

Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc.

MINUTES

Of the Annual General Meeting of the Association, held at the Avoca Hotel on Sunday 4th August 2024

	Торіс	MINUTE					
1	Opening	The meeting was declared open by the President at hrs. He then recited the Ode of Remembrance. The Secretary then proposed a toast to Fallen Comrades.					
2	Attendance	62 Members. See Attendance Register.					
3	Apologies	27 Members. See Attendance Register.					
4	Previous Minutes	The Minutes of the previous AGM Sunday 6 th August 2023 were read by Secretary David Laing RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved D. Laing; Seconded . Carried.					
5	Matters Arising	 Mid Year Luncheon cancelled in the future due to poor attendance. Only 19 members turned up for a room of 50 booked. Insurance costs of \$918 per year. Secretary explained we are required to take out insurance to cover any of our members who volunteer to assist. The idea of a proposed Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings was canned due to exorbitant OH&S requirements. The President stood down at the 2023 AGM but has since registered his willingness to carry on in that role. He was voted back in by the Committee of Management in November 2023. 					
6	REPORTS	Presidents Report: Is at Annex A. Moved R. Beames. Seconded. B. Johnson Carried. Secretaries Report. Is at Annex B. Moved D. Laing. Seconded Rod Beames .Carried. Treasurers Report Is at Annex C. Moved C. Bennett. Seconded Howard Parslow Carried Band Report from D. Portakiewicz Is at Annex D. Moved D. Portakiewicz. Seconded T. Burnard . Carried Serving Members Report from M. Blondell. Is at Annex E Moved M. Blondell. Seconded Brian Preece Carried Padre's Report from Chaplain S. Albrecht Is at Annex F. (Not read out) Moved D. Laing.2 nd Rod Beames Carried Historical Officer Is at Annex F. Moved Des Hawkins. 2 nd Mark Blondell Carried Webmasters Report Is at Annex G.(Not read out) Commanding Officers Report Is at Annex G.(Not read out) Commanding Officers Report Is at Annex H. Moved A. Jackson 2 nd Graham Goodwin Carried					

		Motion: To set Annual Fees for 2023. D. Laing proposed Annual Fees stay at \$30					
		and \$15 for the coming year. 2 nd .Des Hawkins Carried					
		The President then handed the chair to Alan Hook to conduct the election of					
		Office Bearers.					
		Election of Officer Bearers					
		Rodney Beames for President.					
		 Accept nomination? 					
		 2nd Graham Elliott. 					
		○ In Favour?					
		o <u>Carried</u> / Defeated					
		Des Hawkins for Vice President.					
		• Accept nomination? Y					
		 2nd David Laing In Favour? 					
		 In Favour? Carried / Defeated 					
		 <u>David Laing</u> for Secretary. 					
l		• Accept nomination? Y					
l		 ○ 2nd Rod Beames 					
		 In Favour? 					
		 <u>Carried</u> / Defeated 					
		<u>Corey Skapin</u> for Assistant Secretary					
		• Accept nomination? Y					
		 2nd Christian Bennett. 					
		 In Favour? Corrigid / Defected 					
		 <u>Carried</u> / Defeated <u>Christian Bennett</u> for Treasurer. 					
7	General Business	• Accept nomination? Y					
		\circ 2 nd Des Hawkins					
		○ In Favour?					
		 <u>Carried</u> / Defeated 					
		Padre Stephen Albrecht for Bn Welfare. (Non-voting position)					
		• Accept nomination? Y					
		○ 2 nd Alan Hook					
		 In Favour? <u>Carried</u> / Defeated 					
		 <u>Carried</u> / Defeated Jesse Humphrys for Webmaster. 					
		• Accept nomination? Y					
		 2nd Lyndon Gaborit 					
		○ In Favour?					
		o <u>Carried</u> / Defeated					
		<u>David Portakiewicz</u> for Band Liaison.					
		 Accept nomination? Y 					
		○ 2 nd David Hope					
		 In Favour? Corriginal (Defected) 					
		 <u>Carried</u> / Defeated Michael Abraham for Serving Members Lipicon 					
		<u>Michael Abraham</u> for Serving Members Liaison. O Accept nomination? Y					
		 2nd Mark Blondell 					
		 In Favour? 					
		 <u>Carried</u> / Defeated 					
		<u>Mark Blondell</u> for Serving Members Liaison.					
		• Accept nomination? Y					
		 2nd Michael Abraham In Fayour 2 					
		 In Favour? Carried / Defeated 					
		o <u>Carried</u> / Defeated					

		Are there any further nominations for Committee Positions? Name. Secretary D. Laing nominates CPL Selina Laing for Merchandise Officer					
		 Accept nomination? Y 2nd Mark Blondell In Favour? <u>Carried</u> / Defeated There were no further nominations from the floor. DL explained that we would like more Serving Members to be on the committee, and they could join at any time during the year. 					
8	Any Other Business	None					
9	Future functions	 COM meeting Friday 16th August @1200 hrs Keswick Barracks EOY BBQ 15th December 2024 @ 1100 Keswick Barracks Location TBA 					
10	Next AGM	 Next AGM Sunday 3rd August 2025 @ Avoca Hotel 					
11	Closure	The President thanked all those attending and declared the meeting closed at 1245 hrs. Members adjourned for lunch.					

Signed

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President Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

Date: 4th August 2024

Annex A Presidents Report

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen

I am going to deviate from the normal President's report so as not to be too repetitious. We let the secretary, David Laing write a comprehensive report on the functions of the Association and I can assure you not much would be missed. We get more 'Sitrep Overs' and newsletters than any other committee I know. Our 'Joint Associates' in Victoria and New Zealand, while carrying on the traditions of days past, struggle to keep up their numbers, but let's not dwell on their achievements.

Our finances are good – Our membership is good – We just need to steady the Health Department.

Now there is one little cockup that I will take full responsibility for, and that is the failure to get the care packages to the first rotation of troops overseas. They were that quick and secretive they were back before I realised they had gone. My personal apologies – I will try harder. And now for my other deviation. There is no negatives here but it might put a smile on your face if you can remember back and reminisce, as we grow older and proudly join the ranks of the 'Old and Bold' and I thought the following story might be fitting.

We all know that in 1915, Australia sent the first AIF to Gallipoli, a place on the other side of the globe. A lot of the soldiers had no idea where they actually were. Moving on, moving forward 50 years and the Government of the day introduced conscription with some National Servicemen being required to fight in Viet Nam. Again, many soldiers had little knowledge of where they actually were. Places like Long Tan were just jungle hideaways.

So to set the scene, what was it like in" civvie" street in the mid 60s. Well, we are talking 18 and 19 year old lads, with all the testosterone that goes with that, there were dates to be made for Saturday evening dances maybe at the Burnside town Hall, there were sporting fixtures, SANFL and so on.

So for this story, I picked 2 unrelated 19 year olds who in the climate of the day, decided to sign up and offer their services in the defence of their country. Being a soldier couldn't be that hard, surely. There were no bullet proof vests, everything was labelled, they wore boots AB, gaiters, one for each leg, clearly marked, and the belts had a top or bottom. It was so straight forward.

In 1965, one of the 2 starters for my story was a bright young engineer, worked I understand, with Weapon Research Establishment. Became an officer but more on that later.

In 1967, the second, was not so good. The attitude was like many of you here today – keen, bewildered but with a job to be done. And so it was, off to recruit camp at Murray Bridge in Jan 68.

Surely, becoming a fighting unit could not be that hard. So, it was incomprehensible trying to explain that with one gaiter clearly marked left leg and one clearly marked right leg how one could get that mixed up and with the brass male bit clearly to be fed from the right, and how the bit of carrot that fell out of the magazine on the command 'Inspect Weapons' I have no idea. It was a steep learning curve.

The officer I mentioned in 1965 went on to lead the Regiment, rose to the rank of Major General and today is our Patron.

The other soldier, after many remedials in the drill, map reading and weapon handling, struggled to make it as an NCO, but is now your proud President.

So has anything changed since then? YES. I believe the ADF has now discovered CARE. We have always revelled in mate-ship in the Gallipoli spirit etc but REAL CARE was flippantly hidden because we were soldiers. I think this has changed significantly and I can see the evidence at all levels of command.

The move to Warradale from Keswick will be the next big thing for the Association, All the sub units could be at the same location....a new concept for 10/27. The oval might go but not the gum trees.

I close on a sombre note. The RSARA will live on but not like it has in the past. We need all the help of volunteers we can get, and at the end of the day, we will all have to pull together regardless of how small each contribution can be.

Beamon

Rod Beames

<u>Annex B</u> Secretary's Report

Secretary's Report AGM 2024

Welcome and thank you for your attendance today. It's great to have Rod here alongside me today, making the effort to appear perfectly normal, when we know everything isn't. Thanks mate. I also welcome our Patron Major General Neil Wilson AM RFD, Brigadier Graham Goodwin – former Commander 9 Brigade, Brigadier Peter Moore - Chair of the Regimental Council, Colonel Trent Burnard – former CO 10/27 Bn and LTCOL Aaron Jackson, Commanding Officer of 10th/27th Battalion. Thank you all for joining us today.

I also welcome David Thomas, a member visiting from NSW, and our newest member Paul Tucker who joined the Association yesterday.

4th August. 110 years ago today, Britain declared war on Germany, and Australian forces were automatically included in the British order of battle. Australian men literally fought to be among the first recruits to the 1st AIF. The population of Australia was only around 4 ½ million, yet more than 52,000 men enlisted in 1914 alone.

You, we, continue that legacy today by supporting our serving soldiers, just as Australia did in 1914.

Today is a day of reflection, memories and thanks, and we'll start with the memories.

Our member numbers have finally reached 200 after nearly 16 years of operation, and that is a feat in itself. You can all give yourselves a pat on the back for your part in making us so strong. We are one of the few ex-services organisations that is getting stronger as the years go by.

We put this down to our communications regime of the monthly newsletter "Sitrep, Over!" the Association Facebook page and our website. These are all responsible for passing the word around and advertising our existence.

We are made up of 74 Serving ADF Members and the rest being Life Members, Associate Life Members, Ordinary Members and Ordinary Associate Members. More Serving Members are expected to boost our numbers as our younger committee members hand out Application Forms throughout the year.

Another reason for this surge in numbers is the increase of awareness by our Serving Members, as during a weekend Force Preservation Exercise at RAAF Base Edinburgh we had another 10 members sign up, 8 of those from our wonderful Band. I thank SGT Michael Abraham, WO2 Mark Blondell and Musician Christian Bennett for handing out the Application Forms during that weekend.

We are only as strong as our members, and they are sometimes asked to step up and help purchase and prepare supplies, set up and cook food at various locations, including Warradale, Keswick, RAAF Base Edinburgh and Murray Bridge Range.

A lot of former and serving members have approached us to buy Association Merchandise, and when this happens we usually send out an Application Form and encourage them to sign up too. This usually works. Back in the old days it was called "Black Birding or Cashiering." Today it's called Good Business Management

The year has been fairly quiet, apart from a few health problems amongst our older members, but as usual these have been shrugged off and it's "all hands on deck" as they say in the Navy.

We didn't have any soldiers deployed overseas or on Border Protection over Christmas, but our President Rod took it on himself to send a number of Care Packages to our soldiers who were deployed to various parts of Europe training the Ukraine soldiers, and I received a message via our Association Facebook page from one SGT Danny Connelly from 3 Field Regiment, which read:

"Good morning 10/27 RSAR Association, thank you very much for the care package. The Ukrainian interpreters put on an orthodox Easter dinner for the Ukrainian trainees and all the instructional team were invited. They cooked us all Borscht. I gifted the care package to them as a thank you and an exchange of South Australian local confectionery. The Fruchocs were a big hit. Once again thank you from myself and SPR Shen."

WIKIPEDIA SAYS: Borscht is a sour soup, made with meat stock, vegetables and seasonings, common in Eastern Europe and Northern Asia. In English, the word borscht is most often associated with the soup's variant of Ukrainian origin, made with red beetroots as one of the main ingredients, which give the dish its distinctive red colour.

What we do for the Regiment really works, so we'll keep on doing it.

We have had ultimate support from the CO LTCOL Aaron Jackson and the RSM WO1 Scott Hannan throughout the year, and they both make our work easier to perform.

We attended the Force Preservation Exercise at RAAF Base Edinburgh on 4th February and provided a cooked lunch and fresh fruit dessert for about 120 soldiers, all prepared by a few hardworking members, including Col Abel, Rod Beames, Graham and Julie Elliott, Howard Parslow, Lyndon Gaborit, Max Hill and myself and wife June.

For our efforts we were each presented with a very attractive Commanding Officer's Medallion, which was very well received.

I would also like to thank you, the members, who keep turning up for training exercises to help out, and to these AGMs to cast your vote; and to the $10^{th}/27^{th}$ Battalion OPS staff who have such faith in us to do what we do.

Both Rod and I have had some health problems but we are constantly strengthened by the many emails, phone calls and personal visits from our mates, most of them members of this Association. It's called "looking after your mates." We thank you. Rod and I have been phoning each other continuously, and we take strength in each other's fortitude and sense of humour, however there are other members who are not in the best of health, so we arrange visits from our Padre or a mate, or just phone them to let them know we still care. If you are aware of any mate who isn't well, just let us know!

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR FURTHER UPDATES.

I commend this report to you. Are there any questions?

Thank you

David Laing Secretary

<u>Annex C</u> Treasurers Report

Dear Members,

I'm here to report to you the Association's finances over the 2023/2024 financial year.

We had a deficit of \$2,725.43 for the financial year, caused by an across-the-board reduction in income and rise of costs for our expenses.

Our main sources of income are from Membership fees and social function revenue, so please keep attending our amazing functions, whether they are our BBQs or the upcoming concert with the Band on the 15 SEP 2024 at Saint Peter's Girls College. Please see the newsletter and go through the QR code to purchase your tickets, and bring a friend or two, or three!

Our main sources of expenditure are band expenses for instrument services and equipment purchases, merchandise purchases and insurance which is an unavoidable cost. I believe the finances are in a satisfactory position and will continue to be suitable in the long term.

I commend the audited financial statement for the 2023/2024 financial year for your approval.

(Financial Audit Below)

ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT

ASSOCIATION INC.

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

Income and Expenditure Statement for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

2022/23 \$			2023/24 \$	
	Income			
2,443.00	Membership		2,180.00	
585.00	Merchandise sales		506.00	
462.12	Donations, grants & financial support received		521.00	
1,110.31	Social function revenue		1,458.99	
117.82	Bank interest		452.88	
4,718.25	Total Income		5,118.87	
	Expenditure			
703.70	Bereavement notices, flowers, wreaths, gifts etc.		608.20	
1,408.00	Merchandise purchases		1,483.25	
	Band Expenses (instrument service, equipment purchase			
1,504.00	etc.)		3,951.42	
-	Donations, grants & financial support provided			
1,296.33 356.90	Social function costs Website costs		535.71	
631.15	Stationery, printing & postage		351.74	
804.11	Insurance		913.98	
6,704.19	Total Expenditure		7,844.30	
- 1,985.94	Surplus/-Deficit for the year		- 2,725.43	
27,133.11	Bank balance at July 1		25,147.17	
25,147.17	25,147.17 Bank balance at June 30		22,421.74	
	Represented by: General operations funds			
5,039.35	Bendigo Bank General Account	4,730.01		
11,282.62	Bendigo Bank Term Investment	12,373.10	17,103.11	
	Band account			
8,825.20	Bendigo Bank Band Savings Account		5,318.63	
25,147.17	Total Funds		22,421.74	

UNAG

Christian Bennett Treasurer

Hayden Edwards Honorary Auditor

HAYDEN F. EDWARDS FCA FTIA ABN: 30 717 437 976 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc. (the association) that comprises a statement of receipts and payments for the year ended 30 June 2024,

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the cash basis of accounting is consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act South Australia 1985 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act South Australia. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

Audit Qualification

As is common for organizations of this type, it is not practicable for the management committee to maintain an effective system of internal control over receipts until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, my audit in relation to receipts was limited to the amounts recorded.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc. as of 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

Name of Firm:

Hayden F Edwards Chartered Accountant

Name of Principal:

Hayden Edwards FCA

Address:

2nd Floor 345 King William Street Adelaide SA 5000

Dated this 31th day of July 2024

Date	Payee	Re	ference	Item(s)	,	Amount
20/08/2023	Presto Musical Repairs Pty Ltd		PV 1	Clarinet Service	\$	280.00
20/08/2023	Presto Musical Repairs Pty Ltd		PV 2	Reeds and Oil	\$	581.42
02/09/2023	David Laing		PV 3	Reimbursement for Postage	\$	21.24
02/09/2023	Hansen Group (S.A.) Pty Ltd		PV 4	RSAR Logo Stickers	\$	381.90
02/09/2023	Prestige		PV 5	Gold Shields	\$	24.50
11/11/2023	Big Band Charts		PV 6	Music for Band	\$	90.00
11/11/2023	David Laing		PV 7	Postage Stamps	\$	24.00
11/11/2023	Murraylands Community Men's Shed		PV 8	Shields	\$	240.00
11/11/2023	Prestige		PV 9	Engraved labels	\$	248.70
11/11/2023	Prestige		PV 10	Engraved labels	\$	47.00
07/12/2023	Rave On Promotional Products		PV 11	Wine Cooler Merchandise	\$	816.75
10/12/2023	Red Dragon Embroidery		PV 12	Hoodie	\$	90.00
18/12/2023	Colin Abel		PV 13	Xmas BBQ	\$	339.44
18/12/2023	Prestige		PV 14	Engraved labels	\$	48.00
28/12/2023	David Laing		PV 15	Postage	\$	18.50
12/02/2024	Red Dragon Embroidery		PV 16	Navy Caps Merchandise	\$	180.00
12/02/2024	Colin Abel		PV 17	Force Pres BBQ	\$	196.27
12/02/2024	David Laing		PV 18	Printer Ink Cartridges	\$	129.00
21/03/2024	Amplify Events and Education Pty Ltd		PV 19	Microphones	\$	3,000.00
04/04/2024	Australia Post		PV 20	PO Box	\$	159.00
09/04/2024	Rod Beams		PV 21	Insurance	\$	913.98
09/04/2024	Prestige		PV 22	Namebadge	\$	14.60

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Christian Bennett

Treasurer Royal South Australia Regiment Association 04 August 2024

The RSARA AGM report 2024 - BAND

The Band has already supported 33 tasks for the year. Ranging from commemorative Services, to Parades to Formal balls. Showing off the versatility and flexibility of the Band with its many ensembles, including Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Quintets, Clarinet Quintets and its Rock band.

The Band will remain very busy for the rest of the year supporting a task every weekend until the Battalion Stand-down in December. Some of these tasks include the Government House Investitures, the Mt Gambier Cabaret, and the 1 Armoured farewell and final Parade in SA before relocating North.

The task that the Band is most excited about, is the Band's Major concert supporting the Partners of Veterans and the RSAR Association. The Concert will be held on Sunday 15 September at St Peters Girls School at Stonyfell.

And of course the concert again will be featuring the infamous SGT Michael Abram as the MC.

This year's concert is titled the ASHES and will put the Best of British Music against the Best of Australian music in several categories. For example, the Best March, the Best Rock band music, and the Best Pop artist to mention a few. If you are keen in going Christian Bennett has tickets to purchase. Normally \$25 each, but for Association members they can purchase them today for \$20.

We are also very fortunate to have Piper Nigel Fortune overseas at the moment performing in the Basel Tattoo in Switzerland. Nigel has been away for the past 3 weeks and is due to come back this week.

The Band has also continued its strong push to recruit new members. The Band has enlisted 2 new members, the first being Emily Dennis a saxophone and Clarinet player who is in her final year of a Bachelor of Music at Adelaide University. The Second is Jonathan Mitchell, a Trombone and Euphonium player who leaves for Kapooka on the 2nd of November.

For all you that were here last year, you would have heard me speak about the New Banner boxes built by the one and only Rodney Beames. It was definitely the highlight of the year for me in 2023! I am glad to report that even with the Band's best efforts of throwing the boxes around they are still in one piece, sturdy and in excellent condition. They have been built so well that the suggestion of getting Rod in to fix Band room's foundation and walls has been bantered around amongst the Band.

The Band, I believe, continues to be one of the best Military Bands in the country and our great work would not be possible without the continued support of the Association, especially its committee members. It has been the Association's support that has allowed the Band to continue its fantastic work. The Association supports the Band in several ways including the maintenance of the Band's instruments.

Myself and the Band would specifically like to thank you all for your support, and specifically recognise the hard work of Rod Beames and David Laing in support of the Band.

WO1 David Portakiewicz

Bandmaster

<u>Annex E</u> <u>Serving Members Report</u>

2024 started with preparations for the Battalion to conduct live fire Coy attacks during quarter 2 of the training year

This began with TW1 where members conducted rifle practice 3A (various fire positions engaging both static and moving targets from 100-300m)

40mm SL40 (replacement of GLA) and grenades were also used

TW2 was a repeat of TW1 with a blank fire exercise added for good measure.

Following on TW3 was conducted in Cultana with many members training for the week prior firing the 84mm anti-armour weapon

The culmination of this training saw the Battalion travel back to Cultana in May to be part of Ex Rhino Run (A War fighter Exercise against 7RAR) followed by the live fire component.

Due to the play book 7RAR won the Battle.

Many courses have been run including Bushmaster driver; CFA and signals. We also now have our own driving instructors which will enable the Battalion to continue with drivers courses without having to rely 7RAR and 1 Armoured. This capability will grow in the coming months with more instructor courses in the pipeline:

A look forward to quarter 3 and 4

Exercise Southern Tiger is due to take place later in September, consisting of a Malaysian Element exercising in South Australia with 10/27 hosting the training in Murray Bridge and Cultana.

More driver training courses will take place as the Battalion will receive a fleet of G Wagon and 40 Mikes which are the latest upgrade to the old Land Rovers and Unimogs

That ends the Serving Members report

WO2 Mark Blondell

<u>Annex F</u> <u>Historical Officers Report</u>

2024 to date has been a fairly quiet year as far as requests for assistance with Historical research.

I believe 2 or 3 enquiries were received by our secretary who handballed them to me to follow up.

Special thank you goes to member Peter Loveder from Mildura who donated 2 unused Polo Tops from the early days of the Alberton Depot when it was designated E and later A Company. I'll arrange in due course to add them to our Regimental Collection held at the Military Vehicles Museum at Edinburgh Park.

Now to the Regimental and Robert Gray collections held at Keswick Barracks. A concerted effort is being made to locate, identify, photograph and catalogue items belonging to the RSAR collection. To date it consists of some 4100 items, comprising weapons, medals, books, pams, maps, uniforms & various souvenirs. My thanks to member Bob Cotton and Martin Forsyth for their volunteer work with this task. With about 2 - 300 items to go, we can finally start to see a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel.

The Robert Gray collection apart from some 80 odd items according to the ledgers has been fully photographed and catalogued. Of the approx. 6100 items in this collection, well over 50% have been entered onto the Museum's latest database.

My thanks go to Heather Phillips & Libby Kalatsis for their assistance & perseverance with the data entry of this collection.

There is still no definite decision as to where the Army Museum and various Unit collections will relocate to with the sale of Keswick Barracks.

So, for the time being its business as usual, as we continue to preserve & document our Regimental collection.

In closing, I would urge those who have not done so in recent times to make the effort and visit the museum. There have been substantial improvements to displays over recent years showcasing our South Australian Military History.

Des Hawkins Historical Officer

Annex G Webmasters Report

There have been many updates to the website most on the software running the website (Wordpress and the associated plugins)

Various updates have been made throughout the year to keep the information current. Below you'll see our web traffic throughout the website.

2021

Total Views - 3044 - Search Engines 797 - Facebook 73 Unique visitors - 1112

2022

Total Views - 1523 - Search Engines 417 - Facebook 49 Unique visitors - 634

2023

Total Views - 1746 - Search Engines 483 - Facebook 64 Unique visitors - 793

2024 (as at 21st July)

Total Views - 1605 - Search Engines 449 - Facebook 42 Unique visitors - 695

All the recent newsletters have been uploaded.

The association YouTube channel has seen steady views on the uploaded content. With higher views on the YouTube shorts (short snippet videos).

Jesse Humphrys

Webmaster

<u>Annex H</u> CO's Report

Year to date. In the first half of 2024, the Battalion's main effort was Exercise Rhino Run. This included two significant activities. The first was qualifying personnel in platoon level live fire serials, to meet 2nd Division readiness requirements.

The second was raising Battlegroup Shrike, which provided the red force for a 9th Brigade field training exercise. In addition to successfully achieving all of the required training outcomes for the blue force, Battlegroup Shrike also achieved good training outcomes for its own personnel, which were a mix of infantry and engineers from 10/27 RSAR, reinforced by sub-units from 1 ARMD and 9 CSSB.

In addition to exercise Rhino Run, in the first quarter of the year the Battalion held three leadup training weekends, two of which were the best attended training activities in at least three years. Finally, the Battalion marched on Anzac Day in both Adelaide and Mt Gambier.

Year ahead. In the second half of 2024, the Battalion's main effort will be the conduct of Exercise Southern Tiger in September. During this exercise, we will be hosting 111 visiting Malaysian Army soldiers.

The exercise will include conduct of weapons training and a live fire exercise. Concurrently, the Battalion will run a direct fire support weapons (DFSW) course for students from across 2nd Division. In October, the Battalion will host the 2024 Simpson Trophy Shoot at Murray Bridge. In the fourth quarter of the year, we will be running diver and signals qualification courses.

Longer term. The qualification courses the Battalion will run in the latter part of 2024 are in preparation for when 9th Brigade transitions from being commanded by Forces Command to being commanded by 2nd Division.

This transition will occur in January 2025. The unit colours are over 40 years old and have been repaired so many times that they can no longer be repaired. New colours for the linked 10th/27th Battalion are likely to be consecrated in 2025.

Later this decade, the Battalion will move out of Keswick Barracks when the barracks closes. The precise timeline and new locations for the force elements currently located at Keswick is still being developed. More information will be provided once it becomes available.

Regards

Aaron P. Jackson Lieutenant Colonel Commanding Officer 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment

<u>Annex I</u> RSMs Report

N/A

<u>Annex J</u> <u>Padre's Report</u>

CHAPLAINS REPORT 2024 AGM

In November of last year, I was honoured to accept the position of chaplain for the 10/27 Royal South Australia Regiment (RSAR) and its associated members. Over the past year, my appreciation for the dedicated service and tireless work of its members has grown immensely. As chaplain, my primary responsibilities have been to provide wellbeing and spiritual support to the regiment's members. This includes conducting ceremonies, offering personal counsel and support, and being a listening ear and compassionate presence during times of need.

As chaplains, we are 'positioned to serve' both the members of this community and God. While the past year has been rewarding, it has also presented several challenges:

Adapting to this New Role: Transitioning into the chaplaincy role required adapting to the unique needs and culture of the regiment. This has been a learning experience that has deepened my understanding and appreciation of military life.

Addressing Diverse Needs: The diverse backgrounds and experiences of the members necessitate a tailored approach to support and counsel. It's about balancing their needs with the needs of the organization while ensuring everyone feels heard and valued.

Despite these small challenges, I am continually inspired by the resilience and dedication of the regiment's members. Their commitment to service and to each other is a testament to the strength of this community.

I have also enjoyed writing articles for the Royal South Australian Regiment Association's newsletter, highlighting various aspects of defence life. I hope you have enjoyed reading them as much as I have enjoyed writing them.

In conclusion, it has been a privilege to serve as chaplain for the 10/27 RSAR over the past year. I am grateful for the opportunity to support such a dedicated and hardworking group of individuals.

Together, we have built a strong foundation of trust and support, and I look forward to continuing this journey with you all in the coming year. While doing His work,

Chaplain Stephen Albrecht