another OYD.

Right: The beginning of the file through Bayeux town centre, a QLR Command Vehicle followed by two QLD 3 ton GS trucks.



Left: The end of the Tour and about to leave the camp at Etreham. Martin and Charlie on the left with the MWD, with Richard and the QL, along with Paula (Aus.) and Pat (NZ) who travelled with us in the earlier Bayeux parade.

Amphicar in Australia

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While KVE Secretary, Jan Thompson was watching a recent episode of Classic Restos, an Amphicar owned by a man from Cooma was featured. A quick search on the web found an article in the Canberra Times on the car's owner and how he found it (see below). This led Jan to making contact with owner, Tony and inviting him and his Amphicar to the Swim-In in 2015, not only that but he also owns a 1950's Bedford RL 4x4 fire truck imported from Denmark, which would fit in with both of next year's event themes.

From Florida to Cooma, Amphicar makes debut on Lake Burley Griffin

September 21, 2014 **Primrose Riordan, Reporter at The Canberra Times**



School children were crying and calling for help when Cooma car lover Tony Nassar appeared to drive a vintage convertible straight into the lake on Sunday.

But there was nothing to fear, it was simply the debut outing of Mr Nassar's latest purchase direct from Miami beach, Florida – an Amphicar 770 – on Lake Burley Griffin as part of the annual German Auto Display.

Just 4000 models of the German Amphicars, designed by Hans Trippel, were made by the Quandt group between 1961 and 1968, and were the only mass-produced car that could float of their time.

Tony Nassar of Cooma on Lake Burley Griffin in his Amphicar with his wife Rebecca and their two sons back left, Andareas, 15, and Jozeph, 17. *Photo: Melissa Adams*

Car enthusiast and amateur mechanic Mr Nassar had long believed the model

was out of reach price-wise. "Then an auction came up on New Year's Day, and sure enough most people were holidaying so not many people showed up to the auction and I was bidding online with my uncle in Florida, and we ended up winning the bid. I thought, this is fantastic," Mr Nassar said.

Mr Nassar, who also owns Rose's Lebanese Restaurant in Cooma with his wife Rebecca, then shipped the car over in a container and added it to his 10 year-old-car collection.

Mr Nassar's collection also includes a 1966 Bedford fire truck from Denmark, a BMW Isetta bubble car, a 1971 two-door Ford Cortina, and a nearly six-metre-long Pontiac from the US.

The couple live in town with their children and keep the cars on a nearby property that they also use to grow produce for the restaurant. His father brought the family to Cooma 30 years ago when he was missing the mountains of Lebanon after immigrating to Sydney, and they decided to stay.

"Dad got me into fixing cars, my brothers and I always tinkered around cars. Dad always bought us older cars and made us pull them apart and put them back together so we could be self-taught," Mr Nassar said.

For the 43-year-old, Sunday's Amphicar ride was a dream come true. "It has been a 20-year dream. I saw it on a calendar, and I like unique vehicles. I always wanted to be able to take it onto Lake Burley Griffin," Mr Nassar said.

Read more: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/from-florida-to-cooma-amphicar-makes-debut-on-lake-burley-griffin-20140921-10jzcx.html#ixzz3Gp83OO9g>

A Blast from the Past

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A short article was found recently in a British Army unit's newspaper dated 30th June 1945 and produced in Germany by F (Sphinx) Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, 4RHA in 4th Armoured Brigade. It makes amusing reading:

JEEPS

More Rules and Regulations are broken by Jeeps than any other type of Army vehicle, but heavy casualties are suffered in the breaking of the Jeeps themselves. It is said that if all the crashed-up Jeeps were brought together there would be enough metal to build another Pacific Fleet: this is not, however, practicable since most of the pieces have never been found.

In spite of these facts, there are still about 1,267,482 too many (the odd one would not last long anyway). These may be divided into those driven for duty purposes and those driven for sport, not counting that section which drive themselves. At a recent count taken at a check-point it was discovered that 99% were in the first group, on duty, the other 1% passing through the check-point too fast to be questioned. Some doubt has been cast on these figures, but they are surely accurate enough for Army purposes, and anyway the 1% which got away must have been on very urgent duty indeed.

The life of an average Jeep runs in a fairly well-worn groove. For the first 500 miles it has only one driver, and may be seen moving around in a sedate and un-Jeep-like manner, presumably trying to create an Impression. After this it has coloured signs painted on it, which is a kind of initiation making it one of the lads. During the next 500 miles it is permanently accompanied by a slight smell of burning paint and rubber, the result of a process known as "running-in", after which it is known as either a good Jeep or a bad one. The great thing is what speed will it do, there being quite a difference between one Jeep and the next, some being capable of 59.9 m.p.h., while others are much slower and can only run at 59.5 m.p.h. or thereabouts. The only man to drive one over 60 m.p.h. never lived to tell the tale. At 2,000 miles a few minor rattles develop in the machine, and the driving mirror disappears. After 5,000 miles have been safely done (which is by no means always the case), it is a veteran of some half dozen drivers, with quite a different noise on account of the silencer being blown out. Very soon it has no hood, and the spare wheel falls off: at this stage it is difficult to see through the windscreen because there are many star-shaped cracks in the glass. The end is near now, at 8,000 to 10,000 miles, trouble with starting in the mornings and the steering not willing to go where the driver wants too. Eventually the Jeep meets its match in the shape of a 3-tonner head on, and it is BLR (Bent, Lost or Ruined).

Various devices may be seen painted on the front and back ends of Jeeps, letters such as X, Y or Z, prehistoric animals and names like Flossie or Berka-Bint. These mean very little, and are designed to help the driver identify his vehicle in car-parks. One important thing should, however, be known to every road-user, namely that a blue triangle with an inscrutable smile in the middle means DANGER and must be avoided at all costs. Jeeps which drive along below 30 mph will be found to have the words "Military Police" written on the front end, and should also be avoided whenever possible.

The Jeep speaks with a marked American accent and has quite a sense of humour. The other day one was clearly heard to say "Aw gee Major, I'm tired", while one can frequently hear them humming the Spring Song (Mend 'em soon). The following epitaph was composed by a Jeep:-

Here lies the body of just another Jeep,
Whizzed round a corner, forgot to give a peep,
Record of the cruelty of Men to Machines,
Can anybody tell me what B.L.R. means?

B.P.

Coming event for 2015 in UK

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At RAF Westenhanger Folkestone Racecourse
Nr Hythe Kent CT21 4HX Tel: 01304 813337
www.thewarandpeacerevival.co.uk

 LED BY IWM 

For Sale	Page 28
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The Corowa 'Year of' series of DVDs

This series features plenty of action and the stories behind some of the many fascinating and unique vehicles taking part in the annual event at Corowa, NSW.

Available from Image Control in Melbourne at a cost of \$30.00 each plus postage.

The first six DVDs can be purchased as a pack of the years 2002 to 2008 for only \$120 plus post.

Special offer : Year of the Trailed Equipment & Armoured Vehicle + five DVD's of your choice for only \$130 plus post

Contact Image Control on (03) 94293301 or email keith.webb@imagecontrol.com.au

2002 - Year of the Blitz

This is the story of an attempt to establish a Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of privately owned Blitz trucks. Along the way we learn about the origins of these vehicles, their military and post-war service. Extra features include the **2004 Year of the Dodge** featurette.

2003 - Year of the Studebaker

Colourful and entertaining this documentary covers both the history of the US6 Studebaker and the event. See the convoys through Corowa and Rutherglen and the attempt on a new Guinness World Record at the Corowa Airport. Special feature is the story of the North South road told by veteran army driver Alan Smith.

2005 - Year of the Carrier

This year the theme vehicle is the charismatic tracked carrier so popular with military vehicle enthusiasts. Extra features include an hour of footage ranging from Carriers in Canada to a profile on the 2 pounder Tank Attack carrier owned by the Bandiana Army Museum.

2006 - Year of the Armoured Car

Among a total of 123 military vehicles were 8 White Scout Cars, Ferrets, Half track, Lynx, a Daimler Dingo and LP4 Armoured Car. Extra features include a visit to Precision Aerospace in Wangaratta, an extended interview with historian Mike Cecil and coverage of the Melbourne Tank Museum auction.

2007 - Year of the Cycle and Staff Car

The 28th Annual Swim-in had a dual theme this year attracting over 30 bicycles, staff cars and motorcycles along with a further 130 military vehicles. Special features include the history of these vehicles by Mike Cecil and a trip to Tocumwal with a talk from local historian Bob Brown.

2008 - Year of the Tracked Vehicle

With some 150 vehicles at Corowa this DVD is full of tracked action. From a unique LP3 carrier prototype to the mighty Russian T34 we take you onboard some of the most interesting military vehicles yet seen at Corowa. Extras include a visit to collector Ron Fry to see his extensive collection and ride in his Stuart as well as taking you to see the tanks at Mons.

2009 - Year of the Amphibian and Blitz 2.

The 30th anniversary of the event at Corowa saw a joint theme featuring amphibious vehicles and also a reprise of 2002, year of the Blitz. The record of 34 blitzes set that year was eclipsed with 43 blitz trucks being part of a total of 194 military vehicles. Highlights of this DVD are the Buffalo, Kübelwagen, plus a variety of Blitzes.

2010 - Year of the Jeep

This was always going to be a large event. 179 Jeeps making up more than half of the total of a massive 266 vehicles this year. The featured vehicle is the very rare 1940 Willys MA. At the other end of the scale is a Mutt, repaired on-site after a collision with a kangaroo. The wet conditions led to plenty of action in the mud.

2011 — Year of the British & European Vehicles

This DVD covers many of the highlights and stories of this fabulous event. There are 20 profiles of vehicles including German and British motorcycles, softskins and armour as well as an extended story on the star of the show, Rick Cove's 1916 Albion. There's also an interview with Richard Farrant from the UK, introducing him to a wider Australian audience. Also plenty of action footage around the riverside tracks, mishaps as well as pure enjoyment of being part of the largest event of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Just about every vehicle attending is seen in the parade and assembly at the Corowa airport.

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2012 - Year of the 6X6

The Corowa "Year of the 6x6" DVD features all the action of the event, including the parade, display, swap meet and loads of in depth interviews with the owners of these remarkable vehicles. We go through the gears in reverse in an Austin Champ, ride in Dodge 6X6 and GMC and talk to KVE President Rick Cove and organiser Jan Thompson. A highlight is excerpts of the talk given by John Belfield about his decades of rescuing and restoring military vehicles.

Latest DVD released:**2013 - Year of the Trailed Equipment and Armoured Vehicle \$30 each**

The Corowa 2013 DVD features among other things, trailers and armoured vehicles. We take a close look at: A 'Barn Find' low mileage Canadian Military Pattern Chevrolet C60S towing a semi-trailer designed to carry folding boats; A British English generator trailer; A Bofors gun from Tumut with a colourful veteran who used them in the 1960s; A rare 37mm anti-tank gun for the Dutch Army, as well as a range of other vehicles including the only running SC1 Scout Car built as reverse lend-lease for airfield defence for the US forces.



The special feature is the keynote speech given by Tim Vibert.

Also available:

Backfire, a 1944 propaganda short movie made by Ford Canada featuring scenes of the construction and spectacular testing of Canadian Military Pattern (blitz) trucks and carriers. \$20.00 plus postage.

About Image Control

Headed by military historian and enthusiast Keith Webb, Image Control was established back in 1982 and today is one of Melbourne's best known multimedia production houses, working with a varied range of clients to produce corporate video, television and radio commercials, documentaries, sound production, graphic design and websites. Trained as a photographer, Keith is also a cinematographer and editor. In addition to running the business he has a keen interest in Australian military history, in particular Blitz trucks and aircraft. Current projects include work for the Temora Aviation Museum (where Keith is Director for the Unsung Heroes project), the RAAF Museum, Point Cook and Fleet Air Arm Museum, Nowra. He is on the board of the Spitfire Association and Australian representative for the Spitfire Society (UK).

Corowa 2013 on "Classic Restos"

As many of you will no doubt know, KVE was able to organise Fletch from the TV programme, Classic Restos to come to Corowa during the 2013 Swim-In week and film an episode of his programme featuring the event and its participants. The programme was broadcast on Australian TV stations and also on NZ, USA and UK television. It is great promotion material for us. Fletch has kindly allowed us to sell copies of the programme on DVD with profits going towards his fee for attending the 2014 as well. Of all the vehicle shows Fletch has filmed at to date, Corowa was the first military vehicle event, and he was back again this year, see feature page earlier in this issue with details of the 2014 DVD.

Anyone wishing to order a copy of the 2013 DVD should contact

Jan Thompson on kveinc@optusnet.com.au or 0423 943 010

Send a cheque for \$15 inc postage to;

KVE, 9/1 Millett Road, Mosman, NSW 2088

If using Bank Transfer, please make sure your name and DVD is stated

For KVE bank details see 2014 DVD order form on page 13

Directory of Australian based Military Vehicle Groups

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Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated (KVE Inc.)

Mailing Address: 9/1 Millett Road, Mosman, NSW 2088 Contact : Jan Thompson Phone No: Mob. 0412 078 096
 Email: kveinc@optusnet.com.au Website: <http://corowaswim-in.org>
 Organisers of the Annual Corowa Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering

Australian Ex-Military Vehicle Collectors Society Inc. (AMVCS)

Mailing Address: P.O Box 221 Gladesville NSW 2111 Contact : John Gordon Phone No: Mob. 0411 868 745
 Email: jgor9364@bigpond.net.au Website: http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/amvcs_nsw/
 Dates of Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month Locations of Meetings: Ashfield RSL at 8pm
 For collectors and enthusiasts of ex-military vehicles

Military Section of the Veteran Car Club of WA (Inc)

Mailing Address: Contact : Chairman Brian Thompson Phone No: 08 9257 3910
 Email: brianjthompson@bigpond.com
 Dates of Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month, at 8pm
 Locations of Meetings: VCC Clubrooms, Cnr Hale Road/Tonkin Hwy, WATTLE GROVE, WA
 Website: <http://www.veterancarclubofwa.asn.au/>
 For collectors and enthusiasts of ex-military vehicles

Military Jeep Club of Queensland Incorporated (MJCQ)

Address: MJCQ, PO Box 8131, Woollongabba, QLD 4102, Australia
 Contact: Darren Witty Tel: 0412 071 422 Email: Secretary@mjcqinc.com
 Dates of Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month
 At Rocklea Showgrounds, Ipswich Rd, Rocklea, Brisbane, Qld. Website: www.mjcqinc.com
 Dedicated to the preservation of the WW2 Jeep and other military vehicles.

Australian Military Equipment Collectors Limited. (AMEC Limited)

Address: Secretary, Australian Military Equipment Collectors Ltd, 13 Knox Close, Carwoola, NSW 2620
 Contact person: Mark Sierant Phone No: 0419 259 069 Email: sierant@tpg.com.au
 Dates of Meetings: As required Locations of Meetings: As Required
 Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ausziemecs/>
 'To encourage the ownership, preservation and use of historical military vehicles and equipment'

Victorian Military Vehicle Corps (VMVC)

Address: PO Box 1209, Kensington, Vic 3031
 Contact : Gordon Edwards Phone No: (03) 93768208 Email: 42ausjeep@hotmail.com
 Dates of Meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month Locations of Meetings: Rats of Tobruk Hall, Albert Park.
 Website: www.vmvc.org.au
 "A military vehicle collectors club"

WW2 Jeeps NSW

Contact person: Mitch Holland Phone Number: 0418 869 709 Email: mitchtez@gmail.com
 Dates of Meetings: as required Locations of Meetings: can be anywhere
 Website: Still under consideration as at January 2013 if we can find an enthusiastic webmaster!

WW2 Jeeps NSW is an "unofficial" Association of enthusiasts of the legendary WW2 Jeeps (41 to 45), however membership is open to anyone with an interest in Military history and not restricted to where you live. We are bonded together by a monthly newsletter sent out regularly to an email list and the only new membership joining criteria is a sense of participation for your and current members benefit.

Find us on Facebook : **world war2 jeeps nsw** (fledgling group via this method with problems still being ironed out)

Military Vehicle Group of Tasmania Inc.

President: Lou Hanslow, 758 Richmond Road, Cambridge, TAS 7170 Ph/Fax 03 6248 5159
 Secretary: John Boucher Phone: 03 6273 8524 Email: johnbetty@oneseniors.com.au

Directory of Australian Military Vehicle groups - cont'd

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Wartime Vehicle Conservation Group SA Inc. (WVCG)

Contact: Rick Shearman Mobile No.: 0408 835 018 Email: rickshearman@bigpond.com
 Dates of meetings: 1st Tuesday of every month Location of meetings: Tower Hotel, Magill, SA
 Organisation dedicated to preservation of military vehicles.

Military Vehicle Preservation Society SA Inc. (MVPSSA)

Mailing Address: PO Box 174, Salisbury, SA 5108
 Contact: Trevor Brown Mobile No. 0418 829 320 Email: trevload@bigpond.com
 Dates of meetings: Last Tuesday of Month except December No Meeting. AGM in July.
 Location of meetings: Sturton Road, Edinburgh Parks, SA 5111
 Website: www.military-vehicle-museum.org.au
 The Military Vehicle Preservation Society SA Inc., and National Military Vehicle Museum. Our Society has been in service for 37 years, and our Museum celebrated 20 years in August 2013.

Land Rover Owners Club of Australia Sydney Branch Inc.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 172 Concord West NSW 2138 Contact email: Secretary@LROC.com.au
 Date of meetings: 4th Tuesday each month (exc. Dec)
 Location of meetings: Veteran Car Club Hall, 134 Queens Road, Five Dock, NSW
 Website: www.lroc.com.au

Description of the club: The Land Rover Owners Club (LROC) was formed in 1966 by a group of enthusiasts who shared an interest in four wheel driving and the great outdoors. It caters for all models from Series I.

Australian Armoured Vehicle Association

Mailing address: Australian Armoured Vehicle Association Inc., ASIC Registration NSW Y2413247,
 PO Box 41, Newport Beach, NSW 2106 Contact: Mal French 0415 635 519
 The Australian Armoured Vehicle Association (AAVA) is a collection of enthusiasts who own, restore and display military vehicles. Formed in the late nineties with the aim of pooling resources and knowledge to benefit anyone seeking to collect, renovate and display armoured vehicles.

Military History Group Inc.

Mailing address: PO Box 6, Dallas, VIC 3047 Contact: Tony Jordan (President) (03) 9359 4687
 The MHG Inc is based in Victoria and is an organisation dedicated to the restoration and preservation of military vehicles and their heritage. The MHG attends various events throughout Victoria and NSW and welcomes new members.



KVE Inc
Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated

Entry forms can be sent to the
 following address:

Jan Thompson
 9/1 Millett Rd, Mosman, NSW, 2088

Phone: 0423 943 010

KVE Incorporated

Organisers of the Annual Corowa Swim-In

Commences on the long weekend (Victorian
 Public Holiday) in March.

Please visit our website for more info.

<http://corowaswim-in.org>

Submissions for this newsletter can be emailed
 to:

kveinc@optusnet.com.au

See you at Corowa in 2015.

Booking Form for Swap Meet stall

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COROWA PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY INC

POSTAL ADDRESS:
P O Box 190
COROWA NSW 2646

SECRETARY:
Jan McKenna - (02) 6033 1148
0427 331 148

APPLICATION FOR TRADE SPACE AT THE
COROWA SWIM-IN & MILITARY VEHICLE GATHERING
TO BE HELD AT COROWA SHOWGROUND ON SATURDAY 14TH MARCH
 (Swap Meet organised on behalf of Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated)

Business Name:

Contact Name:

Address:

.....

Phone No: Mobile No: Work No:

Email address:

Description of Goods or Services intended to sell or display

.....

Costs: \$10 per day, for Outdoor site 6 x 6 metres (approx.)

\$20 per day, for Undercover site 6 x 6 metres (approx.)

(Double the rate for 6 x 12 metres (approx.), etc.)

Stalls can be open from Thursday to Saturday, charged as above

Any queries, contact Jan McKenna on (02) 6033 1148 or 0427 331 148

or email: janandfrankmckenna@bigpond.com

Camping at Showground for Stallholders only, from Thursday to Sunday
Camping fee is \$10 per person, per night.

COST FOR YOUR SITE: (To be paid before Show Day)

Camping @\$10 per person/per night

Space @\$10.00 per 6 x 6 metres (Outdoor)

@\$20.00 per 6 x 6 metres (Undercover).....

Total Cost for Site.....

Signed by Applicant

Dated

Entry Fee can also be paid straight into the **Westpac Albury** cheque account for:

"Corowa PA&H Society" BSB: 032745 Account No. 270175

Please enter your bank deposit reference, date and amount in boxes below:

Ref:	Date:	Amount \$
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Please ensure your name and the word "Swap Meet" is on the Bank Deposit/Transfer form so we can easily distinguish who has deposited the money and post or email this Entry Form to the address at top of form.



KHAKI VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS INC.
Unit 9, 1 Millett Road , MOSMAN, NSW, 2088
Mobile: 0423 943 010
Email: kveinc@optusnet.com.au
Website: corowaswim-in.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Reg. No. INC9884485

(incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)

FULL NAME OF APPLICANT.....

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

MAILING ADDRESS

(if different from residential address)

TOWN/CITY STATE POSTCODE

CONTACT TELEPHONE NO (H) (W)

MOBILE EMAIL

..... hereby apply to become a member of KVE Inc.
 (occupation)

As a member of KVE, I agree to be bound by the rules of the Club at the time being in force.

KVE Membership Fee \$ 30 per year

Family Membership Fee \$45 per year

Amount Paid

Signature of applicant

Date

Nominated by

Seconded by

Lodge completed form, together with payment, with the Secretary.

Please make cheque or money order payable to KVE Inc. (Sorry no credit card facilities.)

Send to Jan Thompson, 9/1 Millett Rd, Mosman, NSW, 2088 kveinc@optusnet.com.au

Membership Fee can also be paid straight into the Westpac cheque account for:

"Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated" BSB: 032521 Account No. 162538

Please ensure your name is on the Bank Deposit/Transfer form so we can easily distinguish who has deposited money and post or email your Membership Form

Privacy: The information you have provided may be made available to Club members from time to time. Please indicate if you do not wish your details to be disclosed.

Scott Rough
PRESIDENT

Jan Thompson
SECRETARY

Harvey Black
VICE PRESIDENT

36th Annual Corowa Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering

Monday 9th March to Sunday 15th March 2015

“Year of the Emergency Vehicle”

& “Year of General Motors”

Held annually at Corowa, NSW



All ex-military vehicles and enthusiasts are invited to attend

ENTRY FORM

Entrant/Driver Name.....

Address.....

Participants Names.....

.....

Contact numbers: (H)..... (W).....

Mobile.....Fax:.....

Email:.....

Expected day of arrival:.....

Member of the following clubs:.....

Vehicle Year..... Vehicle Make..... Vehicle Model.....

Registration/Permit No.....

DECLARATION

All entrants, drivers, riders and participants enter and participate solely at their own risk. The organisers, promoters, sponsors, their agents or employees will not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by or to any entrant, owner, driver, rider or passenger under any circumstances. In signing this declaration I acknowledge that I have read, understood and accepted the Rules and Conditions of entry. I certify that the vehicle entered complies with the rules of KVE Incorporated. All firearms brought to the event must meet NSW firearms legislation. All vehicles or vessels that enter the water must comply with the NSW Boating Regulations. I agree to be bound by these rules and by all roads, waterways and traffic management laws and regulations. I agree to show due courtesy to all users of the roads and waterways. Any conditions not governed by the regulations will be adjudicated by the Committee whose decision shall be final.

Entrant's Signature..... Date.....

ENTRY FORMS TO ARRIVE BY 28th FEBRUARY 2015

Entry Fee is **\$20** per Entrant enclosed with Entry form

Please make cheque or money order payable to KVE Inc. (Sorry no credit card facilities.)

Send to Jan Thompson, 9/1 Millett Rd, Mosman, NSW, 2088 or kveinc@optusnet.com.au

Entry Fee can also be paid straight into the Westpac cheque account for:

“Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated” BSB: 032521 Account No. 162538

Ref.	Date:	Amount \$:
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Please enter your bank deposit reference, date and amount in boxes below:

Please ensure your name is on the Bank Deposit/Transfer form so we can easily distinguish who has deposited the money, and post or email this Entry Form to the above address.