

# "Sitrep, Over!"



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## Remembrance Day. 99 years on.

**Remembrance Day** (sometimes known informally as **Poppy Day**) is a memorial day observed in Commonwealth of Nations member states since the end of the First World War to remember the members of their armed forces who have died in the line of duty.

Following a tradition inaugurated by King George V in 1919, the day is also marked by war remembrances in many non-Commonwealth countries.

Remembrance Day is observed on 11 November in most countries to recall the end of hostilities of World War I on that date in 1918. Hostilities formally ended "at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month", in accordance with the armistice signed by representatives of Germany and the Entente between 5:12 and 5:20 that morning.

("At the 11th hour" refers to the *passing* of the 11th hour, or 11:00 am.) The First World War officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919.

Pages 6 and 7 tell more about the significance of Remembrance Day

Hard copies of this newsletter are kindly printed by the office of Tony Pasin MP, Federal Member for Barker

Adelaide, South Australia. November 11th 1918.  
A huge crowd at Parliament House for the Declaration of the Signing of the Armistice.  
(Donor W.S. Smith)

Statistically, 6 out of 7 dwarves are not Happy



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

H11600

**Introduction.**

The world was shocked by the terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre in New York on 11 September 2001. On 14



September the Australian Government invoked the mutual defence clauses of the ANZUS Treaty in support of the United States for the first time since it was enacted in 1952. The Australian Parliament supported the decision. On 7 October 2001, the United States launched Operation Enduring Freedom against Taliban forces and al Qaeda in Afghanistan. Australian troops were an important part of this operation and continue to be part of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan.

Australia's military commitment to ISAF–Afghanistan continued to rise after the focus moved from combat operations to reconstruction. 1550 personnel are now involved in Afghanistan with a further 800 providing command, communications and logistics support to the Middle East Area of Operation—in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Gulf of Aden. Two Army officers also serve as advisors within the Military Adviser Group for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan under Operation PALATE II.

32 Australian soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan—the first Australian combat deaths since the Vietnam War. A further 218 soldiers have been wounded. These numbers escalated dramatically after 2007.

**Background**

The focus of the Australian Army in Afghanistan centres on counterinsurgency and advising the Afghan National Army in Uruzgan, South Afghanistan. Forces are currently deployed as part of Joint Task Force 633 based in the Arab Emirates. Headquarters Joint Task Force 633–Afghanistan is based in Kabul and works closely with ISAF headquarters and other agencies in Afghanistan.

In 2006 the Australian Government announced that the Australian 1st Reconstruction Task Force would deploy as part



of the Netherlands-led Provincial Reconstruction Team in Uruzgan. Between 2006 and 2010 Dutch and Australian forces worked together with the local populations to rebuild schools, hospitals and other essential infrastructure. In July 2010, Combined Team–Uruzgan took over these efforts.



Mentoring of the Afghan National Army takes place at Tarin Kot at the Multi National Base–Tarin Kot. The Australian Task Force includes the Mentoring Task Force, a Provincial Reconstruction Team support element, a Force Engineer Construction Team, a Force Communications Unit, and several specialist elements.

The current Mentoring Task Force (MTF-3) comprises about 730 Australian defence personnel with the bulk of forces from 3rd Brigade (Townsville). Australian soldiers

operating in both the Operational Mentoring and Liaison Teams and the Combat Teams live with, train and provide support to their Afghan National Army colleagues throughout Uruzgan, centred on Tarin Kot, Chorah, Deh Rawud and Deh Rufshan.

The Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) is tasked with the counterinsurgency mission—shape, clear, hold, build.

### **Conclusion**

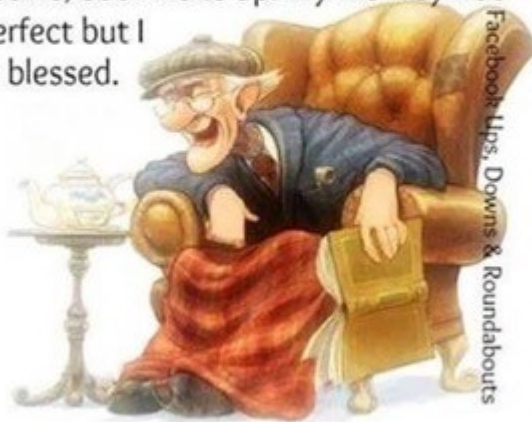
Over the last ten years, the Australian Army has had to relearn skills from previous campaigns—the most important of these is counterinsurgency. Winning the ‘hearts and minds’ of the Uruzgan people requires a balance of threat mitigation and cultural sensitivity, something that has been complicated by the active presence of Taliban insurgents. A safe environment is only one part of the puzzle.

Although reconstruction is an essential component, the Provincial Reconstruction Teams can only do so much to win over the locals. Knowledge of language, customs and tribal affiliations are frequently too complex for soldiers deployed for a short eight months to master. Mentoring the Afghan National Army, developing their confidence and their capacity has done a great deal in building trust among the local communities.

But influencing and gaining the trust of local communities has its risks. Moving among the people requires soldiers to leave the protection of their vehicles. Small dismounted patrols, often moving long distances on foot can be very vulnerable, and vehicles that support them run the risk of being the target of improvised explosive devices.

Australian forces transferred responsibility for security to the Afghan National Army in 2014.

I've seen better days, but I've also seen worse. I don't have everything that I want, but I do have all I need. I woke up with some aches and pains, but I woke up. My life may not be perfect but I am blessed.



## **LAWS OF THE IMPROBABLE, BUT TRUE**

**Law of the Theatre & Football Stadium** - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle, always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game is over.. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end of the performance. The aisle people also are very surly folk.

**The Coffee Law** - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

**Murphy's Law of Lockers**- If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

**Law of Physical Surfaces**- The chances of an open-faced jam sandwich landing face down on a floor, are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

**Law of Logical Argument**-Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

**Brown's Law of Physical Appearance** - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

**Oliver's Law of Public Speaking**- A closed mouth gathers no foot.

**Wilson's Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy** -As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

**Doctors' Law**- If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there you'll feel better... But don't make an appointment, and you'll stay sick. This has been proven over and over with taking children to the paediatrician

## **CPL Daves' Page**

I just realized that I haven't done the "Hokey Pokey" in over 10 years. I guess when you get older, you just forget what it's all about.



**CONTACT US!-**

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## FINAL 2017 RSARA LUNCHEON

The final 2017 Association Luncheon was held last Sunday at the Hackney Hotel, and was attended by 30 faithful members and their partners.

Guest Speaker Daniel Tregenza (son of Norm & Lyn Tregenza) gave an enthralling presentation on Transport Infrastructure, covering many projects, including the Torrens to Torrens upgrade, the North/South Corridor and the new Freight Route from Murray Bridge to Adelaide.

A number of questions were asked by member Graham Elliott, after he and wife Julie had spent over an hour travelling from Port Adelaide to Hackney, through three of the projects mentioned. Graham will leave earlier next time.

President Rod Beames presented Daniel with 2 RSARA Stubby Holders and thanked him for his presentation, and the effort he had put into it.

The final function for the year will be the End Of Year BBQ at Keswick Barracks on 17th December. Full details will be published in the December newsletter, along with the 2018 Events Calendar



Guest Speaker Daniel Tregenza presents "Delivering Transport Infrastructure." at the Hackney Hotel



The total number of military and civilian casualties in World War I was more than 41 million: there were over 18 million deaths and 23 million wounded, ranking it among the deadliest conflicts in human history.

The total number of deaths includes about 11 million military personnel and about 7 million civilians. The Triple Entente (also known as the Allies) lost about 6 million military personnel while the Central Powers lost about 4 million. At least 2 million died from diseases and 6 million went missing, presumed dead. This article lists the casualties of the belligerent powers based on official published sources. About two-thirds of military deaths in World War I were in battle, unlike the conflicts that took place in the 19th century when the majority of deaths were due to disease. Nevertheless, disease, including the 1918 flu pandemic and deaths while held as prisoners of war, still caused about one third of total military deaths for all belligerents.

Casualty statistics for World War I vary to a great extent; estimates of total deaths range from 9 million to over 15 million. Military casualties reported in official sources list deaths due to all causes, including an estimated 7 to 8 million combat related deaths (killed or died of wounds) and another two to three million military deaths caused by accidents, disease and deaths

while prisoners of war. Official government reports listing casualty statistics were published by the United States and Great Britain. These secondary sources published during the 1920s, are the source of the statistics in reference works listing casualties in World War One. This article summarizes the casualty statistics published in the official government reports of the United States and Great Britain as well as France, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Austria and Russia. More recently the research of the Common



Bloodbath and mudbath Seven stretcher bearers struggle to carry a wounded man to safety in Flanders during the battle of Passchendaele in 1917. Prolonged shelling destroyed drainage ditches and turned the area around the shattered town of Ypres into a quicksand of impassable sucking mud that would bog down wounded men and drown them

wealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) has revised the military casualty statistics of the U.K. and its allies; they include in their listing of military war dead personnel outside of combat theatres and civilians recruited from Africa, the Middle East and China who provided logistical and service support in combat theatres.

The casualties of these support personnel recruited outside of Europe were previously not included with British war dead, how-





Highway to hell: Soldiers gingerly make their way across a path made of wooden duckboards in Chateau Wood near Ypres, Flanders, during the battle of Passchendaele in 1917. Shelling has reduced the wood's trees to gaunt skeletons

ever the casualties of the Labour Corps recruited from the British Isles were included in the rolls of British war dead published in 1921. The methodology used by each nation to record and classify casualties was not uniform, a general caveat regarding casualty figures is that they cannot be considered comparable in all cases.

First World War civilian deaths are "hazardous to estimate" according to Michael Clodfelter who maintains that "the generally accepted figure of non combatant deaths is 6.5 million." The figures listed below include about 6 million excess civilian deaths due to war related privations, that are often omitted from other compilations of World War I casualties.

The war brought about malnutrition and disease caused by the U-boat Campaign and the Blockade of Germany which disrupted trade resulting in food shortages. The civilian deaths in the Ottoman Empire include the Armenian Genocide, Assyrian Genocide, and Greek Genocide. Civilian deaths due to the Spanish flu have been excluded from these figures, whenever possible. The figures do not include deaths during the Russian Civil War and the Turkish War of Independence.

**EDITORIAL:** *Such was the ferocity of the First World War that they called it "The War To End All Wars" and "The Great War." It was neither, as we were to realise for the next 99 years with our soldiers, sailors and airmen and women still fighting for democracy in foreign lands, and guarding the shores of our country.*

*In 2018 we will commemorate 100 years since the end of hostilities in Europe. This year, at the 11th hour, we will remember them no less as we attend services around the world.*

*In my own city of Murray Bridge we will gather at the Murray Bridge Soldiers Memorial Hospital with the veterans, the school children and with people from all walks of life, just to say, **WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.***

Abareh, Wadi <b>SM</b> Abel, Colin Acton, Chris Adams, Aaron <b>SM</b> Apostolides, Chris Attenborough, Geoff Ayles, Jeff Baldwin, Bob Bampton, Michael <b>BAND</b> Barnaart, Philip Bates, Allan Beames, Rod <b>CoM</b> Beckett, David <b>LM SM</b> Bennet, Graham Benveniste, Sam <b>SM</b> Bilsborow, Jason <b>SM</b> Blackmore, William Blake, Sam <b>SM</b> Blondell, Mark <b>SM CoM</b> Bloomfield, Max Bourne, Col <b>LM</b> Boath, Ian Boothroyd, Lincoln <b>SM</b> Boscence, Bob Bras, Riley <b>SM</b> Broadbent, Robert <b>SM</b> Brookes, Phil Brown, Bruce Brown, Harry Burnard, Trent <b>SM CO</b> Burton, Ray Buttars, Erik Campbell, Wenona <b>BAND</b> Carnachan, Ian Chittleborough, Jeff Clyne, Lachlan <b>SM</b> Cooke, Nat <b>CoM</b> Contibas, Nikolaus <b>SM</b> Cotton, Bob Cram, Kevin Dart, John Davey, John (Jack) Davey, Trevor Dawson, Trevor <b>BAND</b> Del Vecchio, Victor Demasi, Nathan <b>SM</b> Demosani, Tony Dew, Trevor Domanski, Glenn Dubsky, Eddie Dunn, Peter Dunn, Bob Dunn, Jeff Durrant, Chris Edson, Roger Elliott, Graham Elliss, Scott <b>SM</b> Eva, Keith Ewens, Mimi <b>SM</b> Ferguson, Shane <b>BAND</b> Field, Don Flanagan, Ted Fortune, Nigel <b>BAND</b> Gaborit, Lyndon <b>LM</b> Gallagher, Erin <b>BAND</b> Genovese, John Gibson, Lindsay	Giles, John Gill, Graham Gilmore, Graham Goodwin, Graham <b>SM</b> Gordon, Frank Hardy, Robert <b>SM</b> Harley, Peter Harrington, Malcolm Harrison, John Hawking, Don Hawkins, Des Heath, Jonathon <b>BAND</b> Haynes, Malcolm <b>SM</b> Haynes, Scott Hewitt, Emily <b>BAND</b> Hogan, Mark <b>LM</b> Hook, Alan <b>LM CoM</b> Hope, David <b>CoM</b> Horseman, Ian <b>LM</b> Hudson, Mick Hudson, Rick Humphrys, Jesse <b>SM CoM</b> James, Grant <b>SM</b> Jeffrey, Scott <b>SM</b> Johnson, Barry <b>LM</b> Johnston, Robert Jolly, David Jones, Brett Justin, Trent Keenan, Alan Kilford, Brian Klopf, Alex <b>LM</b> Klopf, Paul Koop, Joshua <b>BAND</b> Laing, David <b>LM CoM</b> Lakin, Bruce <b>LM</b> Lampard, Ross Lee, Bob Lee, Pat Lloyd, Elmer Longstaff, Paul Loveder, Peter Main, Brian Marcus, Ray Marlin, Robin <b>LM</b> Martin, Bob Matchett, Bill Mau, Mark McCulloch, Don McGree, Barry McLachlan, Joshua <b>SM</b> McMahon, Tyler <b>SM</b> McMullin, Jim Meissner, Terry <b>SM</b> Milde, Peter <b>SM</b> Mitchell, Barry Mitchell, David Morony, Frank Moore, Jeffrey Moore, Terry <b>LM</b> Moschis, James <b>SM</b> Munro, Ron Oliver, Peter Orrock, Alan Ockenden, Marc #O'Daly, Ryan <b>SM</b>	Oswald, John Pach, Chol <b>SM</b> Paul, John Perkins, Bob Pexton, Timothy <b>SM</b> Pollard, Barry Portakiewicz, Anthony <b>BAND</b> Portakiewicz, David <b>BAND CoM</b> Phillips, Colin Phillips, Trevor Payne, Bob Parslow, Howard Parsonage, James Preece, Brian Rado, Stephen Ranger, Denis Rathmann, John Rathmann, Norm <b>CoM</b> Rijken, Paul Ramm, Hank Robertson, Jim Rorie, Graham <b>SM</b> Rossetti, Lee Russack, Jon Sage, Andrew Salamon, Peter Sanders, Ashley <b>SM</b> Sanderson, Max Sands, Mike Sexton, Mark <b>SM</b> Slater, Ian Slattery, Kimberly <b>BAND</b> Sniedze, Julie <b>BAND</b> Sprigg, Rob Staker, Cameron <b>SM</b> Standing, Michael <b>CoM</b> Stone, Eddie Strain, Doug Steer, Phil Stewart, Rob <b>LM</b> Stewien, Peter <b>LM</b> Stuart, Matthew <b>SM</b> Tiller, Garth Thomson, Jim Tolotta, Tarrant <b>SM</b> Tompkins, Ian Tregenza, Norm <b>CoM</b> Trezise, George Tucker, Belinda <b>BAND</b> Ullrich, Andreas <b>SM</b> Vella, Joe Wake, Stephen Warren, Chad <b>SM</b> Waters, Ian <b>LM</b> Weepers, Nicole <b>BAND</b> Weightman, Aidan <b>SM</b> Westover, Rhys Wheeler, Chris Williams, Darrian <b>SM</b> Wilson, Graham <b>LM</b> Wilson, Neil Wood, George Woore, Phillip Yorke-Simpkin Reg <b>LM</b> Zuromski, Paul <b>SM</b>	<h3><u>ASSOCIATE MEMBERS</u></h3> Abel, Karen Ayles, Denise Beames, Cheryl Carnachan, Dom Dart, Caroline Demosani, Gail Elliott, Julie Eva, Gail Field, Shirley Gatley, Graeme Gill, Maureen Gilmour, Helen Hawking, Lorraine Hook, Phillipa Hudson, Margaret Jolly, Sandra Klopf, Josie Laing, June Lampard, Kay Main, Raelene Marcus, Yvonne Lee, Anne Mitchell, Roma Parkin, Audrey Phillips, Heather Sanderson, Lorraine Tregenza, Lyn Winger, Kathleen <h3><u>HONORARY MEMBERS</u></h3> T. Burnard CO 10/27 RSAR J. Moulton ADJT 10/27 RSAR B. Lipman RSM 10/27 RSAR <p><b>LM</b> denotes <b>LIFE MEMBER</b>  <b>SM</b> denotes <b>SERVING ADF MEMBER</b>  <b>BAND</b> denotes serving 10/27 Band member  <b>#</b> Denotes <b>NEW MEMBER</b></p> <h3><u>MEMBERSHIP OFFER</u></h3> Any existing member who signs up a new member in November, will be paid \$100* for their efforts. All you have to do is request an application form from the secretary, send it to the new member, and once it is processed, lodge your request to the secretary for your prize. It's that simple. So get to it! <i>*I should add that the prize will be paid in Nigerian \$'s. The equivalent of N\$100 is AUS36c and you must come to White Sands SA to collect</i>
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