



INFANTRYMAN

The Journal of the RAR Association SA
Keeping the Spirit Alive

August 2013



Focus expands to serving soldiers and contemporary veterans

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RARA (SA) AGM 14 July 2013

Another year and another set of challenges. Challenges met by the Association at State and national level in so many areas.

What has become increasingly evident is we are becoming more active in challenges affecting our young serving men and women in the Regiment in matters of physical and mental health, equipment issues, education, compensation and Department of Veterans' Affairs support.

We have not taken our eyes off the ball as far as our older veterans are concerned. It's just that these veterans' issues are in the main well catered for and we are all getting older and seemingly happy where we are at in our lives, providing the various pensions maintain purchasing power and a parity with other pensions. This seems to be the major veteran issue we are all fighting for at the moment. Unfair indexation for military superannuats and unfair indexation of disability pensions seem to be the major concerns of all affected veterans and what affect, if any, will the NDIS have on veterans disability pensions and allowances?

BACK IN HARNESS: All Committee Members were returned to office at the RARA SA's AGM on July 14 for 2013-2014. Front from left: Vice President Mike Dennis, President Michael von Berg, Patron Laurie Lewis and secretary Lynn Graham. Back: Welfare Officer Lyn Fisher, Ceremonial Officer Adrian Craig, Club Manager Rodney Graham and Secretary Robert Whinnen. Insert: Treasurer Mike Bevan.



Association Secretary Lynn Graham and WOI Noel Smith, RSM, were among those who attended the Royal Australian Regiment Association's Regimental Dinner on May 18 at the clubrooms in Linden Park. More photos on pages 8 and 9.

FROM THE COMMAND POST

Focus directed to serving soldiers and contemporary veterans

Continued from Page 1

Almost by default this has focused the Association at State and national level more on the serving soldier and recent contemporary veterans. So if we are to have a sustainable association and be relevant to the serving soldier this is where a lot of our attention must be directed, and we have had some recent wins in that area.

We are a unique and special ex-defence organisation. We have enshrined into our national constitution a Regimental Colonel Commandant, Major General **Mark Kelly**, and we have as an observer at all of our general meetings, the Army Head of Infantry Corps, which gives us direct access and conversation on almost any issue affecting our serving soldiers.

We don't always agree but we have the opportunity to discuss these issues at a very senior level, unlike the other ex-defence organisations, and we must protect that position zealously to ensure whatever we do is professionally and tactfully managed at that level.

We have been very fortunate in being able to attract a serving officer of 7RAR to join our committee who has accepted the portfolio of "Current and Emerging Issues as it Affects Serving Soldiers".

We need more young people to take up roles in the Association. The best way in achieving this, in my view, is to be relevant to their stage of life and their concerns. Helping young soldiers does more for our recruiting than email marketing campaign. I suggest everyone of us must be an agent of change.

Looking after current serving soldiers issues and helping those in many cases who can't help themselves is our best recruiting tool. Many of these soldiers, when they get out, may seek a place they can call their Regiment's spiritual home. We often talk about sustainability at committee level and it is important if we are to be a credible influence group into the future we must address it now.

We are trustees of the proud traditions and history of the Royal Australian Regiment. Through our Association honouring and commemorating significant battles and events we are "keeping that spirit alive". We are very fortunate **Adrian Craig** has taken up the role of Ceremonial Officer and he is doing an outstanding job. So much so that this year with the Long Tan Commemoration falling on the Sunday August 18 we will be holding our service in conjunction with the Vietnam Veterans Association at Torrens Parade ground and we, as an Association, will take pride of place. After all it is one of our Battalion's significant battles and this has been recognised accordingly.

The club and facilities could not function without the dedication and hard work of our committee members who make things happen. Our sincere appreciation goes to Club Manager **Rod Graham** who undertakes an amazing workload. **Spike Dwiar** who looks after membership and is prepared to do anything round the place.

Colin Abel for his culinary creations. **Mike Bevan** who does a hell of a lot more than the Treasurer's function **Bob Whinnen**, game keeper/secretary. **Moose Dunlop** managing the Trojan's Trek initiative **Ken Duthie** who has established a benchmark for our schools' history

unit addressing more than 21,000 students this year. **John Wilson** driving the Fair Go Campaign. And the many volunteers on roster making things happen.

One of the biggest challenges this year has been met by **Mike Dennis** through his own determination and courage, the wonderful support of his wife **Ann** and some fortuitous early medical diagnoses and treatment. Mike is an excellent hard working Vice President. Without him I simply could not do my job at national and state level. He is not only VP but our Minister of Aesthetics. He has project managed most of the club improvements supported by a great bunch of volunteers.

For those of you who are not aware of my other responsibilities, I am Chairman of the RARC; a member of the ESORT in Canberra; the VAC in SA; and as a member of the RAR Council in Singleton. I could not do what I do without the support of our RAR (SA) committee. I am very grateful for the support of our Patron **Laurie Lewis** whose knowledge and support really does make my job a lot easier. Laurie's input into so many areas is invaluable. I thank him on behalf of you all.

Most importantly thanks to the ladies who quietly support so many things. **Lynn, Ann, Barb** and **Linda** in particular and the many others who help from time to time. The RAR Regimental Dinner, facilitated in so many ways by **Lynn Graham**, would not have been possible without her. She also takes the committee meeting minutes - a major challenge. For that we thank you.

Thanks also to Our Regimental Honorary RSM **Noel Smith** for his excellent work on the Anzac Day March Committee we are thankful. **Penelope Forster** as Editor of the *Infantryman* magazine which is highly regarded; **Fred Fairhead** and his excellent work on the potted history of the Regiment in Vietnam about to be published; **Lyn Fisher** and the wonderful work she does quietly looking after so many welfare issues; **Tony Boyce**, a recent member who updated our antiquated computer system; and the all-important Battalion Representatives who sit on the committee time permitting.

This Association as a whole is only as good as its parts and those essential parts are the Battalion Associations without which we would simply not exist. Some individual Battalion Associations are extremely strong, which is to be applauded, and the ones that are not as strong we are there to help. A wonderful example is how strong and capable the 3RAR Association is here in SA.

So many things that happen throughout the year are reported our *Infantryman* magazine. It is your magazine the same that this is your club and Association and the only way we can make it better is through your participation.

We would appreciate more articles written by the Battalion Associations for the magazine. It is through the dedication of our committee members, the active participation of our Battalion Associations and the work and efforts of each one of you that "keeps the spirit alive". Thank you all for what has been a very challenging year for us all.

Michael von Berg MC
President





COMBINED COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE for
THE BATTLE OF LONG TAN 18 AUGUST 1966 and
VIETNAM DAY 2013
1100 hours 18 August 2013 Torrens Parade Ground



Roll of Honour Battle of Long Tan
D Company 6 RAR Killed in Action 18 August 1966

Pte R.A. Aldersea, Pte G.A. Drabble, Pte K.H. Gant, Pte E.F. Grant, Pte V.R. Grice, Pte J.M. Houston,
L Cpl J. Jewry, Pte P.A. Large, Pte A.F. McCormack, Pte D.J. McCormack, Pte W.D. Mitchell, Pte D.J.
Salveron, 2Lt G.C. Sharp, Pte D.J. Thomas, Pte F.B. Topp, Pte M.R. Wales, Pte C.J. Whiston.

1 APC Squadron Died of Wounds 27 August 1966

T/Cpl P.E. Clements

LEST WE FORGET

On Sunday August 18 the RAR Association SA will combine with the State Vietnam Veterans' Association SA to conduct a commemorative service to mark the Battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Day at the State War Memorial at 1100 hours.

The Master of Ceremonies will be Russell Campbell, OAM, the Address will be delivered by RARA SA President Michael von Berg, MC, and the Commemorative Address by RARA SA Vice President Michael Dennis, MBE. A 6 RAR representative will read the Citation for D Company and the Battle of Long Tan Roll of Honour.

The service will end with D Company's theme song, "These Boots were made for Walking".

The service will be preceded by a march starting from Gawler Place at 1040 hours and will be followed by the usual Concert, with this year's guest being Normie Rowe. Funds raised from the concert and the sale of food, drinks and merchandise will go to the Vietnam Day Scholarship.

Adrian Craig
Ceremonial Manager
RAR Association SA.

50th Infantry Battalion AIF memorial service August 13

On Tuesday 13 August 2013 a memorial will be dedicated to the 50th Infantry Battalion AIF on the Pathway of Honour, Adelaide. The dedication service will be organized by 3 RAR SA Association Inc. in conjunction the 10th Battalion AIF Association.

At the 11am service the Lieutenant Governor, His Excellency Mr Hieu Van Le, AO, acting as The Governor's Deputy of SA, will unveil the memorial. A light lunch in the Torrens Training Depot drill hall will follow the service.

Parking will be available on the Parade Ground. The Pathway of Honour can be reached from either King William Road or Kintore Avenue.

Ex-servicemen and women are requested to wear decorations and medals. Relatives of members of the 50th are requested to wear their loved one's decorations and medals on the right breast.

The 50th Infantry Battalion AIF was raised in Egypt on 26 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. About half of its numbers were veterans from the 10th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 10th, the 50th was predominantly composed of men from SA. The Battalion became part of the 13th Brigade of the 4th Australian Division and was dubbed "Hurcombe's Hungry Half Hundred", after its first CO, Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Hurcombe.

After arriving in France on 11 June 1916, the 50th fought in its first major battle at Mouquet Farm between August 13 and 15 and suffered heavily. For his actions at Noreuil on 2 April 1917, Private Joergen Jensen was awarded the Victoria Cross. On ANZAC Day 1918 the 50th participated in the now-legendary attack to dislodge the enemy from Villers-Bretonneux. During World War I the 50th suffered the casualties of 720 killed and 1557 wounded.

Inquiries: Adrian Craig as.craig9rar@bigpond.com or 8263 4784.

Sons of ANZACs Vietnam Memorial Tour in 2015

The year 2015 will mark the centennial of the landing at Anzac Cove and, coincidentally, a significant anniversary for Vietnam Veterans, being 50 years since the deployment of our first battle group. That deployment went on to last 10 years. The synergy between the first ANZACs and Vietnam Veterans is that their grandfathers fought at ANZAC Cove and in WW1.



To commemorate the fact, we have approached the highly advocated **Mat McLachlan** (pictured) of Mat McLachlan Battlefield Tours and Lt. Col **Gary McKay** (Ret'd), a prolific author and historian on Vietnam. Mat and Gary will be tour leaders and lecturers at the sites of Australia's major engagements.

At the Long Tan Cross there will be a significant memorial service honouring our generations who have died in uniform for Australia, Army, Navy and Air Force.

Mat and his company have enthusiastically embraced the event. As a historian, Mat understands the significance. Mat's company will arrange all travel arrangements and in-country logistics. There will be a series of additional tours to see Vietnam if desired.

It is envisaged an initial tour of about seven days will cover the battlefield tour experience, with further options for participants to understand Vietnam today.

Details: <http://battlefields.com.au/index.php/tours/69>
SAVMT committee: Lt Col. Gary McKay MC (Ret'd); Gary Phillips and Geoff Lowe, stretcher bearers; 5 RAR band 1st tour members; and Mat McLachlan of Battlefield tours.

Your club, your input, you're welcome



Magnificent memorial:
RARA SA Vice President **Mike Dennis** displays the magnificent Honour Board he had made up. It consists of hat badges of the units Mike served in, postings list, specialist courses, badges of rank, photos, medals and colour patches of RAR Battalions he served in. The Honour Board was made by Lone Pine medals in Mudgee, NSW. Their services can be viewed on www.lonepinemedals.com.au Mike can highly recommend their services.

Cultural and historical collection increases at HQ

Another recent addition to the walls at the RARA HQ is a painting by **Peter Haran**. Peter says "the Afghanistan diggers picture was part of a set on show at my first public exhibition from February 8 at Geoffrey Stapleton Gallery at Prospect".

"After the two-week exhibit I decided I would love to give one of the pictures to the RARA - if they wanted it!

"I felt utterly compelled to do the Afghan painting because to me it epitomised the Aussie Digger's compassion for those he was sent to protect in war. "We did the same thing in Vietnam - it was routine to evacuate, medically treat and care for the welfare of citizens. Vietnam was not all about patrolling and ambushes."

Peter said he saw in the Afghanistan soldier the same as he saw in the 2RAR and 3RAR soldiers with whom he served.

"I possibly won't do another war painting. I just had to get that vision of soldier and vulnerable civilian out of my system. I'm so glad The Baron gave it the thumbs up."



President Michael von Berg accepts Peter Haran's painting which now hangs in the clubrooms at Linden Park.

CPR knowledge on the cheap

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is an emergency procedure performed in an effort to manually preserve intact brain function until further measures are taken to restore spontaneous blood circulation and breathing in a person in cardiac arrest.

The ability to render effective CPR is perhaps the most effective and simple way to save lives and brain function. It is an aptitude which simple to learn, and perhaps demanding greater attention as we all age.

The RAR Association is offering to members and friends the opportunity to become capable and current in CPR. There will be two classes, the first at 0830hrs on Saturday September 21 and the second at 1300hrs the same day.

The instruction will be conducted by a paramedic from the ambulance service. Cost \$50. Enrolments: Moose Dunlop on 0408 088 886 or moose@trojanstrek.com by Sunday September 15.

Catherine May, Physiotherapist

9 Crossley Street, Erindale

Appointments:

8364 2859 or 0417 851 708

DVA approved

No gap for DVA clients

Full range of physio services available

~ Hydrotherapy (heated pool)

~ Massage ~ Gym ~ Home visits

Your club, your input, you're welcome



If you have never been to the club on Friday evenings you've really miss out on a great opportunity to catch up with members you know and get to know others for good fellowship evening. To hear tall tales and true! Details of the weekly meals appear on the back page.

For some people the most important part of the evening is hoping their membership number will come up in the weekly draw between 1815 and 1830 hrs. At the time of

going to press, there have been only two winners - Adrian Craig who won \$500 and John Kendall who received \$50. Each week \$25 is added to the kitty until it reaches \$500 where it remains until the winner is present. If that doesn't happen before the end of the year, numbers will be drawn at the Christmas function until a paid up member present receives the \$500.

N.B: Wives/partners/friends are welcome every week.

Talk about a proud grandfather! Robert Whinnen shouted the bar the loudest and best it has ever been when his grandson Rory was introduced to club members. Grandfather Robert and Grandmother Linda are seen with the new arrival and his parents, Magenta and Edward Whinnen.



Results of the Anzac Day raffle at the Old Lion Hotel

- 1st: F27 Edwina.
- 2nd: E38 Tony.
- 3rd: F74 Rod.
- 4th: G49 Tee.
- 5th: F35 Dan.
- 6th: E90 Mitch.
- 7th: E02 Kasia.
- 8th: F93 Natalie.
- 9th: F39 Chris.

All prizes of wine were collected on the day. Thanks to Rod's girls for selling the tickets.

Jim backgrounds student trip

RARA member **Jim Fisher** spoke in-depth to four of the 2013 Premier's ANZAC Spirit School prize awardees during their pre-tour morning tea at The Repat Foundation, Daw Park, on his experiences in the Army. These included the ballot (call-up) process and our two trips to the battlefields of France and Belgium.

The six students spent two weeks visiting the graves and memorials of Australian servicemen and women who died on the Western Front and the battlefields in France and Belgium. The students were selected on the basis of their research and presentations about a South Australian who served on the Western Front during World War I. The students were not aware a person could be jailed for non-compliance with a call-up notice, and were understandably horrified when told. Jim served with 9th Battalion, The

Royal Australian Regiment, as a Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers attached armoured. His posting and trade was armoured for the Battalion in small arms, mortars and equipment. These units were attached to Battalions. Also attached were folk like Sappers - engineers, signallers, and artillery observers. The students were Ashwini Chettiar, Aberfoyle Park High; Nathan Rohrlach, Faith Lutheran College; Lucinda Duxbury, Glenunga International High; Sophie Quinn, Hallett Cove;



Alice O'Connell, Loreto College; and Cassidy Warman, Reynella East College.
- Lyn Fisher

Above: Jim Fisher with Daw Park Foundation Chair Associate Professor Dr Susan Neuhaus CSC and student Nathan Rohrlach at the SA Premier's Anzac Spirit School Prize at the presentation at the



KAPYONG 2013



*Above left:
Royal Australian
Navy Band
Bugler Sergey
Grymchek.*

*Above: President
Bob Whelan
presents a life
membership
plaque to John
Mackie, 3 RAR, a
Battle of Kapyong
survivor, watched
by flag bear Doug
Paterson.*



*Left: RSM 10/27
RSAR Adrian
Hodges with his
sons Bradley 10,
and Jamie, 8.*



KAPYONG 2013

On Wednesday 24 April 2013 at 1100 hrs the commemorative service to acknowledge the Battle of Kapyong in Korea on 24 April 1951 was conducted by 3 RAR SA. We paid homage to the men of 3 RAR who fought and died for this country.

MC **Neil Nichols** got proceedings underway followed by President **Bob (Wheels) Whelan** reading the scriptures and an outline of the battle. Chaplain **David Prior**, 7 RAR, was officiating chaplain, **Catherine Lambert** and **Rosemary** were the singers with **David White** coordinating the backings, Pipe Major **Des Ross**, our Pipe Major and ex 3 RAR Pipe Major, played the laments, bugler Royal Australian Navy bugler, AB Seaman **Sergey Grymchek**, played the *Last Post* and *Rouse*, committee member **Doug Paterson** held the national flag, and I recited the US Presidential Citation awarded to 3 RAR and read the Roll Of Honour.

The day belonged to the remaining 3 RAR Korean Veterans from SA who attended the ceremony.

We welcomed Colonel **Peter Scott** DSO (Rtd) and **John Mackie**, accompanied by his daughter **Susan**. Also present were **Gerry Harrison**, **John Jarrett**, **Keith Thomas**, **Ray Aubert**, **Doug Alderman**, **Clive Currie** and **Mick Woodley**. An apology came from **Jack Wilson** who was unwell.

Other official guests included **Mike Dennis** MBE, Vice President RAR Association SA, and his wife **Ann**; **Laurie Lewis** AM, Patron 3 RAR SA Association; **Frances Bedford**, MP, representing the Minister for Veteran Affairs; **Ian Kelly**, Deputy Director DVA; **Anthony Williamson**, representing the Lord Mayor of Adelaide; **Leon Eddy**, President of the TPI Association SA; the Commanding Officer of 10/27 Bn RSAR Lt Col **Graham Goodwin** and RSM WO1 **Adrian Hodge**; Commanding Officer of AUR, Lt Col **David Esmond** and RSM WO1 **S. Corby**; and Mr **Lee Yun**, President of the South Korean Veterans Association.

Four current veterans of conflicts - East Timor, Timor Leste and Iraq - who served with 3 RAR attended from interstate. There were **Noel Barrington**, ex Pioneers and B Coy, **Phil McManus**; ex Pioneers and C Coy, both from Wagga Wagga; Staff Sgt **Ken Blackall** (Retd), ex Pioneers, A and Spt Coy; and **Mark Johnson** ex Catering Corps, Admin Coy, both from Sydney. They also marched with us on ANZAC Day.

Standing in the background was a young lady, **Louise Jennings**, whose husband, **Andrew**, is to be deployed to Afghanistan with 7 RAR. However he served two years with 3 RAR and, in her words, "he has a soft spot for 3 RAR". The wives and partners are as important as the veterans themselves at these functions. We thank **Denise Whelan** and **Sandra Craig** for handing out the poppies and service programs, **Adrian Craig**, our ceremonial whiz kid, who puts in hours of work to ensure the site, invitations, running sheets, service programs and printing are correctly arranged; and Penelope and Bruce Forster for their reports and photos.

To all of involved with or attended this service, thank you for your participation.

Ken Duthie
Vice President



Kennels with crosses honour tracker dogs left in Vietnam

Vietnam Veterans Association of SA Copper Coast Sub-branch at Moonta has a wonderful memorial dedicated to the 11 tracker dogs used in Vietnam between 1967 until the last combat troops departed in 1972.

The memorial consists of a small white cross and a kennel with a plaque in the centre with the history of the dogs.

Each dog's name is on a small plaque on a stone quarried from the local copper mine in the Moonta area. The ground is covered in red gum bark chips with four majestic palms evenly spaced in the memorial. The memorial is a feature of our club and was a realisation of a dream of our late President, Rex Mitchell, 9 RAR.

Keith Wilkinson, 9 RAR



Foundation to benefit from home lottery

First prize in this year's Channel 9 Telethon Distinctive Home and Land Lottery is a furnished home at Aspire at Evanston South donated by Distinctive Homes valued at more than \$450,000 or \$250,000 cash. Tickets are \$10 or \$40 for a book of five. Second prize is \$25,000 cash, the Book Buyer's prize \$5000 cash and the Book Seller's prize \$500 cash. Tickets are available from The Repat Foundation by ringing 8275 1039 during business hours, by visiting the office or by ordering tickets on line on the donation page of the website. The Foundation is among 20 charities benefiting from the lottery. The home is open for inspection from 1pm to 5pm daily from Sunday 28 July to Sunday 24 November 2013.

REGIMENTAL DINNER IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Left: Arthur and Michelle Galberg (left) with Petra and Tony Boyce.

Right: The tables were set with individually-named placemats and menus for each guest.



Above: Cindy and Norman Ogden and Tim and Tess Karasoulos.

Left: Fred and Di Fairhead with Vice President Mike Dennis and Gavin Hargraves.

Right: Carmen Webster and Helen Robinson.



Above left: Versatile Membership Officer Greg Dwiars was barman and photographer.

Above: RARA Treasurer Mike Bevan and Barb Dixon.

Above right: President Mike von Berg welcomes the gathering.

Right: All overview of the dinner

Left: Some of the kitchen staff.



REGIMENTAL DINNER IN THE SPOTLIGHT



From left: RARA Secretary Robert Whinnen with his wife Linda; Karen Abel, Lyn Fisher and Chief de Maison Colin Abel; and Lt. Col. Fred Fairhead and RARA Patron Brigade Laurie Lewis, AM.



Left: Pat Gaskin and Jill Szczurko. Above: Snowy Selby and his daughter Kate, Audra Wilson, Lt Col John Wilson, Charmaine and her father Theo DeKuyper.



Left: Club Manager Rodney Graham and his wife Lynn. Above: Ron and Pat Gaskin.



The table set for Absent Friends

2nd Battalion National Reunion in Adelaide April 2014

Plans are now well advanced for the 2nd Battalion National Reunion in Adelaide from 22 to 25 April 2014.

We have made the focus of the reunion around two special events

- a combined Commemorative Service
- the Unveiling and Dedication of the first 2nd Battalion stand alone memorial in Australia.



Committee members are working hard to ensure we present a very memorable experience. Although we have not adopted a registration procedure, we encourage those attending to book accommodation early.

Meet and Greet Tuesday April 22: 1700 hrs at the Walkerville RSL, 98 Walkerville Terrace, to obtain last minute details about reunion. Dress: Casual

Commemorative Service Wednesday April 23: 1100hrs at the Vietnam War Memorial, Torrens Parade Ground, Victoria Drive, Adelaide. The service, in the presence of the Governor of SA, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, AC CSC RANR, will commemorate the last six South Australians who paid the Supreme Sacrifice while serving with the Battalion in South Vietnam, both tours.

Those to be commemorated will be:

Pte Dennis Nelson, DOW, 28 September 1967; Pte Stan Radomi, KIA, 28 September 1967; Pte Ray Binning, KIA, 26 January 1968; Cpl Graham Norley, KIA, 26 January 1968; Pte John Rogers, KIA, 10 February 1968; and Pte Rod Chapman, DOI, 28 April 1971.

The Commemorative Address will be delivered by the Lieutenant Governor of SA, Mr. Hieu Van Le, AO, who was born in Vietnam and experienced the war at first hand as a schoolboy. He escaped to Australia as a refugee at the age of 23.

Refreshments afterwards at Adelaide Boy's High School Boat Shed, overlooking the Torrens River. Dress: Jacket, tie and medals.

Memorial Unveiling & Dedication Thursday April 24 1200 hrs. The Service will be conducted on the Pathway of Honour, behind Government House, adjacent to the Torrens Parade Ground. It is a Memorial to all former Battalion members since formation, regardless of active service or not. Refreshments the Boat Shed. Dress: Jacket, tie and medals.

Reunion dinner Thursday April 24 1830 hrs at the Buckingham Arms Hotel, 1 Walkerville Terrace Gilberton. The dinner will be an informal smorgasbord. Dress: Casual.

ANZAC DAY Friday April 25: Dawn Service venues and ANZAC March details to be advised at the Meet and Greet. Lunch will be at the British Hotel, 58 Finnis Street, North Adelaide - a short walk after the March.

Tom Young
National Reunion Coordinator
(08) 8269 4171
e-mail: tjyoung@hotmail.com

Vietnam Veterans Family Study underway again

The Vietnam Veterans Family Study (VVFS) is a study to examine the impact on families resulting from service in Vietnam in the period 1965-1972. It is to be completed by mid-2014.

The study started in 2010 after many years of pressure from the various ESOs representing the Vietnam Veterans, with particular work by the Partners of Veterans (PVA) and the Victorian-based lobby group, Children of Vietnam Veterans Health Study Inc. In 2006, Centre for Military and Veterans' Health was commissioned to design a study program. The new Minister, Alan Griffin, was an avid supporter of the study, but due to bureaucratic inertia it took 18 months to commence.

Ten thousand names were randomly selected from a nominal roll of Army Vietnam veterans, both regular and national service soldiers, from which DVA randomly selected a control group who served in the Army in the period 1965-1972 but did not go to Vietnam. About 4000 in each group agreed to participate. Added to these were another 19,000 self-selected veterans, spouses, partners, children, siblings and servicemen who volunteered to participate.

Participation levels were high with about 75% of all survey questionnaires returned. The data was being collated and analysed when an "Efficiency Dividend" imposed on DVA for FY2012-13 resulted in the VVFS being suspended for 12 months. It had been presumed that differences in background and experiences before Army service would not be significant, but it is now obvious this is having a major effect on the results and requires further analysis. This is to occur in the period August-December 2013.

It is currently planned that the VVFS will be formally released at a major media event at the Australian War Memorial perhaps in the 3rd quarter of 2014. Full details of the study can be obtained from the DVA website: http://www.dva.gov.au/health_and_wellbeing/research/FamilyStudyProgram/vietnam_vets_family_study/Pages/index.aspx

Bill Wallace

Advance Care Directives Act 2013

The Advance Care Directives Act 2013 (the Act) was assented to by the Governor on 18 April 2013. Although passed, this Act is not yet operational law. The Act is likely to commence in 2014.

All current valid Enduring Powers of Guardianship, Medical Powers of Attorney and Anticipatory Directions are still legal documents and must be followed according to their terms. These documents will still be legal documents under the new Act once it commences..

There is significant implementation work to be undertaken before the Act commences to ensure the new Advance Care Directive works effectively in practice

More information will be provided in the coming months regarding the implementation process and how you can be involved. For more information: Alicia Wrench-Doody on 08 8226 6893 or Kathy Williams on 08 8226 6048 or email policy&legislation@health.sa.gov.au and include Advance Care Directives in the subject line.

David Swan, Chief Executive
SA Health

Trojan's Trek - research, awareness and status



Lateline to attend trek

Steve Cannane, Walkley Award winning ABC journalist and author will attend Trojans Trek 2013. He will be accompanied by a very experienced war exposed cameraman. His objective is to capture the problems associated with military induced stress and the methods used on the trek to minimise the negative outcomes. Steve will be hosted by veteran Stephen Cates, who will escort them to Moolooloo. Moose Dunlop who has had dealings with Steve and the ABC in the past, said he welcomed Steve's attendance and looked forward to the national exposure Lateline will achieve.



Project achieves DGR status

Two of the important milestones in running a not for profit organisation are incorporation and the gaining of deductible gift status (DGR). Of these DGR is a most sought after category. It is awarded by the Australian Taxation Office after investigation of the body seeking recognition. It permits gifts which are above a specified amount to be tax deductible. Not only does that make gifting to Trojan's Trek more appealing, the recognition of the organisation by the ATO is another recognised form of accreditation.

The board of TT wishes to publicly acknowledge the support of a Brisbane based company named Praeger Solicitors who steered the application through the maze of regulations at no cost. Indeed, the \$2,000 estimate of the anticipated fee was returned on recognition as a goodwill gesture. Our sincere thanks are extended to Ralph, the senior partner.

Moose Dunlop

Lion to host awareness session

Many readers would be familiar with The Lion hotel in Melbourne Street, North Adelaide. A recipient of the South Australian Hotel of the Year and AHA|SA's Hotel Industry Awards for Excellence is the watering hole for most veterans and friends following the Anzac Day march.

Hosts **Tim Gregg** and **Andrew Svencis** have been generous supporters in the past, reducing the beer prices and putting on a good barbecue for a very reasonable cost on Anzac Day.

Further to that support, the hotel has offered to host an invitation only lunch supporting Trojan's Trek.

The lunch, named Spreading the Word, will inform a number of influential members of the community about the program.

Three board members, an independent UniSA investigator, some of the staff and ex participants will be the hosts. It is hoped that this will result in a greater public awareness of the impact of military induced stress illness with commensurate support either in kind or material.

Trojan's Trek the subject of research

The unique experiences and the demands of military combat and the impact on mental health and families have been well established. However, the contemporary (post-Vietnam) veterans' experience raises new questions given:

- more frequent deployments;
- the changing social/political context of combat;
- the associated neurological and psychological risks of combat-related trauma.

Over many years the staff of Trojan's Trek have confirmed their opinion that peer-led support programs for victims of military induced stress illness has merit and warrants investigation. In the past, funding shortfalls have militated against that occurring. However, the opportunity to establish evidence based outcomes has been made possible by a grant from Veterans SA which will permit UniSA to conduct the research.

Despite common use little research exists regarding outdoor therapies and the effectiveness of peer mentoring for the veteran population. In contrast there is a vast amount of recent empirical research into therapist-led individual and group therapy for contemporary veterans across many Defence Operations.

The research, which is supervised by Dr Nadine Pelling will also have access to the data which has been gathered from Trojan's Trek participants since 2009. This takes the form of four standard psychosocial instruments which have been completed for each individual on three occasions; The findings will be presented later this year.



Kendall works on the literature review, a vital part of all research projects.

COOOE VETERANS AND FRIENDS

Would you like to support our Young Veterans?

The Veterans' Support Walk is the major fundraiser for 2013. Here is the opportunity to directly support



Trojan's Trek, an initiative which assists the younger veterans. And you can do this while enjoying a stroll round the beautiful River Torrens on Sunday 20 October at 0930 hrs. All proceeds will go towards the ongoing conduct of the Trojan's Trek program.

Parking will be on the parade Ground; Cornsey will MC and the walk will be followed by a sausage sizzle, great raffles and the DVA Health Expo. For more information go to www.trojanstrek.com or see the entry form enclosed or in the club.

Rudd Government's 11th Hour Commitment to Military Veterans

- Government, Minister for Defence Material, Dr Mike Kelly, announced on 30 July that the Government will change the way some military retirement pensions are adjusted for cost of living increases. The announced change is an election promise Labor says it will introduce on 1 July 2014 if re-elected.
- The Government's move finally acknowledges that the current method of adjusting retirement pay for military veterans and their families is an out-dated and inadequate way of ensuring living standards are maintained.
- The problem with this announcement is that retired service men and women already receive either a part-Service Pension or Age Pension (providing they meet the assets and income tests). Any increase in the DFRDB benefit will be offset by a corresponding reduction in the Service or Age pension payment received. This means retirees over 65 who most need a top up in income will be denied the assistance promised by Labor.
- ADSO has been pressing the Government to fulfil its 2007 election promise to the defence community that it would fix the superannuation indexation problem for serving and former ADF members and thereby correct their breach of contract with service men and women.
- The Coalition has re-affirmed its pledge that in Government it will legislate for fair superannuation indexation in its first budget so that DFDB/DFRDB superannuates over 55 will be indexed by the higher of CPI, Pensioner & Beneficiary Living Cost Index, with the percentage increase benchmarked to Male Total Average Weekly Earnings.
- Both the Government and Opposition have assured their announced initiatives are a 'first step' and ADSO will continue to pursue restoration of promised military super benefits for ALL current and former ADF members and their families. Neither yet includes DFRDB invalid and reversionary pensioners below the respective 55/65 cut-off, or the current Military Superannuation Benefits Scheme applying to current serving ADF members. While welcoming this policy change, ADSO remains committed to achieving Fair Indexation for ALL military superannuants.

A Veterans' Community Forum will be held at Plympton-Glenelg RSL on Friday 16 August from 1.30 to 3.30pm. Key candidates have been invited to present their policies. Maximum attendance at these forums will clearly indicate our concern with the election due. With the DFRDB/MSBS increase of 0.6% on 11 July 2013, retired veterans fall further back in terms of purchasing value. With increases in rates, utility charges, Telstra fees and many other cost increases, the extra money doesn't go very far at all.

The willingness of future generations to serve in our military will be directly dependent upon how we have treated those who have served in the past.

- George Washington.

Contact - John Wilson: john.aud@bigpond.com or on 0409 577 035. ADSO FGC webs

Blogosphere helps promote memories

Whatever you may think of social media, use of the blogosphere to encourage remembrance of footballers killed in action has received a big tick.

Two days after Anzac Day, **Michelangelo Rucci**, *The Advertiser's* Chief Football Writer, related the story of **Peter Chant** who played 10 league games for the Magpies in 1961-1962 as a rover. Watching on the side lines was Norwood High School student **Denis Way**.

Rucci wrote (in part): "After Way lost sight of Chant's work alongside the Port ruckmen in 1962, they met at Woodside barracks in May 1968 seven months after Way was conscripted to the 9th Battalion RAR.

"Peter was a quiet bloke, softly spoken, softly smiling and impossible to dislike," recalls Way who after service in Vietnam opted to live in Hong Kong.

"Chant was killed in an ambush on Valentine's Day 1969 when he was on duty for the 9th Battalion C Company with an advisory team in South Vietnam.

"At Alberton ... none was aware Chant had even gone to Vietnam. We knew after he died ... by reading it in the paper. I'm a believer that we shouldn't forget him now.

How the club remembers Peter from here is not for me to say. Whatever they do they'll have my support 110 per cent."



Photo: *The Advertiser* 3 May 2013

In his column in the same edition **Graham Cornes** wrote: "The tragedy of Chant exposes our real indifference to the reality of war. It is my shame that as a Vietnam veteran, and a league footballer, I did not know that a Port Adelaide player had been killed in Vietnam. His former comrades in 9 RAR cornered me on Anzac Day to tell me his story. They were most grateful Michelangelo had uncovered his story. "How many more Chants do we need to discover? How many others are there whose sacrifice has been ignored or forgotten by a society and

a football public which now lives in the selfish moment of instant gratification, Facebook postings and 30-second sound bites?"

An article in *The Tiser* on May 3 continued the story of concern for Chant's memory. The article (paraphrased) says: "One of media manager **Andrew Rutter's** final assignment was to bring to the traditional media's attention a thoughtful campaign in the blogosphere. Back in Adelaide after three decades in Hong Kong, Denis Way's campaign to honour Peter Chant proved the power of the new media. Way and his Charlie Company colleagues **John England, Mick Mummery** and **Laurie Lewis** made it their mission this Anzac Day to remind a football club and its community of Chant and give credence to the Anzac ethos, 'Lest We Forget'. Way was back on the blogosphere after the Anzac march - in which he carried Chant's Australian flag - to pay tribute to Port.

"It was the club that picked this up from (the blogosphere) and did the rest. If the media as not given PAFC due credit as yet then I'm doing it for them now".

Newspaper cuttings provided by **Laurie Lewis AM**

FROM THE BATTALIONS - ANZAC March 2013

1RAR



7RAR



2RAR



8RAR



3RAR



9RAR



4RAR



5RAR



6RAR



FROM THE BATTALIONS

2RAR BATTALION



RAR (SA) Association President Mike von Berg MC leading the Regiment.

Nineteen blokes marched and we welcomed those new to the ranks making up for quite a few interstaters and those unfortunately unable to march. The crowds in North Terrace and those in King William Street were among the biggest ever.

The Dawn Service at the National War Memorial was slighter larger, than last year, about 12,500, which was the previous best, with all Order of Services distributed shortly after 0600hrs thanks to the Rover Scouts. The additional big screens assisted in enabling virtually all to see, ensuring the "ANZAC Service feeling of significance".

Tom Young advised that a record number, 1500 plus, attended the Walkerville RSL Dawn Service, with similar advice from **John Mathwin** at the McLaren Vale Service and a good increase at Rose Park of around 450.

An outline of the ANZAC 2014 2 RAR National Reunion in Adelaide are published elsewhere in this edition.

It is very pleasing to report that **Mike Dennis**, Lt Colonel R'td MBE, "The Fox" has now received the all clear and, although unable to lead the march this year, attended the reunion afterwards at the Lion. These photos were taken by **Leon Pavich** – as always Leon's expertise and availability are very much appreciated.

Mal Allan
2RAR



Left: 2RAR Battalion rep Mal Allan.

Right: John Mathwin and Jim Fletcher



Below: 2 RAR lead by John Mathwin in King William Street approaching the Parade and Saluting dais.



3 RAR BATTALION

This year marks the 45th Anniversary of the Battalion's First Tour of Vietnam and accordingly we have been conducting commemorative services for the seven men killed on that Tour and interred in South Australia. Services conducted so far have been:

- **Robert Caston** at Centennial Park on February 4.
- **Thomas de Vries van Leeuwen** at Mt Barker on February 18.
- **Roger Fisher** at Mintaro on April 27.
- **Peter Lewis** at Centennial Park on May 13.
- **Alan Cooper** and **William Thomas** at Centennial Park on May 26

A service for **Anthony Quigley** will be conducted at Centennial Park on 5 November 2014.

A highlight of these services has been meeting the families of our war dead, which usually involves lunch after the service.

We follow up by inviting family members to become honorary members of our Association, arranging for the presentation of replica medals and originals, if they have not been issued, and copies of the book "Brave Lads", which covers the Battalion's two tours of Vietnam, and inviting family members to carry their loved one's flag on ANZAC Day.

The Association has been busy with annual commemorative services for two of its battle honours with:

- The annual Kapyong Day Commemorative conducted at our memorial for the first time on April 24. The service was spoilt in part by Peter Scott collapsing after the service. After being admitted to hospital for observation he was discharged.
- A Balmoral Day Commemorative Service conducted for the first time by the Association at our memorial on May 26. Lunch at the London Tavern followed each service as is our tradition.

On Sunday October 6 we will be conducting our annual Maryang San Commemorative Service at our memorial.

We have started inviting representatives of the New Zealand Army's artillery to our main commemorative services with 16 Field Regiment RNZA having supported the Battalion in Korea and 161 Field Battery RNZA having supported the Battalion during its first tour of Vietnam.

Socially we hosted lunches at the Hackney Hotel on Fridays January 18, April 3, in conjunction with the AGM, and June 7. Our next lunch is on Friday 30 August at the same venue.

We are looking at having a lunch at a country venue in the last quarter of 2013.

Over the weekend of October 12 and 13 A Company of the First Tour of Vietnam will be conducting a reunion in Adelaide.

On Tuesday August 13 the Association, in conjunction with the 10 Infantry Battalion AIF Association, we will be dedicating a memorial to the 50th Infantry Battalion AIF on the Pathway of Honour.

2014 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Battalion's tour in Borneo and we will be conducting activities to mark that milestone.

We produce newsletters three or four times a year and we are currently in a state of transition with regards our website. All of the above cost money and the Association conducts fundraising sausage sizzles roughly once a month as well as receiving both Commonwealth and SA Government grants.

Adrian Craig
3 RAR SA

FROM THE BATTALIONS

9 RAR BATTALION

This year we have coordinated the conduct of the annual Hat Dich Commemorative Service on January 19. Next year will mark the 45th Anniversary of Operation GOODWOOD for which the Royal Australian Regiment, 1st Armoured Regiment and 3rd Cavalry Regiment were awarded the battle honour Hat Dich. The service will be held on Wednesday 19 February 2014 to mark the end of that operation.

We have conducted our 10 annual commemorative services for our war dead interred in SA with Services being conducted for:

- **Jeff Duroux** on 5 Jan and Alan Graham on 7 Jan both at Centennial Park.
- **Reginald Phillips** on January 18 at Murray Bridge.
- **John Cock** and **Harry Musicka** on January 19 at Centennial Park.
- **Bruce Plane** on January 20 at Ardrossan.
- **Peter Chant** on February 14 and **Grantley Scales** on March 5, both at Centennial Park.
- **Richard Abraham on July 6 at Whyalla.**
- **Bruno Adamczyk** on July 12 at Centennial Park.

Again the families of our war dead were well represented in the carrying our ten flags on ANZAC Day.

On the social scene we had a getaway at Berri and the Riverland from Friday to Sunday May 10 to 12

Association members are coordinating a Friendship Tour of Vietnam from October 14 to 30.

The Association is in the process of acquiring two new banners - one for permanent display at the RAR Association Clubroom and the other for commemorative services and marches.

Our Association continues to be active in welfare matters and the preservation of war graves.

Adrian Craig 9 RAR SA

6RAR BATTALION



*From left: Jack Lyytikainen, Robert Wallace, Helen Lyytikainen, Janette Mclvor, Peter Hoskin, Rodney Graham, Lynn Graham and Bill Mclvor.
Absent: Bill Wallace and Leigh Floyd.*

The first of what will hopefully be many 6 RAR drink nights was held on the 17 December 2012 at the Adelaide Casino. Seven members attended with four partners. Low were numbers but it was the first one. Hopefully word of mouth and *Infantryman* will see numbers grow at coming events.

Rob Wallace (Trench)
Rwallace14@hotmail.com



At the commemorative service for LCPL Richard Abraham on July 6 (10 Platoon D Company 9 RAR KIA 6 July 1969) at Whyalla Cemetery are his brother Peter and, to Peter's right rear, his son Richard with his sons Chen (partly obscured) and Trent with Peter's daughter Kimberley in the black and white dress.



Kimberley Abraham placing a commemorative red poppy on her uncle's grave.



Jeff and Betty Plane placing commemorative red poppies at Richard Abraham's grave. Jeff is the brother of Bruce Plane also of 10 Platoon who was KIA on 20 January 1969 on Operation GOODWOOD.



MC Adrian Craig, 10 Platoon D Coy 9 RAR, reads the eulogy for Cpl Bruno Adamczyk and Pte Beresford Paul Edwards of 11 Platoon at Centennial Park on July 12. Both men were KIA on 12 July 1969 in D Company's worst day for fatalities. Jim Fisher holds the Australian Flag. Behind Adrian are Bruno's daughters and their families, from left, Wally, Morgan, Michelle and Dylan Matthews; Sandra Craig; Jackie Adamczyk and Craig Pinder.

Royal Australian Regiment Association Committee 2011-2012

Elected Positions

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2013 Events

Light Snacks means sandwiches, finger food, etc. from 5pm.

Schnitzels come with your choice of gravy or parmigiana or no topping. Add sides from the smorgasbord. Contributions to meals are always welcome - particularly cakes and desserts.

August

Friday 2	Barbecue
Friday 9	Club Night
Friday 16	Cook's Selection
Friday 23	Light Snacks
Friday 30	Schnitzels with topping

September

Friday 6	Barbecue
Friday 13	Club Night
Friday 20	Light Snacks
Friday 27	Schnitzels with topping

October

Friday 4	Barbecue
Friday 11	Club Night
Friday 18	Light Snacks
Sunday 20	Beef & Burgundy lunch
Friday 25	Schnitzels with topping

November

Friday 1	Barbecue
Sunday 3	Melbourne Cup Calcutta and lunch
Friday 8	Club Night
Friday 15	Cook's Selection
Saturday 16	Summer Quiz Night
Friday 22	Light Snacks
Friday 29	Schnitzels with topping

December

Friday 6	Barbecue
Friday 13	Club Night
Friday 20	Club Christmas Drinks
Friday 27	CLUB CLOSED

January

Friday 3	CLUB CLOSED
Friday 10	Club Night
Friday 17	Light Snacks
Friday 24	Cook's Selection
Friday 31	Schnitzels with topping

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When emailing articles and photos for inclusion in *Infantryman*, in the subject line please put Infantryman and then a reference to the topic. i.e. Infantryman Trek, Infantryman Fairgo. Send articles in Word and photos as a jpg with a reference word on the article and photo so they can be easily matched up. We print three publications - tagging in this way will help clarify in which publication items and photos are to be included.

Thanks. Penelope Forster, Editor