

MILITARY OF THE HUNTER



CITIZEN DEFENCE FORCES OF NEWCASTLE AND THE HUNTER VALLEY A HISTORY - 1855 TO 2005



Book Launch

**Bullecourt Barracks, Military Road, Adamstown
2.00pm Saturday 8 November 2008**

All Welcome

The Minister for Defence, the Honourable Joel Fitzgibbon, will be launching a new book entitled “Military of the Hunter - Citizen Defence Forces of Newcastle and the Hunter Valley – A History: 1855 to 2005” at Bullecourt Barracks, Adamstown on Saturday 8 November 2008.

This book is the result of three years of research and collaboration by a group of former Reservists and is published by the Reserve Forces Day Hunter Region Council as a finale to the celebrations, in 2005, marking 150 years since the origins of the first Volunteer defence units in our area.

The book includes:

- The Origins of our citizen Defence Forces in Newcastle and the Hunter;
- The histories of the units, sub-units and detachments in this area;
- Details of Newcastle and the Hunter’s AIF Battalions in World War One and World War Two;
- Details of recent overseas operational deployment by our Reserves;
- Over 450 pages of interesting facts and information contained in a hard cover;
- 32 pages of colour photographs; and
- Approximately 70 black and white photographs.



The Book traces 150 years of Citizens Defence Forces in Newcastle and the Hunter which commenced with a meeting of Newcastle citizens in 1855. There was a concern at the time about the safety of our city and its important harbour and port facilities in the light of the then Russian threat.

A feature of the book is the history of the various reserve units in our area through many conflicts and organizational changes through to the structure of our current Defence Reserve units in Newcastle and the Hunter Valley. Two of these sub-units can trace their ancestry back to the units whose origins date from the meeting in 1855.

Following the Book Launch, light refreshments will be available and copies of the Book will be on sale at the special Launch price of \$35.00 (RRP \$45.00).



Enquiries: Reserve Forces Day Hunter Region Council

Laurie Kelly 4943 6690

Terry O’Brien 4942 8459