

January 2019



"Sitrep, Over!"

To Perpetuate the Regiment

2019 AGM

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Special points of interest:

- 2019 Annual General Meeting at SA Sea Rescue Squadron at West Beach.
- Are we losing members? Yes! Find out why!
- Murray Bridge RSL members visit Murray Bridge Army Range and inspect the new EF88
- Australian rifles throughout the years

The 2019 Annual General Meeting is to be held at the SA Sea Rescue Squadron HQ, Barcoo Rd West Beach on Sunday 4th August at 1100 hrs. The meeting will cover some important changes to the way we operate, and some implications for us not following certain guidelines.

After the meeting we will have a 2 course lunch (Fish & Chips w/- Salad and Bread & Butter Pudding) provided by the Auxiliary of the Sea Rescue Squadron, for a very good price of \$20 per head. The bar will be open after the AGM.

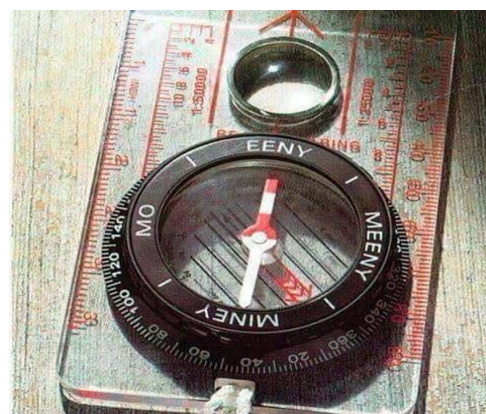
There are 3 reasons you should attend this meeting.

1. This is the only meeting for all members during the year where important changes are made and office bearers elected
2. This is a good chance to catch up with colleagues and have a tea, coffee or beer with them and other members of the association in a relaxed atmosphere.
3. Your membership allows you to have a say in how the association operates. Don't leave it up to others to make your decisions for you. You owe it to yourself and to the association to attend at least the AGM, even if you don't attend any other function throughout the year.

You are asked to register your attendance (for catering purposes) with the secretary on his email of davidlaing49@bigpond.com or his mobile on 0407 701822 not later than Friday 26th July 2019. Apologies to the email address only please.

Ex serving members, serving members and families all welcome!

See you there!



Officer's Compass Mk1

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

27 RSAR Officers - 1967



REAR			LT TREVOR PHILLIPS	LT REG WILLIAMS	2LT NEIL WILSON	2LT TREVOR JONES	LT TONY MATTEWS	2LT KEVIN LEWIS		
MIDDLE	LT KYM GODSON	2LT JOHN HARRISON	CAPT JOHN OSWALD	2LT TED BOREHAM	CAPT GRANT PALTRIDGE	CAPT JACK TRENERRY	LT BERT HOGBEN	LT NOEL GIBSON	2LT LYNDON GABORIT	
FRONT	CAPT BOB ALLAN	CAPT NEV RITCHIE CLARE	MAJ DENNIS TILBROOK CLARE	MAJ TOM TWIBLE	MAJ ROBIN MILLHOUSE	LTCOL IAN KENNEDY	CAPT ERNIE MARTENS	CAPT E McMAHON	LT BARRY MITCHELL	2LT JEFF DUNN
ABSENT	MAJ DON FIELD	CAPT MARK MAU	MAJ JOHN KERR	LT MAX SANDERSON						

RSARA Inc Historical Officer Des Hawkins sent in the photo above of the Officers of the 27th Battalion RSAR at the newly opened Elizabeth Training Depot, Smithfield, in 1967. The depot is now occupied by 3rd/9th Light Horse (SAMR)

27th Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment)

I researched a piece from the Australian War Memorial back in 2005 on the 27th Battalion and thought it would provide some interest for the newsletter. Here it is, with more to follow. Over! Editor.

After the First World War the defence of the Australian mainland lay with the part time soldiers of the Citizens Military Force, otherwise known as the Militia. The Militia was organized to maintain the structure of the First AIF and kept the same numerical designations. In 1928 the 27th Infantry Battalion became associated with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (the 27th Regiment of Foot). In 1938 the 27th became the “South Australian Scottish Regiment”, wearing the MacKenzie tartan, and was associated with the Seaforth Highlanders. Unusually the 27th also maintained a pipe band which, evidently, was not always appreciated by its sister battalions when the brigade was in camp. The 27th was originally part of South Australia’s 3rd Brigade. With the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the 27th was called up for protective duties in South Australia and held regu-

27th Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment) ..continued

lar training camps. On 9 December, two days after Japan entered the war, the battalion was mobilised and travelled to Darwin by road and rail - the journey took six days. The battalion was based at Winnellie and throughout January worked on defensive positions at Nightcliff, Casuarina, Rapid Creek, Shoal Bay, Leeanyah Swap, Howard River, and Lee point. The 27th got its first taste of action in Darwin, with the Japanese bombings of the town throughout 1942.

In December 1943 the 27th joined the 23rd Brigade, previously part of the 8th Division. When two of its battalions were captured on Ambon and Timor the brigade was reformed with Militia units. The 7th and 8th Battalions also joined the brigade. After being in Darwin for over a year, in March 1943 the 27th was relieved and returned to Adelaide. In December the battalion again headed north, this time to the Atherton Tablelands for intensive training.

The 27th was destined for more garrison duties. As part of the Bougainville campaign, the 23rd Brigade was to relieve the American garrisons on the Outer Islands in September 1944. The 27th took over from the Americans on Green (Nissen) Island and were the first Australian troops to land in the Solomon Islands.

The 27th's role was to defend the airfield on Green Island and conducted surveillance of the surrounding islands still occupied by the Japanese. To escape the boredom and monotony, volunteers from the 23rd Brigade also worked as crews on American PT boats, raiding Japanese occupied islands in New Ireland and New Britain.

In 1945 the 23rd Brigade moved to Bougainville, becoming responsible for the Central and Northern Sectors. In March the 27th moved into the Central Sector, relieving the 55/53rd Infantry Battalion on the Laruma River and the 31/51st Infantry Battalion on Pearl Ridge in April. After years of static garrison duties, the 27th was finally about to go into combat. For six weeks the battalion patrolled extensively and carried out several small attacks, capturing Little Hunt's and Berry's Hills, as well as Tiernan's Spur. Having been "blooded", the 27th moved to the Bonis Peninsula in the Northern Sector. The Japanese were far more active in the

Northern Sector and, like the Australians, carried out long range patrols and set booby traps. The 27th was also subject to frequent shelling from Japanese artillery, even on 15 August, the day Japan surrendered.

In September the 27th returned to Torokina, the Australian base on Bougainville. With the war over, the ranks of the 27th thinned, as men were discharged, transferred, or volunteered for the occupation of Japan. By mid-1946 most of the battalion had returned to civilian life and the 27th was disbanded on 1 May 1946.



Colour Patch

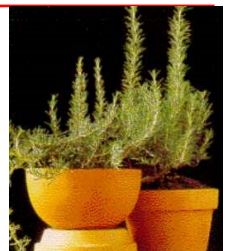
WHY WE WEAR ROSEMARY ON ANZAC DAY

Rosemary is a small perennial shrub of the mint family. This compact evergreen, with clusters of small light blue flowers and leaves that yield a fragrant essential oil used in making perfume and to flavour food, is native to the Mediterranean region.

Legend says that the Virgin Mary, while resting, spread her cloak over a white flowering rosemary bush. The flowers turned the blue of her cloak, and from then on the bush was referred to as the "Rose of Mary".

This plant was, in ancient times, supposed to strengthen memory. Greek scholars wore rosemary in their hair to help remember their studies, and the association with remembrance has carried through to modern times. In literature and folklore it is an emblem of remembrance.

On ANZAC Day, the wearing of small sprigs of rosemary in the coat lapel, pinned to the breast or held in place by medals is thus synonymous with remembrance and commemoration.





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Find us on
Facebook

In relation to the comments on the right, I'd like to make a point. Or two! Or even three!!

If our membership decreases significantly, through apathy or death, we will cease to exist as an association. We were formed with the view "To Perpetuate the Regiment" and that's what we do, very well, but we can only do it with your help. Most of our revenue comes from yearly subscriptions, with a further portion being the small profits we make from the sale of merchandise, and it's that money we use to assist the members of the current serving Battalion wherever we can. Some members work very hard to support the Regiment. The least you can do is support the association. That's all we ask!

DISCLAIMER

The views and comments expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc. Sometimes they are, and sometimes they aren't. Usually the Editor takes responsibility, but sometimes he doesn't! Sometimes!

Why aren't you paying your subs, mate? Was it something I said?

On the next page is the current list of members. FINANCIAL members, that is!

Some folk think that because they served with a battalion of the Royal South Australia Regiment they are automatically eligible to become a member of this association. That is correct, but you must also fill out an application form and pay the sum of \$20 to join. Thereafter you are asked to pay \$20 per annum (unless you are still serving, in which case it's \$10) and you can then enjoy the benefits of being a member. Various Regimental functions. BBQ Support Exercises. Group tours. Range Practices. The AGM (which is always a lot of fun) and a glorious full colour newsletter every month.

That being said, it's a wonder to me why on earth, if you go to all the trouble of signing on to become a member, why aren't you renewing your subs, mate?

Who am I talking about? Well, there are 18 members who paid subs last year and haven't renewed this year!!

That's only \$360 of lost revenue for the Association, but that money could go to providing a BBQ breakfast or lunch for 200 soldiers of the 10/27 Bn Battle Group.

That money could go to buying 2 new uniform jackets for the 10/27 Bn Band.

That money could go to donations to various charity organisations that we sponsor.

That money could go to purchasing 10 award shields for high achieving members of the Battalion at the End of Year Awards.

It's only a paltry \$20 a year for you, but it's \$360 that we could do so much with, if we had it.

I reckon it's good manners, and correct protocol to advise someone if you don't want to be part of their association anymore, so if that's the case, drop me a line and we'll part as friends. If you've just forgotten to renew your membership, the EFT banking details are on the front page.

To the 145 faithful who keep renewing their membership, the committee sincerely thanks you for your support.

David Laing Editor

Honorary Members		Members (ctd.)		Members (ctd.)		
Wilson	Neil	Cooke	Nat	Thomas	David	
Lipman	Ben	Cotton	Bob	Thomson	Jim	#
Morgenthaler	Peter	Cram	Kevin	Tiller	Garth	
		Dew	Trevor	Tregenza	Norm	
Life Members		Domanski	Glenn	Trezise	George	
Acton	Chris	Eckard	Andries	Tucker	Belinda	
Beckett	David	Faquiri	Reshad	Vella	Joe	
Blackmore	Bill	Faunt	Joshua	Wheeler	Chris	
Boscence	Bob	Gatley	Graham			
Bourne	Colin	Genovese	John	ex 10th Inf Bn Members		
Brookes	Philip	Gibson	Lindsay	Bampton	Michael	
Burnard	Trent	Gill	Graham	Chaplin	Tony	
Burns	Wayne	Goodwin	Graham	Collins	Peter	
Carnachan	Ian	Gordon	Frank	Harrison	Keith	
Davey	Trevor	Harrington	Malcolm	Harrison	Nigel	↕
Elliott	Graham	Harrison	John	Hill	Max	
Gaborit	Lyndon	Hawkins	Des	Kearney	Robert	
Hawking	Don	Heath	Jonathan	Larkins	Steve	
Haynes	Malcolm	Humphrys	Jesse	Mclver	Bill	
Hogan	Mark	Jones	Brett	Mulroney	Dennis	
Hook	Alan	Justin	Trent	Pike	Graham	
Hope	David	Loveder	Peter	Rech	Tony	
Horseman	Ian	Martin	Cameron	Richter	Bert	
James	Grant	Matchett	Bill	Sharon	Greg	
Johnson	Barry	McCulloch	Don	Spencer	John	
Klopf	Alex	Mitchell	Barry	Tyson	Tich	
Laing	David	Morony	Frank			
Lakin	Bruce	Munro	Ron	Associate Members		
Marlin	Robin	Oakley	Andrew	Abel	Karen	
Moore	Terry	Orrock	Alan	Ayles	Denise	
Paul	John	Parslow	Howard	Beames	Cheryl	
Pollard	Barry	Parsonage	James	Carnachan	Dom	
Stewart	Robin	Pascoe	Michael	Elliott	Julie	
Stewien	Peter	Payne	Bob	Field	Shirley	
Waters	Ian	Perkins	Bob	Hook	Philippa	
Westover	Rhys	Phillips	Colin Rex	Johnson	Margaret	↕
Wilson	Graham	Portakiewicz	Anthony	Klopf	Josie	
Yorke-Simpkin	Reg	Portakiewicz	David	Laing	June	↕
		Preece	Brian	Lee	Ann	
Associate Life Members		Rado	Stephen	Sanderson	Lorraine	
Phillips	Heather	Ramm	Hank	Tregenza	Lyn	
		Ranger	Denis	Winger	Kathleen	
Members		Rathmann	Norm			
Abel	Colin	Rathmann	John	Honorary Members		3
Attenborough	Geoff	Rijken	Paul	Life Members		29
Ayles	Jeff	Robertson	James	Serving Life Member		4
Beames	Rodney	Rossetti	Lee	Associate Life Members		1
Bennett	Christian	Rushton	Benjamin	Members		71
Benveniste	Sam	Sage	Andrew	Serving Members		23
Blake	Sam	Sanders	Ashley	Associate Members		14
Blondell	Mark	Sanderson	Max	Total financial members		145
Boath	Ian	Schoeman	Johannes			
Brophy	Ryan	Scott	Rhys	Prepaid Members		
Brown	Bruce	Scown	Neville		2019/20	↕
Burton	Ray	Skapin	Corey		2020/21	#
Buttars	Erik	Standing	Michael		2021/22	Σ
Chittleborough	Jeff					

The Last Post

I suppose some of you are familiar with this story – for those who aren't....perhaps it may add an extra and special dimension to this familiar tune. If any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which The Last Post was played, this brings out a new meaning of it.

Here is something everyone should know. Until I read this, I didn't know.

We have all heard the haunting song, 'The Last Post.' It's the song that gives us the lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But, do you know the story behind the song?

If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble Beginnings. Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the American Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, The Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him towards his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead..

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier...
It was his own son.

The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status.

His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted.

The haunting melody, we now know as 'The Last Post' used at military funerals was born. The words are

Day is done.
Gone the sun.
From the lakes
From the hills.
From the sky.
All is well.
Safely rest.
God is nigh.

Fading light.
Dims the sight.
And a star.
Gems the sky.



Gleaming bright.
From afar.
Drawing nigh.
Falls the night...

Thanks and praise.
For our days.
Neath the sun
Neath the stars.
Neath the sky
As we go.
This we know.
God is nigh.

I too have felt the chills while listening to 'The Last Post' But I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if

You had either so I thought I'd pass it along. I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before. Remember Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their Country.

Also Remember Those Who Have Served And Returned; and for those presently serving in the Armed Forces.

Sent in by RSAR member John Paul



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

010451



Murray Bridge RSL on the Range

Members of the Murray bridge RSL were fortunate to be invited to visit the Army Range at Murray Bridge on a recent Saturday morning, and observe soldiers firing the new EF88 Assault Rifle.

The invitation came from the Range Control Officer (RCO) WO2 Brian Hurley, who had served 20 years with the New Zealand Army before transferring to the Australian Army, where he has served 14 years.

We were showed the new Army Medical Kits by WO2 Selena Schuster from 3rd Health Support Battalion, based at Keswick Barracks. Compared to "the old days" the methods of wound treatment on the battlefield have improved 300%, and individual soldiers now carry trauma kits which maintain life until medical help arrives.

Moving to the firing Point, RSL members had to opportunity to get up close and personal with the new rifle, whilst watching members of 10th/27th Battalion, the Royal South Australia Regiment putting the rifle through it's paces.

Commanding Officer of the 10/27 Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Peter Morgenthaler said a number of soldiers on the range that day would soon be deployed to Afghanistan, whereas other members already had 2 or 3 tours under their belt.



Murray Bridge RSL Members L - R: Norm Goodwin, David Laing, Bob Perkins, John Ali, Allen Burt, "Wiggy: Bennett, Cooper Palmer, Mick Loeckenhoff and Bob Taylor

Australian Army Rifles since 1914

When Australia went to war in 1914, a large number of their soldiers were issued with a rifle that had been used by Americas forces since the 1860's. After rapid changes in government sourcing processes a new factory was built at Lithgow in the Blue Mountains, 140 kilometres from Sydney. That same factory has been churning out our rifles ever since, with the new EF88 being machined by Thales in Lithgow. Known as the Lithgow Small Arms Factory (LSAF) their workforce has kept our soldiers well defended since 1916 and beyond.



The British .577 inch Snider-Enfield was a breech-loading rifle proved to be totally unsuitable and was quickly replaced by the Lee Enfield 303 inch Bolt Action rifle.



The Lee Enfield SMLE (Short, Magazine, Lee Enfield) was first manufactured in Britain in 1907, but under licence was made at the Lithgow Small Arms Factory from 1915. The Bolt Action 303 inch rifle could dispense bullets as fast as the user could work the bolt and rechamber a new round, sometimes as many as 20 rounds per minute. Fitted with a 10 round magazine, the SMLE stayed in service with the Australian Army until the 1950's



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

REL35170

The L1A1 Self-Loading Rifle 7.62 mm, was first manufactured in Belgium, and was known as the FN FAL. It was then built as the F1A1 SLR at Lithgow under licence from Belgique Nationale from 1956 onwards, and stayed in service until the late 1980's, when it was replaced by the F88 Steyr.

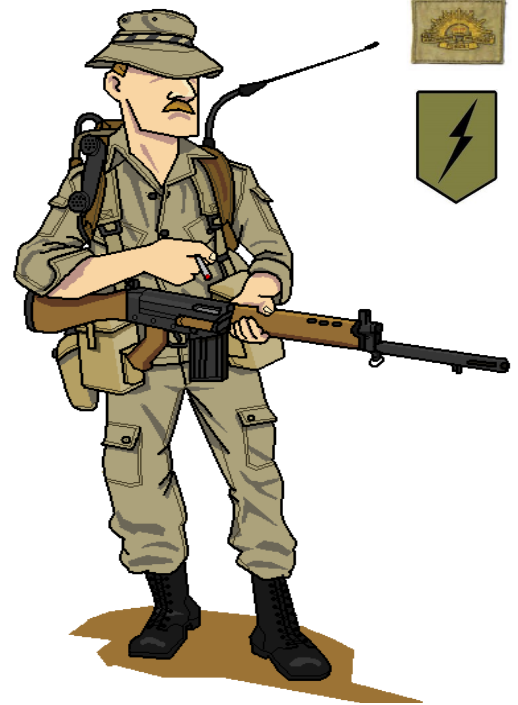


The F88 Steyr in 5.56 mm (.223 inch) replaced the SLR and has remained in service since the late 1980's, only being replaced by better models of the same rifle, like the EF88 (Enhanced Firearm) manufactured by Thales in Lithgow.

CPL DAVE'S PAGE

QUOTES FROM MILITARY ANNUAL STAFF APPRAISALS

1. His men would follow him anywhere but only out of curiosity.
2. I would not breed from this Officer.
3. This man is depriving a village somewhere of its idiot.
4. This Officer can be likened to a small puppy - he runs around excitedly, leaving little messes for other people to clean up.
5. This Officer is really not so much of a has-been, more of a definitely won't be.
6. When she opens her mouth it seems only to change whichever foot was previously in there.
7. Couldn't organise 50% leave in a 2-man submarine.
8. He has carried out each and every one of his duties to his entire satisfaction.
9. He would be out of his depth in a car park puddle.
10. Technically sound but socially impossible.
11. The occasional flashes of adequacy are marred by an attitude of apathy and indifference.
12. When he joined my ship this Officer was something of a granny; since then he has aged considerably.
13. This Medical Officer has used my ship to carry his genitals from port to port, and my officers to carry him from bar to bar.
14. This Officer reminds me very much of a gyroscope, always spinning around at a frantic pace but not really going anywhere.
15. Since my last report he has reached rock bottom and has started to dig.
16. She sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them.
17. He has the wisdom of youth and the energy of old age.
18. This Officer should go far and the sooner he starts the better.
19. In my opinion this pilot should not be authorised to fly below 250 feet.
20. The only ship I would recommend for this man is citizenship.
21. Couldn't organise a woodpecker's picnic in Sherwood Forest.
22. Works well when under constant supervision and cornered like a rat in a trap.
23. Not the sharpest knife in the drawer.
24. Gates are down, the lights are flashing but the train isn't coming.
25. Has two brains; one is lost and the other is out looking for it.
26. If he were any more stupid he'd have to be watered twice a week.
27. Got into the gene pool while the lifeguard wasn't watching.
28. If you stand close enough to him you can hear the ocean.
29. It's hard to believe that he beat 1 000 000 other sperm.
30. A room temperature IQ.
31. Got a full 6-pack but lacks the plastic thingy to hold it all together.
32. A gross ignoramus, 143 times worse than an ordinary ignoramus.
33. He has a photographic memory but has the lens cover glued on.
34. He has been working with glue too long.
35. When his IQ reaches 50 he should sell.
36. This man hasn't got enough grey matter to sole the flip-flop of a one legged budgie.
37. If two people are talking and one looks bored, he's the other one.



It doesn't matter if the glass is half empty or half full. There is clearly room for more wine.



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Don't Forget
to Buy a Bottle
For MOM
Mother's Day
Sunday 5/13
Remember, you're
the reason she
DRINKS!