

VALE:

William Ernest Allan 'Bill' Allen was born in England on 5 February 1934 a brother to Percival Richard Allen. In 1947, it was announced that all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 30 were to be called up. This was quickly changed to all 17 to 21-year-olds. The conscripts initially served for 18 months but in 1950, during the Korean War (1950-53), this was increased to two years. Bill was called up. Many British 'Nashos' served overseas. Bill was one of them. He served with the Army with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Some of his service was in Bermuda! Between 1949, when the National Service Act came into force, and 1963, when the last National Serviceman was demobilised, more than 2 million men had been conscripted to the British Army, Royal Navy or Royal Air Force.



Bill married Joyce Hart and the couple had two children: Peter and Penny (Potts). When he reached Australia, Bill transferred to the Citizen Military Forces and joined 2 RVR as 3177028 on 16 July 1966. A year later Bill was a member of the B Company Marching Team that marched from Ballarat to Clunes on a Saturday and marched back on



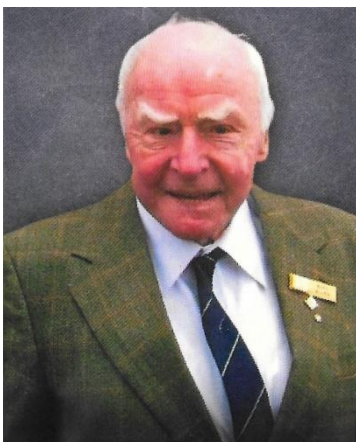
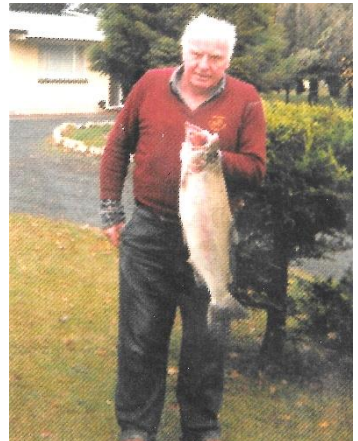
the Sunday. Bill discharged from 2 RVR on 11 December 1975.

Left: In 2017, Bill attended a gathering for the 50th Anniversary of the march. (Bill is front in black)



After Joyce died, Bill found a long-time friend and companion in Jacqueline Gander - they were friends for 32 years. Bill was a grandfather to Robin and Ross, grandfather-in-law to Renee and great-granddad to Melanie, a supportive step-father and friend to Robert & Theresa, step-grandfather and great-grandfather to Jason, Jared, Tasha & Riley.

Bill had many interests, one being Fly Fishing. He was a long-time member of the Lodge and was a long-time member of the 8/7th Battalion-2 RVR Association and even in his later years attended the association annual dinners in Ballarat. Bill passed away peacefully in Kyneton on 25 Apr 2024, aged 90 years.



A Funeral Service to celebrate the life of Bill Allen was held at the Thomas J. Scott Memorial Chapel in Kyneton on Thursday, 9 May 2024. A Private Cremation followed. Bruce McKinnon attended the funeral.

An Obituary for William Ernest Allan Allen was placed online: 'It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved William Ernest Allan Allen (Kyneton, Victoria), who passed away at the age of 90, on April 25, 2024. ... As we bid adieu to Bill's earthly form, let us not dwell on the void left in his wake, but rather celebrate the legacy of love and inspiration Bill has bequeathed us. For though he may have departed from our sight, his spirit remains a timeless beacon, guiding loved ones through the labyrinth of life's journey.'