



INFANTRYMAN

The Journal of the RAR Association SA
Keeping the Spirit Alive

August 2017

RARA to remain at Linden Park

There has been much conjecture and fear that the Royal Australian Regiment Association (RARA) would lose its "spiritual home" at Linden Park due to the forced administration of the RSL (SA).

These fears can be put to rest where the RARA (SA) has been able to encourage an investor to purchase the property on our behalf to ensure that Trojan's Trek, the RARA and many other communities who use the facilities will continue to have the use of the premises.

This is not only a great step forward for us but a lifeline for the RSL where the capital realised on the sale will assist the RSL in averting liquidation.

For anyone to consider liquidating the first and oldest RSL in Australia and the catalyst for this great movement in the nation is a **disgrace**.

You can't buy history or tradition. It needs to be earned and protected and for some individuals to persist with ill-advised unprofessional judgments to pursue the RSL to liquidation is an utter **disgrace** and those individuals responsible really do need to question their morals and actions.

Unlike the NSW RSL, which is under investigation for alleged improper financial practices and conflicts of

interest and the Queensland RSL, we believe being audited by the ATO and both being investigated by The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), the RSL (SA) has not been found to have done anything illegal and, according to the administrator, not insolvent.

Smarter people in the CBD suggest that the entity should never have been placed into administration and let alone considered for liquidation.

Many of us from time to time may have had problems with the RSL post-Vietnam, but I would venture to say it has not been where we were ever at odds with the institution, purely small minded people who were running the organisation in those days and I would like to think many of us have forgiven but perhaps not forgotten.

I certainly have forgiven and would encourage all of us to assist where we can to get the RSL in South Australia back on its feet and leading from the front doing what it is supposed to be doing and that is looking after veterans. The purchase of our property is an important step in that restructure and the RARA will do everything to assist in preserving a very important and irreplaceable piece of South Australian history.

Michael von Berg MC OAM



FULL HOUSE FOR MODERN PRESENTATION: There was standing room only (and not for the first time) when the Royal Australian Regiment Association hosted a presentation with a fully kitted up infantry section undertook an orders group, simulated patrol, action initiation and debriefing at the Linden Park Clubrooms on June 30. Their kit is somewhat advanced from the bum pack, jungle greens, bush hat GP boots, SLR, etc, of a bygone era. The packed hall witnessed how a modern section operates, communicates, patrolling and contact situations, the role each member has to fulfil. Audience members go to talk to the modern soldiers, try on today's patrol order and handle today's weaponry. A barbecue and refreshments followed. Continued page 11.

Specialist Mental Health Services for Veterans

A model of care has been developed to provide a comprehensive mental health service for Veterans, as well as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) services for police and emergency services personnel, at the Jamie Larcombe Centre, a new Veterans' Mental Health Precinct located at Glenside Health Service Campus.

Background

In February 2015, the State Government committed to developing a new \$15 million Veterans' Mental Health Precinct, including a Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) service, to replace the existing Ward 17 and ambulatory services located at the Repatriation General Hospital.

An oversight panel and five distinct but interrelated working groups were established to progress planning of the precinct, to be named the Jamie Larcombe Centre. The working groups included building design, partnerships, research, memorialisation and the model of care working group.

Expert Working Group

In December 2015, the model of care working group was formed and in February 2016, a broad range of stakeholders, including key Veteran organisations, Ward 17 staff, the Consumer and Carer Advisory Group (CCAG) and non-clinicians, were invited to attend a workshop to progress the development of the model of care. The workshop aimed to explore and build on the current mental health care services for Veterans, while also considering the services that will need to be provided in the future to meet the needs of the changing Veteran demographic.

Feedback from the workshop has been incorporated into the new model of care, which aims to fulfil the needs of the Veteran community, taking into consideration the diversity of deployment experiences of those who are serving both now and into the future.

Model of care overview

The model of care for Specialist Mental Health Services for Veterans builds on the existing model for Ward 17 at the Repatriation General Hospital, taking into consideration the wide range of services to be delivered at the Jamie Larcombe Centre.

The key elements of the model of care are:

- > The Jamie Larcombe Centre will specialise in mental health care for the Veteran community and serving members, while also providing treatment to police and emergency service personnel who are referred for treatment of PTSD.
- > Referrals will be accepted from a broad range of public and private services and from metropolitan, regional and national centres.
- > A range of therapeutic interventions and programs will be available to patients and their families, to provide education about the impact of mental illness, improve coping strategies and support recovery.
- > To be admitted to The Jamie Larcombe Centre, a patient's primary diagnosis must be a mental health issue. Patients with co-morbid physical health needs that require medical stabilisation will be treated in an acute hospital setting before being transferred to the Jamie Larcombe Centre.
- > Pre-admission policies will be in place to determine the extent of medical acuity and medical stabilisation required prior to admission for mental health care and treatment.

FROM THE COMMAND POST

On Monday July 3 a young ex 1RAR soldier was buried in Williamstown Victoria. A great bunch of his mates went to say goodbye to a fellow warrior who sadly died by his own hand. There are simply too many of these tragedies occurring among our younger serving and ex-serving veterans, which is unacceptable.

I don't know what the answer is and there is no "silver bullet" but there must be a way, as a community and society in general, to try to avert or reduce self-harm or suicide.

Again I don't know the answer but unless the causes are investigated case by case we will be no wiser and that is where I have tried to get my head around a most traumatic and emotional subject.

Looking at six cases where I have had an involvement post event there has been a mix of emotions, alcohol and substance abuse, personal and financial issues, difficulty in adjusting to civilian life, losing the camaraderie and protection of the tribe (unit), rehabilitation issues if sick or wounded, suicide ideation, pension and entitlement issues and just not being able to cope, lost and isolated and in a state of serious despair.

If a person has suicide ideation any one of the aforementioned issues can be a trigger but one that is a constant is the complex and difficult issues around Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) entitlements. This is not a criticism of DVA because they can only operate within their respective legislations and Acts and I know

they are trying very hard to be more clients-centric. But another life lost due to frustrations and despair in not either understanding or accepting a DVA position is one too many.

There needs to be some mechanisms or systems in place where an individual, his or her family member or an advocate can ring in 24/7 on a DVA 1800 or 1300 "HOT LINE".

If in the middle of the night I have a problem with my iPhone I can ring someone 24/7 to fix my damn phone, admittedly perhaps someone in New Delhi or Manila but I don't really care, where the help is coming from as long as my phone is fixed.

Why can't DVA train up a good bunch of warriors who understand the issues and can talk to someone who rings in but most importantly if necessary "talk them down" as I have managed to do thankfully several times?

The other system we are looking at here in SA is a warrior friendly "Defence Hub" where an individual can drop in for a cup of coffee and a chat to seek help.

A one-on-one warrior to warrior chat in private is better than trying to fill out a form on line not knowing what you are doing.

I have read so many well-meaning reports on the subject of self-harm and suicide which in most of the cases tell us what we already know. We need to get out of the square to make a difference and be daring because serious problems need serious solutions. Unless we try something different and give it our best shot we will never know and sadly another and another will take their own life.

- Michael von Berg, President MC OAM



Nurses pledge allegiance to career

On Friday the 12 May, 17, I was invited to a service in The Repat Chapel as a part of International Nurses Day. The format was a very short speech by the Director of Nursing. This was followed by brief biographies by a small number of nurses which included their commitment to The Repat since 1942. This was followed by a candle lighting ceremony where I lit individual candles for half of the nurses in the Chapel. Once they had returned to their seats they were asked to stand and recite the pledge given below.

- Warren Featherby

International Nurses Day 2017 RGH Nurses Pledge
I will strive with all my heart and in the Repat spirit to continue to be an open, kind, honest and committed professional nurse. I believe that delivering high quality health care is essential, but let us also reach beyond diagnosis and labels but remember that entrusted into my care is a person with all the loves, hates, fears and uniqueness that are an integral part of being human. Let me not grow too comfortable in my knowledge, but actively seek out new opportunities to continue to learn and be better. I believe that being a nurse requires continuous growth and I will strive to promote this spirit on enquiry in others as well. I dedicate myself to promoting and enhancing the profession of nursing and to nurturing the generations of nurses yet to come. Together we will support each other to ensure that we don't lose our culture, as we are the culture, and each of us has been touched by being part of the Repat, its unique and special history, and passionate commitment to nurse in the way we would want to be nursed ourselves.

The Royal Australian Regimental Dinner Saturday 19 August

Linden Park Clubrooms, Beatty Street.

Pre-dinner drinks 1830 hrs. Dinner 1900 hrs.

Dress: Men - mess kit, black tie or lounge suit

with miniature medals. Ladies - After five.

\$80 a head with 3-course meal and wines.

Menu

Entree

Slow cooked pork belly with pork crackle,
creamed parsnip & cider glaze
Freshly baked bread rolls & butter

Main Course

Slow roasted premium South Australian beef,
roasted beets, caramelized onions & red wine sauce
Roasted roulade of chicken, stuffed with fresh herbs,
onions and wild mushroom & jus gras

Served with sides of creamed potatoes and
seasonal winter vegetables

Dessert

Soft centered chocolate fondant with fresh cream &
poached berries

Bookings essential and non-refundable:

Club Manager Greg Dwiar

0412 644 749 or gregdwiar@gmail.com

No changes to current executive positions



Steve Larkins, (pictured top right addressing the gathering) State Executive of the RSL SA, outlined the current, if complicated, situation of the RSL in South Australia at the AGM of the RARA SA on July 9.

Many questions were asked by those attending and expressions of appreciation expressed for Steve's clarifications.

Michael von Berg was returned as President of the Royal Australian Regiment Association for a 9th term of office. Michael received applause in appreciation for this hard work during the year, especially in regard to his announcement that the Linden Park property was to be purchased so events currently taking place in the building can continue.



All other elected officers were also returned: Rod Graham, vice president; Jim Stopford, secretary; and Mike Bevan, treasurer and webmaster. It is expected that members holding previous appointments and voluntary positions will continue their responsibilities. Among those present were Patron Laurie Lewis and keen supporters Fred Fairhead and Peter Scott.



UPDATE

It has been some time since I put pen to paper in a figurative sense to bring members the current news. In the interests of brevity, I will list the items as bullet points below:



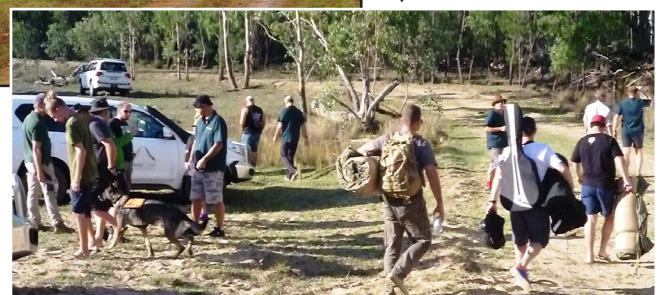
- The Foundation now operates in both QLD and SA and remains the only organisation catering separately for women impacted by service.
- In order to maintain our professionalism, the board has contracted a part time Executive Officer who handles the day to day demands associated with running treks. She is Dr Helen Donovan (pictured) and has been with the Foundation for three months.
- Trojan's Trek is the only peer to peer support program which independently measures outcomes using standard psycho-social instruments which are analysed by Flinders University.
- The Foundation continues to set new benchmarks for peer outdoor support therapy (POST).
- An MOU with Hand Heart Pocket, RSL Care QLD and RSL QLD has proved beneficial in ensuring financial stability in that state.

- In SA our corporate links are not as well established but efforts to secure on going funding continue as well as running our own fund raiser, the Veterans' Support Walk on October 29
- A good relationship with RSL Care SA and Veterans SA exists, providing welcome funds.
- The Foundation has signed an MOU with the Primary Health Network (PHN) of GPs in SA with the intent of identifying veterans who have fallen through the cracks.

Moose Dunlop OAM
Chairman



Left: The shearers' quarters at Moolooloo, SA, Below: Moving into the male camp in Queensland.



Your club, your input, you're welcome



These glasses and glasses case appear to have been left behind after the recent Long Khahn ceremony at the RARA HQ. If they are yours you can arrange collection by contacting Club Manager Greg Dwiar.

Membership Report - July 2017

Although I have been your Membership Officer for the past couple of years, I am still finding it a steep learning curve.

Through phone calls, emails and postal reminders we have a number members who failed to renew their membership during the 2016-2017 financial year, as well as a from the previous year.

Unfortunately, aging and illness is catching up with some Members who felt they didn't want to renew. As such, I am now calling on you to continue to support your club, by renewing your Membership. At 1 July 2017, as many as 99 Members will become unfinancial, although some have already renewed their Membership since then.

As we are now sending the Infantryman Newsletter via electronic means, if you have a working email, or via post to those that don't, I will be including a Renewal Form with both for those who are due. I ask that you fill it in ASAP and send back either by post, via email with your details, or by electronic payment via online banking. If you do wish to pay via electronic banking, could you please provide your Membership Number and your name. I have included the banking details below:

Payment type – Please Circle Cash / Cheque / Visa / MasterCard/ Money Order/ Net Banking

Card No/...../...../.....

Name on Card

Card Expiry Date/.....

Internet Banking

Acc. Name...Royal Australian Regiment Assoc. (SA) Inc.

Bank - ANZ BSB No - 015 237 **Acc. No** - 484328191

Net Banking Please Provide Full Name & Membership No

After the last mailout, via electronic or mail, a number of returns were received, so if you change your email or home address please notify me.

If you need help with anything to do with your Membership, please don't hesitate to contact me:

Carol Van Der Peet: 0415 242 084

carolvanderpeet@gmail.com

RAR Club: rar01internode.on.net



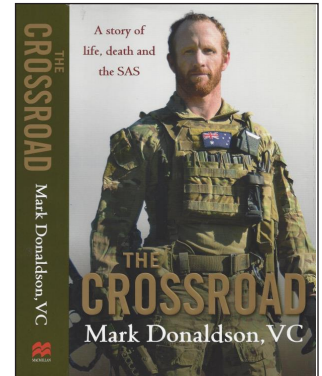
Membership Officer Carol Van Der Peet

From the library shelves



Gladys Nicholls, wife of Neil Nichols, who has worked as a librarian, has sorted the books in the club library into categories and information has been provided about noting when books are borrowed. The library is always open whenever there is an activity at the club. Below is a review of one of the many books available.

The RAR Association SA boasts a wealth of Army background and personal stories in the library shelves in the Fox's Lair, the conference room. The books are available to borrow. Just select a book or books and check them out with Club Manager Greg Dwiar. Here is a review of one of them.
* * *



On 2 September 2008 in a valley of Eastern Afghanistan, Trooper Mark Donaldson, made a split-second decision that would change his life. His display of extraordinary courage that day saw him awarded the Victoria Cross for Australia, making him the first Australian to receive our highest award for bravery in wartime since Keith Payne in 1969.

Yet Mark's journey to those crucial moments in Afghanistan was almost as exceptional as the acts that led to his VC.

He was a rebellious child and teenager, even before the death of his father – a Vietnam Veteran, when Mark and his brother were in their mid-teens. A few years later, their mother disappeared, presumed murdered. Her body has never been found.

Mark's decision s could have easily led him down another path, to a life of self-destructiveness and petty crime. But he chose a different road: the army. It proved to be his salvation and he found himself a natural soldier, progressing unerringly to the SAS, the peak of the Australian military.

From his turbulent early years to the stark realities of combat in the mountains and valleys of Afghanistan, Mark's book is the frank and compelling story of a man who turned his life around by sheer determination and strength of mind.

INFANTRYMAN GOES ELECTRONIC

Infantryman will continue to be delivered as electronic copies to those members with access to the internet.

The Infantryman is also available in electronic format by visiting the RAR website www.rarasa.org.au by 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 posted.

Moral injury:

How can we better understand the anguish of our veterans?

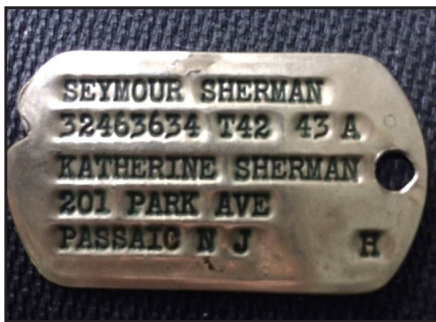
By Nancy Sherman for The
Philosopher's Zone*

Dr Nancy Sherman is a philosophy professor at Georgetown University and the author of *Afterwar: Healing the Moral Wounds of Our Soldiers*. She delivered the ABC's 2017 Alan Saunders Memorial Lecture in Adelaide on Tuesday July 4. This is an edited excerpt from the lecture.



I am the daughter of a World War II army medic. When my dad died at 89 in 2009, I cleaned up his effects and I found his dog tags in his pocket.

He'd carried them for more than 65 years. I never knew.



Nancy Sherman's father, Seymour Sherman's WWII dog tags, which he carried on his key chain for 65 years. Supplied: Nancy Sherman.

We had our own "don't ask, don't tell" policy — but family pacts of silence are simply not healthy.

My work as a philosopher is about breaking down the military-civilian divide, so that service members can come home and thrive.

For the most part, philosophers have been on the sidelines when it comes to helping veterans — focusing instead on theories of what makes a war just, fighting in war, and leaving a war zone.

But we have a lot to contribute.

Australia currently has 1700 defence force personnel in the Middle East, 750 in Iraq and Syria and 270 in Afghanistan.

On top of that, between 2001 and 2014, some 26,000 ADF soldiers contributed to the International Security Assistance Force operation in Afghanistan, as part of Operation Slipper.

In the United States there are 22 million veterans, and about 2.7 million of them have returned from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

These American and Australian troops are from all-volunteer forces, and make up less than 1 per cent of the population.

As a result, many civilians view those in camo as an exotic breed. But the idea that civilians can't talk intimately with military personnel about their time at war is one we need to break down.

Both sides have to come out of their bunkers.

What is moral injury?

Moral injury is a buzzword — but that's not necessarily a bad thing.

We hear a lot these days about post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which is understood traditionally as a conditioned fear response to a life threat.

But a PTSD diagnosis just doesn't capture the moral dimension of psychological anguish many service members and veterans experience during and after deployments abroad.



Training exercise: A soldier with a machine gun, sitting in a moving tank, looks into the bushes.

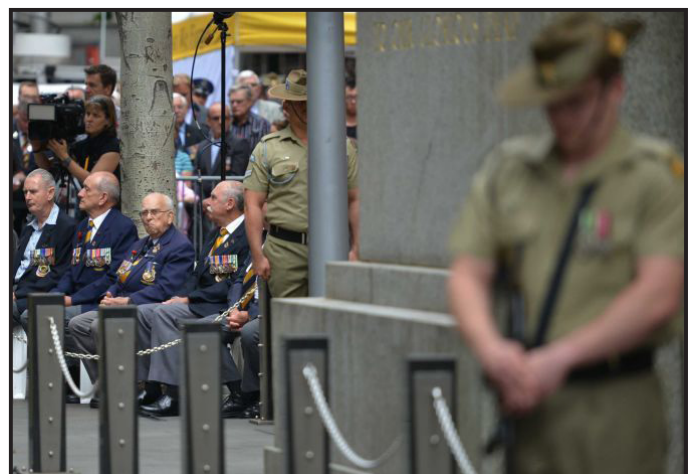
Moral injury is what happens when traumatic events cross a soldier's moral boundaries. Getty Images: Ian Hitchcock

Nor does it begin to touch on the weighty sense of personal and moral responsibility so central to military training.

The notion of moral injury helps to express what happens when traumatic events cross soldiers' moral boundaries, leaving them to deal with the permanent psychological, cultural, and spiritual affects.

The idea has a long history. Socrates, and later the Stoics who take Socrates's lead, put forward the notion that one can be morally damaged or harmed as the perpetrator of wrongdoing.

"Wrongdoing is in every way harmful and shameful to the wrongdoer," Socrates wrote.



How can we better understand the anguish of our veterans?

"Just as a body is corrupted by disease and injury, so too, that part of ourselves that is improved by just actions is destroyed by unjust actions."

Blame and shame

Moral injuries can be experienced as global feelings of moral despair, or a sense of shattered moral identity and profound moral disillusionment.

It is not surprising that these feelings are so common in war, exacerbated, no doubt, when individuals feel helplessly complicit in unjustified killing.

Listen to the interview

Dr Nancy Sherman speaks about moral injury on The Philosopher's Zone.

The military is good at teaching lofty ideals delivered in moral absolutes: never leave a fallen comrade behind, cover each other's back, bring all your troops home.

But war involves imperfect duties that can't be perfectly fulfilled — and young service members, with a black and white sense of morality and a can-do mentality, don't always grasp that fine point.

Consequently, many hold themselves strictly liable.

But moral injury isn't confined to the battlefield.

Injury can be inflicted through actions that diminish one's standing and strength to do and be one's best — to use army talk.

Some years ago, I interviewed a mid-level military officer, Miriam Krieger.

She arrived on base as an aviator with a remarkably distinguished record of academic achievements and military awards.



Miriam Krieger in the cockpit of a fighter jet.

Photo: Former US Air Force officer Miriam Krieger (left) was a distinguished aviator.

Supplied: Miriam Krieger.

She was clearly a star and got a highly coveted senior job. But when she reported to take up her new position, the base commander told her that he fought against her appointment and would continue to do everything he could to undermine it, because she was female and he preferred an all-male unit.

The tenor of his complaint was the tenor on base, and there was well-established lingo for it. As Miriam put it, her very presence was "disrupting the status quo" and "tearing down heritage and tradition".

It was clear in talking to Miriam, several years after the incident, that she felt then, and years later still felt, a

deep resentment about her mistreatment by a superior, who failed to comply morally and legally with norms — specifically, with fair and equal treatment under gender integration in the forces.

She had been demeaned, degraded and forced to work in a hostile environment, where the commander encouraged sexist values, protective of the old military as a male-only club.

But she also felt miserably let down by her commander in his failing to meet the challenge of treating her as equal.

It wasn't so much that she was wronged, but that he failed her by disappointing her reasonable expectation for him. He didn't invest hope in her in a way that showed commitment to her promise and potential as an aviator in the unit.

He couldn't recognise her bid to show him she was on par with that of any male. And she rightly believed he ought to hear her calls to be allowed in that shared military space — to be inducted into it.

On top of this, she felt disappointment in herself.

Despite some critical distance and a fairly feminist upbringing, by a mother with an elite professional career, she nonetheless internalised the male shaming. In the Freudian language of defence mechanisms, she "identified with the aggressor".

The only way to survive, as she put it to me, was to "outbro the bros".

That sense of compromise added to her self-disappointment, and to her disappointment in command for putting her in that position.

As a pilot, she described it vividly to me as a sense of moral disorientation, like the spatial disorientation you can feel during high G-force accelerations. She literally felt that she had lost her moral compass.

Suffering this kind of injury is not an indictment of character — a show of weakness or a matter of not being stoic enough. Rather, the moral disappointment is a painful acknowledgment of failure to take seriously moral principles and ideals.

Miriam's case underscores the point that military moral injury doesn't always occur in a combat context.

Repairing trust beyond the clinic

My work with service members and veterans has been outside the clinic, largely in the classroom and in mentoring roles, in the context of the university.

As academics, we are a part of the homecoming.

We serve a critical role in understanding, up close, what it is we ask citizen soldiers to do when we ask them to serve, and what it is we can do to serve them in coming home.

We owe it to them to responsibly engage in the discussion about going to war and fighting with justification.

But we must also be willing to talk with them, about what it is like to come home from war — morally and psychologically.

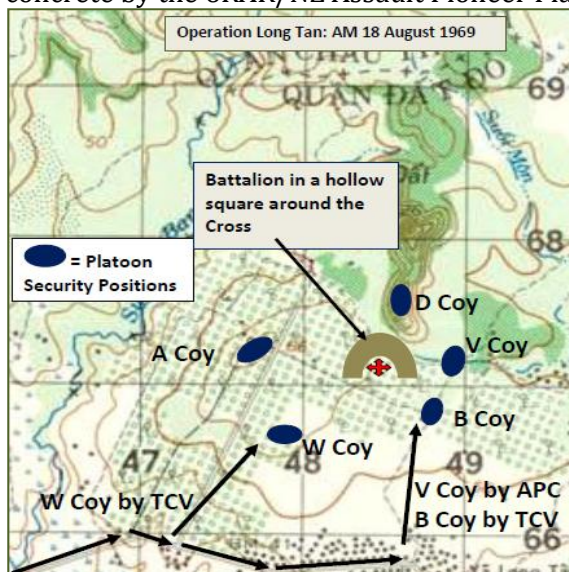
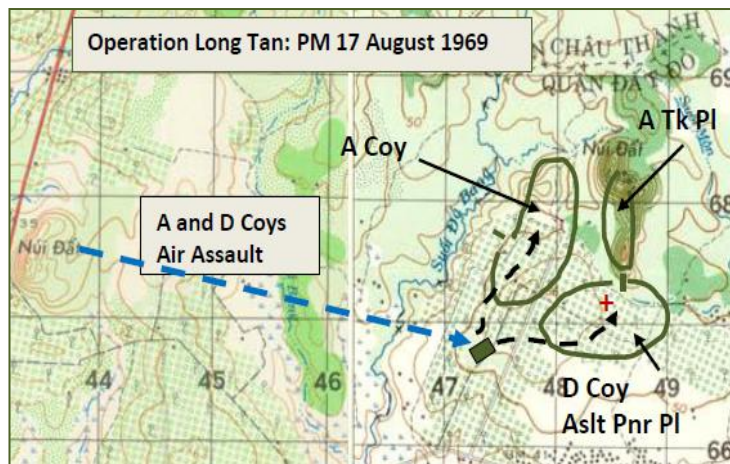
Operation Long Tan: 18 August 1969

By Centurion

On 15 August 1969, 6RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Battalion began preparations for an operation commencing 17 August, ie *Operation Long Tan*. The concept for this operation had been under consideration for some time involving as it did a ceremony on 18 August at the site of the 1966 battle including the erection of a memorial cross. Because of the possibility of enemy being in the area, eg subunits of *D445 VC Battalion* which randomly roamed through the area of the Long Tan Rubber Plantation, the operation had to be conducted as a normal tactical operation.

At 2 pm on 17 August A Company (*Maj PL Belt*) air assaulted into a Landing Zone (LZ) which was about 500 metres south of the LZ used to evacuate casualties on the night of the battle in 1966. D Company (*Maj IT Stewart*) with under command the Assault Pioneer Platoon and the Tracker Platoon followed and both companies moved to secure the area, especially to the north of the proposed location of the Cross (+) – see map opposite.

The Cross was to be erected on the site where 11 Platoon had fought so courageously and lost so many casualties during the Battle of Long Tan. The Cross was manufactured in concrete by the 6RAR/NZ Assault Pioneer Platoon, weighed about 200 Kg and was two metres high.



Early on 18 August 1969, the remaining Rifle Companies and Support Company moved to the area. V Company (*Maj LJ Lynch*) led the move in Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) followed by B Company (*Maj MJ Harris*) and W Company (*Maj LG Williams*) in Troop Carrying Vehicles (TCVs), ie trucks – see map left.

On reaching their designated areas the companies occupied a harbour position and then moved to the area of the Cross to form a 'hollow square'. Each company left a reinforced platoon behind to form a security screen around the area of the Cross

Before the Battalion had concentrated, D Company and the Assault Pioneer Platoon had located and secured the position of the Cross which was to face south. The Cross

was then flown in by RAAF Helicopter and erected by the Assault Pioneer Platoon.

The Brass Plaque on the Cross reads:



'In memory of those members of D Company and 3 Troop 1 APC Squadron who gave their lives near this spot during the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966.

Erected by 6RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Battalion 18 August 1969'





The dedication ceremony then commenced with the sun shining down on the Cross and the Honour Guard drawn from veterans of the Battle of Long Tan –and with the ‘hollow square’ visible in the tree line.

After the ceremony the rifle companies returned to Nui Dat and the Tracker Platoon remained as the ‘stay behind’ before also returning to Nui Dat

Epilogue

It was evident in 1969 people were confident the South would win the war against the revolutionary North because to preserve the integrity of the Cross it was suggested at the time that it included an inscription on the reverse side dedicating it to the men of 275 VC Regiment who lost their lives during the battle. The suggestion was robustly rejected and maybe it wouldn't have made any difference anyway because after victory by the North in 1975 the Cross was removed. Indeed it is quite possible the Cross and most certainly the Brass Plaque had been removed even before the Task Force left Nui Dat in November 1971

The Cross was rediscovered in 1987 by Terry Burstall a veteran of 6RAR's first tour; it was in a shed in the redeveloped village of Long Tan, a couple of kilometres to the south-east of the 1966 battlefield. The original village had been resettled in 1966 in advance of the Task Force occupation of Nui Dat. The Brass Plaque was missing but was presented to Terry by Vietnamese officials in Dat Do. He could have brought it back to Australia but correctly decided it and the Cross should stay together.

Terry had hoped both could be removed to Australia in return for a donation of medical supplies by the Australian Government for a local hospital. For reasons which are obscure this did not happen and the Cross and Plaque were eventually relocated to the Dong Nai Museum in Bien Hoa where it remains, though it was temporarily loaned to the Australian War Memorial in 2012.

A replica Cross now stands at the original site where with prior approval, commemoration services may be conducted.



The replica Cross on 5 October 2015. Nui Dat 2 can just be seen on the far left.
Photograph courtesy of Bianca Signorelli, McLachlan Tours



The original Cross in the Dong Nai Museum in Bien Hoa
Photograph courtesy of Ross Ellis

Governor attends National Service Memorial at Keswick

A very moving and sombre service was conducted at the new Memorial Gardens at the side of the headquarters of the South Australian Branch of the National Servicemen's Association at 41 Surrey Road, Keswick, at 11am on Friday 17 March 2017.

The service was to dedicate the Memorial Stone and Pathway with gold pavers that contain the names of over 500 national servicemen who served in Australia and overseas and many who died on active service in Vietnam and Borneo.

These pavers with their inscriptions were paid for by family members, ex- service associations and RSL Clubs and about the same amount of spaces are free for as many pavers again. Future plans include a rose garden that can be named in a soldier's honour.

His Excellency the Governor The Honourable Hieu Van Le AC was present to address the visitors and unveil the Memorial Stone. It was obvious that His Excellency was very moved by the occasion especially when unveiling the memorial stone.

Over 400 local and interstate VIPs and guests attended with support provided by the Marion City Band, 413 Cadet Unit, Chaplains the Rev Dr Vern Cracknell, Pastor Rod Denton and Rev Norm Carter, and Pipe Major Des Ross, Chief of Ross Clan in Australia, who played the Lament.

The Nation President Major Earle Jennings AM RFD ED (Rtd) and his wife also attended as they and other interstate delegates were attending a National Servicemen's Conference in Adelaide to coincide with this service.



Above: Ken Duthie, in full Highland Regimental Dress of the Ross Clan, with Colonel Peter Scott, DSO (Rtd), both ex 3RAR at the service.

Of the 511 soldiers who were killed in Vietnam and 23 during confrontation in Borneo 210 were National Servicemen, 31 of these were South Australians and their names are listed on the National Servicemen's Memorial Stone in the gardens behind the West Torrens Town Hall.

Some of these South Australians are included in these pavers by families and friends. Of those 31 South Australians 20 were killed while serving in one of the nine battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment. I was therefore very disappointed that the Regiment or any of the nine battalions concerned were not represented other than myself for 3RAR.

It should be remembered that half of all soldiers in each

battalion were to be national servicemen and mine, 3RAR second tour in 1971 was no exception.

The Coordinator of the project and the Master of Ceremonies for the service was Captain Barry Presgrave, OAM, JP (Rtd). Barry gave an excellent explanation of the last four years in the development of the project and the extensive list of sponsors.

The RAR and battalion associations should get behind this project and recognise their national servicemen's contribution to their service. Application forms are available at the RAR Clubrooms, 13 Beatty Street, Linden Park, or from me at pscott@kern.com.au

- Peter Scott



Catherine May, Physiotherapist

9 Crossley Street, Erindale
Appointments:

8364 2859 or 0417 851 708

DVA approved

No gap for DVA clients

Full range of physio services available
including

~Hydrotherapy (heated pool)

~ Massage ~ Gym ~ Home visits

CLUBROOM FILLED TO CAPACITY

7RAR Duke of Gloucester Cup Team presentation of armament and equipment



Scenes from the presentation showing just some of those who attended and, below, Neville Cooper (ex Corporal 3RAR- 1968-67 SVN, being shown the infantry section F88 /Austeyr 5.56mm rifle by Private "Jabba" Jablonski, a signaller with Support Company 7RAR.

Thanks to John Ford for the photos.



The RAR Association, its members and friends were treated to a wonderful display of weapons and equipment by the Duke of Gloucester Cup OG Cup team who will represent 7RAR at the annual DOG Competition held at the School of Infantry every year to tie in with the Royal Australian Regiment Council Meeting and Corps Conference.

These young men from 7RAR will be trying very hard to bring the trophy home but an added incentive is the DOG Cup winner in Australia will then compete at a similar but somewhat more complex competition against Infantry Units of the world in the United Kingdom.

Thankfully that is still in place after Brexit and we will all be hoping that 7RAR, our Adelaide Battalion, will bring the Cup home.

The equipment and weapons, however, on the night stunned some of the old and bold, which was excellently presented by the Section Commander.

This was followed by a considerable and inquisitive Q&A which made one realise how far our Corps and the Regiment had come in the last 50 years.

We are thankful to the CO 7RAR for arranging this display and very grateful to the members of the section and others from the Battalion who attended on this Friday night where they fly out for a major exercise in Shoalwater Bay for the next five weeks.

The next display hopefully will be by the Sniper Wing and hopefully the Section Commander of the DOG Cup team will also attend with the trophy.

This display is a great testament of the respect and admiration that exists between the Battalion, the 7RAR Association and the RARA. Looking at these fit and well equipped young men we are in safe hands.

Duty First!

Trio at lunch to mark 64th anniversary of end to Korean War hostilities

These three old salts of the Korean War attended a lunch at Lockleys Hotel, South Australia, on 27 July to commemorate the 64th Anniversary of the cessation of hostilities in the Korean War.

Organised by President John Jarrett of the Korean & South East Asia Forces Association of Australia Inc and SA Branch and Secretary Kay Mosley about 50 guests including 10 Veterans, partners and a large group from the Korean Community attended to mark the occasion.

In the photograph are (left) Lt Col Patrick Forbes MC ED who as Pioneer Platoon Commander in 2RAR was awarded the Military Cross for his "personal courage, zeal and efficiency" during the Battle of the Hook in July 1953. Centre is Colonel Peter Scott, DSO (Vietnam) who was the Intelligence Officer in 3RAR during the Battle of Maryang San in October 1951 and was



Mentioned in Dispatches for his "ability and courage of a high order" during that operation. On the right is Colonel Don Beard AM RFD ED who served in 3RAR in the first five months of 1951 as the RMO during the Battle of Kapyong. He also served as a surgeon in the 1 Australian Field Hospital in Vung Tau, Vietnam for three months in 1968.

- Peter Scott, 30 July 2017

Cross-nation cyclist welcomed after charity ride from WA



A group of friends and David's parents greet cyclist David Beacham when he arrived at Torrens Parade Ground after riding from WA to raise funds for non-for-profit veteran support groups.



David Beacham holding the cheque from the Apex Club of Gawler with 3 RAR co-secretary Jeff Barrett presenting cash and RARA SA Vice President Rod Graham presenting a cheque.

On April 1 friends from various walks of life and well-wishers welcomed David Beacham to Torrens Parade Ground after his marathon bike ride from WA to SA.

Donations were presented to him from Gawler Apex Club, the RARA and 3 RAR added to those he collected along the way for his project to provide accommodation for homeless veterans.

In April the Gawler Bunyip published the following article:

A West Australian ex-serviceman with connections to the local region stopped off in Gawler last week, as part of his cross-country bike ride to raise funds for, and awareness of, veteran homelessness and suicide.

David Beacham decided to make the solo 2700 km journey from his home-town, Perth, to Adelaide in support of not-for-profit veteran support groups Help Save Our Veterans and Overwatch.

He was sponsored to carry out the ride by Gawler Apex Club – of which his younger brother, Richard, is a member – and it donated 50 cents for every kilometre he rode.

Mr Beacham, who formerly served in the Royal Australian Regiment in the 2nd 4th Battalion, said his aim was to raise \$15,000 to purchase and deliver an accommodation block for homeless veterans, at a property in south-western WA.

“The whole idea came when I was sitting down drinking with friends, in October last year,” he said.

“I said, ‘look, if we want to collect money, if we want to be serious, we’ve got to do something outlandish to get something happening’.

“They said, ‘what do you think is outlandish?’ and I said, ‘I’ll ride a push-bike to Adelaide’.

“I hadn’t ridden a bike for 20 years.”

Mr Beacham, a volunteer at his local RSL, left Perth at the start of March and arrived in Adelaide on April 1

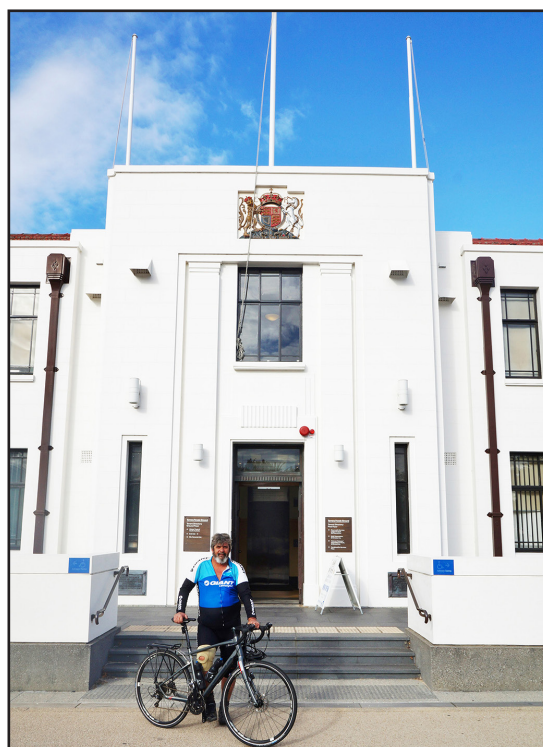
finishing the journey at the Torrens Parade Ground in the city.

He decided to stop off in Gawler earlier last week, however, to visit family scattered around the local area, and members of the Apex Club who sponsored him.

Mr Beacham averaged roughly 100 km a day on his bike, slept in a swag and ate military rations, but was astounded by the support he received from fellow road users, including professional cyclists and veterans travelling in RVs and camper-vans.

“It’s been really interesting, and it’s been quite tough, but (I’ll do) anything to support those guys that have gone to support our country, and then been left to live on the streets,” he said.

Mr Beacham has, so far, raised around \$6700 towards his goal, and is still accepting donations - [gofundme.com/ride-from-perth-to-adelaide-2017](https://www.gofundme.com/ride-from-perth-to-adelaide-2017).”



This is the photo David especially requested Infantryman Co-Editor Bruce Forster to take for him as he stood outside the entrance to the Torrens Parade Ground buildings.

Visit to 3RAR 3-5 May 2017

by Colonel Peter Scott, DSO

I visited 3RAR at the invitation of the CO Lt Col Giles Cornelia CSM to attend the delayed Kapyong and Task Group Taji-Five Farewell Parades.

The Kapyong parade was delayed because of the training of Task Group Taji-Five during April. Colonel Don Beard AM RFD ED and his son Mathew and Lt Col Don Stewart also attended which, with me, made up the contingent from South Australia.

The Kapyong Parade was executed in the normal format supported by the newly-reformed 3RAR Pipes and Drums augmented by 8/9 RAR and 5/7 RAR Pipes and Drums which gave a magnificent spectacle and sound. below)



Joe Vezgoff, (below) a Veteran of Kapyong affixed the Kapyong Streamer on the Regiment Colour and Colonel Don Beard, RMO during the Battle of Kapyong, read the United States Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation with the odd personal remark. Very well done both of them.



The second parade was for the Task Group Taji-Five, which included members of 3RAR and other arms and services, paraded in their camouflaged uniform under fading light. Task Group Taji-Five Mission, as part of the US-led coalition, is to train selected units of Iraqi Security Forces in order to defeat Dae'sh and maintain security in Iraq. There was a big crowd of friends and relatives watching the parade and a slight drizzle did not dampen their appreciation of members on parade.

The Reviewing Officer was The Commander 1st Division, Major General Paul McLachlan, AM, CSC. The host was the Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Regiment, Major General Mark Kelly, AO, DSC, who incidentally was the Mission Director for the trip to Korea last October.

Another highlight for me was to reunite with the members of 3RAR who accompanied the Government mission to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Battles of Kapyong and Maryang San in October 2016.

This photograph (next page top right) was taken outside the 3RAR Museum on 4 May 2017 and are from L to R: Tristan Kennedy, Dylan Gallen, Mitchell Higgins, Hayden Pownall, Peter Scott, Laughlan Mitchell, Daniel

Szabo, Adam McNaughton and Lt Jason Richardson. (Absent WO Mathew Vermey on duty with Colour Party). They are all off as members of Task Group Taji-Five.



We had a beer or two and then I visited the unit museum which is quite spectacular in its contents covering every conflict the battalion has been engaged in. I was particularly interested in the memorabilia from 3RAR in BCOF, Korea and of course Vietnam. I now know where my military memorabilia is going when I am discharged. The curator is doing a great job and I was able to fill in a few gaps in the names and locations of photographs. Of special interest was a letter to me in Woodside as CO from Terrance Cuneo, the artist the unit had engaged to do the painting of the Battle of Kapyong, in reply to my letter congratulating and thanking him for his finished work on the painting. It is now hanging proudly in 3RAR BHQ.

The four of us were escorted throughout our visit by Lt Jason Richardson, who had been on the mission to Korea last October, and Lt Jared Bellgardt. Both treated us old veterans, including Joe Vezgoff, with great care and consideration.

The photo below taken after the parade is of, from left) Lieutenant Colonel Don Stewart (4 RAR in Borneo and Vietnam), Peter Scott, Joe Vezgoff, Colonel Don Beard and Lt Jared Bellgardt. On the evening before



the parade, guests and officers and senior NCOs of the battalion gathered for refreshments in the Madden club. This club was named in honour of Pte 'Slim' Madden captured by the Chinese on 24 April 1951 and died as a POW. Awarded the George Cross Posthumously after he died of malnutrition and ill-treatment and resisting all enemy attempts to force him to collaborate.

I caught up with Bob Dabinett (RP Sgt 1971), President of the 3RAR Corporation and his wife Anka plus John (Murf) Blaney-Murphy, Ken 'Rocket' Rundell, Billy Billington, Lindsay Johnston all up from Sydney and Barry Fullard all D Coy 3RAR 1971. Could not find them after the parade for a photograph unfortunately. Apparently the five of them spent a week drinking a few beers and telling lies whilst staying at Barry Fullard's place. Just great comradeship formed while serving in 3RAR in Vietnam in 1971.

ANZAC DAY MARCH 2017





7 RAR lead by Chris Ashenden



8 RAR lead by Ted Forward



9 RAR lead by David Stacey



The Royal Australian Regiment Association's vans were not only on display but conveyed some of those unable to march. Left: Among Military History Officer Ken Duthy's passengers was Tony Zammitt, 3 RAR ex-signaller. Right: Neil Nichols had Major General Peter Phillips AO MC retired OC Delta Coy 3 RAR veteran with him.

CEREMONIAL

ANZAC DAY 2018

Between now and ANZAC Day 2018 the SA Government plans to construct tramline extensions



- * Along North Terrace from King William Road to East Terrace.
- * North along King William Road from North Terrace to the Festival Plaza.

This will affect the units who previously had assembly areas on North Terrace and will most likely affect our previous assembly area in Pultney Street between North Terrace and Rundle Street.

Details of changes will be announced in 2018 but please expect a change to our previous assembly area.

Adrian Craig; Ceremonial



3 RAR QUIZ DAY

QUIZ MASTERS

'Do your Quiz on the first Date'

Now, George & Kyle

3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment Association SA.

A fun Quiz afternoon will be held on Sunday

29th October 2017, Time 12.30 pm - 3.30 pm, approx.

There will be Lucky door prizes.

Tables of 10 preferred, although not essential.

\$10 per person.

Bring along a few gold coins to play various games during the afternoon.

Complimentary afternoon Tea will be served of coffee, tea, biscuits, cakes, slices & Juice.

Bar facilities will be available.

Ring and book a table and pay on the day.

Please phone Heather: - 0411 439 024,

Email sanddrifter@outlook.com

Margaret: - 0418 827 877

Neil: - 0488 050 810

Place: RAR SA Hall, 13 Beatty St, Linden Park (Old Burnside RSL Hall).

All funds raised on this day will go towards the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment Association of SA and will assist our members and families with Health, Welfare and any special needs of past and current Serving Members.

Major Commemorative Services August to December 2017



The RAR Association SA and battalion associations will be conducting the following major commemorative services from August to December 2017:

Friday 18 August – RAR Association SA - Vietnam War and Battle of Long Tan Vietnam War Memorial at Torrens Training Depot.

Saturday 7 October – 3 RAR SA Battle of Maryang San at Linden Park.

Tuesday 14 December – 9 RAR SA 50th Anniversary Commemorative Service at Keswick Barracks.

VIETNAM WAR AND BATTLE OF LONG TAN COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE 18 AUGUST 2017

On Friday 18 August 2017 the RAR

Association SA assisted by the ADF and other ex-service organisations

will conduct the annual Vietnam War and Battle of Long Tan Commemorative Service at the Vietnam War Memorial, Torrens Training Depot (pictured).

This is a change from the previously advised format and venue.

The service will commence at 11am and should last about an hour.

There will be limited tented shelter so those attending should make provision for inclement weather.

Car parking will be available on the Parade Ground.

As a mark of respect to our war dead those attend the service are requested to wear decorations and medals with clothing appropriate to this solemn occasion.

There will not be a march, concert or food and drinks and the plan is for those who wish to may gather at the Cathedral Hotel, North Adelaide, (pictured) after the service.

There is no need to book to attend either the service or the hotel as both are open to the general public.

The contact is RAR Association SA Ceremonial Manager Adrian Craig: 8263 4784 and as.craig9rar@bigpond.com





3 RAR October Muster details for Busselton, WA

The 3RAR Muster in Busselton, WA, this is open to all 3RAR members, past and present and partners and friends.

We are in the process of setting up the weekend which will be from Friday to Sunday, October over 27 to 29.

The Meet and Greet will be at the Busselton RSL at 10 Rosemary Drive, on Friday October 27, from 1700hrs to about 2200hrs.

The Formal Dinner on the Saturday will be at the Esplanade Hotel, Busselton, from 1830hrs for a 1900hrs start.

The menu has been confirmed and details and requirements will be found at: Access <http://www.back2woodside.com/> Execution tab to make your selections.

The Sunday gathering will be a barbeque lunch at the Kookaburra Caravan Park, 08 9752 1516 - 163 Bussell Highway, 6280 Busselton, as a Muster windup and meeting to determine the location of the next muster in 2018. Timings TBA.

There is a map of Busselton in the Admin and Log Tab

at: <http://www.back2woodside.com>

Accommodation. We have spoken to the listed accommodation providers who are prepared to provide discounts, which can be done by stating that you are attending the 3RAR Muster.

There will be a discount on all the rooms and/or park sites of those muster members. So keep this weekend free. The telephone numbers below will take you to the accommodation providers.

Kookaburra Caravan Park, 08 9752 1516
66 Marine Terrace, 6280 Busselton.

Paradise Motor Inn, 08 9752 1200
6 Pries Avenue, 6280 Busselton.

Amaroo Motel, 08 9752 1544
25-31 Bussell Highway, Busselton.

The Esplanade Hotel, 08 9752 1078
Marine Terrace, Busselton.

We site for further information and registration of attendance: <http://www.back2woodside.com>

- Arthur Willemse

The War Veterans Fishing Group has continued to be active on the fishing grounds since the April Infantryman. We have conducted two four-day fishing trips to Moonta Bay and one four-day trip to Port Victoria. We also had two whiting charters to Balgowan. Our first trip to Moonta Bay early in May yielded the group well over **70 whiting, 9 squid, 35 garfish** and **numerous tommies**. Our next trip to Moonta Bay in the beginning of July, our best efforts ever with all four boats



achieving their bag limits of whiting each launching, **3 legal Snapper**, more than **150 whiting** and **13 squid**. The two charters for whiting were productive

with a boat limit of **100 whiting caught both times**. Our next major activity will tie in with Veterans Health Week in October at the Punyerloo Caravan Park on the River Murray. Like your fishing? We would love to hear from any members, young or old, to get "amongst 'em." Phone Kevin Stone on 8284 3974 to find out more.

NEWS FROM THE BATTALIONS

3 RAR

Since the last newsletter our Association has been busy as usual with:

- Our AGM on 31 March where the major change was Jeff Barrett stepping up to Vice President replacing Russell Campbell OAM who had completed his two years in office.
- Since then we have appointed a number of members of our Committee as deputies to deputise in the absence of a number of appointment holders (David White DMembership and Heather Zammitt DSocial).
- D Company 1967-1968 having a reunion in Adelaide before and after ANZAC Day and joining us on both Kapyong Day and ANZAC Day.
- Transitioning to electronic newsletters (Editor Jeff Barrett) and increasing the use of our website (Webmaster and Membership Officer Keith Wells).
- Monthly lunches at the Lord Melbourne Hotel and a Quiz Night on 27 May; the latter being organised at



the last minute by Secretary Carol Van Der Peet in the absence of Social Member Neil Nichols due to illness.

- Fundraising via sausage sizzles at Bunnings Hardware; in the main at Kent Town and organised by Neville and Margaret Cooper.
- Sale of merchandise and again organised by Neville and Margaret Cooper.
- Commemorative services for the Battle of Kapyong on 24 April and the Battle of Long Khanh on 7 June with again a wonderful team effort by 3 RAR SA and others including the ADF and Catherine Lambert, Rosemary Bilac and The Terrace Singers.

For the rest of 2017 we will have:

- A commemorative service for the Battle of Maryang San on 7 October.
- A Quiz Afternoon on Sunday 29 October to which all are welcome.
- Our Battalion Birthday and Christmas Party on Sunday 26 November.
- More fundraising and monthly lunches.

Adrian Craig, 3 RAR SA rep.

Club van put to good use for military history outing

Members of RAR and National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association of Australia travelled to Bublocowie Military Museum on May 24 in our RAR van. The museum was built and run by Vietnam-Malay Veteran Chris Soar BM at Bublacowie about 250kms from Adelaide on Yorke Peninsula. Eight members attended and also enjoyed lunch provided by the museum. It is set on two acres with a mix of buildings housing an extensive range of not only military but a range of all things antique.

Chris was our host and guide for the day. All told it was a great trip organised by our Club Manager Greg Dwiar. Those attending were (from left) Bob Whinnen, Trevor Jones, Steve Scorba, host Chris Soar BM, Greg Dwiar, Jeff Barrett, David Hartcher. Front: Carol Van Der Peet and Gay Hartcher.

- Carol Van Der Peet



NEWS FROM THE BATTALIONS

8 RAR

The Battalion Birthday and AGM will be held on Tuesday 8 August 2017 at the The Caledonian Hotel, on the corner of O'Connell Street and Barton Street West North Adelaide. The AGM will be held first at 1130 hours. After the AGM, we will be having lunch and commemorating the Battalions 56th birthday.

Should you have any matters that need to be considered at the AGM, please get back to me with the details so it maybe included.

Please advise me at the contacts listed below if you are attending or if you are not able to come. Your attendance is needed to ensure that the Association here in South Australia continues to function and to support all Battalion members here in South Australia. You do not need to go on the committee, but just by attending you will show the committee to be elected that it has the support necessary to keep on functioning.

The current Committee has organised a train trip for

8/9 RAR

As advised in the last newsletter we are still looking for past members of 8/9 RAR to march on ANZAC Day behind their own banner.

To march on ANZAC Day it is not a requirement to be a returned serviceman or woman but it is a requirement to have served in the Australian Defence Forces.

The RAR Association SA has approved funds for the production of a banner based on the National 8/9 RAR Banner's design.

Past members of 8/9 RAR who wish to march behind their banner on ANZAC Day are requested to contact the Ceremonial Manager; Adrian Craig on 8263 4784 or as.craig9rar@bigpond.com

Adrian Craig: Ceremonial Manager



Sunday 20 August 2017 on the Steam Ranger, departing from Mount Barker at 1000 hours sharp to Goolwa, Port Elliott and Victor Harbor. There will be a three-hour break at Victor Harbor before the train leaves at 1545 hours, travelling back to Mount Barker via Port Elliott, Goolwa and arriving at Mount Barker at 1805 Hours.

On Friday 22 September 2017 at 1200 hours we have scheduled a visit to the Aviation Museum at Port Adelaide. Please mark it in your diary. More on this and other events soon.

Ted Forward

President

8 Battalion

Royal Australian Regiment Association (SA)

9 RAR SA

This year is the 50th Anniversary of the formation of 9 RAR at Keswick Barracks on 13 November 1967 and 9 RAR SA is hosting the 50th Anniversary Reunion to coincide with that formation date.

It is being organised by a team lead by our Secretary/Treasurer Bob Plummer and its outline is:

- Sunday 12 November – company gatherings.
- Monday 13 November – dinner at the Hilton Hotel.
- Tuesday 14 November – commemorative service Keswick Barracks.
- Wednesday 15 November – picnic at Lake Breeze Winery Langhorne Creek.



In July we conducted graveside gatherings for D Company men killed in July 1969 at Whyalla on July 6 and Centennial Park on July 12.

Our AGM will be conducted in December after the Reunion.

Adrian Craig: 9 RAR SA rep.

Domestic and Overseas Commemorations for the rest of 2017

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Dan Tehan said 2017 features a number of significant military commemorations to recognise the service and sacrifice of the men and women who have fought to defend our country.

Passes are provided at no cost. Details on how to register are available on DVA's website at www.dva.gov.au. Passes not required for domestic commemorations.

In Australia, commemorations will be held for 75th anniversaries of Second World War events, the Fall of Singapore, the Battle of the Coral Sea, Bomber Command operations, the Battle of Milne Bay, the Battle of El Alamein and the culmination of the North Africa campaigns, and Kokoda and the Beachheads.

A commemoration will also be held to recognise the 70th anniversary of the contribution made by Australian peacekeepers and peacemakers around the world.

Overseas, Australia will commemorate the 100th anniversaries of the Battle of Bullecourt in France, the Battle of Polygon Wood in Belgium and the Battle of Beersheba in Israel from the First World War.

A commemoration to mark the Centenary of the Battle of Polygon Wood will be held at Buttes New British Cemetery in Zonnebeke, Belgium, on 26 September 2017. On 31 October 2017, in Israel, a

commemoration will recognise the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Beersheba, and the famous charge of the 4th Light Horse Brigade. At sunset on 31 October 1917, the light horsemen charged the Turkish lines using their bayonets as swords; the momentum of the surprise attack carried them through the Turkish defences and more than 1,000 prisoners were taken.

In 2017 Australia will also mark its other days of national commemoration including Battle for Australia Day, Merchant Navy Day and Remembrance Day.

DATES, COMMEMORATIONS & LOCATIONS

Friday 25 August : - 75th anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay - Australian War Memorial

Thursday 14 September: 70th anniversary Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemakers - Anzac Parade, Canberra.

Tuesday 26 September: Centenary of the Battle of Polygon Wood, Passchendaele - Zonnebeke, Belgium

Monday 23 October: - 75th anniversary of the start of El Alamein - Australian War Memorial

Tuesday 31 October: Centenary of the Battle of Beersheba, Sinai Palestine Campaign - Be'er Sheva, Israel

Thursday 2 November: 75th anniversary of Kokoda and the beachheads - Australian War Memorial

Royal Australian Regiment Association Committee 2016- 2017

Patron Laurie Lewis AM

Elected Positions

President Michael von Berg MC OAM 0411 870 055
mvb@michaelvonberg.com
 Vice President Rod Graham 0427 977 145
rodg2@bigpond.com.au
 Secretary Jim Stopford 0400 191 801
jbstopford@bigpond.com
 Treasurer and Webmaster Mike Bevan 0416 106 578
mikeb3@netspace.net.au

Appointed Committee Positions

Manager - Club Greg Dwiar 0412 644 749
gregdwiar@gmail.com
 Manager - Ceremonial Adrian Craig 8263 4784
as.craig9rar@bigpond.com
 Welfare Officer Robert Whinnen 0413 189 558
rjwhinnen@gmail.com
 Membership Carol Van Der Peet 0415 242 084
3RARSA@gmail.com
 Trojan's Trek Director Moose Dunlop OAM 0408 088 886
moose@trojanstrek.com
 Schools Military History Officer Ken Duthie 0418 806 172

Voluntary Positions

Manager - Bar Chris Shannon 0414 797 250
 Editor - Infantryman Penelope Forster 0419 856 946
penelopeforster01@gmail.com

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 2 RAR Malcolm Allen mal@aladdco.com.au 0451 374 133
 2/4 RAR Michael Hinchey michael.hinchley@inet.net.au
 3 RAR Adrian Craig as.craig9rar@bigpond.com 8263 4784
 4 RAR Rod Harris sirrah@lm.net.au 0448 726 088
 5 RAR Mos Hancock moswhan@bigpond.net.au 0414 566 212
 5/7 RAR Chris Shannon thinktank2002@hotmail.com 0414 797 250
 6 RAR Vacant
 7 RAR Robert Whinnen rjwhinnen@gmail.com 0413 189 558
 8 RAR Ted Forward adrienne.ted.forward@gmail.com 8235 1625
 9 RAR Adrian Craig as.craig9rar@bigpond.com 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
Email: rar01@internode.on.net

MEAL & BAR ROSTER AUG - DEC

| MEAL | | BAR |
|-------------------|----|---------------|
| AUGUST | | |
| Hamburger | 5 | Neil Nichols |
| Family Friday | 12 | Bob Whinnen |
| LONG TAN DAY | 18 | T.B.A |
| REGIMENTAL DINNER | 19 | |
| Schnitzel night | 26 | Kara |
| SEPTEMBER | | |
| Hamburger | 1 | Chris Shannon |
| Family Friday | 8 | Bob Whinnen |
| BBQ and salads | 15 | Adrian Craig |
| Guest Chef | 23 | Spike |
| Schnitzel night | 29 | Neil Nichols |
| OCTOBER | | |
| Hamburger | 2 | Kara |
| Family Friday | 13 | Bob Whinnen |
| Guest Chef | 20 | Chris Shannon |
| BBQ and salads | 27 | Adrian Craig |
| NOVEMBER | | |
| Hamburger | 7 | Spike |
| Family Friday | 14 | Bob Whinnen |
| BBQ and salads | 21 | Neil Nichols |
| RAR XMAS DRINKS | 28 | Kara |
| DECEMBER | | |
| Hamburger | 7 | Chris Shannon |
| BBQ & Salads | 14 | Bob Whinnen |
| XMAS DINNER | 21 | Adrian Craig |
| XMAS BREAK | 28 | CLOSED |

**Deadline for November 2017
 edition of Infantryman
 will be mid-September**

Criteria:

- Articles and photos are always welcome. Email to President Michael von Berg on mvb@michaelvonberg.com and Editor Penelope Forster at penelopeforster01@gmail.com for consideration.
- Submit copy in 10pt Word and photos separately as jpgs.
- Subject line for article and photos should match, starting with Infantryman. i.e. Infantryman memorial.
- Phone numbers: (08) 1123 45678 or mobiles XXXX XXX XXX - four numbers (space) three numbers (space three numbers).
- Numbers: 1 to 9 in words and 10 onwards in numbers. Also 1st, 2nd etc. Dates should include the day of the week.

Thanks - Penelope Forster, Co-Editor