



# INFANTRYMAN

The Journal of the RAR Association SA  
*Keeping the Spirit Alive*

November 2016

## DEFENDING AUSTRALIA IN THE 21st CENTURY:

# Industry has major role in nation's safety

The kinds of threats we will face in the 21st Century will be rather different from those which led us into the massive confrontations of the First and Second World Wars. The world is changing – even the most powerful states no longer have available armies of millions of young men, equipped and ready to deployed into action within a few days.

*These are the opening words by Professor Robert O'Neill for his most thought-provoking article which is published at a most appropriate time in the history of the nation and in this the last Infantryman for 2016. Written on 15 september 2016, he continues:*

### A CHALLENGING PERIOD AHEAD



*Professor Robert O'Neill AO*

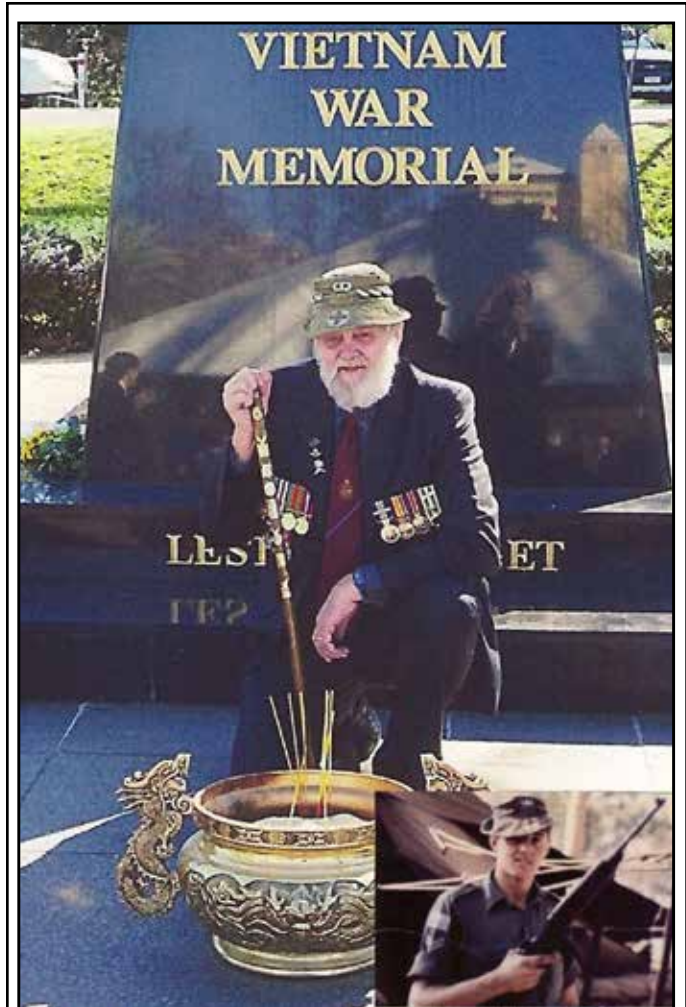
Societies work in different ways to those of a century ago, people are motivated differently, and technology plays a much more important role now than it did then.

Warfare, in many (although not in all) ways, has become more technologically oriented, therefore the roles of industry have become even more important.

And in Australia, a country the size of the United States, well endowed with natural resources, but with a population of about the same size as that of the Shanghai urban area to defend it, we clearly have some formidable problems. We need technology to make up for our numerical limitations. But in using technology we have to bear in mind constantly the looming threats of cyber warfare. These range from high level international interference by great powers to the individual acts of lone geeks or small groups of individuals, who serve a set of beliefs but not a recognized national government.

They are all difficult to deal with, and it is good to know that our defence, scientific and industrial communities are all working hard to reduce our vulnerabilities in this dimension.

Continued pages 6 - 8.



### SCULPTOR REMEMBERED ON LONG TAN DAY:

While hundreds of people gathered in the brilliant sunshine for the combined 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan Day and Vietnam Veterans Day Commemorative Service at Torrens Parade Ground, sitting alone behind the Vietnam War Memorial was Charles Martin, the brother of the sculptor, the late James Martin. Inset: Charles Martin in Vietnam 1967. Story page 12. Photo: Charles Martin & Bruce Forster. Long Tan coverage continues pages 12 - 15.



*The President of the Royal Australian Regiment Association Michael von Berg, MC, OAM, and Committee Members wish Fellow Members and their families a Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous and Healthy New Year. They look forward to seeing you and yours at future events and/or hearing from you should you require assistance which they will help to provide.*

# Barbecue meet and greet before RAR Corporation AGM



RARA SA Patron Laurie Lewis, AM, and Denise Rowe are amused by comments from Ed Czerwinski, who teaches karate at the club, while Di Lewis (background) shares a joke with Brig. Steph Dunn AM (Rtd) RARA ACT President.



Above: RAR Corporation Chairman and RARA SA President Michael von Berg welcomes conference delegates at the Sunday barbecue.



Wilf Hedley (centre) of Canberra, 8 RARA President, with RARA SA members (from left) School Military History Officer Ken Duthie, Secretary Jim Stopford, Bar Manager Neil Nicholls and Vice President Rodney Graham.



From left: Brig Paul O'Sullivan AM, President RARA NSW, 1 RAR; Wilf Hedley, President of 8 RAR; Ted Chitham, MC, OAM, RAR Corporation Secretary; and Leo Van De Kamp, President 2 RAR Association.

Right: Clem Russell ex-RSM Land Command of Brisbane; Bob Whelan, President 3 RARA; and Phil Thompson of Brisbane, the new RAR Corporation Director.



Left: Jack Babbage of Perth, Secretary RARA WA, with 3 RARA SA Co-Secretaries Jeff Barrett and Carol Van Der Peet who both served with Jack.



Left: Hori Howard AO MC, ESM, RAR Corporation Secretary, with Ric Lepore; Peter Fraser, Victoria; and Ken Duthie, RARA SA Schools Military History Officer.

## Memorable event for Schools Military History Officer

On Sunday October 2 a meet and greet was held at the RARA SA Inc at Burnside at 1600hrs to welcome delegates to the Royal Australian Regiment Corporation's AGM.

Among those present were two people I am most fortunate to have served with. They are then Major Horrie Howard, OC A Company 3 RAR 1967 - 68 (Maj Gen 'Horrie' Howard AO, MC, ESM - Retired) and then 2Lt Peter Fraser, Platoon Commander 2 Platoon 'A' Company 3 RAR 1967 - 68 (Captain Peter Fraser (MID) - Retired). Having these two officers and 2Lt Norm Bell (1 Platoon) and 2Lt Harry Clarson (3 Platoon) was the difference between survival or death. With conflicts in Baria, FSB Anderson, FSB Balmoral, FSB Coogee, deployment in The Long Hai Hills (eight weeks of hell), and a major contact on the 19 October 1968 (2PI) we came home in December 1968.



Ken Duthie (right) shows off the new vehicle - provided to him for his school visits - to Peter Fraser and Hori Howard, RAR Corporation Board Secretary.

Good officers and NCOs, great leadership, management, skills and training. This was the difference between us coming home in one of two ways, so for that, like so many others from our company, I am grateful. It was a pleasure to see them here and to partake in a meal and drink with them and reminisce.

**Ken Duthie**  
Schools Military History Officer



# FROM THE COMMAND POST

We were delighted to host the RARA and all of the members for the Annual General Meeting and National Council Meeting over the 2nd to 4th October long weekend at Keswick Barracks and for a barbecue at our Club Rooms on the Sunday night. In attendance for part of our Council Meeting was Lt Gen Peter Leahy, our co-patron; David Jamieson, President of the DFWA; Alex Gerrick from DVA in Canberra; and Tony Fraser from Soldier On.

The discussions and input from the National Presidents of our Battalion Associations and our guests was invaluable where, through our own efforts and through the Alliance of Defense Service Organisations (ADSO), we acknowledge we have covered many areas of advocacy but that there is still much to do in the year ahead.

The Board recommended we increase the Board by one Director and I am very pleased to report that Phil Thompson, an ex-digger 1RAR, wounded in Afghanistan, has been appointed to the Board as a part of our succession plan but at this time, most importantly, reaching out to younger veterans.

Phil resides in Townsville and, through his efforts and that of some good young volunteers, establishes a strong presence of the RARA in the Townsville region ably supported by Lt Gen John Caligari as patron of the 1RAR Association and chair of so many local ESO committees.

Townsville has the biggest concentration of military personnel in the southern hemisphere so it is essential, if we are going to be relevant to young members of the ADF and the Regiment in particular, we "move the mountain" as they say in that old proverb, and base ourselves more where the action, in this case supporting three of our Battalions of the Regiment.

This will be a very exciting period for us and hopefully we will prove to be more relevant, in particular during the critical transition and separation from the ADF for our younger cohorts.

Since our last newsletter I have spent some time at the School of Infantry at Singleton, with 5 RAR in Darwin. One cannot but be impressed by the young men and women in our Corps and the Regiment and their equipment and training.

Our Head of Corps states that the Australian Infantry Corps by 2020 will be the best equipped in the world which should give us the "old and bold" considerable heart when we recall what our Regiment had to fight with, in many instances outdated equipment since the Regiments establishment in 1948.

Our boys from the Korean War, the combatants in Malaya and Borneo and the early days of Vietnam in particular would simply roll their eyes and salivate in seeing the equipment our Corps have today and still to come through the Land 400 project. A key word driving a lot of this new equipment is "survivability" and we would all agree that getting the job done is one thing; achieving the objective is another but coming out the other end alive has to be the ultimate outcome.

We are a small professional Army and in whatever task or challenge we are engaged in we must do everything possible to ensure we minimize casualties. If new arms and equipment assist in minimizing risk that must be a positive.

I congratulate the research and development teams coming up with this equipment based on the needs and recommendations of our soldiers and leaders.

Another year has almost passed and I am saddened, as we all are, in the high suicide rate of our current and ex-serving members of the ADF, which is a tragedy not just for the individual and a troubled mind but his/her family, soldier peer group and friends.

This now, thankfully, has pricked the national conscience where I was invited to attend a special workshop facilitated by Sir Angus Houston to see what we, the ESO community, are able to do in addressing this serious issue. It is a complex and emotional one where there is no silver bullet but it would appear there are some triggers which can and must be

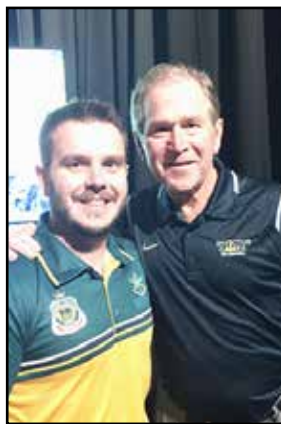
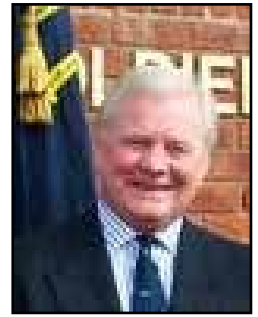
addressed if we are to assist in reducing self-harm and suicide.

More of this in future publications and hopefully by that time we have been able to address some of the issues and triggers. My signaler from Vietnam - a trusty, brave, hardworking,

huge character of a man and the last one you would think would resort to suicide - did just that some years ago. It has played on my mind since. No note, no explanation, no final words, which stays with family and friends and, in my case, warrior class, forever trying to piece things together to no avail.

That is the tragedy of it all. What could have I or anyone else have done to help? Sadly we will never know and that is the case with so many others. We must do everything we can to curtail this terrible tragedy of war and service.

**Michael von Berg MC OAM  
President**



*Above: Phil Thompson with George Bush and (below) shaking hands with Prince Harry. Phil was manager/coach and participator of the LA Invictus Games*



# Rob Roy dinner rounded out RARA Corporation AGM gathering



Di and Fred Fairhead, Michael von Berg's partner Denise Rowe and Michael von Berg.



Peter Fraser, Deputy President RARA Victoria; Rod Graham, Vice President RARA SA; Brig Pat McIntosh AM CSC (Rtd); and RAR Corporation Director Ted Chitham.



Right: Pat McIntosh, AM, CSC, RAR Corporation Director, and Maj Gen Mike O'Brien AM (Rtd) 7 RARA.  
Left: Steve Brumby, National President 5/7 RARA; Phill Wolfenden, President 8/9 RARA; and Doug McGrath, President 9 RARA.



RARA Corporation Board member Hori Howard; Col David Jamieson AM (Rtd), President DFWA & Co-Patron RARC; and RARA SA Vice President Rod Graham and his wife Lynn.



Ted Chitham, Paul Sullivan, Leo Van de Kamp and Peter Fraser.



Carol Van Der Peet, President 3 RARA Bob Whelan, and Col. Peter Scott, DSO (Rtd.)



Left: Sandra Craig; Jack Babbage, Secretary of RARA WA; and Co-Secretaries of 3 RARA Jeff Barrett and Carol Van Der Peet.

## INFANTRYMAN TO GO ELECTRONIC IN 2017

As from the first issue of the Infantryman in 2017 we will be going to electronic copies for those members with access to the internet.

The Infantryman will be available in electronic format available by visiting the RAR website [www.rarasa.org.au](http://www.rarasa.org.au) and opening the link from the menu on the right hand column.

Once downloaded you will be able to read your issue of the Infantryman at your leisure or print a copy if required. We will attempt to load a "flip page version" which is very similar to the ARMY NEWSPAPER.

We realise not all members have access to a home computer, in which case printed copies will continue to be delivered.

## The 68th Annual Legacy Mercedes-Benz **Adelaide Race Day**

Saturday 19 November 12:30pm – 5pm  
Morphettville Race Course

Featuring MC Test Cricketer, Wayne Phillips. Tables of 10 \$120pp/\$60pp  
Legacy families includes 3 course buffet luncheon and 5 hour quality beer & wine package).

For extra fun for \$25 buy a horse to run in your name.

**Details: [www.legacy.com.au](http://www.legacy.com.au)**



# Your club, your input, you're welcome

## Club Manager's report

Now that hopefully the summer season will bestow some sunshine upon us, we would like to see more members take advantage of attending for a couple of quiet socialable drinks on Friday evenings. We open at 4pm and close around 8pm.

We also extend a welcome to attend our monthly Ladies night dinner, where you can enjoy a 3-course meal, soup, mains (2 choices) and sweets all for \$15 per person which includes a free drink of your choice from the bar, soft drinkers can get 2 drinks. The drink voucher is available throughout the month of issue.

To assist Colin with catering purposes he requests a booking be made through on [rar01@internode.on.net](mailto:rar01@internode.on.net) or a phone call to the club by the Wednesday before on **8379 5771**, Just leave a message on the answering machine as the phone is not always manned.

**This year's RAR Christmas dinner will be on Friday December 16 from 5pm. Members are invited to enjoy a Christmas dinner at the club. You will need to book your place so we can cater for those attending on [rar01@internode.on.net](mailto:rar01@internode.on.net) or 8379 5771.**

**The menu will include prawns, ham, turkey, cold meats, salads and sweets, and be subsidised by the RARA so your meal will be \$5 per person.**

Our Club cook Colin Abel has been holidaying in England, Scotland, Wales, Europe, Greece, Turkey and other exotic places. While in Scotland Colin visited the gravesite of a 6 RAR soldier killed in South Vietnam, whom Fred Fairhead recently paid his respects to on behalf of 6 RAR and the RARASA and left a wreath and memento at the graveside, Colin reported back saying it is still in place like Fred left it and in good condition.



Below: A view of the coastline of Vathi Beach and harbor on the Greek Island of Sanmis, one of Colin's many stop-over points.



Right: Colin found the ideal place to kip down for the night on the ferry trip from Greece to Turkey..



## 'Our butcher' takes out gold as Best Retail Butchers in the State

Those delicious burgers and sausages barbecued and served at the club on "light meal" nights are among the most popular foods offered at the club.

The meat is supplied by the award-winning butcher shop, Leabrook Quality Meats - for which we are most grateful.

Now they've won another award as Best Retail Butcher in the State.

The award is the apex of the meat retailing industry sector and represents a highly businesses continuously looking to improve their performance and processes.

The business won the Gold Standard in the Australian Meat Industry Awards for Excellence and "Independent Local Butcher of the Year", at the Hilton Hotel on Saturday September 17.

The award is judged on many areas of business via an application which is submitted, then a panel of industry expert judges visits each shop which nominates.

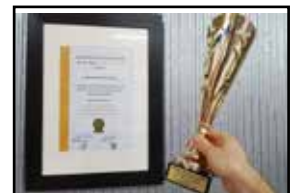
The criteria were: Tell your Story, Business Management, Employment Procedures, Marketing and Promotions, and Customer Relationship Management.

The judges commendations for Leabrook Quality Meats were: Paddock to Plate Integration, Customer Relationship Management, and Social Media and Digital Marketing.

The owner is Michael Lawrance and the shop is at 457 Glynburn Road, Leabrook. Christmas is just around the corner. Orders welcome. Phone 8331 3514 and/or check out the website.



*Georgina McGuiness, former Channel 9 news presenter, Luke Moody, of Leabrook Quality Meats and Paul Sandercock, Australian Meat and Industry Council Executive Director.*



RARA SA President Michael von Berg and Committee Members invite you to

### Christmas Drinks

at the clubrooms, 3 Beatty St, Linden Park, on **Friday November 25 from 5.30pm.**

Finger food provided. Drinks to be purchased.

Please RSVP by Friday November 18

to: [rar01@internode.on.net](mailto:rar01@internode.on.net)



## DEFENDING AUSTRALIA IN THE 21st CENTURY:

# The role of industry in developing our capability

Continued from page 1

### DEFENCE STRATEGY - HOW MIGHT WE SECURE OUR NATIONAL TERRITORY AND INTERESTS?

Let me outline three mutually reinforcing lines of approach.

- **First we capitalize on our physical nature – that we are an island.**

Water gaps are hard to cross if they are defended. We defend our maritime approaches by aircraft, missiles, submarines, and surface warships, all backed by long range detection and command and control systems. And to deal with any survivors of that crossing of the water gap, we have a mobile, land-based Army. The larger the Army we have, the more forces an invader has to commit to the water and air crossing, and the better the targets he offers for a well-equipped maritime and air defence force. Faced by these problems, a potential enemy may simply decide it is not worth the cost of attempting to coerce Australia by force. So we need defence forces which can both deter aggressors and can fight to repel them if deterrence does not work to our favour. These forces need to be well designed and equipped, backed by a national industrial capacity which allows us to design and build our own equipment items, and to modify, maintain and repair items that we have to import. We need to build as much of our equipment as we can, here in Australia. But we have to balance off the advantages of self-sufficiency against the disadvantages of economic cost.

- **Second, to deal with enemies who are not deterred from attacking Australia and its interests, we need to belong to a powerful alliance such as the one we share with the United States.**

The roots of this alliance go back to the close co-operation achieved by the US and Australian armies on the Western Front in 1917-18. President Harry S. Truman himself – then Captain Truman – was a direct beneficiary of the resolute action of the First AIF in France against the German offensives of 1918. The memory of Australian fighting prowess on the Western Front was a powerful motivator of Truman's willingness to approve External Affairs Minister Percy Spender's request for what became the ANZUS Alliance, when Spender met with the President in the Oval Office on 13 September 1950. The benefits of ANZUS to us are manifold but we cannot take them for granted.

We need to maintain our reputation for being good partners, and we need to register our national points of view in Washington DC so that policy makers there do not work in ignorance of our special problems and sensitivities, where this can be easily avoided. One of the best ways of building respect for and commitment to common interests is the way in which we perform in meeting our share of allied commitments, despite the fact

Professor Robert O'Neill AO has divided his working life between the Australian Army, academia and business. He served in the army from 1955 to 1968, including a year of war service in Vietnam with 5 RAR, 1966-67. In his academic career, he headed the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at the Australian National University from 1971-1982, went to London in 1982 as Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, and in 1987 was appointed Professor of the History of War (and Strategic Studies) at the University of Oxford. He retired from Oxford in 2001 and returned to Australia to become the first Chairman of the board of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. In the business segment of his career, he was a member of the main board of Royal Dutch Shell from 1992 to 2002, and a director of the Investment Company of America, Capital Income Builder Inc. and the Capital World Growth and Income Fund from 1988 to 2013.



that our force contributions will be but a small fraction of those of our more powerful ally.

- **Third, we can reduce threat levels and tensions generally by working with our regional partners, both bilaterally and through regional associations and partnerships.**

We should also recognize the potential of the United Nations

for helping to reduce, control and resolve global security issues relating to climate change, the control of diseases, the mass movement of people and the poor governance which gives rise to many of these issues.

### WHAT MAJOR THREATS DO WE FACE?

1. Let me now examine the natures of the major specific threats that Australia may have to face in the coming few decades. These are: Conflict with radical Islamic groups – they have put us publicly on notice. We need to handle them carefully. This struggle will go on for a long time.
2. There are 1.6 billion Moslems in the world, a small proportion of them are willing to commit suicide in order to kill a few Westerners, and weapons of mass destruction may be made available to them. This struggle therefore can become very destructive for all sides.
3. Clashes with China – the relationship has to be handled carefully. We will face dilemmas of choice there. We will be dependent on the degree of political control that the Chinese Government has over its domestic power base, and on its capacity to accommodate social and economic change. We will also be dependent on China's capacity to see where



# The role of industry in developing our capability

its own interests are best served, by international co-operation rather than military force.

4. North Korean assertiveness will be a major problem. Kim Jong Un has shown his willingness to defy international opinion with the benefit of some quiet support from China. North Korea could well take action against Japan and South Korea. We, as one of the signatories of the Joint Policy Declaration, which followed the Korean War Armistice on 27 July 1953, have a continuing obligation to help South Korea if it is attacked by the North or China. Let me remind you of what we and the other fourteen members of the United Nations Command alliance have signed up to: *...if there is a renewal of the armed attack... we should again be united and prompt to resist. The consequences of such a breach of the armistice would be so grave that, in all probability, it would not be possible to confine hostilities within the frontiers of Korea.*
5. Support for other friendly powers in dealing with an assertive Russia, both in Europe and in Asia. We also need to be aware of other problems that Putin can cause us.
6. Massive international movements of refugees of various kinds as governments in Africa and Asia become less and less effective, while population pressures, disease, famines and other problems mount.
7. The continued proliferation of nuclear weapons. The main problem here is that nobody who has nuclear weapons will give them up, and the number of nuclear weapon states continues to grow, albeit slowly.
8. Climate change, food shortages and their consequences in South and South-east Asia and the states of the Indian and Pacific Ocean.
9. Regional conflicts in Asia, from the East China Sea around to Pakistan, including the coastal waters of China.
10. Local issues such as failures of government in islands of the South Pacific, and food shortages, especially in Papua New Guinea.

Many of these threats now have a new cyber-warfare component. This requires no large scale movement of attacking forces, but it calls for clever, agile, robust and up-to-date information technology on our part. HOW CAN WE MAKE MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF DEFENCE INDUSTRY?

Moving to discuss the role of Australian industry in helping to deal with these threats, let me say that the time available does not allow me to go into any detail in dealing with particular industries. What I shall try to do is to comment on major aspects of our defence industrial policy, using the recent **Defence Industry Policy Statement** of the Government as a starting point. It is good to see how seriously the Government is taking the future of our defence industry capacity. The **Statement** shows awareness of the high degree of risk that the defence industries have to confront, especially

regarding demand, and the keen competition that they have to face from both friendly and not-so-friendly countries.

The **Statement** also reminds us that defence industry executives have to work with the uncertainties of the political nature of defence spending and the associated difficulties in building up international supply and technological networks. Shaping international market possibilities is particularly difficult in this framework, but recent history shows that it can be done.

The Government has committed itself to raise defence spending to 2% of GDP by 2020-21. Relatively speaking this is not a high level of funding to maintain when compared with the size of the challenges that we face. Personnel numbers in the ADF are meagre in terms of what they have to do, and we need to remember

that if we have to mobilize from a low base level of trained personnel, the required mobilization time is all the greater. Therefore we have to be more reactive to changes in the international scene. One of the most interesting parts of the **Statement** deals with the establishment of **The Centre for Defence Industry Capability**, for which financial support of \$ 23 million per annum is being provided initially.

Let us not get too excited too quickly, but this looks a promising development.

The directors and staff of this Centre will need to avoid the common defects of many think tanks: detachment from the real problems in favour of pursuing their own wish lists; having a very partial or narrow view of the complex problems that Defence as a whole must deal with; adding another layer of processing, if not outright bureaucracy to the decision-making process; and becoming very expensive to run when compared with the value of its output.

None the less this Centre seems to be designed on sound lines. We have needed better communication and consultation between the main actors in our defence equipment procurement process for a long time. The Centre does not look to be over-staffed in terms of the value of its mission; it covers a broad field of issues that need to be tackled, and, being government funded, it should not be subject to some of the twisting and deforming pressures that external funders can bring to bear on the recipients of their support. But that still leaves substantial controlling power in the hands of the Defence Department, which can be used for good or ill. The **Statement** reminds us that defence industry is one of the fundamental creators of capability, and the Government seems to be intent on giving it a new level of recognition.



Continued on page 8

## DEFENDING AUSTRALIA IN THE 21st CENTURY:

# The role of industry in developing our capability

Continued from page 7

This, I think, is timely. The Next Generation Technologies Fund of \$730 million, to be made available over the coming decade, gives Australian defence industries a new sense of strength and capacity to strength and capacity opportunities, despite the high level of risk associated with many defence ventures.

The **Statement** also stresses the need to develop greater innovative capacity, as we should. If we are up against any major power in the future, we can expect to have to face continuously advancing levels of weapons, communications and information technology, so if we value our freedom, we need to be able to compete with it. We will not be able to buy everything off the shelf from allies when we need it.

I do not need to say, here in Adelaide at the focal point of much of our defence industrial activity, that we have some very good equipment plans already under way. Plan Jericho for the RAAF, Plan Beersheba for the Army, and Plan Pelorus for the RAN seem well suited for meeting our current needs. They are relatively modest in scale but they also have a good way to run, and they will be followed by others.

The continued development of our whole defence industrial capability will be facilitated by the insertion of a Defence Innovation Portal into the higher levels of our system. This Portal will make it easier for individual defence industries and companies, academic researchers and Department of Defence personnel to exchange thoughts and concert plans. One of the major objectives of the new system as outlined in the **Statement** is to cut back on red tape. The Portal should be of great assistance in achieving this aim.

The **Statement** informs us that the whole program will

be guided by the Integrated Investment Program of \$195 Billion, which was set out in the Defence White Paper. All in all, we look to be working with a better system, which gives clearer recognition to the role of industry in meeting our national defence needs, and identifies important priorities such as innovation. If we follow this grand design, we will be moving in the right direction. My chief question is: Will we be moving fast enough?

### IN CONCLUSION

While the prevailing international order is very different from that of 1914 or 1939-41, major conflicts, even protracted wars, are not impossible. Australia has many assets which might tempt an invader or a blackmailer.

The target area we present is large and the defending population is relatively small. At the same time, we have alliance obligations and other less formal reasons for having to make military commitments abroad.

We will need all of our wits, technological resources and experience to navigate safely through the coming decades.

It is good to know that the Virtual War Memorial now exists to form a nationally available means of education,

illuminating and utilizing our past military experience. Not only does it fulfil a very useful purpose in commemorating past sacrifices and aiding our understanding of

what our men and women in uniform were trying to do in earlier conflicts, it also serves as an important historical resource for shaping future capabilities. I commend the efforts of those who are shaping and leading this imaginative and powerful project as deserving your and the national community's support.



*Capt Bob O'Neill MID  
Intelligence 5 RAR  
1966/1967.*

## To the Regimental Family:

From time to time we need to follow up to renew membership of the RAR Association in SA and that, I know, is a bit of a nuisance for us all. But we need your support in maintaining a healthy and relevant Association for the benefit of all. Benefits which perhaps you don't see but as a part of the Regimental Family we exist to support everyone who has served or still serving in the Royal Australian Regiment.

To that end we are very active in prevention of suicide and self-harm where we have a strong association with RAR Overwatch; the veterans homeless issues where we have done a power of work and not entirely solved but a vast improvement from a couple of years ago; employment for veterans and the essential assistance for individuals suffering through mental health issues in peer to peer support programs; and of course, Trojan's Trek.

Much of this is to support our more recent transitioning contemporary veterans, where we don't want them to go through what many went through post-Vietnam period and we would all support that sentiment.

There is, of course, the advocacy for all veterans in ensuring our entitlements are not eroded, which is a constant battle, and we will do whatever we can to ensure veterans are not disadvantaged.

Many of you come out on ANZAC Day, which is terrific, and that may be your one day of getting together every year. However, the Association needs to function on a daily basis and that is to assist where we can everyone as a part of the Regimental family.

As a part of your membership you will receive an electronic or hard copy of the Infantryman four times a year; the clubrooms are open to all and can be used by the Battalion Associations for their functions free of charge and we are there to support you in your Battalion battle commemorations and birthdays.

Help us to help you. We need your support and the annual fee in today's rising cost scenario would not buy you a round of drinks. Thanks for your anticipated support.

Michael von Berg MC OAM

President



## Focus on war photography lens itself to a snapshot of a past era

Photography and war have been connected for hundreds of years. Mind, it probably started in earnest with the American Civil War and continued through variously up to World Wars 1 and 11.

Photographers in these early times were civilian and not enlisted servicemen, however the advent of World War 11 saw enlisted servicemen photographers in all US Forces particularly the USMC as embedded cameramen. Even the German Wehrmacht and Russian Army used many combat cameramen. I marvel at their brilliant work usually under very heavy fire in atrocious weather conditions resulting in many killed.

The British Parachute Regiment had its own Red Beret cameramen casualties at the ill-fated Arnhem campaign. However, in regards to Australia, the Korean War, from my knowledge, introduced the first use of Service cameramen/photographers for each of our Armed Services with the formation of a Directorate of Public Relations for each particular Service - Army, Navy and Air Force.

Army Public Relations during my service (1966-72) was a Directorate of the RAAEC (Education Corps) as we did not have the numbers to form our own Corps then. Nothing against our fine "chalky" mates but Army PR folk had nothing to do with their role. Period. We were made up of professional journalists and photographers with or from press backgrounds. Prior to deploying (May 1971) I completed a tough JTC/BEC course to be DP1FE and soldierly-ready to go serve overseas.

We were tasked to supply both TV and the mass newspaper/print media in Australia with 16mm back and white and colour film/press photographs of ALL our soldiers (not just Infantry) including AATTV during their Tour of Duty in Vietnam.

This involved me being ration-attached to Battalions in our AO during field operations. My tour was spent covering operations with 2, 3 and 4 RAR within Phouc Tuy Province. I was accompanied by a PR officer (Capt or Lt) or NCO journalist. Always operationally under the command of the Company OC or Platoon Commander when we devolved down.



*John Ford's official Army PR photograph as a combat photographer in Vietnam in 1971 at the age of 24.*



*This photo by John Ford, A section of soldiers from C Company, 2RAR /NZ (ANZAC) taking part in the battalion's final operation in Vietnam before returning to Australia later in the month, May 1971, is in the Australian War Memorial*

The CGS and Military Board desired only to have trained soldier cameramen/journalists deployed on operations with Rifle Companies/Platoons rather than a civilian photojournalist becoming a "passenger" when the proverbial hit the fan.

Having already spent a two-year prior posting the PNG Command photographer (1969-71) gave me a good grounding into living in the bush and long yomps in some bloody tough country. I never had many problems with the Grunts. They saw me as a digger who did a job and accepted me. In a very weird way I sometimes miss times back then - memories like a rolled drum smoke, tinned beans 'n dicks and ham/egg omelet rats, dry socks, no toe jam, cool water and sweat rag scrim, and a cold Swannie back at the boozier.

Since Vietnam, well, I got married 40 years ago, worked as a country press photographer, sold cars, after which I had a 23-year career with the Australian Federal Police before invalidity retirement. I own a Jayco camper, a set of unforgiving golf clubs, and five grand kids who keep me active and vertical.

I also work with Legacy as a Legatee looking after war widows. I still use a camera and help out at special veteran reunions where I can.

As an aside, Army Public Relations now has its own corps - the Australian Army Public Relations Service - (AAPRS) and as Part of the Order of Battle deploy as part of 1st Joint Public Affairs Unit (1JPAU) wherever the ADF are now sent.

John Ford  
formerly 4411076 Sgt J. A. Ford  
Army PR photographer SVN 1971-72)

### Christmas Raffle

1st Prize - Large Christmas basket

2nd Prize - Smaller basket

3rd - Smallest Basket

Tickets 3 for \$5.00

Available from the bar on Friday evenings.

Donated by Michelle and Arthur.



# Jock (Robbie) Buchan – a 6RAR Soldier lost but now found

from Fred Fairhead

Pte Robert Buchan, known to his mates in D Company 6RAR as Jock and to his family as Robbie, was killed in action on 11 December 1969 in a contact on the Nui May Tao during Operation Marsden. He was the acting Section Commander of the lead Section in 12 Platoon (*Lt Paul Jackson*) and when the Forward Scouts (*Ptes Henry Higgins and John Gosling*) became concerned at the possibility of an enemy ambush ahead, he went forward to deploy the section. As he did the enemy opened fire hitting him in the chest, fatally wounding him.

Jock's family had immigrated to Australia when he was a small child but returned to Scotland to farm in the Tay Valley, near Dundee. Jock studied at an Agriculture College and worked in a Dairy near Craigdallie but in his late teens decided to return to Australia to live with foster parents near Perth, WA. He subsequently joined the Australian Army and was posted to 6RAR in Townsville where it was preparing to deploy on the Battalion's second tour of duty in Vietnam.

Thus when he was killed, his body was taken to RAAF Butterworth for a military funeral (below) and cremation, with the ashes returned to his parents in Scotland.



*Jock Buchan, probably taken on Operation Mundingburra near Long Phuoc Hai in August 1969*



Many years later, in December 2015, the Gosling family, including John's son, Dan, then a serving Major, arranged for Jock to be honoured by a Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial. I had said I would attend because although I didn't know Jock well I had taken over as the D Company commander the following day in 1969 and had been taken by Paul Jackson to the contact site and the spot where he had died.

However, in the end I wasn't able to make the AWM ceremony but promised that on our annual pilgrimage to visit family in the UK, I would take photographs of where his remains were in Scotland to send to his old mates from 12 Platoon. Trouble was of course no one knew where in Scotland that place was and so began a search by a number of people including Dan and John Gosling who were able to locate a letter sent early in 1970 from Jock's mother to his foster mother in Perth. This letter gave valuable clues such as his parents' names and their address at the time of his death and importantly indicated

that his ashes had not been scattered.

I then contacted the Tay Valley Family History Society (*Mrs Helen Beat*) based in Dundee and subsequently the Dundee Council's Parks and Burials Department. I had reasoned his mother would no longer be alive and that when she died Jock's ashes would have been interred with her which is in fact what occurred on 6th August 1998. For those that might wish to visit the grave it is in Birkhill Cemetery, Section D, Lair No 23. It is adjacent to the car park.



As I was travelling with my family to the Yorkshire Dales for a celebration on 3rd August, I arranged with the Dundee Council for a graveside service on 5th August and with the Tay Valley Family History Society to arrange a Minister from the Church of Scotland and a Piper to assist with the Service. I also arranged for a wreath to be prepared complete with a 'Skippy Badge' at the UK's leading maker of poppy wreaths, ie the Lady Haig Poppy Factory in Edinburgh which I picked up on my way to Dundee.

The History Society's involvement had also prompted an article in the previous weekend's Dundee Courier newspaper which attracted interest in the Service, including by the Royal British Legion Scotland in Dundee and Scottish TV. Thus on the day, there were several members of the Legion, including two Standard Bearers, a TV crew from STV, the bloke who employed Jock in his dairy, another who went to school with him and a friend of the family.

## The Service

5th August in Dundee was a reasonable sunny(ish) day and about 30 people gathered at Birkhill for a 12 noon start. We commenced with a thank you from me on



*The two Royal British Legion Scotland Standard Bearers at the Service. Left with 'The Queen's Colour' is Maj. Frank Smith (Retd), R Sigs whose service included in Borneo with the Royal Marines and awarded an MID. Right with the City of Dundee Standard is Sgt Neil Brown ex Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. Their drill was impeccable.*



# Jock (Robbie) Buchan – a 6RAR Soldier lost but now found

behalf of the 6RAR Association to those present for their participation and to describe Jock's circumstances and the nature of his death.

The Minister then read some prayers for the fallen

I then recited:

*Jock, I have stood on the spot where you died, I now stand on the spot where you lie for eternity, but Jock we have found you mate.*

*It has been over 46 years since Jock passed from our presence and some 30 years since he was interred here with his mother;*

*But he shall remain known to us*

*Just as the stars remain known to the night;*

*As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,*

*Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,*

*As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness.*

*To the end, to the end, they remain.*

(With apologies to Laurence Binyon)

The Piper (*Teir Milne*) then played 'Flowers of the Forest' after which I recited The Ode.I and the Tay Valley Family History Society (*Mrs Helen Beat*) then laid wreaths while the Piper played The Crusaders (Regimental March of 6RAR). After the Minister gave Benediction, the Service concluded with the Piper playing The Black Bear (Regimental March of the Royal Australian Regiment). Interviews were then done by Scottish TV with a 3-minute clip occurring on the 6pm news that night.

## Postscript

At a meeting of the City of Dundee Branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland on 1st September, Jock's details were added to its 'Acts of Remembrance' and it intends to visit his grave each 11 December to lay a wreath. He is being cared for!

The day after the service I went by train to Thurso at the top of Scotland and during a howling gale as I looked out at the Orkneys where so many RN sailors died on HMS Royal Oak in October 1939, I reminded myself that war is both stupid and intrinsically evil. I also reflected that what occurred in Dundee with so much Scottish generosity was something to lift the human spirit.

## Postscript II.

In mid September 2016, Russell Green, who was the 12 Platoon Signaller in Vietnam and a good friend of Jock's, purchased a copy of the 6RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Battalion History 1967-70 book on Amazon in the United States. To his amazement in the back of the book was a letter from the CO 6RAR (David Drabsch) to Jock's father in Craigdallie sent when the Battalion was in Singapore with 28 ANZUK Brigade; books were sent to all Next of Kin after the book was printed in Singapore in 1972. Probably the book was disposed of when Jock's parents died and somehow finished up in the USA!



From left: Mardy Walker, (Fairhead family friend); Fred Fairhead; and the Rev Robert Calvert of Steeple Church, Dundee.



VI

**55613 Pte Robert (Jock) Buchan**

**12 Platoon D Company 6RAR**

**Killed in Action on 11th December 1969**

**Laid by Lt Col Fred Fairhead (Retd)**

**on 5th August 2016**

**On behalf of his mates in 12 Platoon and on behalf of the 6RAR Association**

**LEST WE FORGET**



After the Service (from left) Frank Smith; Rev Robert Calvert; Helen Beat; Fred Fairhead; Murray Nicol, Chair of TVFHS; Rev Dave Taylor, RBLs Padre and ex Black Watch); and Neil Brown.

## 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Veterans Day

### Brother's footprint in sculptor's Vietnam memorial

#### Diary entry for Thursday August 18:

The 50th anniversary of Long Tan Day and Vietnam Veterans' Day at Vietnam War Memorial, Torrens Parade Ground. Combined Commemorative Service - Royal Australian Regiment Association and RAAC Vietnam Veterans Association.

\*\*\*

Parked on the parade ground. The roar of an engine attracted attention. It was Vietnam veteran Rob Eade on his self-contained motortrike with Ginge his Kelpie dog in the "Bitch Box". See article page 13.

Walked around in the brilliant sunshine to see what was happening. VIPs in a marquee facing the Vietnam memorial - and the blazing sun. Walkerville Primary School students arrived by bus then walked up the hill to War Memorial Walk and returned for the ceremony.

Checked the lighting for the camera - looking towards the marquee, the speakers' podium and the Vietnam memorial. Strong shadows.

Another fascinating-looking man holding a walking stick with badges on it was sitting on a bench near the memorial. "Hello", I said. "How are you connected with today's ceremony?"

"My brother James sculptured the memorial," he said as he introduced himself as Charles Martin. This could be quite some story, I thought. And it is.

Charles Martin and I sat in the 42nd Street coffee shop at Tea Tree Plaza and I listened to the story - several really.

He explained that the sculpture was created by brother James, a Vietnam Veteran, and bronze caster Tim Thompson, who had worked together on other projects.

The internet provides the description for the work as "a magnificent sculpture of an Australian Digger and his Vietnamese comrade. They are seen returning from a clearing patrol and are now in a reflective mood, looking into the distance, contemplating the future. This imposing structure stands nearly five metres tall."

Charles described the process of creating the memorial. It took some 12 months and not without setbacks. After designing it and starting work on it, the decision was made that the sculpture, originally planned to stand at ground level, should be placed on a plinth where it would be out of harms way. The "aerial" version had to be a third larger so James had to start again. More bags of red clay arrived and he resumed work on the Vietnamese soldier (left) and the Australian soldier.

James confided in his brother that he couldn't visualise a Vietnamese face so they visited the Vietnamese Veterans Association who provided the model. James wanted to use Charles' face for the Australian but it was decided on a "generic" Australian digger's face. would be more appropriate.

The work progressed from red clay to gleaming bronze. Made in sections and joined together, the soldiers' equipment includes American M56 webbing, an AR15

Armalite rifle held by the Vietnamese soldier wearing a steel helmet; and a soft jungle hat nicknamed a giggle hat worn by Australian soldier, a self-loading rifle well known as a SLR and their respective uniforms.

Between the two figures is the footprint made by Charles' original combat boot pushed into the clay. Concealed within the statue is a small glass water bottle sealed with wax string explaining the origin of the footprint.

\*\*\*

From the internet:

The Vietnam War Memorial project was started on ANZAC Day 2003, and officially launched in April 2004 with a car raffle and public appeal. The aim was to construct a truly significant memorial to remember the contribution of all those who served in the Vietnam War and to particularly acknowledge the 58 South Australians who made the supreme sacrifice.

The project was a joint venture between the Returned and Services

League, Vietnamese Veterans' Association, Vietnam Veterans' Federation. For the first time these groups joined together as one to ensure the service of all Vietnam Veterans will never be forgotten. Moreover it recognises the camaraderie enjoyed by veterans of Australia and South Vietnam during the war and which still exists today. This memorial will not only remember all those who gave their lives, but will ensure that future generations understand that the contribution of Vietnam Veterans was equal to that of their forebears and must never be forgotten.

In a broader sense the memorial recognises the terrible loss suffered by our Vietnamese community and the wonderful contribution they have made to their new home in Australia. The memorial is entirely South Australian made - even the pavers, although engraved interstate, were made here. They have been a very successful fund-raising venture and provide a way for all to be remembered and recognised.

- Penelope Forster



*Left: James Martin working on the unfinished clay sculpture. Photo supplied by Charles Martin. Below left: The finished heads in place. Below: Bronzed detail of the soldiers' equipment.*





## 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Veterans Day

### Man and his dog on 3500km trek flagging remembrance of KIA Aussie veterans

Wednesday 7 September 2016

He stood alone in the bright sunshine in front of the Vietnam memorial in Torrens Parade Ground, away from the hum of the CBD, not far from the nine-month-old Kintore Avenue Memorial Walk. His little dog beside him. Few knew he was there. Even fewer saw him.

The bunch of small Australian flags in his hand fluttered in the breeze, announcing their presence and importance of the occasion.

As the man, in the leather biker jacket and grey hat with sunglasses clipped to one side, prepared to plant the small Australian flags among the flagstones in front of the statute, he carefully unrolled each one and solemnly and clearly read aloud from the yellow ribbon wrapped each one the hand-written names and details of the 29 Adelaide "boys who never came home from Vietnam up to the current day".

As he completed the task, the flags gained momentum as if to attract more attention to the importance of the occasion. He stood and saluted, recited the Ode and said: "Lest we forgot". In the tranquillity the sun shone - and God beamed down on him.

The President and Secretary of the Veterans Association of SA arrived and said that towards the end of the day they would remove the flags for safe keeping into the Torrens Parade Ground building. Rob said he encouraged RSLs and similar organisations to collect the flags to keep as mementos as he plants them around the country.

Rob Eade is on a mission - his Remembrance Ride Oz - "to lay an Australian flag with the name, rank, serial number and active service data on every cenotaph in the town of the birth/enlistment of all military members from Vietnam through to current wars/conflicts who paid the supreme sacrifice for our country."

Rob anticipated his 3500 kilometre journey on his specially-equipped motor-trike will take three years to complete.

His companion is Ginge, his seven-year-old red heeler who travels in the "bitch box" on the back of his trike and views the world from a side window.

He started his project on June 18, south of Perth at the Baldivis Totally and Partially Disabled Veterans clubhouse.

Rob grew up in Cessnock in the Hunter Valley of NSW



and undertook two years National Service in 1965 and 1967.

He saw 21 years service including a year in Vietnam with the 1st Field Regiment and later the 4th Field Regiment where he was a cook.

Witnessing the deaths of two special mates had a lasting affect on him. When he learnt about marathon runner and veteran Mike Ehredt's Project America which saw him run more than 10,000 kilometres across the USA placing flags to honour soldiers who died in war, he decided to emulate the project.

Rob started preparing for his trip in April. He held a garage sale and sold all his possessions. Being computer-savvy and with help from a friend he started researching the names of every Australian soldier who had died in conflict from Vietnam until today. He said he had a hard time getting information about dead veterans from the most recent conflicts in the Middle East. "For the Vietnam veterans it took seven days to get 520 names," he said.

Now he has recorded in his book nearly 600 names and locations of the deceased veterans' memorials he will visit.

He has received support of varies kinds - accommodation, petrol, suggested publicity outlets - and appreciates assistance of this kind. Google or Facebook "Rob Eade" for more information about this outstanding veteran and his travels.

- Penelope Forster

Rob left in early November to place flags in Naracoorte, Penola, Millicent and Mt Gambier to finish the placements in South Australia.





## 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Veterans Day

In recent years the VVA SA has conducted a commemorative service followed by a concert at the Torrens Training Depot, Adelaide, on the nearest Sunday to the 18 of August which has been called Vietnam Day in South Australia. In fact the nationally gazetted Vietnam Veterans Day has always been August 18, the date of the Battle of Long Tan in 1966.

This year the VVA SA for various reasons could not conduct the commemorative service or the concert and the RSL SA invited the RAR Association SA to conduct the commemorative service to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Veterans Day at Torrens Training Depot on the anniversary of the 50th Battle with the RSL SA assisting.

Veterans SA provided a grant which, in the main, went to the provision of limited tent cover and seating and some food and drinks.

Key players in the 11am Service at the Vietnam War Memorial included Master of Ceremonies Russell Campbell OAM; a tri-services catafalque party; Chaplain Matthew Stuart 16 Air Land Regt RAA; RSL SA President Tim Hanna, AM, who gave the Welcome Address; Vice President RAR Association SA Rodney

Graham; ex- 6 RAR during the Battle, who gave the Commemorative Address; Catherine Lambert and the Terrace Singers; and Piper Major Des Ross.

RAAC Vietnam Veterans Association President Craig Haycock who recited the Ode; Bugler Musician Ryan Braund of the Australian Army Band Adelaide; Veteran of the Battle of Long Tan Alan Fraser who lead the placing of tributes, and Heather Fraser who read and the Roll of Honour and Presidential Unit Citation. Again children from the Walkerville Primary School attended, placed a tribute and held wreaths for the placement of commemorative red poppies at the end of the Service.

Between 200 and 300 veterans of the Vietnam war and the general public attended with some staying for the light lunch while others moved to other venues for lunch. Unfortunately neither the Governor of South Australia or the Minister of Veterans Affairs SA was unable to attend the Service.

We were extremely lucky to be able to conduct the service in August. In 2017 it will be at the RAR Association Clubrooms.

**Adrian Craig, Ceremonial Officer  
RAR Association SA**



Walkerville Primary School students taking the wreaths into position to accept the poppies.



Placing of tributes



Commander Tony Miskelly representing the Royal Australian Navy; Wing Commander Greg Weller, Royal Australian Air Force; Lt Col Doug Langrehr, the Army, and Assistant Commissioner Noel Bamford, SA Police.





Combined Commemorative Service and lunch on 18 August 2016 honoured  
**50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Veterans Day**



Dr Donald Beard AM with Edward Hawkes of Walkerville Primary School, who, after asking questions, was a picture of concentration as Dr Beard gave him answers.



Kate Ellis MP for Adelaide, Opposition Leader Steven Marshall, and MLC Ngo Tung representing the Minister for Veterans Affairs Martin Hamilton-Smith.



Tim Hanna, AM, President of the SA and NT RSLs, giving the Welcome Address. Behind him is Chaplain Matthews Stuart, 16 Air Land Regiment RAA, who read the prayers.



Master of Ceremonies Russell Campbell, OAM.



Long Tan veteran Alan Fraser and his wife Margaret and daughter Heather.



The event attracted the media



RARA SA Vice President Rod Graham, 6 RAR 1966 -1967, giving the Commemorative Address.



Dr Donald and Mrs Margaret Beard chat with Pipe Major Des Ross.



Peter Haran, one of Australia's first tracking dog handlers and author of "Trackers: The Untold Story of the Australian Dogs of War", placed a floral tribute in remembrance of his wardog Caesar.





### Fourth and final article on the the Boer War by Trevor Jones

#### **Update on funding and the memorial's progress**

According to our National President, John Haynes, in late 2016 "we must still continue to bring in the donations as the uncertainties remain and although they are not of a large scale, say about \$100,000." And, "the dedication ceremony is set for Wednesday, 31 May, 2017 and also the support of the ADF Ceremonial Cell is assured."

The dedication and perseverance of those who have had the foresight to plan fundraise and build the Boer War Memorial is now coming to fruition. After more than Hundred years a tribute to those who served in the Boer War will finally join all the other Memorials on Anzac Parade, Canberra.

#### **Nurses in the Great Anglo – Boer War**

From a paper by Caroline Adams.

The idealism of "queen and country" not only extended to men and therefore most volunteers making recruitment easy, but for the first time, also women. For men it was "Empire", adventure and "it will be over in a few months". For women as nurses it was more a sense of duty and care.

Nursing had come a long way since "Nightingale" and from being servant-like, untrained and a disrespected occupation to fast becoming the opposite and very much a hands on and a professional vocation for middle class, educated women, whose attitude reflected benevolence and self sacrifice. This certainly can be associated with the progress of the emancipation of women in society.

Nothing proclaimed the acceptance of the "new nurse"

more than an event which occurred several weeks before the recruitment of trained nurses for service in the Boer War, an event which was somewhat unremarkable in itself, but which serves to illustrate much of the community's attitude to both nurses as a body and support for colonial involvement in the Boer War.

A Sister Hill from Adelaide Children's Hospital had organised some 30 nurses from several local hospitals

to take part in collecting for the Patriotic Fund to aid the troops in South Africa. Similar collections had occurred in other colonies.

Collecting at railway stations, in trains, in streets and even door-to-door, the nurses were successful and innovative in raising about £400. Convalescent children also joined the nurses in their collection drive. Both *The Advertiser* and *Adelaide Observer*

wrote many articles and reported the event very favourably and the nurses "in their neat and tasteful uniforms" had raised their, respectability, professionalism and image

to a new level of public acceptance.

Although a Ladies Committee was being set up in the New Year to assist with the Mayor's Transvaal Fund at the end of 1899, there was very little prospect of a group of South Australian nurses being sent to South Africa. Early in the New Year, however, with the departure of the second South Australian Contingent only a few weeks away, there were public calls for the need for nurses to be sent to South Africa.

A correspondent writing a letter to the Editor of *The Advertiser* in early January stated that "It seems a wrong thing to send off over a hundred men without even



*Informal group portrait of medical staff and patients in a hospital ward, possibly in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). The ward is decorated with flowers in jars of water, pretty Japanese fans and framed portraits in an attempt to brighten up the primitive conditions as indicated by the bare floor.*



## or know a descendant?

a doctor or nurse. South Australian funds should be devoted to the nursing of South Australian men."

One generous benefactor to the Patriotic Fund wanted his contribution to specifically fund nurses, if any were to be sent. There were also several nurses who made direct application to the Chief Secretary to be sent with the South Australian contingent, if possible.

"Her Majesty's Government gladly accepts nurses" read the telegram in early 1900 to Governor Tennyson which this led to a flurry of activity by the Government and civilians alike. Sixty applicants were received, of which 25 to 30 were nurses and therefore viable applicants for six berths booked on the ship Australasian, which was to leave Melbourne in late February.

The Government had appointed two doctors to select the nurses. The Matrons of Adelaide Children's Hospital and Wakefield Hospital, Hill and Tibbits respectfully, were apparently not considered to partake in the selection process but, with Lady Tennyson, were asked to design the uniform!

At a committee meeting of the newly formed Nurses Fund in the Adelaide Town Hall, the preliminary details were mapped out. Preparations were made for fundraising activities. The six nurses would have an allowance for outfits and be paid 15 shillings a week. It was estimated that fares, salary and outfits for 12 months would cost £100 per nurse which was to be met by public donations.

Unlike other Australian colonial nursing contingents bound for South Africa, it was supported solely by the community.

The six nurses chosen were Martha Bidmead, Amelia Stephenson, Agnes Glennie, Mary O'Shanahan, A. Cocks and E. Watts. The criteria for selection were suitable training, experience and maturity. All were over 30 and didn't appear to have many personal constraints from doing a 'tour.' Martha Bidmead was to be the charge nurse.

There were many farewells, but perhaps the finest was at the Theatre Royal where the Colonial's many dignitaries farewelled the nurses and where a tableaux with its many and various themes was presented, which the nurses took part in enthusiastically and raised more than £200 for their own fund. Many Adelaide businesses also strongly backed the nurses' fund.

*The Adelaide Observer* wrote of the gender difference in the roles between soldiers and nurses, yet recognised how both were involved in the same struggle in the imperial arena.

"The duty of the soldier may be more dangerous, but the task of the nurses is an onerous one. It is courage of a high order that takes a man to battle to fight for the Queen and country and it is true womanly sympathy, allied with courage, that includes the weaker sex (that is separate sex) to travel half the world to tend to the sick and wounded, to take up their share in the fierce struggles for the freedom in the Transvaal."

Through the support of community, the small contingent of South Australian nurses worked tirelessly in conjunction with the Imperial resources to provide nursing services in South Africa.

The nurses were mainly stationed at Wynburg and Bloemfontein where they worked in several hospitals. Nurses Glenie, Watts and Stephenson were also stationed in Pretoria early in 1901. Nurse Stephenson appears to have served on a hospital ship returning to England.

Like the troops, the nurses received a box of chocolates from Queen Victoria and service medals from the new King. Martha Bidmead received the Royal Red Cross and Devoted Service Cross; A Glenie the Devoted Service Cross and Kings Medal; and nurses Cocks, O'Shanahan, Stephenson and Watts the King's Medal. The second Anglo-Boer War, at the turn of the century, provided South Australian women a unique opportunity to participate as active citizens in the public sphere. This was particularly the case with the small contingent of nurses who were sent to the South African war. Their status as trained nurses afforded them a specific position in society and allowed them legitimate entry to the war zone.

It is perhaps no coincidence that so much support by women, not only for the war effort but for the nurses, came from the community of South Australia, the first colony to grant female suffrage in 1894.

### **National Boer War Memorial Association**

Are you a Boer War descendant or know of someone that is? Or do you want to know more about Australia's involvement in this fascinating time in Australia's history? Then visit the website where you can also check out the Ancestor registrations link. National Boer War Memorial Association site: [www.bwm.org.au](http://www.bwm.org.au)

### **Your support and generosity would be appreciated and is needed.**

Donations are tax deductible.

Direct bank transfer to The Defence Bank  
National Boer War Memorial Account BSB 803-205  
Account 2035 8376. Please include your last name and initials on bank transfers. Or please make cheques payable to National Boer War Memorial Association Inc. Mail donation to the Treasurer at the address below and include your own address so a receipt can be mailed to you: National Boer War Memorial Fund Building 96, Victoria Barracks, Paddington, NSW 2021. **Telephone** (02) 8335 5209 **Facsimile** (02) 8335 5357 **Email:** [secretary@bwm.org.au](mailto:secretary@bwm.org.au)

### **Website: [www.bwm.org.au](http://www.bwm.org.au) Boer War Day – Adelaide**

A Commemorative Service is held at the Boer War Memorial in front of Government House, corner of North Terrace and King William Street, Adelaide, on the last Sunday in May each year at 11a.m. This well attended service, mainly by descendants and those who have interest in the Boer War will be held on Sunday 28 May 2017. All welcome.



# Address for the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of

**By Colonel Peter Scott (Rtd) DSO**

I wish to acknowledge those guests already welcomed, and acknowledge again my fellow veterans of the Korean War and our Korean Veterans.

I am dedicating this address today to two heroes of Maryang San who have died in the past few weeks; Maj Gen Jim Hughes, AO, DSO, MC who was OC 4 PL on the HINGE; and Colonel Jimmy Stewart, MC, 2IC Sig PI - both awarded MC for their heroics on October 7.

Today I am concentrating on some of the interesting actions during the preparation, capture and holding Hill 317.

Sixty-five years ago yesterday, 3RAR had completed a series of company attacks which finally ended with the capture of the battalion's principle objective, Hill 317, or Maryang San.

OPERATION COMMANDO was the first operation conducted by 1st Commonwealth Division, newly formed in July 1951, and commanded by Maj Gen Jim Cassells. Under command were the 25<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade, 29<sup>th</sup> British Infantry Brigade and the 28<sup>th</sup> British Commonwealth Brigade of which 3 RAR was one of the three battalions.

The CO 3RAR, Lt Col Frank Hassett was also new to the battalion having just taken over from Lt Col Bruce Ferguson in July 1951. Hassett was 33-year-old with a distinguished record in WW2 in the ME and Pacific and decorated with an OBE.

The next important fact was the battalion was undergoing an immense upheaval with a wholesale replacement of key personnel. I was part of that upheaval. Therefore, the unit was not at this stage highly trained but considered an organised collection of well-trained individuals.

The CO therefore pressed hard to get all ranks fit and accustomed to working as a team and to get to know the terrain and the enemy.

The companies were slowly being brought up to strength. A normal section comprised 10 men. One carried the .303 Bren LMG, the section commander had an 9mm Owen gun and the rest a .303 rifle. They each carried two 36 M grenades and a 50 round bandolier. I carried a Smith & Western .38 Revolver.

The divisional plan called for 28 Commonwealth Bde to capture Hill 355 in Phase 1 and Hill 317 in Phase 2. 3RAR had been given an enormous task to capture Hill 317- a long approach march with each man moving at 50 yards' intervals to disguise movement, with open flanks and an attack over 3000 m against a well-equipped and well sited determined enemy.

Two companies were designated as Brigade reserve so the CO was very concerned what he would end up with.

His principle contribution to the brigade plan was to capture Hill 317 (or Maryang San) along the ridge lines extending from the East. The Americans tried twice to capture Hill 317 from Hill 355, then in friendly hands, but failed by attacking in daylight across the valley and paid

heavily for it. Hassett based his plan on the success of fighting in the islands during WW2 by keeping to the high ground.

What is not shown on the map on the last page of your program is the capture of Little Gibraltar or Hill 355 which is located some 2000m south of the 217 feature. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Kings Own Scottish Borderers (KOSB) were tasked in Phase 1 to capture Hill 355 but they were unsuccessful and Hassett was asked to send one of the companies held in reserve (C Coy) to capture the 220 features northeast of Hill 355. On 4 October C Coy lead by Lt Maurie Pear's 7 PI took the enemy by surprise and in a wave of enthusiasm reached the eastern flank of Hill 355 just as the KOSB's reached the top on their western side. There was much discussion on who had captured Hill 355 at a two-day international conference at the AWM in October 2011 at which Don Stewart and I attended. It was finally agreed by the Brits and Aussies that we, or better still the bde, shared in the capture of Hill 355.

On the night of 4/5 October D Coy was in position some 700 m north-east of Hill 119 and resting for the assault next day. The Commonwealth Division artillery opened up with additional support from two batteries of 8 inch howitzers and three batteries of 155mm guns. A total of over 130 guns and mortars were engaging objectives and known and suspected enemy gun and mortar positions.

3RAR had the NZ artillery regiment and half a squadron of centurion tanks in direct support for their assault as well as air support to cut the flow of supplies and reinforcements to Maryang San fortifications. Unfortunately, RAAF 77 Sqn was changing from Sabres to Meteor jets and were unavailable.

The capture of Hill 317 involved a series of company attacks with companies leapfrogging or flanking each other to get to the next objective. Conditions on the morning of 5 October were like a claustrophobic nightmare, unable to see because of darkness and thick mist, weighed down with ammunition and equipment, holding onto the man in front, being held onto by the man behind, listening to the scream of artillery rounds travelling through the black overhead and crashing into the Chinese positions to the north-west- the sounds magnified by the night and the mist. For infantrymen, the cover afforded by the night and mist was a navigational nightmare but a tactical Godsend. Added to this the Chinese had been shelling us all night as they knew an attack was coming especially when they heard the noise of the tanks of 8<sup>th</sup> Kings Royal Irish Hussars moving with A Company and the Anti-tank Platoon. The Anti-Tank Platoon and tanks crossed the Imjin R to the east of your map.

Soldiers were very keen to achieve their objective despite their leaders being wounded. The next in line immediately assumed command and carried on. A good example of this is when OC D Coy Major Basil Hardiman and OC 10 PL Lt Geoff Leary were wounded during the initial assault of Feature 'Victor' on the morning of 5 Oct, OC 12 PI, Lt Jim Young took command with Sgt Len Opie (DCM 27/2/51) acting CSM. Young was one of many who were awarded the MC for their role in the battle.



# Battle of Maryang San on 7 October 2016

Now I want to jump to the 7<sup>th</sup> October. Lt 'Bushy' Pembroke 9 Platoon had led C Company to capture of Hill 317 and heavily wooded Feature 'Sierra' the day before. Tac HQ, not BHQ as shown on the map, moved up to and remained on the top of Hill 317 all day so that the CO could direct the battle and coordinate fire support for B Company's assault on the 'HINGE'. The 7<sup>th</sup> is a day that would be remembered by those who experienced it as one of the hardest the Battalion had to encounter. Tac HQ consisted of the CO, BC of the NZ artillery battery in direct support (Major Arthur Roxburgh), myself as IO and a couple of diggers including the radio operator. In actual fact I manned the CO's radio set on the battalion net which included the four rifle companies, Anti-tank PI and Adjutant (Capt Bill Keys) in BHQ to the east on Hill 199. We occupied vacated Chinese trenches on the forward slope of Hill 317.

The CO had tasked OC B Company (Capt 'Wings' Nicholls, MC in WW2) to capture the 'HINGE' to assist the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers (RNF) in capturing Hill 217. The Chinese put up quite a fight and B Company had to endure numerous counterattacks and very heavy artillery bombardments during the day and night following.

Some outstanding acts of bravery by B Coy personnel during this assault resulted in Two MCs, Five MMs and Three MIDs.

Company 2ICs were responsible for the resupply of ammunition and evacuation of casualties and so it was in B Company's case, The 2IC was a Capt Arthur Doddrell and he lead several resupply parties to the coy and evacuated the casualties. The Chinese tried to interdict the route from Hill 317 through 7 Platoon on 'Sierra' to B Coy on the HINGE with barrages of artillery and mortar bombs on this lifeline. The battalion had a Korean Porter Battalion attached to assist in carrying supplies and carrying out the dead and wounded.

The Chinese artillery fire falling on the Hill 317 to the HINGE was the heaviest and most accurate yet encountered in Korea by Australians and personally I don't know how Tac HQ survived that day either. We left at last light to return to BHQ some 1500m to the east.

The CO was very concerned at the present critical situation. The battalion had been moving and fighting for six days, were exhausted and had lost over 100 men with platoons down to 15 -20 strong.

The battalion was finally relieved on 8 October and given the task of securing the brigade's northern flank. On 24 October the CO was called to COMWEL Division HQ to be decorated with the immediate award of the Distinguished Service Order. Some 36 officers, NCOs and men were to be decorated for their outstanding



*Maryang San veterans  
Rocky Anock and Peter Scott  
DSO at the Maryang San  
Commemoration.*



leadership and heroism during the Battle.

Four of those decorated were platoon commanders who had only graduated from Duntroon in December the year before.

Casualties were 21 KIA, 104 WIA of whom 15 Remained on duty.

I have not mentioned the tanks of the 8<sup>th</sup> Hussars, MMG PI under Capt Reg Saunders, Mortar PI, Signals PL our Medical team, the Kiwi Gunners or the air support all of whom were essential for the battalion to succeed in capturing its objective.

All members of the battalion were demoralised when the KOSB's lost Hill 317 on 4 November 1951 to the Chinese. In the firefight that ensued one 2Lt NSM Platoon Commander was awarded a DSO. A very unusual decoration for a junior officer.

The other galling point was that the British battalion were awarded a battle honour for the operation soon after the war had ended but 3RAR had to wait about 40 years to obtain the battle honour for the RAR.

## **From The Secretary:**

The Australian Defence Force has about 3,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen and women involved in 13 operations around the world.

The 400 members of our Defence Forces are actively protecting Australia's borders and offshore maritime interests.

We are contributing to regional stability through operations in East Timor and Solomon Islands.

We are a major contributor to an international effort led by NATO and the International Stabilisation Assistance Force to deny international terrorists safe haven in Afghanistan.

Our Defence Forces are training and mentoring the Afghan National Army in the province of Oruzgan, where our Special Forces are also engaged in combat operations against the Taliban.

Australia supports Middle East peace efforts through a contribution to the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai.

Australia is also part of United Nations peace-keeping operations in Iraq, Sudan, Syria and Lebanon

**- Jim Stopford**

# Korean vets return to battle of Hill 317



**TORY SHEPHERD**

GLENSIDE veteran Colonel Francis (Peter) Scott, 87, hopes to stand in South Korea, and peer through the border to Hill 317, where he won a striking victory, and lost comrades.

The fight for Hill 317 – also known as the Battle of Maryang San, or Operation Commando – was described by official Korean War historian Robert O'Neill as "one of the most impressive victories achieved by any Australian battalion".

This week veterans of that battle including Colonel Scott DSO (Ret'd) will return for the first time to relive history and visit Australian graves.

Colonel Scott was there with 3RAR (3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment).

The Australians joined British troops to take the strategically important hill, driving out the Communist Chinese forces.

"We'd suffered 20 killed and 100 wounded. We were bombarded; all sorts of artillery and mortars. We suffered a lot of casualties that day," the decorated veteran told *The Advertiser*.

Weeks later, it was recaptured.

Colonel Scott said he had waited 65 years to get back to Korea.

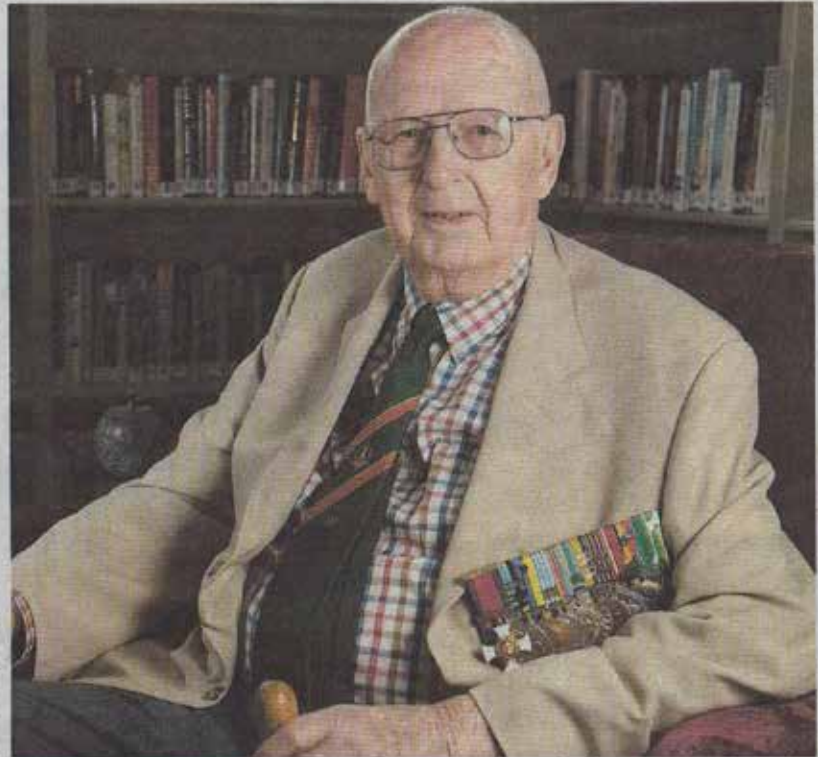
"I've been reluctant to put my name forward before, but now I'm 87 I thought it might be my last opportunity to go," he said.

"I have two of my Royal Military College (Duntroon) classmates that were killed when I was there and I'm hoping to go and pay my respects to them.

"And I'm hoping to see 317; it's in either enemy territory or No Man's Land and I believe we can see that from the South Korean side."

Seven other veterans from around Australia will join him, along with Veterans' Affairs Minister Dan Tehan and Opposition defence personnel spokeswoman Gai Brodman, for commemoration services.

"This will be an important mission for Australia and our Korean War veterans because it will mark the final government mission to Korea of a veterans' group," Mr Tehan said. "It will be a great privilege to share that journey with them."



**DECORATED:** Retired Colonel Francis (Peter) Scott, who served in the Korean war, inset. He will return to Korea for the first time since he fought there. Main picture: TRICIA WATKINSON

## Service remembers the 43 Australians Missing in Action in Korea



**From Colonel Peter Scott DSO (Rtd) before he left for Korea on October 19.**

A fourth remembrance service was conducted at the Korea MIA Plaque adjacent the Korea War Memorial in Hindmarsh at 10am on Saturday 8 October 2016.

The service, conducted by the Korean & South East Asia Forces Association of Australia Inc (SA Branch), under President John

Jarrett, followed similar services at the Memorial since it was unveiled on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013. The plaque was unveiled by Mrs Merle Sharp from P/O Kenneth Smith's family.

The Memorial contains the names of the 43 Australians who remain on the Battlefields of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea). The MIA's are 23 from 1RAR (3), 2RAR (2), 3RAR (17) and RHU (1) from the Army; 18 from 77 (RAAF) Squadron and two from RAN Fleet Air Arm-805 Squadron.

Two MIAs of 77 Sqn are from South Australia: Sqn Ldr Donald Hillier and P/O Kenneth Smith. The families of both these airmen have attended every service as well as members of K&SEAF, Korean community and ex-servicemen and women who served in Korea and other

representatives of the ex-service community.

Reverend Moon and Padre Margaret Clarke have conducted the service.

The poem "To the boys we left behind" written by Pte P J Paterson, nephew of renowned Australian poet, A B Paterson. This poem is written by a soldier to his dead mates who died as soldiers while Fighting in the Korea War in the 1950s.

After the service v refreshments were enjoyed at the Henley and Grange RSL by all attendees.



**Above:** The memorial stone and plaque unveiled on 19 October 2011.

**Far left:** Korea & South East Asia Forces Association of Australia Inc (SA Branch) addressing the attendees at the MIA Service on 8 October 2016. **Below:** Attendees including families of P/O Kenneth Smith and Sqn Ldr Donald Hillier.





# Army Museum adds innovative stretcher to collection

**Colonel Peter Scott DSO (Rtd) officially launched the Vietnam Aeromedical Display at the Army Museum of SA on October 12. In his address he said:**

**T**he first thing I should explain is the fact that I have not experienced using the 'Stokes' Litter.

Sixty-five years ago 3 RAR had captured Hill 317 or MARYANG SAN as phase 2 of Operation Commando by 1 COMWEL Div in Korea in Oct 1951.

On October 7 the Chinese had reacted very aggressively to these moves and bombarded 3 RAR relentlessly with artillery and mortar fire throughout the day. Many of our soldiers were either killed or wounded and one in particular was so severely wounded he needed immediate evacuation.

After a very lengthy and intense pressure the Americans finally provided a cas evac helicopter with two litters, one on each side of the body, acka MASH TV program. This soldier was to my knowledge the first Aussie to be evacuated by helicopter.

That was 65 years ago and casualty evacuation has come a very long way since. The most important innovations occurred during the Vietnam War when DUSTOFF (Dedicated Unhesitating Service to Our Fighting Forces), an acronym for the evacuation of casualties by modified IROQUOIS UH1 Utility Helicopter from the battle field to hospital.

These modifications allowed casualties to be carried on a stretcher on the floor of the cabin, either directly from the ground, winched up with the casualty sitting on the Jungle Penetrator, or lying prone on the Stokes Litter. The Stokes Litter was devised by a Rear Admiral Charles Francis Stokes, a retired Surgeon General of the US Navy as a means of removing non-walking wounded from the battlefield.

Both of these procedures are potentially dangerous because the helicopter would have to hover while these operations took place and if in close proximity to the enemy ground fire there would be the possibility of the cable being severed by the crewman to save the aircraft or shot and cut by the enemy.

I want to introduce Edward CZERWINSKI ex 7 RAR who was WIA on 7 February 1968 who explained that he was the last wounded to be evacuated. When the wire holding the casualty on the Penetrator was cut or shot and fell dead on the ground Ed waited for safer times.

A different incident occurred in September 1969 when SAS Pte David John Fisher fell 60m from a rope during a 'Hot' extraction. He was finally recovered in August 2008. Not a medical extraction but an example of what can go wrong.

Another incident I remember very clearly was when a company was inserted quietly into an area of operations only to be compromised the next day because a soldier complained of a very sore tooth and had to be extracted using the Jungle penetrator.

I am not too sure how many of my soldiers experienced extraction by Penetrator or Stokes litter but there would have been a few of both. May I introduce Trevor Sharland, one of my soldiers of 5 PI B Coy who was severely wounded on 7 June 1971 and was evacuated by Stokes litter. Trevor explained that when the helicopter started to sway, the litter he was strapped on wrapped its self around a tree, the litter had to be lowered to the ground and the recovery started again.

The article in your newsletter quotes the RAAF 9 Sqn conducting 4000 casualty evacuations which does not include the ones by the US Army DUSTOFF. A similar system is no doubt operating in Afghanistan but using other NATO aircraft. A very good example is of Curtis McGrath who lost both legs by stepping on an IED and now four years later won a gold medal in the kayaking event in the RIO Disabled Olympic Games. His evacuation would probably have been by litter.

All soldiers are comforted by the fact that if they get injured they can be extracted by helicopter and delivered to a hospital with lifesaving results. Ed, Curtis and Trevor are excellent examples of this result. It happens virtually every day in civilian life and it's normal to see injured extracted by the Stokes Litter.

Now before anything else I want to congratulate the members of the museum who have constructed this working model of a Stokes Litter. It's a fine example of the dedication and commitment to this outstanding facility which is much appreciated by the South Australian public and interstate visitors.



*Above: At the launch of Stokes Litter display, seen on left.*

*Right: Edward Czerwinski ex 7 RAR, Peter Scott DSO and Trevor Sharland.*



Peter,

Thank you very much for attending, speaking and 'pressing the button' to launch our Vietnam Aeromedical Display at the Museum yesterday. Your talk about your experiences in Korea and Vietnam was relevant and interesting and the consensus was that it was an excellent presentation. Thank you.

I was particularly interested in the 'eye witness' accounts of the use of the Stokes Litter by Edward Czerwinski and Trevor Shalin. I am sure that our audience were very interested in listening to the accounts of casevac procedures – particularly Edward when the cable parted and dropped the litter of the previous casevac soldier back to the ground.

The consensus amongst our volunteers was that the launch was successful and that you, Edward and Trevor (supported by Mary) made the whole activity a success.

Thank you also for a signed copy of your autobiography account of "Command in Vietnam". I have presented to our library section and then withdrawn it so I can read it first.

Cheers and best wishes,

Nick Williams AM RFD  
Chairman

Army Museum of South Australia  
Keswick Barracks

## Long Tan 1989 recalled - like 2016

from Grahame Wheeler

The photos at right were taken at an ANZAC Day Ceremony in 1989 at Long Tan, Vietnam. Hanoi did not initially fully agree to any ceremony taking place (just like this year) however a local D445 Commander who fought in the battle let it go ahead.

He said: "We do it but maybe tomorrow I drive cyclo in Saigon". The ceremony was broadcast to a Russian satellite then beamed live into Australia. When we are puzzled by the actions of Hanoi regarding this year's attendance at Long Tan on August 18 and the placing of restrictions on the numbers of Australian veterans visiting the site, we must try to understand our host's position. The Vietnamese fought the Chinese for nigh on 1000 years to be then colonised by the French who deserted them when the Japanese invaded in 1940.

After the French were expelled came the American war, our war. On the day of the ceremony in 1989, a local D445 regiment soldier asked me why we had been in the war with the Americans. I told him we had been sent to Vietnam to fight Communism.

He sort of understood this but then asked why we had left when we were winning. I told him we were pulled out and sent home by a socialist government. He looked at me and said: "I not understand". I said "Don't worry mate, I don't either."

We are a country of sentimental people, the Vietnamese are not. More than 90% of the current Vietnamese population were not even born at the time the American war finished in 1975. The battle of Long Tan, while very important and significant in terms of loss and bravery to veterans and Australians at large, pales to insignificance compared to the losses incurred by the Vietnamese people in large battles against the Japanese, the French, the Americans and the Chinese.

In 1978 the Vietnamese invaded Cambodia to oust the Khmer Rouge backed by China while the world sat by and did nothing.

China then invaded Vietnam in 1979 as pay-back and, after receiving a large flogging, the Chinese limped back



Left: Paddy Badski, ex-SAS; Grahame Wheeler, ex-2RAR/NZ; and John Sanders ex-3RAR.

Below: Ex-D445 Regt who lost a leg in the battle of Long Tan by artillery.



John Sanders being interviewed by Australian news reporters.



across the border, thoroughly beaten.

The Vietnamese suffered millions of deaths over the last 100 years in civil war and invasions. Not being a sentimental people, the Vietnamese cannot understand our continued interest and fascination with Long Tan. We were allowed back into their country today for the ceremony at Long Tan and we should be grateful to our hosts even though they might not live up to our expectations. We must move forward.

### Grahame's background:

I wanted a trade so I completed a chef's course at Randwick NSW and was posted to 2 RAR in Townsville. My father and three of his brothers served in WW2 in Infantry and became cooks so it ran in the family.

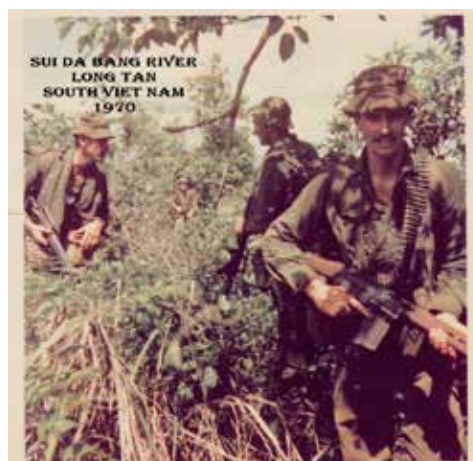
Note: A good mate on my course Ron Connors who was posted to 5RAR was killed in Vietnam.

In Vietnam 1970-1971, I went out on operational service and was awarded the Army Combat Medal, being recommended by Lt. Col Barry Petersen MM, my company commander when I served with Charlie Company 2 RAR/NZ the ANZAC Battalion.

I returned from Vietnam in 1971, re-joined in 1972 and served in the Military Police with the Army Special Investigation Service (SIS), later re-named SIB.

I joined the NSW Police in 1975 served in Redfern then the Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB). I also served in the Reserve SIB and later Army Intelligence.

I became a Private Investigator in 1981 and investigated major fraud and criminal Mafia groups in Griffith, Sydney and later Brisbane. Now retired, I live in Hervey Bay, Qld.



Left: This photo was taken at Long Tan in 1970 during a TAOR ambush patrol. Grahame is at the far right with the SLR.



## FROM THE BATTALIONS

### 3 RAR

As usual 3 RAR SA has been busy. We continue to have lunches on an almost monthly basis and have now settled with the Lord Melbourne and Ken Duthie has made a plaque for them to hang on their wall. Our last lunch for the year was at the end of October. We held a Quiz Night at the RAR Assoc. SA RSL on Saturday 22 October.

**We will be conducting a Battalion Birthday and Christmas Party function at the RAR Assoc. SA on Sunday November 20 from 11am - 2pm with Father Christmas giving out presents. Bring your grandchildren but let Neil Nichols on 0488 050 810 know their ages in advance so we have the right present for them.**

We conducted a commemorative service and light lunch to mark the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Maryang San (2-8 Oct 1951) on Friday 7 Oct 2016 with two veterans of the Battle; Peter Scott DSO and Reg (Rocky) Anock; attending. Peter who was the Intelligence Officer during the Battle gave a detailed account of the Battle.

Our last Graveside Gathering for the year was for LCPL Tony Quigley in the Catholic Section, Centennial Park at 11am on Saturday November 5.

We continue to conduct fund raising in various forms including sausage sizzles at various Bunnings hardware stores.

We are currently undergoing a review of how we pass information to our members via the internet, newsletters, etc. before the end of the year.

**Adrian Craig**  
3 RAR Representative



### 8/9 RAR

In 2015 the colour patch at right was adopted by 8/9 RAR with the grey for 8 RAR and the brown for 9 RAR.

The green is for the 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade.

In the last year or so the RAR Assoc. SA approved the purchase of a banner for 8/9 RAR to be use on commemorative occasions and in particular on ANZAC Day.

This will enable ex-8/9 RAR members to march behind their own banner on ANZAC Day as 2/4 RAR and 5/7 RAR have been doing in recent years.

During the recent RAR Corporation Conference we discussed this with the National President of the 8/9 RAR Association and they support the idea and will probably assist in the banner's design.

Ex-8/9 RAR members who wish to march behind the new 8/9 RAR banner on ANZAC Day 2017 are requested to contact the Ceremonial Manager RAR Assoc. SA; Adrian Craig; 8263 4784 or email [as.craig9rar@bigpond.com](mailto:as.craig9rar@bigpond.com)

**Adrian Craig**  
Ceremonial Officer



### 9 RAR

The RAR Association SA conduct its AGM at the RAR Association SA clubrooms on the evening of Saturday 12 November 2016, the closest Saturday to the Battalion's birthday of November 13.

Preparations are underway for the 50th Anniversary Reunion in Adelaide from Monday to Wednesday 13 to 15 November 2017 with information posted on the Reunion's website.

Please use the following link to our website [9rarsa.com.au](http://9rarsa.com.au)

**Adrian Craig,**  
9 RAR representative



### 5/7 RAR

The 5/7 RAR Association will hold its AGM on Saturday November 26 at the Sydney of City RSL, George St, Sydney. After the AGM there will be a reunion to celebrate the battalion's 43rd birthday and the 10-year battalion de-linking anniversary. Details: [57rar.com](http://57rar.com)

**Chris Shannon**  
5/7 Representative



## After 50 years, daughter receives father's medals

On Friday 8 April 2016 I was asked to make a particularly special presentation to Annmarie Tsesmelis on behalf of the Royal Australian Regiment Association SA.

Annmarie is the daughter of 43893 Private Jim Houston (KIA Battle of Long Tan, 18 August 1966 – D Company 6 RAR). Our Patron, Brigadier Laurie Lewis AM, Rtd, asked me if a set of medals - AASM with Vietnam Clasp, Queen's Vietnam Medal, Defence Medal and Vietnam Star with '60' Clasp - could be acquired and court mounted for presentation to Annmarie. My medal supplier in Queensland, National Medals,



*Annmarie Tsesmelis and her husband John proudly display the medals.*

graciously donated them to me.

With the court mounting of the medals, the Infantry Combat Badge (ICB) and the US Presidential Citation were attached to the medals to complete the set.

Inclusive of the medals for presentation was a small cardboard box, which has significance in that during our time in Vietnam we received our care packages from home packed with Vegemite, crackers, cake, etc. in the boxes. Also in the box to compliment the medals is an RAR hat badge, Australia shoulder title, RAR shoulder flash (red) for the battle dress uniform and a Long Tan dress pin. The box has a white padded satin lining on which the medals and artefacts rest. Continued page 24

## Royal Australian Regiment Association Committee 2016- 2017

Patron	Laurie Lewis AM	
<b>Elected Positions</b>		
President	Michael von Berg MC OAM <a href="mailto:mvb@michaelvonberg.com">mvb@michaelvonberg.com</a>	0411 870 055
Vice President	Rod Graham <a href="mailto:rodg2@bigpond.com.au">rodg2@bigpond.com.au</a>	0427 977 145
Secretary	Jim Stopford <a href="mailto:jbstopford@bigpond.com">jbstopford@bigpond.com</a>	0400 191 801
Treasurer	Mike Bevan	0416 106 578
Webmaster	<a href="mailto:mikeb3@netspace.net.au">mikeb3@netspace.net.au</a>	

### Appointed Committee Positions

Manager - Club	Greg Dwiar <a href="mailto:gregdwiar@gmail.com">gregdwiar@gmail.com</a>	0412 644 749
Manager - Ceremonial	Adrian Craig <a href="mailto:as.craig9rar@bigpond.com">as.craig9rar@bigpond.com</a>	8263 4784
Welfare Officer	Vacant	
Membership	Carol Van Der Peet <a href="mailto:3RARSA@gmail.com">3RARSA@gmail.com</a>	0415 242 084

### Trojan's Trek

Director	Moose Dunlop OAM <a href="mailto:moose@trojanstrek.com">moose@trojanstrek.com</a>	0408 088 886
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### Schools Military History Officer

### Voluntary Positions

Manager - Bar	Neil Nicholls <a href="mailto:neilnicholls1946@gmail.co">neilnicholls1946@gmail.co</a>	0488 050 810
Editor - Infantryman	Penelope Forster <a href="mailto:penelopeforster01@gmail.com">penelopeforster01@gmail.com</a>	0419 856 946

### Battalion Representatives

1 RAR John Genovese	<a href="mailto:genovese@bigpond.net.au">genovese@bigpond.net.au</a>	0403 010 180
2 RAR Malcolm Allen	<a href="mailto:mal@aladdco.com.au">mal@aladdco.com.au</a>	0451 374 133
2/4 RAR Kim Porter	<a href="mailto:yrtnafni51@gmail.com">yrtnafni51@gmail.com</a>	0417 468186
3 RAR Robert Whelan	<a href="mailto:wheelsdenise@internode.on.net">wheelsdenise@internode.on.net</a>	0448 995 977
4 RAR Rod Harris	<a href="mailto:sirrah@lm.net.au">sirrah@lm.net.au</a>	0448 726 088
5 RAR Mos Hancock	<a href="mailto:moswhan@bigpond.net.au">moswhan@bigpond.net.au</a>	0414 566 212
5/7 RAR Chris Shannon	<a href="mailto:thinktank2002@hotmail.com">thinktank2002@hotmail.com</a>	0414 797 250
6 RAR	Vacant	
7 RAR Robert Whinnen	<a href="mailto:rjwhinnen@gmail.com">rjwhinnen@gmail.com</a>	0413 198 558
8 RAR Ted Forward	<a href="mailto:ajrianne.ted.forward@bigpond.com">ajrianne.ted.forward@bigpond.com</a>	82351 625
9 RAR Adrian Craig	<a href="mailto:as.craig9rar@bigpond.com">as.craig9rar@bigpond.com</a>	8263 4784

### RAR (SA) RSL Sub-Branch

President	Rod Graham	0427 977 145
Secretary	Greg Dwiar	0412 644 749
Treasurer	Steven Roberts	0408 108 643

### Headquarters and Clubroom

13 Beatty Street, Linden Park, SA 5065

Phone: (08) 8379 5771

Website: [www.rarasa.org.au](http://www.rarasa.org.au)

Email: [rar01@internode.on.net](mailto:rar01@internode.on.net)

## RAR ACTIVITIES NOV '16 - APRIL '17

NOV	4	Light Meal	Adrian
	11	Ladies night, 3 Course Menu	Bob W
	18	Light Meal	Chris
	25	RAR Xmas Drinks	Neil
DEC	2	Light Meal	Wheels
	9	Light Meal	Neil
	16	RAR XMAS DINNER Bookings essential	Bob W
	23	Light Meal	Kara
	30	XMAS CLUB CLOSED	
JAN	6	XMAS CLUB CLOSED	
	13	Ladies night, 3 Course Menu	Bob W
	20	Light meal	Adrian
	27	Chef's Choice, 2 Course Menu	Spike
FEB	3	Light Meal	Neil
	10	Ladies night, 3 Course Menu	Bob W
	17	Light Meal	Chris
	24	Chef's Choice, 2 Course Menu	Spike
MAR	3	Light Meal	Kara
	10	Ladies night, 3 Course Menu	Bob W
	17	Light meal	Adrian
	24	Light meal	Chris
	31	Chef's Choice, 2 Course Menu	Neil
APRIL	7	Light Meal	Wheels
	14	Ladies night, 3 Course Menu	Bob W
	21	Light meal	Spike
	24	KAPYONG DAY	Neil
	25	ANZAC DAY CLUB CLOSED	

## Daughter receives father's medals

Continued from page 23

Fred Fairhead donated a signed copy of his book "A Duty Done".

After Annmarie and her husband, John, and Eddy and Jeanette Sloan arrived RARA SA Vice president Rod Graham VP called me forward to start the proceedings. In the presence of 35 members, wives, partners and guests, Annmarie was asked to come forward for the presentation. It was an emotive moment for her as it was the 50th year since the passing of her father Jim Houston at the Battle of Long Tan.

The significance of all the items and how to maintain and preserve them was explained to Annmarie, who, holding back tears and with a slight tremor in her voice, she thanked Laurie, the Royal Australian Regiment Association SA and me for the medals and the artefacts.

This year was of special importance to Annmarie as she was able to wear the medals at the ANZAC Day ceremonies.

I was assured by Annmarie that she would wear the medals with utmost pride and honour.

I thank Laurie Lewis, Carol Van Der Peet who took photos and the RARA SA for their important roles in making this a successful presentation to Annmarie. I acknowledge and thank the members, wives, partners and guests in attendance on this occasion. Also David White for assisting with the setting this article.

Ken Duthie JP

School Military History Officer, RARA SA

The next publication of Infantryman will be the April 2017 edition, distributed before ANZAC Day. The deadline will be early March. Articles and photos are always welcome and should be emailed to Michael von Berg on [mvb@michaelvonberg.com](mailto:mvb@michaelvonberg.com) and [penelopeforster01@gmail.com](mailto:penelopeforster01@gmail.com) for consideration. Thanks - Penelope Forster