

SOUTHERN COMMAND.

(3RD MILITARY DISTRICT.)

8th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

(INDI LIGHT HORSE.)

(Allied with the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars.)

"More Majorum."

"South Africa 1899-1902."

The Great War—"Anzac," "Defence of Anzac," "Suva," "Sari Bair," "Gallipoli, 1915,"
 "Rumani," "Magdhaba-Rafah," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza-Beersheba," "El Mughar," "Nebi
 Samwil," "Jerusalem," "Jordan (Es Salt)," "Megiddo," "Sharon," "Damascus," "Palestine,
 1917-18."

HONORARY COLONEL.

✕ Shannon, H/Col. H. J., D.S.O., 4.5.33
 V.D., R.L.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.

✕ Fergusson, M. A., M.C. (A.I.F.) 10.6.39

MAJORS.

✕ Chisholm, C. J. (temp.) .. 15.11.39
 (Comdg. (temp.) 1.2.40).
 ✕ Morrison, W., E.D. .. 20.7.36
 ✕ Chambers, A. W. .. 19.1.38
 ✕ Hughes, W. S. K., M.V.O., M.C. 10.8.39
 ✕ Nott, J. H., M.C., (temp.) .. 21.2.40

CAPTAINS.

✕ Grossman, S. W. .. 20.10.36
 ✕ Dunbar, H. H. .. 12.10.39
 ✕ Ewart, H. (temp.) .. 13.11.39
 ✕ Atree, N. F. (temp.) .. 1.2.40
 ✕ Nason, C. H. T. (temp.) .. 1.2.40
 ✕ Kilborn, R. A. (temp.) .. 1.5.40

LIEUTENANTS.

Nicolson, I. D. .. 30.9.38
 McRae, E. M. .. 30.9.38
 Wilesmith, L. W. .. 30.9.38
 Acocks, A. F. .. 30.9.38
 McGeoch, J. A. H. (A.I.F.) .. 30.9.38
 Lord, R. G. .. 15.11.38
 ✕ Mummery, W. A. .. 7.2.39
 Hartridge, C. S. .. 11.8.39
 Whittakers, J. D. .. 12.10.39
 Stolz, H. C. .. 12.10.39
 Welsh, N. B. .. 6.11.39
 Fraser, B. C. .. 6.11.39
 Maher, T. .. 15.12.39
 Ferguson, J. L. D. .. 15.12.39
 Tranter, N. G. H. .. 15.12.39
 Buerckner, C. W. .. 19.1.40
 ✕ Hyde, S. A. .. 1.2.40
 Smithwick, R. V. .. 1.2.40
 Randle, A. D. .. 28.3.40
 Schreiber, C. F. .. 2.4.40
 Brindley, L. R. D. .. 12.4.40

* Sec. as) A.Q.M.G., 2 Cav. Div.

ADJUTANT AND QUARTERMASTER.
(PERMT.)

Shaw, Lieut, E. V., Staff Corps .. 20.5.40

MEDICAL OFFICER.

Dallimore, Capt. G. M., A.A.M.C.

VETERINARY OFFICER.

Grayson, Maj. A. R., A.A.V.C.

REGIMENTAL RESERVE LIST.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS.

MAJOR.

✕ Trickey, F. V. .. 1.8.30

CAPTAINS.

LIEUTENANTS.

✕ Brown, E. T. .. 1.8.30
 ✕ Thewlis, E., M.C. .. 1.8.30
 ✕ Fullerton, P. R. .. 1.8.30
 ✕ Bourke, R. I. .. 1.8.30
 ✕ Garside, G. A. .. 1.11.33
 ✕ Scholes, A. L. .. 1.5.36

8th LH Regt (Indi Light Horse)

The name 'Indi' is an aboriginal word meaning 'you' and was formerly the name given to the upper part of the Hume (Murray) River.

At the reorganization in 1903 detachments of the VMR located at Euroa, Longwood, Violet Town, Benalla, Koonaa, Wangaratta, Rutherglen and Beechworth were formed into a separate unit styled the '8th Australian Light Horse Regiment (VMR)'. The Regiment continued under this title until 1912 when four squadrons of the 8th were designated '16th Light Horse (VMR)'. In the following year it became the '16th (Indi) Light Horse', reverting to the '8th (Indi) Light Horse' in 1918, which was later altered to '8th Light Horse Regiment (Indi Light Horse)'. The 8th formed part of the 3rd Cavalry Brigade and in the 1930s had detachments located at Benalla, Euroa, Melbourne, Corryong, Walwa, Tallangatta, Wangaratta, Rutherglen, Wodonga, Yarrawonga, Wahgunyah and Wangamong.

With the coming of World War 2 the 8th suffered further changes in title, becoming -

8th Reconnaissance Battalion (1st December 1941);

8th Divisional Cavalry Regiment (13th July 1942);

8th Australian Cavalry Regiment (AIF) which disbanded in May 1944.

'More Majorum' (after the manner of our ancestors) was the regimental motto of the 8th, their colour patch being a rectangle divided diagonally from top left corner to bottom right - the top sky blue, the bottom gold. Their badge was horse rampant on a motto scroll between two sprays of wattle, leaved and blossomed. In base the Arabic numeral '8' and a scroll of three folds bearing the title of the Regiment, the whole ensigned with an Imperial Crown.

For their allied Regiment, the 8th chose the 8th Kings Royal Irish Hussars (The Cross Belts).

8th AUSTRALIAN (INDI) LIGHT HORSE.

An institution which is a source of civic pride in Benalla is that of the headquarters of the 8th Australian Light Horse, which have been centered here for the past nine years. Previously the 8th Indi Light Horse in the Great War proved itself to be one of the most dashing and most efficient fighting units of the A.I.F. and its motto "More Majorum" (after the manner of our ancestors) was upheld to the highest degree.

The story of its initial engagement at Walker's Ridge, Gallipoli, on August 8th, 1915, will ever remain an example of splendid endurance and courage in the face of great adversity.

Originating from the old V.M.R., it has been commanded in turn at Benalla by Lieut-Col. J.I. Martin, V.V., Lieut-Col. (now Col.) H.J. Shannon, D.S.O., V.D., and Lieut-Col. A. Mitchell, D.S.O., V.D. On active service by Lieut-Col. A. White (killed Walker's Ridge 8/8/15), Lieut-Col. A. McLaurin (died after Armistice), and Lieut-Col. L.C. Maygar, V.C., D.S.O. (died of wounds). All the above officers, with the exception of Colonel White, served in and rose from the ranks to eventually command the regiment.

The Regiment Battle Honours include South Africa (1899-1902), and in the Great War, Defence of Anzac and Sari Bair (Gallipoli 1915) Rumani; Maghdaba-Rafah (Egypt 1915-17); Gaza, Beersheba, Jerusalem, Jordan (Es Salt), Inggiddo, Sharon and Damascus (Palestine 1917-18).

The 8th A.L.H. is the outcome of the old 8th I.H. (V.M.R.) which was commanded from 1904 by Colonel D.M. McLeish, C.M.G., V.D., and Colonel Pleasants V.D.

In 1911 it became the 16th (Indi) Light Horse, and was commanded by Lieut-Col. J. I. Martin, V.D., until 1918, when it was again called the 8th L.H. and the command was taken over by Lieut-Col. A. Mitchell D.S.O., V.D. from the 1/11/19 to 30/ 3/26.

From 31/ 3/26 to 1/ 6/31 Lieut-Col. H.H. Wallace took command from 1/ 6/31, and still commands.

The offices are at the Drill Hall, Benalla West.

8th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT INDI LIGHT HORSE

8th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Victorian Mounted Rifles) (Militia) raised form part of Victorian Mounted Rifles. GO 296/1903

Honorary Banner awarded for South African service. MO 123/1908

Honorary Distinction: "SOUTH AFRICA 1899-1902" to be carried for Victorian ounted Rifles MO 123/1908

Affiliation to The King's Colonials (Yeomanry) approved MO 209/1910

5th Australian Light Horse Regiment now 16th Light Horse (Victorian Mounted Rifles) MO 277/1912

16th Light Horse (Victorian Mounted Rifles) now 16th (Indi) Light Horse MO 403/1913

16th (Indi) Light Horse now 8th (Indi) Light Horse MO 388/1918

8th Light Horse to provide neuclus for 22nd Light Horse in 2nd Military District MO 460/1919

Battle Honours for World War 1 awarded:
Anzac, DEFENCE OF ANZAC, Suvla, SARI-BAIR, Gallipoli 1915, RUMANI, MAGHDABA RAFAH, Egypt 1915-17, GAZA-BEERSHEBA, El Mugar, Nabi Samwil, JERUSALEM, JORDAN (ES SALT), MEGIDDO, SHARON, DAMASCUS, Palestine 1917-18 AAO 112/1927

Territorial Title: "Indi Light Horse" and Motto: "MORE MAJORUM" confirmed AAO 132/1927

Territorial Title and Motto re-confirmed AAO 175/1937

Alliance to 8th King's Royal Irish Jussars approved AAO 279/1938

8th Light Horse Regiment (Indi Light Horse) now 8th Reconnaissance Battalion (Indi Light Horse), effective 1 Dec., 1941 ALHQ A08/1942

8th Reconnaissance Battalion (Indi Light Horse) now 8th Aust. Divisional Cavalry Regiment (Indi Light Horse) effective 13 July, 1942 ALHQ P09/1942

8th Aust, Divisional Cavalry Regiment now 8th Aust. Cavalry Regiment (A.I.F.) Disbanded 16 March 1944

Battle Honours for World War 2 awarded:
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC 1943-44 AAO 135/1961

8th Light Horse Regiment

1941 known as 8th Motorised Regiment.

1942 8th Aust Cav Regiment.

Majority of personnel transferred from C.M.F. to A.I.F. out fitted with Bren gun carriers while camped at Bonegilla. Moved to Queensland about April 1942. Camp set up at Logan River, Lambaring Landsborough, then attached to Armoured brigade at the Murgon - Someri Area.

1943 Moved to the Adelaide Daley River area. N.T. and took over the equipment and Tasks of 2/6 Cav Regt. Main tasks there were to Patrol the Ansen Bay area - and provide Mobile protection to the American bomber Base at Fenton Aerodrome.

March 1944 Moved from N.T. to Watsonia, all equipment went to Bandiana. The unit commenced to disband in April 1944 and the personnel went to field Ambulance Independent Coy and "Z" special unit.

For further information contact: Mr Frank Attru (Maj) Corryong VIC.

The C.O. for the last 2 years was ex 2/7 Aust. Cav. Regt.

"A" Sqn consists of troop from Wodonga, Talangatta, Yackandandah, Corryong-Cudgewa.

"B" Sqn Wangaratta, Myrtleford, Moyhu, Springhurst, Rutherglen.

"C" Sqn January (1) Wahgunyah - Corowa (2) Oaklands (3) St James Tungamah (4) HQ Benalla, Badaginnie, Swanport, Latong.