



"Sitrep, Over!"



Official Newsletter of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

APRIL 2015

Newsletter edited by
David Laing

Volume 2, Issue 4

ANZAC Day 2015

Ever since I have been marching alongside my mates from the Battalions of the Royal South Australia Regiment on ANZAC Day, we have formed up in Group 12, which is near to the rear of the entire march. None of us are getting any younger, and on a warm day, the march (walk for some) from Grenfell Street, down Pulteney Street, along North Tce and down King William Street way past the Cross of Sacrifice is all I can do, and I'm not 70 yet! Some of my older mates who have passed the octogenarian level are extremely brave to attempt the journey, but so far we have made the distance every time.

This year, the Gallipoli Centenary year, we won't have to march as far!

We are now forming up in Group 11, directly behind the soldiers of the 10th/27th Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment, who will in turn be marching behind their Regimental Colours, emblazoned with their Battle Honours..

As the 10th and 27th are the only surviving battalions from the First World War, linked together they have been afforded the honour of marching as a Battalion to pay homage to all those who fought under those same colours 100 years ago.

AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE RSAR ASSOCIATION TO MARCH!

If you know of anyone at all who has served with the Royal South Australia Regiment at any time, then they too can march with us behind the Battalion. This is a ONE OFF occasion for 2015 only where we can show our pride and honour those who have gone before us.

The location of the Group 11 Assembly Area is on Pulteney Street, between Grenfell & Pirie Streets - in the middle of the southern half of Hindmarsh Square. We anticipate that there will be no movement before 1040 hrs, but our members should assemble behind the RSARA banner NLT 1000 hrs. If we don't move off for a while, there will be plenty of time to catch up with old mates prior to the "long slog" and of course, afterwards at the Queens Head Hotel for lunch.

Anyone wishing to reserve a seat at the Hotel is asked to contact Norm Rathmann on his email of normqeelong@yahoo.com, or his mobile of 0448 460 884



Closing of the Repatriation General Hospital

Much has been said of the State Governments unheralded and unpopular decision to close down the Repatriation General Hospital at Daw Park in the name of so-called savings. The Government decided to tell the people about their move, and then give them only a matter of days to respond. This was not only ludicrous, it was undemocratic. RSL (SA) has undertaken to go in to bat for the veterans who rely on the Repat for many of its superior services. RSL (SA) Chief Executive Sam Jackman, speaking with The Advertiser, stated that the RSL are "disappointed that the decision has been made so early in the consultation process and the lack of detail about the future of veterans' health". You can read more of her statement by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.rslsa.org.au/update-transforming-health-response>

Inside this issue:

ANZAC DAY 2015	1
Just Soldiers - Trooper Scotty Bolton	2
ANZAC Day photographer required	3
A Digger Died Today	3
Members List - Now at 205.	4
3/9 SAMR joins 10/27 RSAR	6
The End of an Era. CoM member retires	6

DID YOU KNOW?

Glass takes one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times!

Gold is the only metal that doesn't rust, even if it's buried in the ground for thousands of years.

Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end.

If you stop getting thirsty, you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.

Just Soldiers Trooper Sloan "Scotty" Bolton DCM Part 6

Scotty needed no urging. As he scampered in pursuit, he was enveloped in the dust and smoke of a sudden explosion and found himself rolling wildly and blindly down the hill. He pushed himself up with one hand, only to fall again— his left leg was now a mangled, bloody mess. Crawling to gain cover behind a rock, Bolton felt his life draining away with each pulse from his severed arteries as he called plaintively for a stretcher-bearer. While he waited, he tried to administer some sort of first aid, then he realised that his right leg was also severely injured. Scotty was sure that this was the end. As he lapsed into unconsciousness, he heard the reassuring voice of a mate.



The author Darryl Kelly (R) outside the old Governor's residence, Beersheba. It is believed that it was in the basement of this building that Bolton captured the German demolition officer. (Author's collection)



For days Bolton hovered precariously between life and death. One cold, still morning, he opened his eyes to be greeted by a pretty Australian nursing sister.

He was in a hospital in El Arish. As he surveyed his surroundings, he noticed the cage that encompassed the lower portion of his body. The nursing sister followed his eyes and the look on her face told him the grim truth. He had lost both his legs.

The troopship pulled into the Melbourne dock to the clamour of bands and the cheers of the waiting crowds. Slowly, the gathering fell silent as the hushed and shocked people parted to allow the long stream of wounded to file through.

These men had left Australia young, fit and full of fight. Now they returned blinded and maimed—many lacking limbs. These soldiers now faced a new fight.

Scotty spent his convalescence at the Caulfield Repatriation Hospital. Here he was fitted with a pair of artificial limbs. The courage he had shown at Beersheba was apparent again as he gritted his teeth and took his first steps with his new legs. Time and again, he was faced by setbacks. His new limbs would rub on the raw skin, the stumps that were once his legs would break down, and gangrene would set in—more surgery to remove the damaged tissue, and back to square one, learning to walk with artificial legs.

One day, as Scotty faced the daily grind of his exercise regimen, a young wisp of a girl walked in to distribute gifts to the patients. Their eyes met and a smile came to Scotty's face. Her name was Elsie and he realised they had met before he went on service overseas. The two had exchanged letters during that time, but had remained simply pen pals. As time passed they became inseparable, but Scotty was reluctant to consider the possibility of marriage until he had proven himself capable of walking again. He made a promise to himself and to her. He would fight to regain his mobility; he would not surrender, irrespective of how long it took. He would walk again.

Of the thirty amputees in the ward, Scotty was the only one to walk out. The others lacked Bolton's determination, accepting life as a cripple—dependent on crutches or confined to a wheelchair. Scotty made many return trips to the hospital, earning the praise of his doctors for his resolve to master his new limbs.

Continued next page

Trooper Sloan "Scotty" Bolton DCM Part 6

On one occasion, he alighted from a tram in front of the hospital, misjudged the gutter, and sprawled on the ground in a helpless tangle. As he struggled to regain his feet, many of the passers-by looked on in disgust, believing him to be yet another drunken veteran. An officer came to his aid, helping him gently to his feet. Scotty noticed the crimson ribbon on the officer's chest. The Good Samaritan was none other than Captain Rupert Moon VC.

On 20 March 1919, Bolton was discharged from the Australian Imperial Forces. In 1922, he finally married his beloved Elsie.

Final Part Next Month

By courtesy Darryl Kelly and ADCC Publications. Kelly, Darryl 2004, Just Soldiers, ADCC Publications, Brisbane, pg 15 to 26

"A Digger died today."

Sent in by Don Phillips

He was getting old and paunchy
And his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the R.S.L.,
Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in
And the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his mates;
They were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbours
His tales became a joke,
All his mates listened quietly
For they knew where of he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,
For ol' Jack has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer
For a Digger died today.

He won't be mourned by many,
Just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary,
Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,
Going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing,
'Tho a Digger died today.

When politicians leave this earth,
Their bodies lie in state,

While thousands note their passing,
And proclaim that they were great.

The Media tell of their life stories
From the time that they were young,
But the passing of a Digger
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution
To the welfare of our land,
Some smoothie who breaks his promise
And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow
Who in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country
And offers up his life?

The politician's stipend
And the style in which they live,
Are often disproportionate,
To the service that they give.

While the ordinary Digger,
Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal
And perhaps a pension, small.

It is not the politicians
With their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom
That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,
With your enemies at hand,
Would you really want some cop-out,
With his ever-waffling stand?

Or would you want a Digger
His home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Digger,
Who would fight until the end?

He was just a common Digger,
And his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us
We may need his likes again.

For when countries are in conflict,
We find the Digger's part,
Is to clean up all the troubles
That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honour
While he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage
At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline
In the paper that might say:

"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
A DIGGER DIED TODAY."

PHOTOGRAPHER WANTED

Every ANZAC Day for the past 8 years my wife has been the "official" RSARA photographer, and has taken the photos that

fill the pages of this newsletter. Her pics of our group include before, during and after the ANZAC march, and I am indebted to her for her efforts. This year she is unable to take photos as she will be in a different location, so if anyone is going to the ANZAC Day march in Adelaide, and they have a camera, please take some pics of the Battalion, the Band and our RSARA boys marching behind them. I would love to feature some of your photos in upcoming newsletters. You can send photos to me at davidlaign49@bigpond.com. Thanks.

Members List

Abareh, Wadi **SM**
 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
 Bilsborow, Jason **SM**
 Blackmore, William
 Blake, Sam **SM**
 Blondell, Mark **SM**
 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
 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
 Dubsy, Eddie
 Dunn, Peter
 Dunn, Bob
 Dunn, Jeff
 Durdin, Russell
 Durrant, Chris
 Edson, Roger
 Elliott, Graham
 Elliss, Scott **SM**
 Eva, Keith
 Ewens, Mimi **SM**
 Field, Don
 Flanagan, Ted
 Fridday, Ross
 Gaborit, Lyndon **LM**
 Genovese, John
 Gibson, Lindsay

Giles, John
 Gill, Graham
 Gilmore, Graham **CoM**
 Gordon, Frank
 Hardy, Robert **SM**
 Harrington, Malcolm
 Harrison, John
 Hawking, Don
 Hawkins, Des
 Haynes, Scott
 # Hewitt, Emily **BAND**
 Hogan, Mark **LM**
 Hook, Alan **LM CoM**
 Hope, David
 #Horseman, Ian
 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
 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 **CoM**
 Ockenden, Marc
 Oswald, John
 Pach, Chol **SM**
 Paul, John
 Perkins, Bob
 Pollard, Barry

#Portakiewicz, Anthony **BAND**
 # Portakiewicz, David **BAND**
 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**
 # 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

Ayles, Denise
 Beames, Cheryl
 Carnachan, Dom
 Dart, Caroline
 Demosani, Gail
 Elliott, Julie

Eva, Gail
 Field, Shirley
 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

G. Goodwin 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**

205 members as at 17/3/15

RSARA Sydney member Kevin Cram has been unwell, and is due to go into hospital shortly for open heart surgery. Kevin served with the 27th SA Scottish Battalion of the Regiment.

We all hope things go to plan and wish Kevin a speedy recovery after the op.

GET WELL SOON MATE!

Thanks to Frank Morony for passing on this info!

My wife's Dinner Party

She wanted to serve her guests mushroom-smothered steak, but she had no mushrooms and no time to buy them.

I suggested, "Why don't you go pick some of the mushrooms that are growing wild down by the creek?"

"No, some wild mushrooms are poisonous."

"Well, I've seen wildlife eating them and they seem OK."

So she picked a bunch and washed, sliced and sautéed them for her dinner.

Then she went out on the back porch and gave Spot, our dog, a double handful. Spot ate every bite.

All morning long, she watched the dog.

The wild mushrooms hadn't affected him after a few hours, so she decided to use them.

The meal was a great success.

After everyone had finished, our daughter came in and whispered in her ear, "Mum, Spot is dead."

Trying to keep her head about her, she left the room as quickly as possible, called the doctor and told him what had happened.

The doctor said, "That's bad, but I think we can take care of it. I'll call for an ambulance and I'll be there as quickly as I can.

We'll give everyone enemas and we'll pump out their stomachs and everything will be fine. Just keep them calm."

Before long they started to hear the sirens as the ambulance tore down the road.

The Paramedics and the doctor had their suitcases, syringes, and a stomach pump.

One by one, they took each person into the bathroom, gave them an enema, and pumped out their stomach.

After the last one was done the doctor came out and said,

"Everything will be okay now," and with that he left.

The hosts and the guests were all weak and knackered sitting around the living room when our daughter came in and said to her mum,

"I can't believe that guy!"

"What guy?"

"You know, that one who ran over Spot, he never even slowed down".



Private Gomad reckons.....

Variation Law -If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

Law of Close Encounters -The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

All correspondence to:-

RSAR Association Inc

The Secretary David Laing

Riverglen Marina RSD 3152A

White Sands S.A. 5253

davidlaing49@bigpond.com

0407 791 822



We're also on the Web!

Find us at:

www.rsara.asn.au

SA ARMoured CORPS UNIT TO BACK UP SA INFANTRY BATTALION



The message below is from the OC of 3rd/9th Light Horse, South Australian Mounted Rifles to his soldiers. For many years the soldiers of the Armoured Corps have gone into battle with Infantry units by their side. Now this trend is to become an even closer reality with the Adelaide-based 3/9 LH (SAMR) coming under the command of our own 10/27 Battalion RSAR. Editor



On 01 May 2015, A Squadron, 3rd/9th Light Horse (South Australian Mounted Rifles) will come under the command of the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment. The change in command is part of a restructuring process under Plan BEERSHEBA that optimises the Australian Army's resources to maximise operational capability and economic efficiency.

3/9 LH (SAMR) will maintain its customs and traditions, it will also retain its Guidons in trust, marking its proud lineage. 3/9 LH (SAMR) members will remain part of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps and continue to wear the RAAC beret, lanyard, emu plume and hat, and regimental badges.

The transition will maximise administrative efficiency at the unit and facilitate more combined-arms training opportunities."

M.B. Harris

Major

Officer Commanding

A Squadron, 3rd/9th Light Horse Regiment (South Australian Mounted Rifles)

Association Committee Member calls it a day.

Long serving Committee member Frank Morony has decided to stand down from the Committee of Management after a very hectic few years, in which he single-handedly constructed our very successful website, www.rsara.asn.au

When we first decided that having a website was a good idea, Frank suggested we ask for volunteers to do the job. That was Frank's first mistake. He very quickly learned all there was to learn about website construction, and set about building a very attractive front page. This soon became a fully fledged site in its own right, and it wasn't long before it paid off, with former members of the Regiment logging on from all over the world and asking how they could join the RSAR Association.

Frank began his Army career in the National Service era, serving with 16 National Service Battalion at Woodside. He completed his "Nasho" obligation and decided to stay in the Army, spending time with the 27th SA Scottish Regiment, 1 RSAR and 10 RSAR. He progressed through the NCO ranks and easily made his mark as an officer.

In 2014 Frank suggested we needed an Assistant Webmaster, and Jesse Humphrys from 10th/27th Battalion successfully applied for the position, working with Frank to ensure the website continued on bigger and better.

On behalf of the president, the Committee of Management and the members, we thank Frank for his tireless efforts, not only in creating the website, but also in supporting the committee and members with his knowledge and wit. Thank you mate, and thanks to your forgiving wife Brenda for allowing you to "come out and play!"

