

**Sir Eric Neal A.C., C.V.O.
Chair**

Sir Eric Neal served as Governor of South Australia from 1996 to 2001.

Since 2002 he has been the Chancellor of Flinders University and since 2003 Chair of the S.A. Government Road Safety Advisory Council. Sir Eric is an engineer and private sector leader who has worked in the mining, construction and defence industries for much of his life.

In 1981, Sir Eric was a member of a committee appointed to review Australia's Higher Defence Organisation. In 1992 he was awarded the United States Department of Defence Medal for distinguished public service by the Secretary of Defence, in recognition of his contribution in Chairing the Council which organised the commemorative events in Australia to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea.

Sir Eric is an Honorary Life Member of the R.S.L. of Australia and former Honorary Air Commodore of the City of Adelaide Squadron of the R.A.A.F.

Mr Greg Blyth

Mr Blyth served for 3 years in the Australian Regular Army as a sapper in the Royal Australian Engineers.

Mr Blyth has been a member of the Association of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women (S.A. Branch), since 1992. He served as President between 2001-2004 and was re-appointed to that position in 2005.

Mr Blyth is a member of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Younger Veterans' Committee, and a member of the Regional Consultative Forum of the Veterans' and Veterans' Families Counselling Services.

Mr Paul Coppock

Mr Coppock saw active service in South Vietnam as a National Servicemen, where he served as a Gunner in the Royal Australian Artillery.

Mr Coppock has been President of the Vietnam Veterans' Association (S.A. Branch), since 2007.

Mr Coppock is a Board Member of Errol Noak House, a member of the Younger Veterans' Consultative Forum, the S.A. Treatment Monitoring Committee, the Consultative Forum of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and the Future Directions Consultative Group of the Repatriation General Hospital.

Squadron Leader Jennifer Dowling (Rtd)

Squadron Leader Dowling served as a Nursing Officer in the Royal Australian Air Force for 24 years. During that time she saw service in East Timor.

Squadron Leader Dowling has also served as the Research Officer and Defence Liaison Officer for the Centre for Military and Veterans Health.

Squadron Leader Dowling has held the position of Vice President of Partners of Veterans Association (S.A. Branch) since 2007, has a great deal of experience in the area of health and is the partner of a Vietnam Veteran.

Colonel Graham “Moose” Dunlop O.A.M.

Mr Dunlop served for 25 years in the Australian Regular Army and attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Australian Infantry. During that time he saw active service in South Vietnam with the 5th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment.

Mr Dunlop is the immediate past President of the Royal Australian Regiment Association (S.A.), Honorary Colonel of Australian Army Cadets S.A. and an Exercise Commander for Operation Flinders.

Mr Dunlop is a qualified builder and has been the owner and operator of Moose Constructions for the past 20 years.

Major Robert Ellis (Rtd)

Major Ellis served for 30 years in the Australian Regular Army progressing from the rank of Private to Major. During that time he saw active service in South Vietnam with the Royal Australian Engineers.

Major Ellis is the State President for the Vietnam Veterans' Federation (S.A. Branch).

He is also an advocate for veterans' entitlements and visits school and service clubs as a guest lecturer in Australian history, specialising in “Australians at War”.

Mrs Brenda Fergusson

Mrs Fergusson was elected as State President of the War Widow's Guild of Australia (S.A. Branch), in June, 2008.

The War Widows Guild provides companionship, counselling and support to all widows and partners of deceased veterans.

Mrs Fergusson is a member of the Australian Veterans and Defence Services Council Inc., the Veterans' Aged Care and Health Advisory Committee, and is also a Committee member of the Manningham Legacy Widow's Club.

Squadron Leader David Helman (Rtd)

Squadron Leader Helman served with the Royal Australian Airforce for 26 years. During that time he saw overseas service in Ubon, Thailand.

Squadron Leader Helman was elected as State President of the Royal Australian Airforce Association (S.A. Branch), in 2006. The Royal Australian Airforce Association exists to support serving personnel and veterans.

Squadron Leader Helman is President of the Royal Australian Air Force Ubon Association (S.A. Branch) and the Chief Executive Officer of the Consultative Council of Ex-Service Organisations.

He is also a member of the Returned and Services League of Australia, the Defence Force Welfare Association and the Vietnam Veterans' Federation.

Mr David Kerr

Mr Kerr served 21 years in the Royal Australian Navy attaining the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

He was awarded the Maritime Commander's Commendation in 1992 and was previously the Communications Manager, Staff Training, Department of Defence (Navy).

Mr Kerr has been State President of the Naval Association of Australia (S.A. Branch) since 2007.

He is a delegate to the Consultative Council of Ex-Service Organisations, a member of the Commemoration Consultative Committee and the Semaphore/Port Adelaide Returned and Services League.

Brigadier Max Lemon (Rtd) A.M.

Brigadier Lemon served 34 years in the Australian Regular Army and saw active service in South Vietnam with Royal Australian Signals. He was subsequently employed with the Defence Housing Authority.

Brigadier Lemon is also a Board Member of the Legacy Club of Adelaide and the State Vice President of the Returned and Services League of Australia (S.A. Branch) Inc.

In 1985, Brigadier Lemon was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for his contribution to Defence Communications.

Brigadier Laurie Lewis (Rtd) A.M.

Brigadier Lewis served for 32 years in the Australian Regular Army. During that time he saw active service as an infantry officer with the Royal Australian Regiment in Malaya and South Vietnam.

Brigadier Lewis subsequently became the General Manager of the Aged Care and Housing Group from 1984-1996, and was Chairman of the Repatriation General Hospital between 1993-2005.

Since 2006, Brigadier Lewis has been Chairman of the Consultative Council of Ex-Service Organisations which represents 26 ex-service organisations in South Australia.

Brigadier Lewis is also a Patron of the Royal Australian Regiment Association (S.A. Branch) Inc. and the Guards Association, Vice-Patron of the Association of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women (S.A. Branch) Inc., Adviser to the War Widow's Guild of Australia (S.A. Branch) Inc. and a member of the Veterans' Review Board.

In 2006, Brigadier Lewis was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for service to veterans as an administrator of aged care and health services, as an adviser to state and national ex-service welfare groups, and through support for charitable organisations.

Mr William Schmitt A.M.

After enlisting in July 1940, Mr Schmitt served in WWII with the 2/3 Machine Gun Battalion in the Middle East in the Syrian Campaign of 1941, prior to being captured by the Japanese in March, 1942 in Java. Mr Schmitt spent the next three and a half years as a prisoner of war in Java and Changi (Singapore).

Mr Schmitt is the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ex-Service Organisations and a member of the S.A. Treatment and Monitoring Committee.

Mr Schmitt was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1994 for services to veterans, particularly through the Prisoners of War Association. He also received a Centenary Medal in 2001 for service to the veterans' community in South Australia.

Major Ian Smith

Major Smith served for 10 years in the Australian Regular Army. During that time he saw peacekeeping service in Bosnia-Herzegovina whilst on exchange with the British Army.

He is a serving Defence Reservist and is a member of the Legacy Funds Appeal Committee, the Youth and Education Committee, the Returned and Services League of Australia and the S.A. Peacekeepers Sub Branch.

Mr Smith has undertaken studies in public administration, and has qualifications and experience in the planning and conduct of large scale ceremonial and commemorative activities.

Mr Jock Statton O.A.M.

Mr Statton has held the position of State President of the Returned & Services League of Australia (S.A. Branch) since 2004.

The Returned & Services League represents 13,800 members in 145 sub branches throughout South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Mr Statton served as a National Serviceman and saw active service in South Vietnam where he served with the 9th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment.

In 2003, Mr Statton was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for service to veterans and their families, particularly through the South Australian Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia.