

NOTICE OF FILING

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Details of Filing

Document Lodged: Affidavit - Form 59 - Rule 29.02(1)
File Number: NSD1485/2018
File Title: BEN ROBERTS-SMITH v FAIRFAX MEDIA PUBLICATIONS PTY LTD
(ACN 003 357 720) & ORS
Registry: NEW SOUTH WALES REGISTRY - FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Warwick Soden'.

Dated: 19/10/2018 2:45:42 PM AEDT

Registrar

Important Information

As required by the Court's Rules, this Notice has been inserted as the first page of the document which has been accepted for electronic filing. It is now taken to be part of that document for the purposes of the proceeding in the Court and contains important information for all parties to that proceeding. It must be included in the document served on each of those parties.

The date and time of lodgment also shown above are the date and time that the document was received by the Court. Under the Court's Rules the date of filing of the document is the day it was lodged (if that is a business day for the Registry which accepts it and the document was received by 4.30 pm local time at that Registry) or otherwise the next working day for that Registry.



Form 59
Rule 29.02(1)

Affidavit

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

Respondents

Affidavit of: **Dean Aaron Levitan**
Address: 525 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000
Occupation: Solicitor
Date: 19 October 2018

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Filed on behalf of Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited, Nick McKenzie, Chris Masters and David Wroe, Respondents
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I, **Dean Aaron Levitan**, Solicitor, of 525 Collins Street Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, solemnly and sincerely affirm:

1. I am a Lawyer with the firm MinterEllison, the solicitors for the Respondents in the proceeding and, subject to the supervision of Peter Bartlett, the supervising partner, I have the day to day conduct of this matter on behalf of the Respondents.
2. Unless otherwise stated, the facts stated in this affidavit are matters within my own knowledge.
3. This affidavit is relied upon in support of the Respondents' application for orders set out in the Interlocutory Application filed on 9 October 2018 (**Interlocutory Application**).

Background

4. Order 2 of the Interlocutory Application seeks a suppression order in relation to the identity of the person referred to in the Defence filed on 9 October 2018 as Person 17. The order is sought on the ground that it is necessary to protect the safety of Person 17 and her family.
5. I am informed by Person 17, and believe, that:

- (a) from about 13 October 2017 to 5 April 2018 she and the Applicant engaged in an extra-marital affair; and
- (b) on 28 March 2018 the Applicant committed an act of domestic violence against her by punching her in the eye.

Yumi Stynes

6. On 27 February 2012, Yumi Stynes, a presenter on Channel 10's television program, *The Circle*, made comments about the Applicant, which in substance, questioned the Applicant's intelligence.
7. Following those comments Ms Stynes received vitriolic attacks from members of the public, who supported the Applicant, for making those comments about the Applicant's intelligence.
8. A bundle of documents which I have located on the internet evidencing and referring to those attacks were exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "DL-1". This bundle is comprised of the following documents:
 - (a) an article dated 6 March 2012, entitled "*Vicious Circle: Death threats against Yumi as advertisers flee*" published on the website www.news.com.au, which states that Channel 10 was forced to censor The Circle's Facebook page, following "extreme comments" directed at Yumi Stynes including "*threats against her children*" (page 1 of DL-1);
 - (b) an article dated 28 February 2012 entitled "*Circle slammed over hero soldier insults*" published on the website www.thecourier.com.au, in which Frances Butcher, the relative of another war veteran, joined many viewers in calling for Stynes and Negus to be fired, stating that "*their comments are disgusting, bird-brained and an insult to the ADF*" (page 6 of DL-1).
 - (c) an article dated 1 March 2012 entitled "*Ben Roberts-Smith accepts apology from Stynes, Negus*" published on the website www.tvtonight.com.au includes the following in the comments section:
 - (i) "*Yumi is dumber than a slouch hat and Negus is just trying to be 'down' with the cool kids*", posted by 'halarto' at 8:54pm on 1 March (page 10 of DL-1); and
 - (ii) "*the comments on 'The Circle' were so small minded and attention seeking... why does this ridiculous show still exist?? It was not even 'poking fun at him', it was just far below the dignity of people like Negus to do this*", posted by 'dramaqueen' at 12:34pm on 1 March 2012 (page 11 of DL-1);
 - (d) comments published on the website www.ausmilitary.com on a post entitled "Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith" include:

- (i) *"Who the f*** is Yummi Stines? And what the f*** is the circle? I've been out of the loop for so long all this crap is new to me. Should I really give a f***? Either way. I'd like to see that mole say anything to either Ben or his Missus in person"*, posted by 'jimmy12' at 4:04pm on 29 February 2012 (page 13 of DL-1);
- (ii) *"Could she be anymore naive? Can we assume Yumi Stynes is smart because she doesn't look as though she spends all her time in the gym?"*, posted by 'Jos-hua' at 12:56pm on 1 March 2012 (page 15 of DL-1); and
- (iii) *"...this idiot she won't be remembered by anyone this time next year. Who would be stupid enough to employ her again, I hadn't even heard her name once before she brought this situation down upon herself"*, posted by 'Gman02' at 6:09pm on 1 March 2012 (page 15 of DL-1);

(e) comments on a Youtube clip of a Sky News report on Yumi Stynes' comments about the Applicant, published online at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kc7CCwOeC9A> include:

- (i) *"Yep if you read yumi skanks twietter she is actually a mouthy skank... we hate you yuki slimes"*, posted by 'Rollerskates' in 2014 (page 16 of DL-1);
- (ii) *" Yumi Stynes would never have apologised without being forced to by network. She is so insecure she is probably the one who is a 'dud root'. Extreme jealousy takes over the mind of people like her. My guess is she would do just about anything to be well known in the public. 'Only one oar trying to row a boat'"*, posted by 'Tarn Sand' in 2014 (page 16 of DL-1);
- (iii) *"... look in mirror half cast"*, posted by 'darren knight' in August 2018 (page 17 of DL-1);
- (iv) *"She clearly doesn't have respect. I fucking hate false/forced apologies, to me they are as offensive as the initial comments. What a whore cunt."*, posted by 'Woodzy' in 2013 (page 17 of DL-1);
- (v) *"its so obvious she is jealous of his body and her husband is a fat fuck"*, posted by 'David Beers' in 2013 (page 17 of DL-1);
- (vi) *"she needs to find her brain shes a fucking twit"*, posted by 'Jimmy Pournaras' in 2013 (page 18 of DL-1);
- (vii) *"Yumi should be tied to those weight discs and dropped in the deep end"*, posted by 'hotdemongel1' in 2012 (page 19 of DL-1); and
- (viii) *"What a silly self centred bitch, Put her on a fucking boat, She is un Australian"*, posted by 'Dan Groat' in 2012 (page 21 of DL-1);

(f) the Facebook page entitled *"Yumi Stynes' brain found at bottom of pool alongside George's Viagra"* which was created in response to the comments on The Circle (page 25 of DL-1). A post on this Facebook page on 2 April 2013 by Tom Strasser states, *"I never knew she had a brain that could get lost, think this site is giving her too much credit"*.

Chris Masters

9. I am informed of the matters set out in paragraphs 10 to 14 below by Chris Masters, and believe them to be true.
10. In or about October 2017 a book authored by Mr Masters, entitled "*No Front Line*" was published.
11. An article about Mr Master's book was published on *The Australian's* website on 20 October 2017, entitled "*No Front Line: An explosive account of death in Afghanistan*". A copy of that article was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "**DL-2**".
12. On 21 October 2017 an article entitled "*VC winner Ben Roberts-Smith speaks out*", was published on the website www.morningmail.org, outlining Roberts-Smith's response to Chris Masters' book *No Front Line*. A copy of that article was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "**DL-3**". The comments section attached to that article includes the following comments:
- (a) "*To dance in the blood of our fallen heroes is trait of a true coward and exhibits personal character deficiencies and lack of judgment. To perform this dance on a public stage, in front of slain hero's family and for personal profit such as Chris Masters has is appalling, abhorrent and un-Australian. Shame Chris Masters – Shame*", posted by GreenLight at 12:16pm on 21 October 2017;
 - (b) "*I am incensed by this despicable act. My loathing of cowards like Masters is unspeakable*", posted by Albert at 1:48pm on 21 October 2017; and
 - (c) "*Masters is to me the lowest form of pond life. To try and make money out of a soldiers their wives and family sacrifice and to denigrate those that put their lives on the line so that scum like Masters can feel safe is about as low as you can go. It is not journalism, it's just shit stirring*", posted by Graham at 3:21pm on 21 October 2017.
13. On 23 October 2017 Mr Masters received an email from 61415572337@optusmobile.com.au. A copy of that email was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "**DL-4**".
14. In or about November 2017 a letter was sent to News Corp (in response to the article marked DL-2), and subsequently provided to Mr Masters, which made threats against Mr Masters. A copy of that letter was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "**DL-5**".

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Nick McKenzie

15. I am informed of the matters set out in paragraphs 17 to 20 below by Nick McKenzie, and believe them to be true.
16. At the bottom of the online articles that are the subject of the claim in this matter, readers are able to contact Mr McKenzie for the purposes of providing confidential 'tip-offs' on an encrypted app called *Whispli*.
17. On 12 August 2018 Mr McKenzie received a message on *Whispli* with the subject line "Cocksucker" which states "*You are a fucking cocksucker I bet you are a fag ever been in the military you fucking cut less cocksucker how many cocks have you taken in the Arsenal I bet your father is proud of you*". A copy of that message was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "DL-6".
18. On 11 August 2018 Mr McKenzie received a message on *Whispli* from 'Tony W oink Blake' which stated "*PRICK and worthless arsehole never pulled the boots on!*" A copy of that message was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "DL-7".
19. On 8 June 2018 Mr McKenzie received a message on *Whispli* from 'fuck you' which was titled "Every fucking politically correct do gooder". A copy of that message was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "DL-8".
20. On 12 August 2018 Mr McKenzie received an email sent from bensmit74@hotmail.com (which was also sent to David Wroe) which stated:

"Your character assassination of Ben Roberts-Smith VC is nothing short of shameful and such gutter journalism is the reason why the SMH is going broke and why channel 9 will scrap your vile little cess pool of a newspaper. The offence of treason and capital punishment should be brought back so can swing. You gutless cretans should be attacking our enemies, not our brave soldiers who protect you at night.

I hope karma brings death and disease to you",

A copy of that email was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "DL-9".

Public comments about the Respondents following publication of the matters complained of in these proceeding

21. Following the publication of the matters complained of in these proceedings there have been negative and threatening comments made about the Respondents on various websites. Annexed to this affidavit and marked "DL-10" is a bundle of material evidencing and referring to those comments, which is comprised of:

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- (a) the following comments in response to the article "*Beneath the bravery of our most decorated soldier*", which was first published on the website www.smh.com.au on 10 August 2018 and then shared on Facebook by the Sydney Morning Herald Facebook page at 6:00am on 10 August 2018:
- (i) "*At a time when we so desperately need heroes, this 'investigative journalist' is spending his time tearing one down from the comfort of his office chair*", posted by Kerri Barr at 8:55am on 10 August 2018 (page 9 of DL-10); and
 - (ii) "*I didn't think 'journalism' could stoop any lower. Clearly, I was wrong*", posted by Paul White at 6:50am on 10 August 2018 (page 12 of DL-10);
- (b) the following tweet in response to the article "*Beneath the bravery of our most decorated soldier*", first published on the website www.smh.com.au on 10 August 2018 and then shared on twitter by Guns in Australia at 8:14am on 10 August 2018 (page 15 of DL-10), "*another SMH left wing loony article that purports sensationalist allegations, without substance against a decorated Victoria Cross recipient after the fact*";
- (c) a blogpost dated 10 August 2018, entitled "*Fairfax hatchet job on Ben Roberts Smith VC MG*" published on the website www.michaelsmithnews.com, states "[t]his hatchet job is courtesy of the newly minted Nine-Fairfax smear merchant". Comments on this post include:
- (i) "*Fairfax/ABC are nothing but anti-Australian pieces of shit*", posted at 8:59am on 11 August 2018 by eric1 (page 23 of DL-10); and
 - (ii) "*Australian media is at its lowest for many years*", posted at 12:39pm on 11 August 2018 by John Perth (page 24 of DL-10).
- (d) a blog post-dated 11 August 2018 entitled "*Brendan Nelson – brilliant on Ben Roberts Smith VC MG. Well done Brendan. Lest We Forget*" published on the website www.michaelsmithnews.com, includes the following comments:
- (i) "*The grubs currently trying to blacken [Roberts-Smith's] reputation, are the same sort of vile pressitutes who want to see the likes of a cowardly accused child-molesting rapist as our next Prime Minister*", posted at 11:54 pm on 11 August 2018 by Up the Workers! (page 29 of DL-10); and
 - (ii) "*Fauxfacts might find a merger of their firm with the Sewage Treatment Works an altogether more mutually compatible marriage. Fauxfacts should have stuck with what they do best – pumping up the tyres of those exemplary heroes of the Labour movement..... Throwing leftard muck and lies at a man who has won the Victoria Cross, is a different battle with a different species, entirely!*", posted at 8:56am on 13 August 2018 by Up the Workers! (page 34 of DL-10);

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(e) comments on an article dated 18 August 2018 entitled, "*Frustration at looking on led to making of hero Ben Roberts-Smith*", published on the website

www.theaustralian.com.au include:

- (i) "*I'm sure Nick McKenzie and Chris Masters know better, having exhibited such heroism, bravery and self-sacrifice during multiple tours shining their office seats in central Melbourne. It's just murder trying to get a decent espresso there*", posted in September 2018 by 'Charles' (page 41 of DL-10);
- (ii) "*Mr Chris Masters is, in my opinion, the most over-rated journalist working in the language*", posted in September 2018 by 'Andrew' (page 41 of DL-10);
- (iii) "*Chris Masters is an evil purveyor of fake news*", posted in September 2018 by 'Bruce' (page 41 of DL-10); and
- (iv) "*[Chris Masters] makes terrible judgment calls. It would not be the first time he tries to 'break journalistic ground' by hacking at people who do an honest day's work for the sake of our country*", posted in September 2018 by 'Mike R' (page 41 of DL-10);

(f) a comment on an article dated 18 August 2018 entitled "*I'm 100 per cent behind him': Widow of decorated SAS soldier comes to the defence of Victoria Cross recipient Ben Roberts-Smith after he denies allegations of war crimes and domestic violence*", published on the website www.dailymail.co.uk, states "*if the media, [all of them] can get a headline out of taking a person down, they will. Gutless does not come close to a description of them*", posted in August 2018 by 'Lochard' (page 46 of DL-10);

(g) comments on an article dated 18 September 2018 entitled "*ABC and Fairfax pursuit of Ben Roberts-Smith 'malicious'*", published on the website www.morningmail.org include:

- (i) "*With those lying bunch of scum 'investigative' reporters, who hold malice aplenty for soldiers and the electorate in general...*", posted at 6:21am on 18 September 2018 by 'luk1955' (page 48 of DL-10);
- (ii) "*A decorated soldier attacked by journalist scum*", posted at 7:18am on 18 September 2018 by Graham Richards (page 48 of DL-10);
- (iii) "*There is a lot more skulduggery than that being generated by Faux Facts and their brain dead scribblers*", posted at 11:12am on 18 September 2018 by 'Albert' (page 49 of DL-10); and
- (iv) "*Shameful and disgraceful. The media are nothing but sewer rats*", posted at 12:45pm on 18 September 2018 by 'Steve' (page 49 of DL-10);

(h) the following comments in response to the article "*Police clear VC hero Ben Roberts-Smith of domestic violence claim*" which was first published on the website www.theaustralian.com.au on 25 September 2018 and then shared on Facebook by Dallas Beaufort on his personal Facebook page at 2:54am on 25 September 2018:

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- (i) *"Sue the arses of the mongrel bastards, make sure that each and every one of these grubs can't afford to buy even a cup of coffee for the rest of their slimy lives"*, posted at 12:04am on 25 September 2018 by Neil Byrne (page 65 of DL-10);
- (ii) *"Sue them and kill them"*, posted at 5:22pm on 25 September 2018 by Matt N Narelle (page 66 of DL-10);
- (iii) *"Fairfax media, journalists and softcock judges... oh and those treasonable bastard politicians. They've totally ruined our country. They all need a blindfold and a last cigarette"*, posted at 11:57pm on 25 September 2018 by Nick Patogianis (page 67 of DL-10); and
- (iv) *"Accusations, made by faceless people, with absolutely NIL EVIDENCE other than 'accusations' to muddy the waters for their own twisted and evil agenda"*, posted at 9:33am on 26 September 2018 by Jake Payne (page 68 of DL-10).

Person 17

22. Annexed to this affidavit and marked "DL-11" is a bundle of material posted online about Person 17, which is comprised of:

- (a) the following comments in response to the article, *'Police clear Ben Robert-Smith after allegations of assault'*, which was first published on the website www.couriermail.com and then shared on Facebook by the Courier Mail Facebook page at 8:16pm on 25 September 2018:
 - (i) *"Name the woman who accused him and attempted to ruin his life? Oh sorry... I forgot that the media thrives on women who accuse men of these things and are instantly believed without evidence or due diligence by a court"*, posted on 26 September 2018 by Linc Grant (page 5 of DL-11); and
 - (ii) *"[t]hen the person who falsely accused him should be charged!!!"*, posted on 26 September 2018 by Trudlez Stevenson (page 5 of DL-11);
- (b) the following comment in response to the article, *"War Hero Cleared of violence"*, which was first published on the website www.theaustralian.com.au on 26 September 2018 and then shared on Facebook at 7:02pm on 26 September 2018 by the Facebook page, "Survive to Thrive – Dane Christison":
 - (i) *"Bitch should be jailed then"*, posted at 9:54am on 29 September 2018 by David Brannigan (page 8 of DL-11);
- (c) a Facebook post published by Liam Cherry on his personal Facebook page on 26 September 2018 in relation to The Australian article, *War Hero Cleared of violence* in which Liam Cherry made the following comment (page 9 of DL-11):
 - (i) *"Now jail the scum who:*
 1. *Accused this hero*
 2. *Ran stories on this bull shit*

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3. *Who didn't automatically back him";*

(d) the following comments in response to the article "*Police clear VC hero Ben Roberts-Smith of domestic violence claim*" which was first published on the website www.theaustralian.com.au on 25 September 2018 and then referred to on Facebook by Dallas Beaufort on his personal Facebook page at 2:54am on 25 September 2018:

- (i) *"If you are going to accuse someone of an incident do it within 24 hrs have your proof unlawful sex straight to hospital not years later where there is no proof. To me it is sour grapes but MOSTLY greed or revenge, Not sorry for them"*, posted at 9:09am on 25 September 2018 by Hollie Holland (page 22 of DL-11);
- (ii) *"So are the police going to use the law and charge the so called un named persons for willful and wrongfull allegations. Its about time people who make vexatious claims need to be charged"*, posted at 11:50am on 25 September 2018 by Neal Gardiner (page 27 of DL-11); and
- (iii) *"Money grabbing slag"*, posted at 4:39pm on 25 September 2018 by Victor Young (page 28 of DL-11).

Threatening letters sent to a member of the Special Forces

- 23. On 14 June 2018, the Defence Department released a statement which confirmed that a member of the Special Forces received a threatening letter in the mail relating to his giving evidence to the Defence Inspector-General inquiry into allegations of misconduct and war crimes by Australian soldiers in Afghanistan (the **Inquiry**).
- 24. A copy of that Defence Department statement was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "**DL-12**".
- 25. On 6 September 2018, Nathan Long, the AFP National Media and Social Media manger, wrote an email to Nick McKenzie confirming that the AFP received a referral from the Department of Defence on 15 June 2018 in relation to the threatening letter sent to a member of the Special Forces, and that the AFP was assessing the referral.
- 26. A copy of that email from the AFP was exhibited to me at the time of affirming this affidavit and marked "**DL-13**".
- 27. The identity of the sender of the threatening letter is not known to me.

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Affirmed by the deponent
at Melbourne in Victoria
on 19 October 2018
Before me:



Signature of witness



Signature of deponent

SAMUEL JAMES RICHARDS WHITE
of 525 Collins Street, Melbourne
An Australian Legal Practitioner
within the meaning of the Legal
Profession Uniform Law (Victoria)

Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

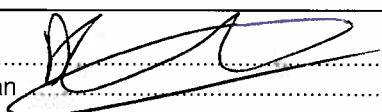
Respondents

DL-1

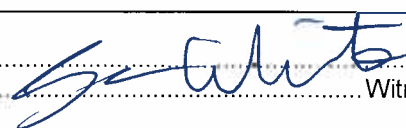
This is the annexure marked 'DL-1' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Bundle of documents showing attacks on
Yumi Stynes by members of the public**

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
Witness



tv

VICIOUS CIRCLE: Death threats against Yumi as advertisers flee

UPDATE: ANOTHER major sponsor severs ties with chat show as Ten repeats apology to Victoria Cross hero.

By Fiona Byrne

HeraldSun MARCH 6, 2012 4:08PM



Ben Roberts-Smith Source:HWT Image Library

AN online hate campaign, reportedly including physical threats, has been aimed at The Circle co-host Yumi Stynes.

Channel 10 has been forced to censor the Facebook page for The Circle following "extreme comments" directed at Stynes.

The comments supposedly included threats against her children.

"We are concerned about the extreme nature of some of those comments and are monitoring them very closely," a Ten spokesperson said.

The hate campaign comes as calls build for Stynes to quit the Ten morning show in light of the offensive remarks directed at Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith by Stynes and guest host George Negus last Tuesday.

The protest against Stynes has also broadened to radio.

The Facebook page for The 3PM Pick-Up show, which Stynes co-hosts with Chrissie Swan, has been swamped by angry posts.

Mirvac Hotels & Resorts joined a growing list of sponsors to end their association today with the Ten morning show.

"All ties with The Circle have been severed by the cancellation of our sponsorship," Mirvac posted on its Facebook page.

Swisse Vitamins was the first to pull its sponsorship on Friday.

It is believed that Yoplait is also reviewing its association with the show after coffee company Jamaica Blue and

Big4 Holiday Parks also withdrew their support, though a promotion Big4 was running in conjunction with the show will continue until March 25.

"After much deliberation, the Foodco Group - owner of the Jamaica Blue franchise brand - has opted to cease its sponsorship of The Circle, effective today," Foodco Group said in a statement.

"As Foodco has previously stated, we do not - in any way - endorse nor condone the offensive remarks broadcast on The Circle last week regarding SAS Corporal Roberts-Smith."

Network Ten issued a statement this morning over the sponsorship withdrawals, stating it had already apologised for the incident.

"We fully understand and respect the decision by some sponsors to stop their involvement with The Circle," Ten said.

"Network Ten has publicly apologised to Ben Roberts-Smith for the inappropriate and unnecessary comments made on The Circle last week.

"Yumi Stynes and George Negus have apologised on-air and have also contacted Ben directly to apologise. Ben accepted their apologies and said, in a statement, that he understood their comments were not intended to be malicious."

- With *Tonya Turner and Colin Vickery*

Originally published as [VICIOUS CIRCLE: Death threats against Yumi as advertisers flee](#)

[Skip to navigation](#)[Skip to content](#)[Skip to footer](#)

The Courier

• Subsc


25

February 28 2012 - 10:12PM

Circle slammed over hero soldier insults

 Backlash ... Yumi Stynes and The Circle co-host Gorgi Coghlan.



 Taking a dip Pictures of a shirtless Ben Roberts-Smith prompted the comments.

The co-host of Channel Ten program The Circle has publicly apologised for making a sexist and disrespectful comment about Victoria Cross winner Ben Roberts-Smith, saying she had never met the Australian war hero and “felt sick” at the angry backlash she had received after branding him brainless.

Yumi Stynes admitted she did not know much about Corporal Roberts-Smith when she commented on a photograph of the shirtless war hero in a swimming pool yesterday, saying: "He's going to dive down to the bottom of the pool to see if his brain is there".

Stynes' guest co-host and veteran journalist George Negus had then quipped: "I'm sure he's a really good guy, nothing about poor old Ben. But that sort of bloke, and what if they're not up to it in the sack?"

Another host questioned whether Negus was suggesting "that he could be a dud root?", to laughter from the audience.

But their flippant treatment of Corporal Roberts-Smith - who single-handedly stormed an enemy machine gun position in Afghanistan in 2010 - angered relatives of decorated war veterans as well as viewers, who flooded the television show's Facebook page with furious comments.

The show's treatment of Corporal Roberts-Smith also came under fire after the soldier revealed in a candid interview on Channel Seven's Sunday Night that he and his wife had conceived their twin daughters through IVF treatment.

Stynes said on air today that she did not know much about Corporal Roberts-Smith or the Australian Defence Force, and merely saw a "very handsome guy".

"So I made a joke, because how could anybody possibly be so perfect?," Stynes said.

"What I didn't estimate was how much my joke was not appreciated. I sort of intimated that maybe he wasn't very smart, because how could you be that buff and spend that much time in a gym and be smart as well? And people have been a bit angry and I've been getting a lot of angry messages.

"And I'm really sorry. I didn't mean to offend anybody and I have total respect for people that work in the the defence forces, and I've never met Ben but I'm sure he's lovely and he does seem like a big family man."

The former Channel [V] host said she felt sick after the backlash, and that "I think most people know that I'm good hearted".

The Circle's Facebook page was flooded with angry comments, while a relative of another decorated war veteran contacted The Age to call for the Stynes and Negus to be sacked.

"Their comments are disgusting, bird-brained, and an insult to the ADF," said Frances Butcher.

"As the great niece of Captain George Milne, awarded a Military Cross for his bravery in France in 1918, I advocate that all involved in the shameless performance be made to give a proper apology - as well as being dismissed."

One viewer on The Circle's Facebook page wrote: "Shame shame shame you idiots its disgusting.

"My neighbor is a ww2 vetran at kokoda you have tarnished the whole aussie defence force , IDIOTS."

Another said he could not "believe they would speak so trashy about a guy who would do anything for our country".

One viewer complained: "An Australian who has been honoured as a V.C. recipient deserves all the accolades we can lavish on him - He's the epitome of a great Aussie bloke! What a disgusting comment by this bird brain 'Yumi' Who is she?? and even more surprising and disappointing is the derogatory comment from George Negus - A journalist I've had great respect for in the past."

Some called for Yumi to be sacked from the show, however others claimed that the comments were light-hearted and people had overreacted.

"Where's your Australian sense of humor! I guarantee he [Corporal Roberts-Smith] wasn't even offended! (unless of course what she said is actually true!)," wrote one woman.

In response to the backlash, The Circle posted an apology on its Facebook page late yesterday to anyone who had been offended.

"Gotta love live T.V.!", the apology read.

"What started out as an innocent admiration of one of Australia's heroes today unfortunately ended up changing direction.

"I hope you all know us well enough by now to know that we would never set out to upset anyone.

"Your feedback is very important to us and we appreciate your input on a daily basis.

"So sorry if we offended any of you today."

Corporal Roberts-Smith was awarded the VC for extraordinary heroism in bitter fighting as members of the Special Operations Task Group assaulted a Taliban stronghold in Kandahar Province on June 11, 2010.

At great risk to himself, Corporal Roberts-Smith drew fire away from his fellow Diggers by making himself an easy shot before single-handedly silencing two Taliban machinegun posts.

That enabled his unit to go on and clear a village of Taliban.

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Ben Roberts-Smith accepts apology from Stynes, Negus.

📅 March 1st, 2012 By David Knox Filed under: [News \(https://tvtonight.com.au/category/news\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/category/news),

🗨️ [12 comments \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comments\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comments)

Victorian Cross recipient Ben Roberts-Smith has accepted an apology from Yumi Stynes, George Negus and Channel TEN.

On Tuesday **The Circle** came under fire for light-hearted comments about his physique following an interview on **Sunday Night**.

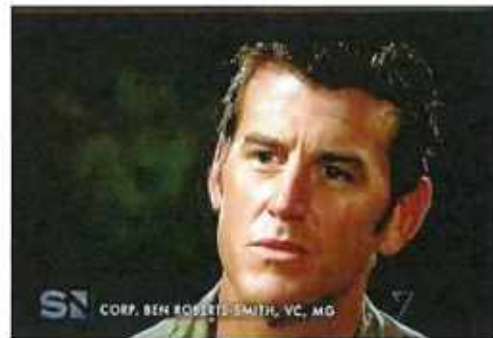
"Initially I was a little surprised at the comments but I also understand they were not meant to be malicious in any way," he said in a statement.

"I would like to thank the Australian public and Australian Defence Force personnel for their overwhelming support – my wife and I were extremely touched by the outpouring of support and concern.

"I have read the statements from both Yumi and George and they have both since contacted me directly to apologise for any offence caused.

"I have now put this matter behind me so I can focus on serving my country."

TEN apologised yesterday for any offence.



“Network TEN apologises for the comments made on **The Circle** yesterday surrounding Victoria Cross recipient Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith. We recognise he is a highly decorated soldier, national hero and we have the utmost respect for him. We are sorry for any offence this may have caused him and sincerely echo today’s apology by **The Circle**,” a spokesperson said.


Stynes also apologised, saying “...I’m really sorry. I didn’t mean to offend anybody and I have total respect for people that work in the the defence forces, and I’ve never met Ben but I’m sure he’s lovely and he does seem like a big family man.”

George Negus added, “In no way was it meant to be a comment or a reflection on Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith, directly or otherwise.

“However, if my comment has unintentionally offended Ben, his family, or his ADF/SAS colleagues, obviously I am sorry.”

[Next post » \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/sunrise-turns-10.html\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/sunrise-turns-10.html)

[« Previous post \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/730-exposes-adfa-abuse-online.html\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/730-exposes-adfa-abuse-online.html)

 Tags: [Sunday Night \(https://tvtonight.com.au/tag/sunday-night\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/tag/sunday-night), [The Circle \(https://tvtonight.com.au/tag/the-circle\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/tag/the-circle)

12 COMMENTS:

halarto [March 1, 2012 8:54 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315678\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315678)

Yumi is dumber than a slouch hat and Negus just trying to be 'down' with the cool kids. An apology addresses the individual insulted and is without qualification and certainly has nothing about boyfriends

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wilmawalrus [March 1, 2012 7:41 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315669\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315669)

Apologies were offered and accepted, which is as it should be, but the outcry absolutely dwarfs the deafening silence from the media and the public about the racist and sexist facebook group populated by defence personnel, which features comments considerably more worrisome than the ones Yumi and George made. Just saying....

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monk [March 1, 2012 7:14 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315666\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315666)

Knowing the Army. He would have been instructed to accept it. And Benji77.
Seems you have underestimated the respect Australians have for their armed service men.
Yes we aren't as openly patriotic as the u.s. We don't really take too many things to heart. But many Australians have always held a high level of (although very quite) respect for those in our defence forces. I think stynes and negus also underestimated how we feel.

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daveinprogress [March 1, 2012 3:37 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315653\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315653)

ACA and Today both had a good go at The Circle and Yumi and George. Petty behaviour all around. Good luck to the guy for having all he has, and not stooping to the level to react any further. He is an exemplary human being and doing. I am surprised at Negus – but the Circle is a catty fest and it can become infectious in the banter to lose control – but ouch!! They got burned!

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Trix [March 1, 2012 2:58 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315648\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315648)

Ludicrous! Channel 9's news was promoting it as the main story in their bulletin! Good grief! There must be more important stuff in the world than this ... Syria, anyone?

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Steph [March 1, 2012 1:46 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315637\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315637)

Channel surfing last night I caught the big news on ACA. Wow, what about their "reporting" of the "issues". Bad mouthing Yumi (saying no-one know's who she is), and George (has let go of serious journalism) was just as bad. Saying the Circle viewership is so low (then why was it such a big deal, if no-one watched it?) and that the Circle is bascially bad attempt at current affairs.... kettle, pot, black anyone?

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dramaqueen (https://dramaqueengayreviews.blogspot.com) [March 1, 2012 12:34 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315627\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315627)

The comments on "The Circle" were so small minded and attention seeking ... why does this ridiculous show still exist?? It was not even "poking fun at him", it was just far below the dignity of people like Negus to do this.

Although I do not agree with anyone going overseas to war, this guy is a fantastic human being who really is a hero. The comments were a very cheap shot at the wrong person.

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Benji77 [March 1, 2012 12:18 pm \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315625\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315625)

It feels like this has been a very “American” reaction (over reaction) from the Australian public.

Australians poke fun at each other – its what we do.

I hope we’re not loosing our sense of humour.

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Sarah H [March 1, 2012 11:50 am \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315621\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315621)

I agree with ScottyH and 7’s marketing angle.

And honestly, what is the world coming to..This was really blown out of proportion. I’m disgusted by the comments on the Circle’s Facebook page. Most people have been overly critical and said far worse about Yumi than what she said, which in my opinion (and as above the opinion of Ben Roberts-Smith also) had no malicious intent.

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Chris N. [March 1, 2012 10:47 am \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315611\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315611)

I kinda wish they didn’t apologise so profusely to the general public, because they have absolutely nothing to apologise for. Roberts Smith wasn’t offended. That should have been the end of it. Apologising to “everyone who was offended” only encourage those people to be “offended” more often. I think Ricky Gervais has the right idea when it comes to handling these situations.

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ScottyH [March 1, 2012 9:10 am \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315594\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315594)

I’m a bit perplexed at the moral high ground that Chennel 7 are taking regarding this story as they purposefully advertised their Sunday Night story around Ben’s physique. That was their main marketing angle. This ensured even more viewers. Obviously a slow story day for news.

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steve sydney [March 1, 2012 8:29 am \(https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315588\)](https://tvtonight.com.au/2012/03/ben-roberts-smith-accepts-apology-from-stynes-negus.html#comment-315588)

Well if he’s moved on.. then everyone else should too.

This whole idea of being offended on behalf of someone else is getting out of hand.

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A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

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Author

Message

kombimankenny

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Wed Feb 29, 2012 3:02 pm



1. Suggest Aussie war hero is brainless
2. Insult all couples who use IVF as being a 'dud root'
3. ?????
3. Profit?

Joined: Thu Feb 18, 2010 2:21 pm
Posts: 38

Or maybe it's just all part of a plot to make Kyle Sandilands seem like a reasonable human being?

Top



disco_stu

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Wed Feb 29, 2012 3:48 pm



I think I heard something on the radio news about this show being out of line and insulting, someone or some group calling for an apology or something similar. Haven't seen it, only heard whats written here

Joined: Mon Jan 26, 2009 7:57 pm
Posts: 1367
Location: Wollongong

Top



jimmy12

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Wed Feb 29, 2012 4:04 pm



I've heard of George, in fact I used to like him on SBS before he decided that it wasn't good enough and head for the big networks. What a pathetic ****.
But who the f*** is Yummi Stines? And what the f*** is the circle?

Joined: Sat Mar 19, 2011 5:47 pm
Posts: 759

I've been out of the loop for so long all this crap is new to me. Should I really give a f***?

Either way, I'd like to see that mole say anything to either Ben or his Missus *in person*.

Also. Check out "The Circles" Facebook page. Getting mashed.

Top



Mooch

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

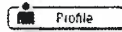
Posted: Wed Feb 29, 2012 4:21 pm



AxeTheCircle or CancelTheCircle on Facebook if you're into that sort of thing. They've also created a petition on gopetition.com

Joined: Thu Aug 19, 2010 4:17 pm
Posts: 66

Top



digrar

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Wed Feb 29, 2012 4:40 pm



jimmy12 wrote:

I've heard of George, in fact I used to like him on SBS before he decided that it wasn't good enough and head for the big networks.



Negus made his name on the big networks, he was on 60 minutes back in the late 70's into the mid to late 80's.

It was amusing watching the chick on the far left, the "Oh f****" moment as her look at the hottie puff piece turned into a train wreck.

Joined: Thu Jul 08, 2004 8:10 pm
Posts: 17855
Location: Loading the shot
Served in: 8/9RAR & 6RAR

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Air

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Wed Feb 29, 2012 5:17 pm



Along with that woman on Negus's right that repeatedly jerked her head left and right smiling like she was high on a drug of some sort.



Left and right I should add.

Last edited by Air on Thu Mar 01, 2012 2:51 pm, edited 1 time in total.

Joined: Sun Aug 08, 2010 9:12 pm
Posts: 112
Location: Australia

Top



Schadenfreude

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Wed Feb 29, 2012 5:46 pm



Army952 wrote:

Along with that woman on Negus's right that repeatedly jerked her head left and right smiling like she was high on a drug of some sort.

Joined: Mon May 25, 2009 2:11 pm
Posts: 1274

Been their done that, watching some fuckwit dig their hole deeper and deeper not much else you can do. They got absolutely destroyed by on ACA and Today tonight as well as their facebook page, it was magical. Then they came on the project for another half assed apology.

Professional fuckheads both of them.

Top



beagleboy

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Thu Mar 01, 2012 12:44 pm



I like the the crocodile tears from the bint who gobbled off words to the effect "I don't know much about the Australian Defence Force." Yeah, and ignorance is bliss. Did we happen to stray off the programme 'run' sheet for the day.

Supporter



Joined: Tue Sep 14, 2010
12:07 pm
Posts: 900

Top

Profile

Jos-hua

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Thu Mar 01, 2012 12:56 pm

Offline

I quite liked this one:



Yuni Stynes wrote:

I sort of intimated that maybe he wasn't very smart, because how could you be that buff and spend that much time in a gym and be smart as well?

Joined: Fri Jun 17, 2011 11:39 am
Posts: 919
Served in: A man's hat containing a single plum, floating in perfume

Could she be anymore naive?

Can we assume Yumi Stynes is smart because she doesn't look as though she spends all her time in the gym?

Top

Profile

Gman02

Post subject: Re: A Brief from CPL Ben Roberts Smith

Posted: Thu Mar 01, 2012 6:09 pm

Online

Cpl Ben Roberts-Smith will be remembered and immortalized forever for his service, this idiot she wont be remembered by anyone this time next year. Who would be stupid enough to employ her again, I hadn't even heard her name once before she brought this situation down upon herself.

Joined: Mon Feb 27, 2012 8:38 am
Posts: 15

My personal opinion is the sooner its forgotten the sooner the show will die, all this is doing currently is giving the idiots publicity they don't deserve.

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*Brotherhood never was like it;
Friendship is not the word;
But deep in that body of marching men
The soul of a nation stirred.*

-- A.B. "Banjo" Patterson,
'Australia Today', 1916

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The death threat, protest and hate campaign against The Circle co-host Yumi Stynes for insulting Australian SAS war hero Ben Roberts-Smith on Channel Ten morning show.

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mcaddicts 4 years ago

She should ask if he can look for her brain while he's down there. I don't know how networks get away with this stuff. If anyone else said that at work and it got leaked they would be fired. This also shows how humble and modest military personnel are.

Reply · 4

View reply



Rollerskates 4 years ago

Yep if you read yumi skanks twitter she is actually a mouthy skank....we hate you yuki slimes.

Reply · 2



Darren Knight 2 years ago

Ah Yumi, pseudo Fem, angry little thing you are, not surprised you had no roots for years, time to pay back on all men you think, and your irritation kicks your own arse yet again, hows the career going? popular? There is still a tv market for you to talk about stuff.

Reply · 2

View 2 replies



Tall Lad 4 years ago


I want to know that who were the douches laughing in the background when she was saying it??


Reply · 2




Tarn Sand 4 years ago


Yumi Stynes would never have apologised without being forced to by network. She is so insecure she is probably the one who is a 'dud root'. Extreme jealousy takes over the mind


 **Jumpoff A** 4 years ago
Smart Ass remarks will always get you into trouble, especially when the person you talk about hears about it through the grapevine or when others stand up in defense of the intended victim of your jokes. Now that you are the victim of your own making, tell me something Yumi Stynes, "How does it feel???" Everybody is laughing at you, about you, and
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Reply · 2
[View 2 replies](#)


 **Tentons O'fun** 3 years ago
Then-
Yumi Stynes: I'll say something dumb cause I don't know who this guy is.
Everyone else: Who the hell is Yumi Stynes?

[Read more](#)
Reply · 1


 **Brewed** 4 years ago
HA yumi who?
Reply · 1


 **MGTorque** 1 year ago
And If Roberts-Smith finds everyone else's brain down there too, he can call PC Crime Stoppers on 000 "youcan'tsaythateveryounazifacist".
Reply ·


 **darren knight** 2 months ago
blood thirsty she said as well, look in mirror half cast
Reply ·
[View reply](#)


 **Adam Marjanovic** 4 years ago
You are Anouk's Mum. I'm in Her School
Reply ·


 **Joshua The Giant Slayer** 11 months ago
Hate insensitive people...
Reply ·


 **infinightsky** 3 years ago
This got so pathetic, very typical of Australia. There are so many problems in this world and here we have cry baby conservatives and liberals alike, throwing tantrums to the point where it reaches the highest elements of government. Get over it, he's not Zeus!
Reply · 1

 **Dibby59** 5 years ago
I've never been able to cop this show or this woman, can't stand a bar of her & this would be why, true colours appear eventually, great career move....done us all a favour ..haven't seen her since..
Negus also attempting to join in with his pathetic humour sure uplifted his flagging
Reply ·


 **sandan76** 5 years ago
The comments made by Yumi and George have not in any way show a disrespect to out military personnel, to the rest of the world, Australia will always continue to hold a real respect to our current and fallen service men and women.
But it shows a real lack of respect and an even bigger lack of common sense with
Reply ·

 **Woodzy** 5 years ago
She clearly doesn't have respect. I fucking hate false/forced apologies, to me they are as offensive as the initial comments. What a whore cunt.
Reply ·


 **David Beers** 5 years ago
the insults she threw out just came from nowhere, what did that guy do besides defend his country? its so obvious she is jealous of his body and her husband is a fat fuck
Reply ·


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Stupid fucking cow
AU
Reply · Search


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 **Nimadan** 5 years ago
What is this woman anyway? Not her citizenship, HER? I know she's half-japanese; what's the other half? Is "Stynes" by any chance, an anglicization of Stein?
Just reading the tea leaves here: Media professional; more successful than her talent
Read more


Reply ·


 **Jimmy Pournaras** 5 years ago
she needs to find her brain shes a fucking twit
Reply ·


 **pol dalaigh** 5 years ago
Please don't delete me! I bet you won't, you appear to have problems beyond that of being a bigot and an idiot, you can't keep your word...like alot of yanks you have a lot of problems with the truth and keeping your word. No matter, we are used to yanks making fools of themselves, your just keeping up a long and cherished tradition, now be a good liottle yank,
Reply ·


 **Voo Duu** 5 years ago
Yeah, MY grammar... "quiet amusing", "stereotype", LMAO!!! a spell-Nazi that cant spell!!! Oh yeah, thanks for that, lololol, you just lost AND proved your an idiot kid who isn't paying attention in class!!!! Stay in school stupid. NOW I can leave!!!! HA-hahahahahaah! Don't bother replying kid, you lost all credibility so Im deleting any reply from you...LOL!
Reply ·


 **pol dalaigh** 5 years ago
Oh don't go, your quiet amusing (I mean your grammer leaves a lot to be desired, you can't spell and you are so upset with your position in life that you have turned into a bigot), but you are quiet amusing. You are so dumb you have not even worked out that I am not an Australian!.....you certainly live up to the sterotype of a dumb yank.....it explains alot....
Reply ·


 **Voo Duu** 5 years ago
LMAO! coming from some moron in a country that would be speaking japanese or 3 other different languages if it wasnt for the U.S., but thats ok, we like fucking your women so we will keep you intact, seeing as how aussie women hate aussie men because they have no clue as how to pleasure them, (your mom verified that to me not long ago, hehe). And
Read more
Reply ·

 **pol dalaigh** 5 years ago
No, I checked your post, you with out a doubt have a certain fetish for "man-junk", but not to worry thats the least of your problems, your now even speaking like the yanks.....the conversion is complete.....well what do you expect from such a country..well its not even really a country, just a colony with ideas above its station. Now back to your skippy
Reply ·


 **Voo Duu** 5 years ago
Dream on fag, good try but Im not your type, I choose females. If you want to cruise som man-junk you might want to try the same sites your father does, if you know who he is that is.
Reply ·

 **pol dalaigh** 5 years ago
Yout appear to have a thing about sucking cocks....are you that way inclined? If so fair enough, but you appear to be obsessed, you may need to seek some professional assistance.....I thinkit may watching to much "Skippy" on tv, its not good for you.....
Reply ·

 **zxcv1234vcxz** 5 years ago
If you don't like what I say, you have two choices:
(1) Don't read it
(2) Kill yourself
Read more
Reply ·


 **Voo Duu** 5 years ago
LMAO @ Gunther!!


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 **Voo Doo** 5 years ago Search
stifu fagtard. if i want your opinion i will tell you what it is.
Reply ·

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 **mugwuffin22** 5 years ago
stynes is a selfish arrogant cunt
Reply ·


 **hotdemongel1** 5 years ago
Yumi should be tied to those weight discs and dropped in the deep end.
Reply ·


 **baykomious** 5 years ago
..... wow what a shame
Reply ·


 **Riyun72** 5 years ago
Fucktard,,
Reply ·

 **Russell Crowe** 5 years ago
shes half asian and her kids are white.
Reply ·


 **ROBERT884** 5 years ago
Good job.she deserves it
Reply ·


 **Brit Lurker** 5 years ago
"For the record, I'm caucasian."
For the record, you're a self-hating white liberal.
Reply ·


 **Ceaaa22** 5 years ago
There is talk women in the US Army may be allowed to train as Rangers, but as far as the SAS are concerned, they'll only be allowed to serve alongside them as chopper pilots and medical staff.
Reply ·


 **Katy** 5 years ago
i have heard a lot of rumours but i don't thinks its going to happen at all. though they are trying to open combat roles for women.
Reply ·

 **Katy** 5 years ago
really....
Reply ·

 **Ceaaa22** 5 years ago
I think you heard wrong.
Reply ·

 **Ceaaa22** 5 years ago
I bet you're a lotta fun at parties.
Reply ·

 **ROTAR666** 5 years ago
i think a lot of people have forgotten why they went there in the first place. GI Joes are american you moron. i wasnt going to but i will bring it to your level, if they are crimes against humanity and thats a big if, only the losing side commits crimes. and he aint on the losing side.
Reply ·

 **ROTAR666** 5 years ago
lol

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ROTAR666 5 years ago
you are an idiot.

Reply ·

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ROTAR666 5 years ago
ha did they really sucked in. that'll learn em some respect.

Reply ·



zxcv1234vcxz 5 years ago
What "hero"? All soldiers are war criminals.

Reply ·



bigglesbobby1 5 years ago
Dumb bimbo - brainless twat !!! Thank god the show, and her, got the chop. Wonder what gutter rag she's writing classified ads for now.

Reply ·



Apollo LIVE 5 years ago
HOOORAHHH!

Reply ·



ROBERT884 5 years ago
how disrespectful and stupid can you be, hopefully shes not on tv anymore. she deserves everything that comes her way just be happy we all speak english and thank any past and present soldier for that.

Reply ·



Michael Murray 5 years ago
As an American who values free speech I urge Aussies to exercise their free speech and demand that little trollop be taken off air. she got the job for her looks and I must say she's not that pleasing on the eye. Typical bar wench mouthing off on a Saturday night.

Reply ·



bigbennym 5 years ago
The irony is killing me. I don't think Yumi Stynes should be talking shit about somebody else's intelligence. Nor should Negus be insulting somebody else's ability in bed. Especially since that somebody is an SASR operator (who are renowned for both their intelligence and sexual prowess)

Reply ·



D.H. 5 years ago
It's not my opinion. Do a bit of research on history, alright?

Reply ·



D.H. 6 years ago
No, it's fact.

Reply ·



D.H. 6 years ago
What I'm saying is that this country was NEVER near perfect. We've been dirty criminals from the start.

Reply ·



Rohan Fox 6 years ago
and she has slitty eyes, you forgot about the slitty asian eyes! now that this is off air, band together and force alan jones off air right, he's such a dumb australian slut! that is all.

Reply ·



ironson22 6 years ago
Career limiting comment.

Reply ·



lovestory952 6 years ago
there both dumb fucks and should lower there heads in shame its a shame we have people like these 2 who call themselves australian

Reply ·

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Love the closet racism of Australia.
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TheLeatheryman 6 years ago
She just got the arse from MIX fm too. Good job. Fucking arsehole!
Reply ·

TheLeatheryman 6 years ago
Fuck Afghanistan!
Reply ·

pol dalaigh 6 years ago
Sorry just found out it was Afghanistan...and I thought yanks could not see past the fox news bul*%*% looks ike australians have the same problem as the yanks...praising a man for taking part in what can only be described as crimes against humanity...you need to find some real heros and leavve your G I joes at home...very sad.
Reply ·

pol dalaigh 6 years ago
What war did this guy fight in?.....if it was iraq or Afghanistan then the comment about his brain stands..anyone that has trake part in these crimes against humanity need to check their thinking..sorry but its true...
Reply ·

D [Dan Groat](#) 6 years ago
What a silly self centered bitch
Put her on a fucking boat
She is un Australian
Don't want people like her voicing opinions
[Read more](#)
Reply ·

Thundertmf 6 years ago
what a cunt
Reply ·

sapphire60s 6 years ago
Idiot, a nameless underwear model does NOT risk his life modelling underwear, Ben Roberts-Smith risked his life in deadly circumstances, under intense enemy artillery fire, in order to save the lives of his comrades. Why don't you show some intelligence or is your underwear too tight and cutting the circulation of oxygen to your brain.
Reply ·

Glenn Wheatcroft 6 years ago
When the PC police and feminazis became the loudest voice that's when. Could you imagine a guy saying this to chick on day talk show?? This is what really pissed people off - if it were the way around gender-wise the male would have been sacked and no-one would have dared hire him again for of reprisals from womens groups. And yet this bitch
Reply ·

Glenn Wheatcroft 6 years ago
You think if the same was said by a male about a female, females would just blow it off and move one? We'd be hearing about for the next century and the man responsible would be publicly hung
Reply ·

Joseph Ma 6 years ago
the Australian jane fonda....
Reply ·

Joseph Ma 6 years ago
I hate this trash talking fucking airhead...." it " has shown no respect to our current troops and to former diggers ...if WW2 Vetrans heard a Jap not only on Australian TV, but also slugging off SAS i would say that she would probably be locked up in Cowra POW Camp.Such an insult to true Australians , as it is clear to see that she is not one herself....
Reply ·

Joseph Ma 6 years ago

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Reply ·

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korrans1 6 years ago

She still thinks her ass is for shitting

Reply ·



Riyun72 6 years ago

She could rent her forehead out for advertising space though, got a future there.

Reply ·



Riyun72 6 years ago

Arrogant self centered cow she is.

Reply ·



pyroman6962 6 years ago

The circle claims that the show was about respect ? , it's good to see you paid the price for your lack of respect of Ben Roberts -Smith and your show got canned ,kharma is a great thing ,also how sad that your apology was weaker than the slack comments you made about Ben . I hope you realise you crashed the show Yumi .

Reply ·



Micheál Collins 6 years ago

an embarrassment to the name Stynes! ye know what i mean...

Reply ·



Johnny Marlin 6 years ago

Suck Shit your Fired, you Lunar Feminists can go sell Tupperware and be Boring Housewives.

Reply ·



Michael J 6 years ago

George neagus is no old fella, he is just an old woman, on a day time soap, with other boring women.

Reply ·



johninmelb 6 years ago

Message for Yukki Stains, people don't "work" in the defence force, the "serve" in the defence force. I'm not surprised you don't know the difference.

Reply ·



Chrash101 6 years ago

George neagus contributed aswell trying to make a shitty joke to impress the ladies.. Lest we forget? these ignorant people obviously have forgotten. A real apology would make a difference but if thats all Yumi can come up with send her back to micronesia on a floating wooden door

Reply ·



Thu Duong 6 years ago

i can't handle yumi stynes. dumb idiot pseudo-celebrity.

Reply ·



jayy makk 6 years ago

That wasn't an apology, that was a "oh god everyone shut up about what i said look i'll apologize ok" kind of apology. Condescending dog. Respect the fact that soldiers put their lives on the line for our freedom.

Reply ·



Katy 6 years ago

apparently in 2016 women will be allowed to join the SAS

Reply ·



((Only_ZuuL))) 6 years ago

dumb slut. that is all.

Reply ·

mat2000100 6 years ago

Watched the video of Ben Chikwa a by the way she said she want a death squad to shoot her to pieces. yumi stynes is a traitor and must die.

Reply · AU

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Blandy086 6 years ago

I want channel 10 to send her to a Australian deployment in the middle east, not in a motel.... On base in a tent so she can see how hard it is..... Fuck you Yumi, go talk to ur mother she can teach you respect to soldiers.... After all your mother memorized "hey there soldier boy, me love you long time..... Sucky sucky? Two dolla!..... Me so horny! Me

Reply ·



Blandy086 6 years ago

"I meant no disrespect and it was not intended as an insult"? HUH? "he's gonna see if he can find his brains at te bottom of the pool.... A dud root" how are these not insults? Well I guess based on this I am free to say that "yumi still lacks a brain but makes up for it by appearing on a shitty second rate talk show" I would love to see her wake up to find her

Reply ·



ubertrueber 6 years ago

How ignorant...you r just as dumb and one srry excuse for the human race just as Stnes and Negus!! why dont u go back to England where ur stupid bread stealer ancestors came from!

Reply ·



Steven Rafter 6 years ago

I find this apology to be rather lame considering how flippant the inital comments were by Stynes and Negus. The comments were not malicious they were just incredibly ignorant and naff!

Reply ·



LuluRosenkrantz 6 years ago

You make me sick Yumi .

Reply ·



Atheizm 6 years ago

Overblown rubbish.

Reply ·



joodrops 6 years ago

@josh0alpert I have plenty of respect for that guy, I haven't said anything bad about him, nor have I agreed with what she said. I am merely stating how I think this has been blown WAY out of proportion. The guy himself said he doesn't care, and wasn't offended by it all. If he can let it go, why can't anyone else?

Reply ·



Alessandro DeNera 6 years ago

@joodrops good thing no one is asking you, lets see you put your life on the line for this country...give the guy some respect...he is fighting the fucking taliban

Reply ·



joodrops 6 years ago

it's all a load of rubbish if you ask me. If this guy was some nameless underwear model, and she said the same things, everyone would have a laugh and it would be over!!

Reply ·



fatShowPony 6 years ago

Not sure why the racist reaction - its detracting from the issue, she's representative of herself and not any racial group; just as posters of idiotic comments are representative of themselves rather than a racial group. Fact is she made diabolical non-humorous comments about an SAS VC recipient. Those prepared to die for this country should be

Reply ·



123perrin 6 years ago

i think yumi was possibly trying to make her boyfriend feel more secure with her, seeing as most women find bens looks very attractive. actually, yumi probably found him attractive too...a little too much - resulting in the derogitory comments designed to deflect her admiration of ben.

Reply ·



123perrin 6 years ago

so yumi says she didnt mean to offend anyone with her comments. well yumi, just what did you mean when you said them? for yumi to say she meant no offence translates to 'im sorry im in hot water over this'. these comments made by yumi absolutely were meant to

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Jordan 6 years ago

@AinataKula people joke about gender, race and homosexuality all the time. Where the fuck have you been hiding? Also, Magda being a muff diver was pretty funny, and I'm sure she would have been the first to laugh at that. I don't think sexuality is a sensitive subject any more in Australia (except for old people and politicians). About Yumi's comment,

Reply



Donald Trump (Verified) 6 years ago

@AinataKula I sent you a reply response.

Reply



xEV4NSx 6 years ago

If the opinions shared had any class I think Australia would of accepted them as we always do, but these weren't even close to a joke they were more euphemisms. Because a couple use IVF dosent mean ether of them are bad in bed and to say that to a couple is horrendously low but to say that about a national hero is even more despicable. Slutty and

Reply



Donald Trump (Verified) 6 years ago

Why is it that Anglo-Celtic Australians seem to respond in such a racist manner when some idiot talk show host makes such a retarded statement. Is this the Australia Ben Robert-Smith fought for?

For fucks sake Anglo-Australia, your not proving your class with all this vitriol.

Reply



einsjam 6 years ago

If I were to judge Australians on the basis of this incident, I would say they are damn racists..but I am not.

Reply



m5547821 6 years ago

This incident just showed how ugly and racist some Australians can be. I support Yumi's personal opinions.

Reply



o0POSH0o 6 years ago

Shows how far the "pinko lefto" morning "feminist infotainment" is willing to do and say to entertain all the bitter spinsters who are at home getting off on any "anti male innuendos" in order to appease their conscience as to why their lives are so messed up. Maybe those stay at home women should put down their magazines and turn off the telli and go find a

Reply

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Browser tabs: (2) Tom Strasser - I never kn... VC winner Ben Roberts-Smith...

Facebook navigation bar: x, Search, Home



Tom Strasser ▸ Yumi Stynes' brain found at bottom of pool alongside George's viagra ...

April 2, 2013

I never knew she had a brain that could get lost, think this site is giving her too much credit. As far as George goes...a very big disappointing has-been.

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Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

Respondents

DL-2

This is the annexure marked '**DL-2**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Copy of *The Australian* article
'No Front Line: An explosive account of death in Afghanistan'**

.....
Dean Levitan

.....
..... Witness

THE AUSTRALIAN

No Front Line: An explosive account of death in Afghanistan

By TRENT DALTON and RORY CALLINAN

11:00PM OCTOBER 20, 2017

Ben Roberts-Smith thought impossible phone calls to special forces wives were a thing of his past. But Australia's most decorated soldier had to phone Leigh Locke-Thomas this week and tell it to her straight: the 10th anniversary of the death of her husband, Sergeant Matthew Locke, on October 25 will coincide with the release day of a Defence-facilitated history of our special forces in Afghanistan that Roberts-Smith considers damaging to "the legacy of an Australian hero killed in action", his dear mate Matthew Locke. And again, Leigh Locke-Thomas was drawn back to the Chora Valley.

The book, *No Front Line* by celebrated journalist Chris Masters, revisits a militarily complex incident in the perilous Afghanistan valley in June 2006 in which then-Lance Corporal Roberts-Smith and Locke, the recipient of a Medal for Gallantry who was killed in action in 2007 — "neutralised" a young Afghan male who threatened to compromise their small and clandestine SAS patrol's concealment. The book uses competing soldier accounts to put question marks over the need for killing the suspected Taliban "spotter" and Roberts-Smith and Locke's management of the incident, as well as highlighting an interview with Roberts-Smith five years after the incident in which he mistakenly refers to two suspected spotters encroaching on the patrol instead of one.

The Victoria Cross recipient's assessment of the book is as blunt as his battlefield leadership style was hard: "inaccurate", "un-Australian", "bewildering", "a stitched together set of memories, rumours and some truths".

"People are going to think and say what they like (about me)," Roberts-Smith tells *The Weekend Australian*. "In regards to what the book means to other

people, though, I'm a little bit disappointed. Particularly in a passage around myself and Matthew Locke in 2006, (Masters) is really affecting the legacy of an Australian hero killed in action. And I struggle with that, right. You know, Matt's family. His son is in the army now. That's not fair.

“Those people have given a lot. A lot of those wives, and families that have lost their fathers. When you sit down with them — and I do this regularly ... I saw Blaine Diddams' wife today (SASR sergeant Diddams was killed in action in 2012) and I see Leigh Locke all the time and I spoke to her today — and I'm trying to break it to them that there's a bit of this and a bit of that in this book coming out.

“That's pretty hard to do because my respect for their sacrifice is phenomenal, as it should be from every Australian, because they've given something that no person or family should ever have to give.

“And I think that watching their kids grow up, having to read a book like that, that maybe doesn't paint the SAS in a good light, you know, it's un-Australian. That's probably the best way to put it. It's not what you should do in a book about veterans.

“I find it a little bit bewildering.”

Masters's book highlights contradictory accounts about the killing of a young Afghan male that occurred near an SAS observation post on a mountain overlooking Chora on June 2 in 2006.

He cites an interview given to the Australian War Memorial in 2011 in which Roberts-Smith describes the incident as involving two men who had walked up to within 30m of their position. In the interview, Roberts-Smith says a decision had been made to eliminate the pair and he and Locke had shot both men. Masters references a later interview with *The Australian*, in which Roberts-Smith referred to a single enemy.

The patrol report compiled after the incident mentions a single individual, according to Masters.

In responding to the discrepancy, Roberts-Smith wrote to Australian War Memorial director Brendan Nelson stating he had confused the incident due to the fact he'd done numerous tours of Afghanistan and it was years after the fact.

The incident preceded a deadly fire fight after which Locke and Roberts-Smith received Medal for Gallantry recommendations.

Roberts-Smith believes a disgruntled soldier is the source of the controversy.

“The person who has given their depiction of 2006 had nothing to do with me,” Roberts-Smith says. “He was disciplined by the patrol commander and Matt Locke, and removed from our patrol, subsequently retested, and then removed from the SAS. And that was the person who is now making claims about what happened 11 years ago and I think that really says it all.

“There’s an agenda there against Matt Locke and, for whatever reason, because I’ve got the profile, it’s better to throw my name into the mix because you know it’s going to be a headline and that’s essentially why I’m being dragged into it.

“You can’t play off interpersonal issues. You have to focus on the facts. Stick to the facts and use the reporting that was done at the time, very clinical reporting of what is a historic moment in our military history. I don’t think it’s fair to Matt Locke to have his legacy changed by some insinuation that perhaps he’s not done the right thing.

“That’s ridiculous.”

Masters was unavailable to comment yesterday. Publishers Allen & Unwin yesterday defended the book, saying Masters “was a highly professional journalist who approached his subjects with both balance and meticulous research”.

Editorial director Rebecca Kaiser says Roberts-Smith “was shown all content relating to him in early July and responses from his lawyer have been accommodated in the final text”.

“Roberts-Smith suggested to Chris that he read the contemporaneous patrol report covering the Koran Ghar action, which Chris subsequently sighted and quoted in the book,” she says.

“The book was read and vetted by SOCOMD (Special Operations Command).”

Late yesterday, Masters, through his publishers, said he had written to Defence seeking contact details of the families. Kaiser says: “Defence replied it would notify the families through the family liaison officers. Chris’s email in response, said: ‘Please pass on to AHQ (army hq) my willingness to personally background any family members before publication’.”

Roberts-Smith says conjecture over the Chora Valley incident stems from an interview he conducted with the war memorial in which he absent-mindedly said “a couple of blokes” walked as close as 30m to the patrol that day.

“In fairness to Chris, he put in the letter I sent to the war memorial (explaining the inconsistencies) because I think his issue was that, because I’ve said two people instead of one, five years later in an interview, that there was something untoward there.

“Well, as I’ve pointed out, when you’re talking about 50 or 60 different battles in all my years in Afghanistan, you know, I got it wrong. Instead of one I said two. It’s not really a big deal. But that seems to have been the catalyst to some of this.

“And as I said, it doesn’t really affect me, apart from the fact it makes me look like I’ve forgotten what I was talking about, but it takes more away from Matt and I’m not happy with that. It’s not fair. You can only go off the reporting at the time. It is critical to remember that, 11 years later, no two people will ever see the battle the same way. You just don’t.”

No Front Line is the exhaustive sum of the 10 years Masters spent investigating the Special Air Service. He was given unprecedented access by the Australian Defence Force to embed with Australian special forces, under agreement the manuscript would be screened by the ADF, but, says Roberts-Smith, the fact key

serving SAS members were unable, for security reasons, to speak with Masters “creates a number of holes ... so then there’s a number of inaccuracies”.

“To be completely frank, this inaccuracy and some of the others that will come up along the way are going to be based, in my opinion, on the divisive nature of honours and awards,” says Roberts-Smith.

“No one joins the SAS to look for medals. You do it because you love it. You love serving. You’re prepared to go to the highest level of soldiering because you want to be a part of it and you believe in your country, and then you go to war and you spend 10 years at war, and you come home and seven years later some guy wants to write a book, and there’s people who have been on that journey that maybe didn’t get recognition for what they did and they want recognition, and they’re potentially bitter, and all those kinds of things play in to it.

“That’s human nature.”

It’s that part of human nature that makes Roberts-Smith and his wife Emma call the seven years they’ve spent in the spotlight since he received the Victoria Cross “the best and worst of our lives”.

“Most of the (SAS) guys I know, they don’t care about the medal,” he says. “We still go to the pub and have a beer and they’ll never bring it up, never talk about it. I think there’s just some individuals that can’t get over it.

“I don’t justify. I’ve never justified my actions from Afghanistan and I make that point because my record has been in the public domain for nearly six years. That’s very unusual for an SAS operator. I have been under public scrutiny ... you can access everything about my career, on the record. I’ve been under the microscope for the last six years and, you know what, my record is spotless. And I have given 100 per cent.

“I would never get into a discussion with someone about trying to justify any of my actions, about awards, or actions on the battlefield, it’s a waste of time.

“The only thing that matters to me is that people who have served their country in Afghanistan, which is what this book is about, that their legacy is never detracted from, just simply because of someone’s attempts at personal gain.”

The matter — by no means officially resolved — cuts to the heart of a broader debate over re-examining, years later, battlefield incidents that unfolded in time-frames of seconds.

Says Nelson, who was defence minister in the Howard government: “Where is the national interest in tearing down our heroes?”

“It’s my very strong view that the alleged controversies involving special forces, unless involving the most egregious breaches of the laws of armed combat, should be left alone.

“What these young, highly skilled and trained men have done repeatedly over the past 15 years in intense combat is something that is rightly the pride of our nation.

“Australians just need to reflect on the fact that four were awarded Victoria crosses and many medals of gallantry and there were 21 dead and many more wounded.

“The average Australian is not generally stupid and they know that things don’t always go according to plan in war and that armchair lawyers and others on their sanctimonious thrones should not be shaping our attitude to what in the end are very serious military actions necessary to deal with people that threaten our freedoms and our values.”

Says Australia’s oldest Victoria Cross recipient, Keith Payne: “War is a messy business.

“Once the bloody action starts, everybody’s eyes are looking in different directions to yours.

“Ben’s trying to work out what to do, where to do it, instant decisions coming off everywhere. When it’s all over, you say, ‘Christ, how did I get out of that?’ Then you’re counting casualties and trying to work out details of how it all happened, but you’re not dwelling on it too much because it drives you bloody crazy. You stick it in the back of your head and forget all about it.”

Roberts-Smith views the Masters book as a missed opportunity.

“I think I spoke to Chris Masters for maybe 30 minutes,” he says. “There wasn’t a lot of questions about my operational service. But I spent six tours there. There’s a lot of things I could have talked about that would have highlighted the success and the efforts of other people.

“But I’ve got so many stories about what I’ve seen and the leadership I’ve witnessed and the sacrifice I’ve witnessed.

“Because Chris wasn’t interested in that, it’s not the kind of book I’m interested in.

“If you’re gonna write an official history then it needs to be that. This is not an official history.”

TRENT DALTON, THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN MAGAZINE

Trent Dalton writes for The Weekend Australian Magazine. He’s a two-time Walkley Award winner; three-time Kennedy Award winner for excellence in NSW journalism and a four-time winner of the national News Awards... [Read more](#)



Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

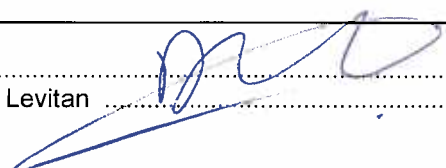
Respondents

DL-3

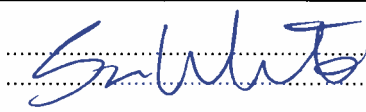
This is the annexure marked '**DL-3**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Copy of the www.morningmail.org article
'VC winner Ben Roberts-Smith speaks out'**

.....
Dean Levitan



..... Witness





AUSTRALIAN Morning Mail

Conservative — Independent — Patriotic.



on 21/10/2017



VC winner Ben Roberts-Smith speaks out

MM's Editor won't comment on this story and let Ben Roberts-Smith explain in his own words except to say, you had to be there!

Ben Roberts-Smith thought impossible phone calls to special forces wives were a thing of his past. But Australia's most decorated soldier had to phone Leigh Locke-Thomas this week and tell it to her straight: the 10th anniversary of the death of her husband, Sergeant Matthew Locke, on October 25 will coincide with the release day of a Defence-facilitated history of our special forces in Afghanistan that Roberts-Smith considers damaging to "the legacy of an Australian hero killed in action"

his dear mate Matthew Locke. And again, Leigh Locke-Thomas was drawn back to the Chora Valley.

Source: News Corp

No Front Line: An explosive account of death in Afghanistan

The book, *No Front Line* by celebrated journalist Chris Masters, revisits a militarily complex incident in the perilous Afghanistan valley in June 2006 in which then-Lance Corporal Roberts-Smith and Locke, the recipient of a Medal for Gallantry who was killed in action in 2007 — "neutralised" a young Afghan male who threatened to compromise their small and clandestine SAS patrol's concealment. The book uses competing soldier accounts to put question marks over the need for killing the suspected Taliban "spotter" and Roberts-Smith and Locke's management of the incident, as well as highlighting an interview with Roberts-Smith five years after the incident in which he mistakenly refers to two suspected spotters encroaching on the patrol instead of one.

The Victoria Cross recipient's assessment of the book is as blunt as his battlefield leadership style was hard: "inaccurate", "un-Australian", "bewildering", "a stitched together set of memories, rumours and some truths".

'CONSPICUOUS GALLANTRY IN ACTION'

Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith, VC, MG, has deployed to Afghanistan (six deployments), East Timor (two deployments) and Iraq

He has received the following honours and awards:

- Victoria Cross for Australia
- Medal for Gallantry
- Commendation for Distinguished Service
- Australian Active Service Medal with East Timor, Iraq 2003 and International Coalition Against Terrorism (ICAT) clasps
- International Force East Timor (INTERFET) Medal
- Afghanistan Medal
- Iraq Medal
- Australian Service Medal with Counter Terrorism/ Special

Recovery (CT/SR) clasp

- Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal
- Defence Long Service Medal
- Australian Defence Medal
- UN Assistance Mission in East Timor Medal
- NATO Non-Article 5 Medal with International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) clasp with multi-tour indicator '2'
- Unit Citation for Gallantry – Task Force 637 (Special



Operations Task Group), Afghanistan

- Meritorious Unit Citation – Task Force 66 (Special Operations Task Group), Afghanistan
- Infantry Combat Badge
- Returned from Active Service Badge

"People are going to think and say what they like (about me)," Roberts-Smith tells *The Weekend Australian*. "In regards to what the book means to other people, though, I'm a little bit disappointed. Particularly in a passage around myself and Matthew Locke in 2006, (*Masters*) is really affecting the legacy of an Australian hero killed in action. And I struggle with that, right. You know, Matt's family. His son is in the army now. That's not fair.

"Those people have given a lot. A lot of those wives, and families that have lost their fathers. When you sit down with them — and I do this regularly ... I saw Blaine Diddams' wife today (SASR sergeant Diddams was killed in action in 2012) and I see Leigh Locke all the time and I spoke to her today — and I'm trying to break it to them that there's a bit of this and a bit of that in this book coming out.

"That's pretty hard to do because my respect for their sacrifice is phenomenal, as it should be from every Australian, because they've given something that no person or family should ever have to give.

"And I think that watching their kids grow up, having to read a book like that, that maybe doesn't paint the SAS in a good light, you know, it's un-Australian. That's probably the best way to put it. It's not what you should do in a book about veterans.

"I find it a little bit bewildering."

Masters's book highlights contradictory accounts about the killing of a young Afghan male that occurred near an SAS observation post on a mountain overlooking Chora on June 2 in 2006.

He cites an interview given to the Australian War Memorial in 2011 in which Roberts-Smith describes the incident as involving two men who had walked up to within 30m of their position. In the interview, Roberts-Smith says a decision had been made to eliminate the pair and he and Locke had shot both men. *Masters* references a later interview with *The Australian*, in which Roberts-Smith referred to a single enemy.

The patrol report compiled after the incident mentions a single individual, according to *Masters*.

In responding to the discrepancy, Roberts-Smith wrote to Australian War Memorial director Brendan Nelson stating he had confused the incident due to the fact he'd done numerous tours of Afghanistan and it was years after the fact.

The incident preceded a deadly fire fight after which Locke and Roberts-Smith received Medal for Gallantry recommendations.

Roberts-Smith believes a disgruntled soldier is the source of the controversy.

"The person who has given their depiction of 2006 had nothing to do with me," Roberts-Smith says. "He was disciplined by the patrol commander and Matt Locke, and removed from our patrol, subsequently retested, and then removed from the SAS. And that was the person who is now making claims about what happened 11 years ago and I think that really says it all.

"There's an agenda there against Matt Locke and, for whatever reason, because I've got the profile, it's better to throw my name into the mix because you know it's going to be a headline and that's essentially why I'm being dragged into it.

"You can't play off interpersonal issues. You have to focus on the facts. Stick to the facts and use the reporting that was done at the time, very clinical reporting of what is a historic moment in our military history. I don't think it's fair to Matt Locke to have his legacy changed by some insinuation that perhaps he's not done the right thing.

"That's ridiculous."

Masters was unavailable to comment yesterday. Publishers Allen & Unwin yesterday defended the book, saying *Masters* "was a highly professional journalist who approached his subjects with both balance and meticulous research".

Editorial director Rebecca Kaiser says Roberts-Smith "was shown all content relating to him in early July and responses from his lawyer have been accommodated in the final text".

"Roberts-Smith suggested to Chris that he read the contemporaneous patrol report covering the Koran Ghar action, which Chris subsequently sighted and quoted in the book," she says.

"The book was read and vetted by SOCOMD (Special Operations Command)."

Late yesterday, *Masters*, through his publishers, said he had written to Defence seeking contact details of the families. Kaiser says: "Defence replied it would notify the families through the family liaison officers. Chris's email in response, said: 'Please pass on to AHQ (army hq) my willingness to personally background any family members before publication'."

Roberts-Smith says conjecture over the Chora Valley incident stems from an interview he conducted with the war memorial in which he absent-mindedly said "a couple of blokes" walked as close as 30m to the patrol that day.

"In fairness to Chris, he put in the letter I sent to the war memorial (explaining the inconsistencies because I think his issue was that, because I've said two people instead of one, five years later in an interview, that there was something untoward there.

“Well, as I’ve pointed out, when you’re talking about 50 or 60 different battles in all my years in Afghanistan, you know, I got it wrong. Instead of one I said two. It’s not really a big deal. But that seems to have been the catalyst to some of this.

“And as I said, it doesn’t really affect me, apart from the fact it makes me look like I’ve forgotten what I was talking about, but it takes more away from Matt and I’m not happy with that. It’s not fair. You can only go off the reporting at the time. It is critical to remember that, 11 years later, no two people will ever see the battle the same way. You just don’t.”

No Front Line is the exhaustive sum of the 10 years Masters spent investigating the Special Air Service. He was given unprecedented access by the Australian Defence Force to embed with Australian special forces, under agreement the manuscript would be screened by the ADF, but, says Roberts-Smith, the fact key serving SAS members were unable, for security reasons, to speak with Masters “creates a number of holes ... so then there’s a number of inaccuracies”.

“To be completely frank, this inaccuracy and some of the others that will come up along the way are going to be based, in my opinion, on the divisive nature of honours and awards,” says Roberts-Smith.

“No one joins the SAS to look for medals. You do it because you love it. You love serving. You’re prepared to go to the highest level of soldiering because you want to be a part of it and you believe in your country, and then you go to war and you spend 10 years at war, and you come home and seven years later some guy wants to write a book, and there’s people who have been on that journey that maybe didn’t get recognition for what they did and they want recognition, and they’re potentially bitter, and all those kinds of things play in to it.

“That’s human nature.”

It’s that part of human nature that makes Roberts-Smith and his wife Emma call the seven years they’ve spent in the spotlight since he received the Victoria Cross “the best and worst of our lives”.

“Most of the (SAS) guys I know, they don’t care about the medal,” he says. “We still go to the pub and have a beer and they’ll never bring it up, never talk about it. I think there’s just some individuals that can’t get over it.

“I don’t justify. I’ve never justified my actions from Afghanistan and I make that point because my record has been in the public domain for nearly six years. That’s very unusual for an SAS operator. I have been under public scrutiny ... you can access everything about my career, on the record. I’ve been under the microscope for the last six years and, you know what, my record is spotless. And I have given 100 per cent.

“I would never get into a discussion with someone about trying to justify any of my actions, about awards, or actions on the battlefield, it’s a waste of time.

“The only thing that matters to me is that people who have served their country in Afghanistan, which is what this book is about, that their legacy is never detracted from, just simply because of someone’s attempts at personal gain.”

The matter — by no means officially resolved — cuts to the heart of a broader debate over re-examining, years later, battlefield incidents that unfolded in timeframes of seconds.

Says Nelson, who was defence minister in the Howard government: “Where is the national interest in tearing down our heroes?”

“It’s my very strong view that the alleged controversies involving special forces, unless involving the most egregious breaches of the laws of armed combat, should be left alone.

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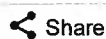
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Leftist media saturates the news. Fight back. Send articles to your friends, politicians, local media, and facebook.



{ 15 comments... [add one](#) }

Penguinte 21/10/2017, 8:37 am

I believe the last line says it all! The toughest gig Masters has engaged in would pale into insignificance. Sad really, I generally like Masters scrip. Just hope his book isn't used to make a film or that it taints Roberts-Smith and his very brave colleagues. Rewrite it Chris-sounds like a meme!

[REPLY LINK](#)

Lorraine 21/10/2017, 9:28 am

The left are not interested in real history , they change it to suit , tell it with their own thoughts not the actual deeds done by true grit men and women on the front line. The ABC may do a filmed drama telling us all to feel guilty as our men need not have been so brutal , and never referring to the hero's ever.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Joe Blogs 21/10/2017, 9:49 am

Hadn't heard of Masters before today. Looked him up to find that he's only an ABC hack, albeit the "winner" of the prestigious and highly coveted Public Service and Centenary Medals – public servants' equivalent of the Victoria Cross and Medal for Gallantry, one would suppose.

In future, Ben, tell 'em to piss off.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Bushkid 21/10/2017, 10:32 am

Chris Masters used to be an excellent investigative journalist of the old school type. I've met him and spent several hours in his company during his research for one of his reports. His resulting report was fair and factual, but that was nearly 20 years ago now.

This latest effort of Masters has left me utterly disgusted with the man though. No one who has never been where a soldier has been on active duty in a hostile environment has any right to comment on what might or might not have happened.

[REPLY LINK](#)

dutchy357 21/10/2017, 4:30 pm

“No one who has never been where a soldier has been on active duty in a hostile environment has any right to comment on what might or might not have happened”

Well said that man!

[LINK](#)

Crankykoala 21/10/2017, 9:50 am

Brendan Nelson and Keith Payne's words say it all, and this statement from Brendan Nelson – “armchair lawyers and others on their sanctimonious thrones should not be shaping our attitude to what in the end are very serious military actions necessary to deal with people that threaten our freedoms and our values.” – should be emblazoned on the walls of all those that choose to try and denigrate our fine men and women of the armed services who have faced hostile action.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Gregoryno6 21/10/2017, 10:14 am

Well said! [REPLY LINK](#)

Bushkid 21/10/2017, 10:33 am

Well put. Should be on every politician and bureaucrats wall (those who have never seen active service), right in their faces every damned day. Weasels, the lot of them.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Topsy 21/10/2017, 10:48 am

I feel drawn to agree with Roberts-Smith that much history is questionable these days. Modern histories can read like a witch hunt and an attempt to undermine an event or person as opposed to being based on absolute fact and thus attempting to write a clear and fair assessment of an event or events.

Much history is straight-forward revision, close to rubbish and not worth reading. Besides, I would not credit any research involving the ADF as other than highly suspect given the way they throw returned soldiers with PTSD and other problems in the gutter and leave them there. Any body lacking in compassion and decency to such an extent is highly likely to be untrustworthy, specially given its love of social engineering which speaks more of politics than defence thinking.

[REPLY LINK](#)

GreenLight 21/10/2017, 12:16 pm

To dance in the blood of our fallen hero's is trait of a true coward and exhibits personal character deficiencies and lack of judgement.

To perform this dance on a public stage, in front of slain hero's family and for personal profit such as Chris Masters has is appalling, abhorrent and un-Australian. Shame Chris Masters – Shame.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Margaret 21/10/2017, 12:31 pm

Of course it is too much to ask the Prime Minister of Australia to denounce this rewriting of history as yet more fake news.

The NWO want to get rid of marriage, religion, respect for the flag, respect for the Nation and respect for the armed forces which stand in the way of the NWO agenda.

I am disgusted with Chris Maters. He has allowed himself to be part of the misinformation/propaganda of the NWO. Another 'useful idiot' as Lenin would say.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Albert 21/10/2017, 1:48 pm

I am incensed at this despicable act. My loathing of cowards like Masters is unspeakable. Topsy and GreenLight have hit the nail right on the head.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Bwana Neusi 21/10/2017, 3:37 pm

Too right Albert et al. The question should be "What was Master's real agenda?"

[REPLY LINK](#)

Graham 21/10/2017, 3:21 pm

Masters is to me the lowest form of pond life. To try and make money out of a soldiers their wives and families sacrifice and to denigrate those that put their lives on the line so that scum like Masters can feel safe is about as low as you can go.

It is not journalism, it's just shit stirring.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Graeme Clancy 21/03/2018, 10:23 pm

BRS is an arsehole. I don't care what any body else thinks or think they know. I've been the recipient of his "expert" leadership. He respects nobody to achieve his goals and yet demands respect from those he commands. He is no longer in the military but acts and treats others as if he and all he commands are. I am so happy not to be employed by the Seven Network any more. I hope he rots in hell.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

Respondents

DL-4

This is the annexure marked '**DL-4**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Copy of the email to Chris Masters from
61415572337@optusmobile.com.au**

.....
Dean Levitan
.....
..... Witness

From: 61415572337@optusmobile.com.au <mailto:61415572337@optusmobile.com.au>

Date: 23 October 2017 at 9:37:01 am AEDT

To: chris@chrismasters.com.au <mailto:chris@chrismasters.com.au>

Resent-From: chris@chrismasters.com.au <mailto:chris@chrismasters.com.au>

Resent-To: chris@chrismasters.com.au <mailto:chris@chrismasters.com.au>

Who the fuck do you think you are. I've never even read one of your books but to even remotely try a put our world's best elite soldiers in any spotlight other than the hero's that they are you must be scum scrape together any controversy to sell a headline oh and you must be a fucking idiot to piss off these blokes whose job is covert missions behind enemy lines haha if I was you don't walk down any dark alleys and ild watch that spineless back of yours too
Scott

Annexure Certificate

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NSD1487/2018
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District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

Respondents

DL-5


This is the annexure marked '**DL-5**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

Copy of the letter sent to News Corp in November 2017

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
..... Witness



FROM MANY LOYAL AUSTRALIANS

TO:- TRENT DALTON
RORY CALLINAN

9- THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN, 21-22 OCTOBER 2017
"FIX IT OR ELSE"
THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN, 21-22 OCTOBER 2017
NDT MORNING EDITION 21-22

ARTICLE

AN EXPLOSIVE ACCOUNT
INQUIRER P.17

PERHAPS YOU BOTH BETTER WARN THAT
UNAUSTRALIAN - FUEK WITTED - TRAITOROUS
(SO CALLED) JOURNALIST CHRIS MASTERS

(DESPITE DEFENCE-FACILITIES) BETTER WATCH
HIS BACK & ANY MOVES HE MAKES

BECAUSE SOME ONE MIGHT COME AFTER HIM
FOR HIS BOOK "NO FRONT LINE" (THAT HAS TO BE THE WAY
OUR FORCES HAVE TO DEFEND OUR FREEDOMS -

I BELIEVE & TRUST BEN ROBERTS-SMITH FIGHT PARTY
I DONT TRUST CHRIS MASTER (JUST WANT MONEY & PUPPETRY

HAS CHRIS MASTERS EVER FACED SO MUCH IN
SECRET
SOME ONE TRYING / THREATENING TO KILL HIM &
HAVE TO DEFEND HIMSELF

I HAVE - TWICE IT IS KILL FIRST
OR BE KILLED

AS IF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT FORCES OR PARTICULARLY (HES WARNING
SUCH) SOLDIERS - THAT DO ACTUALLY HAVE THEIR LIVES TAKEN
TRYING TO PROTECT TOXIC SHIT LIKE MASTERS
OF OUR CIVILISED - DEMOCRATIC NATION

(THAT USED TO BE "A FAIR GO FOR ALL")
~~AAAAA~~

20/11/17

Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

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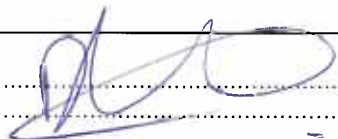
Respondents

DL-6

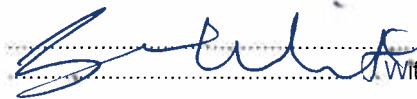
This is the annexure marked '**DL-6**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Copy of the message to Nick McKenzie sent
via Whispli on 12 August 2018**

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
Witness



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a report in a management system. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://app.whopki.com/reports/3942>. The page title is "Reports Report 3942". The main heading is "Report 3942 Cocksucker" with a sub-heading "Owner: Nick McKenzie (Fairfax Media) view edit".

A navigation menu on the left includes sections for "ACTIVITY" (Dashboard, Reports, Cases, Tags), "CONFIGURE" (Forms, Workflows, Analytics), and "MANAGE" (Users, Account Settings, Activity Monitor). The "Reports" section is currently selected.

The report content includes a "Report Details" section with the following information:

- Report ID:** 3942
- Created:** August 12th, 2018 10:00 PM
- Owner:** Nick McKenzie
- Content:** You are a fucking cocksucker I bet you are a tag you ever been in the military you fucking cut less cocksucker how many cocks have you taken in the Arsenal I bet your father is proud of you

A "User details" table is also present:

Field	Value
Name	Fark you
Phone	0605 555 555
Email	0604 555 555

Below the details, there is a "Comments" section with one entry:

- Reporting From:** Fairfax Media - Anonymous tip-off to Nick McKenzie

The bottom of the page features a rich text editor toolbar and a Windows taskbar at the very bottom showing the time as 1:21 PM on 12/12/2018.

Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

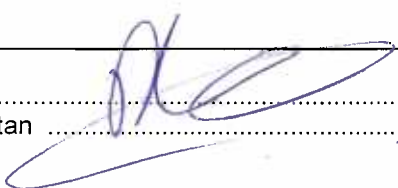
Respondents

DL-7

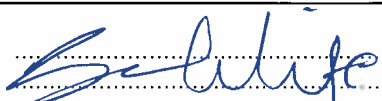
This is the annexure marked '**DL-7**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Copy of the message to Nick McKenzie sent
via Whispli on 11 August 2018**

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
..... Witness



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a report in a dashboard application. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://app.whipl.com/reports/view/3936>. The application interface includes a blue sidebar on the left with navigation options: ACTIVITY (Dashboard, Reports, Cases, Tags), CONFIGURE (Forms, Workflows, Analytics), and MANAGE (Users, Account Settings, Activity Monitor). The main content area is titled 'Reports Report: 3936' and features a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: 'Report: 3936 > nick mckenzie > Nick McKenzie (Fairfax Media) > view > new'. Below the breadcrumb, there are tabs for 'Report', 'Team', 'Cases', 'Messages', 'Uploads', 'Workflow', 'Tasks', 'Export', 'Automation', and 'Activity'. The 'Report' tab is active, showing 'Report Details' for 'nick mckenzie'. The report content includes a description: 'PRICK and wontless asshole never pulled the boots off', a creation date of 'August 11th, 2018 01:09 AM', and a country of 'USA'. A 'User details' section lists: Name: Tony Wank Blake, Phone: 0409668709, and Email: tdkar2@training@gmail.com. The report also shows a source: 'Fairfax Media - Anonymous tip off to Nick McKenzie'. At the bottom, there is a 'Report comments' section and a rich text editor toolbar with icons for bold, italic, underline, link, unlink, bulleted list, numbered list, indent, outdent, and undo. The Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom of the screen.

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NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
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Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

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DL-8


This is the annexure marked '**DL-8**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

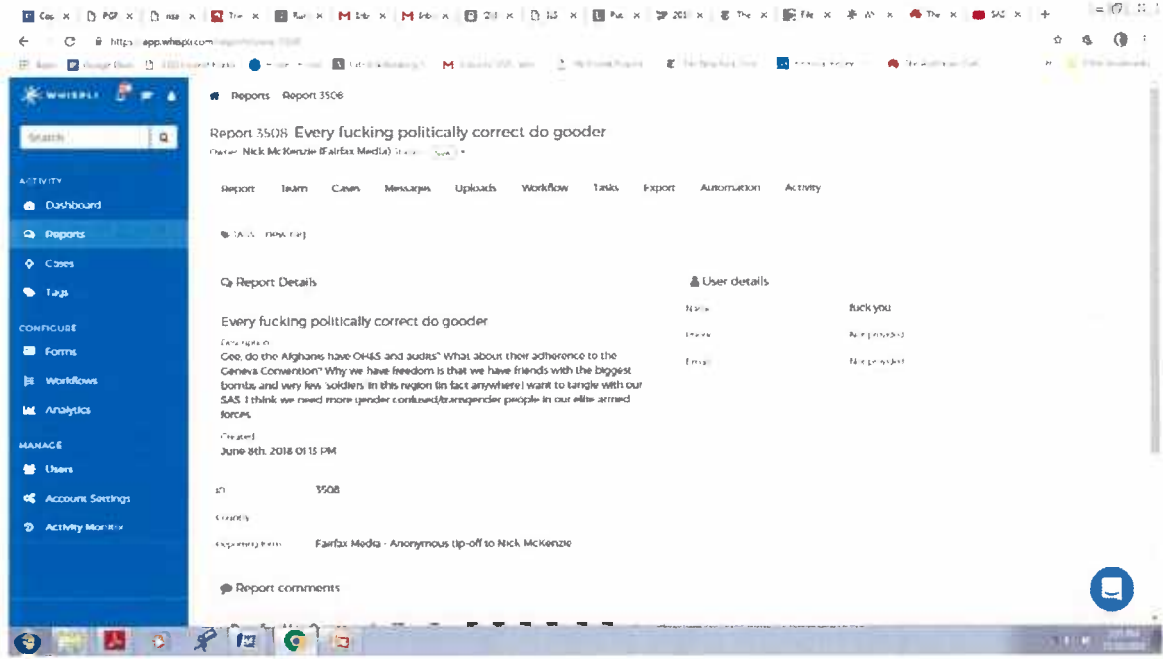
**Copy of the message to Nick McKenzie sent
via Whispli on 8 June 2018**

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
..... Witness





Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

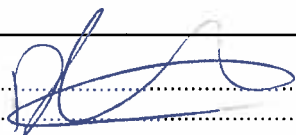
Respondents

DL-9

This is the annexure marked '**DL-9**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Copy of email to Nick McKenzie and David Wroe from
bensmit74@hotmail.com on 12 August 2018**

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
Witness



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **ben smit** <bensmit74@hotmail.com>

Date: Sun, 12 Aug 2018 at 13:27

Subject: Disgraceful journalism - Ben Roberts-Smith VC article/investigation

To: nmckenzie@fairfaxmedia.com.au <nmckenzie@fairfaxmedia.com.au>, david.wroe@fairfaxmedia.com.au <david.wroe@fairfaxmedia.com.au>

McKenzie & Wroe,

Your character assassination of Ben Roberts-Smith VC is nothing short of shameful and such gutter journalism is the reason why the SMH is going broke and why channel 9 will scrap your vile little cess pool of a newspaper. The offence of treason and capital punishment should be brought back so can swing. You gutless cretans should be attacking our enemies, not our brave soldiers who protect you at night.

I hope karma brings death and disease to you.

Regards,

Ben Smit

Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
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Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

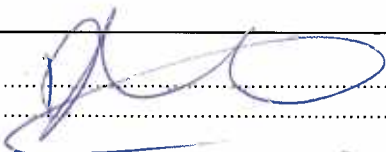
Respondents

DL-10

This is the annexure marked '**DL-10**' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

**Bundle of material showing threatening comments posted
about the Respondents on various websites**

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
Witness





The Sydney Morning Herald



@sydneymorningherald

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The Sydney Morning Herald

August 10

Investigation: Victoria Cross recipient, Father of the Year, business leader and mental health advocate - Ben Roberts-Smith is one of Australia's most respected public figures. So why are so many questions being asked about his past?



SMH.COM.AU

Beneath the bravery of our most decorated soldier

New questions hover over Ben Roberts-Smith, VC, Father of the Year,...

The Sydney Morning Herald

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3



The Sydney Morning Herald

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The Sydney Morning Herald

August 10

Investigation: Victoria Cross recipient, Father of the Year, business leader and mental health advocate - Ben Roberts-Smith is one of Australia's most respected public figures. So why are so many questions being asked about his past?



SMH.COM.AU

Beneath the bravery of our most decorated soldier

New questions hover over Ben Roberts-Smith, VC, Father of the Year,...

212

120 Comments 40 Shares

Like

Comment

Share

All Comments



Write a comment...



Kate Timmins A lot of valid questions about this mans integrity. It's the role of a good journalist to uncover and investigate these allegations fully. Great piece.... keep going.

Like Reply · 8w

73



Glenda Cameron I think you're a dill

Like Reply · 6w



Write a reply...



Todd Morrow Good old Australia. The tall poppy syndrome is alive and well. On a slow news day, lets rubbish a man who has literally earned his stripes. Show me a man/woman who is apparently perfect and i will find someone who will dish some dirt!! There is no such thing as a perfect person.

Like Reply · 8w

61

Hide 12 Replies



Todd Morrow Regardless of how long it's been around, my statement stands regarding tall poppy syndrome. It's easy for journalists and politicians to make stories and comments from the safety of their lounge when they've never set foot on a battlefield.

Like Reply · 8w

10




Mary McIntosh He's done more for Australia than the soft flaky left leaning men would ever do.

Like Reply · 8w


2

Chat (11)

- 


Todd Morrow Mary McIntosh 100% right. What is the saying? Let he who is without sin cast the first stone!!

Like Reply · 8w

9
- 


Tracey Wat That was my first thought too. But then I read the article and changed my mind. There are some fairly serious allegations in there, and enough support to warrant concern and investigation. I don't agree that it comes with the territory. I commented bef... See More

Like Reply · 8w Edited

18
- 


Charlie Mac What a society we would live in Todd, where scrutiny of behaviour is totally unnecessary and should be frowned upon because of an instance of success. Wrong is wrong no matter who does it.

Like Reply · 8w Edited

22
- 


Michael Bromely The ADF has a strict moral code. War criminals bring the ADF and our nation into disrepute. War criminals should be prosecuted and given life imprisonment.

Like Reply · 8w

10
- 


Nicholas Triggs The citizen armies that were raised by the allies in WWI & II did not indulge in the degree of brutality and war crimes that today's SAS seem to

Like Reply · 8w

4
- 


Michelle McMahon No one is above scrutiny. Let him answer for himself.

Like Reply · 8w


12
- 

Todd Morrow Yes i read the article and so far the information is from journalists undertaking their own vigilante style interviews! Say no more. If there needs to be an investigation, i am all for that and if GENUINE wrong doing has occurred, THEN he should face the music. But tarnishing a mans name without an actual investigation is trial by media and has become the Australian thing to do.

Like Reply · 8w


7
- 

Bobby Jones Todd Morrow what are you saying. So what if he commits some war crimes nobody is perfect

Like Reply · 8w
- 


Charlie Mac Todd Morrow information from interviews except the information from the internal ADG reviews.....

Like Reply · 8w

3
- 

Anthony Carney The SMH is reporting on the progress of an actual ADF investigation. They are simply also reporting that the information that the ADF investigation is being based on is drawn from fellow soldiers, i.e. eyewitness accounts. They would not have been silly... See More


Like Reply · 8w

8
- 

Mal Jones Just because he put his life on the line in war, which he signed up to do, doesn't make him a good or high moral person. The truth will come out, this isn't just gossip. Just because he was brave in war doesn't mean the world should accept his failings as well.


Like Reply · 8w

Hide 23 Replies

61
- 


Neil Spring Are you serious? We arent all perfect, he was in a war u moron. Love to see how you react under gunfire. And see if you are still on your high horse.

Like Reply · 8w

18
- 


Alfred Stimoli Spoken like a typical leftard coward.

Like Reply · 8w

4
- 


Max Knoth Actually, until/unless a formal investigation (not some drivel from 2nd rate journos) proves otherwise, it IS all just gossip. Mass dullards consistently take media rambblings as gospel. You do realise they spin truth for advertising profit...right?

Like Reply · 8w

12
- 

Robert Hayward Monica... what dark secrets do you hide?

Like Reply · 8w

5
- 


Harry Hammond You're pretty funny Monica, you call people bullies who call you out, but you take rumour as fact about Ben Roberts-Smith and srew your filthy opinion of him all over a public forum. Back to barking doges love.

Like Reply 8w

 Hayley Pipkorn Max Knoth


Like Reply 8w

2

 Robert Hayward Monica Jones that exactly what you are doing...


Like Reply 8w

1


 Myles Lennon Monica you grub, you are the reason we use gender neutral words

Like Reply 8w

1

 Arthur Karanicos Wow, Monica, that is an awesome comment

Like Reply 8w


 Paul Kazuberns Why do the media and the public try to sanitise war? War is the basest human condition and yet those who have never experienced it sit on their high moral horses and judge those who are putting their lives on the line. Shame on those who need to have an opinion on what they know nothing about.....

Like Reply 8w

 Martin Urquhart Neil Spring well said


Like Reply 8w

1


 Mike King True Monica, but we should also be mindful of not assessing his behaviour without thought to the environment in which he operated. A properly resourced investigation is appropriate, but consideration of circumstances is too.

Like Reply 8w Edited


3

 Peter Nugget Neave Monica you are the only one getting on the defensive here. Looks like your the one being painted into a corner.


Like Reply 8w

 Peter Nugget Neave Actually i was going to ask if you needed a shovel Monica Jones but you are digging a hole for yourself just fine

Like Reply 8w


 Mal Jones Peter Nugget Neave I guess you have heard the PM today

Like Reply 8w


 Graham Slingsby Oh look...here's pious Monica, spruiking moral self-righteousness; based purely on the information gleaned from a short media article. Monica does not have access to the full details of the investigation; however, she still insists that she must share... See More

Like Reply 8w


8

 Deborah Harris The allegations were said under oath, and before he was given his hero status to Australia. Why these anonymous letters. It's to intimidate witnesses.

Like Reply 8w Edited


 Mal Jones Deborah Harris some people have not read the full article. The anonymous letters are disgraceful and who ever is sending them should be charged

Like Reply 8w


 Deborah Harris Monica Jones it is also worth noting they mention 2 other VC recipients, one is Mark Donaldson, and there was never any hint of any wrong doing or black mark against their character. I read the entire article and it's obvious there are efforts going o... See More

Like Reply 8w Edited

2


 Nick Symons have some respect for our veterans pull your head in

Like Reply 8w

 Mal Jones Deborah Harris don't upset the armchair soldiers and hero's here. I have deep respect for veterans especially those that have never been acknowledged.

Like Reply 8w

1

 Deborah Harris Nick Symons no you pull your head in.

Like Reply 8w



Chat (11)

Deborah Harris Monica Jones same here and from the point of view of those who made accusations under oath and others they question whether BRSmith is worthy of all the praise and high paid job he has via that. It says something that one of the bullies here in particular has a military background. Nuff said.

Like Reply 8w

Write a reply...

Vory Zakone I have neither the time nor the inclination to explain myself to a man who rises and sleeps under the blanket of the very freedom I provide, then questions the manner in which I provide it! I'd rather you just said thank you and went on your way

Like Reply · 8w

77

Hide 22 Replies

Moses Marau Absolutely....tell them go get F. 3

Like Reply · 8w

Greg Payne Brilliant-Col.Nathan Jessup (aka Jack Nicholson) to Lt. Danny Caffey (aka Cruise) "A Few Good Men" Aaron Sorkin wrote. Ben Roberts-Smith - the brass in ADF simply do not award the Victoria Cross lightly, on a whim. Thankyou Sir, for putting yourself in harms way to protect and keep us from harm

Like Reply · 8w Edited

10

Craig Smith Exactly my thoughts 1

Like Reply · 8w

Tracey Wat Absolute rubbish. He is accountable for his conduct. That kind of nonsense gives a free pass to abuses of every type. There are rules of conduct and he was accountable under them.

Like Reply · 8w

63

Paul Jones Regardless of what conduct you accept during the theater of war, there are serious allegations of illegal conduct as a civilian (assault of the lawyer here had an affair with, fraud etc). If these allegations are proven to be true, even the most exemplary history as a soldier do not excuse them.

Like Reply · 8w

30

Dilan Thampapillai Vory, freedom that you provide?? How exactly do you do that? Australia's security depends on a multitude of factors. Nobody is above the law, but still there has to be due process and not trial by media.

Like Reply · 8w Edited

10

Layla Williams The ones he is accused of intimidating are serving also aren't they??? Dont THEIR voices matter????

Like Reply · 8w

3

Vory Zakone Dilan Thampapillai you are right war crimes should be punished But those responsible are the men that put each soldier in that place at that time with that training with those resources. The soldier/pawn is generally doing their best and no-one knows how you behave in similar circumstances.

FYI Dilan I don't provide such freedom Jack Nicholson did.

Like Reply · 8w

1

Bill Green You can't handle the truth.

Like Reply · 8w

No Political Correctness Party Australia Except we're not American. But in all honesty this story tells you about nothing you didn't already know or expect.

Like Reply · 8w

3

Dilan Thampapillai I saw the movie too Vory. I don't recall it ending that well for Jack's character. That aside, if a soldier is guilty of a war crime they have to be held to account regardless of who placed them in that situation. Still we have a legal system that can address this and that's preferable to seeing a mans reputation being tarnished in the media.

Like Reply · 8w

4

Laine Mann No ONE is a Pure Angel in Every Thing they do or did.


Like Reply · 8w Edited

Kirsty Green And we all know how that worked out for Col. Jessep don't we? 🤔

Like Reply · 8w


1

Chat (11)


 Tracey Wat Vory Zakone it is more complex than that. Yes, most soldiers do their best. But that kind of culture can allow bullies to thrive and for a sense of omnipotence to get out of control. My extended family member was in the army and was a bully. He bullied... See More

Like Reply 8w

5


 Michael Bromely The ADF has a strict moral code. War criminals bring the ADF and our nation into disrepute. War criminals should be prosecuted and given life imprisonment.

Like Reply 8w


 Kellie Maree Bricknell The entire point of that scene in the movie "A Few Good Men" is that the General believed he was above the law- that he could do as he wanted with zero accountability as long as he felt it was keeping his country safe. But he WASN'T. As witnessed by th... See More

Like Reply 8w

12

 Sarah Jenkins Ah yes i forgot that Australia's freedoms resides in Afghanistan and Iraq 😊


Like Reply 8w

 Ian Wang Freedom is born with. Unless you are speaking on behalf of our maker, you don't get to make such statement.

Like Reply 8w

 Andrew Fox Perhaps you can't handle the truth?

Like Reply 8w


 Anthony Carney Its a nice movie line. Doesn't bear out in reality though. The military themself have codes of ethics. The ADF is certainly not an 'anything goes' establishment.

Like Reply 8w

1


 Adrian Corb MadDread McDougal 🙄🙄🙄 1

Like Reply 8w

 Scott Ford I have always thought there was a coldness between he and the other SAS VC recipient Mark Donaldson, and as stated in this article Marks history has never been nor needed questioning this article if proven to be true might explain a lot.

Like Reply 8w


 Write a reply...

 Tipene Maniatoto The end of his political career is near , and unfortunately to good to be true is to good to be true.Healthy scepticism is needed when dealing with heroes

Like Reply 8w


31

Hide 20 Replies

 Craig Smith Healthy skepticism yes - witch hunt no.

Like Reply 8w

2

 Tipene Maniatoto Craig Smith I don't believe it's a witch hunt , when he became a politician he opened himself up to all forms of criticism. It is right that credible accusations of crimes committed by soldiers be investigated .They serve in our name


Like Reply 8w

9

 Roy Jamieson Monica Jones thanks for that. I was shaking my head on that one.


Like Reply 8w

3

 Mal Jones Yes you can be a hero and also a mongrel


Like Reply 8w

8

 Greg Garth Craig Smith Seems there is a lot of evidence to justify this "witch hunt".


Like Reply 8w

5

 Mary McIntosh So now the left have found a new victim, they've moved on from Barnaby.

Like Reply 8w


3


 Roy Jamieson Monica Jones yes, I knew exactly what you were referring to, but the story's about Roberts-Smith, that's what I was shaking my head about when 'politician' was referred to.


Like Reply 8w


1


Chat (11)


 **Greg Garth** Mary McIntosh No, we still have Barnaby in our sights, though these days he is a easy target. 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Tracey Wat** Mary McIntosh he is not a "victim". I didn't think anything in the story was salacious or victimising. It was a commentary about his history. 5
Like Reply 8w


 **Maj Jones** Roy Jamieson maybe he thinks he will be our next Governor General. 1
Like Reply 8w


 **David Newton** I wish all these pseudo politicians and commentators would just pack their bags and f%@k off 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Joan Abnett** Too good to be true? 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Robert E. Nugent** Tracey Wat it was a commentary about alleged incidents and "anonymous" sources. 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Greg Garth** Robert E. Nugent Not all were "anonymous" some were not named because of threats to themselves and their families. 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Raz Bashir** He's never been a polotician. Are you dumb or that deluded? 1
Like Reply 8w

 **Mary McIntosh** Greg Garth and we've got Husar she's not out of the woods yet, plus SHY who has misappropriated some go fund me money. 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Mary McIntosh** Tracey Wat of course what other conclusion could you come too? 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Mary McIntosh** Greg Garth think that might need backing up "because of threats to themselves and their families". What aboutisms doesn't cut it this time without hard evidence. 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Greg Garth** Mary McIntosh That was not "what aboutism". I am merely pointing out that threats have been made and have been reported to police. The Army is also carrying out an investigation into some of the questions raised in the article. 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Teresa Romeo** Mary McIntosh the right is not always right, as we are seeing every day, BTW Barnaby deserved it. 1
Like Reply 8w


 Write a reply...


 **Jim Keen** I hope the grub that wrote this never sees war 47
Like Reply 8w


 **Steve Marr** I hope the grub does 8
Like Reply 8w


 **Amy Robinson** Go the grub! 8
Like Reply 8w


 **Daniel Ryan** well we know you won't 2
Like Reply 8w

 **Laine Mann** No ONE is a Pure Angel in Every Thing they do or did 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Greg Garth** Laine Mann What? 1
Like Reply 8w


 **Tracey Wat** Investigating the truth does not make someone a "grub". It seems to me that there are more than enough reasons to look into his behaviour, and that being an elite soldier does not excuse it. There are codes of conduct and he is not immune from them. 15
Like Reply 8w Chat (11)

 Michele White Yer Reckon, eh?! Maybe the Journo in question needs to go to war see the Truth?!
Like Reply 8w Edited 2


 Greg Garth Michele White What truth? If no wrong has been done would those involved not welcome a investigation to prove it?
Like Reply 8w 1


 Write a reply...


 Ivan Cofrancesco When you put young men in danger of losing their lives then the lives of the viewed enemy is of no consequence. We should not be there, should not have gone to Iraq, Syria etc. Nothing is learned of the consequences of war on veterans.
Like Reply 8w 17


 Laine Mann No ONE is a Pure Angel in Every Thing they do or did
Like Reply 8w


 Greg Garth Laine Mann What?
Like Reply 8w


 Mary McIntosh Another gutless 7 feathers candidate. ic.
Like Reply 8w Edited 1

 Ivan Cofrancesco Mary McIntosh would you send me a feather in the mail would you? you poor thing stuck way past in the days when a woman misbehaved according to her husband she would get a good spanking...hmmm I wonder about you Mary
Like Reply 8w 1


 Ivan Cofrancesco Monica Jones No just gone and fought other people's wars and had to bring troops back to stop the Japanese in New Guinea
Like Reply 8w

 Bobby Jones Laine Mann sure but let's not pretend he is a hero for defending big oil companies intrest
Like Reply 8w


 Bobby Jones Monica Jones we just follow the US. But with Trump in charge anyone still willing to fight to defend the US interest is a moron
Like Reply 8w


 Mary McIntosh Monica Jones don't just single out "not all Australian soldiers are nice people". The same can be said for all. I'm just tired of innuendo and the shaming of people without concrete evidence. So far not one person slamming this man has not put up any verifiable unbiased evidence, just innuendo. And the left leaning SMH is not unbiased.
Like Reply 8w


 Write a reply...


 Hayley Pipkorn You should be ashamed of yourselves Sydney Morning Herald...
Like Reply 8w 38
Hide 16 Replies

 John Hamilton Why? 11
Like Reply 8w

 Hayley Pipkorn John Hamilton because it's media sensationalism.
Like Reply 8w 3


 Hayley Pipkorn John Hamilton and really I shouldn't be surprised at this, but to use Ben Roberts-Smith to continue to highlight the story of ongoing investigations into our special forces is somewhat abhorrent.
Like Reply 8w 4

 Josh James John Hamilton why are you asking a silly question???
Like Reply 8w 1

 Ferial Milewicz Why should SMH be ashamed of themselves? They didn't commit cowardly crimes against civilians, in a war that didn't concern us, nor helped us anyway.


Chat (11)


Like Reply 8w 2


 **Ben Curtis** Ferial Milewicz did Ben?
Like Reply 8w


 **Josh James** Ferial Milewicz why are you commenting ?
Like Reply 8w


 **Hayley Pipkorn** Ferial Milewicz no they didn't, but whose to say that he did what they are alleging...? Also why are they writing a sensationalist story to try and defame a decorated war hero that is based very loosely on allegations...? Here is a man, a soldier who r... See More
Like Reply 8w 2


 **Aldo Charles** Hayley Pipkorn: It sounds as if you already are in possession of the whole truth, as are some other contributors here. Unfortunately, if we are consistent, the freedom that those immaculate soldiers defend come with the obligation to give everybody th... See More
Like Reply 8w 1


 **Ferial Milewicz** Josh James are you trying to bully me into silence?
Like Reply 8w


 **Ferial Milewicz** Hayley Pipkorn if our war hero has nothing to be scared of, let them investigate!
Like Reply 8w

 **Hayley Pipkorn** Aldo Charles but why should they be subjected to these investigations..?
Like Reply 8w


 **Monne Cat** Hayley Pipkorn Have you not noticed that NOT ONE single soldier has come out in defence of him...not a single one. That's very telling.
Like Reply 8w 2


 **Aldo Charles** Hayley Pipkorn: Because one of the tenets of a free society is that we are all equal before the law and nobody is above it. It's obvious that there are different and conflicting views about the soldier in question in his military and civil life. That's... See More
Like Reply 8w


 **Hayley Pipkorn** Aldo Charles what I actually meant to ask is, why is it ok that SMH cast aspersions on him so luridly?
Like Reply 8w


 **Aldo Charles** Hayley Pipkorn: They are not aspersions, they are allegations by people that have, initially, the right to make them because they were present at the scenes of some of those occurrences. No military authority would give credence to an allegation from somebody that, at the very least was physically present, in the place and time under investigation.
Like Reply 8w


 Write a reply...

 **Kerri Barr** At a time when we so desperately need heroes, this "investigative journalist" is spending his time tearing one down from the comfort of his office chair. Well done.
Like Reply 8w Edited 16

 **Kirsty Green** We don't need false heroes though.
Like Reply 8w 9

 **Tracey Wat** Sorry, Kerri, but needing a hero does not mean ignoring someone's abusive behaviours and misconduct. Trump has been lionised by his followers and is one of the most poorly behaved, abusive President's in history. Wanting a hero and ignoring the bad can... See More
Like Reply 8w 9

 **Kerri Barr** Kirsty Green "allegedly" false heroes. This journalist is treating the word of his "sources" as gospel. A flawed hero perhaps, but that's life. I'm really not a fan of the Australian tendency to put people on pedestals and then cut them down. One can always find a "source" to support your argument. It'd be interesting to know how many supporters were ignored because their story didn't suit his agenda.
Like Reply 8w 2

 **Michael Bromely** We don't need war criminals. War criminals belong in body bags or locked away for life.
The ADF has a strict moral code. War criminals bring the ADF and our nation into disrepute!! See More

Like Reply 8w

Kerri Barr Tracey Wat I agree with everything you've said.
Like Reply 8w 1/3

Kerri Barr Mike Bromely I believe in most of what you have said, particularly the strict moral code of the ADF. I'm 22 years married to an ex-army boy and we were discussing it only this morning.
I'd change the last paragraph to "Convicted war criminals should b... See More
Like Reply 8w 1

Michael Bromely Kerri. Ben's own colleagues documented his crimes and dobed him in. Where there's smoke, there usually is fire...
Like Reply 8w Edited 1

Kerri Barr Mike Bromely and where there are tall poppies there are always those ready to cut them down.
How about we stand by the "innocent until proven guilty" concept underpinning the legal system that we are so fortunate to be living under.
Like Reply 8w 1

Bobby Jones The military aren't hero. They only exist to defend the interest of big oil companies. And most of the time it's not even Australia oil companies interest they are defending. See More
Like Reply 8w

Rebecca Thorpe Kerri Barr if you knew anything of Nick McKenzie's work you would know he is a journalist of integrity who would have spent months researching this before publication. He doesn't just look for smoke, he finds the fire. I'm so sad to read this story as ... See More
Like Reply 8w 2

Write a reply...

Cindy Skinner You have to be a bit mongrel to do his job. He is a trained SAS SOLDIER. going places and doing what the average person wouldn't be able to handle physically and emotionally. Leave him alone his courage shouldn't ever be questioned.
Like Reply 8w 14

Charlie Smith It isn't his courage they're questioning.
Like Reply 8w 2

Write a reply...

Max Knoth Trial by media as per the SMH way for cheap advertising dollars. A lot of 'rumours' and allegations as per usual. How about let the investigation run its course rather than bs media 'speculation and insinuation' by journos who think war is a genre of movie.
Like Reply 8w 7

Kay Moore Be careful, SMH! An article full of allegations from anonymous sources like this can see you in court. Oh yes, you did name one person... Sergeant L. 🤔
Like Reply 8w 9

Bobby Jones Only if it turns out to be false. But maybe it hasn't gone to court because it's true
Like Reply 8w

Kay Moore But the SMH article has him guilty already, whether there is sufficient evidence for it to get to court or not.
Like Reply 8w 1

Write a reply...

Mike King difficult issue. How do you judge the behaviour of this group through the lens of safe, suburban, middle class Australia? Not excusing any wrong doing, but they do operate in a very different world to most of us.
Like Reply 8w 6

Tony Griggs Because in case you hadn't noticed, PC pious elitist leftist loony socialists have taken over Australia including our military.
Like Reply 8w 5



Chat (11)

Michelle Paea nothing but respect with or without fault you were still prepared to lay your life down for our country, to you and all in uniform love and respect and thank you. 4

Like Reply · 8w Edited



Brenton Fielke No one doubts serving in Afghanistan was a tough gig. The integrity of the ADF however is paramount both in Australia and internationally for so many obvious reasons. Any allegations therefore need to be thoroughly and transparently investigated, VC or not. The article assists in attempting to keep the process transparent. Hopefully the allegations are baseless. 3

Like Reply · 8w



Noahlia Bulls Everything I read in this piece is speculation, rumours and unsubstantiated claims. Nothing has been proven. 4

Like Reply · 8w



Monique Morrison Surely , all we should say to our brave men is THANK YOU for your selfless sacrifice. Shame on you media. 7

Like Reply · 8w



Michael Bromely The ADF has a strict moral code. War criminals bring the ADF and our nation into disrepute.

War criminals should be prosecuted and given life imprisonment.

Like Reply · 8w



Graeme Dawson Mike Bromely SAS are the extremists of our army. The finest trained and hardest of the lot. Their job is to get things done under any conditions. Can't place many rules on them if you want the job done, one that only a elite few can do

Like Reply · 8w



Write a reply...



Victoria Pollifrone Disgraceful media chess game. Build them up and tear them down. Heroes may be flawed but they're still heroes. 3

Like Reply · 8w



Tracey Wat If that were your son that he'd bullied in the course of his duties, would you feel the same way? Or if your son had been executed on a suspicion of being a look out? EVERYONE is accountable for their actions, no matter who they are or what else they've done.

Look at Lance Armstrong. He was lionised, and yet it turned out the rumours were true.

Like Reply · 8w Edited



Michael Bromely He is a war criminal.

The ADF has a strict moral code. War criminals bring the ADF and our nation into disrepute. ... See More

Like Reply · 8w



Bobby Jones They are just puppets defending big oil companies interest

Like Reply · 8w



Write a reply...



Ivars Avens It sounds like the Inspector General's investigation has been thorough and hopefully the public will have access to at least the essential findings in his report.

Like Reply · 8w



Nicholas Triggs There is something seriously wrong with Australian army training, if it is true that basic training intendeds to break down the recruits personality and build a new "army" one. Remember the incident where recruits had to kick a litter of kittens to death? Nick

Like Reply · 8w



Mal Jones Bullies and sh.. always rise to the top

Like Reply · 8w



Mary McIntosh Especially those of left leaning tendencies.

Like Reply · 8w



Nicholas Triggs Mary McIntosh, typical RWNJ response. You are clearly channeling Goebbels who said, "always accuse the other side of that which you are guilty of". Nick


Like Reply · 8w





Bobby Jones All army training is like that. The objective is to create soldier who don't question orders


Like Reply · 8w


Chat (11)


 **Mary McIntosh** Nicholas Triggs well where is your evidence and not hearsay that this is what constitutes basic training? How nice of you too tell me whom I am channeling.
Like Reply 8w


 **Nicholas Triggs** Mary McIntosh, on my twitter feed it was confirmed and one recruit who refused was discharged, while the NCO's who ordered it kept their jobs. Nick
Like Reply 8w


 Write a reply...


 **Ray Finn** U are an absolute legend Australian army and forces needed some one to get the public to take notice of what they stand for and what they fought for along come Ben Roberts smith. We're safe because of him and all others in our forces. Don't let the media destroy what they stand for Ben stood up for us so let's stand up for him what a man mountain. What a great Australian
Like Reply 8w

 **Kathy Grant** Tall poppy syndrome...we expect everyone in the public eye to be absolutely perfect...
Like Reply 8w 7


 **Joel Beckingham** SMH is running short on professional journalism for quite some time now....
Like Reply 8w 16


 **Arthur Karanicos** Yep, no one can be questioned simply because they are associated with the Military etc... Whatever.
Like Reply 8w 1


 **Frances Hegarty** If we continue to send people to war we should not be surprised by the consequences.
Like Reply 8w 3


 **Paul White** I didnt think "journalism" could stoop any lower. Clearly, I was wrong.
Like Reply · 8w 30


Hide 18 Replies

 **John Smith** Why do you think it's being "low"?
Like Reply 8w 2

 **Daniel Rose** Says the guy who hides his face.
Like Reply 8w 1


 **Hayley Pipkorn** Couldn't agree more Paul! Perfectly said!
Like Reply 8w 1


 **Paul White** Daniel Rose exactly!
Like Reply 8w 1

 **Tipene Maniatoto** Don't like the truth , don't read it
Like Reply 8w 8


 **Paul White** Tipene Maniatoto coz...you...were...there?
Like Reply 8w 1


 **Robyn Rylands** Paul White were you
Like Reply 8w 1

 **Paul White** Robyn Rylands no..but i'm not actively trying to tarnish a person who has put his life on the line. Go away, now.
Like Reply 8w 2

 **Layla Williams** Paul White I think he's wonderful, but if there's something we don't know and he HAS been intimidating others , i'd like to know the truth
Like Reply 8w 1

 **Paul White** Layla Williams "truth"...who defines "truth"?
Like Reply 8w 1

 **Charlie Mac** We want journalists to keep those in power accountable and when they actually do, we tell them they have stooped too low. Ha!
Like Reply 8w Edited 4

 **Paul White** Charlie Mac unfortunately, in the "click bait" era, the quality and accuracy of journalism is not what it was pre social media and digital days. Chat (11)

Like Reply · 8w

Michael Bromely Paul are you supporting war criminals? The ADF has a strict moral code. War criminals bring the ADF and our nation into disrepute. ... See More
Like Reply 8w

Paul White Mike Bromely so YOU are judge, jury and executioner? You have found him guilty of something that he hasn't even been charged with. I'm glad Ben and our services fought against a tyranny that you clearly represent.
Like Reply 8w

Raymond Devitt Paul White its not that Afghanistan was invading us! I'm glad the SMH followed this up!
Like Reply 8w

Paul White Raymond Devitt here come the left wing nut jobs
Like Reply · 8w

Layla Williams Paul White ummm ...an investigation
Like Reply 8w

Layla Williams Paul White no one has found him guilty, but if there are accusations, there has to be a investigation. I hope he is proved innocent
Like Reply 8w

Write a reply...

Kevin Parker Gee, we can't have anything nice these days, can we?
Like Reply 8w

Andrew Dimpel Media love know his personal details, about his personal live, where they can get a story...
Like Reply 8w

Stephen Roberts Troll
Like Reply 8w

Write a reply...

Peter Greenwood War is a very very very nasty thing just let sleeping dogs lay
Like Reply 8w

Meg Smith I'm guessing 'so many questions are being asked' because some editor said 'dig up the dirt on Roberts-Smith'.
Like Reply 8w Edited

Richard Dickinson Why you ask.....because media scum keeping bringing it up. Typical SMH at it again.
Like Reply 8w

Reddie Liew If there's any wrongdoing by a soldier, it should be the military court or panel deciding it, not the public
Like Reply 8w

Sue Sutcliffe Good old SMH always tearing Australia and Australians down
Like Reply 8w

Jacqueline Buchanan Too easy to jump on the bandwagon and judge by what media says.
Like Reply · 8w


Matt Nicholas Because some people have too much time on their hands
Like Reply 8w


Patty Panatou Perhaps guilt will be his undoing if it's true.
Like Reply 8w


Carl Spencer Until you put your life in harms way for those you do not even know do not judge.
Like Reply 8w


Nick Priestley So Yumi Stynes was right !!!
Like Reply 8w


Meagan Jaunutis This was the article Debbie Miller
Like Reply 8w Chat (11)


- 


Mitchell Cooper Kate Finch dude is a straight up psychopath though
Like Reply 8w
- 


Nicholas Triggs Bullies NEVER believe that they have done anything wrong. They're right all the time. His VC should be taken off him. helen
Like Reply 8w
- 


Dave Glennie and your keyboard should be taken off you 😊
Like Reply 8w
- 


Baz Corboy Got all the FACTS on this have you
Like Reply 8w
- 


Write a reply...
- 


Deborah Higgins Nic Ingle, I'm here finally
Like Reply 8w
- 

Nicholas Triggs He has disgraced the past, present and future military personal who do their jobs with dignity, humanity, pride etc. As a past military person I'm find this kind of behaviour abhorrent. He doesn't deserve to keep any medals including the VC. Helen
Like Reply 8w
- 

Ben Cameron Very interesting article.
Like Reply 8w
- 

Julie Marks Wolf in sheep's clothing
Like Reply 8w
- 

Marnya Graham The tiger in the street.
Like Reply 8w
- 

Deborah Harris Where there's smoke there's fire.
Like Reply 8w
- 

Cheryl Wilkinson Marcus Cusack, a must read for you.
Like Reply 8w

[View more comments](#)

50 of 120

https://twitter.com/Gunsinaustralia/status/1027962476718844

Guns in Australia on Twitter... Fairfax hatchet job on Ben Rob...

Home Moments

400,000 Followers

Guns in Australia
@Gunsinaustralia

Firearms Blogger. Holding the media and politicians to account. RT ≠ E

NSW

Joined August 2012

Guns in Australia @Gunsinaustralia

Another @SMH left wing looney article that purports sensationalist allegations, without substance against a decorated Victoria Cross recipient after the fact. #cutailpoppies #auspol #BenRobertsSmith

Beneath the bravery of our most decorated soldier
New questions hover over Ben Roberts-Smith, VC, Father of the Year, and Australia's most decorated Afghanistan warrior.

SMH.COM.AU

8:14 AM - 10 Aug 2016

3 Retweets 8 Likes

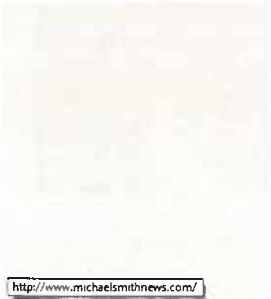
3 8



Fairfax hatchet job on Ben Roberts Smith VC

MG

Friday, 10 August 2018



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Ben Roberts Smith VC MG is an executive with Channel 7.

This hatchet job is courtesy of the newly minted Nine-Fairfax smear merchants.

Here's a wordcount:

- allege - 24
- allegation 23
- claim - 13
- sources - 8

You can read the entire piece [here](#) if you must.

Here's an excerpt.

The Sydney Morning Herald

Beneath the bravery: The dark secrets of our most decorated soldier

Victoria Cross recipient, Father of the Year, business leader and mental health advocate - Ben Roberts-Smith is one of Australia's most respected public figures. So why are so many questions being asked about his past?



Fairfax hatchet job on Ben Roberts Smith VC
MG
(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fair-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html>)

Friday, 10 August 2018 (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fair-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html>)



(<http://michaelsmithnews.typepad.com/.a/6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a76485200b-pi>)

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allege - 24
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sources - 8

You can read the entire piece here if you must. (<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/beneath-the-bravery-the-dark-secrets-of-our-most-decorated-soldier-20180801-p4zuwp.html>)

Here's an excerpt.

The Sydney Morning Herald

Beneath the bravery: The dark secrets of our most decorated soldier

Victoria Cross recipient, Father of the Year, business leader and mental health advocate - Ben Roberts-Smith is one of Australia's most respected public figures. So why are so many questions being asked about his past?

By Nick McKenzie, David Wroe & Chris Masters
10 AUGUST 2018

(<http://michaelsmithnews.typepad.com/pi>)

When Malcolm Turnbull gave a speech four months ago about the struggle some veterans faced readjusting to civilian life, it was hard to ignore the man towering behind him in the Great Hall of Parliament House.

Hands clasped and head slightly bowed, Australia's most decorated Afghanistan veteran, Ben Roberts-Smith, stood on stage with the Prime Minister as a living testament to success after the military.

Having received a Victoria Cross for bravery during an assault on the Afghan village of Tizak in 2010 – an award that was preceded by a Medal for Gallantry and followed by a Commendation for Distinguished Service – Roberts-Smith was in the midst of a seemingly successful transition into corporate life.

The transformation from battlefield to boardroom was significant. For 10 years, Roberts-Smith had served with Australia's Special Air Service Regiment, a unit of elite soldiers who are mostly not allowed to speak about their work.

Receiving the Commonwealth's ultimate bravery award made Roberts-Smith an instant celebrity. His agent began charging thousands to corporate clients to hear not only from "the most decorated soldier in the Commonwealth" but a man who had also been named "Australian Father of the Year".

He was appointed chairman of the Australia Day Council, the deputy chairman of the Prime Minister's defence mental health committee and veterans' employment committee. He became the public face of a campaign against "one punch" violence and the "Stay Kind" campaign, which urges Australians to look after vulnerable mates.

He helped select domestic violence campaigner Rosie Batty as an Australian of the Year. The award ceremony produced an evocative image of the 196-centimetre warrior gently comforting a tearful Batty.

The photograph fitted his public ethos, which was to value "moral courage" above physical prowess and "cherish your family every single day".

There's much more of the smear and innuendo at the SMH - then this.

Denials and accusations

For his part, Roberts-Smith traces the complaints about his behaviour to the awarding of the VC in 2011. His forceful, driven personality – one shared by many in the regiment – stoked resentment.

When queried about this last year, he said: "I am hard, I get that, but there is no one I beat up harder than myself. You are supposed to be better. If not, you should not be there. Because if you make a mistake, someone is going to die."

His supporters insist the allegations stem from envy, most particularly from disgruntled veterans. Roberts-Smith's defamation lawyer also blames sensationalist journalists for seeking to bring down a war hero through a "smear campaign".

Ross Coulthart – a former TV investigative journalist who is now a public relations consultant for a firm, Cato and Clegg – is working closely with Roberts-Smith and his lawyer on his own investigation into Fairfax Media's reporting.

Coulthart has interviewed SAS soldiers close to Roberts-Smith and is privately insisting to people linked to Channel Seven there is no evidence of any wrongdoing. However, he and the PR firm's Sue Cato have declined to share that evidence. Publicly, Coulthart refuses even to say who he is working for.

Roberts-Smith has previously decried his critics as hypocrites, saying: "The bullying is what they do to me. Bullies are cowards. They stay in the shadows. This is about group cowardice. I don't like bullies. I am sick of it."

He has been unequivocal he has no questions to answer in respect of any of his actions in Afghanistan.

"I've been under the microscope for the last six years and, you know what, my record is spotless," he said in a newspaper interview when questions about his conduct in Afghanistan first emerged publicly in October 2017.

Ben appears to be fair game for the innuendo and smear merchants.

Try to imagine Fairfax running something based on the hard concrete evidence against Gillard and you'll have a fairly good insight into the state of this country's media and its priorities.

Posted at 11:48 AM | Permalink (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html>) | Comments (39)
(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comments>)

🐦 (<http://twitter.com/share?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.michaelsmithnews.com%2F2018%2F08%2Ffairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html&text=Fairfax%20hatchet%20job%20on%20Ben%20Roberts%20Smith%20VC%20MG>) | 📘 (<http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.michaelsmithnews.com%2F2018%2F08%2Ffairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html>)

Comments



Philip said...

A little religion for the media - Let he who is without sin cast the first stone.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 12:17 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3619055200c>)



Steve Wilson said...

What kind of idiot joins the military only to fight the wars of the ruling elite, the same ruling elite that do not put their sons and daughters in harm's way. The same ruling elite that destroyed our way of life. So I ask you what kind of idiot joins the military to fight, for what? What are they fighting for it certainly isn't our way of life they are fighting for.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 12:26 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a76670200b>)



Dennis Schmidt (<http://www.thefrangipaniman.com>) said in reply to Steve Wilson...

they are there to fight for their country, something you and those like you would simply refuse to do. Those joining the armed forces are not there for the glory but to do what they can if they are called into action, this man did just that as have others that did not make it back to Australia. Australians should be proud of their actions and what they have given for the country not deride it

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 03:46 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad36197ea200c>)



ZK2A said in reply to Steve Wilson...

I'd like to see your voice that opinion in the "Gratto" at Campbell Barracks.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 06:32 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3619c36200c>)



Nemesis (<http://nemesisspeaks.com>) said in reply to Steve Wilson...

Your use of the term, 'idiot' in which to describe the warrior says much about your own thinking that would tend to exclude the warrior class - those who run toward trouble and not away from it - and their role in defending what they take to hold dear and whose actions benefit those who don't have the stomach for the killing of our enemies.

And there are 220 million of them on our northern doorstep in case you were wondering who our closest potential enemy may be.

Wars may be conjured up by an 'elite' who think nothing of the warrior class who put their lives forward to fight them while the 'elite' benefit financially from such chaos, but you miss one very important point, and that is, if not for the warrior class we would already have been over run by our potential enemies and you would not be in the position you now occupy to freely complain about our warrior class as being 'idiots'.

Think about it!

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 07:45 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361c653200c>)



GOM said in reply to Steve Wilson...

I'd like you to say that face to face with either myself or any of my Brother's from the Royal Australian Regiment, you'd be spitting ya teeth out.
But then again it's what we have seen over and over again Keyboard cowards like yourself.
All talk behind your screens.
Ya weak p...k

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 10:58 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7a405200b>)



Phil said in reply to Steve Wilson...

People go to war due to a result of failed diplomacy. Maybe a better question would be "what sort of ineffectual clown continues to remain in his or her elected taxpayer funded elected position after they send young men and women into harms way because they could not effectively play on the world stage?".

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 08:20 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387f708200d>)



Mon said...

Reading that makes me want to cry. What utter mongrels.

They would be better off doing a job on the guy who is infiltrating the armed forces with pink nail polish ideas.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 12:32 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387a620200d>)



Dennis Thompson said...

I haven't forgotten the smearing of Captain Andrew Hastie.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 12:43 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387a662200d>)



Harry said...

We are expected to pay attention to civilians who have never set foot on a battle field seeking to judge those who have? I think not.

The only question that needs asking about the motives of the media is cui bono. Speculation is always more exciting than rationality and the media lost the latter a long time ago.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 01:02 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a767bb200b>)



MAC 1 said...

Doesn't Ben Roberts Smith work for channel 7?

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 01:18 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad36192f8200c>)

Ed said in reply to MAC 1...

The first sentence under the lead photo of him states and I quote "Ben Roberts Smith VC MG is an executive with Channel 7".

Did you miss that or not realise an 'executive' of a company actually works for that company?

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 04:31 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a76e77200b>)



Ron OKnox said...

My understanding is that most SAS members don't/won't even own up to being part of the Special Forces let alone discuss the inner details of actions or missions.
How is it then that these journo's (and I use that description loosely) are able to get all this insider info and alleged details of letters of complaint etc.

If you were a serving member, especially a SAS member I would reckon you would seriously be worried about the integrity of the squealers and doblers that are reported as being or having been in the squad.

Surely this must undermine the safety of SAS members.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 01:21 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387a7ff200d>)



ZK2A said in reply to Ron OKnox...

Most SAS members I ever met would not even acknowledge that that unit even existed...

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 05:44 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a77092200b>)



Peter O'Brien said in reply to ZK2A...

What rubbish. The existence of the SASR has always been publicly known and it's unit title is displayed outside its HQ at Campbell Barracks. SASR members proudly wear a sand coloured beret with their own badge and their own distinctive parachute wings.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 08:44 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3620057200c>)



Rose4U said...

The more they keep up their hate and vitriol the more they will alienated any support for their cause. If they think the ordinary manual labourer swallows their nonsense, think again. The most humble worker, that is WORKER, aspires for a better future for themselves and their families and are waking up to the amoral trans alphabet, brain dead/washed apparatchiks. But it seems we have to go through some pain -again- before these idiots realise they are going to be the biggest losers.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 01:26 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a768ec200b>)



Old 2RAR Digger said...

Well you pissants who want to do, come out and present yourself for public scrutiny. No doubt, under combat conditions, things are done that may not be unacceptable to the norm. Perhaps, after having RPG's booming and hundreds of AK47 rounds cracking around your head it may lead to defensible actions outside the rule book. Once engaged in heavy action, the rule book goes out the window as the enemy don't have one.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 01:57 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387a9c8200d>)



C of Adelaide said in reply to Old 2RAR Digger...

Here, here!

Ben - I am so sorry that you are being attacked in this manner. I sincerely thank you for your service.

Lest We Forget.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 02:38 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387ab0f200d>)



Phil said in reply to Old 2RAR Digger...

Battle plan is only a plan until the first shot is fired.

Respect, Digger.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 08:24 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387f72c200d>)



Wayne Shaft said...

I thought that the Sydney Morning Homosexual had gone broke any any papers left over were being sold off to Budgie Fanciers ? □□□□□□

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 02:29 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387aab200d>)



Up The Workers! said in reply to Wayne Shaft...

Nah Wayne, the R.S.P.C.A. had to outlaw the use of the S.M.H. as budgie-cage-liner, as all the budgies were getting constipated.

Not even the budgies would crap on it.

THAT's when the 'S.M.H.' and the 'Aids' went broke and had to be sold.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 10:01 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387e1de200d>)



Philip said...

I do not remember Fairfax or channel Nine going after the politicians who committed our troops to these wars, when it was clearly proven that the reasons for them were nothing but blatant lies.

Here is an interesting like to pod-cast about "Debunking A Century of War Lies"

<https://www.corbettreport.com/warlies/> (<https://www.corbettreport.com/warlies/>)

In the modern age of democracy and volunteer armies, a pretense for war is required to rally the nation around the flag and motivate the public to fight. That is why every major conflict is now accompanied by its own particular bodyguard of lies. From false flag attacks to dehumanization of the "enemy," here are all the examples you'll need to help debunk a century of war lies.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 06:14 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a77174200b>)



Wayne Shaft said in reply to Phillip...

Of Course , Fake News , Propaganda from Caesar to Bush the Plebs fight the Corporate Wars , bit harder to Find the Right Scary Boogy man these Days , Many Sheep ☹️ Woke 🇺🇸🇺🇸

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 07:33 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a772f3200b>)



BarryOddesy- had enough to Turdbot said...

Id like to know where the alleged Prime Minister gets off interfering in Court Matters, he prejudged Archbishop Phillip Wilson while his "conviction" was being appealed. Now he has prejudged Ben Roberts-Smith VC and found him guilty of a number of unproven and possibly unfounded allegations.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 08:48 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3619fb2200c>)



Liz of Vic said...

Michael,

Well it is Fairfax, so what can ne expect.

The problem is that these allegations seem to stick around, if they continue.

I would have thought people would stick with Ben, after all without such people, it would not be our Australia.

Ben, I apologise on behalf of Fairfax to you, they want to take the crown of your head, well that is just not going to happen.

One reason why they are not so powerful anymore is the trend their newspapers took, so most people are aware of their colour and not impressed.

Reply Friday, 10 August 2018 at 10:27 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361a3b8200c>)



seeker of truth said...

Ben Roberts Smith is fighting back. He has issued his own detailed written statement vigorously denying the allegations made by Fairfax. He is also going to sue the bastards for defamation. Dr Brendan Nelson is supporting the VC recipient to the hilt.

"Throughout the upheaval, Australian War Memorial director Brendan Nelson has been a steadfast supporter of Mr Roberts-Smith and SAS soldiers who fought in Afghanistan.

Dr Nelson bemoaned the latest Fairfax Media reporting.

"I have to ask where is the national interest in what's being done here?" he said.

"It diminishes my respect for the media."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-10/ben-roberts-smith-denies-accusations-of-misconduct/10106652> (<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-10/ben-roberts-smith-denies-accusations-of-misconduct/10106652>)

Pity Fairfax couldn't report real news, like all the discoveries Michael has made pointing to Gillard's hands on involvement in the AWU fraud. Oh that's right, she is of the Left side of politics and a former PM so she is untouchable.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 03:03 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a78976200b>)



Nemesis (<http://nemesisspeaks.com>) said...

Unfortunately, the buck does not stop at our political class for our involvement in all the wars this country has been engaged in - our only truly defensive war, therefore legitimate IMHO, was W.W.2 against the Japs - the control over this country and the West, goes much higher and much deeper than many realize and is the reason for why our Australian Constitution is just a shadow copy of the most significant inalienable human rights document ever devised, the American Constitution.

Western 'intelligence' services such as MI6, MI5, ASIO and the CIA have been controlling the foreign policy of Western governments for a very long time - ever wonder why the West has always tended to move in lockstep on foreign issues, especially in wartime?

Look up the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Rothschild, Chatham House, London) and the impact that has had on foreign affairs and historical outcomes.

One should always remember, that nothing in politics happens by chance.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 08:10 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361c73a200c>)



Philip said in reply to Nemesis (<http://nemesisspeaks.com>)...
You are wrong about WW2 the Americans manipulated the Japanese into it.
Which technically then put us in it.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 05:44 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361dcd3200c>)



Nemesis (<http://nemesisspeaks.com>) said in reply to Philip...
You haven't outlined where you believe I am wrong. The Japs CHOSE to attack, not only their tormentors - the Americans - but then go on the warpath to stake a claim in their Asian Co-prosperity Scheme that would have isolated this country from the rest of the world as they bided their time in conquering us.
And if the attack on Pearl Harbor had been as successful as planned the Japs would have taken this country.
No one forced the Jap to go to war - in fact the Jap invaded China in 1937 with the intention of taking all of Asia under their influence. Their plans for such a 'venture' go all the way back to 1905 when they defeated the Russian Navy.
I would suggest to you that you need to do some more research as to the Japanese involvement in W.W.2.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 08:34 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361fff5200c>)



Roger Shoesmith said in reply to Philip...
I have to disagree with you Churchill manouvered the Japanese into a war to obtain the resources they required in the endeavour to bring America into the war as they were needed to ensure a British win.
Churchill's private secretary's memoir which was briefly on sale outlined quite clearly his role in negotiating with japans suppliers to stop the supply

Reply Tuesday, 25 September 2018 at 10:01 AM
(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3b37976200b>)



Nemesis (<http://nemesisspeaks.com>) said...
'Those whom the Gods wish to destroy they first make mad.' Or, words to that effect, but the meaning and significance of the quote simply cannot be ignored for what it is exposing in the dark recesses of 'journalistic' idiocy that is now based in ideology and never in reality, while it is then espoused and peddled as fact from such establishments as the Sydney Morning Herald and the Age that have shown how just how far they have fallen as once trusted purveyors of 'news' when taking to denigrating those in whom they have no answer to, and so, having already lost that 'narrative' take to attacking instead.
They are destroying themselves - and as 'Q' would state - enjoy the show! I certainly am!

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 08:22 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a79cfe200b>)



eric1 said...
Fairfax/ABC are nothing but anti-Australian pieces of shit.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 08:59 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361c96d200c>)



Mon said...
Wonder if the RSL have any tentacles in the denigrating of the character of this Australian returned soldier.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 09:31 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387e09a200d>)



Up The Workers! said...
So the child-molesters' apologists are trying to pour a steaming-hot bucket of gillarding on a V.C. winner?
Yeah, I can see that ending well.
The definition of stupidity is somebody who does the same thing over and over again, and expects to see a different result.
The Left's incessant and illogical gillarding about Donald Trump now has African Americans turning

to him in droves. They are deserting the Ku-Klux-Klinton Democrats, for Trump.

If the S.M.H. had a shred of credibility left, it wouldn't now be getting sold to Nine.

The more the Left lie, the bigger the hole they dig for themselves. Not even their own supporters believe them any more, which is why they need the votes of dead people to win elections with the help of all their dodgy Union pals who count the votes.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 09:54 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad387e156200d>)



RedneckRuss said...

Not even fit for toilet paper this rag. Sue the bastards brave soldier.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 11:22 AM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361d010200c>)



John Perth said...

This is disgrace and shows how Australian media is at its lowest for many years. Sensationalizing Stories and False news seem to be the agenda of News agencies. The ABC leads the way with biased reporting and I see it every day. Time to drain the swamp. Ben is an Australian war hero who is lucky to be alive yet they choose to write a negative article on him. Why? They should be concentrating on David Morrison who was a flash in the pan and now it is yesterdays news. This is the man who is an insult to Australians and our Military. You can now see why Fairfax media is in such big trouble and they are going backwards.

<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/rendezview/its-not-too-late-to-say-sorry-david-morrison-many-are-still-waiting-to-hear-a-few-simple-words/news-story/fa861060b1187f75598c0dbcff4288e9>
(<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/rendezview/its-not-too-late-to-say-sorry-david-morrison-many-are-still-waiting-to-hear-a-few-simple-words/news-story/fa861060b1187f75598c0dbcff4288e9>)

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 12:39 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7aa73200b>)



John Perth said...

Hmm didnt see this in the Fairfax article showing how he received his VC. The article was not balanced in any way with positives and responsible reporting. It states in the reasons for him receiving the VC that HIS PATROL commander threw a grenade so Ben was not the patrol commander. Sure it states in the article he was? His actions speak for themselves.

Upon commencement of the assault, the patrol drew very heavy, intense, effective and sustained fire from the enemy position. Roberts-Smith and his patrol members fought towards the enemy position until, at a range of 40 metres, the weight of fire prevented further movement forward. At this point, he identified the opportunity to exploit some cover provided by a small structure.

As he approached the structure, Roberts-Smith identified an insurgent grenadier in the throes of engaging his patrol. Roberts-Smith engaged the insurgent at point-blank range resulting in the death of the insurgent. With the members of his patrol still pinned down by the three enemy machine gun positions, he exposed his own position in order to draw fire away from his patrol, which enabled them to bring fire to bear against the enemy. His actions enabled his Patrol Commander to throw a grenade and silence one of the machine guns. Seizing the advantage, and demonstrating extreme devotion to duty and the most conspicuous gallantry, Roberts-Smith, with a total disregard for his own safety, stormed the enemy position killing the two remaining machine gunners.

His act of valor enabled his patrol to break into the enemy position and to lift the weight of fire from the remainder of the troop who had been pinned down by the machine gun fire. On seizing the fortified gun position, Corporal Roberts-Smith then took the initiative again and continued to assault enemy positions in depth during which he and another patrol member engaged and killed further enemy. His acts of selfless valour directly enabled his troop to go on and clear the village of Tizak of Taliban. This decisive engagement subsequently caused the remainder of the Taliban in Shah Wali Kot district to retreat from the area

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 12:52 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7aae2200b>)



GJohns said...

The issue here is that he is a 'white male' and not someone claiming to be 'gender neutral' in high heels & painted fingernails. The socialist-PC-lefties are intent on dismantling all that Western civilisation stands for. Multiculturalism-diversity-pro abortionists blah, blah, blah.

<http://morningmail.org/golden-girls-of-the-adf/> (<http://morningmail.org/golden-girls-of-the-adf/>)

This is what the ADF bureaucrats in Canberra embrace as acceptable standards -

<http://realpolitikasia.blogspot.com/2015/11/if-she-were-in-islamist-royal-malaysian.html>
(<http://realpolitikasia.blogspot.com/2015/11/if-she-were-in-islamist-royal-malaysian.html>)

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 03:57 PM (<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/fairfax-hatchet-job-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361d9e2200c>)



GJohns said...

This is clearly a 'Tall Poppy Syndrome'.

Similar accusations have been made against British Defence personnel and were finally found to have been false accusations, aided & abetted by human rights lawyers seeking financial compensation!

They will not be happy until they have dragged Australia down to the same level as Venezuela. The socialist-PC-Left who enjoy all the privileges, opportunities, living in a safe Western-Christian civilised country subsidised by hard-working Australians/Centrelink, never seem to contribute anything but they always have something to complain about.



Brendan Nelson - brilliant on Ben Roberts Smith VC MG. Well done Brendan. Lest We Forget.

Saturday, 11 August 2018

The Australian War memorial director Brendan Nelson has spoken about the claims made against Ben Roberts-Smith. #7News pic.twitter.com/avcEYbnFTH

— 7 News Sydney (@7NewsSydney) August 11, 2018

Posted at 08:24 PM | Permalink | Comments (30)



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Brendan Nelson - brilliant on Ben Roberts Smith VC MG. Well done Brendan. Lest We Forget.
(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html>)

Saturday, 11 August 2018
(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html>)

The Australian War memorial director Brendan Nelson has spoken about the claims made against Ben Roberts-Smith. #7News
(https://twitter.com/hashtag/7News?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)
[pic.twitter.com/avcEYbnFTH](https://t.co/avcEYbnFTH)
(<https://t.co/avcEYbnFTH>)

— 7 News Sydney (@7NewsSydney) August 11, 2018
(https://twitter.com/7NewsSydney/status/1028208561040445440?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

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🐦 (<http://twitter.com/share?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.michaelsmithnews.com%2F2018%2F08%2Fbrendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html&text=Brendan...>) | [f](http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.michaelsmithnews.com%2F2018%2F08%2Fbrendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html) (<http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.michaelsmithnews.com%2F2018%2F08%2Fbrendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html>)

Comments



brizziebussie said...

Well spoken Brendan Nelson. Ben Roberts Smith is a national treasure and should have all the accolades accorded to such a person. Who are these gutless smear merchants, and what would they know about going into harms way? F*****g desk warriors make me sick, they'd shit their pants if they ever had to go to war.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 08:59 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361e1e4200c>)



Liz of Vic said...

Michael,

Yes it was written up in The Australian, also that ben is suing Fairfax, I hope that Ben gets quite a few millions out of them, as it was an absolute disgrace.

That would help a young family, also Fairfax is not loaded, unless they still have insurance.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 09:28 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7b907200b>)



GJohns said...

The UK has dealt with similar accusations against the British Forces personnel -

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/5571601/ministry-of-defence-has-spent-100mn-in-abuse-compensation-from-iraq-and-afghanistan/>
(<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/5571601/ministry-of-defence-has-spent-100mn-in-abuse-compensation-from-iraq-and-afghanistan/>)

This is an excellent article -

<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/9181/british-military>
(<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/9181/british-military>)

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 09:42 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7b9bb200b>)



serenity747 (<http://profile.typepad.com/6p01901bd88c48970b>) said...

The people behind this smear should be exposed and hung drawn and quartered , and hounded out of what ever position they hold , they are nothing more than cowards , seems the socialists are really pushing their luck at the moment , the squibs are controlling the show.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 11:18 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361e880200c>)



Alice said...

Thank God for strong men like Brendan Nelson the Australian War Memorial director.

It is so good to hear somebody has the backs of our SAS and is prepared to stand up for them.

The grubs making these claims sound like would bes if they could bes.

Thank you for your service Ben Roberts Smith.

Lest We Forget.

Off topic Brendon Nelson is another good Australian leader whiteanted by Turnbull .

One of the many.

Reply Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 11:54 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad361ea69200c>)



ZK2A said in reply to Alice...

The problem is that some of those claims are made by Ben Roberts - Smith's fellow troopers.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 12:32 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3881e81200d>)



BarryOddessy- had enough to Turdbot said in reply to ZK2A...

As I understand it some 200 interviews were conducted none of Roberts-Smiths troop nor anyone who he had been on operations with was spoken to.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 08:54 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3882cd5200d>)



Up The Workers! said...

You can tell a lot about a man, by the company he keeps.

Ben Roberts-Smith V.C.; M.G., might never have personally met them, but he joins Tony Abbott, Cardinal George Pell and U.S.President Donald Trump as a victim of the blind leftard hatred and muck-slinging of notorious Labor bum-wipes, the Silly Moaning Haemorrhoid (doing one last circuit of the toilet bowl before it finally disappears unlamented down the "S"-bend of history) and the A.L.P.B.C.

Unlike Juliar Gillard's expensive post-nominals - bought with a load of taxpayers' cash, Ben Roberts-Smith actually earned his on the field of battle.

The grubs currently trying to blacken his reputation, are the same sort of vile prestittutes who want to see the likes of a cowardly accused child-molesting rapist as our next Prime Minister, with a convicted-criminal former heroin-dealers' spouse as his Deputy and a recidivist freshly-rubbed-and-tugged brothel-hopper as their backstop.

That's a pretty stark choice at the next election.

Who do you want - the side that reveres the likes of Ben Roberts-Smith V.C.; M.G. as representing all that is good and courageous, or the muck-raking scumbags, vilifiers and leftard grubs who routinely try to blacken the reputations of such people as him because decent human beings simply do not exist on the Left side of politics amongst all their exemplary child-molesters, accused rapists, heroin-dealers' spouses, recidivist brothel-hoppers, perverts, deviants, criminals, and "Troughmen"?

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 07:02 AM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7d2ff200b>)



Rose4U said in reply to Up The Workers!...

Read Andrew Bolts's latest on the vilification of the lovely intelligent Jacinta Price, utterly disgraceful and we pay for these vile people.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 11:01 AM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3881bee200d>)



Wayne Shaft said...

Brendan another Victim of the White Ant 🐜 Turnbull, but 100 🇺🇸 Times more Human . 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 08:00 AM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad388153c200d>)



Nemesis (<http://nemesispeaks.com>) said...

A great rebuttal to how some 'journalists' tend to slander everything that they do not agree with and whose outlook on this country and those who call themselves patriots would fit comfortably with the very people that Ben Roberts-Smith was sent to do battle with.

Much of our 'fourth estate' has become our cultural enemy - folks now need to take that on board.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 08:16 AM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad38815ec200d>)



Andy Pandie said...

Brilliantly stated.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 09:25 AM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad36201b0200c>)



Dennis Thompson said...

16th September, 2008 – Turnbull's merciless campaign of undermining and destabilisation against Brendan Nelson succeeds. He wins the party room leadership ballot by a few votes, and becomes leader of the federal parliamentary Liberal Party.

Annabel Crabb, writing in the Quarterly Essay:

"A force of nature" is how Tim Costello once described him, and this is a variation on an oft-repeated theme among colleagues, many of whom, from the moment of his nomination for the seat of Wentworth, have viewed

Turnbull as a sort of galloping inevitability – something to be got through, like puberty or chickenpox.”

Former Treasurer Peter Costello says:

“Turnbull’s supporters were ruthless in tearing down Nelson. Weakened by this campaign and suffering poor polls, Nelson called another ballot. Turnbull won by four votes. In total, only three votes moved. It was an ominous sign. He got there, but not by building support among his colleagues.”

Brendan Nelson later says:

“Most of the people who supported him [in the Liberal party room ballot for the leadership] voted for him to get rid of him... If you had any idea of what he said to me over those 10 months [of Nelson’s leadership], you would be shocked.... You need to look up narcissistic personality disorder. There’s about 5 per cent of the population who are born with narcissistic traits, and about 2 per cent have narcissism. He’s got narcissistic personality disorder. He says the most appalling things and can’t understand why people get upset. He has no empathy.”

Turnbull though, in an interview on Channel 9’s A Current Affair program immediately after the knifing, tells an outright lie. Host Tracy Grimshaw asks the following question:

“...you and your supporters have been the key destabilisers of Brendan Nelson these past 10 months haven’t you?”

Turnbull replied:

“That is completely untrue. That is absolutely untrue.”

www.stopturnbull.com

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 09:46 AM

(http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad362021d200c)



Wayne Shaft said in reply to Dennis Thompson...

Now the Final insult The NEG Carbon Tax that spells the End of the Liberal Party ☹️ PM Shorten increases the Bullshit Emission Target ☹️ and our National Decline is Set in Concrete ! The PARIS Tax that Ate Australia ☹️



Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 11:35 AM

(http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad36204b2200c)



Mon said in reply to Dennis Thompson...

Hope Brendan Nelson has the opportunity to remove Fitzsimmon from the Board of the War Memorial before he retires.

The PM is a disgrace, operating as a dictator with in the Liberal Party and the weak minded politicians go along for the ride.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 12:38 PM

(http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3881eaf200d)



Anthony Feez said in reply to Dennis Thompson...

Love to know who the three gutless ones were, their responsible for the godawful mess we have today!

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 01:19 PM

(http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7e062200b)



Bernadette said in reply to Dennis Thompson...

Does anyone remember the names of Turnbull's supporters then? It would be interesting to see who then went on to support him when he usurped PM Abbott.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 08:30 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad362134f200c>)



visions said in reply to Bernadette...

truebluenz.com lists all the Turnbull backers - I have a copy and cross each one out as they leave

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 11:58 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad36218c0200c>)



serenity747 (<http://profile.typepad.com/6p01901bd88c48970b>) said in reply to Bernadette...

I wonder if Lord Wentworth had some private meetings with Tony Windsor and Rob Oakeshott, I think it would be more than a chance that he did, he is that vindictive to sway them away from giving Abbott support, Remember that he and Clive Palmer all of a sudden became good buddies to push Palmer away from the coalition.

Reply Monday, 13 August 2018 at 08:03 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad38860f1200d>)



Rob Moore said...

Yes- very well said Brendan.

You are looking and sounding almost "saintly"- compared to the current mob of deviates/pretenders/charletons & crooks.

Who was it that knifed you in the back- wasn't this current ALP grub was it???-or was it?

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 10:10 AM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7da14200b>)



Mon said...

Brendan Nelson, thank you for your welcoming words of good judgement. Something the PM of the day is sadly lacking.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 12:30 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7de07200b>)



Dennis Thompson said...

Moving forward ...

PART 4 | Relentless Undermining (2009 – 2015)

This part covers Turnbull's ruthless campaign of needling and white-anting against Prime Minister Tony Abbott. I demonstrate that Turnbull didn't merely take advantage of Abbott's poor polling, he helped create it.

www.stoptrunbull.com

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 01:53 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7e132200b>)



Wayne Shaft said in reply to Dennis Thompson...

Maybe Newspoll should have a New New Brand New

Methodology. ☹️🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 04:54 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3620e08200c>)



Dennis Thompson said...

Wreck the Liberal Party ...

25th November, 2008 – Turnbull says Liberals will support Labor's workplace relations laws. Meanwhile, one of Turnbull's lieutenants, Scott Morrison, pushes anti-conservative, anti-Howard era rhetoric:

"There's enthusiasm to define a new Liberal agenda for the next Coalition government...A lot of us are talking about Liberal agendas in areas like social justice, the environment..." 81

Further, the far-left columnist, ABC radio host, and former Communist Party member Phillip Adams says he has "long supported" Turnbull's ascendancy within the Liberal Party because he thinks Turnbull has the "clout" to fundamentally change the party, and move it away from conservatism:

"With Turnbull's proven ability to stack branches, now's the time for him to stack some more... The Liberal Party must attract a new generation of comparative progressives to its ranks..." 82

www.stopturnbull.com.au

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 02:34 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3620a75200c>)



MAC 1 said...

I read where Turnbull has stated to the SMH that he is aware that Ben R S is under investigation by the police over domestic violence matters.

THAT'S OUR PM.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 03:12 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3882436200d>)



Mon said in reply to MAC 1...

Turnbull is an utter disgrace.

Repeating the behaviour he handed out to Barnaby Joyce.

Wonder if the man that now heads up the RSL has any fingers in this attack on R-S.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 05:49 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad38827c8200d>)



Bernadette said in reply to MAC 1...

I am surprised he hasn't called a Royal Commission into it (sarc). At least Dr Nelson came out and said what Turnbull should have said. I am sure if Mr Abbott was still our PM, he would of!

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 08:35 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7ea8b200b>)



Salome said...

There are some people in our community who don't want us to have an SAS. They probably don't even want us to have armed forces. They want their version of 'peace' at any cost, or all costs. No border protection because there shouldn't be borders--one big lovey-dovey world. And then there are people who live in the real world, who see that nations need borders and people to protect them. Those people don't appear to inhabit the pages of the Fairfax press.

Reply Sunday, 12 August 2018 at 11:09 PM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3a7ef1e200b>)



Up The Workers! said...

YAY!

The A.L.P.'s Prime Quisling, Halal Mal Turncoat, has now achieved the record of losing 38 (thirty eight) consecutive Newspolls.

Neither Tony Abbott nor Brendan Nelson ever had a record like THAT one.

When he finally hands over the seat he has been warming for the cowardly, accused child-molesting rapist and the convicted criminal heroin-dealers' spouse, I reckon they will award him a Life Membership of the Crims' Party together with however much cash happens to be in the H.S.U.'s (Help yourSelf Union's) bank account as a token of their appreciation.

Reply Monday, 13 August 2018 at 06:10 AM

(<http://www.michaelsmithnews.com/2018/08/brendan-nelson-brilliant-on-ben-roberts-smith-vc-mg-well-done-brendan-lest-we-forget.html#comment-6a0177444b0c2e970d022ad3622818200c>)



Up The Workers! said...

Having mastered the art of warfare, it is encouraging to see in today's Melbourne Morning Murdoch that Ben Roberts-Smith V.C.; M.G. is now turning his hand to the potentially vastly lucrative field of "defamation lawfare" against the usual suspect leftard presstitute slimeball propagandists of the A.L.P. gutter-press.

He has let his savage attack bulldust-mastiffs off the leash and they are following a strong, fresh scent-trail of ordure right back to the doors of the A.L.P.B.C. and Fauxfacts. I expect that they will soon emerge dripping blood and cash having bitten a sizeable chunk out of some oily Fauxfacts fact-molesters' wallet and bank account.

I wonder if it is too late for Channel 9 to pull out of the deal with Fauxfacts?

Who'd want to pay in order to couple yourself with such a bunch of inveterate losers as that lot? You'd want to be careful that in inviting them into your house, they are not bringing in all their accumulated defamation debts to be paid out of your own bank account.

Fauxfacts might find a merger of their firm with the Sewage Treatment Works, an altogether more mutually compatible marriage.


Fauxfacts should have stuck with what they do best - pumping up the tyres of those exemplary heroes of the Labour movement - the Q.W.E.R.T.Y.L.G.B.T.Q.I.S.S.M.A.L.P.A.C.T.U.'s and "Troughman".

Throwing leftard muck and lies at a man who has won the Victoria Cross, is a different battle with a different species, entirely!

THE AUSTRALIAN

Frustration at looking on led to making of hero Ben Roberts-Smith

By **CRAIG BLANCH**

12:00AM AUGUST 18, 2018 •  72 COMMENTS

Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith was about a month away from the end of his fifth tour of Afghanistan at the time of his Victoria Cross action. The incident occurred in the Shah Wali Kot district of Kandahar province following an operation that began on June 10, 2010, when a commando company was sent into the Shinazef Valley to disrupt an insurgent network.

Roberts-Smith's Special Air Service Regiment troop was on standby at Camp Russell in Tarin Kowt, awaiting the order to kill or capture enemy commanders. Early the following morning it was confirmed that a high-level target located the previous day was in Tizak, with an estimated 20 Taliban defenders in the village.

At 7.30am, 25 SASR operators and five Afghan police left Tarin Kowt in four US Black Hawk helicopters. Roberts-Smith's patrol was in the fourth Black Hawk, providing aerial fire support to the ground assault force, as well as being the reserve assault team.

As the assault team landed it was pinned down by heavy fire. Roberts-Smith's Black Hawk was ordered to the far end of the valley, where it was engaged from a rocky feature by insurgents armed with rocket-propelled grenades and machineguns. Roberts-Smith and another SASR sniper were sitting at the open door, firing at the insurgents as bullets tipped into the helicopter. At one point an RPG passed under Roberts-Smith's feet as his legs dangled from the side of the Black Hawk. The insurgents eventually were killed by snipers on the opposite side of the aircraft. The helicopter then landed so the bodies could be cleared and the weapons gathered.

By this time the conditions at Tizak had not improved, and Roberts-Smith's patrol was ordered back to the village. The helicopter, now low on fuel, landed under heavy fire and the patrol jumped out amid the dust cloud kicked up by the rotors. Roberts-Smith, the last to disembark, had not been wearing his body armour as it impeded his ability to aim his rifle; it was left behind on the aircraft.

From its position the patrol could see the exact location of one of the insurgents' main machinegun positions. An Apache gunship attack was called in and the position was silenced, relieving some of the pressure on the initial assault force and allowing the evacuation of wounded. As the force moved off towards the target, however, it was again pinned down by enfilading machinegun fire. Grenades and another Apache strafing attack failed to silence the enemy.

After 20 minutes of this, Roberts-Smith's commander suggested that they outflank the enemy position. While the assault force gave covering fire, the patrol swept through a nearby fig orchard in two groups: Roberts-Smith and two SASR operators on the left, with the patrol's commander and two other operators to the right. The Australians killed an insurgent they surprised in the orchard, but were forced to ground when they came to within 80m of a mud-walled compound.

Roberts-Smith's group managed to move within 20m of the compound before it was stopped by the sheer volume of fire. Seeing an outbuilding that could provide protection, Roberts-Smith rushed it while another operator gave covering fire. Just as he reached the building, he saw an insurgent aiming an RPG on the commander's group. Roberts-Smith killed the insurgent through the window before the round could be fired.

With heavy fire still pouring from the compound, Roberts-Smith threw a grenade towards the enemy position with no effect. However, his actions drew the fire away from the other patrol members, allowing the commander to silence a machinegun with a grenade. In the following confusion, Roberts-Smith rushed another enemy machinegun, killing its operator, before moving along the wall and killing the operator of the gun pinning down the initial assault force. The patrol was joined by that force, and after further heavy fighting the village was cleared.

Roberts-Smith narrowly escaped becoming a fatality that day. During the mopping up, he and another team member were acting as scouts when Roberts-Smith was fired on by an insurgent jumping out from behind some nearby rocks. Somehow the bullets missed, and the insurgent was killed by the second scout. Asked about this later, Roberts-Smith put the incident down to sheer luck.

By the end of the fighting more than 70 insurgents were dead, including significant commanders. Roberts-Smith was credited with being instrumental in the success of the attack, a statement with which he later disagreed.

“I was awarded the Victoria Cross for my part in the battle, but others were equally deserving that day,” he says. “Nobody knows what they did, so it’s up to me as the one in the public eye to speak for them.”

The fighting at Tizak was part of a broader offensive fought in May and June 2010 in the Shah Wali Kot district. For their actions during this period, both SASR and the 2nd Commando Regiment were awarded the first battle honour since the end of the Vietnam War.

Roberts-Smith was once told by a teacher that he would never make a soldier. Years later the two met again, and the teacher admitted with a grin that he might have been wrong.

Roberts-Smith was born in Perth on November 1, 1978, the son of Major General Len and Sue Roberts-Smith, and attended the Hale School. As a boy he could have been a more diligent student but there was never any doubt in his mind that he would be a soldier. Family members had served in the armed forces since the Boer War, including three who had landed on Gallipoli on April 25, 1915. In 1996 the 17-year-old joined the Australian regular army straight from school.

Following training, Roberts-Smith was posted to the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, with whom he was deployed twice to Malaysia and on two operational tours of East Timor. There he witnessed SASR soldiers inserted into action by helicopter while he watched, frustrated, from the sidelines. At that moment he decided that he would join the SASR or leave the army.

In 2003 Roberts-Smith completed the SASR selection course and deployed to Fiji and Iraq before his first tour to Afghanistan in 2006. In that first tour he was awarded the Medal for Gallantry for his actions as a patrol sniper and scout at a remote observation post in the Chora Valley of Oruzgan province. The post was subjected to several enemy attacks, and on several occasions Roberts-Smith moved to exposed positions to deal with the threats.

In 2007 Roberts-Smith was rocked by the death of his friend, mentor and “the bravest man I ever knew”, fellow SASR operator Sergeant Matthew Locke, who was killed in action in Afghanistan on October 25. Locke had been awarded the Medal of Gallantry in the same action as Roberts-Smith in 2006. On January 23, 2011, Roberts-Smith was invested with the Victoria Cross by governor-general Quentin Bryce in Perth.

Back in 1998 Ben had met Emma Groom at a wet and muddy Kapyong Day Ball at Holsworthy Barracks in Sydney. Emma came from a proud military family but was determined not to become involved with a soldier. Nevertheless, they were married at the University of Western Australia on December 6, 2003, and in 2010 welcomed twin daughters, Eve and Elizabeth. Her husband’s work was a source of tension and worry for Emma, reinforced with each deployment by the request that he update his will. That anxiety grew when another friend, Sergeant Blaine Diddams, was killed in action three days into Roberts-Smith’s sixth and final tour of Afghanistan in 2012.

During this last tour Roberts-Smith headed more than 50 high-risk operations. On October 21 he led six SASR operators, a signaller and an interpreter on foot on a lone reconnaissance patrol deep into the Taliban stronghold of Char-Chine to locate an enemy commander. At first light the patrol set an ambush and killed two insurgents before coming under fire. The patrol was outnumbered and surrounded by a field of improvised explosive devices, with only two possible routes of escape. Decisions made by Roberts-Smith during this period made possible the patrol’s escape, and the intelligence gathered on the mission led to the killing of the insurgent commander. For his actions during this period he was awarded the Commendation for Distinguished Service. According to his citation, his actions “reflected his dedication to duty and martial skill, and epitomised the regimental motto ‘Who Dares Wins’ ”.

A week after arriving back from Afghanistan in late 2012, Roberts-Smith walked into the almost deserted Campbell Barracks in Swanbourne, Perth, and handed in his gear, effectively leaving the army. As patrol commander he had achieved his final goal and was looking towards a more secure future for his family.

Extract from For Valour: Australians Awarded the Victoria Cross by Craig Blanch and Aaron Pegram for the Australian War Memorial, published by NewSouth Publishing (\$79.99), available November 1.

Charles 1 MONTH AGO

I'm sure Nick McKenzie and Chris Masters know better, having exhibited such heroism, bravery and self-sacrifice during multiple tours shining their office seats in central Melbourne. It's just murder trying to get a decent espresso there.

Like 

Andrew 1 MONTH AGO

Mr Chris Masters is, in my opinion, the most over-rated journalist working in the language.

Like 

Bruce 1 MONTH AGO

Chris Masters is an evil purveyor of fake news.

Like 

Mike R. 1 MONTH AGO

@Bruce He makes terrible judgement calls. It would not be the first time he tries to 'break journalistic ground' by hacking at people who do an honest day's work for the sake of our country.

Like 

Like 15.5M

Thursday, Oct 11th 2018 5PM 13°C 8PM 11°C 5-Day Forecast

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'I'm 100 per cent behind him': Widow of decorated SAS soldier comes to the defence of Victoria Cross recipient Ben Roberts-Smith after he denies allegations of war crimes and domestic violence

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- The widow of SAS soldier has defended Ben Robert-Smith amid allegations
- Leigh Locke-Thomas remained close with retired soldier after her husband died
- Mr Locke and Mr Robert-Smith were mates who fought together in Afghanistan
- Earlier in the week, Mr Robert-Smith launched defamation case against Fairfax
- He claims the media company portrayed him as an inhumane murderer and bully

By ZOE ZACZEK FOR DAILY MAIL AUSTRALIA

PUBLISHED: 13:13 AEDT, 18 August 2018 | UPDATED: 14:07 AEDT, 18 August 2018

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The widow of a Special Air Service Regiment soldier has defended Victoria Cross recipient Ben Roberts-Smith after allegations of war crimes and domestic violence, which he denies.

Leigh Locke-Thomas, who lost her husband, Matthew Locke, to conflict in **Afghanistan** in 2007, has maintained a close relationship with Mr Roberts-Smith.

'I'm 100 per cent behind Ben. Where's his rights? I just think give him a fair go, he can't defend himself. To me it's bullying,' Ms Locke-Thomas told **The Weekend Australian**.



© PR IMAGE
Retired soldier Ben Roberts-Smith (pictured) has launched a defamation case against Fairfax Media claiming that articles portrayed him as an inhumane murderer and bully

Mr Roberts-Smith launched defamation proceedings against Fairfax Media at the Federal Court on Wednesday.

The now-retired soldier claims that articles published portray him as an inhumane murderer and bully.

Mr Roberts-Smith, who now works as a senior executive at Seven West Media, said in a statement that articles published by The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Canberra Times reported 'false statements concerning his war service and personal life.'

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'I unreservedly support the media's right to report without fear or favour - it is fundamental to any democratic society,' he said in Friday's statement.

The allegations included suggestion that a domestic violence complaint had been made against the war veteran following a function in Canberra's Parliament House in 2016.

He was also accused of misconduct on the battle field. Mr Robert-Smith vehemently denies the allegations.



Sergeant Matthew-Locke (pictured) fought alongside Mr Roberts-Smith in Afghanistan where he died in 2017. His wife, Leigh Locke-Thomas, has spoken out in support of Mr Roberts-Smith

Mr Roberts-Smith was awarded the Medal of Gallantry in 2006 and went on to receive Australia's highest military honour, a Victoria Cross.

He fought alongside his close friend Sergeant Locke in Afghanistan who was awarded the Medal for Gallantry in December 2006.

Widow Locke-Thomson - who has since remarried - stressed her support of her deceased husband's friend and discussed the reality of their role in war.

'They weren't over there picking flowers. They were there for war, they weren't there to be friends with anyone. And they were protecting the country. And in my case, my husband never came home,' she said.

'Everyone loves you when you go off to war, but when you come home do you really have to fight another fight?'

Malcom Turnbull savs Roberts-Smith allegations 'will be dealt with'



'They weren't over there picking flowers. They were there for war, they weren't there to be friends with anyone. And they were protecting the country. And in my case, my husband never came home,' widow Locke-Thompson said (pictured: the funeral service for Sergeant Locke)

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boro baggins, The Golden Swamps, United Kingdom, 2 months ago

Absolutely sickening that we are allowing our true heroes to be persecuted.....

Click to rate 76 10



Antils, Crannie, Australia, 2 months ago

All this people who are condemning the SAS have no idea what they were up against. Leave these brave men alone

Click to rate 75 10



Jennifer, Sydney, Australia, 2 months ago

Bizarre that the widow is defending him; she would know very little about events. SAS are a closed shop.

Click to rate 15 59



Lochard, Tootgarook, Australia, 2 months ago

If the media, [all of them] can get a headline out of taking a person down, they will. Gutless does not come close to a description of them.

Click to rate 59 7



Armata t-14, Shrewsbury, United Kingdom, 2 months ago

Another cowardly PC vendetta against our heroes.

Click to rate 66 8

The views expressed in the contents above are those of our users and do not necessarily reflect the views of MailOnline.

We are no longer accepting comments on this article.

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AUSTRALIAN Morning Mail

Conservative — Independent — Patriotic.



on 18/09/2018

ABC and Fairfax pursuit of Ben Roberts-Smith 'malicious'

A large cache of documents released by the Federal Court has revealed the ferocious legal battle between Fairfax and the ABC against one of the country's most decorated soldiers, with one journalist allegedly alluding that he was "a crazed war criminal who bashes his mates".

In one extraordinary email sent to Fairfax investigative reporter Nick McKenzie in May, Victoria Cross recipient Ben Roberts-Smith's lawyer, Mark O'Brien, said he had evidence the journalists pursuing his client were acting with malice, citing several texts by ABC journalist Dan Oakes.

Source: News Corp

Mr O'Brien said Oakes had made "his motive very clear" in his investigation of his client, saying in one text: "Sometimes karma needs a helping hand", and "the Australian public has been sold a lie, and it needs to be exposed. It is as simple as that."

The name of the person the texts were sent to has been suppressed by the Federal Court, but it appears to be a person known to Mr Roberts-Smith.

But Mr O'Brien said it was clear that his client was the target of a "malicious smear campaign" peddling false allegations that amounted to a "gross and indefensible defamation". It's just one of a blizzard of texts and emails sent by journalists between May and August that level a series of allegations that Mr Roberts-Smith committed war crimes with Australian special forces troops in Afghanistan.

In July, McKenzie sent another direct email to Mr Roberts-Smith, wanting answers to a series of alleged war crimes McKenzie claimed he had "confirmed" were the "focus of the IGADF (Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force) inquiry and its interest in your interaction with people during your deployments in Afghanistan".

Mr O'Brien responded two days later, warning McKenzie he appeared to have been given classified information implicating his client in a war crimes inquiry that had been conducted in strict secrecy over the past two years by the ADF inspector-general.

Mr O'Brien said the journalist's source had "committed a serious criminal offence" by breaching the inspector-general's regulations.

Mr Roberts-Smith, he said, would also be in breach of the law to confirm or deny such allegations, "but you should be in no doubt that my client has always served his country in accordance with his duty and lawful obligations".

On August 2, another Fairfax journalist, David Wroe, emailed another series of questions to Mr Roberts-Smith, through Mr O'Brien, which included allegations that he had "executed a man with a prosthetic leg", kicked an unarmed Afghan detainee off a cliff and encouraged a patrol member to execute another man.

Wroe also claimed Mr Roberts-Smith had been involved in a conspiracy, sending material to The Australian's Andrew Burrell, on October 20, 2017, using an anonymous email address. The information in the email, he said, was "similar to that sent by your lawyer (Mr O'Brien) to Fairfax Media two days earlier".

Mr O'Brien responded the next day, describing Wroe's email as "disingenuous" and merely repeating the "outrageous and false allegations against my client". "Regrettably, both you and Mr McKenzie appear to be relying upon unidentified former colleagues whose hostile motives should be apparent to any journalist who takes care to corroborate their allegations."

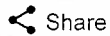
Mr O'Brien continued, saying most of Wroe's allegations were so "vague, meaningless and contradictory" they were "impossible to understand".



While the names of people have been redacted in both emails, Mr O'Brien said: "It is troubling you appear to allege that police or defence officials are your source."

Mr Roberts-Smith launched a defamation action against Fairfax Media last month over a series of articles in June and August in which he claimed Fairfax Media had destroyed his reputation, casting him as a war criminal, a "callous, inhumane" murderer and a domestic violence offender.

Leftist media saturates the news. Fight back. Send articles to your friends, politicians, local media, and facebook.



{ 13 comments... [add one](#) }

luk1955 18/09/2018, 6:21 am

With those lying bunch of scum "investigative" reporters, who hold malice aplenty for soldiers and the electorate in general, it is now time to abolish the ABC, which now is nothing but a division of the Soviet propaganda agency 30 years ago. Mr. Roberts_Smith spent his life chasing the wrong people. His greatest enemies are right here in Australia.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Graham Richards 18/09/2018, 7:18 am

Where is our useless Minister of Defence? A decorated soldier attacked by journalist scum, the National Broadcaster (ABC) leading the disgusting smear campaign, a major publisher / media corporation, and obviously the Department of Defence agree with them, by reason that neither Department nor the ineffectual Minister utter one word in his defence!

The same mob, Defence & the minister, also offer no public support for SAS personnel under threat of prosecution by the ICC even though they put their lives on the line for our country on the battlefield.

Last night PM Live's host Paul Murray interviewed the PM. Not sure he raised these issues with Morrison as I switched off when Morrison proclaimed that the Paris Accord will remain, because Pacific Nations want & need it. Well Mr Morrison, we don't need the Accord or you. Roll on the election.! You're another lost cause along with your left wing Government?

[REPLY LINK](#)

Cliff 18/09/2018, 7:46 am

The elephant in the room is the sorry fact that, thanks to (I think it was) Alexander Downer, if Ben Roberts-Smith survives everything the ABC and Fairfax can throw at him here in Australia, he could be liable to be taken against his will to The Hague to face war crimes allegations there.

And a supposedly Liberal government signed our soldiers up for this.

[REPLY LINK](#)

TommyGun 18/09/2018, 7:54 am

Cliff that's another thing that Donald Trump has hamstrung; he won't allow US soldiers (doing their job) to be hauled before some kangaroo court. Pity our govt is so gutless to allow itself to be overruled by the UN.

[REPLY LINK](#)

DT 18/09/2018, 9:32 am

It was Minister for DFAT Cliff however he was only one member of the PM Howard Cabinet and most cabinet decisions are by the majority, so Downer would have signed on behalf of the Howard Government.

In my opinion there are some very naive past and present politicians who had the best of intentions but lacked the ability to see past the marketing hyperbole and puffery that masks the real intentions of the treaty creators. Downer was the first followed by Gillard, Rudd and Bishop to make substantial grants of taxpayer's

monies to the infamous Clinton Foundation. I doubt that the last three were not aware of the scam but as true globalists, new world order backers, they cooperated. There appears to be two UN sides, one intent on grabbing our money and taking control for leftist purposes and the other naive followers who believe in a new world in which world wars and depressions cannot occur because with no borders (sovereign nations) and centralised management and control (Communist China model maybe for the bad side, a democratic EU model for the others who cannot see that the bad side controls that).

When I have questioned new world order with politicians of years gone by, conservatives who were born during WW2 or earlier, they brushed aside my suggestion that it was a plot by the left side and fellow travellers.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Lorraine 18/09/2018, 8:16 am

we live in sad times, when the left, the ABC consider slander to be allowable to bring down a person they have decided, is not worthy of an honour. I am sure I saw Brendan Nelson say there is no finer person than Ben Roberts-Smith. As mention I have not seen or heard from the ADF or its Ministers defend Ben Roberts-Smith. He will win I am sure, but to think, he has to defend his honour is galling

[REPLY LINK](#)

DT 18/09/2018, 9:34 am

Lorraine, as you might know Ch7 Chairman Kerry Stokes is paying the legal expenses for Ben, and for this I thank him.

A UN controlled state would not need an ADF would it.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Clarion Call 18/09/2018, 10:36 am

What person of sane mind would sign up for any of the defence services here in Australia. You would be paid to do a job then fined, maligned and consigned to jail for carrying out such orders. Stupidity has reached new levels of, er.....stupidity.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Albert 18/09/2018, 11:12 am

There is a lot more skulduggery than that being generated by Faux Facts and their brain dead scribblers.

[REPLY LINK](#)

flav1945 18/09/2018, 12:32 pm

Whew, these allegations against Roberts-Smith do appear to be quite alarming. "Kicked an unarmed Afghan man off a cliff" is pretty much damning of Ben and I sincerely hope he can clear his name adequately. Maybe the whistleblower just has some sort of axe to grind with him and that these claims can be effectively proven to be false. If not, then I'm afraid BRS could well have to front up at the Hague to face some very serious questions. Fingers x'd it will never come to this.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Steve 18/09/2018, 12:45 pm

Trump was absolutely correct in claiming the media are the enemy of the people. Shameful and disgraceful. The media are nothing but sewer rats.

[REPLY LINK](#)

Neville 18/09/2018, 11:34 pm

What astonishes me in all this is (even though it shouldn't!!) is that there appears to be not ONE federal trough-snouter (or even a more "normal" politician) prepared to say ANYthing in his defence!

[REPLY LINK](#)

Peter Sandery 19/09/2018, 11:11 am

So true, Neville, even here in Townsville, a garrison city, whose livelihood is largely dependent on the ADF, not one bleat from any politician, Federal, State or local that I can re-call.

LINK

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Previous post: [Bullying is the latest diversion](#)

Ⓜ



Dallas Beaufort

25 September at 02:54 · 🌐

Police clear VC hero Ben Roberts-Smith of domestic violence claim

Paul Maley The Australian September 25, 2018

Police have dropped an investigation into allegations that Australia's most decorated war hero, Ben Roberts-Smith, committed an act of domestic violence against an unnamed woman, concluding there was "insufficient evidence" to proceed with any charge.

Six weeks after Mr Roberts-Smith was named in media reports as being the subject of a domestic violence complaint, ACT Police have written to him to advise he has no case to answer.

In a letter dated September 21 and addressed to Mark O'Brien, Mr Roberts-Smith's lawyer, ACT Chief Police Officer Justine Saunders said police had looked at the allegation and were taking no further action.

"I write to inform you that ACT Policing has undertaken an investigation of the allegation and has concluded on the basis of available information (that) there is insufficient evidence to support any prosecution," Ms Saunders wrote. "Consequently, ACT Policing will not be taking any further action in respect of this matter."

The letter is the latest instalment in what has been a murky investigation into Mr Roberts-Smith's personal life and military service record, one that has played out in the pages of newspapers and courtrooms.

Mr Roberts-Smith has blamed a small group of disgruntled SASR troopers for running a malicious whispering campaign against him.

Last month, he instructed his lawyers to begin defamation proceedings against Fairfax Media after it published a magazine article accusing him of assaulting detainees while a trooper in Afghanistan, bullying fellow soldiers and committing an act of domestic violence against a woman with whom he had been in a relationship.

The story said Mr Roberts-Smith had an extramarital affair with the woman, who subsequently made a complaint following an alleged incident at a Canberra hotel.

The incident was said to have occurred on March 28 following a function at Parliament House.

Mr Roberts-Smith denied the allegation, saying Fairfax misrepresented the facts surrounding the relationship, which he said had not been an extramarital affair.

Mr Roberts-Smith said the relationship began while he was separated from his wife and ended when the pair reconciled.

He said the woman, who was not named, became heavily intoxicated during the event and fell down stairs while he was summoning a car to leave.

He said she sustained an injury to her head and was assisted by AFP officers on guard around the building.

"When I got there, there were two federal police officers; they were basically holding her up. She had a huge lump on the top of her head and what appeared to be a scrape on the top of her eye, and she said she had a sore hip," Mr Roberts told The Australian last month.

Yesterday, Mr Roberts-Smith took aim at Fairfax for running the allegation. "My wife and I were devastated to have Fairfax misrepresent our personal circumstances," he told The Australian. "To so blatantly disregard due diligence and report on such a flippant allegation is just disgraceful."

Mr Roberts-Smith said he was not interviewed or contacted by police about the alleged incident, a fact that spoke volumes about the credibility of the claim against him.

Mr Roberts-Smith is Australia's most decorated living soldier, having won the Medal for Gallantry in 2006 and the Victoria Cross for heroism in Afghanistan in 2010.

He is now managing director of the Seven Network's Queensland operations.

1/ Ben Roberts-Smith with his wife Emma at Buckingham Palace in May.



👍❤️👤 309

109 Comments 108 shares



Thomas Browne Of course they dropped the investigations, this witch hunt has only been about destroying Ben Roberts Smith and the credibility of our armed forces by the rabid and gutless left wing.

Like Reply 2w · Edited



38



Barbara Barrett Great news.  13

Like Reply 2w



Peter Morrison Meanwhile Bill Shorten still being protected from any investigation about the rape allegations against him from many years ago!

Like Reply 2w



25



Roz Day There should never have been an investigation to start with.. disgusting

Like Reply 2w



16



Alison Scott The lefties who started this off must be Punished also the Media who run with stories should be sued .

Like Reply 2w



16



Roz Day Absolutely.. the cost of false investigation to taxpayers to start with

Like Reply 2w



9



Susan Daniels sounds vindictive but hitting them in the hip pocket might be the only effective remedy.

Like Reply 2w



3



Write a reply...



Christine Bradford Should never have begun in the first place...

Like Reply 2w



9



Tony Gomme Yes we got Armageddon with the Left here; just like USA ~(where a renowned judge who is being nominated for the Supreme Court <who has an immaculate character & history>; is being accused of foul & disgraceful sexual conduct).

Like Reply 2w



13



Jeff Ingram I hope he gets millions from Fairfax and another nail in the coffin of this left wing crap.

Like Reply 2w



22



Alistair June "Male assaults female" is now the "goto" position of all leftist campaigns. The Kavanaugh issue in America is the latest example. Truth & facts are not necessary - just the accusation will do.

Like Reply · 2w Edited

👍 22



Gail Overell and it's working. 🙄🙄🙄

Like Reply · 2w



Paul Bailey Yep. Tried on Trump as well 👍

Like Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



Suzanne Hasyim Of course the investigations should have been dropped, they should never have been brought in the first place.

Like Reply · 2w

👍 12



Philippus Schutte "domestic violence against an unnamed woman" How can this happen that a mans name is drag trough the mud while not guilty and the women who did this name is unnamed. This is not fair, please name the women and the SASR troopers who is doing this as well.

Like Reply · 2w

👍 21



Murray Thomas Mainstream media caught out feeding us lies again?

Sue the ass off them ... See more

Like Reply · 2w

👍 23



John Cole Brilliant last sentence 👍

Like Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



Ralph Walton And so it should be.. a disgraceful affair..

Like Reply · 2w


👍 5



Sharon Rundle-Smith Why are the left so insistent on going after Ben Roberts-Smith?

Like Reply · 2w

👍 19

 **Jordan McCuskie** Because Aussies like him represent what they hate about Australia so much? Remember that Father's Day when George Negus and that other bimbo trash mouthed him on national TV?


Like · Reply · 2w

 11

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Jordan McCuskie - I forgot about George Negus!
Out of sight, out of mind.....

Like · Reply · 2w

 8

 **Jordan McCuskie** No. There is just so much detail that is hard to remember. That's why a lot of lefties dread me so much. 😊


Like · Reply · 2w

   6

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Jordan McCuskie - well done mate x


Like · Reply · 2w

 5

 **Jordan McCuskie** SBS invited me onto their show "Go Back Where You Came From." And then backed off and went chicken when they realized who I was. 😊 They are ignorant scum.


Like · Reply · 2w

  4

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Jordan McCuskie - I had an offer from an ABC journalist to take part in one of their productions after I made a comment on George Christensens page. The debate on the drug testing welfare recipients. I respectfully declined! The name's Cupid, not Stupid 🤓

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited

 4

 **Jordan McCuskie** They will let their preferred side shout you down and carry on. That's why they won't let me onto any of their productions. I would happily put their idiot mates in their place. 😊



Like · Reply · 2w



 4



 **Leigh Everitt** Because his good charater shows up just how rotten their character is

Like · Reply · 2w

 5

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Leigh Everitt - spot on!
I'm passionate about Psychology, and I reckon it's their deep seated insecurity too.
Like Reply 2w  5





 **Murray Thomas** Sharon Rundle-Smith ... because he represents everything your proud Aussie values.
It is the seditious left's mission to undermine that for the globohomo agenda.
Like Reply 2w  4


 **David McCullough** They fear he might run for the Liberals.
Like Reply 2w  5

 **Murray Thomas** David McCullough .true dat  1
Like Reply 2w



 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** David McCullough   1
Like Reply 2w

 Write a reply...    

 **Anna Andjelkovic** when was the last time Fairfax 'reported' the truth - anyone know ? Their agenda seems to concentrate on taking away anything that denotes decency and respect, but promotes poison and lies. No wonder it is going broke
Like Reply 2w Edited    24

 **Frank Acocella** Fairfax has long and proud history in Australia (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fairfax_Media) but since they decided to champion the Left of politics they have not fared so well ... The Left generally like to keep things simple, and as the book "1... See more

 EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG
Fairfax Media - Wikipedia
Like Reply 2w  4

 **Anna Andjelkovic** Frank, have you noticed that those media outlets like the ABC, SBS and Channel 7, Channel 10 and Fairfax, (that are all of the left persuasion) - are now all in decline ?
Like Reply 2w  4

 **Frank Acocella** Anna Andjelkovic Yes; there was a time when I used to watch the ABC religiously ... now I only watch it if they have a good film on ...


Like Reply 2w

 Write a reply    

 **Jordan McCuskie** But not insufficient for a joint ABC and Fairfax smear campaign.


   14

Like Reply 2w

 **Greg Atkins** Has he said anything about going into politics? Could be they're trying to kill a political career before it starts.


 4

Like Reply 2w

 **Frank Acocella** Greg Atkins He's a decorated former military ... that's enough for the Left to tag him as "conservative" ... unless he served in a "Socialist Peoples Army" somewhere ... 😏

 5

Like Reply 2w

 Write a reply...    


 **Armando Rodi** Sue there Fukin arse of lying bastards

 11

Like Reply 2w

 **Daisy May Lee** Good  4

Like Reply 2w

 **Ingrid Burnett** Well done Ben, never should have happened in the first place.

 9

Like Reply 2w Edited

 **Ralph Walton** Hear hear  2

Like Reply 2w

 Write a reply...    














 **Syd Hewitt** I find it disappointing if there's any truth in Ben's claim that it's fellow troopers, I thought they'd be above stuff like that.

To me there's a real threat to make our SF soldiers look bad. I'm probably wrong but to me there's a real smear campaign ...

See more

   8

Like Reply 2w Edited

-  **Debbie Sue Owen** Fairfax enough said 🙄👍 5
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Antony Joseph** Was another smoke screen and mirrors the true people they should be going after are the ones running our nation illegally into a pile of shit 10
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Adam Wallace** I should think so!!! 👍 2
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Joan Price** Now to charge the person who made the case. 7
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Greg Streek** Sue them and have fun doing it 👍 7
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Callum Murray** The 'unnamed woman' chose to remain unnnamed so a charge is difficult to maintain anyway. 1
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Linda Kerr** I never believed the accusations 👍 6
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Greg Marriott** Fantastic, great news 👍 3
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Dianne Williams** Ben, litigate the living daylight out of them: Fairfax, the woman and the disgruntled soldiers. 3
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Phil Marinus** Have any apologies come from any accusations made against him ? I guess not . 1
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Paris Dali** Unbelievable how dirty the Fairfax media smears and degrades itself 3
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Peter Ford** WHAT a disgrace that he was ever accused of such a thing. 6
Like · Reply · 2w
-  **Kim Melin** About time a journalist attacking this hero is brought to justice himself false reporting and lying in the press should be a crime! 7
Like · Reply · 2w



Dennis John What are they going to do to the person who made, and reported the flippant and maybe a false allegation,? Do they walk away scot free, after causing the defendant so much hurt and stress? This guy should be able to sue Fairfax media, for accusing him of committing an act of domestic violence, against a woman who they didn't name, and had no proof, or evidence to support her claim.

Like Reply 2w Edited



5



Sandie Goodchild Agree Dennis - there are far too many of these false claims going on that ruin lives. The 'complainant' should most definitely have to wear some sort of charge?

Like Reply 2w



3



Write a reply...



Argus Tuft Good! Now sue the arse off Falsefax - take the bastards to the cleaners!

Like Reply 2w



4



Deborah Brentwood There is a pattern to destroying selected lives and careers with dubious allegations which do not stand up in courts. This is a concerted and sustained attack on the justice system. the military and other institutions not yet in control of Marxist thugs which are being created and used by the education system.

Like Reply 2w



8



Dylan McMaster Well said

Like Reply 2w



Write a reply...



Helen Cucksey Hope they sue for defamation  3

Like Reply 2w



Bryan Morris It is sad that man has been out thru this ordeal...

Like Reply 2w



3



Maria Wood Again an innocent life ruined by media time to charge these so called victims .

Like Reply 2w



5



Jan Muller Ffs, why is this hero being hunted? Ohhh wait, because he's a hero...

Like Reply 2w



5



Arthur Watson Because he doesn't fit the PC profile maybe?????. The directors and reporters should go to prison when they peddle this crap, maybe then some responsible reporting will appear on our TV and in in our newspapers. Currently there is no real consequence, they all carry insurance to cover this crap.

Like Reply 2w



3



Rhonda May Brown Excellent outcome  4

Like Reply 2w



Dianne Bahr Wow!
What is wrong with the journalists of today?
Journalists were held in high esteem once, they checked & double checked facts before reporting or printing a story!... See more

Like Reply 2w



7



 Dianne Bahr replied · 3 Replies



Terry Griffiths Trial by media, all to common these days, disgusting.

Like Reply 2w



10



Hollie Holland If you are going to accuse someone of an incident do it within 24hrs have your proof unlawful sex straight to hospital not years later where there is no proof. To me it is sour grapes but MOSTLY greed for money or revenge. Not sorry for them, nor do I agree that the person goes to jail for 30 years you get less for murder.

Like Reply 2w Edited



3



Mary-Jo Gerarda What a disgusting process for this hero and that it was so publicised in the media.

Like Reply 2w



3



Ian Grimwood Ben for GG  3

Like Reply 2w



 Argus Tuft replied · 1 Reply



Dianne Hunt Should never have been an issue, and shame on those who reported the lies. Sue the pants of them Ben, and make the rest of them think twice

Like Reply 2w



4



Peter Smith Go after these "CURS" who it seems acted without any scintilla of decency&fairness by any ethical standards of human metrics.Any journalists at all,who has been involved in this tawdry public airing without any objective due diligence backed by fairne...
See more

Like Reply · 2w



3



Phil Akers Thank you for your service, and please sue Fairfax for spreading lies and defaming you. It is disgraceful that leftist organisations will say anything to discredit conservatives.

Like Reply · 2w



9



Phil Tucker I don't think it's right to sue companies. The individuals concerned must be attacked and get gaol time. Any fines would only be picked up by their employers. Sounds tough but these people are trying to destroy other people's lives.

Like Reply · 2w



4



Peter Smith replied · 6 Replies



Wendy Schlink Sue the rse of them
Only then will they do the job they are supposed too any not make up salacious lies

Like Reply · 2w



3



Heather Morris I would like to know how his accusers can get off completely free . Surely there must be some accountability, his good name has been dragged through the press for everyone to witness . Now he has no case to answer unfortunately some people won't read about this and will forever think bad of him

Like Reply · 2w



6



Diana Stockdale Hate this trial by media. If its that bad go to the Police

Like Reply · 2w



4



Fullmoon Hyder Sometimes it is easier to move on and do not put anything on social media like fb.

Like Reply · 2w



Dan Doinit I agree

Like Reply · 2w



Jay Olsen Snowflakes trying to smear his reputation

Like · Reply · 2w



2



Peter Smith Jay Olsen An old Indian aphorism; never yank too hard the tail of the lion; You just might awaken him. Yes, man must know his limitations it is said.

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited



Write a reply...



Brenda Rawlins I hope he takes Fairfax for their socks and underpants. Never believed any of it for a minute.

Like · Reply · 2w



3



Darren Price BR Smith VC is indeed a great man. But I think you will find that Keith Payne VC is our most highly decorated living soldier!!

Like · Reply · 2w



Marilyn Goodwin Darren Price there you go.. Media telling lies again..

Like · Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



Aaron McGlade We stand tall with you Ben Robert's-Smith VC.

Accusation's & lies alone are the weapon of choice for the gutless & those that lack any sense of morality..... See more

Like · Reply · 2w



4



Brenda Rawlins replied · 1 Reply



Poída Minchin Ah our sexist media!!! I wonder if people like Clementine Ford is going to also apologise! Lets face it he is owed at least that!

Like · Reply · 2w



3



Marilyn Goodwin All for a story. How low can the media go?

Like · Reply · 2w



1



Noels Famularo Truth prevails.

Like · Reply · 2w



Annette Moore Well of cause. Mongrels that lied out of seething jealousy. They need to be charged. Ben is AWESOME.



Ken Morris Leave the VETs alone, bloody media are a pack of arseholes who sensationalise stories so they sell. Again, pack of arseholes.

Like Reply · 2w



2



Robyn Moore He deserves an enormous and very public apology. He is a hero. I thank him for his service to our country. Hope all Australians do the same.

Like Reply · 2w



1



Stephen Patrick Tully Waiting for the abc to apologise!

Like Reply · 2w



1



John Barrett Don't hold your breath.

Like Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



Frances Baker The investigation shouldn't have been started in the first place
WHAT A CHEEK
HOW DARE THEY

Like Reply · 2w



Dawn Bruce all on 2B say . SUE the lot f them .

Like Reply · 2w



Geoffrey Bernard William Little Once upon a time there was a hierarchy in journalism with Proof Readers, Sub Editors and Editors. This has all been done away with today in this so called enlightened day and a so called 'journo' does all his own work from story, checker and editor with very little oversight. Blame the industry which today has not much status, no credibility and represents one upmanship and amateurism at best.

Like Reply · 2w



2



Rob Luck Worse... they are Uni-educated communications bots..... Communication degrees etc. So first they are brainwashed uni lefties with no thinking capacity, then they have no practical training. Original journalism involved cadetship (apprenticeship) (4 ye... See more

Like Reply · 2w



2



Write a reply...





Bill Keech Here is Ben & I at Gallipoli in 1915 for the 100th anniversary. I found him to be a great bloke.



Like Reply 2w



Grahame Gould Can I borrow your time machine? 😊

Like Reply 2w



Bill Keech Grahame Gould. Sorry mate. Guy Pierce wanted it back. LOL

Like Reply 2w



Write a reply...



Reg French



Like Reply 2w




Graeme Lawler SUE THE PARASITES. YOU'RE A HERO NOT A WASTER AS THEY ARE



Like Reply 2w






Bill Keech Media= W.O.F.T.A.M. Waste Of Fucking Time And Money



Like Reply 2w

 **Neal Gardiner** So are the police going to use the law and charge the so called **un named persons for willful and wrongfull allegations.** Its about time people who make vexatious claims need to be charged.

Like Reply · 2w  

 **Tony Wood** Thank you Ben Roberts-Smith. Australia needs heroes like you. Australia needs roll models like you. Fairfax Media should be ashamed of themselves.

Like Reply · 2w  

 **Ian Bell** And should be sued  1

Like Reply · 2w


 **Judith Jorgensen** Very well said!!!!


Like Reply · 2w



 Write a reply...    

 **Brendan Filbey** Go Get em mate  3

Like Reply · 2w


 Write a reply...    



 **Neil Byrne** Sue the arses of the mongrel bastards , make sure that each and every one of these grubs can't afford to buy even a cup of coffee for the rest of their slimy lives .

Like Reply · 2w  

 **Carole Gledhill** Leave our ADF and war veterans ALONE.



Like Reply · 2w  

 **Patricia Weatherley** Fairfax owe Mr Roberts-Smith a public apology. Journalism at it's worst.



Like Reply · 2w  

 **Carolyn Newport** Awesome news  2

Like Reply · 2w

 **Shirley Leoni** Leave this VC hero alone  2

Like Reply · 2w

 **Peter Stewart** Great news Hope that he sues the pants off Fairfax media  5

Like Reply · 2w

Like Reply 2w

**David Bourke** Good on ya Benny boy 2

Like Reply 2w

**Alison Johnston** Thank heavens for that. It should never have come to this in the first place! Go for the jugular Sir in retaliation.

Thank you for your service

Like Reply 2w

3

**Victor Young** Money grabbing slag. 3

Like Reply 2w

**Sarah Potts** Not just the media... The disgruntled wanna-be SAS-cats who couldn't make it and want to bring down those who could.

Like Reply 2w

3

**Matt N Narelle** Sue them then kill them 2

Like Reply 2w

**Keith Bond** The media simply cannot be trusted 3

Like Reply 2w

**Sharon Thomas** Message to all weak adult children don't ever attack this hero , you won't beat the country's public who admire him and are grateful, a true hero

Like Reply 2w

4

**Dallas Taylor** this is great news. 1

Like Reply 2w

**Shirley Leoni** Yes I hope he sues it's about time the media stop with Rubbish news

Like Reply 2w

5

**Ken Burnett** These jourmos are the same pieces of shit how criticise President Donald Trump for accusing jourmis of FAKE NEWS stating jourmos always investigate the facts first before publishing. FAKE NEWS form liars and mentally challenged unstable bigots.

Like Reply 2w

2

**Bob Jones** Congrats Ben 1

Like Reply 2w

**Steve Hordacre** And we aren't seeing anything in the media about this. Says a lot

Like Reply 2w

3



Pamela Scott They can never repair the damage they have done to an Australian hero.

Like · Reply · 2w



3



Laurel Pycke Not a man amongst those doing this, can't take the feeling of inadequacy, so they attack. I wish you good luck, Ben, sock it to them.

Like · Reply · 2w



1



Harry Tuttle Total disgrace, if there was ever a case to sell the ABC...

Like · Reply · 2w



2



Stephanie Carsley It was an odious complaint and only intended to harm this great man, however, sad as it is, there will be some who will judge him. Ignorant people not interested in truth. You would hate them as next door neighbours.

Like · Reply · 2w



3



Jo-Anne Shelley Turner Pity America wasn't that sensible.

Like · Reply · 2w



1



Scott Allison Fairfax and rupert disgust me. They could never do what you do, and the haters know that.

Like · Reply · 2w



Nick Patogianis Fairfax media, journalists, and softcock judgesoh and those treasonable bastard politicians. They've totally ruined our country. They all need a blindfold and a last cigarette. Freedom of speech.. my arse.. you've bitten off too much this time Murdoch and your fetch boys. This man is a true Aussie hero leave him alone.

Like · Reply · 2w



2



Chris Baker The Left smear campaign lost but , you guessed it , No apology , in an apology demanding Nation. Funny about that .

Like · Reply · 2w



1



Peter Cuthbertson Media influences thinking and decision making. Is it no wonder Australia is moving further to the socialist left into Communism and it's One World Government.

Like · Reply · 2w



1



Jake Payne AHHhhhhh Yes, the old "concluding there was "insufficient evidence" to proceed with any charge." This minor yet so, so effective kant tactic is used so often by disgruntled employees within the Commonwealth Government Agencies, leaving just a 'hint' of sour dog flatulence in the air surrounding Our Wonderful VC Awardee. Accusations, made by faceless people, with absolutely NIL EVIDENCE other than 'accusations' to muddy the waters for their own twisted and evil agenda.....

Like Reply 2w Edited



1



Jake Payne LONG LIVE BEN and FAMILY !!!!!!!!!!! AND A POX times 3 over 'on the lousy, filthy accusers & their families..... Shame, Shame, Shame on you

Like Reply 2w



1



Boyd Scott This is just like the Kavanaugh case, Roberts-Smith was guilty as soon as the story broke in many eyes...just so wrong. Hope he and his family recover as soon as possible from this slander

Like Reply 2w



1



Robert Varga This man is a hero and deserves respect because he has done what so many would never do - stand and serve and go in harms way.

Like Reply 2w



1



David Green Judgment process just leave Robert alone with the accusers, numbers irrelevant

Like Reply 2w



Julie Schumacher That is good to hear

Like Reply 2w



Clare Verngreen Disturbing knee jerk reaction with no acknowledgement of innocent till proven guilty. High profile people get whop lashed by the Leftist skills.

Like Reply 2w

Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

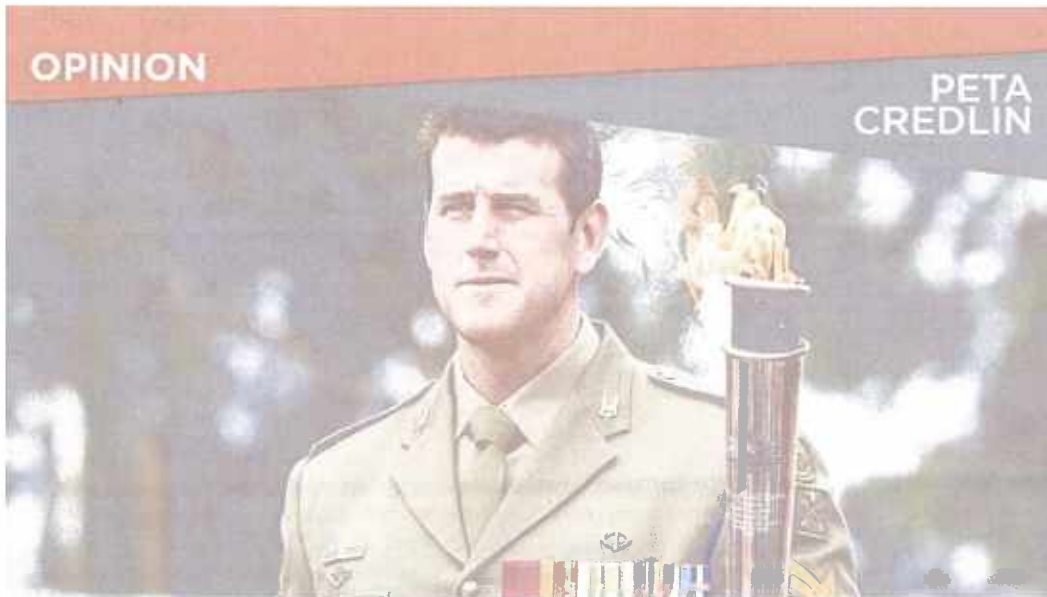
Respondents

DL-11

This is the annexure marked 'DL-11' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

Bundle of material posted online about Person 17

.....
Dean Levitan
..... Witness



These matters are for the inquiry to judge, not the media

QLD NEWS

Police clear Ben Roberts-Smith after allegations of assault

Michael Madigan, The Courier-Mail

September 26, 2018 12:00am

+ Subscriber only



AUSTRALIAN war hero [Ben Roberts-Smith](#) has scored a victory after police cleared him of allegations he assaulted a woman he was accused of having an affair with, but the Victoria Cross winner knows he is still under fire and has dug in for a tough battle.

Mr Roberts-Smith says military veterans are like anyone in the public eye in an age of 24 hours news and social media – open to attacks which can be unkind, untrue and deeply unfair.

“We (he and his wife Emma) always knew what the truth was, but it is nice to finally have some closure on that one particular issue,” he said yesterday.

“To have something written about you that is just simply wrong is quite difficult.”

The allegation that Mr Roberts-Smith had physically attacked the woman were part of a wide-ranging story run in Fairfax media earlier this year which included allegations Mr Roberts-Smith bullied fellow soldiers in Afghanistan and assaulted enemy detainees.



📷 "Closure": Ben Roberts-Smith with his wife Emma. Picture: Lyndon Mechielsen/The Australian

Victorian Police told Mr Roberts-Smith late last week there was insufficient evidence to support a prosecution on allegations that he assaulted the woman following a function at federal Parliament in Canberra in March.

"The police did not even have to question me to realise just how weak that allegation was," Mr Roberts-Smith said, adding that the report also totally misrepresented his personal life.

He denies he had an affair.

"From what I understand, a third party made that allegation to Fairfax so it begs the question – what is their agenda?"

Mr Roberts-Smith said he was well aware there was a small group of soldiers who had also served in Afghanistan who were determined to destroy his reputation, and had long ago accepted that.

"I have highlighted that and asked for a bit of balance in that regard," he said.

What he did not accept was that people spreading rumour could lead to such serious allegations being levelled against him publicly when he had never been charged with anything, either in military or civilian life.

"I accept that I have a profile, but I did not ask for it," he said.

"There is a difference to being famous and being someone who is thrust into the spotlight, but you deal with it.

"I accept that my life has become public and I am happy to deal with that."

Mr Roberts-Smith's role as a public military figure was sealed after he was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions in 2010 during a helicopter assault in Afghanistan.

Four years earlier he had won the Medal of Gallantry, making him the most highly decorated serving member of the military until he left the full-time army in 2013.



Ben Roberts-Smith was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions during a helicopter assault in Afghanistan.

But he believes his status as a military figure means he represents all servicemen and women, and he fears attacks on him reflect badly on others.

“I have always maintained the Victoria Cross signifies the efforts of everyone who went into battle that day – you don’t go into battle alone, you go with a team,” he said.

“That’s why I found this (the accusations) quite denigrating to all involved

“When you are a veteran and torn down by unfounded rumour and lies, it becomes a pretty unpleasant place to be.”

Mr Roberts-Smith will continue with his defamation action against Fairfax over the story, but says he remains grateful for his post-military life with his wife, two kids and a “great job” with Channel 7.

He said the accusations of the affair were untrue, but admitted his wife and he had weathered some difficult times

“Like most marriages you have your ups and downs but we are extremely happy.

“I have a great job, we live on the Sunshine Coast, I have nothing to complain about.”





Courier Mail ✓

September 25 at 8:16 PM 🌐

👍 Like Page



Police have cleared Ben Roberts-Smith after allegations of assault.



COURIERMAIL.COM.AU

'Simply wrong': War hero opens up about allegations

👍 🗨️ ❤️ 96

12 Comments 9 Shares

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🗨️ Comment

➦ Share



Write a comment...



All Comments ▾



Ross Hawes Some people can't stand it when others are thrust into the public eye (even if they don't want to be there) and will do and say anything to bring them down. Having been in the military myself I have seen people get all bent out of shape about another serving member and say things to tear them down. None of it was true but they didn't let that get in the way of their "vendetta". More needs to be done, both in the military and out of it, to stop reputations from being tarnished by misinformation and false accusations. Ben Roberts-Smith, if he had done what was suggested by some he served with, would not have been in the position he was when he acted how he did to be put forward for the VC.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 4



Stephen Williams "Mr Roberts-Smith will continue with his defamation action against Fairfax...." that's all I needed to know.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 2



Isaac Wheeler Good now sue 🇺🇸 4



Write a comment



All Comments ▾



Ross Hawes Some people can't stand it when others are thrust into the public eye (even if they don't want to be there) and will do and say anything to bring them down. Having been in the military myself I have seen people get all bent out of shape about another s... See More

Like Reply 2w



Stephen Williams "Mr Roberts-Smith will continue with his defamation action against Fairfax...." that's all I needed to know.

Like Reply 2w



Isaac Wheeler Good now sue  1

Like Reply 2w



Judy Gray Atrocious then

Like Reply 2w



Cheryl Emery Who could do this to this war hero????

Like Reply 2w



Peter Fountain Who?

Like Reply 2w



Danny Kent We love to bring people down in this country.. We are so sad

Like Reply 2w



Linc Grant Name the woman who accused him and attempted to ruin his life? Oh sorry... I forgot that the media thrives on women who accuse men of these things and are instantly believed without evidence or due diligence by a court.

Like Reply 2w



Trudlez Stevenson Then the person who falsely accused him should be charged!!!

Like Reply 2w



Trudi Kirk Sean Mully  1

Like Reply 2w

Write a comment...



Survive To Thrive Nation - Dane Christison

@survivetothrivenation

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Survive To Thrive Nation - Dane Christison
September 26 at 7:02 PM

For those that missed this important news. Much respect to Ben Roberts-Smith VC. Shame on the media for dragging his name through the mud publicly regarding his personal life.



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War hero cleared of violence

Police have dropped an investigation into allegations that Australia's most...

277

17 Comments 45 Shares

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- Write a comment
- Tanya Clancy** The apology should have been a bigger story than the lies!
Like Reply 2w
- Andrew Sealy** It wasn't just the news media though. Several guys who se
Like Reply 2w
- Troth Chris** They are nothing but a Pack of jealous, snitching cunts
Like Reply 2w Edited



Survive To Thrive Nation - Dane Christison

September 26 at 5:47 PM ·

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Write a comment...



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Like Reply 2w



Andrew Sealy It wasn't 'just' the news media though. Several guys who se

Like Reply 2w



Troth Chris They are nothing but a Pack of jealous, snitching cunts




















Like Reply 2w Edited



Andrew Sealy They most likely will. Now that it's being dropped by 1

Like Reply 2w

Chat (8)

-  **Veronika Smith** It would be good to get to the bottom of it and get it
Like Reply 2w
-  **Jann Gero Troth Chris** The problem with the complaintains is they p
Like Reply 1w
-  **Jann Gero Veronika Smith** Simple Military "Follow Orders" Civi do a
Like Reply 1w
-  Write a reply...
-  **Miranda Davies** Forget the negatives! Always was - but right behind Ben z
Like Reply 2w
-  **Dawn Mandemaker** Media has so much to answer for these days!!!!!! She
Like Reply 2w
-  **Lesley Newcombe** Doesn't pay to be a tall poppy in this Country...always
Like Reply 2w
-  **Jann Gero Hero** ❤️ If I ever meet him I will shake his hand as I did to a ser
Like Reply 1w Edited
-  **Rob Gibbs** There was a little bit of a story on the news, they should have r
Like Reply 2w
-  **Joshua Hawthorn** This guy bought a "Ben" to a gun fight and the gun lost.
Like Reply 2w
-  **Helen M Finnigan** This shouldn't have even got this far. An absolute disgr
Like Reply 1w
-  **Eoin Wotkinz** Hypothetically, what if he did do it? 2 0
Like Reply 2w
-  **Dionne White** Take them all to the cleaners Ben 1 0
Like Reply 2w
-  **Colleen Hansen** Congratulations Ben, shame on the Media for printing suc
Like Reply 1w
-  **Mick Taubert** They Always Try To Drag A Good Guy Down 🤔 0
Like Reply 1w
-  **Meryl Walsh** Good on him **congratulations** 1 0
Like Reply 2w
-  **Jeremy Simmonds** Another reason i dont watch tv 0
Like Reply 2w
-  **Col Robert Lunson** Now? SUE THE FUCK OUT OF THEM! 1 0
Like Reply 2w
-  **David Brannigan** Bitch should be jailed then. 1 0
Like Reply 1w

Write a comment...

Browser tabs: (3) Survive To Thrive Nation - ... (3) Liam Cherry - Now jail L... x

Address bar: <https://www.facebook.com/liam.a.cherry/posts/10155797220237503>

Search: Search

Liam Cherry
September 27 at 8:23 PM

Now jail the scum who
1. Accused this hero
2. Ran stories on this bull shit
3. Who didn't automatically back him.



THEAUSTRALIAN.COM.AU
War hero cleared of violence

Police have dropped an investigation into allegations that Australia's most..

11

Like

Comment

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Write a comment



THE AUSTRALIAN

Police clear VC hero Ben Roberts-Smith of domestic violence claim

EXCLUSIVE

By PAUL MALEY, DEFENCE EDITOR

12:00AM SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

Police have dropped an investigation into allegations that Australia's most decorated war hero, Ben Roberts-Smith, committed an act of domestic violence against an unnamed woman, concluding there was "insufficient evidence" to proceed with any charge.

Six weeks after Mr Roberts-Smith was named in media reports as being the subject of a domestic violence complaint, ACT Police have written to him to advise he has no case to answer.

In a letter dated September 21 and addressed to Mark O'Brien, Mr Roberts-Smith's lawyer, ACT Chief Police Officer Justine Saunders said police had looked at the allegation and were taking no further action.

"I write to inform you that ACT Policing has undertaken an investigation of the allegation and has concluded on the basis of available information (that) there is insufficient evidence to support any prosecution," Ms Saunders wrote.

"Consequently, ACT Policing will not be taking any further action in respect of this matter."

The letter is the latest instalment in what has been a murky investigation into Mr Roberts-Smith's personal life and military service record, one that has played out in the pages of newspapers and courtrooms.

Mr Roberts-Smith has blamed a small group of disgruntled SASR troopers for running a malicious whispering campaign against him.

Last month, he instructed his lawyers to begin defamation proceedings against Fairfax Media after it published a magazine article accusing him of assaulting detainees while a trooper in Afghanistan, bullying fellow soldiers and committing an act of domestic violence against a woman with whom he had been in a relationship.

The story said Mr Roberts-Smith had an extramarital affair with the woman, who subsequently made a complaint following an alleged incident at a Canberra hotel.

The incident was said to have occurred on March 28 following a function at Parliament House.

Mr Roberts-Smith denied the allegation, saying Fairfax misrepresented the facts surrounding the relationship, which he said had not been an extramarital affair.

Mr Roberts-Smith said the relationship began while he was separated from his wife and ended when the pair reconciled.

He said the woman, who was not named, became heavily intoxicated during the event and fell down stairs while he was summoning a car to leave.

He said she sustained an injury to her head and was assisted by AFP officers on guard around the building.

“When I got there, there were two federal police officers; they were basically holding her up. She had a huge lump on the top of her head and what appeared to be a scrape on the top of her eye, and she said she had a sore hip,” Mr Roberts told *The Australian* last month.

Yesterday, Mr Roberts-Smith took aim at Fairfax for running the allegation.

“My wife and I were devastated to have Fairfax misrepresent our personal circumstances,” he told *The Australian*. “To so blatantly disregard due diligence and report on such a flippant allegation is just disgraceful.”

Mr Roberts-Smith said he was not interviewed or contacted by police about the alleged incident, a fact that spoke volumes about the credibility of the claim against him.

Mr Roberts-Smith is Australia's most decorated living soldier, having won the Medal for Gallantry in 2006 and the Victoria Cross for heroism in Afghanistan in 2010.

He is now managing director of the Seven Network's Queensland operations.



Dallas Beaufort

25 September at 02:54 · 🌐

...

Police clear VC hero Ben Roberts-Smith of domestic violence claim

Paul Maley The Australian September 25, 2018

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He is now managing director of the Seven Network's Queensland operations.

1/ Ben Roberts-Smith with his wife Emma at Buckingham Palace in May.



👍❤️👤 309

109 Comments 108 shares



Thomas Browne Of course they dropped the investigations, this witch hunt has only been about destroying Ben Roberts Smith and the credibility of our armed forces by the rabid and gutless left wing.

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited

38



Barbara Barrett Great news. 13

Like · Reply · 2w



Peter Morrison Meanwhile Bill Shorten still being protected from any investigation about the rape allegations against him from many years ago!

Like · Reply · 2w

25



Roz Day There should never have been an investigation to start with.. disgusting

Like · Reply · 2w

18



Alison Scott The lefties who started this off must be Punished also the Media who run with stories should be sued .

Like · Reply · 2w

16



Roz Day Absolutely.. the cost of false investigation to taxpayers to start with

Like · Reply · 2w

9



Susan Daniels sounds vindictive but hitting them in the hip pocket might be the only effective remedy.

Like · Reply · 2w

3



Write a reply...



Christine Bradford Should never have begun in the first place...

Like · Reply · 2w

9



Tony Gomme Yes we got Armageddon with the Left here; just like USA ~(where a renowned judge who is being nominated for the Supreme Court <who has an immaculate character & history>; is being accused of foul & disgraceful sexual conduct).

Like · Reply · 2w

13



Jeff Ingram I hope he gets millions from Fairfax and another nail in the coffin of this left wing crap.

Like · Reply · 2w

22



Alistair June "Male assaults female" is now the "goto" position of all leftist campaigns. The Kavanaugh issue in America is the latest example. Truth & facts are not necessary - just the accusation will do.

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited

👍 22



Gail Overell and it's working. 🙄👍 8

Like · Reply · 2w



Paul Bailey Yep. Tried on Trump as well 🙄 6

Like · Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



Suzanne Hasyim Of course the investigations should have been dropped, they should never have been brought in the first place.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 12



Philippus Schutte "domestic violence against an unnamed woman" How can this happen that a mans name is drag trough the mud while not guilty and the women who did this name is unnamed. This is not fair, please name the women and the SASR troopers who is doing this as well.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 21



Murray Thomas Mainstream media caught out feeding us lies again?

Sue the ass off them ... See more

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 23



John Cole Brilliant last sentence 🙄 3

Like · Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



Ralph Walton And so it should be.. a disgraceful affair..

Like · Reply · 2w


👍 5



Sharon Rundle-Smith Why are the left so insistent on going after Ben Roberts-Smith?

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 10

 **Jordan McCuskie** Because Aussies like him represent what they hate about Australia so much? Remember that Father's Day when George Negus and that other bimbo trash mouthed him on national TV?


Like Reply 2w

 11

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Jordan McCuskie - I forgot about George Negus!
Out of sight, out of mind.....

Like Reply 2w

 3

 **Jordan McCuskie** No. There is just so much detail that is hard to remember. That's why a lot of lefties dread me so much. 😊


Like Reply 2w

   6

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Jordan McCuskie - well done mate x


Like Reply 2w

 5

 **Jordan McCuskie** SBS invited me onto their show "Go Back Where You Came From." And then backed off and went chicken when they realized who I was. 😊 They are ignorant scum.


Like Reply 2w

  4

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Jordan McCuskie - I had an offer from an ABC journalist to take part in one of their productions after I made a comment on George Christensens page. The debate on the drug testing welfare recipients. I respectfully declined! The name's Cupid, not Stupid 😊

Like Reply 2w Edited

 4

 **Jordan McCuskie** They will let their preferred side shout you down and carry on. That's why they won't let me onto any of their productions. I would happily put their idiot mates in their place. 😊


Like Reply 2w


 4


 **Leigh Everitt** Because his good charater shows up just how rotten their character is

Like Reply 2w


 5

 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** Leigh Everitt - spot on! I'm passionate about Psychology, and I reckon it's their deep seated insecurity too.

Like · Reply · 2w  5

 **Murray Thomas** Sharon Rundle-Smith ... because he represents everything your proud Aussie values.

It is the seditious left's mission to undermine that for the globohomo agenda.

Like · Reply · 2w  4

 **David McCullough** They fear he might run for the Liberals.

Like · Reply · 2w  5


 **Murray Thomas** David McCullough .true dat  1




Like · Reply · 2w


 **Sharon Rundle-Smith** David McCullough   1


Like · Reply · 2w

 Write a reply    

 **Anna Andjelkovic** when was the last time Fairfax 'reported' the truth - anyone know ? Their agenda seems to concentrate on taking away anything that denotes decency and respect, but promotes poison and lies. No wonder it is going broke


Like · Reply · 2w Edited    24


 **Frank Acocella** Fairfax has long and proud history in Australia (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fairfax_Media) but since they decided to champion the Left of politics they have not fared so well ... The Left generally like to keep things simple, and as the book "1... See more



 **Mex** EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG **Fairfax Media - Wikipedia**

Like · Reply · 2w  4


 **Anna Andjelkovic** Frank, have you noticed that those media outlets like the ABC, SBS and Channel 7, Channel 10 and Fairfax, (that are all of the left persuasion) - are now all in decline ?

Like · Reply · 2w  4


 **Frank Acocella** Anna Andjelkovic Yes; there was a time when I used to watch the ABC religiously ... now I only watch it if they have a good film on ...

Like Reply 2w


 Write a reply...    

 **Jordan McCuskie** But not insufficient for a joint ABC and Fairfax smear campaign.

Like Reply · 2w    14

 **Greg Atkins** Has he said anything about going into politics? Could be they're trying to kill a political career before it starts.

Like Reply 2w  4

 **Frank Acocella** Greg Atkins He's a decorated former military ... that's enough for the Left to tag him as "conservative" ... unless he served in a "Socialist Peoples Army" somewhere ... 😊

Like Reply · 2w  5


 Write a reply...    

 **Armando Rodi** Sue there Fukin arse of lying bastards

Like Reply · 2w  11

 **Daisy May Lee** Good  4


Like Reply 2w

 **Ingrid Burnett** Well done Ben, never should have happened in the first place.

Like Reply 2w · Edited  9

 **Ralph Walton** Hear hear  2

Like Reply 2w

 Write a reply...    

 **Syd Hewitt** I find it disappointing if there's any truth in Ben's claim that it's fellow troopers, I thought they'd be above stuff like that.

To me there's a real threat to make our SF soldiers look bad. I'm probably wrong but to me there's a real smear campaign ...
See more

Like Reply 2w · Edited    8



Debbie Sue Owen Fairfax enough said 🙌🏻👍 5

Like · Reply · 2w



Antony Joseph Was another smoke screen and mirrors the true people they should be going after are the ones running our nation illegally into a pile of shit

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 10



Adam Wallace I should think so!!! 👍 2

Like · Reply · 2w



Joan Price Now to charge the person who made the case.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 7



Greg Streek Sue them and have fun doing it 👍 7

Like · Reply · 2w



Callum Murray The 'unnamed woman' chose to remain unnamed so a charge is difficult to maintain anyway.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 1



Linda Kerr I never believed the accusations 👍 5

Like · Reply · 2w



Greg Marriott Fantastic, great news 👍 3

Like · Reply · 2w



Dianne Williams Ben, litigate the living daylight out of them: Fairfax, the woman and the disgruntled soldiers.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 3



Phil Marinus Have any apologies come from any accusations made against him ?
I guess not .

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 1



Paris Dali Unbelievable how dirty the Fairfax media smears and degrades itself

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 3



Peter Ford WHAT a disgrace that he was ever accused of such a thing.

Like · Reply · 2w

👍 5



Kim Melin About time a journalist attacking this hero is brought to justice himself false reporting and lying in the press should be a crime!

👍 7



Dennis John What are they going to do to the person who made, and reported the flippant and maybe a false allegation,? Do they walk away scot free, after causing the defendant so much hurt and stress? This guy should be able to sue Fairfax media, for accusing him of committing an act of domestic violence, against a woman who they didn't name, and had no proof, or evidence to support her claim.

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited



5



Sandie Goodchild Agree Dennis - there are far too many of these false claims going on that ruin lives. The 'complainant' should most definitely have to wear some sort of charge?

Like · Reply · 2w



3



Write a reply...



Argus Tuft Good! Now sue the arse off Falsefax - take the bastards to the cleaners!

Like · Reply · 2w



4



Deborah Brentwood There is a pattern to destroying selected lives and careers with dubious allegations which do not stand up in courts. This is a concerted and sustained attack on the justice system. the military and other institutions not yet in control of Marxist thugs which are being created and used by the education system.

Like · Reply · 2w



8



Dylan McMaster Well said

Like · Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



Helen Cucksey Hope they sue for defamation  6

Like · Reply · 2w



Bryan Morris It is sad that man has been out thru this ordeal...

Like · Reply · 2w



3



Maria Wood Again an innocent life ruined by media time to charge these so called victims

Like · Reply · 2w



5



Jan Muller Ffs, why is this hero being hunted?

Ohhh wait, because he's a hero...

Like · Reply · 2w



8



Arthur Watson Because he doesn't fit the PC profile maybe?????. The directors and reporters should go to prison when they peddle this crap, maybe then some responsible reporting will appear on our TV and in in our newspapers. Currently there is no real consequence, they all carry insurance to cover this crap.

Like Reply · 2w



8



Rhonda May Brown Excellent outcome  4

Like Reply · 2w



Dianne Bahr Wow!
What is wrong with the journalists of today?
Journalists were held in high esteem once, they checked & double checked facts before reporting or printing a story!... See more

Like Reply · 2w



7



 Dianne Bahr replied · 3 Replies



Terry Griffiths Trial by media, all to common these days, disgusting.

Like Reply · 2w



10



Hollie Holland If you are going to accuse someone of an incident do it within 24hrs have your proof unlawful sex straight to hospital not years later where there is no proof. To me it is sour grapes but MOSTLY greed for money or revenge. Not sorry for them, nor do I agree that the person goes to jail for 30 years you get less for murder.

Like Reply · 2w Edited



3



Mary-Jo Gerarda What a disgusting process for this hero and that it was so publicised in the media.

Like Reply · 2w



9



Ian Grimwood Ben for GG  3

Like Reply · 2w



 Argus Tuft replied · 1 Reply



Dianne Hunt Should never have been an issue, and shame on those who reported the lies. Sue the pants of them Ben, and make the rest of them think twice

Like Reply · 2w



4



Peter Smith Go after these "CURS" who it seems acted without any scintilla of decency&fairness by any ethical standards of human metrics.Any journalists at all,who has been involved in this tawdry public airing without any objective due diligence backed by fairne...
See more

Like Reply 2w



3



Phil Akers Thank you for your service, and please sue Fairfax for spreading lies and defaming you. It is disgraceful that leftist organisations will say anything to discredit conservatives.

Like Reply 2w



9



Phil Tucker I don't think it's right to sue companies. The individuals concerned must be attacked and get gaol time. Any fines would only be picked up by their employers. Sounds tough but these people are trying to destroy other people's lives.

Like Reply 2w



4



Peter Smith replied · 6 Replies



Wendy Schlink Sue the rse of them
Only then will they do the job they are supposed too any not make up salacious lies

Like Reply 2w



3



Heather Morris I would like to know how his accusers can get off completely free . Surely there must be some accountability, his good name has been dragged through the press for everyone to witness . Now he has no case to answer unfortunately some people won't read about this and will forever think bad of him

Like Reply 2w



6



Diana Stockdale Hate this trial by media. If its that bad go to the Police

Like Reply 2w



4



Fullmoon Hyder Sometimes it is easier to move on and do not put anything on social media like fb.

Like Reply 2w



Dan Doinit I agree

Like Reply 2w



Jay Olsen Snowflakes trying to smear his reputation

Like Reply 2w



Peter Smith Jay Olsen An old Indian aphorism; never yank too hard the tail of the lion; You just might awaken him. Yes, man must know his limitations it is said.

Like Reply 2w · Edited



Write a reply...



Brenda Rawlins I hope he takes Fairfax for their socks and underpants. Never believed any of it for a minute.

Like Reply 2w



Darren Price BR Smith VC is indeed a great man. But I think you will find that Keith Payne VC is our most highly decorated living soldier!!

Like Reply 2w



Marilyn Goodwin Darren Price there you go.. Media telling lies again..

Like Reply 2w



Write a reply...



Aaron McGlade We stand tall with you Ben Robert's-Smith VC.

Accusation's & lies alone are the weapon of choice for the gutless & those that lack any sense of morality..... See more

Like Reply 2w



👇 () Brenda Rawlins replied · 1 Reply



Poida Minchin Ah our sexist media!!! I wonder if people like Clementine Ford is going to also apologise! Lets face it he is owed at least that!

Like Reply 2w



Marilyn Goodwin All for a story. How low can the media go?

Like Reply 2w



Noels Famularo Truth prevails.

Like Reply 2w



Annette Moore Well of cause. Mongrels that lied out of seething jealousy. They need to be charged. Ben is AWESOME.



Ken Morris Leave the VETs alone, bloody media are a pack of arseholes who sensationalise storyies so they sell. Again, pack of arseholes.

Like Reply 2w



2



Robyn Moore He deserves an enormous and very public apology. He is a hero. I thank him for his service to our country. Hope all Australians do the same.

Like Reply 2w



1



Stephen Patrick Tully Waiting for the abc to apologise!

Like Reply 2w



1



John Barrett Don't hold your breath.

Like Reply 2w



Write a reply...



Frances Baker The investigation shouldn't have been started in the first place
WHAT A CHEEK
HOW DARE THEY

Like Reply 2w



Dawn Bruce all on 2B say . SUE the lot f them .

Like Reply 2w



Geoffrey Bernard William Little Once upon a time there was a hierarchy in journalism with Proof Readers, Sub Editors and Editors. This has all been done away with today in this so called enlightened day and a so called 'journo' does all his own work from story, checker and editor with very little oversight. Blame the industry which today has not much status, no credibility and represents one upmanship and amateurism at best.

Like Reply 2w



2



Rob Luck Worse... they are Uni-educated communications bots..... Communication degrees etc. So first they are brainwashed uni lefties with no thinking capacity, then they have no practical training. Original journalism involved cadetship (apprenticeship) (4 ye... See more

Like Reply 2w



2



Write a reply...





Bill Keech Here is Ben & I at Gallipoli in 1915 for the 100th anniversary. I found him to be a great bloke.



Like Reply 2w



Grahame Gould Can I borrow your time machine? 😊

Like Reply 2w



Bill Keech Grahame Gould. Sorry mate. Guy Pierce wanted it back. LOL

Like Reply 2w



Write a reply...



Reg French



Like Reply 2w



Graeme Lawler SUE THE PARASITES. YOU'RE A HERO NOT A WASTER AS THEY ARE

Like Reply 2w



Bill Keech Media= W.O.F.T.A.M. Waste Of Fucking Time And Money

Like Reply 2w



Neal Gardiner So are the police going to use the law and charge the so called un named persons for willful and wrongfull allegations. Its about time people who make vexatious claims need to be charged.

Like Reply 2w



Tony Wood Thank you Ben Roberts-Smith. Australia needs heroes like you. Australia needs roll models like you. Fairfax Media should be ashamed of themselves.

Like Reply 2w



Ian Bell And should be sued



Like Reply 2w



Judith Jorgensen Very well said!!!!

Like Reply 2w



Write a reply...



Brendan Filbey Go Get em mate



Like Reply 2w



Write a reply...



Neil Byrne Sue the arses of the mongrel bastards , make sure that each and every one of these grubs can't afford to buy even a cup of coffee for the rest of their slimy lives .

Like Reply 2w



Carole Gledhill Leave our ADF and war veterans ALONE.

Like Reply 2w



Patricia Weatherley Fairfax owe Mr Roberts-Smith a public apology. Journalism at it's worst.

Like Reply 2w



Carolyn Newport Awesome news



Like Reply 2w



Shirley Leoni Leave this VC hero alone



Like Reply 2w



Peter Stewart Great news Hope that he sues the pants off Fairfax media




Like Reply 2w

Like · Reply · 2w

**David Bourke** Good on ya Benny boy  2

Like · Reply · 2w

**Alison Johnston** Thank heavens for that. It should never have come to this in the first place! Go for the jugular Sir in retaliation.Thank you for your service 

Like · Reply · 2w

 3**Victor Young** Money grabbing slag.  3

Like · Reply · 2w

**Sarah Potts** Not just the media... The disgruntled wanna-be SAS-cats who couldn't make it and want to bring down those who could.

Like · Reply · 2w

 3**Matt N Narelle** Sue them then kill them  2

Like · Reply · 2w

**Keith Bond** The media simply cannot be trusted  3

Like · Reply · 2w

**Sharon Thomas** Message to all weak adult children don't ever attack this hero , you won't beat the country's public who admire him and are grateful, a true hero

Like · Reply · 2w

 4**Dallas Taylor** this is great news.  1

Like · Reply · 2w

**Shirley Leoni** Yes I hope he sues it's about time the media stop with Rubbish news

Like · Reply · 2w

 5**Ken Burnett** These jourmos are the same pieces of shit how criticise President Donald Trump for accusing jourmis of FAKE NEWS stating jourmos always investigate the facts first before publishing. FAKE NEWS form liars and mentally challenged unstable bigots.

Like · Reply · 2w

 2**Bob Jones** Congrats Ben  1

Like · Reply · 2w

**Steve Hordacre** And we aren't seeing anything in the media about this. Says a lot

Like · Reply · 2w

 3



Pamela Scott They can never repair the damage they have done to an Australian hero.

Like Reply · 2w



3



Laurel Pycke Not a man amongst those doing this, can't take the feeling of inadequacy, so they attack. I wish you good luck, Ben, sock it to them.

Like Reply · 2w



1



Harry Tuttle Total disgrace, if there was ever a case to sell the ABC...

Like Reply · 2w



2



Stephanie Carsley It was an odious complaint and only intended to harm this great man, however, sad as it is, there will be some who will judge him. Ignorant people not interested in truth. You would hate them as next door neighbours.

Like Reply · 2w



3



Jo-Anne Shelley Turner Pity America wasn't that sensible.

Like Reply · 2w



1



Scott Allison Fairfax and rupert disgust me. They could never do what you do, and the haters know that.

Like Reply · 2w



Nick Patogianis Fairfax media, journalists, and softcock judgesoh and those treasonable bastard politicians. They've totally ruined our country. They all need a blindfold and a last cigarette. Freedom of speech.. my arse.. you've bitten off too much this time Murdoch and your fetch boys. This man is a true Aussie hero leave him alone.

Like Reply · 2w



2



Chris Baker The Left smear campaign lost but , you guessed it , No apology , in an apology demanding Nation. Funny about that .

Like Reply · 2w



1



Peter Cuthbertson Media influences thinking and decision making. Is it no wonder Australia is moving further to the socialist left into Communism and it's One World Government.

Like Reply · 2w



1



Jake Payne AHHhhhhh Yes, the old "concluding there was "insufficient evidence" to proceed with any charge." This minor yet so, so effective kant tactic is used so often by disgruntled employees within the Commonwealth Government Agencies, leaving just a 'hint' of sour dog flatulence in the air surrounding Our Wonderful VC Awardee. Accusations, made by faceless people, with absolutely NIL EVIDENCE other than 'accusations' to muddy the waters for their own twisted and evil agenda.....

Like Reply · 2w · Edited



1



Jake Payne LONG LIVE BEN and FAMILY !!!!!!!!!!! AND A POX times 3 over 'on the lousy, filthy accusers & their families..... Shame, Shame, Shame on you

Like Reply · 2w



1



Boyd Scott This is just like the Kavanaugh case, Roberts-Smith was guilty as soon as the story broke in many eyes....just so wrong. Hope he and his family recover as soon as possible from this slander

Like Reply · 2w



1



Robert Varga This man is a hero and deserves respect because he has done what so many would never do - stand and serve and go in harms way.

Like Reply · 2w



1



David Green Judgment process just leave Robert alone with the accusers, numbers irrelevant

Like Reply · 2w



Julie Schumacher That is good to hear

Like Reply · 2w



Clare Verngreen Disturbing knee jerk reaction with no acknowledgement of innocent till proven guilty. High profile people get whop lashed by the Leftist shills.

Like Reply · 2w

Annexure Certificate

No. NSD1485/2018
NSD1487/2018
NSD1486/2018

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

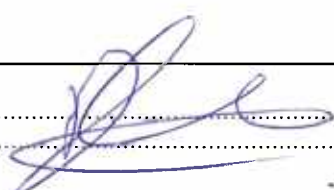
Respondents

DL-12

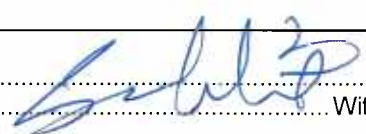
This is the annexure marked 'DL-12' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

Copy of the Defence Department statement

.....
Dean Levitan



.....
Witness



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Media** <media@defence.gov.au>

Date: Thu, 14 Jun 2018 at 19:02

Subject: FW: Fresh story [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

To: nmckenzie@fairfaxmedia.com.au <nmckenzie@fairfaxmedia.com.au>

Cc: Media <media@defence.gov.au>

UNCLASSIFIED

Nick,

Please find below a response which can be attributed to a Defence spokesperson.

Defence confirms that a member of the Special Forces received a threatening letter in the mail, relating to his giving evidence to the IGADF Afghanistan Inquiry.

Making such a threat is a criminal offence and Defence has referred the matter to the police.

The IGADF Afghanistan Inquiry does not reveal the identity of witnesses, and hearings are conducted in private.

Witnesses are protected by law from intimidation and from liability for what they tell the Inquiry.

Both current and former ADF personnel have access to a range of support agencies.

Defence encourages anyone with information relevant to the IGADF Afghanistan Inquiry to contact it at IGADF.1716@defence.gov.au.

Inquiry proceedings are conducted in a manner that provides Defence members with access to Defence support mechanisms. Former personnel may seek support through the Veterans and Veterans' Families Counselling Service (VVCS).

If these media reports or related matters raise concerns, support is also available from the Defence Family Helpline 1800 624 608.

Defence Media

Department of Defence | Russell Offices | PO Box 7909 Canberra BC ACT 2610

Phone: (02) 6127 1999 | Email: media@defence.gov.au | Follow us on Twitter: @DeptDefence

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District Registry: New South Wales
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Ben Roberts-Smith

Applicant

Fairfax Media Publications Pty Limited and others

Respondents

DL-13

This is the annexure marked 'DL-13' referred to in the Affidavit of **Dean Aaron Levitan** affirmed on 16 February 2018.

Copy of the email from the AFP

.....
Dean Levitan

.....
..... Witness

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Long, Nathan** <Nathan.Long@afp.gov.au>

Date: Thu, 6 Sep 2018 at 3:34 pm

Subject: RE: questions for afp re special forces threats [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

To: Nick McKenzie <nmckenzie@fairfaxmedia.com.au>

Cc: AFPNationalMedia <AFPNationalMedia@afp.gov.au>, Hawkins, Amy MS
(amy.hawkins@defence.gov.au) <amy.hawkins@defence.gov.au>

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Nick,

Below is a response you can attribute to an AFP spokesperson.

Cheers,

Nathan.

Regarding Sergeant B

- *The AFP received a referral from the Department of Defence on Friday 15 June 2018 in relation to this matter.*
- *The AFP is currently assessing the referral.*
- *It would not be appropriate to comment further.*

Regarding [REDACTED]

- *The AFP has considered correspondence it has received regarding this matter.*
- *The AFP has liaised with the Australian Defence Force Investigations Service on this matter. The AFP is unable to provide any further comment.*

NATHAN LONG

TL AFP NATIONAL MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA
CHIEF OF STAFF PORTFOLIO

Tel +61(0) 2 93833384
www.afp.gov.au



POLICING FOR
A SAFER AUSTRALIA