

# ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

## 2019



# TRUSTEES

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Ambassadors: Corporal Mark Donaldson, VC and Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith, VC, MG

Assistance Committee: Dr. Mark Nidorf, Grant Walsh, The Hon Peter Blaxell, Michelle Hawksley and Marion Smyth RN, RMHN, BA (Psych), BSW, GradCert SocSc, MSocSc





# DINNER COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Hon Chris Ellison  
Committee Chairman



Andrej Karpinski



Dietmar Mazanetz



Geoff Baldwin



Mike Smith



Hon Peter Blaxell



Peter Boyd



Ric Gloede



Sally-Anne Doherty



Simon Trevisan



Tony Wills

The Committee has a strong history of substantial support for the SAS Resources Fund (SASRF) which has been in the form of various fundraising dinners and events in Perth and Melbourne. I sincerely thank my fellow members of the Committee who generously contribute their time not only to fundraising events but to increasing awareness in the broader community to the work of the Fund.

I would also like to thank all the sponsors, supporters, volunteers and guests who attend and support our events. In particular the Perth Dinner this year was a great success and could not have been so without such support.

All upcoming events will be on the Fund's website [www.sasresourcesfund.org.au](http://www.sasresourcesfund.org.au) the first of which will be the SASRF

Melbourne Charity Dinner to be held on 28th February 2020 in the Melbourne Cricket Club at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. This plans to be a great event and I am sure will perpetuate the success of previous functions at the MCG.

Finally, on behalf of the Committee I also extend our deep appreciation to Sharon, Jo and Tim at the SASRF office who do a fantastic job supporting us. We could not do it without them!

We look forward to seeing you at our future events.

**Hon Chris Ellison, Committee Chairman**

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## ABOUT THE SAS RESOURCES FUND

The Special Air Service Resources Fund assists current and former members of the SAS Regiment (as well as dependants of those members) who are in need of relief or support.

The primary beneficiaries are the dependants of SAS soldiers who are killed or severely disabled in, or as a result of, operations or training. The Fund also assists the families of other ADF personnel who are killed or disabled while working alongside the SAS Regiment in SASR controlled operations or training.

The Trust currently supports 56 beneficiaries, comprised of 28 families. While the majority of support is for education and educational needs the Fund also supports requests for health expenses and other needs. The Fund is committed to holistically supporting our beneficiaries.

The Fund provides peace of mind to members serving in the Australian Special Air Service Regiment. They rest assured in the knowledge that they and their families will be looked after in the event of death or injury.



# SASRF CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On behalf of the SAS Resources Fund it is my pleasure to provide the 2019 Annual Chairman's Report.

The SAS Regiment plays a vital role in Australia's security but unfortunately it often comes at a high price. Following one such tragic event, the Townsville Blackhawk helicopter accident in which 18 men lost their lives and others were permanently disabled, the SAS Resources Trust was formed in 1996, to provide financial assistance and support to members of the SAS Regiment and their dependants when a member is killed or permanently disabled as a result of operations or training.

Two additional sister Trusts were subsequently established, extending the umbrella of support to now being able to provide financial assistance to all ex-members of the Regiment and their dependants when they encounter financial hardship, as well as supporting current serving members and their families.

The SAS Resources Fund manages the fundraising on behalf of all the three Trusts.

These Trusts are only able to provide this support because of the great generosity and assistance of many people who contribute in so many ways - our donors, sponsors, volunteers, supporters, staff, trustees and committee members who collectively enable the Fund and the Trusts to continue to carry out their important work. We thank you all for your great support.

This year we held two formal fundraising events, the Perth Charity Dinner, and our annual Western Derby AFL Breakfast. Both these events were very successful and were only made possible by support, generosity and assistance of our organisers and the various donors, sponsors and volunteers - thank you all very much.



These events are very important, not only in helping to maintain the broad community support that the Regiment and the Fund receive and which is so vital to the morale of the soldiers and their families, but also because they are our major fund raising events.

In August, the SAS Resources Fund was also fortunate to have been supported by the Rugby WA and Rugby Australia's Community Bledisloe Long Lunch, with proceeds from our ticket sales and some auction items benefitting the Fund.

Our primary objective, as well as supporting the soldiers and their partners, has always been to provide for the children, up until the age of 25 years, including providing the best possible education up to tertiary level as well as vocational training.

Extremely generous support of a number of schools in Western Australia has resulted in scholarships being established for our beneficiaries and I would like to again acknowledge and thank Methodist Ladies College, Trinity

College, Scotch College, and Guildford Grammar School for their outstanding and continuing support and generosity in providing these scholarships. Relevantly, one of our beneficiaries is currently attending MLC under their scholarship.

We also thank St Mary's Anglican Girls School, St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls and Aquinas College who whilst not having formal scholarships, have over the years always similarly provided great assistance when requested.

Unfortunately, due to the intense and extremely stressful nature of their duties, a number of serving and former members of the Regiment, who, whilst not having been seriously physically injured during their years of service, have succumbed to various levels of post-traumatic stress, which often arises several years after a member has left the Regiment.

This year, more so than is often the case, further stress, not only of current members of the Regiment but also of many former members, continues



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Cont



to be generated by the long running inquiry into alleged events from the time when the Regiment was deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. This highlights the relevance and importance of the support delivered by the Trusts to both the current and former members of the Regiment and their families.

In part as a way of trying to help minimise the impact of post-traumatic stress, the Wanderers Education Program, coordinated by the Regiment, was established to provide members with an opportunity to pursue tertiary education, professional or personal training or development that will assist them at the end of their military careers as they transition back into civilian life and help to minimise the stress that very frequently accompanies major changes of career.

The Fund manages the donated funds and we see this program as a very important and growing part of our responsibilities.

Since inception the Program has grown its asset base to \$2 million and has supported a total of 25 scholars including some undertaking PhDs and Masters degrees as well as vocational programs, with the several dozen applications being received each year. Every dollar that is committed is deployed directly in support of the scholars.

I am delighted to be able to report

that this Program is proving extremely successful, not only in greatly assisting the soldiers both during the remainder of their service careers as well as when they transition back into civilian roles but in helping to build great skills and confidence with a number of the scholars achieving excellent academic results, with a number ranking in the top performers in MBA programs.

The expansion and success of this Program has been due to the generosity of many donors and we thank you all for your continued support of this most important Program.

There are also many other people who throughout the year have provided the support that is essential for the Trusts and the Fund to operate, and who we wish to acknowledge and thank.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge and thank Mr Peter Nosow, the proprietor of Landsdale Rose Gardens Perth who, over 5 years ago, propagated and launched the gold coloured Special Air Service Regiment Golden Jubilee Rose to commemorate the Regiment's Golden Jubilee in 2014.

The Melbourne launch of the Rose was held in March 2014 at the Melbourne Flower Show followed in April 2014 with the Perth launch at the Officer's Mess at Campbell Barracks. Annually, since the release of the rose, Mr Nosow very generously donates a percentage of the sale of each rose to the Fund.

The Golden Jubilee Rose project is just one very fine example of the great depth of support the Fund receives and for which we are deeply grateful.

Again this year, we would like to thank both our auditors Ernst & Young and our lawyers Solomon Brothers, both of which have provided us continuous pro bono support since the Trust's inception 23 years ago.

To all our many other donors and sponsors, your contributions in many forms from donations of cash, goods and auction items at our various fundraising functions, along with use

of country homes or other suitable accommodation for family respite holidays for current serving members, are vital if we are to be able to continue our work in supporting and providing such things as quality education, financial relief, respite and other support for all our beneficiaries.

I also wish to expressly thank and acknowledge all our highly valued Trustees and Committee members who give so much of their time supporting the Fund and the three Trusts in so many ways. Without your collective support, we could not operate. In particular, I would like again to recognise and thank our assistance committee chaired by Dr Mark Nidorf and the dinner committee, chaired by the Hon Chris Ellison, both of which carry very heavy loads and make enormous contributions.

I would make special mention of, and sincerely thank, our very dedicated executive team of Tim, Jo and Sharon, who have again done an excellent job throughout the year. Once again, as she has for many years, our sincerest thanks go to Marion Smyth who has again provided invaluable counselling and assessments of beneficiaries throughout the year.

Indeed, to everyone who has assisted in any way over the past year- your generosity and support that is so willingly provided are not only essential for us to operate, but continue to remind us of the huge debt of gratitude that the entire Australian nation owes to the members of the SAS Regiment and their families who support them, for their enormous collective contribution to our nation's security.

**Greg Solomon**  
Chairman  
SAS Resources Fund

# SAS NETWORK



The Australian SAS network is made up of organisations who work together to support current and ex-members of the SAS Regiment and their families. These organisations include the SAS Auxiliary, the SAS Historical Foundation, the Australian SAS Association and, of course, the SAS Resources Fund.

The SAS Auxiliary was formed in 1965 by partners of soldiers serving in the Regiment to give support and promote friendship among SASR families. This volunteer, not-for-profit organisation, has become a vital component of the Regiment's informal family support system.

The SAS Historical Foundation was established in 1998 to manage the SAS Historical Collection on behalf of the SASR. The Foundation supports the maintenance of unit morale and esprit de corps through display of military heritage objects that acknowledge the outstanding achievements of the SASR.

The Australian Special Air Service Association was formed in the mid-1980s to perpetuate the close comradeship created by past and present SASR members and to provide support to the Regiment. The Association comprises a National Secretariat and State Branches. Membership is an entitlement to all former members of the SAS Company, and former and serving members of SASR. The WA Branch has over 600 members. The Association provides advice and assistance to past and present members of the SAS and their families.

This network provides vital support to the members of the SAS Regiment and their families.

In addition – it is worth noting that other Units within the Special Operations Command have similar support organisations and networks which are committed to provide direct organic support to their members and families. Regular meetings and forums are held to address issues of importance to ex-service and defence communities.



# RESPIRE AND WELFARE PROGRAMS

Trust 3 was established in 2011 to provide respite and welfare opportunities for serving members of the SAS Regiment and their families who require assistance in the view of the Regimental executive.

One aspect of support through Trust 3 is the respite and welfare program. Members of the Regiment are subjected to increased pressure both while on operations and at home through the intense nature of their work. This program provides respite breaks for qualifying soldiers and their families as nominated by the Commanding Officer. It is part of a pre-emptive strategy to assist in alleviating the stress that the Regiment members are under.

Some feedback from Regiment members who have participated in this program:

*"Thank you for organising this at short notice. I have been through a pretty tough time recently on a number of fronts so this is an excellent respite for me and my family."*

*"On behalf of my family and I, we would like to personally thank you for the experience to stay at your Resort. Your contribution to the Fund is greatly appreciated and genuinely is welcomed. I can't thank you enough for the*

*generosity. Our time there was nothing short of amazing and was a well needed rest after a busy year to date."*

*"Your continued support of the SAS Resource Fund doesn't go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated by all members. The ability to spend some quality down time with family is often hard to achieve. Having members of the public that actively support this speaks volumes and helps members thoroughly enjoy their R&R."*

The program, which commenced in November 2014, is not possible without our extremely generous individuals and companies who provide their holiday homes.

The Fund would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank:

Tony Adcock (Margaret River)

Kevin Bailey, AM (Falls Creek)

Nicola and Andrew Forrest, AO (Gracetown)

Peter Gammell (Yallingup)

Russell Gibbs (Broome)

Tim Kestell (Busselton)





# WANDERERS EDUCATION PROGRAM (WEP)



As well as providing support through the Respite and Welfare Program, Trust 3 also encompasses the Wanderers Education Program (WEP), enabling Regiment members to undertake tertiary studies for professional development and their incorporation into a work environment.

Harry Moffitt, the founder of the WEP explains the program.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To provide members of SASR with a range of merit-based professional and personal development opportunities in order to support post-service resilience and assist in assimilation; provide certainty and confidence to families; enhance SASR's exceptional human capital; and, to strengthen SASR's unit reputation as part of Australia's national security capability.

An SAS soldier's military training is world-class; however, many skills are not directly transferable to the outside world. Therefore, transitioning into civilian life upon retirement from the SASR poses significant challenges. Hypothesising that "transition is too late", in June 2015, SASR established a first-of-its-kind "in-service" initiative to support serving and transitioning SAS soldiers, the Wanderers Education Program (WEP). Four 'pathfinder scholars' participated on the initial pilot with support from UWA, three founding benefactors, and the SAS's Human Performance Cell. In May 2016 the program was formally embedded in the SASR's official charity, the SAS Resources Fund.

Since this time the program has grown to \$2m and 25 scholars including PhDs, Masters and vocational students, with annual application numbers in the many dozens. Every dollar committed is deployed directly in support of the scholar. It is also worth noting that the WEP network is directly responsible for securing many scholarships for the broader SOCOMD community.

WEP scholars are achieving excellent academic results, some ranking the top performers in MBA programs globally. For example, WEP scholars average MBA mark is 78% (noting most scholars have no previous university experience); 40% (12% civilian average) graduate with excellence; and, the average GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) score is 650 (global average is 560). Importantly, WEP scholars report

that studying has enhanced their professional and personal lives, personal identity and security has been unproblematic, and that the unit's capability and culture has been positively impacted. This innovative program is not only transforming the lives of our veterans but also of their families.

Recently, Michael Green was the first official Masters graduate from the WEP. As a WEP 'guinea pig' Michael persevered through what has been a challenging task in developing the program. We are thankful and proud of his efforts in developing an initiative that will impact future SAS generations, and has also inspired similar initiatives across SOCOMD and the ADF.



The WEP team are more energised than ever to lead the way - great teams truly do share a common purpose, from left to right: Michele Roberts, Academic Director AGSM; Mick Green, scholar; Tricia Ho-Hudson, Group Treasurer Woolworths Group; Harry Moffitt, founder of the WEP.

The WEP team has truly embraced the Who Dares Wins spirit during the development of this unique program and are grateful to the Trustees for their patience and ongoing support. The WEP will continue a controlled growth of around 5 scholars p.a. To facilitate this, we aim to grow the WEP to become self-funding in perpetuity via a permanent capital base inside the SASRF. Discrete capital raising will continue, however the next phase of development will focus on growing a WEP internship / placement network to give SASR soldiers the opportunity to immerse in civilian world prior to transition. This will have positive implications for SAS capability.

The SAS leads the way for the ADF and this is no different. I believe waiting until transition is too late, as we are in danger of squandering the excellent human capital the ADF develops. I could not be prouder of the program. It delivers certainty and confidence to the men and women, and their families, of this amazing organisation. My vision would be that all members of SASR, indeed one day the entire ADF, would receive a beret in one hand and a scholarship in the other. WDW.

**Harry Moffitt** (WEP Founder)

# SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

*“We recognise that the gift of education contributes to a better life and greater opportunities.”*

*“Your support means that we are able to provide our beneficiary children with quality education – a valuable gift.”*

The main focus of the Fund has always been education. We recognise that the gift of education contributes to a better life and greater opportunities for our beneficiaries.

The Fund would like to thank the donors for their generous support in securing the following scholarships; Methodist Ladies' College (2014) Trinity College (2015) Scotch College (2016) and Guildford Grammar School (2017). We are delighted that one of our current beneficiaries attends MLC under our scholarship arrangements – which is proving to be exceptionally beneficial.

While we have secured four scholarships, more are planned and in progress.

Your support means we are able to provide our beneficiary children with quality education – a valuable gift. Thank you.

*“As I've grown older, I've come to the realisation that the world is so big, with so many opportunities and places to*

*go and things to do and see. I've realised I can have more than one dream and those dreams can change dependant on opportunities that are available.*

*I've had what can only be called a very busy year. This year I've focused mostly on sports and drama. I have competed for both school rowing and club rowing and also been given the opportunity to attend WAIS for tryouts.*

*I've achieved more than I thought I could this year. For next year I've chosen six ATAR subjects which I believe will benefit me the most. This is where I am at this particular moment in my life, I am trying to navigate and experience what opportunities are available to me and for this I am so grateful that the SASRF is able to allow me this chance to do so.”*

*SASRF Beneficiary and MLC scholarship recipient.*

*Five scholarships with four schools - more planned*

*Two scholarships in progress*

*One scholarship enacted*



**Methodist Ladies' College  
(2014)**



**Trinity College  
(2015)**



**Scotch College  
(2016)**



**Guildford Grammar School  
(2017)**

# SASR GOLDEN JUBILEE ROSE



April 2019 marked the fifth anniversary of the launch of the SASR Golden Jubilee Rose. Mr Peter Nosow, the proprietor of Landsdale Rose Gardens Perth propagated a gold coloured rose to commemorate the SASR Golden Jubilee.

The Melbourne launch of the Rose was held on the 25 March 2014 at the Melbourne Flower Show with the Perth launch following on 23 April 2014 at the Officer's Mess at Campbell Barracks.

Annually, since the release of the rose, Mr Nosow generously donates a percentage of the sale of each rose to the Fund. This is an example of the range of support the Fund receives and for which it is grateful.

The Fund would also like to acknowledge the support of Katharine Schreuder, WA Greenlife Buyer and the support of Bunnings Group Limited.

For details on availability for purchase of the SASR Golden Jubilee Rose contact Landsdale Rose Gardens, [landsdalerose@westnet.com.au](mailto:landsdalerose@westnet.com.au). Alternatively, you can order through your local Nursery or Bunnings store. Landsdale Rose Gardens is a wholesale production nursery and sales are strictly by prior arrangement or by appointment.



## BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

Matt was a former SAS Officer who spent time at the Regiment and also many years in the Headquarters in Canberra. Following a stroke, Matt was experiencing financial, personal and health difficulties that necessitated a move interstate. The Fund has been providing discrete financial assistance since 2018, but the real hero in this situation is the outstanding support provided by a mate – John Liddy. (John passed away suddenly earlier this year and provided this brief update, just before he died)

Matt is continuing to do very well, has continued to establish social contacts and is thriving in his new home. Matt is a different bloke from this time last year. His financial and personal straits at the time had left him stressed and unable to get a grip on his affairs. He may be a bit more mild mannered and hesitant in speech than he was before the stroke, but the underlying determination and strength

that got him through Selection and his Army career are very much still there.

Matt has made several personal, family and social achievements including the successful renovation of his new home that would not have seemed possible a year ago. Matt is a lot more financially comfortable than a year ago; taking direct control of his income was life-changing.

Matt is now quite determinedly independent, albeit very grateful for all the assistance he has received.

In summary, Matt is living as he wanted to, is back in full control of his life, is well occupied and is as happy as a pig in the proverbial. Not bad for a bloke who could barely express himself a year ago.

**John Liddy** (dec) – advocate on behalf of Matt

## BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS



This year the Resources Trust has continued to support us with Education support for Kenzie and Jonathan. Without this support we would not be able to attend our current WA schools and meet the costs needed to purchase items like school computers and uniforms. Recently we were able to save up for a piano allowing Jonathan to continue to develop his musical talent. The Resources Trust generously funded half the purchase price of the piano.

Jonathan is really enjoying his piano and continuing to improve his playing skills.

Thank you to the Trust and all the people who help with their contributions.

**Jonathan (year 5 student), Kenzie (year 9 student), Stu and Emily Bonner**

# BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

The Europe tour for me was probably one of the best experiences I've ever had. I feel like the trip changed me in the way I think and how I view things is different since I have come back. It's like I've got a new perspective on things after my experiences on this tour. The first day of our tour was filled with flights and the anticipation of what was going to happen over the next 10 days. In my mind it way out did my expectations and I know I'll be looking back on those two weeks for the rest of my life as amazing.

Our first few days were in Athens where we got into the habit of eating Greek salads and we all discovered our love for ABBA. We spent time at the Acropolis (a large rock hill that has the Parthenon and Erechtheion on top), we also learnt about the Greek Gods and their stories including Athena's olive tree and Poseidon's sea water to ferment the olives.

Spending time in Greece allowed me the opportunity to expand my knowledge of not only Greek Gods and their stories but also their food, language and life. We learnt how the Greeks painted their pots in the early years, what they ate even where their temples were and we saw graffiti from before the volcano exploded over Pompeii. We saw both Pompeii and Herculaneum where bodies were 'frozen in time' which was so surreal.

Our next stop was Italy and we learnt how they all spend every day as if it's a weekend and how every day they were grateful and kind to others. I found the people and customs in Europe were so different to ours. One instance was when we spent one of the late nights in Rome going up to the people and saying phrases in Italian to try and start a conversation and better our Italian, we had a few laugh at us and correct us but in a way that just felt so welcoming.

We visited so many churches I thought I'd be able to recite the bible by the time I got home. I learnt about the twin brothers (Romulus and Remus) of Rome who were raised by



a wolf, which creates the symbol of Rome. We visited the Colosseum, the Vatican (the official residence of the Pope and where the famous painting by Michelangelo is located in the Sistine Chapel). We visited the Trevi Fountain where we all threw a coin over our left shoulder in hopes of returning to Rome.

Finally, our last stop was London where we visited the Globe and watched Henry the IV on Shakespeare's birthday. We also had the opportunity to watch Aladdin the musical at the West End. We took a walking tour around London and saw all of the big attractions except Big Ben which unfortunately is covered due to repairs being completed over 4 years. However, we did see the most preserved mummy in the world. And London is also where I discovered my love for Starbucks mango green tea!

Months later I'm still blurting out stories and facts from the trip, this is an experience I'll never forget and I'm so very grateful for having this opportunity to take part of this particular tour. My parents are now stuck with me talking about how much I want to go back to Rome and Athens and London.

**Bethany Newton (year 11 student)**



# BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

My trip to China. On the first day we had an 8 hour flight to China from Hong Kong. It was a gruelling experience to be on a plane that long, but nonetheless we arrived at Xi An in China. On the second day in Xi An we visited the Terracotta Warriors and the Xi An Ancient Wall. It was a great cultural experience that I enjoyed a lot.

On the third day we watched a shadow puppet show. The food at this place was amazing and it was the best meal I had the whole trip. On the fourth day we transferred to Zheng Zhou City and went to the National Park which I loved. On the sixth day we visited the Long-man grottos which were ancient Buddhist carvings in rocks. It was a great experience to have seen. On the seventh day we transferred to Pingyao ancient city.

On the ninth day we visited the underground tunnels of the Zhangbi village and I had an amazing time exploring them. On the tenth day we transferred to Beijing. On the eleventh day we visited a school in China and had a great time learning about the schooling system of China. And we visited Tiananmen Square and learnt a lot about Chinese history.

On the twelfth day we transferred to the Gibe Water Town. On the thirteenth day we visited the Great Wall of China which was very tiring to climb up but I managed to climb up to the top. On the fifteenth and final day we got on a plane and flew back to Perth.

The China trip was an amazing experience and I would definitely do something like this again if I got the chance. It was a great trip and I give the Trust my upmost gratitude for allowing me to go. Thank you very much.

**Joel Newton (year 9 student)**





# BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS



In April this year, Phoebe had the opportunity of a “lifetime” to participate in a HISTORY TOUR to EUROPE. She is extremely grateful to the school she attends Geelong College, and to our kind friends in the SASR for giving her this chance. I do look on with amazement at the things young people can do today, since I have yet to travel to Europe, so there was a touch of envy as I said good bye to Phoebe as she headed off for 2 weeks. The trip she undertook was just amazing with 3 main places visited, St Petersburg, Northern France/Belgium and Berlin to explore the historic events from these regions.

St Petersburg, as their starting point, was a huge eye opener with its extraordinary architecture and extravagance from an era, now long gone. Highlights included visiting the Hermitage Museum, the Winter Palace, the Smolny Institute, and witnessing a northern winter with snow and bare trees. They even attended a Russian ballet in the magnificent Mikhailovsky Palace. They had a visit to Peterhof, the summer palace of the Royals, with its abundance of gold laden decorations and incredible artwork, statues and other priceless works of art. The difference between how the royal family of the day lived, and how the peasant population lived, was shown starkly here! This divide in wealth, or lack of it, helped the students understand why the Russian Revolution took place.

From Russia, they flew to Paris, and focussed on both the beauty of Paris and on its history during the Bloody Revolution. They saw Versailles, the cell of Marie Antoinette, and the Place de la Concorde where the guillotine is kept that executed Louis XVI. Amazingly enough visited historic Notre Dame 2 days before it so shockingly burnt!!! And of

course visits to Paris had to include the Eiffel Tower and Arc de Triomphe.

Then more soberly the group headed north to tour many of the WWI historic sites and I hoped Phoebe would cope all right with the war memorials and history she encountered. Looking at the photos she took made me very emotional to think of all those brave young Australians who went to fight so far from home. Highlights here included visiting Pozieres and Fromelles, and the Somme Battlefields, Villers Bretonneux, the new Pheasant Wood Cemetery and attending Menin Gate for the Last Post Ceremony. They also visited the new Sir John Monash Centre. It was a lot of history to try and comprehend in a very short time.



The final region visited was Berlin, including the famous Berlin Wall. They visited the DDR Museum to see how everyday citizens coped living behind “the Wall” and learn about the tragic lives of those who tried to escape. They toured Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp and Memorial, and Potsdam a world cultural heritage site. Their final day was going to Checkpoint Charlie and the Topography of Terror, a newly built Berlin Memorial Museum with its focus on the SS and the Secret State Police during the “Third Reich.”

It was a whirl wind trip, and so much for young people to absorb, in only 14 days. Personally I would love to do the exact trip but take 6 weeks to really immerse myself in all that world history. Maybe Phoebe and I can return there one day and enjoy travelling together.

Thank you so much to the SAS Trust, it really was a “once in a lifetime” experience for Phoebe and I know she appreciates the opportunity very much.

**Vanessa and Phoebe (year 9 student) Calvert**



# BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS



Hello, my name is Keanu and I am in grade 6 at Lake Joondalup Baptist College, and this is my adventure.

This year I was lucky enough to go to Sydney and Canberra on a tour with my school, Lake Joondalup Baptist College. I was lucky because all of my class went on the trip and I was able to go to.

Our trip was fantastic. But we had to get out of bed at 2 am in the morning so we could drive to the airport as the school said we had to be there by 3:45 am. I was so tired but very excited too.

On the 1st July we flew by Qantas on a 737 plane, which was a really nice plane, but I fell asleep on the plane which was also good as I was tired. I think that made the trip to Sydney go very fast.

On our first day in Sydney we went to a beach called Bondi Beach and had fish and chips for lunch. It was a very nice beach, but it was very cold so we didn't go for a swim. Later, we went to an Aquarium which was really big. It was beautiful too and had so many different fish to see. In the afternoon we went to see the Sydney Harbour Bridge and it was awesome and much bigger than I ever imagined. To be honest, I think that bridge is beautiful.

The next day, we went to the Rocks area and looked at all of the old buildings and learned about how they settled Sydney. After that we went to see the Australian Opera House. In the afternoon, we went on a boat to the Taronga Zoo. Me

and my friends loved that zoo, it was so big and had great animals to look at.

On day 3, we went by bus to Canberra and saw the Old Parliament House and had a tour inside and a lady explained its history. It was a nice building to. We then went to the Parliament House and we were able to go inside the Lower house and I was able to sit in the Prime Minister's chair. I also dressed up as a Constitutional Lawyer. I wore a big black robe. That was really good fun. We learned about how the Upper and Lower house worked, which was interesting, but the explanation was very long. It was also my Birthday and my friends gave me a cake and some presents.

On day 4, we went to the Australian Institute of Sport. We met some athletes who have been to the Olympic Games and they were practicing to go to the next Games. It was exciting there as I love sport. I want to play basketball for Australia when I get older and taller.

Day 5 was the best day. We went to ANZAC Parade and then to the National Capital Exhibition and looked at artwork. Some paintings cost millions of dollars. Then we went to Telstra Tower and looked over Canberra. I like Canberra better than Sydney as it is quite beautiful. In the afternoon we went to the War Memorial... that's the best museum ever. We were there for three hours, but I would like to spend more time there as it is a big museum.



On Day 6 we travelled to Cooma where we got to play in the snow. I had never seen snow before so this was very exciting. The fun part of the day was doing the snowboarding and making a snow man.

On day 7 we returned to Canberra by bus and then went to the airport to come home. I was sorry to leave Canberra and I hope to return there some day.

I was lucky to go on this trip with my class and it would not be possible without the help of the SAS Resource Fund which my dad told me sponsored this trip for me. So thank you very much, I am lucky to have your support.

**Keanu Hutchings (year 6 student)**



# OUR EVENTS

## AFL Western Derby Breakfast

The 18th AFL Western Derby Breakfast was held in the Riverview Room at Optus Stadium on July 4. Once again the fantastic Mr Trevor Jenkins hosted the event and panellists included WCE Senior Coach Adam Simpson and FFC Senior Coach Ross Lyon. Shannon Hurn and Michael Walters also attended and were interviewed by Trevor, as was Kara Donnellan the FFC AFLW Captain. Guests also heard from SAS Resources Fund Chairman Mr Greg Solomon and the Commanding Officer of the SAS Regiment.

This year guests were able to participate in a raffle, which included a return trip for two flying Qantas and staying two nights at the Mantaray Ningaloo Beach Resort – congratulations to the very lucky winner! Auction items included Eagles and Dockers VIP game day packages as well as signed and framed Guernseys. The silent auction item was a Burley Sekem football signed by the Eagles and Docker's senior coaches.

Once again our thanks go to our supporters, including the Hon Liza Harvey and the West Coast Eagles executives who supported this event. Thanks also to our corporate sponsors and supporters (Burley Sekem, Qantas and Mantaray Ningaloo Beach Resort). We'd especially like to express our gratitude to the Eagles and Dockers Football Clubs- to their coaches Adam Simpson and Ross Lyon- your attendance is particularly appreciated. Special guests Shannon Hurn, Michael Walters and Kara Donnellan – thank you for supporting the morning. Many thanks to Mr Rob Druitt, SASRF Board member who was our auctioneer for the morning. Our excellent host Mr Trevor Jenkins always greatly entertains and once again was integral to the success of the morning.



Ross Lyon, Adam Simpson and Trevor Jenkins



Kara Donnellan with Hon Liza Harvey



Western Derby Breakfast Guests





# OUR EVENTS

## Rugby WA Long Lunch

The SAS Resources Fund was fortunate enough to be the recipient of support at the Rugby WA and Rugby Australia's Community Bledisloe Long Lunch, with proceeds from our ticket sales and some auction items benefitting the Fund. The Lunch was held on the 9th August the day before the 1st Bledisloe Cup match between the Australian Wallabies and the New Zealand All Blacks.

Guests enjoyed an afternoon of food and beverages while enjoying lively entertainment in the River View Room at Optus Stadium. There were special insights from Raelene Castle ONZM plus Rugby legends Mark Ella AM, Tim Horan AM and Josh Kronfeld with the MC for the lunch being Mr Trevor Jenkins.

The Fund would like to acknowledge the personal and ongoing support of Mr Bob Hunter, CEO of Rugby WA and long time Fund supporter.



**RUGBY WA COMMUNITY BLEDISLOE LONG LUNCH**

In partnerships with Rugby AU and the WA Rugby Community

**FRI 9 AUG 2019 | 12.30PM | OPTUS STADIUM, PERTH**

Get ready for the 2019 Bledisloe Cup with Rugby WA's official long lunch, held at the home of the big event Optus Stadium.

Indulge in an afternoon of premium food and beverages while enjoying lively entertainment, including special insights from Raelene Castle ONZM plus Rugby legends Mark Ella AM, Tim Horan AM & Josh Kronfeld.

**TICKETS: \$250 each, Table of 10 - \$2,500**  
**Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/478183>**

A portion of the proceeds raised will go to the SAS Resources Fund

For enquiries contact the SASRF

EMAIL: [sharon@sasresourcesfund.org.au](mailto:sharon@sasresourcesfund.org.au)  
 PHONE: 0438 354 305

Enjoy special insights from rugby legends  
 Mark Ella AM Tim Horan AM Josh Kronfeld

## SASRF Perth Charity Dinner

The 2019 SAS Resources Fund's Perth Charity Dinner, which was held in the Crown Ballroom Burswood, celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Independence Referendum for the Republic of Timor-Leste and the key role the SAS Regiment played.

Nearly 400 people enjoyed a panel discussion with MAJGEN Jim Molan AO DSC (Ret'd), MAJ Jim Truscott OAM (Ret'd) and a special panel guest, led by panel chairman BRIG Tim Wallace AM (Ret'd). The audience also heard a poignant speech from Taryn Linacre.

Throughout the night guests enjoyed wine by Churchview and beer by Broo and were entertained by the Australian Army Band Perth - who had the crowd dancing at the end of the formal proceedings.

The Fund would like to thank all the sponsors, supporters and guests who attended the event and made the evening such a great success.



# OUR EVENTS

## SASRF Perth Charity Dinner – Taryn Linacre, Beneficiary Speaker

At the SASRF Perth Charity Dinner, Taryn Linacre spoke about how she and her daughter, Asha became beneficiaries of the Fund. Here is her speech.

“Good evening distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Taryn Linacre and tonight I will share the story of how my daughter Asha and I became beneficiaries of the Special Air Service Resources Trust.

On April 9th 2007 our lives changed forever. I woke up to a knocking at my door at around 1am. When I answered the door I was confronted with an army chaplain and an army officer and I knew instantly, something was very wrong. I immediately knew that something had happened to my husband who was away in Victoria on a training course. I asked them both straight away what had happened to which they replied that my husband Craig Linacre had been killed in a vehicle accident and that I needed to let them in. In that moment my whole world crumbled. I had lost my husband, my best friend and the most amazing father and role model for Asha who was just 6 at the time.

The next few days were a blur of meetings and I can honestly say that if it wasn't for the SASR community, particularly Craig's good friends and work mates I would not have coped. I had someone supporting me every step of the way from organising flights, planning the funeral to many meetings with army officials. This overwhelming process was made far less confronting because of the support that I received and I will be forever grateful to these people.

Before I go on to tell you about how important the Resources Trust has been in our lives I would like to try and explain to you what a special person Craig was. He was someone who lit up the room, who people were instantly drawn to and wanted to be around because of his amazing energy. When he spoke to you, you had his full attention and it didn't matter who you were, he gave everyone the same respect.

To me he was the most caring and loving husband that I could ever wish for. We had only just celebrated our wedding anniversary two weeks before the accident. He was still away on the training course in Victoria and was flown home for a night to receive a commendation for Gallantry from his last trip to Afghanistan. The ceremony just happened to fall on our wedding anniversary the 26th of March. In true Craig fashion as soon as the ceremony was over he got changed out of his uniform and took his mum Annette, myself and Asha out for lunch. He only wanted to talk about us and what we had been doing, he was truly humble and said that there were many soldiers deserving of a medal for their actions in Afghanistan.

As a father, Craig was in his element. When he was with Asha it was always their own private world of fun and adventure, complete with waterfalls, secret caves and making the task of finding his watch a fun treasure hunt. He loved Asha unconditionally and was looking forward to having more



children. He would always say that spending time with Asha was the best way to wind down after being away for work.

Craig had an extremely close relationship with his mother Annette and two brothers- Edward and Fergus. From the moment I walked through his mum's front door and met his family you could feel the love and connection that they all had. Our families were very similar and whether we were at my parent's home in Perth or his in Melbourne, there was always music and laughter. A family get together would always include Craig playing guitar and singing and either his mum, my dad or one of his brothers (and sometimes when we were lucky, all of them together) playing guitar and singing alongside him. He was a mentor to his mum, his brothers, my dad's best friend and confidante to my sisters.

It wasn't until after the accident that I was introduced to the solid side of Craig. It was after the accident that I would hear stories about what a highly respected soldier and member of the SAS he was. One of his best mates Tony says it best.... “Craig worked with some of the best soldiers from all over the world. Even in this elite group he still managed to stand out. Craig's strength of character truly came to the fore, regardless of weather, fatigue or enemy threat. He was



# OUR EVENTS

able to maintain courage, awareness and professionalism but most importantly, he never lost his sense of humour. This in turn became contagious and would lift the spirit of those around him. Craig's consummate professionalism gained him respect in a workplace where respect is not granted easily.

Craig's character and connection impacted so many people's lives, and losing him was felt deeply in everyone and still is to this day.

I had heard of the Resources Trust before Craig died but I didn't know a lot about what the role of the Trust was. When I was told that the Resources Trust was going to take Asha on as a beneficiary and fund her education, I remember feeling relieved and very grateful. Craig and I had enrolled Asha at St Marys Anglican Girls School when she was very young and we both placed a great deal of value on education. Craig himself had been educated at Melbourne Grammar and it was important to him that Asha have a similar educational experience.

Asha commenced at St Marys when she was 10 years old and flourished. She finished Year 12 last year as one of the top students and was invited back for the 'High Flyers' assembly which recognises the highest achieving students. I believe that the support the Trust has provided during Asha's life has enriched and nurtured her academically, emotionally and socially. I will always be grateful to the Resources Trust for having granted Asha the opportunities that she has had. I know Craig would also be extremely grateful, that even though he hasn't been able to actively be here the Trust has enabled his wishes to be fulfilled.

While Asha was attending St Marys she had many amazing opportunities. One of those opportunities which the Trust supported was an art and design trip to New York at the end of Year 10. While Asha was in New York she visited all of

the famous art galleries and museums, attended a Broadway show and toured the grounds of both Harvard and Brown University. She came back from this experience with a sense of adventure and independence, ready to begin the first year of ATAR studies.

Not only has the Trust provided educational support, they have ensured that Asha has been enriched in her overall development by supporting her music tuition and extracurricular activities such as netball, sports and camps. Asha has had the opportunity to learn and play piano, guitar and clarinet which has all been supported by the Resources Trust. I have been so impressed by the level of care and holistic support that the Trust has always provided to us.

The financial and other support that the Trust provides doesn't stop after school, this continues until Asha is 25 years old, and knowing that the Trust is there to support Asha through her years at University is incredibly reassuring. Asha is now studying a Bachelor of Commerce at CURTIN University and the Trust has ensured that Asha also has the latest technology to assist with the requirements of the course.

The Trust has also always supported us with any health related services we require. Having this level of support with our overall health and wellbeing has allowed us to access the best health services. Grief is such a long and heavy process to go through and having the Trust supporting us has been a huge comfort. Not only does the Trust provide financial support, there is always someone there to speak to if we have any issues or concerns.

We will be forever grateful to the Resources Trust for supporting us and I know that the soldiers serving in the SASR feel comforted knowing that the Trust will be there to look after their families if they are not here to."

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SASRF Melbourne Charity Dinner

The SAS Resources Fund is delighted to announce that the biennial SASRF Melbourne Charity Dinner will be held on the 28th February 2020 in the Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). Formal invitations will be sent out.

Further details of this event, and all our upcoming events can be found on the events page of our website <https://www.sasresourcesfund.org.au/fundraising-events>

We look forward to welcoming you to an event soon.





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# OUR EVENTS

A pictorial overview of Events from 2019.





# OUR EVENTS



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Dean Alston	Alan Cransberg	Vicki Grant
Gary Arnell	Matt Cransberg	Angela Gray
Australian Army Band Melbourne	Reg Crawford	Great Southern Distillery (Cameron Syme)
Australian Army Band Perth	Brett Darley	Guildford Grammar School
Geoff and Kathy Baldwin	Paul Davidson	Nunzio Gumina
Rose Ball	Mark Davies	Matthew Gurner
Andrew Bantock	Mark and Thea Davies	Troy Hall
Charles Bass	Tony Dawe	Michael Halloran
Peter Bell	Graham Day & Associates Pty Ltd	Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd
Robert Bentley	Shaun and Alison Dennison	Simon Hans
Jim Beyer	Serge Desilva- Ranasinghe	Harcourts Alliance (Ben Bernacki)
BGC (Sam Buckeridge)	Devcos International (Bill Denton)	Ian Hardy
Gary Burton	Rhys Dillon	Khi Harris
Steve Binnie	Sally-Anne Doherty	Steve Harris
Pim Birss	CPL Mark Donaldson, VC	Hon Liza Harvey MLA
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Hon Peter Blaxell	Melda Donnelly	Andrew Hastie
Blum	Lauren Dowd	Michelle Hawksley
Vivian Blycha	Allan Downs	Frank Haynes
Andrew and Narelle Bolton	Conrad Drake	Hello World Travel (Andrew Burnes)
Mark Bosisto	Rob Druitt	Glenn Hibbert
Sharon Bosveld	Anne Dunstan	Higgins Coatings (Gerrard Higgins)
John and Rhonda Boucher	Hon Graham Edwards	John Hillen
Bob Bourne	Senator Alan Egglestone, OAM	WO2 Ray Hingston
Jerom Bourne	Hon Chris Ellison	Thomas Hodgkins
Bowen & Pomeroy (Jack Bowen)	Ernst & Young Foundation	Patricia Ho-Hudson
Peter Bowman	Robert Faulkner	Neil Holland
Peter Boyd	Peter Fitzpatrick, AO AM	Scott Houston
WGCDR Andrew Brandham	Fleetspec Hire	Leza Howie
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Michael and Janet Buxton	Peter Gammell	Hon Michael Jeffery,
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Brad Carter	Patch Garnaut	Stephan Jenner
Susan Cheng	Ray Gianoli	Ian Joye
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Churchview	Andrew Gill	Shaun Kenny
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Gerard Moody	Stan Perron Charitable	John Worsfold
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Trevor Nisbett	Kerry Stokes AC	Zoe Yujnovich
Terry Nolan, AM	Caron Sugars	
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Alec O’Connell	Rob Swan	
Andrew Ogden		

As at 1 November





2019 IN REVIEW



# THANK YOU

## FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT

### HOW TO DONATE

Direct Credit	Westpac BSB 036-406 Account No. 186903
Credit Card	Either email (admin@sasresourcesfund.org.au) or phone (08 9389 8897) through credit card details
Cheque	Please post to: SAS Resources Fund, PO Box 633, Nedlands WA 6909
Online	Visit <a href="http://www.sasresourcesfund.org.au">www.sasresourcesfund.org.au</a>
Bequests	If you are interested in making a gift to the SAS Resources Fund in your Will, we suggest the following clause for inclusion in your will: "I GIVE to SART Holdings Pty Ltd ACN 088 734 490 as trustee for the SAS Resources Fund the sum of \$[insert] for its general purposes. My Trustee shall not be required to supervise or oversee the application of the funds referred to in this clause by SART Holdings Pty Ltd ACN 088 734 490 and the receipt of the Treasurer, Chairman or other appropriate officer of the same shall be full and sufficient discharge to my Executor/Executrix of his or her obligations in respect of the gift herein referred to."

#### Financial Statements

Audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019 can be found via the SAS Resources Fund website.

#### Upcoming Events

Please refer to the Fund website for upcoming events.

**[www.sasresourcesfund.org.au](http://www.sasresourcesfund.org.au)**

#### Contact SASRF

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