

Extracts from the Camden Advertiser
October 1939

Thursday 5th October 1939

FLYING SCHOOL
Workshops and Hangars Officially Opened at Camden

Built and equipped at a cost of £10,000 the workshops and hangars of the Macquarie Grove Flying and Gliding School Pty. Ltd. at Camden, were officially opened by the Minister for Civil Aviation (Mr. Fairbairn) on Saturday afternoon.

The MacArthur Onslow brothers (Edward, Andrew and Denzil) intend to offer the facilities at the training school to the Federal Government for the tuition of pilots.

Plans are proceeding to have a school, complete with lodgings for pupils, who will be instructed in all flying subjects such as ground' work, navigation, wireless, engines and air-craft.

Visiting pilots on Saturday were deeply impressed with the well-grassed runways and the general efficiency displayed in the equipment in the workshops.

Mr. Edward Macarthur Onslow is the managing director and instructor. Several air races were held during the afternoon.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY -- Women Ambulance Drivers

A driver's license of not less than one year standing and a first-aid certificate are necessary qualifications for women who are prepared to train as ambulance drivers under the National Emergency

Anyone wishing to qualify for a first aid certificate should attend the lectures now being given by Dr. R. E. Jefferis at 8 o'clock on Thursday evenings at Camden Town Hall.

Any member wishing to attend the motor-driving class must enrol for voluntary national service, and should be between the age of 21 and 45 years.

A test in lorry driving must be passed before admittance can be gained to the class. Tests will be carried out on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons of next week, October 11 and 12. Intending members are asked to contact Miss Freestone at Camden Town Hall to arrange for the time of their tests. The first motor lecture will be given by an N.R.M.A. instructor at the Main Southern Garage, Camden, on Monday, October 16, at 8 p.m.

MILITARY CAMP -- AT CAMPBELLTOWN.

A number of Campbelltown and Camden militiamen, members of the Camden Troop, will be included in the four hundred soldiers of the 1st Machine Gun Regiment to commence a month's continuous training this week-end at Campbelltown.

Recent promotions in the local troop include those of Neville Smith to Squadron Quarter-master sergeant. George Jackman to Troop-Sergeant, Walter Fairbairn and Edward Bollard to Corporals.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES

It is notified for the information of residents within the Municipality of CAMDEN and the village of NARELLAN that the Council of the Municipality of Camden has inaugurated the National Emergency Scheme, and that forms for enrolment may be had on application to the Town Clerk or the undersigned.

All females between the ages of 21-45 and males over 45 (or males otherwise unfit for military service) are cordially invited to register for service.

The enrolment for service is of voluntary character, and the course of lectures to be given in First Aid and kindred subjects will be found to be both interesting and instructive.

Further information may be obtained at the Council Chambers, John Street.

H. S. KELLOWAY, Chief Warden.

Thursday 12th October 1939

NATIONAL EMERGENCY -- Public Meeting At Campbelltown

A headquarter, officer of the National Emergency Services addressed a public meeting held at the Campbelltown Town Hall in the week. The speaker emphasised that the service was essentially civic and not military it could be used for all times and not necessarily for war period alone. The Mayor Alderman Marlow is also Chief Warden presided over the meeting.

MENANGLE PARK ACTIVE

Mr. O. Edwards has been appointed Warden of Menangle Park and progress in the organisation work is advancing at that centre. First-aid classes, under the instruction of Messrs. Farnsworth, Slater and Kelly, are to be arranged for an early date.

BRINGELLY BRIGADE

Bringelly Bush Fire Brigade was recently formed in connection with the National Emergency Services. Officers appointed were: Mr. C. S. Woodhouse (Captain), Messrs. C. S. McIntosh and Roy Wheatly (vice-captains).

WOMEN MOTOR MECHANICS

All intending to join the motor mechanics class under the Women's Voluntary Service (Camden Centre) are asked to be at the Main Southern Garage, Camden, at 7.30 p.m. on Monday next, October 16. Special

instruction will be given in driving, which will prove helpful for the tests to be arranged later.

RED CROSS FUND OPENED AT CAMDEN

A special fund for the purchase of material to be made into clothes required by the society for war purposes opened last week after the executive committee of the Camden Red Cross branch held its monthly meeting.

'Any contributions to this fund will be gratefully received by the hon. treasurer, Mrs. E. A. Davies, or any committee member.

Another need will be clean old linen, to be used for surgical dressings. This can be left with Mrs. W. Urkin.

The committee wish to acknowledge the following gifts: Two Balaclava caps (from Mrs. E. Hanger), and two pairs socks (from Mrs. J. Stibbard)

Any gifts of hot-water bag covers, mufflers or socks will be appreciated.

Mrs. H. P. Mc Donald and Mrs. J. Peat, new committee members, were welcomed by the president. Miss MacArthur Onslow, at last week's meeting.

Branch meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 3 p.m.

CAMPBELLTOWN MILITARY CAMP

About 460 militiamen, comprising the 1st Light Horse Machine Gun Territorial Regiment and the 4th Cavalry Brigade Band, under the command of Lieut.-Col. P. A. Whitehead, M.C, are in camp at Campbelltown

Showground. They will remain under canvas for a month. The following places represented by the members of the regiment: Werriwa district, including Camden and Campbelltown, Turrumurra, Randwick, Windsor, Parramatta, Blacktown, Berry and Gerringong.

This is the third year of the regiment's encampment in this town.

The regiment was transferred from the N.S.W. Lancers to a mechanised unit in 1937. Members find the work most interesting as it covers a course of instruction on the Vickers and light anti aircraft machine guns.

Thursday 19th October 1939

NATIONAL EMERGENCY - - WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY WORK

The comforts for soldiers in camp is one of the chief activities of the Women's Voluntary Services, and an appeal has now been made for knitted socks for the troops under canvas. At Camden the wool for socks may be obtained from Miss N. Freestone at the Town Hall Library. The pattern necessary will also be supplied.

The Camden committee acknowledges with thanks donations towards the purchase of wool from Mrs. Faithfull Anderson and Mrs. R. M. Crookston.

A general meeting of the Camden Centre (W. V. S.) is called for Tuesday next at the local Town Hall at 4.15 p.m. All interested in the work of camp comforts are asked to attend. The motor mechanics class at Camden this week was well attended. The second lecture will be given at 7.30 p.m. on Monday next at the Main Southern Garage, Camden. Members of Camden Voluntary Aid Detachment will continue their drill instruction on Tuesday next at 8 p.m. in the Camden Agricultural Hall. Lieut. M. I. Wheatley, who will be on leave from military duties on that night, will take the class.

RED CROSS ACTIVE

The executive committee of the Camden Red Cross branch gratefully acknowledge donations from Miss Macarthur Onslow and Mrs. E. H. K. Downes towards the purchase of material. The following residents are also thanked for gifts in kind: Miss L. Hawkey (socks and hot-water bag cover) and Mrs. G. Clark, of Oakdale for a pair of socks. More material is needed so any other donations to the Red Cross Material Fund would be most acceptable.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S VISIT to Local Military Camps

The Governor-General, Lord Cowrie attended by Brigadier-General Anderson, visited local military camps at Campbelltown, Menangle and Narellan on Tuesday.

At Campbelltown Showground he inspected the 1st Machine Gun (Royal N.S.W. Lancers) Regiment after receiving the salute in the march past. Lord Cowrie made a thorough inspection of the camp at the luncheon at which Lord Cowrie was entertained by the officers. Campbelltown citizens were represented by the Mayor. Ald. P. C. Marlow and the town clerk, Mr. F. Sheather.

His Excellency commented upon the suitability and efficiency of the camp and paid a tribute to the assistance and consideration the Campbelltown Council had given the military authorities. The Mayor and town clerk suitably responded.

The entire proceedings were filmed by the Cinesound Studios.

Twenty thousand miles in a hundred days—the equivalent to four years ordinary riding is a task allotted to one B.S.A. motor cycle in an economy test covering several Australian States. The N.S.W. rider, Les Slaughter spent 15 minutes at Camden on Sunday, where he was met by the local agent. Mr. C.W. Butler. He will pass through Camden again today (Thursday) and on Sunday next. Campbelltown readers will have an opportunity of watch in on the test on Tuesday next October 24 and on November 14 and 18, as the machine passes through.

Militiamen were prominent among the steppers at the "Be in the Swim" dance at Menangle Hall on Saturday night. The function organised by Mr. C. J. Tulloh to provide springboards and other swimming facilities for Nepean River bathers was well attended.

TRAVELLER'S EXPERIENCES AT SEA IN WAR-TIME

To have travelled from London to Sydney during the first weeks of the war was the unforgettable experience of Mrs. Hetty Edwards, mother of Mr. E. O. E. Edwards, of Menangle Park.

Mrs. Edwards, who sailed from London just two days prior to the declaration of war, gave high praise to the captain, officers and crew of the "Stratheden" for their courageous act in bring the ship through the Mediterranean

without an escort. On several occasions bombing plane swooped over the ship; fortunately, they were French aircraft.

For several days the passengers never discarded their lifebelts. The heat in the Red Sea was terrific as all portholes were locked and blackened.

A few weeks earlier Mrs. Edwards visited Germany. She is quite confident that the German people do not want any more than we do. They showed every friendship to the British and appeared quite prosperous, except that butter was scarce.

A former Camden boy now with the Permanent Garrison Artillery at Darwin is Gunner Rex Mills, 21 -year-old son of the late James Mills, of Mount Hunter, and Mrs. M. E. Mills, of Hoxton Park. Rex was stationed at North Head prior to his transfer to Darwin earlier this month. He travelled north by plane with several other members of his detachment.

Ray Herbert
Historical Officer