



The Newsletter of the 9 RAR Association SA Family  
published May and November annually

# Nine

December 2017

# News

## 9 RAR SA - PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

It goes without saying that the 50th year formation of the Battalion celebration in November has taken priority this year.

Graveside services for SA 10 war dead were conducted by Adrian Craig and his team and were well attended by our members. Thanks to all who assisted Adrian, in particular Sandra Craig, Lyn and Jim Fisher, Warren and Barb Featherby and Mick Mummery.

Anzac day was again well attended and many thanks to Mick, who could not attend, for organizing the room at the Lion Hotel.

The Escape to the Country was at Clare with a draft programme prepared by Janet Stacey. From all reports the time at the Clare Caravan Park was enjoyed by those who attended.

This now gives me an opportunity to thank Bob Plummer and his committee for the planning

and execution of the National 9 RAR Reunion in Adelaide. Every detail was carefully thought through. Each company planned their own celebration, the whole battalion coming together at the Hilton Hotel for the dinner. Our inductee, John Schumann and his band, entertained us in a way only John can.

I must say, the commemorative service at Keswick organized in fine detail by Adrian Craig, maintained the military ethos. Unfortunately, the hot north wind sweeping the parade ground tested all in attendance.

The final reunion event, the picnic hosted by the Follett family at Lake Breeze Winery, Langhorne Creek, was enjoyable in spite of the steady rain.

Thank you,

*David Stacey, President*

On behalf of 9 RAR members I extend condolences to the family of **Gail Margaret Rixon**, wife of Greg, who sadly passed away in Adelaide on 16 November following the national reunion.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please refer to the last page of the newsletter for office bearers and appointments from the AGM held on 7 December at the RARSA HQ, Linden Park. My sincere thanks to those who have committed to the team in the past and I look forward to working with the continuing and new members of the committee.

In particular I thank Laurie Lewis personally for his contribution and wise mentoring as Patron of 9 RARSA over very many years.

We must also thank Di for her generous and gracious support.

Best wishes for a very successful 2018 to Patron Warren Featherby, re-elected Vice-President Michael Mummery, continuing VP Gene Costa, secretary/treasurer Bob Plummer and those appointed.

*David Stacey, President*

## EXCERPT FROM THE 9th BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT 50th Anniversary commemorative service

### THE MEMORIAL Author unknown

We tried, we tried, oh God we tried  
so we could be here too  
and walk around remembering  
and look for names we knew

Our lives were lost so far away  
upon a distant shore  
but we are here in memory  
as you read our names once more

Remember us, remember us,  
although we're truly gone  
remember us, as we once were  
and not just names in stone.

### POEM BY MICK SHAVE

Keswick Barracks (November 2017)  
Being the 50th reunion of 9th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment

Old soldiers never die,  
They just keep on marching by,  
In revue or by the right,  
Their legions prove a wondrous sight  
When viewed in memory.

But looking on with memory,  
Shows only what we want to see.  
And while illuminating youth,  
It hides from us the actual truth,  
Does memory.

It never shows the blood, the fear,  
It obfuscates the anguished tear,  
And as those shadows march on by,  
Do we forget they had to die - to live  
In memory?

## COMPANY REUNIONS 12 NOVEMBER, 2017 - VARIOUS LOCATIONS

## Battalion HQ/Admin. Coy/Support Coy - TPI House, 171 Richmond Road, Richmond

From Lyn Fisher's email sent at the end of the special day.

"Overwhelming appreciation from the 90-odd who attended TPI House this afternoon. Outstanding support from Rod Pope behind the bar. What a legend!

Fabulous facilities were enjoyed by our attendees.

Good food, great comradeship. Thanks to Leo and Rose Macpanas and Rose's team of helpers."



This is indeed special as we have Brian Innes (centre) who had not previously attended a reunion. With him, from left, Dave Leaman Jim Fisher, Peter Varricchio (standing), Haydn Madigan & Jim Moore



Jenny & Irish Mulree



Laraine Madigan caught up with Butch Hurling



Jeanette & Trevor Scarman, Mick Wood and Vic Barnes



Don & Carla Nottage from Qld (centre) with Frank & Margaret Clayton from WA





Admin & Support Company



Peter Varrichio with 3 lovely ladies, his partner Carmel on the right. The lady in middle is Sue Irving (wife of John) and an old school friend of Peters.



### **A Company - The Havelock Hotel, 162 Hutt Street, Adelaide**

The Havelock Hotel provided an excellent meal and venue for the approximately 90 who were present.

Special thanks to Greg Fahey, management and team for their hospitality at the Havelock.

Phil Gould, Company 2IC in Vietnam, gave the welcome speech.

Sue and Joan kindly provided the name tags. Everybody joined in to make this a wonderful occasion of camaraderie and friendship.

*Geoff Boettcher.*

**Vale Gail Margaret Rixon, wife of Greg, late of Goondiwindi,  
15 March 1948 - 16 November 2017, Adelaide**

## B Company - Goolwa RSL, Cutting Road, Goolwa

President Bob Plummer and members of the Goolwa RSL generously hosted the convivial B Company Reunion in their clubrooms. These premises are located in a tourist precinct adjacent to the Murray River and were formerly an historic horse stables.

A number of interstate veterans based themselves at scenic Goolwa for a few days, while the majority of veterans and families took the coach from Adelaide to Goolwa. The cost of these two coaches was kindly donated by Goolwa RSL.

Although a number have significant health issues, many travelled from interstate - Bill Peasey from UK - to attend the reunion. It was a tremendous treat to greet 5 Platoon veterans from a lifetime ago, in particular Ivan Clark and Marilyn.

The weather was perfect for reminiscing, greeting old and new friends, the partaking of a drink or two and the delicious and appetising lunch. As planned, spacious al fresco and lawned area and clubrooms were the perfect location for the gathering. Nearby the Signal Point Art Gallery and coffee shop overlooking the wharf area, Cockle Train, Hindmarsh Island Bridge, and the Oscar W paddle steamer, proved popular for some of the girls taking time-out.

Before we knew it the afternoon was gone and it was back on the bus for the return trip to Adelaide.



Signallers

Jim Muir, John Leahy, David Stacey and Brian Hamilton  
two zero alpha, two one, two two & two three

I would like to thank especially Bob, Vicky and Betty Plummer and members of the Goolwa RSL Club for making us so welcome.

President - Bob Plummer

Lunch - Vicki Plummer and her local team Pam Ballard and Margery Dale

Club Manager - Paul Menner

Barmen - John Dale and Darryl "Pinky" Pink

BBQ cooks - Peter Bottroff and Barry Jones

Sincere thanks also to -

9 RAR volunteers - Jill Greenhalgh, Lyn

Sorrensen and friend, Jan Stacey (flowers and home-grown/processed Kalamata olives)

Raffle prize donations - Merrin Stacey Cameron (limited edition print won by Lesley Richards),

Goolwa RSL members

B.-d. Farm, Paris Creek

(cheesemaker Rachael

Stacey) - donation of

organic cheese

including Brie,

Camembert, Nuage

Blanc, Gouda and

Cheddar.

Platter ingredients included very yummy strawberries from \*Con and Olga Piliouras, Fidler Lane, Mt Barker (whose strawberry farm is perilously close to the creeping urban development), and almonds by Clemco Pty Ltd, Langhorne Creek

\* open for farm shed sales during the strawberry season - often straight off the conveyor belt!

*David Stacey*



Webbing still fits Ivan Clark and Stuart Kaighin





## C Company - Brighton Surf Lifesaving Club, 147 Esplanade, Brighton

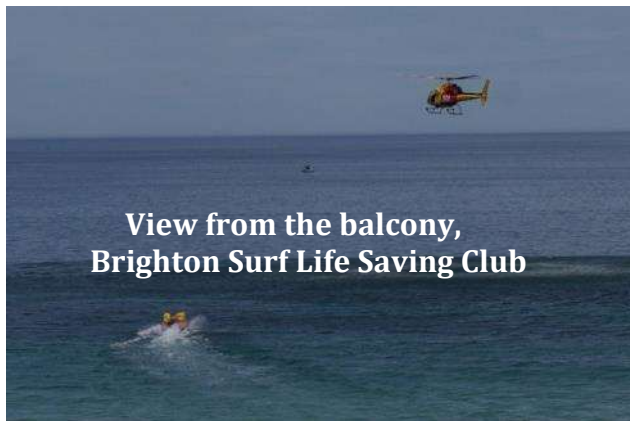
The venue arranged by Warwick Archer for the Charlie Company reunion at Brighton was ideal. The Brighton Surf Life Saving Club generously provided these facilities at no charge.

Approximately 100 people attended and food and drinks were at own cost.

The reunion was scheduled to begin at 11.30 am but enthusiastic veterans started arriving about 10 am and we had sole use of the facility from 11 am - 3 pm.

Below are links to photos throughout the reunion, kindly provided by David McKay  
Ctrl + Click on link

[C Company reunion, picnic & miscellaneous](#)  
[Dinner at the Hilton](#)  
[Memorial Service](#)



### GRAVESIDE COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES 2018

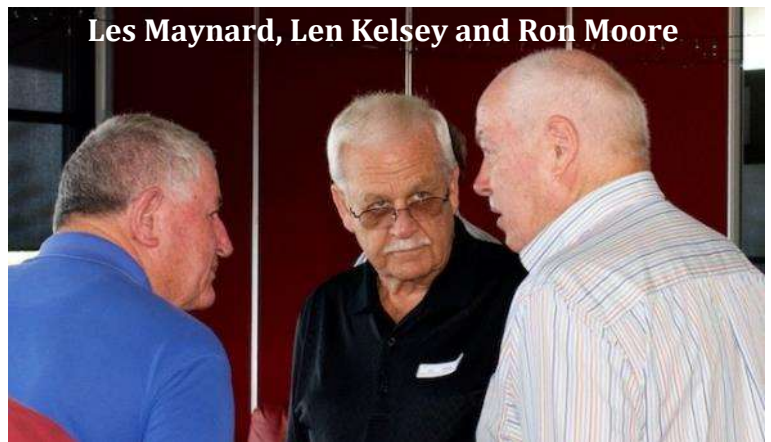
These will take place again next year following the same simple format at 2017.  
All are invited to attend.

The scenic vista from the balcony of the clubrooms included life savers in training.

People travelled from all four points of the compass to attend. Unfortunately Dennis Way from Hong Kong was an apology, as were a number from Australia.

Charlie Company provided memorabilia glasses to attendees and this gesture was very much appreciated.

*Michael Mummery*



The gentleman on the right is Ian Llewellyn who arrived at Woodside with Warwick Archer having come from Singleton where they were both instructors taking recruit training and decided they would rather join 9 RAR than spend their 2 years training recruits !!



### FROM THE EDITOR

It is planned that there will be only two newsletters published in 2018. They will be published in May to cover ANZAC Day and November to cover the AGM.

Thanks to those who have submitted articles and photos in 2017.  
Contributions are always most welcome - please do not wait to be asked!

## D Company - Magill RSL Club, 8 Lorne Avenue, Magill

The 50th D Company reunion was held at the Magill RSL and was a huge success. We had 72 for dinner with a few stragglers for drinks. The start time was 4pm although when I looked around at 3.40pm the place was already jumping. I think everyone was working on army time, very punctual. Michael and Michele belted out some tunes which everybody enjoyed and the BBQ dinner went well with quite a few ales to wash it down. Lots of photo evidence was taken and I must say, a cattle dog or two would have helped to round everyone up when I wanted to take a group photo. Talk about an operation!! Judging on the energy and conversation in the room, it was clearly evident that the 50th D company reunion was filled with the comradeship that is expected of our

family battalion. I tried to replicate a plaque with the cake and had badges and dad's hat on it, think it was well received although needed a chainsaw to cut it and my muscles ached after cutting many slices. I would like to thank the Magill RSL for allowing us the space and Wes and Rosalie for cooking the BBQ, Meredith Burgess (President) for her organisation, Michael and Michele for the entertainment and the countless volunteers for their time and effort. All up it was a great get together which has formed treasured memories for all involved.

With love and great respect for my 9RAR Aunties and Uncles, Michelle xx











DINNER AT THE HILTON HOTEL



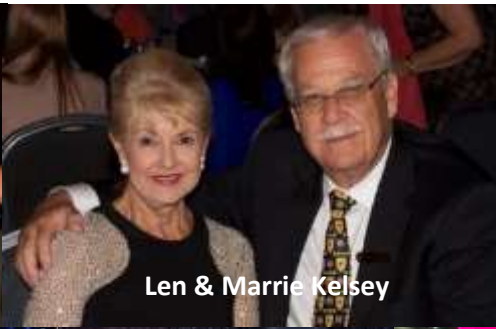
The “boys” from Alpha Company.







Lyn Shave & Jim Kelly



Len & Marrie Kelsey



John & Clair Keefe



Bruce Perks & John Sheldrick



Mick Mummery & Denny Schumann



Bill Forrest & Judy Stewart



Rod Moore & Rod Mennhennett



Phil Gould



Sir Peter & Lady Lynne  
AKA Peter & Lynne Cosgrove



Graham Cook



Moira McKay & Chris Eaton



## COMMEMORATION SERVICE AT KESWICK



Organiser of Commemorative service  
Adrian Craig with National President  
Doug McGrath







B Company



A Company



C Company



Support Company



D Company



## LAKE BREEZE PICNIC

C Company mates "Tank" McKay, Princey, Jim Kelly, Les Maynard and Toby Trebilco



Leith Holder and Rudi Meddens



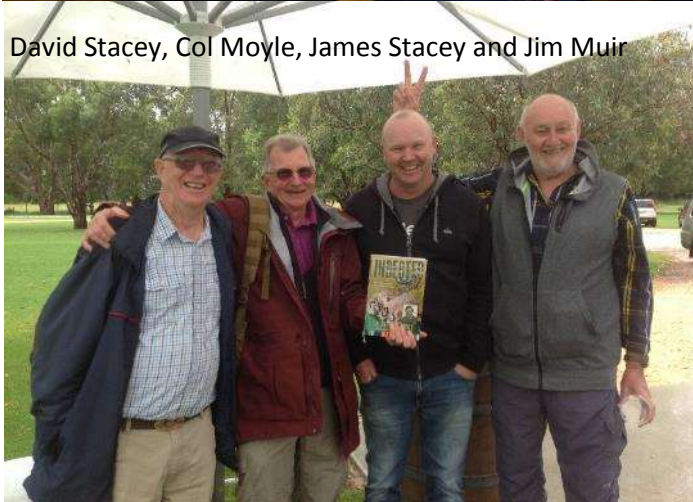
All smiles at Lake Breeze  
Sharkey Salmon, Casey Saunders



Dave Sheekey and Elaine Saunders



David Stacey, Col Moyle, James Stacey and Jim Muir

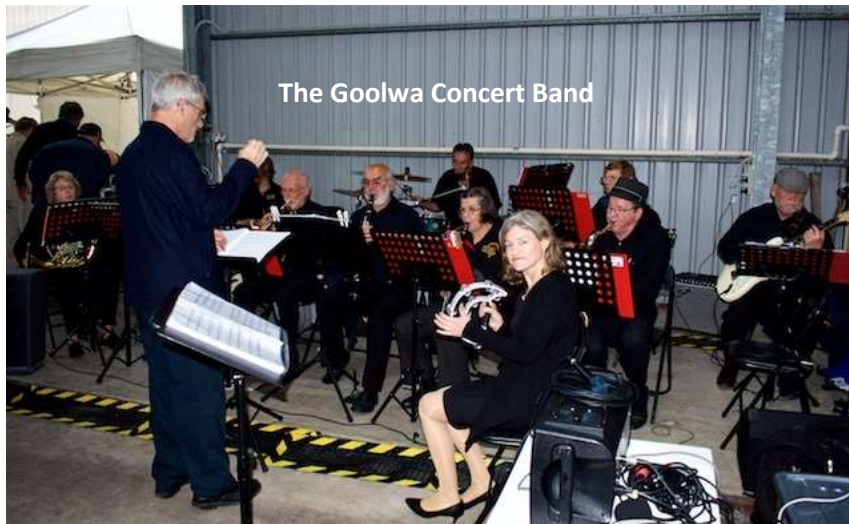


Dream on Mick!

Mumbles with Kate from Lake Breeze







The Goolwa Concert Band



Peter Jackson travelled from WA just to have a dance at Lake Breeze

This bloke didn't read the dress code



Raffle draw  
Michelle Matthews & Betty Plummer

(Note the winner looking on with keen interest to make sure it was all above board! No secret men's business here Geoff.)



**REUNION FEEDBACK**  
<http://9rarsa.com.au/blog>

**From Brendan Crowley**

Congratulations on your organisation of the reunion, you and the committee did a wonderful job.

**From Lyn Fisher**

This is to be taken as feedback only, not criticism, and reflects on what we were told by attendees in the bus on the way home from the picnic:

9RAR picnic was very pleasant and successful. The winery family had removed a heap of stuff from the large warehouse attached to the massive roofed veranda and there was more than enough room and seating for all under shelter. Food vans kept everyone happy. A Goolwa band was there – very good, playing mostly 60's. Downside was fewer numbers, probably the weather put them off. One bus was not used at all.

However we did have time to catch up with folk we did not see or have time to talk to after the noise of the Dinner, and the heat of the parade. Saw Rudi Meddens who only came to the picnic, I believe.

Got feedback on the bus on the way home. This was along the lines of –  
don't need a dinner – would prefer a long lunch with no 'concert';  
don't need or want the full 'service';  
want more time to talk and catch up;  
want more casual time;  
Picnic would have been better without the band, though they were very good.

**From Doug McGrath**

As I said on the phone, Bob, I would like you to convey to the committee my congratulations for the remarkable reunion you presented to mark our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

I am in no doubt that our family members enjoyed the experience, most of all, being together to share friendships forged long ago.

To cram over 500 into the dinner took some doing but the Hilton staff are to be congratulated for their role also.

Schuey's thought provoking musical journey through years of conflict was amazing and "I was only 19" brought the house down.

Peter's speech in support of Col's book was a highlight of the event as he connected so effortlessly with his family and old mates.

Our memorial march and service was given extra weight by the presence of such a string of dignitaries and in itself was memorable.

I thank you.

I have also received a letter from our patron asking me on behalf of Lynne and himself to thank and congratulate you and the committee in much the same tone as I have written.

They really enjoyed themselves. So many of their engagements are stiff, formal affairs. They love being able to relax and enjoy the events among so many friends.

So huge congratulations from the Patron and the Pres.

No doubt you are all pleased it is over.

**From Geoff & Jan Jenkin**

We would like to thank you for a great reunion. it was good to catch up with a few old friends. it was well run and you and your team did a great job.

**From Peter Green**

Congratulations on a wonderful reunion, your effort is very much appreciated

**From Bert & Alison Hobee**

You and your team did an excellent job in herding the Rams and their partners for a once in a lifetime 50th Anniversary Reunion. While none of us are privy to all the detailed work you all did, the effectiveness of it was clearly evident in the way it all came together on the days of Reunion. Well done all!!

**From Tom Goode**

Gotta congratulate you 9RAR SA mob for a brilliant reunion, silky smooth all inclusive, and well planned event. Jen and I had a great catch up.....thank u big time

**From Lionel Corrie**

Hi Bob great reunion. I would have promoted you to corporal you looked after us very well. We had a great time in the bag of fruit in 38 degrees, it was great to meet old friends.

**From Nathan Klinge (RSL Care)**

Congratulations on the reunion, I was very impressed with the event but even more so with the people. It's a bloody good bunch!

**From Bill & Maureen Bailey**

G'day Bob, Your very well deserved promotion to Lancejack, has obviously not gone unnoticed. Maureen and I would also tender our heartiest congratulations to you, Vicki and your team of helpers, for formulating the best ever reunion we have attended.

Enjoy your respite from the demands of diggers and conveners while you can. You will probably be asked to organise the next one wherever it may be!!!!!!!

John (Bill) Bailey ex 6 Platoon and Maureen.

**From Kevin & Maureen Trent**

Thanks for the Reunion and your efforts, Maureen and I enjoyed the whole reunion. Unfortunately we were tightly packed in at the dinner which spoiled the function.

**From Helen Sheppard**

Thank you for your organisation of an excellent 9RAR reunion in Adelaide. Even though I knew nobody except Colin and Judy (Wiles), I was made welcome and made new friends

**From Ian Farrell**

And again thank you for a bloody well organised event for our 50th.

We thoroughly enjoyed the whole 9RAR function.

**From Bill & Margaret Dobell**

Just a short note to say thank you and well done for your extensive efforts to make the reunion the great success it was.

**From Brian Hamilton**

Congratulations on such a splendid effort for the reunion.

**From Ian & Jill Llewellyn**

Ian and I would like to thank you and your Committee for all the wonderful organisation you all did for the Reunion last week. We enjoyed all the events, the get together at the Havelock Hotel, the Speakers at the Memorial Service and the Singers. The entertainment at the Gala Dinner was first class as was the entire evening. The Lake Breeze Winery was perfect for the Picnic and we loved the talented Band and wished they had a CD for sale. We along with many others agreed it was the very best 9 RAR Reunion we have ever attended so once again thank you.

**From Allan Tonkin**

Congratulations on the effort that you put into the planning & execution of the Reunion.

**From Dusty Cooper**

Thanks to you and the committee for such a wonderful reunion, please pass on.

**From Peter & Trudie Stammers**

Trudie and I would like to sincerely thank you and the SA committee for an outstanding reunion. The whole period has been so incredibly well organised and executed...you've really done us all proud!!

I'm sorry we didn't get a chance yesterday at Keswick Barracks to personally thank you and say farewell to your dear Mum and Vicki who were both great company on Monday evening. Your informal (but proper) style of commentary added significant value to all the events.

I hope you're planning to put your feet up for a couple of weeks after today.....you've certainly earned the right to do so mate.

Best wishes and kind regards,

**From Gary Taylor**

Thank you for your hard work in ensuring the reunion was a success.

Well done.

**From Rod & Anne Curtis**

Anne & I returned home yesterday following what was in our view a most successful and enjoyable 50th Anniversary 9RAR Reunion.

The organisation, the activities, the venues were a credit to you and your committee. Please accept our sincere thanks for your, and your committee, extended period of hard work and dedication to the task of ensuring the reunion was such a memorable event.

Again our thanks & best wishes.

**From Vince Restuccia**

I am back home in Hobart it was a reunion I shall never forget – Fantastic, well organised – I could go on and on.

**From Tank & Lyn McKay**

I have just been processing my photos of the reunion and via them reliving a wonderful few days in Adelaide in the company of the members of the 9RAR family.

I would like to thank and congratulate you and your helpers on an absolutely fantastic reunion. Everything was as advertised and ran like clockwork.

Please pass on my family's gratitude to all who had a part in organising this memorable event. I have attached a few photos of yourself that were taken during the reunion.



**From John Sheldrick**

I want to offer my personal congratulations and appreciation for your work and that of your Committee for the Reunion. We attended the dinner and the Memorial Service and both reflected so well on your Committee. I am confident that all members appreciated what and how things were done. In particular the Memorial Service was one of the best I have attended with the Battalion.

So thanks very much. You did the Battalion very proud on its 50th anniversary – well up to Albie's expectations and standards!! Please accept for yourself and pass my thanks to your Committee. Best Wishes,

**From Mel Brennan**

Thank-you on behalf of Peter Leacy, for the exceptional amount of work you put in to organising the reunion.

I hope you and all the boys had a great time and I know Peter enjoyed catching up with his old mates

**From Rod & Julie Slater**

Many thanks Bob for your efforts in organising and executing a memorable 50th Reunion.

**From Leon Eddy**

Thanks for your great effort.

**From Bruce Sutherland**

Congratulations on running such a successful and memorable reunion. No doubt there were many occasions during the planning and operating phases where a lesser individual would have packed it in. Your perseverance to successfully complete your mission is a credit to you.

Please pass our thanks to the Alphas you employed especially to Adrian Craig who organised the ceremonial phase right down to diving spur winged plovers and to Warren Featherby, Geoff Boettcher and Brendan Crowley who were involved in the reunion planning or conducting phases or both.

**From Adrian Craig**

Attached please find my Thank You to you all. It was great day and allowed us to pay respect to our dead comrades both in war and peace.

**From John Schumann**

Well, I think you organised a blinder of an event. And you were a pleasure to work with all the way along the line.

Thanks for inviting us to play. I hope we did the business for you

**From Bob Sheppard**

Great job Lance Corporal

**From Sue & Bob Fitts**

Congratulations & thank you for an amazing 9 RAR Birthday.

**From Ross & Lesley Richard**

We wanted to thank you very much for the wonderful reunion. There was no part of it that we did not really enjoy, especially meeting up with friends, old and new.

Your hospitality and welcome was second to none, you should all be very proud of what you put together.

Whatever Betty is on to keep her going for a week none stop please send a gross to us!

We are in equal parts keen to get home but also very sad it is all over.

Our love and thanks again to you all.

**From Ted & Karyn Chitham**

RARA SA has done the 9th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment proud with its organisation and conduct of an excellent reunion. So full of 50 year old memories and reminders.

No doubt you and your Team have set the highest standard. Duty First and Duty Done  
Congratulations

**From Brian O'Connor**

Thanks again for a wonderful Reunion, now enjoy a well-earned rest.

**From Mick Shave**

The reunion was the best one I have attended. Thank you very much.

**From the Kiwis**

Just a quick email to thank you, your committee, and all the 9 RAR family for the great reunion that we all enjoyed. The 4 Kiwis, and their wives and partners, were given a wonderful welcome to your reunion, and we all spent time meeting up with old friends, and some new ones!

We never felt that we were outsiders – but always were part of the battalion just as we were in 1968 and 1969. This started when we went out to Brighton on Sunday for the C Coy get-together, continued on Monday night at the Dinner, and in particular, on Tuesday at the Commemorative Parade and Service at Keswick Barracks. It was a great honour to be included in the way we were.

All our very best to you all, and we are looking forward to hearing of your next reunion!

**FROM THE ARCHIVES -**

**SOME OF THE "YOUNG" REUNION COMMITTEE PREPARING FOR 1997 ADELAIDE REUNION!**

John England, Jim Fisher, Jennifer Mummery,  
Jan Stacey, Lyn Fisher, Mary Statton, Jock

Statton, David Stacey, Michael Mummery  
(absent Di & Laurie Lewis, Anna & Les Geyer)



**THE LATE MALCOLM (WALLY) INWOOD 15.4.1946-8.10.2017**

Michael Mummery, Tex Bruce, Jim Fisher,  
David Stacey and Lyn Fisher represented 9 RAR  
at Malcolm's funeral at Waikerie on 16 October.  
We passed on 9 RAR condolences to Wally's  
family including his partner, parents, twin

brother Bruce, and children. We were pleased  
to be able to support Wally's son Hayden who  
has formed a close association with 9 RAR over  
recent years.



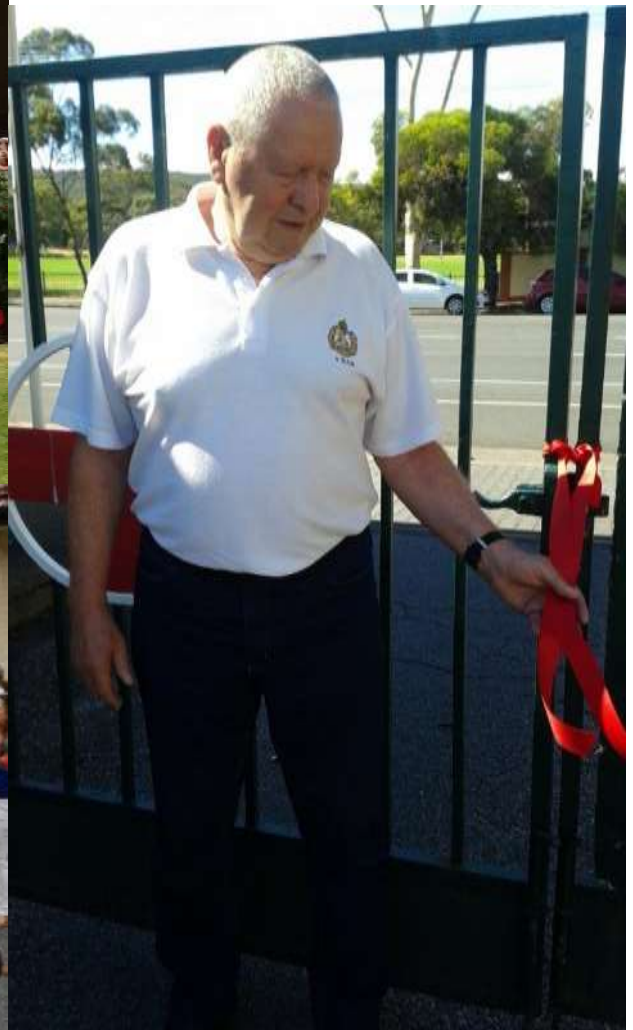


## CLOSING THE GATES CEREMONY AT THE REPAT 1st December, 2018

The ceremony was organized by a small number of 9 RAR people. I would estimate the attendance to be about 350 – 400 including past and present staff, past volunteers, patients and 12 from 9 RAR.

Photos of note – Darren Renshaw and Warren Featherby lowering the Australian flag for the last time at The Repat. We then invited people to attach a poppy to the gates which as you can see was a sea of red. Very emotional ceremony but necessary to allow people to grieve for their Repat.

Warren Featherby



Jim at the 'Farewell to Repat' service on 1 December 2017, inspecting the symbolic ribbon tying the gates closed.



## INTERNET NEWS...

FROM THE N.Z. HERALD-via twitter @StephenClarkeNZ 1/12/2017

Bodies of 27 NZ soldiers buried overseas to come home next year

30 Nov, 2017 11:14am

### **THE REMAINS OF 27 NZ SOLDIERS BURIED IN MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE WILL BE RETURNED TO NZ NEXT YEAR**

The remains of 27 New Zealand soldiers and one New Zealand child buried in Singapore and Malaysia decades ago will come home next year.

The NZ Defence Force appeared before the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade select committee this morning to update them on the repatriation process, which was triggered by a petition on behalf of the group Families of the Forgotten Fallen. The petition, from former soldiers Paul Thomas and Andrew Peters, called on the Government to bring home the bodies of the fallen New Zealand soldiers and their children, who were buried in non-Commonwealth war cemeteries. In March this year, Cabinet under the previous Government changed the policy on repatriation and decided to put \$10 million towards the repatriation.

Vice-Chief of Defence Force Air Vice-Marshal Kevin Short told the committee 25 Army and two Air Force personnel and one child would be coming home next year in July, August or September. Five families had decided not to repatriate. He said service medals for the fallen were also being considered. "We're looking at their operational service. I don't know what the outcome will be, but we are slowly going through that."

Thomas served the Defence Force in the 1960s and 1970s, including in Vietnam. The petition

came after a request from his mother to bring home his brother Adrian, a member of the original SAS squad, who was killed in action and buried in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 1956. Peters also served in Vietnam, and is related to soldier Ike King, buried in Terendak, Malaysia.

The change in Government policy in March followed lobbying from the families as well as the RSA, highlighting the inconsistency in repatriation policy between 1955 and 1971. Repatriation after 1971 was publicly funded.

New Zealand disinterment teams - including archaeologists, forensic anthropologists and dentists - are working with the Malaysian armed forces to reconcile the remains of the 28 bodies. "It is a big issue for Malaysia, because they recognise that these people have died in support of their independence," Short told the committee. He said a large ceremony involving senior ministers and Defence Force staff was expected before the remains leave Malaysia. There would be a ceremony once the remains touch down in New Zealand before they are handed back to the families.

The Defence Force would also provide support for reinterment. "We estimate that the cost will be well within the \$10m that was stated in the March Cabinet paper."

### **RESEARCHING AN AUSTRALIAN WW1 SOLDIER**

Battlefield Historian Mat McLachlan guides you through the process on twitter 26/9/2017, Mat McLachlan@MatMcLachlan

Copy and paste into your browser and discover How to Research an Australian Soldier:  
[http://youtu.be/\\_6svgNM003Y?a](http://youtu.be/_6svgNM003Y?a) via @YouTube

### **NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND, WW1 TRENCH MAPS**

(Mentioned in above youtube reference)

[www.maps.nls.uk/ww1/trenches](http://www.maps.nls.uk/ww1/trenches) or Google "National Library of Scotland trench maps" -

An amazing resource as researchers are able to overlay modern maps with WW1 trench maps.



## **REGISTER OF WAR MEMORIALS IN NSW**

Extract from [www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au](http://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au)

### **About war memorials**

A 'war memorial' is a commemorative construction dedicated to people who have served and died in war, or because of war. In Australia and around the world, war memorials range from simple memorial plaques to grand monuments.

Memorials can also be:

- honour rolls
- museums and monuments
- gates, columns, walls, and arches
- crosses such as the Cross of Sacrifice
- obelisks, cenotaphs and cairns
- statues such as our 'digger memorials'
- stones including Stones of Remembrance cenotaphs

### **About the Register of War Memorials in NSW**

The Register of War Memorials in NSW records the war memorials located in New South Wales and also the veterans commemorated on each memorial.

There are more than 3,000 war memorials in our State, and the NSW Government and the RSL (NSW Branch) are committed to documenting each of these memorials with care and respect.

This worthwhile task can only be accomplished using the combined resources of members of the community, local councils, RSL sub-branches and our schools.

## **CANADIAN VIRTUAL WAR MEMORIAL**

Google "Canadian virtual war memorial" or copy and paste in your browser, [www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial](http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial)

The Canadian Virtual War Memorial (CVWM) is a registry to honour and remember the sacrifices of the more than 118,000 Canadians and Newfoundlanders who, since Confederation, have given their lives serving in

uniform. The names of fallen soldiers found in the CVWM are also inscribed in the seven Books of Remembrance. Contributions of photographs and other scanned material are welcome.

## **RSL VIRTUAL WAR MEMORIAL**

[www.rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/](http://www.rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/)

Between 2002 and 2005, Will and Jacqui Clough of Riverton in the Clare Valley travelled SA and the NT and recorded more than 1700 memorials and honour boards containing the names of 48,000 service and in some cases civilian personnel.

The result was Tributes of Honour. It is a monumental body of work and an amazing community record. South Australia and the Northern Territory owe Will and Jacqui a debt of gratitude. The RSL Virtual War Memorial will honour their work and take it to another

level accessing a range of data sources and inviting contributions by family members and the public.

The purpose of the Tributes of Honour is to commemorate all Australians who have served the nation in times of conflict.

Volunteers are needed to help manage this resource.

For more information contact [admin@rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au](mailto:admin@rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au) [www.rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au](http://www.rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au)

## **AUSTRALIAN STORIES OF THE VIETNAM WAR**

[www.anzacportal.dva.gov.au](http://www.anzacportal.dva.gov.au), "Australia and the Vietnam War", Resources, Vietnam War stories or google "veterans stories, mick storen"

The gallery shows links to Australian stories of the Vietnam War including Mick Storen and John Schumann.

No wind turbine on Australian battlefield at Bullecourt!  
Local opposition win the battle against @ENGIEgroup.

LA VOIX DU NORD MÉRREDI 22 NOVEMBRE 2017 Région

## Engie renonce aux éoliennes, les Australiens vont être soulagés

On a frôlé l'incident diplomatique. Mais au bout du compte, le groupe Engie a décidé de renoncer à un projet d'éoliennes sur un champ de bataille de la Première Guerre mondiale, où des milliers d'Australiens ont péri.

PAR THIÉRY BIDAUD ET HUBERT PÉRET  
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**BULLECOURT.** Se dressant « juchée à l'extrême ouest de la commune des soldats australiens qui ont fait le sacrifice de leur vie sur le sol français pendant la Première Guerre mondiale, Engie a pris la décision d'annuler le projet », écrit le groupe dans un communiqué en anglais reçu par l'AFP en Australie.

Ce projet du groupe Engie Green d'implanter six éoliennes sur le champ de bataille de Bullecourt (au sud-est d'Arras) avait suscité une vive émotion au pays des Wallons. « Pour nous, Bullecourt est une terre sacrée. C'est une partie de l'Australie pour nous », a-t-on écrit. Il y a eu plus de 100 000 australiens à [10 000] qui [Guillemet] pendant la bataille des Dardanelles [?], portant encore la mémoire. Max Cammeron, 73 ans, qui a fait plusieurs fois le voyage depuis son Australie natale jusqu'aux confins de l'Arrondissement.

**66** L'histoire, ça n'était pas de gagner ou pas contre Engie, mais de laisser tranquilles ces hommes morts il y a cent ans pour cette digne cause qu'est la liberté. »

C'est dans ce sillage que plusieurs divisions britanniques et australiennes avaient tenu en avril et mai 1917 de laisser la ligne allemande Hindenburg, entre Arras et Soissons. Environ 10 000 soldats australiens y avaient été tués ou blessés à l'issue de 7 000 Britanniques et 10 000 Allemands.

Le gouvernement australien avait demandé des « certifications » à la France au sujet de ce projet dans la mise en service était prévue au mieux en 2020. Le gouvernement français, par la voix de la secrétaire d'Etat auprès du ministre des Armées, Geneviève Durrleman, avait promis le 10 novembre de « trouver une issue » qui respecte la mémoire des soldats lors d'un entretien avec le ministre australien des Anciens Combattants, Dan Tish.

Maire de Ranscourt-lez-Cagnicourt, dans le territoire, était consacré par le projet d'implantation. Gérard Crutet ne cache pas sa satisfaction de voir le projet abandonné. « Engie avait eu tendance à nous imposer sans égard que nous n'avions pas notre mot à dire au moment du lancement de l'enquête publique. Finalement, ils ont eu gain de cause et nous nous sommes vus se rebeller ! »

Même son de cloche du côté de Colette Durand, présidente de France Australie Amis. « L'histoire, ça n'était pas de gagner ou pas contre Engie, mais de laisser tranquilles ces hommes qui sont morts il y a cent ans pour cette digne cause qu'est la liberté, les combats pas de nous faire des excuses depuis trente ans. Maintenant, j'ai plus confiance qu'une autre et puis ne reviens pas à la ch dans deux ans et c'est pourquoi mille fois pour qu'il y ait des engagements pour qu'on ne se plus monter de tels projets sur terres. Il ne manque pas d'ex ailleurs ! » ■

Ce projet du groupe Engie Green d'implanter six éoliennes sur le champ de bataille de Bullecourt avait causé une très vive émotion en Australie. PH. ARCHIVES PIRELLA GÖTTSCHE

## Une journée et demie sans Internet et bien des galères à cause d'une panne chez Orange

**NÉTHUNOIS ET BRUAY-SIS.** « On ne peut rien dire ! » Cette remarque a été prononcée un nombre incalculable de fois autour de Béthune et Bruay depuis lundi 13. Le début d'une panne touchant : tribunal, jugeant par téléphone (grandes, sans accès à son serveur), maire de Béthune. « On tourne au ralenti. On est un peu coupés du monde », raconte le 1<sup>er</sup> adjoint béthunois. Impossibilité de remplir le cahier de textes.

À l'origine de la panne : un accident. Le chauffeur du bus à haut niveau de service (BHNS) près de FA26, à Fouquieries-les-Béthunes, a touché un réservoir de fioul appartenant à Orange. L'attache de presse d'Orange. Et où la durée de la panne, jusqu'à 19 h 15. Sauf pour certains clients du Bruay et du Béthunois qui ont récupéré leur connexion avant. Lundi vers 23 h pour les premiers et hier midi pour les seconds grâce

SBS news reported on 20 November that "families of diggers who fell one hundred years ago on the Bullecourt battlefield in France have forced an energy company to abandon plans to build a wind farm on the historic site.

"Respectful of the memory of Australian soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice on French soil during the First World War, Engie has taken the decision to cancel this project," a spokesman for the French company told AAP."



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>January</b> Commemorative Services 5 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> As per Honour Roll	<b>February</b> Meeting First Thursday Commemorative Service 14 <sup>th</sup> (L Cpl P A Chant)	<b>March</b> Commemorative Service 5 <sup>th</sup> (Pte G J Scales)
<b>April</b> Meeting First Thursday ANZAC Day 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b> Meeting First Thursday
<b>July</b> Commemorative Services 6 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> As per Honour Roll	<b>August</b> Meeting First Thursday Vietnam Veteran's Day 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>September</b>
<b>October</b> Meeting First Thursday	<b>November</b> AGM & Lunch TBA	<b>December</b> Meeting First Thursday

## HONOUR ROLL

L Cpl R J Abraham	6 Jul Whyalla	Cpl A W Graham	7 Jan Stirling North
Cpl B A J Adamczyk	12 Jul Centennial Park	Cpl H R Musicka	19 Jan Centennial Park
L Cpl P A Chant	14 Feb Centennial Park	Pte R A Phillips	18 Jan Murray Bridge
Sgt J R Cock	19 Jan Centennial Park	Pte B J Plane	20 Jan Ardrossan
Sgt J M Duroux	5 Jan Centennial Park	Pte G J Scales	5 Mar Centennial Park

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