

SA Ambulance Service

# RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

"Friendship and welfare in retirement"





Patron: Dr John E Gilligan AO OSTJ FANZCA FCICM Dip Hyperb Med

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## COMMITTEE

### Office Bearers

			
President	Cliff Pinkard	<a href="mailto:president@saasroa.org.au">president@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Vice President	Barry Wright	<a href="mailto:vice.president@saasroa.org.au">vice.president@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Secretary	Colin Beames	<a href="mailto:secretary@saasroa.org.au">secretary@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Treasurer	Wayne Jackson	<a href="mailto:treasurer@saasroa.org.au">treasurer@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Welfare	Graem Harding	<a href="mailto:welfare@saasroa.org.au">welfare@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX

### Coordinator Appointments

Membership	Barry Wright	<a href="mailto:membership@saasroa.org.au">membership@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Website	Hugh French	<a href="mailto:admin@saasroa.org.au">admin@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Newsletter	Colin Beames	<a href="mailto:newsletter@saasroa.org.au">newsletter@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Social Events	Mary Riddle (until a replacement is found)	<a href="mailto:social.events@saasroa.org.au">social.events@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Social Metro	Dieter & Linda Scheurich	<a href="mailto:social@saasroa.org.au">social@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Riverland	Rod Pearson	<a href="mailto:riverland.coord@saasroa.org.au">riverland.coord@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Historical	Robert Dale	<a href="mailto:historic@saasroa.org.au">historic@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Drivers Group Fleet Tasking	Ken Jenkins	<a href="mailto:drivers.group.fleet@saasroa.org.au">drivers.group.fleet@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX
Drivers Group Events / Admin	Helen & Chris McGrath	<a href="mailto:drivers.group@saasroa.org.au">drivers.group@saasroa.org.au</a>	XXXX XXX XXX





Patron: Dr John E Gilligan AO OStJ FANZCA FCICM Dip Hyperb Med

## **SAASROA Presidents Report**

### **Dec 2023 - Jan 2024**

The festive season being well and truly over, I trust you and your families recovered sufficiently well from the celebrations. Not much has happened over the last reporting period which is reflected in the content of this report.

Summer is that time of the year when you and yours need to keep well fed and hydrated and dressed according to the weather.

### **VALE Peter Rodney Kershaw (Rod)**

On the evening of the 5th January 2024 our much loved and respected Past President, Rod Kershaw passed away peacefully at the FMC Palliative Care Ward with Pam in attendance. Rod fought valiantly for several months, having several ups and downs, but alas he eventually succumbed to his various illnesses.

Rod's Funeral Mass was held on the 22nd January 2024 at the St Peter's Claver Catholic Church at Dulwich. He would have been chuffed at the attendance by so many family, friends, SAASROA Members, St John Ambulance members and SA Ambulance Service staff.

Two ambulances were placed outside the entrance of the church. The St John Ambulance historical panel van and the current SA Ambulance Service emergency ambulance.

Rod was escorted into the church by the Fr Peter Rozitis and pall bearers, John Noble, Lee Dale, David Bayliss, Bill Bourne, Wayne Jones, and Robert Dale. Prior to the Mass the flags of St John Ambulance, SA Ambulance Service and SAASROA were placed on the coffin. Nichola and Trish (Jamie's Wife) Kershaw and I paid tribute to Rod's life.

The Mass then proceeded which was respectful, sometimes humorous and emotional as well as informative.

At the completion of the Mass, Rod was escorted through a Guard of Honour out of the church and loaded into the hearse escorted by the Fr Peter Roszitis and St John Ambulance State Chaplain (Rev Brenton Daulby) with pall bearers Corey and

Crystal Kershaw, Geoff Fudge (ex NSW Ambulance), Martin Trenwith, Rod's brother-in-law, Steve Saupouskas and me.

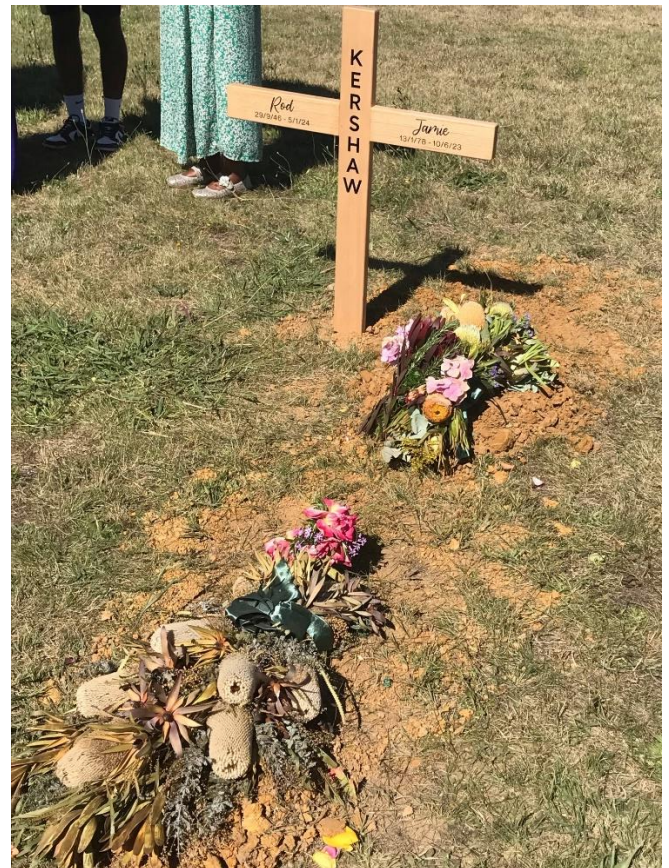
All the attendees then had the opportunity to say their final farewells before the hearse was escorted by the Priest and St John Ambulance State Chaplain along a guard of honour on each side of the road with SAASROA and SA Ambulance Service vehicles in escort with their beacons activated - it was a fitting and quite a special conclusion to the ceremony.

Rod will be cremated and his ashes along with Jamie's will be interred at a close family service at the Summertown Cemetery. *(Editor's note – this has now occurred. Photo supplied by Pam Kershaw)*

Rod was one of the founding members of the SA Ambulance Service Retired Officers Association (SAASROA). He was an elected member of the SAASROA Management Committee, holding the position of Welfare Officer since its inception in 2000 and elected President in 2018 to 2021 and Vice President until his passing. Rod was awarded a Life Membership of SAASROA for his past and ongoing commitment to the association.

Peter Rodney Kershaw, Rest in Peace, you will forever be remembered in our hearts.

Cliff PINKARD  
President  
SAASROA  
12Feb24



 Search



FOLLAND, Kingsley

13/10/42 - 03/02/24

 **Publication:** The Advertiser

 **Date Listed:** 12/02/24

 **Location:** Salisbury Heights 5109

Members of the SA Ambulance Service Retired Officers' Association are sad to note the passing of our esteemed member and colleague Kingsley Folland.

Our deepest sympathy to his family on his passing.

Colin Beames.

Secretary

## Event & Admin Co-Ordinators Report



I spoke with Karen Woodcock 2 weeks ago. SAAS liaison for our events,

She has indicated nothing immediately. But there was talk of the Port Augusta official opening at some point. The question I raise would any of the Historical Vehicles make it there and back if required. ?

A question for the Historical team to answer perhaps ?

Golden Grove & Norwood Stations are still in construction stage, TBA

For the month of January we had 3 Fleet Vehicle Movements,

Orroroo , Penneshaw & Berri.

1021 Kms Travelled for a total of 28 hours.

Thank you all who could help out.

For claims please use the APP. It works very well and payment comes back within 2 weeks.

You're welcome to call Helen who will help you get it set up if you like.

This is by far so much easier than the old paperwork. Even I can do it & that's saying something LOL

The only thing please we need is a copy of the Vehicle Log Movement Sheet we sign off on & send to Chris Howie

Suggestion . When you get a food receipt. Make sure it is legible from the Vendor , & has a GST component.

Also take a photo after you get it so it can be uploaded when you claim.

Kind Regards

Chris & Helen

SASASROA Event & Admin Co-Ordinators

## Welfare Officer Report

This is my first report (of many I hope) and I enthusiastically look forward to undertaking my new role.

Sadly, in recent months we have had two of our members pass away, Rod Kershaw and Kingsley Folland

Rod, was instrumental in establishing the SAAS ROA with the idea to offer support to ALL former staff and to continue the comradery that was so much of our career. We will miss Rod immensely and will continue to reach and support his wife, Pam and family.

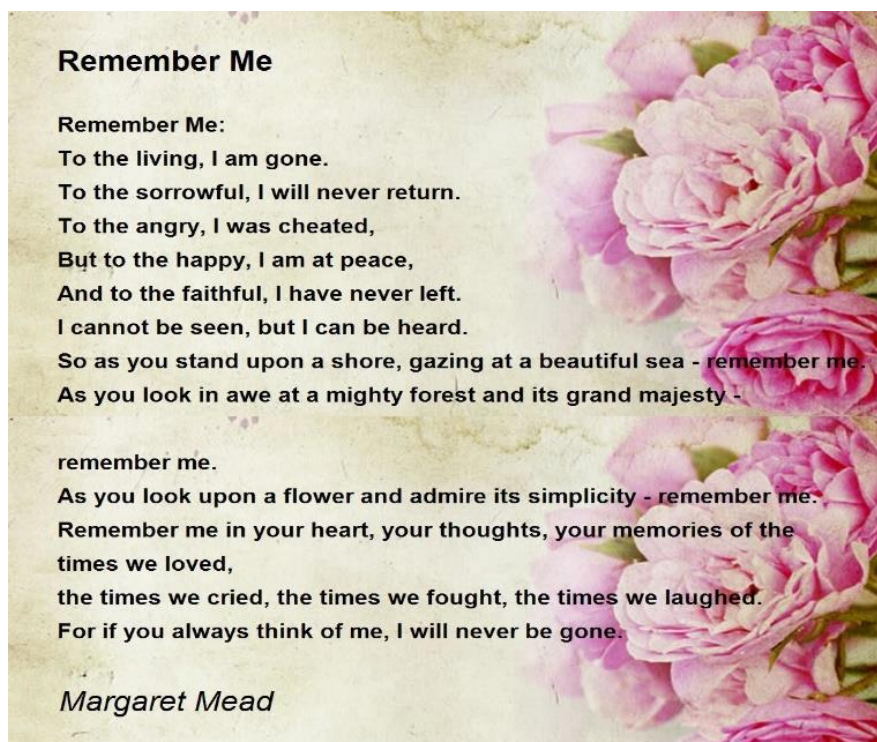
If you missed Rod's funeral, you can view it here:

<https://livestream.com/accounts/8710393/events/11062085/videos/239592817>

Kingsley was a well-respected member of St John/SAAS His pleasant demeanor and smiling face made any interaction with him a very pleasant experience. And again, we will continue to reach out and support Kingsley's wife Heather and family.

If you missed Kingsley's funeral, you can view it here:

<https://harrisonfunerals.com.au/client/?nid=573a15be-ede0-45c6-8c06-2d7fff48ecd3>



I will be meeting with Cliff Pinkard very soon to get further information about my new role. I will be able to expand on my next newsletter article once I have this information. I will also include a brief summary about my ambulance career along with some thoughts and ideas how this role could be developed further.

Thank you  
Graem



Lunch February 13th Clovercrest Tavern Hotel



Coffee February 15th Duthy Street Cafe



# 2024 - Catch Ups



Lunch - 12 Noon		Coffee - 10am	
<u>MARCH</u>		21 <sup>st</sup>	La Crema Coffee Roaster 14 Denis St St Marys
<u>APRIL</u>	The Peninsula Hotel 480 Victoria Road Taperoo	9 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup> Watershed Café 665 Salisbury Highway Mawson Lakes
<u>MAY</u>		16 <sup>th</sup>	The Nest Bistro Coffee Bar 104 Walkerville Terrace Walkerville
<u>JUNE</u>	Junction Bistro 470 Anzac Highway Camden Park	11 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup> Queen Street Cafe 12 Elizabeth Street Croydon
<u>JULY</u>		18 <sup>th</sup>	Balthazar Cafe 20 Fiveash Drive Pasadena (Pasadena Shopping Centre)
<u>AUGUST</u>	Roulettes Tavern Kings Road Parafield	13 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup> Zeea's Eatery (@Brickworks) 38 South Road Torrensville
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>		19 <sup>th</sup>	Hub Fine Foods Café 5/130-150 Hub Drive Aberfoyle Park

<u>OCTOBER</u> 8 <sup>th</sup>	Largs Pier Hotel 198 Esplanade Largs Bay	17 <sup>th</sup>	Café de Grove (@Garden Grove) 1150 Golden Grove Road Garden Grove
<u>NOVEMBER</u>	AGM	21 <sup>st</sup>	Oar Café 100 Military Road Tennyson
<u>DECEMBER</u> 10 <sup>th</sup>	Club Marion 262 Sturt Road Marion	19 <sup>th</sup>	Enjoy Bakery 112 The Parade Norwood

Please continue to text RSVP numbers to Linda Scheurich

## RIVERLAND



7th March	Lunch 1200	Golden Palace Chinese Restaurant.
4th April	Morning tea 10.00	Lakes Bakery Barmera
2nd May	Morning tea 10.00.	River Jack's Berri.
6th June	Lunch 12.00	Barmera Hotel .
4th July	Morning tea 10.00	Loxton Hotel.
1st August	Morning tea 10.00	River Jack's Berri .
5th September	Lunch 12.00	Berri Golf Club.
3d October	Morning tea 10.00	Cinnamon Grove Cafe Renmark.
7th November	Morning tea 10.00	Lakes Bakery Barmera.

Please advise Rod if you will be attending any of these functions.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS** These are held on the second Wednesday of even months, at 13:00 at Port Adelaide Ambulance Station. i.e. next will take place on April 10

!

### **(LAST OF THE) ANTS**

A sarcastic Ant = Mordant

An extremely fast ant = Instant

Shouting Ant = Rant

An ant that keeping changing = Constant.

A dirty Ant = Pollutant

Ant that is against or opposed = anti

Ant that is a specialist = Consultant

FOR THOSE THAT HAVE  
NEVER SEEN A  
CATFISH !!



# SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNICATIONS

The St. John Ambulance Service in South Australia can, quite legitimately, lay claim to having the most up-to-date and effective Communications facilities, for an Ambulance Service, of any State in Australia.

That, you may think, is a rather bold statement. If you watch T.V. and read medical magazines from overseas you will, of course, be aware of some facilities which have yet to be seen in operation in South Australia.

Firstly, the fact is that a number of advanced communications systems have not yet been introduced to any Ambulance Service in Australia and secondly, due to the mind-bending technological advancement in the field of communications and computers, it is almost impossible to keep pace with the state of the art, even if an open cheque was available for the purpose.

To provide an effective Ambulance Communications System is, like most other costly items, largely a matter of compromise, i.e., limitations of finance and man power related to the service required and equipment available. This factor certainly applies to every Ambulance Service in Australia and, referring back to the first paragraph, it may be better to say St. John has achieved the most effective compromise.

To date, only a limited number of St. John personnel have had the opportunity to become familiar with all the communication systems which play such a vital role in the efficient operation of our Ambulance Services.

It is now possible, through SPOTLIGHT, to provide all St. John members with a reasonably comprehensive understanding of the subject.

1. **History** — many interesting changes have taken place since 1952.



*Metropolitan Ambulance Operations booth.*



*Metropolitan Clinic Operations booth in the St. John Communications Centre.*

2. **Current Equipment** — how and why it is used, maintenance facilities, technical aspects and performance limitations.
3. **Planning for future** — the means by which true needs are established and why policies are necessary, consideration of integrated systems, assessment and possible application for new equipment.

The above points will be covered over the next 12 to 18 months by featuring one or two specific communication activities, in each issue of SPOTLIGHT. Brief details of the subjects to be dealt with are as follows:

## ADMINISTRATION

The composition and role of the "State Radio and Communications Committee".

The personnel and portfolios of the Communications Department.

## THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE (Adelaide)

The present Communications Centre at Eastwood is the fourth occasion that St. John has moved to a larger and more comprehensively equipped room for the control and co-ordination of Ambulance movements. Although the basic principle of the operation has not altered over the years, the increased work load has produced significant changes in the equipment and techniques employed.

## TWO-WAY RADIO

Everybody is familiar with two-way radio these days, but, does everyone know why we use (1) F.M. equipment, (2) V.H.F. highband frequencies, (for most of the radio network), (3) remotely controlled base stations.

H.F. and U.H.F. radio have some advantages in certain situations. However, the limitations or disadvantages of each system should be clearly understood.

## TELEPHONY

Although two-way radio is now a vital component of our communications system, the telephone is still the front line method of communicating.

Where do most of the initial calls for Ambulances come from? By what means are most Ambulances despatched in Country areas? Many improvements have been made by Telecom and private manufacturers in recent years, but some of the latest developments would astound Alexander Graham Bell.

Wait till you hear what the next generation of Telephone Exchanges will be capable of.

## OVERLAY PAGING

The Pocket Pager (beeper) has brought about a revolution by permitting individuals to be free from the telephone or radio, but remaining readily contactable. This has been a boon to many Country Ambulance services, but there are certain restrictions pertaining to the use of this equipment which need to be recognised.

## H.E.R.N.I.A. (Hospital Emergency Radio Network In Adelaide)

A special radio system, linking eight (8) major metropolitan hospitals, Red Cross Blood Bank and St. John H.Q., is nearing completion at the time of writing.

This network is aimed at maintaining some form of communication between the organisations concerned in the event that normal telephone services are lost or severely hampered.

Although not part of the Ambulance Communications system, St. John has, at the request of the S.A. Health Commission, accepted the responsibility for purchase, installation and testing of the equipment for this project.

Numerous other points, such as Regulations laid down by the Postal and Telecommunications department, the maintenance and service of equipment which is provided by St. John Technical Staff, Communication aspects of Counter Disaster Planning, etc., will be included in appropriate articles.

The intention is to feature one or two photographs with each article in the series.

Should you possess any photos which might bear a relationship to the communication story, the editorial committee is prepared to publish a reproduction in SPOTLIGHT.

## HISTORIC REPORT FEBRUARY 2024

December 2023 was a quiet month once the Mannum Pageant was over and done for 12 months.

January 22<sup>nd</sup> Rod Kershaw's funeral took place at Dulwich ,was escorted from Wakefield Street Adelaide to the church in Dulwich with Chris Howie driving a new Merc (fleet 15 ) behind the hearse to the church . After the service a guard of honour started in side of the church spilling out to the rear of the hearse . A procession took place led by Chris in fleet 15 was followed by the Director from F.J. Siebert , the two Priests and Brenton Dauby in front of the hearse walking down the street followed by myself in the Panel Van with a Command vehicle behind . People lined the street to the church hall a short distance as a final farewell and respect . Thank you Chris for organising vehicles and your part in organising personnel. A true gentleman taken so soon.

January 28<sup>th</sup>. I received an e-mail from the Police Historical suggesting the chance of exhibiting the Panel Van and possibly the Em Care at the Mt. Barker Show , Saturday March 23 . I am still waiting more information to come re the display . I am also waiting for more information re the Police Foundation Day at ? Thorndon Park or the Police Academy.

The Panel Van and the Em- Care have been booked for the Sundays in May as part of History Month at the St. John Museum , 1330 – 1530 , Arundel Road Brighton .

January 29<sup>th</sup> Wayne Jones and myself took fleet 15 to Berri for a month of assessments and trial by the crews re suitability in their area of the Riverland . Fleet 15 had done 300kms prior to leaving Fulham plus 373 kms travelled to Berri . Fleet 15 is an all-wheel drive , slightly higher than the current Mercs. , height is 2.72m , width 2.4m and length 6.2 m . The kits are inside the rear doors , spinal board is strapped to wall on drivers side , the side door is the chair stretcher . Just a little different inside , another is on KI , one at Leigh Creek with another 3 on order awaiting delivery at Fulham .

Other news :- Fleet 321 still dead awaiting resuscitation, plus the indicators don't stay on . Noted the fuse had been tripped again so the charging cords are on the other side of the pole and power box locked again . Fleet 323 needs to be booked in for auto electrician to look at fuses/ flashing lights. Fulham are still short of Mechanics and the above will be looked at when staff are free and available .

Robert Dale

## VL5FT GETAWAYS



### First Get Away for 2024

When:

In: Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Out: Friday March 1<sup>st</sup>

Where:

### Port Lincoln Caravan Park, North Shields

Situated 15 km from Port Lincoln Marina, Port Lincoln Caravan Park in North Shields features accommodation, a garden with a barbecue and a children's playground.

Wineries

Breweries

5 OP Shops

Tumby Bay Silo Art

Distillery

Seafood

Coffee Morning

Happy Hour(s)



Fancy a drive ? –

Spectacular Views at Whalers Way and Port Lincoln National Park

Coffin Bay (Oysters) and Coffin Bay National Park – 45km (35min) drive

The booking is in the name of Retired Ambos – Dieter Scheurich.

8 x Caravan Sites (\$35) \*\*

5 x Cabins –Twin Family (1 double bed, 1 bunk with a lounge from \$110) \*\*

1 x Pet Friendly Cabin (Frances – from \$110) \*\*

Discount: Stay 7 nights – pay for 6

Please ring the Park to secure your cabin or site on 886843512 or email them and then text either Dieter or Linda advising what you have booked and the dates of your stay.

Looking forward to a great week exploring Port Lincoln in February 2024.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Getaway 2024 –**

**Update – Helen has advised that these spots are filling up – if you are thinking of attending, it would pay to book now.**

Where: Stansbury

Stansbury is located on the Yorke Peninsula and is approximately 225km or a 2 ½ to 3 hour drive from Adelaide.

Foreshore Caravan Park – 22a Anzac Parade Stansbury 5582, 08 88524171. I spoke to Michelle.

[www.stansburycaravanpark.com.au](http://www.stansburycaravanpark.com.au)

\*Please secure your booking ASAP as they can't hold the booking without a deposit (one night's stay) which is refundable up to 2 weeks prior to stay.

When: In: Friday May 24th Out: Friday May 31<sup>st</sup>

Check in: 12pm for Sites, 2pm for Cabins and Villas      Check out: 10am. **Please notify Chris or Helen once you have made a booking.**

The following has been booked in the name of Helen McGrath – Retired Ambulance Officers

8 Caravan Sites – 10,11,12,13,15,16,17 and 18 – Stay 7, pay for 6 - \$42 per night

1 cabin suitable for a single (number 4) - \$140 per night

And 6 Villas:

5 and 6 – no balcony \$155 per night

7 – disability cabin \$165 per night

8, 9 and 10 - \$165 per night

The cabin and villas you can get seniors discount of 10%

Please refer to the map below of where the sites/cabins are situated.





## **Editor's Note**

Colin Beames will be taking future responsibility for the newsletter in addition to his role as secretary. I take opportunity to thank those who have provided me with invaluable assistance over the past six years.

There is mention elsewhere in this edition of Rod Kershaw's funeral. In my opinion, Cliff's tribute was a moving and informative summary of Rod's involvement with the ambulance service over the years and he has kindly provided it to be reproduced here for members' benefit. Pam has not only given her blessing for this to go ahead, but has also provided some photos to be used in conjunction with it.



**ST JOHN AMBULANCE AUSTRALIA SA**

**TRIBUTE TO**

**PETER RODNEY KERSHAW ASM MStJ**

**29<sup>th</sup> September 1946 – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

My name is Cliff Pinkard, and I am a State Staff Officer for St John Ambulance SA, I am the Team Leader of Peer Support and the Welfare and Bereavement Group.

It is great honour to present this tribute on behalf of St John Ambulance SA, acknowledging the service of our late colleague Peter Rodney Kershaw, who is known to most of us as Rod Kershaw and affectionately known by the old Unley Team as the "Silver Surfer".



This tribute will also include areas of SAAS, SAAS Peer Support, SA Ambulance Service Retired Officers Association, Australasian College of Paramedicine and Road Trauma Support Team SA.

My apologies if I steal the thunder of any of the following speakers.

We join with you today to mourn the passing and to celebrate the life of Rod Kershaw, holder of the Ambulance Service Medal and Serving Brother (Member) of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem.

We give thanks to Rod Kershaw, who felt the challenge to give his time and talent to the humanitarian work of St John Ambulance. Service. He was both a voluntary and regular Ambulance Officer for St John Ambulance, which calls for self-sacrifice, for study and willingness to give support in response to calls for assistance.

Rod's association with St John Ambulance started when he was eight years old but due to the regulations in those days, he had to wait two years before he could officially enrol in the Kilburn Cadet Division which was amalgamated into the Prospect Division and he later joined the Cadet Drum and Bugle Band.



At the age of seventeen Rod transferred to the Northern Transport Division now Prospect Division as a Senior. In 1970 an opportunity arose for him to join the St John Ambulance regular staff. He took a considerable drop in wages to follow his ambition in being part of a caring profession in a full time capacity. Rod became experienced in all areas of St John Ambulance operations.



The chronology of Rod's St John Ambulance/SAAS career is as follows:

- 1970 Ambulance Officer
- 1975 appointed Communications Supervisor
- 1978 appointed Station Officer, Royal Adelaide Clinics
- 1980 appointed Station Officer Prospect and then Unley
- 1985 appointed Regional Officer
- 1993 appointed District Officer
- 1997 appointed Manager Special Projects



In the mid eighties Rod was selected to be a participant in a pilot programme, a collaboration with the Royal Adelaide Hospital and St John Ambulance known as the Alpha programme (Advanced Life Support). The precursor to the current paramedic system using advanced protocols used by paramedics today. It was posted on Facebook notification comments recently on Rod's passing "Today's ambos stand tall on the shoulders of giants who built the service" - Rod was one such giant.



As Manager Special Projects Rod was the coordinator of SAAS's Peer Support Programme. He was a champion for the cause and with his leadership, enthusiasm, and his belief in the positive psychological wellbeing of all SAAS staff the programme progressed with the assistance of Dr Joseph Magliaro to be recognised nationally as best practice.



Rod retired from St John around 1991 and SAAS in 2008. During his time with St John/SAAS , he was awarded;

- 1972 St John Ambulance Long Service Medal
- 1977 St John Ambulance Long Service Medal 1<sup>st</sup> Bar
- 1978 National Medal
- 1988 Serving Brother of the Order of St John
- 1989 National Medal – 1<sup>st</sup> Clasp
- 2022 SAAS Service Medal and Clasps for 50 years

In line with his belief in the positive psychological wellbeing of ambulance staff Rod was one of the founding members of the SA Ambulance Service Retired Officers Association (SAASROA).

It was set up to cover all ambulance service staff and volunteers alike:

- To provide welfare and caring support for members, a sympathetic presence when there is a death in the family, and the opportunity to gather for fellowship
- To provide an environment for ongoing social contact and support

- To preserve the history of the ambulance service in South Australia (formerly St John and then SAAS) through the writing and publication of literature and the collection of manuals and equipment, and to act as the custodian of old ambulances
- And lastly, to maintain a supportive relationship with SAAS and provide assistance with special projects requested by the Chief Executive of SAAS.

He was an elected member of the SAASROA Management Committee, holding the position of Welfare Officer since its inception in 2000 and elected President in 2018 to 2021 and Vice President until his passing. Rod was awarded a Life Member of SAASROA for his past ongoing commitment to the association.

Rod always advocated for a professional body being developed to represent Ambulance Officers throughout Australia and was an active member of the Institute of Ambulance Officers now the Australasian College of Paramedicine. He was a Fellow and awarded Life Membership of that organisation. Positions held by Rod;

- 1989 – 1993 Chairman, SA Division for 5yrs
- 1993 – 1995 National Vice President for 3yrs
- 1996 – 1997 National President for 2yrs

Rod was also an active member of the Road Trauma Team SA being their chairperson for several years.

On a personal note, I have known Rod since 1979, when I joined St John Ambulance as Clinic Officer. He was a friendly, knowledgeable mentor who was always willing to go the extra yard to assist you. He had a wicked sense of humour and did not mind the odd practical joke. In the early eighties, I was appointed to Ambulance Officer and worked at various ambulance stations, eventually gaining a permanent position at Unley where Rod was the Station Officer. Rod and I were a permanent crew for a number of years. In 1985 Rod and I teamed up and competed in the Institute of Ambulance Officers State Ambulance Competition. We were fortunate to win against tough competition and that year competed in the national competition in Wollongong. Rod's leadership and mentoring skills had a positive effect on the staff and me. The atmosphere at Unley was always competitive and always positive and enjoyable.

Rod always was enthusiastic, sometimes to his detriment about St John and SAAS together with a desire in supporting members both volunteer and career alike. Rod was a kind and caring person, someone who never turned down the chance to meet new people or be there when help was needed. His memory will live on within St John Ambulance and SA Ambulance Service families, I and many others are grateful for having known him and to call him a friend.

We remember Rod's loyalty to St John Ambulance, SAAS and his earnest desire to serve the community.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Rod's family, we thank you for your support over the years, and pay our tribute and respect to his memory.

Rod having completed your duty; it is time to rest

Rest in peace my dear friend, until we meet again.

***Rest in Peace Rod***

