

THE EXHIBITOR

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
ARMY MUSEUM OF SOUTH
Australia



AMOSA

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The Devil in the Detail



If the devil is in the detail, Cavalryman Samuel White is through with flying colours. The 1840 volunteer with the Royal SA Voluntary Militia has taken months to get into uniform after exhaustive and pains-taking work from our own volunteers. Steered by Danee Davis, volunteers Henry Jolly, Brenton Williams - assisted by Heather Simms - have almost exactly recreated an original photo of White, who was a founding member of the Reedbeds Mounted Volunteers. It took overseas manufacturers, local business and a keen eye to detail to give us possibly one of the best-looking mannequins in AMOSA. Although we are still waiting for his rifle to be replicated - again by our own team - the look of one of our earliest militiamen is transfixing. White is one of three South Australians on show in the museum's largest - and most challenging displays - examining the transformation from SA's militia to the Army Reserve. Fortunately, we have two South Australians who are with us today and were able to donate photos - and "artefacts" of their service years with the CMF and in the Reserve. Sgt

Ellen Brooks is a qualified Army cook who has done her time in the Solomons, Malaysia and east Timor in a 36- year tenure. She was able last month to see her original chef knife set and uniform and photo now on display. It was the same with Louis Leeuwrick, a SA Warrant Officer, who describes his years since enlistment in 1974 as often a time of being up to his armpits in grease - "the best days of my service with RAEME." Alongside Louis you can see a priceless set of blacksmith's tools donated to AMOSA after decades of use at Warradale. Even up to recent times the hammers and tongs were in use - to make modern day tools! The three individuals' lives tell the story of our transformation from life



in the Reedbeds to present day careers in the modern-day Reserve. It also is a tribute to the curatorial team which worked on a magnificent exhibit.

By Peter Haran

History Festival 2022

Put this date in your diary for our next History Lunch. Theme TBA.

Keswick Barracks

Building 34A

Wednesday 18th May 2022

Tickets available in April 2022.

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The Big Shave

Over lunch one sunny day in October discussion turned to the fund-raiser "Movember". However having noted that a large percentage of our male volunteers already sported moustaches I casually remarked to Peter Collins that we could raise money if we shaved his very lush beard and moustache. His first response was an emphatic "No" but after due consideration he said "Alright!" The following Wednesday was the Veterans Health morning and we made the announcement that Peter would be shaved provided the members supported him with donations. I thought that if we raised even a couple of hundred dollars it would be worthwhile. However immediately one intrepid volunteer said he would donate \$100 if Peter went pink. Ernie volunteered to be the caretaker of donations and we were duly registered as an official event. The big event was scheduled as a finale for the night of our Christmas party. We had various offers of assistance to shave Peter, the most enthusiastic from Edged Weapons. However to keep Maria happy and comply with WHS it was decided to use clippers. The ladies from our team lined up to help with Libby standing by to mop up and Danny on call in case of injuries

requiring first aid. It took a while but finally Peter's face was bared to daylight. We presented him with a tube of sunscreen and also a supply of razor blades to rehabilitate his face. However the following week Peter was back on deck with a new beard and moustache being cultivated.

By Heather Simms, Uniforms & Textiles Curator



Peter glowing in pink!



Hopes - The Serbian Connection

"I never knew about that..." A common enough remark from visitors to our museum - and one we love to hear. Such is the case with our latest pop-up display, created by Henry Jolly and Brenton Williams. The Forgotten Volunteers mini-display in the WW II gallery has come as a surprise to visitors and volunteers alike. Who were the doctor husband and wife team and - Adelaideans - Charles and Laura Hope who partook in a forgotten war? You could write a book about them - and it was a book by Melbourne-based author Bojan Pajic that revealed the story of the medical duo. Laura Hope (nee Fowler) enrolled in medicine at Adelaide Uni - an unheard proposition in 1887. She went on to become resident medical officer at Adelaide Women and Children's Hospital, and married eye specialist Dr Charles Hope. The pair travelled to the UK and later Bengal, India treating the sick and impoverished. And then Serbia, where they were caught up in



The Serbian Connection—Display

fierce fighting as the Serbs tried to hold back the Austria-Hungarian and Bulgarian forces who were forcing a corridor into Gallipoli. It is a little-known fact 1500 Australian-NZ servicemen and women were engaged in this brutal conflict in freezing conditions. It is also not generally known award-winning author Miles Franklin (*My Brilliant Career*) was there. Both the Hopes were captured by enemy forces and cattle-trucked to Hungary where they were held for two months. At war's end the Hopes were awarded the Serbian Cross of Mercy for treating the Serbs in the face of danger and death. Also awarded a Serbian honour with a medal was the "last man off ANZAC Cove" - and creator of Watson's Pier - Lt Col Stan Holm Watson (yes, the man on display in our museum). So much in such a small exhibit. And we were to have it officially opened last month with VIPs and dignitaries from interstate. Covid delayed that, but it will eventuate at a special ceremony next year. And there are plans to have descendants of the Hopes in attendance.

By Peter Heran



Bojan Pajic with & Rory Hope (Descendent) visiting the Museum and the Serbian display.

From the Manager

At the end of another busy year I had wanted to write rather more, but health related matters have laid me low for the best part of a month so this will be short. My thanks go to all members of the unit, military and volunteer for their efforts throughout 2021. Amongst the uniformed staff there have been substantial changes in recent times. Some of the new military are already with us, while others are still to come. In the first edition of next year I will provide detailed bios of each of them. To those departing members I say, on behalf of us all I'm sure, a kind



Major Christopher Roe
Manager

farewell with heartfelt thanks. Maria Vallis, Danee Davis and Deborah Spicer have given distinguished and lengthy service to this unit for many years and they have assuredly left us in a better place. I trust Maria, after a short break, may choose to resume service in the future but for Danee and Deb this is the end of fine military careers. Well done. To all volunteers I trust you have a safe and enjoyable holiday period with your families and friends, and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. We are, as a unit, in a good place, and the vibrant and enjoyable Christmas function was strong evidence of that. See you all in 2022, where we will continue to advance the Museum as an effective and dynamic component of The Australian Army.

Thank you **Christopher Roe** Manager

Dikko



Planes, Trains and Automobiles....

Roger Donnelly, a long time Museum volunteer, has been making all kinds of kit aero planes and donates them to the Museum, which we sell through the Marketing Section. Roger is displaying his latest project, a Mitchell Bomber B26, a large plane which captures not only the childrens' interest, but many adults as well. We have lost count of the number of planes Roger has made for us, and he deserves our heartfelt thanks for his time and efforts which has boosted the Museum's finances for the past two years. Thank you Roger.

Joy Souter, Marketing Section



Our New Staff

We farewell Sgt Deb Spicer, WO1 Maria Vallis and S/Sgt Danny Davis and welcome Maj John Burns (JB), WO1 Brian Kirby and Sgt Troy Oakes.

We retain Maj Chris Roe and Sgt Mimi Ewens in our GRes Management Team.



Pattern 1853 Rifle

Pattern 1853 Rifle Issued to South Australian Volunteer Rifleman; Herbert Grosvenor Two thousand 2nd Model Pattern 1853 rifles were shipped to South Australia in 1857, and a further one thousand 3rd Model rifles arrived in 1860 for use by the volunteer rifle companies. Also in 1860, four hundred of the 2nd model rifles were sent on to the conflict in New Zealand. The 2nd Model rifles were marked alpha-numerically on the butt tang with a single letter of the alphabet and numbers from 1 to 100. The butt tangs of the 3rd model rifles were marked with the letters SA followed by a number from 1 to 1000, and also a crown. The Pattern 2nd Model 1853 Rifle marked A31 is well known to us as being the rifle that was issued to Alfred Muller Simpson of the Adelaide based manufacturing family. This rifle was displayed for a time in the Medals Gallery at AMOSA, above the Simpson Trophy, before its status as a live firearm required it to be moved on to an armory. Simpson's rifle was replaced by Rifle M31, another 2nd Model. Rifle M31 has been rendered innocuous and can remain on permanent display, as is the case with Rifle E13 (a 2nd Model) in the Colonial Display, and Rifle SA481 (a 3rd Model), which is currently off display and in storage. Like virtually all serving South Australian issued Pattern 1853 rifles, none of these three Pattern 1853 rifles remaining at AMOSA can be linked to any known volunteer rifleman. Remarkably, another Pattern 1853 Rifle with a provenance to a known volunteer survives in South Australia. This rifle is a 3rd Model and it is marked SA583. Amazingly, this rifle has been kept with its original ramrod and bayonet, both marked 583. The rifle has been previously featured in the newsletter of the Heritage Arms Society, issue 2 (6) 2009. The rifle is in the possession of a collector who is known to AMOSA. He is a gentleman who provided valuations for some of the earliest objects to be catalogued on the AMOSA Ke-Emu database. The newsletter article states; "The stock is



Herbert Grosvenor in middle age



marked under the barrel PRIVATE HERBERT GROSVENOR 1869 - PORT VICTOR CARPENTER SERVED TO VOLUNTEER AT GOOLWA".



The newsletter goes on to report that Herbert Grosvenor enlisted in the Goolwa Company in March of 1860. Herbert Grosvenor came to South Australia from Hanley in Staffordshire, England as a nineteen year old. He arrived with his family on the *Susannah* in 1849 and they settled at Victor Harbour. Herbert farmed his father's land at Waitpinga, and was later Post Master at Victor Harbor from 1865 to 1868. He then opened a carpentry workshop, which he and his sons carried on and expanded into building, and

later as undertakers. Herbert served as Mayor of Victor Harbour from 1890 to 1898. He died in 1912 aged eighty two, and is buried alongside his wife Barbara who predeceased him, in the Victor Harbour Cemetery. An excellent history of the Grosvenor family and their significant contribution to the development of the Fleurieu region has been published by the Encounter Bay Family History Group: <https://encounterbayfhg.org.au/grosvenors/>. The Goolwa Volunteer Rifles were well established by the early 1860s. Interestingly they eschewed the white buff belts with crown lock buckles that were supplied with the Pattern 1853 rifles. Instead they wore black leather belts with snake clasp buckles, as worn by the Rifle Brigade of the British Army.



In image PRG 1258/2/385 from the State Library, we can see four enlisted men of the Goolwa Company with their officer. The State Library incorrectly dates this image to 1860, which is not possible because the men are wearing the 1862 uniform. Herbert Grosvenor is not pictured

in this group. The enlisted men are holding their Pattern 1853 rifles. The slings on the rifles in this image are of interest because they are not the white buff slings that came with the rifles. These slings have a tongue buckle, like the black slings that were used by the Rifle Brigade. But the slings in the image also appear to be a lighter colour than the black of the waist belts. The sling on Herbert Grosvenor's rifle however is of the original issue type, of white buff leather with one fixed loop and one free running loop, and without a buckle. In 1864 the Goolwa Company transitioned into a cavalry troop. They gave up their grey rifleman uniforms for dark blue cavalry uniforms. Herbert Grosvenor may well be among the men in State Library image B 26153 below. This image is reported to be from 1870, which if correct, would place it at the end of the muzzle loading era for the South Australian volunteer force. The apparent



absence of rifles in this image is conspicuous. It is possible that rifle scabbards may be fitted to the right hand side of the saddles, and thus out of view. But the man at the extreme right has his mount almost front on to the camera and there is no sign of a stowed rifle. It is also possible that a command decision was made that this occasion did not require small arms. Unlike the Reedbeds Cavalry, the Goolwa troop were never re-armed with a purpose made cavalry carbine as a replacement for their Pattern 1853 rifles. It is not known

Pattern 1853 Rifle (cont)

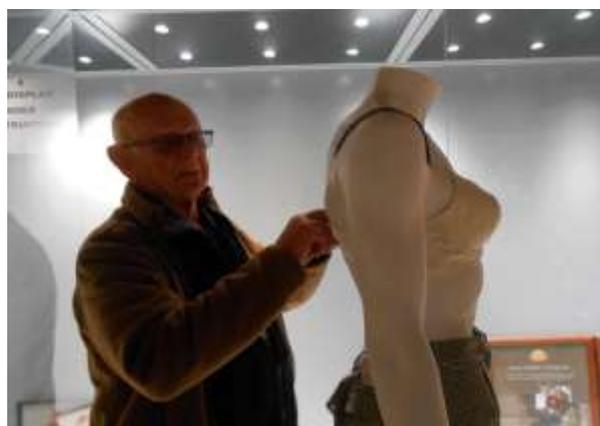
for certain how the Goolwa troop employed their Pattern 1853 rifles in a mounted role. A Dragoon (Mounted Infantry) role would seem most likely as the Pattern 1853 rifle would have been a nightmare to try and reload while mounted. In a Dragoon role, a sling with a free running loop like the one that survives on Herbert Grosvenor's rifle may have been better suitable for switching between mounted and dismounted carriage than a buckled sling. The rifle would be slung across the body for mounting, and to travel short distances to an engagement. Once dismounted, the sling would pull taut. The charged rifle would have been slung in the muzzle up position while mounted in order prevent the loss of the projectile and

powder. A stopper called a tompion was used to prevent rain water and dirt from entering the barrel. For travelling longer distance some type of saddle scabbard or bucket would have been far more comfortable for the trooper, but the rifle would not have been charged when carried in that manner. Rifle Pattern 1853 SA583 represents one of the best examples of an original issue weapon and accoutrement set for a known Australian colonial era volunteer force member. The current holder of the rifle has developed a succession plan that will see the it remain in the Fleurieu region and eventually go on display.

Staff Sergeant Danee Davis

Costume Mounting for Display

Malcolm and I recently attended a Costume Mounting Workshop conducted by ArtLab Australia in conjunction with History S.A. Subjects covered included general guidelines for the safe handling of costumes, assessing a garment for display, selecting a mannequin style, taking garment measurements and translating to a mannequin, modifying an existing mannequin and mounting, handling and moving garments. When assessing a garment for display consideration should be given to the structure to ensure it will be adequately supported, including areas of weakness in the garment. Consideration should be given to how the garment looked in its historical context. It may be necessary to look at an alternative to placing the garment on a mannequin, e.g. displaying flat. As we are only too well aware, mannequins come in a wide variety of shapes, forms, poses, finishes and of course costs. Do we also want a unified look for all the mannequins in our display? We should choose a mannequin that is smaller than the garment as it is much easier to add than subtract from a body. A side flange will give the option to dress the form in trousers. A sturdy base will prevent tipping. Is a head necessary? In most instances arms are an obstacle and it is considerably easier to fit a jacket correctly without arms on the mannequin. To reduce the risk of damage handling garments should be kept to a minimum. Ensure that you yourself are not a risk. Remove jewellery which could catch on the fabric and ensure hands are clean and



Malcolm puts into practice the adaption of mannequins to suit the display

unperfumed. Steps should be taken to reduce the risk of light damage and regular assessment for pest activity. The course offered many suggestions of materials and basic tools which may be used to enhance and support the finished display of garments on mannequins. We both found the course extremely informative and useful for our work at the museum.

By Heather Simms Uniforms & Textiles Curator, AMOSAF

Morning Tea



Outside the Museum—15 December 2021 Photos by John Claxton

From the Curator 2021.....

Looking Back on the Year

Museum Precinct It has been announced by Chris Roe that building 134 will become an AMOSA asset in the new year. The uniformed staff will move into the top floor of the HQ 9 Brigade building and vacate building 203 which will be taken over by the Military Police. We will also pick up another two bays of Building 80. What does this mean to the Museum? Well, the concept of a Museum Precinct within Keswick Barracks is becoming a reality. What is a Museum Precinct? Well it is the bringing in all of the Museums functional groups into one central area of which we will have greater control of what happens in that area. In practise the car park area currently bounded by 203, 136, 134 and 76 will be under AMOSA control and can be used for exterior displays and not car parking. Building 134 is to become another Museum display area and will focus on the post-Vietnam era and look at units such as the Port Wakefield P&EE, 7RAR, 1 Armoured and 16 Regiment. **News Flash** the move to building 134 and the control of the car park is now on hold!!!

Museum Accreditation After a lot of hard work by a number of our Foundation members, our submission to gain Museum accreditation from History SA has been given. This accreditation under the MaC grants program will enable AMOSAF to apply for SA Government grants. It is also a steppingstone for my plan to gain National Museum Accreditation; this will be a long process but will enable AMOSAF to apply for grants of up to \$50,000.

Paul Longstaff Research and Education Centre The opening of the Paul Longstaff Research and Education Centre took place on Saturday the 10 April in conjunction with the AMOSAF family day. It was fitting that this event took place in front of all our families and was officially opened by Oscar Wayland and Annette Summers. Oscar reminded the audience of the great work that had been done by all of the AMOSAF members over the years which has contributed to the professional and well-respected organisation that it is today. Congratulations must go to Greg Rosser who organised the entire day.

Galleries All the Galleries have had their ceilings painted black and track lighting installed. I have fine-tuned the light intensity, beam focusing and colours of the track lighting to add interest and ambiance to the Museum.

One of the main tasks for the Museum prior to the painting was taking down all of the banners and flags. As the banners were in quite inaccessible positions Defence hired a mobile platform tower to gain access. The Foundation sent David Williams on a mobile platform tower course so that he could use the platform to carry out the work. Graham Janz and his crew manufactured new mounting brackets for all of these banners with Heather and Malcolm Simms refurbished the poles. Most of the banners did not have a caption so Henry Jolly and Brenton Williams have now produced them for all of the banners.

Displays Local Reserve/Militia In response to a request from AAHU to focus on South Australia Militia, CMF and Reserve units I tasked our Display Committee to prepare displays on each. They are housed in the new five metre

long Tashco cabinet on the eastern wall of gallery two. The link to the Units will be through recounting the story of an individual soldier from each of the periods. I have directed that most of the soldiers will be from the Logistic Corps as this is a group that does not generally have its story told.

Gallipoli Neil, Stefan and Robert have been working on the Gallipoli diorama interactive display for some time. It hoped that it will be completed before Christmas. They have also made changes to the Gallipoli photographs which are now mounted in drawers which light up when opened. They have attached a monitor next to the display which will provide information on the landing. The Watsons Pier display is now linked into this new interactive display and when the Pier Pulley button is activated a recorded commentary plays.

Catering Display After a request by AMOSA to AAHU for items pertaining to the Catering Corps we have been given a Wiles cooker. This will be placed on the outside veranda of building 76 on the southern end, on the northern end a trailer mounted Army field kitchen of the 1970's will be placed. These cookers will form part of a comprehensive Australian Army Catering Corps (AACC) display. The remainder of the display will be housed inside building 76.

Military Police Motor bike In April 2020 AMOSA received a Suzuki 650 Military Police Motor bike from the AAHU at Bandiana. Conservation and Restoration fabricated a stand for the bike so that it could be displayed. The bike has now been placed at the entrance to Gallery 1 and it has proved popular with our visitors.

Catering Corps Display A significant Australian Army Catering Corps (AACC) display is planned towards the end of this year. It will link in with the new Militia display which features a AACC soldier and will have, as its centrepiece a WW2 Wiles cooker and a 1970's vintage Kitchen Field Trailer. These large items will be placed on the western side of building 76 under the veranda. The Austin Champ will be removed to accommodate these items.

Vehicles AMOSA has received a Unimog from 10/27 RSAR to add to its collection and it has been stored temporarily in 222 Compound. This will be placed in the undercover parking on the eastern side of building 76, alongside the Series 3 Land Rover FFR and trailer and the Austin Champ. The Studebaker restoration program should be completed by the end of the year and the plan is to display it as soon as it is finished. It will replace the Blitz which has been on display for some time and is showing serious signs of rust. This will be the next task of Conservation and Restoration. Conservation and Restoration have just completed a conservation task on our 1950's vintage 1 ton trailer. This had large areas of surface rust that have now been dealt with.

Sandblasting and Painting of Exterior Vehicles A quote for the first vehicle has been received by Wayne Birch and was forwarded to Chris Roe. The quote was accepted by AAHU with the proviso that only vehicles owned by the Commonwealth would be painted.

Artefact Processing To speed up the processing of auditing and completing ODR for the AMOSAF artefacts in Cage 5 I

Curator (Cont)

have given Peter Collins additional staff. He is now joined by Henry Jolly, Brenton Williams, and Jeff Ayles. Bay 8 has had all its old wiring removed, new lighting fitted and a large shelving system installed on the southern wall. The purpose of this bay is to be as a transitional storage area. The only items to be stored here will be those awaiting deaccessioning, disposal or accessioning.

Exterior Support AUR A request had been made by Adelaide University Regiment (AUR) to provide support for a Unit Collection display at Hampstead. AMOSAF had already provided advice on cabinets, uniforms and mannequins, these have now been purchased by AUR. The next step will be for the Display Committee to provide photographs and captions for each of the three displays. These will focus on the story of a WW 1 Light Horse Officer and a current Officer Cadet.

Exterior Support Keswick The Museum has supplied display cabinets to the Keswick Barracks Officers Mess and the Keswick Barracks Sergeants Mess. The displays will highlight local Reserve Unit histories. A theme for each of the cabinets will be formulated after consultation with the PMC of each mess.

Exterior Support 16 Regiment Woodside The Museum has been asked to provide display support to the 16 Regiment at Woodside for a public Open Day. It is proposed that the Rapier missile system be loaned to 16 Regiment for this event, along with several mannequins and objects. This is proposed to be held in early 2022.

Exterior Support Fort Largs Wayne Birch has been attending several meetings with Peet Ltd who are the new land developers for Fort Largs. The company will build high density housing on most of the site but have sold the Fort itself to a private individual who will be building a restaurant which will be attached to the fort walls. The upside is that the company will restore and rebuild the fort to the standards required by the State Heritage Branch. The meetings have included representatives from the Police Historical Society and the Largs Bay RSL. This is part of the public consultative process, but Peet has asked for advice on a proposed Heritage Walk, proposed Community use of the Fort and proposed naming of the streets which would reflect on the historical nature of the site.

Research and Education Peter Clark and his crew have been very busy with the entering of library books onto our new Mosaic platform. Mosaic is an Australian developed Museum software program for the recording of library books, artefacts photographs and documents. The Foundation has purchased five licences for our computers and the Archives team are busy uploading information on our books and their location. The Archives team went to the South Australian Aviation Museum to see how they enter artefacts into their Mosaic program. The intent here is to enter all of the Foundations Collection, SAMRA Collection, Artillery Collection, RSAR Collection and the Gray Collection into

this new database. In line with this the Foundation put in for a grant to History SA for 7 persons to be trained in the use of Mosaic. This was successful and those persons are now qualified. Peter has also been busy with the creation of the Foundation's SharePoint site and the collation of all its corporate and historical records. All of this shows the commitment the Foundation has to upgrading its technology and becoming more efficient and ensuring that all of our records are safe.

The Foundation also put in a grant application to History SA for four new computers for Archives, this grant for \$8400 was successful and the computers have now been purchased and commissioned.

Uniforms

Heather and Malcolm continue to provide excellent support to the Museum's display committee in relation to the provision of uniforms and banners. Heather's project of implementing an ongoing replacement of all the old mannequins in the Museum has had a good start. She has sourced a good quality mannequin at a reasonable price and has acquitted the budget allocated by the Board last year. All the banners and flags that were on open display in the Museum were taken down in preparation for painting the ceilings in Building 76. They were treated and then assessed as to condition and those suitable were placed back on display. Seaton RSL had requested that AMOSAF provide uniforms for three mannequins that they had purchased. This was done and our Curatorial staff also provided captions for each of the mannequins. Seaton RSL provided a cheque for three hundred dollars to AMOSAF in appreciation, well done Malcolm and Heather.

Conservation & Restoration Serviceable Labels have now been placed on all the Machinery in the new workshop area. Graham Janz has now completed SWP training for all of his staff in accordance with current WHS requirements. The welding bay has been moved from Bay 8 of Building 80, down to the compound of Building 8. Conservation and Restoration staff have erected a concrete fibre board screen on the northern wall of this area and laid down pavers to protect the bitumen floor. A movable welding screen has been purchased by Defence and has been placed on the inside of the welding bay. To prepare this area the German 77mm Krupp gun was moved from here to Bay 4 Building 80. This move was done by Shipp Bros Towing. The tradies in Conservation & Restoration continue to provide the Museum with essential support at short notice, whether it is a small bracket for a display or restoring a weapon, they have the skills, knowledge, and expertise to do it all.

EO I would like to thank Paul Fribbins for the considerable effort that he has made in auditing and documenting the EO collection. This has been an onerous and difficult task given that most of it has been done by Paul alone. This task was completed by July 2021 and in accordance with an agreement with Army History Unit the majority of the EO, which belongs to the Foundation has been moved off site. The only Foundation EO items left on site are those on display in building 76, this is about 80 items.

Curator (Cont).....

Medals and Heraldry Kevin and Mike continue with their long task of auditing the Gray Collection and fielding the many enquiries they receive from members of the public in relation to medals. They have in the last year changed a number of displays in the medal room to provide visitors with new experiences. A few times this last year and at short notice I have given them tasks to do which they have carried out promptly and professionally. Gentlemen thank you.

Weapons It has become apparent that from discussions with AAHU is that they believe that weapon accountability and security is our highest priority. They were not aware that the majority of the weapons held in the Museum belonged to the Foundation, a number of them were recorded as belonging to the Foundation on the South Australia Police Firearms Control System. Several weapons which were recently transferred from Foundation ownership to Commonwealth on the Ke Emu system were transferred back to Foundation ownership by AAHU. SAPOL are now in the process of looking at all of the weapons owned by the Foundation with the intent of having them all certified as being "Deactivated" and all being registered in the name of the AMOSA Foundation nominee.

Edged Weapons Edged Weapons have conducted a 100 % audit of all of the Foundations Edged Weapons, and they have now completed any outstanding ODR. This has been a long and involved process and I wish to thank Terry Izatt in particular for his dedication in completing this task. The new Edged Weapons area has had its original stable barn doors repaired and painted; this gave the section the impetus to paint the rest of their work area. The Edged Weapons crew have done a great job and the paint job combined with the new lights, benches and power tools gives it a professional look and a pleasure to work in.

Museum Shop At a recent Finance meeting that I attended I was briefed by the Treasurer, Rob Kenny about the current

Medal moments

The Medal Section has been busy this year with many donations from various donors. The two recent acquisitions are most the prominent the first being the donation a set of Vietnam Medals including additional service medals. The medals were donated by Colleen Wallace whose husband passed away several years ago. Colleen and her daughter were given the opportunity to view the display which is now located just inside the entrance of the medal room. Also his discharge papers and various army booklets are also on display. Colleen was most impressed with the display. John Claxton took several photos for Colleen to send to her other children. She later contacted Keven and I to thank all the staff of the Army Museum.

The second display is the Beames display incorporating the three Beames brothers who enlisted for service in WW1. The first to enlist was Norman Beames who was posted to the 2nd Divisional Ammunition as a driver, he survived the war and returned to Australia. The second brother was Henry James Beames, he enlisted on 18 September 1916

financial position of the Foundation. It had been anticipated that the first quarter would have a substantial deficit given the COVID-19 restrictions on Museum Operations. I was most surprised to learn that due to the efforts of Joy Souter in establishing our on-line shop we had received the bulk of our income through sales. I wish to thank Joy for her considerable efforts in establishing the online shop.

Port Wakefield Proof & Experimental Establishment Unit Collection Wayne Birch and Ken Scott went to see the OC of Port Wakefield P&EE in March to confirm dates for the movement of the Adlam Collection to the Museum. He confirmed that he still supported this project but at the moment Port Wakefield was quite busy and that any action may need to be delayed. He did agree to a proposal that a shipping container could be pre-positioned next to the collection and that AMOSAF volunteers would be allowed onsite to photograph, document, tag and place the items into the container. Ken Scott has prepared a list of items that the Museum wishes to have moved to the Museum which will be sent on the OC of Port Wakefield P&EE.

Surplus Items The Museum has been busy providing surplus display cabinets, Explosive Ordnance, Trench Art, and uniforms to several exterior organisations over the last twelve months. This is part of my plan to reduce holdings of artefacts and equipment across the board. I have implemented a collection policy which will also see the number of items coming in reduced. The organisations that have benefited have included the Largs Bay RSL, the Spalding RSL, the Fort Glanville history group, and the Military Vehicle Museum.

By Wayne Birch

Foundation Curator

and was posted to the 50th Battalion. He survived the war and returned to Australia. The third brother is George Ernest Beames. He enlisted on 27 June 1918 and was posted as a reinforcement. He embarked on the ship HMAT A36 Boonah on 6 November 1918, the ship was recalled owing to the cessation of hostilities. He later enlisted in WW2. The brothers are all buried in the Happy Valley Cemetery, Port Lincoln, South Australia. Two of the brothers lived to a ripe old age of 80 and another 93. George lived to 67 years. The display is made up two medal sets with documentation to support their story. A Beames relative had to opportunity to view the display in the medal room and was quite taken in by the way the display was presented. He thanked Keven and myself and the staff of the museum who had obviously taken a lot of time to present the display. You are able to view part of our medals collection in the Medals Room inside the Museum.. First door on the left!

Prepared by Keven and Mike

The Quick Release Swivel

The quick release sling swivel hook used by the Reedbeds Cavalry. Research carried out by AMOSA for the development of the Samuel White section of the new Militia display has revealed a unique detail about the carriage of small arms by the Reedbeds Cavalry. The slings supplied with the Westley Richards Monkey Tail carbines with which the Reedbeds Cavalry were armed, had an early form of quick release. A simple swivel hook and eyelet were used, the same as was use on some high end British sporting and target rifles of the time.



On the left is an original sling swivel hook from an original SA issue Monkey Tail carbine. This swivel hook appears to be a blacksmith made item. On the right is a reproduction made by Magill blacksmith, Chis Fuller. The leather sling itself was a fairly standard military leather sling of 1 1/4" width. The swivel hook clipped into an eyelet that was screwed into the wood of the stock, in the same manner as standard sling loops for arms such as the Pattern 1856 short rifle. This type of swivel hook never saw common use on other British military small arms. From the 1860s the British regular cavalry and volunteer yeomanry quickly moved on to using leather buckets for their carbines. Slings for cavalry carbines were dispensed with all together, as was also the case throughout the empire.



In order to be fully optioned, Westley Richards also supplied the Reedbeds Cavalry with the traditional wide cross body cavalry slings and heavy snap swivel, which had been standard cavalry equipment from Napoleonic times. They also supplied the new carbine buckets that would go on to supersede the other forms of small arms carriage by mounted troops. The swivel hook that was supplied with the SA issued Monkey Tail carbine could be viewed as a transitional development that followed on from the large spring snap swivels that were used with the Paget carbine through to the Enfield cavalry carbine of the 1850s.

Both sides in the American Civil War continued with that type of cross body sling and swivel, which hooked on to a steel ring that travelled freely on a steel bar on the opposite side to the lock. Prior to the adoption of the carbine bucket, a sling was essential to enable the trooper to mount his horse without ending up sitting on his carbine. The broad cross body sling and swivel enabled the trooper to pitch his carbine over his left shoulder for mounting, and then recover it to his right side once seated. Often, a small loop on the saddle strap would stabilize the muzzle. The narrow sling connected to the front and rear of the Monkey Tail carbine allowed the trooper to have the weapon slung across his body for mounting and riding. The Monkey Tail carbine was the first breach loading small arm to be used by British mounted forces, and the only one to be used with a narrow sling, as well as the last one to be used with any type of sling as standard equipment. Saddle bar and ring fittings were very rare on the Snider cavalry carbine that followed elsewhere in the empire other than South Australia. Sling attachment fittings were non-existent on the Martini-Henry IC1 cavalry carbine used by the Adelaide Lancers. The new Commonwealth of Australia never adopted a cavalry carbine. The Rifle MLE No1 Mk 1 and its successor, the Rifle SMLE No 1 Mk III were carried by mounted troops in a rifle bucket, and were fitted with standard leather slings, and then webbing slings of the style that continued through to the Rifle L1A1 (SLR). The infantry and artillery of the British Empire did not use any type of quick release sling. The Gewehr 98 rifle of Imperial Germany was probably the first widely used military small arm to come with a quick release sling as standard kit. The British would take a long time to follow with the SA80 quick release sling. Today, Westley Richards still produce high quality leather slings fitted with a swivel hook for surviving high end rifles. The swivel hooks they supply now are more machine made from steel rod, to a pattern much the same as Winchester adopted in the US in the 1870s for their civilian rifles.



By Staff Sergeant Danee Davis

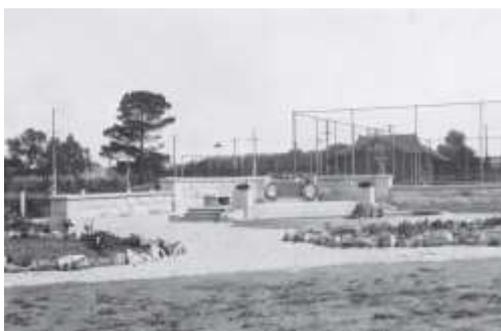
AMOSA Christmas Function 5 December 2021



SA Railways Memorial Re-dedication.....

South Australian Railways WW1 Memorial Re-dedication Saturday 30 October 2021

Background In 2018, whilst carrying out research on the history of Sappers in South Australia, MAJ Patrick Trainor, former OC of 3 Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers, based at Warradale, found information on a substantial memorial in the Adelaide Parklands. The memorial was originally erected to those workers who were employed by SA Railways and served in the AIF in World War 1. Later World War 2 railway workers were included. The Memorial was erected by LTCOL Stan Watson DSO MC CBE who was the Deputy Commissioner of the South Australian Railways. LTCOL Watson and several 2nd Australia Field Company sappers constructed the first pier at Anzac Cove using a defused Turkish shell as a pile-driver, they completed the jetty on 18 June 1915; it was named 'Watson's Pier'. There is a display and working model of the construction of Watson's Pier in the Army Museum of South Australia. LTCOL Watson was the second last person to leave Gallipoli. He remained behind with three sergeants and 17 sappers to ensure a successful evacuation of Gallipoli. Governor Sir Hore-Ruthven VC who, in his role as Governor of South Australia, originally unveiled the memorial on 11 October 1930.



The original memorial – taken 12th October 1930

The Refurbishment Over the years, the purpose of this important historical artefact had been forgotten. A site inspection indicated that the memorial had been neglected with little maintenance in recent years. On this basis, MAJ Trainor took it upon himself to initiate a project to refurbish the memorial and restore it to the respectful condition for which it was designed. A project brief was prepared which included the following tasks: **Plaques** Marble plaques to be cleaned and polished on site. New paint infill in text where required. Paint to match existing text colour and be rated for outdoor applications. Seal the lettering with a sealer rated for the paint as well as for marble. Paint work, seating and paving. Walls, seating and paving to be cleaned and flaked paint to be removed. Walls and seats to be repainted to match the existing colour (white and green). All weeds to be removed from paving areas. **Garden beds** Existing planting to be removed. Garden beds to be prepared with new soil and mulch for replanting. Replant with Gallipoli Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) leaving 1m area around Flag pole. Existing Jacaranda Trees (2No.) to be removed.

Implementation With support from the Adelaide City Council the works were undertaken and completed in 2020 and the Memorial was ready for re-dedication. **The Re-dedication** The purpose of this event was to recognise and re-dedicate the Memorial to the memory of the Railway Workers who had served in WW1 and WW2. A plan to conduct a re-dedication on the 90th Anniversary during 2020 had to be postponed due to the global COVID19 pandemic. It was therefore decided to conduct the re-dedication in the 91st year of its existence on 30 October 2021. Representing a first for a South Australian Sub-Unit, the newly appointed Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Honorable Ms Frances Adamson AC and The Right Honorable Lord Mayor of Adelaide Sandy Verschoor attended the ceremony and laid wreaths. Their interest and conversation with the guests following the ceremony was much appreciated. Other key members attending included COL John Olson (retired) COL COMDT RAE, COMD and RSM 9 Brigade, Commanding Officer and RSM 10/27 and OC and SSM 144 Sig Squadron who also laid wreaths. Mrs Margaret Southwell and Ms Kathy Ramsay, the surviving granddaughters of LTCOL Watson along with members of the RAE Association (SA) also attended and laid wreaths. Unfortunately, Major Patrick Trainor who managed the project could not attend the ceremony due to an overseas deployment. A Catafalque Party was provided by 3 Field Sqn and Chaplain CAPT Paul Ghanem conducted the Dedication Ceremony. The 10/27 RSAR Band provided musical support throughout the ceremony. The Army Museum of South Australia was represented by our historian – Geoff Ayles and researcher Ray Saunders along with Nick Meredith. The Memorial is located in the West Parklands off Port Road, Adelaide

By Nick Meredith



Merry
Christmas