



*Royal United Services Institute
of
South Australia Inc*

Royal United Services Institute of Australia Inc

Promoting National Security and Defence

Building 160 Keswick Barracks,
Keswick SA 5035
Tel/Fax: 61 (8) 8305 6378
Office Hours:
Monday and Friday 10am to 4pm
Library also opens on Wednesday

RUSI-SA

Issue No 428

August/September 2010

NEWSLETTER

RUSI-SA CYBERLINKS

RUSI OF SA EMAIL ADDRESS

<mailto:rusikes.bigpond.com>

RUSI OF AUSTRALIA WEBSITE

<http://www.rusi.org.au>

RUSI FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES WHITEHALL WEBSITE

<http://www.rusi.org/>

AUSTRALIAN STRATEGIC POLICY INSTITUTE

<http://www.aspi.org.au>

*Patron
His Excellency,
Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR,
Governor of South Australia*

COUNCIL MEMBERS 2010

President:	BRIG T. Hanna AM ADC
Vice Presidents:	COL C. Burns CSC C/Insp F.J. Leditschke (Retd)
Past President	COL D. Stoba RFD ED (Retd)
Councillors:	Mrs J. Berry CAPT M.J. Orchard RFD ED (Retd) Mr M.J. Gorroick
Representing:	RAN ARMY RAAF
Treasurer:	CMDR M. Doherty ADC, RAN COL C. McCarthy CSC RFD ADC WGCDR B. Tonkin
Hon Auditor: Chartered Accountant	Mrs L. Larkin BA (Acc)
Secretary/Public Officer:	Ms E. Atkinson
Librarian/Hon Editor:	CAPT M.J. Orchard RFD ED (Retd)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Since our last newsletter, we have all been saddened by the loss of several young Australian soldiers, killed in action in Afghanistan. While many may see it is an inevitable consequence of Australia's involvement in a very dangerous war, many others see it as unacceptable. The pre-election 'great debate' between our Federal political leaders gave this only scant mention. However, both Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Opposition Leader Tony Abbot confirmed their parties' positions as supporting the need to stay in Afghanistan 'until the job is done'. Echoing the sentiments of the soldiers interviewed on a recent and very insightful episode of Four Corners, and irrespective of your view on whether we should have gone to Afghanistan, I am sure that most Australians recognise the importance of successfully completing this very difficult mission. We take this opportunity to remember these young men who have made the ultimate sacrifice on a mission in which they believe.

Having worked closely with Australian forces during the past four years, the Netherlands officially passed command of a patrol base in the Chora Valley, Uruzgan Province, to the Afghan National Army and Combined Team-Uruzgan last week. The Dutch Government decided in December 2007 that its forces would be progressively withdrawn from Afghanistan throughout 2010, and this handover of command in Chora signals the beginning of transition to a new phase of coalition operations in the region.

Under the new multinational construct 'Combined Team-Uruzgan', Australia will work closely with US allies, Afghan forces and other International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) partners, including Singapore and Slovakia, to continue to build security and development in Uruzgan Province.

As the F-111 era draws to a close, the long-range strike aircraft are still flexing their muscles as they take part in their final Exercise Pitch Black. Four F-111s from No. 6 Squadron RAAF Amberley, in Queensland are taking part in the exercise. After 37 years, the iconic F-111s are the longest current serving aircraft in the Royal Australian Air Force's fleet. The F-111 was an aircraft ahead of its time. It was one of the first twin-engine swing-wing aircraft and has enormous flexibility for range and endurance.

Affectionately known as the 'Pig' for its ability to hunt at night with its nose in the weeds, thanks to its terrain-following radar, F-111 aircraft arrived at Amberley in 1973. The F-111 can strike day or night in any weather. Its Pave Tack targeting system can locate targets at night and in bad weather and provides laser designation for laser-guided weapons. The radar warning system detects incoming radar emissions and alerts the crew to potential surface or air attacks. The F-111s will return to Darwin for Exercises Kakadu and Singaroo later next month. This very successful aircraft will be duly farewelled from service at the end of the year.

On another historic note, a number of you were privileged to hear Army Historian, Roger Lee, speak about Fromelles at a luncheon for the Army Museum of South Australia two months ago. The battle took place on 19 and 20 July 1916 and was the bloodiest 24 hours in Australian history with 5,533 Australian soldiers killed, wounded, taken prisoner or missing. Roger spoke eloquently and in amazing detail of this ill-fated battle. Roger has agreed to speak to RUSI-SA at an appropriate date.

94 years after they fell in the Battle of Fromelles, the last of 250 Australian and British soldiers has been buried with full military honours at a ceremony in France. Of these 250 men recovered from Pheasant Wood, 205 have been identified as Australians (96 by name); three are British and 42 are 'Known unto God'. Her Excellency, the Governor-General of Australia, Ms Quentin Bryce AC attended this ceremony, along with Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie AO.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel, Alan Griffin reflected on the importance of the occasion. Mr Griffin said, "These men paid the ultimate sacrifice and today's ceremony has given families an opportunity to pay their last respects at a known grave....96 Australians have now been named through a combination of anthropological, archaeological, historical and DNA information and there is a very good chance that further soldiers will be identified if more families come forward to assist." The purpose-built Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery was also opened in a fitting tribute to the Australian and British soldiers recovered last year. The new cemetery is the first full cemetery the Commonwealth War Graves Commission has constructed in more than 50 years. Mr Griffin said, "The discovery of these men in mass graves in May 2008, so long after World War One, provides new generations of Australians with an opportunity to honour their service". Families of identified soldiers were invited to pay tribute to the fallen at their gravesides in a reflection service after the cemetery was opened.

Finally, 2010 marks the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War. The Korean War commenced on 25 June 1950 when, after mounting tensions on the peninsula, North Korean forces crossed the 38th Parallel hoping to reunite a country which was divided by the Allies after World War II. Australia was one of 21 United Nations countries which fought to support South Korea to maintain its independence. 358 Australians died in this conflict alongside millions of Koreans. Once more, we pause to reflect on this major conflict and those who served their country.

We have an exciting series of guest speakers in the next few months as well as a proposed visit to Techport, home of South Australia's exciting maritime Defence industries.

See you soon!

Tim Hanna
President

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS

Monday, 2 August 2010

Speaker: Dr Maryanne Kelton PhD

Topic: Global Financial Crisis

Please note that this lunch will be in the Officers Mess.

Monday, 6 September 2010

Annual General meeting

Speaker: CDRE Steve Tiffin

Topic: Air Warfare Destroyer

All members are invited to attend our luncheons. Indeed you are encouraged to invite partners, friends and colleagues to join us and, if they like what they see and hear, to nominate them for membership. Please book in advance. If you are unsure whether or not your name is on the booking list, please check!

The dress code for the luncheon is neat casual, taking into consideration weather conditions. We usually assemble in Building 34A, Keswick Barracks, Keswick, at approximately 11.30 am for drinks and good fellowship. Members are asked to be seated by 12 noon when our President welcomes members and guests and lunch is served. The cost of the buffet is \$22 for members and first time guests and \$25 for non-members. We also conduct a raffle to help cover expenses. Our caterer has agreed to provide vegetarian meals and sweets for diabetics, but these must be ordered before midday on the Thursday before the lunch.

For those who do not have time to enjoy lunch, but wish to hear the lecture, chairs are provided around the perimeter of the hall. Please be seated before 12.55 pm, as the guest speaker will be introduced at 1.00 pm. The address is of about 30 to 35 minutes duration with 15 minutes for questions, after which coffee or tea is available. We aim to complete the program by 2.00 pm.

Cancellations must be advised to the RUSI-SA Office by midday of the Friday before the lunch. Subsequent cancellations will attract a fee of \$22. The caterers must be notified of the number attending by then and that number must be paid for.

Views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the RUSI - SA Inc

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

The annual DINING IN NIGHT will be held at the Naval Military and Air Force Club on 30 July 2010. Our Patron, His Excellency, the Governor, and his wife will attend and the Speaker will be the former Senator, the Honourable Chris Schacht. The all-inclusive cost is \$65 per person.

The WINTER CARVERY will be held at the Flagstaff Hill Golf Club on 29 August 2010 and the cost of attendance will be \$33 each. Further details will be notified later.

The SUNDOWNER will be held at Keswick Barracks on 26 November 2010.

VALE

The President, Councillors and members of the RUSI-SA Branch extend their deepest condolences to the family and friends of Ron Coleman who passed away on 1 July 2010 and of MAJGEN John Whitelaw AO CBE RL.

Ron was a member of RUSI-SA for 17 Years.

MAJGEN Whitelaw served as President USI of the ACT from 1977-79 and who, for his enduring support of the organisation and its aims, was presented with Honorary Life Membership of the USI of the ACT in November 2006.

US NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY

The Obama Administration presented its first National Security Strategy to Congress on 27 May 2010. It builds on lessons learnt from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as on research conducted for the Quadrennial Defence Review (issued in February). This National Security Strategy takes a whole-of-Government approach in its focus on defence, diplomacy and development as an integrated whole. The National Security Strategy is used to formulate the National Defense Strategy and the National Military Strategy.

The National Security Strategy appears in full at

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/national_security_strategy.pdf

BUBLACOWIE MILITARY MUSEUM

Next time you visit the Yorke Peninsula, try to find the time to visit the Bublacowie Military Museum and Memorial. It is situated mid way between Minlaton and Yorketown on an unmade road five kilometers east of the main highway.

The museum contains an extensive, well-organised range of military memorabilia in the grounds of the Bublacowie school and is well worth seeing. Its displays include material from WWI, WWII and the Vietnam, Korea and Gulf wars; the items include military uniforms, photographs, newspaper articles, postcards, weapons, vehicles, medals, equipment, models, records, flags, memorials, diaries, Honour boards, plaques, communications equipment, tools, medical equipment, books, magazines, heritage items, maps and a memorial garden. This huge collection was all put together and is displayed by Christopher Soar B.M., a Vietnam and Malaya veteran.

For more information about the museum visit the website at:

<http://www.yorkeregion.on.net/bublacowie-military-museum/>

KNOW OUR VOLUNTEERS



Malcolm Simms

Malcolm is very familiar to RUSI-SA members, especially those who attend our monthly luncheons. He was born at Semaphore in 1936 and spent 38 years in the Australian Air Force Reserve with 24 (Fighter) Squadron, starting at RAAF Mallala as an Engine Mechanic Trainee minor servicing Mustangs, Wirraways and Winjeal aircraft. 24 Sqn was not issued with jet fighters, due to the grass runway at Mallala, until it moved to Edinburgh when it was allocated two Mk 31 Vampires for training aids, never to fly again. By now, Malcolm was an Engine Fitter with two stripes and was a qualified Engine Runner. And as he tells it: *"Vampires never had good brakes and I was now teaching junior members and an ex pilot from Mallala how to run the engine. This meant I was in the cockpit, and my student was lying on top of the canopy, watching what I was doing. I opened the throttle to full power and we were away! The aircraft had jumped the chocks and moved forward some twelve feet. My friend on top of the canopy was now a ghostly white! The pilot was there to taxi the aircraft around to give ground crew training in marshalling aircraft. This training stopped as quickly as it had started as the aircraft was not designed for it and lost all air pressure very quickly"*.

Malcolm moved on to Amberley and Canberra aircraft with 1 Sqn. He trained at Shoalwater Bay for Vietnam but was put on a waiting list of 18 months and withdrew.

In 1969, P3 Orions arrived at Edinburgh and 24 Sqn became part of 11 Sqn. By now, Malcolm was a Sergeant and had deployed on exercises in Hawaii (for five weeks), Amberley, Townsville and Butterworth. By 1983, he had earned a crown with three stripes (equivalent to a WO2 in the Army) and qualified as an Independent Aircraft Inspector.

Malcolm spent many hours being flown in a range of RAAF aircraft, Wirraways, Tiger Moths, Bristol Freighters, Lincolns, Neptunes, Orions, Dakotas, and a Navy Sea King, surviving a close call on two occasions. He became involved with the Museum at Keswick Barracks from where he joined the RUSI. He has been Tall Ship sailing for twelve years and has experience on seven ships. His days as a volunteer crewmember may, however, now be limited due to occupational health and safety regulations.

Malcolm married Heather in 1965 and they have two children and two grand children. He is a direct descendant of the first settlers in South Australia, his great-great grand father on his mother's side being the First Mate on the "Duke of York" which brought the first settlers to Kingscote in July 1836. Heather's family, the McLeans, grew the first wheat in South Australia, on the south west corner of South Road and Richmond Road.

DSTO

The Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) is part of Australia's Department of Defence and is the Australian Government's leading agency charged with applying science and technology to protect and defend Australia and its national interests.

Defence Science Australia magazine is published quarterly by DSTO Defence Science Communications. Vol 1, Issue 2 June 2010 contains an article that describes how Defence is using findings about the state of the ionosphere, which are crucial to the operation of the over-the-horizon radar

(OTHR) for wide-area surveillance to Australia's north. The Jindalee Operational Radar Network (JORN), operated by Defence, provides 24-hour military surveillance of Australia's northern approaches, but also serves civilian purposes such as weather forecasting and the prevention of illegal entry, smuggling and unlicensed fishing.

An interesting history of the OTHR, which was developed by the DSTO, is to be found on the DSTO website at

<http://www.dsto.defence.gov.au/page/3984/>

Earlier Defence Science Australia publications can be found at

<http://www.dsto.defence.gov.au/publications/3182/>

RESERVES

RESERVISTS WHO SERVED OVERSEAS RECOGNISED

Barrie Newman has advised that Navy, Army and Air Force Reservists who, as Reservists, volunteered to serve overseas in operations or humanitarian missions, have been recognised recently at three separate Reserve Forces Day activities in South Australia.

A march and parade was held at Victor Harbor on Sunday, June 20, 2010 in the presence of the Governor of South Australia, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR and Mrs Scarce; then on Thursday, July 1, 2010 a function was held at Government House, Adelaide, specifically for Reservists who had served overseas and, on Saturday, July 3 2010, Reservists from the South-East were recognized in a commemoration service at Vansittart Park, Mount Gambier, followed by a dinner at the Community RSL Clubrooms.

The Victor Harbor activity was the first time the Reserve Forces Day Council – South Australia had arranged to hold a regional march and parade in South Australia to celebrate Reserve Forces Day, which is normally held on the first Sunday in July each year throughout Australia.

The march and parade at Victor Harbor, which was led by South Australian Mounted Police, included past and present Reservists from the South Australian Mounted Rifles Association, the RSAR Association, the National Servicemen's Association, the RAAMC Association, 24 Squadron Association, a Navy Guard from the Royal Australian Naval Reserves, the Australian Army Band Adelaide, Australian Army Cadets, the Victor Harbor Sub-Branch of the RSL and other local community and service organizations.



Substantially contributing to the march and parade were the inclusion of a contingent from the Barossa Light Horse, guns and vehicles from the South Australian Bush Artillery, and troopers from the Noarlunga Volunteer Rifles and from the Fort Glanville Historical Society (who also fired a volley at the end of the parade).

The Victor Harbor parade was voted an outstanding success and will, no doubt, be replicated at another regional location next year.

For further information see <http://www.rfd.org.au/>

NEW MEMBER

CDRE Roger Alan Capps AM

TOUR

The South Australian Government has invested over \$300 million in state-owned infrastructure at Techport Australia to develop a world-class maritime industrial precinct. The facility will support ASC to deliver the Royal Australian Navy's next generation \$8 billion Air Warfare Destroyers and will attract future naval shipbuilding and repair opportunities to the state.

A tour of the Techport facilities at Osborne has been organised for RUSI-SA members on 29 October 2010. A bus will be arranged for members, leaving Keswick Barracks at 13.30, at a cost of \$13. Please let Elaine know if you wish to book for the tour. Spaces are limited to 20 members.

For more information about Techport Australia, visit

<http://www.techportaustralia.com/Home.mvc>

RSL

This Company of Brave Men:

The Gallipoli VCs

A special 95th Gallipoli anniversary touring exhibition displays Australia's nine Gallipoli Victoria Crosses at the State Library of South Australia until 8 August 2010. "*This Company of Brave Men: the Gallipoli VCs*", presented by the Australian War Memorial, is made possible through the generous support of Mr Kerry Stokes AC and Seven Network Limited. The Commonwealth's highest decoration for valour was awarded to Jacka, Throssel, Shout, Tubb, Burton, Dunstan, Hamilton, Keysor and Symons.

On Tuesday 20 July, during Veterans' Health Week, the Eat Well, Live Well Expo will be held at Torrens Parade Ground. More details may be found at <http://www.rslsa.org.au/>

LIBRARY

The RUSI-SA owns and operates a comprehensive and valuable library of military books and documents. The following books have been added to the library recently and are available for members to borrow.

Fiction

"*Dead Heat*" by Dick Francis

"*Salvation in Death*" by Nora Roberts

"*Relentless*" by Dean Koontz

"*Nothing Lasts For Ever*" by Sidney Sheldon

"*The Kill artist*" by Daniel Silva"