

**City of Melbourne  
150th Anniversary**



**Freedom of Entry**

**Royal Australian Navy**

**4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment**

**5th/6th Battalion The Royal Victoria Regiment**

**The Australian Army Band Melbourne**

**No. 21 (City of Melbourne) (Auxiliary) Squadron**

**Royal Australian Air Force**



**31st October 1992**



**City of Melbourne**

**Reviewing Officer**

The Right Honourable  
The Lord Mayor of Melbourne

Councillor Desmond Clark

**Parade Host Officer**

MAJ GEN David McLachlan AM

**Parade Commanders' Names**

Royal Australian Navy  
4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse  
5th/6th Royal Victoria Regiment  
Australian Army Band Melbourne  
No. 21 (City of Melbourne) (Auxiliary)

LCDR P. Penfold  
LTCOL P. Fernleigh  
MAJ K. Walsh  
MAJ M. Bell  
SQNLDR A. Rhodes

**Victoria Naval Band**

Music Director  
Drum Major

LCDR A. Greedy  
CPO R. Coughran-Lane

**Australian Army Band**

Music Director  
Drum Major

MAJ. M. Bell  
SGT. G. Hey

**RAAF Central Band**

Music Director  
Drum Major

SQNDL. G. Lloyd  
CPL. M. Smith-Thompson



**Freedom of Entry**

## Order of Ceremony

- Parade forms up in St. Kilda Road.
- Australian White Ensign, Guidons and Colours march on.
- Parade marches along Swanston Street.
- **The Challenge**  
The Parade will exercise its right at Collins Street, challenged by the Senior Officer of Police in the City of Melbourne.
- **Response**  
Units respond " ..... exercising the right and privilege to enter the City of Melbourne with Swords Drawn, Bayonets Fixed, Drums Beating, Bands Playing and Colours Flying."
- **Recognition of Right**  
" I acknowledge your right and privilege - Pass ..... with the authority of the Lord Mayor and Council of the City of Melbourne."
- The Parade marches past the Melbourne Town Hall.
- The Lord Mayor takes the Salute from the dais in front of the Town Hall.



## The Freedom of Entry to the City

The right, title, privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of a city on all ceremonial occasions "with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and colours flying" is one of the most interesting of the military mysteries of the past.

The only cities which can claim to have had any rights with regard to the passage of troops are the cities of Edinburgh and London. Edinburgh's claims arose in connection with the civic military force it once possessed, the Town Guard. "No other drum but theirs (the Town Guard's) was allowed to sound in the High Street between the Luckenbooth's and the Netherbow." The Town Guard has long since disappeared and the City of Edinburgh now waives its claims to any special privileges. The City of London on the other hand has always been jealous of the rights it claims.

Though the City of London lost its direct authority over its military forces in 1661 when control of the London Trained Bands was transferred to the newly formed Court of Lieutenancy, the practice grew up shortly after, of notifying the Lord Mayor when parties from Regiments went into the City to "raise recruits by beat of drum". From this modest beginning developed, in the passage of years, the suggestion that the City of London had the right to decide which Regiments could pass through its streets "with bayonets fixed, colours flying and bands playing". Discussions between the Secretary of War and the Lord Mayor in 1769 show that the City's privileges in the matter at that date did not go beyond the right to receive, as a matter of courtesy, notification when troops were to pass through. The position today remains little changed from what it was in 1769.

The practice of granting the freedom of the City to Regiments appears to be of fairly recent origin. There seem to have been few if any instances before 1943 when The York and Lancaster Regiment were given the Freedom of the City of Sheffield. Since 1943, grants of freedoms of their Scottish equivalents have been quite frequent in the United Kingdom, although, so far as is known, very few such grants have been accorded to Regiments in other parts of the British Commonwealth.

The grant of the freedom of the City provides a very dignified and satisfactory means of enabling a Corporation to honour a distinguished unit, thereby assisting in effecting a very desirable liaison between the Corporation and the Armed Services of the Crown.

## Royal Australian Navy



The Royal Australian Navy has historical links with the Victorian Navy of pre-federation days.

In Victoria, local sea defence began with the acquisition in 1856 of the 580 ton steamer VICTORIA armed with seven 32-pounder guns for the defence of Port Phillip.

The Colonial Naval Defence Act of 1865 gave British colonies the right to maintain men-o-war and raise seamen to man them. Under its provisions, Victoria established a Navy by acquiring in 1868, the old wooden battleship NELSON as a training vessel and in 1871, the modern turret ship CERBERUS mounting four 10-inch, 18-ton guns.

In 1884, Victoria increased the strength of her navy by acquiring the gunboats VICTORIA and ALBERT and one 1st class and two 2nd class torpedo boats. In 1891, two further torpedo boats were purchased.

On federation of the Australian states in 1901, all the ships' facilities and personnel of the state navies passed to the control of the Commonwealth Government to become the Commonwealth Naval Forces.

Melbourne became the seat of naval administration and the Navy Office remained in the City until it transferred to Canberra in 1960.

## 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment



In 1860 an Act authorised the raising of mounted forces in the then colony of Victoria, and on 30th August an advertisement appeared in the Kyneton Observer calling on volunteers to establish a Cavalry Corps of citizen soldiers. Each trooper was to provide his own horse, saddle and military bridle.

In 1862 all units were amalgamated into the Royal Volunteer Cavalry Regiment with the title "Prince of Wales's Regiment of Light Horse (Hussars)" in honour of the marriage of the Heir Apparent, Prince Albert.

During World War 1 the 4th Light Horse served with distinction and its list of battle honours bears witness to the many actions which earned respect for the men of the 4th Light Horse, as do also the lists of the other Regiments from which the 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment is directly descended - the 17th Prince of Wales's and the 19th Yarrowee Light Horse.

The Regiment again served with distinction in many theatres of operations during World War 2, but mainly to the immediate north of Australia.

When the Citizen Military Forces were re-formed in 1948, it was decided to perpetuate the traditions of the 4th Light Horse, 17th (Prince of Wales's) Light Horse, 19th (Yarrowee) Light Horse and 2/4th Armoured Regiment by raising the one serving unit to be called the 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse.

Recent years have seen the Regiment's role change from training in counter revolutionary warfare in a jungle setting to continental defence of Australia.

On 1st April 1991, 4/19 PWLH was linked with A Sqn 8/13 VMR, an APC Sqn located in Albury, Wangaratta and Benalla. Its lineage includes the Victorian Mounted Rifles (1885), the 8th Light Horse (Indi Light Horse), 13th Light Horse (Gippsland Light Horse) and 20th Light Horse (Victorian Mounted Rifles) World War 1); and 2/8th Armoured Regiment, 13th Motorised Regiment and 20th Motor Regiment (World War 2).



## **5th/6th Battalion The Royal Victoria Regiment**



The 5th/6th Battalion, The Royal Victoria Regiment, was formed in August, 1982, following an expansion of the Army Reserve in Victoria.

The Battalion is derived from two famous Australian Battalions : The 5th Battalion, Victorian Scottish Regiment and The 6th Infantry Battalion, The Royal Melbourne Regiment.

The Royal Melbourne Regiment was granted the Freedom of Entry to the City of Melbourne in March, 1960.

This regiment, which had its origins in the 1850's has since been disbanded and its Colours assumed by the 5th/6th Battalion.

'A' Company, situated at Preston, is entitled to be called 'The Royal Melbourne Regiment Company of The Royal Victoria Regiment'. This continues the unit's association with The Royal Melbourne Regiment.

The 5th/6th Battalion is affiliated with the following Armies of the United Kingdom :-

The Battalion has won extensive Battle Honours in conflicts on many continents.

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers  
The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales)  
The Gordon Highlanders.

## The Australian Army Band Melbourne



"The Australian Army Band Melbourne" traces its origins to 1940 when the "Recruit Training Battalion Band" was raised at Caulfield.

Early in 1990 the band celebrated its Golden Jubilee and in recognition of fifty years service to the people of Melbourne, it was granted Freedom of Entry to the City of Melbourne, a privilege rarely accorded a service band.

In August, 1991 the Band became "The Australian Army Band Melbourne". The new title reflects a change in the organisation of the Australian Defence Force and recognises the strong relationship between the Band and the City of Melbourne.

The Band's role includes providing suitable music for Regal and Vice-Regal occasions, military ceremonies, parades and other service activities.

The Australian Army Band Corps badge contains crossed swords from the Corps' original affiliation with the Infantry, and the Lyre Bird is an Australian motif of the universal sign of music - the Lyre.

Other aspects of the uniform include the white helmet. The Helmet is the 1876 pattern similar to that worn by Australians in the Sudan.

The jacket was designed in 1975 to give the Australian Army Band Corps a universal ceremonial jacket. The colours are "scarlet" and "rifle green", the colours of the Australian Army Band Corps.

An outstanding feature of the parade uniform is the Leopard skin worn by the Bass Drummer. The history of the skin dates back to the end of the 17th Century when the practise of enlisting negroes to play drums in the band came into being. When on parade, the negroes would wear the most brilliant colours, tinsel turbans and skins of the leopard and tiger. Their antics were most fantastic and a survival of their employment may be seen in the present drummers leopard skin and the "swinging the sticks".

It should be noted, the current leopard skin is only synthetic. Real animal skins are no longer used by the Australian Army Bands.



## No. 21 (City of Melbourne) (Auxiliary) Squadron Royal Australian Air Force



No. 21 (Cadre) Squadron was formed at Laverton, Victoria, in April, 1936. A permanent Air Force core of seven officers and forty-three airmen was augmented by twenty officers and one hundred and six airmen of the Citizen Air Force.

A few months later the Squadron's name was changed to No. 21 (City of Melbourne) Squadron and then Governor of Victoria, His Excellency Captain The Right Honourable Baron Huntingfield, KCMG, was appointed Honorary Air Commodore.

The arrival of new and varied aircraft during the last two years before the Second World War (1939-1945) saw Squadron activities extend from bushfire patrols and survey flights to Joint Service Operations. The first war patrol was flown in December 1939 with Ansons escorting a shipping convoy.

The Squadron saw action in Singapore, Malaya and later in New Guinea. After the War it operated in a transport role.

In April 1948, the Squadron re-formed at its original station, Laverton, as a fighter squadron.

No. 21 Squadron ceased to operate as a flying unit in 1960. The title was changed to No. 21 (City of Melbourne) (Auxiliary) Squadron and the role became that of training ground personnel of the Citizen Air Force.

An affiliation with No. 76 Squadron was initiated in 1962 to give Citizen, Air Force members training with an active flying unit. The affiliation was changed to No. 10 Squadron in 1965 until 1973 when the present affiliation with No. 35 Squadron began.