Cfn Camron Dixon at work in the 7CSSB workshop. Photo by Tim Asher
Guardians arrive home

Soldiers of Force Protection Element 2 complete their mission in Afghanistan

LS Jayson Tufrey

AFTER spending more than six months poised ready to defend coalition advisers in Afghanistan, Townsville-based soldiers of Force Protection Element 2 (FPE2) have stood down, proud to have completed their mission.

A total of 108 soldiers from A Coy, 1 RAR, and B Sqn, 2 Cav Regt, returned to Australia on January 4 after completing their force protection roles in Kandahar and Kabul.

CSM WO2 Eddie Walsh said the deployment was a rewarding experience for the team.

“It was a great trip for the professional development of my soldiers,” he said.

“I am impressed with the standard my troops attained and maintained throughout their rotation. As CSM it was satisfying to be a part of this deployment.”

As guardian angels for coalition mentors at the Afghan National Army Officer Academy and the 205 Corps Coalition Advisor Team, the soldiers gave mentors the ability to go about their daily tasking with the reassurance that professional soldiers ‘had their back’ in the inherently dangerous environment of Afghanistan.

The guardian angel program is a one-on-one arrangement where a single soldier accompanies an adviser, whereas the Sentinel program caters for the protection a larger group of advisers where one-on-one is not possible.

The role was different to previous infantry roles in Afghanistan, but WO2 Walsh said there was still much of which to be proud.

“Of course it was hard for everybody being away from family and loved ones for so long,” he said.

“In overcoming that one of my roles was to keep them busy and focused on the task at hand. I think they gained a lot more than they realised at the moment. They’re all glad to be home but they will look back on this trip and realise they contributed greatly.”

OC A Coy Maj Huw Kirby said the biggest achievement was the element achieving its mission.

“In a nutshell, the core role of my soldiers was their biggest challenge,” he said. “They are put into an environment where they provide intimate security and support for coalition advisers and they do this day in, day out, regardless of the changing environment.”

“My troops executed their mission flawlessly, with at no time any recourse to their section or platoon commanders.”

Every adviser they were directly responsible for has gone home to their families or is still there doing the job. The legacy my troops have left for FPE3 is something of which I am incredibly proud.”

Chopper blessing

CHOPPERS, soldiers and families of 1 Avn Regt were blessed by the unit padre at Robertson Barracks in Darwin on January 30.

The event kicked off a busy year for the regiment and provided a chance to welcome new members.

Soldiers were also given the opportunity to meet key leaders and senior officers.

Regiment padre Capt Cameron West blessed the soldiers and asked that they remain safe, faithful to their role, each other and their aircraft.

CO 1 Avn Regt Lt-Col Dean Thompson said the blessing parade was an important start to the year.

“At the beginning of the year it’s great to bring members of the regiment together with their loved ones and let their families know they are our support base,” he said.

“We have a lot of new people straight out of the training system, so it’s their first opportunity to fly, fix or sustain the aircraft.”
Recognising service

AWARD RECIPIENTS

- Pte Haitham Hadad, 1RAR
- Cpl Thomas O’Connor, SME
- Capt David te Rangihiroa, Coleman, 2/14 LHR
- Cpl Cameron Stales, ALTC
- Capt Angela Durant, ASLO
- Cpl Robert Campbell, 1RBT
- LBr c Benjam in Beach, STA
- Cpl Miranda Buckley, 2GHB
- Cpl Joseph Zivkovic, 5ER

HQJOC WILL look to the future as it incorporates new equipment and tactics into its planning this year.

Cpl Joseph Zivkovic, 5ER with the School of Aviation.
Regiment welcomes newest recruit

Simone Liebelt

A CHEEKY golden labrador with special skills has joined the ranks of 16ALR after being sworn in as the unit’s official mascot at Woodside Barracks on January 30.

In a unique ‘K9’ enlistment ceremony, two-year-old Murray took his oath of allegiance and was awarded the rank of gunner in front of a packed crowd of 16ALR colleagues, local media and representatives of the RSL – SA and the Royal Society for the Blind (RSB).

The assistance dog is a graduate of Operation K9, a joint initiative of RSL – SA and the RSB, which partners dogs with military veterans experiencing combat stress-related conditions, such as PTSD.

Under the Australian-first program, dogs are trained to recognise and respond to heightened anxiety and depression in their companions, providing a level of comfort only a dog can.

Gnr Murray became the first graduate of Operation K9 to be allocated to a group instead of an individual, with 16ALR identified as the lucky candidate.

CO 16ALR Lt-Col Berni White said it was a perfect fit. “The program organisers decided Murray was better placed with a group because of his sociable nature and his ability to make an ideal companion to soldiers, so the partnership was easily formed,” he said.

“The regiment, in its current form, was looking for more identity and a new mascot and the labrador dog was chosen by the unit members as it is a fitting metaphor for what we do in as far as a labrador is a gun dog, a retrieval dog and a working dog.

“We have a great relationship with RSL – SA and the RSB and are very grateful for the opportunity to take on Murray as a recruit. He is already an extremely popular member of the unit and we’re looking forward to many years of loyal service from him.”

When not participating in PT or representational duties during the day, Gnr Murray mixes with members around the barracks, providing a morale and mental health boost to those who need it.

At night, he bunks in the guard room with up to seven other soldiers on duty. He has been known to wake members experiencing a nightmare in the communal sleeping area by laying his head on their pillow.

His supervisor, 16ALR RSM WO1 Brendan Fox, said they did not anticipate the effect he would have on the unit. “Gnr Murray has the attention of everybody,” WO1 Fox said.

“You can see the bold adjust in members of a room when he enters. Everyone puts their hand out for a pat, a lick or just an acknowledgement from him. That’s the type of impact on a minority in a small room, so you can imagine 180 personnel standing on parade when Gnr Murray is brought on.

“Considering that 87 per cent of our unit is aged between 19 and 25, many of our soldiers are learning to become members of the Army away from home, so the presence of a dog helps them through that stage – by just having someone there who will listen and not answer back.”

But according to Gnr Murray’s current handler, Sgt Matt Kelsey, he would answer back if he could.

“He’s a really well-tempered dog and he’s got quite a personality, but he tends not to listen sometimes like other young soldiers,” Sgt Kelsey said. “He is just like a teenager after all.”

For more information on Operation K9, visit www.rsb.org.au/Our_Services/RSB_Guide_Dogs/OperationK9

Support WHEN YOU NEED IT

1800 011 046
FREE & CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELLING
Veterans | Families | Eligible ADF

www.vvcs.gov.au
Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service
A service founded by Vietnam veterans
Committed to his trade

High performing heavy vehicle mechanic rewarded for excellence

Cpl Nick Wiseman

They say a good tradesman doesn’t blame his tools and one mechanic will have no excuse after taking home $2500 worth of prizes and being named the 2014 Snap-on Tools Apprentice of the Year.

Heavy vehicle mechanic Cfn Camron Dixon, of 7CSSB, received the award last year while completing the on-the-job training phase of his Army apprenticeship at Enoggera.

After joining Army in October 2011, Cfn Dixon spent 18 months at trade school in Bandiana, Victoria, before relocating to Brisbane to finish his training, which wraps up his three-and-a-half year apprenticeship.

Cfn Dixon was surprised at the announcement and said the award meant a lot.

“I made the decision to join up as a heavy-vehicle mechanic with little knowledge of the trade,” he said.

“This award highlights the work I have put into learning as much as I can,” Cfn Dixon said he had always wanted to join the Army.

“But I also wanted the safety of a solid trade under my belt,” he said.

“Since starting I’ve enjoyed my time as an on-the-job trainee experiencing different military units and vehicles.”

The award acknowledges the commitment and passion of the next generation of tradespeople across the automotive, heavy machinery, marine and aviation industries, with an additional focus on the ADF.

Snap-on Tools recognised Cfn Dixon’s references from both the military and civilian environments, which revealed an apprentice with strong theoretical abilities as well as the speed and quality of work that outperformed qualified technicians.

WO2 Dave Oram, of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, was Cfn Dixon’s supervisor and said he nominated him because he continually displayed the attributes that made a good RAEME tradesman.

“During his on-the-job training he went field as part of a squadron exercise with 2/14 LHr (QmI), which is a rare opportunity for a small trade like his and meant a lot.

“Cfn Dixon was able to thrive in this environment and the reports back were excellent. He was considered a valuable member of his small team over the six-week period.”

Although the award is a highlight of his military career so far, Cfn Dixon said he was lucky enough to be included on the 7 Bde CATA last year where he spent six weeks in the field.

“I loved it,” he said.

“I got to fire a range of different weapons and also got to experience working with the ASLAVs.”

“Field out there was a lot different to what I had previously done at trade school.”

Indigenous partnership

ARMY and the NSW Department of Education and Communities have signed a Partnership Memorandum to set the stage for greater cooperation between the two organisations.

CA Lt-Gen David Morrison and the Secretary of the NSW Department of Education and Communities Michelle Brignone signed the memorandum in Sydney on February 3.

“Cfn Camron Dixon at work in the 7CSSB workshop. Photo by Tim Asher

This memorandum demonstrates that Army is committed to providing rewarding and fulfilling career opportunities for Indigenous school leavers.

“Today marks an important step towards our shared commitment and opens the door to further collaboration with the Opportunity Hubs in the future.”

NSW Opportunity Hubs build partnerships between schools, employers, education and training providers, and the local community to provide education and employment opportunities for Indigenous students.

Under the memorandum, Army will provide guidance and support to identified students aspiring to an Army career, as well as pre-recruitment training and experiential learning opportunities.

Lt-Gen Morrison said the memorandum would benefit students, who would receive greater access to information on a career in Army as well as recruitment requirements.

“One of the key components of our memorandum is recognising the importance of engaging with students early,” he said.

“Army already has specialist Indigenous recruiting officers located around the country who regularly provide students with information on opportunities to serve with the Army.

“By collaborating with organisations such as the NSW Opportunity Hubs, Army will be able to provide greater advice and support to students so they can make an informed decision about a career in the Army.”

Do you want a PHAT Tax Return?

Defence Force tax specialists - We have extensive experience across all ranks and specialties, including:

• Members who have served overseas
• Members who have fallen behind on lodging their tax returns

Maximum returns - We know all the specific deductions, so you get a great tax return every year!

Phone consultations - All tax returns are completed over the phone, so you don't have to leave your base, ship or assignment

One Tax agent - We are not limited to locality so you and your family don't ever have to look for another tax agent again

Call our 24/7 bookings hotline 1300 763 575 or visit us online at www.phatreturns.com.au

Cfn Camron Dixon said he was lucky enough to be included on the 7 Bde CATA last year where he spent six weeks in the field.

“I loved it,” he said.

“I got to fire a range of different weapons and also got to experience working with the ASLAVs.”

“Field out there was a lot different to what I had previously done at trade school.”

The award acknowledges the commitment and passion of the next generation of tradespeople across the automotive, heavy machinery, marine and aviation industries, with an additional focus on the ADF.

Snap-on Tools recognised Cfn Dixon’s references from both the military and civilian environments, which revealed an apprentice with strong theoretical abilities as well as the speed and quality of work that outperformed qualified technicians.

W02 Dave Oram, of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, was Cfn Dixon’s supervisor and said he nominated him because he continually displayed the attributes that made a good RAEME tradesman.

“During his on-the-job training he went field as part of a squadron exercise with 2/14 LHr (QmI), which is a rare opportunity for a small trade like his and meant a lot.

“Cfn Dixon was able to thrive in this environment and the reports back were excellent. He was considered a valuable member of his small team over the six-week period.”

Although the award is a highlight of his military career so far, Cfn Dixon said he was lucky enough to be included on the 7 Bde CATA last year where he spent six weeks in the field.

“I loved it,” he said.

“I got to fire a range of different weapons and also got to experience working with the ASLAVs.”

“Field out there was a lot different to what I had previously done at trade school.”

The award acknowledges the commitment and passion of the next generation of tradespeople across the automotive, heavy machinery, marine and aviation industries, with an additional focus on the ADF.

Snap-on Tools recognised Cfn Dixon’s references from both the military and civilian environments, which revealed an apprentice with strong theoretical abilities as well as the speed and quality of work that outperformed qualified technicians.

W02 Dave Oram, of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, was Cfn Dixon’s supervisor and said he nominated him because he continually displayed the attributes that made a good RAEME tradesman.

“During his on-the-job training he went field as part of a squadron exercise with 2/14 LHr (QmI), which is a rare opportunity for a small trade like his and meant a lot.

“Cfn Dixon was able to thrive in this environment and the reports back were excellent. He was considered a valuable member of his small team over the six-week period.”

Although the award is a highlight of his military career so far, Cfn Dixon said he was lucky enough to be included on the 7 Bde CATA last year where he spent six weeks in the field.

“I loved it,” he said.

“I got to fire a range of different weapons and also got to experience working with the ASLAVs.”

“Field out there was a lot different to what I had previously done at trade school.”

The award acknowledges the commitment and passion of the next generation of tradespeople across the automotive, heavy machinery, marine and aviation industries, with an additional focus on the ADF.

Snap-on Tools recognised Cfn Dixon’s references from both the military and civilian environments, which revealed an apprentice with strong theoretical abilities as well as the speed and quality of work that outperformed qualified technicians.

W02 Dave Oram, of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, was Cfn Dixon’s supervisor and said he nominated him because he continually displayed the attributes that made a good RAEME tradesman.

“During his on-the-job training he went field as part of a squadron exercise with 2/14 LHr (QmI), which is a rare opportunity for a small trade like his and meant a lot.

“Cfn Dixon was able to thrive in this environment and the reports back were excellent. He was considered a valuable member of his small team over the six-week period.”

Although the award is a highlight of his military career so far, Cfn Dixon said he was lucky enough to be included on the 7 Bde CATA last year where he spent six weeks in the field.

“I loved it,” he said.

“I got to fire a range of different weapons and also got to experience working with the ASLAVs.”

“Field out there was a lot different to what I had previously done at trade school.”

The award acknowledges the commitment and passion of the next generation of tradespeople across the automotive, heavy machinery, marine and aviation industries, with an additional focus on the ADF.

Snap-on Tools recognised Cfn Dixon’s references from both the military and civilian environments, which revealed an apprentice with strong theoretical abilities as well as the speed and quality of work that outperformed qualified technicians.

W02 Dave Oram, of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, was Cfn Dixon’s supervisor and said he nominated him because he continually displayed the attributes that made a good RAEME tradesman.

“During his on-the-job training he went field as part of a squadron exercise with 2/14 LHr (QmI), which is a rare opportunity for a small trade like his and meant a lot.

“Cfn Dixon was able to thrive in this environment and the reports back were excellent. He was considered a valuable member of his small team over the six-week period.”

Although the award is a highlight of his military career so far, Cfn Dixon said he was lucky enough to be included on the 7 Bde CATA last year where he spent six weeks in the field.

“I loved it,” he said.

“I got to fire a range of different weapons and also got to experience working with the ASLAVs.”

“Field out there was a lot different to what I had previously done at trade school.”
Comms tested

Exploring communications on board HMAS Canberra

Capt Bradley Richardson

PERSONNEL from across the ADF came together late last year to understand and test communications on board Australia’s newest amphibious platform, HMAS Canberra.

During the communications exercise, Canberra’s communications traffic and operational environment were put to the test in a fictional humanitarian and disaster relief scenario off Papua New Guinea.

Senior observer controller and US Army exchange officer Maj Steve Barrier, of Combat Training Centre, oversaw personnel in joint planning teams and a replicated joint operations room.

“Combat Training Centre developed scenarios that would induce information exchange from the ship to other communications nodes including ADF aircraft, other maritime elements and shore units,” Maj Barrier said.

“The exercise was designed to enable us to visualise the data transfer in a realistic environment and to accurately collect and analyse it.”

Some of this data included operational reports and returns, phone calls, emails and internet traffic.

“The data is critical to understand the communication bandwidth in line with amphibious operations,” Maj Barrier said.

HQ 1 Div signals officer, Maj Sonny Lynn, took part in the exercise and said it helped the ADF understand the maritime capability in a simulated environment.

“Combat Training Centre and staff from the Defence Science and Technology Organisation and the Australian Defence Simulations Training Centre supported HQ 1 Div to conduct the communication exercise and record the data,” Maj Lynn said.

He said staff from the Amphibious Task Group, 2RAR, HQ 1 Div, Air Command and Australian Federal Police were then responsible for developing the information.

“The results of the activity will assist in the future capability development of the platform and refine current procedures being developed by the amphibious task group, which will be exercised throughout 2015,” Canberra will provide the ADF with one of the most capable and sophisticated air-land-sea amphibious deployment systems in the world and this exercise was vital in understanding its ability to communicate at sea.

“About 600 ADF personnel will take part this year,” he said. “We have been allocated a one hour period to hold an ADF showcase.”

The exercise will feature an attack and extraction sequence, an air-to-air combat scenario, assault scenario with Army parachutists jumping out of C-130s, a C-17A landing with a pair of bushmasters and troops, a ground engagement, air-to-air refueling and an AP-3C sinking a mock submarine.

“An Army Tiger and MRH-90 will conduct an infiltration and resupply mission,” Air-Cdre Pietsch said.

“Air Force and Navy will also take part in individual flying displays along with F-16s from Singapore and the US Air Force.”

There will be a WWI and WWII ground battle scenario with reenactors and a large number of WWI aircraft.

“The warbirds will be taking to the skies much to the delight of enthusiasts,” Air-Cdre Pietsch said.

“It’s going to be a great show.”

For more information, visit www.airshow.com.au
Sgt Dave Morley

“HUMBLED, proud and honoured,” was how the commander of JTF 630, Operation Philippines Assist, described his feelings on being awarded a Conspicuous Service Medal recipient in the Australia Day Honours List.

Lt-Col Rod Lang said it was a privilege to be given the command of JTF 630.

“The quality and professionalism of the team actually made my role quite enjoyable,” he said.

“We were well supported by the chain-of-command, from the initial recon through to redeployment, and this made a real difference.”

“The quality of the members of the recon team and the leadership by the task group commanders was especially strong.”

Lt-Col Lang said the men and women of the JTF, who were drawn from across all three services, did an outstanding job.

“Especially when you consider the scale of the disaster, the speed of the deployment and the remoteness of the area of operations,” he said.

“Within a short five-week timeframe, we had completed planning and preparations, deployed by air and sea, executed recovery operations and redeployed to the area.”

“We were one of the few nations to deploy forces onto land and live with the local population.”

“The work was hot and demanding and was greatly appreciated by the government and people of the Philippines.”

Lt-Col Lang said a certain degree of chaos was to be expected following any disaster on the scale of Typhoon Haiyan, which hit the Philippines in early November 2013.

“It took a few days to really acquire a solid understanding of the situation and to identify what was needed and how and where we could best support,” he said.

“Knowing that force elements from 3 Bde, primarily 3CR, were already embarked in HMAS Tobruk and en route, with other capabilities being flown in via C-130, we simply drew the axis of the operation.”

“We determined where along that axis existed sites with both an air and sea port of debarkation and sea port of debarkation to lodge our force, then deployed to the area with the greatest damage.”

“Prioritising tasks on the ground was actually quite easy, we simply asked the local council how we could help.”

A highlight of the operation was providing assistance to the local 19 Bn of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Lt-Col Lang said it was rewarding for the team to provide assistance directly to the local soldiers.

“We had developed a close bond with 19 Bn, commanded by Lt-Col Nedy Esperas, and discovered that he and his men were unable to repair their own homes and facilities because of their role supporting JTF 630,” he said.

“The JTF 630 XO, Maj Roger Pointon, was instrumental in energising this additional support to 19 Bn.”

The 481 ADF members who deployed on Operation Philippines Assist in 2013 were awarded the Philippine Military Civic Action Medal by the Philippine Government last June.

Conspicuous Service Medal recipient Maj Konrad Kazmirowicz, of 1 Avn Regt, stands in an ARH Tiger at Robertson Barracks.

Contact us now to reserve 2014 fees for the rest of 2015

Go to website for all current fees

BSBS1312 Diploma of Work Health & Safety
BSBS41412 Certificate IV in Work Health & Safety
BSBS60407 Advanced Diploma of Management
BSBS5107 Diploma of Management
BSBS50207 Diploma of Business
BSBS15413 Diploma of Project Management
BSBS16070 Diploma of Quality Auditing
CPS50611 Diploma of Security & Risk Management
TAE50111 Diploma of Vocational Education & Training*
TAE40110 Certificate IV in Training & Assessment

* contracted to Tafe Qld RTO 0416 for these specific qualifications

Reserve 2014 fees for 2015

TAFE Queensland

www.hamel.edu.au 1300 7 999 14

info@hamel.edu.au

Hamel Institute – Registered Training Organisation 32399

Armey

February 12, 2015


Celegtions at Jezzine

Sgt Dave Morley

QUEENSLAND’s Australia Day celebrations were focused on Townsville for the first time this year, with the annual flag-raising ceremony held at Jezzine Barracks.

Battery captain 109 Bty, 4 Regt RAA, Maj James Groves said the unit continued its proud association with 3RAR, as it supported the battalion’s parade by firing a 21-gun salute from Kissing Point.

“As 3RAR raised the Australian flag at Jezzine Barracks, the battery of four M2A2s fired out over the open water,” he said.

“The provision of a salute battery is a great honour for serving members and this event was particularly poignant for gunners.”

Maj Groves said the site of the salute was adjacent to the same piece of ground Australian coastal gunners held for the defence of Australia during WWII.

Following the impressive reaction from the crowd, which included senior ADF members, Townsville Mayor Cr Jenny Hill and regional politicians, the parade ended with an Air Force C-17A Globemaster conducting a low-altitude flyover.
AFGHAN National Security Forces (ANSF) will have increased protection thanks to the first delivery of Australian counter-IED equipment.

The project, developed by the Defence Science and Technology Organisation and sponsored by Defence’s Counter-IED Task Force, aims to provide Afghan forces with personnel and vehicle force protection systems to defend against IEDs.

Afghan, Australian and NATO Resolute Support officials marked the milestone at a ceremony at the Australian Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, on January 28.

Australian Ambassador to Afghanistan Matt Anderson said the first delivery of 450 personnel devices, which were distributed to Afghan officials at the ceremony, was important for Australia’s relationship with Afghanistan.

“The provision of these easy to use, robust and lightweight devices will assist in protecting the ANSF from the threat of IEDs, which remain a significant threat to Afghan soldiers and police,” Mr Anderson said.

“I am delighted that Australia with our NATO Resolute Support partners can, through the Afghan National Army (ANA) Trust Fund, assist our Afghan partners in countering this threat.”

Strength in diversity

Sqn-Ldr Wendy Walker

ALMOST 150 current and past staff and students celebrated 70 years of operation at the Defence Force School of Languages (DFSL) late last year.

Located at RAAF Williams - Point Cook, in Melbourne’s south-west, DFSL is one of the most culturally and ethnically diverse units of the ADF.

Catering for students from Army, Navy and Air Force, as well as other government departments, the school delivers training in more than 20 languages to about 400 students each year.

CO DFSL Cdr David Hope said the school was arguably the most diverse workplace environment in Defence.

“Civilian staff represent a range of ethnicities from almost every Asia-Pacific country, as well as many Middle Eastern and European countries,” Cdr Hope said.

“This contributes to an authentic learning environment.

“The four heads of the school’s wings are natives of Russia, Indonesia, Egypt and Iran.

“We must understand the people and the culture before committing forces to anywhere the ADF is required to operate.

“The diversity of ethnicities, cultures, gender, ranks and services all contribute to enable DFSL to produce effective linguists able to enhance capability by allowing Defence to better understand the people and the environment within which it operates.”

DFSL provides training in Arabic, Chinese, Dari, Farsi, Fijian, Filipino, French, German, Khmer, Korean, Indonesian, Japanese, Javanese, Malay, Solomon Islands Pidgin, Pashto, Portuguese, Thai, Tetum, Tok Pisin, Urdu and Vietnamese.
Riding the road to safety

Soldiers from 6 Avn Regt put new skills to the test during a vehicle safety course

WO2 Andrew Hetherington

SOLDIERS and an Australian Public Service member from 6 Avn Regt have taken the lead with road safety training by running a course at Holsworthy Barracks.

The self-funded vehicle safety course was developed in October 2012 as a result of the loss of Army funding for motorcycle training courses.

The car and motorcycle course has been run four times at Luscombe Army Airfield.

Course coordinator Sg t David Vagg said he developed the course to provide members of his unit with low-cost rider training in a safe environment.

"Many of us didn’t get the opportunity to attend an Army-funded rider course when it was running," Sgt Vagg said.

"We included car drivers into our activity to provide additional opportunities for more people."

"We consider it a key component of our unit safety program." The motorcycle component of the course is run by 6 Avn Regt APS member Bruce Andrew.

Mr Andrew is a civilian-accredited motorcycle instructor in Sydney and has been teaching and assessing riders for more than eight years.

"For the course program I tailored some of my rider training packages to make them more relevant to the personnel here," Mr Andrew said.

"We teach road craft, hazard recognition, hazard reduction, correct body posture on the bike, braking, object avoidance, techniques for riding curves, planning crash avoidance space and mental preparation before riding."

"We use the unit’s runway and taxi-ways for a variety of training exercises before a road ride to put into practice hazard reduction techniques."

Unit Transport NCO Cpl Andrew Smith runs the car component.

"I use similar training packages to what’s delivered on military driver training courses," Cpl Smith said.

"In the classroom I teach the basics of vehicle safety, vehicle dynamics and vehicle control."

"After the formal lessons, we move outside to the apron area of the airfield and put the theory into practice."

WO2 Brett Mellish, 6 Avn Regt’s Supply Chain Manager, completed the motorcycle course last year. He rides a 1998 Suzuki Marauder VZ800 cruiser.

SGT David Vagg explains how the course is funded:

"The course is paid for by a participation fee from the members," he says.

"Because Bruce is an APS member, his professional instruction incurs no additional fee.

"The fee to attend covers the cost of purchasing morning tea, a barbecue lunch and afternoon tea."

"This company very favourably with the cost of civilian-equivalent training."

"For the past four events we have provided training to more than 90 personnel including military, APS and civilian contractor staff."

"We plan to run the first course for 2015 in conjunction with the unit induction period."

For more information, contact Cpl Simon Batge at simon.batge@defence.gov.au or on (02) 8782 7705.

I went on the course to brush up and enhance my riding skills," WO2 Mellish said.

"It was good to refresh my emergency riding skills and I learnt a new technique for cornering."

"The course was an excellent tool to help riders who didn’t have the advanced skills and also as a refresher for those who may have had a few years since last being trained."

"It was great to use the airfield to practise in a controlled environment, so we didn’t have to contend with traffic the whole day."

"If a course only saves the life of one person, it has done its job."

Mr Andrew said training for Defence motorcyclists and drivers was an important aspect of safety training.

"I think it’s brilliant 6 Avn Regt has stepped up to allow the course to be run," he said.

"I am more than happy to continue to provide any training I can."

He said the efforts of Sgt Vagg to put the course together, and Maj Miles Irving, Maj Michael Carius and CO Lt-Col Tim Connolly to allow it to happen, should be applauded as a positive step to allow Defence motorcycle riders at the unit to be better equipped to ride safely.

Are you receiving Rent Allowance?

Avoid getting caught.
Share your change in circumstances.

No matter how insignificant you feel your change in personal circumstances may be, it’s important to let us know. Simply tell us each time your circumstances change and we can advise if your Rent Allowance (RA) needs to change.

Possible change of circumstances:

• change to the number of people living in your home
• continuing to receive RA after leaving your home
• moving home
• you have purchased a home.

Minimise over payments. Log in and update your details today.

Access Online Services, 24/7.

hha.gov.au/online 139 342 housing@dha.gov.au
Launch hits right note

Army Band Sydney releases self-titled album

Cpl Nick Wiseman

ARMY Band Sydney has released its first recording of original music since the widely acclaimed album Camouflage in 2002. The band marked the occasion with a live performance on December 3 at Sydney’s jazz venue, Foundry 616, which showcased the musicians’ talent to the broader community.

Band leader Sgt Cameron Earl said it was a fantastic night with a great crowd. “It was an opportunity to perform in front of a different type of crowd,” he said. “Everyone enjoyed themselves and we got some great feedback.”

The band’s self-titled album is an original work featuring music from four different uniformed composers covering a range of genres and many solo items. Sgt Earl said the album represented the skills of the band and had been a valuable training project. “We had members of the band qualified in recording music and, in an endeavour to promote training and develop those skills in the unit, we thought the album would be a good thing to work on when time permitted,” he said.

“The album features many solos, which encouraged the guys to really develop their skills and have a go at recording solo material.”

A large group of people enjoyed the performance and entry proceeds were donated by the establishment to Mates4Mates and Legacy with more than $1000 raised.

Sgt Earl said everyone enjoyed spending time working on the album. “When you have a record button on, it gives a greater intensity and meaning compared to a normal day’s work,” he said.

“We’ve had quite a lot of good feedback from the ADF community as well as those within the music circle – it’s been good stuff!”

Music Director Maj Peter O’Connor praised the efforts of the band and said compiling the album had been no mean feat. “With all the commitments and tasks we have on, the album was recorded over the space of the year,” he said.

“It was a great team effort but Sgt Earl and our sound technician, Sgt Peter Bell, in particular spent a lot of late nights getting this project done. “It’s a wonderful example of the standard of musicians in the Army.”

The album is freely available for download from https://soundcloud.com/austarmyband or in hard copy at selected performances. Maj O’Connor has requested listeners who like the album to consider a donation to Mates4Mates or Legacy.

Follow the Army Band on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AustralianArmyBand

Double bassist Musn Mansell Laidler plays during the launch of the Australian Army Band Sydney’s latest album (cover inset left). Photo by AB Tom Gibson

Novated Leasing for ADF Personnel courtesy of

BE REWARDED FOR YOUR SERVICE

Secure your Selectus Novated Lease and access huge fleet and running cost discounts and enjoy the ease of an all-inclusive package, bundled into a regular scheduled payment.

Selectus

START SAVING NOW  
1300 01 02 03  
sales@selectus.com.au  
www.selectus.com.au

© Selectus Employees Benefits Pty Ltd 2014 | Authorised Representative of Selectus Financial Services Pty Ltd, AFSL/AFL No. 337020
Cpl Nick Wiseman

Cpl Nick Wiseman has been awarded 2CER’s prestigious soldier of the year award for 2014.

“HE WAS able to encourage his soldiers to be better and perform at a standard that was above the rest of the sections around him.” That’s how RSM 2CER WO1 Graeme Nagle described the regiment’s NCO of the year, Cpl David McDonald.

Cpl McDonald received his award for outstanding performance as a section commander from CA Lt-Gen David Morrison at the opening of his regiment’s new lines on November 24.

“He was able to encourage his soldiers to be better and perform at a standard that was above the rest of the sections around him.” That’s how RSM 2CER WO1 Graeme Nagle described the regiment’s NCO of the year, Cpl David McDonald.

Cpl McDonald received his award for outstanding performance as a section commander from CA Lt-Gen David Morrison at the opening of his regiment’s new lines on November 24.

“It was nice to be presented with the award by the CA,” he said.

“He posted out of the unit at the end of last year and said it was a nice way to finish his time there.

“Although most are aware of the honour, Cpl McDonald said he had not thought about it throughout the year and just did his job.

“I’ve been at 2CER for the past seven years and found I was able to impart my knowledge and skills to a lot of the new guys,” he said.

“we’re at a time now where we’re back to re-establishing all the basic skills of the combat engineer,” he said.

“we’re moving out of the afghanistan search frame of mind and I think section commanders need to take hold of that and don’t lose those important combat engineer skills.”
As a member of the Australian Defence Force, it’s never been easier to choose, insure and save on a new car – even while you’re serving the country. We manage the details, you enjoy the benefits.

Don’t miss out on the sales – call RemServ today.

1300 73 14 29
benefits.remserv.com.au/defence

Important Information: This general information doesn’t take your personal circumstances into account. Please consider whether this information is right for you before making a decision and seek professional independent tax or financial advice. Conditions and fees apply, along with credit assessment criteria for lease and loan products. The availability of benefits is subject to your employer’s approval. RemServ may receive commissions in connection with its services.

Remuneration Services (Qld) Pty Ltd ABN 46 093 173 089 Authorised Representative (No. 293159) of McMillan Shakespeare Limited (AFSL No. 299054)
Stellar service for last vet

The last ARA Vietnam War veteran retires

Sgt Dave Morley

THE ARA’s last Vietnam War veteran has hung up his boots after more than 46 years’ service.

HQ 3 Bde safety manager Maj Lester Mengel, who served in South Vietnam as a rifleman with 2RAR from May 1970 to June 1971, called it a day on January 13.

Maj Mengel said he applied to join the Queensland Police Force in 1968 and passed all the assessments except punctuation.

“Disappointed and returning to my mother’s work to advise her of the outcome, I walked past the recruiting centre in Brisbane and found myself walking in to ask about joining the Citizen Military Forces,” he said.

Armed with information and keen to join, I asked my then employer to sign off on my application to join.

“My request was refused so I went back to the recruiting centre and applied to join the Regular Army. The rest is history.”

Maj Mengel said highlights of his career included his tour of Vietnam, being appointed SEM of 30 Tml Sqn and RSM of the Queensland University Regt, developing safety protocols for Army and having two children join the Army.

“The opportunity and experience of working with high-quality personnel, from formation commanders, COs and OCS through to soldiers who have provided motivation, direction and purpose, is another highlight,” he said.

“When I was sitting in the jungle 43 years ago I never thought I’d stay in this long,” he said he would have plenty to do to keep busy in retirement.

“I’ll be taking the boat out fishing for barra, red claw and muddies, working for my son’s security company and going four-wheel driving with my wife Judy,” he said.

Comd 3 Bde Brig Roger Noble said Maj Mengel was one of a kind.

“His particular experience cannot be replaced,” Brig Noble said.

“In other cultures it is called wisdom and that is what we miss because you can learn that on a course.

“What he has seen and learnt in his 46 years of service is a genuine treasure for us.

“He has been able to apply those years of experience into his risk assessments to make 3 Bde safer.”

He said Maj Mengel would be sorely missed.

“He fought in Vietnam and yet he still serves faithfully today as a leader in a combat brigade,” he said.

“The changes he has seen have been profound — he has been part of the Army for almost half its institutional life and he will be missed.”

Maj Mengel will now serve as a reservist within HQ 3 Bde to assist the commander and provide support to the incoming safety manager.

Maj Mengel’s farewell message to diggers coming out of Kapooka was to look after each other and look beyond today and themselves.

“The opportunities are there for you to take. Grab them and work toward a future,” he said.

“Although today’s Army is very different from the one I joined in 1968, it remains a career that is a style of life with career opportunities, and an experience that is valuable both within and external to the Army.”

Staying connected on ops

LS Jayson Tuffrey

THE ability to find, store and create information is key to modern operations and this important function is coordinated by the Theatre Information Management Cell.

The cell’s work also ensures records in such a way that will ensure incoming safety managers.

Maj Mengel will now serve as a reservist within HQ 3 Bde to assist the commander and provide support to the incoming safety manager.

Judy,” he said.

Maj Mengel will now serve as a reservist within HQ 3 Bde to assist the commander and provide support to the incoming safety manager.

Maj Mengel’s farewell message to diggers coming out of Kapooka was to look after each other and look beyond today and themselves.

“The opportunities are there for you to take. Grab them and work toward a future,” he said.

“Although today’s Army is very different from the one I joined in 1968, it remains a career that is a style of life with career opportunities, and an experience that is valuable both within and external to the Army.”

Unlock Your Potential – Secure a Future?

Register now to secure your training goals – limited places

Julie Inglis, email: info@learningpotential.com.au or mobile: 0401 126 379

Training courses will be commencing in February 2015 – proudly supported and subsidised by the Commonwealth Government A to B Program for Tradies and the Northern Territory Government under the NT Training Entitlement (subject to funding eligibility).

• BSB40120 CertIII in Frontline Management
• BSB30307 CertIII in Micro-Business Operations
• BSB40407 CertIV in Small Business Management
• BSB51270 Diploma of Management
• TAE40110 CertIII in Training and Assessment

Register now to secure your training goals – limited places

Spectrum is a licensed Real Estate Agent, Registered Tax Agent and Accredited Mortgage Consultant.

BOOK NOW for your FREE consultation 1300 784 246 or visit www.spect.com.au

Properties • Loans • Tax • Defence Entitlements

www.spect.com.au

Spectrum in a licensed Real Estate Agent, Registered Tax Agent and Accredited Mortgage Consultant.

Above, Pte Lester Mengel in Vietnam in 1970. Left, Rec Mengel in 1968. Far left, Maj Mengel is presented with his Federation Star by then-Deputy CA Maj-Gen Angus Campbell. Maj Mengel’s wife Judith was also at the ceremony.
Bushmasters re-rolled

The School of Transport provides critical training to soldiers and is implementing significant changes under Plan Beersheba this year, Cpl Max Bree reports.

BUSHMASTER crew commanders may be a thing of the past as machine gunners and gunners move to the Army School of Transport's Road Transport Wing at Puckapunyal in January. They will operate in a “B Vehicle” after previously working on a cavalry framework as a “Special Vehicle.”

This marks rewriting the way Bushmaster operators, according to Road Transport Wing’s PMV Troop Commander, Cpl Alasdair Newman, Cpl Toby Kent.

“The new drivers’ course may have some components of the old crew commander’s course,” he said. “You will also have an ancillary operator who will operate the communications, weaponry and any battle tracking that’s on the PMV.”

“That’s not to say the vehicle, the new PMV, and the ancillary operator are in the same vessel,” he said.

Capt Newman said the changes were directed by Force Commander and a new training management package was created.

“You’re looking at having more of a product commander in charge of a patrol who’s in command of a section or a patrol, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles. It is focused on individual vehicle control for the PMV before, but it has been directed they don’t want it to be the same thing.”

The first of two 28-day pilot courses started this month, each taking 26 students through driving, navigation and ancillary operations, along with basic formation movement out field. The previous course was run by the Motorised Combat Wing at the School of Artillery, an establishment that trains all Land forces.

About 45 per cent of Army’s Bushmasters will be used by RACT, with the remainder being operated by infantry, artillery, signals and reserve cavalry units.

Despite the new approach, Capt Newman said it would be up to the Transport Corps to determine how they used the PMV.

“It won’t be totally turned into a transport vehicle, it will just be used by the Transport Corps,” he said. “We do the basic driver course and any additional tactical considerations for using the PMV will come through different training management packages.”

Bushmaster courses are changing in line with Plan Beersheba. Here, PMV’s from 1CSSB pass US Marines during Exercise Rostling in the Northern Territory in August last year.

EXPERIENCED BUSHMASTER OPERATORS SHARE THEIR WISDOM

Cpl Toby Kent

“You can’t know what the weather’s going to be like in Iraq, or what’s coming up on the road, according to Cpl Toby Kent, an instructor in PMV training.

“They’re a large vehicle so obstruction to look up to see if there is a road sign and you can’t see it in your mirror, or you can’t see it in your rear view, or your surrounding,” he said.

“It’s a big vehicle so it’s a bit harder to see over the edge and it’s a very comfortable environment to be sitting in there. There’s a bell button for basically every situation you can get into. They’re a very capable and safe vehicle.”

Cpl Kent instructed at the Road Transport Wing at Puckapunyal for six years.

Cpl Dale Salis

It’s a very versatile vehicle, I really liked it at a driver level,” Cpl Dale Salis said, a Bushmaster instructor at the School of Artillery.

“I grew up in the PMV in the Bushmasters. It’s got a central tyre inflation system, so if it’s muddy, you can get stuck, and it’s got a chance to work up to the conditions and you’re good to go,” he said.

“It has good armour capability to protect small arms. Plus, it’s good to sit in. You can have a cup of tea when you’re at rest. You have a button on that and it’s got hot water in there. You can sit there and have a coffee or a cup of tea, sit there and read, sit there and watch the TV.”

Cpl Salis went on to instruct on Bushmaster courses this year. He helped instil the PMV’s unique operational capabilities.

“This involved getting the vehicle, getting support equipment, getting information and then planning, planning, planning how to work in the vehicle with communications equipment. New Bushmaster drivers should know how to get to the specifications of the vehicle along with the handling.”

“Put into your PMV data, not just your mobile data of 2G, 3G but also the PMV data. Just don’t be asteen, be an operator.”

From left, Cpl Dale Salis, Capt Alasdair Newman and Cpl Toby Kent.

Cpl Dale Salis

HE SERVED as a Bushmaster crew commander for more than nine months in Iraq, now Cpl Dale Salis has helped establish the PMV’s other Road Transport Wing.

“While deployed I found it a pretty tough task for the whole eight-week eighteen-hour days, day in day out, he said.

“I can’t get a good job doing that type of work. It’s exactly the same thing as you’re doing now.”

Cpl Salis said the biggest part of his role was to help instruct the new Bushmaster operators this year.

“HITTING THE ROAD

IF YOU’RE driving a green four-wheel drive, you’re in good company. Road Transport Wing’s Road Transport Wing PMV Troop Commander

“You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.”

You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.

Captain Newman.

CENTREPIECE 15

HITTING THE ROAD

IF YOU’RE driving a green four-wheel drive, you’re in good company. Road Transport Wing’s Road Transport Wing PMV Troop Commander

“You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.”

You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.

Captain Newman.

CENTREPIECE 15

HITTING THE ROAD

IF YOU’RE driving a green four-wheel drive, you’re in good company. Road Transport Wing’s Road Transport Wing PMV Troop Commander

“You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.”

You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.

Captain Newman.

CENTREPIECE 15

HITTING THE ROAD

IF YOU’RE driving a green four-wheel drive, you’re in good company. Road Transport Wing’s Road Transport Wing PMV Troop Commander

“You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.”

You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.

Captain Newman.

CENTREPIECE 15

HITTING THE ROAD

IF YOU’RE driving a green four-wheel drive, you’re in good company. Road Transport Wing’s Road Transport Wing PMV Troop Commander

“You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.”

You’ll have a corporal who’s in command of a section or a packet, then there’ll be drivers and ancillary operators in the packet controlling individual vehicles.

Captain Newman.
I HAVE been an openly [gay] serving member at 3CSR for three years. In that time, other openly serving members have been posted to the unit, comprising both sexes, officers and ORs.

In my time at 3CSR, I have experienced changes in hierarchy from the CO to various peers. Despite these changes, the unit culture is the one thing that remains unchanged. The unit’s unwavering support for openly serving members is a credit to the soldiers and officers as performance and motivation is prized above all else.

As with any unit, a unit’s hierarchy drives the tempo, sets the standards and therefore significantly influences morale.

Being accepted as an openly LGBTI [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transexual and intersex] member of the unit is made easy by the way the hierarchy accepts individuals for who they are and what they have to offer.

As any LGBTI member knows, the decision to serve openly is not one that is made lightly, so there must be a good reason why so many members felt safe and secure in 3CSR to make the decision to come out.

After three years in 3CSR and without trying to compare the Army environment, I am confident in my assessment that this no-fuss approach has allowed LGBTI members to be more comfortable and increased morale in the unit in the process.

Anyone who has ever had to sit through an interview with their troop commander will know the difficulty that can come from providing answers concerning one’s sexuality. These questions can be tricky to answer at the best of times and often it is not a question posed to all people.

When I revealed my sexual orientation I received a professional and relaxed response. This instilled in me confidence that 3CSR is a professional organisation that judges members by their performance and it has proven to be correct.

All soldiers at 3CSR, regardless of who they are, are held to the same standards, affirming that all have a place within the unit. They are seen as soldiers first and as equals among their peers.

One example is how our clerks handle same-sex relationship status applications, pushing them through in the same timely fashion and with no less zeal than they deal with all other such applications.

Other examples are how unit members have had the moral courage to stand up for openly serving members when they are at the receiving end of comments or jokes that fall outside what could be deemed as acceptable. While you develop thick skin over time, the pride I have felt on occasions like this is difficult to explain.

3CSR members have shown time and time again that if an event occurs and an open member feels uncomfortable, the issue is dealt with as routine, allowing unit members to get on with their job in a professional manner.

The combined support and respect from the unit’s hierarchy and peer group make the unit worthy of recognition as an organisation that does not discriminate and practices what it preaches.

3CSR is a great unit to be a part of, especially for the equal treatment of its members.

As I have now posted out of the unit I am using this letter as a way to say thank you for not treating LGBTI members differently, but rather treating us as equals striving to achieve the same high standards.

This is what makes 3CSR such an excellent example of how the Army is moving forward in its treatment of all LGBTI members.

Sig Michael Johnston
1 Sig Regt
Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera

‘Unwavering support’ the norm

3CSR leads by example

Sig Michael Johnston praises his former unit, 3CSR, for its ‘no-fuss’ approach to LGBTI members. Photo by Tim Asher

NAB DEFENCE FORCE HOME LOANS

You’ve made your commitment. We’ve made ours.

For over 23 years, NAB has helped countless members of the Australian Defence Force with home loan expertise and discounted rates. We’re committed to serving those who serve.

Talk to a NAB Defence Force Home Loan specialist today.

Visit nab.com.au/defence

Benefits and discounts only apply whilst your loan is part of a NAB Defence Force Home Loan package. Annual package fee applies. Only available to eligible Defence Force Members. Correct as at 28 January 2023. Terms, conditions, fees, charges and lending criteria apply. 43205 National Australia Bank Limited ABN 12 000 044 837 AFS and Australian Credit Licence 230355.
Assessment review

Jerry can carry test reduced in length and alternative endurance test introduced

THE all-corps soldier Physical Employment Standard Assessment (PESA) jerry can carry test has been adjusted after a review by Army and the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO).

In reviewing the "stretcher carry" element of the PESA, Army determined that in the context of all-corps soldier environments, it was not likely that casualties would need to be moved with their fighting order.

This would reduce the overall weight carried within the criterion task.

DSTO conducted an experiment late last year to determine how this change in overall weight would impact the existing test.

The trial demonstrated that participants completing the all-corps soldier jerry can carry test should now complete five legs of the 25m course (125m) rather than six (150m).

As well as changes to the length of the jerry can carry test, an alternative muscular endurance test has been introduced.

This is conducted over the same course and distance as the jerry can carry, but uses 22kg kettle bells rather than jerry cans.

This alternative is only available in the all-corps soldier PESA, for those participants who have failed the jerry can carry component in their latest PESA attempt.

The requirements of other PESA level assessments have not changed.

DID you know that height is not a factor in achieving ground clearance during the jerry can carry?

Tests have shown that soldiers at the minimum height requirement for Army (152cm) are able to achieve a minimum clearance of 16cm from the base of the jerry can to level ground.

Inconsistent posture during the test can reduce the ground level clearance. Improving strength in the back and shoulders will increase your ability to clear the jerry can.

Learning new skills on the pilot CSO course are, from left, Pte Justice Doyle (Norforce), Michelle Jimmy (S1FNRQ), Ayesha Iida, Jaiaw (Norforce), Shauna Kershaw (Pilbara Regt) and Deegee Fogarty (Norforce).

CSO training packages have been designed by the Army Logistic Training Centre and Infantry Trade and Training Cell in conjunction with the RFSUs.

Norforce conducted the pilot CSO basic course, qualifying 20 soldiers from the Regional Force Surveillance List in preparation for the specialist courses this year.

Non-reduction periods

AFTER the introduction of the Graded Officer Pay Structure and Graded OR Pay Structure in 2008, which introduced revised pay structures for officers and other ranks, a number of employment categories were restructured.

Where these changes involved a reduction in pay for some employment category skill grades, Army sought non-reduction periods, which provided eligible personnel a period of salary protection.

During this time, personnel would undertake to meet the revised qualification requirements while continuing to receive a salary at the higher pay grade. A number of these non-reduction periods are due to cease in the coming year.

Affected personnel will be notified through their chain of command.

Discounted pay rates

DISCOUNTED pay rates for reserve officers will be removed after the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal recommended in August 2014 that the office submit a revised rates schedule if the pay rates were introduced for certain categories of reserves, such as the High Reserve and Reserve. Discounted rates for all other ranks were discontinued in 2010 with the full introduction of the Graded Pay Structure.

About 800 active reserve and 1200 standby reserve officers remain on the discounted pay rates and will benefit from this decision, which will come into effect from April 9.

Prince of Wales award

APPLICATIONS are open for the Prince of Wales award. The award grants reservists an opportunity to undertake a training or development activity, either in Australia or overseas, related to their civilian occupation or profession, and is worth up to $8000.

Reservists, who hold a rank of corporal or above, can apply to major, regardless of trade or specialisation, may apply provided they meet the eligibility criteria. Head Cadet, Reserve and Employer Support will provide further information.

The award would encourage reservists to talk with their employers to identify that it could be used to make a difference in their civilian workplace.

Applications close on February 26 (Defence Form PH 441). For more information, see Defgram 630/2014 "Army Reserve Career Transition Specialists " Part 2 – Prince of Wales Award, or www.defenceservicessupport.gov.au

Members made to feel welcome

Each year, Defence Community Organisation hosts events around the country to welcome members and their families to their new posting locations.

The events allow families to find out about services and activities in their area and meet other Defence families in a relaxed setting.

Acting regional director DCO Sharon Sculler said some events were low key morning teas while others, like those in Townsville and Darwin, were full-scale expos with community stalls, local government representatives, ADF equipment displays and live entertainment.

She said while there was a focus on people new to each location, all ADF members and their families were welcome to attend.

“Moving to a new community can sometimes be daunting, so our area offices put an emphasis on connecting families with each other and community groups in each area,” she said.

For more information, visit www.defence.gov.au/dco or follow DCO’s Facebook page.

New supporting roles available

NEW job opportunities are available for part-time service with the Army’s Regional Force Surveillance Units (RFSUs), opening up broader career options for troops in supporting roles.

The creation of the combat support operator (CSO) employment category means there are now alternatives for male and female soldiers outside the patrolman stream.

A total of 153 new CSO positions are open at the RFSUs – Pilbara Regiment, Norforce and S1FNRQ.

The new career path allows for promotion to WO2 in supporting roles and remuneration up to Pay Grade 3.

CO Norforce Lt-Col Matt Campbell said the initiative provided great opportunities for soldiers wishing to serve in RFSUs.

“Also supports the unit’s vital logistical roles that are often comparatively understated,” Lt-Col Campbell said.

“The RMSA from all three RFSUs visited the pilot CSO course in Darwin and were impressed with the high standard of course delivery and the outcomes achieved by the participants,” CO S1FNRQ Lt-Col Matt Silver also welcomed the creation of the category, which will provide much-needed support to the troops on the ground.

“The establishment of this new trade stream has created an important new capability within the unit,” Lt-Col Silver said.

“The ability to have trained and experienced RFSU specialist logistical support in the field, working and engaging with the patrols is critical to mission success.”

After completing the RFSU induction course, candidates will attend a CSO basic course to give them the necessary foundation skills to support patrolmen in the barracks and field environment.

Soldiers can then attend the administrative assistant, supply assistant, catering assistant or driver specialist course.

Once they have achieved a specialist qualification, CSOs will provide integral support to patrolmen under supervision of the ARA cadre staff.

CSO training packages have been designed by the Army Logistic Training Centre and Infantry Trade and Training Cell in conjunction with the RFSUs.

Norforce conducted the pilot CSO basic course, qualifying 20 soldiers from the Regional Force Surveillance List in preparation for the specialist courses this year.

FIND AN EVENT

DCO Welcome events in 2015:

- Sydney Hills, February 11
- Brisbane, February 15
- Perth/Fremantle, February 15
- East Sale, February 17
- Nepean Valley, February 18
- Puckapunyal, February 19
- Amberley, February 19
- Karratha, February 20-22
- Wagga Wagga, February 21
- Darling Downs, February 21
- Melbourne, February 22
- Hawksbury, February 25
- Townsville, February 28
- Darwin, March 7
- Canberra, March 14
- Albury/Wodonga, March 14

The RMC Band performs during a Defence Community Organisation family welcome event. Photo by PD Phil Cullinan

PESS MYTH BUSTING

Photo by PO Phil Berry

The all-corps soldier PESA jerry can carry test has been reduced in length. This image has been digitally altered.
THERE'S MORE TO SHARE WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE SHAREHOLDERS.

If we were any more like family we’d go you halves in the last bit of juice too. That’s because for over 60 years we’ve existed to benefit our members, not to profit investors. And with exclusive hospital and extras packages for ADF and Reservist families, we’re making sure there’s always plenty to go round.

Join the family. Call 1800 335 425 or visit defencehealth.com.au.

Specialists rest easy

Jobs secure as capability develops

Sgt Dave Morley

MARINE specialists’ jobs are guaranteed until 2027, according to DGPERS-A Brig Peter Daniel, with the future of Army’s watercraft beyond that date yet to be confirmed.

Brig Daniel said while there had been uncertainty regarding the future of Army’s watercraft, Defence had considered and implemented the ADF Amphibious Deployment and Sustainment capability under Joint Project (JP) 2048 to explore this issue.

As a consequence, there will still be a requirement for Army to retain marine specialists.

“As the Amphibious Deployment and Sustainment capability develops, a decision on the future of Army’s watercraft is also being established,” Brig Daniel said.

Army’s watercraft are operated by marine specialists and RAEME members in 17 CSS Bde, RFSU and Socomd, with 10FSB operating LCM8s and 35 WT Sqn operating LARC Vs within 17 CSS Bde.

“The role and tasks of Army’s watercraft operated in RFSU and Socomd retains its importance and priority,” Brig Daniel said.

“However, in relation to 35 WT Sqn, its role and tasks are likely to be expanded. This expansion will see some adjustments to positions and rank requirements, which will require further development in the short to medium term.”

“This expansion includes filling the emerging capability gap resulting from the disposal of the Landing Craft Heavy in 2014, before its scheduled replacement in 2022.

“It also includes ongoing LCMS support to HMAS Choules.”

Given this, and the capability of the LCMS/LARC-V fleets to support Amphibious Deployment and Sustainment, a life-of-type extension has been approved to extend LCMS and LARC-V to 2027.

Brig Daniel said change would be required as the joint approach to amphibious and littoral manoeuvre evolved.

“But in general, the skills, knowledge and attributes of marine specialists, ECN-218, remain vital to provide and maintain this capability, and there are no plans for any significant amendments to the employment category or personnel numbers,” he said.

“AHQ has developed a proposal for a future Archipelagic Manoeuvre Capability, which provides a combat brigade littoral manoeuvre and logistics over-the-shore option.”

“The current version of the Archipelagic Manoeuvre documentation sees a role and tasks for Army’s watercraft operated by marine specialist and RAEME personnel beyond 2027.”

Commandant Army Logistic Training Centre, as the employment category sponsor for marine specialists, has been tasked with conducting an employment category review into the trade.

This review will take into account the significant change in structures over the past few years due to changing responsibilities under JP2048.

Brig Daniel said the initial findings would be presented to AHQ in June 2016.

The good news is Army considers it an ongoing role for ECN-218 to support brown water and littoral operations, including Special Forces-related tasking, and also link in with broader amphibious capabilities expanded under JP2048.

Brig Daniel said the initial findings would be presented to AHQ in June 2016.
Focusing on the result

Changes will provide fairer, faster system

Avital Terkowski

GRIEVANCES will be redressed more quickly under changes to streamline the way Defence personnel report and manage incidents and deal with complaints.

The CDF, supported by the Service Chiefs, has directed changes to responsibilities, policies and practices that support ADF decision making, particularly on military justice issues.

The CDF-directed initiative Re-thinking Systems Review Implementation (RSRI) will be rolled-out from March.

Lt-Gen Mark Evans, who is leading the initiative, said the changes were designed to provide a fair and efficient system to resolve personnel issues as quickly as possible.

RSRI is about ensuring our men and women won’t have to wait months or years for a decision to be made, and that these decisions are equitable,” he said.

He said the changes included empowering commanders to make decisions and supporting commanders in the decision-making process.

The changes will also remove decision-making complexity for junior commanders.

“We are focusing on less complex and quicker processes for incident and complaint recording and reporting and redress of grievances.”

He said the changes included empowering commanders to make decisions and supporting commanders in the decision-making process.

Lt-Gen Evans acknowledged that a failure to act decisively to redress grievances and resolve complaints was a great frustration for soldiers, sailors and airmen and women. He said it was about making junior leaders responsible and accountable for the welfare of their people and resolving military justice and administrative issues early.

As a commander and as the Head of Personnel in Army he dealt with a number of incidents.

“Clear in my mind then was that earliest intervention on some of these matters was the best solution,” he said. “Generally, the longer an issue is allowed to remain unresolved the more difficult it becomes to fix.”

He said if there was one thing he would like to achieve out of RSRI, “it would be that we are outcomes focused rather than process focused.”

“It is about a command that is robust and can make decisions and it is about our people being content that the organisation is looking after them fairly,” he said.

“Decisions won’t always go in their favour, but they will be based on good judgement.”

For more information visit intranet.defence.gov.au/oscweb/sites/MilitaryJustice

KEY CHANGES

Stage 1: Jan – June 2015

The release of revised:

- Incident Reporting (Di(G) Admin 45-2).
- Incident Recording (Di(G) Admin 67-2 and Form A6530 – Defence Incident Record).
- Guide to Decision-Making in Defence (including fact finding guidance).

Stage 2: July – December 2015

- Interim ICT system based on the Defence Policing and Security Management System for incident recording and reporting, common to the three services.
- Consolidation of Di(G) Admin 45-2 and Di(G) Admin 67-2 into a combined, single incident recording and incident recording Defence instruction, supported by a fact finding manual.
- Roll-out of online forms for incident reporting and recording.

Stage 3: Beyond January 2016

- Intention to roll-out an Enterprise Recording Reporting and Case Management system to replace the interim ICT system.
- Review, de-conflict and consolidate policies related to inquiries.

Li-Gen Mark Evans is leading the Re-thinking Systems Review Implementation.

Photo by Flt Kev Berriman

Package a new car and save on tax

Let the team at Fleet Network show you how to save thousands when buying your next new car. It’s all about using your pre-tax salary, and taking advantage of all the additional benefits only Fleet Network can offer.

It’s worth a call – it’s your salary, after all.

Call us for an obligation free quote NOW

1300 738 601


Fleet Network Pty Ltd. To qualify for this offer you must mention this advertisement to Fleet Network prior to the completion of your initial contract. Vehicle must be new and supplied by Fleet Network. Not valid in conjunction with any other current Fleet Network offers. Employees should consult their employer’s salary packaging policy before entering into a contract.

*Subject to Employer policy. Vehicle for illustration purposes only.
True mateship

Soldiers gather to reflect on their service, Sg t Dave Morley reports.

FORMER 2 Trg Gp instructors and staff gathered at Ingleburn Military Precinct late last year to celebrate the mateship formed while training thousands of reservists over almost three decades.

Organiser WO2 Catherine Reilly, of HQ Forcomd, instructed on recruit, Officer Cadet Training Unit and promotion courses at 2 Trg Gp between 1983-97. She said it was important to hold memorial events.

“Whether a full- or part-time soldier, for many of us the Army has been an important aspect of our social lives, offering support in times of need,” she said.

“For many in the ADF, it is in leaving the Defence family that we realise the importance of the friendships we have nurtured during our service.”

WO2 Reilly said the Ingleburn Military Precinct, formerly Bardia Barracks, was an important area to many families, who could trace the journey of their forefathers into the Army since 1939.

“This is also a focal point for the residents of the new suburb of Edmondson Park, built on the Bardia Barracks site, to begin to learn of the residents of the new suburb of Edmondson Park, built on the Bardia Barracks site, to begin to learn of the importance of history and the pressure of military service and share our lives with other people,” he said.

And enlisted in the Army Reserve 21 years later as a driving instructor, said the commemoration services had been held every two years since 2006.

“It is important to keep these commemorations going because we are an aging group, and we have lost some of our members since the last one,” she said.

“It is also important to keep people in touch with each other as it can allow them to attend other events, such as the funeral of a friend.”

Cpl Greg Martin, a driving instructor at UNSWR who travelled from Cobar in outback NSW for the service, said it was great to have worked at 2 Trg Gp over the years.

“A lot of lasting friendships were developed here,” he said.

Coordinating Chaplain Liverpool Military Area Chap Bill Phillips, who conducted the service, said one of the strongest reasons for members coming together on these occasions was to celebrate and renew the mateship that was forged in military service.

“I believe we are meant to relate to and share our lives with other people and the pressure of military service helps us to appreciate the value of true mateship,” he said.

From left, WO2 Graham Bell, of 6CSSB, WO2 Catherine Reilly, of Forcomd, WO1 Greg Chimney, of AFUS, and Cpl Greg Martin, of UNSWR, attend the commemorative service for 2 Trg Gp at Ingleburn Military Precinct.

The next 2 Trg Gp reunion is planned for September 2016.

THE INVESTMENT PROPERTY SPECIALISTS!

Finally, a Financial Planner that specialises in Property

Don’t buy without knowing

• What deposit you need
• What the weekly cost is
• The difference between an Offset and Redraw Account and how to structure
• Whether you should invest and use RA/MQ or buy & use DHOAS

Education Workshops

• Negative & Positive Gearing
• Tax Variations
• Mortgage Insurance
• Offset & Redraw Accounts
• Renting vs Owning

• How to own your home sooner
• How to reduce capital gains tax & tax on MSBS retentions
• DHOAS or RA

An Investment in Knowledge pays the best interest!

Astute Investments QLD Pty Ltd is a Corporate Authorised Representative (No. 337 160) of Synchon, AFSL No. 243313.

Astute Investments
Defense Force Investment Specialists

Ph: 1800 044 429
www.astuteinvestments.com.au

Philip Game
Director
BE (Av),DFP (Financial Services) REIO Licensed Agent
13 Years Experience in the Defence Force across RAEME and AAAVN, Specialising in assisting Defence Personnel.
Miniseries marks century

New television drama brings the Gallipoli campaign to life, *Michael Brooke* reports.

**THE television miniseries**

*Gallipoli* is a brutally honest and historically accurate portrayal of the Anzac campaign in WWI, which resulted in more than 26,000 Australian casualties.

Gallipoli’s military adviser, Army reservist Maj Dayton McCarthy, said the eight-part drama, which premiered on Channel 9 and the WIN Network on February 9, broke new ground with little-known facts about Australia’s involvement at Gallipoli on April 25, 1915.

The drama shows the landing on the wrong beach, bad command decisions and the plea by Anzac commanders to be evacuated on the first day after the operation failed to gain any of its key objectives.

“Everybody involved in the *Gallipoli* project worked hard on historical accuracy and authenticity,” Maj McCarthy said.

“I am very happy with the way it has turned out, because it looks so real.”

*Gallipoli* is based on the writings of some of the most celebrated historians, while the actors have been trained in accordance with 1914 military drills.

Three years in the making, the mini-series portrays one of the most heroic yet catastrophic chapters in Australian history, principally from the perspective of the young Anzacs fighting for their lives and the officers making life-or-death decisions.

The drama follows two brothers as they fight in key battles that shaped the campaign, including Lone Pine, where seven VC’s were won, and the Nek, where more than 300 light horsemen were killed in a futile attack against Turkish machine-guns and entrenched troops.

Maj McCarthy, working as a civilian, brought his knowledge of military culture and WWII to the production to ensure authenticity.

He led the cast through military training to help them understand some of the physical and psychological pressures on a soldier at Gallipoli.

“Each day the cast had two hours of stunt training on how to fall and how to die, as well as four hours of military drill,” he said.

“I provided the actors and extras with an insight into George Mansford’s *Junior Leadership on the Battlefield* as well as providing stunt training on how to conduct platoon attacks and other drills,” Maj McCarthy said.

“The actors spent a lot of time learning the 1907 *Bayonet Fighting* pamphlet, as well as other basic military manoeuvres, including platoon attack.”

The first episode begins with the landing at Anzac Cove and the main character killing a Turkish soldier with his bayonet.

“What we see isn’t the sergeant-major from ‘Zulu’ performing text-book bayonet thrusts, with one neat thrust dispatching each foe, but a terrified young Anzac struggling to kill a wounded enemy with repeated thrusts,” Maj McCarthy said.

Maj McCarthy said he prepared actor Jeremy Lindsay Taylor for the role of Capt Taylor, who leads the Anzac attack against the tactically important feature of Baby 700 with only 60 soldiers.

Capt Taylor is based on the real character of Capt Tielloch and Capt Lalor (grandson of Eureka Stockade’s Peter Lalor), Maj McCarthy said.

“To look and feel the part of this character, Jeremy had to feel comfortable with commanding his men, as well as the tactics at that era.”

Capt Taylor is the only effective officer during the landing, leading his men in the suicidal charge on Baby 700, which was crucial to the Anzac invasion plan.

After a screening at the Australian War Memorial on January 19, Jeremy said his role as Capt Taylor gave him a new appreciation of the Anzacs, as well as the heroism of current members.

“To be killed at any moment while doing your duty is what really amazes me most about our past and present service personnel,” he said.

**PRODUCTION**

The miniseries was filmed in Victoria in 16 weeks, with additional filming on location in Turkey. Thousands of photographs, sketches, charts and records were used to recreate the Gallipoli peninsula, from Anzac Cove up the ridges and gullies to the Turkish positions on the high ground at Baby 700 and Battle Hill. An extensive system of trenches and support trenches was constructed west of Melbourne and formed the main set for the series.

Most of the set dressings and props were created especially for the production, while a few rare items were used, including a Turkish field gun captured near Lone Pine by 9 Bn soldiers on April 25.

“While interest rates are low... you don’t have to be wealthy to invest... but you have to invest to be wealthy.”

QPS INVESTMENT GROUP

**Did you know that for $50/wk* you can own this?**

Contact us and find out how!

**PHOTOGRAPHIC GEAR**

Photos supplied

Did you know that for $50/wk* you can own this?

Contact us and find out how!

**QPS INVESTMENT GROUP**

**PROTECTION CONTRACT**

Rent

**QPS INVESTMENT GROUP**

**PROTECTION CONTRACT**

Rent

**QPS INVESTMENT GROUP**

**PROTECTION CONTRACT**

Rent
New year, new car!

Start the year in style with a novated car lease from Smartleasing

NEW MAZDA CX-5
Maxx (FWD) 2.0i Auto

$395*
Per Fortnight

No Deposit to pay

Package includes
✓ Fuel
✓ Finance
✓ Maintenance
✓ Warranty
✓ Re-registration
✓ Servicing
✓ Insurance

Hyundai
i30 Trophy 1.8i Auto

$330*
Per Fortnight

No Deposit

Toyota Corolla
Ascent Sport 1.8i Auto

$345*
Per Fortnight

No Deposit

Mazda
3 Maxx Auto
Hatch/Sedan

$340*
Per Fortnight

No Deposit

Nissan
X-Trail ST 5st 2WD Auto

$400*
Per Fortnight

No Deposit

Find out how you could benefit from a novated car lease.
Visit us online or call for an obligation-free quote.

Call us today 1300 112 769

www.armyleasing.com.au

*Based on the following assumptions: living in NSW 2123, salary: $70,000 gross p.a., travelling 15,000 kms p.a., lease term: 48 months. All figures quoted include budgets for fuel, servicing, tyres, maintenance and re-registration over the period of the lease. Also includes QBE comprehensive motor insurance, 2 year extended warranty (except for all Hyundai and Kia models) and platinum aftermarket pack, which includes window tint as part of the offer. Vehicle pricing is correct at the time of print and may be subject to change and availability.
Terrifying first attack

In 1915, Broken Hill was torn apart by rifle shots during a train ambush that killed three people, Sgt Dave Morley reports.

The centenary of the first terrorist attack on Australian soil was commemorated at Broken Hill on January 1.

The incident, now known as the Battle of Broken Hill, occurred when two local men, camel driver and part-time butcher Mullah Abdullah, 61, and ice cream vendor Badsha Gool Mohammed, 41, ambushed a picnic train on New Year’s Day 1915.

The picnic was an annual event run by the Manchester Unity Lodge for the townsmen.

The Silverton Tramway Company hosed out 40 iron ore wagons and put bench seats in them to carry 1200 revellers to Penrose Park, on the town’s outskirts, for a day of picnicking and foot racing competitions.

Six weeks before, on November 14, the Ottoman Turkish Empire’s primary religious leader, Sheikul-Islam, declared a jihad on behalf of its allies.

The government, urging his followers to return to Islam, declared a jihad on behalf of the Ottoman Turkish Empire’s primary religious leader, Sheikul-Islam, declared a jihad on behalf of the government, urging his followers to take up arms against Great Britain and its allies.

As the train steamed slowly up a hill, the passengers saw the two men with rifles about 30m away. Some waved, believing the men were out rabbiting. But the terrorists raised their homemade Turkish flag over their wagon marks the spot where the train driver was killed.

Broken Hill resident William Shaw, pipeline inspector Alf Millard, who was cycling beside the train, and 17-year-old Alma Cowie were killed.

As the train slowed further along the track, some passengers leapt down and ran for cover, while two headed back to Broken Hill to raise the alarm.

The terrorists fled to a quartz barrier and, after hundreds of rounds were fired, Mullah Abdullah was found dead and Gool Mohammed died in hospital.

The incident, now known as the Battle of Broken Hill, occurred when two local men, camel driver and part-time butcher Mullah Abdullah, 61, and ice cream vendor Badsha Gool Mohammed, 41, ambushed a picnic train on New Year’s Day 1915.

The picnic was an annual event run by the Manchester Unity Lodge for the townsmen.

The Silverton Tramway Company hosed out 40 iron ore wagons and put bench seats in them to carry 1200 revellers to Penrose Park, on the town’s outskirts, for a day of picnicking and foot racing competitions.

Six weeks before, on November 14, the Ottoman Turkish Empire’s primary religious leader, Sheikul-Islam, declared a jihad on behalf of its allies.

The government, urging his followers to return to Islam, declared a jihad on behalf of the Ottoman Turkish Empire’s primary religious leader, Sheikul-Islam, declared a jihad on behalf of the government, urging his followers to take up arms against Great Britain and its allies.

As the train steamed slowly up a hill, the passengers saw the two men with rifles about 30m away. Some waved, believing the men were out rabbiting. But the terrorists raised their homemade Turkish flag over their wagon marks the spot where the train driver was killed.

Broken Hill resident William Shaw, pipeline inspector Alf Millard, who was cycling beside the train, and 17-year-old Alma Cowie were killed.

As the train slowed further along the track, some passengers leapt down and ran for cover, while two headed back to Broken Hill to raise the alarm.

The terrorists fled to a quartz formation called White Rocks where they planned to make a last stand.

After the initial attack, it took the best part of an hour for the authorities to respond. Ten police were mustered and armed, 53 soldiers from the 82nd Inf Bn, a local Militia (Army Reserve) unit, were called, as well as members of the town’s rifle club and anyone else who owned a rifle and wanted to join in.

The town’s newspaper, the Barrier Miner, later reported there was "a desperate determination to leave no work for the hangman or to run the risk of the murderers of peaceful citizens being allowed to escape".

The armed party, comprising almost 200 men, closed in on White Rock and, after hundreds of rounds of ammunition had been exchanged, rushed the stronghold.

Mullah Abdullah was found dead and Gool Mohammed died in hospital a few hours later from 16 gunshot wounds.

During the fighting, Jim Craig, a dead man who could obviously not hear the shooting, was killed by a stray bullet as he was chopping wood in his backyard.

Broken Hill’s residents were so enraged at the attack they burnt down the German Club building and had to be stopped by police from entering the camel drivers’ settlement.

A replica of the terrorists’ ice cream cart now stands as a memorial at White Rocks while a railway wagon marks the spot where the ambush occurred.

FREE INVESTMENT PROPERTY TRAINING

Warning: Don’t buy an investment property until you have done this course

You Will Learn

- Learn how one investor made $260K in one year in capital growth on top of his salary while still serving full time in the ADF
- ADF housing entitlements
- Investor psychology - How the most successful investors think
- Historical price data and future price expectations
- What to buy, when to buy, where to buy
- The latest strategies to build a portfolio quickly and safely
- The latest strategies for best cash flow
- How to manage risk

Upcoming Training Days

Melbourne Sat. 14th February, 9am-4pm Adina Apartment Hotel
Adelaide Sun. 15th February, 9am-4pm Hilton Adelaide
Townsville Sun. 22nd February, 9am-4pm Jupiters Townsville Hotel
Sydney Sat. 28th February, 9am-4pm Sydney Boulevard Hotel
Toowoomba Sat. 28th February, 9am-4pm Burke and Wills Hotel
Canberra Sun. 1st March, 9am-4pm Crowne Plaza Wagga Wagga Sat. 14th March, 9am-4pm International Hotel
Darwin Sat. 14th March, 8:30am-3:30pm Mantra on the Esplanade
Albury Sun. 15th March, 9am-4pm Commercial Club Albury
Perth Sun. 15th March, 9am-4pm Adina Apartment Hotel
Newcastle Sat. 28th March, 9am-4pm Crowne Plaza Newcastle Hotel

Testimonials

"It was worth the 4 hour drive!" - Gavin, Ipswich

"I really enjoyed the day. It went quickly and I am so glad I attended. It was a comfortable environment and I learnt a lot" - Susan, Melbourne.

"If you're a first time investor, great knowledge to understand." - Jess, Brisbane

"I would recommend others to do this training as it has helped me in knowing what to consider within an investment property." - Joshua, Townsville

"It is worthwhile. It provided me with effective guidance regarding the property investment in a profitable and significant manner." - Ben, Darwin

Submit a Video Review

Bonus: Free Property E-Book

This book is essential reading for every Australian Property Investor. It includes everything we wish someone had told us when we started investing in property.

Download Now


1300 372 677
info@integrityproperty.com.au
A health fund that’s different

Unlimited general dental + Up to $2,000 major dental + Full ambulance cover

Navy + Army + Air Force

10% discount for serving families and active reservists. Conditions apply.

navyhealth.com.au
1300 306 289
Novated Leasing

Novated Leasing provides significant savings to thousands of defence employees

Do you want to novate and achieve great savings on ex-fleet vehicles?
Or access these savings by novating a new car?

Don’t miss this opportunity.
Contact sgfleet today to start the process of getting your new car.

www.sgfleet.com
1800 743 262
defencesales@sgfleet.com

The quagmire of battle

Book provides insight into Vietnam War

Walk Tall
By Maj Jack Peel (retd)
Xlibris LLC Publishing 2014
RRP: $30
Reviewer: Sgt Dave Morley

THIS book was written by one of the last Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV) warrant officers to serve in Vietnam and is long overdue. The author, Maj Jack Peel (retd), served as a sapper in Vietnam with 32 Smal Ship Sqn in Army Vessel 1356 Clive Steele from June to October 1966, returning in October 1970 as a temporary WO2 with AATTV.
The book isn’t just then-WO2 Peel’s story, but rather a comprehensive analysis of the bigger picture, including the politics and policies of the Australian, South Vietnamese and US governments in the 1960s.
The book goes into immense detail enabling those without a military background, or those without much knowledge of the war that consumed Australia during that era, to understand and get a feel for what it was all about.
Using a mixture of personal experience, facts and statistics, the book puts the reader right into the quagmire of battle and politics from the standpoint of not only Maj Peel, but the brave and often denigrated South Vietnamese soldier.
Maj Peel joined the Army in 1956 as an apprentice and discharged in 1988 where he began, as CO of the Army Apprentice School.
The book is well illustrated, easy to read, true to life and gives an excellent insight into how it was for AATTV advisers often left out on a limb with little outside support.
Buy a copy at http://bookstore.xlibris.com/Products SKU-00073546/Walk-Tall.aspx

DIKKO
By Bob Dikkenberg

Maj Jack Peel’s book Walk Tall is true to life and well illustrated.

Dapper Smith
It’s taken you all day to cut down one small tree!

It’s this chainsaw it’s no use. I’d rather use a simple hand saw. Sarge.

Well let’s start the chainsaw up and see if there’s a problem with it?

Start it up? What do you mean...start it up?

1970 - 1971
John (Jack) Peel

CLIVE STEELE
from June to October 1966

Xlibris LLC Publishing 2014

Maj Jack Peel (retd)

The quagmire of battle
When members deploy there are many tasks to complete and worry about, from fitness and health to administration, but not many people think of a basic human function – sleep.

Psychologist Mark Gribble, of the Royal Military College – Duntroon, said sleeping on deployment could be a different type of sleep to what we normally get at home.

“We have to look at what sleep deficits will occur on deployment,” he said.

“You need to sleep between seven and nine hours a night and if personnel have a 30 per cent deficit in that sleep time there won’t be a difference in physical and cognitive performance until about the third day.

“By that time, you will see huge delays in performance and it can be as bad as a blood alcohol reading of .08.”

Mr Gribble said people normally had between four to eight dreams every night.

“If you don’t dream the distortion of the world becomes huge and you become more unstable,” he said.

“Unfortunately, the only way you know if you have been dreaming is if you wake or are stimulated in the middle of rapid eye movement (REM).

“So you can dream, but not recall or remember them if you don’t wake.”

REM is one of several stages of sleep that most people experience nightly.

It is characterised by quick, random movements of the eyes and paralysis of the muscles and is commonly known as deep sleep.

Mr Gribble said napping could be important while deployed.

“As an example, if a soldier is very fatigued they can take a nap between watches,” he said.

“If you can get a 20 to 40 minute nap it can be hugely beneficial and make you refreshed and alert.

“You may need more sleep but it is a good immediate top-up on the sleep you may have missed.”

Mr Gribble said men were the worst at addressing the lack of sleep because they thought they could keep fighting through it.

“They need to have some markers to check if they are being productive or need rest,” he said.

“You need to be aware of yourself.”

He said there were two things personnel could do to check if they needed more sleep.

“Breathe and talk to yourself,” Mr Gribble said. “Ask yourself questions such as ‘why am I feeling like this?’ and ‘how will I perform better?’, then take 20 minutes off.”

Lack of good quality sleep is not only an issue on deployment.

Mr Gribble said most people had never been taught what good sleep was and how to do it properly.

“Forty per cent of the population will report in any given year that they have sleep problems,” he said.

Fortunately, we have one of the best uniformed psychology units in the world.

“If you are having problems now you will see a huge increase in your sleep in as little as three psychologist sessions.

“Three hours of investment to fix the problem may be all you need and it’s free.”

For more information, the ADF Mental Health Strategy Sleeping Soundly fact sheet is available by clicking on the ‘Fact Sheets’ tab at http://intranet.defence.gov.au/cdf/fsites/DMH/
Take on the Anzac challenge

Sgt Dave Morley

SOLDIERS who think they’re fit enough to keep up with well-known fitness expert Commando Steve are encouraged to take part in the Anzac Anniversary 100km challenge on April 25.

Under the banner ‘Commemorate, Challenge, Care’, the Anzac Day challenge is inviting participants to test themselves over a gruelling 100km course while raising funds for Soldier On and Mates4Mates.

Event ambassador Commando Steve said he was looking forward to seeing people turn out on Anzac Day to throw their support behind a cause close to his heart.

“I’m really excited to be involved in the inaugural Anzac Day challenge,” he said.

“I can’t think of a better way to commemorate our diggers, their sacrifice and 100 years of Anzac spirit than by raising money to support past and present ADF members.”

The run will start at St Ives Showground in Sydney and finish at the Manly-Warringah War Memorial Park at Manly Dam, taking in Sydney’s spectacular sandstone escarpments, outstanding water views and bush tracks.

There will be a 24-hour time limit on the challenge, making it accessible to people who wish to trek the course.

It can be tackled as 100km solo, in a team covering the 100km together, or in a relay team of two or three members, allowing team members to choose one of the 27km, 33km or 40km sections.

The event will be supported by a medical team with first-aid stations along the course.

For more information and to register visit www.anzacddaychallenge.com.au/australianzealand.
The Army Surf Riders Association (ASRA) is looking to continue its winning form at the interservice surf carnival in May after a successful development camp and competition late last year.

After coming away with a strong win in 2014, the association spent the Christmas stand-down period focusing on surfing fundamentals at One Mile Beach, Port Stephens, NSW.

Club president Maj Myles Conquest said ASRA attracted a wide variety of participants, from those learning to surf to the more advanced surfer honing their competitive skills.

Over the week-long development camp the team received coaching in competitive surfing, judging and surf rescue techniques.

Continued page 27

Surfers charged for year ahead

Cpl Aaron Curran

THE Army Surf Riders Association (ASRA) is looking to continue its winning form at the interservice surf carnival in May after a successful development camp and competition late last year.

After coming away with a strong win in 2014, the association spent the Christmas stand-down period focusing on surfing fundamentals at One Mile Beach, Port Stephens, NSW.

Club president Maj Myles Conquest said ASRA attracted a wide variety of participants, from those learning to surf to the more advanced surfer honing their competitive skills.

Over the week-long development camp the team received coaching in competitive surfing, judging and surf rescue techniques.

Continued page 27