



# "Sitrep, Over!"



Official Newsletter of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc. Edited by David Laing

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## ANZAC. Lest We Forget

Anzac Day has come and gone for another year, but the memories of why we commemorate will stay with us for another hundred years. One hundred years since our brave soldiers fought their way into history and formed the ANZAC legend at Gallipoli.

It was here that the cooperation of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps was born.

ANZAC became a name that was synonymous with courage, bravery and mateship. A tradition that is carried on in today's defence of our Pacific Asian region.

This year is significant to us in that it was when our country came together and stood side by side with our brothers in New Zealand, South Africa, Canada, India and the other Commonwealth nations to defend our right to freedom.

The First World War lasted for four years from 1914 to 1918, and in that time more than 37 million soldiers from both sides were killed or wounded.

Entire generations of our young men went to war and never returned

This year we remember not only the sacrifices of those brave soldiers who laid down their lives for King and Country, but we remember the loved ones they left at home, the loved ones who had to fend for themselves.

Mothers were left to tend the farms and raise the children on their own while their husbands, fathers, brothers and uncles fought in lands so far away, that the names of these places were so strange they might just as well have been on the Moon.

Our Australian traditions were borne of these ANZACs, and today we remember the sacrifices they made so that we may enjoy the freedom we sometimes take for granted.

Many young men from this region signed up to fight, and never returned home. It is for these young men that we stand today and commemorate their sacrifices.

Australia has become a great nation on the back of these sacrifices, and we should never cast our eyes downward, or be ashamed at the price we paid for this freedom.

These soldiers fought for the freedom we have today. Lest We Forget.

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### **SOLDIER ON**

We'll feature more about this very worthwhile organisation in the next issue. You can check out what they do at.....

[www.soldieron.org.au](http://www.soldieron.org.au)



**SOLDIER ON**  
HELPING OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS

Soldier On is about Australians coming together to show their support for our physically and psychologically wounded. We want to show the men and women of our Defence forces that we will

always have their backs.

Thanks to the support of the Australian public, we work to enhance recovery, inspire communities and empower Australia's wounded, giving those who have served our country the dignity they deserve and the chance to do and be whatever they choose.

## Just Soldiers

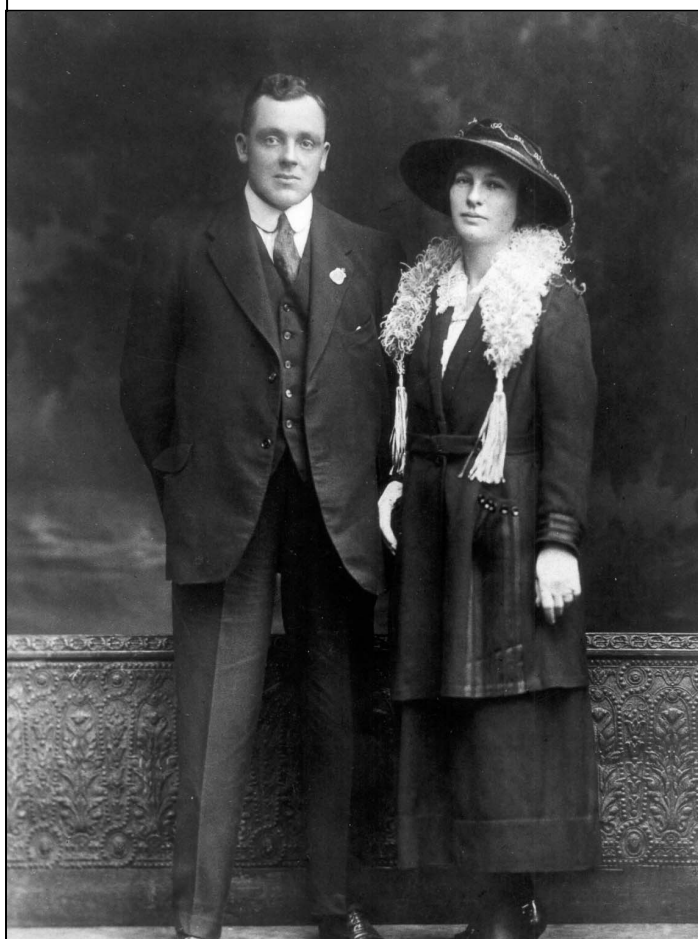
## Trooper Sloan "Scotty" Bolton DCM

## FINAL

The post war years saw the Boltons settle on a property in the Geelong area. Scotty quickly became obsessed with producing the best possible breeds of cattle. At the centenary Melbourne Show of 1934, one of Scotty's animals won the coveted trophy for champion Jersey bull, establishing the Bolton name at the forefront of the cattle industry.

The Depression years were difficult times for the vast majority of Australians, but especially hard for the Bolton family. Scotty's health deteriorated and he was required to make regular trips to hospital for treatment. The old light horse qualities of resourcefulness and self-sacrifice endured, and Scotty battled through the worst of those terrible years, determined to provide the best for his family. Scotty was adamant that all his children should be competent horsemen. A favourite family tale concerned Ruby, a troublesome pony that had provided many a bruising encounter for the young Bolton children, bucking each of them off in turn. Finally, in a fit of frustration, Scotty stumped his way over to the horse, grabbed the reins and hoisted himself into the saddle, determined to show the children how it should be done. Suddenly, Ruby bucked, sending Scotty tumbling to the ground. As he lay grinning stupidly at himself, he realised that the force of the fall had broken one of his artificial legs. The Bolton children would remind their father of his tangle with Ruby for years to come.

Author's note: I would like to thank Scotty's daughter, Margaret, for her valuable assistance in piecing together her father's story. The insight provided by his diaries and the family photographs has helped recreate the spirit of Scotty and for that I owe her my deepest gratitude.



Scotty and his wife, Elsie. (Family collection)

On Christmas Eve 1947, as families across Australia rushed to complete last-minute Christmas shopping and children dreamed of the gifts they would receive on Christmas morning, Sloan Bolton, the brave Beersheba charger, fought his last battle. He did not live to greet the dawn of Christmas Day, 1947.

Elsie Bolton now took up the challenge and held her family together, only to be dealt another blow six months after Scotty's death. The Bolton homestead was all but destroyed by fire. Among the treasured possessions lost to the flames were the medals that had been awarded to Scotty.

Elsie wrote a heartfelt letter to the Repatriation Department, explaining the loss of the medals. She described particularly the sense of emptiness that the family would feel on ANZAC Day, when other school children displayed medals and ribbons earned by parents and grandparents and yet the children of a proud and decorated veteran such as Sloan Bolton would have none. But Elsie's request for replacement medals was refused. Mindless bureaucracy had determined that

these medals could not be provided once a soldier had died.

In 1970, during Queen Elizabeth's visit to Australia, Bolton's ten-year-old granddaughter, Jenny, wrote to the Queen and asked if she would intervene and have her grandfather's medals reissued to the family. The Governor General replied to Jenny's request on the Queen's behalf and a replacement DCM was forwarded to the family.

Scotty Bolton's story was brought to life on the silver screen in the 1987 film *The Light Horsemen*. Jon Blake, a well-known Australian actor with a very promising future, was chosen to portray Bolton. He visited Elsie and wrote to her on a number of



## Trooper Sloan "Scotty" Bolton DCM

occasions, keeping her advised of the film's progress. It seemed, however, that fate had not finished with the Bolton family. At the completion of filming, Blake left the outback film set to return to Adelaide. En route, he was involved in a terrible car accident which left the young actor with severe, irreversible brain damage.

Scotty Bolton's story highlights the courage, resourcefulness and true grit that typified the light horsemen. They were men who routinely faced impossible odds with a wry, laconic humour. They revelled in their reputation for salvaging the most unlikely victory in the face of certain defeat. The legendary cavalry charge at Beersheba now occupies a hallowed place in the annals of Australian legend. Yet Scotty's story is also the seldom-told story of courage, sacrifice and fierce determination that epitomised the struggle of many soldiers in those hard postwar years. The fight of the crippled and often traumatised soldier and his family to rebuild a normal life is also a story that truly warrants telling.

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

Next month in "Sitrep, Over!" we feature another in this series by Darryl Kelly from his book, "Just Soldiers." We look at the intriguing story of WO2 Noel Eric Bolton-Wood and his brave decision which saw him as one of the few men to serve through 2 World Wars.



RSAR Association members before the ANZAC Day march in Adelaide. L - R. **Bob Lee. Barry Pollard. Jeff Dunn. Bob Dunn & Peter Dunn.** (I met Jeff at TTD after the march for the first time, and we had a good chat. Jeff travelled down for Darwin just to march with his brothers and the RSAR Association. Editor.)



## 28th JUNE LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER

Our next luncheon on 28th June at the Hackney Hotel will feature an interesting guest speaker, with an intriguing subject.

We are to welcome Monty Smith, Historian to this meeting. She comes highly recommended as an entertaining speaker. Monty and her colleague June Haggett have recently published the most comprehensive volume ever compiled listing the men and women of South Australia who volunteered to serve in South Australian contingents to the South African Boer War of 1899 to 1902. The book is entitled "A Jam Tin of Mosquitoes."

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the luncheon for only \$64.95 and cash or cheques are acceptable.

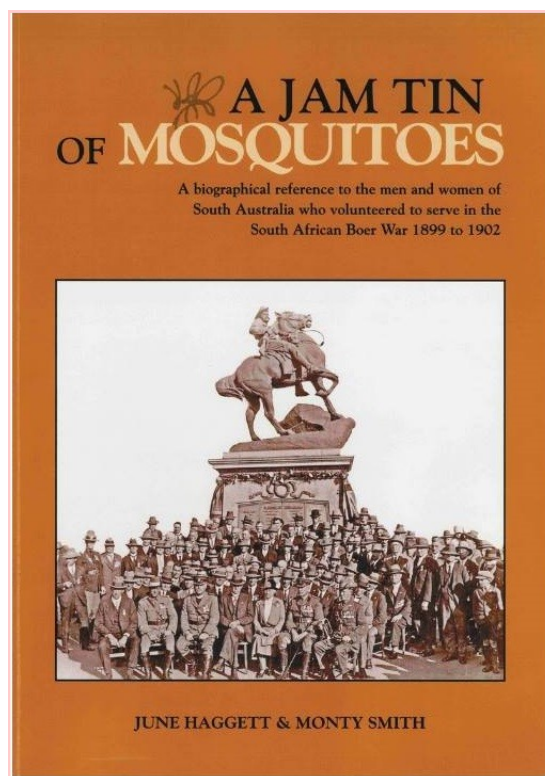
Both Monty Smith and June Haggett are members of the National Boer War Memorial Association which is fundraising to build a Boer War Memorial on ANZAC Parade in Canberra, ACT. Monty is also a member of the Anglo-Boer War Study Group and has contributed to their magazine "Kopje."

Monty will present a Power Point Presentation entitled "Before Gallipoli – what?" and this will remind us that South Australia's military history did not begin on the 25th April, 1915 and, that our first contingents to South Africa were indeed Infantry.

The 2015 theme for the National Boer War Memorial Association is **Fathers of the ANZACs**.

*Members and friends wishing to attend the Luncheon on SUNDAY 28th June at the Hackney Hotel are invited to contact Norm Rathmann for bookings on his email of [normgee-long@yahoo.com](mailto:normgee-long@yahoo.com) or his mobile of 0448 460 884.*

**Bookings are ESSENTIAL, as we have previously received 40 plus bookings and 60 people have arrived for lunch. This is not only extremely hard to organise extra seating and tables at a moments notice, it is embarrassing to the Committee who organise these events. PLEASE BOOK FIRST. NO BOOKING, NO SEAT.**



Members of the RSAR Association and former members of the Regiment march on ANZAC Day 2015

A travel agent looked up from his desk to see an older lady and an older gentleman peering in the shop window at the posters showing the glamorous destinations around the world.

The agent, having had an exceedingly profitable year, seeing the dejected couple looking in the window, was inspired to a rare feeling of generosity.

He called them into his shop and said, "I bet that on your pension you could never hope to have a holiday, so I am sending you off to a fabulous resort at my expense, and I won't take no for an answer!"

He took them inside and asked his secretary to write two flight tickets and to book a room in a five star hotel. They, as expected, gladly accepted, and were on their way.

About a month later the little lady came in to his shop. "And how did you like your holiday?" the travel agent asked eagerly.

"The flight was exciting and the room was lovely, she said. "I've come to thank you. But, one thing puzzled me.

"What would that be?" asked the travel agent.

"Who was that old guy I had to share the room with?"



**Private Gomad reckons.....**

**I TRIED TO DROWN MY  
SORROWS  
BUT THE BASTARDS  
LEARNED  
HOW TO SWIM**

TELSTRA needed to hire a team of telephone pole installers for the Stuart Highway, and the boss had to choose between a team of two from Port Pirie and a team of two Irish guys.

So the boss met both teams and said "Here's what we'll do. Each team will be installing telephone poles out on the new road for a day. The team that installs the most poles gets the job."

Both teams headed right out. At end of the shift, Bud and Buddy, the guys from Port Pirie came back and the boss asked them how many they had installed. They said that it was tough going, but they'd put in twelve.

Forty-five minutes later, Paddy and Mick, the Irish guys came back in and they were totally exhausted.

The boss asked, "Well, how many poles did you guys install?"

Mick, the team leader, wiped his brow and sighed, "Paddy and me, we got three in."

"The boss gasped, "Three? Those two Port Pirie guys put in twelve!"

"Yeah," said Mick, "but you should see how much they left sticking out of the ground!"

The Grim Reaper came for me last night, and I beat him off with a vacuum cleaner. Stewth, talk about Dyson with death.

Paddy says: "Mick, I'm thinking of buying a Labrador ." "Sod that" says Mick: "have you seen how many of their owners go blind"

I've just had a letter back from Screwfix. they said they regretted to inform me that they're not actually a dating agency.

My girlfriend thinks that I'm a stalker. Well, she's not exactly my girlfriend yet.

I woke up last night to find the ghost of Gloria Gaynor standing at the foot of my bed. At first I was afraid..... then I was petrified.

A wife says to her husband: "You're always pushing me around and talking behind my back".

He says: "What do you expect? You're in a wheelchair".



## ANZAC DAY 2015



Members of the RSAR Association march down King William St behind the soldiers of the 10/27 Battalion RSAR.





# RSARA MEMBERS

Abareh, Wadi **SM**  
 Acton, Chris  
 Adams, Aaron **SM**  
 Apostolides, Chris  
 Attenborough, Geoff  
 Ayles, Jeff  
 Baldwin, Bob  
 Bampton, Michael **BAND**  
 Barnaart, Philip  
 Bates, Allan  
 Beames, Rod **CoM**  
 Beckett, David **LM SM**  
 Bennet, Graham  
 #Benveniste, Sam **SM**  
 Bilsborow, Jason **SM**  
 Blackmore, William  
 Blake, Sam **SM**  
 Blondell, Mark **SM**  
 Bloomfield, Max  
 Boume, 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  
 Dawson, Trevor **BAND**  
 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  
 Hewitt, Emily **BAND**  
 Hogan, Mark **LM**  
 Hook, Alan **LM CoM**  
 Hope, David  
 Horseman, Ian **LM**  
 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  
 Koop, Joshua **BAND**  
 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  
 Portakiewicz, Anthony **BAND**  
 Portakiewicz, David **BAND**  
 Phillips, Don  
 Phillips, Colin  
 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**  
 Slattery, Kimberly **BAND**  
 Sniedze, Julie **BAND**  
 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**  
 Tompkins, Ian  
 Tregenza, Norm **CoM**  
 Trezise, George  
 Tucker, Belinda **BAND**  
 Ullrich, Andreas **SM**  
 Vella, Joe  
 Wake, Stephen  
 Waters, Ian **LM**  
 Weepers, Nicole **BAND**  
 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  
 T. Moore ADJT 10/27 RSAR  
 M. Reyne RSM 10/27 RSAR

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

**BAND** denotes serving 10/27 Band member

**#** Denotes **NEW MEMBER**

206 members as at 29/4/15



We welcome to the RSARA Sam Benveniste as our newest member. Sam is the Officer Commanding 3 Field Squadron, RAE, and is the first of that unit to join us since they teamed with 10/27 Battalion.

Major Benveniste is the 206th person to join our ranks. Welcome Sam.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Royal South Australia  
Regiment Association Inc

All correspondence to:-

**RSAR Association**

**The Secretary David Laing**

**Riverglen Marina RSD 3152A**

**White Sands**

**S.A. 5253**

**0407 791 822**



We're also on the Web!

*Find us at:*

[www.rsara.asn.au](http://www.rsara.asn.au)



Des Hawkins and friends before the march. Des applied for the recently advertised job at the Army Museum at Keswick Barracks. Well done Des.



Over 70 former members of the Regiment marched on ANZAC Day 2015. The first (and probably only) time they marched directly behind the Battalion