



Junior Recruit Memorial Project Newsletter

Number 11 -May 2009

Welcome to Newsletter Number 11

The good news in this newsletter is that the mast at Leeuwin is to be replaced at the end of June. The JR Memorial Committee received advice at the end of April that the mast was to be replaced with a traditional naval mast with a yardarm, painted white and constructed of metal to ensure that it can be maintained in good order for future years.

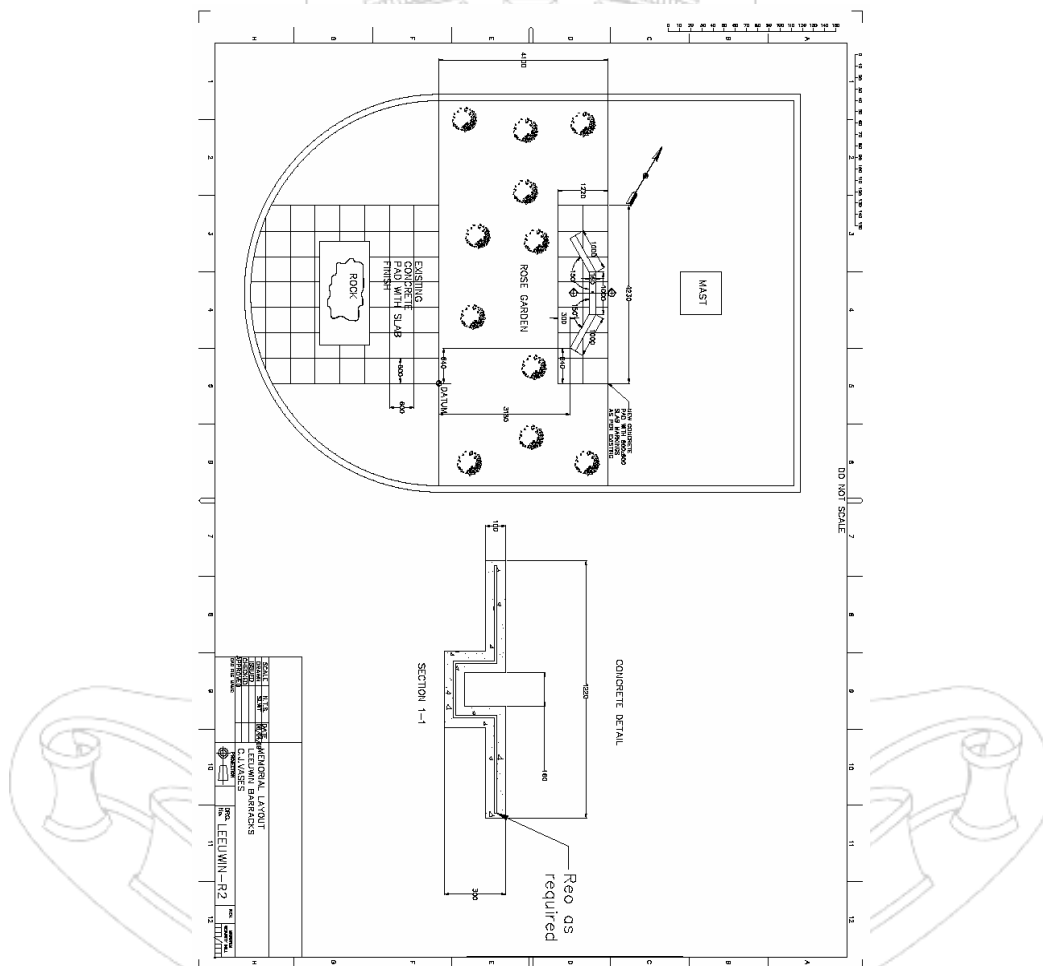


Remains of the old Mast at Leeuwin a new one is to go in its place

The property Services Manager at Leeuwin Barracks Peter Law has kindly offered the old mast to be used for the manufacture of memorabilia. It is not suitable to be put back up as a mast however the timber, which is Oregon, is in good order. If anyone has any ideas as to what can be done with this for the making of memorabilia they should contact the reunion group through their web site.

Memorial Plans

The plans for the construction of the JR Memorial are now finalised and a contract has been drawn up with the Memorial Mason C.J.Vases Pty Ltd to undertake the work. The preliminary work will involve the construction of reinforced foundations and additional concrete paving work for the memorial surrounds. The concrete will be formed to match the existing pattern and layout. The new mast will form the main backdrop for the setting.



The 3 granite panels have been resized and will now stand 1700 mm high, this is to allow the memorial to have a better viewing perspective and will allow the bronze centre piece to be clearly visible from the fence line. The “rock” indicated in the plans is an existing WW2 Memorial and cannot be moved. Consideration is being given to the placement of a stepping stone pathway across the garden area to provide a more formal lead into the JR memorial itself.

How will the memorial site be used in the future?

Ex JR's should be aware that this area is presently used for important commemorative events such as ANZAC day and should in the future be considered by them for other significant occasions that commemorate RAN activities that involve the ex JR community.

The JR Memorial Committee is presently considering the landscaping and a meeting is scheduled in November at Leeuwin Barracks to begin the process of construction. The landscaping of the area will be determined then so that the new plant arrangements will have time to be established before the dedication in July 2010. A planting of Rosemary will be considered as part of this arrangement.

The Dedication Ceremony

Planning for the Dedication Ceremony has been prepared and set out in a draft document that deals with both the logistical and ceremonial matters. This information has been provided to the Navy in Canberra who, through their Navy Events and Marketing Manager will review our plans with the view to providing the best possible input to ensure that the occasion is as successful as we can make it. Consultations will also include those organising the reunion to also offer support where appropriate should they require it.

We now have just 15 months to go until the Memorial Dedication Ceremony and whilst that may appear to be some time away there is much to do to ensure that all matters are dealt with in an effective and timely way. To this end meetings are planned in November with key people in a range of organisations in WA who will form an integral part of the occasion. These include Leeuwin Barracks, East Fremantle Council, WA Police (for traffic control), TS Perth Naval Cadet Unit and local RAN contacts involved in the activities as well as those involved in planning the reunion activities.

Volunteers Required

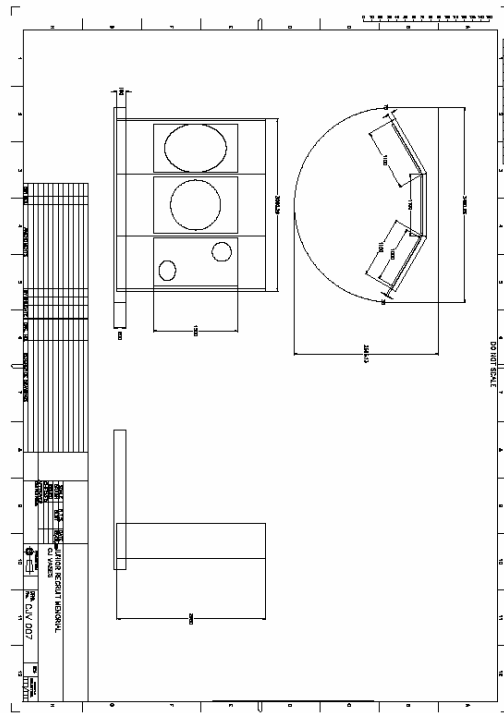
At some point in proceedings we will be calling for volunteers from the local ex JR community to lend a hand in the week leading up to the event and also on the day. The forecast is for a significant crowd to attend that may stretch resources a little and there will be a need for close coordination of things.

The details of the Dedication Ceremony will be released closer to the event and at a time when all matters associated with protocols and resources are sorted out.

Memorial Design

The stone panels that form the alcove of the memorial will be made from polished grey granite; the dedication will be carved into the left hand panel and the letters layered with gold leaf. The right hand panel will feature the ships crests for Leeuwin and Cerberus. These images will be etched into the granite using laser technology and

will be very accurate in their detail. The work to be carried out on the stonework will be done by a Perth based company C.J.Vases who are also contractors to the Australian War Graves Commission and as such are very familiar with this type of work. The centre panel will feature a relief sculpture of a Junior Recruit cast in bronze



Creating the “Bronze”

The process of creating the bronze centrepiece for the memorial is underway. The sculptor, Andrew Borg, has prepared the image against a hard background to ensure that the 3 dimensional image being created is accurate and according to the size arrangements necessary to form the correct symmetry against the granite panel. The chalk drawing once completed will be transferred to a resin block that will form the medium for carving the master die. Andrew also undertook the same work for the Commemorative Medallion.

The centre bronze piece will be oval in shape to fit more effectively on the granite panel; the oval configuration will also give proper symmetry to the image of the JR as well as allow a more accurate presentation of the uniform. The master die will allow for the mould to be made prior to the pouring of the final piece. There will need to be some time and detailed work applied to the finishing process that will include attention to the finer details of the uniform. The processes to complete the final bronze piece will not be finished until November.

JR Memorial Committee- Incorporation

The JR Memorial Committee at the time of its formation went through a formal process of becoming incorporated. What does this mean? Essentially it establishes the Committee as a legal entity and provides some protection for the members and also puts in place Rules of Association that guide the management of the committee and

proper financial management processes that include the need to submit our records for external audit on an annual basis until such time as the JR Memorial Fund is wound up. The first of these audits will be conducted at the end of May and the auditor's report tabled as part of our annual meeting arrangements. These matters also need to be reported to the Corporate Affairs Office each year.

Commemorative Medallions

The demand for Commemorative Medallions continues to be strong and the profits from the sales are contributing to the JR Memorial Fund. News of the medallions has travelled far with orders received from ex JR's from all states of Australia and as far away as the USA, Canada, East Timor, Thailand, the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia. Keep in mind that they will not continue to be available for sale once the project is complete as the fund will be wound up at that time.

Many Junior Recruits had sponsors whilst at Leeuwin, these folk became their "second Mum and Dad" and many have maintained contact over the years. We have had some orders for medallions that are to be given to the people who kindly gave there home, comforts and care all those years ago, consideration might be given by some to give a Commemorative Medallion to their sponsors from long ago.

Newsletter Distribution

We are endeavouring to give the newsletter the widest possible distribution. If you are a member of a JR intake group, ex Service Organisation such as the RSL or Naval Association please pass it on. There were 13,000 Junior Recruits and at this time we estimate that we are only in contact with about 40% of them. If you have some mates on your email list, pass it on. The more that we have involved the more successful the JR Memorial Project and the 50th Anniversary Reunion will be.

The Commemorative Medallion Order Form



**Junior Recruit Memorial Fund
50th Anniversary Commemorative Medallion
Order Form**

Please Supply:

Number of Medallions Required @ \$85.00 per unit	\$	
Engraving of Name and Official Number (optional) @ \$10.00 per unit	\$	
Please write below <u>exactly</u> what is to be engraved		
Name & Initials.....		
Official Number.....		
Postage and Handling @ \$7.30	\$	
Total Cost (includes GST @10%) <i>(Payment by cheque or money order should be made to the Junior Recruit Memorial Fund Inc. Do not send cash)</i>	\$	

Your Name	
Home Address	
Postal Address	
Telephone	
Email Address	

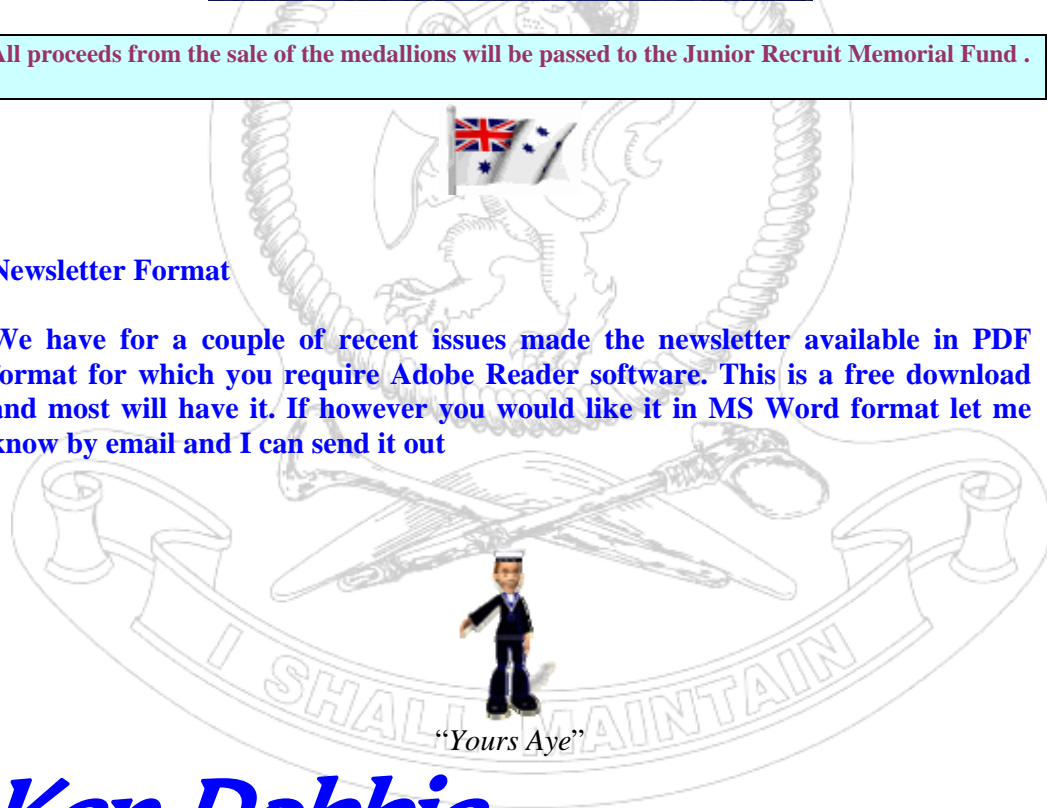
**Please remit cheque or money order with the order form to:
Junior Recruit Memorial Fund Inc
75 Lovett St Devonport Tas 7310
Tel 03 64247198 Email ken.dobbie@bigpond.com**



All proceeds from the sale of the medallions will be passed to the Junior Recruit Memorial Fund .

Newsletter Format

We have for a couple of recent issues made the newsletter available in PDF format for which you require Adobe Reader software. This is a free download and most will have it. If however you would like it in MS Word format let me know by email and I can send it out



"Yours Aye"

Ken Dobbie

Junior Recruit Memorial Committee

Email ken.dobbie@bigpond.com