

# "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**

## NEW MEMBERS



During the Feb 5 Training Exercise at RAAF Base Edinburgh a number of RSARA Application Forms were handed out, and I'm pleased to announce we have 13 new members of the Association, all serving with the Battalion. They join for free for the 1st year and pay only \$10 per year thereafter while still serving. Please join me in welcoming:

Travis Thomas;  
Thomas Donald:  
David Chamberlain:  
James Lewis:  
Garry Turner:  
Paul Beames:  
Coen Duncan:  
Michael Migali:  
Andy Tran:  
Nigel Fortune:  
Kain McKenzie:  
Dianeever Barry-Orcales  
and (On 3rd March)  
WO2 Kev Threlfall

These new members certainly bring a wealth of service and experience to the Association, and it's hoped that many of their mates will follow trend and also join us in the near future, The Serving Members are the future of this Association.

Welcome all and Pro Patria

### Quick Picks

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

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# Australian Military Traditions and their Origins

## Wearing medals



Only the person awarded or issued medals may claim those medals as his or her own. He or she wears the medals on their left breast. Others (those who did not earn the medals) may honour the service of a relative by wearing medals on the right breast. Some veterans may be seen wearing medals on both breasts—their own on the left, and a relative's on the right. Unit citations are worn according to individual service instructions but are usually worn on the right. An ANZAC Commemorative Medallion and Badge was issued in 1967 to surviving Gallipoli veterans.



## Wearing rosemary

Rosemary is an emblem of remembrance. It is traditional on Anzac Day to wear a sprig of rosemary pinned to a coat lapel or to the breast (it does not matter which side, but left seems most common), or held in place by medals. Rosemary has particular significance for Australians on Anzac Day as it grows wild on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

## Laying a wreath or flowers

A wreath or a small bunch of flowers is traditionally laid on memorials or graves in memory of the dead. They might contain laurel, a traditional symbol of honour, and rosemary, or they may be native or other flowers. In recent years, it has also become popular to lay a wreath of red poppies—formerly associated with Remembrance Day, 11 November. Any of these wreaths or flowers are acceptable as a gesture of remembrance.





# Military Traditions

## The Ode

The Ode comes from the fourth stanza of the poem *For the Fallen* by the English poet and writer, Laurence Binyon. It was published in London in *The Winnowing Fan: Poems of the Great War* in 1914. It was used in association with commemorative services in Australia by 1921.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
we will remember them.

At the Anzac Day ceremony, an invited speaker often recites The Ode and upon his or her completion of the recitation, those present repeat the last words 'We will remember them'. After a short pause this is followed by 'Lest we forget'.



## The Last Post

This is one of a number of bugle calls in the military tradition to mark phases of the day. Traditionally, it marked the end of the day. The Last Post was incorporated into funeral and memorial services as a final farewell, and symbolises that the duty of the dead is over and that they can rest in peace. On Anzac Day, it is followed by one or two minutes of silence, then a second bugle call, Reveille (also known as The Rouse).



# EDITORIAL

**A**s per the feature in last month's newsletter, the February Training Exercise at RAAF Base Edinburgh was once again well catered for by our members, and more pics are on Pages 12 & 13. It's always hard procuring, preparing and serving lunch for over 170 personnel, but thanks to our Chief Caterer Col Abel the food served was well received by the troops, with no complaints forthcoming. Keep it up Col and team. Thanks also to Renee Groffen, WO2 Mark Blondell and WO1 Scott Hannan for the photos.

**M**ost of the photos on these pages are also posted in our Association Facebook page, and can be viewed there before this newsletter is published. And please get our name correct! We've had folk call us the "10/27 Battalion Association", the "10/27/43 Association" and even the "10 Battalion Association." we are none of those. We are made up of former and current serving soldiers of 1 RSAR, 10 RSAR, 27 RSAR, 43 RSAR and 10/27 RSAR, and we are known as the Royal South Australia Regiment Association, or RSAR Association. We also have a great website which can be viewed by going to [www.rsara.asn.au](http://www.rsara.asn.au). Check them out!

**D**ur Association has planned and executed a number of formal Dining In Nights over the years, and these have been extremely successful and well patronized by the members, but we've received a number of requests from younger members about "why don't we have a Dining In Night for OR's?" Well, we've listened and heard your requests, so a DIN is being planned for hopefully later on in the year where all serving members and Association members can attend, regardless of rank. Wives and partners also welcome of course! Watch this space!

**P**adre Paul Ghanem has a number of publications in his office at 10/27 Bn HQ that he'd love to give away. (See the pics on Page 12) Directed towards the young soldier they're designed to help you through the day and provide you with information and strategies to help you understand and explore your spirituality. As well as the Holy Bible, there is a "Viewy Twoey" type Spiritual Wellbeing pad, with some handy skill building exercises, a large and small Daily Devotional, which both contain passages like the "Soldiers Prayer", the "Commanders Prayer" and "Steps to becoming a Christian". Should anyone wish to receive 1 or more copies of these handy books, drop us a line telling us which ones you'd like and we'll post them out to you FREE OF CHARGE by return mail. Easy!

That's what I think!

*David Laing*

Editor - "Sitrep, Over!"

0407 791 822

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



## 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)



# New A Coy Sign

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



## A COMPANY HQ

A new sign for 10/27 Battalion A Company HQ at Warradale Barracks was recently commissioned and funded by the RSAR Association and manufactured by Garry Allen from Oz Signs in Murray Bridge. Measuring 1830 mm x 1220 mm (6 feet x 4 feet in the old language) the sign was picked up and transported to Warradale by A Coy personnel WO2 Mark Blondell, WO2 Kev Threlfall and CPL Paul Zuromski, and installed by them after some minor modifications. Well done all!



# OUR CARTOON HOSTS

Last month I asked you about our Jokes Page Hosts, who they were and when they featured. The response has been less than overwhelming, (NO ENTRIES AT ALL!) therefore I have awarded myself an RSARA Stubby Holder and a Baseball Cap. Thanks for that!

Just for your information, here are the hosts! (Makes me wonder if anyone actually reads this journal?)

Our first host was Private Knuckles, and he came to us in April 2011. In February 2012 he was promoted to Corporal for service rendered to the RSAR Association. Following on from Knuckles was Private Gomad in 2014, and he was an un-

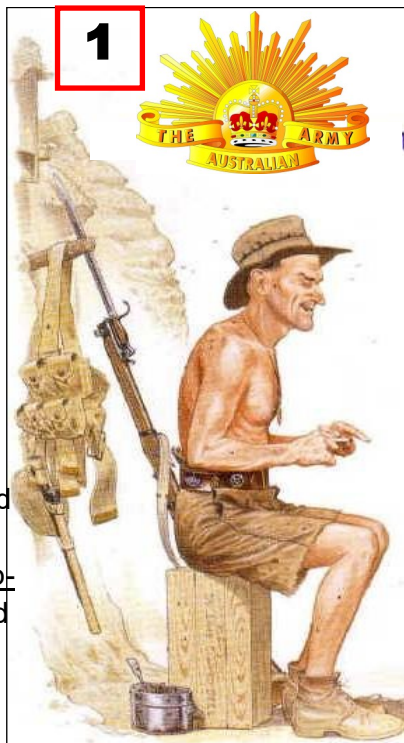
kempt, slovenly digger from the Great War. A bit like my grand dad.

In March 2017 we changed the face of humour, bringing to you CPL Davo, a character from the early 70's and 80's. He was replaced in Jan 2020 by Pte Ted who was in turn replaced by Cpl Numbnutz, who has lasted through COVID and is itching for some leave.

A new jokester called Colour Sergeant Bourne is now the purveyor of funnies, so please welcome him on Page 5,6 & 7.



**Private Gomad reckons.....**



**LCPL Knuckles**



**CPL DAVOS'  
PAGE**



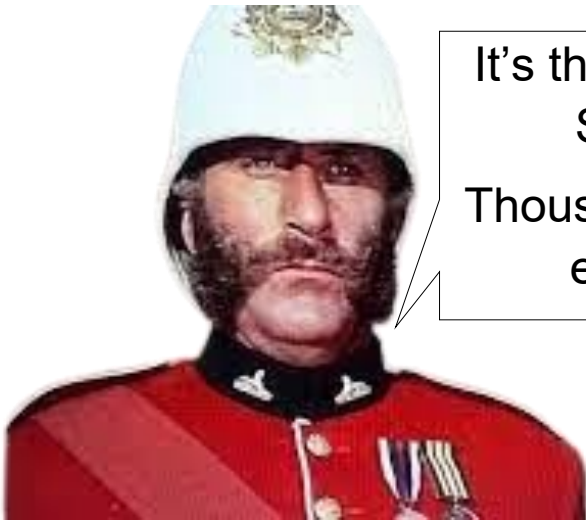
**Cpl Numbnutz  
funnies...**



**Private Ted**



# Colour Sergeant Bourne's Funnies



It's the Zulus  
Sir.  
Thousands of  
em!

## GOVERNMENT NOTICE!

To help save the economy, the Government will announce next month that the Immigration Department will start deporting seniors (instead of illegals) in order to lower Social Security and Medicare costs.

Older people are easier to catch and will not remember how to get back home. Be sure to send this notice to your relatives and friends, so they'll know what happened to you.

I started to cry when I thought of you.

Then it dawned on me; I'll see you on the bus.

One day you'll  
find someone that  
is obsessed with  
you.  
It's probably going  
to be a dog, but  
it is what it is.

**REMEMBER:**  
When you bury  
a body, cover it  
with endangered  
plants so it's  
illegal to dig it up.

Follow me for more  
gardening tips!



I SAY, RORKE, HAVE  
YOU FARTED?"

**THE ORIGIN OF RORKE'S  
DRIFT HAS LONG BEEN THE SUBJECT  
OF INTENSE SPECULATION**



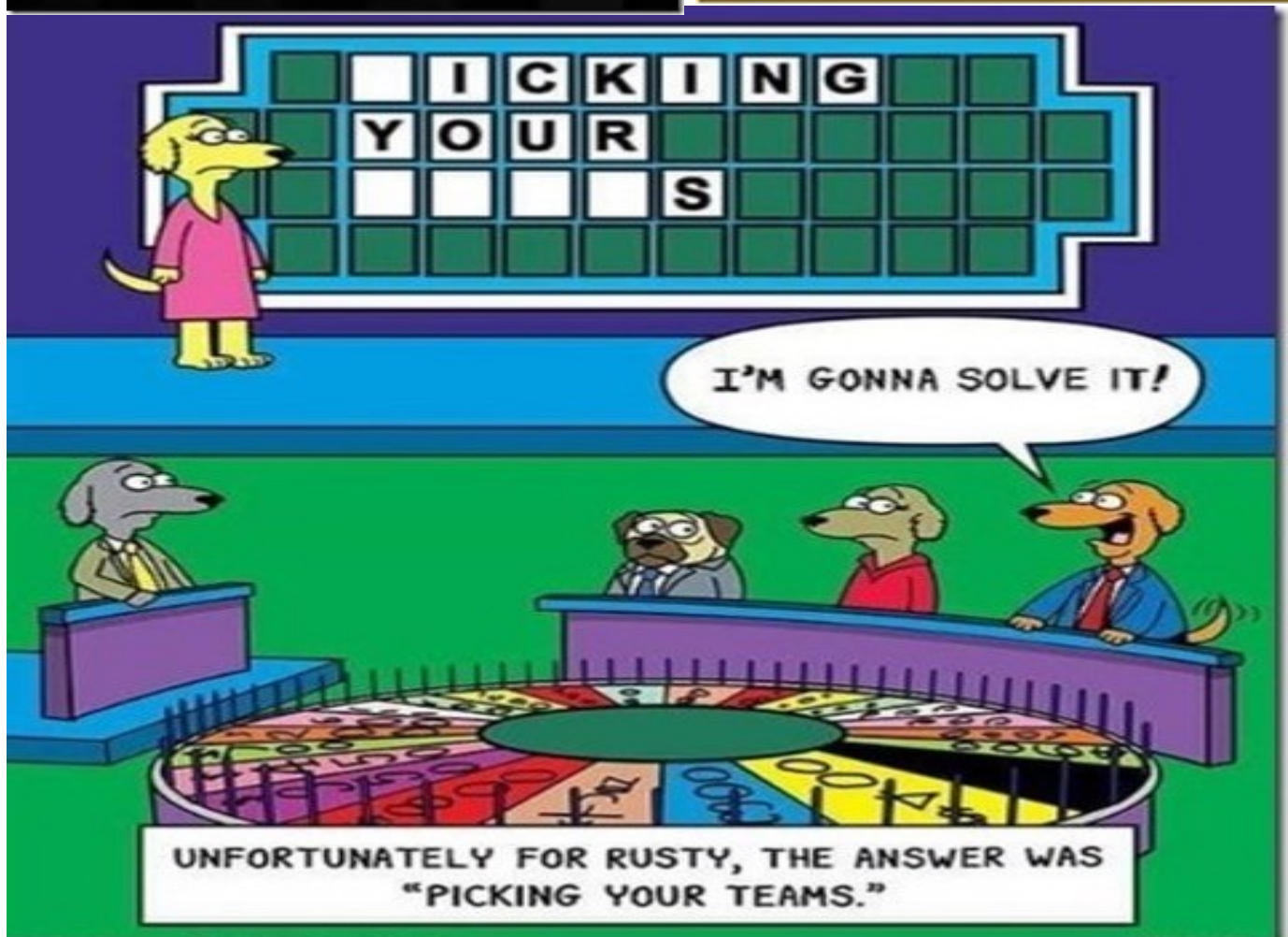


I used to be able to do cartwheels. Now I tip over putting on my underwear.

**I think senility is going to be a fairly smooth transition for me.**

**My favorite part of attending a marathon is watching the reaction of runners who grab my plastic cup of vodka.**

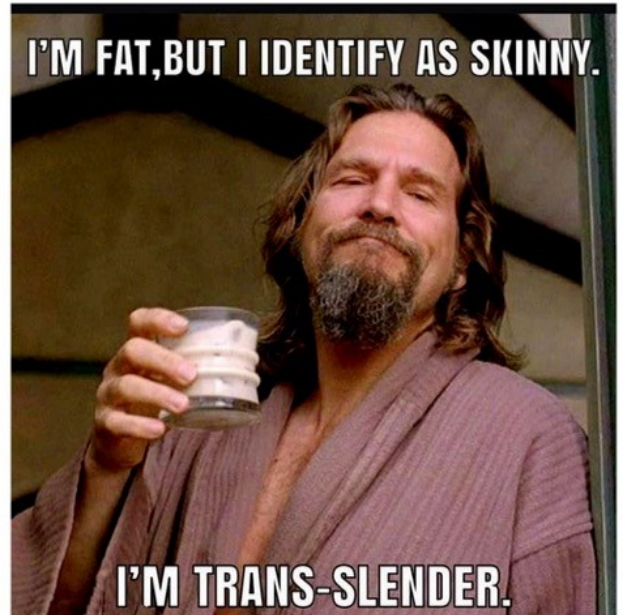
**You can tell a lot about a woman by her hands. For instance, if they're around your throat she's probably slightly upset.**







I told my wife she  
should embrace  
her mistakes . . .  
so she  
hugged me.



My wife says I have 2 major faults.  
I don't listen, and something else!






# WATCH OUT FOR YOUR KIDS

I have grandchildren who loved nothing better than building a cubby house (fort, humpy, shelter etc) with Grand Dad and then turning it into a veritable fortress, impenetrable to everyone including nuclear weapons. Certain ways were thought up to protect the fort from intruders, including trip wires bringing down tins of urine, and other unsavoury items. The letter below is from the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 12th Regiment, Royal School of Military Engineering at Chatham in Kent, UK.



Obviously kids will be kids, and our mates from the other side of the world are no different, hence the letter to their parents.

Oh to be a kid again!

 12 RSME REGIMENT  
CHATTENDEN BARRACKS  
CHATTENDEN  
ROCHESTER KENT ME3 8NQ

Telephone Chatham Mil (766) ) Ext  
Civil 0634 82 )  
FAX No 2603

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All Occupants  
Married Quarters  
Chattenden

Our reference

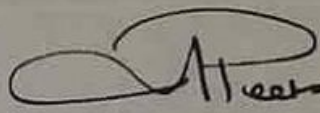
Date 15 Mar 93

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Dear Householder

It has become apparent that children are constructing "Tree Houses" in the woodland near the married quarters in Chattenden. This is not a problem and they can continue to do so, however in order to protect the houses, they are laying "Booby Traps" which are very dangerous and can kill, one in particular is a steel picket suspended 18 feet and drops when a trip wire is pulled.

Please could you speak to your children and have them remove the traps and explain the seriousness of the situation. Thank You!



J. PEERS  
WO1 (RSM)  
For CO



# 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](mailto: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!

# PADRES PONDERINGS

By Chaplain Paul Ghanem

## Broken Lolly Jars and Other Broken Things

3 people never to piss off; the CO, the RSM and never ever, ever the Chief Clerk.

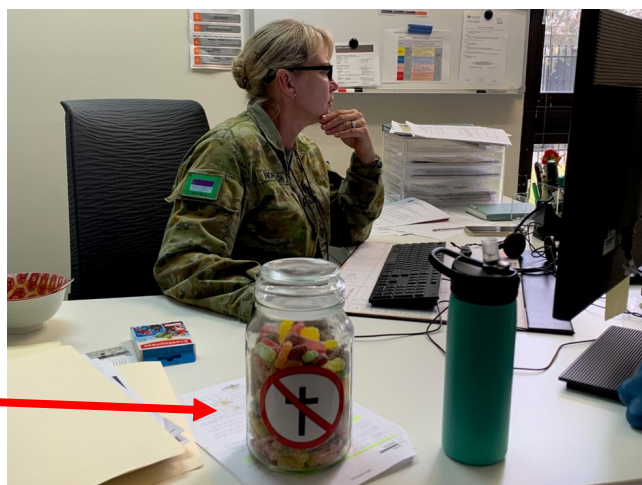
Last week I broke the Chief Clerk's lolly jar! A delicate coloured jar filled with sour lollies (how appropriate) and a farewell gift from one of her Sergeants. The RSM saw me do it and, realising this to be a war crime of epic proportions, immediately ran for cover leaving me exposed on the front line. Bluey, a junior clerk, branded me 'the lolly-jar breaker'. How does one recover from such a mistake, if in fact one ever can!

We all make mistakes, some worse than others. As a chaplain I get to hear the stories behind the worst mistakes ever made. It was on that same Parade Night that I heard such a story. It was the story of mistake that had jeopardised the life of this member, his family and his career.

Having voluntarily sought help he was met by an understanding CO. Now, in a much better place, he had learnt and grown from his mistake. Rather than hindering his chances of promotion or destroying his family the member was doing great and had secured not one, but two promotions. A serious error of judgement had led him on a path to wholeness.

Acknowledging a mistake, reaching out for help and seeking to make amends is a key component of resilience training. It takes humility, trust and a personal inner conviction to learn and grow.

I am still figuring out what this means for me in a practical sense. But for now the Chief's message is quite clear.



*The Padre*, 0408 163 257 'any time, any day'

24Hr On Call Chaplain, 0419 823 743

Open Arms, 1800 011 046.

*The books at right are those described in the Editorial on Page 4. Padre would love to get some out of his office and into your hands, and I speak from experience when I say they contain a "wealth of information."*

*Should you wish to avail yourself of one or all of these books, just drop us a line and we'll post them out FREE OF CHARGE.*

*Alternatively, if you're a Serving Member of 10/27 Battalion, call into the Padres office, and if he's there have a chat. If not, help yourself. He'd love you to!*

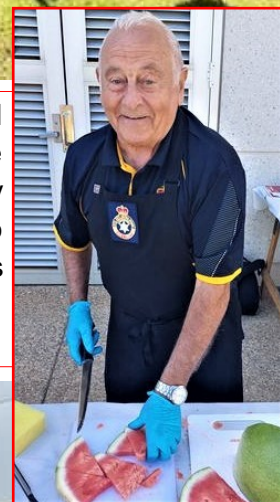




# Feb Trg Exercise at RAAF Base Edinburgh



Having a fully equipped kitchen is really nice for some, but our catering gurus need only a couple of FS tables to prepare the food and a couple of hotplates to cook the meat, and the job is done. Our “Chief Baitlayer” Col Abel (WO2 retired) spent many years catering for hundreds of soldiers on different exercises all over Australia, so this is just a small sample of what he’s capable of. But, we can’t do without him, as he also buys and prepares a lot of the rations prior to any exercise. Thanks Col!





## Feb Trg Exercise at RAAF Base Edinburgh



When the Battalion calls, the RSAR Association responds, and such was the case last month when 8 members of the Association travelled to RAAF Base Edinburgh to prepare and serve a BBQ and Salad lunch for 170 soldiers on their first training exercise for the year.

10/27 Ops staff ensured the stores were packed and transported to Edinburgh, and the RSAR Association provided the sausages, meat patties and various salads to keep everyone happy.

You can see all the photos on our Facebook page.







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

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	<b>Honorary Members</b>	
Laing	David	Gill	Graham	Benveniste LTCOL	Sam
Lakin	Bruce	Gordon	Frank	Wilson MAJGEN	Neil
Marlin	Robin	Groffen	Renee	Read WO1	Ben
Meredith	Mike	Harrington	Malcolm		
Miller	Nick	Harrison	John	<b>Hon Memb for Life</b>	
Moore	Terry	Harrison	Keith	Beames	Rodney
Moore	Thomas	Harrison	Nigel		
Paul	John	Hartshorne	Anthony		
Pollard	Barry	Hawkins	Des	<b>Associate Life Members</b>	
Richter	Sean	Higgins	Kevin	Elliott	Julie
Salamon	Piotr	Hill	Max	Field	Shirley
Sanderson	Max	Hudson	Rick	Johnson	Sally
Stewart	Robin	Hume	Matthew	Laing	June
Stewien	Peter	Humphrys	Jesse	Phillips	Heather
Vella	Joe	Jones	Brett	Sanderson	Lorraine
Waters	Ian	Koop	Joshua	Tregenza	Lyn
Watters	Matthew	Lewis			
Westover	Rhys	Loveder	Peter		
Wilson	Graham	Matchett	William	<b>Associate Members</b>	
Yorke-Simpkin	Reg	McCulloch	Don	Abel	Karen
		McIver	Bill	Brown	Jenni
		McKenzie	Kain	Carnachan	Dom
		Migali	Michael	Dunn	Trish
		Mitchell	Barry	Hudson	Margaret
		Moore	Peter	Johnson	Margaret
		Morony	Frank	Parsonage	Yvonne
		Mulroney	Dennis	Pollard	Kay
		Normandale	Zachary	Toy	Jill
		Oakley	Andrew	Winger	Kathleen
		O'Daly	Ryan		
		Orrock	Alan		
		Parslow	Howard		
		Parsonage	James		
		Pascoe	Michael		
		Payne	Bob		
		Pexton	Timothy		
		Phillips	Colin Rex		