



# KVE News

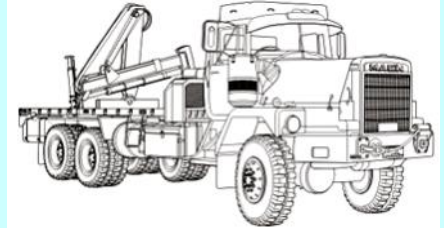
Newsletter of Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Inc.  
Organisers of the Annual Corowa Swim-In held  
at Corowa N.S.W.

No. 48

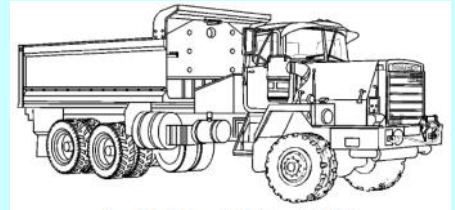
October 2024



**Corowa Swim-In**  
**10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> March**  
**2025**



**Year of**  
**the**  
**Mack &**  
**Unimog**



All other makes and types of Military Vehicles are also welcomed to attend.

**Don't forget to send your entry form  
in for 2025 Corowa Swim-In  
"Year of the Mack & Unimog"  
Form at end of this newsletter.**

**In this issue:**

**Details of the 2025 Corowa Swim-In**

**Annual Military Vehicle Swap Meet & Vehicle Show**

**Article on Medium Truck replacement programme 1977 by Paul Handel**

**Article on ACI Sentinel tank by John Belfield**

**Accommodation list**

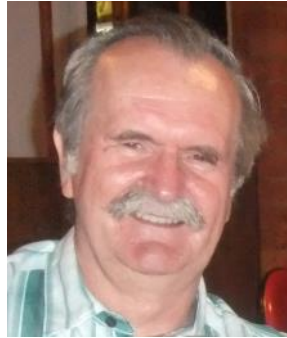
**and more .....**

**Supported by:**





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**No.48****KVE News****October 2024**

**News magazine of  
Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated**  
Organisers of the Annual Corowa Swim-In  
& Military Vehicle Gathering  
Held every March at Corowa, NSW.

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**Website: www.corowaswim-in.org**

## President's Report

Hi,  
Time is moving on and we are open for entries to the 2025 Corowa Swim-In. Enter now, so you do not forget. We look forward to meeting and greeting participants, old and new to our event.

Also in this issue are two very interesting articles, one from Paul Handel on the army's vehicle replacement programme which ended up with the acceptance of the Macks and Unimogs. The other article is from John Belfield on the AC1 Sentinel tank.

Full details of the coming event on the following pages, also you can use the QR Code to scan with your mobile phone to open and fill the entry form, see below;



Best regards,  
Richard Farrant  
President and Editor - Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Inc.

**KVE received a grant from the Federation Council for the 2024 event, we thank them for their continued support of the Swim-In.**



**FEDERATION  
COUNCIL**

## Secretary & Public Relations report

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### Important information for people attending the Corowa Swim-In in March 2025

#### 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 to be a part of the gathering. Thanks to our supporters: Federation Council, Club Corowa and Waldrons IGA. We also would like to thank the organisers of the trips from Wednesday to Friday. They set up Route Cards which are now put in the Special Edition Newsletter. We have discussed some possible visits to really interesting places next year and as they are confirmed you will hear about them. At the Site Office we also ask people to put their names on the list so the trip organisers know of numbers expected. Sometimes there are meals involved in the trip and the venue requires approx. numbers so they can have the food and staff available.

#### KVE preparations for the Swim-In: March 2025:

We were very impressed with the number of participants this year and every year the event attracts more people who have never been before. As we are required to order items for our pre-registered participants we appreciate the entry forms ASAP.

#### Entry Form for 2025:

If you haven't returned your Entry Form for 2025 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 \$30 per vehicle to enter and if you pre-register by 28<sup>th</sup> February you will receive a participant pack upon arrival in Corowa.

#### KVE Site Office:

We are looking for people who may be interested in helping out with shifts on our roster system. 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 in 2024.

Upon registering in upon arrival at Corowa we appreciate people putting their names down for the trips on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. This can be done at the Site Office and gives the trip organisers an estimate of the numbers who will be attending.

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

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.

#### **Program of Events:**

2025 Program of Events: During the week we organise trips to places of interest. So far next year there will be a trip to Jindera and Gerogery on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Kel Baxter is organising a trip on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March (more information in the January 2025 newsletter) and we will have the 3<sup>rd</sup> Veterans and Vehicles Reunited at Club Corowa on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March. At this stage our guest speaker on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March will be Kristian Kemper from Everyman who will talk on his role with the Australian Army.



## Secretary & Public Relations report - cont'd

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### **Vehicles and Veterans Reunited details:**

Along with our military vehicles we have invited the Corowa and District Car Club and the Corowa Historic Vehicle and Machinery Club. We are hoping that The Australian Defence Force will bring some vehicles along as in past years.

### **Requirements while in Ball Park:**

The caravan park is a council owned property and the local police patrol this area. People are not allowed to drive unregistered vehicles or machinery and **must have a correct licence** for driving vehicles in these areas.

**Local rules for footpaths:** Last year people were seen driving on the new footpaths and this was reported to the council. Please **do not** drive on footpaths.

### **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.

Theme vehicles will also receive identification card to put alongside your vehicle number.

### **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.

### **Offers of help are gratefully appreciated:**

As you all understand this event is a role where no one is paid for the help they provide. We are all volunteers and there are times during the week where we would like some assistance:

1. People on the Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March to put together the Participant packs and help set up the Site Office.
2. People to take on shifts at the Site Office from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March. During the week the site office is open at Ball Park Caravan Park and on Saturday a temporary office is located at the Showgrounds. To run the office effectively we require a minimum of 3 people on each shift. In the past there have been both KVE members and participants who have helped and we really appreciate their help.
3. Marshals for the Showgrounds.
4. People to help pack away our site office at Ball Park Caravan Park at the end of the week.

### **Swap Meet Site holders at the Corowa Showgrounds:**

This year the Swap Meet is being managed on behalf of KVE, by the Corowa Pastoral, Agricultural & Horticultural Society Inc. (Corowa PA&H Soc.). Anyone wishing to book a swap meet site should contact Jan McKenna from the Society, on 0427 331 148 or email [janandfrankmckenna@bigpond.com](mailto:janandfrankmckenna@bigpond.com) The application form is at the back of this newsletter with full details of rates per day, either Outdoor or Undercover.

There will be some stallholders open for business at the Showground on Thursday and Friday.

The official day of the Swap Meet at the Showground will be on Saturday. There will be 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.

## Secretary & Public Relations report - cont'd

Page 6

Camping for stallholders only is available at the Showground from Thursday to Saturday inclusive \$10 per person/per night. Stalls can be open from Thursday to Saturday and charged per day as below.

Stall rates

\$20 for Outdoor site 6 x 3 metres (approx.)

\$25 for Undercover site 3.65 x 3.2 metres (approx.)

Double the rate for double sized areas (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 at future events.

Stallholders who are camping will be able to use the toilets which are owned by the Show Society. The Racecourse toilet block will be opened either Friday night or Saturday morning. There are no showers.

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:

Email: janandfrankmckenna@gmail.com.au

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

Jan will have her own safety jacket. Please Direct depositing fees:

Hume Bank whose bank details are -

BSB 640000

Account No 568163516

Put your name if possible so it is easier to track payment.

### Themes for 2026 and 2027

In 2026 it will be Year of the 6X6 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March

In 2027 it will be Year of the Utility from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

### VOTING FORM

*Please put this form in the Suggestion Box by 12 midday on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> 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. Please come along at 8pm to the presentations outside the radar van.*

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

**1. 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:

**2. Hard Luck award:**

Name:

Reason why:

**3. Breakdown Award:**

Name:

Reason why:

**4. Longest distance driven in a military vehicle:**

Name:

Number of Kilometres driven:

**Secretary & Public Relations report - cont'd**

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**5. Encouragement Award:**

Name:

Reason why:

**6. People's Favorite Choice: For your favorite vehicle attending this year.**

Vehicle rally number:

Type of Vehicle:

**7. Unimog Theme - People's Choice: For your favorite Unimog attending this year.**

Vehicle rally number:

**8. Mack Theme - People's Choice: For your favorite Mack attending this year.**

Vehicle rally number:

We are always open to other suggestions of awards. We have had the Goodwill Award and Just In Time Award.

**Annual Treasure Hunt:**

Sam King will be organising another Treasure Hunt which can be done anytime from Wednesday. It was a popular activity at the 2024 event. You will be able to collect an envelope from the KVE Site Office.

**Swap Meet Stalls in Ball Park Caravan Park:**

To keep the management at Ball Park happy we suggest if you do want to set up a swap meet site in their caravan park please call in at the main office and talk with management. KVE are not responsible for swap meet sites in the caravan park.

**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 [kve.editor@btinternet.com](mailto:kve.editor@btinternet.com). 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. By joining KVE you will be given more of a chance to make suggestions for how the event is run in the future.

For further information on the event please feel free to give me a call on **0412 078096** or send an email to [kveinc@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kveinc@optusnet.com.au) To ensure you are kept up to date with details send me an email to get on the database.

Until next time,

Jan Thompson-Creamer - Secretary

**To all those of you who intend to bring their Ex-Military Vehicles to the Corowa Swim-In, would you please register them in at the KVE Site Office on arrival.**

**This is very important as they will then be covered under our insurance and be able to take part in the activities.**

# **Annual Military Vehicle Swap Meet & Vehicle Show**

**Corowa Showground, Corowa, NSW**

**Saturday 15th March 2025**

**Opens at 8 am**

**Gold coin collection at Public Entrance**

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 night, per campsite.

Stalls can be open from Thursday to Saturday and charged per day as below.

## Stall Rates

\$20 per day for Outdoor site 6 x 3 metres (approx.)

\$25 per day for Undercover site 3.65 x 3.2 metres (approx.)

Double rates for double size areas (approx.)

## 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 cold 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 Inc.

Jan McKenna from the Show Society will be organising the sites and collecting all stall and camping fees, her contact details are as follows:

[janandfrankmckenna@gmail.com](mailto:janandfrankmckenna@gmail.com)

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

Booking form at the end of this newsletter

Advance enquiries to Jan McKenna as above

Alternative contact is Sam King (KVE committee member)

on 0406 255 802 [kingsmedals@yahoo.com](mailto:kingsmedals@yahoo.com)



## Year of the Mack and Unimog

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**With a large number of the Macks and Unimogs that went through the army disposal sales, having come into ownership of military vehicle collectors and enthusiasts, we have created this theme for the 2025 Annual Corowa Swim-In.**

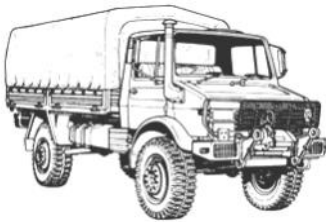
**We encourage owners to enter their vehicles for the event and also to meet up with other owners where you will be able to share information, and find out more about your vehicles.**

**As always, the theme vehicles are just part of the event and all ex-military vehicles are welcomed to our friendly event, from jeeps, Land Rovers, trucks, amphibians to armour wheeled and tracked.**

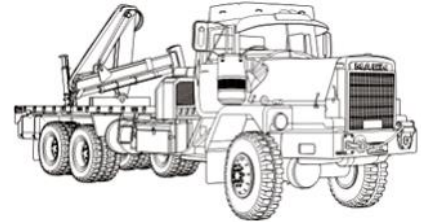
**Entry Form at end of this newsletter**



## The Australian Army Medium Truck Replacement Programme



by Paul Handel



### Introduction

By 1977 the Australian Army's fleet of General Service (GS) 2 1/2 ton and 5 ton International trucks had been in service for about 15 years. The range of International trucks had been chosen in 1960, and on that occasion the army had laid down specifications for the vehicles required, as there were no commercially available vehicles suitable for military use in Australia at the time. Thus, the trucks produced by International were unlike other vehicles on the Australian market, and in fact were the forerunners of the highly successful civilian ACCO range.

However, around this time, the commercial model ceased production and many major components, especially the engines, were no longer in production. This meant that the army, if it wished to keep the range of vehicles in an operational condition, would need to pay for a special production run of major assemblies, assuming that the manufacturer was willing to accept the order. In addition, the maintenance of the fleet was causing increasing problems.

### Tenderers

The decision was taken in early 1977 to replace the Internationals, and a briefing was held in Melbourne, Victoria, for representatives of 31 world-wide companies in order to state the army's requirements and to call for tenders for the procurement of evaluation vehicles. The criteria for the programme required that the selected equipments be based on commercial components which were preferably already available to commercial operators. This would mean that the army would have a range of vehicles which had commonality with civilian vehicle and that service and repair parts were widely available round the country.

The Army Staff Requirement was for two types of vehicle:

- an all-wheel drive vehicle of three to four tonne payload,
- an all-wheel drive vehicle (6 x 6) of eight to ten tonne payload,

Of the tenders received, 32 submissions were in the four tonne range and 25 were in the eight tonne vehicle range. The names of all tenderers were never publicised. In September 1978 the Minister for Defence announced that the government had decided to purchase three vehicles each from five companies. The suppliers of four tonne trucks for the evaluation phase were General Motors Holden Ltd and Mercedes-Benz (Australia) Pty Ltd, and the eight tonne trucks were to be supplied by Thies Toyota Pty Ltd, Leyland Motor Corporation of Australia, and Mack Trucks Australia. The five companies delivered their vehicles to the army starting in May 1979.

### Vehicle types

General Motors Holden supplied Bedford MKP 4 x 4 four tonners for evaluation. The MKP was basically the same vehicle as that already in service with the British Army. The civilian MFR/MJR range was already in wide use in Australia, with many all-wheel drive vehicles in service with government, state forest, fire fighting, electricity and water supply authorities. The Bedford was powered by a Vauxhall 8.2 litre diesel engine. In addition to minor alterations to suit the tender, the vehicles had an all-steel drop side body built by Gitsam Transport Engineers of South Australia, complete with canvas canopies.

## Vehicle Replacement Trials - cont'd

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One of the contenders for the 4 tonne Truck Trial –  
The Bedford MKP, still bearing the Bronze Green colour of the British Army.



Mercedes-Benz (Australia) supplied Unimog UL 1700L 4 x 4 four tonne trucks. The Unimog range had only been available in right-hand drive since 1977, and the UL 1700L was supplied in long wheelbase format to enable the four tonne body to be fitted. While only a few Unimogs were to be found in the Australian civilian scene, they were in widespread European use. The UL 1700L's were fitted with a turbo-charged six-cylinder diesel engine of 5.7 litre capacity producing 124 kW. It is believed the evaluation vehicles were fully imported.



Thiess Toyota supplied Hino Model ZC 121 E 6 x 6 eight tonners. The drive line and cab/chassis were all commercially proven units, and it is believed they were fitted with locally-made bodies. They were powered by a Hino EK 100 six-cylinder diesel engine developing 190 kW.

The Hino HN3 fitted with crane behind the Cabin



Leyland Australia provided Leyland Mastiff 6 x 6 eight tonne trucks. The vehicles were built from the ground up at the Leyland Engineering Division in Sydney, with design support coming from the Scammell Division of British Leyland UK. The aluminium bodies of the three trucks were built by Highgate Engineering.



## Vehicle Replacement Trials - cont'd

Page 12

The Mastiffs were powered by Perkins turbo-charged V8 diesels of 160 kW, and were of cab-over-engine configuration.

The Leyland Mastiff LL3 fitted with crane behind the cabin.



Rear view of the Leyland Mastiff LL3 fitted with crane .



Mack Trucks Australia provided all-Australian-built vehicles in its RM 6866 RSX range of eight tonne trucks. The vehicles were powered by Mack T13 676 Maxidyne 300 six-cylinder diesel engines producing 212 kW. The bodies were specially designed to army requirements.

Three vehicles from each tenderer made up the test line-up.

In order to identify each vehicle type, the vehicles were marked as follows:

- BF for Bedford
- MB for Mercedes Benz
- HN for Hino
- LL for Leyland



## Vehicle Replacement Trials - cont'd

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Numbers were added to each vehicle according to their particular fittings:

1 was fitted with the EDE 28Volt Alternator

2 was fitted with a winch

3 was fitted with a crane

It is unclear if BF3 and MB3 carried cranes behind the cabin.

The vehicles carried Army Registration Numbers (ARNs) in the range 30538 to 30552.

A reference vehicle was also used by MTTT, which was an International 5 tonne GS vehicle (F1). The International carried the marking RV for Reference Vehicle and had the ARN 176834.

### Testing

Following delivery to the army, an exhaustive series of trials was undertaken. Army Office, Canberra, requested management of the trials be undertaken by the Trials Directorate of the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO).

The objectives of the trials were to establish characteristics and performance of the vehicles in accordance with the Army Staff Requirement; to identify short-comings, advantages and implications of service use; to assess relative costs over the whole of life; and to determine if the vehicles were air-portable in RAAF C-130 aircraft.

The essential characteristics of the vehicles eventually chosen were to be reliability, economy of manpower, ease of maintenance, conformity to State Road Laws, mobility, ergonomics, engine characteristics and engine suppression (for radios).

In order to conduct the user evaluations, a special-purpose unit was raised and based at the Army School of Transport at Puckapunyal, Victoria. The unit was designated Medium Truck Trials Team (MTTT) and comprised 60 soldiers of various corps, commanded by an RACT Major, with a Captain heading the RAEME element. The unit was formed in February 1979 and disbanded in April 1980. The trials unit clocked up to 50,000 km on each of the vehicles over varying terrain and in all-weather conditions including desert (Woomera), snow (Victorian Alps) and jungle (Tully) areas.

Photos of the vehicles on trial at the EDE Proving Ground at Monegetta, show four of the vehicles on their side as though they had rolled during testing. The Leyland was the only one not seen in the rollover tests (or accidents).



The three contenders for the 8 tonne Truck Trial. Mack, Leyland and Hino

## Vehicle Replacement Trials - cont'd

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Following an evaluation of the trials results and additional studies, which included examination of price and local content, each of the competitors in the trials was required to re-tender on the basis of production quantities in July 1980.



The Three Heavy Trucks towing 5.5 inch guns to trial the towing capacity of them as a Gun Tractor

### Eight tonne truck Chosen

The first result was announced in late May 1981 when the Department of Defence awarded an \$86 million contract to Mack Trucks Australia for the supply of 940 eight tonne trucks to the Australian Army. The trucks would be supplied over a five-year period beginning in February 1982. Local content in the contract was over 60%, with local expenditure in the region of \$73 million. The vehicles would be built in the company's plant in Brisbane.

### Mack Production Vehicles

The Mack, designated Truck, Heavy, Cargo, Mobility Category 3 (MC3), was the standard vehicle with several derivatives being built, utilising the same cab/chassis. These variants included the standard Cargo Truck, Cargo truck with winch, Cargo truck with crane, Dump truck 8 cubic metre capacity (with and without winch), Water Tanker, Fuel Tanker, Gun Tractor, Ammunition vehicle, Bitumen distributor, Transit concrete mixer and Wrecker.

The gun tractor and ammunition vehicle were to be used as the tractors and support vehicles for the US - designed and built M198 155 mm gun. The two equipments were basically similar with a crane in the centre of the load body and the gun tractor having a crew compartment behind (but not connected to) the driver's cabin. The crew compartment had steel head- and tail-boards and a canvas canopy and sides, rather like a tent. Both vehicles were equipped with circular cab roof hatches and are the only vehicles in the Mack range to be so equipped.

The cargo variants were all capable of carrying 10 one tonne pallets on highways at 100km/hr, and eight one tonne pallets cross-country. Ready access, by drop sides, for fork lifts enabled maximum stores movement and minimised the labour requirements. The vehicle could ford up to 0.8 m, and negotiate gradients of 50% and side slopes of 20%.

The water tanker version had one large tank with a capacity of 14,775 litres. It was equipped with pumping equipment and distribution outlets under the tank.

The recovery vehicle mounted a Holmes 750 twin boom wrecker unit. The Holmes unit was mounted close to the rear bogie of the truck, the area between the cabin and the wrecker frame being taken up with tool boxes and equipment storage. Thirty units were supplied. This Wrecker was superseded by the Heavy Recovery Vehicle (HRV).

## Vehicle Replacement Trials - cont'd

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The first vehicle, Army Registration No 36001, was handed to the army in June 1982. In its first year of military service the Mack underwent further evaluation as a road train. The road train comprised a Mack cargo truck towing two four-wheeled 'dog' trailers, each of which carried laden containers. The all-up weight of the combination was over 45 tonnes and the Macks appeared to be able to handle the load without major problems. Additional trials conducted include the carriage of M113A1 series vehicles on the Mack.

### Four Tonne truck Chosen

It was announced in October 1981 the Australian Army would purchase 1295 Mercedes Benz Unimog UL1700L Four tonne trucks valued at \$67 million, with local orders totalling \$25 million. The cab and chassis were imported as CKD packs from the company's German plant, and assembled locally in the Mercedes Benz factory in Mulgrave, Victoria. Australian content included cargo bodies, cranes, tyres, generators, fuel tanks and radiators. The Unimog, or Truck, Cargo, Medium, MC2, was a more agile vehicle than the Mack with greater cross-country performance while maintaining a high road speed. Its use was with first line units which required the superior cross-country performance.

### MB Unimog Production Vehicles

The 1295 vehicles ordered include a number of variants, including 858 standard cargo vehicles, which could also used as gun tractors for the 105mm Hamel gun. The remaining vehicles of the contract comprised 287 cargo trucks with winch, 76 cargo trucks with crane and 69 dump trucks with winch. A Medium Recovery Vehicle (MRV) with six-wheel drive was later produced.

The first production Unimog was handed over to the army in October 1982 (bearing the Army Registration No 38001), with the units of the Operational Deployment Force based in Townsville, North Queensland, receiving the priority in issues. As was the case with the Mack, the Unimog was issued on a geographical basis with the old fleet of 2 ½ and 5 tonners being withdrawn from the units to coincide with the issue of the new vehicles.

### Conclusion

The purchase of these vehicles gave the Australian Army a much-needed increase in mobility. The vehicles chosen were the best of those selected for trials, and appeared to be the preference of a majority of soldiers involved.

(The basis of this article was that written for Jane's Defence Weekly of 11 February 1984. All photos used were taken by the author during the trials period, generally at Holsworthy and Puckapunyal.)

**More photos of the trials vehicles ;**



**Rear view of  
the Bedford MKP**



# Vehicle Replacement Trials - cont'd



**Top Left: Mack rear view**  
**Top Right: Hino rear view**  
**Right: Bedford MKP side view**

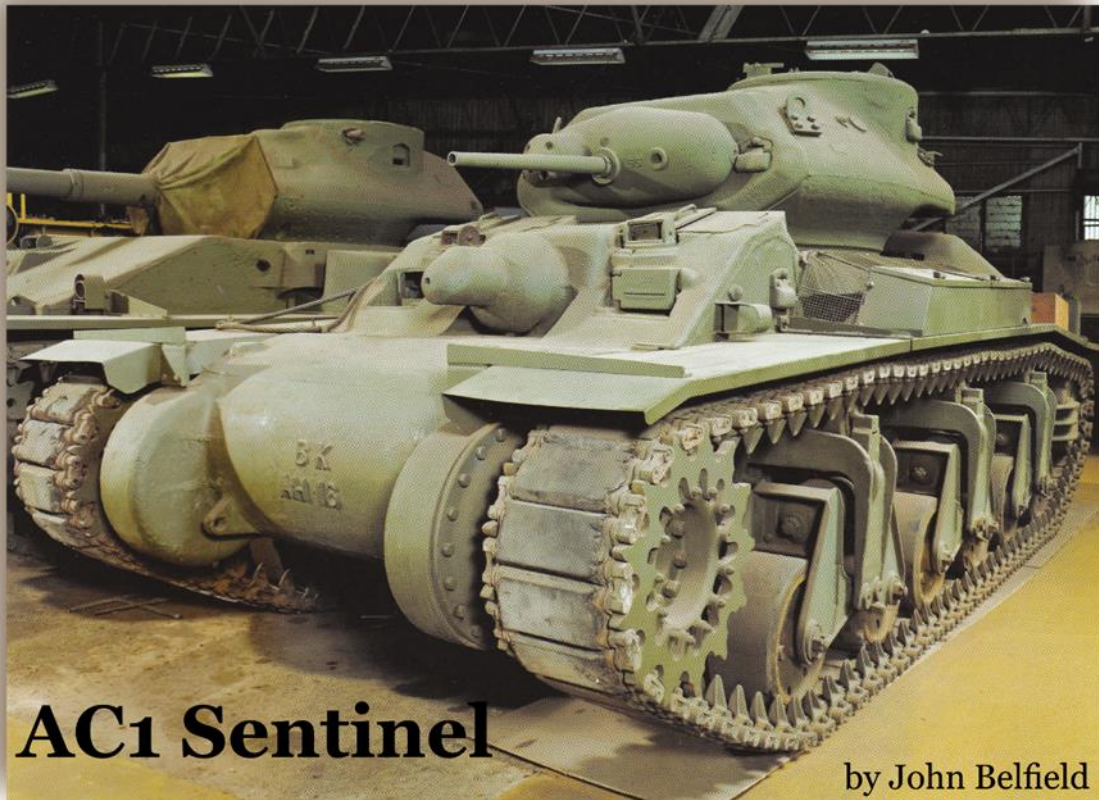


**Left: International FI 5 ton which carried the marking RV for Reference Vehicle and ARN 176834**

**Right: Mack with wide tyres**







**AC1 Sentinel**

by John Belfield

**This AC1 Sentinel 8006 was one of the first Australian Cruiser Tanks built here in Australia to help beat the Japanese if and when they invaded Australia.**

The Japanese threat had been looming for several years and in 1940 the Australian government decided that we should build our own tank. It was decided to start with 3 experimental tanks number E1, E2 and E3.

E1 was finished and ready for testing late December 1941 just a few weeks after the Japanese treacherously attacked Pearl Harbour on 7 December 1941. Any doubts that we had about the treacherous intentions of the Japanese attack was demonstrated in 9 weeks' time when they bombed Darwin with more bombs and planes than at Pearl Harbour!

Production of the AC1 started soon after early 1942 and No. 8001 was accepted by the army soon after. As a matter of interest we have the complete axle housing and transmission of 8001 in our workshop. This 3½ ton transmission is chained to the floor and walls together with an E1 steel track sprocket and we are endeavouring to free up 6 rolls of rusty MK5 steel track by winching the steel track around the sprocket with our M816 Wrecker and forklift using lots of diesel and WD40 to free up 50 year old track. Why do I bother? Well it is an engineering challenge which at 92 I still enjoy and it is an important part of Australian Military and engineering history.

### *So back to saving AC1 No. 8006*

Well, I was in the middle of collecting Military Vehicles with the intention of starting The Melbourne Tank Museum, and that's another story, told elsewhere.

It was probably late 1980s on my way up to the Bandiana Disposal Sales at Wodonga that I heard about a tank at Wahgunyah in Victoria.

After a few enquiries I found it behind a suburban house near the Motel. It was just an empty hull with no tracks, turret or engines. It was an empty hull languishing on the wood heap behind this house. After contacting the house owner who was happy to sell the wreck at a reasonable and affordable price, I could see it had done a lot of work as a tractor and it must have been used as spares for another machine later on.

## ACI Sentinel by John Belfield - cont'd

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Next problem was how to move it out of the wood heap behind this house? Also how to get it home? And was it a worthwhile project? Was it worth saving? – it didn't even have enough road wheels to tow out of the wood heap. There was no rear section to the hull and part of the side of the hull and floor was missing and no tracks!



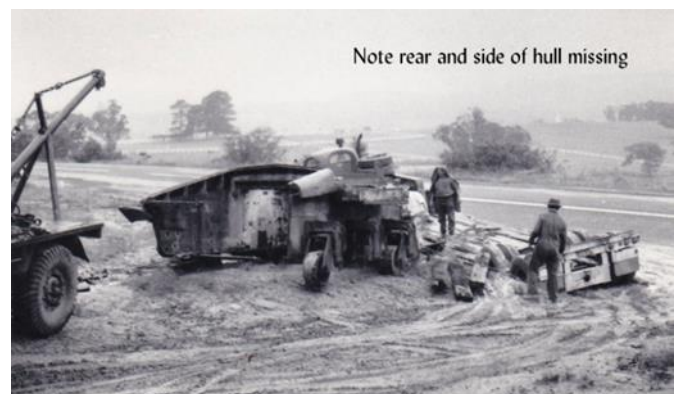
As I couldn't afford tank transport costs – the next step was to ask for assistance from a local contractor, Ken Lucas with the correct or near correct equipment to do the job. He had several Grant tanks suitably modified with huge winches that he used to extract large fallen trees from the local rivers. Grant tracks were in short supply all over Australia in the post-war period and a deal was made whereby I would supply a good set of second hand tracks in return for which he would load and transport my tank hull from Wahgunyah to Belgrave South. Also he agreed to lend me an old Blitz crane and winch to extract the hull from behind this house and place it on the roadside for him to load it up later.



It was a long slow and painful trip in the old Blitz at 50 kph from Wangaratta to Wahgunyah. The AC1 tank hull was winched out of its resting place and out onto the road ready for Ken to load up.



A few days later Ken arrived in his trusty old B61 Mack and side load low loader. It was raining, which actually helped to unload sideways by skidding it off with the good old Dodge Weapons Carrier with a Blitz winch all suitably anchored to a large gum tree.





## AC1 Sentinel by John Belfield - cont'd

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The hull remained in our storage yard at Belgrave South for a few years while I was fighting all the bureaucrats for 9 years to obtain all the necessary permits and permission to start a Military Museum. Eventually we, that is Pat (my long suffering wife) and I decided to look for a different location to build our museum. An old friend who had become an estate agent helped us to find a suitable site only 3 miles south of our present site where a different Council and better group of bureaucrats welcomed us and so by 1982 we had all the necessary permits and zoning to build our museum, and that's another story.

After we opened the museum in 1993 I was able to start work on restoring AC1 No 8006 Sentinel "unarmoured". The transmission and suspension was okay after fitting a further nine road wheels. The rear section of floor needed replacing together with some rear side armour and also the complete rear armour had been cut out and lost. Consequently the replacement rear armour has a different casting number to the original.

In the mid 1980's I had heard that a couple of men from Yarra Glen had bought an Australian Cruiser tank at Bandiana and driven it home and used it in the bush for logging. When I contacted them they told me that the Puckapunyal Tank Museum had taken it away a while back and placed it in their storage yard as a spare.



After visiting the Yarra Glen loggers, imagine my surprise to find the complete power pack of the three original engines and all accessories such as attached radiators and fan and fuel tanks etc. together with lots of handy parts including mudguards and tool boxes – all a bit second hand but restorable. This AC1 was numbered 8040 and eventually I was able to obtain it for the Melbourne Tank Museum in exchange for a very rare Australian armoured car and also as a matter of interest I was able to buy a Matilda Tank wreck which we restored into a Tank Dozer which is now in the Cairns Australian Armour and Artillery Museum together with 8006 AC1. While on the subject of new homes for AC1 it is probably of interest to a few people that the Yarra Glen AC1 No 8040 was eventually sold off from the Melbourne Tank Museum to Cairns Museum so that they could build a replica of probably the best of the Australian Cruiser series as the AC4 mounting the 17 PDR that was made in quantity by GMH at Fisherman's Bend. The same type of gun was fitted to the Sherman Firefly which was the best of the American tanks in WWII.

The power pack from Yarra Glen was mostly complete and just needed a bit of TLC including new spark plugs and points and the fuel system cleaned out, fan belts and radiator hoses. The transfer case was in very good condition and it was a pleasant surprise to see that the five gears were a nice quiet helical cut type. Also the multiplate clutch on the front of the transfer case was in good working condition. Also the transfer case had provision to direct drive an air compressor and a large generator suitable for fast turret rotation.

The three Cadillac engines in the power pack were in good condition and started up okay after fuel and batteries and more TLC. Once we had the power pack running nicely the complete power pack was lifted back into the hull with our trusty M816 wrecker of Melbourne Workshops origin.

## ACI Sentinel by John Belfield - cont'd

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This wrecker had been my wrecker in the 4<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Prince of Wales's Light Horse Light Aid Detachment in the 80's.

Next job was to weld up the rear hull section from a different tank hull number H69. This was followed with a turret and 40M gun from tank No. 8040.

Getting back to restoring 8006, next came mudguards and tool and storage bins, mostly copied from rusty relics from Yarra Glen logging. A good set of Grant tracks and road wheels was sourced and fitted together with lights and wiring and a good coat of Drab Olive paint.

The finished AC1 8006 stamped "not armoured" was displayed together with our AC3 rebuilt from a range target at our Melbourne Tank Museum in the late 90's.



AC1 8006 beside AC3 No AH99 in Melbourne Tank Museum 2006

We were very proud to be able to save these very rare and historic items in our museum and it was a sad day in 2006 when the whole of the museum exhibits were sold by auction. Altogether 258 lots and as a matter of interest the hull of E1 didn't get a bid and yes that's another story – still ongoing I hope !

Reason for selling after 12 years? Well we were entirely self-funded without any outside help or encouragement. Our annual income barely paid expenses so Pat and I worked to make a living.

The AC1 No. 8006 was sold to an Australian dealer who sold it overseas to Jacques Littlefield's Museum in California. After his death and more selling and manoeuvring the tank finished up at the Cairns Armour and Artillery Museum. The AC3 AH99 was sold at auction to Clive Palmer and was last seen in his storage yard at Elk in Queensland.

John W Belfield  
0400 900 193  
Creator of Melbourne Tank Museum  
456 Belgrave-Hallam Road  
Narre Warren North, Vic 3804  
Australia



# M.V. SPARES

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STARTER SWITCH

## Your Stories Wanted

We are always interested to publish your stories, reports, restoration tales and so on.

If you have one and would like it to be in KVE News, then please contact the Editor,

Richard on [kve.editor@btinternet.com](mailto:kve.editor@btinternet.com)

## ADVERTS

If you would like to put an advert in the next issue of KVE News contact the Editor: [kve.editor@btinternet.com](mailto:kve.editor@btinternet.com)

**Please let us know when you want your advert removed**

## King's Medal Mounting



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## AUSTRALIAN BREN GUN CARRIER PROJECT



Project comes with all items on Carrier in the photo plus more.

- All road wheels have been re-rubbered.
- Hull is mostly original with some plate repairs.
- Tracks in fair to good condition.
- Engine is reported to be rebuilt however can't be verified.
- Includes track winch and other tooling.
- Two new fuel tank skins supplied with original as sample.

Viewings via appointment (Toowoomba area) Private Sale no GST.  
Contact Nigel on 0418 795 022 for a full inventory of parts  
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J18-A3175 JMP  
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J18-A2754 Slat JMP  
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J06-A18180 slat & dodge JMP  
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J01-639555 slat JMP  
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J15-A1253 slat JMP  
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## Thank You to our Sponsors

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As you may not realise, to run this event there are costs involved and the participant's entry fees do not cover everything, and unlike many military vehicle events, we cannot get income from public admissions due to the very nature of this event. For instance, the Saturday Parade through Corowa has to have permission and approval from several authorities and road closure plans put into place and traffic management specialists hired. We have had great support from the Federation Council and the Corowa RSL (now called Club Corowa) for a number of years now, for which we are very grateful. Once again, we thank Waldrons IGA in Corowa for their generous support..



**Grateful thanks to our Supporter, Waldron's IGA  
For all your food, household and liquor requirements**



**KVE Inc. once again thank Club Corowa (formerly Corowa RSL) for being  
our main supporter of the 2024 Swim-In.**

**Club Corowa also hosted our Veterans & Vehicles Reunited display in their  
car park on Thursday of this year's event and the talk on Friday evening.**



**THE MILITARY HISTORY GROUP**  
 Invite you to their 15th Annual  
**DOOKIE**  
**MILITARY VEHICLE RALLY**

**SAT 5TH OCTOBER 2024 - 10AM-5PM**

Location: Mary St Dookie in main street—(Next to Fire Station) - Free Event

**CHECK-IN AT ENTRANCE UPON ARRIVAL**

**DMVR 2024 Plans Include ...**

- ◆ **MILITARY TRUCKS ◆ JEEPS ◆ MOTORBIKES**
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- \* **LIVING HISTORY ◆ WWI CAMP DISPLAY ◆ VMR 20TH ALH**



DMVR Enquiries welcome:

Military History Group Inc.: Gary Jordan Mbl: 0419 314 457  
 Or DMVR Site Coordinator: Sol Sutherland Mbl: 0427 538667  
 Email: dookieemporium@bigpond.com

More Info ...check out DMVR on <http://www.youtube.com/user/>

Drop into the Dookie Emporium and Café, Open Fri—Sun 9am-5pm - Chat to Sol about the event & the extensive range of Militaria Collectables & Antiques

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For latest updates Like & Follow on Facebook at ... Military History Group Inc.





# CLARENCE TOWN SWIM IN & RALLY 2024

## MONDAY 28 OCTOBER TO SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER

### CELEBRATION OF THE CARRIER

This year we are planning a drive to Tocal Homestead on the Thursday - Halloween. We invite drivers to put some Halloween bling on their cars for fun. The homestead is a 30 minute drive from Clarence Town. The homestead, in preserved original condition, was built in 1845. There are other structures on the property that pre-date the homestead. Captain Thunderbolt the bushranger was a farm hand at one time.



There are visiting options for Tocal.

- 1: \$32 per head for a 2 hour guided tour including a roast lunch - availability for 30 people
- 2: \$27 for 2 hour visit with no tour, no lunch - availability for 30 people.
- 3: \$15 1 hour visit. No tour and no lunch - availability for 30 people.

Payment needs to be made when booking. The Homestead will need to order meals so we need bookings by Wednesday 23rd October. \*\*\* please advise by 23rd of October any dietary requirements



In addition to the traditional event hats that are kindly donated by Newcastle Machinery Sales, we are taking sun safety to the next level and can provide bucket hats - which seem to be making a fashionable comeback. The hats are \$30. We need orders by 7 October. A minimum total order of 25 hats are needed for us to proceed with this initiative.

The hats come in 3 sizes.

S/S - head circumference of 54cm and under

S/M - 55 and 56 cm

L/XL - 57 to 60cm.

Payment for lunch and the hats can be made to the following account

Blair Olsen

BSB: 032505

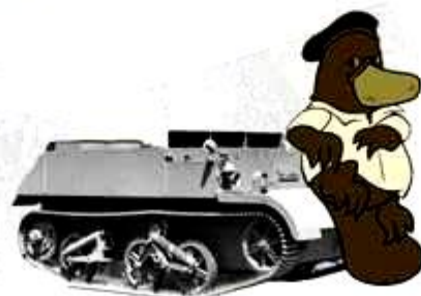
Account: 490160

Please leave your name and number if people as a reference

Please contact us if you need assistance with accommodation or have any questions.

Craig Olsen 0438 490 981

Blair Olsen 0438 483 154





**Sonia and Andrew Palmer manage the Ball Park Caravan Park**

**(02) 6033 1426**

**contact@ballparkcp.com.au**



A: Bridge Road, Corowa NSW  
T: 02 60331426  
contact@ballparkcp.com.au

**Ball Park Caravan Park** is located on a sweeping bend of the magnificent Murray River in the township of Corowa close to the historic John Foord Bridge.

The park provides a range of accommodation styles from large unpowered and powered sites available for caravans, camper trailers and tents plus cabins from standard to a

luxurious villa unit type. Water sports and related activities are one of the key reasons that visitors come to Corowa and stay at Ball Park Caravan Park which offers easy access to the Murray River.

To make a booking or for further information please contact the friendly staff at Ball Park Caravan Park.



## Kismet Riverside

### Premium Cottages - Caravans, RV's and Camping

### Standard Cottages

Located on the banks of the Murray river, 3 km west of Howlong NSW

Kerryn & Craig are your hosts, we are a family run business that have owned and operated the park since September 2022.

Kismet Riverside Lodge is set in a rural environment which gives you that peace and tranquillity of country living. We offer a wide range of flexible accommodation to best suit your needs.

Relaxation is the aim, that's the reason you're going on a holiday, here you can sit by the river and watch the world go by, the park has a tennis court, salt water pool, concrete boat ramp with access to the river and spacious camp sites.

<https://kismetriverside.com/2020/>

Contact Us;

Kerryn and Craig

Phone No: 02 6026 5748

Our Email address is: [staywithus@kismetriverside.com](mailto:staywithus@kismetriverside.com)

5189 Riverina Hwy, Howlong NSW 2643

With other events often occurring in the area at the time of the Swim-In, we have widened the area to include Rutherglen and here is some accommodation in that area. You can also search on [www.explorerutherglen.com.au](http://www.explorerutherglen.com.au)

## Accommodation in Rutherglen

Victoria Hotel	90 Main St.	Rutherglen 6585	02 6032 8610
Rutherglen Motor Inn	217 Main St.	Rutherglen 6585	1800 028 356
Walkabout Motel	15 Moodemere St.	Rutherglen 6585	02 6032 9572
Motel Woongarra	40 Drummond St.	Rutherglen 6585	02 6032 9588
Poachers Paradise	97 Murray St.	Rutherglen 6585	02 6032 7373
Golden Chain Wine Village Motor Inn	217 Main St.	Rutherglen 6585	1800 028 356

The above are a small selection of what accommodation is available around Rutherglen. To check further we suggest you go to [www.explorerutherglen.com.au](http://www.explorerutherglen.com.au) where you can find out price and availability for the period you wish to stay, and there are more to choose from.

**More accommodation listings for Corowa and surrounding area on next page**



## Where to stay around Corowa

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For further information or assistance in accommodation 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 to do it at [www.visitcorowaregion.com.au](http://www.visitcorowaregion.com.au)

Business Name	Address	Location	Phone
<b><u>Caravan Parks</u></b>			
Ball Park Caravan Park	Bridge Road	Corowa	02 6033 1426
Howlong Caravan Park	55 Hume Street	Howlong	02 6026 5304
Rivergum Holiday Park	386 Honour Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 1990
Bindaree Holiday Park	454 Honour Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 2500
Corowa Caravan Park	84 Federation Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 1944
<b><u>Motel</u></b>			
Best Western Heritage Motor Inn	25 Edward Street	Corowa	02 6033 1800
Corowa Gateway Motel	203 Sanger Street	Corowa	02 6033 1566
Federation Motor Inn	330 Honour Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 2022
Greenacres Motel	91-99 Federation Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 2288
Howlong Golf Resort	194 Golf Club Drive	Howlong	02 6026 5321
Lone Pine Motel	17 Lone Pine Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 2966
Motel Menere's	146 Federation Avenue	Corowa	02 6033 1066
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
<b><u>Self Contained</u></b>			
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
Oakliegh Hideaway	Piggins Road	Hopefield	02 6033 1814
Pete's Place	20 Gitchell Street	Corowa	02 6033 4495
The Stable @ Riesling	1/51 Riesling Street	Corowa	0439 456 337
<b><u>B&amp;B</u></b>			
The Old Post Office Howlong	39 Hawkins Street	Howlong	02 6026 8278
<b><u>Hotels</u></b>			
The Royal Hotel	95 Sanger Street	Corowa	02 6033 0301

### **Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated (KVE Inc.)**

**Mailing Address: 31 Bexhill Avenue, Sussex Inlet, NSW 2540 Contact : Jan Thompson**  
**Mob. 0412 078 096 Email: kveinc@optusnet.com.au Website: <http://corowaswim-in.org>**  
**Organisers of the Annual Corowa Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering**

### **Military Vehicle Group of NSW (MVG of NSW)**

**Contact : Secretary: Hayley Smith email: [mvgnsw@gmail.com](mailto:mvgnsw@gmail.com)**  
**Meetings via Zoom Facebook**  
**A family orientated group for military vehicle owners and enthusiasts.**

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

**Contact : Secretary: Murray Connell Phone No: 08 9451 4263 Email: [connell@westnet.com.au](mailto:connell@westnet.com.au)**  
**Dates of Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: : Email: [secretary@mjqcinc.com](mailto:secretary@mjqcinc.com) Dates of Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month**  
**At Rocklea Showgrounds, Ipswich Rd, Rocklea, Brisbane, Qld. Website: [www.mjqcinc.com](http://www.mjqcinc.com)**  
**Dedicated to the preservation of the WW2 Jeep and other military vehicles.**

### **Australian Military Equipment Collectors Limited. (AMEC Limited)**

**Secretary: John Hedges Phone No: 0428 581 480 Email: [jtjhedges@bigpond.com](mailto:jtjhedges@bigpond.com)**  
**Dates of Meetings: As required Locations of Meetings: As Required**  
**Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/aussiemecs/>**  
**'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: 0422 567 287 Email: [a42ausjeep@hotmail.com](mailto:a42ausjeep@hotmail.com)**  
**Dates of Meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month Locations: Rats of Tobruk Hall, Albert Park.**  
**Website: [www.vmvc.org.au](http://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](mailto:mitchtez@gmail.com)**  
**Dates of Meetings: as required Locations of Meetings: can be anywhere**  
**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: John Boucher**  
**Ph. 0428 972 320 [john.boucher46@bigpond.com](mailto:john.boucher46@bigpond.com)**  
**Secretary: Andrew Davis, 909 South Arm Road, Sandford, TAS 7020 Email: [mvgtinc@gmail.com](mailto:mvgtinc@gmail.com)**  
**<https://www.facebook.com/MilitaryVehicleGroupofTasmania>**

### **Wartime Vehicle Conservation Group SA Inc. (WVCG)**

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

### **Military Vehicle Preservation Society of South Australia Inc. (MVPSSA)**

Mailing Address: PO Box 174, Salisbury, SA 5108  
 Contact: Dave Carmen (President) 0419 819 624  
 Email: secretary@military-vehicle-museum.org.au  
 Dates of meetings: Last Tuesday of Month except December No Meeting. AGM in July.  
 Location of meetings:  
 National Military Vehicle Museum, 10 Sturton Road, Edinburgh Parks, SA 5111  
 Website: www.military-vehicle-museum.org.au  
 The Military Vehicle Preservation Society of South Australia 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: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday each month from 8-9pm (exc. Dec)  
 Location of meetings: Denistone Sports Club Ltd., 59 Chatham Rd., Denistone, NSW 2114  
 Website: www.lroc.com.au  
 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 Reg. NSW Y2413247,  
 PO Box 41, Newport Beach, NSW 2106 Contact: Diana Alan 0417 669 081  
 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.

### **Registry of Ex-Military Land Rovers Inc. (REMLR)**

Email: webmaster@remlr.com Website: www.remlr.com Forum: www.remlr.com/forum  
 The Registry of Ex Military Land Rovers was formed in 1996 to collect information about ex Army Land Rovers that people were restoring including colours, fittings and markings. REMLR is not just Land Rovers, other vehicles are International trucks, Mokes, various other trucks, trailers, cars and bikes covered in the information pages.

### **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  
 Dates of Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month Locations of Meetings: Ashfield RSL at 8pm  
 For collectors and enthusiasts of ex-military vehicles

### **Military History Group Inc.**

Mailing address: 4 Windsor Drive, Wallan, Vic. 3756  
 Contact: Gary Jordan (Vice President) 0419 314 457 email: merlinengineers@bigpond.com  
 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.





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



## FEDERATION COUNCIL

**Supporters of the 2024  
Corowa Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering**  
KVE wishes to thank the Federation Council for their support of  
the event.



KVE gives special thanks to  
Club Corowa for their  
welcomed support of the  
2024 Annual Corowa Swim-In

30 Betterment Parade, Corowa

(02) 6030 5000



### KVE Inc

Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated  
Entry forms can be sent to the  
following address:  
Jan Thompson-Creamer  
31 Bexhill Avenue, Sussex Inlet  
NSW 2540  
Phone: 0412 078 096  
E-mail: [kveinc@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kveinc@optusnet.com.au)

### 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>

Also see us on Facebook - corowaswimin

Submissions for this newsletter can be emailed to:  
[kveinc@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kveinc@optusnet.com.au)

See you at Corowa in March 2025



**KHAKI VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS INC.**

31 Bexhill Avenue, Sussex Inlet, NSW 2540

Mobile: 0412 078 096

Email: [kveinc@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kveinc@optusnet.com.au) Website: [corowaswim-in.org](http://corowaswim-in.org)

Reg. No. INC9884485 (Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)

Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Inc. is an organisation, set up to run the **Annual GPA Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering at Corowa NSW**. Membership is available for those who wish to participate in the planning and running of the event and be able to vote on any matters arising at the General Meetings. What we expect is that you contribute some of your time and skills to carry out duties in association with the event, either during the year or at the event.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

FULL NAME OF APPLICANT			
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS			
MAILING ADDRESS (if different from residential address)			
TOWN/CITY	STATE	POSTCODE	
CONTACT TELEPHONE NO. (HOME)	(WORK)		
EMAIL ADDRESS:	(MOB.)		

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

**As a KVE member, I agree to be bound by the *Constitution* and *Rules* of the organisation.**

KVE Membership Fee \$30 per year

Family Membership Fee \$45 per year

Amount Paid .....

Signature of applicant ..... Date .....

Nominated by ..... Seconded by .....

**Membership year runs from 1st March 2024 to 28th February 2025**

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-Creamer, 31 Bexhill Avenue, Sussex Inlet, NSW 2540**

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

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

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

Ref. No.	Date:	Amount \$
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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 KVE members from time to time.**

Please indicate if you do not wish your details to be disclosed. ....

**Richard Farrant**  
PRESIDENT

**Jan Thompson-Creamer**  
SECRETARY

**Harvey Black**  
VICE PRESIDENT





Organised by  
**Khaki Vehicle  
 Enthusiasts Inc.**



# 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Corowa Swim-In & Military Vehicle Gathering

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Held annually at Corowa, NSW

All types and makes of ex-military vehicles are encouraged to attend.

The theme is the **'Year of the Mack and Unimog'**

## ENTRY FORM

**Entrant / Driver:**

Name:		
Address:		State:
		Postcode:
No. of extra Packs required at \$30 each:	Names of those, other than Entrant, requiring Packs:	
Home phone:	Work phone:	
Mobile:	Fax:	
Email address:		
Expected day of arrival:		
Member of the following clubs:		

**Military vehicles entered: (Trailer details not required)**

Year	Make	Model / Type	Registration/ Permit No.

**Disclaimer & Declaration - Please Read & Sign**

**Disclaimer**

All members, entrants, participants, drivers, riders, passengers, volunteers, members of the public, groups, organisations, businesses, spectators, or others ("Event Participants") who may enter and/ or participate in both organized activities controlled by KVE Incorporated (KVE), and other unregulated, ad-hoc activities during the Corowa Swim-In event period, do so solely at their own risk. KVE takes appropriate steps to manage risks for the activities it controls. KVE provides guidance to Event Participants on the need to exercise care, observe relevant regulations and ensure the safety of all Event Participants. KVE does not monitor all ad-hoc activities that occur during the duration of the event including amphibious operations on the water. KVE, its members, officers, volunteers, Federation Council, sponsors, agents, organisers, promoters, suppliers and their employees accept no responsibility for any loss damage or injury suffered by an Event Participant or other party howsoever arising from negligence, contractual breach, act or omission.

**Entrant's Declaration 1. (COVID-19 Safety Requirements – ALL Entrants to sign and date)**

In signing this declaration, I acknowledge that health risks may exist with regard to COVID-19 and that I have used my own inquiries and discretion in deciding to attend. Further, I confirm that I understand the event/s I attend may be subject to COVID-19 Safety Plans. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to ensure compliance with such Safety Plans by myself and my guests, and to follow the reasonable directions of the KVE Inc. and/or other appointed safety Marshals.

Entrant's Signature:	Date:
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Please read and complete page 2 of this form >



**Entrant’s Declaration (Amphibious Vehicle Entrants to complete both sections below)**

In signing this declaration, I acknowledge that I have read, understood and accept the above Disclaimer, the Rules and Conditions of Entry. I certify that the vehicle entered complies with all relevant State/Territory regulations, the KVE Rules, has appropriate insurance cover and is roadworthy and safe to operate. **Unregistered vehicles** must have a NSW “Permit to Move”. As applicable, **all Firearms** brought to the event must meet NSW Firearms Legislation. I agree to be bound by these requirements and by all NSW and Victorian roads, maritime, traffic management Laws and Regulations. I agree to show due courtesy and act responsibly toward all users of the roads and waterways during the Corowa event and in travelling to and from the event.

<b>Entrant’s Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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**Amphibious Vehicle Declaration**

As applicable, all Amphibious vehicles that enter the water must comply with NSW Boating Regulations including registration as a vessel and appropriate safety equipment and the recommended 3rd Party and Comprehensive insurance. Whilst insurance is not compulsory, we strongly recommend that owners arrange suitable cover.

Please tick boxes below, as applicable:

1. Will you use the Amphibious vehicle on Land only?	YES	NO
2. Do you have a State Boat Registration that is recognised in NSW?	YES	NO

(Note: Amphibious vehicles that do not comply with these requirements may still be entered if they are used for land based activities only. If the amphibious vehicle is to be used as a vessel and does not comply with these requirements, it cannot be entered in the Corowa event due to the potential risk to the owner, KVE, its members, officers and participants. Owners who cannot comply with these requirements, who wish to swim their amphibians do so at their own risk. KVE, its members or officers accept no liability for any loss, damage or claim howsoever arising as a result of this activity. )

<b>Amphibious Vehicle Entrant’s Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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**ENTRY FORMS TO ARRIVE BY 28th FEBRUARY 2025**

Entry Fee is **\$30** per Entrant enclosed with Entry form

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

**PLEASE NOTE, NEW ADDRESS:**

**Send to Jan Thompson-Creamer,  
31 Bexhill Avenue, Sussex Inlet, NSW, 2540  
or [kveinc@optusnet.com.au](mailto: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  
**Please enter your bank deposit reference, date and amount in boxes below:**

Ref.	Date:	Amount \$:
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**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**

**Swap Meet stall booking form**



**COROWA PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY INC.  
PO BOX 190, COROWA NSW 2646  
SECRETARY : Jan McKenna - 0427 331 148**

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**APPLICATION FOR TRADE SPACE FOR SWAP MEET AT THE  
2025 COROWA SWIM-IN & MILITARY VEHICLE GATHERING  
TO BE HELD AT COROWA SHOWGROUND ON SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
(Swap Meet organised on behalf of Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Incorporated)**

**Business Name :** .....

**Contact Name :** .....

**Address :** .....

.....

**Phone No. :** ..... **Mobile No. :** .....

**Email Address :** .....

**Description of Goods or Services intended to sell or display :**

.....

**Costs :**                 **\$20 per day for Outdoor 6 x3 metres (approx.)**  
                              **\$25 per day for Indoor 3.65 x 3.2 metres (approx.)**  
                              **Double rates for double size areas (approx.)**

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

**Queries, contact Jan McKenna on 0427 331 148 or [janandfrankmckenna@gmail.com](mailto:janandfrankmckenna@gmail.com)**

**Camping at Showgrounds for Stallholders only, from Thursday to Sunday -**

**Fee \$10 per night per campsite**

**COST FOR YOUR SITE (MUST BE PAID AT TIME OF BOOKING TO SECURE YOUR SITE)**

**Camping @ \$10 per night** .....

**Inside undercover @ \$25 per day** .....

**Outside site @ \$20 per day**.....

**Total cost for site** .....

**Signed by Applicant** ..... **Dated** .....

**Entry fee can be paid straight into Corowa P A & H Society's bank account - with reference details :  
Hume Bank - BSB - 640000 - Account No. 111224054**