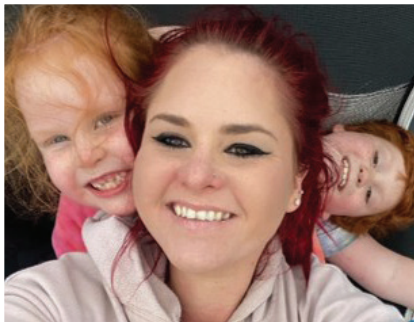


ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2020 - 2021



CONTENTS

About the SAS Resources Fund	2
SAS Network.....	3
SASRF Chairman's Report Dr Grant (Wally) Walsh CSM.....	4
Trustees.....	6
Chief Operating Officer's Report Christopher Johns	7
Treasurer's Report Rob Druitt.....	8
Jeff Kazim A Brief Biography by Hon Peter Blaxell.....	10
Black Hawk - The Patron's eulogy given at St George's Cathedral Perth 18th June 1996. Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC (Retd) 1937 – 2020)	13
The SAS Resources Trust The first 25 years by Greg Solomon.....	14
Reflections & Recollections by Ann Edwards, OAM ...	20
Black Hawk – Commemorating the 25th Anniversary	22
Beneficiary Reflections – Black Hawk 25 years	23
Gerry Bampton Kim Constantinidis Marie Ellis-Bird Vanessa and Laura Hagan Anna and Benjamin Berrigan Gaye, Joshua and Giverny Tombs	
Our Events 2020-2021.....	32
Supporters 2020 – 2021	36

ABOUT THE SAS RESOURCES FUND

The Special Air Service Resources Fund assists current and former members of the SAS Regiment and their dependants.

The inaugural Trust was set up to assist the dependants of SAS soldiers killed or severely injured on operations or in training. While this support is primarily for the education of Beneficiary children, it can also cover health and other needs.

Two additional Trusts have been established to include respite and educational opportunities to current and former SASR members and their families. Financial support can also be provided when they encounter hardship as a result of an injury or illness sustained due to their service.

Assistance is also provided to the families of other Australian Defence Force personnel who are killed or injured while working alongside the SASR in Regiment controlled operations or training.

The Fund is committed to holistically supporting our Beneficiaries.

SAS Resources Fund (www.sasresourcesfund.org.au)



SAS NETWORK



Integral to the ability to deliver support to current and former members of the SAS Regiment (SASR) and their families, the Fund works closely with the Australian SAS network. This network consists of the SAS Auxiliary, the SAS Historical Foundation, the Australian SAS Association as well as 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.

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 commemorate the remarkable history and heritage of the Australian Special Air Service 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.

Other Units within the Special Operations Command have similar support organisations and networks that 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.

These networks provide vital support to the current and former members of the SAS Regiment and their families.





SASRF CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is difficult to believe that 25 years have passed since the SAS Resources Fund was first established in the wake of the 1996 Black Hawk tragedy in Townsville. On a number of occasions this year, the nation has commemorated those taken away from us and acknowledged those impacted by this event, especially families and loved ones.

It is only right that we do remember and that we also acknowledge the far-reaching legacy of this tragedy. Indeed it is appropriate to reflect on the Fund's evolution over the last 25 years. The changing needs of our Beneficiary demographic over time have frequently highlighted gaps in veteran entitlements and programmes provided at public expense. The public sector is frequently challenged by demands for responsive and timely reform. By contrast the Fund, like many other philanthropic bodies, has been able to demonstrate agility in adapting its remit and structures when new needs become apparent.

Over the last two and a half decades the initial Trust has morphed into a Fund, providing the fundraising structure for three Trusts, each with a discreet purpose. The role of the primary Trust remains focussed on individuals and families in circumstances where members die in service or are incapacitated to the degree that they are unable to undertake full-time employment. A second Trust provides relief to former members and their families challenged by momentary hardship and a third Trust provides

respite and support to those still in uniform.

Since 1996 the Fund has provided long-term support to a total of 53 Beneficiaries through its primary Trust and relief to 32 Beneficiaries under the second Trust. A number of support opportunities are funded for the Regiment's serving personnel and their families on an annual basis through Trust 3.

A notable initiative for the Fund has been the establishment of Scholarships and the Fund is grateful to Methodist Ladies College, Trinity College, Scotch College, and Guildford Grammar School in providing these. One of our younger Beneficiaries, Bethany Newton, completed her secondary education in 2020 at MLC under the Paul Harold Denehey Scholarship and is now completing her first year of university studies. Those who attended October's fundraising dinner would have been as inspired, as I was, in listening to Bethany speak so humbly, courageously and confidently to a packed ballroom.

Newman College, St Mary's Anglican Girls School and Aquinas College whilst not having formal scholarships, have provided great assistance in providing educational opportunities to our young Beneficiaries over the years.

Continuing with the theme of education, the Fund continues to support serving members access tertiary education through the

Wanderer's Education Program. The Regiment selects individuals for this program and to date some 18 have successfully completed university degrees across several academic disciplines, while 35 are currently undertaking studies.

The Inspector General ADF Inquiry has been a particular focus over the last twelve months with a dedicated committee established to deal with the labyrinth of associated issues. Much uncertainty and little transparency have surrounded this situation and it is only right that the Fund plays a role in alleviating the impacts on individuals and very importantly families. In this space the Fund recognises that those affected include some facing allegations of misconduct, those who self-reported or provided information to the Inquiry, as well as families. The fallout has even affected serving members and families who are far removed from the Inquiry's findings, as well as the broader SAS veteran community. The Fund stands ready to assist all of these groups as needed.

Our deliberations in these matters remain non-judgemental, focussing on establishing the structural mechanisms and seeking funding to address the breadth of complex circumstances. A discreet sub-fund has been established for the specific purpose of receiving donations to ensure those in need have access to necessary legal advice and representation when legal aid at Commonwealth expense is inadequate. Further, the Fund in partnership



with the Australian SAS Association has been instrumental in influencing government in its consideration of legal and administrative processes stemming from the IGADF Inquiry's recommendations. We have been supported by significant acts of benevolence from personal and corporate sectors and a solid financial base now exists to provide immediate initial support as required.

Looking forward, the Fund's Board has set itself ambitious, but appropriate objectives to enhance its capacity to serve a deserving group of people. These objectives cross the full functionality of the Fund and its three Trusts, however a few are worthy of specific mention.

The experiences of the IGADF response have generated a new and impactful relationship between the Fund and the other ex-service organisations and welfare Trusts of the Special Operations community. These other organisations have rallied collectively with us, demonstrating the power of collaboration. This relationship has created a Special Operations "neighbourhood watch," which responded on a number of occasions this last year when individual cases emerged. It has provided a collective voice of reason that is influencing Defence and Government considerations. It is also serving as a "think tank" for potential initiatives associated with preparing members when transitioning from service.

So this experience underpins priority objectives for the Fund to pursue in the coming years.

The first of these is around defining

and strengthening networks and partnerships to synergise the efforts of like organisations and improve access to a range of programmes and services.

Secondly the Board has undertaken to explore how it may tangibly contribute to preparing individuals as they transition to civilian life. There may be opportunity around enabling access to education and training and a particular initiative is currently being considered in collaboration with the Commando Welfare Trust, the SAS and Commando Associations and Wandering Warriors.

A third key objective is to continue to assess what pre-emptive support the Fund may provide in addition to responsively intervening when someone is in need. Pre-emptive intervention stands to reduce the impacts of stressors that can inevitably escalate when circumstances become out of hand.

Finally, enhancing how the Fund engages current and former Beneficiaries is an objective that will ensure people remain confident and willing to reach out if hard times return, even if momentarily.

This last twelve months also marked the closing of an era for the Fund and the nation with the passing of our inaugural and long-serving Patron, Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffery, AC, AO(Mil, CVO, MC (Retd). The General sadly passed away on 18 December 2020, leaving behind his beloved wife Marlena, four children and seven grandchildren. He was the hallmark of service for others and his regard for the members and families of

the SAS was enduring and genuine.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to the Trustees, past and present, for their benevolence and commitment to the Fund's dynamic efforts. On their behalf I also express appreciation for the small group of staff whose dedication and efforts behind the scenes turn ideas into tangible outcomes. I acknowledge the consistent and unwavering generosity of the Australian public and corporate sector. Most significantly, I commend the courage and humility of our Beneficiaries in being the role models that each and every one of them are to our society, particularly in these challenging times.

The Fund has achieved much over the last quarter of a century and there is always the challenge of a good deal more to do.

Grant Walsh
Chairman
SAS Resources Fund



TRUSTEES



Dr Grant Walsh, CSM
Chairman



Caron Sugars
Deputy Chairman



Robert Druitt
Treasurer



Nicholas Brasington



Alan Cransberg



Hon Chris Ellison



Peter Fitzpatrick, AO, AM



Dr Andrew Forrest, AO



Michelle Hawksley



James McMahon, DSC,
DSM



Dr Mark Nidorf



Kerry Stokes, AC



Greg Soloman



Commanding Officer
SAS Regiment

SASRF CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER'S REPORT

by Christopher Johns



Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Special Air Service Resources Fund has provided an opportunity to reflect upon the development and achievements of an organisation that has become a model in the ex-service and veteran community. Operationally, however, the Fund's focus has been on current Beneficiary support and the assessment of process that position us most advantageously for the future.

The impact of the Inspector General ADF Inquiry has been a particular focus over the last year with a significant number of families placed in a position of serious uncertainty. Given this uncertainty, combined with a lack of transparency, it is only right that the Fund plays a role in alleviating the stress on individuals and families.

The consequences and damage of the release of the Inquiry Report has also affected serving members and families who are far removed from the Inquiry's findings and the broader SAS veteran community. The Fund has remained ready to assist all these groups as needed. Throughout, we have maintained total impartiality, focussing on establishing the communication links to ensure those in need have access to necessary welfare support when required. It has also been heartening and humbling that the Western Australian business community has, once again, generously supported our efforts as it did 25 years ago.

Applications for assistance during the period of this report, have raised a concern that we may be experiencing a change in the circumstances of our new Beneficiaries.

Though actual numbers are small, there may be a trend to younger Beneficiary families qualifying as Totally and Permanently Incapacitated. Other ex-service organisations are reporting similar trends. Such cases provide specific challenges, they are often veterans who have separated from the Defence Force and are not well connected with the veteran community. There is also a possibility of broken families with a conflicting willingness to seek assistance. This situation will be monitored closely.

Strategically, for the current financial year and beyond, the Fund will be looking to define and develop mutually beneficial networks and partnerships with like organisations. Already we have strengthened our essential relationship with the SAS Family: the SAS Association (particularly the interstate branches), the SAS Auxiliary, the SASR Historical Foundation and, of course, the Regiment. We have also reengaged with several of the principal ex-service organisations, particularly the Department of Veteran's Affairs, RSL, Legacy and Open Arms. Our aim is to extend an awareness of the Fund to a wide and diverse network that will assist in the identification of eligible persons experiencing hardship.

The Fund will also explore and determine ways and opportunities to support the spouses of currently serving members. By their nature, application arrangements can be daunting and we are hopeful of finding ways to make the Fund more accessible to all potential Beneficiaries.

I wish to take the opportunity to acknowledge the inspirational fundraising of Mr Anthony "Harry" Moffitt contributing to his remarkably successful Wanderer's Education Program.

In conclusion, this has been a uniquely challenging year for the Fund. COVID-19 and the IGADF Inquiry were unforeseen and unprecedented. Nevertheless, these challenges have demonstrated a profound resilience at a time when the service it provides has never been more relevant.

Christopher Johns
Chief Operating Officer
SAS Resources Fund

TREASURER'S REPORT

The SAS Resources Fund and Trusts are not-for-profit, charitable institutions registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). The financial reporting period for the Fund and Trusts is from 1 July to 30 June.

As Treasurer I am very pleased to advise of the solid financial performance of the Fund and Trusts in the past financial year, despite numerous challenges.

Our supporters have been tremendously generous, highlighted this year with the receipt of a large donation of \$1.6M in support of Trust 2 in June 2021 from Mrs Gina Rinehart (\$1M), Hancock Prospecting (\$500k) and Roy Hill (\$100k).

The investment portfolio has performed strongly this year with a 35% increase in income. This was in large part due to dividends received from a sizeable holding of FMG shares generously donated to the Fund in 2011 by Nicola and Andrew Forrest.

COVID-19 complications have resulted in no fundraising events being held in the 2020-21 financial year.

On a positive note, the Wanderer's Education Program (WEP) was very active in the financial year. This is a sub-Fund established in 2016 and managed under Trust 3. The program assists members of the Australian Special Air Services Regiment with merit-based higher vocational education, as well as other professional and personal development opportunities to build individual and familial resilience and prepare them for post-service life.

The Fund was very pleased to make a distribution of \$4,000 to the RSLWA in support of their 2021 fundraising Golf Day.

The Fund and Trusts are well placed to continue to provide appropriate and required support to our Beneficiaries.

Rob Druitt
TREASURER

2021 Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

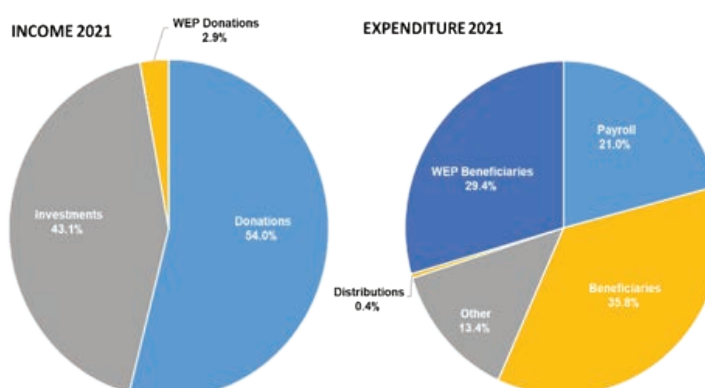
	2021 \$	2020 \$
INCOME		
Donations	1,682,194	155,705
WEP donations	90,375	94,821
Fundraising events	-	99,978
Investments	1,342,758	866,818
Total Income	3,115,327	1,217,322

	2021 \$	2020 \$
EXPENSES		
Operating expenses	345,691	252,047
Beneficiaries	360,294	326,521
WEP Beneficiaries	296,285	263,836
Distributions	4,000	95,000
Total Expenses	1,006,27	937,404

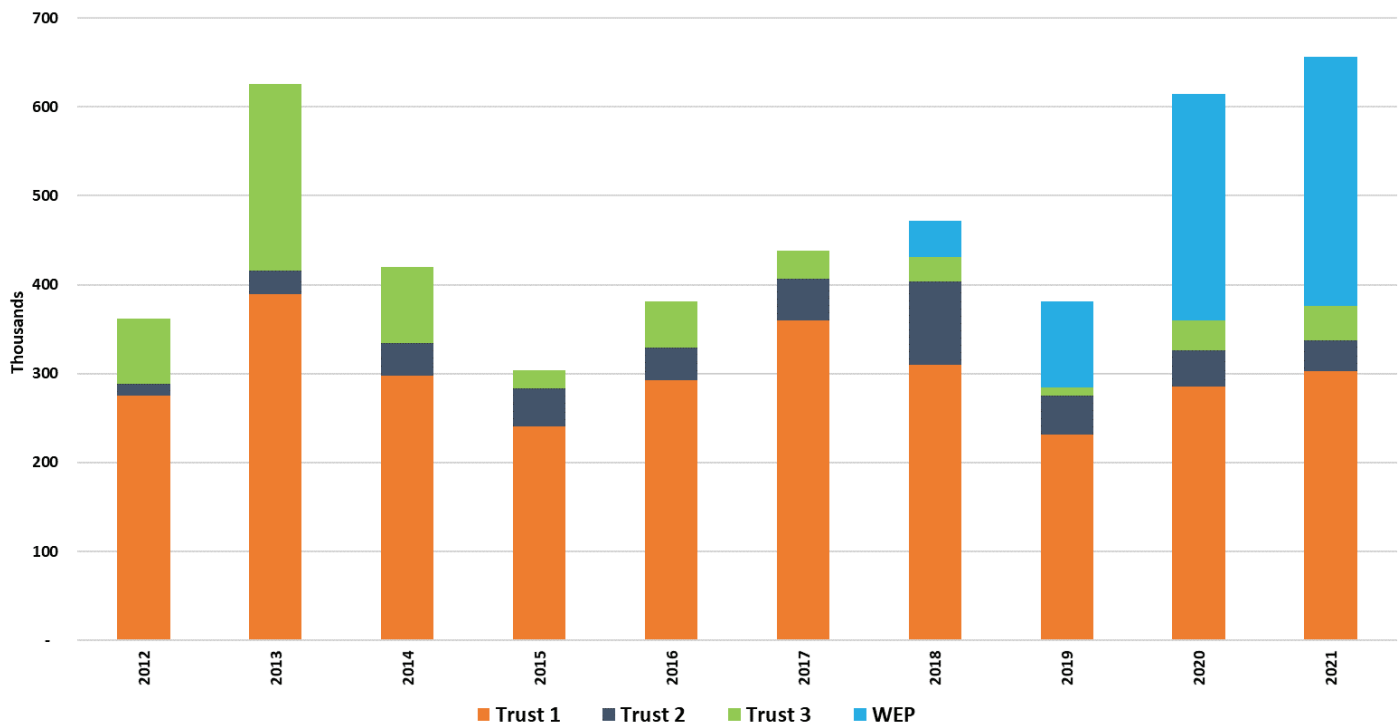
	2021 \$	2020 \$
ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
NET SURPLUS	\$2,109,057	\$279,918

The full audited accounts of the SAS Resources Fund are available on the web page at www.sasresourcesfund.org.au.

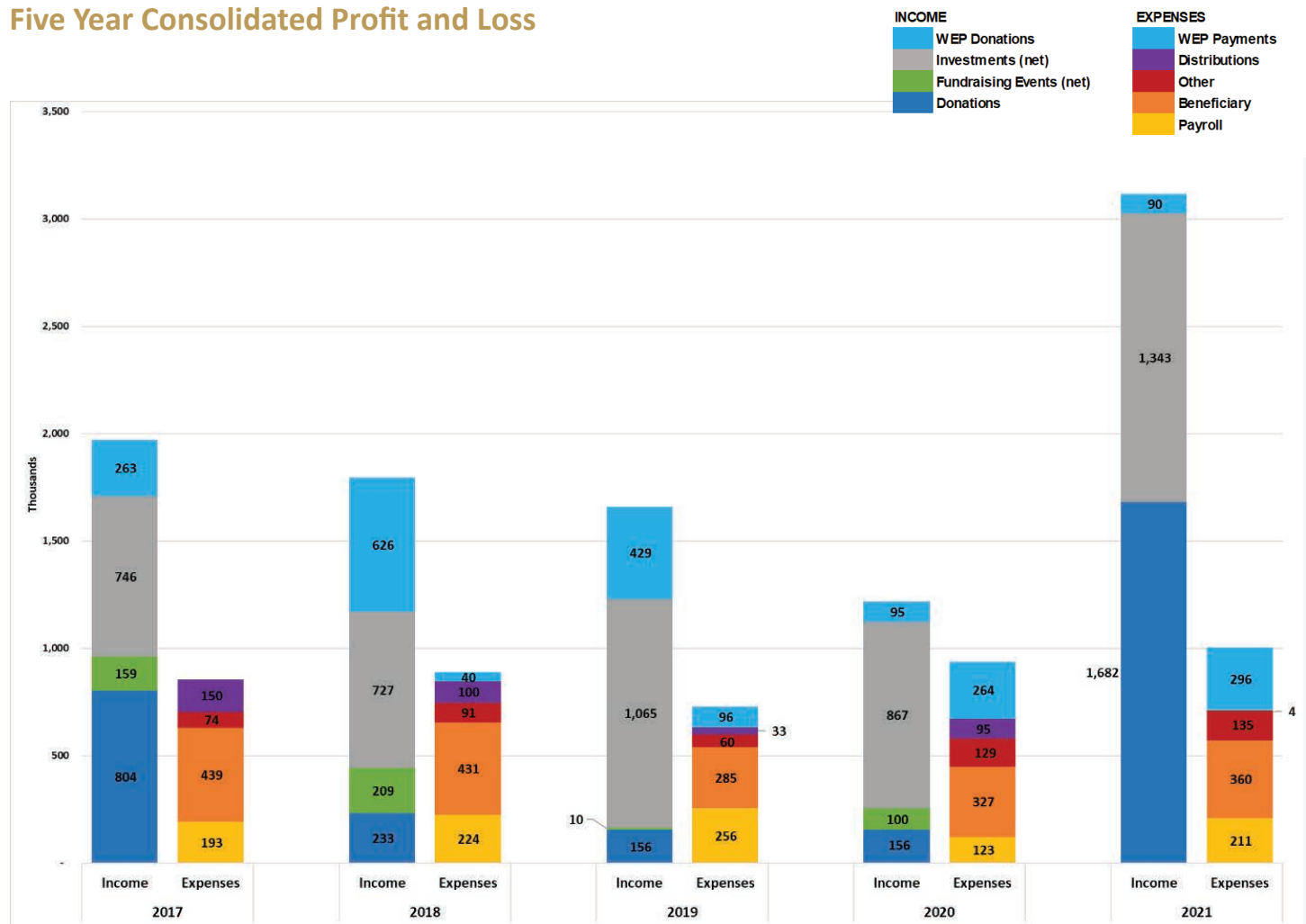
2021 Income and Expenditure by Category



Beneficiary Payments



Five Year Consolidated Profit and Loss



JEFF KAZIM

A brief biography by Peter Blaxell

It is now 12 years since Jeff Kazim died, and 25 years since he founded the SAS Resources Trust. There are many people currently involved with the Trust who never had the opportunity to meet Jeff, or to get to know him. For those of you who would like to know more about Jeff Kazim this short biography should help you gain some understanding of a very remarkable man who achieved a great deal of good for the community.

I need to state from the outset that Jeff Kazim was a very private individual, and there were some aspects of his life which he was reluctant to talk about. This biography is largely based on the limited information that he sometimes chose to disclose to friends and close associates including myself. Jeff was a very honest man and I believe that the facts and stories he told us were accurate and reliable.

HIS EARLY YEARS.

Jeff was born on the island of Cyprus in 1934 to a single mother of Turkish ancestry. His father was a Welsh mining engineer who had been temporarily employed in Cyprus before being killed in a motor vehicle accident during the mother's pregnancy. It is unclear whether the couple had ever intended to marry.

His mother belonged to the Muslim Community and knew that she would be shunned for having a child out of wedlock. Consequently, she thought it best that Jeff be placed in an orphanage and arranged for this to happen very soon after his birth. (Many years were to elapse before she was ever to see him again).

Jeff was given the name at birth of Salih Kazim which continued to be his legal name throughout his life. (However, in later years he adopted the nick name "Jeff" and preferred to be called that).

As a young orphan in Cyprus during the 1930's Jeff had a harsh existence and was given a basic diet of very plain food. For this reason, he yearned to taste the oranges he could see in a neighbouring orchard, which led to an incident in his early childhood that made a big impact on him.

The children at the orphanage were under strict instructions not to climb the fence into the orchard and were warned that they faced stiff punishment if they did. But Jeff could not resist temptation and was caught climbing back into the orphanage after stealing an orange. As a result, he received



Jeff Kazim with his 870 pound tuna.

a severe thrashing which he was to remember for the rest of his life. (It being a story that he often recounted in later years).

It was not until Jeff was 14 years of age that he was able to escape the orphanage. This happened unexpectedly when an uncle he had never met (his father's brother) arrived in Cyprus and arranged to take him back to England. This proved to be a great blessing which transformed Jeff's prospects in life and enabled him to pursue a career in the British Army.

SERVICE IN THE ARMY.

Following his arrival in England Jeff lived with his uncle in Manchester for at least a few years. In his late teens (probably around the age of 18) he enlisted with the British Army as a private in the Manchester Regiment.

Jeff obviously showed great promise as a soldier, because by the age of 22 he was a fully-fledged member of the 22 Special Air Service Regiment carrying out under-cover operations in Egypt during the 1956 Suez Crisis. These operations included the destruction of communications infrastructure used by the Egyptian military, which in one instance (and to Jeff's everlasting regret) caused numerous unintended civilian casualties.

Jeff was reticent about his career with the British SAS but said enough for us to know that for two or three decades he had operational deployments to various worldwide locations including the Middle East, Russia, Malaya and Kenya. He also was promoted, and gradually rose through the ranks before ceasing full time service sometime in the 1970's. Thereafter he continued as an SAS reserve officer until a few years before his death when he ultimately retired from the Army. He received significant awards for his military service including one which was placed around his neck by the Queen (and of which, for that reason, he was exceptionally proud).

In this regard Jeff always expressed a deep sense of loyalty to the Queen and he took his soldier's oath of allegiance very seriously. He often referred to Her Majesty as "my Queen".

JEFF'S OTHER ACTIVITIES.

Jeff was highly intelligent, and very skilled in identifying business and investment opportunities. He often spoke of his first investment in a service station he developed in Manchester which became very profitable. He went on to accumulate numerous other service stations throughout Britain, and in the end built up what he believed to be the biggest independently owned petrol retailing chain in the United Kingdom. He also acquired an interest in a valuable North Sea oil field that provided significant income.

Jeff had his first connection with Western Australia during the 1970s when he invested in a service station and motel development at Kewdale. He also purchased a large property in the foothills at Forrestfield where he later built a mansion for himself and his family. Although Jeff always remained a British citizen, he gradually spent more and more time in WA and by the early 1980s was permanently resident in Australia.

One of his favourite activities was heading out to sea on his state-of-the-art game fishing boat "Ocean Hunter". Jeff regularly fished the Rottneest Trench, and for a few decades was probably one of Perth's most passionate game-fishers. He often travelled to international tournaments including annual competitions at Prince Edward Island in Canada, and the Bay of Islands in New Zealand.

The "Ocean Hunter" had sophisticated underwater electronics, and on a fishing trip around 1985 Jeff detected a submarine sitting in a hole on the ocean floor west of Rottneest. He reported this find to the Naval Officer Commanding Western Australia, Commodore David Orr, whom he collected from shore and took out to sea again to confirm the discovery. David believed it to be a Russian submarine shadowing the US Seventh Fleet which was then visiting Fremantle.

Following this incident David Orr became a close friend of Jeff, and sometimes accompanied him to international game-fishing tournaments. (On one of these trips Jeff caught a giant 870lb tuna which he brought back to Perth. It was because of this friendship that David Orr later became one of the inaugural Trustees of the SAS Resources Trust.

I first got to know Jeff at about the same time as David Orr. Jeff was a fellow member of Fremantle Sailing Club, and as the Club's Commodore, I had cause to thank him for his generous support of young sailors. Over the following years I came to realise that this type of generosity was very characteristic of Jeff. When it came to the wellbeing of young people, he was very free with his time and money, and there were many instances when he unhesitatingly donated to or organised help for such causes. Similarly, Jeff's motivation in forming the SAS Resources Trust was his concern for the children of deceased and injured SAS soldiers.

HIS ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS.

Jeff was a strategic thinker who carefully mapped out and planned every project or enterprise that he engaged himself in. Right from the beginning he would identify the object to be attained and then detail every step along the way towards its achievement. Once he set out on that path, he would doggedly pursue the objective until its successful conclusion (which often was a full-time effort).

I first saw Jeff's methods in 1986 when the State Government announced its intention to resume Fremantle Sailing Club's seawall and build an adjoining industrial boat harbour. This proposal was very detrimental to the Club, and Jeff offered to lead a campaign to prevent it happening. The effort he then put into this project, his behind-the-scenes work, the resources he called upon, and the swiftness of his success were truly astonishing. It was the first time that the Government of the "W.A. Inc" years was forced to reverse course on any issue, and the industrial boat harbour was instead built at Rouse Head.

Jeff had previously brought similar effort and organisational abilities to bear in 1982 when he formed a Trust in the United Kingdom to provide for the widows, wives, and children of British SAS soldiers killed or seriously injured in the Falklands war. (Twenty of those soldiers had been killed when a Sea King helicopter taking off from a ship sucked an albatross into its engine intake, lost power, and plunged into the Atlantic). He also generously endowed that Trust with royalties from his North Sea oil field.

Jeff yet again employed these skills in 1996 when he founded the very similar SAS Resources Trust here in Perth for the benefit of our own SAS families.

JEFF KAZIM

A brief biography by Peter Blaxell - Cont'

OTHER ASPECTS OF JEFF'S CHARACTER.

One of Jeff's most remarkable projects was his decision to re-settle his mother in Australia. He had traced her whereabouts in Cyprus and discovered that she was still alive and living in impecunious circumstances. He decided that it would be best for her to emigrate to Australia, and then went about organizing for this to happen. Upon arriving in Perth his mother moved into a house that he had built for her near his own home; but thereafter Jeff had very little to do with her and told friends that he "would not speak to her". He explained this strange situation on the basis that it was his duty as a son to look after his elderly mother, but he also could not forgive her for having abandoned him as a child.

This apparent contradiction in attitudes was typical of Jeff. He expected high standards of behaviour from others and applied those same standards to himself. In this regard he also could not forgive himself for the civilian deaths he had caused in Egypt in 1956. He knew the exact number of those collateral casualties and often said that he would become accountable for them upon his own death when he would have to "meet the Devil".

More generally Jeff lived according to an old-fashioned code of moral and ethical conduct which was almost Victorian in nature. He believed stealing was a serious sin, and often recounted the story about the orange orchard as an example of his own failures. He loathed people who told lies or failed to keep commitments and described them as 'men of straw'. When Jeff made any promise or commitment (even with just a handshake), he always kept it to the letter, and he expected others to do the same.

Another characteristic which sometimes annoyed his friends was his stubborn insistence that things always be done in exactly his way, as well as his refusal to compromise even on matters of detail. However, it must be conceded that his ways of doing things almost always resulted in success.

Many people found Jeff a formidable person to deal with, particularly when engaging with him in hard negotiations. Most of them did not realise that beneath his gruff, complicated exterior he was in fact a simple man with a kind and generous heart.

Jeff Kazim's main aim in later life was to make the world a better place for young children, and particularly the

children of the military. He was motivated to do this by his own experiences as a child, and he went on to successfully leave behind a legacy of care which will continue to benefit children of the military (in both Australia and Britain) for generations to come.

Hopefully, when Jeff appeared before his maker to be made accountable for his life, he received full credit for the many good things he had done. Once these matters were put into the balance, it was obvious that he was deserving of a much more peaceful place of rest than with the Devil.

BLACK HAWK

The Patron's eulogy given at St George's Cathedral Perth 18th June 1996.



**Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffery,
AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC (Retd) 1937 – 2020**

For over 40 years I have worn this uniform with great pride and for almost all that time the distinguishing parachute wings of the Special Air Service Regiment. My pride in the army and in this regiment springs from fundamental values that have always been the hallmark of the military profession; courage, loyalty, personal and group discipline, professionalism, integrity, camaraderie and spirituality.

But in all those years I have never been so proud of the army and in particular the Special Air Service Regiment and its cousin the 5th Aviation Regiment as I have in the last six days, where as a result of the tragic accident in which 18 of our best young SAS and Aviation soldiers lost their lives, we as a nation have in this time of great sorrow, been privileged to witness a display of outstanding human bravery, of a unique and sophisticated level of professional conduct, of unparalleled compassion and of a spiritual bonding that has been inspirational.

It began of course with the early news of the collision of two of our SAS laden Black Hawks and the magnificent airmanship displayed by Captain Burke, who at night, his aircraft on fire, with no tail rotor or right or left rudder managed, through sheer skill, calmness and professional response to crash land his helicopter safely.

And then in the terrible scene that followed, brave aircrew, SAS soldiers including corps and regimental medical orderlies and ground parties, without concern for their own safety, battled flame, intense heat, exploding ammunition and fuel, the night and the terrain, to save and treat whom they could calmly, skilfully and speedily.

Then we were to see and read of the magnificent effort of the five Aviation aircrews evacuating the dead and injured to Townsville, where civilian and military staff working together performed heroically in treating the casualties, and of the commanding officer, now with his troops lending a calm and powerful presence.

At the Regimental base in Swanbourne, I witnessed a different kind of courage; that of the personnel of the defence centre Perth and the headquarters of the SASR working together in a calm and professional way, set about preparing for the worst; of teams of chaplains, officers and non-commissioned officers, who had the heartrending task of informing the families concerned of the loss or injury of their loved ones. And early on Thursday morning, first in the Sergeants and then in the Officers messes, bearing witness to the incredible courage of the wives, the parents, the in-laws, the partners, the brothers, sisters and children of our dead and injured soldiers.

There was no panic, no loud and bitter recrimination; tears yes; shock yes; deep grief yes; but in those messes, a deep sense of unity, of oneness, of being together, of tremendous love and compassion, of holding, touching and comforting, of simply being there.

And of a generosity of spirit of the noblest kind, where virtually every woman present spoke of the love of her man, her son, her grandson for the Regiment; that it was his life and what he was happiest doing, and because that was what he wanted, she supported him fully; hiding her periodic fears, the periods of separation and loneliness and of a mother raising the children in his absence. And of the compassion of those same women for the aircrew and families of the 5th Aviation Regiment, who were suffering equally at Townsville.

And later, when 1 Squadron returned home, again in the Sergeants mess, a great gathering of wives, partners, soldiers, friends, children and sweethearts, and incredibly two of the widows of the deceased soldiers, who came especially to welcome home those who survived. It was a display of courage, compassion and generosity of spirit that was simply overwhelming.

Then the boys arrived; grim, tired, deeply shocked, injured in some cases, but still with that look of the true professional-determined and proud.

THE SAS RESOURCES TRUST

The first 25 years by Greg Solomon

The decision to establish the SAS Resources Trust was taken in the very dark days after the Blackhawk tragedy on 12 June 1996 in Townsville, which claimed the lives of 18 soldiers, mostly from the Australian Special Air Service Regiment, as well as causing serious injuries to others. This tragic accident also left 13 wives as widows and 10 young children without their fathers, and the father of two other children was left paraplegic.

Unfortunately, the Australian military compensation system at the time was seriously inadequate, leaving all those who suffered such great losses, with the very real prospect of having to face extremely uncertain financial futures.

The establishment of the SAS Resources Trust on the 2nd of October 1996, less than four months after the Black Hawk tragedy, was the brainchild of Jeff Kazim, a man of great compassion, vision, energy and determination. Its object was to provide financial assistance to the soldiers of the SASR and their dependants when a soldier is killed or seriously injured in the course of active duty or training.

Jeff was himself a former member of the British SAS and had helped establish a similar Trust fund in Britain in 1982 to provide financial support for families, and particularly the children for whom he was very concerned, of SAS soldiers killed or injured in the Falklands War.

As his initial step in the establishment of the Australian SAS Resources Trust, Jeff personally approached various close friends and acquaintances whose qualifications spanned a wide range of professions, including his accountant, lawyer and banker, as well as a range of other close personal contacts who agreed to become inaugural Trustees.

He then used a range of contacts to help expand the list of inaugural Trustees to include a number of very prominent Western Australians, starting with the Honourable David Malcom, the then Chief Justice of Western Australia, who agreed to chair the new Trust, a position that he held for 14 years, during which time in addition to providing impressive leadership, he helped to greatly enhance its public reputation and credibility.

Interestingly, all of the inaugural Trustees, other than two ex-officio Trustees, the Commanding Officer for the time being of the SAS Regiment and the Chairman for the time being of the SAS Association, were civilians, reflecting the fact that

the Trust was established by civilians as a community-based organisation.

In addition to the Chief Justice, the then State Governor, Major General Michael Jeffery, a former Commanding Officer of the SAS Regiment, who subsequently went on to become the Governor General of Australia, agreed to become the Patron of the new Trust, a role that he discharged with distinction for 24 years from 2 October 1996 until his death on 18th of December 2020.

Jeff's strategy of seeking a number of highly respected and credible people to assume key senior roles in the Trust was a master stroke, as it delivered great credibility, community respect and support, that helped the Trust to raise sufficient money to meet all its operating expenses, including supporting the Beneficiaries, and also to very gradually start to establish financial reserves.

From the beginning, the Trust, in addition to supporting all its adult Beneficiaries, had a primary focus of supporting and looking after the welfare of the children up to and including the age of 25 years. Although the Trust could never make up for the loss of their fathers, it firmly embraced the policy of trying to ensure that each child Beneficiary received a quality primary and secondary education, extending into tertiary level if they wished, in order to equip each, as well as possible, for success in their adult lives.

The Trust received great support from a number of the private schools in Perth that, when requested, readily agreed to provide free or greatly subsidised tuition for these children. The schools that have so generously provided this assistance when required over the years, are Aquinas College, St Mary's Anglican Girls' School, Methodist Ladies' College, Trinity College, Scotch College, Guildford Grammar School and Hale School.

In recent years a network of formal long-term scholarship funds has now been established with very generous support of a number of these schools, funded in part by the Trust. Additionally, St George's College, with generous support from a external donors, has also agreed to establish a residential scholarship to enable Beneficiaries who are students at the University of Western Australia, to reside at the college during their undergraduate years.

The Trust also provided funding for vocational training or





other support for young Beneficiaries who do not aspire to undertake tertiary education.

Additionally, on a reasonably regular basis, mentoring and guidance of one form or other has also been provided to these young Beneficiaries, particularly when they were seeking guidance or running into difficulties.

Collectively, these initiatives have established a long-term structure that will greatly assist the Trust to meet one of its primary objectives of providing all the children a very high-quality education, as well as delivering other support and training, to assist them to successfully enter the workforce.

Whenever deciding on assistance for a child Beneficiary the Trust has always applied the “caring father” test and considered what a caring father would do in the situation then being considered. This test has worked very well.

It is a credit to Jeff, in the beginning and supported over the years by the great many other people in their various roles with the Trust, that the Trust has been able to achieve its objective and assist these fine young people, who each had such a hurdle to overcome, to grow into happy, capable, confident adults who each now contribute to the Australian community.

The regular feedback from personal contacts, with their mothers and other extended family members confirms that the Trust has, to date, succeeded in achieving its aims with most of the younger Trust Beneficiaries, whilst also providing support as required, for all the adult Beneficiaries.

None of this could have happened without adequate funding, and in the early years, whilst there were some extraordinarily generous donors, particularly in providing financial assistance to widows or partners who had lost their

husbands, it was never-the-less, for quite a number of years, a struggle to meet our financial needs.

In the early years, although we received many small donations from a wide range of people, the large corporations which one may have expected would help, were reluctant to do so. Frequently their response was often along the lines that it was the Government’s responsibility to look after the stricken families; but when we lobbied the relevant Minister, Bronwyn Bishop, for financial assistance, we were rebuffed. For these reasons we fell well short of our initial fundraising target of reaching \$10 million in reserves and did not accumulate our first \$1 million of reserves for eight years.

However, whilst campaigning in Western Australia for the 2007 Federal Election, Kevin Rudd, the Leader of the Opposition, when requested by Peter Tinley, one of his Western Australian candidates and himself a former member of the SAS Regiment, pledged that the Trust would receive \$10 million from Government if Kevin Rudd were to become Prime Minister. That event duly occurred, and the pledge was ultimately fulfilled, but not without a substantial level of opposition.

The problem was the considerable resistance within the Army, the Canberra bureaucracy, from the SAS Association and within the Trust itself, to the pledge being met. Some of the objections raised were quite understandable, namely that the SAS Regiment was being unfairly favoured over the rest of the Australian Defence Force, and that a gift to us of \$10 million would reduce the defence budget. These issues caused considerable angst amongst some Trustees, and it was the only occasion when we ever had a serious division in our Board, as well as the resignation of a valued Trustee in protest at the ultimate outcome.

The crisis was ultimately resolved by a meeting with the

THE SAS RESOURCES TRUST

The first 25 years by Greg Solomon - Cont'

Minister for Defence, Joel Fitzgibbon. The Government decided to allocate funds from outside the defence budget to meet the pledge, and the Trust committed to share the income it would earn from investment of the \$10 million, with similar Trusts which it would help to establish throughout the ADF. This commitment was confirmed at a Board meeting on 9th of June 2008 when it was also agreed to the Trust Deed to "enable increased benefits....to a wider range of Beneficiaries".

The Trust duly followed through with these commitments. Our first priority was to provide coverage by a similar Trust for other Special Forces, and on 22 October 2010, \$370,000 seed funding was provided for the launch of the Commando Welfare Trust.

The Trust then set about creating three Brigade based Trusts (in Brisbane, Townsville and Darwin) to cover the Australian Mentoring Force in Afghanistan, but the Chief of Army at the time rejected this proposal. In the end and after extensive negotiations with interested parties the only option was to establish a single new Trust to cover the whole of the ADF other than Special Forces.

The Trust implemented the establishment of the new Trust for the whole ADF in partnership with the Perth Branch of the RSL by creating the 'Legacy Services Trust' which later became the 'ADF Assistance Trust' and is now the Bravery Trust. At the launch of that Trust in late 2011 the SAS Resources Trust made a donation of \$440,000.

Relevantly, as an indication of the degree to which this model of community support for members of the Armed Services has been accepted, since then the Federal Government gave \$9 million to the Commando Welfare Trust, and \$14 million to the ADF Assistance Trust, outcomes that have undoubtedly benefited the whole of the Australian Defence Forces that would not have occurred without our efforts.

The second commitment we made in 2008 was to increase benefits to a wider range of Beneficiaries within our own Trust, and this promise has been amply fulfilled. In this regard our original Deed of Trust covered only cases where active service had resulted in death, quadriplegia, paraplegia, or total loss of sight. Jeff Kazim insisted on these restrictive criteria which replicated the coverage of the UK SAS Trust. However, we amended the Trust Deed in 2009 to extend its coverage to any 'serious mental or physical injury

and permanent disablement' resulting from active service.

In November 2010 we further extended both the range of benefits and the scope of the support provided, by creating the SAS Resources Trust No. 2. This Trust assists all current and former members of the Regiment and their families who experience hardship as a result of any disability. The disability does not have to result from active service, and it does not have to be permanent. The funding for this new initiative came from a generous donation of 200,000 Fortescue Metals Group shares to the new Trust 2 which were then on-sold to our primary Trust for \$1.3 million. Although the level of assistance under Trust 2 is not as high as with Trust 1, it has been of great help to many families.

In 2011 there was yet another expansion of Beneficiary cover with the creation of the SAS Resources Trust No.3. This new Trust was initially funded with yet another very generous donation which was made at one of our Annual Dinners. This Trust benefits serving members of the Regiment and their families by funding respite breaks and whole of Squadron retreats.

More recently Trust 3 has embarked on a program with its Wanderer's Education Program to assist soldiers undertake tertiary education or vocational training, that will assist them when transitioning back to civilian life at the end of their military careers. This important program has now been running for a number of years and is proving very valuable, with 18 members having completed courses and 35 members currently undertaking courses. Apart from assisting members more easily secure higher level employment opportunities when their military careers end, it also helps minimise the inevitable stress associated with changing careers.

In 2012, in order to co-ordinate the fundraising of the three Trusts, the overarching SAS Resources Fund was established. The Trustee of the SAS Resources Fund is SART Holdings Pty Ltd, the directors of which are Trustees of the Trust. The SAS Resources Fund manages all fundraising on behalf of the Group.

The Trustees of the Trust are also the Trustees of both the No.2 and the No.3 Trusts and also of the Fund.

The Annual Dinners, ordinarily conducted since 2007, have significantly contributed to the Trust's finances not





only with their direct proceeds but also with the donations they have attracted. The Dinners were initially organised by the Orthodox Order of St John (OOSJ) which had a long history of voluntary fundraising for charitable causes. In 2009 the organizing committee asked that it be transferred to the Trust, and OOSJ agreed that this should happen. Since then, the “Dinner Committee” has continued to run regular and successful functions in Perth as well as other events in Melbourne. The Committee, approximately half of whom are former members of the Regiment, has been extremely effective. The total of funds, including donations raised by all Dinners since 2007 currently exceeds \$4 million.

There are a number of other very important committees that the Trust operates. These are the Assistance Committee which manages requests for assistance from Beneficiaries, the Investment Committee which manages investment of the accumulated financial reserves for the whole group, and the Governance Committee that manages regulatory compliance and risk management for the group.

Two final groups should also be recognised in any historical review of the Trust. The first group is the donors and volunteers of one type or other who have so willingly given donations in cash or kind, or have given their time and services to assist, often for very extended periods, in so many ways and for many tasks, including the Trustees, committee members, and social workers. Without their collective contribution, the Trust and the rest of the group would not have survived, let alone been able to achieve what they have.

The second group is the small, but highly dedicated, long-serving executive staff starting with Ann Edwards who served as the initial Trust Secretary with great distinction from 1996 until 2009. In 2009 Ann became a full-time employee as the Trust Manager, a role she fulfilled until 2014.

Apart from all her administrative functions, Ann also played a very important role from the beginning, assisting and providing support to the widows and wives, and children of the soldiers who were killed or seriously injured in the Black Hawk tragedy.

Ann was followed in 2013 by Tim Hawson who served as Chief Operating Officer from 2013-2020 when he retired and was replaced by Chris Johns. Both Tim and Chris have been ably supported by Jo Nelson as Business Manager and Sharon Tee as Beneficiary and Functions Manager.

Finally, and of significant importance, the Trust shortly after it was established, and subsequently the No. 2 and No.3 Trusts, as well as the Fund, were each approved by the Australian Taxation Office as Deductible Gift Recipients under the Australian Income Tax Assessment Act, which enables donations over \$2 to be tax deductible for the donor.

The 2nd of October 2021 marks the 25th anniversary of the Trust’s existence. Over that period, it has been an innovative organisation which has proved its worth by paving the way for organised community support not only for the members of the SAS and their families, but for all defence families throughout Australia.

As the founder of the Trust, Jeff Kazim clearly deserves full credit for this achievement, but there are also far too many volunteers, donors, committee members, and other people to list who each have put in their time and effort for our cause and who collectively deserve our recognition and heartfelt thanks.

Additionally, there has also been quite a number of people who have held formal offices in the Trust over the past 25 years, whose details are listed in the Annexure, and who each have made important contributions.

The SAS Regiment fulfils a unique and vital role in Australia’s Defence Force, and history will show that the SAS Resources Trust, the No.2 Trust, the No.3 Trust and the Fund have provided, during an often difficult and troubled first 25 years, great direct support and comfort to not only members of the Regiment, but also their families. In the knowledge that should the worst prevail and a soldier is killed or seriously injured in active duty or training, both they and their families will be well supported.

Additionally, significant indirect support has also been provided by the SAS Resources Trust to the rest of the members of the Australian Defence Force and their families, by blazing a trail and creating the model that has now been embraced by the Federal Government for the establishment of community-based Trusts to provide similar support, across the entire Australian Defence Forces.

ANNEXURE

Officers of the SAS Resources Trust – the first 25 years

Patron	MAJGEN (Rtd) Michael Jeffery AC, CVO, MC LTGEN (Rtd) John Sanderson AC	1996- 2000 & 2003- 2020 2000- 2003
Vice Patrons	The Hon David Malcolm AC, QC Dr Andrew Forrest AO Kerry Stokes AC	2012- 2014 2014- present 2014 – present
Chair	The Hon David Malcolm AC, QC The Hon Peter Blaxell AM Gregory Solomon Dr Grant Walsh CSM	1996 – 2010 2010 – 2015 2015- 2020 2020 – present
Deputy Chair	The Hon Peter Blaxell AM Gregory Solomon Dr Grant Walsh CSM Caron Sugars	1996 – 2020 2010 – 2015 2015 – 2020 2020 – present
Treasurer	Thomas Wallace OAM Nicholas Brasington Robert Druitt	1996- 2013 2013- 2015 2015- present
Trustees	Jeff Kazim (Founding Trustee) The Hon David Malcolm AC, QC The Hon Peter Blaxell AM Malcolm McCusker AC, CVO, QC Gregory Solomon (Trust Solicitor 1996-2015) Thomas Wallace OAM Ian Brown Gordon Crump Howard Sattler Peter Schuman MC Timothy Lyons Kerry Stokes AC Kenneth Webb LTCOL(Rtd) Dan McDaniel Kevin Campbell AM Paul Gadenne Michael Malone OAM CDRE (Rtd) David Orr David Harper David Lewis Paul Murray Maree Alver Jonathon Horton James McMahon DSC, DSM Dr Mark Nidorf MD, MBBS	1996- 2009 1996- 2012 1996- 2020 1996- 2011 1996- present 1996- 2018 1996- 1998 1996- 2001 1996- 2001 1996- 1997 1996- 1997 1998 – present 1998- 2002 1998- 1999 1999- 2003 1999- 2003 1999- 2000 2000- 2012 2000- 2001 2001- 2009 2003- 2012 2007- 2014 2007- 2013 2009 – present 2008 – present

Trustees - Cont'	Dr Grant Walsh CSM	2009- present
	Dr Andrew Forrest AO	2011- present
	Nicholas Brasington	2012- present
	Robert Druitt	2012- present
	The Hon James Edelman	2013- 2014
	BRIG (Rtd) Terry Nolan AM	2012- 2016
	Grant Vernon	2014- 2015
	Michelle Hawksley (Trust Solicitor 2015-present)	2014- present
	John Worsfold	2014 - 2015
	Peter Fitzpatrick AO	2016 - 2021
	Alan Cransberg	2016- present
	Caron Sugars	2018- present
	The Hon Chris Ellison	2020- present
	The Hon Martin Hamilton-Smith	2021- present
Staff	Ann Edwards OAM	
	Trust Secretary	1996- 2009
	Trust Manager	2009- 2014
	Timothy Hawson – Chief Operating Officer	2013- 2020
	Donna-Lee Attrill – Beneficiary Liaison Officer	2013- 2018
	Jackie Masters – Functions Coordinator	2014- 2017
	Joanne Nelson – Business Manager	2015- present
	Sharon Tee – Beneficiary and Functions Manager	2017- present
	Christopher Johns – Chief Operations Officer	2020- present
	Marion Smyth – Social Work	2015- present
Auditors	Ernst & Young	1996- present
Lawyers	Solomon Brothers	1996- present

REFLECTIONS AND RECOLLECTIONS

by Ann Edwards, OAM

25 years

Gosh, 25 years since that fateful day back in 1996. Most likely Wednesday, 12 June 1996 dawned like any normal winter's day in Perth WA (in fact it was 19 degrees with minimal rain). Most likely in Townsville, Far North Queensland it dawned on a sunny tropical day (in fact it was warm and 26 degrees). No-one could have foreseen the tragedy that was about to unfold in the late afternoon out at High Range, Townsville. Eighteen of our finest soldiers were to tragically die, another was rendered paraplegic, many more were seriously injured. Hearts were broken, many, many tears were shed, and ten children were left without fathers.

The news came through to Perth in the late afternoon. The SAS Regiment based in the beachside suburb of Swanbourne is very respected and dear to the people of Perth. It has been their home for some 32 years (in 1996), some of us drive past Campbell Barracks on a daily basis, we don't really know what goes on in there, but we know they are the finest soldiers. We know that these men embrace the risks inherent within the service in the SAS Regiment. Built on their ethos and pursuit of excellence, discipline, classlessness, humility and humour they train hard to develop their capabilities they are charged with to help keep Australia and its peoples safe.

Therefore, to lose 15 members of the SAS Regiment with one soldier rendered paraplegic and many more seriously injured it was an incredibly sad and tragic day for the SAS Regiment and Perth. Our hearts went out to the people of Townsville and 5 Aviation Regiment who were also suffering a tragic loss of three of their own, with more members seriously injured. Anna, widow of Captain John Berrigan was left with a 3-year-old son, Benjamin.

Within days of this tragedy a Perth man stepped up with a bold plan to form a Charitable Trust to help the families of the fallen and the injured soldiers. Our Founding Trustee, Mr Jeff Kazim was a Perth businessman and within days Jeff had organised a group of very prominent businessmen drawing from the legal fraternity, the accounting world and business in general. Jeff's sights were on a very prominent person for Chairman of this new Trust and the Hon David Malcolm, AC QC, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia accepted the position. The WA Governor, MajGen Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC accepted the position as Patron of the Trust.



On 2 October 1996 the Trust was launched at Government House Perth by the Governor. Standing on the dais with him were two Blackhawk widows, Marie with her children Karen (age 8, Joseph (age 6 and Daniel (age 3 and Gaye, with her children Joshua (age 5 and Giverny (age 3. I was in awe of the courage and strength of these two wonderful ladies. I made a vow to myself that day that I would do everything in my power and that of the Trust to make their lives easier and for them to know they would be well looked after from here on in.

Although many, many hours of hard work had got us this far (as in the launch of the Trust it was nothing compared to what was to follow. Jeff was firm but fair and worked everyone hard to help raise money which would enable us to look after the families. Within my role as Trust Secretary, it fell to me to be the liaison with the widows and children. The Trust had also learned of other families who had suffered loss or soldiers who had suffered serious injury (within the specifications of our Trust Deed) and more names were added to our official Beneficiary list.

In the years that followed the widows and children became

known as “my Mums and my kids” and along with the injured soldiers they all became part of my family. It was a joy to be able to help them with whatever was asked of me. Jeff had told me from day one “Honey, we have to look after the mothers and children and that is what I want you to do”. It became a labour of love for my “new family” which continues to this day.

There have been many laughs and hugs but hopefully not too many tears. All my “Blackhawk babies” are now 28+, some of my kids are no longer covered financially by the Trust as they have reached the age of 25 but I have always remained there for them if ever they have a query, concern or anything that I can help with.

In later years other tragedies occurred, the very happy birth of Leisa Russell in February 2002 followed tragically by the death of her father Andrew some 11 days later in Afghanistan. The tragic death of Joshua Porter off the sea in Fiji in November 2006 whilst his wife was pregnant with their first child, little Maddison being born in May 2007. At the time of the death of Joshua Porter, Captain Mark Bingley from 5 Aviation Regiment was also killed leaving behind a wife and a 3-month-old son, Mitchell. I was always so proud of these widows and saw firsthand their courage and strength and always wanted to do more for them. Later in 2007 Sgt Matthew Locke, MG a brave and gallant soldier died in battle in Afghanistan, leaving behind his wife and a 12-year-old son. Sadly, Afghanistan brought a total of five SASR deaths. Every death brought heartache and tears, every death brought us another family to care for, to help and try to make it somewhat easier for them. I knew I (and the Trust) could not make it better for them but hoped and prayed I could make it easier for them.

Over the past 25 years, such heartache, more tears and sadly more names inscribed on to the “Memorial Rock”.

To help with the donations successful Charity Breakfasts were arranged and special thanks must go to both the West Coast Eagles and Fremantle Football Clubs, the WACA and Perth Scorchers along with the Wallabies and WA Rugby. Special mention needs to be made of our MC, Mr Trevor Jenkins (ABC TV) and the Parmelia Perth Hotel (Mr Jack Comerford) who were so supportive of our Trust. Mr Ron Farris (now deceased) was our lively Charity Auctioneer and helped raise funds for the Trust.

In mid-2007, during a conversation between the then Leader of the ALP Mr Kevin Rudd and former SASR Major Peter Tinley, Major Tinley described to Mr Rudd the ideals and aims of the SAS Resources Trust. Mr Rudd then promised, if in November 2007 the Labor Party made Government, he would arrange for a donation of \$10M to be made to the Trust. History shows Mr Rudd became Prime Minister of

Australia in November 2007 and true to his word a donation of \$10M was made to the Trust. The income (due to the very high bank interest rates) generated from this significant investment set the Trust in a very favourable financial position. In keeping with our given word, we helped set up similar Trusts for both the Commando Units (Commando Welfare Trust) and the ADF Assistance Trust (now known as the Bravery Trust) and made a significant donation to each Trust. In turn, the Federal Government also made a significant donation to each of these two Trusts. We also had a hand in setting up a Trust for the Navy Clearance Divers.

From its early years the Trust has grown from just one single Trust to now three Trusts all covering different aspects of the Regiment and its needs. It is now quite different from the early years but from that small seed sown back in 1996 a very significant Trust (now Trusts) has grown and I for one am extremely proud of what we achieved through hard work, discipline, laughter, tears and a good dollop of humour. We have strived to give “our children” the best education possible plus provide for other after school activities such as sport, music and dance. It is what a dad would do were he still here to do it for his kids.

In 1999, at the request of then CO, SASR I was invited to give an address to the members of the SAS Regiment during Regimental week (23 April 1999). After giving an outline of where we had come from along with our aims and ideals, I finished my address with the following:-

“The Trust does not want any more Beneficiaries. In a perfect world this could be realised, in the not so perfect world in which we live and with the work you do it is a fact of life we may be called upon to help more families. The Special Air Service Resources Trust will always be there for you and your family”.

I feel Jeff, were he still here with us today, would give us an A+ for what we achieved with his dream.

Who Dares Wins



BLACK HAWK

Commemorating the 25th Anniversary

On the evening of 12 June 1996 two Black Hawk helicopters carrying soldiers from the Special Air Service Regiment collided during an exercise at the High Range Training Area near Townsville. The activity took place sometime after 18:30hr, requiring the pilots to use night vision goggles. Six aircraft had been approaching the target area when, 30 seconds from the landing zone, one of the helicopters veered to the right, clipping the tail rotor of another helicopter. One Black Hawk crashed immediately, while the other was able to make a crash landing but burst into flames. Fifteen members of the SASR and three from the 5th Aviation Regiment lost their lives bringing devastating loss to their families and sorrow to the nation.

Within days of this tragedy a Perth businessman stepped forward with a bold plan to form a charitable Trust to help the families of the fallen and the injured soldiers. Founding Trustee, Mr Jeff Kazim organised a group of prominent Perth citizens, drawing from the elite echelons of the legal fraternity, the accounting world and business community as the first Board of Trustees. The SAS Resources Trust was founded and has grown with the aim of supporting current and former members of the Regiment and their families who suffer hardship because of their service with the Special Air Service Regiment.

BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

SAS Resources Fund Silver Jubilee: Gerry Bampton

It's hard to believe that it's been 25 years since one of the Army's worst peacetime training accidents and the inception of the SAS Resources Fund. A group of Perth businessmen, with some prompting from Jeff Kazim, came together after realising what a shambles the Military Compensation system was at that point in time, to raise money to assist the families of those who had paid the ultimate sacrifice in their service to the country. Like a phoenix from the ashes rose the SAS Resources Trust chaired by the Chief Justice of Western Australia the Honourable David Malcolm, AC, and it's progressed in leaps and bounds since.

We had spent Tuesday preparing charges and squaring our gear away for a day out on High-Range conducting hostage rescue operations with the support of the 5th Aviation Regiment Blackhawk helicopters and crew. The 12th of June had started as any other day on our training schedule with a flurry of activity as we got ourselves and all our gear onto the only operational aircraft available at that time. A short flight later and we were on the ground at Fire Support Base Barbara where the training activities were to take place. These consisted of two daytime runs and a night run simulating the recovery of Australian hostages from an enemy encampment in an offshore location. By mid-afternoon we had completed the two day runs and debriefs from each, had squared our gear away for the night run and

were waiting for the sun to set and kick off the evening's activity. My memories from here are a little scratchy, but I do recall us finishing our hot-box dinners and, just prior to boarding the aircraft, the troop broke out into a chorus of happy birthday to me as either Glen Hagan or Brett Tombs had blurted out that it was indeed my birthday. With jibes from the lads about being my shout when we got back, we climbed aboard, secured ourselves and our gear and lifted off...the rest as they say is history.

I have little or no conscious memory of the post-accident turmoil or my time in Townsville General Hospital [see image below right] or repatriation back to Western Australia and time in ICU at Royal Perth Hospital. Memories come into focus whilst in the Burns Unit at RPH and watching the news broadcast of one of the funerals and being told of the full consequences of the accident. The sense of confusion, misunderstanding and guilt were almost overwhelming and remain to this day...I'll try to explain why. On all the activities we had undertaken using the helicopters the seating had always been removed because there was not enough room for two assault teams and all their gear plus seating. We would sit on the floor tethered to anchor points in the floor by tubular tape slings and karabiners, and at the 30 second call would unclip from the floor and prepare to disembark. All this time you were shoulder to shoulder with the guys



BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

SAS Resources Fund Silver Jubilee: Gerry Bampton - Cont'

beside you, pushing and shoving to get yourself sorted as they did the same. We were short in numbers for this exercise as a few stayed behind for one reason or another, so the assault teams consisted of a ring-in or two, hence the mixture of water and sniper troop operators among the land troop assault force. The point I'm trying to make as far as the confusion and guilt is concerned, is that in the back of the helicopter there was little room to move and yet everyone that was around me is dead...What did I do differently to them?

The SAS Resources Trust has truly been a blessing, covering what military compensation and DVA did not back in the day. The Blackhawk Tragedy was a catalyst for change, not only in regard to training practices but also the very outdated compensation system the ADF operated under. The one thing I am most grateful for, and I'm pretty sure Tegan and Nathan appreciate it as well, was the schooling offered to them. Tegan was enrolled to St. Marys in Karrinyup which she attended from year 5 to year 10, when she transferred to St. Stephens in Duncraig and Nathan attended Aquinas College from year 4 to year 12.

These were schooling opportunities that would not have been possible except for the Resources Trust and in the grander scheme of things the generosity of the Perth community and their support for the Trust in those early years.

Having survived the accident and having the privilege of see my children grow up and be supported by such a wonderful organisation, it has always been difficult for me to ask the Trust for assistance, but they have always been ready and willing and have on a number of occasions come to me and offered support when they'd heard of issues regarding problems with home or intended international travel. On that point, their assistance has been monumental, and resulted in me spending my 49th birthday in Paris, France, where I visited Notre Dame Cathedral for some quiet reflection on the 21st anniversary of the accident and finished the day with dinner at the Jules Verne restaurant in the Eiffel Tower.

The Trust Fund has had a substantial part in assisting me to maintain a standard of living and quality of life that would have been considerably worse if relying on the compensation entitlements as they stood back then...for example...it was immediately acknowledged that my house would need to be modified to suit my needs and there began a struggle that lasted five years to get a house that suited my needs and their budget. I was discharged from hospital in December 1996 and moved into my house in April 2001, the stressors involved in getting that far had played a part in my marriage dissolving two years earlier, but I still had access to Tegan and Nathan on a regular basis. Despite the house being designed for my needs and called for level entry throughout, the DHA overseer signed off on the place with a 2-inch hob at the front door and slightly less at both sliding doors out



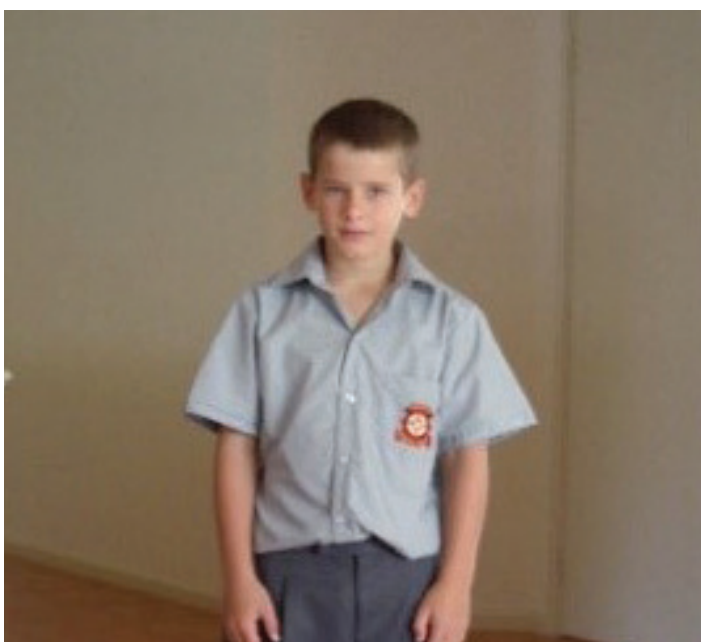


the back as he didn't see them as a major issue. Back then, not a big deal, but as time went on and issues with my left arm developed so did the access issues. Step forward the Trust and with some lifting and relaying of paving, problem resolved. Not a huge job but the difference it makes as far as ease of access is concerned for me is monumental...those little things truly make a huge difference.

"Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn..." for the rest of us life goes on with trials and tribulations to test and try us. Thanks to the SAS Resources Fund and the generosity of the Australian public, the Australian Government and a couple of very special donors, Mr Stokes, Mrs Rinehart and Dr Forrest in particular, those who serve in the Special Air Service Regiment do so with the added confidence that should "shit come up trumps", aside from the military compensation and DVA entitlements, there is the bonus

support of the SAS Resources Fund and that brings peace of mind when operating in an uncertain world.

To all the Trustees past and current, thank you for the time and effort you have put in to maintain and develop the fund in support of those who continue to serve. To Ann Edwards, Tim Hawson, Sharon Tee and Chris Johns, thank you for being there with a sympathetic ear and supportive hand when it's been required...it is greatly appreciated.



BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

Marie Ellis-Bird



Firstly, on behalf of myself and family, I would like to sincerely thank all SASR Trust Members and Sponsors who have been involved with the Trust since 1996. Their tireless efforts, time and care has been overwhelming and appreciated immensely.

25 years, since the Black Hawk Accident, it's unreal how quickly the time has passed and how vivid the memories, the words, the events remain as if it was yesterday.

After losing Hughie in the Black Hawk Accident and being left with three children, Daniel 3, Joseph 6 and Karen 8, I knew I would move back to Victoria to be with family but that was all I could see at that time.

There were many caring people around us to give support straight away, a lot of whom I had never met. Talk of a Trust being formed to assist injured soldiers and families of the deceased was being talked about, this was reassuring but I didn't think that much about it and really didn't think this would be possible. However, the result proved overwhelming and enabled me to continue to be a full time Mum, as we had always planned, due to the Trust's assistance with education of the children, allowing each one to pursue their desired careers.

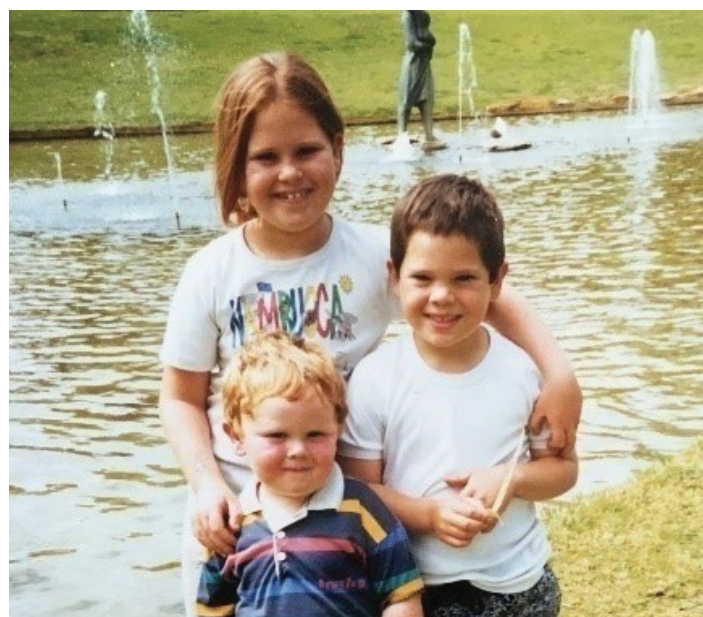
Karen followed her dream of becoming a beautician, a hairdresser and now a very modern-day barber. Karen has two lovely children, Archie, 8 years old and Sienna 6 years old.

Joseph was unsure of what he wanted to do really and

studied event management but did not pursue this, then worked himself up to a Manager at Toyota. The Pandemic proved to add stress to the company and Joe decided to change employment to driving for Coles Pty Ltd which also gives him more time to spend with his lovely two girls, Evie 5 years old and Poppy 4 years old.

Karen and Joseph have bought homes 10 minutes' walk each way from me so has been handy in the pandemic.

Daniel left school at 16 and completed an apprenticeship in aluminium boat building, then worked on Home Valley



Station on Gibb River Road for 4 years getting caught up in the Pandemic has come back home and looking to buy property in Victoria.

I am enjoying being a grandma and keeping my hand in working casual at The Geelong Hospital as a Health Care Worker, enjoy gardening, fishing and travel once we are able to again. The Bellarine Peninsula, although becoming busy is a wonderful part of Australia.

The Trust has helped me with some personal requests which I really appreciate. I don't mean to single anyone out as everyone has been amazing, but I did appreciate Hon Peter Blaxell spending time with me in quite an intense personal discussion which still is very clear to me today. Ann Edwards, OAM what can I say, such an amazing, genuine lady who knows all our highs and lows over the past 25 years, since the Trust was formed and who remains a very important part of our lives as a very good friend and Aunty type figure to all the kids and grandchildren.

Thank you for continuing to care and your support.

Respectfully,
Marie and family



BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

A message of thanks from Kim, Kenneth, Nathan and Ben Constantinidis

I would like to thank the Trust for their assistance provided to me and my boys. Andy would have been so proud the way in which the Trust has supported us.

From the day the Trust was set up they have continued to support and have kept in touch with our family to see how we are going and for that we are very grateful. When we have needed help the Trust have been right there behind us. We would like to thank the supporters and contributors to the Trust, Sharon Tee for all her support and Ann in the early days.

We send our love and thanks.

BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

Vanessa and Laura Hagan



The last five years.

Laura left home and moved to Brisbane when she was 20 and has invested in a townhouse. She studied Bachelor of Nursing at the Queensland University of Technology. She graduated in December 2019 and acquired her first-year graduate registered nurse position in the rural town of Quilpe QLD. The hospital where she works is a multi-purpose health service where she works in all areas including emergency, paediatric, palliative and community health.

She was offered a permanent position and has decided to stay there for another year or more to gain more experience. Emergency nursing appeals to her so she has decided to start a post graduate diploma in emergency nursing. While in Quilpe Laura has made plenty of new friends and found out that she loves the laid-back, relaxed and personal feel of the small-town life. She says she's busier in Quilpe then she ever was in the city.

Like her father Glen, Laura has the outgoing, adventurous outlook on life which suits the outback. She has always been fiercely independent. She loves camping, dirt bike riding and has even completed her first parachute jump.

Laura and I love to travel and have visited many amazing places together we get along well and have a great relationship full of respect for each other.

I am currently living in Maroochydore and work at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital as an administration officer. In my spare time I like to work on my little business called Knot Just Knots Macrame where I make wall hangings, teepees, weddings props and many more.

Glen's friends will be very happy to know that Laura is a lot like him, and every day I see him in her.

BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

Remembering the Black Hawk Accident in Townsville: Anna and Benjamin Berrigan

It happened on the 12th of June 1996, a day that Benjamin and I will never forget, from receiving the phone call and then the knock on the door on that night is still clear as day as we lost Captain John Berrigan from 5 Avn Regt, a son, a brother, a husband and a father.

The long days and long months after the accident took a toll on our lives with no support or money or housing or direction.

The long process of attending the Board of Inquiry in Perth, Sydney and Townsville was finally what I needed – the answers I was looking for- What happened on the night 12th June 1996??.

It was during this time that Ann Edwards who at the time was on the SASR Trust Fund Board that I made contact with her and explained my situation.

She explained to me what the SASR Trust was about and how this could help and provide Benjamin and myself with the help and support network we needed.

She welcomed Benjamin and me as one of their own into the SAS Regt family and included Benjamin to the SASR Trust Fund.

We finally met Ann Edwards on the 5th Anniversary held in Townsville and became very close friends and part of the SASR family.

Benjamin and I will always be indebted to Ann Edwards and the SASR Trust Fund for their support and help in the 25 years we have known them.

With the help and support from the Trust Fund, Benjamin was able to be provided with his school fees, sports fees, Tafe fees and whatever other help he needed in his upbringing, including the generous yearly cheques from the Trust to provide additional support, something that I as a single widow mother could not be able to provide at the time.

25 years on and we are still part of the SASR Trust Fund and the SASR family.

Along the way we have made SASR friends and share the same heartaches, sadness and stories.

Benjamin is now 28 years old and married Hayley on the 10th of April 2021. He is a Diesel Mechanic with Qube company and loving life.

Once again, we would like to thank our own angel sent from heaven ANN EDWARDS for her long-term friendship and support and thank the SASR Trust FUND who provided Benjamin with his needs from a little 3-year-old to adulthood.



BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

Gaye, Joshua and Giverny Tombs

Joshua

What the Trust has done for our family

Obviously, I was a bit of a handful as a child and really, I still am, even though I have recently married!

As far as I am concerned the greatest thing the Trust ever did for our family was to give Mum support and some reprieve from her constant worry, that I was doing something that I shouldn't be doing. They did this by providing the financial support to allow me to participate in extracurricular activities that we otherwise would not have been able to afford.

The opportunities

With the Trust's financial support, I was able to go on School sporting tours for rugby that took me all over New Zealand and participate in strength of character-building activities such as the Hawkesbury canoe classic, an overnight endurance canoe marathon of 111km.

The Sea to Summit expedition that took 5 days of cycling and hiking from Pabula beach to the summit of Mt Kozioko. Led by a schoolmate and myself for our gold Duke of Ed award.

The Hinchinbrook Island trip. 7 days of paddling and camping around the island. They also supported my music by paying for guitar lessons. This has led to me to making a little bit extra cash from performing at pub gigs around my local town.

They also supported my sister and myself on our Gap years in England, still one of the greatest years of our lives, where we met lifelong friends and connections.

In August 2013 my sister and I were able to undertake the KOKODA trail with the generous funding by the Trust. The trail took 10 days and over 140kms of extreme mountainous terrain. This trip helped to bring both Giverny and myself closer together, as well as closer to understanding the perseverance and dedication that our father must have shown to gain entry into the ranks of the SAS regiment.

Attended a university coordinated field trip to Botswana, for UNE Zoology degree.

All of these opportunities have shaped who I am and

challenged me at every step of the way to push for more out of myself and more out of life. They have helped me to be the kind of person who would without question come here and talk to you today, even though every part of my body trembles at the thought of public speaking. I accepted the opportunity because it is yet another chance to challenge myself but mostly because it is the least that I can do to say thank you to this amazing organization for all that they have done for my family.

I completed a Bachelor of Zoology at the University of New England.

The Trust Family

Not only was the Trust always there to lend financial support but they have also been willing to go that bit further and give that personal touch and be there for me in some of my brighter moments.

Ann Edwards made the 4-hour flight over from Perth to the small NSW country town of Armidale to attend my school cadet passing out parade and this is just one such example





of the special care they have shown us. It was moments like these that really feel like we were all still very much a part of the Trust family.

A big thank you for all the work the Trust has done for our family and the families of others in their care I must say big heart felt thank you for everything you have done for my family.

Giverny, Beneficiary Speech given at the 2015 SASRF Dinner

I have been a Beneficiary of this Trust since the age of 3 and will continue to be until I reach the age of 25. It is only through growth and maturity that I have truly come to value the contributions the Trust and what donors have done for my family. It took a while for me to understand the whole concept as I was so very young, and as I grew old enough to understand, it was too difficult for my family to properly explain to me the explicit details of my father's death, and what this financial support was all about.

However, through my own research and gathering my thoughts together, I've come to understand the opportunities that the Trust has provided, not just for me but for my brother and mother too. It has taken a great amount of weight off mum's shoulders in terms of funding for private education, health and travel experiences for both my brother Josh and I, allowing us to reach our full potential that of which I can't imagine would have been possible without them.

I have been a Beneficiary of the Trust for 20 years now and within these years I have been provided with many fulfilling opportunities.

One of the most significant would be my schooling from years 5 to 12, where I attended Presbyterian Ladies College in Armidale, to which I completed my bronze and silver Duke of Ed, higher school certificate and received acceptance into the University of Newcastle where I have been studying a Bachelor of Teaching with Honours for 4 years now.

Through my years at PLC I travelled to Fiji and Vietnam to work in orphanages and schools, building sustainable resources. My desire to do this charity work I feel is a result of the support I have benefited from, and to give back to others in need.

The Hinchinbrook, Island trip, located up near Cairns. It consisted of 7 days of kayaking amongst crocodiles (which I wasn't aware of at the time, thankfully) and camping around neighbouring islands (forgetting key essentials such as pillow and mattress, thinking I could rough it like I'm sure Dad did, turns out I need a bit more practice).

When I finished school, in 2011, the Trust assisted in funding a gap placement scheme, which allowed me to embark on a year long journey of a lifetime. I travelled to the UK and worked within a school, alongside 12 other gaps who came from Australia, NZ and South Africa (it wasn't exactly the real working world however). Here I

BENEFICIARY REFLECTIONS

Gaye, Joshua and Giverny Tombs - Cont'

made lifelong friends and memories. This opportunity was previously provided to my brother also, leaving us both not wanting to come back home.

In August 2013, my father's brother Richard, my brother Joshua (who has accompanied me here tonight), and myself took it upon ourselves to embark on a challenge, leading us to the Kokoda Trail, which I won't be forgetting within this lifetime. I was the only female amongst 9 other men (and yes, I did power on past the men on different legs of the trek, smiling with satisfaction as I marched on by). Whilst Kokoda presented us with a physical challenge, I found it was more my mental strength and perseverance that played a large role in pushing myself further. The trek took 10 days and over 130km of extreme undulating mountainous terrain. Our guide, John, whose father fought at Kokoda, insisted we head off track to experience parts of the battle which were seldom seen by Trekkers. It was John's passion which enhanced our experience and exemplified what legacy can be left on soldiers' children when the military has played such a significant role. During

our trek as I was walking up another vertical mountain wall, it was then I realised the perseverance and dedication our father must have had to not only gain entry into the ranks of the SAS, but to love and enjoy every bit of his 10 years with the SAS regiment. I was very lucky to have shared this experience with my brother and uncle.

In August last year I was given the incredible opportunity to travel to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe and to Botswana. This trip only being made possible by the financial support of the Trust. This trip was through a university course and is the first of its kind, me being selected as 1 of 8 out of 50 applicants. For two weeks we worked in local schools, observing and adopting local alternative teaching pedagogies. This trip had an invaluable influence on my perception, belief and values towards my future career of teaching.

Coincidentally, my brother Joshua, has just completed two trips to Africa in order to complete his Zoology degree, the first trip was funded by the generosity of the Trust, (and



the second one was partly self-funded as he is no longer a Beneficiary, to say the least, he noticed the burden)- Josh give me details of trip.

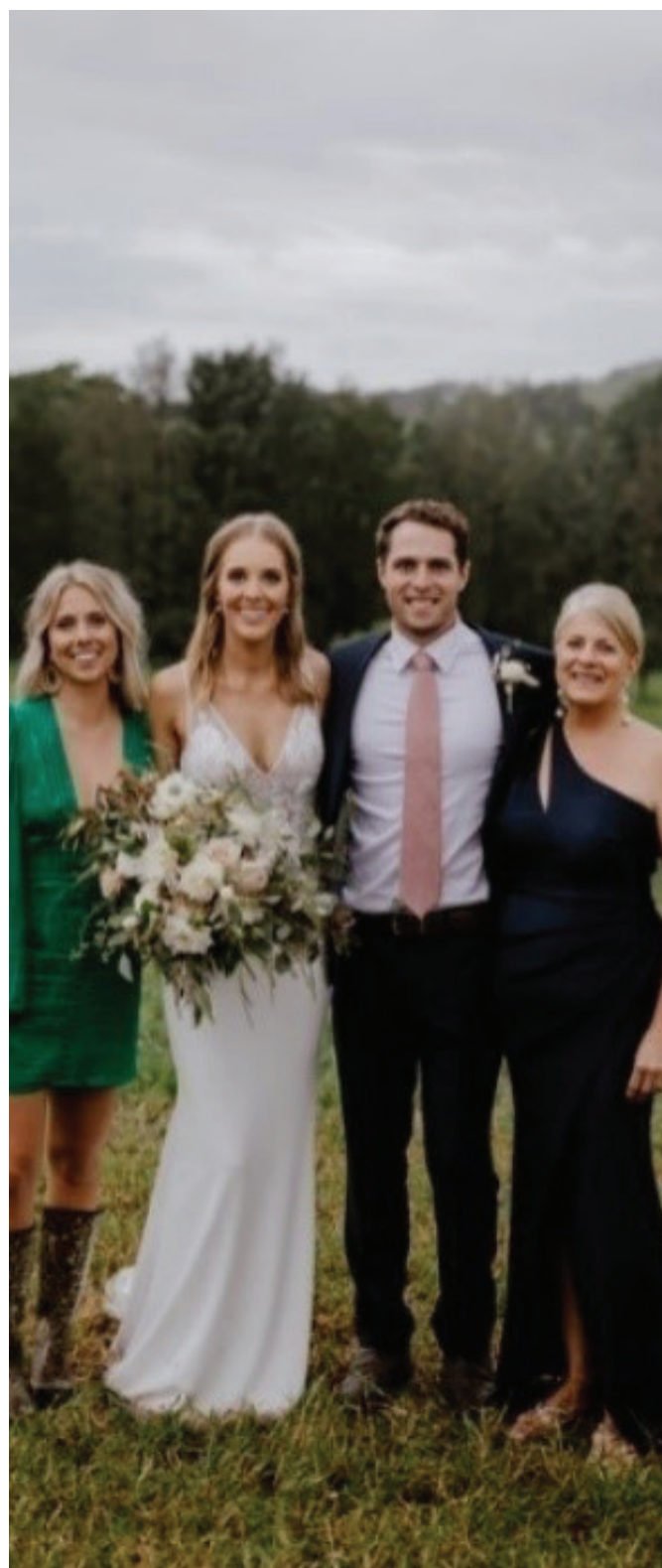
Both Josh and I, as original Beneficiaries will be finishing our four-year university degrees this year, myself completing a Bachelor of Teaching with honours and josh completing his Zoology degree.

All of these amazing opportunities throughout my life have made me who I am today. I have this notion that, as my father's life was taken too soon, it is my objective to make the most of the life that I lead, as I am a legacy of him. People often say to my brother or I, how they knew my father well and the incredible man he was, saying how through our accomplishments we would be making him proud. To hear this, it saddens me as he hasn't been here to see these accomplishments and won't be here in future significant events like my graduation next year or my wedding to walk me down the aisle. Nonetheless, making him proud has been and will continue to be one of my life's objectives.

I am here as an example of what the Trust has provided as a Beneficiary and the positive path we are supported along. It is sad to say, but there will be many more Beneficiaries to come, who will attend their father's funeral and mourn for many years more. Although the Trust will never substitute my father, it has provided stability for my family to be able to move forward and not have to worry about financial burdens and will continue to provide a stable future for the Beneficiaries to come.

Last year I was lucky enough to speak at the Perth Convention Centre, sharing my story for the first time. It was well received, and it makes me feel proud knowing that I was able to give back in some small way to the Trust and help those families both now and in the future with the long and hard journey ahead.

The Special Air Service Trust have assisted in shaping who I am today, a person who without a doubt would come here and talk to you about how supportive and generous the Trust and donors have been for my family and for that- Thank you, thank you for all that you have done for my family.





OUR EVENTS

Committee Report by the Hon Chris Ellison

The Committee was delighted to welcome a new member, Mr Rhys Dillon. Rhys is an experienced business director with extensive experience in marketing and management within the retail sector prior to moving into the finance arena. Rhys has already demonstrated an impressive commitment to assisting the Fund achieve its aims.

It is with sadness that we farewelled Mr Ron Farris, who passed away in April. Ron was a volunteer auctioneer at several of the Fund's Dinners and always gave his time generously and selflessly.

Although we had not been able to hold a SASRF Dinner for some time, our Dinner was held on the 16 October at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. The evening was a great success and we look forward to bringing you photos and a full write up of this event in the 2021-2022 newsletter.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all the Committee members and staff of the SASRF for their hard work this year and especially Sharon Tee who has been outstanding. Their dedication and enthusiasm to support in any capacity asked of them is greatly appreciated.





OUR EVENTS

Sundowner 2020

On the 12th of November close to 200 SAS Resources Fund volunteers, supporters, sponsors, donors, Board members, Committee members and SASRF staff gathered at the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club to enjoy refreshments while the sun set over the river and the Methodist Ladies' College Vivace Quartet played at the annual Sundowner.

This event is to thank all those who have supported the Fund throughout 2020, this year it was also an opportunity to farewell retiring and departing Trustees and to acknowledge their dedication to the Fund.

The Fund's newsletter was released at the Sundowner. Our thanks go to Vanguard Press for their pro bono work on the production and printing of the newsletter.

We would like to sincerely thank you for your support in what has been a very unusual year. Please know that whatever form of support you provided, it has been greatly appreciated by all.





THANK YOU

FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT

HOW TO DONATE

Direct Credit	Westpac BSB 036-406 Account No. 186903
Credit Card	Email (admin@sasresourcesfund.org.au) or phone (0448 385 711) through credit card details
Cheque	Please post to: SAS Resources Fund, PO Box 633, Nedlands WA 6909
Online	Visit www.sasresourcesfund.org.au
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 2021 can be found on the SAS Resources Fund website.

Upcoming Events

Please refer to the Fund website for upcoming events.

www.sasresourcesfund.org.au

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sharon@sasresourcesfund.org.au
 We sincerely regret any errors.



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Your assistance and support is greatly appreciated