



"Sitrep, Over!"



Official Newsletter of The Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

AUGUST 2013

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Excerpts from Darryl Kelly's book "Just Soldiers" will continue next month.

UPCOMING RSARA DATES

AGM

4th August

CoM Meeting

27th Sept

LUNCHEON

Special Guest Speaker

25th October

XMAS BBQ

15th December

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UNITS OF THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT

Over the next few issues of "Sitrep, Over!" we will look at a brief history of the units that make up the Royal South Australia Regiment. This informative article has been compiled after extensive research by immediate past President (Metro Branch) *Alan Hook*.

A Brief History.

The South Australian Infantry has its beginning in the Act No. 2 of 1854, when the SA Government Gazette published a General Order on the 4 November directing that the infantry be organised into two Battalions.

The Adelaide Regiment of Volunteer Rifles was raised on the 26 April 1960 (the date generally accepted as the birthday of the Regiment) reaching its peak in August of that year with 37 Officers, 1 Sergeant-Major, 31 Sergeants, 17 Corporal and 718 Private soldiers.

By 1885 the Regiment of Adelaide Rifles comprised two Battalions whose motto was "*Union is Strength*" (Note this motto is used by the Association today)

In 1977 a small committee comprising several past Officers of 27RSAR, members of the Regimental Associations and serving officers presented a "*Centenary of Celebration*" of the 27th Battalion and its predecessors.

A small but enlightening booklet was produced which has important historical relevance to the history of the Regiment. I acknowledge that the following information has been sourced from that booklet entitled "The 27th Battalion Centenary"

27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment

On 1 July, 1948 when the post war Citizens Military Force (CMF) was formed, 27 Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment) was raised under the command of LTCOL H.T. Harslett ED of Gladstone.

Battalion HQ was located at Pt Pirie and training centres were established at Kadina, Clare, Balaklava, Burra, Snowtown, Murray Bridge and Beulah Park. The first post war camp was held at Woodside in March 1948, with approximately 100 members attending.

In 1950 BHQ was established at Torrens Training Depot together with Support Company and HQ Company. LTCOL W. Forbes DSO, ED took command in 1951.

Universal Training (National Service) was introduced in 1952. After serving three months in continuous training, trainees were required to undergo three years further training on a part-time basis with CMF units.

The Battalion was reorganized at this time to include additional training centres which had previously been the territory of the 3/9 South Australian Mounted rifles viz, Mount Gambier, Millicent, Naracoorte and Bordertown.

The kilt was issued to the battalion in 1952/53 and was worn up to June 1960.

Continued next month



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The ANZAC On The Wall

This poignant poem was sent to me by member Alex Klopf. The author is unknown, but I feel it should be published in "Sitrep, Over!" as it reminds us of our past. It continues over the next 3 issues of "Sitrep, Over!" Lest We Forget!



I wandered thru a country town 'cos I had time to spare,
And went into an antique shop to see what was in there.
Old Bikes and pumps and kero lamps, but hidden by it all,
A photo of a soldier boy - an Anzac on the Wall.

"The Anzac have a name?" I asked. The old man answered "No.,
The ones who could have told me mate, have passed on long ago.
The old man kept on talking and, according to his tale,
The photo was unwanted junk bought from a clearance sale.

"I asked around," the old man said, "but no one knows his face,
He's been on that wall twenty years, deserves a better place.
For some one must have loved him so, it seems a shame somehow."
I nodded in agreement and then said, "I'll take him now."

My nameless digger's photo, well it was a sorry sight
A cracked glass pane and a broken frame - I had to make it right
To prise the photo from its frame I took care just in case,
"Cause only sticky paper held the cardboard back in place.

I peeled away the faded screed and much to my surprise,
Two letters and a telegram appeared before my eyes
The first reveals my Anzac's name, and regiment of course
John Mathew Francis Stuart - of Australia's own Light Horse.

This letter written from the front, my interest now was keen
This note was dated August seventh 1917
"Dear Mum, I'm at Khalasa Springs not far from the Red Sea
They say it's in the Bible - looks like Billabong to me.

"My Kathy wrote I'm in her prayers she's still my bride to be
I just cant wait to see you both, you're all the world to me
And Mum you'll soon meet Bluey, last month they shipped him out
I told him to call on you when he's up and about."



"That Bluey is a larrikin, and we all thought it funny
He lobbed a Turkish hand grenade into the CO's dunny.
I told you how he dragged me wounded in from no man's land
He stopped the bleeding closed the wound with only his bare hand."

"Then he copped it at the front from some stray shrapnel blast
It was my turn to drag him in and I thought he wouldn't last
He woke up in hospital, and nearly lost his mind
Cause out there on the battlefield he'd left one leg behind."

"He's been in a bad way mum, he knows he'll ride no more
Like me he loves a horse's back he was a champ before.
So please Mum can you take him in, he's been like my brother
Raised in a Queensland orphanage he's never known a mother."

Part 2 next month



Women in War

Matina Jewell

Major Matina Jewell (nee Stanfield) was born and raised in the picturesque hinterland of Byron Bay, Northern NSW. She joined the army as an Officer Cadet in 1994 and graduated from the Australian Defence Force Academy with honours in 1996. Upon graduation from the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1997, Matina joined the Royal Australian Corps of Transport



Matina has a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Masters in Project Management. Matina is multi lingual speaking Arabic and Bahasa Indonesian and has been an active sportswoman, representing both her state and country, competing at state level in ten sports and representing Australia in two sports internationally.

Matina is a specialist in Amphibious Operations and she is one of the very few females in the Australian Defence Force to have passed the physically demanding Navy Divers' course and she is also qualified in fast roping from Navy Sea King helicopters. Her posting highlights include: Officer Commanding of the Ships Army Department on HMAS Kanimbla, Adjutant of the 9th Force Support Battalion and United Nations Peacekeeping.

Matina has deployed on five overseas operational missions. While with HMAS Kanimbla, she saw active service twice, on the second occasion in the North Arabian Gulf in the early stages of the war on terror, where in addition to her command responsibilities, she was involved in armed boardings onto ships smuggling contraband. As commander of the wharf security team, Matina was also required to fast rope out of helicopters onto docks to secure HMAS Kanimbla docking locations.

As Adjutant at 9th Force Support Battalion, Matina deployed as part of the intervention force into the Solomon Islands in 2003, where she played a critical role in the capture of the notorious militia leader, Jimmy 'Rasta' Lusibea. In 2005, Matina deployed as a Peacekeeper to Syria and then Lebanon as part of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO).

It was during her time working as the only Australian and only woman on the UNTSO Patrol Base (PB) Khiam on the border between Israel and Lebanon that war broke out in July 2006. The war was another violent episode in the history of Israel and its northern neighbour, Lebanon. PB Khiam was in the midst of full scale war. After a week of direct hits and dangerously close near misses to PB Khiam, Matina conducted a scheduled team rotation using UN armoured vehicles. Whilst commanding this convoy, Matina was seriously injured (five fractured and crushed vertebrae plus associated nerve damage) when her vehicle was forced to take evasive action. Just days after Matina's injury during the team rotation, PB Khiam was destroyed by Israeli fighter jets killing all UN personnel manning the position.

Matina was retired from the Australian Army 04 May 2009 as a result of the injuries she sustained during the Lebanon War. In 2008, Matina married Clent Jewell, a marketing executive.

Matina is the Ambassador of the Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Veterans' Association and is a member of the ANZAC Centenary Commission providing advice to Government on the best way to commemorate 100 years of military service to the Australian community.

Honours and Awards

Australian Active Service Medal – with two clasps: Middle East and International Coalition Against Terrorism (ICAT)

Afghanistan Campaign Medal

Australian Service Medal with 3 clasps: Solomon Islands I, Solomon Islands II, Middle East

Australian Defence Long Service Medal

Australian Defence Service Medal

United Nations Medal – UNTSO with numeral 2

Republic of Lebanon War Medal – Awarded for acts of bravery in war

Republic of Lebanon Wounded in Combat Medal – Awarded to military personnel wounded in war

"Caught in the Crossfire: an Australian peacekeeper beyond the front line." is published by Allen & Unwin



Special Guest Speaker for RSARA October Lunch

Special Guest Speaker at the October 25th RSARA Lunch will be Brigadier Tim Hanna AM, State President of Returned & Services League (SA).



Brigadier Tim Hanna AM
President of RSL (SA)

Tim entered the Royal Military College in 1977 graduating in 1980 into the Royal Australian Corps of Transport. And served in a range of regimental and instructional appointments in Puckapunyal, Melbourne and Townsville before deploying to the Middle East as a military observer with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization. During this posting, Tim was appointed as the Senior Liaison Officer on the Golan Heights throughout the first Gulf War.

On his return to Australia, Tim was posted to Sydney where he completed a number of staff appointments with the Army and Navy as well as attending the Royal Australian Navy Staff College.

Tim left the Regular Army in 1999 and settled in Adelaide. After a short break from military service Tim resumed in the Army Reserve in January 2001. His subsequent instructional and command postings eventually resulted in Tim being promoted to Brigadier in January 2006 and assuming the position of Commander of the 9th Brigade and Army Area Representative-South Australia. Tim then served in Training Command-Army as the Assistant Commander. With effect January 2010, Tim was posted as Deputy Commander,

2nd Division, the organisation responsible for training and preparing the majority of Army Reserve units across Australia for operations. In December 2010 Tim transferred to the Standby Reserve and became RSL State President on 7 July 2012.

Brigadier Hanna will talk about his military career, his role as President of the RSL (SA) and his plans for the future of that organisation.

Members (and Non Members) wishing to attend this lunch at the Royal Hotel, North Tce Kent Town at midday, are urged to contact Norm Rathmann on 0448 460 884 not later than Friday 11th October to reserve their seat. NOTE:- The luncheon will be held upstairs in the Functions Room and a full Bar Service will be provided in that location.

Letters to the Editor

I have received the following responses about our previous Guest Speaker, Selina Laing, who spoke about the changing Australian Army and her experiences with the United Nations Security Group in Lebanon and Afghanistan.- Editor

G'Day David

Those of us who were at the Association lunch on 28th June 2013 heard a most interesting talk by Selina.

Well done to you both.

Members who didn't attend missed something special.

Cheers

Frank Morony

29th June 2013

G'day mate

I enjoyed the lunch and talk on Friday. Congratulations to your daughter Selina, she gave an excellent presentation.....she obviously makes you proud.

Regards,

Rod Beames

G'Day David,

Just a brief note to say how much Shirl & I appreciated Selina's guest speaker spot at the last lunch meeting.

Well presented, very informative and reminds us all of the contrast between Middle East and Western societies.

Well done Selina,

Regards,

Don Field

16th July 2013



CHRISTMAS BBQ

December 15th

CPL Knuckles
says.....

After the success of last years Christmas BBQ at Murray Bridge, the Committee of Management has decided to hold this years event at the same location, Sturt Reserve, Murray Bridge.



Members at the 2012 Xmas BBQ at Sturt Reserve

We will once again charter a FREE bus which will leave from the Army Museum at Keswick Barracks at 1000 hrs, arriving at Sturt Reserve around 1145 hrs.

The BBQ will be conducted between 1200 hrs and 1500 hrs, and members are asked to provide their own food and drinks. It is also advisable to bring your own chairs and a small table if required.

The bus will return to Keswick Barracks at approximately 1600 hrs, arriving around 1730 hrs.



Ever ask yourself, "If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?"

And, "Save the earth..... It's the only planet with chocolate!"
I THINK !!!!

Gas BBQs are available at the Reserve, however if a couple of portable BBQs could be taken by members, this will ease the cooking congestion.

Members who wish to travel to and from Murray Bridge in the FREE bus are asked to confirm their seats by 11th November at the latest, by contacting **Norm Rathmann** on **0448 460 884** or email him on normqeelong@yahoo.com so we can arrange the appropriate size bus.

Come along and enjoy yourselves amongst your mates, for what promises to be a great day out.

The photo below, sent in by member Rob Guerin, is of the Murray Bridge Assault Pioneers and was taken at a Camp in 1959. Re-splendent in their Battle Dress and Khakis, they are ready for anything! Are you or any of your mates here?? Let the editor know !!

Camp 1959



RSARA MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE

The merchandise pictured on this page is now available from the Secretary at the Postal Address shown below.

<u>Lapel Badge</u>	\$10
<u>Embroidered Badge</u>	\$10
<u>Name Badge</u>	\$20
<u>Regimental Tie</u>	\$20
<u>Polo Top</u>	\$30
Comes complete with embroidered badge	

Add \$2 postage for EACH item.



Polo Top

Short sleeved Royal Blue Polo Top for all Association functions. Please ensure you add the correct size when ordering, as returns are NOT possible. (S to XXXL)

Embroidered Badge



TO ORDER:-

Please send your order with payment (include postage \$2), to:-

*The Secretary, David Laing
RSAR Association Inc
Riverglen Marina, RSD 3152A, Jervois Rd, Murray Bridge SA 5253*

Payment may be made by Cheque or by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to:-

*BSB 015 211
Account 482441406*

In the name of Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc.



Please remember to include an identifier such as your surname, so the payment can be matched to you, **AND ALLOW 2 – 3 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.**



METRO MEMBERS

#Abareh, Wadi	SM
#Adams, Aaron	SM
Apostolides, Chris	
Attenborough, Geoff	
Ayles, Jeff	
Baldwin, Bob	
Bates, Allan	
Beames, Rod	CoM
#Bennet, Graham	
#Bilsborow, Jason	SM
#Blake, Sam	SM
#Blondell, Mark	SM
Bourne, Ian	SM
Boath, Ian	
#Boothroyd, Lincoln	SM
Boscence, Bob	
#Bras, Riley	SM
Broadbent, Robert	SM
Brookes, Phil	
Brown, Bruce	
Brown, Harry	
Carnachan, Ian	
Chittleborough, Jeff	
Clyne, Lachlan	SM
Cooke, Nat	CoM
#Contibas, Nikolaus	SM
Cotton, Bob	
Dart, John	
Davey, John	
Davey, Trevor	
Davey, Jack	
#Demasi, Nathan	SM
Demosani, Tony	
Dubsky, Eddie	
Dunn, Peter	
Dunn, Bob	
Durdin, Russell	
Durrant, Chris	
Elliott, Graham	
#Elliss, Scott	SM
Eva, Keith	
Ewens, Mimi	SM
Field, Don	
Flanagan, Ted	
Friday, Ross	
Gaborit, Lyndon	
Genovese, John	
Gibson, Lindsay	
Giles, John	
Gill, Alan	
Gilmore, Graham	CoM
Gordon, Frank	
Guerin, Rob	

#Hardy, Robert	SM
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Hawking, Don	
Hawkins, Des	
Hogan, Mark	LM
Hook, Alan	LM CoM
Hope, David	
Hudson, Rick	
#Humphrys, Jesse	SM
James, Grant	SM CoM
Jeffrey, Scott	SM
Johnson, Barry	
Jolly, David	
Jones, Brett	
Keenan, Alan	
Kilford, Brian	
Klopf, Alex	LM CoM
Klopf, Paul	
Laing, David	LM CoM
Loveder, Peter	
Lockett, John	
Lampard, Ross	
Lee, Bob	
Lee, Pat	
Longstaff, Paul	
Main, Brian	
Marcus, Ray	
Martin, Bob	
Matchett, Bill	
Mau, Mark	
McCulloch, Don	
#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
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Oliver, Peter	
Orrock, Alan	CoM
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Oswald, John	
#Pach, Chol	SM
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Pollard, Barry	
Phillips, Don	
Phillips, Trevor	
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Preece, Brian	CoM
Ranger, Denis	
Rathmann, John	

Rathmann, Norm	CoM
Ramm, Hank	
Robertson, Jim	
Rorie, Graham	SM
Rossetti, Lee	
Sage, Andrew	
Salamon, Peter	
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Sanderson, Max	
Sands, Mike	
Sexton, Mark	SM
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Standing, Michael	
Steer, Phil	
Stewart, Rob	
Stuart, Matthew	SM
Tiller, Garth	
Thomson, Jim	
CoM	
#Tolotta, Tarrant	SM
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Trezise, George	
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Vella, Joe	
Wake, Stephen	
Waters, Ian	
Weightman, Aidan	SM
Westover, Rhys	
Wheeler, Chris	
Williams, Darrian	SM
Wilson, Neil	
Wood, George	
Woore, Phillip	
Yorke-Simpkin Reg	
#Zuromski, Paul	SM

McCullagh, Anne
 Mitchell, Roma
 Phillips, Heather
 Sanderson, Lorraine
 Tregenza, Lyn

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

168 members as at 14/07/13



HOW TO CONTACT US

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Demosani, Gail	
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Field, Shirley	
Gill, Maureen	
Gilmour, Helen	
Hawking, Lorraine	
Hook, Phillipa	
Hudson, Margaret	
Jolly, Sandra	
Klopf, Josie	
Laing, June	
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Lockett, Mrs	
Main, Raelene	
Marcus, Yvonne	





RSAR ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU

Annual General Meeting

4th August 2013 (Sunday) 1100 hrs

**SA SEA RESCUE SQUADRON HQ
BARCOO RD WEST BEACH**

*Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc
Metro Branch*



- *Pre AGM tea & coffee*
 - *1100 hrs - AGM*
 - *1200 hrs - Roast Beef & Veg + Dessert (\$15)*
- Bar facilities available*

The AGM will be held in the large dining room downstairs, and lunch will follow the meeting. Wives/partners and Associate Members are invited to attend the AGM.

You are asked to contact the Secretary on 0407 791 822 or davidlaing49@bigpond.com **NOT LATER THAN Friday 26th July** to register your attendance (or apologies) for catering purposes.

ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND