



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

Patron: MAJGEN Neil Wilson AM RFD

Editor: David Laing

**December
2024**

December 1915 - Withdrawal from Gallipoli

In a well-planned operation, Allied forces withdrew from Anzac and Suvla between 15 and 20 December 1915. After the failure of the August Offensive, some senior officers began to question the value of remaining at Gallipoli. The British forces really needed reinforcements on the Western Front and at Salonika. In October, the British replaced General Sir Ian Hamilton with Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Munro. Munro immediately proposed evacuation.

On 22 November, the British decided to evacuate Anzac and Suvla. Planning moved quickly and efficiently. The evacuation of Anzac started on 15 December. Over 5 nights, 36,000 troops were withdrawn to the waiting transport ships. The last party left in the early hours of 20 December from North Beach at Anzac. British and French forces remained at Helles until 9 January 1916.

Gallipoli was a failure for the Allies, with some 44,000 soldiers killed in an attempt to take the peninsula from the Ottomans. Victory came at a high price for the Ottoman Empire, which lost at least 87,000 men during the campaign.

Things I've learned!

Don't irritate old people.

The older we get the less "Life in prison" is a deterrent.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Page 2	Editorial
Page 3A	Message from the Editor
Page 4-6	End Of Year Lunch Pics
Page 7	New Fundraiser
Page 8-10	Digger Wombat's Jokes
Page 11	Padre's Ponderings
Page 12	Women At War
Page 13-15	Changes in Uniforms
Page 16-18	2024 Battalion Awards
Page 19	Militaria Wanted
Page 20	Members List



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

C01621

EDITORIAL

I've waited until after the End of Year Lunch to publish this months newsletter, so I could include the pics of the event. Once again our Chief Baitlayer Col Abel set out a brilliant selection of cold meats, salads and desserts fit for a King. The pics are on Page 4 - 6. Thanks to all who supported the event.

We also attended the 10/27 Battalion RSAR Awards for 2024, which saw high achievers from the Battle Group recognised with awards for their efforts. Well done to all winners. The pics of the event are on Page 16-18.

The final 2024 Committee Meeting of the RSAR Association was held on November 8th at Keswick Barracks HQ, and saw a record turnout of committee members. A number of issues were discussed, including who was going to lead our Association into the future after the passing of former President Rod Beames. After some discussion I nominated for the position of Acting President, which was seconded and voted on by those present. I am proud to announce I was successful in that vote and will take the reigns (as Acting President) until a full vote from the membership can be attained at the 2025 Annual General Meeting in August. I have worked very closely with Rod since he took over in 2013, and I will ensure there is a smooth transition of leadership into the future.

Speaking of service, RSAR Association Member SGT Mimi Ewens was recently presented with her SECOND Federation Star for 45 years continuous service in the ADF. Signing up in 1976 Mimi was one of the first females posted to an Infantry unit, joining 10 Battalion RSAR Signals Platoon. Well done Mimi.

The Committee is to conduct a raffle into 2025, to raise some much needed funds, and you can help by buying a ticket or two, with the prize being 2 nights accommodation in the marvellous Welcome Swallow Boat House located at White Sands on the Murray River. The prize, including a lovely "Welcome Basket of goodies", is worth over \$750 and you can have a chance to win it for only \$5 per ticket. You can check out this wonderful prize at <https://www.thewelcomeswallow.com/> and see Page 7 for details of how to enter. Good luck.

And sadly, we say farewell to RSM WO1 Scott Hannan, who leaves soon for a posting to NORFORCE in the NT, and 10/27 RSAR Commanding Officer LTCOL Aaron Jackson who will take up a position as a Professor at the Swedish Defence University, an internationally renowned university in the area of defence, crisis management and security in Stockholm. We thank them both for their friendship and support over the past year, and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Have a great Christmas, enjoy the holiday season and we'll do our best to keep moving forward next year.

Take care and stay safe.

David



Contact Us

David Laing
Royal South Australia
Regiment Association Inc.
PO Box 5218 Murray Bridge
South SA 5253
0407 791 822
davidlaing49@bigpond.com



www.rsara.asn.au

**PAYMENTS FOR SUBS &
MERCHANDISE**

All Merchandise Orders to:
Selina Laing on 0418 822 874
or lebanonsel@live.com

**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
PO Box 1133
Kensington Gardens
SA 5068
christianbennett95@gmail.com

A Christmas Message from the Acting President



Our 2024 year started in February with catering support for the Battalion at their Force Preservation Exercise at RAAF Base Edinburgh which saw us feed 120 hungry soldiers. And for that the CO LTCOL Aaron Jackson presented each of the nine Association members with a CO's Medallion which was very well received. The August AGM saw a record 62 members attend and enjoy some traditional camaraderie at the Avoca Hotel. Finally our End Of Year Lunch at Warradale Barracks today was a highlight with 60 + members and partners enjoying the food and friendship on the day.



Another year is rapidly coming to an end and I'm certainly looking forward to the challenges we will face in the new year. Some of our Old & Bold (yours truly and others) have faced significant health problems, but I guess that happens when you reach retirement age and "go out to pasture!" We lost a couple of good mates, including our devoted President Rod Beames, and bade our farewells at wakes in their honour, but for the rest of us, life goes on, and we continue to build on their legacy. We Will Remember Them.

With honour and pride I accepted the majority vote of our Committee of Management to become the Acting President of the RSAR Association until the AGM in August next year, when I will "throw my hat in the ring" and see who else nominates for the top job. Bring it on!

I am constantly in awe of the professionalism of our Serving Members. Like the Old & Bold used to, they hold down daytime jobs in civvie street, and support young families, but unlike us, they are now at the forefront of defence technology in the equipment they carry, the weapons they use and the style of training they commit to. I know we were fairly fit back then, (some would disagree) but the soldiers of today are constantly tested on their physical capabilities, and are always working to better it. Like I said, I'm in awe. Thank you all for your service.

We bid farewell to our Commanding Officer LTCOL Aaron Jackson, and Regimental Sergeant Major WO1 Scott Hannan, and thank them both for their support throughout their tenures. Go well gentlemen! Their successors have been announced as LTCOL Darrin Tyson and WO1 Mark Broadbent and we look forward to setting a good working relationship with them both in the New Year and beyond.

We have made inroads to become closer to our mates "over the ditch" with the soldiers of the 2nd/4th Battalion, The Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, who will now provide us with articles and information for this newsletter, starting in January 2025. We are working on a new scheme to bring our two Regiments even closer together, and we'll let out the sordid details soon!

So, what does the new year hold for us? With the military action in the Middle East escalating, and warfare changing shape again, it makes me wonder what our men and women of the ADF will be asked (or tasked) to do next. Whichever way it goes they can rest assured that we will support them to the nth degree while they are there, and be here for them when they return. I hope it doesn't come to that, but we'll see what happens!

In January the Committee will meet to prepare and pack 20 Care Packages for our soldiers on Border Protection duties. They are doing "their bit," so we'll do ours! Pics and story in February's edition.

Having said that, I wish all our members, their families, the soldiers of our Regiment and our allies across the Tasman Sea a very safe and Merry Christmas, and a happy, prosperous New Year.

Take care, stay safe and we'll see you all soon!

David Laing

Acting President & Editor

End Of Year Lunch

64 members attended the End Of Year Lunch at the Warradale Barracks Sergeants Mess, in air conditioned comfort, while the temperature outside rose to above 40 degrees. Rod Beames daughter Narelle & husband Wayne donated more than 12 bottles of quality red wine (straight from Rod's cellar) which were gifted to the members free of charge. Outgoing CO LTCOL Aaron Jackson was presented with an original piece of the Torrens Parade Ground, spiritual home of the Regiment, mounted on a shield, and Acting President David Laing presented departing RSM WO1 Scott Hannan with a shield in appreciation for his support of the RSAR Association. RSARA Treasurer Chris Bennett was presented with a Certificate Of Appreciation for the effort he had put into his tasks over the past year. A well deserved award. Well done Chris. Thanks for today go to chief caterer Col Abel and his team for preparing and serving the sumptuous lunch, and to bar staff Max, Murray and Selina Laing for their support.







Special NORFORCE
issue. Trousers Short
DPCU Tropical. You'll
be the envy of your
soldiers, RSM!





Royal South Australia Regiment Association

ONLY

\$5

FUND RAISER RAFFLE

The Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc is conducting a raffle, with the winning prize being 2 nights accommodation in the newly opened

Welcome Swallow Boat House

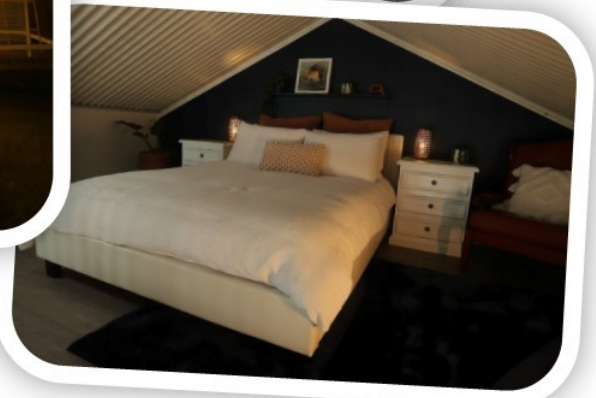
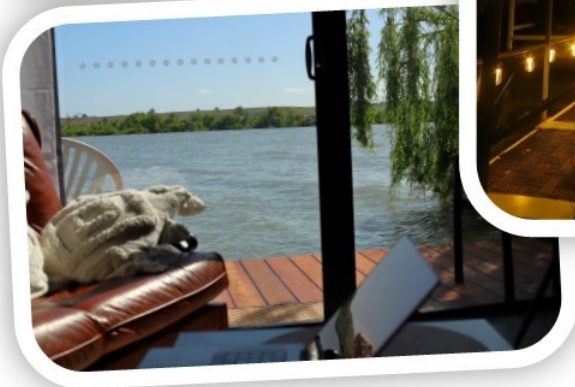
Located at White Sands on the River Murray.

Normally valued at over \$700, you can win this prize for only **\$5** per ticket.

The winning ticket will be drawn at the RSAR Association Annual General Meeting held at the Avoca Hotel, Clarence Gardens on 3rd August 2025 at Midday

The Winner will be contacted by mobile phone and announced in the monthly RSARA newsletter.

Tickets available by contacting Selina Laing on 0418 822 874 or lebanonsel@live.com.au



2nd Prize: Wallis Cinemas E Gift Card valued at \$120

3rd Prize: BCF Gift Card valued at \$50
and a Bunnings Gift Card valued at \$50. Total \$100.

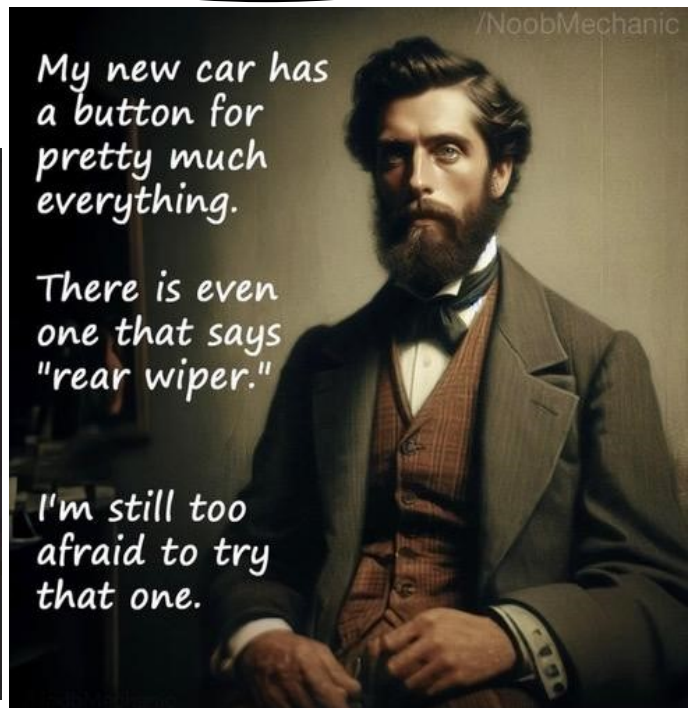
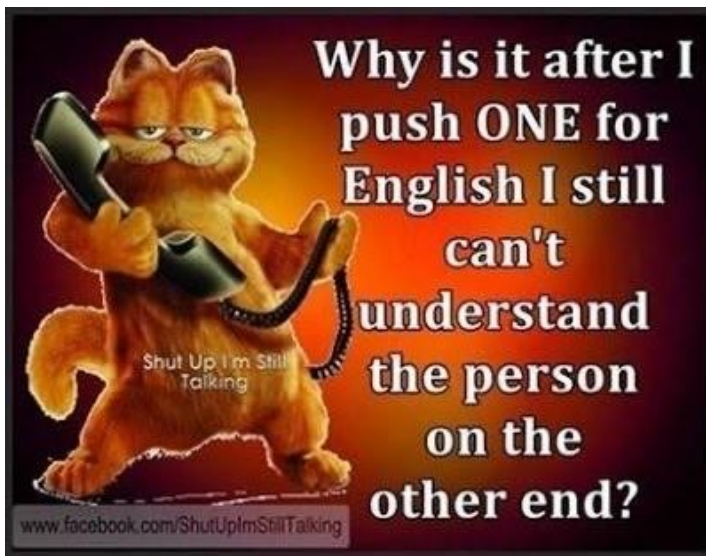
Tickets on sale from 15th December 2024

For more pics check out the website. <https://www.thewelcomeswallow.com/>

Digger Wombats Humour



I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.



The Flat Earth Society have members all around the Globe.



My teacher told me not to worry about spelling because in the future there will be autocorrect And for that I am eternally grapefruit.

Be grateful that no matter how much chocolate you eat, your socks will still fit!



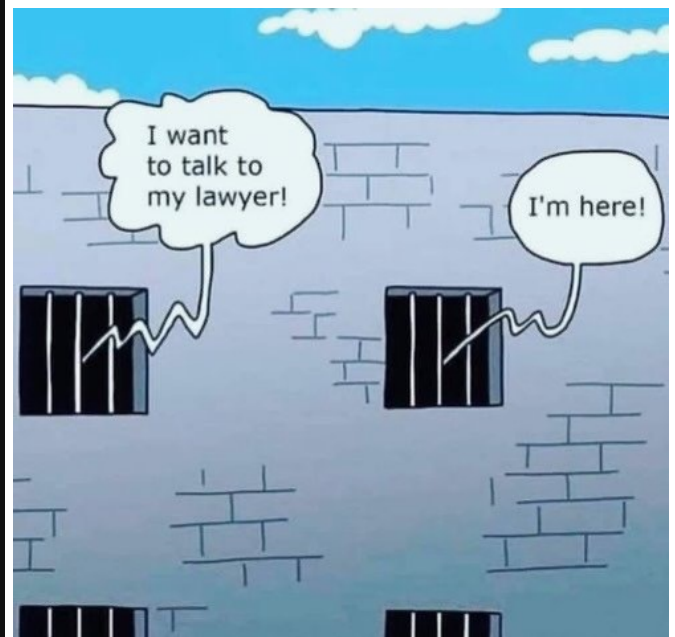
I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time!

They say 40 is the new 30,
and 50 is the new 40, but
all I know is the older I get,
the more 9 pm is the new
midnight!

**YOU KNOW YOU'RE
GETTING OLD
WHEN A RECLINER
AND A HEATING
PAD IS YOUR IDEA
OF A HOT DATE**

As I fold my third load of
laundry, I contemplate
becoming a nudist.

Then I remember what I
look like naked, and
keep folding. 😂



Look how instinctively, the mother
crocodile carries the baby in its mouth.
Nature is beautiful.



There's a fine line between
a numerator and a
denominator.

Only a fraction of people will find this funny.

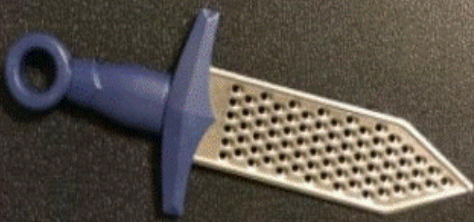


Did you hear about the crossed
-eyed teacher who lost her job
because she couldn't control
her pupils?

The official sports drink
when I was a kid..



**YEAH, YOUR SWORD
IS PRETTY GREAT,**



**BUT MINE WILL ALWAYS
BE A LITTLE GRATER.**

**Ferris wheels are
predominantly steel. If
they were aluminium,
they'd be non-ferrous
wheels.**



**When you wear glasses
at your job interview to
look more professional**



**Convenient Napkin Dispenser Lets You
Grab Either A Handful Of 50 Napkins Or
Tear A Small Corner Off 1 Napkin**

Padres' Ponderings



From Padre Stephen Albrecht - Chaplain 10/27 Battalion RSAR

As we approach Christmas, I want to take a moment to reflect on the year gone by and extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your commitment, your service, and the sacrifices you and your families have made. Let's face it, it's been a huge year. Whether on deployment, in the field, during rigorous training exercises, or providing vital support to your fellow soldiers, your courage, resilience, and unwavering loyalty to one another have been truly inspiring reflecting the spirit of this regiment.

Christmas is more than a holiday; it is a season of hope, peace, and connection. It is a time to pause amidst the busyness of life and remember the deeper meaning of our service and the bonds that unite us as a team and as a family. It is also a time to reflect on the timeless message of Christmas: the birth of Jesus Christ, who came into a world filled with darkness to bring light, hope, and redemption.

That first Christmas, Jesus' arrival in humble circumstances serving as a powerful reminder of the strength found in love, the enduring promise of peace, and the unshakable hope for a better tomorrow. While there is the possibility that some of us may experience times away from our loved ones, due to the demands of duty, work and other commitments know it is not done alone. Your dedication does not go unnoticed, and your efforts contribute to something much greater than yourselves.

As we celebrate, let us remember those who cannot be with us and those we have lost, honouring their legacy by continuing to support and uplift one another. Let us also take the opportunity to embrace moments of rest, joy, and gratitude with those around us. A time to recharge the batteries and reassess our priorities for the coming year.

During my time in this posting so far, I've had the opportunity to learn and experience so much. From firing a flare both horizontally and vertically to mastering the art of chain sawing wood, participating in an assault, and operating a range of weapon systems, it's been a steep and rewarding learning curve. Along the way, I've also embraced the importance of asking questions and learning from those around me.

One of the highlights has been sharing a yarn at the boozier at the end of a long day, connecting with you on a personal level. But what has truly stood out is the privilege of supporting and caring for the human being within the soldier, something that I hold close to my heart.

As we approach Christmas, my hope is that the joy, peace, and hope of this season will fill your hearts and homes. Stay safe, look out for one another, and know that you are deeply valued and appreciated. It has been, and continues to be, my pleasure to walk this journey with you.

Merry Christmas,

Chaplain Stephen Albrecht



Women at War.

During the Second World War thousands of British and Australian women volunteered to take up arms (and machinery) to assist the war effort. My dear late mother-in-law LAC Anne Thompson (nee Kelly) was one. She became part of a British WAAF Anti Aircraft Barrage Balloon Unit and regularly raised her balloon to thwart Nazi fighters and bombers over England. In Australia women also signed up, and this is their story.

PRESS RELEASE 25 FEB 1941

The Minister for Air, John McEwen, issued a press statement announcing the immediate enrolment of female wireless and teleprinter operators to fill RAAF ground staff vacancies. Proposals to raise a Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF) had been before the War Cabinet since July 1940, but not until 4 February was approval given; the Advisory War Council agreed with the decision the next day. McEwen's announcement made clear that the women were wanted only 'until they could be replaced by qualified men', and because legal doubts existed over whether women could be enlisted under the Air Force Act they were at first enrolled only as auxiliaries for renewable periods of 12 months. Nonetheless, the other Services quickly followed the RAAF in establishing women's services for general war duty. The WAAAF grew to reach a strength of 18,664 in October 1944.

The Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF) was formed in March 1941 after considerable lobbying by women keen to serve and by the Chief of the Air Staff who wanted to release male personnel serving in Australia for service overseas.

The WAAAF was the largest of the Second World War women's services, and unlike two of the three extant Army women's services, was not dedicated to caring for the sick and wounded. Rather it was aimed squarely at releasing men for operational duties off-shore. Army had the benefit of the Militia and the Volunteer Defence Corps to fill roles in mainland Australia, but by 1943 it, too saw large numbers of women undertaking a broad range of roles.

In all areas except pay and entitlements women were treated the same as men in the Royal Australian Air Force.

Pay and conditions were vastly different to men, women were only paid a percentage of the equivalent male wage and married women were not allowed to remain in the WAAAF.

It was disbanded in December 1947. A new Australian women's air force was formed in July 1950 and in November became the Women's Royal Australian Air Force (WRAAF). The WRAAF was disbanded in the early 1980s and female personnel were absorbed into the mainstream RAAF.

Australia's first female air force pilots graduated in 1988.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

ARTV05170

Development of Dress for the Post War Army

It's amazing what you can find online when you have nothing else to do. This article was produced in 1948 just after World War 2, and describes how our higher echelon thought about the "uniform of the future." Editor.

1948 Number 1, June-July

Article DOI

10.61451/NNNNNN

THE designs of dress for the Post War Army have been announced and, as is to be expected with something that is right next to a man's skin, a great deal of interest and discussion have been aroused.

The success of the new uniforms and the reaction of the soldier to them will depend not only on the garments themselves but also upon his understanding of the methods used in arriving at the final decisions. Those whose own views have been confirmed will, no doubt, be quietly satisfied, but those who had wanted something else will accept the results much more cheerfully if they know that all possible factors were considered.

The Purpose of Military Uniform

We must first be clear as to the purpose of military dress. Primarily, it is to facilitate the work of the soldier and at the same time, enable him to be clearly recognised as a member of an army in accordance with the requirements of International Law. Secondly, it is to promote morale and sustain the prestige of the service. For the first purpose, functional efficiency is the prime requirement, and, as with a weapon, considerations of tradition and sentiment must give way to the demands of efficiency for modern war. For the second purpose, however, good appearance and traditional features take pride of place, so much so, that in the British Army the final approval of walking out/ceremonial dress rests with His Majesty The King.

Failure of the Dual Purpose Uniform

In the past, and particularly in Australia, uniforms have been designed to combine both purposes in the one garment, but all recent experience, both here and in the British Army, RAF, and US Army, has demonstrated that this is impossible. For general duty, a uniform that gives the utmost freedom of action, with plenty of pockets and made of a tough material, is needed, whilst for social and formal occasions, the requirement is for something pleasing to the eye. Any attempts to meet both these requirements in the one garment have resulted in something that satisfies neither.

The Fighting Man's Point of View

To ensure that all requirements would be considered a "Committee on Post War Dress" was set up, embracing an officer of the General Staff to watch the fighting needs, an officer of the Adjutant-General's Staff to attend to matters of morale, health and ceremonial, and a member of the Development Division of the Branch of the Master-General of the Ordnance responsible for actual research and technical development.

Fact Finding

The first task of the Committee was to examine all available information, and to obtain an early forecast of the productive capacity of industry as well as of the date to which stocks of existing patterns would last. It transpired that stocks would last to mid-1949, and that, apart from some capacity for immediate manufacture from army cloths in stock, industry would not be able to undertake military orders until mid-1948. It was also ascertained that the materials in stock were mainly war-time substitutes and unsuited to the making of uniforms of the desired standards.

Examination of overseas developments showed that the British Army and the RAF had both completed their proposals for post-war dress. In each case a Committee had examined large numbers of witnesses of all ranks in all areas of service in order to get both preferences and the results of experience. Both had confirmed that Battle Dress was eminently suited to modern mechanised warfare, but had made a number of detailed improvements to it. The British Army had adopted a blue walking out/ceremonial uniform with coloured trimmings distinctive to corps and regiments and the Australian Committee obtained a

Development of Dress for the Post War Army

sample of this uniform. The Canadian Army had confirmed battle dress for post war wear with alterations almost identical with those made by UK. Canada likewise was considering a distinctive walking out/ ceremonial dress. The US Army, which had adopted a modified British battle dress during the war, had confirmed it for all ranks for post-war wear, and had carried out a test of opinion amongst 30,000 soldiers, with the aid of the Survey Research Centre of the University of Michigan, on "Dress" uniform, and had decided upon a blue one. New Zealand intended to standardize with the UK in both battle and walking out/ ceremonial dress. Of particular value were the methods used by these other countries in research and development, great use having been made of "opinion polls" to ascertain both the results of soldiers' experiences and their preferences and reactions.

Expert Opinion on Materials and Tailoring

The Committee next set up a subcommittee of experts to study materials, and another to study designs and patterns. The first examined all the suitable materials available in Australia, as well as those produced in UK for the British and US Armies, others produced during the war in Australia for the US Army, and certain of those used by Canada and New Zealand, whilst the other went into points of design that would aid comfort and serviceability, as well as facilitate quality mass production.

Battle Dress versus Service Dress

To settle the argument over the respective merits of Australian service dress and battle dress, comparative users' trials were carried out by armoured, infantry and signals personnel, who were required to report on an exhaustive list of points concerning each uniform under every kind of activity normally undertaken by the soldier in barracks and in the field. The results were conclusive; on every point battle dress was superior. Questions were asked even on "the effect on morale and feeling of well-being of the soldier on ordinary occasions when in public" and on "the appearance after being slept in as might be the case when travelling by train."

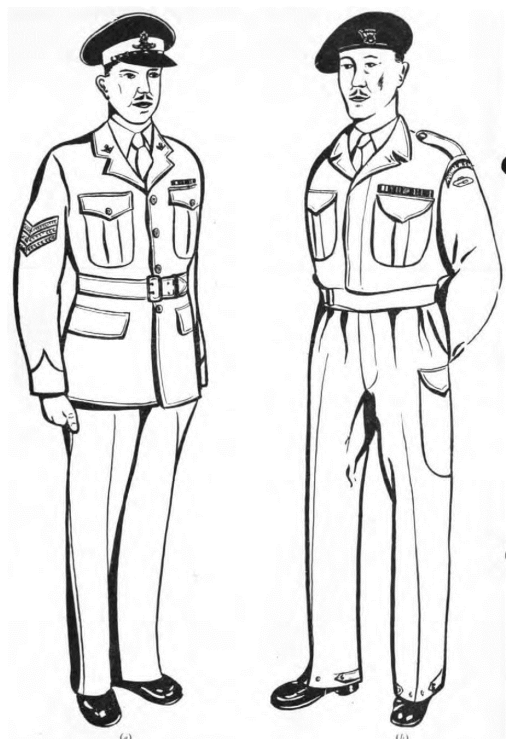
Questions of Regimental Tradition

The heads of all arms and services were called before the Committee to give evidence concerning the retention in the uniform of traditional features peculiar to their corps. In this respect, it must be remembered that certain corps, such as the Royal Australian Artillery, have a history that reaches right back to the time of State defence forces, and that the States of Australia sent contingents to the Sudan War of 1888 and to the South African War. Special thought was given to the very difficult problem of perpetuating traditional features of the not very satisfactory uniforms worn by the AIF in World Wars I and II.

Opinion Polls

To secure a cross section of the opinion of Australian soldiers of all ranks, a questionnaire of 41 questions with illustrations of various patterns of uniforms and headdress was sent to 1,000 serving members and 1,000 ex-members, of whom 25% were privates, 35% WOs and NCOs, 25% Lieuts and Capts and 15% Majors and above. This questionnaire was analysed on calculating machines by rank groups, areas of service, and by age groups of under and over 35 years. Members' and ex-members' answers were examined separately as well as in total. Certain questions of special regimental interest, such as that of headdress, were analysed by arms.

The evidence of all these witnesses became the starting point for designs, and indicated also where further inquiry was necessary. For instance, a majority of the Directors favoured a blue walking out/ ceremonial uniform, whilst all except one considered that battle dress should be adopted for all ranks for every-day duty. The questionnaire showed that 78% of those who had worn battle dress preferred it to service dress. Only 15% of either serving or ex-members wanted to retain service dress on grounds of tradition if it were proved inferior to battle dress. For walking out, 48% wanted a forage cap, 28% a beret, 18% the hat, the remainder liking the airman's "field service cap", but for ceremonial in a khaki uniform the hat was first choice — the armoured corps would consider nothing



Development of Dress for the Post War Army

other than the beret! Privates wanted a tie with summer dress, but officers wanted to get rid of it. The most decisive opinion was on the type of neck for the ceremonial/walking out uniform, the lowest percentage in favour of an open neck with shirt and tie being that of 76.2% among senior officers no longer serving, and the highest 92.1% among serving privates. A considerable proportion of the “free comments” suggested a colour other than khaki for walking out and ceremonial.

Prototype Walking Out/Ceremonial Uniforms

The next step was to make up uniforms in eight different colours—moss green, dark green, medium green, khaki, indigo blue, dark blue, grey blue, grey—and featuring different designs in cut, back, pockets, flaps, cuffs, as well as two special designs for tropical wear. These were then taken round all the capital cities except Hobart, and exhibited to a cross section of serving soldiers ranging from privates who had joined since the war up to the most senior officers. For BCOF, Tasmania, Darwin and the Washington and London Staffs samples of the different coloured cloths and a questionnaire on colour and points of design were sent to be answered by a similar cross section. For these tests of opinion, where the actual uniforms were shown, the witnesses were given an outline of the whole problem of army dress, and then shown in daylight both battle dress and the alternative patterns of walking out/ceremonial dress worn by selected models. This was followed by a quiz session in which headdress, belts and detachable shoulder straps were tried out with the various coloured uniforms and in which any other questions were answered. In the evening the witnesses were required to bring a lady to view the uniforms in artificial light and another quiz session was held in which the ladies needed no encouragement in voicing their views. At the end of the session, the witnesses were required to answer a written questionnaire on colour and points of design, whilst, by a show of hands, additional reactions of both witnesses and their ladies were obtained on questions of headdress, piping, etc. After answering the questionnaire, ten selected personnel, representing all ranks and conditions of service, were individually questioned by the interviewing officer on a number of points designed to ascertain the feeling towards the method of research and to give a cross check on the opinions sought in the questionnaire.

The results of the investigation into colour and design were conclusive. Blue was favoured in BCOF, Queensland, NSW, Victoria, Darwin, London and Washington; grey blue in South Australia and Western Australia; and khaki in Tasmania. The reasons most frequently advanced for choosing a colour other than khaki were that a complete change was desirable from the work-a-day colour, blue and red were traditional ceremonial colours for the Army, and a colour that would stand out on the parade ground and at the regimental ball was needed to “beat the Navy and the Air Force.” Most considered the special uniform was needed mainly for regimental social functions and for ceremonial parades, and only a minority would wear it for walking out, the majority preferring battle dress or civilian clothes for this purpose.

Ninety per cent of those individually questioned said that they would “feel all right” in battle dress for social and ceremonial occasions, and the same percentage wanted battle dress first if any question of priority arose. Some vigorous discussions occurred on headdress, but the majority favoured a forage cap as being more in harmony with the blue uniform, less likely to be displaced by the rifle or by “eyes right”, and more convenient on social occasions.

CMF Opinion

To get the CMF opinion, the results of all the researches made by the Committee, as well as the draft proposals, and the prototype uniforms, were made available to committees of future CMF Commanders in each state except Tasmania, and the comments of these Committees submitted in full to the Military Board.

Conclusion

As a result of these enquiries, the new uniforms for the Post War Army should be well suited to the various needs of the soldier, comparable in quality to those of other armies and services, and conform to the preferences of the majority of all ranks. They are in accord both with Australian military tradition from the earliest times in which forces were raised in this country, and meet the vital need for standardization of actual fighting kit within the British Commonwealth. 1948.

And there you have it! Who said the Army don't care about your uniforms? Phew! Lucky we've come a long way since then, eh? Editor

Unit Awards for 2024



The 10/27 Bn RSAR Awards for 2024 were conducted on 30th November at Warradale Barracks , and I had the pleasure and honour of presenting the Rodney Beames Perpetual Shield to Musician Christian Bennett (our own RSARA Treasurer) Christian was picked out from others as being a worthy recipient "who has displayed outstanding commitment, service and strength of character, beyond that expected of their duties." Well done Christian, and congratulations to the other award winners.

The RSAR Association provides a "take home shield" for all award winners.

The list of high achievers is:

Best Soldier	PTE Murray	A Coy
Best JNCO	CPL Hill	BHQ
Best SNCO	SGT Rayment	B Coy
Best Officer	CAPT Hunter	BHQ
Top Shot	PTE McKenzie	A Coy
Best Fitness	SPR Thomas	3 Fd Sqdn
Rodney Beames Perpetual Shield	MUSN C. Bennett	BHQ
Musician of the Year	CPL J. Heath	BHQ



A number of promotions were carried out by the CO LTCOL Aaron Jackson, and they included RSAR Association member CPL Anthony Portakiewicz, who was promoted to Sergeant. Well done all.

More pics can be found on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/1027RSARA>



WO2 Belinda Land lays out the awards.



TOP LEFT: The CO presents CPL Jonathon Heath with the “Musician of the Year” award.

TOP RIGHT: RSARA Acting President David Laing tells the audience the significance of the “Rodney Beames Perpetual Shield.”

CENTRE LEFT: David Laing congratulates Musn Christin Bennett.

CENTRE RIGHT: David Laing, Musn Christian Bennett and LTCOL Aaron Jackson hold the Rodney Beames Perpetual Shield, a CO’s Medallion, RSARA shield and Certificate of Achievement.

BOTTOM LEFT: Captain Johnston and WO1 Hannan present a parting gift to the CO LTCOL Aaron Jackson. All 3 are being posted out of 10/27 Battalion, and we wish them well.



LEFT: Anthony "Tosh" Portakiewicz is promoted to Sergeant by CO LTCOL Aaron Jackson.

ABOVE: A number of Battalion personnel were presented with their National Emergency Medals with 2019/20 Bushfires Clasp.

BELOW: LTCOL Aaron Jackson, CPL Whalland, CPL Balzer, PTE McKenzie, PTE Warren, CPL Baldock and PTE Mitchell



Thanks to CPL Selina Laing for the pics.

A Call for Contributions to the RSAR Historical Collection

ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT



HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Dear Family, Friends, and Former Members of the Royal South Australia Regiment,

We are reaching out with a heartfelt request to help us preserve the rich history of the Royal South Australia Regiment (RSAR). Our regiment's storied past is filled with valour, dedication, and remarkable achievements. To honour and remember the sacrifices and triumphs of our soldiers, we need your support.

Our RSAR Historical Collection is dedicated to safeguarding the tangible memories of our regiment's history. To ensure future generations understand and appreciate the legacy of the RSAR, we are seeking donations of military medals, medallions, and trophies. These items are not just pieces of metal or awards; they represent the courage, dedication, and excellence of the men and women who have served in our regiment.

While we are well-stocked with uniforms, training pamphlets, and books, we are particularly interested in military medals, medallions, and trophies. These artefacts are invaluable in helping us build a comprehensive and meaningful collection that represents the spirit and history of the RSAR.

How to Contribute

If you are interested in donating, please contact me. We can provide guidance on how to best transfer the items and answer any questions you may have. Each donation will be carefully catalogued and when and where possible displayed with pride, ensuring the stories of those who served are remembered and honoured.

Why Your Contribution Matters

By donating to the RSAR Historical Collection, you are playing a crucial role in preserving our regiment's history. These artefacts serve as educational tools, inspiring current and future members of the regiment, as well as the wider community. They remind us of the bravery and dedication of those who came before us and help to maintain a sense of pride and continuity within the RSAR.

We thank you in advance for your generosity and support. Together, we can ensure the legacy of the Royal South Australia Regiment remains alive for generations to come.

Des Hawkins

Curator RSAR Historical Collection

Mob.: 0434 676 050

e-mail: desmondh@ozemail.com.au

Life Members		Members	A - M	Members	N - Z
Acton	Chris	Abel	Colin	New	Anthony
Beckett	David	Abraham	Michael	Normandale	Zachary
Benveniste	Sam	Albrecht	Stephen	Oakley	Andrew
Blackmore	Bill	Allison	Robert	O'Daly	Ryan
Boscence	Bob	Angove	Derek	Orrock	Alan
Brookes	Phil	Angus	Sebastian	Parslow	Howard
Burnard	Trent	Attenborough	Geoff	Parsonage	James
Burns	Wayne	Baker	Craig	Pascoe	Michael
Carnachan	Ian	Bampton	Michael	Payne	Bob
Carpenter	Ian	Barry-Orcales	Dianeever	Pearce	Philip
Cotton	Bob	Beames	Paul	Pexton	Timothy
Dart	John	Bedford	Travis	Phillips	Colin Rex
Davey	Trevor	Bennett	Christian	Portakiewicz	Anthony
Elliott	Graham	Blondell	Mark	Portakiewicz	David
Gaborit	Lyndon	Bras	Riley	Portakiewicz	Richard
Goodwin	Graham	Brophy	Ryan	Powell	Gary
Harris	Lachlan	Brown	Bruce	Preece	Brian
Hawking	Don	Burnard	Saxon	Pritchard	Chantel
Haynes	Malcolm	Burton	Ray	Rado	Steven
Higgins	Jonathan	Buttars	Erik	Ramm	Hank
Hogan	Mark	Carlisle	Lesley-Anne	Ranger	Denis
Hook	Alan	Cartwright	Harrison	Rijken	Paul
Hope	David	Chamberlain	David	Roberts	Tony
Horseman	Ian	Cooke	Nat	Robertson	James
Hudson	Mick	Cram	Kevin	Sailes	Adrian
Jackson	Aaron	Dale	Andy	Sanders	Ashley
James	Grant	Demosani	Tony	Sandhu	Zorawar
Jeffrey	Scott	Dennis	Emily	Sando	Timothy
Johnson	Paul	Dew	Trevor	Schuh	Simon
Johnson	Barry	Domanski	Glenn	Scott	Rhys
Klopf	Alex	Donald	Thomas	Sexton	Mark
Laing	David	Duncan	Coen	Shephard	Daniel
Lakin	Bruce	Dunn	Bob	Skapin	Corey
Marlin	Robin	Dunn	Peter	Slater	Ian
Meredith	Mike	Eva	Keith	Smith	Ryan
Miller	Nick	Ewens	Mimi	Sniedze	Julie
Moore	Peter	Faquiri	Reshad	Tasker	David
Moore	Terry	Faunt	Joshua	Tattersall	Geoff
Moore	Thomas	Flynn	Adrian	Thomas	David
Paul	John	Fortune	Nigel	Thomas	Travis
Pollard	Barry	Foy	Erin	Thomson	Jim
Richter	Sean	Gatley	Graham	Threlfall	Kev
Salamon	Piotr	Genovese	John	Tran	Andy
Stewart	Robin	Ghanem	Paul	Treguis	Izaak
Stewien	Peter	Gibson	Lindsay	Trezise	George
Vella	Joe	Gill	Graham	Tsoulakis	Christos
Waters	Ian	Gordon	Frank	Tucker	Belinda
Watters	Matthew	Groffen	Renee	Tucker	Paul
Westover	Rhys	Hanson	Reece	Turner	Garry
Wilson	Graham	Harrington	Malcolm	Vozelj	Blaz
Yorke-Simpkin	Reg	Harrison	John	Weepers	Nicole
		Harrison	Keith	Wheeler	Chris
Associate Life Members		Harrison	Nigel	Wilkinson	Charles
Elliott	Julie	Hartshorne	Anthony	Williams	Reg
Field	Shirley	Hawkins	Des	Williams	Janelle
Johnson	Sally	Heath	Jonathon	Williams	David
Laing	June	Higgins	Kevin	Zuromski	Paul
Parkin	Audrey	Hill	Max		
Phillips	Heather	Hudson	Rick		
Sanderson	Lorraine	Hume	Matthew		
Tregenza	Lyn	Humphrys	Jesse		
		Jones	Brett		
Associate Members		Justin	Trent		
Abel	Karen	Koop	Joshua		
Angove	Leisel	Langtry	Paul		
Brown	Jenni	Kovacs	Philip		
Carnachan	Dom	Laing	Selina		
Dunn	Trish	Leach	Thomas		
Eva	Gail	Lewis	James		
Hawkins	Lynn	Loveder	Peter		
Hook	Philippa	Matchett	William		
Hudson	Margaret	McCulloch	Don	Honorary Members	
Johnson	Margaret	McIver	Bill	Wilson MAJGEN	Neil
Parsonage	Yvonne	McKenzie	Kain	Jackson LTCOL	Aaron
Pollard	Kay	McMahon	Tyler	Hannan WO1	Scott
Toy	Jill	Migali	Michael		
Winger	Kathleen	Mitchell	Barry		
		Morony	Frank		
		Mulroney	Dennis		

Please welcome
new members
Paul Langtry
and
Richard Portakiewicz