



"Sitrep, Over!"

APRIL 2020

Official Journal of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

Guest Speaker for **NEW** Luncheon



While most of us have been watching large tracts of our country being ravaged by bushfires, one man has been at the helm of our rural fire fighters, guiding them through the worst fires in decades. New to this country and new to his job, he has appeared almost daily on our TV screens keeping us informed of the dire situation.

After much ado, we have secured the speaking services of the Chief Officer of the Country Fire Services, Mark Jones for our Mid Year Luncheon, to be conducted at the Avoca Hotel on Sunday 24th May 2020.

Mark literally started his new appointment in the depths of this summer's fire cauldron, and quickly came to grips with the severity of the Australian conditions.

Mark, who previously worked in the United Kingdom as chief fire officer for the Buckingham Fire and Rescue Service and as Deputy Chief Executive

of the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, was named late last year after an extensive interview period. He has also worked as an executive with the ACT Emergency Services Agency.

Emergency Services Minister Corey Wingard said Mr Jones had been recommended because of his extensive experience with volunteers and knowledge of the emergency services sector, which includes time with the International Firefighters Association - a largely volunteer organisation.

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"Mr Jones is about as highly-credentialled of an applicant we could have hoped for and will be an asset to the CFS and the Emergency Services sector as a whole," Minister Wingard said.

"His achievements in helping deliver a volunteer-centric culture between firefighters was also noted by the selection panel." Mr Wingard said.

Numerous members of the RSAR Association have contacted me asking if we were ever going to have luncheons again. Now is the time for you all to come along and enjoy the experiences of Mark Jones as he talks about service with emergency services overseas, and his short time with the CFS.

The Luncheon will commence at 1100 hrs with Mr Jones talk, after which members will adjourn to the dining rooms for lunch around midday, until about 1400 hrs.

This luncheon is open to EVERYONE, however RSARA members will get first preference for seating IF THEY BOOK FIRST! First come, first seated. Seating is capped at 60 maximum.

If you wish to attend please contact the secretary on davidlaing49@bigpond.com or his mobile of 0407 791 822 NOT LATER THAN Friday 1st May.

If you don't register, you won't get a seat.

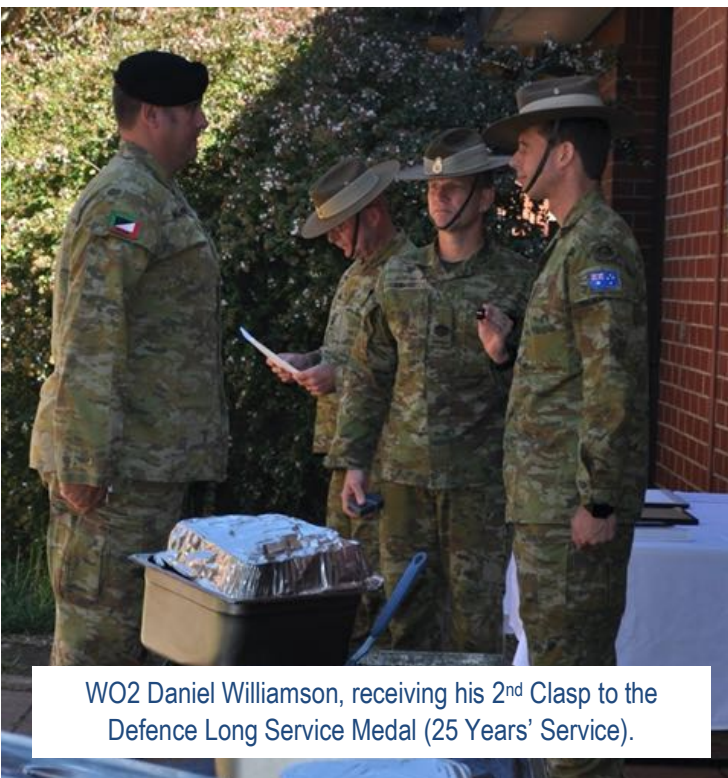
Association(s) Support Exercise

Once again the combined ex-services Associations, comprising of the RSAR Association, South Australia Mounted Rifles Association and the Royal Australian Engineers Association (SA) all worked like a well-oiled team to ensure the 10/27 Bn Battle Group were fed in a timely and Regimental manner for lunch on Sunday 15th March 2020. A smaller exercise was conducted on the Saturday afternoon with the Battle Group welcoming their new full time training staff and their partners. (36 meals were served on the Saturday evening, and 110 on the Sunday.)

Prior to the BBQ the CO LTCOL Peter Morgenthaler presented a number of Battle Group members with various medals, citations and awards. The Patron of the RSAR Association then read out two letters to the assembled soldiers and RSARA members. The first letter was from the RSAR Regimental Council to the soldiers who had been deployed to KI and the Adelaide Hills during Op Bushfire Assist. The Council spoke of the hardships borne by the soldiers during their support work, and the professional attitude they had displayed which had bought much credit on the Battle Group. The 2nd letter, also from the RSAR Regimental Council was addressed to Rod Beames, President RSARA, and is attached on Page 6.



WO2 Ben Barling, receiving his Humanitarian Overseas Medal – Vanuatu



WO2 Daniel Williamson, receiving his 2nd Clasp to the Defence Long Service Medal (25 Years' Service).



WO2 Josh Raward, receiving his Warrant.

Association(s) Support Exercise



LEFT: Some Officers
take the training
VERY seriously

Association(s) Support Exercise



A group of soldiers in camouflage uniforms are standing in a line outside a brick building. They are wearing various types of hats, including berets and boonie hats. The building has large windows and a brick facade. The soldiers are standing on a paved area next to a grassy lawn.





REGIMENTAL COUNCIL THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT

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Or email: geoff.tattersall@outlook.com
Telephone: Mob: 0401 120 663

Mr. R. Beames
President RSAR Association
Kewwick Barracks
KESWICK SA 5035

10 March 2020

Dear Mr. Beames,

Red.

On behalf of all members of the Regimental Council of the Royal South Australia Regiment, please accept our heartiest congratulations on your outstanding support of the 10th/27th Bn Battle Group throughout the recent Operation Bushfire Assist.

The members of the unit were tasked to operate under extremely difficult circumstances and your ongoing support throughout the operation was a constant and effective boost to morale and performance. In no small way, the work of your Association contributed to the successful completion of this difficult and demanding task. Well done indeed.

I congratulate you again and wish you and your Association every success for the future.

Pro Patria

N.M. Wilson

N.M. Wilson AM, RFD
MAJGEN
Chairman

Letters to the Association

UNCLASSIFIED

Rod,

On behalf of the unit and in particular myself, thank you for the efforts from your teams during OP BA and the FPAT weekend. This includes the care packs for the Middle East, the updating of the honour boards and continued support behind the scenes. Please pass on our thanks to those who continue to support us.

Regards,

SG CAWSEY

WO2

OPSWO

10th/27th Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment

Keswick Barracks, Anzac Hwy, Keswick SA 5035

To Reg Williams, President SAMRA & Ken Daly, President RAE (SA) Assoc

Hi Reg & Ken,

Further to yesterday's very successful BBQ at Keswick, I wish to reconfirm the many "THANK YOUs" that we received for our efforts in supplying, cooking and serving approximately 110 meals and collecting \$247. Because of the stewardship of our WO Caterer Colin (the guy with the baitlayer hat) the wastage this year was minimal, so I can off load the unused product and declare that enough was raised to cover the whole weekend (ie the Saturday AND Sunday).

I appreciated the letter from MajGen Neil Wilson but stress that this letter was really aimed at us all. All 3 Associations worked extremely well and you saw the result.

I know you will want to have an individual BBQ for your separate units at Smithfield and Warradale and an infanteer cannot appreciate the ghosts that live in the walls and ceilings of those establishments.

Thanks once again.

Regards,

Rod Beames

RSARA



www.rsara.asn.au

Association(s) Support Exercise



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

I was pleased to be part of the RSAR Association BBQ Support Exercise at Keswick Barracks on Sunday 15th March. The day had a down side when I returned to my car in the car park and found it wouldn't start. A call to the RAA was made, but in the 45 minutes it took for them to arrive I was kindly asked if I needed assistance by at least 6 individual soldiers, including the RSM WO1 Craig.

It shows me that the young soldiers of today are not scared to offer their help in any situation, and I wish to thank all those who came to my aid. (The car was jump started by a fellow RSARA member, but "conked" out again soon after. A new battery was installed by the RAA later.)

You have all done your Battalion proud once again.

Regards

June Laing



Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc



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Hard copies of this newsletter are kindly printed by the office of the Member for Barker, the Honourable Tony Pasin MP, in Murray Bridge.

Some members don't have internet access or email, therefore the only way we can keep them informed is by snail mail hard copies. This is made much easier thanks to Tony and his hard working staff.

*Thank you to Tony Pasin MP
and Staff.*



Over the past month I've been sending out emails to those who used to be financial but have let their fees lapse. I've given everyone the chance to renew, or to leave, should they so desire. Some have come back on board and some have left, no questions asked. For those who are left, please continue your valued support and help us achieve our goal, to Perpetuate the Regiment. Thanks. *David*

Editorial

To keep up with modern times and technology, I've decided the DPCU (Disruptive Pattern Camouflage Uniform) theme on this years editions needed to be updated to what is currently accepted as our Army's Multicam Uniform. I trust it meets with your approval?

We've all seen the stories on the Coronavirus, and how it has now reached the shores of this country and has caused death, and some of us say "we're OK. We're a long way from the scene!" That maybe true, but the virus can still spread through lack of proper hygiene. I've done a bit of research and have forwarded some tips for you on Pages 8 & 9. It may help.

As we take precautions against the world-wide spread of this disease, it makes me wonder about the methods of some officials in dealing with this outbreak. When the thousands of travellers on the Diamond Princess where incarcerated once the virus was found to be rife amongst its' passengers, the virus was contained on board. The passengers were quarantined. And then someone said "Right, we'll send some of them home to their own countries!" And by doing that, they have automatically spread the virus around the world and placed millions of others in jeopardy. Should they have kept everyone on board and only had to worry about one ship, rather than spread the carriers all over the globe? It's too late now, as they've released the virus and now we pay the consequences.

There is heaps of information about the Coronavirus going around, and even more jokes about it. Some of the jokes are quite funny, and others are just plain weird, but in the interests of public decorum and decency I have decided not to print any in this newsletter. People have died.

At a recent RSARA gathering, the Old and Bold were discussing with the Young and Restless the subject of pay for CMF/Reserve soldiers. It was amusing to hear one of our mates say he wasn't paid for a month after his last exercise, and someone else said he hadn't been paid for his CFTS (Continuous Full Time Service) on Kangaroo Island since he started in mid-January. But we were shocked to hear another say he went 18 months without pay because "someone didn't push the right button!" EIGHTEEN MONTHS? That is unacceptable by any means! All these cases are examples of bad/poor administration somewhere down the line, and the Defence Reserves Association should be made aware of the situation. If our men and women are prepared to go into harm's way on our behalf, then they deserve adequate and immediate recompense. Back in the dark ages we would receive a cheque once every 6 months, but if that cheque wasn't in the mail within 5 days of when it was due, there was hell to pay. Someone should raise hell now!

That's what I think!

David Laing - Editor

Letters to the Editor

UNCLASSIFIED

Afternoon David,

Thank you for the invite to have honorary membership with the Royal South Australia Regiment Association. I would be honoured to accept the membership and look forward to attending the Associations Functions and receiving the monthly newsletter. I look forward to maintaining a strong relationship with the Association and the men and women of the 10th/27th Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment, and also look forward to your continued support and involvement in our training and social events.

Thanks also for your amazing support during Op BUSHFIRE ASSIST. Please know you and the Association have an open door whenever needed.

Warmest Regards

John

Johnny Craig

Johnny Craig

Warrant Officer Class One

Regimental Sergeant Major

10/27th Battalion, the Royal South Australia Regiment



Dear David,

Thank you for the kind invitation to speak at the Lunch meeting of Royal South Australia Regiment Association on 24th May 2020 at the Avoca Hotel.

I would be delighted to attend the lunch and share my early views and experiences with your members.

With best professional regards, Mark

Mark Jones

QFSM, Chief Officer

South Australian Country Fire Service

Level 7, 60 Waymouth Street

Adelaide SA 5000



Steps to prevent the Coronavirus 1

Wash your hands frequently

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

Why? Washing your hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub kills viruses that may be on your hands.

Maintain social distancing

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.

Why? When someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person coughing has the disease.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth

Why? Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and can make you sick.

Practice respiratory hygiene

Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately.

Why? Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.

If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance. Follow the directions of your local health authority.

Why? National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on the situation in your area. Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also protect you and help prevent spread of viruses and other infections.



Steps to prevent the Coronavirus 2

Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19. Follow advice given by your healthcare provider, your national and local public health authority or your employer on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Why? National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on whether COVID-19 is spreading in your area. They are best placed to advise on what people in your area should be doing to protect themselves.

MYTHBUSTERS

Are hand dryers effective in killing the new coronavirus?

No. Hand dryers are not effective in killing the 2019-nCoV. To protect yourself against the new coronavirus, you should frequently clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water. Once your hands are cleaned, you should dry them thoroughly by using paper towels or a warm air dryer.

Can spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body kill the new coronavirus?

No. Spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body will not kill viruses that have already entered your body. Spraying such substances can be harmful to clothes or mucous membranes (i.e. eyes, mouth). Be aware that both alcohol and chlorine can be useful to disinfect surfaces, but they need to be used under appropriate recommendations.

Is it safe to receive a letter or a package from China?

Yes, it is safe. People receiving packages from China are not at risk of contracting the new coronavirus. From previous analysis, we know coronaviruses do not survive long on objects, such as letters or packages.

Do vaccines against pneumonia protect you against the new coronavirus?

No. Vaccines against pneumonia, such as pneumococcal vaccine and Haemophilus influenza type B (Hib) vaccine, do not provide protection against the new coronavirus.

The virus is so new and different that it needs its own vaccine. Researchers are trying to develop a vaccine against 2019-nCoV, and WHO is supporting their efforts.

Although these vaccines are not effective against 2019-nCoV, vaccination against respiratory illnesses is highly recommended to protect your health.

This info was obtained from the World Health Organisation website.

WASH YOUR HANDS!

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>



Remembering a 10th Battalion Soldier by Phil Brookes

In Memory of Private J P Olden, 10TH Battalion 1st AIF

So many cemeteries, so many graves of young, and not so young men who had given their all. It was at Dernancourt, where many South Australians fought, that I specifically sought a grave of a 10th Battalion – *the fighting tenth* - soldier. It was my grandfather's unit and one that I served as a rifleman generations later.

Pausing at many graves; who were these men? Most in the prime of youth, venturing so far. Was it adventure? But one grave caught my eye; that of 1140 Pte John Peter Henry Olden, a photographer from Ballarat who, at 44 years and 11 months, enlisted at Keswick Barracks, Adelaide, on 4 January 1916. He was not married and his mother, living in Ballarat, was his NOK.

We would wonder why a man of middle age, would forgo life in Australia to go to war. Maybe it was a photographers natural curiosity; we will never know. Was it some latent martial spirit as John Olden had spent five years in the 3rd Victorian Regiment, whose forerunner was the 3rd Ballarat Infantry? His brother was also a military man, Lt Col O L Olden, whose address was shown as C/- Naval and Military Club, Hobart. Interestingly, John Olden was initially rejected for military service; his military record giving the reason for that rejection as 'teeth'; no further explanation. Did he have too many, not enough, none at all or were they yellowed canine fangs, upsetting to the tidy military mind? However, he obviously overcame this deficiency as he was soon on his way to France.

Private Olden was posted to 43 Bn and then to B Coy, 10th Bn, embarking from Adelaide's Outer Harbour on 9 June 1916 and disembarking at Marseilles on 20 July 1916. Less than four months later he would be dead. We can imagine Olden's initial images of France; delighting his sharp photographic eye as he travelled by train through the South of France to Paris. Beautiful villages, rolling bucolic countryside and the colour and romance of Paris would role past in the kaleidoscope of a brilliant French summer. It was only a short train ride further north to that hellish nightmare of the Somme; *Dante's Inferno* could be no worse.



There is very little in John Olden's military record that gives us a hint of the man resting in that peaceful military cemetery. His conduct sheet, the B133, that soldiers of later campaigns will remember, is clean, which you would expect of an older, mature man. The flush of youth had passed him by and he no longer had that nonchalant, antipodean cockiness and disdain for rank of his younger, more feisty comrades. Maybe he was a calming fatherly influence on these boisterous colonials.

The entry of his death states: '*Died of wounds after an evening air raid*'. The location was 3 Field Ambulance, 1st ANZAC Rest Station. He died on 11 November 1916; exactly two years later the Armistice would be signed. We can only assume John Olden was resting out of the line after a 'stunt', as the rest station would have been in the rear echelon. His mother received a pension of two pounds per fortnight; she died in 1921; no doubt her heart broken by the loss of her son, so far away and unable to visit his grave.

It was his brother, Lt Col Olden, who ensured a poignant and final epitaph was placed on John Olden's grave amongst the serried

Pte Olden.....continued

ranks at Dernancourt Commonwealth Military Cemetery, where he lies with 377 Australian comrades.

He lived and died for others



Dernancourt Commonwealth Military Cemetery, France

And, for a short time, one ANZAC Day in France, a later comrade from your Battalion paused; placed an Australian flag at your feet; whispered "*pro patria, pass friend*", saluted and left. You are in good company.



Pte Olden's grave

Once again, thank you to Phil Brookes for this insight into his family, and our Battalions' heritage.

Whiskey. Good or Bad?



A journalist once asked Sir Winston Churchill what he thought of whisky; he answered:

"If you mean whisky, the devil's brew, the poison scourge, the bloody monster that defiles innocence, dethrones reason, destroys the home, creates misery and poverty, yea, literally takes the bread from the mouths of little children; if you mean that evil drink that topples men and women from the pinnacles of righteous and gracious living into the bottomless pit of degradation, shame, despair, helplessness and hopelessness, then, my friend, I am opposed to it with every fibre of my being."

"However, if by whisky you mean the oil of conversation, the philosophic wine, the elixir of life, the ale that is consumed when good fellows get together, that puts a song in their hearts and the warm glow of contentment in their eyes; if you mean good cheer, the stimulating sip that puts a little spring in the step of an elderly gentleman on a frosty morning; if you mean that drink that enables man to magnify his joy, and to forget life's great tragedies and heartbreaks and sorrow; if you mean that drink the sale of which pours into our treasuries untold millions of pounds each year, that provides tender care for our little crippled children, our blind, our deaf, our dumb, our pitifully aged and infirm, to build the finest highways, hospitals, universities, and community colleges in this nation... then my friend, I am absolutely, unequivocally in favour of it.!!!!"

"This is my position, and as always, I refuse to compromise on matters of principle.!!!!"

Sent in by member Phil Brookes

When I have space to fill, this is what I use! One liners!

- I went to a seafood disco last week and pulled a muscle.
- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly. They lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it.
- Our ice cream man was found lying on the floor of his van covered with hundreds and thousands. Police say that he topped himself.
- Man goes to the doctor, with a strawberry growing out of his head. Doc says 'I'll give you some cream to put on it.' Doc I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home'. 'That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome.' 'Is it common?' 'It's not unusual.'
- So I was getting into my car, and this bloke says to me 'Can you give me a lift?' I said 'Sure, you look great, the world's your oyster, go for it.'
- Two fat blokes in a pub, one says to the other 'Your round.' The other one says 'So are you, you fat git!'
- Police arrested two kids yesterday, one was drinking battery acid, and the other was eating fireworks. They charged one and let the other one off.
- Ireland 's worst air disaster occurred early this morning when a small two-seater Cessna plane crashed into a cemetery. Irish search and rescue workers have recovered 2826 bodies so far and expect that number to climb as digging continues into the night.

A full-body photograph of a teddy bear dressed as a soldier. The bear is wearing a brown leather-style hat with a badge on the front. Its uniform consists of an olive green jacket with red buttons and a tan-colored tactical vest with multiple pockets and straps. The bear is also wearing olive green trousers and brown leather boots. It is holding a small, dark object in its right paw. The background is plain white.

His life insurance was also a big bonus!"



P

Thanks to member John Paul for these two beauties. Editor.

MORE Letters to the Editor

Hi David,

Thank you for yet another excellent newsletter....keeping the spirit alive!!

Looking at the pix of the MidYear Luncheon, I spotted Max and Lorraine Sanderson at the second table.

The then Capt Max Sanderson was my Platoon Commander in OCTU13, 4 Training Group in 1973/4.

Max, together with Chief Instructor Lt Col Ian Kennedy and Senior Instructor Maj Mark Mau, made up a formidable and inspirational leadership team, and all from 27 Bn. RSAR

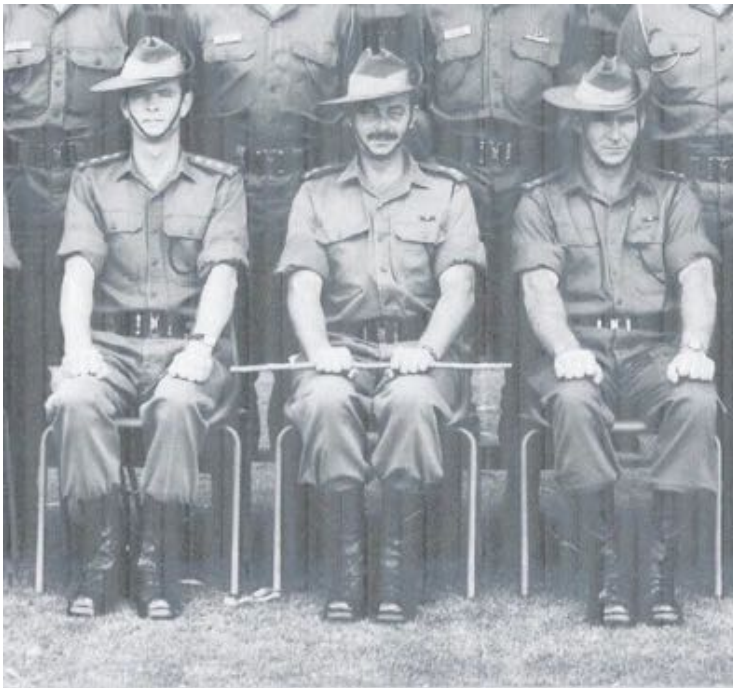
When I graduated and was posted to 10Bn, I only had to reflect on their example and their training to be a reasonably effective junior officer.

Later when I was posted as Platoon Commander OCTU, 1 Training Group, I just followed the Max Sanderson hand-book!

So many years ago, but I still hold high regard for the quality of these men..

Thanks Max, here is a pic from those days.

Bruce Lakin



OCTU 13 1973/4

Left to Right.

Captain Max Sanderson

LTCOL Ian Kennedy

Major Mark Mau

From Bruce Lakin

Hi David,

I have just read and viewed your latest communique and would like to commend you for distributing the video featuring Dr Peter Lin speaking about the issues involving the current Corona Virus. I found the video most informative as it discussed the issue currently involving many parts of the world in a "down to. earth" manner and at a level we can all understand. I think this has been something that the authorities have overlooked when advising the populous "not to panic"

Again thank you for distributing this information, you have provided a service above and beyond your station and for this I am very grateful.

Kindest Regards

Norm Tregenza

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP***Membership Category*

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership \$20 (Former member of the RSAR)	<input type="checkbox"/> Current Serving Military Member Must have served with the RSAR or a sub unit. FREE 1st year. \$10 thereafter while still serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Voting Associate Member \$10 (Spouses, non former members of RSAR)	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership (Once only payment) FULL Member \$200 ASSOCIATE Member \$100

My Details

Full Name:	Postal Address:
Date of Birth:	Email:
Mobile No:	How did you hear about the Association?
Period of Service / / to / /	<input type="checkbox"/> Current Serving Member of the RSAR or Sub Unit
What date did you first join the RSARA / /	Have you been a member since then? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Method of Payment

<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque or Money Order - Payable to The Treasurer RSAR Association Inc 20 Katoomba Rd Beaumont SA 5066	<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Funds Transfer Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc BSB 633 000 Account 1616 585 88 Include your name as an identifier								
<input type="checkbox"/> CASH (In person to the Committee)	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (The Fire & Forget option) <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td>Account Name:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>BSB:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acct #</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Funds will be deducted at the start of each financial year and can be ceased on written notification to the Secretary</p>	Account Name:		Bank:		BSB:		Acct #	
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☐ I understand that receipt of this application constitutes my acceptance of the Associations Rules as set down in the Constitution found at the website address below. I also authorise the processing of my preferred method of payment and acknowledge that I may be required to provide proof of past or current military service as required.

Website: www.rsara.asn.au

Please send this completed application, with any proof of service to the RSAR Association Secretary at davidlaing49@bigpond.com

Captain Paul McKay. His Legacy. Or Not!



In late 2013 a 31 year old Australian soldier climbed to the top of a rugged peak in New York State, and contemplated his life. It was a cold, lonely place, as far away from Australia that Captain Paul McKay could have chosen to end his life. But end it he did.

His family, his mates, the Army and the world all asked "Why?"

Paul started his Army career with Royal Military College at Duntroon, and once he graduated was posted to 10/27 Battalion RSAR as OC Delta Coy. Shortly after he was posted as Liaison Officer for the Commander 9 Brigade, Brigadier Stephen Smith, and from there went to Adelaide Universities Regiment.

He transferred to the Regular Army in 2010 and did his duty in a 10 month stint in Afghanistan, and was carrying out watch keeper duties with a group of soldiers in Uruzgan Province when a "Green on Blue" shooting took place that left 3 of his mates dead and a further 7 badly wounded. This, and other combat related incidents all played on Pauls mind, and when he returned to Australia this change was noticed by family and friends.

Paul McKay later travelled to the US State of New York, and on a lonely snow-covered place called Scarface Mountain, laid down in the snow, and died.

Captain McKay's name has been included on the Afghanistan War honour roll at the Australian War Memorial, but there are those who would deny him a place in War Memorials in his home state. Paul McKay's family wish to include his name on a South Australian RSL memorial for those who served in the Middle East conflicts, but they have met with opposition from those who should support our veterans, alive or dead. More on that later.

Over the next couple of editions we'll tell the story of Paul McKay, and try to make some sense of his decision to end his own life. He was previously diagnosed with PTSD, but still managed to "fly under the radar" and avoid the help he was so rightly due.

I thank Captain McKay's family for their permission to publish this article in our newsletter. Editor.

Some of our soldiers die in combat. Some die as a result of their service in combat.

Next month.....

"Captain Paul McKay. The Disappearing Soldier"