

# GRAPEVINE

## JANUARY 2023

The Australian Army and  
the Blackhawk.



The current office bearers are:

***PRESIDENT:***

**MARTIN HAMILTON-SMITH**

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***VICE PRESIDENT:***

**GREG MATTHEWS**

***SECRETARY:***

**DEANE PYE**

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Right:  
Remembering  
Charles Stewart





## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT JANUARY 2023**

*Left: National Chairman and President of the SA Branch  
Martin Hamilton-Smith*

*Can I welcome everyone to 2023, a year which can only be an improvement on the past two years of Covid chaos. The SA Branch of the SAS Association is in good shape. A few of us have health issues and family members we are supporting, others are travelling and living every precious moment. All are soldiering on in best spirits. The interesting thing about we veterans is the self-awareness that we need to live life to the fullest while we can, despite what ailments or setbacks may present themselves.*

*The year ahead will involve our ANZAC Day march activities in April, The July Blackhawk Commemoration, our annual Dinner in September and other catch ups along the way. Veterans have a new government in Canberra and a new minister the Hon Matt Keogh MP. A lot of money has been put into boosting DVA by up to 500 people so it can deal with the backlog in veterans claims. Liz Cosson is retiring as Secretary of DVA in February to be replaced by Allison Frame. We had a great AGM in Perth at the House in August the outcomes of which have been passed onto you all earlier. Sadly we have just lost our National Secretary Charles Stewart to illness, South Australian Troy Simmonds will be taking his place.*

*The Regiment begins 2023 in good shape with selection and recruiting strong and new challenges presenting themselves in the Indo Pacific. Along with the RSL and the Commando Association I have, as National President stated very publicly our concerns about the way the CDF has dealt with the allegations of war crimes flowing from the IGADF Report. Veterans Associations have had enough of 'trial by media' based on allegations yet to be examined in court. No one has been speaking up on behalf of our people, and that has now changed. I am most concerned when senior commanders and ministers who made the big decisions, push blame down to troopers, corporals, sergeants and young officers when mistakes occur, without acknowledging the circumstances and operational conditions they were put under. It's not a style of Australian Leadership that veterans expect or deserve.*

*We are all very keen to welcome younger veterans into the association, so if you come across anyone put them in touch. They are in some respects in the same place our Vietnam veterans found themselves back in the seventies, transitioned out of the army in testing times, and needing support. I am continually struck by the quality and resilience of SAS soldiers and veteran, and of their spouses and families. What a special group of people.*

*Can I thank everyone who participated in events this year, Secretary Dean Pye, Treasurer Haydn Jackson, committee members and 'Grapevine' editor Bob Dikkenberg. Our association makes us stronger.*

*Warm Regards - Martin*

## **NEW BLACK HAWK HELICOPTERS FOR DEFENCE**

**18 JANUARY 2023** - The Australian Government will acquire 40 UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters for the Australian Army.

Head Land Capability Major General Jeremy King, CSM, said this was an important acquisition which will meet the strategic needs of the Australian Army.

“The Black Hawk capability will be a crucial element for us to protect Australia’s sovereignty, and deliver foreign policy objectives, including providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief,” Major General King said.

“The Black Hawk will support the deployment of our troops and their equipment where they are needed in times of crisis. The Black Hawk is a reliable, proven and mature platform supported by a robust global supply chain.

“This acquisition will mean we can continue to defend Australia and respond in times of need in a safe and effective way for years to come.”

The Black Hawk will operate from Oakey, QLD and Holsworthy, NSW, supported by a highly skilled, blended maintenance workforce including Australian industry contractors.

Australian industry will be involved in logistic support, warehousing services, training development and engineering services, as well in the aircraft’s global supply chain.

This will not only support the capability, but also maximise Australian industry participation, laying a foundation for future helicopter industry growth across the service life of the helicopter.

Delivery of the Black Hawk helicopters will commence this year



*The Australian Defence Department is buying 40 UH-60M Black Hawk Helicopters from the United States to replace Australia’s current fleet of European-designed Taipan helicopters which are being retired early.*

The search for the much loved Bell UH-1 Iroquois utility helicopter replacement, the New Utility Helicopter (NUH) project, commenced in the early 1980s. The Australian Government's preference for the Sikorsky S-70A-9S Black Hawk was due to its superior battlefield protection and robustness. The Australian Government ordered 14 Black Hawks on 29 May, 1986. That same year, control of the battlefield helicopters was passed from the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) to the Australian Army. "The first Australian Black Hawk flew at Sikorsky's Stamford, Connecticut, plant on 11 September 1987.

After being handed over to the RAAF on 31 December, it was flown to RAAF Base Amberley by C-130 and delivered to No. 9 Squadron on 27 February 1988. By then, some 900 Black Hawks had been delivered to the US Army. Meanwhile, licensed Black Hawk assembly in Australia had begun with Boeing heritage company Hawker de Havilland (HdH) at Bankstown as prime contractor. In December 1988, No. 9 Squadron relocated to RAAF Base Townsville and was disbanded on 15 February. The Black Hawk has served operationally with A and B Squadrons of Army's 5 Aviation Regiment (5Avn) at Townsville, and 171 and 173 Aviation Squadrons of 6 Aviation Regiment at Holsworthy.

The MRH 90 replaced the Black Hawks in 5Avn in 2014, and the fleet was drawn down to 18 airframes and concentrated at Holsworthy. In 2019 6Avn began to introduce the European-built MRH-90 Taipan helicopters in the special operations and counter terrorism support role, with the Black Hawk due to have been phased out by mid-2020. But ongoing difficulties in adapting the MRH 90 to this role saw the Black Hawk's service extended by 18-months.

Five Black Hawks have been lost in Army service, with the loss of 22 soldiers, the worst accident being a tragic mid-air collision between two of the original Sikorsky S-70A-9S Blackhawks at High Range near Townsville on 12 June 1996 which saw SASR lose 15 soldiers Aviation lose three aircrew. Captain Mark Bingley (Aviation) and Trooper Josh Porter (SASR) also died in a Blackhawk accident during "Operation Quickstep" in November 2006.

The Australian Army retired its remaining Sikorsky S-70A-9 Black Hawk helicopters on December 10 in a ceremony at Holsworthy Barracks in Sydney. At least five S-70A-9s will be preserved in museums, including the Australian War Memorial, the RAAF Museum at Point Cook, the Museum of Army Flying at Oakey, and the RAAF Aviation Heritage Centre at Amberley. Others may be refurbished for the commercial sector for the fire-fighting or other para-public roles.



**Left: A memorial service for the 15 soldiers who died at High Range in 1996 and Joshua Porter Reserve in Newcastle**

## **THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL AIR SERVICE ASSOCIATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH**

The meeting: Opened at 1124am on 04 September 1988 at Hampstead Barracks SA.

### **The following people were present:**

Keith Bleechmore, Tom Davidson, Jeff Ayles, Graeme Buttery, Bruce Perks, Max Atkins, Allan Williams and Rod Wallis

### **The following members were unable to attend however they registered their support for the forming of the SA Branch:**

Steve Garay, Kerry Lampard, Noel Ford, Gino Janso, Bubbles Merton, John Buscumb, Jim Harvey and Mick Von Berg.

### **Formation of the Branch:**

Keith Bleechmore was asked to chair the meeting for the purpose of forming the SA Branch. It was moved by Max Atkins and Seconded by Allan Williams.

It was moved that the Western Australian Branch constitution be adopted.

### **The first committee was:**

President - Keith Bleechmore  
Vice President - Allan Williams  
Secretary/Treasurer - Rod Wallis  
Assistant Secretary - Jeff Ayles

As the newly appointed president, Keith Bleechmore's first official act was to: "Ask the Secretary/ Treasurer to write a letter to the Hampstead Barracks Mess in appreciation for the use of the venue for our inaugural meeting"

With no further business the meeting closed at 1224 pm



“Dear All, it is with much sadness that I must inform you that Charles Stewart passed away this morning. Charles was a stalwart of the association and acted as our national secretary for many years. His smiling face, ever present optimism and hard work will be sorely missed. Charles knew he was seriously ill and fortunately let us know. As a result, Martin and I were separately able to chat with him over the last couple of days. He was cheery to the last. Our condolences go out to all Charles family and his many friends. Vale Charles, your duty done”.

Yours sincerely - **Rick Moor**, National Vice Chairman



***Charles Stewart, second from the left with 1 SAS Sqn A Troop in 1967***

On behalf of the National Chairman (Martin H-S) and the South Australian Branch of the ASASA we would like to add our condolences to the Stewart family and Charles' many friends.

He was a respected member of the Regiment and the Association. His tireless efforts as the National Secretary are unsurpassed. The role of Secretary is crucial in ensuring the viability of the association. Charles carried out the task in the most professional manner and he was always be happy to go that extra yard to achieve the best outcome.

Not only will he be missed as an outstanding and long serving committee member but as a truly good man who was and always will be remembered as a respected and valued friend to all.

**Australian Government  
Department of Defence  
STATEMENT OF SERVICE**

**Full name:** *Charles David STEWART*

**Service number:** 38202

**Category of service:** *Australian Regular Army*

**Date of enlistment:** *10 February 1964*

**Date of discharge:** *09 February 1970*

**Employment:** *Rigger (Signals); Operator (Radio);  
Signaller; Rifleman; Steward*

**Rank on discharge:** *Trooper*

**Postings:**

*Southern Command Personnel Depot 10 February 1964*

*1 Recruit Training Battalion (Training Strength) 12 February 1964*

*School of Signals (Training Strength) 04 June 1964*

*403 Signals Regiment 19 November 1964*

*(Redesignated 6 Signals Regiment 22 December 1964)*

*Special Air Service Regiment 29 March 1966*

*152 Signals Squadron 12 September 1966*

*1 Special Air Service Squadron 13 December 1966*

*Special Air Service Base Squadron 05 September 1969*

**Operational Service/Deployment:**

*New Guinea*

*Vietnam 19 October 1966 to 04 December 1966 02 March 1967 to 26  
February 1968*

**Honours and Awards:**

*Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 with Clasp Vietnam  
Vietnam Medal*

*Australian Service Medal 1945-75 with Clasp PNG*

*Australian Defence Medal*

*Vietnamese Campaign Medal*

*Returned from Active Service Badge*

Released on behalf of **J.Yeo**

Director - Defence Archives and Service Centres

Service Delivery Division

Security and Estate Group

Department of Defence

18 January 2023

## 50th anniversary of the proclamation to end Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War

On 11 January 2023, we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the then Governor-General Sir Paul Hasluck proclaiming an end to Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

This milestone marks the beginning of recognising in 2023, the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's commitment to the war and to acknowledge Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

More than 60,000 Australians served in Vietnam, over 3,000 wounded and 523 gave their lives in the longest conflict Australians were involved in during the 20th Century.

Throughout the commemorative year, DVA will raise awareness to specifically recognise and honour the service and sacrifice of Vietnam veterans and their families, with:

- Anzac Day Schools' Awards, in 2023 the awards will focus on the service of Australians in the Vietnam War
- history and education resources for schools across Australia
- education materials about the Vietnam War included in the national Anzac Day mail-out to schools, ex-service organisations and community groups
- documentary series on Australians in Vietnam to be screened on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, and
- Saluting Their Service grants to assist with honouring the service and sacrifice of

Australia's service personnel and preserve our wartime heritage, including projects and activities marking the 50th anniversary and the service of Vietnam veterans. These activities will lead into a [national commemorative service](#) on Vietnam Veterans' Day, 18 August 2023, recognising the service of all Australians in the Vietnam War and honouring the sacrifices that they and their families made. The service will be held at the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial on Anzac Parade in Canberra.



**Left:**  
**Australian troops in 1973 as part of a 'Welcome Home Parade' held in Brisbane**

## Introduction

In 2023, the Australian Government will mark the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War with a National Commemorative Service in Canberra on 18 August 2023.

Supporting activities are being developed in close consultation with a national stakeholder consultative group, including Vietnam veterans and representatives of the wider veteran community.

Throughout the year, Australians will be encouraged to honour and remember the service of some 60,000 Australian men and women who served in the Vietnam War. Tragically, 523 Australians lost their lives in the war, and over 3,000 were wounded.

## What to expect

The Department of Veterans' Affairs will deliver a televised commemorative service to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War at the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial on Anzac Parade, on Friday 18 August 2023.

The commemorative service will be broadcast live across Australia by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and streamed online. The ABC will also make the broadcast available to other networks to provide all members of the community the opportunity to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War in a solemn and dignified manner from their home.

DVA develops a range of commemorative and educational materials to further help recognise and remember those who served in the Vietnam War. To learn more about Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, and access these materials, visit our [Anzac Portal](#)

**More information about the commemorative service will be available in the coming months.**

If you are planning an event or project to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, you might like to consider applying for a grant under the Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program (STS). STS provides funding for projects that commemorate the service and sacrifice of Australian service personnel in wars, conflicts and peace operations. The current batch is open for applications, and closes on 7 February 2023. For more information about what is eligible, grant guidelines, and the application form, please visit [Grant Connect](#).

## Contact information

**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

Phone: [1800 838 372](tel:1800838372)

Email: [commemorations@dva.gov.au](mailto:commemorations@dva.gov.au)



**Local State Emergency Service and Country Fire Authority conduct route reconnaissance of flood affect areas in Echuca, in an Army Bushmaster protected mobility vehicle. Photo: Corporal Cameron Pegg**

As part of the Victorian Government's request for assistance, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) deployed four Bushmaster protected mobility vehicles (PMVs) on Operation Flood Assist 2022-2.

The versatile vehicles were used to conduct reconnaissance missions and to support evacuations and movements.

With a high clearance enabling the vehicles to traverse flood-affected roads up to 1.2 metres deep, they supported communities heavily affected, such as Shepparton, Echuca, Kerang and Swan Hill.

Bushmaster PMV driver Corporal Kaelym O'Flaherty, of the 1st Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, said it had been a rewarding experience to see the impact he and his team made in the community.

"We've seen some hardship suffered within the local communities and it's great to see my team and vehicles making a real difference," Corporal O'Flaherty said.

"The best thing about the Bushmaster PMVs on flood operations is the high clearance, allowing them to get to locations that the State Emergency Services and civilian vehicles can't.

"During this operation a reconnaissance task can quickly turn into an evacuation of community members, and a PMV can quickly adjust from one to the other.



Australian soldiers depart Darwin for the United Kingdom this week to join partner nations in providing critical training to Ukrainian recruits. A contingent of up to 70 ADF personnel will deploy as part of ADF Operation Kudu to assist with the UK-led and based training program, supporting Ukraine's defence in response to Russia's illegal invasion. Minister for Defence Personnel Matt Keogh said Australia's experience and support was vital for the Ukraine and its armed forces. "Our people are our greatest defence capability. That's why it's important our soldiers, alongside a number of partner nations, provide essential skills to the Armed Forces of Ukraine, supporting Ukraine to end the conflict on its own terms," Mr Keogh said.

The training conducted under this operation will generate additional capacity within the Armed Forces of Ukraine and will focus on basic infantry tactics for urban and wooded environments, helping Ukrainian recruits gain the military skills needed to defend their homeland.

No ADF personnel will enter Ukraine as part of the program

The announcement of the training mission was the latest update in the government's continuing assistance for Ukraine, which also included an additional 30 Bushmaster protected mobility vehicles. This brings the total number of gifted Bushmasters to 90.

"Since their arrival, the Bushmasters have been used extensively by the Ukrainian Armed Forces, with more requested by the Ukrainian President, Minister for Defence and the ambassador."

Australia has provided Ukraine with about \$655 million in support, including \$475 million in military assistance.

## NEW SIMULATOR SOFTWARE

Practising drills without touching a weapon or attacking live enemies without stepping outside is now possible thanks to the virtual reality (VR) capable simulation software recently acquired by Army.

Numerous demonstration systems have been rolled out to various combat units and training establishments over the past year to provide an extra stage of training and prompt feedback on the system's use.

3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR), used its software to run a British lateral transfer through EF88 handling drills to shorten the time needed with a live weapon.

Operations Officer for 3RAR Major David Caligari said the unit also used VR to train its Duke of Gloucester Cup-winning section on the British SA80 rifle before going to the UK for the Cambrian Patrol infantry competition.

"The team were able to get an exposure to the SA80, up to and including using them for small-section, force-on-force actions," he said

## ROBOT DOGS

They're nicknamed robot dogs, but the mechanical movements of Army's quadrupeds walking around Land Forces don't prompt warm feelings like a real canine.

While you may not want to pat them, their value is in what they may one day do for Army. It could be clearing rooms in urban areas, thanks to their stairclimbing ability, or setting up surveillance from buildings where it's too dangerous to put recon teams.

Quadrupedal Uncrewed Ground Vehicle models of the Ghost Robotics Vision 60 were showcased at Land Forces to highlight the work of the Robotic and Autonomous Systems Implementation & Coordination Office (RICO) and their exploration of where Army might use robots and autonomous systems.

Lieutenant Colonel Alex Palmer, from RICO, said his area gives soldiers off-the-shelf technology to see how it could aid in their current roles.

The robot dog has so far been used for such things as carrying radios for re-trans in hard-to-access areas, along with urban building clearances as the V60 can negotiate stairs.

Though normally operated by remote control, Lieutenant Colonel Palmer's team have been teaching 7th Combat Service Support Battalion soldiers to pre-program their movement.



## **NEW SAS DRAMA ON BRITISH TELEVISION**

For the BBC 2 documentary *SAS: Rogue Warriors*, is a British television historical drama series created by Steven Knight, which depicts the origins of the British Army Special Air Service (SAS) during the Western Desert Campaign of World War II.

The storyline is a broadly accurate representation of real events, as described by Ben Macintyre in his book of the same name.

On 4 December 2022, the BBC confirmed that a second series had been commissioned, based upon SAS operations in the European theatre of war

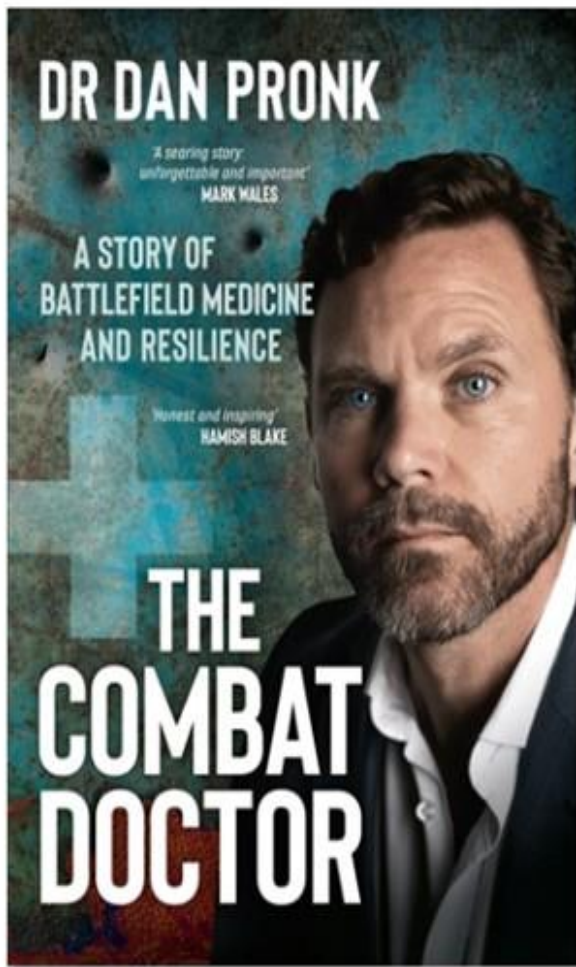


Cast members: This series tells the story behind the SAS, with unprecedented access to the SAS secret files, unseen footage and exclusive interviews with its founder members.

## **VOODOO MEDICS PODCAST**

Podcast: Life on the Line tracks down Australian war veterans and records their stories. This bonus episode covers the upcoming 8-part documentary *VOODOO MEDICS*, a short series of webisodes published by The Daily Telegraph Online starting 22 October 2018. Alex Lloyd speaks with the documentary's creator and host, journalist Kristin Shorten, as well as two of its interviewees, Australian veterans Mark Donaldson VC and Dr Dan Pronk. *VOODOO MEDICS* looks at the lives post-army of medics who served with Special Forces, and interviews such former medics, the operators they fought alongside, and more, in an insightful expose on the cost of modern war.

Dr Dan Pronk served with SASR and on over 100 combat missions in Afghanistan as a frontline special forces combat doctor and his book 'The Combat Doctor' is featured on the next page.



**'I had seen dozens of people die horrible deaths ... This time was different. This time it was a friend of mine dying in the dirt in front of me, and it was my job to save him.'**

Dr Dan Pronk served on over 100 combat missions in Afghanistan as a frontline special forces combat doctor, where the casualties he treated were his fellow SAS soldiers and commandos, local civilians and even the enemy.

The thrill of adventure and the challenges of battlefield medicine brought out the very best in Dan; he discovered a sense of purpose in pushing his medical skills and courage to the limits. But there was a cost.

In this frank and vivid memoir, Dan describes the highs and lows of his military-medical career, and the very real toll they took on his mental health and family life. He writes movingly about the burden of saving - and failing to save - friends and comrades, the feelings of helplessness and despair that haunted him, and the journey back to a meaningful and fulfilling civilian life.

*The Combat Doctor* is an extraordinary story of resilience and growth, and a tribute to the doctors and medics working behind the scenes in conflict around the world.



The role of a combat medic has changed dramatically over the decades with war zone healers tasked with keeping up or becoming a burden. Voodoo Medic Corporal Jody Tieche explains the "ditch medicine mentality" of the elite specialist forces group and how they gain the respect of the soldiers they look after. GET a glimpse inside the secret world of an elite lifesaving squad known as the Voodoo Medics in a gripping eight-part documentary series, featuring an Adelaide doctor who went on more than 100 special forces missions in Afghanistan

## INDIGENOUS SOLDIERS RECOGNISED IN A NEW ADELAIDE SCULPTURE.



*Artwork honouring Aboriginal soldiers past and present  
installed at Panorama intersection*

A new artwork has been installed alongside a busy Adelaide intersection in a move the SA government hopes will help to better recognise the contribution of Aboriginal soldiers who have served Australia at war. The artwork has been permanently installed as part of the Goodwood, Springbank and Daws road intersection upgrade, funded by the state and federal governments.

Designed by Tania Taylor from the Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation, the artwork features four sculptures that represent a ceremonial flame, a traditional Kurna warrior, a soldier representing those from World Wars I and II and a modern-day soldier.

Mukapaanthi, which is the Kurna word for remember, is displayed at the front of the artwork, with Australian and Aboriginal flags raised behind the sculptures.

## **CHANGES TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE STRUCTURE**

Adelaide's 9th Brigade has become the Australian Army's first truly integrated combat brigade, with the incorporation of several full-time Adelaide-based units into what was previously a part-time organisation.

A transition of authority parade was held at RAAF Base Edinburgh today to mark the move of the 1st Armoured Regiment, the 7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, the Adelaide-based elements of the 1st Combat Service Support Battalion, and the 144th Signal Squadron to 9th Brigade. This parade also marks the 9th Brigade's transfer from the 2nd Division to Forces Command.

The event was attended by the Chief of Army Lieutenant General Simon Stuart, AO, DSC, who said the combat brigade restructure was an important part of Army's modernisation plan.

"These changes ensure our Army continues to adapt to meet the challenges of the day and set the best possible conditions to ensure success in the future," LTGEN Stuart said.

"Tonight we formalise adjustments to the 9th Brigade that simplify command arrangements and strengthen Army's presence here in South Australia."

Commander of the 9th Brigade Brigadier Graham Goodwin, CSC, welcomed the units and their members to 9th Brigade.

"The transformation of the 9th Brigade is the cornerstone of the combat brigade restructure," Brigadier Goodwin said.

"These changes ensure we are able to contribute critical land power capabilities to the Joint Force – in times of peace and war."

The restructured 9th Brigade in South Australia will leverage the Army's flexible employment arrangements and build relationships with industry, academia and sovereign-owned capability providers.

"I am excited about the opportunities that a fully integrated combat brigade offers to both our full and part-time workforce," Brigadier Goodwin said.

"Adelaide-based units already have strong relationships with South Australians and local industry – bringing everyone under the same brigade will strengthen these ties further."

Commander of the 1st Brigade Brigadier Nick Foxall, AM, DSM, said the transfer enabled the 1st Brigade to focus on building the Australian Army's littoral manoeuvre capability centred in Darwin.

"The transfer places the Adelaide-based units closer to their higher headquarters, as opposed to being separated by thousands of kilometres as they previously were, and enables a more agile 1st Brigade to focus on delivering the Australian Army's littoral manoeuvre centre of excellence," Brigadier Foxall said.

# THE ASSOCIATION'S PROPOSED WEBPAGE

The ASASA is proposing to setup a new website and believe that the Commando Association Website is an outstanding example of how a good Webpage should look. We are hoping to create one that is similar. The Commando Association is sharing the knowledge it has gained in producing both their Webpage to steer us in the right direction and ensure that we can create our new Webpage in a much shorter timeframe

The site is proposed to be kept simple to make things easy to find and to reduce the cost of maintenance. Never lose sight of the primary aim which is to provide a line of communication to members.

The one site will have all the states included be mobile friendly as 80% of sites are accessed by mobile phone. Possibly have an open area for the public but then an area that only members can access

The ASASA propose to use a reputable company to set it up and regularly maintain it. It is the way that all Associations are going and it will provide an up-to-date and informed form of communication. It is also designed to encourage new members to join the association.

## **Possible Content:**

1. Presidents Report
2. Members Welfare – Government decisions on pensions and allowances etc.
3. Health – Features relating to members health,
4. Features – Stories that will be of interest to the members EG. The 'Long Paddle – Veterans on the Murray' – An expedition down the Murray River by Robert Kilsby and Matt Hanrahan in Sea Kayaks
5. From the States – News from the state branches
6. General Army News – News from the wider army that will be of interest to members.
7. Member Contributions – BBQ's, holidays, nostalgic look back at their SASR days etc.
8. Letters to the Editor – People can have a say and get an informed reply if required,
9. Obituary – Acknowledging the lives and contributions of members who have recently died.
10. Remembering the past – Short features on soldiers on the anniversary of their death or significant milestones in the history of SASR,
11. Contact us – Full list of relevant contact numbers
12. Advertising,
13. Useful tips – for 4 WD or caravanning etc.
14. LINKS – To ACA, SASPort, SASR Museum, Auxiliary, Trust Fund, RAR Association, Virtual War Memorial etc.



<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">SAS Family</a>	<a href="#">News, Events and FAQs</a>	<a href="#">Tour Historical Collection</a>	<a href="#">History and Education</a>	<a href="#">Memorial and Citations</a>	<a href="#">Art, Sculptures and Cartoons</a>	<a href="#">Sponsors and Supporters</a>
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### SAS Photo Album

## Welcome to the Official Australian Special Air Service Historical Foundation Site

This is the official website of the Special Air Service Historical Foundation and has been created to commemorate the remarkable history and heritage of Australia's Special Air Service (SAS). Whether you're a serving or former Defence Force member, SAS family member, or an interested member of the public, we hope you enjoy this website and share our pride in the the Australian SAS.

### Our News

**SAS Mega Lottery Draw Results**  
The SAS Historical Foundation Mega Lottery draw results.  
[Read More](#)

[www.australiansas.com](http://www.australiansas.com) ▾

### SAS Historical Foundation

Welcome to the Official Australian Special Air Service Historical Foundation Site. This is the official website of the Special Air Service Historical Foundation and ...

[www.australiansas.com](http://www.australiansas.com) > ... ▾

### SAS Photo Album - SAS Historical Foundation

This is the official website of the Special Air Service Historical Foundation and ... we hope you enjoy this website and share our pride in the the Australian SAS.

# SASSPORT

Campbell Barracks, West Coast Hwy, Swanbourne, WA, 6010  
Tel: 08 9269 8981 Fax: 08 9269 8139

Email: [sassport@bigpond.com.au](mailto:sassport@bigpond.com.au)

Stand-down: 11 December 2015, 1800hrs

Reopening Tuesday, 2 February 2016, 0900hrs

Normal Open Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 0900-1500hrs



# VETERAN'S ORGANISATIONS IN SA CONTACT LIST

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS PHONE NUMBERS

**GENERAL (From anywhere in Australia) – 1800 555 254**  
**DEFENCE SERVICE HOMES INSURANCE – 1800 552 662**  
**DEFENCE SERVICE HOMES LOANS – 1800 722 000**  
**HEALTH, MEDICAL & HOSPITAL PROVIDERS – 1800 550 457**  
**VETERAN'S HOME CARE ASSESSMENT AGENCY – 1300 550 450**  
**VAPAC – 1800 552 580**  
**OPEN ARMS – VETERAN & FAMILY COUNSELLING – 1800 011 580**  
**VETERANS'S REVIEW BOARD - 1300 550 460 OR 1800 550 460**  
**(FOR REGIONAL CALLERS)**  
**OVERSEAS TREATMENT OFFICE - +61 3 6221 6752**  
**PENSION ENQUIRIES - +61 3 6289 1133 (If outside Australia)**

### RSL SA STATE BRANCH

Level 1, ANZAC House, Torrens  
Training Depot, Victoria Drive  
Adelaide, SA, 5000  
(t) (08) 8100 7300  
(e) [admin@rslsa.org.au](mailto:admin@rslsa.org.au)

### VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Address: The Yerbury Centre, Unit  
1/31/39 Norfolk Rd, Marion SA 5043  
Phone: (08) 8296 2411

### VETERAN'S PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

Address: 15 The Parade, Norwood  
SA 5067  
Phone: +61 82270042

### Defence Force Welfare Assoc (SA Branch)

ADDRESS: PO BOX  
573 STIRLING SA 5152  
Telephone: 0432 379278

### War Veterans' Home

55 Ferguson Avenue  
Myrtle Bank, SA 5064  
Phone: (08) 8379 2600  
Fax: (08) 8338 7369

### Soldier On Adelaide

Gate 13, Kintore Avenue  
ADELAIDE SA 5001  
1300 620 380

### RSL CARE-SA

55 Ferguson Avenue  
Myrtle Bank, SA 5064  
Phone: (08) 8379 2600  
Fax: (08) 8338 2577

### Adelaide Legacy

Legacy House  
102-104 Franklin Street  
Adelaide SA 5000  
**Postal address:**  
Box 1367 GPO Adelaide  
SA 5001  
**Phone:** (08) 8231 9812

### TPI Association SA

171 Richmond Road,  
RICHMOND SA 5033  
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