



AUR Association Newsletter September 2011

Adelaide Universities Regiment Association Inc

A Year of Change...



September 2011

President's Message

It has been a busy period for both the Regiment and the Association.



Several members attended the AUR Birthday Party (63 YO!) on 24th May 2011. The celebration took the form of drinks and a BBQ on a Tuesday night at Hampstead Barracks. The Commanding Officer announced that he was stepping down as CO and advised us that Lieutenant Colonel Brenton Stevens would

be stepping into the command position for the remainder of the year. Simon Ridgway is the AWD Shipbuilding Director Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance and cited work commitments as the reason for stepping aside. We wish him well in his future career in the Army Reserve and in shipbuilding. On 22nd July, it was time to go 'Back to the British' for a taste of old times when AURian's would gather around outdoor BBQ and cook ourselves a steak. It was a great night with about 30 members and partners attending. Sadly we all elected for the chef's to cook a meal for us and the BBQ stood idle. Fortunately the outdoor area has now been covered in and some overhead gas

heaters kept us warm and cosy. Our next function is the 'Back to Torrens' afternoon to be held on 16th October 2011. I look forward to seeing you come along on that day. On a sad note we farewelled two former members of the Regiment. WO2's Ray Arthur and Ernie Dowler passed away in July after periods of illness. Both members had served continuously throughout the 50's, 60's and 70's and will be fondly remembered by many of us who served with them. "Age will not weary them, nor the years condemn, at the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them."

**Brigadier Nick Williams
AM RFD
President**

Issue 8

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Breaking News:

Pencil in Sat 17th December 2011 for a **AUR Christmas Family Day** at Belair National Park.

AGM—October 2011
Date TBA

Back to Torrens
16th October 2011
come along and join in the festivities
starting at 1.00pm

AURA Ties anyone?

Operation ANODE—Service in the Solomon Islands

Several members from (Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands). Reservists elect to go on CFTS service for a period of 6 months which includes their lead up training and deployment. This is another example of the

capability of the Reserve to support the Defence effort overseas. WO2 Clift and CAPT Peter Wirth from AUR have recently returned from service in the Solomon's. We are very proud of their commitment to their service overseas.



The Regimental Birthday—24th May 2011



AURA members joined with serving members in the old 'Green Room' at Hampstead Barracks to celebrate the 63rd Birthday of the Regiment. We were represented by a mixture of members from the last 50 years of Service. The cooks worked closely outside on the BBQ snack which was a welcome addition to the celebration. Commanding Officer, Simon Ridgway enlisted the support of the youngest soldier to

cut the Birthday cake. The Regiment has moved several times from its somewhat humble beginnings in the Physics Building at the University of Adelaide back in 1948. The Regiment started life to provide military training for university students and soon produced officers for the Citizen Military Forces(CMF). This role has expanded and subsumed much of the training previously delivered by the 4th Training Group. The



role of AUR is to conduct directed individual training for Officers and Soldiers for the Hardened and Networked Army Reserve. Soldiers of the Regiment recognise the significance of the history and traditions of the Regiment and have returned to provide instructional and administrative support to the many courses. Lieutenant Colonel Stevens is back to command AUR for the next 6 months.



Our Facebook—AUR ASSN

Are you a Facebook user? Do you know how to access the Facebook website? This is where we have 166 AUR 'Friends' chatting to each other on a daily basis. You will find some photographs of their families and details of what they are currently doing in their civilian and social life. All you need to do is Google to find the Facebook site and register as a member. You can then go searching for your friends. You can list their



name, email address or any other search feature to find them. If you make 'AUR ASSN' your friend you will then be interacting with 166 of our friends. It's a worldwide network with 750 million active users. It's free to join and interesting to see what is happening to your friends who are linked to you through this website. You can upload photographs,

video's, your association with other groups and generally have a great interaction with other members of the Association. We have a large collection of photographs and we intend to release some of them to Facebook and others to be displayed on our website.



Old Photographs

Over the next 12 months the Association will be working closely with the Army Museum of South Australia to scan in the boxes of old photographs, programmes and memorabilia which have been saved and stored for many years. We still have a scrapbook which has pictures from the Wayland reign in 1965 through to the Noell era in 1994. We are keen to expand our collection with a view to putting all these photographs onto a website

for all to see. Do you remember the



Greg Bassani OAM received a trophy way back in 1980 and then in June 2011 he is recognised for his service again. Well done Greg!

MIT Team of the early 70's? You may see 'Doctor Bazza' who avoided his chosen profession and stayed with training in Infantry for many years.



Back to the British—22nd July 2011



It was nightfall when the AURian's gathered at the British Hotel for another reunion and renewal. It was good to see some of new members attending. The BBQ was beckoning but the conversations limited us all to a 'counter' meal prepared by a bevy of cooks in the kitchen nearby. The British was a favoured watering hole because of its proximity and relatively easy parking back in the 70's. It was always popular because

you could cook your own steak over the wood fired BBQ with a beer in one hand and some tongs in the other. Several of the photographs show our members catching up again after many years away from military pursuits and still keen to relive some of those exciting times we all had together in AUR. It was great to catch up with Brigadier Rob Atkinson and wife Pauline as well as 'The



John McKellar, John Sladden and Patrick Forbes reliving the highlights of the Waitpinga Camp in 1966



Mike, Brenton, Rob, Brian, Adrian,

Colonel', Graham Sanders. Brian Wright has been very helpful to the Association by printing off our Newsletters and supporting the ANZAC Day Concert.

This is the 'new' BBQ which didn't get much use from our Group but has potential for cooking your food to your liking!



Meet the Sweeney's

What happened to Brigitte (nee Peiker) Sweeney and husband David? Do you remember from the early 70's in AUR? Brigitte is serving as the RAP Sergeant in 51st FNQR out of Cairns, QLD. She has had a wonderful array of postings including service with Norforce, 9 Field Ambulance and postings with the British Territorials in Germany.



Brigitte has completed 35 years service. Brigitte and David are regular guests at the Annual Irena and Mike Meredith Christmas BBQ.

David served in AUR from 1972—1982. He met and married Brigitte in AUR and they have been together



ever since. David is a Senior Medical Officer in the ARA having served in many conflicts across the spectrum (East Timor, Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan) with service in Germany and Texas, USA. He has served as the RMO, 1 RAR, CO 2 Field Ambulance and SMO, 1 Division.

Brigitte plans to 'soldier on' for another 5 years or so and pick up her Federation Star for 40 years service.

David may take some well earned long service leave when he returns later this year from his 9th operational deployment. This is a massive collective contribution to Medical Services in the ADF and it all started with some formative years in AUR. Many of you will know Brigitte and David because they have taken the trouble to keep in touch with lifelong friends from AUR.

Brigitte returned to undertake many annual camps in AUR as the SGT in the Medical Platoon. Among her more notable recollections is the driver training course along the Strezlecki Track and a survival exercise on Kangaroo Island. David remembers the numerous camps with the Medical Platoon at Murray Bridge, Cultana and El Alamein. We look forward to catching up with them both when they will no doubt return to Adelaide around Christmas time for their annual pilgrimage and a great night's entertainment at the Meredith's Christmas Party. Thank you both for your service and input to our Newsletter.

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STOP PRESS

A 2 Day Military History Seminar

Narratives of War

At the University of South Australia, Magill Campus

29/30 September 2011

To register use this URL for further information.

<http://www.unisa.edu.au/cil/research/registration.asp>

There is no cost for registration for this seminar.

AURA Photo's

Let us know if you have seen these guys around recently!



**Warrant Officer Class Two One
Pat "Paddy" O'Keefe**



**Major Mike Jakab and
Captain Bob Walsh showing
George Mayo how to fire a
Steyr**



**Warrant Officer Rick Portlock
and Major Borv Kracman**



**Colonel Bill Monfries and
Lieutenant Colonel Roman
Duras in their early days in
AUR**



**Eddy Wong, Max Weir and Tony
Bickle—a formidable team!**



**Captain Bob Walsh receives
a trophy from the General**

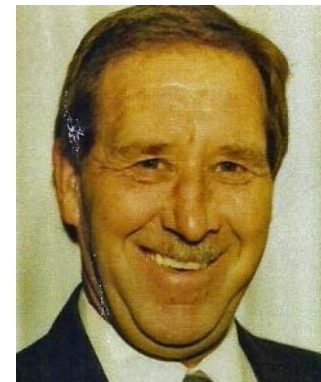
Let us know if you have some interesting photo's to share. We intend scanning many photographs to display to all our AUR personel to capture the history and traditions of our Regiment.

Send us a few pictures to aurassociation@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAL



**Warrant Officer Class 2
Ernie Dowler OAM RIP**



**Warrant Officer Class 2
Ray Arthur RIP**