



Royal Australian Corps of Transport
c/- Army Logistic Training Centre
Army School of Transport
NORTH BANDIANA VIC 3694

RACT Newsletter

Official Newsletter of the Royal Australian Corps of Transport

Number 16, Aug 2009

HEAD OF CORPS MESSAGE

The 2009 Corps Conference is nearly upon us. My intent for the Conference is to inform the Corps on the significant challenges confronting both Army and the Corps, and to provide a forum in which you can be heard. It is essential that the officers, warrant officers and senior non-commissioned officers of the Corps develop a good understanding of the exciting developments in Army, so that we can each contribute to and lead the changes necessary to keep our Corps vibrant and relevant.

When looking at the Conference's Sequence of Events, you will notice some changes to the way in which the Conference is being conducted. The sole purpose behind these changes is to maximise the value of the Conference for those who are able to attend. I'll say upfront (and in order to avoid ex-communication from the Corps), there are no changes to the Corps Conference's social events!

The Conference will commence on Thu 17 Sep 09, with the day dedicated to the professional development of the Corps' WO & SNCO. The Corps RSM will run that day and he has put together an excellent program focusing on the career management and trade development of our soldiers. The second day will be for Offr, WO and SNCO. We have secured senior staff from AHQ, who will present and take questions on the challenges confronting Army's future force structure (*Adaptive Army* and *Rebalancing the Army*), the CSS Force Modernisation Review, the future B Veh operating system, Amphibious Ships and supporting systems, LAND 121 (brief and display of contenders), as well as presentations on the health of each Corps specialisation.

The most contentious programming change will be the use of the Saturday morning for presentations to the officers. That day will commence with a DOCM-A information session that will be quite different in nature to past years. This will be followed by AIRCDRE John Oddie, COMD Air Lift Group, outlining his vision for Air Mobility Support in the ADF – I promise that this will be both a high-quality and professionally stimulating discussion. The morning will conclude with a workshop involving the officers and the team conducting the CSS Force Modernisation Review – it will be your opportunity to influence this critically important work.

I will also use the Conference to outline my intent for markedly improving the way in which we reach out and communicate with the Corps and Associations. This will centre on work to improve our internet presence, including the exploitation of social media technologies such as blogs, Facebook, Twitter and SMS.

I urge all those who can make the Corps Conference to attend. This Conference is very much focused on Army's future, and it is your opportunity to have a voice and engage in debate concerning the future of our Corps.

Par Oneri.

2009 CORPS CONFERENCE



2009 RACT Corps Conference & Tobruk Dinners

The 2009 Corps Conference and Tobruk Dinners will be held at ALTC during the period 17 – 19 Sep 09. The theme for the 2009 Corps Conference is 'The RACT for the future'. Focusing on communicating RACT development direction to the Corps.

Sequence of Events

	17 Sep 09	Corps Conference Day One (HOC/COL COMDT's/DHOC/WO/SNCO/NCOs)
1700h	17 Sep 09	Circle the Wagons Combined Happy Hour & Buffet Dinner. (All participants - ALSM)
	18 Sep 09	Corps Conference Day Two (All participants)
1845h	18 Sep 09	WO/SNCO Tobruk Dinner
	19 Sep 09	Corps Conference Day Three (Ofprs/Corps Committee/Selected WO)
1900h	19 Sep 09	Officer Tobruk Dinner

The Administrative Instruction for the conference and associated activities can be found on the RACT DRN website at: <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/RACT/comweb.asp?page=Home>

Payment and attendance returns are due by Friday 28 August 2009.

Transit fees are required to be paid on arrival when collecting room keys from either ALOM/ALSM, amounts are detailed in the administrative instruction.

Points of Contact

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CORPS RECOGNITION SCHEME AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The RACT Awards of Excellence are established to allow the RACT to recognise exemplary performance on behalf of its privates and junior NCO's. Unit CO/OC's and RSM/SSM's are reminded that nominations for the 2009 RACT Awards of Excellence due to close on the 01 Sep 09. Now is the time to start identifying potential candidates.

Nominations are to be made in writing and are to reach the Corps RSM by the 01 Sep 09 in order for awards to be presented at the Corps Conference. Names of all winners are to be published in the next issue of the Australian Army Transport Journal (AATJ).

The cut off date for submissions is the 01 Sep 09

BEST ESSAY AWARD

Continuing the theme from 2008, the best Essay award with a cash prize continues in 2009. The winning Essay will be published in the Australian Army Transport Journal. We are looking for essays that cover any topic addressing RACT capability issues.

1st Prize - \$125-00, 2nd Prize - \$75-00, 3rd Prize - \$50-00

ONLY ONE ESSAY RECEIVED TO DATE SO DON'T DELAY

BEST PHOTOGRAPH AWARD

Continuing the theme from 2008, the best photograph award with a cash prize continues in 2009. The winning picture will be published in the Australian Army Transport Journal. We are looking for photographs that depict the RACT and catch the eye. All unit PR Officers, start clicking now to compile a portfolio. The Award will be announced at the Corps Conference.

1st Prize - \$100-00, 2nd Prize - \$50-00, 3rd Prize - \$25-00

The cut off date for submissions is the 01 Sep 09

TOBRUK DINNERS 2009

Officer's to be farewelled on the 19 Sep 09

Colonel A. Gillespie
Major M. Stanfield

Major G. Smyth

Officer's for HOC Recognition on the 19 Sep 09

Brigadier D. Saul, AM

Colonel D. Wyatt

WO/NCO's to be farewelled on the 18 Sep 09

WO1 D. Wolfe
WO2 G. Swaine

WO1 K. Golden
WO2 I. Hoskins

Note: Any comments, emails or telegrams can be forwarded to the RACT HOC Cell attention SGT Matthew Michie (02) 6055 4774 or email: matthew.michie@defence.gov.au

QUEENS BIRTHDAY HONOURS AND AWARDS 2009

HOC Cell wishes to congratulate the following Corps individuals whose outstanding service was recently recognised in the Queens Birthday Honours and Awards 2009:

Medal (OAM) in the Military Division

Warrant Officer Class One Wayne LE LIEVRE – For meritorious service as the Senior Career Manager Royal Australian Corps of Transport, and as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 7th Combat Service Support Battalion.

Warrant Officer Class One Vivianne NORTHOVER (now Captain) – For meritorious service as Warrant Officer Personnel, Headquarters 1st Joint Movement Group; Operations Warrant Officer, Joint Movement Control Office Townsville; and as Movement Officer at Joint Task Force 633 in the Middle East.

Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC)

Colonel Craig McCONACHY – For outstanding achievement as Commander 1st Joint Movements Group, particularly in his contribution to strategic joint movements for the Australian Defence Force.

Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM)

Warrant Officer Class One Ian SOJAN – For meritorious achievement as the Operations Warrant Officer and as the Senior Cargo Specialist Operator at the 10th Force Support Battalion.

Warrant Officer Class Two Andrew Watt – For meritorious achievement in the performance of duty as Driver to the Chief of the Defence Force.

WELCOME NEW COLONEL COMMANDANTS WEF JUN 09

COLONEL COMMANDANT Tasmanian Region – COL Wayne King

COLONEL COMMANDANT Central Region – COL William Denny

On behalf of the members of the RACT our sincere gratitude and farewell:

COLONEL Doug Wyatt – Tasmanian Region

COLONEL Greg Allen – Central Region