

# "Sitrep, Over!"



**February  
2023**

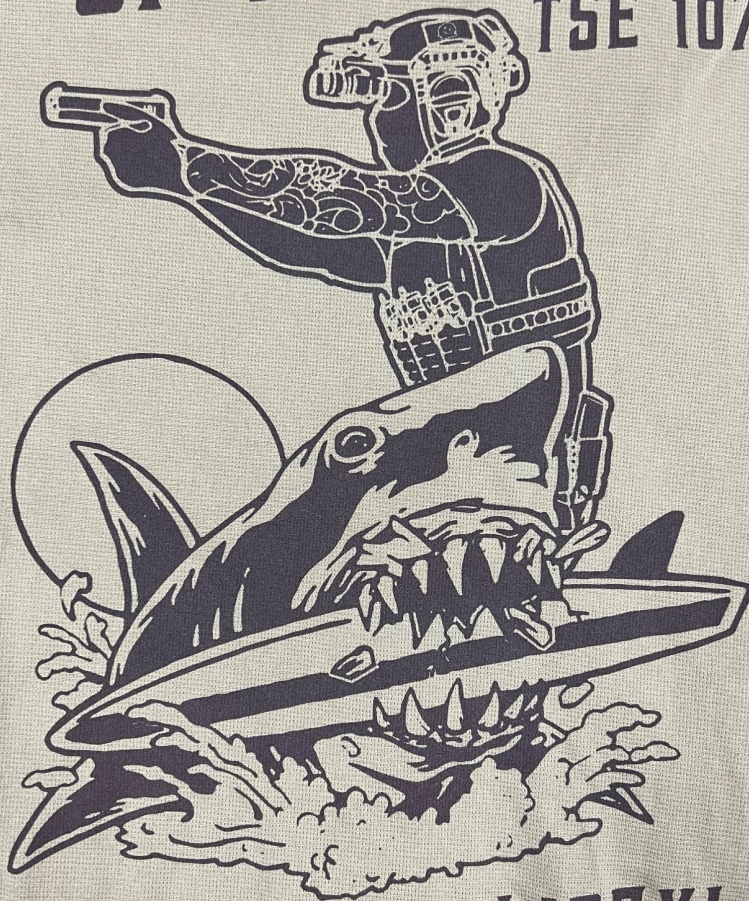
**OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC**

**Patron Major General Neil Wilson AM RFD**

**Editor David Laing 0407 791 822**

## Our Troops on the Front Liine

**OP RESOLUTE**  
TSE 107



**IT'S NOT A HOLIDAY!**

Congratulations to RSARA  
CoM Member Mark Blondell on  
his promotion to Warrant Officer  
Class 2. Well done Blondie!

*Moses had the first  
tablet that could  
connect to the cloud.*

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# Australian Military Traditions and their Origins

## Gunfire Breakfast

Many communities follow the dawn service with a 'traditional' gunfire breakfast. 'Gunfire' is a British tradition and was:

... the usual term for the early cup of tea served out to troops in the morning before going on first parade, whenever possible. In the War [WWI] recruits in training always had 'Gun Fire' supplied to them, the work before breakfast being found particularly trying. The morning gun in a garrison town suggested the name probably.

(E Fraser and J Gibbons, *Soldier & Sailor Words & Phrases*, Routledge, London, 1925, p. 113)

The 'gunfire breakfast' seems to have evolved from the above, and comprises whatever is available at the time—it could be 'coffee and rum' or 'stew, sausage and bread', or even 'bacon and eggs' (which is served by the War Memorial for their 'gunfire breakfast' on Anzac Day).



## Anzac Day March

From cities to small towns, the march has long been the centrepiece of Anzac Day. Marches were held during the Great War, and became popular with veterans in the 1920s, to honour lost friends and publicly express comradeship. The RSL organises the marches. While it was traditional for veterans who saw active service, it was later relaxed to include those who served in Australia in the armed services or 'land armies' during the Second World War. It has been relaxed further, with some encouragement or acceptance of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren marching, to assist aged veterans or to represent relatives. Former soldiers from allied armies have also been allowed to march.

# Military Traditions



## Follow-on and Two-up

The march may be followed by reunions and lunches put on by local establishments. This is also the one day that the traditional Australian gambling game of 'two-up', or 'swy', may be legally played at venues. Bets are placed on how two pennies thrown into the air will fall. The 'Ringer' (in charge) will explain rules and betting procedures. Any persons of legal gambling age are welcome to participate. The entry on 'two-up' from the *Australian Encyclopaedia* describes the 'game' and its origins.





# EDITORIAL

**T**his month we pass the Humour Baton to Colour Sergeant Bourne, one of the heroes of Rorke's Drift during the Zulu Wars of the 19th Century. Colour Sergeant Bourne's story was featured in the last edition of this journal, and you can now check out his jokes on Pages 5,6 & 7.

**S**ince the inception of this journal I've had the pleasure of using a number "hosts" for our Jokes Pages. Can you tell me how many, and their names? The first to email me with a correct answer including the names of the hosts will win an RSARA baseball cap and an RSARA Stubby Holder, posted to their residence. First in, best dressed. Answers in next months journal.

**W**e are fortunate to have one of our own RSARA Committee members actually on deployment, and he's been there since late October. No, it's not Beamsey, it's SGT Michael Abraham, who filled in for Blondie on the committee. Michael has been kind enough to take some time (and photos) to send some notes on his deployment, and the training they undertake prior to going to sea. You can see where our Christmas Care Packages go after they leave us, on Pages 8, 9 & 10. Thanks for the article Abes, and thanks for your service.

And here's another "thank you" for a Christmas Care Package from one of our deployed soldiers on our northern borders.

*Dear RSAR Association,*

*Thankyou very much for the Care Packages, they have been greatly appreciated by all. It was a great surprise to return from 4 weeks at sea to get such a great treat indeed.*

*We are happy to know we have people thinking of us and providing excellent support!*

*Regards,*

*Cpl Ronny Leighton*

*JTF 639*

*TSE 107*

*A Coy 10/27 RSAR*

**O**ur Support Year usually starts with a Training Exercise to cater for at either RAAF Base Edinburgh or Murray Bridge Army Range. This year was no different and a dedicated small group of members went to RAAF Base Edinburgh to cater for around 170 soldiers during their first training exercise for 2023. The pics are on the following 2 pages.

Cheers

*David* Editor



## Contact Us

The Secretary

David Laing

Royal South Australia

Regiment Association Inc.

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SA 5253

**0407 791 822**



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[davidlaing49@bigpond.com](mailto:davidlaing49@bigpond.com)

Visit us on the web at

[www.rsara.asn.au](http://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](mailto:christianbennett95@gmail.com)



# RAAF Base Edinburgh Trg Ex





# RAAF Base Edinburgh Trg Ex



**Main Photo Left:** CO LTCOL Sam Benveniste speaks to the soldiers during their lunch break and thanks the members of the RSAR Association for providing the BBQ and salad lunch.

Thanks to Rod Beames, Col Abel, Howard Parslow, Renee Groffen, Dave Tasker, Jill Toy, Lyn Tregenza and Max Hill for their support.



**Editors Note:** It's always difficult to predict exactly how many soldiers are going to turn up to the first training exercise for the year, and this event was no different. The RSAR Association was tasked with providing a BBQ lunch for "around" 150 soldiers, so we planned for 160, with some extras. Lucky, as we fed "around" 170 hungry mouths and went home with just a few slices of bread. A great result.

A lot of pre-planning went into gaining access to the RAAF Edinburgh Base for our helpers, and thanks to RSM WO1 Scott Hannan and LCPL Frank Forzi, entry went off "nearly" without a hitch. RSAR Association Application Forms were handed out, and 11 new members were signed up. They will each receive an introductory email soon. You can't keep a good team down.



# Need Help? We can help!



In the aftermath of the Festive Season most of us are just getting back to normal, and others are getting the kids ready to go back to school. Whatever you're doing, most of you have friends and family to support you in what you do. Not so with a few!

RSARA member Renee Groffen heard of a former 10/27 Bn member who had fallen on hard times, and was being forced to move out of his rented accommodation. Renee posted this on our Facebook page.

*Requesting help Sunday 15 Jan 22 for an old mate and Digger (former member of 10/27 RSAR) down on his luck...*

*Renee (a RSARA member) is calling out for help from RSARA veterans and serving ex-serving members.*

*An ex member of 10/27 Colin, is down on his luck.*

*His situation is dire and, as of yesterday, has become homeless and he really needs our help. He has to have his belongings moved out of his house by close of business tomorrow.*

*We need all hands on deck to load up belongings on a vehicle (MR truck with electronic lifter on it, so you won't have to break your backs). Then, after vehicle is loaded, we will need to assist with unloading it and loading all his kit into a storage unit located at Lonsdale.*

*As serving and ex-serving members, we always go by the saying "Help out your mate." Let's put this in to practice.*

*Any help would be greatly appreciated, even if you can only lend a hand for an hour.*

*Time: from 10.00hrs*

*Address: is 60 Nedlands Crst, Seaford SA.*

*P.S. If anyone knows of any accommodation that is available that they could recommend please let me know.*

*Call Renee on 0415 813 983 if you can help out.*

And answer the call you did. Within a matter of hours enough helpers gathered to get Colin and his belongings out of trouble and into a better place.

*Renee and the RSARA Committee wanted to thank Krystal, Matt, Aiden, Gabbie, Ellie, John, Brad, Marion and Lucy, who took the time out of their busy lives today to help her friend Colin to move his belongings out of his house. It was a huge effort made much easier by so many people being so generous with their time. The presence of ex-serving and serving members working together, mucking in to help out an old digger in a time of need warms the heart and reminds us why we served and or continue to serve.*

*Thanks from Renée and everyone at RSARA*

*And thanks to Colonel Trent Burnard for assisting the situation and overseeing this publication.*

As we go to print we are reliably informed that RSL Care (SA) have assisted Colin in the offer of a suburban unit which will suit his needs. It's amazing what can be done when you work together for your mates. Well done all.

## THANK YOU

PRO PATRIA



# PADRES PONDERINGS

By Chaplain Paul Ghanem OFM

Kangaroo Island (KI) is listed as No. 7 in the New York Times' latest (2023) annual 52 places to visit in the world. Impressive!

In 2019/20 Operation Bushfire Assist saw 292 10/27RSAR personnel deployed around South Australia, most to Kangaroo Island. Their herculean effort contributed immeasurably to the saving of lives, wildlife and property and has already become the stuff of legend. The melted road sign in the Warradale 3FD Rats Nest (boozier) is a stark reminder of the dangers they faced.

In my civilian role I am a catholic priest. It is in this capacity that I have been fortunate to be a regular visitor to KI, celebrating mass for the local Catholic community based in Kingscote where there is no permanently stationed pastor. My last visit was at Christmas. And, as with every visit, I found myself overwhelmed by invitations to lunch, dinner, afternoon tea, a beer ... and the offers go on and on.

You can imagine my surprise when I discovered that other priests don't get the same star treatment! My first visit was an extended Easter stay in 2021, not long after the fires, where I was introduced as a priest who was *also* an ADF chaplain.

The philosopher Aesop argued that no act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. For the good folk of KI you can add that nor is it forgotten. My conviction that the ADF is a force for good has grown over the years. Warfighting and national defence remains at our core but a modern, ethical, trained and well equipped defence force can, in addition, be a source of hope for a community in crises.

One of the deployed Chaplain's on KI was my predecessor, Derek Croser. I plan to catch up with Derek in the next few weeks and ask him about his experiences. I will also mention the gratitude of the local Catholic community who would welcome him, a Baptist Minister into their homes, provided he first mentions that he is *also* an ADF Chaplain.

Your Padre

*Paul Ghanem OFM*

Any day. Any time.

0408 163 257

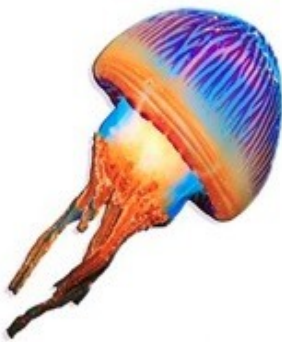




# Colour Sergeant Bournes Funnies



**JELLYFISH HAVE SURVIVED  
650 MILLION YEARS,  
DESPITE NOT HAVING A BRAIN.**



**THIS GIVES SO MANY  
PEOPLE HOPE.**



**TIMELINE OF LAUNDRY**

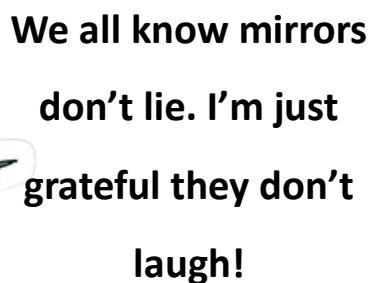
**WASH...45 MINS**

**DRY...60 MINS**

**PUT AWAY...7-10 BUSINESS DAYS**

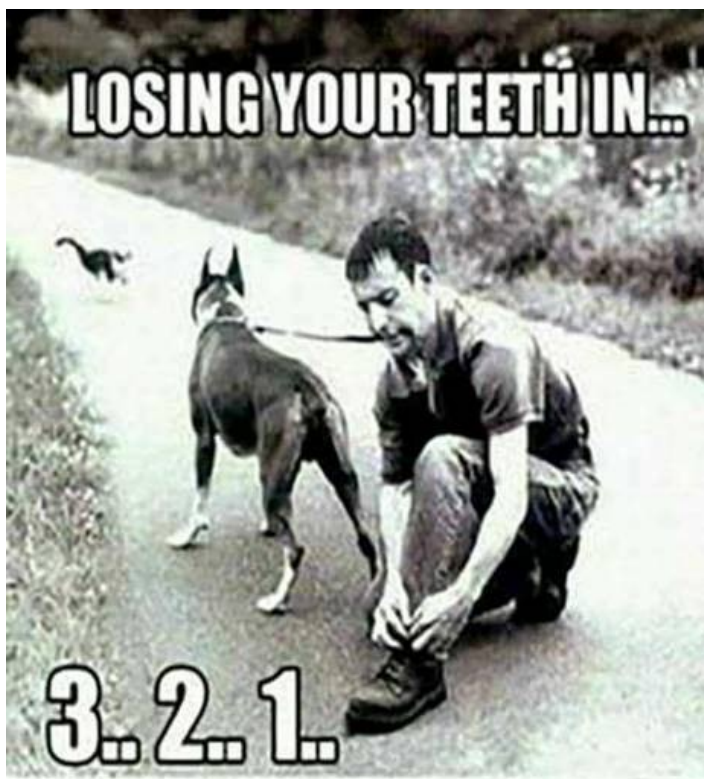
**My favourite childhood  
memory is my back not  
hurting.**





**Amal & Juan are identical twins. Their mom only carries one photo because if you've seen Juan you've seen Amal...**

**NURSE CAME IN AND  
SAID DOC, THERE'S A  
MAN IN THE WAITING  
ROOM WHO THINKS  
HE'S INVISIBLE, WHAT  
SHOULD I TELL HIM?  
THE DOCTOR SAID TELL  
HIM I CAN'T SEE HIM  
TODAY.**



**NORMAL**

AROUND HERE IS  
JUST A SETTING  
ON THE DRYER!



COFFEE IN HAND, SUPPLIES AT THE READY,  
ALICE SETTLES IN, WAITING FOR THE  
FIRST TELEMARKETER TO CALL.





We're not ageing.  
We're ripening to  
perfection!

"Siri, why am I so bad  
at relationships with  
women?"

"This is Alexa."

**I WAS LONELY UNTIL I GLUED A  
COFFEE CUP ON TOP OF MY CAR.**



**NOW EVERYONE WAVES AT ME!**



If common sense was lard,  
most people wouldn't be  
able to grease a pan.

**White, black, man, woman, straight, gay,  
Catholic, Muslim, American, Mexican...**

**...all taste like  
chicken**





# Our Troops on the Front Liine

Sir, Ma'am, Ladies and Gentlemen (excusing rank),

**Season's Greetings from 10/27RSAR, 3/9SAMR and 3FD Sqdn currently deployed on TSE107!**

16OCT22 saw 50 x pers from a motley crew deploy to Darwin for Transit Security Element (rotation 107). 21 x members from SA-based Reserve units, with the remainder hailing from RAN, ARA and other Reserve units based around Australia.



PHQ consisting of LT Kenny-Roberts (3/9 SAMR) and myself we stepped, callsign complete, onto RAAF C130J flight 3706 out of RAAF Edinburgh to land at RAAF Darwin right into the build up to wet season in the NT.

We have completed a 6-week pre-deployment training package consisting of pistol, defensive tactics, survival at sea and other training to prepare our teams for Force Assignment on ABF and RAN vessels. Sadly, one of our members had to drop off the orbat due to injury – however that member is now gainfully employed to 9BDE's current Main Effort, the Recruit Accelerated Trg (RAT) program. We picked up a "spare part" from the outgoing rotation and have been treating CPL Russell (our ring in) as one of our own.

We are now fully into the swing of things up here and our teams are spread across many vessels (close hold on location...). The troops received the gifts and personalized cards from the RSAR Association and would like to join me in thanking you all for the lovely taste of home it brought. Thank you, it really means a lot to the team and we can't express how grateful we are for the work you do for the Battalion.





# Our Troops on the Front Liine

I have attached some photos of our teams in action – some of our training, our R&R activity, some on and in boats. Our Darwin-based team (waiting their turn to hit the high seas) and I was lucky enough to have my family join us for the HUGE Christmas lunch as laid out by the Larrakeyah Senior Sailor's Mess.

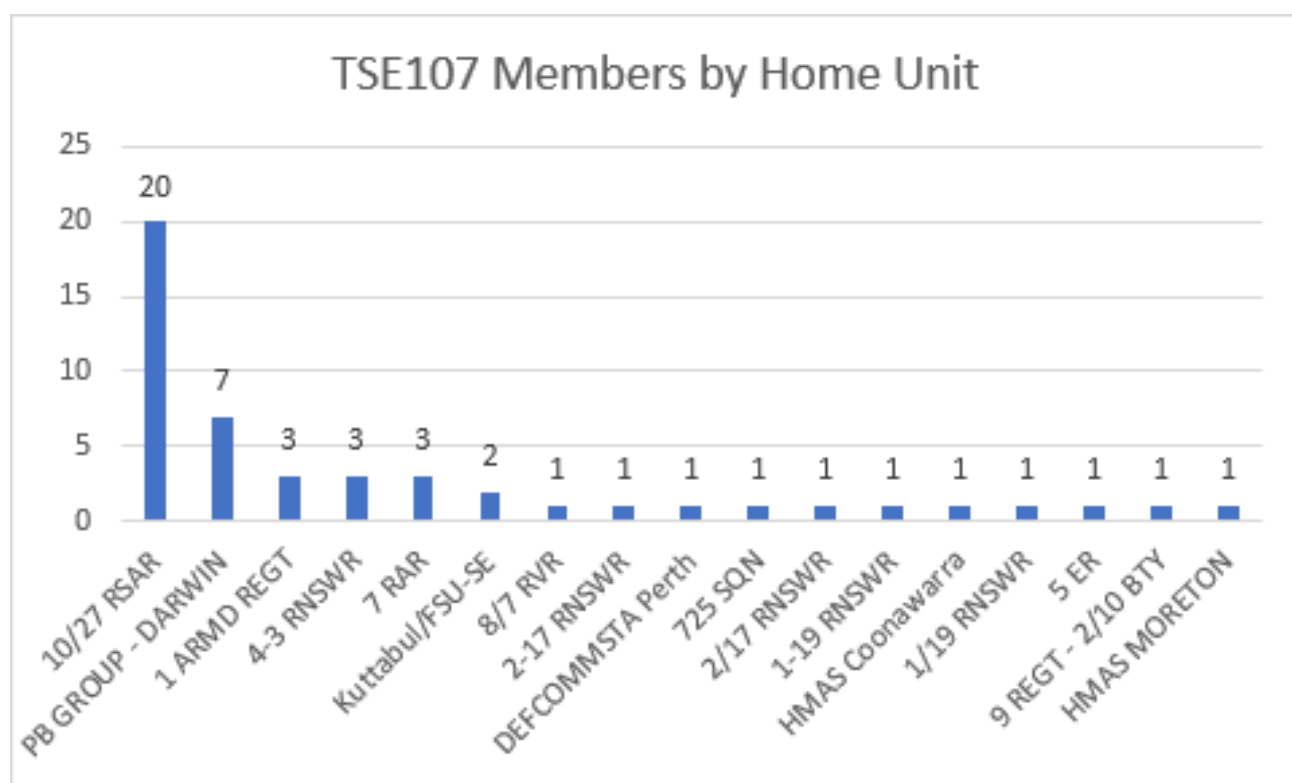
(WO2 Blondell's feature in the latest edition of the Newsletter was noted... he advised me to take many photos and BPT share the experience for a future edition).  
Thank you all again.

Kind Regards,

*Abes*

**SGT Michael Abraham**

"Pro Patria"





# Our Troops on the Front Liine



**Clockwise from Top:** 1. SGT Abraham and his crew enjoy some softies before OPS. 2. Uniforms have changed a bit since my day. 3. Survival At Sea Training is crucial before taking up a post on a sea-going vessel. 4. “Abes” with his RSAR Association Christmas Package. Very well appreciated by the recipients.





# Association Merchandise



Baseball Cap  
ONLY \$15



POLO TOP  
ONLY \$45

- 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



# MID YEAR LUNCHEON

Following on from the success of the 2022 AGM, we have secured a room at the Avoca Hotel for a Mid Year Luncheon. Those who attended the AGM will verify the comfort of the venue and the high quality of the meals, so there is no excuse not to come along and have a chat and a meal with colleagues and mates.



**WHERE:** Avoca Hotel,  
South Rd, Clarence Gardens

**WHEN:** SUNDAY 19th March 2023 1100 hrs—1400 hrs

**WHY:** Because you asked for it.

**DRESS:** Need you ask?

Reservations required for Catering and Seating purposes to the Secretary at [davidlaing49@bigpond.com](mailto:davidlaing49@bigpond.com) or 0407 791 822

**Come for a meal and a drink and stay the afternoon.**







Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2023

EST  
2008

Membership Category

Date of Application / /

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Full Membership</b> \$30 (Former member of the RSAR)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Current Serving Military Member</b> Must have served with the RSAR or a sub unit. FREE 1st year. \$10 thereafter while still serving
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Non Voting Associate Member</b> \$15 (Spouses, non former members of RSAR)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Life Membership (By invitation Only)</b> <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 <b>name</b> as an identifier								
<input type="checkbox"/> CASH (In person to the Committee)	<input type="checkbox"/> I have paid my Fees by <b>Cheque</b> 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](http://www.rsara.asn.au)

Please send this completed application, with any proof of service to the RSAR Association Secretary at [davidlaing49@bigpond.com](mailto:davidlaing49@bigpond.com)



# FINANCIAL MEMBERS 2023

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