

DF NURSES INFORMATION
NEWSLETTER - February 2003

Welcome to the first ADF Nurses newsletter for 2003. We hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and are now refreshed and ready for another year.

The Nursing Directorate has had a change of staff since last year and we hope to continue the excellent work of our predecessors. LTCOL Bev Wright has taken on the challenge of SO1 NURS previously managed by Lyn Burnett who managed to achieve some significant advances for ADF Nursing. Lyn, we thank you for your contributions. The SO3 position has been taken over by myself, LEUT Wendy Thomas. Hopefully with the support of our readers we can continue to develop and expand on previous achievements.

Work continues on the development of the Military Nurse Practitioner Model and we again urge those interested to visit the web sites of the registering authorities for information on Nurse Practitioner.

The development of a Central ADF Nursing Officer Data Base is in progress to record all ADF Nurses Credentialling Status. To ensure that all Health Professionals employed within our facilities are appropriately

and currently qualified, JHSA have determined that the most effective way to achieve this is to conduct a bi-annual audit of all Health Facilities.

So we ask your support to ensure that your credentials are up to date within your department or facility, and remember the annual requirement to update your information.

More information on this process can be obtained from DI(G) ADMIN 25-4 Credentialling Process for Health Professionals Providing Service to the ADF.

The Annual ADF Nursing Officer Forum is being planned for this year and we hope the support received from everyone last year will continue with more quality presentations from ADF nurses, both permanent and reserve. More details about the venue and date of the next Nurses Forum are to be advised. But please start submitting your presentations as early as possible to SO1 Nurs LTCOL Bev Wright.

The Australian Nursing Council Newsletter for December 2002 acknowledged the Inaugural ADF Nurses Forum in their Commonwealth Initiatives column providing a brief summary of the days events.

The ADF Nurses Bulletin Board

This Bulletin facilitates communication processes for ADF nurses including information regarding standards of practice, ADF nursing requirements, links to other nursing associations and research outcomes of our colleagues. Your input and suggestions about this site are most appreciated so we can continue to publish and distribute information regarding ADF Nurses professional practice and eventually expand the site.

Education Opportunities

The College of Nursing is advertising its continuing education courses available on their Web-site the link is located on the ADF Nurses Bulletin through the DHSB Web-site.

The RNCA Web-site provides a Conference Calendar listing available conferences throughout the year including registration and contact details.

The University of Southern Queensland offers a Rural and Remote Nursing Practice Course available by distance.

Victoria University offer Pre-hospital/Emergency Post Graduate Courses for Health Professionals available by distance.

Congratulations:

To all those who were picked up for promotion including LCDR Hazel Smith, LEUT Tammy Thomas and LEUT Wendy Thomas. To any body else who I wasn't aware of congratulations also.

LEUT Phil Dolan for the completion of his Grad Cert in Rural and Remote Nursing gaining HD's and Distinctions.

Again to LCDR Hazel Smith who completed the Australian Command and Staff Course last year and by doing extra work achieved the Master of Management in Defence Studies. Hopefully more ADF nurses will follow this path.



Above LCDR Hazel Smith receiving her Master of Management in Defence Studies.

MAJ Ray Gilbert for receiving the RAANC Association Award for 2002 for his many years of exemplary dedication and contribution to the RAANC and Military Nursing.

Below from Left to right LTCOL Brandy, MAJ Gilbert and Val Jack (State Secretary Of the RAANC Association).



SQNLDR Kathleen Pyne for completing the Health Specialist Officer Initial Course Ph2-4 in Aviation Medicine. SQNLDR Pyne was the first NO to successfully complete the MO examination for this course. SQNLDR Pyne initially participated in the course to determine its suitability for NOs.



From Left to right Director-General Defence Health Service AIRCDRE Austin and SQNLDR Pyne.

OBITUARY

We are deeply saddened by the loss of SQNLDR Cruickshank whose death is a significant loss to Airforce and ADF Nursing.



SQNLDR Denise Cruickshank

1954-2002



THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING CORPS 100TH BIRTHDAY July 2003

In 1902, a General Order giving effect to an improved organisation for nurses was written and promulgated on the 1st July 1903. Paragraph 9 of General Order 123/1902 stated... **"An Army Nursing Service Reserve will be organised from those trained nurses who are qualified and willing to serve as such with stationary Field Hospitals and Base Hospitals when required upon a National Emergency."**

As the Australian Army Nursing Service formed the basis of the RAANC, the first of July is therefore celebrated as the birthday of Army Nursing and celebrated as the Corps Day. Each year celebrations occur as close to this date as possible.

On the 1st July 2003 the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps (RAANC), will celebrate its 100th birthday. To mark this important milestone a number of activities will occur between 4th -6th July 2003, in conjunction with the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps which will also celebrate its 100th birthday. Some of the activities will include a conference, formal dinner and church service.

Memorabilia will be produced including a medallion, which will be available for sale from January 2003.

All RAANC members, past and present and their families are warmly invited and encouraged to attend. We look forward to seeing you all in July 2003.

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