



"Sitrep, Over!"



Official Newsletter of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

February 2015

Newsletter edited by David
Laing 0407 791 822

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Guest Speaker for February Luncheon

Our first Luncheon for 2015 will again be held at the Hackney Hotel, 95 Hackney Rd Hackney. Our last luncheon attracted 60 members and their wives/partners, and we were all extremely happy with the venue, the service and the food.

All former serving members would know of the problems with Close Air Support (or the lack of it) when requesting assistance from the RAAF or Army, but when it WAS available it was something to behold; and on most occasions really saved the day!

Joining us as Guest Speaker on Sunday 22nd February is **Flight Lieutenant Guy Bowering** RAAF. Guy has had a long and exciting career in the both the Australian Army and the RAAF, and has deployed overseas on a number of occasions. One of Guy's last roles in the RAAF was as Aide De Corps for the then Governor of South Australia, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, who retired at the end of last year.



Guy began his involvement with the military joining as an Army Cadet back in the early 80's, and from there progressed to the Army Reserve (and 10/27 RSAR) before joining the RAAF as an Armaments Fitter. He took leave from the RAAF and joined British Aerospace, working for the Royal Saudi Air Force as a Training Team Supervisor on Tornado fighter bombers during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. On his return from deployment he rejoined the RAAF where he was commissioned into the RAAF Reserve as Operations Officer. His last deployment was to Operation Slipper as Joint Operations J33 Staff Officer in 2011.

His knowledge of the links between air force and army are above reproach, and anyone interested in the military and its operations will find his talk extremely interesting.

If you wish to attend, please let us know, as the last luncheon was a bit embarrassing for us, with 48 people making reservations and 60 turning up! We can handle the odd 2 or 3 extra, but 12 extra takes some alternate arrangements.

As usual, please contact Norm Rathmann for reservations on his mobile of 0448 460 884 or his email of normgeelong@yahoo.com

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10/27 Band Concert at Murray Bridge Town Hall

The Band of the 10th/27th Battalion will perform at an ANZAC Centenary Concert on Sunday 8th March at 3 pm at the Murray Bridge Town Hall.

The Concert is titled "Music from the War Years" and will feature all your favourites, from WW1, WW2 right through to Korea, Vietnam and the present day. Tickets are only \$15 each, with nibbles and finger food included at intermission. Tickets available by contact Murray Bridge RSL on **(08) 8532 1314**

IS THIS YOUR PAYMENT?

We recently received \$20 fees from someone via EFT. We have no record of a Colin Rex Phillips in our association, so if this is you, please let us know!!!

From: Colin Rex Phillips
From Account: #####346
Payment Amount: 20.00

Date for Payment: Now
Account Name: RSAR Association Inc
Account Number: #####1406
Reference: Colin Phillips
BSB: 015-211
Transfer reference number is 324894394
Please do not reply to this email.

Just Soldiers

Trooper Sloan "Scotty" Bolton DCM

Part 4

At a distance of two and a half kilometres from the forward trenches, Bouchier commanded his men to charge. The steady canter of the horsemen reached the crescendo of the gallop and, hooves thundering, they bore down mercilessly on their hapless foe in a deadly, destructive wave.

As the horsemen surged forward, the Turkish batteries opened fire with a mixture of shrapnel and high explosive. The projectiles burst among the forward ranks.

Men were blown from their saddles and some horses fell, but the charge did not falter. The Turkish gunners watched the charge, lowering the barrels of their guns, waiting for the dismount that never came. Suddenly the Light Horse regiments were below the trajectory of the guns.

Pushing his Waler at full gallop, Trooper Bolton reached down and grasped the handle of his bayonet, extracting the 18-inch blade from its scabbard. The Turks now set their rifle sights to a range of 1600 metres as the riflemen and machine-gunners readied themselves. The volley of lead cut through the lines of horsemen, but the thirsty horses could smell the water—there was no stopping them.

Bolton's horse, Monty, careered wildly and he fought hard to regain control of his plunging beast. He was later to find that a bullet had narrowly missed his own leg, hitting instead the pannikin hanging from the saddle. This had deflected the round, carving a 12-inch gouge along the horse's rump.

The Turkish riflemen fired wildly at the approaching horde. At the sight of the rampaging Australians, some Turks threw down their weapons and ran towards the town, others chose to fight to the end. The defenders were ordered to save the guns and the Turkish horse teams galloped forward to salvage what they could.



AWM A05741. Broadmeadows, Vic, 20 October 1914. New recruits to the AIF pause for a mug of tea during training in camp.

Continued..... Trooper Sloan "Scotty" Bolton DCM

The first wave of the light horse now reached the forward enemy line. As the horses leaped across the open trenches, many of the Turks crouched and thrust their rifles and bayonets upward to disembowel the horses in mid-flight. The remnants of the first wave carried on to engage the support trenches.

The scene had become a bloody shambles of rifle and revolver fire. The rip and slash of wielded bayonets punctuated the air and one horse was seen to join the fight, rearing and striking out with its fore-hooves. Scotty galloped through to the second line, attacking two Turks with his bayonet. As he rode towards the centre of town, he spotted a Turkish soldier running towards a house. Galloping over, Bolton kicked the Turk, forcing him to the ground, retrieving his revolver as he lay dazed. Elements of the 12th Light Horse were already weaving their way through the streets, and some were watering their horses in the captured wells. One trooper fell to his knees in a Turkish canvas water trough, and drank side-by-side with his horse. Suddenly a well exploded, then another and yet another, the last blast almost throwing Bolton from his horse. On the ground he noticed a number of wires leading to a building. Bolton peered through an open window and caught sight of a German officer operating a switchboard. He sprang from the saddle and burst through the door.



Bolton astride favourite mount,
'Monty'. (Family collection)

PART 5 NEXT MONTH

By courtesy Darryl Kelly and ADCC Publications. Kelly, Darryl 2004, Just Soldiers, ADCC Publications, Brisbane, pg 15 to 26

An Experience of War

Part 12

In the book *We Band of Brothers* I describe the rigours of the next hour.

'It seemed a lifetime before we started to stretch him down to D Coy and the LZ. I was very worried about his condition. The stretcher carry was a long distance over very rough ground and I stopped the party every few minutes to give Vic a break as much as the carriers. We were also concerned about being bumped by the enemy along the way so we could not linger for too long. Vic stood up to the rigours very stoically but much of the time he drifted in and out of consciousness. When we got to the LZ I was pleased to see our Medical Officer, Captain Vic Bampton and Padre Les Thompson. The RMO administered plasma to Vic and he rallied a little but he was still gravely ill'.

But, Vic's ordeal was not yet over. As the Dust Off helicopter rose from the LZ it thrashed its way through tree foliage to exit the tiny hole that D Coy had hacked out of the jungle and in doing so severely damaged its rotor blades. The aircraft could barely maintain height and as it hugged the mountain side its fuselage was raked by enemy fire. Unable to land at the US 36th Evacuation Hospital helipad, because he would be unable to take off again, the pilot put down on the Vung Tau airstrip. Vic was then transported to the hospital by ambulance.

I had watched in awe as a US Dust Off helicopter had landed under machine gun and mortar fire to evacuate Prowse and Winterford several weeks earlier and I was to witness a similar feat of courage on this occasion. I have the greatest admiration for these anonymous American pilots who put their own lives on the line for us Australians.

Continued Page 5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hello David,

Myself and Matt Sloan are trying to return these medals.

I am hoping that you may be able to help me to trace the family of a 2/27th Battalion digger. By coincidence, he was born in Murray Bridge where you live, however I do not expect there to be any relatives still residing there (but there is nobody listed in the white pages by that name).

As you may be aware, I was very lucky to reunite Harry Katekar's stolen medals a few years back. As a result, I am now very fortunate to remain in contact with Harry's sister who is still alive and lives in Adelaide. Hopefully my luck with the 2/27th will continue.

Some information below which may give us a few leads?

Is there anybody within the **RSAR Association Inc** organisation who has a strong interest in the 2/27th ???

I look forward to hearing back from you.

GARY TRAYNOR

William Alexander Heuchan (died aged 57 in Dec 1949)
...married Martha Helena Schubert and their children were:

Ron - married Sylvia Bridges in 1937

Eric - as far as I can ascertain he never married.

Doris - married ('Harry') Henry Franklin TWINING in 1942 and had a son, John

Beryl - married Ernest Elliott GARDNER in 1947 and had a daughter, Marilyn

Barbara - Married Max ?

In the South Australia Police Gazette 1945, Eric is listed with an alias - Eric Alexander SMART.

Family marriage and death notices were published in The Advertiser, South Australia.

At the time of the father's death in 1949, they lived at 5 Mortimer Street, Grassmere S.A.



E.A.HEUCHAN

Other Medals

Service No: SX3479

Unit No: 2/27

Corps/Service: Infantry

Country: Australia

Second World War medals awarded to Eric Alexander HEUCHAN, who was born in Murray Bridge South Australia. The medals consist of the Defence Medal and the 1939-1945 War Medal. One medal has the official impressing of his name, the other appears to be hand engraved and is possibly a replacement. He should be entitled to the 1939-1945 Star and the Africa Star which are missing. Service Australian Army Service Number SX3479 Date of Birth 25 Jun 1917 Place of Birth MURRAY BRIDGE, SA Date of Enlistment 27 May 1940 Locality on Enlistment GRASSMERE, SA Place of Enlistment WAYVILLE, SA Next of Kin HEUCHAN, MARTHA Date of Discharge 29 May 1942 Rank Private Posting at Discharge 2/27 BATTALION 2 AIF. The medals were purchased on eBay Australia and are not for general sale. They will only be sold back to a descendant of Eric Alexander HEUCHAN upon strict proof of relationship.

Dear David

I also have the identity discs of Hubert Ian MANSER (2/27th) who was awarded the Military Medal for tending to the wounds of Maxwell Henry DOUDLE on Mission Ridge (Kokoda Trail). I carry these identity discs with me every time I cross the trail and tell of these two men. So if ever you hear of Hubert's family, I would also appreciate making contact with them.

However, as for Eric Heuchan any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

I have a very strong interest in the 2/27th and would love to correspond with anybody who is like minded. I am a member of the 2/33rd Australian Infantry Battalion Association with Matt Sloan which is perhaps one of the strongest battalion associations still thriving.

Yours gratefully,

GARY TRAYNOR

Administrator – Medals Gone Missing.

Web: www.medalsgonemissing.com

Email: customerservice@medalsgonemissing.com

Casualty details

DOUDLE, MAXWELL HENRY

Rank:

Service No:

Date of Death:

Age:

Regiment/Service:

Grave Reference

Cemetery

Additional Information:

Son of Henry and Ellen Claire Doudle, of Bucklebo, South Australia.

Corporal

SX2875

07/09/1942

29

Australian Infantry

A.I.F. 2/27 Bn.

B3. B. 26.

PORT MORESBY (BOMANA) WAR CEMETERY

[VIEW CERTIFICATE](#)

This is a PDF file and requires Adobe Reader to view.

MEMBERS LIST

Abareh, Wadi **SM**
 Acton, Chris
 Adams, Aaron **SM**
 Apostolides, Chris
 Attenborough, Geoff
 Ayles, Jeff
 Baldwin, Bob
 Barrass, Mark
 Bates, Allan
 Beames, Rod **CoM**
 Beckett, David **LM SM**
 Bennet, Graham
 Bilsborow, Jason **SM**
 Blackmore, William
 Blake, Sam **SM**
 Blondell, Mark **SM**
 Bloomfield, Max
 Bourne, Ian **SM**
 Boath, Ian
 Boothroyd, Lincoln **SM**
 Boscence, Bob
 Bras, Riley **SM**
 Broadbent, Robert **SM**
 Brookes, Phil
 Brown, Bruce
 Brown, Harry
 Burton, Ray
 Carnachan, Ian
 Chittleborough, Jeff
 Clyne, Lachlan **SM**
 Cooke, Nat **CoM**
 Contibas, Nikolaus **SM**
 Cotton, Bob
 Cram, Kevin
 Dart, John
 Davey, John (Jack)
 Davey, Trevor
 Del Vecchio, Victor
 Demasi, Nathan **SM**
 Demosani, Tony
 Domanski, Glenn
 Dubsky, Eddie
 Dunn, Peter
 Dunn, Bob
 Dunn, Jeff
 Durdin, Russell
 Durrant, Chris
 Edson, Roger
 Elliott, Graham
 Elliss, Scott **SM**
 Eva, Keith
 Ewens, Mimi **SM**
 Field, Don
 Flanagan, Ted
 Fridday, Ross
 Gaborit, Lyndon **LM**
 Genovese, John

Gibson, Lindsay
 Giles, John
 Gill, Graham
 Gilmore, Graham **CoM**
 Gordon, Frank
 Hardy, Robert **SM**
 Harrington, Malcolm
 Harrison, John
 Hawking, Don
 Hawkins, Des
 Haynes, Scott
 Hogan, Mark **LM**
 Hook, Alan **LM CoM**
 Hope, David
 Hudson, Mick
 Hudson, Rick
 Humphrys, Jesse **SM CoM**
 James, Grant **SM CoM**
 Jeffrey, Scott **SM**
 Johnson, Barry **LM**
 Jolly, David
 Jones, Brett
 Keenan, Alan
 Kilford, Brian
 Klopff, Alex **LM**
 Klopff, Paul
 Laing, David **LM CoM**
 Lampard, Ross
 Lee, Bob
 Lee, Pat
 Lloyd, Elmer
 Lockett, John
 Longstaff, Paul
 Loveder, Peter
 Main, Brian
 Marcus, Ray
 Martin, Bob
 Matchett, Bill
 Mau, Mark
 McCulloch, Don
 #McGree, Barry
 McLachlan, Joshua **SM**
 McMahon, Tyler **SM**
 McMullin, Jim
 Meissner, Terry **SM**
 Milde, Peter **SM**
 Mitchell, Barry
 Mitchell, David
 Morony, Frank **CoM**
 Moore, Jeffrey
 Moore, Terry **LM**
 Moschis, James **SM**
 Munro, Ron
 Oliver, Peter
 Orrock, Alan **CoM**
 Ockenden, Marc
 Oswald, John
 Pach, Chol **SM**
 Paul, John
 Perkins, Bob
 Pollard, Barry

Phillips, Don
 Phillips, Trevor
 Payne, Bob
 Parslow, Howard
 Preece, Brian
 #Rado, Stephen
 Ranger, Denis
 Rathmann, John
 Rathmann, Norm **CoM**
 Ramm, Hank
 Robertson, Jim
 Rorie, Graham **SM**
 Rossetti, Lee
 Sage, Andrew
 Salamon, Peter
 Sanders, Ashley **SM**
 Sanderson, Max
 Sands, Mike
 Sexton, Mark **SM**
 Sprigg, Rob
 Staker, Cameron **SM**
 Standing, Michael **CoM**
 Stone, Eddie
 Strain, Doug
 Steer, Phil
 Stewart, Rob **LM**
 Stuart, Matthew **SM**
 Tiller, Garth
 Thomson, Jim
 Tolotta, Tarrant **SM**
 Tregenza, Norm **CoM**
 Trezise, George
 Ullrich, Andreas **SM**
 Vella, Joe
 Wake, Stephen
 Waters, Ian **LM**
 Weightman, Aidan **SM**
 Westover, Rhys
 Wheeler, Chris
 Williams, Darrian **SM**
 Wilson, Graham **LM**
 Wilson, Neil
 Wood, George
 Woore, Phillip
 Yorke-Simpkin Reg **LM**
 Zuromski, Paul **SM**

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Ayles, Denise
 Beames, Cheryl
 Carnachan, Dom
 Dart, Caroline
 Demosani, Gail
 Elliott, Julie
 Eva, Gail
 Field, Shirley
 Gill, Maureen
 Gilmour, Helen
 Hawking, Lorraine
 Hook, Phillipa

Hudson, Margaret
 Jolly, Sandra
 Klopff, Josie
 Laing, June
 Lampard, Kay
 Main, Raelene
 Marcus, Yvonne
 Lee, Anne
 Mitchell, Roma
 Phillips, Heather
 Sanderson, Lorraine
 Tregenza, Lyn

HONORARY MEMBERS

G. Goodwin CO 10/27 RSAR
 J. Hill ADJT 10/27 RSAR
 M. Reyne RSM 10/27 RSAR

LM denotes **LIFE MEMBER**
SM denotes **SERVING ADF MEMBER**
Denotes **NEW MEMBER**

HOW TO JOIN US

To join the RSAR Association Inc, you need only have been a member of the Royal South Australia Regiment, its' Battalions or any of it's affiliate corps or units.

Applicants need to be able to identify and support our goal, which is:

To Perpetuate the Regiment

Application forms can be found at our Facebook page or by visiting our website at www.rsara.asn.au

Or

Contact the Secretary at davidlaing49@bigpond.com

Or

Call the Secretary on 0407 791 822 and a form will be sent out to you.

Support your comrades who support you.