



What do we do?

We are a group of people from differing backgrounds that have come together to enjoy the Social and Military aspects of the Regency period. We are a social non-profit making group



who meet on a regular basis to hold regency dinners, dances and to put on battle, skill at arms and mounted drill displays with other groups within the Australian Napoleonic Association (ANA). The Military aspect of the group is the Recreation of a light cavalry unit. Our overall aims are:



1. ***To portray the Regency era, in re-enactment, living history and society with a special focus on the members of the 15th Kings Light Dragoons (Hussars) between the years 1809 and 1815***
2. ***To do this with the highest level of authenticity as practicably possible.***
3. ***To educate the public as to the clothing, uniforms, duties, drill, combat and life of the Regency era and the 15th Hussars.***
4. ***To create an atmosphere that promotes fun and friendship.***



The training primary focus is on our drill and understanding of orders, we move onto Skill-at-Arms, combat practice and games such as running the rings, tent pegging and horseball. We have found that games of this type dramatically increase riding ability, as riders focus on getting the ball and scoring, not on riding. After training we freshen up and relax, assisted (where appropriate), by Champagne or G&T. It is then that the

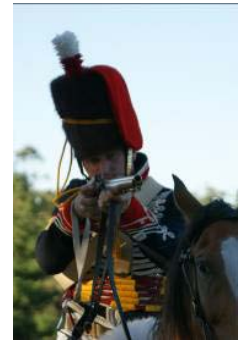


Social side of the group comes into play. The ladies of the group now appear in all their finery bedecked in magnificent Regency dresses and accessories. The gentlemen in uniform or Regency evening wear. Once every one is assembled dinner is served and ladies escorted into the "Mess". Dinner is of many courses and wines, many jokes and conversation and what about the day's events! After dinner a few more libations and the Mess Games begin! Those brave enough may attempt to remove the cork from a bottle of champagne with the saber or even partake in the 15th Hussars Mess Racing stakes! Regency dancing is also taught and dancing intersperses the games for those steady enough.

In a battle the unit is required to play its part in the battle scenario and do it safely. Despite being taught to kill people on horse back as per the 1796 training manual at training, with both Saber



and Carbine, we obviously cannot do that at a re-enactment battle. We believe good training is the key to staying safe and every rider should know his/her job inside out. A battle consists of staying in formation, listening for the commands and always heeding shouts of "dressing" and "close-up" from the NCO's, Charging the enemy and engaging in cavalry or infantry melee. We also carry out live firing days at ranges with the carbines as well as blank firing during battles and training; you will need to be appropriately licensed to do this.



What can I do?

Well, have fun and all of the above! You can be anyone you want to be and wear any clothing that you wish as long as it supports the "Aims" of the group. We have three types of membership, Probationary, Social Member and Military Member. You will join as a Probationary Member which allows you to see if you enjoy the group and the group you, there is no obligation on you to become a full member. Once the probation is over; you become a Full Member as either a Military Member or a Social Member (see Organisation and Structure).

What about Kit and Equipment?



As a Probationary member you will be loaned your clothing and equipment by the unit for free, if available, although feel free to provide your own. Once you become a full member it would be expected that you provide your own.

Social members wear civilian clothing within the confines of our "aims".

Military Members again would be expected to supply their own uniform, saddlery and horse if possible and all to the regimental pattern. It is best that before you buy, you ask. We are a

military unit and should look uniform and above all be authentic. Ok we know this is expensive and the unit will hire you equipment if it is available. We also run a Lend lease system. We as a unit are invited to attend larger events and Battles; as such we receive a fee to cover expenses. Any funds remaining from an event are divided amongst the members attending that event (but still held by the unit), a member's funds may then be spent on uniform and kit, which is then held by the individual (but still owned by the group). All of this equipment and any accumulated funds revert to and will be returned to the unit if a member leaves.



All of the kit, Clothing and Equipment must support the aims of the unit and this will be judged by the Master Tailor and Committee. All weapons and horses must be safe and serviceable this will be judged by the Drillmaster/Master of Horse and Committee.

We are a Historical re-enactment unit and any accurate research done by the members that adds to the group knowledge has to be commended and will be welcome.

Organisation and Structure

The organisation of the group is not overtly military but as per our aims, focuses on that of a Cavalry unit. The structure is organised into two separate parts “Ranks” and “Hats”.

Every member will start out as a “Probationary Member” with a Rank as either a Recruit, who intends to go onto being a Military Member or as a Debutante (female) - Debutant (male), who intends to become a Social Member. The probationary period will last a minimum of 6 months, at the next AGM, Committee Meeting or Event after that, providing that all the relevant weapon training and riding tests have been passed, the committee will vote, and on a majority vote in favour, the individual will become a Full member and “Pass out” or be “Introduced” to the group. Being a social member or a military member does not limit you to only social or military events or wearing only military or civilian clothing. However those who wish to attend military events or events involving the public or other groups will need to have Australian Living History Federation (ALHF) membership as this covers insurance. Members who wish to become a Military Member must wear the appropriate uniform.



The Hats are roles within the group committee and any number of these may be held by an individual, either a social or military member, on a voluntary basis, a member does not have to have a “Hat”. The Hat of President/Public Officer may **not** hold that of Adjutant/Secretary and visa versa. All of the “Hats” are decided by majority vote by the existing committee. Each person holding a hat (other than President/Public Officer) must resign at the beginning of the AGM and the Hat nomination voted on again. The individual holding the role of President/Public Officer may only be removed by a majority “vote of no confidence” at an AGM, based on total membership numbers. Any holder of a hat may resign at any point and a substitute nominated by the committee until the next AGM. We are governed by the rules of the ANA, ALHF and Incorporation Model Rules, all of which are available on request.

Ranks

One of the following **must** be held by each individual:

NCO/ic - Non Commissioned Officer in Charge (Military Member)

Rank: Cpl < 7 riding military members
Sgt 8-14 riding military members
Captain 15+ riding military members

When in Kit; in overall command of the unit on and off the field. To ensure that all actions, weapons, stores, horses, equipment, members and camp promote the “Aim” of the unit. Counter signatory on the Regimental Journal. Part of the executive committee. To ensure his/her own actions, bearing and kit promote the “Aim” of the unit. To maintain their own equipment to the standard expected by the unit.

2ic - Second in command (Military Member)

Rank: Snr Trooper < 7 riding military members
Cpl 8-14 riding military members
Sgt 15+ riding military members

To act as NCO/ic when NCO/ic is absent. To ensure the instructions of the NCO/ic are carried out and that those instructions are in the in the spirit of the “Aim” of the unit. Counter signatory on the Regimental Journal. Part of the executive committee. To ensure his/her own actions, bearing and kit promote the “Aim” of the unit. To maintain their own equipment to the standard expected by the unit.

Trooper (Military Member)

Rank: Trooper

To carry out the instructions of the NCOs' and to ensure their own safety and that of those around them. To ensure his/her own actions, bearing and kit promote the "Aim" of the unit. To maintain their own equipment to the standard expected by the unit. May vote at meetings when requested to do so.

Gentleman - Lady - Other (Social Member)

Rank: None

A "Social Member" i.e. a non-fighting member of the unit. To ensure his/her own actions, bearing and clothing promote the "Aim" of the unit. May vote at meetings when requested to do so.

Recruit

Rank: Recruit - Debutante - Debutant (Probationary Member)

Entry level to the unit. Unable to use any weapon or horse unsupervised until signed fit to do so in the "Regimental Journal" by the "Drillmaster". To ensure his/her own actions, bearing and kit promote the "Aim" of the unit. To maintain their own equipment to the standard expected by the unit. A Probationary member of the unit and as such may be refused full membership by the executive committee. Considered a full member; once "Passed Out" if becoming a Trooper or "Introduced" if becoming a Social member. May comment but not vote at any meeting.

Hats

An individual may hold any multiple of the following (other than where noted):

President/Public Officer

Head of the executive committee and signatory of all official and regulatory documents. Overall responsibility to ensure the unit adheres to law, rules and regulations laid down by Federal, State and Association Government. That each member is insured, licensed and trained to the required standard. Responsible for coordinating events, chairing meetings, checking documents and head of the unit. To ensure that the unit maintains its "Aim". Primary signatory on all official documents and financial transactions. Cannot hold the role of Adjutant/Secretary.

Mess President

Under the direction of the President/Public Officer coordinates the social activities of the unit. Responsible for setting up the Mess at events when required. The Mess President's task is to ensure that Mess property is brought to the event as needed, to update the social diary on the website, propose new Mess property for acquisition, and in general to ensure that all members both Social and Military are fed and watered suitably at all events when the Mess is present. The President may appoint volunteers, deputies and delegates as needed. Part of the executive committee.

Adjutant/Secretary

To act as President when instructed to do so. To assist the president where directed to do so. Responsible for holding and filling out the regimental journal and that all the entries are up-to-date and correct. Part of the executive committee. Updating and maintaining individual and regimental, Unit, ANA and ALHF membership, take minutes at meetings and carry out actions as directed in the Model Rules. Cannot hold the role of President/Public Officer

Paymaster/Treasurer

Holder and counter signatory to the Public Officer, of the regimental bank account. To ensure the "Regimental Account" page of the Regimental Journal is up-to-date. Along with the Adjutant and an NCO to hold "Pay Parade" at each event when required. Part of the executive committee. To provide a financial report annually or when required to do so by the president or Adjutant and carry out actions as directed in the Model Rules. Holder of the Regimental bank account Cheque Book and Debit Card.

Quartermaster

Holder of the regimental equipment and clothing stores. Along with the Master Taylor responsible for the Purchase and procurement of new regimental kit. To ensure the “Quartermasters Account” page of the Regimental Journal is up-to-date. Along with the Master Taylor and an NCO to hold “Inspections” at each event when required ensuring the state of repair of clothing. Part of the executive committee. To provide a Stock take report annually or when required to do so by the president or Adjutant.

Drillmaster/Master of Horse

To ensure that each member is trained in Authentic Drill both mounted and on foot, safe re-enactment combat and the use of weapons. To carry out the recruits ride and certify in the “Regimental Journal” that a recruit has “Passed out” and is fit to fight on the field. To ensure that the correct paperwork is sent to the ANA to show the training of each person. Part of the executive committee.

Master Taylor

To ensure that all items of kit and equipment are authentic and as true to the original as practically possible. To act as the focal point for the groups historical research. Along with the Quartermaster and an NCO to hold “Inspections” at each event when required ensuring the authenticity of clothing and equipment. Part of the executive committee.

Surgeon/Vet

To ensure that first aid kits both human and equine are present at all events and correctly filled as per the ANA guidelines. Along with an NCO decide if a person is unfit through general health, drink or drugs to take the field. Part of the executive committee.

The “Mess”

This is any area where the unit congregates to socialise; one will be set up at events and will usually take the form of a mess table and chairs under an awning. This is the focal point for the group. It is the place that we eat as a group and hold meetings but most importantly it is the place the Mess games take place! Here are a few games and guidelines for the Mess:

Sabrage

The removal of a cork from a Champagne bottle with a saber. Obtain a bottle of chilled champagne that has not been shaken. It is best if the bottle has chilled in an ice bucket. Wipe away any moisture on the bottle with a napkin. Remove the foil from the top of the bottle. Unwrap and remove the wire cage from the bottle. Locate the crease, which is the seam that joins the two halves of the bottle together. It's weakest where it meets the lip, and that's where you'll need to strike. Hold the bottle firmly and at a 45 degree angle upwards (pointed in a safe direction). Lay the sword against the bottle with the back side of the sword (the blunt, non-cutting edge) towards the cork. Firmly and quickly slide the blade down the seam, towards the lip that holds the cork. This should be one firm, continuous movement. Be sure to move firmly, confidently and with a good follow-through! Weak, unsure attempts often result in simply ricocheting off the top of the bottle. With the correct amount of pressure and the blade properly positioned (flat and on the seam), the lip of the bottle and the cork within should cleanly break off and go flying.



Passing the Port

This is the rule for port at the table, around the camp fire or in a small group. The most widely known tradition is believed to come from British naval customs for serving the wine. The decanter of port is placed in front of the host who then serves the guest to his right, then passes the decanter to the guest on his left (port-side). The port is then passed to the left all the way back to the host. If the decanter does not come full circle back to the host, it is impolite to ask for it directly. Instead the host asks the individual closest to the decanter, if he knows the bishop of Norwich or any other village in England. The question is not to provoke a reply but action the immediate passing of the port. Should the unfortunate offender answer the question by saying "No," is told that "the bishop is an awfully good fellow, but he never passes the port!" sparking, hopefully, the individual to realize he is hogging the decanter. When decanted at the table, the bottle of Port should be finished in one sitting.

"D" Troop 15th Light Dragoons (Hussars) Mess Stakes

This entails a number of "horses" (i.e. members) a "starter" and a pre determined race course around the mess or other suitable area and laid out with cushions or solid furniture. The "horses" are lined up at the start point and the course explained, while this is taking place the punters may place bets (in forfeits) on the outcome. On the command "ready" each horse spins round on the spot, when the starter considers the horses sufficiently dizzy he/she shouts "GO", on this the horses run around the course, the winner is the first horse to complete the course correctly. All bets are final once "Go" is called. All the loosing Punters and Horses must take a forfeit.

Spoof

Basically it is a guessing game involving coins. Each player draws some number of coins between zero and three from their pocket and holds them concealed within a clenched hand. If more than three are held this is deemed to count as three. The denomination of the coin is irrelevant; it's just the number that counts. The idea is then to take turns to guess the combined total number contained in all the players' hands. It's that easy! One player starts by making a guess ('call' or 'shout') and then the guesses proceed clockwise until all have guessed a number that hasn't previously been taken. This is a single round of the game. All players then reveal their coins, a total is calculated (and checked!) and someone may be 'out' if they chose the exact number. If this happens the not-loser will then sit out the remaining rounds of this particular game and the others will play more rounds in the same way until only two players are left. This is 'the final'. The player who loses this takes a forfeit. If nobody guessed the correct number in any given round then the round is played again. Every time a round is played the first person to call rotates clockwise to the next available player.

The Battle of Emsdorf

This is essentially very simple, two sides are picked. Members on each side choose partners, the partners then "piggy back", a rider and a horse. Each side then lines up at either end of the mess and on the shout "CHARGE!" move towards one another and try to unhorse the enemy riders. The rules here are; only the rider may use his arms, you are considered unhorsed when any part of the rider touches the floor and finally, no unhorsed rider or horse may attempt to unhorse any one or get in the way, they must move off the battlefield as quickly as possible. As a note weapons in the form of cushions may be used!

This gives a brief guide to "D" Troop Kings Light Dragoons (Hussars) - Melbourne Inc. We look forward to seeing you at events!

Membership Form

"D" Troop Kings Light Dragoons (Hussars) - Melbourne Inc.

Year May 2010 – May 2011 or part there of. This is the membership form for "D" Troop Kings Light Dragoons (Hussars) - Melbourne Inc and ALHF membership. Please fill this out as fully as you can. **Please attach a passport type photo.** This will be attached to the relevant declaration and Membership card then returned to you. This card will allow you to carry weapons to and from events and will act as proof of membership if required by the Police. Information gathered is covered by the Privacy Act 2000.

Membership Fees

Probationary Membership - \$10
Full Membership* - \$20

* Social or Military

ALHF Membership

Additional to above - \$16

Payment

Please make Cheques payable to:

"D" Troop Kings Light Dragoons
(Hussars) - Melbourne Inc.

Direct Payment:

Bank: ANZ
Acct Name: 15th Hussars (Melb) Inc
Acct No.: 200794271
BSB: 013030

(Please mark the transaction with your name and "Membership" or "Membership Inc ALHF")

Return with a Photo to

The Adjutant, 40 Riverdale Rd,
Seville East, Vic, 3139

Please also return your previous membership card if you wish to reuse the photo.

www.15thhussars.com

ABN : 21 394 867 084

Inc. No.: A0054047U

ALHF Group No.: 88

(Please use capitals or print clearly)

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

Probationary Membership / Full Membership / ALHF*

NAME

Surname _____ Given Names _____

ADDRESS (Residential)

Street Address _____

City/Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

ADDRESS (Postal)

Street Address _____

City/Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

PHONE NUMBERS

Home _____ Mobile _____ Other _____

EMAIL

I would like to be a Social Member Yes/No*

I would like to be a Military Member Yes/No*

I can ride a horse and would be willing to do so during displays Yes/No*

As a Combatant Yes/No*

As a Non Combatant Yes/No*

I have my own horse I would like to use in displays Yes/No*

I currently hold Shooters licence/s Yes/No*

Type _____ Number _____

Type _____ Number _____

I am currently a member of ALHF which will not run out before June 2011 Yes/No*

ALHF Number (if known) _____

If No, I have included an additional \$15 in my membership (ALHF Membership is mandatory due to insurance requirements) Yes/No*

Victorian Control of Weapons Act Statement

I have read the relevant definitions (attached) of prohibited person from the Control of Weapons Act 1990 version 033 and the Firearms Act 1996 version 034, I understand them and at this time I do not believe myself to be a prohibited person under these definitions.

Signature _____ Date _____

I agree to abide by the rules and constitution of "D" Troop Kings Light Dragoons (Hussars) - Melbourne Inc. and undertake to do all in my power to preserve the good image of the Association, the activities it promotes and its Aims. I accept that the weapons or equipment that I currently own may not be of the standard required by "D" Troop Kings Light Dragoons (Hussars) - Melbourne Inc. and as such I may not be allowed to use them.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian if the Member is under 18 years:

I confirm that I am the legal guardian/parent of the above named person, I agree to accompany them to all events they attend. All of the above information is correct.

Signature _____ Date _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Photo ID sighted? Yes/No*

ID details:

Fees paid in full on Date:

Membership Card Number:

ALHF Fees deposited on Date:

ALHF Number:

Shooters Licence seen? Yes/No*

* Delete as appropriate



Victoria

In Victoria swords are on the list of Prohibited weapons. This means:

These weapons are considered inappropriate for general possession and use without a Governor in Council Exemption or a Chief Commissioners Approval.

Control of Weapons Act 1990
EXEMPTION UNDER SECTION 8B TO POSSESS SWORDS FOR HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT
Order in Council

The Governor in Council, under section 8B of the **Control of Weapons Act 1990**, exempts from the operation of section 5(1) of the **Control of Weapons Act 1990**, in relation to swords, a person who is of a class of persons set out in an item in Column 1 of the following Table, to the extent specified opposite that item in Column 2 of the following Table:

Column 1 Purpose	Column 2 Exemption
A member of an historical re-enactment organisation listed in Schedule 1.	Bringing a sword into Victoria, causing a sword to be brought or sent into Victoria, selling or purchasing a sword, displaying or advertising a sword for sale, possessing using or carrying a sword for the purposes of studying and participating in the re-enactment of historical events.

A person seeking to rely on this Order is subject to the following conditions:

1. when not being used in accordance with the purpose specified in this Order, swords must be stored safely and securely; and
2. a person seeking to rely on this exemption must permit a member of the police force to inspect his or her storage arrangements at any reasonable time.

In this Order-

“**Act**” means the **Control of Weapons Act 1990**;

“**stored safely and securely**” means:

(a) stored in a manner calculated to ensure the sword:

- (i) is not readily accessible to a person other than the person seeking to rely on the exemption;
- (ii) is not available for possession, carriage or use by a person who is not themselves a holder of an approval issued by the Chief Commissioner of Police or who does not fall within another class of exempt persons;

(b) when being transported between the usual place of storage of the sword and places at which the sword is legitimately used, the purpose of which is the subject of this exemption, stored in a manner calculated to ensure that the sword is not readily accessible to a person other than the person seeking to rely on the exemption and that the sword is concealed from plain sight during any such transportation;

“**participating**” includes receiving instruction in, practicing, training, teaching or competing.

For the purposes of this Order, a class or classes of persons specified in Column 1 of the Table set out above does not include any person who is a prohibited person as defined in the Act.

This Order comes into operation on 1 July 2004.

Dated 16 June 2004

Responsible Minister ANDRE HAERMAYER Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Schedule 1 includes **A.L.H.F.**

Control of Weapons Act 1990, Version 033, 1 January 2006

3. Definitions

In this Act—

“**prohibited person**” has the same meaning as in section 3(1) of the Firearms Act 1996;

Firearms Act 1996, Version 034, 1 January 2006

3. Definitions

(1) In this Act—

“**prohibited person**” means—

(a) a person who is serving a term of imprisonment for—

- (i) an indictable offence; or
- (ii) an assault; or

(iii) an offence under the **Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981**—
or, in relation to a person—

(iv) not more than 15 years have expired since the person finished serving a term of imprisonment of 5 years or more for such an offence; or

(v) not more than 5 years have expired since the person finished serving a term of imprisonment of less than 5 years for such an offence; or

(b) a person who is serving a term of imprisonment in another State or a Territory for an offence of a corresponding nature to an offence listed in paragraph (a) or in relation to a person—

(i) not more than 15 years have expired since the person finished serving a term of imprisonment in another State or a Territory of 5 years or more for such an offence; or

(ii) or not more than 5 years have expired since that person finished serving a term of imprisonment in another State or a Territory of less than 5 years for such an offence; or

(ba) a person—

(i) who is serving a term of imprisonment for an offence under section 321 or 321A of the **Crimes Act 1958**; or

(ii) in relation to whom, not more than 10 years have expired since the person finished serving a term of imprisonment for an offence specified in subparagraph (i); or

(bb) a person—

(i) who is serving a term of imprisonment in another State or a Territory of the Commonwealth for an offence of a corresponding nature to an offence specified in paragraph (ba)(i); or

(ii) in relation to whom, not more than 10 years have expired since the person finished serving a term of imprisonment in another State or a Territory of the Commonwealth for an offence specified in paragraph (ba)(i); or

(c) a person who is subject to—

(i) an intervention order under section 4 of the **Crimes (Family Violence) Act 1987** or an order of a corresponding nature made in another State or a Territory; or

(ii) a community based order which includes a condition referred to in section 38(1)(b) of the **Sentencing Act 1991**; or

(iii) a supervision order under section 26 of the **Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997**—

or, in relation to a person, not more than 5 years have expired since the person was subject to such an order; or

(d) a person, in relation to whom, not more than 12 months have expired since that person was found guilty by a court, whether in Victoria or in another State or a Territory, of—

(i) an offence against this Act, in relation to which it was open to the court to impose a term of imprisonment; or

(ii) an offence against any other Act involving the possession or use of firearms and in relation to which it was open to the court to impose a term of imprisonment; or

(iii) an indictable offence—

and who is not, by virtue of the operation of any other paragraph of this definition, a prohibited person; or

(e) any person who is of a prescribed class of persons.