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Semaphore & Port Adelaide R.S.L. Sub-Branch Newsletter



Brothers at War: The McCann Brothers





(Maj) William Francis John McCann, DSO'MC (with Bar)

405 Major William Francis John McCann, DSO MC, (right) was a teacher from Glanville prior to enlistment on 24 August 1914. He embarked from Adelaide with the 10th Battalion aboard Transport A11 Ascanius on 20 October 1914. He was Mentioned in Despatches and was awarded the Military Cross on 14 December 1916. William Returned to Australia 20 May 1919 and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order on 3 June 1919.

Major William Francis James McCann, DSO, MC

1914-08-24 Enlisted with the 10th Battalion.

1916-09-22 Awarded the Military Cross.

1918-08-27 Commanding Officer of the 10th Battalion. 1918-09-30 - 1918-10-04 Commanding Officer of the 10th Battalion.

1918-11-07 Awarded the Bar to the Military Cross.

1919-01-01 - 1919-03-17 Commanding Officer of the 10th Battalion.

1919-02-01 Awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

1919-05-20 Returned to Australia

1919-07-11 Mention in Despatches.

Military Cross

'For conspicuous gallantry in action. He led his company in the attack, bombing the enemy back, and in spite of heavy casualties, pressed forward until severely wounded by a bomb?

Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 184 Date: 14 December 1916

Bar to Military Cross

'For conspicuous gallantry and fine leadership during an attack. He led one of the attacking companies with great dash, and helped very materially in the success of the operation. Wherever the situation was most critical he was to be found directing and encouraging his men, and his fine example inspired all under his command.'

Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 31 Date: 4 March 1919

Distinguished Service Order

'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty near Lihons on 10th August, 1918. After the attack had failed at Crepey Wood, he successfully captured the position with his company in face of very heavy fire; and, when the enemy in greatly superior numbers, counter attacked, he held them off, personally killing many of the enemy and exposing himself freely until reinforcements enabled him to dirve off the enemy and re-establish his original line. His courage and fine leadership prevented an important position falling into the hands of the enemy.'

Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 67 Date: 3 June 1919







Sundays 12pm - 2pm

\$9.90 Roasts

Members Notice Board

Special General Meeting

President of the Semaphore and Port Adelaide RSL, dose hereby call a Special General Meeting to be held on Sunday 21st September, at the clubrooms at 1pm.

The purpose of this meeting is to dissolve the current committee and I call for nominations for the following committee positions:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Persons

All positions will be declared vacant and nomination forms for all committee positions may be obtained from behind the bar during the clubs opening hours. The close off date to receive nominations is 5.00 pm on Sunday 14th September 2014. Completed nomination forms can be placed in the Locked "Suggestion Box" which is located on the southern end of the bar.

It's Hoped ALL Members will be able to attend this Special General Meeting to help support the club so it can continue to move forward.

President Graham Wilson Steps Down serve not self

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Graham Wilson aka "Chook" who has stepped down from the president's role of The Semaphore & Port Adelaide RSL Sub-Branch due to the work load within his business and personal reasons.

Graham stepped up to the role of president in September 2012 after the doors had been closed and assets sold off by the previous management. We were simply going to lose the RSL.

To re-open our doors the task was daunting as there were many bills and few helpers. With debts and liabilities of over -\$40,000.00 The odds were against him.

Graham, and his dedicated team, with the support of Head Quarters, our local community and businesses, moved forward to create what we have today, one of the Leading RSL's in Adelaide

Graham Wilson typifies the RSL MOTTO of "SERVE NOT SELF" We appreciate Graham's huge effort and thank him for stepping up.







(Liet) Claude Cyril John McCann MC

648 Lieutenant Claude Cyril John McCann, MC (left) was a Cabinetmaker from Glanville, prior to enlistment on 10 February 1915 and embarked from Adelaide, SA with the 27th Battalion aboard HMAT A2 Geelong on 31 May 1915. Like this Brother (Maj) William Francis John McCann, DSO MC, he was awarded the Military Cross 25 July 1918. He Returned to Australia 21 December 1918.

Military Cross

'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He displayed great dash and courage in rushing enemy posts, several of which were captured by his platoon. On other officers

becoming casualties, he placed himself in command, displaying marked qualities of organization and leadership, which enabled his company to consolidate the position in a masterly fashion.' Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 110 Date: 25 July 1918

1059 Lance Corporal Jack Stewart Sydney McCann,

43rd Battalion KIA 4 July 1916

"Today, we remember and pay tribute to Lance Corporal Jack Stewart Sydney McCann, who died 95 years ago today at the Battle of Hamel. Jack McCann followed in the footsteps of his two elder brothers, William Francis James McCann and Claude Cyril John McCann, when he enlisted in February 1916.

He was appointed to the 43rd Battalion and fought with them on the Western Front from June 1916. On 4 July 1918 the 43rd Battalion spearheaded an assault against the village of Hamel, a battle which came to be known for its remarkable success. Australian and American troops worked together in the attack, achieving all of their goals within just 93 minutes - just three minutes longer than planned. But even successful battles came at a cost. Jack Stewart Sydney McCann was killed near the end of the operation. He was buried in an improvised cemetery in the field, aged 22, with five other men. It is quite likely that all six were killed by the same artillery shell.

The officer commanding his company wrote that Jack would be very much missed, both for his "soldierly qualities" and for his "unfailing cheerfulness [which was] remarkable and did much to lighten the monotony of life in the trenches and billets for those who came in close touch with him".

McCann's elder brothers both served with distinction, and survived to return to Australia. William, serving with the 10th Battalion, was awarded the Military Cross and bar, and the Distinguished Service Order, and became one of only a very few men to rise from private to battalion commander over the course of the war. Cyril, serving with the 27th Battalion was promoted to Lieutenant and was awarded a Military Cross.

Jack Stewart Sydney McCann's military career, particularly in comparison with his brothers', was not remarkable. He served his battalion and his country faithfully and in good cheer, but inconspicuously. Even his death was somewhat anonymous, probably the result of a stray artillery shell. However, in choosing the words for his headstone, his parents indicated their pride in his service. His stone says, "In loving memory of our dear boy Jack. Well done."

His name is listed on the Roll of Honour on my right, along with around 60,000 others from the First World War, and his photograph is displayed today beside the Pool of Reflection.

This is but one of the many stories of courage and sacrifice told here at the Australian War Memorial. We now remember Lance Corporal Jack Stewart Sydney McCann, and all those Australians who have given their lives in the service of our nation." Story delivered Last Post Australian War Memorial 4 July 2013



SEMAPHORE Music Festival 2014 SEMAPHORE & PORT ADELAIDE RSL

Friday 3rd Oct 8pm – 12am (\$10) Bec Gollan Band; Kineman Karma

Saturday 4th Oct 12pm – 2pm Cal Williams Jr Blues Guitar Workshop (\$25)

Gail Page Band FREE 3pm – 6pm

Uke Extravaganza (\$10) 7.30pm – 12am

Sunday 5th Oct 2-6pm
Super Sunday Custom Lines Free

Billy Bob's BBQ Boys (\$10) 8pm-12am

Monday 6th Oct 2pm – 5pm
SEMAPHORE SONGWRITERS
PROJECT featuring;
Charles Jenkins MC, Koral, Corey
Theatre, Hannah Yates, Fee Brown,
Snooks La Vie, Tom Redwood, Matt
Ward, Kelly Menhennett, Sasha
March, Brenton Manser.

Tickets @ www.trybooking.com/FSMF more detail on Our website

Semaphore Music Festival Long Weekend Oct 3-6



This year's Semaphore Music Festival is set to be the Biggest weekend for the Semaphore & Port Adelaide RSL.We are proud to be hosting 18 Big name Artists over the 4 big days of the 2014 Semaphore Music Festival. Meals will be available all Weekend.



Masquerade Ball saturday 25th oct

As Part of Seniors week the Sub-Branch will be holding the first of 4 themed nights it plans to have over the next 12 months on Saturday 25th of October with a "Masquerade Ball". Entertainment will feature the "Creations" + Guests Ray, Dolly, Reg, Terry and Karren.

There will be plenty of prizes to WIN including BEST DRESSED, Lucky Spots and Door Prizes along with plenty of raffles on the night. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the club with proceeds from the night going towards welfare and veteran programs at the Sub-Branch.

Get a group together and book a table and enjoy a meal before the show, meals are available from 6pm with the evenings entertainment getting underway from 7pm

Wednesdays \$5 Meals

The Kitchen is Now opened for meals on Wednesdays and to help launch the night Wisam is offering \$5 Home Style Meals Specials on Wednesdays Only.



Sundays \$9.90 Roasts

Get the Family together for a traditional Sunday Roast Lunch with all the trimmings for only \$9.90 available every Sunday 12pm - 2pm.











PMB Defence is a leading supplier of high quality energy and specialised engineering solutions for our Navy Submarine platforms. Since 1989 PMB has continuously supplied Main Storage Batteries for the COLLINS Class, whilst growing an in-country engineering capability.



Powering Our Defence





Metal Kakdus manufacturing jewellers is a locally owned family business, and is one of the classiest shops to come to the Port in years. Manufacturing unique jewellery & accessories. Services include design - manufacturing - repairs - remakes - remodelling and valuations. Shop 3 / 27 Mclaren Pde, Port Adelaide



Blackwell Funerals Rosewater is part of a network of Australian owned funeral homes. With locations right across Adelaide Blackwood Funerals Rosewater have been providing personalised funeral services for more than 70 years.

116 Grand Junction Road, ROSEWATER 08 8377 1800



Every Goodbye is Different Rosewater





P & R Electrical Wholesalers are Adelaide's Leading Electrical Wholesalers and offer a discount to all our members, so if you mention that you are a member of the RSL, P & R Electrical will give you a trade discount off your materials purchased.

233 Commercial Rd Port Adelaide Phone: 08 8447 7766

Bus Trip to Walkerville RSL

A great day out and plenty of camaraderie was had by all at the Walkerville RSL. Our Members Enjoyed a BBQ Lunch, no one escaped being heckled by Comedian Sebastian Scott and great music was provided by "The Veterans". The day was to raise funds for the "Rod Guerin Memorial Fund" for the Vung Tau Orphanage in Vietnam, Our members purchased many, many raffle tickets and scooped most of the prizes.

President Graham Wilson Presented the President of the Walkerville RSL with a framed commemorative print of the 40 men who were KIA in Afghanistan. Mr Russell was also there for the Presentation, Mr Russell is the Father of Sergeant Andrew Russell, Special Air Service Regiment, the First KIA in Afghanistan 16 February 2002. Aged 33. Andrew died of wounds received when a mine detonated. Lest we Forget



L-R President Graham Wilson President Norm Coleman and Mr Russell

Service Member Profile glen murray

Service History

4.5 years ARes 2/17th Inf Bat.

Connections to the RSL

In 2005 I walked in off the street with a photo of my father's medals (an infantry man that enlisted at the tail end of WW2, then served in Korea and Vietnam) and met Allen Emmns and Gruby who embraced my wanting to know the history and meaning of these medals. This hospitable warm acceptance I received, which was reflected in many others over the years, soon set in concrete my desire to be an active service member of the place I call my second home.



If I had three wishes they would be:

- 1. My children experiencing the amazing life that they deserve;
- 2. Die knowing I'm a good man without regrets;
- A Committee that works well together.

What are your top three values in life?

Honesty. Integrity. Fortitude.

What are your goals for your future?

To lead a healthy, happy life and to retire on a beach in Fiji or somewhere mobile phones have no reception.

How do you think your best friend would describe you?

I think they would describe me as being honest, a solution finder and a motivator.

What would you list as your top priorities in life?

My first priority would be my children, followed by work and then my social life

What are the five greatest qualities you think someone can possess?

Tenacity; Humility; Resourcefulness; Honesty; Determination;

Who has been the biggest role model in your life and why

Definitely my father, I admire the traits that he balanced and lived his life by. He was an excellent role model and encouraged me in all endeavours and would always have a word of advice or a friendly listening ear when, sometimes, I didn't realise I needed it.

If you were able to meet a person (dead or alive) who would that be and why

I would have loved to have had a beer with Thomas Currie "Diver" Derrick at our RSL bar. Tom, who earned his VC by running at bunkered Japanese machine gun posts with grenades, showed his true selfless, dogged determination when the chips were down, and he looks like he might have enjoyed a beer or two as well.

What's On In September

Beer of the Month \$5





September Days to Remember		
4	Battle for Australia Milne Papua (1942)	
14	Australian Peace Keeper's Day	
15	Battle of Britain day (1940)	
16	Capture of Lae New Guinea (1943)	

October Days to Remember	
2	Capture of Finschhafen New Guinea (1943)
3-8	Battle of Maryang San, Korea (1951)
13	First ANZAC Day Rememberance Service Adelaide (1915)
20	10th Battalion embarked from Adelaide aboard Transport A11 Ascanius (1914)

10 We	R.S.L. Sports Night, 8 Ball Comp, \$5 Meals 6pm - 830
11 Th	\$9.90 CURRY NIGHT 6pm - 830
12 Fr	STEAK NIGHT Meals From 6pm
13 Sa	Schnitzel Night \$10 Meals From 6pm AFL Live on the Big Screens
14 Su	Sunday Roasts \$9.90 12-2pm
17 We	R.S.L. Sports Night, 8 Ball Comp, \$5 Meals 6pm - 830
18 Th	\$9.90 CURRY NIGHT 6pm - 830 Piano Man Playing
19 Fr	STEAK NIGHT Meals From 6pm
20 Sa	Rythem Cats LIVE 730 - late AFL Live Schnitzel Night \$10
21 Su	Special General Meeting
24 We	R.S.L. Sports Night, 8 Ball Comp, \$5 Meals 6pm - 830
25 Th	\$9.90 CURRY NIGHT 6pm - 830
26 Fr	Yesterday's Heros Live Meals From 6pm
27 Sa	Schnitzel Night \$10 Meals From 6pm
28 Su	Sunday Roasts \$9.90 12-2pm
1 We	R.S.L. Sports Night, 8 Ball Comp, \$5 Meals 6pm - 830
2 Th	\$9.90 CURRY NIGHT 6pm - 830 Piano Man Playing
Sem	aphore Music Festival

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3 Fr	Bec Gollan Band; Kineman Karma Live 8pm – 12am (\$10) STEAK NIGHT Meals From 6pm
4 Sa	Cal Williams Jr Blues Guitar Workshop 12pm – 2pm (\$25) Gail Page Band FREE 3pm – 6pm Uke Extravaganza (\$10) 7.30pm – 12
5 Su	Super Sunday Custom Lines 2-6 Free Billy Bob's BBQ Boys (\$10) 8pm-12am
6 Mo	SEMAPHORE SONGWRITERS PROJECT featuring; 2pm – 5pm Charles Jenkins MC, Koral, Corey Theatre, Hannah Yates, Fee Brown, Snooks La Vie, Tom Redwood, Matt Ward, Kelly Menhennett, Sasha March, Brenton Manser.