



Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc.

MINUTES

Of the Annual General Meeting of the Association,
held at the Avoca Hotel
on Sunday 24th October 2021.

| | Topic | MINUTE | Action |
|---|------------------|--|--------|
| 1 | Opening | The meeting was declared open by the President at 1110 hrs after allowing for latecomers. He then recited the Ode of Remembrance. RB welcomed guests CO LTCOL Sam Benveniste, Chaplain Capt Paul Ghanem and RSM WO1 Ben Read to the meeting. | |
| 2 | Attendance | 46 Members. See Attendance Register | |
| 3 | Apologies | 41 Members. See Attendance Register. | |
| 4 | Previous Minutes | The Minutes of the previous meeting Sunday 7 th August 2020 were read by Secretary David Laing RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved D. Laing; Seconded D. Ranger. Carried. | |
| 5 | Matters Arising | 1. None | |
| 6 | REPORTS | <p><u>Presidents Report:</u> (Presented after Secretary) Is at Annex A. Moved R. Beames. Seconded D. Laing. Carried.</p> <p><u>Secretaries Report.</u> Is at Annex B. Moved D. Laing. Seconded I. Carnachan. Carried.</p> <p><u>Treasurers Report</u> Is at Annex C. Moved C. Bennett. Seconded H. Parslow. Carried R. Beames explained the 2 x donations we had received via Bendigo Bank</p> <p><u>Band Report from D. Portakiewicz</u> (Read by Sec) Is at Annex D. Moved D. Laing. Seconded L. Gaborit. Carried</p> <p><u>Padres Statement</u> (Read by Sec) Is at Annex E. Moved P. Ghanem. Seconded D. Laing Carried</p> <p><u>Historical Officers Report</u> Is at Annex F Moved Des Hawkins. Seconded D. Ranger. Carried</p> <p>No Reports from J. Humphrys or M. Abraham.</p> | |

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|----|--------------------|---|-----|
| 7 | General Business | <p><u>Annual Fees</u> D. Laing moved that fees remain unchanged for 2021/22. That is \$20 for full members and \$10 for associates. 2nd N. Tregenza. Carried.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some discussion was entered into re: Annual Fees for Hard Copy newsletter subscribers. DL said the committee had voted to increase those 5 members fees to \$25. A number of members were critical of this process, and after further discussion it was decided the Association would subsidise those members for the coming year. The situation is to be re-visited in 2022. <p><u>Election of Officer Bearers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rod Beames for President. Carried • Des Hawkins for Vice President. Carried • David Laing for Secretary. Carried. • Christian Bennett for Treasurer. Carried • Norm Tregenza for CoM. Standing Down • Colin Phillips for CoM. Standing Down • Nat Cooke for CoM. Standing Down • Chap Paul Ghanem for Bn Liaison. Carried unanimously, and a clap of thunder was heard from the sky. • Jesse Humphrys for Webmaster. Carried • David Portakiewicz for Band Liaison. Carried • Michael Abraham for Serving Members. Carried. • Corey Skapin for Assistant Secretary. Carried <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All positions valid for a further 12 months. 2. No further nominations were received from the floor. DL explained that we would like more Serving Members to be on the committee, and they could join at any time during the year. DL also thanked Norm, Nat and Colin for their support and assistance throughout the past 4 years. 3. A motion was moved from DL to raise the Life Members fee to \$300. After the motion was voted on and carried, a discussion took place between members. A number of suggestions were put forward, but the floor decided to hold any price rise in obedience until next year, and if the Annual Fees should increase then the Life Membership should also increase. DL rescinded his motion and it was recorded as being NULL. | |
| 8 | Any Other Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Ranger mentioned the current situation between the State Government and TTD, and how we should not allow “carte blanche” changes to the precinct without our approval. • DL advised that the Association was part of a consortium made up to advise the State Government on what we would like to see happen with the venue. | |
| 9 | Future functions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COM meeting Friday 26th November @ 1200 hrs Keswick Barracks • EOY BBQ 19th December 2021 @ 1100 Keswick Barracks | |
| 10 | Next AGM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next AGM Sunday 7th August 2022 @ Avoca | Sec |

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|
| 11 | Closure | The President thanked all those attending and declared the meeting closed at 1216 hrs. Members adjourned for lunch. | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|

Signed *Computer copy digitally signed*

Rodney Beames

President

Royal South Australia Regiment Association Inc

Date: 25th October 2021

Presidents Report is at Annex A (Read after Annex B was read)

Secretary's Report is at Annex B

Treasurers Report is at Annex C

Bandmasters Report is at Annex D

Padres Statement is at Annex E

Historical Officers Report is at Annex F

Attendees & Apologies is at Annex G

Annex A

RSARA President's report for AGM August, 2021.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

There is a reason why I follow the Secretary with my Annual President's report, and that is to keep it short. Most of the "thank yous" have already been said and rightly so. ANZAC Day was a COVID 19 event again this year , not that I could have marched in a wheel chair. Des Hawkins and 14 others marched behind the banner with honour. We are always calling for volunteers for this and that, and I appreciate all the positive responses.

We again fed the troops at Edinburgh in February and we will need a hand to construct the shelter at Keswick , for the restored WW1 German cannon captured by 10 Battalion soldiers in that conflict.

I am often called upon to represent the Association and I am honoured to be able to do this. There is a Defence Reserves Association conference being held in Adelaide in August and I will be attending.

I recently visited the museum work squad. These volunteer men and women are cataloguing all our historical collection pieces. I was impressed with the dedication, accuracy and neatness of the output from this group.

As the secretary has alerted, I'm due for a change of luck. My friends say I must have run over a Chinaman. I say I must have hit the whole damn tribe or whatever the collective noun is..

The Battalion can sometimes use our support with a spare pair of hands and therefore we need to be ready. So far this year I haven't exactly ticked that box, but I'm now looking forward to doing my bit.

My thanks again, to our secretary and editor of Sitrep. David and I (believe or not) are a good working team. Now its his turn to front up at the hospital and I wish him God's speed to a healthy recovery.

I close with the words of any winning coach at quarter time, Keep doing the good work and we will win in the end.

Rod Beames

Annex B

2021 RSARA Secretaries Report

Thanks to the COVID pandemic, the past year has been very quiet from my perspective, although we continue to increase the size of our membership steadily each year, thanks to our website, our Facebook page, but more importantly by word of mouth of our Serving Members.

I thank Webmaster Jesse Humphrys for his constant updates of our website, and it's his efforts that manage to keep us in the public face. Thanks Jesse.

I also thank those committee members who have gone above and beyond what is normally expected of them, especially Norm Tregenza and his ANZAC Day poster initiative, and Des Hawkins in his role as Association Historian. Thanks Norm & Des.

Bravo Company of 10/27 Battalion and the Regimental Band are our main source of recruiting, and the soldiers are starting to see the value of supporting the Association that supports the Battalion.

A number of the Old & Bold supported our former A Company 10 Battalion CSM Ian Carnachan and helped him celebrate his milestone 80th birthday in June at the Republic Hotel in Norwood. It was great to see so many old faces again and recount the lies that we told 50 years ago.

It's great to see Rod Beames out of his moon boot and out of his arm cast. For a bloke who spent most of his life working with electricity I'm surprised he hasn't killed himself way before now. He has assured me the next time he goes to "The Shack" to do some renovations, he'll take me along to hold the ladder and dial Triple 0 as required.

Rod and I had the honour of attending an Australian War Memorial Last Post Ceremony for former Battalion member, the late Captain Paul McKay, which was live streamed to the Keswick Barracks Officers Mess in July. It was attended by about 50 friends and family members, and the Battalion was well represented by CO LTCOL Sam Benveniste, Captain Mitch Wyatt, Padre Paul Ghanem and Brigade Commander Brigadier Graham Goodwin. The moving ceremony ended at Keswick with each attendee laying a Poppy of Remembrance in place before a photo of Captain McKay. Paul's parents Angela and John were present at the Canberra Service.

I also attended a service at the Two Wells RSL in July which saw the unveiling of a memorial plaque in the Middle East Conflicts Memorial Garden commemorating the service of Captain McKay, and I was given the honour of reciting The Ode of Remembrance during that service.

Do you need a reason to join the RSAR Association? We provide funding to pay for the purchase and maintenance of Regimental Band musical instruments and equipment. The Association also funds the purchase of the Bands' Mess Dress white uniforms for performances throughout the year.

Do you need a reason to join the RSAR Association? We purchase, prepare, pack and post Christmas Care Packages for Battalion members serving overseas during the Christmas period. Fruit and nut packages from local producers are sent to our soldiers who are away from home at Christmas, to make them aware that we all thank them for their service, and wish them seasons tidings.

Do you need a reason to join the RSAR Association? One of the many ways we support the Regiment is by the upkeep and maintenance of Battalion Honour Boards throughout the year. We have the names of high achievers added each year, so visitors and serving members can see who has been awarded the highest honours by the Battle Group.

In a nutshell, and according to our Constitution our objectives are stated as such:

2. OBJECTIVES

- (a) To perpetuate the Royal South Australia Regiment (RSAR), hereinafter referred to as The Regiment.
- (b) To cultivate and maintain the comradeship created during service with The Regiment.
- (c) To provide enjoyment for members and their wives or partners through social activity.
- (d) To provide whatever tangible support for the active units of The Regiment as may be within the capability and resources of The Association.
- (e) To provide and present special awards to Serving Members of The Regiment to acknowledge outstanding achievement.
- (f) To raise the funds necessary to achieve the objectives of The Association.
- (g) To acquire any property that may be required to meet the objectives of The Association.
- (h) To provide support for the Royal South Australia Regiment Historical Collection (RSAR Historical Collection).

If anyone wishes to know what we do, tell them this. We Perpetuate the Regiment. See you all next year.

David Laing - Secretary/Editor

Addition to Original 2021 Secretary's Report

The original 2021 Secretaries Report was published in the August newsletter and can be viewed on our website. Since the cancellation of the original AGM, not a lot has happened as far as Battalion support goes, except our Presidents constant liaison with the Battalion staff.

From my perspective as Secretary, my job has been made easier by the constant stream of military stories sent to me by members which I have published in "Sitrep, Over!" I urge you to continue with this as it makes for some interesting reading. However, please DO NOT write out in pencil on multiple sheets of note paper, 20,000 words about stories you may think I will find interesting and may wish to pass them on! I WILL NOT waste three hours to type out every word onto a Word document so I can add it to the newsletter. If you wish to email or scan stories and pictures, please feel free to do so, and I will do my best to pass them on. Otherwise I shall spend my time fishing!

Since I became Secretary in 2010 a large number of members have served on the Committee of Management. Some of those will stand down today after serving the Association, it's members and the Regiment for a number of years. In years to come it is the Serving Members of the Battalion who will make up the committee of this association, and we are fortunate to already have 5 on our Committee. Vacancies will

occur today, and I urge anyone with a couple of hours to spare to nominate for the vacant positions. Having said that, I would like to thank the following for their support.

Alan Hook, Ian Carnachan, Tex Ranger, Brian Main, John Rathmann, Alan Orrock, Ross Fridday, Graham Gilmore, Bob Boscence, Bob James, Jim Thomson, Norm Rathmann, Norm Tregenza, Frank Morony, Alex Klopf, Rodney Beames, Paul Klopf, Nat Cooke, Brian Preece, Grant James, Jesse Humphrys, Mick Standing, Mark Blondell, David Portakiewicz, David Hope, Colin Phillips, Des Hawkins, Christian Bennett, Corey Skapin, Michael Abraham (32)

To finish off I would like to comment on the current situation governing Torrens Training Depot and the Parade Ground. Most of the soldiers in this room would have served at Torrens Training Depot at one time or other over the past 60 years, and therefore have a vested interest in its future.

The State Government have undertaken to make the precinct more user-friendly by adding "Storage Pods and Sliding Walls" to the interior. Once it was outlined in the media a large number of personnel voiced their opposition to these plans which has caused the government to have a rethink about the entire restoration process. The RSAR Association is part of a combined consortium formed to provide the State Government with ideas to make better use of the precinct whilst still retaining its appeal and heritage. We welcome any valid ideas that will assist the government meet its goals to make better use of these facilities.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Laing', written in a cursive style.

David Laing
Secretary/Editor
20th October 2021

Annex C

Treasurers Report

Royal South Australia Regiment Association – Treasurer’s Report 2021 AGM

Dear Members,

This is my first year as your Treasurer and my first year to report to you the Association’s finances over the 2020/21 financial year.

I took on the role of Treasurer thinking it would mostly be what I experienced during being on a committee at University. I was in for a rude shock. There are spreadsheets to track monthly expenditure, yearly auditing that must take place and people mailing money to me (not that there’s anything wrong with that!). It was to say the least, a steep learning curve that also involved recognising that I need to manage my work and life balance better to ensure I can keep on top of the Association’s bookwork and don’t keep you, the Members, waiting.

I wouldn’t have got through my first year without a lot of support, so I want to firstly thank my predecessor, David Hope, for setting me up for success with a follow the bouncing ball approach to keeping the records and for supporting me whenever I ran into issues or was unsure of what I was doing.

I also want to thank the committee for tolerating my absences at meetings due to work travel and supporting me with doing a lot of the background work. Especially David Laing and Corey Skapin for taking on the task of updating the financial membership list.

But most of my gratitude goes to you, the Members, who often don’t hear from me for prolonged periods and are unsure if I have received your email or letter. I appreciate your patience with me as I find my feet and I apologise to you all for not being on top of everything. I know I’m not off to a great start but it is a goal of mine to ensure that I get back to you all in a more timely manner and to plan work travel around the committee meetings.

My aim as your Treasurer is to continue to ensure that the Association remains in a financially suitable position and to build upon the work of David Hope to ensure that the Association is set up for success in the long term.

I commend the audited financial statements for the 2020/21 financial year for your approval.

Christian Bennett
Treasurer
22 October 2021

Annex D

Bandmasters Report for 2021 AGM

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

The Band has again had a very interesting and productive year. The band has supported its traditional tasks, including the ANZAC Day dawn services and March, Junior Leaders Course graduation parades, commemorative services and Mess dinners. In total the Band has conducted 26 tasks so far this year.

The main highlight for the year, so far, was the Band's major concert held in September at the St Peter's Girl's hall where it helped raised funds for both the RSARA and the Partners of Veterans Association (PVA). The Band is currently planning its next Concert for ANZAC Day eve 2022. So, save the date!

The Band has also continued its strong push to recruit new members. The Band has enlisted 3 new members with a further member passing their audition and is currently doing his pre-recruit training at Hampstead with AUR. He is booked into go to Kapooka in February next year. The Band is also rumoured to feature in the Battalion's promotions and commendations at the Battalion's end of year parade on Sunday afternoon the 28th of November.

On a sad note, SSGT Grant James has been posted to 1 Armoured Regiment leaving the Band after 21 years. SSGT James has been with the Band and the Battalion since 2000. One of his most treasured memories whilst with the Band was leading the Band as the Drum Major at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Scotland. To add to his long list of accomplishments and awards during his service, SSGT James was awarded his Federation Star in October this year for 40 years of service in the Australian Army.

The Band will continue to remain extremely busy until the end of the year. The Band is tasked every weekend and several weekdays until the battalion Stand-down period.

Some of the tasks include Remembrance Day and the Premier's Remembrance Day Virtual Memorial. The Virtual Memorial will be a light and video show that will be projected onto the Torrens Parade Ground where the Band will provide the Audio and musical accompaniment. The Virtual Memorial will run for the 10 nights leading up to Remembrance Day.

The Band will also be featured at this year's Christmas Pageant at the Adelaide oval which is gearing up to be a spectacular that has never before been done or seen by the Pageant committee. The Band will be doing some rural engagements including Berri and Mt Gambier during the month of November. The Band will be performing a Concert in the Botanical Gardens in Mount Gambier on Saturday 6 November to help raise funds for the Mt Gambier RSL.

The Band continues to improve and grow in leaps and bounds and our great work would not be possible without the continued support of the Association, especially its committee members. It has been the Association's support that has allowed the Band to continue its fantastic work. The Association supports the Band in several ways including the maintenance of the Band's instruments.

Myself and the Band would specifically like to recognise the hard work of Rod Beames and David Laing in support of the Band. **WO2 D. Portakiewicz**

Annex E

Padres Statement

Greetings David,

Below is my statement which you are free to keep as is, make changes yourself or suggest changes you may like me to make. I hope it is concise, as well as brief.

I regret not being able to make the meeting on 26 Nov as it clashes with the Chaplains Regional Seminar. The seminar is scheduled to finish at 1500 - will try to get away earlier and be a last minute inclusion.

Keep Well & Stay Safe
The Padre

CHAPLAIN

An AGM provides an opportunity to look back and to look forward.

Looking back I am grateful for the opportunity to learn the work of the Association and to get to know its' aims, goals and objectives as well as to provide whatever form of pastoral support I could.

Looking forward I challenge myself to personally invite as many young serving members as I can to become part of the Association. This goal comes from my observation that most diggers only call out for help once their period of ADF service is over. Remaining connected is of vital importance and will contribute to the overall health of the Regiment and the objectives of the CO and the Association President.

Paul Ghanem OFM
0408 163257

Annex F

Historical Officers Report for AGM 2021

Up until recently it has proven to be quite a year as far as requests for Historical Research to be undertaken.

My involvement with the Army Museum of SA at Keswick Barracks has proven quite valuable and allowed me to provide the recent article in "Sitrep, Over!" regarding the relocating of the WW1 10 Bn. War Trophy – a (FK) 16 77mm German Field Artillery piece to the front of 10/27 BHQ.

Member Max Hill has put forward 2 requests for Historical articles to be included in our magazine.

The first on WO1 John Percival which is completed and should be published shortly.

I'm finalizing my research for the second article which will be on Lt. Col. Maurice Wilder-Neligan, the last WW1 CO of 10 Bn.

Des Hawkins

Historical Officer

Annex G

2021 AGM Attendees & Apologies

| | 2021 attending | 2021 apologies | | Attending | Apologies |
|----|-------------------|--------------------|----|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | David Laing | Aaron Jackson | 39 | Piotr Salamon | Josie Klopf |
| 2 | June Laing | Bruce Lakin | 40 | Jackie Salamon | Alan Hook |
| 3 | Rod Beames | Joe Vella | 41 | Corey Skapin | Phillipa Hook |
| 4 | Ian Carnachan | Phil Brookes | 42 | Shirley Ranger | |
| 5 | Norm Tregenza | Stephen Rado | 43 | Lee Rossetti | |
| 6 | Lyn Tregenza | Neil Wilson | 44 | Burnard 2 | |
| 7 | Dave Tasker | Nigel Harrison | 45 | Burnard 3 | |
| 8 | Jill Toy | Ian Waters | 46 | Burnard 4 | |
| 9 | Graham Elliott | Don McCulloch | | | |
| 10 | Julie Elliott | Mike Meredith | | | |
| 11 | Howard Parslow | Paul Johnson | | | |
| 12 | Grant James | Sally Johnson | | | |
| 13 | Christian Bennett | Mimi Ewens | | | |
| 14 | Barry Pollard | John Harrison | | | |
| 15 | Kay Pollard | Terry Moore | | | |
| 16 | Peter Dunn | Ian Carpenter | | | |
| 17 | Trish Dunn | Graham Goodwin | | | |
| 18 | Julie Snieidze | Bill Matchett | | | |
| 19 | Mr Sniedze | Simon Schu | | | |
| 20 | Trent Burnard | Col Abel | | | |
| 21 | Des Hawkins | Chris Acton | | | |
| 22 | Lyn Hawkins | Jim Thomson | | | |
| 23 | Mike Hudson | Trevor Dew | | | |
| 24 | Brian Preece | David Hope | | | |
| 25 | Colin Phillips | Max Sanderson | | | |
| 26 | Hank Ramm | Lorraine Sanderson | | | |
| 27 | Margaret Ramm | Shirley Field | | | |
| 28 | Keith Eva | Heather Phillips | | | |
| 29 | Wayne Burns | Mark Blondell | | | |
| 30 | CHAP Paul Ghanem | Max Hill | | | |
| 31 | Tex Ranger | Heather Hill | | | |
| 32 | Bob Dunn | Alan Orrock | | | |
| 33 | Mrs Bob Dunn | Ray Burton | | | |
| 34 | Lyndon Gaborit | Barry Johnson | | | |
| 35 | Renee Groffen | Margaret Johnson | | | |
| 36 | Barry Mitchell | Nat Cooke | | | |
| 37 | Sam Benveniste | David Portakiewicz | | | |
| 38 | WO1 Ben Read | Alex Klopf | | | |