



INFANTRYMAN

The Journal of the RAR Association SA
Keeping the Spirit Alive

July 2021

Service remembrance and reflection of outstanding Aboriginal KIA in Vietnam in 1966

I was honoured to attend the Aboriginal Veterans' Commemorative Service in Adelaide on Friday 28 May 2021 at the magnificent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial I on the edge of the Torrens Parade Ground.

Of great significance to me was to reflect and remember an outstanding NCO Cpl Norman Womal, one of my section commanders KIA 17 October 1966 in the Nui Thi Vai Mountains in Vietnam.

Although seriously wounded he continued to fight the fight until he succumbed to his wounds.

For his bravery, he was Mentioned in Despatches posthumously. He is buried in the Bowen cemetery after a dedication to Norm in 2009.

I also had the great pleasure of catching up with Frank Lampard who did a power of work to have this memorial built and dedicated; the only memorial of its type in Australia.

To Norm in particular but to all indigenous and Torres Strait Islanders who gave their lives.

Lest we forget.

- Michael von Berg



Frank Lampard and Michael von Berg near the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial after the Commemorative Service in May.



2RAR moving off watched by young diggers from 7RAR matching with the 7RARA. More photos pages 8 and 9.

Jetty to Jetty swim seeks ex-servicemen's & RARA support

The Royal Australian Regiment Association has received a letter from Open Arms Community Peer Advisor Nathan Ross seeking support for the Jetty to Jetty swim in the summer of 2022.

Nathan would like to find five to seven veterans or family members from the Generation 4 Veteran Cohort (Veterans join Post 99) to compete.

Nathan said:

We all know the benefits of exercise for mental health and its positive impact on depression and anxiety. It also relieves stress and boosts your overall mood. You don't have to be a fitness fanatic to reap the benefits. Additionally, exercise and its benefits of social inclusion are well established.

THE PLAN

10-12 weeks before the Swim Nathan aim to find 5-7 veterans (GEN 44) "willing to give this activity a go."

Nathan said:

We will enlist Veteran Sports Australia for promotion and recruiting the Invictus Pathway and program attend their Thursday night training program and next GEN.

I will facilitate the training in the Burnside Pool two to three a times a week. This would include getting the veterans together and doing some training and social connection afterwards.



"I have been in contact with DVA about these grants and how we can access a grant .

However, I require the help of an ESO for the funding and that's where RAR Association comes in. I'm asking the RAR Association to help sponsor this grant application.

Entry for event for 2021 is unknown. Similar events cost around \$30 - \$35. Training cost for 5 to 7 veterans with price taken from George Bolton.

Concession rate 40 visitor pass \$258 and with 5 Veterans \$1295 or 7 Veterans \$186.

If this event is cancelled like in 2021, we will swim the next event in the following year. As well as promoting fitness this event will create and foster the benefits of both physical and mental activities as well as goal setting and team work, inclusiveness and connectivity and a shared experience since, in essence ,community engagement.

This activity aligns with the Open Arms philosophy and with the support of the Peer Program we will provide meaningful and enjoyable engagement with the Veteran Community.

I'm more than happy to speak about this concept further, this idea was put out together with the help of other peers from other regions around the country.

Your assistance with pilot veteran mentoring program sought

**A letter from Catherine Walsh, Director of Veteran Affairs,
to members of the RARA SA members via Michael Von Berg**

Sunday 2 May 2021

I am reaching out to share a recent Veterans SA initiative that I am really excited about – it has been in the making for a number of months.

On Monday 12 April, Veterans SA launched the inaugural SA pilot veterans mentoring program. We have two streams - one for female veterans and one for veterans who were NCOs and transitioned from the military 3-8 years ago. Nominations for mentors and mentees are open now, with applications closing on 31 May and 17 May respectively.

The reason for my email is that I wondered if you would be willing to share this opportunity with your network and/or recently transitioned ADF women and/or NCOs who you think would really benefit from participation in this program.

I know you are very connected into a number of contemporary veteran cohorts, and also with your professional background, you have a keen appreciation of what makes a great mentoring relationship.

The Government wants to invest in SA's leaders of today and the future, and this is our way of recognising the



Catherine Walsh

depth of experience veterans can bring to any workplace.

Some people just need help with the first step – and for many, this opportunity can set them on a path to live their most fulfilled professional lives.

I am delighted that we have a strong showing of business professionals from middle and senior levels of leadership, across all sectors, who are willing to invest about 12 hours of their time from July to January in helping the professional development of motivated and future focussed veterans.

Mentors do not need to have had military experience themselves – the success and strength of this program will be the diversity of ideas and experiences outside of the military paradigm that mentors can offer to their veteran mentees.

Equally, if there are some potential mentors with a wide range of professional and life experiences who you think would really be an asset to a veteran mentee, please share this opportunity with them too!

Details are available on our website, and the nominations form is not onerous and of course helps in the matching process:

<https://veteranssa.sa.gov.au/veterans-sa-mentor-program/>.

We also posted a video for mentees on your Facebook today, which you might want to share as well.

Happy to chat if you have any questions and thank you in advance for supporting this initiative, and sharing this with people you think will benefit from participation in the program.

- Catherine

FROM THE COMMAND POST

Where is the justice?

People who know me well and over a long period of time would support the notion it takes a lot to get me really stirred up but when I do it gets a bit untidy. Today is one of those days.

The recent news that Dr Samantha Crompvoets PhD, the consultant who was commissioned by the ADF through the Chief of Army to conduct a survey of the culture and behaviors of the Special Forces and the Special Air Service Regiment in particular is on Thursday 1 July launching a book called "Blood Lust, Trust and Blame".



The not unreasonable questions I have are:

- How can a consultant who has been paid considerable fees - one would hope has high security clearances, has access to the inner workings of SAS; our most secretive of operational units have permission to publish findings which were a pre cursor to the Bremerton Inquiry, while the allegations raised in that inquiry are still being investigated?
- What are the terms and conditions of the contract to conduct the behavioral and cultural issues and most importantly what restrictions if any in the interests of security and fairness were contained in that contract?
- How can a war and all book be published and distributed while we have "persons of interest" being investigated; others being issued "just cause" notices, fighting for their innocence and families; the Ben Roberts Smith VC MG defamation action currently running; special investigators and the AFP on the case, currently without a prosecution?
- What affect will this book have on the matters still under investigation? The legal arguments are above my pay grade but the moral, ethical and wellbeing issues are, and this is where I need to spleen somewhat.
- What affect will this book at this critical time have on the soldiers and officers involved in the Brereton Inquiry, on their wives, partners, parents, and children in particular?

We were all disappointed in the findings and allegations of the Brereton Inquiry, but there must be a legal process, a presumption of innocence and, very importantly, a fair go. This book may sadly inflame the court of public opinion and cause incredible mental health issues for those currently struggling with their lives. The abuse of some children at school in the West calling their fathers murderers and worse is heartbreaking and disturbing for anyone who has children of their own.



- How could we cope with that in a distressed family environment?

I totally support in normal circumstances an author who has unearthed something in the national interest and chooses to publish that but in this case I cannot support it in the manner the source material has been gained, the security issues of our most clandestine unit and the security of the individuals who may have unknowingly contributed (to the Brereton Inquiry but not to a book) and the timing of the book which may be brilliant marketing but lousy for individuals concerned.

This in no way is a reflection on Dr Crompvoets, but it is of the ADF and Government and/or the Adjutants General Department in allowing this to happen.

Could you imagine a consultant (who I know) who has been involved since day one of the ongoing saga and ambiguity of the super submarine project launching a book called "Sink Submarines, Trust and Blame"?

Almost "Dad's Army" or "McHale's Navy" stuff, isn't it?

Michael von Berg MC OAM
President



Are you a Veteran from any war, conflict or policing action and, like many veterans, have struggled with PTSD?

***Would you like to learn how to play the guitar ?
Don't have a guitar, don't worry, we'll give you one.***

And we'll give you 10 free lessons to start with a teacher who understands your situation

***Contact: Jim Mavromatis 0438843254 or
mick.mavromatis@iinet.net.au***

2021 Don't Forget me Cobber Fundraising lunch



Colleagues and Friends of the Virtual War Memorial:

I am pleased to announce that the Don't Forget me Cobber lunch will be held on Friday 6 August 2021.

This year we have as our special guests Mr Matt Anderson PSM Director for Australian War Memorial and our Patron-in-Chief, General Sir Peter Cosgrove AK CVO MC. The Governor His Excellency Hieu Van Le AC and the Honourable Sir Eric Neal AC CVO will also be in attendance.

It will be the first visit to Adelaide by Mr Anderson in his role as Director of the Australian War Memorial and we are sure his address will make its mark.

General Sir Peter Cosgrove will be interviewed by Graham Cornes OAM and we have no doubt new insights on current issues will emerge.

Sharyn Roberts

Chief Executive Virtual War Memorial
(08) 8100 7318 or sharynr@vwma.org.au

Army Museum of SA is open again

New exhibits and merchandise shop. Opening times: Sundays noon to 4pm. Mondays and Wednesdays 11am to 2pm. Not open on public holidays.

Located at historic Keswick Barracks, the Army Museum of South Australia began in 1992 when a need to collect and preserve our military history was recognised.

Built in 1912 the original stables building is now home to the museum. The original stables floor, now hidden under layers of cement, is designated for restoration, along with many other projects.

Volunteers, mainly ex-defence force members, operate the Museum with the assistance of a Defence Force Cadre staff. Volunteers attend the Museum on Mondays and Wednesdays to conduct repairs, restoration and renovations to the various exhibits and equipment on display for public viewing

Apology



Apologies are extended for the mistakes on page 14 in the April 2021 issue of Infantryman under the heading of Royal Commission sought on service suicide prevention.

Left top is Don Spinks AM correct photo.

Left: Gwen Cherne whose names was incorrectly spelt.



Special guests from left: The Governor His Excellency Hieu Van Le, Graham Cornes with Sir Eric Neal, General Sir Peter Cosgrove and Matt Anderson.

Details: Date: Friday 6 August 2021.

Time: 11.30am to 2.30pm

William Magarey Room, Adelaide Oval.

All standard COVID protocols will be in place.

A two course lunch with beverages will be provided. All attendees will be in the draw for two door prizes and there will be an auction and a raffle as in past years.

Tickets can be purchased via the link below

<https://www.trybooking.com/BSDIB>

Readers are welcome to pass on an invitation to friends and colleagues.

Contacts sought from families of COs in Korea and Vietnam wars

Col. Peter Scott, CO 3RAR 2nd Tour SVN, is writing a book about the Commanding Officers in the Korea and Vietnam wars and seeking family input.

They are from :

Korea:

Ian Hutchinson - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/805559>

Maurice Austin - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/659592>

George Frederick Larkin - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/805562>

Ian Bruce Ferguson - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/805557>

Sir Arthur Leslie MacDonald - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/722684>

Vietnam:

Eric Harold Smith - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806212>

Ronald Alwayn Grey - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806213>

Keith John O'Neill - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806214>

Alan Lindsay (Alby) Morrison - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806215>

Please contact Peter Scott on 08 8372 3052 or psscott1@internode.on.net

New Defence Engagement Commissioner welcomed

We had the great pleasure of hosting Major General Stuart Smith AO DSC (Retd) the recently appointed Defence Engagement Commissioner in the company of Brigadier Laurie Lewis AM (Retd) the Patron of The Royal Australian Regiment Association (SA).

Stuart briefed the membership on his new role and sought input on matters of transition and post-service issues for veterans and their families.

What always makes it very special catch up with Stuart over many years is that Stuart's father the late Sgt Bernie Smith was one of my Reconnaissance Platoon patrol commanders of 5RAR on the battalions first tour.

Sadly Bernie was killed in action on the battalion second tour, but the members of the original platoon have always stayed in touch with Stuart's mother and brother here in Adelaide.
- Lest we forget.



RARA President Michael von Berg and RARA Patron Laurie Lewis welcoming Major General Stuart Smith.

Vietnam War and Battle of Long Tan Commemorative Service 18 August 2021



On Wednesday 18 August 2021 the RAR Assoc. SA will conduct a commemorative service for the Australian and New Zealand war dead at its clubrooms commencing at 11am. A light lunch will follow.

The Service will be conducted by the RAR Association SA with the following units and services having key roles:
Royal Australian Artillery – Commemorative Address.

6 RAR – Long Tan Presidential Citation and Roll of Honour..

Royal Australian Armoured Corps – Poem “The Memorial”.

Royal Australian Air Force – The Ode (3rd & 4th Stanzas of The Fallen).

The ADF has been requested to provide ceremonial support plus Catherine Lambert and The Terrace Singers and Des Ross have agreed to provide choral and piper support.

With the COVID pandemic there may be a number of restrictions such as attendance and catering and these will be advised on the RAR Association's SA website. Questions and queries on the Service should be addressed to the Ceremonial Manager RAR Assoc. SA on 8263 4784 or as.craig9rar@bigpond.com.

Adrian Craig
Ceremonial Manager

VALE:

3752 WO2 John Henry Charles Bennett

3 RAR ‘Old Faithful’ Association Patron, Col Peter Scott DSO, has advised the Association of John Henry Bennett's recent sad passing on 17 June 2021.

John was born in Mildura Vic on 4 March 1929.

He served with 3 RAR in Korea from November 1951 to November 1952 at the same time as I did.

Our condolences and deepest sympathy are extended to John's family, friends and ex-service mates.

At his funeral which took place at the RSL Recreational Hall, Willunga, at 2 pm Wednesday 30 June.

Also attending were Colonel Donald Beard AM RFD ED (Retd), John Barrett, President Korea and South East Asian Forces Association and Jeff Barrett, President 3 RAR “Old Faithful” Association.

I recited the Ode and presented a 3 RAR Sash to Mrs Margaret Bennett.

Rest In Peace John

3 RAR ‘Old Faithful’ Australian Association

- Peter Scott



Local residents helped light up the dawn on ANZAC Day



Bagpiper 15-year-old William Mulligan of the Adelaide Pipes and Drums played to introduce local Burnside residents to the RARA's ANZAC Dawn Service conducted by RARA Club Manager Spike Dwiar. Right: Ken Duthie.



Royal Australian Regiment Association Patron Laurie Lewis (left) with Colin Abel, Mal Allen, Club Manager Greg Dwiar and Ken Duthie outside the clubroom at dawn on ANZAC Day

2021 ANZAC Day March with music throughout the area



ANZAC Day March returned in 2021 in spring sunshine



ANZAC commemoration from a different perspective



"Daddy, Daddy" Olympia Cudsi, 6, and her sister Diana, 4, called and waved their flags as their father Major Christopher Cudsi of Keswick Barracks marched past them in the ANZAC parade. They are seen with Christopher's mother Mary Cudsi and sisters Annis, 11, and Leila Cudsi, 14, and Christopher's partner Emma Kokar.

Photo: Bruce Forster.



*Pathway of Honour behind Government House.
Photo: Leo Pavich*



Located in Karrawirra Park 12, this monument reflects the remarkable journeys, strength and resilience of Vietnamese refugees, and shares the Vietnamese's profound gratitude to Australians for embracing and assisting refugees as part of the SA community.

Photo: Leo Pavich



RAR Association Vice President Rod Graham and his wife, Lynn, at the Burnside memorial.



Cheryl Cates, RSL State President.



Mounted police together with foot police and other security personnel were on hand during the March.

Three Kapyong veterans at Commemorative Service



Kapyong veterans Reg Anock, Donald Beard and Ray Aubert at the Kapyong service.

It was standing room only at the 3rd Battalion the Royal Australian Regiment SA Association Inc. Commemorative Service for the 70th Anniversary of the Battalion of Kapyong 23-24 April 1951 at the Linden Park RSL.

The MC was Russell Campbell OAM 3RAR SA; catafalque party was from A Company 7RAR; the welcome address was given by Colonel Peter Scott DSO (retd) Patron of 3RAR SA; the Call to Worship was Padre 7RAR; the Commemorative address was given by Jeffrey Barrett, President 3RAR SA; Battle of Kapyong Presidential Unit Citation and Role of Honour were read by Ken Duthie, Vice President 3RAR SA; poem - The Memorial Poem "We tried, oh God we tried" "was read by Robert Whelan, Vice President 3RAR SA; the Kapyong Prayer was read by the Padre of 7RAR followed by the Lord's Prayer.

The Royal Australian Regiment Prayer of Consecration was sung by Catherine Lambert and the Terrace Singers followed by tribute placing with Kapyong veterans first. Piper Des Ross 3RAR SA played a lament after the laying of tributes.

The Ode was recited by Neville Cooper 3RAR SA and the Last Post was played by the bugler from the Australian Army Band Adelaide. One Minute's silence and the Rouse, hymn Abide with Me sung by Catherine Lambert, the Benediction and National Anthem rounded out the service



Standing room only for outstanding ceremony



Jeff Barrett presenting the Address watched by MC Russell Campbell and Army personnel. Thanks to John Ford for all these photos.

Address presented by Jeff Barrett

Thirty-two Australians were killed and 53 were wounded for their part in stalling the Chinese advance and preventing Seoul from falling into enemy hands.

The Australian and Canadian battalions both received United States Presidential Distinguished Unit Citations for their part in the battle.

The Battle of Kapyong (22 - 25 April 1951) was fought during the Korean War between United Nations (UN) forces - primarily Australian and Canadian - and the Chinese communist People's Volunteer Army.

The fighting occurred during the Chinese Spring Offensive and saw the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade establish blocking positions in the Kapyong Valley on a key route south to the capital, Seoul.

The two forward battalions - 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR) and 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2 PPCLI) - occupied positions astride the valley and hastily developed defences.

As thousands of South Korean soldiers began to withdraw through the valley, the Chinese infiltrated the brigade position under the cover of darkness and assaulted the Australians on Hill 504 during the evening and into the following day.

Although heavily outnumbered, the 27th Brigade held their positions into the afternoon before the Australians were finally withdrawn to positions in the rear of the brigade, with both sides having suffered heavy casualties.

The Chinese then turned their attention to the Canadians on Hill 677, but during a fierce night battle they were unable to dislodge them.

The fighting helped blunt the Chinese offensive and the actions of the Australians and Canadians at Kapyong were important in assisting to prevent a breakthrough on the United Nations Command central front, and ultimately the capture of Seoul.

The two battalions bore the brunt of the assault and stopped an entire Chinese division during the hard-fought defensive battle.

The next day the Chinese withdrew back up the valley, in order to regroup. Today, the battle is regarded as one of the most famous actions fought by the Australian and Canadian armies in Korea.



50th anniversary of Operation Overlord



The floral tributes laid during the service with the piper playing Lament

More than 550 veterans and their families and Next of Kin of the 10 soldiers and airmen killed during the Operation Overlord including the **Battle of Long Khanh** witnessed an outstanding service to mark the occasion of the 50th anniversary Operation Overlord including the Battle of Long Khanh.

The service was held at the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial in Anzac Parade, Canberra, on Monday 7 June 2021. The following is an extract of my (Colonel Peter Scott DSO (Retd) 'Call to Remembrance.'

Soldiers and airmen from Australia and the United States defeated the 3rd Battalion, 33 North Vietnamese Army (NVA) Regiment on 7 June 1971 after their training base in Long Khanh Province of South Vietnam had been located the previous day.

Under command of Brigadier Bruce McDonald MC units of 1st Task Force deployed to the north of the main Australian Base of Nui Dat in Phuoc Tuy Province.

This massive simultaneous deployment involved the three infantry battalions 3RAR, 4RAR/NZ, and the US Army 2/8 Battalion.

They were supported by Centurion tanks of C Squadron 1st Armoured Regiment; Armoured Personnel Carriers of A Squadron 3rd Cavalry Regiment; 4 Field and 12 Field Artillery Regiments armed with 105mm guns; US Army Battery C, 5/42 Artillery with 155mm guns; 1 Field Engineer Squadron; 161 Reconnaissance Flight with Sioux helicopters; as well as 9 Squadron RAAF with Iroquois helicopters and a US Army Assault Helicopter Company flying Cobras.



Above: Col. Peter Scott giving address "Call to Remembrance" with Tony Cox standing behind.



Left: Gov. Gen. General David Hurley AC DSC congratulating Col. Scott on his address with Tony Cox between them with RAAF Cpl. escort.



Members of 3 RAR Vietnam Tour 1971 after the 5pm Service at the AWM for 2 Lt David Paterson KIA 20 March 1971 with David's photo in centre.

including the Battle of Long Khanh



Colonel Peter Scott viewing 3 RAR Regiment Colour with Sgt Catalano and Lt Omodel before the rehearsal on June 6.



Back from left: Pte Johnstone, Col P. Scott, original first drummer David Lean, Maj. McCarthy, Sgt Catalano, WO2 Nicholas, Z. Dawes. Front from left: Cpl. Ryan, L.Cpl. Dawson, Pte Wright and Lt Omodel members of Colour Party and Pipes and Drums from 3 RAR Townsville.



Colonel Peter Scott with Mrs Christine Alones after the 5pm service at the Australian War Memorial on June 4 for her late husband 2 Lt David Paterson .

This mass deployment was supplied with ammunition, explosives, fuel, engineer stores, and rations from the Task Force Maintenance Area located in Nui Dat. Casualty evacuations were mainly by helicopter to the Australian Field Hospital in Vung Tau in the South of Phuoc Tuy Province ensured swift transit for medical treatment.

The main battle commenced at 6.53 am on 7 June when 5 Platoon B Company 3RAR engaged members of the 3/33 NVA Regiment at point-blank range. The Artillery Observation Officer Lt Ian Mathers moved forward to control artillery fire and walked into an enemy fire lane and was killed instantly. A few diggers of 5 Platoon were wounded.

During the melee 5 Platoon commander Graham Kells called out to his Duntroon classmate Bruce Cameron in his Centurion tank of C Squadron "come on mate get down here - we need you". I sent D Company to cooperate with the tanks and engage the enemy in bunkers from the northwest. The whole battle lasted an exhausting eight and one-quarter hours.

The firing and explosion of all this ammunition, the whistling of artillery rounds, helicopters flying overhead firing rockets and machine guns and the smoke of battle, went on all day. This noise of battle was emphasized with the crash of a resupply Iroquois helicopter resulting in two RAAF crew, Flt Lt 'Lofty' Lance and Cpl David Dubber losing their lives.

When all the dust had settled the tanks, APCs, and rifle companies of 3RAR discovered two enemy training areas, one belonging to 3/33 NVA Regiment consisting of 46 bunkers and a second consisting of 30 bunkers vacated by D445 Local Force Viet Cong Battalion. The field engineers, together with 3RAR Pioneer Platoon, destroyed all these bunkers with explosives over the next five days.

Tragically, 274 Regional Force Viet Cong Regiment, another enemy force, ambushed half of the 1st Task Force Headquarters Defence and Employment Platoon on three APCs southwest of the operational area. The last APC in line was struck with a Rocket Propelled Grenade which set off a mini-gun liner full of Claymore mines, killing both crewmen and five of the Defence & Employment Platoon soldiers. Three soldiers were wounded, one very seriously.

A disastrous result at the end of Operation Overlord.

It should be emphasized that half the strength of every unit consisted of National Servicemen who were completing their two-year obligation overseas. They could not be distinguished from the regular soldiers whom they served alongside. Many were killed and wounded during the war in Vietnam, many decorated and many were junior commissioned officers and Non-Commissioned Officers.

Nobody really knew what to expect that day. Members of 5 Platoon who were not wounded held fast in the face of withering enemy machine gun fire.

There were many feats of courage by soldiers of 6 Platoon B Company 3RAR in rescuing the crew of the downed helicopter. The crews of the centurion tanks displayed extraordinary heroism in crashing through the enemy held bunker system under heavy enemy fire.

50th anniversary of Operation Overlord

The crews of the Bushranger helicopter pilots displayed total disregard for their own safety in providing intimate fire support to the troops and tanks on the ground. The gunners were totally exhausted in supporting the diggers and tankies in contact.

This operation was different from those conducted over the previous five years - but the result was the same - complete domination of the enemy matching the exploits of the Australian Soldiers in World Wars 1 and 2 and Korea.

The action on this day was the most intense for the Australians in 1971 - with the entire task force deployed for the operation."

His excellency General David Hurley AC DSC Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia gave the Commemorative Address followed by a musical piece from the RMC Band. Robert Prideaux Section Commander, 6 Platoon Bravo Company 3RAR, followed and gave a 'Reading'. See elsewhere for the contents of this reading. The Department of Veterans' Affairs arranged the whole service which commenced at 10.30am and broadcast by the ABC. An outstanding event.

The playing of the didgeridoo commenced proceedings and the Catafalque Party and Colour Party were mounted. Then the Standard, Guidon, Regimental Colours of 3 RAR and Corps Banners of units involved in Operation OverLord were paraded. Then followed the official wreath laying which included one for every one of the ten killed during the battle laid either by a family member or appropriate unit representative. The Ode of Remembrance, one minute's silence and the Last Post were followed by public wreath laying.

Last Post ceremonies were held at the AWM over the period 4-9 June for 2Lt David Paterson together with Pte Ron Salzmann and A C Bloxsom RAAF, then P/O Ronald Betts, Cpl John Dubber RAAF and Flt Lt Everitt Murray Lance RAAF and Cpl Paul Manning.



Photograph of Pilot Officer Ronald Betts with floral tributes at his 5pm Service at the Australian War Memorial on June 5. Ron was killed in action on 20 March 1971 on the same day as David Patterson.



Forecourt of Vietnam Memorial with Colour Party of the left and the Catafalque Party in front of Memorial

including the Battle of Long Khanh



Lt. Omodel with 3 RAR Regiment Colour during the rehearsal for Service on 7 June.

Graveside services were conducted for Lt John Wheeler and Flt/Lt Everitt Murray Lance RAAF. All these ceremonies were well attended by families and members of the battalion.

The only battalion function was a dinner at the Ainsley Football Club. More than 250 attended including Christine, David Paterson's widow and her daughter, and three grandchildren, and a number of members from 9 Sqn RAAF and a number from 3RAR in Townsville including two pipers and two drummers especially for the dinner to pipe the battalion song (Our Director) with a couple of hundred voices singing the words.

The Vietnam Requiem was especially arranged by Chris Latham assisted by Tony Cox was performed on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. A spectacular event from all reports.

D Company had already held their 50th Anniversary over Anzac Day in Adelaide. Some 70 members and their wives enjoyed the reunion functions including a dinner on the night of 24 April in Hahndorf.

Finally, the 50 cent Commemorative Coin and the two Commemorative prepaid envelopes are now available from the Australian Mint and Australia Post respectively for purchase. Excellent collectables as a reminder of our 50th Anniversary.

- Peter Scott

Check Down Away

To that Glorious pack of Bastards at 3 RAR.

"We're a pack of bastards ,Bastards are we,

We come from Woodside

The arseholes of the Royal Australian Infantry

We're a pack of bastards - bastards are we

We'd rather than fight for lib_er_ty"



A group from B Company 3 RAR Vietnam Tour 1971 after the dinner in the Ainslie Foitball Club on June 5.

Royal Australian Regiment Association Committee 2019-2020

Patron Laurie Lewis AM

Elected Positions

President Michael von Berg MC OAM 0411 870 055
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Vice President Rod Graham 0427 977 145
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Secretary Jim Stopford 0400 191 801
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Treasurer and Webmaster Mike Bevan 0416 106 578
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Manager - Ceremonial Adrian Craig 8263 4784
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Welfare Officer Vacant

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2/4 RAR Kim Porter yrtnafni51@gmail.com 0417 468 186

3 RAR Jeff Barrett gadgetbarrett@gmail.com 0415 242 084

4 RAR Chris Pepper chrispepper73@icloud.com 0406 830 228

5 RAR Mos Hancock moswhan@bigpond.net.au 0414 566 212

5/7 RAR Vacant

6 RAR Bill Wallace wallace46@bigpond.com 0418 529 181

7 RAR Robert Whinnen whinnens@gmail.com 0413 189 558

8 RAR Ted Forward adrienne.ted.forward@gmail.com 8235 1625

9 RAR Mick Mummery mummery&chariot.net.au 0428 387 670

RAR (SA) RSL Sub-Branch

President Rod Graham 0427 977 145

Secretary Greg Dwiar 0412 644 749

Treasurer Steven Roberts 0408 108 643

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BAR ROSTER August 2021 - December 2021

August '21	Fri	6th	Wheels	
	Fri	13th	Kara	
	Wed	18th	Jeff/Spike	Long Tan Day
	Fri	20th	Spike	
	Fri	27th	Adrian	Family Friday Dinne
Sept '21	Fri	3rd	Jeff	
	Fri	10th	Kara	
	Fri	17th	Adrian	
	Fri	24th	Wheels	
	Fri	31st	Spike	7 RAR visit
Oct '21	Fri	1st	Jeff	
	Fri	8th	Kara	
	Fri	15th	Adrian	
	Fri	23rd	Wheels	
	Fri	30th	Spike	Family Friday Dinne
Nov '21	Fri	2nd	Jeff	
	Fri	9th	Kara	
	Fri	16th	Adrian	
	Fri	23rd	Wheels	
	Fri	30th	Spike	7RAR Visit
Dec '21	Fri	3rd	Jeff	
	Fri	10th	Kara	
	Fri	17th	Adrian	RAR SA Xmas dinner
	Fri	24th	Wheels	
25th Christmas Closed re-open 14th January 2022				



Mal Allan handed out little metal brooches of green rosemary at the ANZAC Day March. A pleasant surprise even though it proved difficult for our Infantryman Editors to get it through the thick lapel of Bruce Forster's warm jacket but with Penelope's help they achieved it. Photo: Leo Pavich



Members: Our new phone number is 0480 197 739