



INFANTRYMAN

The Journal of the RAR Association SA

Keeping the Spirit Alive

April 2015

Fond memories of 'Mad Dog Smith' will last forever

Not unexpectedly it was like a military exercise. Every contingency worked out in the finest detail well in advance.

Warrant Officer Class 1 - Regimental Sergeant Major Noel "Mad Dog" Smith - spent weeks planning his funeral.

His daughter Kirsty maintained a dossier highlighted with coloured tags to denote the various facets of the funeral.

Noel designed the leaflet handed out at his Centennial Park funeral which listed his military career from joining the senior cadets at Collingwood Technical School in Melbourne from 1949 to 1950 as a Sgt Platoon Commander. The back page highlighted his service medals and awards.



Everything was in place when he died on 6 January 2015.

The leaflet states:

Noel Smith

25 June 1935 - 6 January 2015.

Loving ex-husband of Beverly

Loving father of Leigh and Kirsty.

Fond father-in-law of Leese and Paul. Adoring Grumpa to Harley, Theo and Mia. Loved son of Frederick and Alice Happy sibling to Eileen (dec.); Len (dec.); Don (dec.); Max; Fred; Terry (dec.); Betty (dec.); and Shirley (dec.).

Eulogy page 7

Fighting for the best veteran health outcomes!

I thought it prudent to officially brief you as to what is happening with the RGH and what role the RARA is playing in not only looking after our members interests but of all veterans in South Australia.

We need to be mindful that the RGH and its future is a part of an overall overhaul of the Health System in SA because quite frankly it is busted and if it's busted you need to fix it. Although the RGH holistically fits into the overall health and hospital mix in SA it is a special place historically and emotionally for many veterans in SA.

Sadly the media and others has focused on the word "closure" of the RGH as a major headline which in reality is not the case. "Closure" has a finality about it with visions of buildings knocked over, new commercial buildings or hotels being built and veterans out in the street, which is totally untrue.

As a part of the Veterans Advisory Council our Patron, **Laurie Lewis** and I, as members, have been involved in discussions with the Hon **Jack Snelling** the Health Minister and The Hon **Martin Hamilton Smith**, the Veterans Minister, and there is going to be an extensive and detailed consultative process in which the veteran community will be involved before any decisions are made. **Moose Dunlop** and Trojan's Trek have also been involved in the discussions through Moose's work in the mental health space.

Continued page 3 - From the Command Post

ANZAC DAY ARRANGEMENTS

The RAR Association SA will participate in a number of activities on ANZAC Day Saturday 25 April 2015. The Association will participate in the ANZAC Day Commemorative March with:

- Forming up on the western side of Pulteney Street between North Terrace and Rundle Street/Mall.
- All marchers in location at 9.50am, and march at six abreast.
- The Order of March will be
 - President's Party with our President leading followed by the RAR Association Banner.
 - Battalion associations marching in order of battalion seniority (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 2/4, 5/7 and 8/9 RAR).
 - The SASR will follow our last battalion association.
- We will proceed to the corner of Pennington Terrace, from Sir Edwin Smith before halting and dispersing.
- Mascots are not allowed.
- Family members who wish to march are to do so in Group 12 B.
- 7 RAR will march in Group 12A

The RAR Association will take unit association banners to the March from its clubrooms and will collect them from the Old Lion Hotel after the March for their return.

After the March there will be a commemorative service at the Cross of Sacrifice, with food and drinks at Torrens Training Depot and reunions. All associations except 4 RAR SA will be having their reunions at the Old Lion and 4 RAR SA will be having their reunion at the Joiners' Arms, Hindmarsh.



Adrian Craig, Ceremonial

SECRETARY'S REPORT

For a bunch of old crocks our Association Executive officers and club management stalwarts do an amazing job serving the association's membership and wider Veteran community. To begin with our esteemed Patron Laurie Lewis AM an octogenarian of considerable wisdom continues to put in many hours of volunteer work as a member of the SA Veterans' Advisory Council as well as many other long term commitments to other worthy veteran related groups and projects. Our President Mick von Berg MC has a work schedule that includes regular interstate travel (much at his own expense) that would rival senior executives of major companies; member of the Prime Ministerial Advisory Council on Veterans' Mental Health, SA Veterans' Advisory Council, Chairman Royal Australian Regiment Association Corporation as well as the National Executive of the RAR Association and the day to day management of RAR assoc. (SA). All this and Mick is well into his septuagenarian years that most expect to be time to pursue their own hedonistic life style.

As for the club social activities we all owe a collective thanks to our stalwarts such as Vice President RARA (SA) RSL Sub Branch President Rod Graham, RARA (SA) Club Manager Greg Dwiar AKA "Spike" and the regular team of volunteers at the bar and dixie bashing; Colin Abel, Neil Nichols, Adrian Craig, Tim Karasoulas and others who pitch in when needed. Then there



RARA SA Secretary Robert Whinnen with his grandsons Lincoln, 6 months, and Rory, 2 years. Robert says: "Love them both beyond comprehension."

Dressing of the Graves – 20 May 2015 Kernewek Lowender – Wallaroo Cemetery 42252 Sgt Bernard Lyle Smith KIA 9th March 1969 5RAR

The dressing of the graves is a tradition which has been established by the Cornish Association of SA in helping to stage the Kernewek Lowender which was started in 1970.

The ceremonies are held to draw attention to the pioneers and the esteem in which each was held. The ceremony at each cemetery takes just over an hour. At each grave a floral tribute is laid on the grave and the citation read and then placed on the grave for the duration of the Lowender.

This year the committee has advised that they propose to dress the grave of **Bernie Smith**, who was sadly killed on his second tour of Vietnam with 5RAR. This event is of particular significance for me as Bernie was one of my NCOs on the first tour and many of us from the Reconnaissance Platoon have stayed in touch with Jan, his widow, and his two sons, one of which is now Maj Gen **Stuart Smith** AO DSC, commander of 1st Division in Brisbane.

There is a simple grave site service at which those attending are all guests, as the local committee is organising everything and there are also other graves to dress. Anyone is welcome to attend but in particular members of the 5RAR Association. The family will be in attendance and a good roll up would be both appreciated and respected.

Michael von Berg

are the absolutely vital heads down quiet achievers; Ceremonial Officer Adrian Craig does a magnificent job organising the many Regimental commemorations, services and attendant logistics required for these things to happen, doing such a great job that no one is ever aware of the hours of planning, organising, editing and just plain hard bloody work that has gone into making

RAR Assoc. services the benchmark in South Australia. Who of us is fully aware of the hours and kilometres that Ken Duthie puts into educating our future citizens of their nations legacy of service and sacrifice? Visiting schools with his fantastically interactive educational road show, again putting in hours of committed work and travel at his own expense. I can tell you it is hundreds of schools, thousands of children who would otherwise be totally ignorant of the service and sacrifice made for their future. We continually receive letters of appreciation from school Headmasters and students as well as being informed of school projects that have been initiated as a result of Ken's sparking the fire of interest and thirst for knowledge in young minds. Also there are the mundane tasks of

the day to day financial management of the association and club as well as keeping up the website, for this we must thank Mike Bevan and as well acknowledge the contribution of Tony Boyce. We can't forget our mostly unsung scribe of the Regiments history Fred Fairhead who has ensured the recording of our history in Korea and Vietnam. His "A Duty Done" The RAR in Vietnam is acknowledged as the seminal work on the RAR's involvement, as well as being the major fund raiser for our RARA (SA) Welfare Fund. Please attend the AGM on Sunday July 12 at 10:30 for an 11:00 start to demonstrate your support and perhaps join the RARA (SA) Team and inject some new blood for 2015-16.

**Robert Whinnen
Secretary**

Warning Order

Regimental Dinner

**The Royal Australian Regiment (SA) Inc.
at Regimental HQ – Linden Park
Saturday 30 May 2015 at 1800hrs.**

**A sumptuous three course dinner will be prepared
and served by external caterers to give our team
the night off to enjoy the evening**

Dress: Ladies – After 5

Men – Suit and tie with miniature medals

Cost: \$60 a head payable in advance.

**First to book will have confirmed places
which are limited.**

Last day to pay Friday May 22.

**Pay Club Manager Greg Dwiar
at the bar or via EFT.**

FROM THE COMMAND POST

From page 1

The consultative process has started and we will continue to inform you as the process evolves. Our priority and primary objective is to get the best possible veterans physical and mental health outcomes and in achieving that objective there cannot be any compromise.

Our principal concerns at the moment are the clinicians, nurses and staff of the RGH which are world class and a very important part of the culture of the hospital; Ward 17 and its ancillary support and equipment; the veteran health care pathway and treatment.

Buildings and land of historical and emotional significance have been quarantined and are secure. There will be more announcements forthcoming from both the Health Minister and Veterans Affairs Minister in the coming months to keep the community at large informed based on the consultation and findings.

A comment by a very respected and wounded ex officer of the Afghanistan campaign yesterday revealed that young soldiers currently recuperating or struggling with their inner demons refuse to go to Ward 17 not because of the quality of treatment or staff but the depressing nature of the facility. We have to be mindful that what we are working on here with the Government is not about ME or YOU. Its looking after our current or more recent younger veterans for the next 30 years and although we won't be here to audit that, we all have a duty of care as trustees of the veteran cause to ensure that the next generation and the one after that is cared for in accordance with world's best practice.

Michael von Berg MC
President
RARA (SA) Inc.



National Veteran Identity Card essential

The centenary of ANZAC has provided the nation with an appropriate and significant program to celebrate the beginning of the ANZAC story and the mateship which emanates from this narrative.

In recent times, the media has highlighted the matter of veterans' homelessness, the incident of veterans being incarcerated and sadly self-harm and suicide. These three issues raise the possibility that many of the homeless, veterans in the prison system and self-harm are invariably in this state due to mental health issues. Too many veterans are falling through the cracks because we don't know who or where they are

Many veterans leave the ADF without lodging any claims but they develop problems later in life and many who are or consider themselves healthy may feel a little embarrassed about seeking help.

DVA is the appropriate sponsor for embracing these people and what is needed is getting all veterans on their books and a modification of their current card and extending its issue to all.

There needs to be a major conversation and paradigm shift in the mindset of veterans, the staff of DVA and the broader community as to how we can best keep track of our veterans well after their service and not just those who have lodged a claim with DVA.

Although the ADF and DVA are better liaising and coordinating veterans' health issues. The sharing of information in the best interests of the ADF member has improved however Defence passes the responsibility for veterans post discharged to DVA.

The DVA Service Charter of 2014 states in its Mission Statement: "To support those who serve or have served in the defense of our nation and commemorate their service and sacrifice".

There is nothing in this Service Charter that states only for veterans that have made a claim. DVA should be encouraged to live up to their charter of looking after

all veterans not just those who can successfully win a disability claim against them. Although DVA has come a long way in the last five years in its client service and claim processing too many veterans still consider DVA an adversary they have to fight to have their claim accepted and this is unacceptable in particular when the veteran is already suffering from mental health issues.

The definition of a veteran needs to be defined and it is obvious DVA responsibility not only covers warlike service but also peacekeepers and those injured in training for war.

A recent DVA study identified that UN Peacekeepers are presenting with twice the incidence of health problems than veterans with war service. These come under the DVA Charter.

All veterans must be recognized and receive the care they entitled to under the DVA legislation. The PMAC is developing a national communication campaign to recognize veterans as a unique segment of our society. They are no longer soldiers, but different to civilians who have never served but more than capable of fulfilling a very worthwhile role in society and the community at large.

One of the principal requirements is being able to identify veterans. A National Veteran Identity Card could fulfill this need to be able to identify an allocate veterans to the appropriate assistance.

This card is not "Big Brother" and an infringement of one's privacy but a "St. Christopher" to help them all on their journey.

We would welcome comments on this proposal or any suggestions in how the ANZAC mateship is not only honored but practiced.

Michael von Berg MC

Featured member: Our Galloping Gourmand

Many years ago I read a wonderful book called "Try Anything Once" by Frank Clune and in interviewing our "chef de cuisine" Colin Abel it seems we have a mirror image within our Association.

Colin was born within the sound of Bow Bells in London in 1943. During his schooling he got his first taste (pun unintended) of the Army with school cadets.

On leaving school he was indentured as an apprentice butcher, achieving his qualification after three years.

His natural wanderlust saw him working at Butlins Holiday Camp in the summer, where, no doubt, he discovered the opposite sex.

He hitchhiked throughout Europe in the winter, celebrating his 21st birthday in Sicily.

His wanderlust ways led him to Australia as an immigrant in 1966 aged 23, where he worked in meat works in Roma, Townsville and Bowen. After 12 months he left for New Zealand, which was a good thing as that was where Colin met his wife-to-be, Karen. He returned to Australia with Karen and worked on Daydream Island, then as a deckhand, barman and cook with the Fairmile Cruisers, which had a daily run between the Whitsunday Islands.

He and Karen were married in 1969 and were off again, this time to the UK by sea via Latin America. Colin had no problems finding work as a qualified butcher and more travels with Karen throughout France and Spain. He and Karen decided to return to Australia by sea via South Africa in 1972 where his first job back in Adelaide was as a barman at the Overway Hotel in Hindley Street,



which must have been an interesting time.

With the wanderlust curtailed somewhat Colin worked at the Gepps Cross Abattoirs for some 14 years and then sold advertising space for Yellow Pages for many years which could not be more different but there has never been a Cockney in living memory who could not sell and during this time won over 15 overseas trips to some very exotic places based on his sales performances.

During this time Colin served in the Army Reserve

Catering Corps for some 20 years where he achieved the rank of WO2. He retired three years ago and keeps himself busy by providing us with his culinary delights; outback camping (as if the Reserve didn't give him enough), fishing, gardening and working as a Legatee for Legacy. Colin and Karen had three children, Claudia, Toby and Hilary and five gorgeous grandchildren take up whatever time is left. Sadly daughter

Claudia a much loved and respected teacher passed away some years ago.

From butcher, barman, construction worker, deckhand, cook, meat worker to sales supremo, interspersed through travels to many parts of the world, Colin's life has been anything but boring. He is a valuable member of our team and his efforts are very much appreciated.

"Super Sleuth"



THOSE LEFT BEHIND . . . who's running the home and how are they coping?

In the time that our troops are deployed to a combat situation, from the Boer War to Afghanistan, there are always those left behind.

They are the families, sometimes newlywed and separated soon after their marriage, the mums with children or sometimes the parents or girl friends, as soldiers, male or female, once deployed our primary concern becomes our troops, location, knowledge of our enemy, supplies, support elements, the things that are going to keep us alive. We think of family and loved ones, but never let them rule our thoughts once committed to a task.

During the Boer War and World War 1, mail came by ship, World War 2, Korea, Malaya and Vietnam mail was carried to the troops by air (generally RAAF or Qantas). Troops deployed to East Timor (Timor-Leste), Iraq and Afghanistan had the use of computers (Skype), to communicate with families when the opportunity arose.

What has not changed is what happens back home during all the conflicts, who's running the home and how are they coping? If dad's deployed then mum assumes both roles, learns how to use a screwdriver or hammer, change a tap washer in between cooking or changing a light globe or battery in the smoke alarm. Take the car to be serviced, learn how to change a tyre or use jumper leads. Water the garden or use the lawn mower, even clean gutters while up a ladder.

Then there are the normal house duties, cooking, school lunches, school uniforms, washing sheets and clothes, sports,

(school and weekends), vacuuming, the doctor and hospital if necessary, birthday parties, paying bills and a lot more. With modern technology contact is more readily available, however if something goes wrong at home it still takes time to repatriate a soldier back to Australia. The unit is there to assist if the need arises.

What about the children? They have their own demons and problems to deal with, from schoolwork, fitting in as A Bs (army brats) in the school community. Being involved with sport, helping mum at home (if they're old enough) and also worrying about the deployment of their parent, especially if deployed to a hostile location. Schools know when the service parent is deployed, they see a marked drop in their school work, isolation within the schoolyard (unless other army children attend the school), attitude change where they can become aggressive or rebellious. When the deployed parent returns home some form of normality comes with it.

There are noticeable changes however, the household has created its own routine, own form of discipline and rules. Dad or mum comes home, yet they aren't because things have changed, the home effectively runs without their input, woe betide if you try and change or disrupt it!!

Each deployment affects everyone in the family, most civilians don't understand it and don't really want to. So think of 'Those Left Behind' because they are fighting a war on two fronts, the deployment front and the home front!

Ken Duthie

Your club, your input, you're welcome

CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

The events and happenings around RAR HQ since the last issue of the Infantryman have seen quite a few improvements, both inside and out side the building. Towards the end of February, with the assistance from a grant by DVA, we were able to replace the tired old and inefficient air-conditioners with an air-conditioning system which will service the inside of the clubrooms with three units which will give us the comfort of cooling in summer and warmth in winter.



As well Pink Batts have been installed in the roof above the ceiling. Having this task done allows the building to have the electricity supply to the air-conditioners and the kitchen up-graded.

We have also up-graded our premises's security by having a CCTV system installed. One camera is watching the car parking area, one camera is watching the entrance to the building, and the third is focusing on the inside of the hall.

The committee deemed this necessary as now we have taken possession of two new weapons in the display case, namely a L1A1 7.62 SLR, and a GPMG M60 D Model((the D Model was designed for use in the Huey Helicopters) to display with our .303 and AK47. The system was installed by **Tony Boyce** and me.



In early March we upgraded the area under the side veranda by filling the drop-off from the existing concrete and finishing off paving the small area to allow our members to sit outside, relax with a drink and a catch up chat. We will be furnishing the area with outdoor furniture shortly.

In the meantime the back garden is in need of some TLC by our members. Have we got some members who are keen to set up and nurture a veggie and herb patch. If you would like to be part of a garden SIG Special Interest Group and meet regularly to produce



produce which can be enjoyed and served on meal nights, then please let it be known at the club. This will greatly relieve the work load on Rod and me on 0412 644 749.

Members who would like to assist on a roster system by helping behind the bar on a Friday night between 4pm and 8pm would be appreciated. Prior skills are not a requirement. You can learn by the seat of your pants like we all had to. Interested? Then let our Bar Manager Neil Nichols know on 0488 050 810.

Greg "Spike" Dwiar
Club Manager

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION (SA) INC AGENDA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

13 Beatty Street, Linden Park

Sunday 12 July 2015 at 1100 hrs

1100 hrs Reading of the ode

Barbecue lunch and refreshments



Bruce F. Forster - Watchmaker

Room 112, 1st floor, Edments Building
38 Gawler Pl, **Adelaide**
0448 993 007
Park St, **Linden Park**
8379 5500
Ring to arrange time



~ Repairs of all kinds
~ Home & office visit for
quotes on large clocks
~ Batteries
~ Watchband & bracelet
adjustments
~ Competitive prices



VALE

1 Brigadier Errold Frederick Pfitzner AM (retd)

13 September 1939 - 9 March 2015

Sadly another warrior has been laid to rest at a very well attended funeral service at Christ Church, North Adelaide on Tuesday, 17 March 2015.

Fred, as he was known fondly by all who had known him, had been ill for some time and passed away at home surrounded by his loving family.

I first met Fred when he was posted to 5RAR in Vietnam as a Captain. He was 2IC of both B and C Coy where the companies had gone through a dreadful period in C Coy losing its OC, 2IC and FOO and B Coy losing its OC, Platoon Commander and seven others and 22 wounded.

Fred, through his strength of character and leadership, brought considerable compassion and understanding into these roles during this difficult period but never lost sight of the mission and the job on hand.

Key appointments Fred held later in his career was CO of the 8/9th Battalion RAR, Director of Infantry and Brigade Commander.

Fred will be sadly missed. I, like so many others, am very pleased to have known and served with him.

Michael von Berg MC

Fred graduated from the Royal Military College in December 1961 and was posted to 3 RAR. He moved with 3 RAR to Malaysia and saw active service during the Confrontation.

Fred next saw active service in 1967; initially with HQ 1st Task Force and was then detached to 5 RAR for the majority of his time in South Vietnam.

Fred was the commander of "Fred Force", a company group based on A Company 9 RAR during the Australian withdrawal from South Vietnam which was on standby for deployment to South Vietnam if required.

Fred was the Commanding Officer of 8/9 RAR from December 1978 until August 1980 and later held the top Infantry posting as Director of Infantry in the early 1980s.

Later service saw Fred promoted to Brigadier with postings in Canberra and the award of the AM.



Left: Pipe Major Des Ross plays as the coffin leaves the church.



Right: The bugler playing the Last Post.



Left: The coffin being moved to the hearse for the committal.



Below: The coffin being wheeled to the waiting pallbearers.



Pipe Major Des Ross pipes the coffin to the hearse watched by Pulteney students. Fred was a student at the college.



Ex-servicemen formed an honour guard as the hearse left for the cemetery.



Murray Blake, MC, and Fred Fairhead.



Roger Wainwright, Fred Fairhead & Martin Hamilton Smith.

Right: Royal Australian Regiment Association President Michael von Berg with Major Trent Beilken, OC SPT Coy, representing the CO 7RAR Lt Col David McCammon DSM who was interstate.



VALE: Noel 'Mad Dog' Smith

**NOEL 'MAD DOG' SMITH OAM
WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1
REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR
Born 25 June 1935 in
Died 6 January 2015 in**

Sadly, on 6 January 2015, one of our own, WO1 (RSM) Noel 'Mad Dog' Smith OAM, a career soldier with a distinguished service history which commenced in 1953, passed away.

Noel served in Malaya in 1957 with 3 RAR, with 4 RAR in Malaysia in 1965 and in Vietnam with the AATTV in 1971.

Noel's involvement with the RAR Association SA, 3 RAR SA Association and 4 RAR Association is unsurpassed on committees, assisting me (Ken Duthie) with writing the 3 RAR SA Constitution, always offering advice or assistance where possible, and befriending and directing those who seemed to have lost direction. He was a friend and mentor to many.

In 2011 Noel asked me if I would take on the role, after his demise, of attending the funeral parlour with his daughter, Kirsty, to ensure he had been correctly dressed in his uniform, to prepare his coffin and set it up in the chapel for his service. I accepted without question.

On Tuesday 6 January I was advised by 3 RAR Association President Bob Whelan of Noel's passing. Kirsty, Noel's daughter, contacted me the next day to again advise of her Dad's passing. Kirsty said a meeting would be held on Friday January 9 at RARA clubrooms to discuss Noel's funeral requests.

On the day Michael von Berg, Laurie Lewis, Adrian Craig, Greg Dwiart, Colin Abel, Kirsty and her husband Paul and I met. By the end of the meeting, Noel, the consummate organiser/planner/implementer, had his wishes for the enactment of his funeral confirmed.

Saturday January 10, Kirsty, Paul and I met at Alfred James Funeral parlour at 1500hrs to attend the viewing. The professionalism of Alfred James Funeral Directors was commendable. Noel looked resplendent in his uniform, his wishes carried out exactly as requested. To look upon his person in uniform, he was WO1 Noel Smith (RSM). Noel appeared to be sleeping and could wake at any moment, a man at peace in the presence of his family.

Kirsty and Paul had their personal quiet time with their Dad, at times asking questions which, where I could, I answered them. To have been able to support Kirsty and Paul at this stressful time on behalf of Noel and to also represent RARA and 3 RAR SA Associations with the family was an honour.

Centennial Park – Wednesday 14 January 2015

At Centennial Park at 0845hrs David White and I meet with Chris and Brian from Alfred James Funeral Directors to begin setting up the Heysen Chapel with Noel's static display, his medals, badges, caps, beret and photograph.

David and I dressed the coffin with the Australian flag, his slouch hat and his pace stick.

The family, Leigh and Kirsty, their partners, extended

family and friends moved into the chapel at 1030hrs.

Pallbearers Rod Graham and Bob Whinnen (RARA SA), Bob Whelan and Russell Campbell OAM (3 RARA) and Bucky Buckingham and Rod Harris (4 RARA) moved the coffin into the chapel.

Majors Colin and Hazel Smith (Salvation Army Rtd.), were the officiating clergy and MCs Laurie Lewis and Ron Blood presented eulogies on WO1 Noel Smith's life and the impact he had on those around him.

Kirsty, supported by husband Paul, and Leigh, supported by his son Harley, spoke about their father and the memories they had of Noel as a Dad and of him as the doting 'Grumpa' to his grandchildren.

Politicians Lisa Vlahos for the State Government and Duncan Mc Fetteridge for the State Opposition attended on behalf of the State.

After the committal service in the Heysen Chapel David White and I 'undressed' the coffin. The pace stick was removed and placed alongside his medals, caps and berets, the slouch hat laid aside until the flag was removed. We folded the flag in a correct manner for

presentation with the slouch hat to the family. An acknowledgment of Noel's service and a thank you for the service was offered to the family. A letter from 3 RAR Townsville was also read.

The Internment

The pallbearers, under the supervision of Adrian Craig, carried the coffin into the hearse for the a short journey to the internment site.

A guard of honour of ex-servicemen lined both sides of the road for about a hundred metres. The pallbearers carried the coffin to the grave site.

Major Smith read the committal prayer, Brian Kotz read the Regimental Ode, the Last Post was played, a minute's silence observed, followed by Reveille. Poppies and rosemary were placed on the coffin by about 300 mourners, and the family met and thanked those at the gravesite before returning to the chapel for tea and coffee.

The Wake

The wake, with family and friends, was held at the RARA clubrooms. Colin in the kitchen had prepared finger food, pies and pasties. The wake was coordinated by Club Manager Greg Dwiart, Neil Nicolls and Tim Karasoulos were barmen.

Many names were addressed to the visitors book at the door. President Michael von Berg addressed the gathering and had kind words for the family about their Dad. He also thanked those who made the funeral the way Noel had organised it to be. Kirsty spoke on behalf of the family, thanking the Regiment and those who had contributed to the day to make it easier on them in their time of grief and mourning. Our heartfelt condolences go to the family.

Noel (Mad Dog) Smith, Warrant Officer Class 1, RSM, soldier, mate, mentor, Dad and 'Grumpa' would have been proud his well organised plans went off like a military operation with a full frontal attack!

**REST IN PEACE OLD MATE. DUTY FIRST.
LEST WE FORGET.**

Ken Duthie JP.



Ceremonial matters

The RAR Association SA and its battalion associations have been and will be busy on ceremonial matters in the first half of 2015.

In January 9 RAR SA conducted its annual commutative services for six of their war dead from Operation GOODWOOD as far apart as Murray Bridge, Centennial Park and Ardrossan. The last of these services for 9 RAR SA and Operation GOODWOOD was in mid-February at Centennial Park.

On January 14 we had the major funeral for the late **Noel Smith** OAM at Centennial Park with drinks at the RAR Association SA's clubrooms afterwards.

In February 3 RAR SA conducted a service for **Tom de Vries van Luewen** at Mt Barker on 18 Feb 2015 and 8 RAR SA conducted its annual Long Hai commemorative service on the Pathway of Honour.

The RAR Association SA combined with the RAAC Vietnam Veterans Association SA for the annual Hat Dich service at the RAR Association's clubrooms.

In March 3 RAR SA conducted a service for **John Wheeler** and **Paul Manning** at the RAR Association clubrooms, 9 RAR SA had its annual commemorative service for **Grantley Scales** at Centennial Park on March 5 and we had the major funeral for **Fred Pfitzner** AM, ex Director of Infantry; at the Christ Church, North Adelaide on 17 March.

In April:

On 22 April 7 RAR SA plans to conduct a commemorative service for **Robert Hughes** at his grave at Stirling North.

- On 24 April 3 RAR SA will conduct its annual Kapyong Day commemorative service at the RAR SA clubrooms.
- On April 25 we have ANZAC Day of course with this year marking the centenary of the Landing at Gallipoli. We will form up per 2014 in Pulteney Street between North Terrace and Rundle Street/Mall with the order of march being President's Party including banner, 1 RAR, 2 RAR, 3 RAR, 4 RAR, 5 RAR, 6 RAR, 7 RAR, 8 RAR, 9 RAR, 2/4 RAR and 5/7 RAR. Reunions will follow at the Old Lion Hotel, North Adelaide except for 4 RAR who will move to the Joiners Arms Hindmarsh.

In May 3 RAR SA will conduct commemorative services for Peter Lewis on the 13th and Alan Cooper and William Thomas on the 26th. Also 5 RAR SA will be involved in the "Dressing of the Graves" service for Bernard Smith at the Wallaroo Cemetery.

In June 5 RAR SA will conduct its Binh Ba commemorative service

at the RAR SA clubrooms on Friday 5 June, before the Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Veterans SA has been generous with providing grants to some of our commemorative services and should be thanked accordingly.

On the dress and equipment side:

- Our Association Piper now has the Association's Piper's Banner.
- The Association will be providing funds for a banner for the new 2/4 RAR Association SA which should be ready by ANZAC Day.
- 4 RAR SA has a new banner, 8 RAR SA is in the process of getting a new banner which should be ready by ANZAC Day and 9 RAR SA is in the process of getting two new banners, one for the RAR Clubrooms and another for services.

Adrian Craig
Ceremonial



Murray the Labrador, who was trained by the RSB Guide Dog Service at Gilles Plains, with handler Gunner Ben Stevenson. Picture: DEAN MARTIN

Pooch ready to report for duty

Celeste Villani

WHEN Murray took the oath of allegiance at his enlistment ceremony, he put his paw on a Bible and vowed to serve in the Australian Army.

The Labrador, 2, has been posted to the 16th Air Land Regiment, based at Woodside, with the rank of gunner-assistant, or the equivalent of a private.

He is first dog from the joint Returned & Services League SA and Royal Society of the Blind Operation K9 program to be officially allocated to a unit.

The program prepares

dogs to assist serving and returning military personnel. Murray was trained in Gilles Plains at a cost of \$25,000.

Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class One, Brendan Fox, says Murray is an intelligent and loyal member of the unit and is helping to maintain morale.

"He is a ray of sunshine for the unit," Warrant Officer Fox, who has served in Iraq and Afghanistan, says.

"He can be a playful dog too, and just makes the base seem more like home.

"But when it comes to work, he switches on and

becomes an incredible support for our troops."

Murray was set to be a guide dog but failed the Royal Society of the Blind's testing criteria because he was "too big and robust".

Warrant Officer Fox says Murray does not shy away from hard work and is always present at 6am wake-up calls and training drills.

Warrant Officer Fox says having Murray on the base helps soldiers suffering combat-related anxiety, depression or stress.

"You can see the atmosphere in the room change when he walks past," Warrant Officer Fox says.

City Messenger February 18 and The Advertiser February 16

Hat Dich Commemorative Service February 2015



Pictorial record of the service featuring the guests, the catafalque party, speakers, the choir, and the placing of poppies in the wreaths.



On February 19 the RAR Association SA and the RAAC Vietnam Veterans' Association SA conducted a combined regiments' commemorative service to mark the 46th anniversary of the ended on Operation Goodwood. Operation Goodwood was a multi-national operation conducted in the Hat Dich Secret Zone in South Vietnam which started on 3 December 1968 and ended on 19 Feb 1969. During the operation 25 Australians and one New Zealander were killed. Fatalities were 1 RAR 3, 4 RAR /NZ 6, 9 RAR 14, SASR 1, 1 Armoured Regt 1 and 3rd Cavalry Regt 1.



As a result of their actions during Operation Goodwood the Royal Australian Regiment, the 1st Armoured Regiment and the 3rd Cavalry Regiment were awarded the battle honour Hat Dich.

This year was the second time the Service has been conducted at the RAR Association SA's clubrooms. Previously it had been held on the Pathway of Honour from 2008-2013. In line with the combined regiments theme:

- The President RAR Assoc. SA **Michael von Berg** MC delivered the Welcome Address.
 - The President RAAC Vietnam Veterans SA **Craig Haydock** delivered the Commemorative Address.
 - **John Genovese** of 1 RAR SA read the Roll of Honour.
 - The President 4 RAR SA **Rodney Harris** read the Scripture.
 - The President 9 RAR SA **David** and **Ed Cowley** ex-RNZIR; both veterans of Hat Dich placed floral tributes.
 - The Secretary ASASR SA recited The Ode.
- Russell Campbell** OAM of the RAR Association SA was the Master of Ceremonies, Chaplain **David Prior** of the Central Region provided chaplaincy support, D Sqn 1st Armoured Regiment (an APC unit) provided the catafalque party and flag orderlies, Corporal **Brendon Tasker** of the Australian Army Band Adelaide was the bugler, **Des Ross**, the RAR Association's piper, was the piper and **Catherine Lambert** and the Terrace Singers provide choral support.

With the two new drop-in flag poles it was possible to fly both the Australian National Flag and the flag of the Republic of Vietnam for the first time at Hat Dich services.

After the service a light lunch was served in the clubrooms during which Rosemary Bilac sang a number of songs of the era including the spine chilling "Galveston" and "Wichita Linesman".

Veterans SA provide a generous grant of \$515 which covered almost all of the service and lunch.

Adrian Craig
Ceremonial



FOCUS ON GALLIPOLI

Peninsula commemorates Gallipoli Centenary at Kadina

On Saturday, 18 April 2015, Kadina will be host to a commemoration of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli by the RSL Sub-Branches and community and business groups of Yorke Peninsula. Planning for the event is well under way by the Gallipoli Landings Centenary Committee, which has representatives from the Peninsula's RSL clubs and local organisations.

"The 18th will be an important day, a day of remembering those who made us who we are, not only as Australians but also as South Australians of Yorke Peninsula", Mr Brown said. "It is a salute to our past and to our local contribution to the sacrifices of the Great War."

Events and attractions during the afternoon will include:

- **The launch of a new book** on southern Yorke Peninsula and the Great War,
- **An exhibition on 'The Bravest of the Brave'**, on loan from the History Trust of SA, featuring the eight South Australians awarded the Victoria Cross during the Great War.
- **A market with stalls** at Victoria Square
- **A display in the park of vintage cars** from the era of the Great War and the Model T bus provided by the Kadina National Trust.
- **A poetry reading** by South Australia's bush poet and entertainer, **Jeff Cook**, of Minlaton
- **A raffle of an original painting** by renowned Peninsula artist **Barbara Evans** of Pt. Clinton.
- Music by bands from Kadina and the armed services.
- **An Old Time Ball** in the evening at Wallaroo Town Hall, with music, dances and costumes from the Great War era.

Further information: **Garry Brown**, Chairman Gallipoli Landings Centenary Committee on 8871 5073 or by email brownie@internode.on.net or Secretary **Deidre Carmody** on 8337 3207 or dca17006@bigpond.com.au or the Kadina RSL website for updates on the event at www.kadina.rslsa.org.au



Copies of **Peter Scott's** book "Command in Vietnam" are still available from the publisher, Slouch Hat Publication by ringing (03) 5986 6437 or writing to PO Box 174,

McCrae, Victoria, 3938

Website: www.slouch-hat.com.au

Peter is donating \$5 from every sale to the Royal Australian Regiment Association.

Peter says: It's a good companion to Mike English's book "The Infantryman" and our own "Yours Faithfully" edited by Captain **Colin Clarke** and issued to every member who served in Vietnam in 1971.



War correspondents in TV spotlight in Gallipoli series

"Deadline Gallipoli" is a story of four war correspondents, Charles Bean, Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, Phillip Schuler and Keith Murdoch, whose job it was to report on the events which unfolded on the shores of Gallipoli in 1915. It was filmed in SA in 2014. The film premieres on Foxtel's showcase channel on Sunday and Monday April 19 and 20 at 8pm. The film will be previewed on Wednesday April 15 at the Avoca Hotel for RSL members who will receive a free drink from 6pm before the first 90 minutes from episode one is screened. RSL-SA recently purchased the lease of the hotel at 893 South Road, Clarence Gardens, and welcomes RSL members to the event.

WWI relatives welcome at Semaphore centenary march and entertainment

Relatives of World War I servicemen and women, wearing medals or carrying photos are being encouraged to march at Semaphore on Sunday April 19 at 2pm. The Semaphore and Port Adelaide RSL Sub-branch has arranged the event which will start at the corner of Semaphore and Military Roads with form-up from 1.30pm.

The march will proceed westerly down Semaphore Road to the Angel of Peace war memorial on the foreshore where a brief service will be conducted. After the service everyone will be welcome to enjoy entertainment, a barbecue, refreshments and camaraderie at the RSL. The RSL acknowledges funding for the event from the Australian Government's ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program.

"A Duty Done" by **Lieutenant Colonel (Rtd) Fred Fairhead** is a summary of operations by The Royal Australian Regiment in the Vietnam War 1965-1972. Copies are available from the club in Beatty Street, Linden Park.

Ask at the bar or contact Club Manager **Greg Dwiar** 0412 644 749 to arrange collection or postage.



Trojan's trek expansion includes women and Qld pilot

Trojan's Trek in 2015 will see the program expanded to include a pilot male trek conducted in south eastern Queensland as well as the male and female version in SA.

The South Australian Trek will be conducted in the North Flinders Ranges from September 20 to 25 and the Queensland pilot from August 9 to 14, based at Millenarian on the Darling Downs.

For information, nomination and completion of other admin required before arrival please contact the following:

a. POC SA Female Trek: Mark Keynes 0487 453 488 or pensions@rslsa.org.au

b. POC SA Male Trek : Greg Hallam 0419 312 884 or greg@chillingout.com.au

Who can attend?

- Participation is free, ex-Adelaide. travel assistance is available, speak to the relevant POC
- Younger veterans, i.e. post Vietnam, are the target group from any of the services.
- Each trek will cater for up to 12 serving and ex-service volunteers identified as individuals who will benefit from the experience.
- The SA trek will be based in the North Flinders Ranges at Moolooloo Station which is 42 km east of Parachilna on the Glass Gorge Road.
- The course will utilise the remote environment combined with team and individual analysis assisted by skilled leaders. Some nights will be spent in the bush in relatively rough conditions.
- The program will be delivered by veterans who have faced and overcome the issues which confront younger veterans. Civilian expertise will also be utilised.

Design

Trojan's Trek will provide the setting and conditions under which participants will experience a lasting positive shift in personal values and interpersonal relationships designed to improve their lifestyle and community involvement.

Objectives

The objectives of the trek are to develop in the participants through joint and individual challenge:

- an understanding of how thoughts and feelings influence behaviour,
- exposure to various strategies which will bring about positive change,
- suggested individual responses which are effective in achieving the aim, and
- enhance self esteem.

How is Trojan's Trek different from standard therapies and counselling?

Trojan's trek is a circuit breaker program. Individuals will require follow-up treatment on completion. The differences between this program and conventional treatment may be summarized as follows:

The program;

- is culture specific,
- encourages group identity and experience sharing,
- involves veteran to veteran delivery,
- utilizes the remoteness and peace of the bush
- focuses on individuals transference from "victim to warrior", and
- includes providing partners with some understanding of the illness.

Outcomes

To date the impact of the trek on participants and families has been excellent. The program has been independently evaluated by the Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health. The Trojan's Trek Board is keen to continue the program and convincing those who make decisions in this area, that this approach to military stress is a valuable adjunct to other methods of treatment. The philosophy of peer to peer support is sound and may have wider application within the military and other organisations.

Full details:

www.trojanstrek.com/next-trek

New mental health app for past and present military personnel

A new mobile phone app to help serving and ex-serving ADF personnel manage stress and build their psychological resilience is available to download for free from the iOS app store and Android Google Play.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Senator the Hon **Michael Ronaldson** and Assistant Minister for Defence, the Hon **Stuart Robert** MP, officially launched the High Res app today saying it was part of the Australian Government's innovative approach to improving mental health outcomes for defence personnel and younger veterans. "We recognise the unique nature of military service, which is why we are developing these specifically designed resources for the Defence and veteran community," Senator Ronaldson said.

"We also recognise the current generation of Defence

personnel and younger veterans generally engage with support services differently to older veterans. That is why we are actively developing new products such as High Res."

The High Res app features two major functions: 'Stress Management' helps users manage their immediate reactions to a stressful situation. The app prompts users to test their physical, cognitive, emotional and behavioral reactions and helps them adjust their response with the use of tools on the app.

Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) and Veterans Line can be reached 24 hours a day across Australia for crisis support and free and confidential counselling. Phone 1800 011 046 (international: +61 8 8241 4546)



The 2010 crew at Nuccalenna

FROM THE BATTALIONS

3 RAR SA Battle of Kapyong commemoration 11am Friday April 24

3 RAR SA will conduct its annual Battle of Kapyong Commemorative Service at the RAR Association RSL Clubrooms at Beatty Street, Linden Park, at 11am on Friday April 24.

The Battle of Kapyong - 23-25 April 1951 - was fought by the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade (27 BCB) as part of the blocking of the North Korean advance towards Seoul in late April 1951.

3rd battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR) was part of 27 BCB and lost 32 killed, 53 wounded and three were made prisoners of war, one of whom, Private Horace 'Slim' Madden, was awarded the George Cross posthumously.

For their actions 3 RAR, 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and Company A, 72nd Heavy Tank Battalion (US) was awarded the US Presidential Unit Citation.

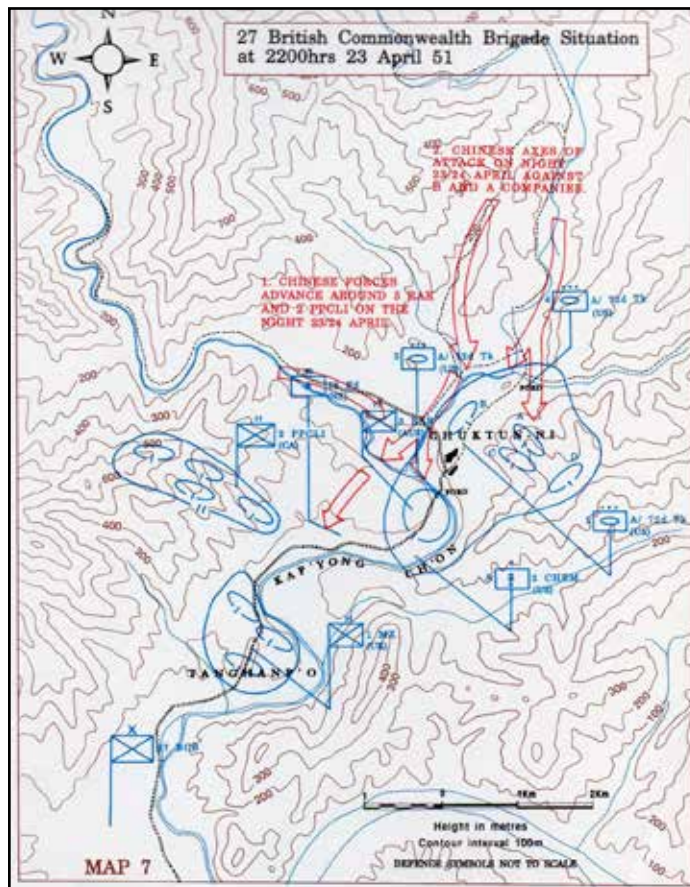
Service and ex-service members are requested to wear decorations and medals.

A light lunch will be served in the clubrooms after the Service. There is no need to book.

Parking is available in Beatty Street and nearby streets.

The 3 RAR SA contact is the Ceremonial Officer Adrian Craig on 8263 4784 and as.craig9rar@bigpond.com

Right: A depiction of the Battle on the evening of 23 April 1951.



Documentary focus on obsession to locate Vietnamese KIA




The ABC TV documentary "The Crater", which focuses on one of the D Company 3 RAR soldiers at Balmoral in 1968, will be screened on Thursday April 23. (Check TV program for time)


The film is a personal and emotional journey of one man's obsession in locating 42 former enemy soldiers who were KIA.

Brian Cleaver (pictured in Vietnam) was conscripted to fight in Vietnam for his country. He and his comrades lived through the biggest Battle - the battles for Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral, leaving many veterans numb and shell shocked, each man dealing with the aftermath of war in his own way.

Brian's way of seeking atonement was to make 10 trips to Vietnam obsessively searching for the unmarked graves of his former enemy.

The film include interviews with North Vietnam veterans.

involved



ANZAC Day Centenary 2015

Afternoon Tea and Concert


Sunday 3 May 1 pm–3 pm

Burnside Ballroom

Featuring Ashley Mallett and Digger doctor Col Donald Beard.
Personal war poems written and narrated by Bob Jarrad and Bob Walter.
Ninety minute concert by Adelaide Army Band.

Afternoon tea provided for gold coin donation.
Money raised goes to local Red Cross branches St Georges and Kensington Park.

Bookings Essential by phoning the library on 8366 4280

www.burnside.sa.gov.au

FROM THE BATTALIONS

June 30 booking deadline for four-day Back to Woodside Reunion

Early last year some bright spark came up with an idea that we should have a reunion for those people who served in Woodside. The idea was picked up and a working committee was formed. We have 10 members chaired by Steve Larkins. The reunion is based around the Hahndorf and Woodside areas and we are expecting about 350 members and partners.

Plans are well underway. The committee has negotiated with hotels, motels and caravan parks to give special discounts around the Hahndorf area for those who wish to arrange accommodation close to the reunion. The registration cut-off date is Tuesday June 30.

However, people who would like to attend but are having trouble registering by this due date, or do not have access to a computer, should ring Russell Campbell on 8264 5616 or 0452 527 149. For those travelling via plane we do have some airport transfers for which bookings are necessary to see if the timing of the transfers and their flights are suitable. We also need people to look at their transport needs by filling in the Transport Survey on www.back2woodside.com. We have arranged for the 10/27 RSAR Military Band to play for the dinner dance on Saturday 21 November.

The registration fee is \$50 per person which will pay some of the cost towards the dinner. \$5 from each registration will be donated to Trojan's Trek. The earlier you register the easier it will be for the committee to organise the reunion.

The Back2woodside Committee will have specialised merchandise available. Details will be on the website soon, as we plan on asking for orders in advance to be picked up at the Meet and Greet. The 3RAR SA Association will also have merchandise for sale over the weekend.

Please pass this information on to those who you think may be interested in attending and don't forget to bring a friend or two.

- From the committee



BACK2WOODSIDE ACTIVITIES

Friday November 20: Meet & Greet at the Old Mill Hahndorf. Cost of \$25 includes finger food and some drinks.

Saturday November 21: Dinner at the Old Mill Hahndorf.

Sunday November 22: Free Day.

Monday November 23: Commemorative Service at Woodside. Barbecue lunch at Officers/Sergeants Mess 16 Air Land Defence Regiment.

Our website www.back2woodside.com is regularly updated and gives all the information.

Inquiries:

Committee members Russell Campbell

Email- campbellrussell49@bigpond.com

8264-5616 - 0452 527 149



Above: Hermitage Aged Care, Ellenbrook.

Below: Mt Laverna Retirement Village.



Spirit lives on through 3 RAR Perth member

Thank you to the 3 RAR SA Association Incorporated committee for introducing the merchandise range. After serving with the Australian Army and the 3 Battalion in the 80s, I now serve at eight nursing homes in the Perth area taking residents on bus outings. I have been doing this for the last 14 years.

I am donating to each the 3 RAR flag and stickers to enhance which I am sure they will appreciate and treasure in their ANZAC Day remembrance celebrations.

The response from the Occupational Therapists has been very positive to this and am assured the items will be proudly displayed in facilities for many years to come.

Peter Savy



Above: Baptist Care, Gwelup.

Below: Pines Aged Care, Ellbrook



Scrub fire clean-up proves bond still strong after 44+ years

After the fire which burnt through our property on January 2 and 3, we were both walking around in circles wondering where to start cleaning up.

Clean-up started with Defence Service Homes Insurance sending up a tree lopping crew to fell 24 fire damaged and dangerous trees.

Cheryl and I thought we would let some of the wellwishers who contacted us after the fire know we would be organising a clean-up few days to cut up and remove as much of the wood as possible.

We settled on February 27 to March 1. Needless to say, it turned out bloody hot.

We had so many responses and phone calls asking if it was alright to come up to help us out we knew the weekend would be successful. I expected to break the back of the work needed to be done in those three days. We had no idea we would call it quits at lunchtime on Saturday 28 after two hard days labour and virtually all the work finished. All which was outstanding was for those who didn't bring trailers to collect their share of the firewood.

During those three days some of the greatest blokes and wives I have ever known descended on our place and cleaned up more than 100 tons of trees which had to be dropped after the fire and then thankfully carted away.

The majority were Charlie Coy 3RAR along with a few other 3 RAR members, family and friends. It is very humbling to know there are so many real friends who care so much about us to show up and work their hearts out on bloody hot days. Thanks is definitely not enough to say - each and every one of them are true friends and lifesavers. Or as a younger participant said: "We're Aussies, that's what we do".

Days later we were still in a state of shock about how much work was achieved by very willing friends who spent anything from a few hours to a few days.

That is with the exception of Trevor, AKA Bugs, who almost timed it to perfection by arriving about 20 mins before stand-down. He should have packed the binoculars away as many of us thought he was sitting up at the top of the hill watching to make sure the work was almost done before he



"We're Aussies that's what we do."



got there". I might add I did discuss this additional note with Bugs who commented that as he was the 9 Platoon Newsletter Editor I could write whatever I liked but he would have to carefully vet it before it went to print. With so many Vets there was the usual camaraderie (and usual ribbing) mixed with lots of sweat, soot and dirt. I wondered if some of us would ever get clean again.

The true friends who gave so much to help Cheryl and me were (in no particular order):

Colin Schriever, Lawrie Schofield, Ross Ballard, Bob Lewis, Keith Wells, John Ali, Jim Best, Jim Wallis, Neville Cooper, David White, Rudi Brunner, Greg Wiseman, Ron Mellor, Michael McFarlane, Gary Mand, Anne Mandy, Trevor Harve, Matt Pritchard, Graham Bailey, John Bradshaw, Ross McOmish, Alan Rice, Michael Rice, Helen Schofield, Sandra Best, Judith Wells, Michelle Neale and Margaret Barter.

This really proves the Army bond is still as strong as ever after 44 or so years. All were welcomed, pointed in a general direction of need and then let loose. The sound of duelling chainsaws was fantastic.

It really does lift the spirit after such a close call to have so many prepared to offer so much. We know we can never fully repay their generosity. We also know how lucky we were with both the fire missing the house and sheds and being able to call on old friends and being lucky enough to meet some new ones.

Thanks seems nowhere near enough for the help given and the efforts of so many old friends and new.

**Fred and Cheryl Pritchard Avo,
telaridiust face ta ne co ex mo**

FROM THE BATTALIONS

4 RARA

We have had our Annual General Meeting and a new committee has been voted in with some changes. The Committee is as follows;

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. President | Rod Harris |
| 2. Vice President | Wayne Langford OAM |
| 3. Secretary | Ron Blood |
| 4. Treasurer | Grant Carmody |
| 5. Assistant Treasurer | Jan Carmody |
| 6. Member at Large | Malcolm Love |
| 7. Social Member | Richard Scurrall |
| 8. Associate Member | Alana Langford |
| 9. Visitation Member | Jack Campbell |

Most of the committee consist of the Reunion Committee who ran the very successful 2015 Reunion in Adelaide in January-February.

Several new ideas have been put forward to reinvigorate the membership.

It is intended to hold a formal dinner at RAR headquarters to commemorate the Battle of Nui Le.

The dinner will be held on September 18. It will be held to commission the new glass cabinet at RARA headquarters and inaugurate the plaque which has been made to commemorate the last significant battle in Vietnam.

Lt Col **Graham Spinkston** Rtd, who was the Platoon Commander of 12 Platoon D Coy and involved heavily in the battle, will be the guest speaker.

2nd/4th RAR

The 2nd/4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (2/4 RAR), was formed post-Vietnam by the amalgamation of the 2nd Battalion (2 RAR) and 4th Battalion (4 RAR) on 15 August 1973. Based in Townsville, the Battalion saw overseas deployments to Rifle Company Butterworth in Malaysia from 1973 - 1989, Operation GEMINI in Cambodia 1993, Operation SOLACE in Somalia (as part of the 1 RAR Battalion Group) in 1993 and United Nations Assistance Mission (UNAMIR) in Rwanda in 1994/95.

The 2/4 RAR was delinked on 1 February 1995 to once again form the 2nd Battalion and 4th Battalion. 2 RAR remained in Townsville and 4 RAR were relocated to Sydney. In January 1997 the Battalion was given a new role as a special forces unit and was renamed 4 RAR (Cdo) and under command of Special Operations Command (SOCOM). On 19 June 2009, 4 RAR (Cdo) was removed from the Order of Battle (ORBAT) and was renamed the 2nd Commando Regiment. The Second Fourth Battalion was on the ORBAT for 22 years and during

that time there were more than 5000 personnel who served in the Battalion.

In March 2013 the 2/4 RAR Association was formed in Townsville and has state representatives in all states. In South Australia we have about 50 registered ex-members of the battalion and we have regular social activities to enjoy the camaraderie and friendships which will never die. On Anzac Day this year, the Battalion for the first time will be officially represented in the Adelaide ANZAC Day parade. There are presently about 30 ex-members who have committed to join us in the parade, where once again they will march proudly behind the scarlet and black banner of our once great battalion.

Ex-members of 2/4 RAR who wish to join us to march on the Anzac Day or for any of the social activities we organise throughout the year will be made more than welcome. All enquiries are welcome and the South Australian Representative of the 2/4 RAR Association is Kim Porter who can be contacted at any time on 0417 468 186.

The committee was saddened at the loss of our esteemed Life Member WO1 **Noel Smith** OAM. He was the driver of our Association in its formative days and will be sadly missed by all members of our Association.



It was a booklet he never got around to reading, but is now proudly on display at the Australian War Memorial. For Adelaide's retired career soldier Lt Col. Graham Spinkston, the tale of the book that caught a bullet meant for him is one that he still laughs at some four decades on.

Gallipoli centenary open day

An open day to showcase South Australian military heritage will be presented on Saturday April 18 from noon to 6pm at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club, 111 Hutt Street, corner of Angus Street, Adelaide. The club director **Peter Neuhaus** says the format will be an outdoor fair of bands and military equipment displays. Indoors will be the World War I Memorabilia Roadshow, military history lectures and a military book fair. From noon to 4pm the 10/27th Battalion Band and school bands will play on the front lawn. Food and drinks will be available to purchase on the lawns and inside. The club building and grounds will be open to the community to share in the important centenary milestone of Gallipoli. Inquiries: **Mark Jennings** on 8223 2422.

50th anniversary of

National Service Scheme

Half a century ago, the first of the 63,735 young men called up for two years (later reduced to 18 months) service in the Regular Army marched into Recruit Training at Kapooka, Puckapunyal and later Singleton. Of these, 150 served in Borneo and 15,381 in Vietnam. 212 made the Ultimate Sacrifice.

A commemorative service will be held at the [National Service Memorial in Canberra at 10am on June 30](#). His Excellency, the Governor General of Australia, General Sir **Peter Cosgrove** AK MC, will be guest of honour.

The era was most significant in Australian military history with the war in Vietnam and the rapid escalation in the size of the Australian Army.

Although not part of their original life plan, most regarded their time in the Service favourably. The National Servicemen's Association of Australia, in conjunction with the O.T.U. Association is planning a ceremony to pay the occasion the recognition it deserves.

Inquiries visit the website www.nashoaustralia.org.au

Royal Australian Regiment Association
Committee 2015-2016

Patron **Laurie Lewis AM**

Elected Positions

President	Michael von Berg MC	0411 870 055
	mvb@michaelvonberg.com	
Vice President	Rod Graham	0427 977 145
	rodg2@bigpond.com.au	
Secretary	Bob Whinnen	0413 189 558
	rwhinnen@bigpond.com.au	
Treasurer	Mike Bevan	0431 987 699
Membership	mikeb3@netspace.net.au	

Committee Positions

Webmaster	Mike Bevan	0416 106 578
Assistant Treasurer	mikeb3@netspace.net.au	
Manager - Club	Greg Dwiar	0412 644 749
	gregdwiar@gmail.com	
Manager - Ceremonial	Adrian Craig	8263 4784
	as.craig9rar@bigpond.com	
Welfare Officer	Lyn Fisher	8371 3090
	fishernine@gmail.com	
Trojan's Trek Director	Moose Dunlop OAM	0408 088 886
	moose@trojanstrek.com	
Schools Military History Officer	Ken Duthie	0418 806 172
Manager - Bar	Neil Nicholls	0488 050 810
	neil12Platoon@yahoo.com	8369 1957
Editor - Infantryman	Penelope Forster	8367 9905
	penelopeforster01@gmail.com	

Battalion Representatives

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2 RAR Malcolm Allen	mal@aladdco.com.au	0451 374 133
2/4 RAR Kym Porter	yrtnafni51@hotmail.com	0417 468 186
3 RAR Robert Whelan	wheelsdenise@internode.on.net	8387 9979
4 RAR Rod Harris		
5 RAR Mos Hancock	moswhan@bigpond.net.au	8556 2732
5/7 RAR Paul Jordan	pjaye62@yahoo.com	0416 059 462
6 RAR Rob Wallace	rwallace14@hotmail.com	0407 227 471
7 RAR Chris Ashenden	cashende@bigpond.net.au	0417 892 561
8 RAR Ted Forward	adrianne.ted.forward@bigpond.com	82351 625
9 RAR Adrian Craig	as.craig9rar@bigpond.com	8263 4784

RAR (SA) RSL Sub-Branch

President	Rod Graham	0427 977 145
Secretary	Lynn Graham	8431 3491
Treasurer	Steven Roberts	0408 108 643
	steveroberts1@bigpond.com	

Headquarters and Clubroom

13 Beatty Street, Linden Park, SA 5065

Phone: (08) 8379 5771

Website: www.rarsa.org.au

Email: rar01@internode.on.net

APRIL	3rd	GOOD FRIDAY CLUB CLOSED	
	10th	Ladies Night	3 Course Dinner
	17th	Chef's Choice	
	24th	KAPYONG DAY	Light meal
	25th	ANZAC Day---CLUB CLOSED	
MAY	1st	Light meal	
	8th	Ladies Night	3 Course Dinner
	15th	Light meal	
	22nd	Chef's Choice	
	29th	Light meal	
	30th	RAR REGIMENTAL DINNER	
		Bookings Essential	
JUNE	5th	BINH BA CEREMONY	Light meal
	12th	Ladies Night	3 Course Dinner
	19th	Light meal	
	26th	Chef's Choice	
JULY	3rd	Light meal	
	10th	Ladies Night	3 Course Dinner
	12th	RAR AGM	B-B-Q Lunch
	17th	Light meal	
	24th	Chef's Choice	
AUG	31st	Light meal	
	7th	Light meal	
	14th	Ladies Night	3 Course Dinner
	21st	Chef's Choice	
	28th	Light meal	



Your Quiz Masters Are Nev, George and Kyle

3rd Royal Australian Regiment S.A.

Quiz Night will be held on Saturday 23th May.

Arrive at 7 pm first Question at 7:30 pm

Price is \$8 each with 8 people at each table.

Ring and book a table and pay on the night.

Bring your own snacks bar will be open.

Place RAR Hall 13 Beatty St Linden Park

(Old Burnside RSL Hall)

For tickets or Book a table contact

Neil 0488050810 83596536