



**Official Journal of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc**

**SPECIAL 10th ANNIVERSARY EDITION**

It doesn't seem like 10 years, but believe me, it is! 2nd July 2010 was when our first full colour edition was printed and made available both online and in hard copy. Back then we had about 60 members, with over 20 or so not having access to the internet. This made distribution a veritable nightmare, not only in time and labour, but also money. It cost as much as 1 x \$20 membership every time we posted the newsletter out, but thankfully those costs have been reduced by now only having to send out 8 hard copies every month. Many members have contributed to the newsletter by sending in stories, anecdotes and jokes over the years, and we'd love that to continue. It's your support which keeps us going.

Over the years we've changed the design numerous times, just to keep things interesting, and although some front pages and titles were colourful, the majority have been used by combining either our regimental colours, or our camouflage uniform colours. If you have an idea about next years design, too late, its already been picked, BUT if you come up with something anyway, please send it in, along with your stories and jokes. Until then, enjoy the next 10 years!!!



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## VALE Ray Marcus



It is with regret we advise of the passing of one of the original members of the RSAR Association in April Ray joined in 2007 when the first attempt at forming the Association was made. He served in 43 RSAR and was the long time driver of LTCOL Jeff Chittleborough. Ray had been unwell for some time, and is survived by loving wife Yvonne and extended family.

**LEST WE FORGET**

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**

**Fees are due on or shortly after the AGM, which this year will be held on Sunday 230h August at the Avoca Hotel.**

**See Page Page 2 for full details.**

## Letters to the Editor

Hi Dave

Since the closure of the Army Museum due to the virus I've kept in contact with Bob Cotton, Jim Thomson and Jeff Ayles who all like myself are eager to get back to what we like doing – but wonder what restrictions will be forced on us until a vaccine is manufactured.

Have attached a photo of our merry little group taken before Covid 19 hit and published in "THE EXHIBITOR" which is the newsletter of the Army Museum of South Australia.

Cheers

*Des Hawkins*



L-R: Martin Forsyth, Des Hawkins, Bob Cotton, Jim Thomson & Jeff Ayles

## AGM & LUNCHEON

NEW

### Annual General Meeting

This years Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 30th August at 1100 hrs. The venue will be the **Avoca Hotel**, South Rd Clarence Gardens. Members are welcome to dine in the dining areas after the meeting, and an extensive menu is available, with prices ranging from \$10 to \$40 if you want a Crayfish!

### LUNCHEON

Our Luncheon, earlier planned for May this year, will now be held at the same venue, on Sunday 4th October at 1100 hrs. Our Guest Speaker will be Mark Jones QFSM, Chief Officer of SA's Country Fire Service. Again, members are welcome to adjourn for lunch after the presentation.

If you wish to attend either date, please advise the Secretary David Laing, on 0407 791 822 or his email of [davidlaing49@bigpond.com](mailto:davidlaing49@bigpond.com) for seating and catering purposes.

### AGM

**Sunday 30th August 1100 hrs**

**Venue: Avoca Hotel**

### LUNCHEON

**Sunday 4th October 1100 hrs**

**Venue: Avoca Hotel**

**Note: This information is subject to change due to COVID-19 restrictions**



## DID YOU KNOW ???

**A story from our AUGUST 2010 edition (With additional pictures.)**

### **ORIGIN OF THE BERET**

Although worn as military headgear in ancient Greece, the modern origin of the beret is traced to the Basques, people living on both the French and Spanish sides of the Pyrenees Mountains. Centuries ago, the Basques were great fishermen and sailors, a fact that might explain the



appearance of a very similar hat in Scotland. Both the Scotch tam and the beret are woven in one piece without a seam or a binding. The original Basque beret was either navy blue or red, but today the beret is available in a wide array of colours. An influence of WW1 was the general adoption for sports wear by both men and women, of that very smart dark blue cap worn by the French

Alpine troops, the age-old Basque beret

Few items of clothing have been adopted by so many varied groups of people living in different periods of history as the beret. In WW11, the French Resistance movement, the Maquis, wore the Basque beret. Because it was the most common French headwear, the Maquis was able to wear it without bringing undo suspicion to this covert operation. The covert military connotation was propelled further when the beret was taken up by special forces, often with the suggestion of "undress" uniform, such as USA Green Berets, Black Berets (USA Rangers), UN Blue Berets, Special Air Service, to name a few. It was a short leap for these sub-surface ciphers to have been embraced by artists and revolutionaries. Che Guevara, a hero of the Cuban revolution, made the beret a worldwide symbol of the revolutionary guerrilla fighter. The Guardian Angels, a vigilante group who patrols the subways and streets of some of the world's major cities, wear red berets.



The two pics above were provided by David Mercer of SAMRA. They show the current Armoured Corps Black Beret with 3/9 LH SAMR badge, and with the ceremonial Emu Plumes

## Captain Paul McKay The Disappearing Soldier Part 3

Uruzgan, Afghanistan, is mostly desert and jagged mountains cut through with lush stripes of valley – the Green Zone – where watermelons, pomegranates and wheat grow alongside the poppies. By April 2011, when McKay arrived, Australian military members were there primarily to mentor the fragile Afghan National Army and focus on Australia's long-term plans for withdrawal.

McKay was stationed at Tarin Kowt, the central headquarters of Combined Team Uruzgan, working in modular offices of reinforced metal. He was a battle captain in the command centre.

For at least nine months, he worked the night shift. His whole job, said one close colleague, was sitting in the command centre and waiting for something to happen. Most of the time nothing did, and the team would pass the hours reading or watching television. But when something did occur – an attack on a forward operating base, soldiers killed – McKay was charged with making decisions about the initial response. He was “like an orchestra conductor,” said another friend, co-ordinating air traffic controllers, specialists in charge of supplies and artillery, ground forces, and medevac helicopters. It was a high-stress job.

With his colleagues, McKay was full of self-doubt, constantly pulling them aside to discuss decisions he'd made the night before, never sure he'd made the right call.

Then came the Bloody Saturday attack at Sorkh Bed Forward Operating Base. McKay was in the command post, manning the morning operations, and helped direct the evacuation helicopters dispatched within moments to the base. Shortly after 8am, as 12 Australians and their Afghan interpreters walked across the compound, they came under sudden, heavy fire from a four-year veteran of the Afghan forces. Ten Australian soldiers, plus three translators, were shot. Days later, McKay would gather in an airport hangar with fellow servicemen and watch as three coffins draped with the Australian flag were loaded onto a military transport.

McKay's response to the pressure and anxiety was to work harder. While other nightshift workers tried to unwind, he pored over every intelligence briefing and situation report he could find. He shut himself away and returned to his military history books, searching for parallels between the situation in Afghanistan and ancient battles as though it was a puzzle he could solve.

By this point he was working 12- to 16-hour days, operating on little or no sleep. But change was coming. His unit was set to return home in February. In the third week of January, however, something happened and after a medical evaluation, he was placed on a cas-evac – a medical casualty evacuation – and flown to a hospital in Brisbane.

When he returned to Adelaide, he saw his oldest childhood friend, Peter O'Leary, and told him he wasn't the same anymore. He said he'd been pumped full of drugs and they were making him feel worse. He was put on a restricted medical status and posted to Canberra where he continued to work.

One night in March, he sent a group text to a number of friends, saying he'd shamed himself and his unit; he seemed to be saying goodbye. His friends made panicked calls to each other, and one alerted McKay's commanding officer. The CO called McKay's phone, McKay answered, and he ended up in the hospital. To a friend who visited him there, he lamented that his career plans were ruined: Why would the army want him now? It was hard to pinpoint why he felt he'd shamed his unit. While many in the Australian media, and even his friends, would later believe he blamed himself for the losses at Sorkh Bed, one US officer said there was nothing about McKay's job that could conceivably leave him at fault.

Another snow came to Saranac Lake, followed by another thaw, eclipsing any hope that the search might be as easy as spotting a set of footprints leading off into the woods. McKay had been missing for five days when, on January 5,

## Captain Paul McKay The Disappearing Soldier Part 3



Paul McKay. Supplied by his family

2014, the Saranac Lake police briefed two forest rangers on the case. Ranger Scott van Laer, who lived just off the railroad tracks in Ray Brook, was appointed case section chief, setting the terms of the search. State Police helicopters were sent to hover overhead while rangers walked the tracks where McKay had last been seen.

Eric Olsen, who ran Saranac Lake's veterans' program, told the police McKay wouldn't have stayed on the tracks but would have cut off at the first trail he'd seen.

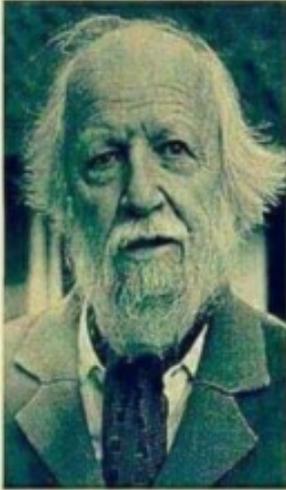
"Being a 'man of action,'" Olsen explained, "McKay would try to move through his depression. He would not stop until he was out of the manic mood or otherwise incapacitated." He would go to extremes. Olsen told the searchers to look up high.

January 15 was Scott van Laer's day off, but he had been mulling over an idea that he just couldn't shake. Maybe McKay hadn't followed the Scarface trail at all. Large-scale searches had been going on for five days, with upwards of 30 volunteers, largely regional veterans, working their way up and around the mountain. An Australian news crew had flown over to film the effort. Every day searchers went out in groups of 10, following assigned paths and marking off search blocks with string. They found surprisingly few clues: one day a sock, another the remains of a campfire, neither convincingly tied to McKay.

Continued next month

## PRIVATE TED'S HUMOUR

Now here's a man who understands women.....



William Golding  
British Novelist, Playwright & Poet  
1911 – 1993

"I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men. They are far superior and always have been. Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater. If you give her sperm, she will give you a baby. If you give her a house, she will give you a home. If you give her groceries, she will give you a meal. If you give her a smile she will give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her. So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of shit!"

Truth!



I mowed the lawn today, and after doing so I sat down and had a cold beer. The day was really quite beautiful, and the drink facilitated some deep thinking.

My wife walked by and asked me what I was doing, and I said, "Nothing."

She then said, "That's what you did yesterday!"

I replied, "I WASN'T DONE , SO I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF FINISHING RIGHT NOW."

The reason I said "nothing" instead of saying "just thinking"

is because she then would have asked, "About what?" At that point I would have had to explain that men are deep thinkers about various topics, which would lead to other questions.

Finally I pondered an age old question: "Is giving birth more painful than getting kicked in the nuts?" Women always maintain that giving birth is way more painful than a guy getting kicked in the nuts, but how could they know?

Well, after another beer, and some more heavy deductive thinking, I have come up with an answer to that question. Getting kicked in the nuts is more painful than having a baby, and even though I obviously couldn't really know, here is the reason for my conclusion. A year or so after giving birth, a woman will often say, "It might be nice to have another child."

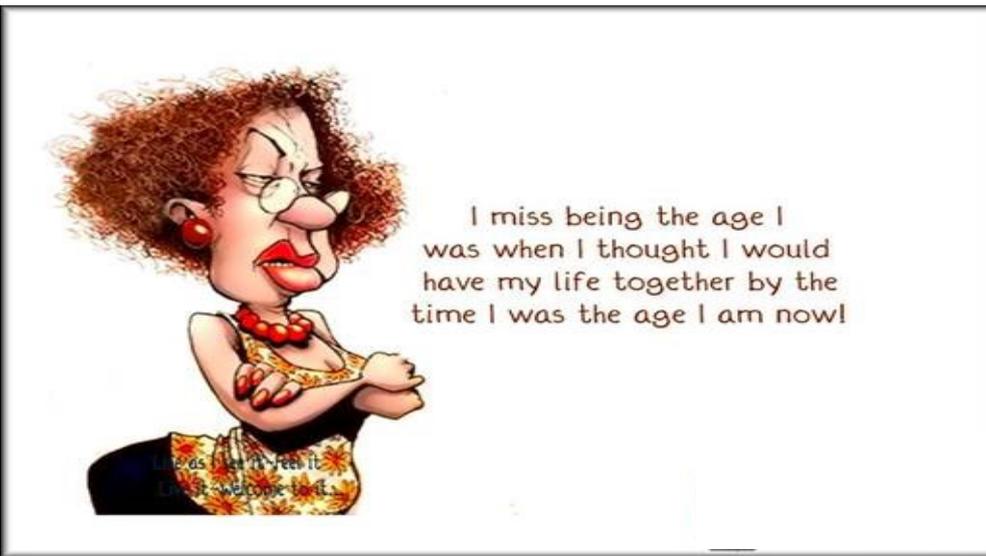
On the other hand, you never hear a guy say, "You know, I think I would like another kick in the nuts."

I rest my case. Time for another beer, and then maybe a nap.



Sent in by member Norm Tregenza

## PRIVATE TED'S HUMOUR



I was explaining to my wife last night that when you die you get reincarnated but must come back as a different creature. She said: "I would like to come back as a cow".

I said: "You're obviously not listening".

Doctors have just identified a food that can cause grief and suffering years after it's been eaten. It's called wedding cake.

I was in the pub with my wife last night and I said: "I love you".

She said; "Is that you or the beer talking?"

I replied: "It's me talking to the beer".

The wife has been missing a week now. Police said to prepare for the worst. So I've been to the charity shop to get all her clothes back.

I've been on the phone for ages trying to book tickets for an Elvis tribute act, but it keeps asking me to press 1 for the money, 2 for the show.....

I just brought a friend of mine a new fridge, should have seen his face light up when he opened it

A friend of mine moved into a new house at the weekend so I took him over a couple of radiators. Just a little house warming present.

I've just heard the window cleaner shouting and swearing outside my house. I think he's lost his rag.

I went to my gardening allotment last week and found someone had covered it with 2 inches of soil. I went again yesterday only to find it covered again with another 2 inches of soil. The plot thickens!!!



An Irishman man is stumbling through the woods, totally drunk, when he comes upon a preacher baptizing people in the river. He proceeds into the water, subsequently bumping into the preacher. The preacher turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of alcohol, whereupon, he asks the drunk, "Are you ready to find Jesus?" The drunk shouts, "Yes, I am." So the preacher grabs him and dunks him in the water. He pulls him back and asks, "Brother, have you found Jesus?" The drunk replies, "No, I haven't found Jesus!" The preacher, shocked at the answer, dunks him again but for a little longer. He again pulls him out of the water and asks, "Have you found Jesus, brother?" The drunk answers, "No, I haven't found Jesus!" By this time, the preacher is at his wits end and dunks the drunk again – but this time holds him down for about 30 seconds, and when he begins kicking his arms and legs about, he pulls him up. The preacher again asks the drunk, "For the love of God, have you found Jesus?" The drunk staggers upright, wipes his eyes, coughs up a bit of water, catches his breath, and says to the preacher, "Are you sure this is where he fell in?"

**Royal South Australia  
Regiment Association Inc.**



**Pro Patria**

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Find us on  
**Facebook**

[www.rsara.asn.au](http://www.rsara.asn.au)

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 Tony Pasin MP and Staff.*

## Editorial Content

Editorial content in this Journal is the sole responsibility of the Editor, David Laing. The views expressed within these pages are those of the Editor alone, and do not express the general views of the Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc, the committee or it's members. If you feel an article is incorrect, or contains salacious comments, I urge you to take a number (between 347 and 900) and take a seat in your lounge. We will get back to you. You are currently number 899. Thank you for your patience, and the same to you, fella!

## CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

Please be aware of the Association CHANGE OF ADDRESS, at left.

Our previous RSD (Road Side Delivery) is no more, so we've opened a new PO Box in Murray Bridge itself. Please use that when contacting the Association by mail.

## EDITORIAL

It appears as though the worst of the corona virus is over, although our health care professionals are still treading carefully, and lifting restrictions cautiously. Personally I think they have served us well, and bought us through these trying times in remarkably good condition. Well done Professor Nicola Spurling and Premier Stephen Marshall. It also appears that the brainless consumers of multitudes of loo paper have emerged from their hovels and raided the supermarket shelves again, and denied legitimate bum wipers their only early morning pleasure. STOP IT, you bogans!

Victoria is also once again the focus of the COVID - 19 2nd wave, by allowing mass protests over the rioting in the US, and as suck allowing thousands of halfwits to rub shoulders with each other and spread the word, AND the virus, to all and sundry. Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews asks "why go to Adelaide anyway?" and we say, We don't want you here whilst you're spreading the virus! Get rid of your problems first!"

President Rod Beames has come up with an idea for this newsletter. He'd like to see a section titled "Where Are They Now?" We would write about individuals who have served with the Regiment and what they have been up to since leaving service. I think the idea has merit but would like to hear your thoughts on this subject? I know some folk are very private (no pun intended) about their lives and may not wish to be included, but there may be others who would relish sending me their stories to publish. It's all up to you! Please contact me on email or mail details to our NEW postal address. Any photos will be scanned and returned immediately.

Cheers

*David Laing* - Editor

## RSAR Association - Financial Members as at June 28, 2020

<b>Honorary Members</b>		<b>Members (ctd.)</b>		<b>Members (ctd.)</b>		
Craig	John	Attenborough	Geoff	Pexton	Timothy	
Morgenthaler	Peter	Bampton	Michael	Phillips	Colin Rex	
Wilson	Neil	Beames	Rodney	Portakiewicz	Anthony	
		Bennett	Christian	Portakiewicz	David	
<b>Life Members</b>		Blondell	Mark	Preece	Brian	
Acton	Chris	Bras	Riley	Rado	Stephen	
Ayles	Jeff	Brown	Bruce	Ramm	Hank	
Beckett	David	Burnard	Saxon	Ranger	Denis	
Benveniste	Sam	Burton	Ray	Rathmann	John	
Blackmore	Bill	Buttars	Erik	Rathmann	Norm	
Boscence	Bob	Carpenter	Ian	Rijken	Paul	
Bourne	Colin	Carlisle	Lesley-Ann	Robertson	James	
Brookes	Philip	Cooke	Nat	Rossetti	Lee	
Burnard	Trent	Cotton	Bob	Sage	Andrew	
Burns	Wayne	Cram	Kevin	Sanders	Ashley	Σ
Carnachan	Ian	Demosani	Tony	Scott	Rhys	
Dart	John	Dew	Trevor	Slocombe	Leigh	
Davey	Trevor	Domanski	Glenn	Smith	Ryan	#
Elliott	Graham	Dunn	Bob	Sniedze	Julie	
Gaborit	Lyndon	Dunn	Peter	Standing	Michael	
Hawking	Don	Eva	Keith	Tasker	David	
Haynes	Malcolm	Ewens	Mimi	Thomas	David	#
Higgins	Jonathon	Faquiri	Reshad	Thomson	Jim	#
Hogan	Mark	Faunt	Joshua	Tiller	Garth	
Hook	Alan	Foy	Erin	Tregenza	Norm	
Hope	David	Gatley	Graham	Trezise	George	
Horseman	Ian	Gibson	Lindsay	Tucker	Belinda	
Hudson	Rick	Gill	Graham	Weepers	Nicole	
Jackson	Aaron	Goodwin	Graham	Wheeler	Chris	#
James	Grant	Gordon	Frank			
Johnson	Barry	Harrington	Malcolm			
Klopf	Alex	Harris	Lachlan	<b>Associate Members</b>		
Laing	David	Harrison	John	Abel	Karen	
Lakin	Bruce	Harrison	Keith	Beames	Cheryl	
Marlin	Robin	Harrison	Nigel	Carnachan	Dom	
Moore	Terry	Hawkins	Des	Collins	Peter	#
Paul	John	Heath	Jonathan	Elliott	Julie	
Pollard	Barry	Hill	Max	Hook	Philippa	
Sanderson	Max	Humphrys	Jesse	Johnson	Margaret	
Stewart	Robin	Jones	Brett	Toy	Jill	#
Stewien	Peter	Koop	Joshua	Tregenza	Lyn	
Vella	Joe	Loveder	Peter	Winger	Kathleen	
Waters	Ian	Matchett	Bill			
Westover	Rhys	McCulloch	Don	Honorary Members		3
Wilson	Graham	Mclver	Bill	Life Members		34
Yorke-Simpkin	Reg	Mitchell	Barry	Serving Life Members		7
		Morony	Frank	Associate Life Members		4
<b>Associate Life Members</b>		Mulroney	Dennis	Members		60
Field	Shirley	Oakley	Andrew	Serving Members		26
Laing	June	O'Daly	Ryan	Associate Members		10
		Orrock	Alan	<b>Total financial members</b>		<b>144</b>
Phillips	Heather	Parslow	Howard			
Sanderson	Lorraine	Parsonage	James	<b>Prepaid Members</b>		
		Pascoe	Michael		2020/21	#
<b>Members</b>		Payne	Bob		2021/22	Σ
Abel	Colin				2022/23	^
Abraham	Michael					

# Scamwatch radar alert

Australians lost over \$634 million to scams in 2019, according to the latest figures in the ACCC's [Targeting Scams report](#) released today.

There were more than 353,000 combined reports to Scamwatch, other government agencies and the big four banks last year.

“Unfortunately it is another year with devastatingly high losses, and scammers are constantly finding new ways to defraud Australians,” ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said. “This year we have included data from the big four banks which gives a more complete picture of how much people are losing to scams.”

Business email compromise scams accounted for the highest losses in 2019, with the Australian business community, and some individuals losing \$132 million.

This was followed by investment scams at \$126 million, and dating and romance scams at \$83 million.

Over the last 10 years of Targeting Scams reports, Scamwatch has received almost one million reports of scams.



“When we combine Scamwatch reports with partner data, we see that Australians have reported losing \$2.5 billion over that time, which is astonishing,” Ms Rickard said.

“We know these numbers still vastly understate losses as around one third of people don't report scam losses to anyone and in the past far fewer scam reports to other agencies have been captured.”

“Some of these scams can last for months, or even years, and can leave victims financially and emotionally devastated.”

Based solely on reports provided to the ACCC in 2019, scams originating on social media increased by 20 per cent and contacts via mobile phone apps increased by 29 per cent.

“Over the last decade, scammers have taken advantage of new technologies and current scams are using social media apps and new payment methods that didn't exist in 2009,” Ms Rickard said. “In particular, a new trend with dating and romance scams is scammers contacting the victim on social media apps or games which are not designed for dating, so it's important to be

aware that scammers can target you anywhere.”

Common techniques that scammers use to manipulate their victims include making exclusive offers that you don't want to miss out on, or asking for small commitments, such as completing a survey, to make the victim more likely to comply with larger schemes.

“You can always say no, hang up the phone or delete an email, even if you've said yes previously. You don't owe the scammer anything,” Ms Rickard said.

If you think have been the victim of a scam, contact your bank as soon as possible and contact the platform on which you were scammed.

The ACCC continues to work with the private sector to share intelligence about scam trends impacting their services, to assist their own disruption efforts.

The ACCC encourages people to visit [www.scamwatch.gov.au](http://www.scamwatch.gov.au) to report scams and learn more about what to do if they are targeted by scammers.

They can also follow [@scamwatch\\_gov](https://twitter.com/scamwatch_gov) on Twitter to keep up to date with advice for avoiding the latest scams affecting the community.



This is Bruce Smythe. He's a 38 year old Lieutenant Colonel in the Australian Army and has completed 6 tours of Afghanistan and 4 tours of Vietnam. He was born in Tasmania and is the heir to the Cadburys Chocolate fortune. He is looking for love and wishes to avail himself to any Australian woman between the age of 30 and 70. He is currently in a US hospital being treated for PTSD which he suffered in a gun fight with insurgents in Kabul. He has been recommended for the Victoria Cross on 3 occasions. He asks interested women to send him enough money to pay for his hospital stay in Florida, about \$US200,000 and his flights back to Australia, a further \$US100,000. Business class, of course. He vows to pay back everything once he arrives back in Tasmania. Interested persons can contact Bruce on [shonky\\_nigerian@woolworths.com.afr](mailto:shonky_nigerian@woolworths.com.afr)

## MILITARY SPORTS IN FRANCE.

## THE 27TH BATTALION.

The results of the 27th Battalion sports, which were held in France on Monday, February 11, were as follows:—

**Military Events.**—Best Turned-out Platoon—No. 10 Platoon, C Coy. Best Turned-out Guard—A. Coy. Lewis Gun Team—13th Platoon, D Coy. Stretcher-bearer Team—D Coy. Bomber—Lance-Corporal Agers; Private Boothey. Rifle Grenadier—Lance-Corporal Ebbs; Corporal Excelby. Best Turned-out Cooker—D Coy. (Cooks, Privates Candy, Doyle, McCann).

**Athletic Events.**—Four-legged Race—Lieutenant W. J. Dickens; Lieutenant A. M. Moore, and Captain F. Newell, 1; Privates E. Tripney, P. O. Pearce, and E. A. Masters, 2. Kicking Football—Lance-Corporal Thompson; Corporal C. Dayman. Obstacle Race—Lance-Corporal Pumps, Private Everard. Bandman Race—Private Chenoweth; Private Baker. Tug-of-War—A. Coy.'s Team, 120-yards Hurdles—Lieutenant R. G. Horwood; Private Osborne. 100-yards Champion—Sergeant J. Churchett and Private C. T. Wilson (dead heat); Lance-Corporal Thompson. 220-yards Champion—Sergeant J. J. Churchett; Private C. T. Wilson; Lance-Corporal Thompson. 440-yards Handicap—Sergeant J. Churchett; Corporal Skocombe, Lance-Corporal Thompson. Running Long Jump—Lance-Corporal Thompson; Private Lake. High Jump—Lieutenant A. M. Moore and Lance-Corporal Thompson (dead heat); Private Brand. Sack Race—Lance-Corporal Williams; Sergeant Smith.

**A Football Match.**—A football match was played between the 27th (South Australia) and the 28th Battalion (Western Australia), "somewhere in France," on Wednesday, February 13. The match, although played in a drizzling rain, was very exciting, and proved to be an easy victory for the 27th. The scores were:—27th Battalion, 5 goal 9 behinds; 28th Battalion, 6 behinds. Since arriving in France these two battalions have played against one another on ten occasions, and the 27th Battalion have won six to the 28th Battalion's four wins. The matches previous to this have always been won by a few points only. The 27th Battalion were represented by Lieutenants R. G. Horwood (captain) and W. J. Dickens, M.C.; R.Q.M.S. Ross, O.L.; Corporals Dayman, C.G.L. (vice-captain) and Frost, P.; Lance-Corporals Thompson, C.; Nelson, P.A.; Carter, S.F.; and Ebbs; and Privates Crowley, P.; Carter, L.; Kelly, Thomas, H.; Gale, G.; Robinson, T.; Bryan, Doolin, T.; Boughten, F.

## 27th Battalion during WW1

Reader Keven Draper sent in this very interesting article about the 27th Battalion (South Australian) and their very successful Inter-Service sports teams at the end of WW1. The newspaper clipping at left shows the 27th football team played the 28th Battalion (West Australian) in France and beat them 5 goals 9 behinds to 6 points. Not a bad result by any standards.

The 27th defeated the 28th Battalion on that day; one more victory that added to a total ensured the 27th Battalion would become the champions of the 2nd Division.

Their brother, South Australian Battalion, the 10th, became champions of 1st Division. Both of these teams would meet just once on the Western Front.

Again this event was memorable and described in detail in the 27th Unit History. The troops spectating had to route march 12kms to get to the site. The football teams were transported in wagons to save them for the game. When the troops met, one soldier reported that it was 'like a miniature South Australia.'

The 27th won the day by 2 points, in a match described as being close to League standards.

This friendly rivalry continued in the years after the War. In July 1919, the first post-war match was played within a Peace Day event. Thereafter, it became a traditional Anzac Day event at Adelaide Oval. A local businessman, Mr Heylen, donated a trophy, and for some ten years that followed, the 10th, 27th, 43rd and an Artillery unit, provided 'double header' matches for keen supporters.

By 1929, the football players decided they 'were getting a bit past it' and the Anzac Day Shield was presented ultimately to the 27th Battalion, because it had been the most successful team over the years.

Whilst on the Western Front, the 27th had played 36 matches, winning 31 of these and losing just 5. Thus, the 27th was the champion team of the 1st and 2nd Divisions during and after the War. The Anzac Day Shield subsequently became an efficiency award for the citizen military forces.

1920



# 10th Battalion vs 27th Battalion in WW1



Try outs for both Battalions football teams were carried out in full uniform, as per the photo above.

South Australia's 27th Battalion in April 1917 played in what has been described as "the most unique game of football ever contested". The Australian football match between the 27th and the 28th Battalion from Western Australia was decided on a battlefield on the World War I western front in France. The playing area was among the heavy trench system that made up the German front line before the Somme offensive in 1916.

The 27th defeated the 28th Battalion; another victory on its way to becoming the champions of the Australian army's 2nd Division. Their brother, South Australian Battalion, the 10th, became champions of 1st Division. The setting for the April 1917 football game is described in *The Blue and Brown Diamond – History of the 27th Battalion (AIF) on Active Service* by W. Dolman and H.M. Skinner (Adelaide; Lonnen & Cope, 1921):

"The ground was situated amidst the heavy system of entrenchments that constituted the German front line prior to the great Somme offensive in July 1916. The famous La Boiselle crater, the blowing up of which was the signal for the advance, was about 1,100 yards away.

"Practically surrounded by trenches, the ground was frozen and strewn with pieces of barbed wire and fragments of shells. Sheltering from the cold wind, the spectators viewed the game from the trenches, their heads just visible above the ground. A few plucky volunteers held the goal posts in position during the game." The 27th defeated the 28th Battalion and eventually won the 1st Division championship. Their brother, South Australian Battalion, the 10th, became champions of 1st Division.

The South Australian 27th and 10th teams would meet just once on the western front. The troops had to route march 12km to get to the site. The football teams were transported in wagons to save them for the game. When the troops met, one soldier reported that it was "like a miniature South Australia".

The 27th won the day by two points in a high-standard match. On the western front, the 27th had played 36 matches, winning 31 of these and losing just five. It was the champion team of the 1st and 2nd divisions during and after the war.

In July 1919, the first post-war football match in Adelaide between the 27th and 10th battalions' ex Diggers was played within a Peace Day event. Afterwards, it became a traditional Anzac Day event at Adelaide Oval. A businessman, Mr Heylen, donated a trophy, and for 10 years the 10th, 27th, 43rd and an artillery unit, played double-header matches.

By 1929, the Diggers decided they were "getting a bit past" playing football and the Anzac Day Shield was presented ultimately to the 27th Battalion as the most successful team over the years. The Anzac Day Shield later became an efficiency award for the citizen military forces.

The Adelaide Oval Anzac Day match tradition is continued by the South Australian National Football League. (AWM)

## 10/27 RSAR HAT BADGE ORIGINS



Adelaide Rifles 1890



10th Battalion Australian Infantry Regiment (10AIR) (South Australia) (Pre 1930's)



1932-1940  
10th Battalion The Adelaide Rifles



Approved 23 Jul 1963  
(Current Unit Badge)

### A BRIEF HISTORY: 10/27 RSAR UNIT HAT BADGE

The current unit badge was derived from using Adelaide Rifles (AR) Hat Badge 1890 10th Battalion Australian Infantry Regiment (10AIR) (South Australia) (Pre 1930's) and 10th Battalion the Adelaide Rifles (1932-1940)

There has been much controversy over the star, some have suggested that it is the "Star of David" or commonly known as the "Jewish Star". However this not the case "the Federation Star" is actually derived from the 10th Battalion Australian Infantry Regiment (10AIR) (South Australia) and 10th Battalion The Adelaide Rifles and represents the six states in Australia at the start of Federation in 1901. The crown used (Current Unit Badge) is a St Edwards Crown (Queens).

**Unit Motto 'Pro Patria' translated means 'For Country'.**

# Training at the Front

*RSAR Association Committee Member Sgt Mark Blondell sent in these pics about A recent IET Course (Initial Employment Training ) Course conducted at the Murray Bridge Training Area*

MOD 2 IET courses are normally ran in Melbourne or Queensland but due to COVID19 travel restrictions AUR arranged a course to be conducted at Murray Bridge . The instructors were members of 10/27 Battalion. LT Hume, SGT Blondell, CPL Abareh, LCPL Baldock and LCPL Lewis .



CAT wire Type 2 and trainees during an O Group

The course itself consisted of everything an infantryman requires to start their career, this included Section and PL formations , Ambushing , Attacks digging pits to stage 3. Constructing wire defences , and live fire practices to name a few . And of course a few days of rain . A few didn't make it to the end due to injury but 13 members successfully completed the course and will now be an active part of the Battalion.

**MURRAY BRIDGE  
TRAINING AREA**



**REST OF THE WORLD**



# IET Training, as it's done today.



Left: IET Course members learning how to set up barbed wire entanglements.

Below: The soldiers and instructors of the IET Course at Murray Bridge.

Phase 2 Initial Employment Training (IET) follows Basic Training and prepares soldiers for the specific job they will ultimately be doing. The length, location and recognised qualifications of this training are dependent on the job. All corps conduct IET course specific to their own requirements.

Once IET training is completed, soldiers will be allocated a task and a place in a section or platoon.





## AUSTRALIAN ARMY

10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment

### ORDER OF THE DAY

#### ON THE OCCASION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT

Today marks the 60th Anniversary of The Royal South Australia Regiment which was formed on 1 July, 1960 with the amalgamation of the three Infantry Battalions in South Australia:

10th Infantry Battalion (The Adelaide Rifles);  
43rd/48th Infantry Battalion (The Hindmarsh Regiment); and  
27th Infantry Battalion (The South Australia Scottish Regiment).

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all previous members who served in The Royal South Australia Regiment and the significant legacy they left which has shaped how we soldier today; a true testament of their professionalism and service. I wish to pass on my sincere thanks to all of the current members of the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, who continue this fine legacy and represent The Royal South Australia Regiment with distinction in training and on domestic and global operations.

I urge you to celebrate this anniversary and not only honour the achievements of The Royal South Australia Regiment, but also use this to continue the commitment and sacrifices you make in a demanding and sometimes dangerous environment to support Defence and the nation.

Congratulations and thankyou again for being a part of a fine tradition.

**Peter Morgenthaler**  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding Officer

Pro Patria

/ July 2020

**Johnny Craig**  
Warrant Officer Class One  
Regimental Sergeant Major

Pro Patria

/ July 2020

This CO's 60th Anniversary Order of the Day was sent to Des Hawkins as thanks for his service. A number of other past members, plus the majority of serving members of the Battle Group also received this message of thanks for their service.

## A Tribute for NEXT ANZAC Day

Due to the non-existence of any ANZAC Day Dawn Services this year, member Norm Tregenza came up with the idea of procuring a number of signs that could be displayed on peoples houses, garages, front fences or gardens promoting their allegiance to the ANZAC Legend.

The signs are made of 5 mm Corflute approx. 500 mm x 400 mm and the art work is "wrapped," so they will last forever.

Unfortunately we left our run too late to have the signs manufactured and distributed, but we have decided to carry the promotion onto this year and 2021. We hope to have enough orders from individuals, community groups and RSLs to make them really affordable, so we're taking orders as of now! Starting price will be \$25 per piece, but we hope that will reduce to about \$20 after

orders have been taken. You may wish to order 10 for your local RSL or even sell them to other like-minded community groups, but the more orders we get, the cheaper they will be.

This is a fund raiser for the RSAR Association, and all profits will go to supporting the 10/27 Battle Group.



All orders to the Secretary on 0407 791 822 or [davidlaing49@bigpond.com](mailto:davidlaing49@bigpond.com)

## RSARA Merchandise CLEARING SALE

The Association has the need to "move" some merchandise at FANTASTIC low prices. These include Winter weight Polo Tops and some RSARA Presentation Shields. The Polo Tops are in the following sizes and quantities and are priced at only **\$10** each!

**Polo Tops were \$40. Shields were \$20**

5 x M, 2 x L, 4 x XL, 1 x XXL.

The shields are the RSARA style and are priced at only **\$10** each!



**\$10** PLUS \$8 POSTAGE

**\$10** PLUS \$8 POSTAGE



ORDERS TO THE SECRETARY