

# The Lighthorseman

Lieutenant Colonel (acting) Carew Reynell

The 9th Australian Light Horse Regiment came to Gallipoli in May 1915 and within three months had been reduced to 181 men. Many had been lost to enemy fire and even more to sickness and general debility. Their commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Carew Reynell, commented - "we are all ill to breaking point"

Before the 'August Offensive' he wrote:

*"I feel I ought to be writing home sort of good bye letters in case of a wash out ... I think I have arranged for every contingency as far as this Regiment is concerned and hope we shall give a good account of ourselves, and in case of accidents – goodbye and may it be some consolation to you to realise that I have been some use here, and Dickaboo [his son Richard] must grow up quick and be a comfort to his mother and grandfather"*.

On the night of 27 August 1915, twenty-eight year old Lieutenant Colonel Reynell was killed leading a charge at Hill 60.

Lieutenant General William Birdwood, commander of the Anzac Corps, wrote to Major Reynell's father in law, Douglas Byard, two days after the major's death:

*"He turned out, as you told me he would, a first class soldier... Reynell commanded his regiment with the greatest dash, and at once charged straight for the Turkish trenches into which he led his men. As he was not quite satisfied with the trench they had taken he very rightly decided to gain possession of some further part of the enemy's position. He shouted to his men to follow him, which they at once did, and again charged across the parapets at a further point. You will realise how deeply I grieve as in fact we all do"*.

Lieutenant Colonel Reynell's son, Flight Lieutenant Richard ('Dickaboo') Reynell, met his death in 1940 at the age of 28 years as a test pilot in the Royal Air Force during World War II. He is buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.

# The Horses

A tribute written by English Cavalryman,  
LtCol RM P Preston , DSO, November 16th 1917;

"the majority of the horses in the Corps were Walers, and there is no doubt that these hardy Australian horses make the finest Cavalry mounts in the World.

They (the Australians) have got types of compact, well-built, saddle and harness horses that no other part of the World can show. Rather on the light side according to our ideas, but hard as nails and with beautiful clean legs and feet.

Their records in this war place them above the Cavalry horse of any other nation.

The Australians themselves can never understand our partiality for the half-bred weight-carrying Hunter, which to them looks like a cart horse. Their contention has always been that good blood will carry more weight than big bone, and the experience of this war has converted the writer, for one, entirely to their point of view. It must be remembered that the Australian countrymen are bigger, heavier men than their English brothers. It is probable that they averaged not far off 12 stone stripped. To this weight must be added another 9½ stone for saddle, ammunition, sword, rifle, clothes and accoutrements, so that each horse carried a weight of 21 stone, all day for every day for 17 days, on less than half the normal ration of forage and with only one drink every 36 hours!

The weight carrying English hunter had to be nursed back to fitness after these operations and for a long period, whilst the little Australian horses without any special care, other than good food and plenty of water were soon fit to go through another campaign as arduous as the last one!"

## SAMRA

wishes to acknowledge the support of the following organizations



SA Police



3rd/9th Light Horse  
(SAMRA)



Barossa Light  
Horse Historical  
Association



10th/27th Royal  
South Australia  
Regiment



Australian Government  
Department of Veterans' Affairs

# South Australian Mounted Rifles Association Inc

Representing

The Royal Australian  
Armoured Corps  
Association in SA

and incorporating

The 2<sup>nd</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Australian  
Armoured Regimental  
Group Association

and

9<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Old  
Comrades Association

*Welcome's you to today's*

## AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

### ANZAC DAY

25th of April 2015



## Tribute to the men of the Australian Light Horse

Please stand as the Catafalque Party mounts and the  
Barossa Light Horse Historical Association takes post.

### INTRODUCTION:

*LtCol Reg Williams RFD (Retd) - President SAMRA*

### ADDRESS OF REMEMBRANCE:

*Brigadier Ellis Wayland AM RFD ED (Retd)*

### PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE:

*ALL:*

Today we remember with thanksgiving those who  
made the supreme sacrifice for us in time of war.  
We pray that the offering of their lives may not  
have been in vain.

Today we dedicate ourselves to the cause of  
justice, freedom and peace, and for the wisdom  
and strength to build a better world.

### PLACING OF WREATHS OR OTHER TRIBUTES:

- **Hon Col 3th/9th Light Horse (SAMR)**  
*(Col Chris Burns CSC)*
- **OC 3th/9th Light Horse (SAMR)**  
*(Maj Michael Harris)*
- **The Lord Mayor of Adelaide**  
*(Mr Martin Haese)*
- **The Federal Member for Adelaide**  
*(representative for Ms Kate Ellis MHR)*
- **The State Member for Adelaide**  
*(Ms Rachel Sanderson MP)*
- **The RSL-SA State Branch**  
*(represented by Mr Graham Nybo OAM)*

- **Department of Veterans' Affairs**  
*(represented by Mrs Alison Mertens)*
- **Other associations and members  
of the public**

### ODE TO THE FALLEN:

*Major Roger Burzacott RFD (Retd)*

**They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old.  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
we will remember them.**

*ALL:* **We will remember them.**

*Major Roger Burzacott RFD (Retd):* **Lest we forget.**

*ALL:* **Lest we forget.**

### LAST POST:

*Musician - Josh Koop*

Those in uniform to salute.

**One minute silence**

### ROUSE:

*Musician - Josh Koop*

No compliments paid

## War Horse Tribute

*All Present to face the Horse Trough*

### TRIBUTE TO THE HORSES:

*Mr Michael Scott - Equestrian SA*

### ODE TO THE FALLEN HORSES:

*LtCol Reg Williams RFD (Retd) - President SAMRA*

**They went with songs to the battle, they were young.  
Straight of limb, true of eyes, steady and aglow.  
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,  
They fell with their faces to the foe.  
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.**

### PLACING OF WREATHS OR OTHER TRIBUTES:

- **SAMRA**
- **3rd/9th Light Horse (SAMR)**
- **Barossa Light Horse Historical Association**
- **Equestrian Federation of Australia (SA)**
- **Other associations and members of the public**

## Tribute to Royal Australian Armoured Corps Members

*All Present to face the RAAC Granite Monument.*

Those in uniform to salute

### ADDRESS OF REMEMBRANCE:

*Mr Ron Teusner*

### PLACING OF WREATHS OR OTHER TRIBUTES:

**Please stand for the National Anthem**

*Performed by Olivia Robinson*

**Please remain standing as the Catafalque Party  
dismounts and the Barossa Light Horse retire.**