

"Sitrep, Over!"

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

Patron Major General Neil Wilson AM RFD

Editor David Laing 0407 791 822



**MARCH
2023**

ANZAC DAY 2023



This photo was taken on ANZAC Day 2013 as the RSAR Association marched proudly down King William St following the Band of the 10th/27th Battalion. Sadly some of the members in this photo are no longer with us, including Brian Kilford (at right carrying the banner) Don Field, Marc Ockenden and Trevor Phillips. Their passing was felt with sadness and drinks were raised in their honour, but our lives went on, a little slower this time round. 10 years has gone so quick, and here we are facing another ANZAC Day march to the Cross of Sacrifice.

Although we have received no formal notice from RSL SA as to where we form up and the time of step off, I anticipate things won't have changed too much between this year and the past. We will form up once again on Grenfell Street West of Pulteney Street, possibly again in GROUP 12. **LOOK FOR OUR BANNER!** We should step off around 1000 hrs.

It's unknown if there will be drinks and other refreshments available at Torrens Parade Ground, but we'll cross that bridge when we get to it. IF....we get to it!

Quick Picks

**DESPITE THE HIGH
COST OF LIVING,
IT STILL REMAINS
POPULAR!**

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If you're a Serving Member, print out the Application Form on Page 13 and give it to a mate. Easy!

History of the Australian Army

Australia's military history began with the British marines who came with the first fleet to man the penal colonies and to set up outposts on the east coast of Australia. British Garrison troops remained in Australia for nearly 100 years.

There were, on Norfolk Island, in 1788 and 1794 brief levyings of free settler citizen force members to assist law and order, in neither case were these formally constituted forces.



September 1800 saw the raising of the first formally-authorized forces in New South Wales, initially by levy of prescribed free persons, by Governor Hunter. Known as the Loyal Sydney and Parramatta Associations their officers were appointed by the Governor and the establishment of each was fifty rank and file.

Raised to assist in both defence and local law and order arenas, they evolved into a volunteer force over their intermittently active life from 1800 to 1810. It is this Corps that the Australian Army's (and particularly the Reserve's) claims descend.

Unsuccessful submissions (from Governor Macquarie in 1814 and Captain MacArthur in 1825 and 1851) for more formal local force raising were eventually overtaken by Britain's realising the importance of colonies assuming greater responsibility for their own defence. In Australia, this increased vulnerability combined with the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854 and prompted the formation of volunteer forces in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. Despite the fluctuations of public interest or financial constraints, part time forces have been continually in existence in Australia since that time.

First Battles

From the beginning Australia set the pattern for other self-governing colonies. This led to an active recruiting campaign by the New Zealand Government in the Australian colonies. A fertile field was found in the various volunteer units. About 2,500 volunteers who were sent to support the British Army in the Maori War of 1863-64 served in each of the four Waikato Regiments. After 1870 the last of the British troops were withdrawn from Australia and it became apparent that the overall coordination of Australian defence was required. This was based on the concept of a small, regular caretaker force backed by unpaid volunteers for the defence of local areas such as ports and, by a paid militia assigned for active operations.

Thus it was that the enthusiastic men of the contingent sent to the Sudan, in 1885 after the fall of Khartoum, had as their bulk, 750 volunteers and militia.



Australian volunteers were again called to arms for the Boer War of 1899-1902. The NSW Lancers were the first volunteers, British or Australian to arrive in South Africa. They arrived 18 days after the Boer declaration of war.

Altogether 16,175 men volunteered from Australian colonies. Five hundred and eighteen of them lost their lives during the conflict. The Battle Honours won by the Australian contingent are on the colours of many Australian Infantry and Armoured regiments today. Five Australians won the Victoria Cross.

In July 1900, a small detachment the New South Wales Marine Light Infantry was formed from amongst volunteers awaiting to sail with the Third Contingent to South Africa. This group formed an infantry detachment and served with the NSW Naval Contin-

Our Army 1788 - 1980

gent during the Boxer rebellion in China.

Federation

After Federation in 1901, one of the first acts of the new Commonwealth Parliament was to create a Commonwealth Defence Department. By the beginning of 1903, the various colonial military forces had been absorbed into an Australian Army. At the time of Federation the various state forces were made up of : Permanent (full-time paid), Militia (part-time paid) and Volunteer (part-time unpaid) members. The permanent force were mainly administrative and garrison artillery. In states with larger populations the Volunteers were predominantly infantry and light horse while engineers and field artillery were supplied by the Militia. The population of Australia at the time was four million.

The Defence Act of 1909 provided for a program of universal training and this was introduced in 1911. All males of a specific age group were liable for military training in peace time and for service within Australia in time of war. In the few years remaining before WWI, the Army consisted of permanent, militia and an ever growing force of volunteer members. Legislation did not allow these troops to be used outside Australia and its Territories.

World War One

When war broke out in 1914, the Commonwealth Government pledged Australia's whole hearted support to Great Britain, "To its last man and last shilling", according to Prime Minister Andrew Fisher, and recruited a force of volunteers for overseas service with the Australian Imperial Force (AIF).

Altogether Australia raised and maintained five Infantry Divisions, the greater part of two Cavalry Divisions (including Corps cavalry on the Western Front). A Flying Corps of four combat squadrons and numerous small units. In all (excluding Navy) 416,809 including about 2,500 nurses volunteered for service with the Australian Imperial Force.

Between the wars

On return from WWI the AIF was disbanded in 1919 and the Citizen Forces or Militia reformed on a divisional basis to correspond with those of the AIF. The battle honours of the AIF units passed to the new units.

With the depression that followed the war annual quotas for military training were reduced in 1922 and by 1929 conscription for universal military training had been abandoned. During the ensuing grey years of the depression, a Militia system existed in which the officers and NCOs maintained a reasonably high standard of training and managed to keep the traditions of the units alive. Shortly after the outbreak of WWII conscription was reintroduced.

World War Two

The outbreak of war in 1939 saw another round of recruitment to swell the two cavalry and five infantry divisions of the home army. The problems presented by this war were vastly different to those of WWI. In this war two armies would be needed, one for home defence and the other for overseas service. To facilitate the second requirement the second AIF was formed, many of those serving in Militia units (and in some cases whole units) volunteered for transfer to the AIF. Meanwhile compulsory service built up the Militia. This continued while the AIF went off to fight in the Middle East and swell the garrison in Malaya.

Japan's entry into the war in December 1941 placed a new emphasis on the role of the home army Militia units. As the Japanese swept through the Pacific Islands in a



EDITORIAL

The Mid Year Lunch at the Avoca Hotel was a great success with 46 members and their partners joining us for a meal and a drink or two. It was great to see so many Old & Bold joining together to enjoy old stories with mates and colleagues from years gone by. We were also joined by Brigadier Peter Moore, Chair of the Regimental Council, and RSM 10/27 Battalion WO1 Scott Hannan. Pics are on Pages 11 & 12, with more pics on our Facebook page.

Some questions were asked recently about the wives of deceased members, and do they retain their membership? The way we operate mirrors the work of the RSL and Legacy, in that we not only look after our members, being former and current serving soldiers, but we also take the families and partners of deceased members under our wings; forever! The wife of a deceased member automatically becomes an "Honorary" member and no longer has to pay fees to the Association. If you are one of those ladies, STOP PAYING! The next one is on us!

Well, after years of speculation and many hours of number crunching, the Federal Government is to hand over control of the Keswick Barracks precinct to the State Government, with the likelihood that they will sell it off to private enterprise in the very near future. The State Government must get some money from somewhere to build the trillion dollar facility at Osborne to house the AUKUS Sub Base, and where better to start than sell off assets already owned? Where will 10/27 Battalion and its infrastructure go? Where will 3rd Health Battalion go? And more importantly, where will the Army Museum of SA go? Early indications are that all except the Museum will move to Edinburgh to be near the rest of 9 Brigade and utilize the existing facilities, but the question still remains over the future location of AMOSA. I don't have the answers yet. Someone does. And whilst the Government and Defence work out where they're going to put things, we must also consider our future! Where will we hold our Quarterly Committee Meetings? Where will we hold our End of Year Lunch? Our Association is stronger than ever, and will continue to grow into the future. We just need a few questions answered first. Don't panic and watch this space!

David Laing

Secretary/Editor
0407 791 822



Contact Us

The Secretary
David Laing
Royal South Australia
Regiment Association Inc.
PO Box 5218 Murray Bridge South
SA 5253
0407 791 822



davidlaing49@bigpond.com

Visit us on the web at

www.rsara.asn.au

**PAYMENTS FOR SUBS &
MERCHANDISE**

**Fees and Merchandise can be
paid by EFT through the follow-
ing Bendigo Bank account**

RSAR Association Inc

BSB 633 000

Acc. 1616 585 88

Cheques etc can be mailed to

The Treasurer
Christian Bennett
RSAR Association
5 Ashwin Parade
Torrensville SA 5031

christianbennett95@gmail.com

Our Army 1788 - 1980

seemingly invincible fashion they entered the Australian Territory Of Papua New Guinea. The Militia whose terms of recruitment forbade their serving outside Australia were now eligible to go to the defence of home territory. The bombing of Darwin made the need for this abundantly clear and Militia troops were despatched to Port Moresby in Papua. The advance of the Japanese on Port Moresby was bitterly resisted by Militia until AIF troops arrived to take their place. Combined, their initial defeats of the invading forces are well documented. The Militia units continued to serve until the close of hostilities. The strategic lessons of WWII were reflected in the plans for the shape of the postwar Army and from these emerged the modern Regular Army and a reversed relationship between the regulars and the reserves.

The CMF

After WWII rapid demobilisation saw a drop in the combined Army, Navy and Airforce strength from a peak of 681,220 in 1944 to 50,732 by 1949.

The history of the Australian Army shows that the Reserve or Militia tradition has been the mainstay of Australia's military forces. Following WWII the units were disbanded as they returned to Australia and in 1947 an Australian Regular Army was established at least on paper though the actual formation was a slower process. As part of the same Commonwealth Legislation that initiated the ARA, the following year, the Citizen Military Forces, with its roots back in the old pre war militia was reformed to continue the proud service of citizen soldiering by backing up and augmenting the Regular Army.

The inaugural Reserve Forces Day held on 1st July 1998 celebrated fifty years service to nation by Reservists since this reformation.

The end of WWII did not herald an era of peace. Australian servicemen were still engaged in occupation duties in Japan when North Korea invaded South Korea on 25 June 1950. Australia was one of a number of United Nations member countries which assisted the South Koreans,

On July 26, 1950 the 3rd battalion. Royal Australian Regiment, formed from units of the second AIF and later reinforced by Regular Soldiers, was committed to the Korean conflict. This was the beginning of a significant Regular Army for Australia and the three battalions of the RAR were the nucleus of Australia's post war army. They provided the standing force required for immediate action in a national emergency.

While three battalions of the RAR served in Korea between 1950 and 1953 the Australian Government introduced National Service in 1951. Under this scheme all 18 year old men were required to serve 98 days full time training fol-

lowed by three years part time service in the CMF. Trainees could elect to serve six months full time in the RAN ARA or RAAF as an alternative to the CMF service. The Korean conflict saw an increase in defence expenditure and the permanent force swelled to nearly 57,000 with 91,000 in the Citizen Forces. The latter had swelled to 95,000 by 1956 as result of the National Service policy. Later, in 1957, a general re-organisation of the Army resulted in the National Service Act being amended to provide 12,000 youths to be trained annually for Army service only. This act was suspended in 1959. By 1961 with the nations population at approximately 10 million the Permanent forces had dropped to 46,000 and the Citizen forces to 35,000.

In the meantime the Australian Government had committed elements of the three services to the quelling of the terrorist uprising in Malaysia and to the development of the Pacific Islands Regiment in Papua New Guinea.

In 1964 due to the deteriorating strategic situation in South East Asia, the Australian Government re-introduced national Service to expand the Military forces.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

EKN/67/0100/VN

Our Army 1788 - 1980

Upon request of the South Vietnam Government and in consultation with the United States Government Australia sent an infantry battalion to South Vietnam in 1965.

By 1967 a force of 8,000 personnel were deployed in South Vietnam. This force was maintained until wind down and withdrawal took place between 1970 and 1972. A large number of National Service Conscripts saw service in Vietnam as did members of the CMF

The Army Reserve

In 1974, a review of the CMF, aimed at making it a more effective and viable force in Australia's defence, was completed. Re-named it the Australian Army Reserve. The review called for the Army Reserve to operate under the same functional command structure as the Regular Army with direct representation in each of the three commands.

Part-time volunteer Australian soldiers have served as United Nations Peacekeepers, as crews of Army ships sailed between Australia and overseas posts and on flood disaster rescue and relief. They have served on full time duty, attached to units of the Regular components of the Australian Army as well as with the British, United States and other Armies

Today

The 29,000 strong Army Reserve is an important element of our national defence and stand by as a well trained volunteer force backing up the Australian Regular Army in its primary role of national defence. It is comprised of people from all walks of life and from every corner of the country, with more than 250 Army reserve Units based in cities and towns throughout Australia.

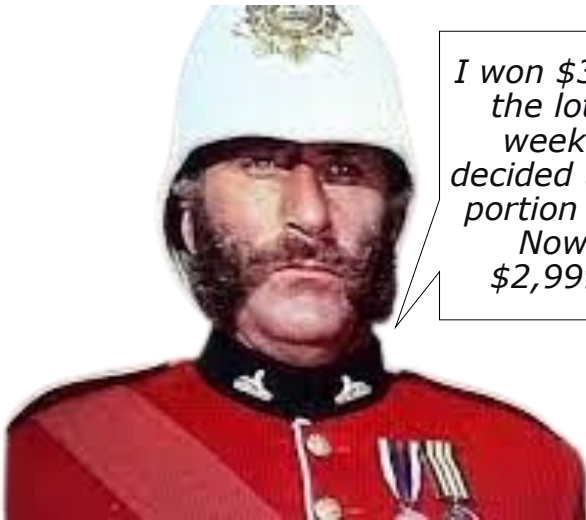
The Australian Army Reserve, together with the Australian Regular Army, forms one of the largest and most diverse organisations in Australia; an organisation involving men and women who are doing something for themselves and for their country.

www.rfd.org.au



9 Brigade Transition of Authority Parade at RAAF Base Edinburgh

Colour Sergeant Bourne's Funnies



I won \$3 million on the lottery this weekend so I decided to donate a portion to charity. Now I have \$2,999,999.99

GETTING OLDER IS JUST ONE BODY PART AFTER ANOTHER SAYING, 'HA HA, YOU THINK THAT'S BAD? WATCH THIS.'

MY GRANDAD WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR 25 DOWNED GERMAN PLANES IN WW2



STILL TO THIS DAY HE IS KNOWN AS THE WORST MECHANIC THE LUFTWAFFE EVER HAD

We were doing home renovations and, incredibly, when we knocked down a wall, we found a secret, fully furnished room!! And then I remembered "We live in a duplex..."

MY NEIGHBOR JUST YELLED AT HER KIDS SO LOUD THAT EVEN I BRUSHED MY TEETH AND WENT TO BED.

I tried to re-marry my ex-wife. But she figured out I was only after my money.



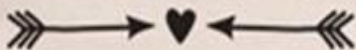
Moses had the
1st tablet that
you could
connect to the
cloud

Pro Tip: Save business cards of people you don't like. If you ever hit a parked car accidentally, just write "Sorry" on the back and leave it on the windshield.

I got a package
today with bullets
and a note in Arabic

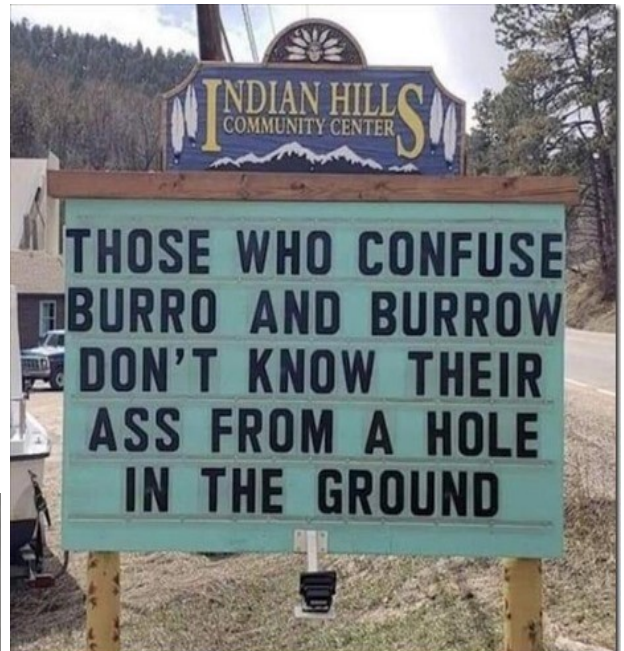
idiot ... these are
suppositories and a
prescription from a doctor


When I get
a headache,
I take
two asprin
and keep away
from children,
just like
the bottle says.



I have always believed in miracles but I had never actually witnessed one until I saw this angel restore this poor, blind, homeless man's sight right in front of me.





 **Uber Humor** Sexy singles near you, but they are not interested.



A man tells a Rabbi: "I have a strong desire to live forever. What can I do?"
 "Get married," replies the Rabbi.
 "And will I live forever?"
 "No, but the desire will disappear."



RSARA MERCHANDISE



A. Regimental Tie \$25

B. Stubby Holders \$6 or 6 for \$30

C. RSARA Nameplate \$25

D. RSARA Lapel Badge \$15

E. Laser-engraved timber shield w/-
brass look plaque \$45

Allow \$10 postage for clothing & shield, everything else
\$2 per item



**POLO TOP
ONLY \$45**

Place your orders by contacting the Secretary on davidlaing49@bigpond.com. You will be advised of the total cost and postage at that time.
Please don't order through the President or Treasurer. They know nothing!

Mid Year Luncheon

I thought it was
11 O'clock start?

LEFT: Margaret and Barry
Johnson with Alan Hook

CENTRE LEFT: Geoarge
Wood, Tony Demosani &
Nat Cooke.

CENTRE RIGHT: Heather
Phillips, Dom & Ian Carna-
chan and Alan Orrock
OAM

BOTTOM LEFT: Max Hill
and Rod Beames

BOTTOM RIGHT: Brian
Preece & David Laing



Where's the
FREE BEER?

New Zealand.
That way mate!



Mid Year Luncheon





Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2023

EST
2008

Membership Category

Date of Application / /

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership \$30 (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 \$15 (Spouses, non former members of RSAR)	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership (By invitation Only) <input type="checkbox"/> FULL Member \$300 <input type="checkbox"/> ASSOCIATE Member \$150

My Details - Please print clearly

Full Name:	Postal Address:
Date of Birth:	Email:
Mobile No:	How did you hear about the Association?
Regt No. or PMKeys No.	
Period of Service / / to / /	<input type="checkbox"/> Current Serving Member of the RSAR or Sub Unit
Spouse/Partners name.	

Method of Payment

<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque or Money Order - Payable to The Treasurer Christian Bennett RSAR Association Inc 5 Ashwin Parade Torrensville SA 5031	<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"/> I have paid my Fees by Cheque to the Association Account listed below and posted to The Secretary RSAR Association PO Box 5218 Murray Bridge South SA 5253 <table border="1"><tr><td>Account Name:</td><td>RSAR Association Inc</td></tr><tr><td>Bank:</td><td>Bendigo Bank</td></tr><tr><td>BSB:</td><td>633 000</td></tr><tr><td>Acct #</td><td>1616 585 88</td></tr></table>	Account Name:	RSAR Association Inc	Bank:	Bendigo Bank	BSB:	633 000	Acct #	1616 585 88
Account Name:	RSAR Association Inc								
Bank:	Bendigo Bank								
BSB:	633 000								
Acct #	1616 585 88								

☐ 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

Financial Members

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Life Members		Members	A - P	Members	P - Z
Acton	Chris	Abel	Colin	Portakiewicz	Anthony
Beckett	David	Abraham	Michael	Portakiewicz	David
Benveniste	Sam	Attenborough	Geoff	Powell	Gary
Blackmore	Bill	Bampton	Michael	Preece	Brian
Boscence	Bob	Beames	Paul	Rado	Steven
Brookes	Phil	Bennett	Christian	Ramm	Hank
Burnard	Trent	Blondell	Mark	Ranger	Denis
Burns	Wayne	Brown	Bruce	Robertson	James
Carnachan	Ian	Burnard	Saxon	Rossetti	Lee
Carpenter	Ian	Burton	Ray	Sanders	Ashley
Cotton	Bob	Buttars	Erik	Schuh	Simon
Dart	John	Carlisle	Lesley-Anne	Scott	Rhys
Davey	Trevor	Chamberlain	David	Skapin	Corey
Elliott	Graham	Cooke	Nat	Smith	Ryan
Gaborit	Lyndon	Cram	Kevin	Sniedze	Julie
Goodwin	Graham	Demosani	Tony	Tasker	David
Harris	Lachlan	Dew	Trevor	Tattersall	Geoff
Hawking	Don	Donald	Thomas	Thomas	Travis
Haynes	Malcolm	Domanski	Glenn	Thomas	David
Higgins	Jonathan	Duncan	Coen	Thomson	Jim
Hogan	Mark	Dunn	Bob	Threlfall	Kev
Hook	Alan	Dunn	Peter	Tran	Andy
Hope	David	Eva	Keith	Treize	George
Horseman	Ian	Ewens	Mimi	Tsoulakis	Christos
Hudson	Mike	Faquiri	Reshad	Tucker	Belinda
Jackson	Aaron	Faunt	Joshua	Turner	Garry
James	Grant	Fortune	Nigel	Vozelj	Blaz
Jeffrey	Scott	Foy	Erin	Weepers	Nicole
Johnson	Paul	Gatley	Graham	Wheeler	Chris
Johnson	Barry	Ghanem	Paul	Williams	Reg
Klopf	Alex	Gibson	Lindsay		
Laing	David	Gill	Graham		
Lakin	Bruce	Gordon	Frank	Honorary Members	
Marlin	Robin	Groffen	Renee	Benveniste LTCOL	Sam
Meredith	Mike	Harrington	Malcolm	Wilson MAJGEN	Neil
Miller	Nick	Harrison	John	Read WO1	Ben
Moore	Terry	Harrison	Keith		
Moore	Thomas	Harrison	Nigel	Hon Memb for Life	
Paul	John	Hartshorne	Anthony	Beames	Rodney
Pollard	Barry	Hawkins	Des		
Richter	Sean	Higgins	Kevin		
Salamon	Piotr	Hill	Max	Associate Life Members	
Sanderson	Max	Hudson	Richard	Elliott	Julie
Stewart	Robin	Hume	Matthew	Field	Shirley
Stewien	Peter	Humphrys	Jesse	Johnson	Sally
Vella	Joe	Jones	Brett	Laing	June
Waters	Ian	Koop	Joshua	Phillips	Heather
Watters	Matthew	Lewis		Sanderson	Lorraine
Westover	Rhys	Loveder	Peter	Tregenza	Lyn
Wilson	Graham	Matchett	William		
Yorke-Simpkin	Reg	McCulloch	Don		
		McIver	Bill	Associate Members	
		McKenzie	Kain	Abel	Karen
		Migali	Michael	Brown	Jenni
		Mitchell	Barry	Carnachan	Dom
		Moore	Peter	Dunn	Trish
		Morony	Frank	Hudson	Margaret
		Mulroney	Dennis	Johnson	Margaret
		Normandale	Zachary	Parsonage	Yvonne
		Oakley	Andrew	Pollard	Kay
		O'Daly	Ryan	Toy	Jill
		Orrock	Alan	Winger	Kathleen
		Parslow	Howard		
		Parsonage	James		
		Pascoe	Michael		
		Payne	Bob		
		Pexton	Timothy		
		Phillips	Colin Rex		

If your name isn't on this list and you think it should be, please contact the Secretary David Laing ASAP.

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