



Patron: Rob Elliott ASM

SAASROA Newsletter October 2024

CONTENTS

Committee Directory	
From the President	Cliff Pinkard
Snippets from the Past	An Ambulance Service
Bay to Birdwood	SAASROA Events
Wally Loechel	Memorial Card
Dates for your Diary	Linda Scheurich
Coffee Morning Photo	Linda Scheurich
Historic Vehicles Activity Report	Robert Dale
Driver's Group – Events	Helen & Chris McGrath
Port Broughton Getaway February 2025	Frances Reynolds

COMMITTEE DIRECTORY 2024

President	Cliff Pinkard	president@saasroa.org.au
Vice President	Barry Wright	vicepresident@saasroa.org.au
Secretary	Colin Beames	secretary@saasroa.org.au
Treasurer	Wayne Jackson	treasurer@saasroa.org.au
Welfare	Chris McGrath	welfare@saasroa.org.au
Membership	Barry Wright	membership@saasroa.org.au
Website	Hugh French	admin@saasroa.org.au
Newsletter	Colin Beames	newsletter@saasroa.org.au
Social Events	TBA	social.events@saasroa.org.au
Social Metro	Dieter & Linda Scheurich	social@saasroa.org.au
Riverland	Rod Pearson	riverland.coord@saasroa.org.au
Historical	Robert Dale	historic@saasroa.org.au
Drivers Group:		
Fleet Tasking	Ken Jenkins	drivers.group.fleet@saasroa.org
Events/Admin.	Helen & Chris McGrath	drivers.group@saasroa.org.au

SAASROA Presidents Report

Aug – Sept 2024

Introduction

It has been quiet this reporting period as evidenced by the short report. I trust you are all fighting fit and getting over those health and wealth issues happening over the winter months. We can now look forward to the warmer weather of spring and summer.

Appointment of SAASROA Patron

Robert Elliott, CEO SA Ambulance Service has confirmed in writing our offer to be our Patron following the passing of Dr John (Fred) Gilligan. Ratification of Robert Elliott as Patron of SAASROA will be conducted at our next Management Committee meeting.

VALE

Peter Coombes

It is my sad duty to have to report the passing of Peter Coombes on the 20Aug2024 - Peter's funeral was conducted in private . On behalf of the SAASROA Management Committee and Members our sincere condolences are extended to Patricia, family, and friends. May he rest in peace.

Peter Nancarrow

It is with a heavy heart and great sadness I must report the passing of Peter Nancarrow on the 27Aug24. Peter's funeral was conducted at Elliott Funerals, Albert Park Chapel, Albert Park . On behalf of the SAASROA Management Committee and Members our sincere condolences are extended to Sue, family and friends. May he rest in peace.

SAAS CEO response

- Alexi will be in touch when she gets back from leave to assist with the colour logo issues so we can finally sort that one out.
- **Coffee Breaks**
Coffee breaks as a refundable is fine, assists with any fatigue and is eminently reasonable. Naturally I don't want any crayfish entrees or Tomahawk steaks, but a piece of cake or something similar is fine too.



Cliff PINKARD
President
SAASROA
06Oct24

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/73355134?searchTerm=ambulance%20service%20south%20australia#>

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), **Saturday 9 April 1921**, page 9

AN AMBULANCE SERVICE (transcript)

From BARRY JACKSON, Hindley Street: — Anyone whose travels take him out of South Australia must realise the necessity for an up-to-date ambulance service in this State. Everyday someone is injured and has to take 'pot luck' for first aid, and in the majority of cases it is given by a person with very slight knowledge of it.

Surely some such service as they have in Queensland could be installed here. In that State they have it something after the style of our fire brigade stations here.

You ring the ambulance if it is a case for them, instead of having the Police and civilians practically mobbing the person injured. The ambulance attends straight away with their motor, and if it is a case for hospital the patients are taken immediately. It could be easily installed here and I wonder if our Statesmen (?) are not wise to it.

AN AMBULANCE SERVICE.

From HARRY JACKSON, Hindley-street:—Anyone whose travels take him out of South Australia must realise the necessity for an up-to-date ambulance service in this State. Every day someone is injured, and has to take "pot luck" for first aid, and in the majority of cases it is given by a person with very slight knowledge of it. Surely some such service as they have in Queensland could be installed here. In that State they have it something after the style of our fire brigade stations here. You ring the ambulance if it is a case for them, instead of having the police and civilians practically mobbing the person injured. The ambulance attends straight away with their motor, and if it is a case for hospital the patients are taken immediately. It could be easily installed here, and I wonder our statesmen (?) are not wise to it.



Once again SAASROA and St John Historical Society will be participating in this year's Bay to Birdwood.

The historic ambulances have been lovingly restored and regularly maintained by volunteer members of SAASROA and St John.

They always generate lots of interest at public and SAAS events.

Walter 'Wally' Loechel 1925 - 1971 Memorial Card

St John Ambulance Service – Motor Mechanic Hindmarsh Ambulance Station
(Author Unknown)

One of the finest and yet commonplace phrases said about Walter Loechel, and recently by someone who has had a large share of personal trouble, was "He would lean over backwards to help you". This is an undeniable truth, as those many of us whom he could number as his friends can substantiate.

Were we living in the days when armour was worn, we could be sure that Wally's would be dented here and there, probably be not well burnished and possibly lack a rivet or two. We could also be sure that beneath the breast-plate beat a good, honest and sincere heart, which evidenced itself in his good nature, and produced an amiable easygoing man for whom we held deep affection.

There are many who possess individual skills - and

Wally was a skilful man in his trade - but all competency and ability can count for nought if sincerity and effort is lacking. On innumerably occasions Wally has gone to the rescue and repair of ambulances (especially in earlier days) at any hour of the day or night in any type of weather. He did this with a willingness and ability that was unquestionable.

To the older ones among us we see in Wally's passing the premature loss of a warmly human link in an ever-diminishing chain of personalities who bind us to the past of St. John Ambulance in South Australia.



Lunch - 12 Noon	Coffee - 10am
-----------------	---------------

November 13th Annual General Meeting
 Brighton Metro Hotel
 466 Brighton Road, Brighton
 Lunch 'Charlie's Diner'

21st Oar Cafe
 100 Military Road
 Tennyson

December 10th Club Marion
 262 Sturt Road
 Marion

19th Enjoy Bakery
 112 The Parade
 Norwood

Please text RSVP numbers to Linda Scheurich social@saasroa.org.au
 RSVP for AGM Lunch to Colin Beames secretary@saasroa.org.au

UPCOMING RIVERLAND GATHERINGS

7th November Morning tea 10.00 Lakes Bakery Barmera.

5th December Lunch 12.00 Waikerie Club.

SAASROA SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Your Committee are keen to provide social activities that are in the best interests of the broader membership. Socialising and maintaining contact with former colleagues is an important objective of SAASROA.

Do you have a suggestion as to the type of activity that we can provide that you think would be enjoyed by our members? If so, please email your suggestions to social.events@saasroa.org.au



Coffee at Hub Fine Foods Café, Aberfoyle Park

HISTORIC VEHICLES REPORT – OCTOBER 2024

All 7 Historic Vehicles have been started and washed as required .

Sept 22 the new Edwardstown Station was officially opened by the Minister of Health , SAAS CEO , the Premier of SA , and local MP . In attendance on the day was Fleet 321 and 323 , manned by Chris and Helen , Mary and Jeff . Ken and his mini ambulance was once again a hit for the kids whilst their parents took photos .

Sept 28 the Panel Van was washed and polished with the assistance of a couple of Ambo's helping me . They were very interested to look over the 3 old vehicles , take photos , along with mixed discussions from the 1970's till now with their modern equipment and vehicles .

Oct 3 the EM – CARE decided not to start despite trying to jump start her . The RAA was called , after some time found dirty connections to the starter motor being the reason for not wanting to start .

Oct 4 the Panel Van was on display at Mitchell Park Community Sports Club as part of the annual touch a truck for kids with approx. 36 odd vehicles on the oval and estimated 13,000 in attendance . The Aviation Rescue Tender from the airport was very popular along the local MFS comparing notes and checking each other's equipment .

The Police Historical Museum vehicles are in storage and they are unable to get their historic vehicles out until their new city location is ready to move in . They have asked the St. John Museum if we could assist them in representing them in the various displays . Coming up displays at the National Railway Museum , Bay to Birdwood , 3 pageants , one car and shine show at Mawson Lakes
More next report .

Kind Regards
Robert Dale

Driver's Group Events Coordinator's Report – October 2024

Only one Station opening attended since last meeting. That was Edwardstown next to the Repat.

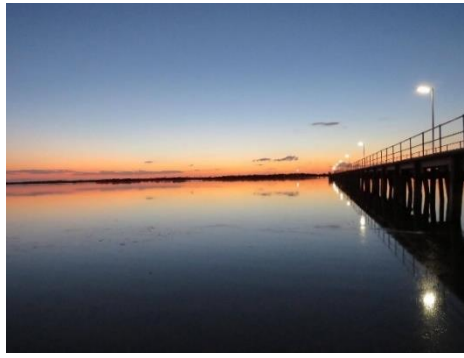
Fleets 322 and 321 attended. With Mary, Geoff, Helen, Ken, Rob and myself attending.

Kens mini Ambulance a hit again with the kids.

A good day had by all. A fabulous station as well in all respects.

Cheers Chris and Helen





1st Getaway 2025 Port Broughton

Port Broughton Tourist Park Get away 28th Feb 2025 – 6th March 2025

Hi all, provisionally on hold till end of July 2024

2 Dog friendly cabins (have enclosed yards) U1 & U3 2bedroom \$135 per night

1 unit U8 - 2 bedrooms double bed & bunks \$135 per night

2units U9 & U10 - 2bedrooms Queen & bunks \$158 per night

Van sites 28ft+

2 drive through 67 & 99 \$48 per night

5 98 – 100 \$48 per night

All synthetic grass close to amenities etc They were ? uncooperative in extending booking times – as still in their “busy times , but no other dates available until end of March for 2 dog friendly cabins On hold under Retired Ambos contact Frances Reynolds.

