

December  
2019



# "Sitrep, Over!"

## To Perpetuate the Regiment

**Christmas away from  
home for our soldiers**



### Inside this issue:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Interesting WW2 facts                            | 3   |
| Editorial  | 4   |
| I went to War aged 12                            | 5   |
| End of Year BBQ                                  | 6   |
| CPL Dave's Jokes                                 | 7/8 |
| The Amazing & Magical<br>Journey of Sitrep Over! | 10  |
| Remembrance Day in Fiji                          | 11  |
| Financial Members List                           | 14  |
| A Reunion 51 Years in the<br>making              | 16  |

The RSAR Association has for a number of years, sent Christmas parcels to members deployed overseas during the Christmas holiday period. While most of us will be serving up roast chicken and ham with vegetables followed by dessert, a number of our men and women are serving their country by going in harms way during this time. To make things a little easier the RSAR Association make up "care packages" which are mailed out via the Military Post Office system to reach the recipient before Christmas Day. It won't bring them home but it will make them feel just that little bit closer to home, and will show them that we really do care about them. The care packages are a Christmas Pack made up of South Australian nuts, fruit slice and sweets and other goodies.

Over Christmas 10th/27th Battalion RSAR will have 7 personnel in Afghanistan, 2 personnel in Iraq, 12 up north of Australia, based out of Darwin and off the coast on Border Protection duties. More will be deployed to Rifle Company Butterworth (Malaysia) in the near future. This is one of the items your Annual Subs are spent on.

We've received feedback from our soldiers who have previously received our "Christmas Care Packages," and they were all very grateful for the gifts at that time of year when they would normally be with family and friends. This is one of the ways we support our Regiment.

See Pages 12 and 13 for more.

### Special Points of Interest

- Page 5 has the story of Calvin Graham who enlisted in the US Navy at the age of 12 years.
- Page 9 tells the story of servicemen just like Graham who also broke the law to join up during WW2.
- Page 10 tells the Amazing journey of this newsletter. Believe it or not!
- Page 12 & 13 is the story of the Christmas Care packages
- Page 14 has the up-to-date Financial Members list



### **MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE** **NEW BASEBALL CAPS**

**POLO TOPS**

**LAPEL BADGES**

**STUBBY HOLDERS**

**Regt Assoc Shields**

**NAME BADGES**

**ASSOC CLOTH PATCHES**

**.....AND MORE. Contact the Treasurer**

Fees and Merchandise can be paid by EFT through the following Bendigo Bank account:

**RSAR Association**

**BSB 633 000**

**Acc. 1616 585 88**

Cheques etc can be mailed to David Hope at:

**The Treasurer RSAR Association**

**20 Katoomba Rd**

**Beaumont SA 5066**

## Paraprosdokians

from member Max Hill

**Paraprosdokians** :First time I heard about paraprosdokians, I liked them. Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous. (*Sir Winston Churchill loved them*).

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you ...but it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up -- we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
7. Knowledge, is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, "In case of an emergency, notify..." I answered "a doctor."
11. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
13. I used to be indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.
14. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
15. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
16. You're never too old to learn something stupid.
17. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find someone older than me.

## Manure... An interesting fact (Well, I think so!)

Manure : In the 16th and 17th centuries, everything had to be transported by ship and it was also before the invention of commercial fertilizers, so large shipments of manure were quite common.

It was shipped dry, because in dry form it weighed a lot less than when wet, but once water (at sea) hit it, not only did it become heavier, but the process of fermentation began again, of which a bi product is methane gas of course. As the stuff was stored below decks in bundles you can see what could (and did) happen.

Methane began to build up below decks and the first time someone came below at night with a lantern, BOOOOM! Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was determined just what was happening.

After that, the bundles of manure were always stamped with the instruction ' Stow high in transit ' on them, which meant for the sailors to stow it high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the hold would not touch this volatile cargo and start the production of methane.

Thus evolved the term ' S.H.I.T ' , (Stow High In Transit) which has come down through the centuries and is in use to this very day.

You probably did not know the true history of this word.  
Neither did I.

I had always thought it was a golf term!!!

# INTERESTING WW2 FACTS

You might enjoy this from Col D. G. Swinford, USMC, Ret and history buff. You would really have to dig deep to get this kind of ringside seat to history:

1. The first German serviceman killed in WW II was killed by the Japanese ( China , 1937), The first American serviceman killed was killed by the Russians ( Finland 1940); The highest ranking American killed was Lt Gen Lesley McNair, killed by the US Army Air Corps.
2. The youngest US serviceman was 12 year old: Calvin Graham, USN. He was wounded and given a Dishonourable Discharge for lying about his age. His benefits were later restored by act of Congress. (See Page 5)
3. At the time of Pearl Harbor , the top US Navy command was called CINCUS (pronounced 'sink us'); The shoulder patch of the US Army's 45th Infantry division was the swastika. Hitler's private train was named 'Amerika.' All three were soon changed for PR purposes.
4. More US servicemen died in the Air Corps than the Marine Corps. While completing the required 30 missions, an airman's chance of being killed was 71%.
5. Generally speaking, there was no such thing as an average fighter pilot. You were either an ace or a target. For instance, Japanese Ace Hiroyoshi Nishizawa shot down over 80 planes. He died while a passenger on a cargo plane.
6. It was a common practice on fighter planes to load every 5th round with a tracer round to aid in aiming. This was a big mistake. Tracers had different ballistics so (at long range) if your tracers were hitting the target 80% of your rounds were missing. Worse yet tracers instantly told your enemy he was under fire and from which direction. Worst of all was the practice of loading a string of tracers at the end of the belt to tell you that you were out of ammo. This was definitely not something you wanted to tell the enemy. Units that stopped using tracers saw their success rate nearly double and their loss rate go down.
7. When allied armies reached the Rhine , the first thing men did was pee in it. This was pretty universal from the lowest private to Winston Churchill (who made a big show of it) and Gen. Patton (who had himself photographed in the act).
8. German Me-264 bombers were capable of bombing New York City, but they decided it wasn't worth the effort.
9. German submarine U-120 was sunk by a malfunctioning toilet.
10. Among the first 'Germans' captured at Normandy were several Koreans. They had been forced to fight for the Japanese Army until they were captured by the Russians and forced to fight for the Russian Army until they were captured by the Germans and forced to fight for the German Army until they were captured by the US Army.
11. Following a massive naval bombardment, 35,000 United States and Canadian troops stormed ashore at Kiska, in the Aleutian Islands. 21 troops were killed in the assault on the island..... It could have been worse if there had actually been any Japanese on the island.
12. The last marine killed in WW2 was killed by a can of spam. He was on the ground as a POW in Japan when rescue flights dropping food and supplies came over, the package came apart in the air and a stray can of spam hit him and killed him.

This article has been seen in a previous “Sitrep, Over!” back in August 2009 over 10 years ago. I thought you might appreciate it again . Editor.



## Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

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Find us on  
**Facebook**

**Do you have any photos of  
interest from your Army days that  
we can use on our website or our  
Facebook pages?**

**Yes, email them to me and we'll share them  
around for everyone to appreciate.**

**Don't have Facebook?**

**WHY NOT?**

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL? WE ARE  
WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU, AND OUR  
MEMBERS WOULD LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR  
ARMY DAYS.

EMAIL US AT [davidlaing49@bigpond.com](mailto:davidlaing49@bigpond.com) AND  
WE'LL MAKE YOU FAMOUS.

COME ON BLONDIE, MAKE IT HAPPEN!

*The views expressed in these pages are not  
necessarily those of the Royal South Australia  
Regiment Association Inc, the 10th/27th Battalion  
RSAR or the Australian Defence Forces. Any  
similarity to those organisations is purely good luck.*

## Editorial



G'day all

At this time of year we're looking at finishing all the jobs we started and never had the chance (or inclination) to finish. We're wrapping the last of our Christmas presents that you know will delight or disappoint, and figuring out what lies you can make up for your New Years resolutions.

We're thinking of the friends who are no longer with us and how their loved ones are coping. How are you Shirl, Veronica and Heather?

As on Page 1, we think of those who go in harms way as we sit in relative peace and quiet, and we pray (if that's what we do) that they will be home soon with their loved ones.

And for some of us, we're thinking about packing up the caravan and heading off with the thousands of other "Grey Nomads" to clog the highways of our country and make a "normal" car drivers journey hell!

I used to curse these folk when travelling down life's highway! And there they are! 4 cars towing caravans all behind each other with only meters in between each. God's roadblock! And then you have a 60 ton Kenworth road train intent on getting to Alice Springs before dinner so he can have his Truckers Mixed Grill complete with 6 eggs, half a pig and 2 loaves for bread smothered in tomato sauce. And he's right up your clacker as you keep checking to see when you can overtake these caravans one at a time. Yes? No! Now? No! Go? No! Aaaargh!!

And now....I am one! Yes, I've changed from the aggressor sandwiched between 4 caravans and a road train, to being one of those caravan towing nomads who really has all the time in the world, and doesn't care who is behind me!!

That's not quite true though. I've seen the anger caused and I've seen the results of inattention and haste. I refuse to travel "in convoy" with other caravans and prefer to set my own pace. Well, the pace my wife says I must stick to! And you know what? She's right. I drive to the conditions and pull over if Ayrton Senna in the Kenworth wants to pass. I value Christmas and I value life. I'm in no hurry to meet my maker. Kelvinator.

Please drive carefully and to the conditions over this Christmas break, and take it easy when you see the Old, the Bold, the Bald and the Grey with their \$70,000 Bells & Whistles caravan bearing down on you from behind. Let them pass. They're eager to see where they make Kelvinators.

Have a great Christmas and I'll catch you on the other side!

Cheers

*David Laing* Editor



# I went to War aged 12....Calvin Leon Graham

**Calvin Leon Graham** (April 3, 1930 – November 6, 1992) was the youngest U.S. serviceman to serve and fight during World War II. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, he enlisted in the United States Navy from Houston, Texas on August 15, 1942, at the age of 12. His case was similar to that of Jack W. Hill, who was granted significant media attention due to holding service number one million during World War II, but later was discovered to have lied about his age and subsequently discharged.

## Early life

Graham was born in Canton, Texas, and was attending elementary school in Houston before he decided to join the Navy, after his father had died and his mother had remarried.

## US Navy, World War II

He enlisted in the Navy on August 15, 1942 and was sent to boot camp in San Diego, California, for six weeks, and afterwards was sent to Pearl Harbor at Oahu, Hawaii, where he was assigned to USS *South Dakota* in September.

## USS South Dakota

The *South Dakota* left Pearl Harbor on October 16. On October 26, 1942, he participated in the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands. The *South Dakota* and her crew received a Navy Unit Commendation for the action. On the night of November 14–15, 1942, Graham was wounded during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, he served as a loader for a 40 mm anti-aircraft gun and was hit by shrapnel while taking a hand message to an officer. Though he received fragmentation wounds, he helped in rescue duty by aiding and pulling the wounded aboard ship to safety. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart Medal, and he and his crewmates were awarded another Navy Unit Commendation.

The *South Dakota* returned to the East Coast on December 18, 1942, for an overhaul and battle damage repairs (she had taken 42 hits from at least three enemy ships) in New York City, and since then, was named "Battleship X" in order to make the Japanese think she had been sunk. Graham's mother revealed his age after he travelled to his grandmother's funeral in Texas (he arrived a day late) without permission from the Navy, for which afterwards he spent three months in a Texas brig. He was released after his sister threatened to contact the newspapers. Although he had tried to return to his ship, he was discharged from the Navy on April 1, 1943, and his awards were subsequently revoked. The *South Dakota's* gunnery officer, who was involved in handling his case, was Sargent Shriver.

He then worked in a defence plant as a welder instead of going back to school.

## US Marine Corps, 1948–51

Graham joined the United States Marine Corps in 1948 at age 17, but his enlistment in the Marines also ended early when he fell from a pier and broke his back in 1951. Although serving in the Marine Corps qualified him as a veteran, he would spend the rest of his life fighting for full medical benefits and clearing his military service record.

## Post military service

In 1978, he was finally given an honourable discharge for his service in the Navy, and after writing to Congress and with the approval of President Jimmy Carter, all medals except his Purple Heart were reinstated. His story came to public attention in 1988, when his story was told in the TV movie, *Too Young the Hero*. He was played by Rick Schroder.

In 1988, he received disability benefits and back pay for his service in the Navy after President Ronald Reagan signed legislation that granted Graham full disability benefits, increased his back pay to \$4917 and allowed him \$18,000 for past medical bills, contingent on receipts for the medical services. By this time, some of the doctors who treated him had died and many medical bills were lost. He received only \$2,100 of the possible \$18,000. While the money for the rights to his story for the movie, *Too Young the Hero* amounted to \$50,000, 50% went to two agents and 20% went to a writer of an unpublished book about Graham. He and his wife received just \$15,000 before taxes.

## Death

Graham's Purple Heart was finally reinstated, and presented to his widow, Mary, on June 21, 1994, by Secretary of the Navy John Dalton in Arlington, Texas, nearly two years after his death from heart failure. He was buried at Laurel Land Memorial Park in Fort Worth, Texas.

## Military awards

Graham's decorations and military awards, as finally settled circa 1994 after intervention by Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton:



Bronze Star Medal  
Purple Heart  
Navy Unit Commendation  
American Campaign Medal  
Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal  
WW1 Victory Medal  
National Defense Service Medal

**REGISTER NOW OR MISS OUT**



# **RSAR Association End of Year BBQ**

**All Members of the RSAR Association, Serving Members of  
10/27 Bn and Attached Units (3/9 SAMR, 3 Fd Sqd) and their  
families are invited to  
The 2019 END OF YEAR BBQ**

**Sunday 15th December 2019  
Keswick Barracks  
Roy Inwood VC Club  
1100 - 1500 hrs**

**All meat and salads provided FREE of charge**

**Contact David Laing on 0407 791 822 or [davidlaing49@bigpond.com](mailto:davidlaing49@bigpond.com)  
for catering purposes.**





# Bonus Joke Page for FREE



I NEVER WISH DEATH  
UPON ANYBODY WHO  
WRONGS ME. I WISH  
SUDDEN, EXPLOSIVE  
DIARRHOEA WHILE ON A  
DATE, WITH FREQUENT  
SNEEZES



WHEN YOU'RE DEAD,  
YOU DON'T KNOW  
YOU'RE DEAD. THE PAIN  
IS ONLY FELT BY  
OTHERS.

THE SAME THING  
HAPPENS WHEN  
YOU'RE STUPID.



AND JUST LIKE THAT  
1969 WAS  
50 YEARS AGO

# CPL DAVE'S PAGE



"Sure, I'd love a second honeymoon ...  
who with?"



FACE IT, SVEN, WE'RE OLD - "PILLAGE"  
DOESN'T MEAN WHAT IT USED TO MEAN.



"That's the first time I've seen your  
mother leave the table without  
a second helping."

I'M GLAD I LEARNED ABOUT  
PARALLELOGRAMS IN HIGH  
SCHOOL MATHS, INSTEAD OF  
HOW TO WORK OUT MY TAX.  
IT COMES IN SO HANDY IN  
PARALLELOGRAM SEASON.



# They were ALL TOO YOUNG TO SERVE.

# Badge of Honour

Chet Fleming is part of an army of children — a group of boys and girls who fooled the U.S. government and joined the military before they were of legal age.

"Somebody described us as a group of government-certified liars," said the 71-year-old Fleming. "That's the only way we could get in."

The former Ohio resident was 16 when, while playing hooky from school with some buddies, he told an Army recruiting sergeant he was 18. He enlisted and later served in Korea. More than 50 years later, Fleming — commander of the West Virginia Veterans of Underage Military Service — wants to find others in the state like him.

There likely were more than 200,000 underage veterans who joined the military during the World War II and Korean War eras. Most joined out of patriotism or to seek adventure. Others did so for financial reasons, said Ray Jackson, national commander of the Veterans of Underage Military Service, which was founded in 1991 in Maryland. "Some of these guys came from large families and there wasn't enough food to go around, and this was a way out," said Jackson, 74, who joined the Marines when he was 16. "Others just had family problems and wanted to get away."

Retired Army Maj. Bill Boggs began his military career at age 15 with the West Virginia National Guard. Boggs and his 14-year-old brother, John, who also enlisted, saw the military as a way to earn money and escape the "hardscrabble" Lewis County farm where they lived with four brothers. "We decided that the food was quite acceptable, they paid us regularly, they provided us clothing," said the 69-year-old Boggs, who served in Korea and Vietnam.

Don Green looked to the military as a way of making a living after his father died, leaving 11 children on a Boone County farm. "I just wasn't old enough to do a mining job or do any other work," said Green, 68. So at 14, he forged a birth certificate and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve, and then the Army a few months later. He turned 16 while in Korea during the war.

Green, Fleming and Boggs are among nine West Virginia members of the Veterans of Underage Military Service.

Nationally, the group has more than 1,200 active members, including more than 20 women, said Jackson, who, along with his wife, Susan, wrote two volumes of stories about underage veterans titled, "America's Youngest Warriors." "If you got in legally, you can't belong to our association," said Jackson, who lives in Tempe, Ariz.

The minimum age limit for military service is still 17 with parental permission — and 18 without — in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. While underage enlistments were fairly common during the era of both world wars, such occurrences would be unlikely today, said Chief Petty Officer Will Borrall, public affairs officer with the Navy Recruiting District in Richmond, Va.

"The information age has made it much simpler to find out if the information given by the candidate is accurate," Borrall said. Also, he said, "there's not such an immense pressure to join the military service as there was in 1941, following Pearl Harbor, or there was in previous wars."

The attack on Pearl Harbor and other events compelled Orvil Schoonover, 74, of Cocoa, Fla., to forge his birth certificate and enlist in the Navy just days shy of his 15th birthday. "I just thought I needed to do it," said Schoonover, who grew up in Elkhurst.

One of the youngest enlistees was Calvin Graham of Texas, who joined the Navy at age 12 and served on the USS South Dakota during the 1942 Battle of Guadalcanal. "He was wounded, but he helped save a number of his shipmates and was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart," Jackson said. But when his true age was discovered, Graham was thrown in the brig and stripped of his medals over fraudulent enlistment, Jackson said. Graham was released from the brig after his sister threatened to contact the newspapers. He was released from the Navy just after his 13th birthday. He joined the Marines at age 17, but his military career ended about three years later when he fell from a pier and broke his back. The Navy reinstated his medals — except for the Purple Heart — in 1978, after Graham had written to congressmen and presidents. He died in 1992. His Purple Heart was presented to his widow, Mary, nearly two years later. Graham's story was the subject of the 1988 movie, "Too Young the Hero."

Most veterans did not talk about their underage service for years, until they began retiring. "Our enlistments were fraudulent. And with a fraudulent enlistment, we could be court-martialled," Jackson said. "There's still people today that will not join our association because they're afraid they will get caught on the fraudulent enlistment and get punished."

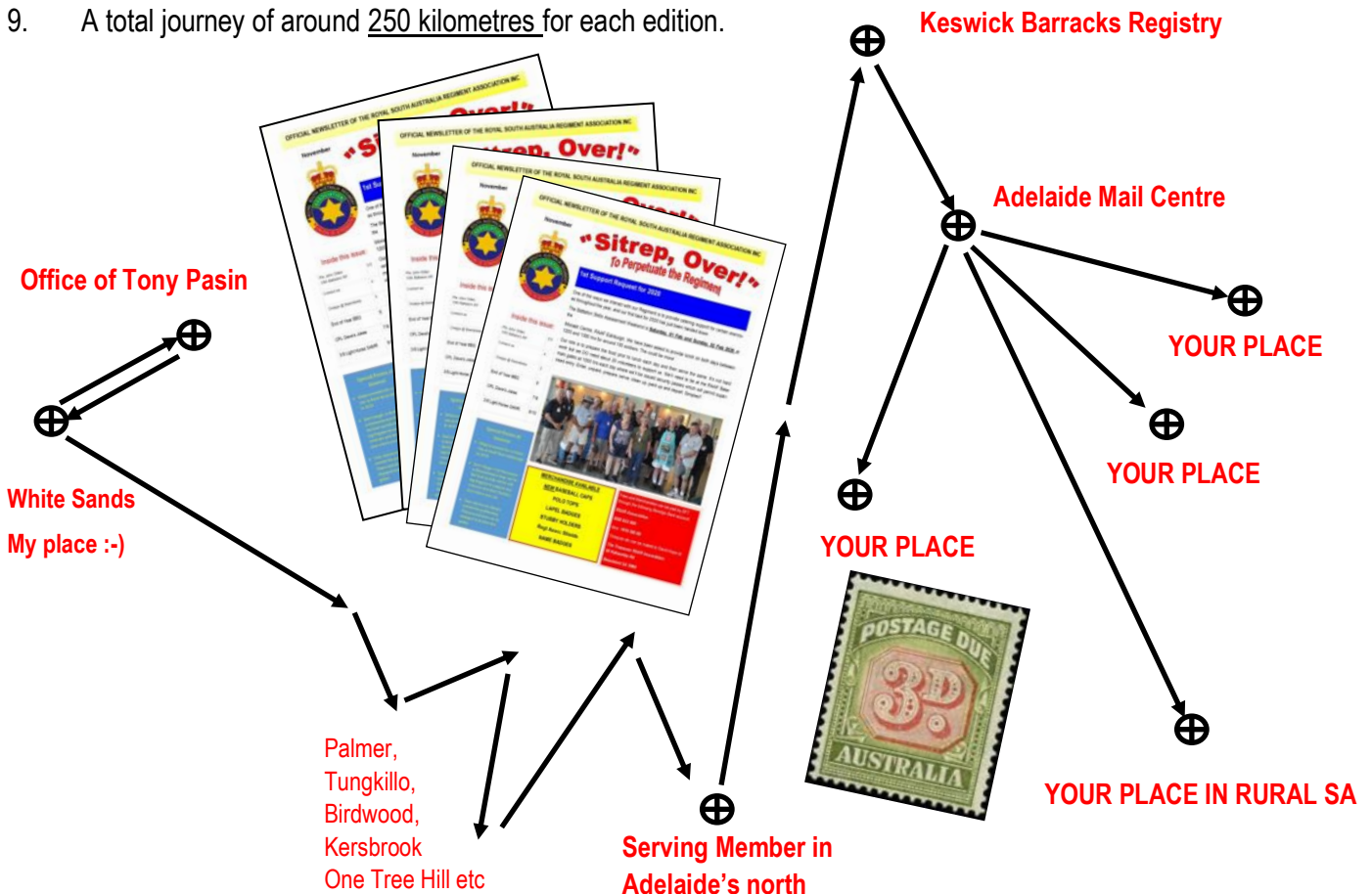
But many veterans — after raising their families and fulfilling their careers — thought, "What the heck, they can't do anything to me," Jackson said. "We're just reaching out to them," Fleming said of other underage veterans. "We want them to understand there's nothing to be ashamed of. There's nothing to hide."

Although Jackson and thousands of other veterans "fudged" their ages to get into the military, he doesn't consider that to be a typical case of lying. "We broke the law to serve," Jackson said. "It's a badge of honour for us."

# The Amazing & Magical Journey of the “Sitrep, Over!”

There are two methods of delivery for this newsletter. The first is by email to the recipient (it takes milliseconds), and the second is by snail mail. Let me tell you how SNAIL MAIL works!

1. Sitrep edited in Publisher format on a lap top computer at White Sands, about 11 kilometres downstream from Murray Bridge.
2. Publisher format converted to Acrobat PDF.
3. PDF emailed to the office of Tony Pasin MP in Murray Bridge for printing, collating and stapling.
4. Printed copies picked up by wife in Murray Bridge and returned to White Sands for addressing and enveloping.
5. Packaged copies taken by car to Serving Members abode in Northern suburbs of Adelaide.
6. Packaged copies delivered by Serving Member to Keswick Barracks Registry.
7. Packaged copies picked up by Australia Post and taken to Adelaide Mail Centre for sorting.
8. “Sitrep, Over!” delivered to members place of residence or PO Box.
9. A total journey of around 250 kilometres for each edition.



What I'm saying is..... We are still printing out **10 hard copies** for members who don't have internet access. Or more correctly, members who SAY they don't have internet access!!! Don't get me wrong here. I would not for one second deny a financial member the right of reading this newsletter just like everyone else, so we have made a commitment to those without internet to deliver hard copies to their door. That's one of the items you get for your \$20 membership fees per year. But..... And I know this is a BIG but....I know there are some of you who are receiving this copy by snail mail when you could be receiving it by email, so all you have to do is contact me via email and we'll transfer you from the Snail Mail List to the Email Address List, and that's the end of that.

I will thank you. Tony Pasin's office will thank you. My wife will thank you. The Serving Member will thank you and the Keswick Barracks Registry Office will thank you. Most of all, the Planet will thank you for not having to burn up mega litres of fossil fuel just to deliver a newsletter!





# REMEMBRANCE DAY IN FIJI

By Norm Tregenza

Member Norm Tregenza and wife Lyn recently returned from a cruise to Fiji, and whilst there took part in the Fiji Remembrance Day commemorations. He sent these photos.



The Band of the Fijian Defence Force leads the Remembrance Day march



Members of the Fiji Army in traditional and operational uniform



Norm & Lyn Tregenza with what I take to be their Cabin Boy. I think he pinched Norm's wallet! It's good to see Norm flying the RSARA colours.





# Christmas parcels for our soldiers on deployment

On Page 1 we told of the Christmas Care Packages being made up to send to our soldiers from the 10th/27th Battalion who are deployed overseas during the Christmas period. Being away from their families and loved ones at any time is tough, but even harder over the Festive Season.

We, at the RSAR Association want these guys and girls to know we really appreciate their service, so the Committee got together at Keswick Barracks recently and packed and addressed some parcels up ready for posting.

Thanks go to Rod Beames, David Laing, Colin Phillips, David Hope, Nat Cooke, Mark Blondell, Jesse Humphrys, Christian Bennett, Des Hawkins, Norm Tregenza and 10/27 Bn Padre Chaplain Derek Croser.

To the recipients of these packages, we hope they bring a little comfort to you over Christmas, and know that we thank you for your service to your country.

*Merry Christmas.*







## NEW GAVEL FOR FORMAL DINNERS

For some time our Formal Dinners and other demi-official proceedings have been lacking a form of professionalism, and President Rod Beames has asked for an RSARA Gavel to use at the Head Table. A relative of a mate of the Secretary's has very studiously crafted this fantastic masterpiece which will now go onto our Register of Assets and be used whenever the need arises. Thanks to Vern Loeckenhoff from Victoria for this marvellous piece of workmanship.



## RSAR Association - Financial Members as at November 23, 2019

### Honorary Members

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Wilson       | Neil  |
| Lipman       | Ben   |
| Morgenthaler | Peter |

### Life Members

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| Acton         | Chris   |
| Ayles         | Jeff    |
| Beckett       | David   |
| Blackmore     | Bill    |
| Boscence      | Bob     |
| Bourne        | Colin   |
| Brookes       | Philip  |
| Burnard       | Trent   |
| Burns         | Wayne   |
| Carnachan     | Ian     |
| Davey         | Trevor  |
| Elliott       | Graham  |
| Gaborit       | Lyndon  |
| Hawking       | Don     |
| Haynes        | Malcolm |
| Hogan         | Mark    |
| Hook          | Alan    |
| Hope          | David   |
| Horseman      | Ian     |
| Hudson        | Rick    |
| Jackson       | Aaron   |
| James         | Grant   |
| Johnson       | Barry   |
| Klopf         | Alex    |
| Laing         | David   |
| Lakin         | Bruce   |
| Marlin        | Robin   |
| Moore         | Terry   |
| Paul          | John    |
| Pollard       | Barry   |
| Sanderson     | Max     |
| Stewart       | Robin   |
| Stewien       | Peter   |
| Vella         | Joe     |
| Waters        | Ian     |
| Westover      | Rhys    |
| Wilson        | Graham  |
| Yorke-Simpkin | Reg     |

### Associate Life Members

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Field     | Shirley  |
| Phillips  | Heather  |
| Sanderson | Lorraine |

### Members

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Attenborough | Geoff      |
| Bampton      | Michael    |
| Beames       | Rodney     |
| Bennett      | Christian  |
| Blondell     | Mark       |
| Brown        | Bruce      |
| Burton       | Ray        |
| Carlisle     | Lesley-Ann |
| Collins      | Peter      |
| Cooke        | Nat        |
| Cotton       | Bob        |
| Cram         | Kevin      |
| Dew          | Trevor     |
| Domanski     | Glenn      |
| Dunn         | Peter      |
| Eva          | Keith      |
| Faunt        | Joshua     |
| Foy          | Erin       |
| Gill         | Graham     |
| Goodwin      | Graham     |
| Gordon       | Frank      |
| Harrison     | John       |
| Harrison     | Nigel      |
| Hawkins      | Des        |
| Heath        | Jonathan   |
| Hill         | Max        |
| Loveder      | Peter      |
| Matchett     | Bill       |
| McCulloch    | Don        |
| Mitchell     | Barry      |
| Morony       | Frank      |
| Mulroney     | Dennis     |
| Oakley       | Andrew     |
| Orrock       | Alan       |
| Parslow      | Howard     |
| Parsonage    | James      |
| Pascoe       | Michael    |
| Payne        | Bob        |
| Phillips     | Colin Rex  |
| Portakiewicz | Anthony    |
| Portakiewicz | David      |
| Preece       | Brian      |
| Rado         | Stephen    |
| Ramm         | Hank       |
| Ranger       | Denis      |
| Rathmann     | John       |
| Rijken       | Paul       |
| Rossetti     | Lee        |

### Members (ctd.)

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| Sage     | Andrew  |
| Sanders  | Ashley  |
| Slocombe | Leigh   |
| Standing | Michael |
| Thomas   | David   |
| Thomson  | Jim     |
| Tiller   | Garth   |
| Tregenza | Norm    |
| Trezise  | George  |
| Tucker   | Belinda |
| Wheeler  | Chris   |

### Associate Members

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Beames    | Cheryl   |
| Carnachan | Dom      |
| Elliott   | Julie    |
| Hook      | Philippa |
| Johnson   | Margaret |
| Laing     | June     |
| Tregenza  | Lyn      |
| Winger    | Kathleen |

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Honorary Members               | 3          |
| Life Members                   | 33         |
| Serving Life Members           | 5          |
| Associate Life Members         | 3          |
| Members                        | 47         |
| Serving Members                | 12         |
| Associate Members              | 8          |
| <b>Total financial members</b> | <b>111</b> |

### Prepaid Members

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 2020/21 | # |
| 2021/22 | Σ |

If your name isn't on this list and you think it should be, it's most probably because you've forgotten to pay your \$20 subs.

Please see page 1 for your options.

If you aren't a member and would like to be, just go to our website

[www.rsara.asn.au](http://www.rsara.asn.au) to download an Application Form.

**SIMPLES!!**





# A Reunion 51 Years in the making....by Phil Brookes (Page14)

**Pleiku.** Vietnamese **Play Ku**, city, central Vietnam, located in the central highlands. The city has a hospital, a commercial airfield, and several air bases that are a legacy of its strategic importance during the later stages of the Vietnam War (1965–75). It lies in a mountainous region inhabited mainly by Bahnar and Jarai peoples, sometimes referred to as Montagnards (French: “Mountain Dwellers”). Tea, coffee, handicrafts, timber, and upland rice are the main products of the region. Pleiku is at the crossroads of several upland highways, including the road north to Cong Tum and the road west to Stœng Trêng, Cambodia. Pop. (1999) 95,196; (2009) 162,051.

**Vietnam War**, (1954–75), a protracted conflict that pitted the communist government of North Vietnam and its allies in South Vietnam, known as the Viet Cong, against the government of South Vietnam and its principal ally, the United States. Called the “American War” in Vietnam (or, in full, the “War Against the Americans to Save the Nation”), the war was also part of a larger regional conflict (see Indochina wars) and a manifestation of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies.



# A Reunion 51 Years in the making....by Phil Brookes

Fifty-one years ago, two 19-year-old soldiers crossed paths in Vietnam, an Australian from Adelaide and American, Paul Monagle, from Boston. War brought them together; they became friends for a short time before going their separate ways in Vietnam

The Australian was billeted with the Americans and shared accommodation with Paul, who headed to Pleiku, in the central highlands, the Australian to Long Binh, north-east of Saigon. Paul left an envelope and photo on his table, which the Australian picked up, placing it in his pack, hoping to post it to Paul, and then transferred it to his army trunk where it was forgotten for many, many years.

A few months ago, the dusty trunk, containing the detritus of over 20 years of military service; a tattered leave pass, remnants of uniforms, a parachute and the envelope from the US to Paul Monagle, was cleaned out. A Facebook search found Paul Monagle, still living in Boston.

On 18 October 2019, in Boston, Paul received the envelope from his Australian mate, Phil Brookes. An emotional, but joyful reunion and dinner at the Beehive restaurant in South Boston. A few beers drunk and lots of lies told.



Phil on the Left and Paul, right



The Envelope



Phil & Marilyn Brookes in Adelaide in 2018

*Phil Brookes was a rifleman with D Coy 10 RSAR from March 1966 to April 1967. He joined the ARA in April 1967, serving in Vietnam from June 1968 to June 1969. He discharged from the ARA in July 1987 and continued service with the ARES at 1 Training Group, Brisbane for 19 years. In his civilian capacity Phil has a background in adult education and organisational development, working in this capacity in China and Vietnam. Before retirement Phil worked with the Queensland Department of State Development (Trade Office) and travelled to Asia, Scandinavia and Europe. He is a member of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association and lives in Brisbane with wife Marilyn..*