

# MUSEUM UPDATE .....



*Thanks to Major Paul Handel, RFD for permission to reproduce these articles.*

## THE LIGHT HORSE MEMORIAL

As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, the Museum has acquired a First World War era horse box rail carriage. The remains of the carriage will be removed to the Museum during February 1997, and will be mounted on track and period bogies provided by the Seymour Steam Preservation Society. The horse box rail carriage will become the Light Horse Memorial, and it will be located between the Museum Indoor display building and the new Vietnam Memorial. It will be adjacent to the ring road for easy access.

It is intended that the Light Horse Memorial will be opened on Beersheba Day 31st October 1997. This will be the 80th anniversary of that epic charge and battle, which epitomised the spirit of the Australian Light Horse.

Keep this day in your calendar, as it is sure to be a large event, attracting many visitors. Further details of the event will be passed to members when finalised.

## THANKS TO THE MUSEUM'S SOLDIERS

Inevitably during opening ceremonies dedications and the like, it is the senior staff of the organisation who are in the public eye. But none of the Memorials would have had the particular attention to detail lavished on them had it not been for the soldiers of the Museum. The team of soldiers, led by W02 Joe Linford, worked solidly for three months prior to the Memorial Weekend to ensure success. Their work was over long hours, and was in addition to normal museum maintenance and serving public visitors on a daily basis.



The team of soldiers were:

Lance Corporal Chris Albers, who has since left the Army and is pursuing a civilian career,

Trooper Craig Upjohn, who despite painful shoulder injury has contributed so much to the planning and execution of these memorials.

Trooper Jamie Massey-Chase, whose skill with a paintbrush produced the wonderful signs and markings on all the Matildas and Stuart tanks.

Trooper 'Gibbo' Gibson whose handling of 'dead' tanks around the Museum earned the praise of a RAEME Recovery Mechanic. A very great honour!

Trooper Dennis Coughlan, serving for the second time in the Museum, and who was responsible for gardens and earthworks. Dennis has since left the Army to follow a civilian career.

These soldiers deserve a well done and a pat on the back for their tremendous efforts to ensure the Memorial Weekend was a success. They are a credit to the Corps and show the reliability and persistence of the soldiers and junior NCOs of the Australian Army when undertaking difficult tasks.

