

October 2019

"Sitrep, Over!" To Perpetuate the Regiment



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at war

NEW BASEBALL CAPS



For a number of years we have agonized over whether we should have a standardized form of headwear for our members, and various ideas emerged. Slouch Hats! Berets! Baseball Caps and more! The most practical and cost effective is the Baseball Cap, and the Committee decided to commission an SA supplier to embroider our RSARA logo onto the front of a Navy Blue Baseball Cap. The result is this fantastic example you see at the left.

After negotiations with the supplier, we have secured an initial order for only \$15 each plus postage, but we'll have them on sale at the End Of Year BBQ on 15th December at the Keswick Barracks Roy Inwood VC Club. Come to the BBQ and purchase your new cap. Call the secretary to place your order NOW!

It is with a degree of sadness we farewell a true friend of the RSAR Association, when RSM WO1 Ben Lipman departs at the end of the year to take up a posting with 2 RAR. WO1 Lipman has supported us from the first day of his tenure, and continues to do so, right up until he leaves. Ben has worked hand-in-hand with Rod Beames and myself to ensure we are all reading off the same sheet of music, and has added an air of professionalism to the way we do business.. I'm sure you will join me in wishing Ben all the best in his new posting. As Beamsey says, "Geez, now we'll have to train ANOTHER one!" See ya Ben, and thanks!



Special Points of Interest

- WO1 Ben Lipman leaves for 2 RAR
- 2019 Simpson Trophy results
- The man behind the Simpson Trophy.
- EOY BBQ. All the details! C U There.

MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE

NEW BASEBALL CAPS

POLO TOPS

LAPEL BADGES

STUBBY HOLDERS

Regt Assoc Shields

NAME BADGES

ASSOC CLOTH PATCHES

.....AND MORE. Contact the Treasurer for details of purchase etc

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

2019 SIMPSON TROPHY

by Lachlan Harris



The Simpson trophy is a South Australian marksmanship contest established in 1890 after a generous donation from businessman and politician Alfred Simpson (1843 – 1917). This year was the 130th contest. As South Australia's reserve infantry battalion, 10/27 RSAR takes shooting very seriously and strives to win the trophy every year. We rehearsed by shooting the applied marksmanship practice (AMP) three times at the Warradale WTSS. Our best scores were ranked from highest to lowest; the top four were designated Team A and the next four (including myself) made up Team B. Each team was assigned a reserve shooter. This year's competition marked the first time that everyone would shoot with the new EF88 rifle and Specter sight. The Specter can switch from 1x to 4x magnification, a big improvement on the 1.5x magnification of the original F88 scope.

The competition was held at Murray Bridge on Saturday, October 12th. It was a beautiful day with a slight breeze and no cloud. Twelve teams from various units across SA participated, including a team from Navy and another from Air Force. 9 CSSB entered three teams; apparently they had been practising their shooting every week for the previous 6 months in the hope of beating us! Everyone had to zero their rifle first; someone accidentally fired a five round burst to provide comic relief! Once completed, we moved on to the AMP shoot.

The AMP involves snap and deliberate shooting from standing, kneeling or squatting, sitting and prone positions at targets 100m, 200m and 300m away. Targets can pop up for as little as three seconds

and you have to reload twice during the practice. Scoring is 3 to 5 points for a hit; the maximum possible score is 300 points and the pass mark is 180 points.

Team scores were compiled at the end of the day's shooting and our team selection turned out to be perfect as Team A had our four best shooters and scored 853 points to defeat the top team from 9 CSSB. Our Team B finished 8th on 689 points. Once again, descendants of Alfred Simpson presented his trophy to a victorious team from 10/27 RSAR. Cpl D. Taylor from 3 SECFOR (RAAF) was the highest scorer for the day, making a total of 258. He will be presented with the RAAF Skill at Arms Badge (Crossed Rifles) in the near future.



This page Top: The various shooting positions used to compete.

This Page Bottom: CPL Taylor (RAAF) is presented with the Best Shot Trophy by descendants of Alfred Simpson.

Opposite Page Top: The victorious team along with Ant and Nic Simpson, descendants of the original trophy donor Alfred Simpson.

Opposite Page Bottom: The 10/27 Bn RSAR Teams.

...and the winner is..... 10/27 Battalion RSAR





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Facebook pages?**

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MEMBERS WOULD LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT
YOUR ARMY DAYS.

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COME ON BLONDIE, MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Editorial

How things have changed, eh? Pages 2 & 3 this edition feature our soldiers from the Battalion competing for and bringing home the much sort after Simpson Trophy. Page 7 tells you about the man who donated the original trophy, who also, by the way, invented the Simpson Washing Machine!

Modern warriors are equipped with state of the art EF88 Steyr Rifles with telescopic sites and enhanced firing capabilities. But do you remember the 7.62 mm SLR? Our soldiers also competed for and won the Simpson Trophy using that rifle in 1987, so I ask you.... Is it the rifle or is it the soldier who makes the difference?

Of course, training has improved 50-fold since we handed back our boots and gaiters, and soldiers are now trained in their chosen field, Infantry. The role of Royal Australian Infantry Corps is to seek out and close with the enemy, to kill or capture him, to seize and hold ground, and to repel attack by day or night, regardless of season, weather or terrain. You can't do that if you can't shoot, therefore over the past few years we've seen more focus on soldiers battle skills than ever before. They're now firing at targets that closely resemble an enemy soldier, camouflaged and not wearing Hi Vis! They're now shooting at targets in the WTTS (Weapons Training Simulation System) that simulate shooting back! And what a marvellous tool the WTTS is? You don't have to travel to Murray Bridge to fire your weapon anymore. You don't have to indent for 1,000s of rounds of ammo and then load it and fire it and pick up the brass. It's nearly all automatic.

And why shouldn't it be?

I can see my older colleagues saying "Back in my day we were lucky to have 2 mags of 7.62 per day, and I only ever fired one Charlie Guts Ache (Carl Gustaf) in my entire army career.

I've been fortunate to have used the WTSS a number of times, and hopefully we'll get an invitation to go there again soon!

David Laing Editor

RSAR Association Report for Regimental council, 23rd October, 2019

By Rodney Beames

The RSAR Association held its Annual General Meeting at the Sea Rescue Squadron on Sunday August 4th 2019. There was a good attendance and all committee positions were filled. The main change was Des Hawkins being nominated and elected as vice president. The former VP, Mick Standing has moved to the Yorke Peninsula and wanted to retire. After the meeting, 40+ members sat down and enjoyed a meal, drinks and camaraderie. We were honoured by the attendance of 2 past COs, Col Graham Goodwin and LtCol Trent Burnard.

The Association has continued to support the Band of the 10/27 Battalion. This Band has been busy and recently played a concert called "Australian Made" for DVA at the St Peters College hall. I attended the concert and it was a broad spectrum of songs, and good performance of music, most enjoyable. They have the Christmas Pageant coming up next month.

The Association has again assisted the Battalion with awards for presentation to the best Junior and senior NCO,. The top soldier will get their name with gold lettering on the soldier of merit board. It was brought to my attention that the perpetual trophy for the best officer had fallen into disrepair. Further, the space for recording further names had been exhausted. This trophy was initially presented to 10 Battalion by Captain D Burzacott back in 1972 and was commandeered by 10/27 when the battalions combined. The award has now been remodelled with a significantly larger base which will accommodate the winning name shield for at least another 30 years. I noted there were some high profile names on the trophy so far.

We acknowledge the impending departure of the RSM, WO1 Ben Lipman and wish him well in his new appointment at 2 Battalion RAR. We have been very pleased with his support of the Associations and wish him well in the future.

Next month the association will be forwarding Christmas parcels to those members of the Battalion serving away from home on Christmas Day.

The secretary of the Association has received a reply to his letter seeking an apology from the former State CEO of RSL SA Mr Kim Henshaw. An e mail stated that the comments surrounding the Anzac on Torrens gathering as being nothing more than a "pissup" was taken out of context and he apologised for any angst he had caused.

The Association has ordered some embroidered "baseball caps " (See page 1) to add to the merchandise available for members. It seems that this style of head dress has become popular throughout the ADF, and it is hoped members will purchase them to wear on ANZAC Day. Caps will be available for purchase at the End Of Year BBQ.

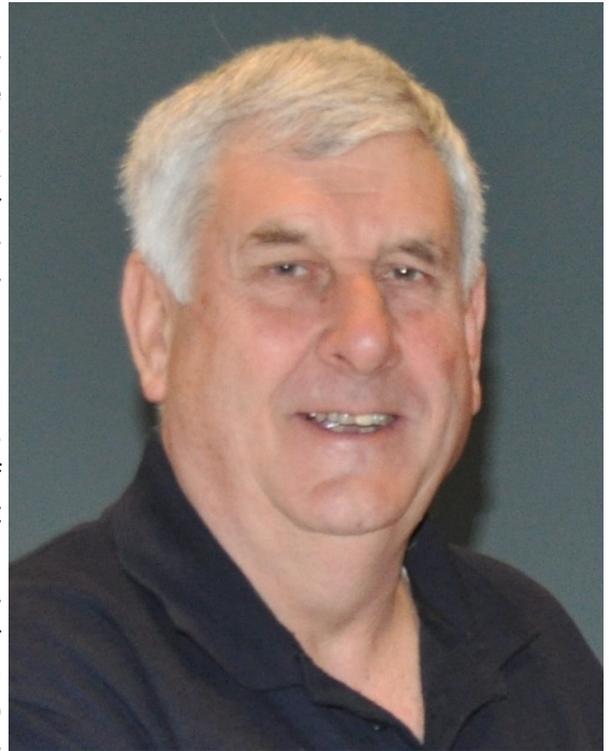
All of the Associations have been invited to attend the annual test day for 2020 at RAAF Edinburgh. Planning is in the early stages but it will happen.

The Christmas party for the Association will be held at Keswick Barracks on Sunday 15th December, 2019. We are looking forward to another good turn out for lunch, drinks, and a few good stories.

Rodney Beames

President

RSAR Association Inc





**All Members of the RSAR Association, Serving Members of 10/27 Bn and Attached Units (3/9 SAMR, 3 Fd Sqd) and their families are invited to
The 2019 END OF YEAR BBQ**

**Sunday 15th December 2019
Keswick Barracks
Roy Inwood VC Club
1100 - 1500 hrs**

All meat and salads provided FREE of charge

**Contact David Laing on 0407 791 822 or davidlaing49@bigpond.com
for catering purposes.**



Alfred Muller Simpson

Donor of the Simpson Trophy

For those of you who have just competed in the 2019 Simpson Trophy, here's a bit of information about the man who made it all possible. The Simpson Trophy competition originated in 1890 as an annual rifle shooting match, fired by service members under service conditions. The trophy was provided by the Hon Alfred Mueller Simpson MLC who: "Having received from Her Majesty's Government by way of payment for his services as a member of the Legislative Council is desirous of appropriating the said sum to some useful public purpose". Is still being competed for. He was interested in military matters: at 18 years of age he joined the first volunteer regiment raised in the Colony, and later transferred to the Adelaide Rifles., the origins from which came the 10th/27th Battalion. Editor.

Like his father before him, Alfred Muller Simpson began his working life as a tinsmith. During his apprenticeship in his father's business he noted that the firm's output ranged from jam tins to snuff scoops but when he died he left a prosperous manufacturing firm with 500 employees in three Adelaide factories. He was born in London on 4th April 1843, the son of Alfred Simpson and his wife Sarah (née Neighbour). The family emigrated to South Australia on the *John Woodhall*, arriving in January 1849. Young Alfred was educated at Martin's Academy, joined his father's business in 1857 and on his 21st birthday the words '& Son' appeared beside 'A. Simpson' above their factory in Freeman Street (now part of Gawler Place).

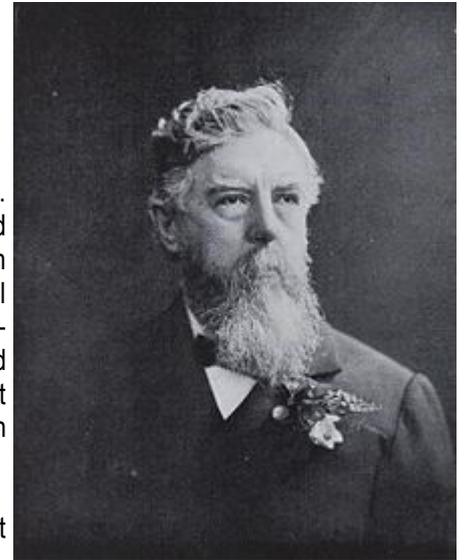
Fire- and thief-resistant safes became an early speciality of the firm and over the next fifty years Simpson safes came to be used in offices and banks throughout South Australia and interstate. The business expanded and in 1871 the former Congregational Chapel in Freeman Street was purchased. The workers there came to be known as 'Simpson's Black Angels', from the nature of their premises and the fact that washing on the job was practically unknown in those days. In 1876 another factory was built in Pirie Street and two years later Alfred Muller Simpson visited the Paris Universal Exhibition, which prompted him to mechanize his plant.

In 1885 Simpson's became the first munitions manufacturer in South Australia. Fears of a Russian invasion were rife, and so, armed with a book on the making of submarine mines, Alfred Simpson set about putting them into production. In 1894 a new plant was built in Wakefield Street, which included an electroplating section and furnaces for making hollow-ware and porcelain enamelling, the first such enterprise in Australia. Enamelled street and advertising signs from Simpson's soon appeared in most Australian capitals, making the firm's name known throughout the country. With the outbreak of World War I, Simpson's began making enamelled water bottles for the Australian forces, along with harness fittings, mess-tins, and boilers and enamel ware for hospitals.

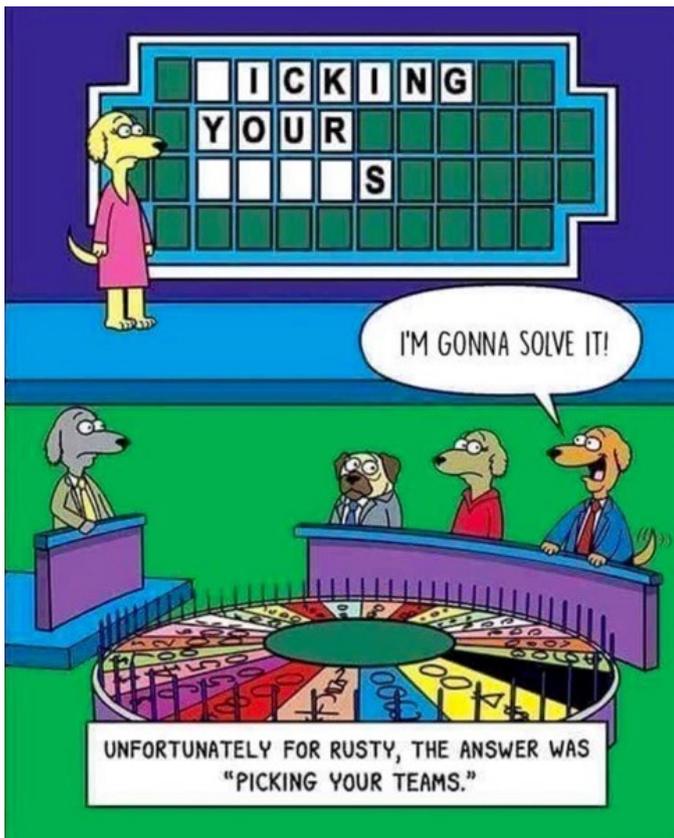
Not content with having made his company the largest metal manufacturer in the country, Alfred Muller Simpson was also prominent in public life. He was a leading Freemason, an active promoter of the 1887 Jubilee Exhibition and a founder of the Commercial Travellers' and Warehousemen's Association. In 1887 he was elected to the Legislative Council, representing the Protectionist Party, despite his nomination being received only three days before the election and without his having addressed one political meeting. He was opposed to the payment of members of Parliament and donated his entire salary to the state's defence forces for a shooting prize, which is still contested.

He was a founding Director of the Adelaide and Suburban Tramway Company, a Trustee of the State Bank, Chairman of the Port Adelaide Dock Company and President of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society. As a city benefactor, he donated a tea kiosk for the Botanic Garden and the Edward VII Coronation stained-glass window for the Adelaide City Council Chambers. He still maintained close contact with his business, making a point of paying every worker in person, in gold.

Alfred Muller Simpson married Catherine Allen on 18th October 1871 and they had six children. Catherine died in 1887 and on 23rd August 1888 Simpson married Violet Sheridan. He died on 28th September 1917 and was buried at West Terrace Cemetery. He never owned a car but believed sufficiently in flying to present the Commonwealth with an armed biplane, and his widow provided funds to the University of Adelaide for an aeronautics library in his memory. Simpson Appliances continues to operate today as part of the Electrolux Group.



Bonus Joke Page for FREE



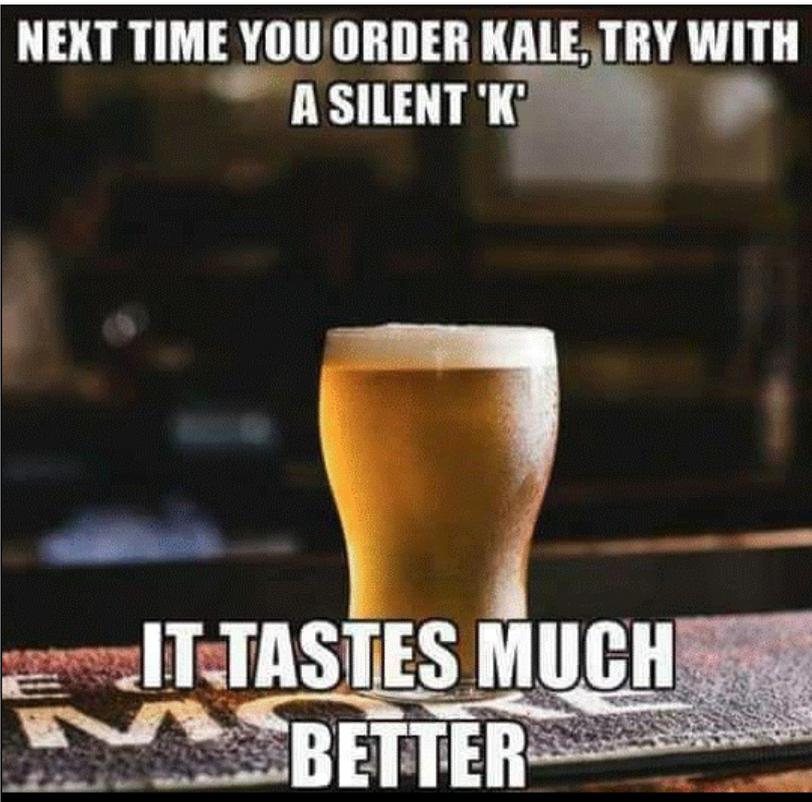
The bad news is,
I accidentally took the
wrong medication today.

The good news is,
I'm now protected from
heartworms and fleas
for the next three
months



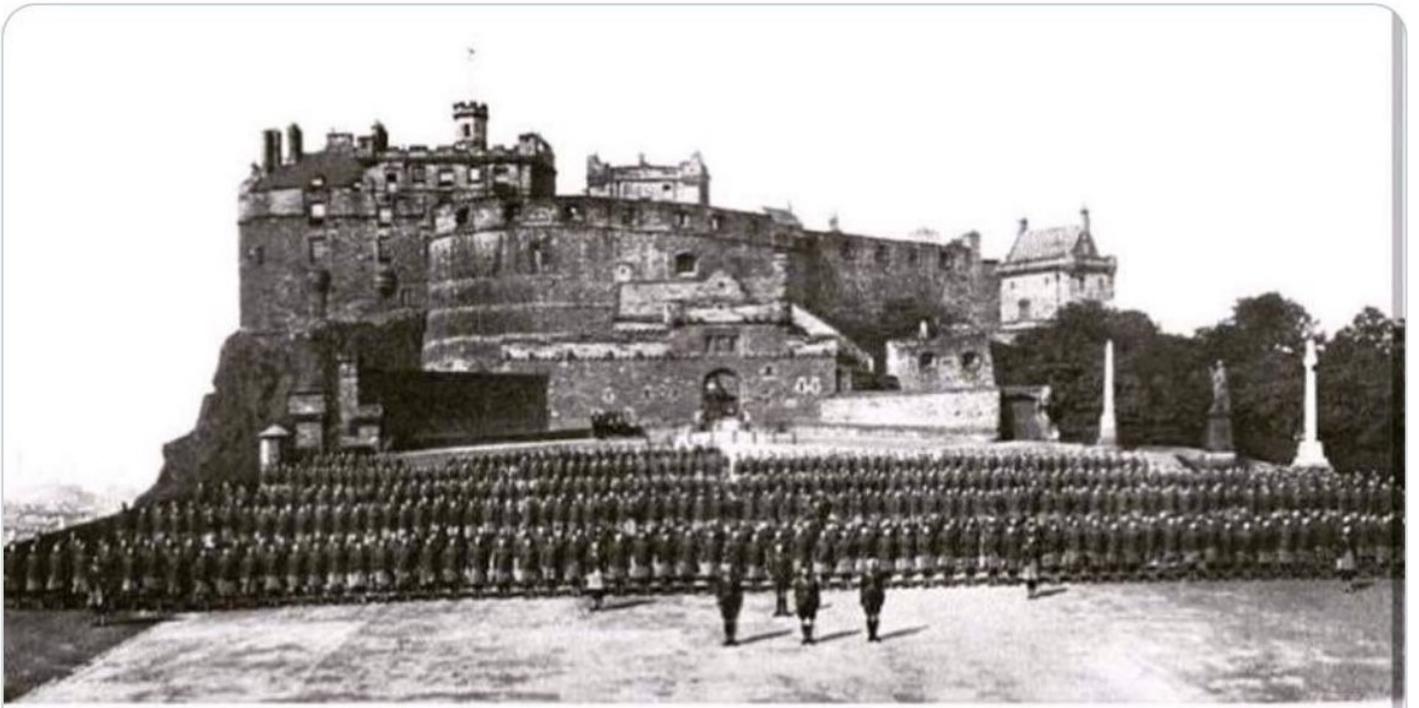
CPL DAVE'S PAGE

**If you see me talking
to myself just move
along...
I'm self employed...
we're having a staff
meeting..**



**Sometimes
getting out
of bed just
ruins the
whole day •**

THE FRAILITIES OF WAR



The top photo shows a Cameron Highlanders Battalion of 27 Officers and around 1,000 men, at Edinburgh Castle just prior to embarkation to Europe in 1914.

By Christmas 1914 only one officer and 27 men remained “unscathed” – possibly including those wounded as well as killed. There is some talk that the 2nd photo is “altered” and maybe not even real, however, the facts remain that only a handful of the original Battalion made it back to Edinburgh alive.

