



# INFANTRYMAN

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

August 2022



6 RAR Long Tan Commemorative Service at the site of the Battle on 18th of August 1969 during Operation Long Tan.

## Vietnam War including Battle of Long Tan Commemorative Service 18 August 2022



On Thursday 18th of August 2022 the RAR Association SA will conduct its annual commemorative service for the Australian and New Zealand war dead from the Vietnam War 1963-73 including the Battle of Long Tan in its clubrooms at Beattie Street, Linden Park, at 11am. The Service will be bi-service and multi-unit in nature and will be the third attempt to do so since the COVID pandemic arrived in Australia.

It will be conducted wholly within the clubrooms. The Service should take 50 minutes and will be followed

by a finger food light lunch.

The pandemic is still with us and given the age of those attending the Service it is strongly recommended face masks be worn during the service and hands be sanitised on entry to the clubrooms.

Decorations and medals should be worn.

Questions about the Service and Lunch should be addressed to the Ceremonial Manager RAR Assoc. SA Adrian Craig 8263 4784 or [as.craig9rar@bigpond.com](mailto:as.craig9rar@bigpond.com)

## WARRIORS JETTY to JETTY SWIM PROJECT A SUCCESS

What is the Warrior Swim project? It was a project put together by the Community Peer Advisers and RAR Assn member Nathan Ross at Open Arms.

The Project's aim was to recruit some Generation 4 Combat Veterans to swim the Jetty to Jetty Swim as a part of the Open Water Series in SA. The tradition of the Jetty to Jetty has been run on Australia Day since 1917 and goes from Grange to Henley Beach a total of 2.2km.

With the help of DVA Adelaide a grant application to finance the project was made with the help of the Royal Australian Regiment Association. Appreciation goes to the RARA as without its involvement this project would not have gone ahead.

I was then tasked to go out into the Veteran Community and recruit some veterans to come together and train for the swim. We found men from 2RAR, 6RAR, 7RAR and couple of engineer and female participant.

Over the summer the training groups came together to train and formed their own little community, one of the aims of the Warrior Swim Project.

With the weather looking really good on Australia Day and the water temperature close to perfect the swimmers dived in from Henley Jetty and were away in waves of age groups.

An hour later we dragged tired bodies from the waves at the north side of Grange Jetty.

We all instantly started looking for a cold beer to wash the salt out of our mouths. Talk was of "never again" to "I'm ready for the Brighton Classic in February".

Over all the Warrior Swim Project was successful "Maybe next year we'll have more veterans do the project with us."

Thanks for your supports and we'll hopefully be getting back in the water next spring.

Well juice is worth the squeeze and it been a long road to get to the end to Grange, now where were I was pretty anxious leading to the swim, but I knew I had done the work in pool and doing oceans swims before and all those early starts have got me through.

Thanks to Open Arms for putting the project together. See you next summer.

*From Nathan Ross, Warrior Swim participant: Thank you to Open Arms-Veterans and Families Counselling for putting together the Warrior Swim Project, as part of the annual 2.2 Masters SA Jetty to Jetty swim from Henley to Grange. Over the last few months, the lads have been coming together to build strength fitness, mateship and a goal to strive towards.*



*Warrior Swim Project swimmers before the start of the Jetty to Jetty in 2022*

## COFFEE MEET FORTNIGHTLY



Among those at the Adelaide Veterans Coffee Morning at Marden Shopping Centre on April 7 were (front from left) Nathan Ross, Open Arms and ex 2/4 RAR & 2RAR; Scott Jeffrey, 2RAR; and Alex Mol 6RAR. Back row: Ray Cockram, 1RAR, & 3RAR; Daniel Mars 1ARMD & 7RAR; and Bill Bales, 1ARMD, with Infantryman Co-Editor Penelope Forster. Photo: Co-Editor Bruce Forster.

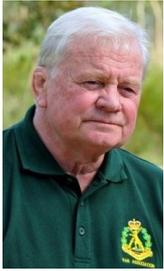
Every other week Veterans, some local contemporary Veterans and their families get together for a few brews, a few laughs and the odd tall story.

It's called the Veteran Coffee Meet Up and is held at Kicco's in the Marden Shopping Centre every other week. A lot of veteran who drop in come to exchange different resources of activities they have found around the local area. It's also the chance for them to talk with like-minded people and stop to relax for a while. You can find them on Facebook.

DATES: August 11, August 25 and September 8.

# FROM THE COMMAND POST

## Demand for public apology for hiding Australian Flag



The recent political stunt by Mr Adam Bandt, Greens leader, in moving the Australian National Flag to one side, out of camera range at one of his press conferences, where only the Indigenous and Torres Strait Island flags were positioned behind him was an insult to the flag and the nation, in particular all currently serving and ex-members of the ADF and the broader community. This pathetic act and equally pathetic excuse

as to why the flag was removed annoyed me and it would appear many others, where I was compelled to draft an open letter to Mr Bandt seeking his acknowledgment that this was a grave error and his national apology. Open letter text as sent below. Emailed.,

### OPEN LETTER

Mr Adam Bandt MP, Leader of the Australian Greens  
142 Johnston Street, Fitzroy, VIC, 3065 Sent via email.

Dear Mr Bandt,

Reference: THE DISHONOURING  
OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL  
FLAG AS A FORM OF PROTEST  
AND PROVOCATIVE SYMBOLISM

On behalf of our membership, and the veteran's community and their families, your poor, pathetic publicity stunt of dishonouring our Australian national flag, is a disgrace and deserves condemnation.



Not only is it an insult to the nation broadly, but to every serviceman and woman who has proudly served this country under our flag in war and peace, but the many who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, and laid to rest with the Australian national flag draped on their coffin. Symbols and pranks do nothing in supporting our Indigenous and Torres Strait Island brothers and sisters, where many of us in the ADF, have had the great honour of serving with, and in some cases, fighting alongside and sadly burying.

The members of the ADF are colour blind and we have done more than many other segments of society in the integration, acceptance and working together at times, in the most extreme and stressful circumstances based on mateship, mutual respect, digger humour and good old-fashioned Australian values.

Mr. Bandt, we all make mistakes, and, in this case, it would not be remiss to admit that you have over-reached and that you apologise to the nation but in particular to those who have and are still serving in the ADF.

For your conscience, as a servant of the crown there appears to be some conflict and considerable hypocrisy in your actions, and lack of respect for our Australian national flag, in continuing to draw your parliamentary salary and benefits.

If your action and objective was to divide the nation that objective has failed. In particular within our ADF and veterans' community where the Australian National Flag under which we have all proudly and bravely served iVeterans' community where the Australian National flag under which we have all proudly and bravely served is the glue which binds and defines us.

The response in press and electronic media has been very encouraging and the numerous emails, messages and telephone calls have been overwhelming and I have attempted to answer every one of them to thank them for their support from serving and ex-serving members of the ADF, individuals who are proud Aussies and none more so than from one whose email completely floored me. I have had permission to republish this email as sent.

**“Dear Michael, Congratulations on your letter to Adam Bandt. Your wise and powerful words should be read by every Australian. Bandit's actions are certainly lacking in respect for Australians, especially those who served and continue to serve under our flag, risking their lives in their patriotic endeavors. Your final paragraph is indeed inspirational. Thank you for your patriotism, dedication, and strength. If only we had thousands more leaders like you, what a nation we would be. All the best, Gina Rinehart”.**

Most of you would not know that Ms. Rinehart has been a major supporter of The SAS Resources Trust since its inception, in supporting the next of kin and children of the SF operators killed in action and the Black Hawk Disaster. In addition, a great financial supporter of the Australian Swimming team that cleaned up at the recent Tokyo Olympics.

In conclusion, I am well aware of the Republican movement, the resentments of an image of a Union Jack on the Australian flag, and somewhat warmly supportive of those sentiments, as we as

a nation mature and grow but until we have a national referendum changing our Constitution and our flag.

The flag we currently have is our national symbol and should be respected. Anything otherwise is disrespectful to all who have given their lives in defending this nation at home and abroad and we cannot ignore those lost in the police, fire, ambulance and emergency services. Nearly all have been buried with their coffin draped in the Australian or State Government flag.

Mr Bandt has dishonored those poor souls and that is simply is not good enough and demands an apology. Emailed to The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister and The Hon Peter Dutton MP, Leader of the Opposition.

I am well aware of the Republican movement, the resentments of an image of a Union Jack on the Australian flag and somewhat supportive of those sentiments, but until a referendum our national symbol should be respected.

Otherwise it is disrespectful of their lives in defending this nation at home and abroad and we cannot ignore those lost in the police,, fire, ambulance and emergency services.

Nearly all have been buried with their coffin draped In the Australian or State Government flag. Mr Bandt has dishonoured all of those poor souls and that simply is not good enough.

Michael von Berg MC OAM  
Chair and National President  
Mobile: 0411 870 055

# 2022 ADELAIDE ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE MARCH



# 2022 ADELAIDE ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE MARCH 2022



Members of the Barossa Valley Light Horse Association were the vanguard group in the ANZAC Day March in the city. They are, from left, Geoff Pannell, Jean-Pierre Macquet, Nick Tucker, Anita Ellory, Bill Gunter, Jane Tscharke, Andrew Mephram and Steve Papps and dismounted Martin Hilton and James Hurst.

The Barossa Light Horse Historical Association is an historical re-enactment troop based in Williamstown which strives to accurately portray the skills and heritage of the men who served in the Australian Light Horse during the First World War (1914-1918) mounted and dismounted drills applicable to the light horse. See Google for more.

# KAPYONG DAY RECALLED

Right; Commander Emma McDonald-Kerr, ADC, RAN; John Jarrett; Mrs Shirley Jarrett; Colonel Peter Scott DSO (Retd), Richard Lee and sitting Colonel Don Beard AM, RFD, ED (Retd).



Sandra and Adrian Craig - Mr and Mrs Ceremonial.



# LEST WE FORGET



Xavier (Zac) Quain recently passed away after suffering a heart attack at his home in Peterborough SA on Tuesday 5 July 2022. Born on 30 July 1951 at Sunshine Victoria, Zac served with 6 PI B Coy 3 RAR during the Battalion's second tour South Vietnam in 1971.

\*\*\*

Zac was a long time loyal member of 3 RAR 'Old Faithful' Australian Association (formerly 3 RAR SA Assn) joining the 3 RAR SA membership in January 2011.

Our sincere condolences are extended to Zac's family, friends and ex-Service mates. A real character. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Funeral Service arrangements for Zac will be forwarded to the Membership when they come to hand.

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Rod White has advised the Association that Graeme Andrews (Andy) sadly passed away in Adelaide on Friday June 17 2020. Very sad news. Grahame's home town was Cooktown, north Queensland.

Andy served at Woodside and Vietnam with 3RAR Anti Tank/Tracker Platoon on the 2nd tour 1971.

Andy was a great fellow to be with any time. Sincerely condolences to Judy, family and friends.

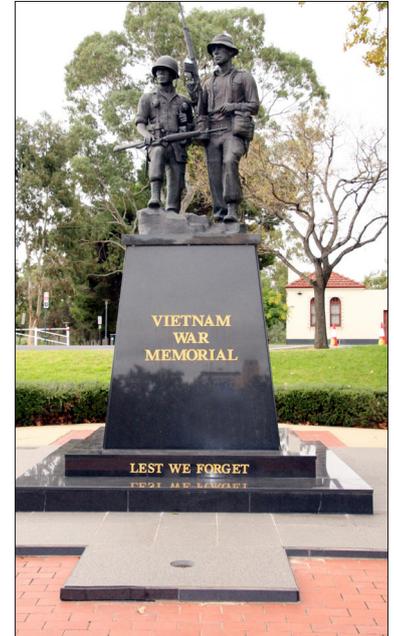
## RSL SPONSORED VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE 21 AUGUST 2022

On Sunday the 21st of August 2022 the RSL SA will be sponsoring a commemorative service for the Australian, New Zealand and Vietnamese war dead from the Vietnam War at the Vietnam War Memorial, Torrens Training Depot, Adelaide.

Essentially the Service will be a rehearsal for a major service in 2023 which will mark the end of the Australian commitment to that war.

The service will be multi-ESO in nature and will commence at 11.00 am with food and drinks available after the Service.

Decorations and medals should be worn by those attending and further details will be provided on the RSL website.



Adrian Craig, Ceremonial RAR Assoc. SA

## Local residents again present at Dawn Service



Around 100 local residents attended the Dawn Service and below witnessed the presentation by the catafalque party pictured below. Some also enjoyed refreshments inside the club.



The Kapyong Day Ceremony on April 24 was followed by the Dawn Service at the clubrooms followed by the ANZAC Day march in the city on April 25.

Despite the cold the service, well organised by Mal Allan, attracted around 100 local residents. The catafalque party in action added to the interest

The number of those watching the march, mostly wearing masks, was down as compared to the previous year obviously because of Covid.

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Future events include the Long Tan aka Vietnam Veteran Commemorative Service at the clubrooms on Thursday 18 August and the RSL sponsored Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration also on Thursday August 18.

In his report about ANZAC Day, Ceremonial Officer Adrian Craig wrote: 5RAR and SASR were all late with reps and the bulk of their marching troops. Saved by Sudanese gangster being murdered on North Terrace and hence we stepped off at 1005 instead of 0940 (they were delayed by a 17-year-boy being charged with murder as part of Operation Melde which saw police make a total of 16 arrests over several separate incidents on Monday and Tuesday.

## Scholarships for ex-servicemen's children and grandchildren



AVCAT scholarships, including the Long Tan Bursary, are tertiary scholarships for the children and grandchildren of Australian ex-serving veterans. Scholarships are \$4000 to \$6000 a year for three years.

Applications opened on 18

August 2022, Vietnam Veterans' Day, and close at midnight AEDT on 31 October 2022.

Apply online at [avcat.org.au](http://avcat.org.au)

Applicants must be:

Enrolled or planning to enrol in a full-time course for one or more academic year's duration at university TAFE, or RTO in 2023

The child, stepchild, foster child, or grandchild of an Australian ex-serving veteran

An Australian citizen or permanent resident

In receipt of, or eligible to receive, Centrelink payments including Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY, Austudy, VCES or an accepted means-tested Commonwealth government payment in 2023

The Long Tan Bursary is sponsored by the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs. View the complete list of AVCAT Scholarship sponsors here.

Find information about scholarships, the application process or scholarship eligibility at [avcat.org.au](http://avcat.org.au).

Spread The Word.

Share on socials, hang a poster, hand out a flyer, or drop this notice into your newsletter.

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Find information about scholarships, the application process or scholarship eligibility at [avcat.org.au](http://avcat.org.au).

Spread The Word

Share on socials, hang a poster, hand out a flyer, or drop this notice into your newsletter. Kind Regards

Len Russell CEO AVCAT

## Membership Reminder

Dear Members of the RARA SA.

Greg Dwiar and Mike Bevan are now looking after membership.

There are a number of members who did not renew in 2020 and 2021. Obviously Covid played a major part in those non-renewals.

However, there are a significant number of members whose membership lapsed on 30 June this year.

We are endeavouring to send reminders to those members who have not renewed. But unfortunately, we have nearly 40 members whose emails have bounced.

If you wish to renew membership or need to update your contact details, particularly your email address, and would like to receive our regular email broadcasts and Infantryman electronically please contact either one of them via phone or email us [rar01@internode.on.net](mailto:rar01@internode.on.net). Please be aware the Association is slowly getting back on its feet and in the next 12 month will be hosting a number of major events again.

The Virtual War Memorial  
Don't Forget Me Cobber Lunch  
Friday 12 August 2022 11.30 – 2.30 pm  
William Magarey Room, Adelaide Oval.  
Guests will include Patron-in-Chief, General. Sir Peter Cosgrove AK AC (Mil) CVO MC and Lady Cosgrove and guest speakers.  
Cost: \$120 GST incl per person plus booking fees.  
Lunch: Two course meal and beverages.  
As in past years door prize and a fundraising auction with outstanding prizes such as a fabulous print by award winning photographer James Fitzroy and the much sought after 'iconic' bespoke miniature oak cask created by Seppeltsfield Cooper Andy Young .  
Tickets can be purchased via the link below  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CARRU>  
Sharyn Robert  
2nd degree connection  
Chief Executive Officer  
Virtual War Memorial Ltd

Sharyn said: "We invite you to pass this invitation along to friends and colleagues. We look forward to your continued support and bookings as soon as possible.

## Citation for award of Military Cross to Lieutenant Peter J. Cosgrove in 1971

Lieutenant Peter Cosgrove was commissioned on 11 December 1968 and allotted to the Royal Australian Infantry. He arrived in Vietnam on 3rd August 1969 and was posted to 9th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment on 20 August 1969.

On 10 October 1969 Lieutenant Cosgrove was commanding 5 Platoon, B Company. The platoon located an occupied bunker system in an area where, because

of the proximity of allied troops, indirect fire support was difficult to obtain. In spite of this, he led his platoon in an assault on the bunkers without indirect fire support, capturing the system and killing and wounding at least four enemy without sustaining any casualties.

On 16 October 1969 5 Platoon located another bunker system occupied by about a platoon of enemy. Lieutenant Cosgrove silently deployed his own platoon for an attack. His assault completely surprised the enemy causing them to flee, abandoning large quantities of food, stores and documents.

The following day in the same bunker system a party of enemy approached his right forward section and was engaged by the sentry. Knowing the remainder of the section was elsewhere on other tasks, Lieutenant Cosgrove ran to the contact area and personally conducted the fight against the enemy. As a result of his actions, two enemy were killed and three weapons and four packs of rice were captured. On every occasion, Lieutenant Cosgrove has shown determination, aggressiveness and outstanding courage. His actions have been an inspiration to his platoon and company, and accord with the highest traditions of the Australian Army.



# ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DEFENCE AND VETERANS SUICIDE



*Commissioners for the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide are Mr Nick Kaldas ACM, the Hon. James Douglas QC and Dr Peggy Brown AO.*

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide invites you to share your story by making a submission. You can make a submission to the Royal Commission using an online form, or the paper form at the end of this page. The Royal Commission will continue to accept submissions until 13 October 2023.

#### Making a submission

The online form is designed to capture information that is relevant to the work of the Royal Commission and consistent with the areas of inquiry set out in the Royal Commission's terms of reference.

That form is replicated on paper for use by people who have no access to the Royal Commission's website.

The terms of reference for the Royal Commission are included in the Letters Patent.

Before you make a submission, please note that the Commission cannot resolve individual disputes. It cannot fix or award compensation or make orders requiring a party to a dispute to take or not take any action.

The Royal Commission is using one form for all submissions. Not all questions will be relevant to every person or entity making a submission.

The form includes questions about:

you (e.g. your name, contact details, whether you identify as being from a particular group)

your submission (e.g. what is it about; is it about your own experiences or made on behalf of someone else)

which of the Royal Commission's terms of reference your submission is about.

The form also enables you to provide the Royal Commission with other comments including your views on what changes you would like the Royal Commission to recommend.

Your submission may be made anonymously and you do not need to provide your contact details.

Your submission will still be reviewed by the Royal Commission even if it is anonymous.

However, if you don't provide contact details we will be unable to verify details in your submission with you or provide you with appropriate support services, including counselling.

You may find that thinking about matters that relate to the Royal Commission or the act of contacting the Royal Commission stirs up strong memories and emotions.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need support. Support services are listed in the Support section of our website.

Counselling Support is also available throughout the Royal Commission.

The Royal Commission intends to publish a number of 'registered for publication' submissions over the life of the Commission.

Your submission may be made public unless you request that it not be made public, or if the Royal Commission considers it should not be made public. That will usually only occur for reasons associated with fairness. Submissions that are made public may include redactions made as the Royal Commission considers appropriate. You may request that, if your submission is made public, it is made public anonymously.

Completing as much of the form as possible will assist the Royal Commission to identify issues and trends. Your assistance is very much appreciated.

If you are concerned about issues relating to more than one person, you may wish to complete a separate submission for each person.

If you have concerns that information that you are considering providing to the Royal Commission may be defamatory, you should consider seeking independent legal advice.

How your information will be used

The information you give to the Royal Commission is provided to help the Royal Commission with its work and will be used only for the purposes of the Royal Commission. When received, submissions are carefully considered by Royal Commission counsellors, policy staff and the Solicitors and Counsel Assisting the Royal Commission. The Royal Commission may contact some individuals or entities that make submissions. The Commission will not contact everyone who makes a submission, but will ensure that all submissions are recorded, reviewed and used to inform the Commission's work.

A Royal Commission counsellor may reach out to check in with you about support needs relating to your submission. Counsellors are available to work with you in a collaborative and supportive way to help you.

## McKINSEY REPORT RELEASED

Last year McKinsey was commissioned by DVA to undertake an independent review into the backlog of veterans' compensation claims. It submitted a report to Government on December 17.

Despite pleas since then by many in the veterans community for the report's release, only now has it surfaced. Below is a copy of an email received from the DVA Secretary announcing the report's public availability on the link provided.

Date: Friday, 24 June 2022 at 9:12 am

Subject: Release of McKinsey Report

Dear Colleagues

As you may be aware, last year, the Department of Veterans' Affairs engaged McKinsey and Co. to undertake a Claims Process Diagnostic. McKinsey completed their work and provided a detailed diagnostic, which is now publicly available.

The report is detailed and comprehensive. In summary, the report identifies 11 priority initiatives for implementation to address the claims process and the claims backlog. These initiatives were selected based on the modelled impact by December 2023. A further 26 ideas were considered and not prioritised due to the need for significant legislative change, significant and/or costly information system changes, or a limited impact on the backlog within the required time frame.

The main areas of focus for the initiatives are in:

- o supporting veterans to submit complete claims, particularly for conditions likely to be approved;
- o helping medical providers to supply accurate, information to support claim decision-making;
- o establishing dedicated teams to complete claims;
- o rebalancing the workforce to address movements in claims from initial liability to permanent impairment to improving claims processing

Some initiatives have interdependencies with actions DVA has in train, and actions relating to the Commonwealth Ombudsman's report of January 2022 on DVA communication with veterans.

Recommended actions from the McKinsey findings which do not require Government approval and are within DVA's current resources have been progressed, aligned to transformation and other DVS initiatives.

We have been actively planning and implementing initiatives for which we have funding and resources.

It is important to note the initial forecasts by McKinsey estimated the backlog would be removed by December 2023 if all initiatives were implemented according to the timeline proposed. Some initiatives require additional resources, funding and/ or legislative change which require Government decisions and the department will work closely with the new Government on this. The focus of the initiatives may change as a result of the commitment by the new Government to provide additional resources for the department. As you may be aware, the new Government has announced an additional 500 staff for DVA to assist with current backlogs in service delivery. We look forward to providing an update on DVA's work to implement these initiatives at future meetings.

Regards Liz Cosson AM CSCS Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs: 02 6289 6735 Ext: 616735 Liz.Cosson@dva.gov.au E: Secretary@dva.gov.au

## FRED'S HISTORY OF 6RAR'S 'NO ORDINARY SOLDIERS'



FRED FAIRHEAD'S book of 160 pages tells the story of 6RAR from the day it was raised on 6 June 1965 until the end of its second tour of duty in Vietnam when established as one of the finest battalions ever to go to war. "This history is about no ordinary soldiers but Infantrymen who served in the Sixth Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

"Whether they served in the barracks or on the battlefield they have all contributed to the making of this story.

**"In the beginning the Army created the Sixth Battalion and St George, the Patron Saint of Soldiers, was most pleased with what he saw?"**

"The finest Infantry Battalion I have ever seen" Brig SP Weir DSO, MC. Comd 1ATF, 25 April 1970.

Vietnam Operations described in detail:

First Tour: Enoggera, Hobart, Long Tan, Vaucluse, Finding 'Dodo', Ingham, Tamborine, Bribie and Portsea.

Second Tour: Lavarack, Mundingburra, Long Tan, Burnham, Marsden, Gisborne and Townsville.

### Order Form

Either return the form to the address below or email the details to [mfred@bigpond.com](mailto:mfred@bigpond.com)

Price: \$45.00 which includes postage (\$15) and the author's inscription, \$55 for overseas orders

Name:

.....  
Postal Address

.....  
Service details

.....  
Number of copies ..... x .....\$.....

Payment options

By Eft to MF and DK Fairhead

BSB: 105-073

Account Number 285 10541

Please ensure you mention your name and 6RAR

History. By cash or cheque payable to MF Fairhead.

Post to 24 Hamilton Street, Erindale SA 5066

## THOSE WITH PRISON AND POST-RELEASE EXPERIENCE NEEDED FOR STUDY GROUP

Did you serve in the Australian Defence Force? We are interested in your experience of Prison and Post-Release.

We are researching the prison and post-release experiences of former ADF members.

The study is led by a former ADF member. Former ADF members are also part of an advisory group.

We would like to know whether correctional services are meeting the needs of former ADF members.

Your views on that topic are extremely important and could help shape the types of support offered

to former ADF members. Your participation in the study would be voluntary. Your custodial status would not change because of choosing to participate or not to participate. You can remain anonymous.

### The Study

This study will look at why former ADF members become involved in the Australian Criminal Justice

**System.** We will look at the context which led to incarceration as well as former ADF members needs in prison and following their release. The study will take place in South Australia, Queensland, and New South Wales.

### The Approach

We will be conducting a survey which will take about 15 minutes. We will ask you if you are willing to also engage in an in- depth interview at a later date (45—60 minutes).

### Who Are We?



The Open Door: Veteran Transition Integration Wellbeing Research Initiative sits within the College of Education, Psychology and Social Work, Flinders University. Open Door is an Australian research hub for international research on veterans and their families.

Staff members are Associate Professor Ben Wadham (RAINF); Professor Mark Halsey; Dr Ann-Louise Hordacre; Dr Elaine Waddell; Cecilia Moretti; Professor Pauline Collins; and Dr Kellie Toole.

### Who do I contact for more information?

If you would like more information or wish to participate in the study please contact Kellie Toole

kellie.toole@adelaide.edu.au or phone 8313 4440.

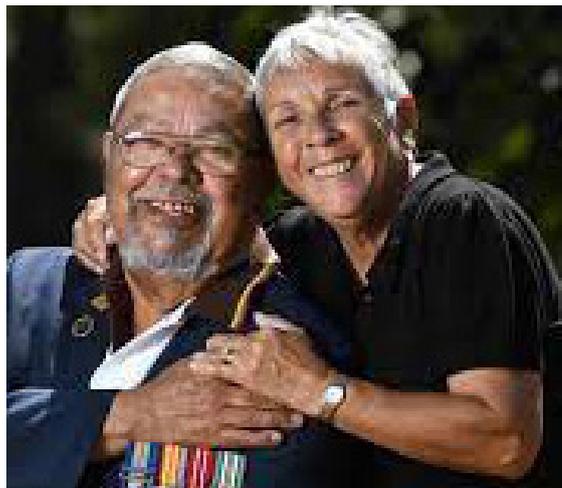
### Ethics Approval

2. This study has been reviewed and approved by a Human Research Ethics Committee.

3. CRICOS No. 00114A

## DETERMINATION SAW RAILWAY WORKER BECOME CORPORAL

Thanks to 9RARA for this article



*Les and Robyn Kropinveri*

From SA Weekend magazine. Photo The Advertiser.

In 1964, an amended National Service Scheme was introduced by the Menzies Government through a national ballot for men aged 18.

First Nations people were once again exempt from service. This, however, did not stop an estimated 300 men from enlisting, including 15 known Indigenous men from SA.

Among them was 21-year-old Leslie Kropinyeri from Taillem Bend who, since the age of 15, had been working as a porter for the railways in Murray Bridge. Eager to escape the dusty railyards, Kropinyeri registered for national service on the hunt for adventure.

In January 1967, his number finally came up and he received his call-up papers and a request to attend a medical.

“I was standing in line in my socks and jocks along with the 19 other blokes having the medical at the same time” he recalls.

“I was the only Aboriginal there and the doctor said, ‘Do you want to go any further?’ I just looked at him and said, ‘What do you mean?’.

He said, ‘Oh, you’re Aboriginal and I can exempt you and you can get dressed and go home’”.

“But I told him that marble doesn’t differentiate and that I would keep going.”

Fit and healthy to fight, Kropinyeri became part of the second intake of National Servicemen on April 20, 1967, completing his basic training at Puckapunyal.

Only three months later, he was transferred to Singleton for corps training, where he was chosen as one of only 20 men to complete the Regimental Duties Instructors course. He was subsequently promoted to Corporal. “They saw something in me, a bit of leadership quality,” he said.

In November 1968, Kropinyeri was on board HMAS Sydney en route to Vietnam. He says he didn’t experience any racial discrimination, much in contrast with the segregation he witnessed among US soldiers.

“I got along with everyone and they got along with me”, he recalls.

Infantryman August 2022

## Royal Australian Regiment Association Committee 2021-2022

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

### Appointed Committee Positions

Manager - Club	Greg Dwiar gregdwiar@gmail.com	0412 644 749
Manager - Ceremonial	Adrian Craig as.craig9rar@bigpond.com	8263 4784
Welfare Officer	Vacant	
Membership	Greg Dwiar	0412 644 749
Trojan's Trek Director	Moose Dunlop OAM moose@trojanstrek.com	0408 088 886

### Voluntary Positions

Bar Manager	See Roster	
Co-Editors Infantryman	Penelope & Bruce Forster penelopeforster01@gmail.com bruceforster01@gmail.com	0419 856 946

### Battalion Representatives

1 Peter LeRitche	peter.leritche@gmail.com	0432 649 063
2 RAR Malcolm Allen	mal@aladdco.com.au	0451 374 133
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### 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**

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**Phone: 0408 197 739**

**Website: www.rarasa.org.au**

**Email: rar01@internode.on.net**

## **BAR ROSTER August - December**

### **AUGUST**

Friday 5	Spike	
Friday 12	Kara	
Thursday 18	Spike/Kara	Long Tan Day
Friday 19	Spike	
Friday 26	Kara	

### **SEPTEMBER**

Friday 2	Spike
Friday 9	Kara
Friday 16	Spike
Friday 23	Kara
Friday 30	Spike

### **OCTOBER**

Friday 7	Kara
Friday 14	Spike
Sunday 16	RARA AGM 1100h
Sunday 16	FAMILY LUNCH
Friday 21	Kara
Friday 28	Spike

### **NOVEMBER**

Friday 7	Kara
Friday 11	Spike
Friday 18	Kara
Friday 25	Spike

### **DECEMBER**

Friday 2	Kara
Friday 9	Spike
Friday 16	Kara RAR Xmas Dinner
Friday 23	Spike Xmas Drinks.
CLUB CLOSED CHRISTMAS BREAK	

## **Infantryman style**

Articles and photos are always welcome.

Email to President Michael von Berg at  
mvp@michaelvonberg.com and  
Editor Penelope Forster

penelopeforster01@gmail.com for consideration.

Articles in 10pt Aerial preferred.

- Photos separately as jpgs. Subject line for article and photos should match. Always include the word Infantryman plus one or two words
- Phone Numbers: Landline: 1123 4567 - four numbers then space then four numbers.
- Mobiles XXXX XXX XXX - four numbers (space) three numbers (space) then three numbers).
- Numbers: 1 to 9 in words one, two, three etc. then 10 onwards in numbers. Also 1st, 2nd etc.
- Dates must include the day of the week.
- Dates: Saturday September 10 - but when year added Saturday 10 September 2018 so numbers don't clash. Thank you - Penelope & Bruce Forster, Co-Editors