

BLAXLAND-GLENBROOK

Australia's World War II chemical warfare personnel were honoured at a plaque unveiling ceremony conducted by members at the Glenbrook War Memorial on Remembrance Day 2009. The sub-Branch was awarded a grant from the Department of Veterans' Affairs to produce this plaque.

The plaque is in recognition of the RAAF Chemical Warfare Armourers and other personnel who worked with mustard gas chemical weapons in the Glenbrook tunnel from 1942 to 1946. David Bradbury MP, Member for Lindsay, who acknowledged the World War II service of these personnel in a speech to Federal Parliament in June 2008, provided the unveiling address.

Many of the personnel associated with chemical warfare activities experienced difficulties in receiving appropriate recognition and compensation for their work in this unit despite the risk that it posed to their health. This is because the secret nature of their activities resulted in the deletion of details of chemical warfare from their service records.

Some of the original personnel from World War II, or their relatives, attended, as well as federal and state parliamentarians and local council representatives.

Students from Blaxland High School supported the ceremonies.

Tony Lowe
Honorary Secretary



World War II RAAF chemical warfare armourers unveiling the plaque, from left to right: Arthur Lewis, Doug Bain and Geoff Burn.