

"Sitrep, Over!"

Official Newsletter of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc



Editor - David Laing 0407 791 822

JANUARY 2016

END OF YEAR BBQ

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**NOW at 216 MEMBERS
WORLDWIDE**

40 members of the RSAR Association attended the End Of Year 2015 BBQ at the Kibby VC Club at Keswick Barracks held on Sunday the 13th December.

A great time was enjoyed by all who attended, including our Patron MAJGEN Neil Wilson, who thanked Rodney Beames and the committee for continuing the Associations valued support of the Regiment.

A number of current serving members of the Battalion also attended with their partners and families, and some good camaraderie was enjoyed by all.

The President of the RSAR Association and the committee wishes all members a happy and safe Christmas. If you missed the BBQ, there's always next year.



RIGHT: Norm Tregenza, Mark Blondell and Graham Elliott cook up a storm



The Kibby VC Club is a brilliant facility within the precincts of the Keswick Barracks. It is run by the soldiers, for the soldiers and features an outdoor entertainment and BBQ area, a fully stocked Bar area and a games room with lounge.

The Kibby VC Club, through CPL Mark Blondell offered their premises for the RSAR Association EOY BBQ, and the offer was gladly accepted. Thanks Mark, and your mates!

WHO GAVE US THE RIGHT?

Sent in by UK based member Lyndon Gaborit, this little piece rings very true when you think about where our rights and freedom came from, and who actually gave us those rights in the first place.

Couldn't put it better myself, Lee.

It Is The Soldier

*It is the Soldier, not the minister
Who has given us freedom of religion.*

*It is the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us freedom of the Press.*

*It is the Soldier, not the poet
Who has given us freedom of speech.*

*It is the Soldier, not the campus organiser
Who has given us freedom to protest.*

*It is the Soldier, not the lawyer
Who has given us the right to a fair trial.*

*It is the Soldier, not the politician
Who has given us the right to vote.*

*It is the Soldier who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,
And whose coffin is draped by the flag,
Who allows the protester to burn the flag.*

10/27 Bn Band to head back to Murray Bridge

Following on from the brilliant success of the 2015 Concert, the Band of the 10th/27th Battalion Royal South Australia Regiment will return to Murray Bridge for perform **TWO** concerts on 17th April at the Murray Bridge Town Hall.

The theme of the concert is

"10/27 Battalion Band in Concert."

"Back by Popular Demand"

and will feature the band's popular repertoire of classical and modern music, from the WW1 era right through to the present day. Those of you who attended last years concert are certain to want to hear them again. The many who missed out, this is now your chance.

Tickets are \$15 and will go on sale soon. Concert timings are:

1st concert 1300 hrs to 1530 hrs

2nd concert 1700 hrs to 1930 hrs

Coffee, tea and biscuits will be served at each intermission.



Bandmaster SGT David Portakiewicz on guitar, supported by the members of the 10th/27th Battalion Band, coming to the Murray Bridge Town Hall on 17th April 2016 for TWO concerts.

TICKETS ON SALE SOON.

GUEST SPEAKER FOR FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

The first Luncheon for 2016 at the Hackney Hotel will take place on Sunday 28th February at midday.

Our Guest Speaker for the day will be Mr Justin Brown, CEO of Soldier On in South Australia. Justin will talk about his own experiences as a returned soldier and the problems that returning veterans are still having in today's society.

The Murray Bridge RSL invited Justin to talk at the 2015 Annual Dinner, and the audience was so appreciative a "quick whip around" resulted in over \$300 being donated to Soldier On.

From the Soldier On website: *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.

Bookings are essential for this luncheon, as seating will be limited to 60, so get in early.

Anyone wishing to reserve their seat (s) to hear this most inspiring talk is asked to contact **NORM TREGENZA** on his email of normlyn@bigpond.com or his mobile of 0412 804 779 Not Later Than Friday 12th February.

If you haven't booked, you won't get a seat!

Justin Brown (right) and Member for Hammond, Mr Adrian Pederick MP at the 2015 Murray Bridge RSL Annual Dinner.



About the RSAR Association.....How it came about!

How did the RSAR Association start? There's not much to it really! A bunch of former soldiers decided to get together and continue the camaraderie they enjoyed in their serving days with the Regiment, So they formed an Association. Some considerable time was spent working on a valid Constitution, and registering a business name, and Bob's your uncle.

Well, it wasn't quite that easy, either! Do you have any idea how hard it is to register a company or association name with the prefix "Royal"? It's near impossible, unless you're Prince Charles or Princess Mary from Denmark!!! The Office of Consumer and Business Affairs went to great pains to prevent the new Association calling itself Royal! But without the prefix, we would just be the South Australia Regiment Association. Representing.....a Regiment that doesn't exist!

So, a number of letters were written, phone calls made, legal proceedings threatened, and finally the purveyors of red tape saw the light and granted authority for the new association to be prefixed "ROYAL."

The initial push to get the Association up and running failed dismally within 18 months, simply because too many people were lumbered with too many tasks. A type of "flogging the willing horse!" syndrome. The Association fell into recess until about 2006 when Alan Hook and mates decided it was time to give it another go.

The result is an Association that defies all current trends by continuing to grow! Our newest member is the 2IC of 10th/27th Battalion Major Malcolm Haynes. He joins a prestigious "mob of grunts and others" who continue to live the dream of mateship!



Our motto of "**Union is Strength**" is taken from the motto of one of the Royal South Australia Regiments battalions.

Constable George Pratt George Cross

You don't have to be in the Defence Forces to win bravery medals. Australia's only living George Cross recipient is Ken Pratt GC. His story is told below.

On the Citation read out by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, were the words.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the George Cross to the undermentioned:-

GEORGE CROSS

Michael Kenneth PRATT, Constable, Victoria Police Force.

On the morning of 4th June 1976 three masked men entered a bank and carried out an armed robbery. One of the men ordered the staff to lie on the floor, another jumped over the counter and removed money from the tills while the third remained in the public area and fired a shot in the direction of the manager and a customer when they ran towards the rear of the bank.



Constable Pratt, who was off-duty and unarmed, was driving past the bank in his private car and saw the men entering the bank ; he noticed that each man was masked and carrying a firearm and realised that they were about to commit an armed robbery. He immediately turned his car, switched up the lights and, sounding his horn, mounted the kerb and blocked the bank entrance. He instructed a passer-by to call for police assistance.

The raiders were taken by surprise, but one of them threatened the Constable with a gun and signalled to him to remove the car, whereupon the officer refused, removed the ignition key, and armed himself with the handle of a car jack. The men then attempted to leave the bank by kicking in the lower section of the glass door and climbing over the bonnet of the car. As the first man straddled the front of the car Constable Pratt grabbed him firmly and during the violent struggle which ensued the robber was knocked unconscious. By this time a second

gunman had left the bank and climbed over the car, aimed his weapon and threatened to shoot the officer at close range ; the man had his arms extended at shoulder height and pointed a revolver directly at Constable Pratt. The first man had by now recovered consciousness and was getting to his feet, so the officer grabbed him again and the man called to the gunman to shoot the Constable. A shot was then fired and Constable Pratt who was in the process of trying to protect his back and at the same time retain his hold on his captive, was seriously wounded.

Constable Pratt displayed outstanding bravery, devotion to duty and a complete disregard for his own safety when, unarmed and single handed, he faced and attempted to arrest these dangerous armed criminals.

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CONTACT US!-

The Secretary, David Laing,
 RSAR Association Inc
 Riverglen Marina, RSD 3152A
 WHITE SANDS SA 5253

0407 791 822

davidlaing49@bigpond.com

www.rsara.asn.au



MEMBERS LIST

Abareh, Wadi **SM**
 Abel, Colin
 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 CoM**
 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
 Buttars, Erik
 Campbell, Wenona **BAND**
 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**
 Ferguson, Shane **BAND**
 Field, Don
 Flanagan, Ted
 Fridday, Ross
 Fortune, Nigel **BAND**
 Gaborit, Lyndon **LM**
 Gallagher, Erin **BAND**
 Genovese, John
 Gibson, Lindsay
 Giles, John
 Gill, Graham
 Gilmore, Graham
 Gordon, Frank
 Hardy, Robert **SM**

Harrington, Malcolm
 Harrison, John
 Hawking, Don
 Hawkins, Des
 Heath, Jonathon **BAND**
 Haynes, Scott
 #Haynes, Malcolm **SM**
 Hewitt, Emily **BAND**
 Hogan, Mark **LM**
 Hook, Alan **LM CoM**
 Hope, David **CoM**
 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
 Klopf, Alex **LM**
 Klopf, Paul
 Koop, Joshua **BAND**
 Laing, David **LM CoM**
 Lampard, Ross
 Lee, Bob
 Lee, Pat
 Lloyd, Elmer
 Lockett, John
 Longstaff, Paul
 Dunn, Peter
 Loveder, Peter
 Main, Brian
 Marcus, Ray
 Martin, Bob
 Matchett, Bill
 Mau, Mark
 McCulloch, Don
 McGree, Barry
 McLachlan, Joshua **SM**
 McMahan, 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
 Ockenden, Marc
 Oswald, John

Pach, Chol **SM**
 Paul, John
 Perkins, Bob
 Pollard, Barry
 Portakiewicz, Anthony **BAND**
 Portakiewicz, David **BAND**
CoM
 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**
 Slater, Ian
 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

Abel, Karen
 Ayles, Denise
 Beames, Cheryl
 Carnachan, Dom
 Dart, Caroline
 Demosani, Gail
 Elliott, Julie
 Eva, Gail
 Field, Shirley
 Gatley, Graeme
 Gill, Maureen
 Gilmour, Helen
 Hawking, Lorraine
 Hook, Phillipa
 Hudson, Margaret
 Jolly, Sandra
 Klopf, Josie
 Laing, June
 Lampard, Kay
 Main, Raelene
 Marcus, Yvonne
 Lee, Anne
 Mitchell, Roma
 Phillips, Heather
 Sanderson, Lorraine
 Tregenza, Lyn

HONORARY MEMBERS

T. Burnard 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

216 members

as at 23/1/2016