CAPABILITY
BOOST

First batch of next generation trucks and trailers delivered in Brisbane

INSIDE:
♦ Enhancing soldier lethality

♦ MPs celebrate centenary

Cpl Grant Solomon, of the Land 121 Driver Training Team, stands in front of a new Rheinmetall MAN truck after the vehicle’s acceptance at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera. Photo by Cpl Max Bree
New MAN in town

Land 121 provides mobility boost to Army

Cpl Max Bree

THE first batch of next generation Army trucks and trailers were received by Assistant Defence Minister Michael McCormack during a ceremony at 7 Bde in Brisbane on April 7.

Army also received the first trays and support modules to equip the new trucks, procured by the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group.

Mr McCormack said the deliveries were on time and on budget.

“They will provide a significant enhancement to Defence’s logistics capability by offering increased protection, larger payloads and enhanced off-road mobility,” Mr McCormack said.

Delivered by Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles Australia, the trucks come in protected and unprotected variants.

They range from the medium 4x4 trucks through to the heavy 8x8 and 10x10 trucks.

The 8x8 Mack replacements also feature an integrated load-handling system allowing cargo to be loaded by the driver from inside the truck cabin.

“About 40 per cent of these trucks will be supplied with enhanced ballistic and blast protection for our deployed soldiers,” Mr McCormack said.

The protected vehicles are intended for high-threat environments while the unprotected vehicles are suited to low-threat areas and humanitarian assistance operations.

The trucks will gradually replace Army’s old Unimogs, Macks and SLiners with the eventual delivery of about 2700 vehicles, along with about 3800 modules and 1700 trailers at a cost of $3.4 billion under Land 121 Phase 3B.

The trucks will tow a range of purpose-built trailers made by Haulmark Trailers Australia and can be fitted with Australian-made modules for transporting stores, fuel and water.

“As part of the Army’s digitisation program, all of the trucks will be fitted to accommodate the ADF’s Battle Management System as well as a suite of military radios,” Mr McCormack said.

The first trucks will be used for driver training at RAFAE Base Amberley while the first operational unit to receive them will be 7CSSB in early 2017.

Soldiers from 7CSSB were on hand to check out the new vehicles and assist with the acceptance ceremony.

Cpl Grant Solomon, of the Land 121 Driver Training Team, sits in a new Rheinmetall MAN truck following the vehicle’s acceptance under Land 121 Phase 3B at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera. Inset: Assistant Defence Minister Michael McCormack (left) signs to accept the first vehicles, modules and trailers as Head Land Systems Division Maj-Gen David Coghlan looks on.

Cpl Max Bree

THEY boast armour protection and integrated load-handling but it’s the aesthetics of Army’s new MAN trucks that first struck Cpl Grant Solomon, of the Land 121 Driver Training Team.

“They look awesome and they’re pretty mean compared to a Mog,” he said. “We’ll probably look a bit intimidating to other drivers until they get used to us.”

Cpl Solomon was one of the first Australian soldiers to drive the new trucks during a training course with the New Zealand Army.

Once inside, Cpl Solomon said the integrated load-handling system made life easier before he got on the road.

“It’s easy to control and manoeuvre with the little joystick inside the pod and it has two cameras so you can look rearwards,” he said.

“I reckon it will do away with manual handling equipment support to an extent.”

Cpl Solomon said the protected version offered a good mix of safety and comfort.

“Once those doors close you’re pretty much isolated so you do feel pretty safe,” he said.

“With the four-point harness, you’re not going anywhere and you’re quite comfortable sitting in there.”

The trucks also feature dual transmission modes to suit various driving conditions.

“They are automatic and manual transmissions,” Cpl Solomon said.

“But you mostly drive in auto on roads and manual cross-country.”

He said the HX77 (8x8) had a wider turning circle than other variants because of its dual front-axle steering, but there were enough similarities between the models.

“Between the HX77 and 40M variants, the cabin controls and seating are effectively the same so that will make training a lot easier,” he said.

Though Cpl Solomon hadn’t taken any Australian MAN trucks for a long drive, he had plenty of highway time during the course in New Zealand.

“On long drives in New Zealand they were relatively comfortable but they were a lot slower than the vehicles we are getting,” he said.

“They were governed to 90km/h where as ours are governed to 100km/h.”
**Soldier lethality game changer**

**Lt-Col Ben McLennan**

**FROM late 2016, the Mk 47 lightweight automatic grenade launcher (LW AGL) will be delivered to the direct fire support weapons platoons of standard infantry battalions, artillery gun lines, Socomd and Air Force security force elements.**

The first 10 systems are scheduled for delivery in mid-2016 to conduct acceptance testing.

Six systems are scheduled for delivery to 1RAR from late 2016 with the balance of around 200 systems being provided to relevant units in Forces Command and Special Operations Command from early 2017.

Director General Modernisation – Army Brig Chris Mills said the Mk 47 LW AGL was “lethal, accurate, reliable, lightweight, versatile and modular”.

The LWAGL’s enhanced lethality is enabled by its ability to effectively engage point and area targets to 2000m at a rate of fire exceeding 225 rounds a minute.

Its potency will likely be enhanced by the emerging availability of advanced air-bursting ammunition.

The LWAGL’s accuracy is underpinned by its evolutionary lightweight video sight (LVS).

The LVS offers an eye-safe laser range-finding capability with a range of 40 to 2000m and margin of error of 1m.

It also provides cutting-edge image intensification for day and night firing, a thermal imaging camera and a ballistic computer to facilitate detection, recognition and first round engagement of targets.

The Mk 47 with the LV52 and tripod is the most lightweight and modular LWAGL currently available. It is significantly lighter than the Mk 19 – the weight saving equates to around 36 per cent against that of the Mk 19. This weight saving has been gained through investment in lighter and composite materials. It is far more compact than the Mk 19. (The comparison in weight and dimensions is summarised in the table to the right.)

Versatility and modularity are also key features of the Mk 47 LWAGL.

It can be readily mounted on a tripod or vehicle mount. It can also be broken down into constituent parts to enable dismounted portability.

Director Major Systems Development – Army Col Scotty Palmer said the Mk 47 would be a game changer for the lethality of its recipient force elements.

“This is one of those platforms that will give Army a competitive edge over potential adversaries for many years to come,” he said.

**Mk 47 grenade launcher will be issued to units this year**

The modularity of the Mk 47 is rooted in the following key design features:

- Compact size and short recoil.
- Locked breech that fires from a closed bolt for improved first round hit probability.
- Air-cooled and belt-fed, using standard disintegrating belts supplied in 32 or 48 round boxes. The projectiles are fed via a hardened case.
- A robust receiver containing the working parts of the weapon.
- The barrel is contained within a short tube.
- The lightweight video sight (LVS) is fixed to the right side of the weapon and is operated by a series of buttons. There is also a back-up sight. The LVS display is a heads-up display on a flat screen. It is adjustable and can be detached.
- Battery power is rated for eight hours.
- A manual trigger mechanism with unique safe and fire positions. The weapon will not fire if the barrel or buffer are not correctly installed. The firing pin does not release unless the bolt is in the closed position and the design prevents short recoils or a runaway gun.
- Empty cartridges are ejected downwards and when the top cover is opened the belt stays in place.
- Total charge pull is 55 per cent of the Mk 19.

**Design features**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mk 19</th>
<th>Mk 47</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Calibre</strong></td>
<td>40x53mm high velocity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type</strong></td>
<td>Short recoil operated, belt-fed automatic grenade launcher</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Weight</strong></td>
<td>35.2kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effective range</strong></td>
<td>Point targets: 1500m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Point targets</strong></td>
<td>Area targets: 2000m</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Area targets</strong></td>
<td>No organic day/night/low light capability</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Indirect capability</strong></td>
<td>Point targets: 2000m</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rate of fire</strong></td>
<td>Day/night/low light capability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Length</strong></td>
<td>Area targets: 2000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Length</strong></td>
<td>1090mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barrel</strong></td>
<td>413mm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Width</strong></td>
<td>355mm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Height</strong></td>
<td>220mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mountings</strong></td>
<td>Tunnel, pedestal or tripod</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total charge pull</strong></td>
<td>T25kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% Recooling mass</strong></td>
<td>55 per cent of Mk 19</td>
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Military police mark 100 years of service

Defence Asbestos Exposure Evaluation Scheme

Defence is concerned that in the past current and former ADF members and APS employees may have been exposed to asbestos during the course of their Defence employment.

Current serving and former ADF members and APS employees who believe that they may have been exposed to asbestos and wish to have their asbestos-related medical status evaluated are encouraged to contact:

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and register with the Defence Asbestos Exposure Evaluation Scheme.

More information can be located at:

Defence Internet

or

Defence Intranet

RICH HERITAGE

The modern military police have a rich history that dates back 100 years. Their origins can be traced back to the Provost of Old England and is now an inherent part of our military heritage.

In May 1511, Henry VIII sent an Army to Spain and Henry Guildford of Leeds Castle in Kent was commissioned as his Provost Marshal – the first use of the office in today’s terms.

For the next two centuries the Provost Marshal and provost staff evolved as an essential part of the British military.

The first modern assembly of military police in Australia formed in 1916 as the Anzac Provost Corps.

It was later renamed the Australian Army Provost Corps in 1918 before disbanding in 1920. During WWI the corps re-formed and in 1948 was granted the “Royal” prefix, before adopting its current name on September 4, 1974.
100 years of service

Commemorations in Kabul

WO2 Andrew Hetherington

MEMBERS of RACMP deployed to the Middle East gathered to celebrate the centenary of their corps on April 3 at the Hamid Karzai International Airport.

The 15 MPs participated in a parade and later attended a barbecue. Commander Task Group Afghanistan and RACMP Head of Corps Brig Cheryl Pearce organised the event and said it was a great opportunity to bring together all deployed MPs.

“It was an honour to be the parade commander,” she said.

“From a Head of Corps perspective I’ve certainly looked for ways to bring together the 14 other MPs working in different roles in the AO to celebrate our centenary,” she said.

She said all members of the corps should feel proud to be a part of an organisation that is 100.

“All of you on parade are a representation of our corps today and why our capability remains operationally focused,” she said.

Pte James Buggy was on parade and said it was a bonus being on his first operational deployment when his corps turned 100.

“It’s a bit surreal being here during our centenary. I just wanted to deploy as an MP on operations,” Pte Buggy said.

“When I got here I was told that we would miss the centenary celebrations in Canberra. I didn’t mind, though, as I’d rather be conducting my MP duties in support of the force in Afghanistan,” he said.

Pte Jessica Pollard is an MP with the International Military Police at Hamid Karzai International Airport and was also on parade.

“It’s an honour to celebrate the corps’ 100th birthday on operations,” she said.

WO2 Andrew Hetherington

MILITARY policemen Cpls Rohan Watson and Joel Robertson, of 1 MP Bn, are close personal protection operators (CPPOs) deployed to the Middle East.

Their role is to protect Commander Task Group Afghanistan and Commander JTF633.

They work long hours in their CPPO body guard role to ensure the safety of the commanders they protect.

Cpl Watson is the CPPO for Commander JTF633 AVM Tim Innes.

“The 10-week CPPO course was physically and mentally demanding,” Cpl Watson said.

“In the early stages of the course we did a lot of weapons and physical training.

“Later we plan and do full profile personal protection missions.”

This is his second deployment in this role, previously working in Kandahar in 2014.

“I love the job,” he said. “I enjoy the responsibility that goes with the role.”

Cpl Joel Robertson’s job is to protect Commander Task Group Afghanistan and MP Head of Corps Brig Cheryl Pearce.

“I like the responsibility while I’m deployed of providing specialised security to one person,” Cpl Robertson said.

“Part of this job involves the challenge of planning for the unanticipated events.

“I always have to be prepared for the worst case scenario while I’m working and then know what I am going to do prevent these events.”

The Ruslyn Cordwheel has been in service since 2006 and is specifically designed for handling and storage of all types of cable, rope hose and wire. The Ruslyn Cordwheel is a handheld rugged lightweight reeling device used throughout all three Services.

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email: r.maddern@cordwheel.com
Reserve troops play key role in 1 Bde’s readiness exercise at Cultana

Capt Sharon Mascal-Dare and Capt Lucy Saaroni

FOR Combat Team Bravo, the pressure was on during Exercise Predators Gallop, 1 Bde’s exercise last month.

Its role, as part of Battle Group Jacka, was to undertake security operations to support 1 Bde’s manoeuvre plan. Enemy contact was expected at any time.

“We’re sending patrols out, we’ve established observation posts and we’re clearing routes,” said Maj Jared Hill, OC Combat Team Bravo.

“Our company has adopted a defensive position here to secure the logistics route, while the engineers complete a bridging task, while other force elements provided security to the BMA.”

At the BG Jacka command post (CP), the extent of that integration was clear, as staff coordinated multiple requests for support across the battle group. A platoon from Combat Team Alpha was working with SRAR on a bridging task, while other force elements provided security to the BMA.

An infantry platoon mounted in Bushmasters was providing a battle group reserve for SRAR, while a light cavalry scout troop was attached to 1Arm Regt.

In the BMA, 9CSSB and 4CSSB were working closely with 1CSSB providing a range of skills, including specialist expertise from RAEME and health units.

“We’ve received a number of requests for support, while also providing security for vulnerable force elements,” said Capt Lachlan Joseph, Battle Captain at the CP.

“For example, Combat Team Charlie is providing security for 1 Bde’s retransmission facility – a high-value asset for Commander 1 Bde.

“The fact that 1 Bde have given us the responsibility to secure it shows the level of confidence they have in our capability.”

BG Jacka infantry patrols in the AO were supported by a combined battery, including elements from 9 Bde’s 6/13 Lt Bty based in South Australia and Tasmania, and 4 Bde’s 2/10 Lt Bty based in Victoria.

Activity on the mortar line was intense, as members of both batteries tested their individual SOPs, working together to merge into a single firing unit.

“This training is vital in the lead-up to Exercise Hamel,” said Gnr David Henry, of 6/13 Lt Bty.

“We’re working with 1 Bde to provide capabilities Army relies on during operations. This is an important part of the lead-up to that.” For Bdr Stephen Mitchell, also of 6/13 Lt Bty, Predators Gallop offered more experience in working with multiple CPs and joint task forces.

“It’s an opportunity to get more experience as a CP officer on the mortar line,” he said.

“Over the last two years in the lead-up to Hamel, I’ve seen my skills develop and improve. We’re performing at a higher level.”

Hamel was a focus and a motivator across the battle group, with all members using Predators Gallop as an opportunity to improve their skills.

CO BG Jacka Lt-Col Tom Biedermann said they had built effective capability bricks in 4 and 9 Bdes through unit-level training, which were now being deployed in the battle group.

“We’ve generated capability in infantry, armour, combat service support, engineers, signals and artillery among others – we’re becoming complete as a battle group,” he said.

“Our command and control is using the battle management system and our use of digital radios is more complete than before.

“Our engineer and Bushmaster capabilities are now mature and our combat service support admin company is the most complete we’ve had to date.”

Lt-Col Biedermann said it took them time to develop capabilities during the force generation cycle.

“So, just a few weeks from Hamel, we’re ready to support 1 Bde with reinforcements and on security tasks,” he said.

“We’re doing our job.”

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on Predators Gallop

Morlancourt takes to bush

Capt Sharon Mascall-Dare

INTERNATIONAL elements were integrated into Exercise Predators Gallop, with a UK Army Reserve rifle platoon and additional infantry elements on exchange from the New Zealand Defence Force.

Members of 4 Bn, Yorkshire Regt (4 Yorks), were embedded in 10/27RSAR as part of an exchange program called Exercise Morlancourt, supporting capability generation and cooperation between Army Reserve units in the UK and Australia.

SM 4 Yorks WO1 Paul Kitching said Morlancourt was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“You never know who you’re going to be attached to in theatre, so it’s vital that our UK reserves have a deep understanding of how our Australian counterparts operate,” he said.

During Predators Gallop, the British soldiers were embedded in Combat Team Bravo, along with members of 10/27RSAR.

They undertook a number of patrols and engaged with enemy forces as they contributed to the combat team’s defensive operations to secure 1 Bde’s maintenance area.

Pte Simon Sunderland, of 4 Yorks, said it was great working with other nations to see what they did.

“T’s done a tour of Iraq and two in Afghanistan where I worked with Danish and US troops,” he said.

“This is an opportunity to test our skills in a new landscape.”

Before they deployed to Cultana, the 4 Yorks soldiers received training on Australian weapons systems and quickly put their new skills to work in the field.

For section commander Cpl David Myhowycz, a highlight was being sent out on overwatch duties as a mechanised infantry patrol in Australian Bushmasters.

“Working in vehicle packets has been a great experience for us, as it’s useful to learn Australia’s SOPs and TTPs,” he said.

Like 10/27RSAR, the 4 Yorks element included members of the UK regular Army and reserve, with a number having served on operations overseas.

LCpl Jonathan Cummings, of 4 Yorks, said he had worked overseas before, but this was the first time he’d worked this closely with a foreign defence force.

“It sets you up better for operations if you’ve been embedded in a foreign defence force,” he said.

“During this exercise it’s struck me that the way we operate is quite similar. It’s useful to give our reservists hands-on experience in a different environment, in a different country.”

HISTORY LIVES ON

Exercise Morlancourt is named after the Battles of Morlancourt during WWI, when Australian troops fought to take back territory in the Somme. Eventually, the Germans were driven back from the town of Morlancourt by the British in August 1918. The battles were an important precursor to the 100 Days Offensive, which led to the end of the war.

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LCpl Josh Clark is a reservist with A Coy, 10/27RSAR, based in Mt Gambier, South Australia.

“I’m part of the manoeuvre support section, supporting our platoons as we provide security for the brigade maintenance area,” he said.

“It’s been great working in a company position — you’re part of something bigger. It’s also been important to have the opportunity to work alongside RN units on an equal level.

“Working with PMVs has been a highlight and I’m looking forward to Hamel.”

BG JACKA AT A GLANCE

- By Exercise Hamel, BG Jacka will be at full strength — mixing reached more than 600 soldiers during Predators Gallop.

- The battle group includes members of the regular Army and reserve from 4 and 9 Bde units in South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria.

- The patches worn by BG Jacka members are individually numbered, adopting the same system used on operations in Afghanistan.

- The battle group is named after Albert Jacka, a forestry worker from Victoria who landed at Anzac Cove on April 25, 1915. He served with 14 Bn and was awarded Australia’s first Victoria Cross of WWI.
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The exercise was designed to test the readiness of 176 AD Sqn.

"By simulating the deployment to an austere environment, the squadron was able to effectively quantify stores, personnel and administration requirements so closely with what they might be put under in operational circumstances," Sgt Beattie said.

"For combat operations, we’re able to prepare rations or ammunition, right up to vehicles and combat engineering equipment – whatever the frontline soldiers require," Flight Commander No. 37 Sqn Sqn-Ldr Harris said.

"We rarely have an opportunity to exercise to its limits," Sqn-Ldr Harris said.

"We worked with a number of Air Force elements and demonstrated that a close working relationship between Air Force and Army can provide capable, agile and potent joint effects," Maj Molnar said.

"We’re constantly checking our readiness so that we can go out into the field," Sgt Beattie said.

"We are very dynamic – from a humanitarian aid standpoint, we could deliver food, water, shelters and blankets," Sgt David said.

"For the C-130J workforce, aerial delivery is a core capability, and relies heavily on interoperability with lots of facilities, this gets us out of our normal routine and getting used to what they might be put under in operational circumstances," Sgt Beattie said.
MRH-90 crew comes to the rescue

Soldiers save lives on Operation Fiji Assist

Capt Megan McDermott

AN ARMY MRH-90 crew has evacuated two patients, including a seriously injured Fijian local, off the coast of cyclone-devastated Vanuabalavu Island, about 290km north-east of Suva, Fiji.

The crew were responding to a separate aeromedical evacuation (AME) request from the island when the injured local, Temo Olita, came to their attention.

Pilot Maj Andrew Lean, of 5 Avn Regt, said the additional casualty was unexpected.

“We dispatched to the island expecting to evacuate one casualty,” he said.

“Shortly after landing, local villagers approached the helicopter carrying a second injured man on a blanket.”

Maj Lean said medics were quick to assess Mr Olita’s condition after receiving reports that he’d been suffering symptoms consistent with decompression illness.

“Our AME doctor quickly assessed that he required urgent medical attention and requested a casualty evacuation back to Suva,” Maj Lean said.

“With the doctor’s assessment, it was easy to make the call to bring the diver on board along with our other AME patient.”

During the flight the medical team continuously worked on Mr Olita, assisting his oxygen intake.

Medic Sgt Bernadette Serong said if the patient hadn’t been evacuated he likely wouldn’t have survived.

“We knew we had to evacuate him, and evacuation by air was probably his only chance of survival at that time,” she said.

“He was unconscious and experiencing severe muscle twitches conducive with the bends.

“If we hadn’t taken him at that point, getting him to definitive care wouldn’t have been achieved within the timeframe required.”

The MRH-90 crew and AME team (medics and emergency responders) transferred the patients to the mainland where they were received by a team of New Zealand Defence Force medics and taken by ambulance to Suva’s Colonial War Memorial Hospital.

Coordinating with hospital staff, the Australian medical team ensured the hospital was ready to receive Mr Olita where he was treated for decompression illness.

Mr Olita, who is recovering well, said he was extremely thankful to the AME team who helped him, but also to the ADF who had been providing disaster relief assistance to his village.

“I am so thankful to the ADF for all the assistance they have given to me and the people from my village,” he said.

“Our home was totally damaged and my parents are now living with another relative on the island.

“I want to go home and help my parents pick up the pieces from my damaged home and see what we can put together as shelter.”

5 Avn Regt’s MRH-90 helicopters have been facilitating personnel movement to and from Vanuabalavu Island, as well as delivering seeds and other initial disaster relief stores as part of Operation Fiji Assist 2016.
to the rescue

Loadmaster loving first deployment

FRESH out of training, newly qualified loadmaster Cpl Betty Latumahina is getting accustomed to steamy tropical rainstorms surrounding Nasouri airport while deployed on Operation Fiji Assist.

Posted to 5 Avn Regt, Cpl Latumahina is part of the ADF contingent helping people affected by Tropical Cyclone Winston, which smashed into Fiji on February 20.

Despite very basic living conditions, long hours and extremely challenging weather, Cpl Latumahina is loving the experience of her first deployment.

Cpl Latumahina joined the Army in 2009 after attending a recruiting presentation at her school.

“I’m a physical person and really take pride in being up to the physical demands required by the job and the potential for travel,” she said.

Cpl Latumahina was born in Papua New Guinea – one of seven children – and came to Australia in 2006 when she was 16.

Op Fiji Assist has given Cpl Latumahina the opportunity to consolidate her basic course, with a team she is happy working with.

“The crew all get on really well and enjoy doing the job,” she said.

The local people here are very friendly. It is wonderful seeing the gratitude in their eyes for the help being provided, it’s a great experience.”

6ESR digs deep for one of their own

SOLDIERS from 6ESR assisted people in the village of Bau Bau, Viti Levu, after the Tropical Cyclone Winston tore through Fiji on February 20.

The mission to assist in a time of need took on great significance when shortly into the event it became apparent that the immediate and extended family of Spr Anish Narayan, a member of 6ESR, had been significantly affected.

Spr Narayan said his village suffered significant damage:

“My house flooded and lost its roof,” he said.

The entire village had lost power and it was estimated that it would take between three-to-six months to restore.

The closest source of power was a two-hour walk away.

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Members of the regiment, keen to help one of their own, used the Regimental Trust Fund and passed a motion to donate funds in support of the village.

“It is times like this the Aussie slouch hat takes on an even greater meaning,” Spr Narayan said.

The slouch hat was passed around the regiment to amass a total of $1378 to purchase a diesel 5kVa generator to be shipped to the village.

“I am very grateful to belong to a regiment like 6ESR,” Spr Narayan said.

The generator has allowed Spr Narayan’s family and people of the village to recover and quickly restore some normal routine without needing to walk the two hours to the nearest town for power.

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Morale boost

Charter offers new direction for Forces Entertainment

LS Jayson Tufrey

THE RSL and Defence have agreed to a new more effective means of managing Forces Entertainment, enhancing the long-standing tradition for a morale-boosting service that extends as far back as WWII.

The charter was signed by chairman of the Forces Entertainment board and RSL national president RAAdm Ken Doolan (Retd) and CDF ACM Mark Binskin at Russell Offices in Canberra on March 30.

“Wherever we are deployed on operations, or large exercises, the morale of our people is important,” he said.

“Being able to get top-notch entertainers for the soldiers, sailors and airmen and women is fantastic.”

RAAdm Doolan said Forces Entertainment was another way in which the RSL supported the ADF.

“The RSL also contributes by continuing to attract quality Australian acts to be able to deploy into Afghanistan, Iraq or wherever our forces are deployed.”

CDF ACM Mark Binskin and Forces Entertainment board chair RAAdm Ken Doolan (Retd) sign a new Forces Entertainment charter.

“This charter ensures business will continue as normal,” he said.

“Forces Entertainment will continue to attract quality Australian artists, entertainers and musicians interested in performing to Australian forces.

“Foster relationships with the entertainment and arts industries, media and defence-related industries with the aim of identifying, promoting and securing civilian entertainment for Australian forces.

“Recommend to the ADF opportunities to entertain personnel deployed on operations and exercises.”

THE CHARTER

- Advise CDF of opportunities to entertain the ADF and act as his point of contact for civilian artists, entertainers and musicians interested in performing to Australian forces.
- Foster relationships with the entertainment and arts industries, media and defence-related industries with the aim of identifying, promoting and securing civilian entertainment for Australian forces.
- Recommend to the ADF opportunities to entertain personnel deployed on operations and exercises.

Connect with the Anzacs

Lt-Col Matt Vertzonis and Claudia Harrison

ALMOST 120,000 people have visited the Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience (SACE) since the travelling roadshow of artefacts from the Australian War Memorial (AWM) kicked off in Albany, WA, late last year.

The exhibition is the flagship event during Australia’s Centenary of Anzac commemorations and will visit 23 regional, rural and capital city locations over a two-year period. SACE provides an immersive and interactive way for Australians to commemorate WWI and the ensuing century of service.

Visitors can walk through recreated WWI environments and view an extensive collection of genuine military artefacts, donated by the AWM. The exhibition also features a “community zone” for local stories.

The exhibition in Adelaide in March set new records for the tour – more than 29,300 visitors, the six busiest visitor days to date, and the oldest attendee so far at 106. The next SACE events will be in Tamworth, NSW, from April 26 to May 1, followed by Toowoomba in May and Brisbane in June.

Entry is free, but bookings are essential as places are limited. For more information, visit www.spiritofanzac.gov.au

In addition to clips on YouTube, a 360 degree virtual reality app for iPhone and Android has just been released. Visit www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/teach-learn/googlecard

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PIMS pilot under way

THE ADF is well on its way to modernising clothing and personal equipment management with good progress being made in the implementation of the new Personal Inventory Management System (PIMS).

A pilot of the PIMS project was launched in Townsville and at Fleet Base East on February 1, with all services putting the system through its paces.

The next destinations for the rollout are NT and WA units in April and May, followed by the Sydney region and Adelaide in late May.

The national rollout is due for completion by the end of 2016.

The project is nearing the end of its pilot phase and members have successfully tested ordering functions, unit-based deliveries, home address deliveries, click-and-collect orders, routine clothing store walk-in purchases and reporting.

Logistic Adviser North Queensland WO1 Brett Bracewell said PIMS allowed unit logistic staff to review holdings and shortfalls of clothing and field equipment issued to individuals.

“This information can be drawn from all levels within the unit structure, whether by section, troop, platoon, sub-unit or the entire unit, and then produced into Excel spreadsheets,” he said.

PIMS combines a Personal Electronic Clothing Card (PECC) with an online ordering system for both combat and non-combat items. PIMS will give members the flexibility to request exchange of entitlement-managed clothing and equipment such as DPCU, AMCU, DP1 and boots.

Members can also purchase non-combat clothing items such as shirts, skirts, trousers, shoes and headgear.

When ordering these items, PIMS will enable members to enter basic tailoring instructions at the point of purchase. These tailored uniforms will then be delivered to members through the standard delivery methods. Detailed fittings such as mess dress will still need to be conducted through an in-person tailoring service.

PIMS will deliver clothing direct to units, allow pick up from a local clothing store through a click-and-collect function or, for a small fee, allow standard or express post to your home address. Security managed items will be excluded from the postal delivery system.

To gain access to PIMS, members need a valid Defence email address listed on the Corporate Directory. Members will need to validate their PECC to ensure accountable item holdings are correct – validation will happen incrementally across Army as PIMS rolls out nationally.

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Out of their comfort zone

ARTC soldiers show cadets the ropes

SOLDIERS from the Army Recruit Training Centre (ARTC) helped a group of Australian Army Cadets from Leeton face fear, stress and anxiety during Exercise Black Hole, a challenging caving activity at Wee Jasper, NSW, earlier this month.

During the exercise, Adventurous Training Wing soldiers led 39 cadets from 223 Army Cadet Unit in a series of activities through the Wee Jasper caves system.

OC Adventurous Training Wing Maj Jeremy Barracough said the exercise was a great opportunity for the cadets to develop and for Army to get involved with the local community in southern NSW.

“At ARTC we like to reach out and engage with the community, and what better way than engaging with the local cadet unit,” Maj Barracough said.

Speaking just before entering the cave systems, Maj Barracough said the cadets would face a number of challenges, including a 30m abseiling descent into darkness and a 40m Tyrolean traverse across a 30m abyss.

“We’re taking these children through some novel experiences in the caves so they can deal with fear, stress and anxiety,” he said.

“Most of them have never been on ropes before. They’re going to go through abseiling underground – quite a bit of a drop into blackness – all safe of course, but their perception of that might not be so.

“We’ll also set up some other exciting activities, including some in-the-dark squeeze-throughs in the caves, some tight caverns for them to go through, and an underground Tyrolean – think of a zip line – where they’re going to cross an obstacle underground on rope.”

Before entering the caves, Cdt Jordan Booth said she was excited but “a little nervous”.

“I don’t want things to fall off – I don’t want to end up plummeting down,” she said.

Afterwards she was all smiles.

“It was really good, really exciting, and I hope to do it again,” she said.

THE Adventurous Training Wing, part of ARTC at Kapooka, is responsible for delivering realistic and challenging adventure training to Army. Adventure training aims to target certain individual and group qualities that both leaders and soldiers require on the battlefield. The training should emulate the characteristics of the battlefield and place both junior leaders and soldiers in difficult, uncertain situations, often out of their comfort zones where they must react.

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For more information about the conference, including the event program and how to register, visit our website www.defence.gov.au/casg/DplusI/

CANBERRA CONVENTION CENTRE – 15 JUNE
Cpl Samantha Bradbury, of 1CHB, conducts a medical test.

Pte Pradeep Singh, of 10FSB, helps with the catering.

SOLDIERS OF 17 CSS Bde provide critical support to their comrades during Exercise Predators Gallop by providing support to more than 250 people over the course of the exercise.

As an enabling brigade, 17 CSS Bde provides vital logistical support to regular sub-units during Exercise Predators Gallop.

Commander 17 CSS Bde Brig Paul Nothard said his brigade drove the way the environmental health team (EHT) operated in the field of battle during the exercise.

“Errors were made along the way, but we corrected them and moved on,” he said.

“We’ve learnt some great lessons about the important role health plays in military operations,” he said.

The support the 17 CSS Bde provided to Exercise Predators Gallop is indicative of the support the brigade provides to all of the sub-units converging into battle groups during the exercise.

“The massive support that is provided to the front line is not just in accordance with our operations, but is to a very high standard,” he said.

As the 1 Bde catering manager, WO2 Carne is responsible for preparing and providing food for more than 250 people at a time.

WO2 Carne said his new soldiers had been working very professionally throughout the exercise.

“Everyone was always hungry, and they were always well fed,” he said.

“If you go to a local army base, you’ll see everyone eating individually, whereas in the field you have to work together,” he said.

“I’m happy to say that the food that we provided was always hot and tasted good,” he said.

“You’re in a completely different environment than you would be at home,” he said.

“I can’t say enough about how good everyone worked,” he said.

“The support the 17 CSS Bde provided during Exercise Predators Gallop was fully tested,” Cpl Sebastian Beurich, of 1CHB, writes.

The support the 17 CSS Bde provided elements provided on Exercise Predators Gallop is indicative of the support the brigade provides to all the sub-units converging into battle groups during the exercise.

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In the driver’s seat

Team Army wows crowds at Formula One Grand Prix, Sqn-Ldr Jaimie Abbott reports

TEAM Army was one of the main attractions in the industry and innovation precinct at the Formula One Grand Prix in Melbourne from March 16-20. Thousands of people stopped by to look over the Team Army display vehicles and talk to members of the team who are based at the Army Logistics Training Centre in Bandiana, Victoria.

Team Army Project Manager Maj Scott Babington says participation in the Grand Prix allows engagement with like-minded spectators who might have an interest in Army’s technical trades.

“This event attracts people from all over the world and provides us with the opportunity to showcase the quality of our vehicles on an international stage,” he says.

“We were able to give racegoers an insight into the technical trade opportunities available in the Army, and they also had an opportunity to experience engine start-ups on the vehicles and pick up some Team Army posters.”

Participation in Team Army is completely voluntary for staff and trainees from the Army Logistics Training Centre.

The majority of the team are trainees undertaking their technical trade courses at the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering. The team conducts training, maintenance and cleaning activities on Wednesday nights when in-barracks to prepare the vehicles for attendance at events.

Maj Babington says members of the team are very passionate about putting on the best possible display.

“They are also passionate about showing the public the range of career opportunities available for people who are interested in a technical trade career in the ADF,” he says.

Team Army attends numerous high-profile events around Australia, showcasing their vehicles.

In addition to the impressive display vehicles, Team Army is in the process of building a new third-generation vehicle based on a Mercedes-Benz G-Wagon 6x6, which is scheduled to be released in 2017 — the vehicle will be known as “TsunArmy”.

The seven-piece Rising Suns rock band also entertained crowds during the four-day event.

Based at Simpson Barracks in Watsonia, the Australian Army Band — Melbourne promoted a positive image for Army and the ADF at the Grand Prix.

Team Army, pictured with ALTC Commandant Col Andrew Maclean (second from right, standing), brings some extra horsepower in the form of Armygeddon and Project Digger to the 2016 Formula One Grand Prix in Melbourne. Photo by Cpl Craig Barrett
A RMY’s Special Forces were praised as one of the “world’s best” for professionalism and commitment following a counterterrorism demonstration at Holsworthy Barracks on March 29.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Defence Minister Marise Payne viewed the Socomd capability demonstration, which impressed the ministers.

The demonstration included siege scenarios where soldiers stormed buildings by foot and helicopter, a showcase of the precision drills and tactics used during a building assault and static displays of specialist equipment used by Socomd.

Mr Turnbull says he is impressed by the professionalism and commitment of the Socomd personnel he met.

“The precision shooting, the planning, the detailed attention to managing these complex counterterrorism situations is always very inspiring, very impressive,” Mr Turnbull says.

The PM was reunited with explosives detection dog Trip, who he met while visiting Iraq in January.

“It was great to see Trip again,” Mr Turnbull says. “I’m notoriously fond of dogs generally and border collies in particular, but Trip was as cool, calm and collected as the soldiers that he works with.”

The PM says the visit had been arranged for months, but was topical in light of the attacks in Brussels and in Lahore over Easter.

“Our capabilities are the best in the world but we are far from immune from terrorist incidents or terrorist activity,” he says. “But every aspect of government policy, every agency available to government, especially and including the ADF, is focused on ensuring we mitigate that threat and if an incident does occur we can deal with it as quickly and as safely possible.”

The detailed attention to managing these complex counterterrorism situations is always very inspiring, very impressive.

– Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister

Special Forces earn praise during impressive capability demonstration, Capt Anna-Lise Rosendahl reports

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A trip to the bush can help ease stress, Capt Lucy Saaroni explains

A reservist with 1 MP Bn, Pte Marcus Nash is a driven man. Since 2014, his foundation – the Blue Green Crew – has been providing free 4WD expeditions to hundreds of ADF, police and emergency service members experiencing stress and difficulty in their lives.

“All it all began when I met some Australian soldiers who had recently returned from service in Afghanistan,” Pte Nash says.

Listening to them, I realised how stress and other hurdles can be easier to manage when we’re able to get away from the city, the barracks and our everyday surroundings.”

And so the Blue Green Crew was born. Pte Nash, who is posted to Simpson Barracks, Victoria, connected military members with the Victorian Police 4WD Club.

Supported by the Victorian and Federal police, the Blue Green Crew provides free day and overnight 4WD trips every month to help serving and former members of the ADF, police and emergency services.

“A simple trip to the outback is a great chance to relax and enjoy a short respite. It can give you the break you need to gain perspective and you’ll make some awesome new friends at the same time,” Pte Nash says.

The value of this project has been recognised nationally. The Blue Green Crew has received endorsement from CA and CDF. And now, the RSL and Ambulance Victoria have come on board to provide funding and critical equipment like defibrillators.

Pte Nash says all referrals and participant details are kept confidential.

“It’s completely free and no equipment or even a vehicle is required,” he says. “If you don’t have a car, you’ll be given a seat in one of the 4WDs going and all the camping gear is supplied.”

For more information, email vicepresident@victoriapolice4wdclub.org.au

 escaped daily stress

A simple trip to the outback is a great chance to relax...

– Pte Marcus Nash, 1 MP Bn

The Blue Green Crew drive up Mt Skene in Victoria’s high country. Photo by Megg Palmer

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Building relationships

Army reaches out to Indigenous communities, Kloe Croker reports

ARMY has established a new network of Regional Indigenous Liaison Officers (RILOs) in 2012 to develop sustainable and habitual relationships with Indigenous communities in their respective regions.

“The roll-out of the RILO network is a fantastic opportunity for Army to initiate, broaden or in some cases just strengthen Indigenous community engagement,” Maj Rasmussen says.

“This reflects the shared association to our land and respects all serving and former serving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander soldiers.”

Currently the network consists of seven Army Reserve appointments, which provide wide area coverage across each state and territory of Australia.

These reserve members will use their skills to assist Army to build cultural knowledge and establish or maintain enduring relationships with Indigenous communities and other support organisations in their regional area.

The network is supported by a cultural adviser who is able to establish links into and provide advice on Indigenous communities and regional cultural protocols.

“The RILOs will be a local resource on hand to support their Forcecmd-appointed Formation Indigenous Liaison Officers and local unit commanders to generate effective Indigenous community engagement plans,” Maj Rasmussen says.

In line with the Army Indigenous Strategy, RILOs have been directed to support the implementation of the strategy via three key functions.

This includes being a focal point for all Indigenous matters within a region, assist units to connect with and engage with Indigenous communities, and to provide support and assistance to local commanders.

This will enable local commanders to become custodians of enduring relationships with Indigenous communities.

WHO TO CALL

HQ RILO
RILO Army @ defence.gov.au

New South Wales
RILO NSW @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0409 318 627

RMC-D
RILO RMC-D @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0408 749 521

Victoria and Tasmania
RILO VICTAS @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0476 807 313

Country Victoria
RILO VICTAS @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0476 808 945

South Australia
RILO SA @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0476 801 056

Western Australia
RILO WA @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0476 802 992

Northern Territory
RILO NT @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0476 810 497

North Queensland
RILO QLD @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0407 987 310

South Queensland
RILO QLD @ defence.gov.au
    Mob: 0491 222 516

HOW WE CAN HELP

• Act as a regional point of contact for all local Indigenous communities seeking contact with Army.
• Provide advice and support to commanders on Indigenous community engagement plans.
• Coordinate introductions to key Indigenous points of contact such as elders, community leaders or traditional custodians.
• Connect units with Defence and other government support agency resources.
• Synchronising effort across the regions with other Defence organisations to avoid duplication that keeps unit commitments manageable.
• Provide mutual support to Defence Force Recruiting activities.

WHAT WE DON’T DO

• Recruit.
• Own the relationship between units and Indigenous communities.
• Write or enact the unit’s community engagement plan.

VEA MC 31002918

Lee Smallwood
North Queensland

MY ROLE is to provide cultural advice to Army RILOs working in regional locations with local units, focusing on community engagement. These are the frontline points of contact who give support to local commanders. My goal is to assist the Army to improve Indigenous participation rates within our organisation.

I am located at Lavarack Barracks in Townsville within the Army Personnel Support Centre and was appointed to this role due to my extensive community engagement knowledge within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across most of Australia.

I belong to the Erim-Gubba and Waka-Waka clan from the north and central Queensland region. I have a proud family history of members serving in theADF.

I have been in the AFS for more than 16 years working in Indigenous affairs. I also have worked with the Directorate of Indigenous Affairs in Defence People Group.

I aim to continue to be an asset to enhance Army’s capability through high-quality community engagement, building relationships with Indigenous communities so it becomes day-to-day business for Army.

WO1 Edmund Schlegel
South Australia

I ENLISTED in the ARA in February 1974. I was allocated to 2/4RAR after initial training. Throughout my career I have had postings to 3RAR and 4RAR as a CSRM.

I have held a variety of officer training appointments, including postings to RMC-D in 1990 and 1999 and ADFA from 1996-1998 as the WSM responsible for field training. In 1999 I was promoted to WO1 and appointed as the RSM of 1/19SSWR from 1999-2003.

I was also the RSM of the Pilbara Regiment, an Army Reserve/Integrated Regional Force Surveillance Unit based in Karratha, Western Australia, responsible for surveillance and reconnaissance operations across 1.3 million square kilometres – 1/6 of Australia’s land mass.

During this period I developed a passion for encouraging Indigenous people to consider a career in the Pilbara Regiment.

In 2011, I transferred to the reserve and was allocated to 9 Bde. I worked in the brigade’s recruiting team, which is where my interest in gaining further experiences within Indigenous engagement began.

I feel the ability to provide the next generation of young Indigenous men and women the opportunity to experience the lifestyle of the ADF guided me into nominating for the position of RILO for South Australia.

My goals are clear and simple: I want to enhance Army’s capability through greater engagement with our Indigenous members and the wider Indigenous community.
Building relationships across the country

Maj John Roberts
Country Victoria

I HAVE a genuine interest in engaging with Indigenous communities as the RILO for Country Victoria.

In my ARA service I've had the opportunity to engage with a range of different multicultural backgrounds, which included the clearance of land mines in Mozambique during 2000-2001, a posting as the senior trainer for the Timorese military in 2004 and undertaking complex roles in Afghanistan and Africa.

Following my separation from the ARA in December 2005, I worked at Tarin Kot, Uruzgan province, Afghanistan, with contracts to upgrade and maintain the airfield and to manage the support operations for coalition forces.

Managing these contracts required me to deal daily with local contractors and a complex mix of cultures.

The experience and exposure I received from working with different multicultural backgrounds in my career led me to take up the role as the training material development officer for the Defence School of Languages.

As the RILO for Country Victoria I am excited and looking forward to the challenge of establishing, building and maintaining our regional Indigenous networks to be part of the Army Indigenous Strategy.

WO1 Jeffrey Murray
Western Australia

MY ARMY Reserve career spans 40 years. I began in artillery as a gunner, command post operator and a battery surveyor. I then transferred to the survey corps as cartographic technician and later to infantry as CSM, cadet officer coordinator, reserve response force training officer, soldier career adviser and finally as RSM.

I am also an avid adventurous training leader, supporting activities for the Army and youth.

Throughout my civilian cartographic career I support Aboriginal people through projects that benefit land tenure, protected sites and Aboriginal heritage across WA.

Using digital mapping techniques, I depict Aboriginal country pre-European settlement to show land when its traditional inhabitants lived their nomadic lifestyle.

My extensive involvement in Aboriginal projects has progressed to being selected as the RILO for Western Australia.

My aim is to introduce Indigenous culture to Army to achieve the CA’s intent of enhancing capability through increased Indigenous representation and effective engagement.

I am committed to developing networks between the Aboriginal communities, stakeholders and Army, which will contribute to effective personal, cultural and professional development.

Capt John Pini
Northern Territory

MY CAREER in the Army Reserve started as a Norforce patrolman in 1985.

A few years later I undertook officer training in Darwin and later at the Land Warfare Centre in Canungra.

I belong to infantry but my experience has been almost exclusively within the Regional Force Surveillance Unit environment.

I have returned to the active reserve after several years in the standby reserve to take up the posting as the RILO for the Northern Territory and Kimberley regions.

I have lived in the Northern Territory since my childhood and in my civilian employment as a police officer I have worked at a number of different locations in the Top End.

The Indigenous population in the Northern Territory has a rich culture that survives to the present day and a proud history of service with the military in the part of Australia that has been most affected by war.

The Army has been a leader in the employment of Aboriginal soldiers resulting in mutual benefits and the Army Indigenous Strategy aims to build on the strong relationships that have been forged.

In my position I hope to see those relationships strengthened and expanded.

Maj John Roberts
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HE Special Air Service Regiment has reclaimed part of its history in a replica of 1 SAS Coy Hut unveiled in February.

Corrugated iron-clad huts made up the 1 SAS Coy lines at Campbell Barracks from 1957 until the formation of the regiment in 1964, but were removed in the mid-1990s, leaving a gap in the record.

"Clearly we have had to make some compromises," SAS Historical Foundation chairman Maj Greg Mawkes (Retd) told VIPs and guests at the opening of the exhibit, the latest addition to the SAS historical collection.

"The building standards applicable when the original buildings were constructed would not pass muster today. Corrugated iron has been replaced by Colorbond sheeting with a specific colour range."

"If we painted the Colorbond to match the original buildings, the 10-year warranty is voided."

"Lighting of yesteryear will contribute to the deterioration of historically important objects."

Among the exhibits are mementos of the WWII-era Special Operations Australia, forerunner of today's Socomd, and original uniforms and equipment from 1 SAS Coy days.

"Importantly, we included access for visitors with a disability, which includes some of our own," Maj Mawkes added, reflecting on seven decades of SASR at Swanbourne.

The hut was officially opened by the Colonel Commandant of SASR, Brig Jim Wallace, a former CO of the regiment.

Current CO Lt-Col B welcomed special guest Brig Brian Wade, one of five officers who marched in with the first contingent of SASR at Campbell Barracks, and was later OC 2 Sqn in Vietnam from 1968-69.

"Also with us today are 20 former members of the SAS Coy," Lt-Col B said. "I'd like to publicly thank you not only for coming, but for everything you have done to lay the foundations of today's regiment."

"We draw significant heritage from the concepts, techniques and mindset they developed, and I know the contemporary members of the unit feel a strong affinity with these remarkable men," Lt-Col B said.

"Indeed, the seed-corn funding for this project was provided by the Z Special Unit International, further subsidizing these links."

The Z Special donation of $100,000 in 2011 largely went towards the hut. In addition, five corporations were recognised for their contributions: McGrath Modular Homes (building the hut off-site and within budget); Ashburton Crane Hire (placed it on site, gratis); CPR Electrical Services (power connection and accessories, gratis); AirPro (provided air-conditioning units, gratis); and Lighting Options Australia (provided 50 per cent of museum-standard lights, gratis).

The CO also thanked donors to the SAS Golden Jubilee Lottery – the family of Jack Sue for loan of WWII equipment – and John Burridge for the original medal miniatures of Lt-Col Joseph Campbell, whose name adorns the barracks.

Maj Mawkes commended architect Duncan Jordan, who has supported the SAS History and Research Centre from its start in 1987, and regular benefactor Bill Crowe.

"The Historical Foundation’s next project is to extend the aircraft hangar another 90 feet to house the Chinook helicopter which is sitting on the regimental headquarters car park," Maj Mawkes said.

"This project has been costed at about $850,000, which will require a massive fundraising effort."

A replica of 1 SAS Coy's accommodation is now part of an historical exhibit, Flt-Lt David Cusworth writes.
Change of command on Operation Aslan

Incoming Commander Australian Contingent Operation Aslan Col John Carey (right) farewells outgoing Commander, Col Michael Bond, from Bor, South Sudan. Operation Aslan is the deployment of ADF personnel to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). Col Carey will also serve as the UNMISS Senior Military Liaison Officer for Jonglei State and is responsible for facilitating outreach, coordinating integrated patrolling and key leadership engagement. The ADF has contributed personnel to UNMISS since September 23, 2011. The commitment assists the UN to protect the people of the Republic of South Sudan by monitoring human rights and delivering humanitarian aid.

Warrant Officer 2 John Line presents Cpl Erin Tierney, of 2CHB, with the Trainee of Merit award for excellence on Subject One for Sergeant at Canungra, Queensland.

Cpl Matthew Gray, of 1CSR, during Exercise Predators Gallop at the Caltana Training Area. Photo by Sgt Janine Fair

OC WONCO Academy Maj Ben Gallacher presents Cpl Scott Newman, of 2 Cav Regt, with the Chief Instructor’s award for excellence on Subject One for Sergeant.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags are permanently hoisted alongside the Australian National Flag, ADF Ensign, Australian White Ensign and RAAF Ensign at Blamey Square, Russell Offices, Canberra.

Photo by Lauren Larking


April 21, 2016

People

25
This year Army will roll out the new ADF Total Workforce Model (TWM), which provides a new service category structure.

The new model gives soldiers variety and options to support them to continue serving, while retaining experienced personnel to sustain Army capability.

The TWM was developed over several years with research informed by more than 10,000 ADF members.

The research clearly identified permanent members want more flexibility and more than 10,000 ADF members.

“Increased flexibility in our working arrangements helps us to retain competent personnel and attract those who possess high-value skills,” Maj-Gen Burr said.

“Our soldiers therefore require a service offer that is adaptable to their changing circumstances, enabling them to sustain long-term, rewarding military careers.

Army has finalised the ADF TWM Implementation Directive (06/15), which details coming changes.

During 2016 you can expect to see some changes in PMMeSy showing the service category you belong in.

What does this mean for me?

Army will roll out the new ADF TWM to permanent and reserve members serving full-time or active service members.

Service in other categories may change some conditions in line with the amount of service undertaken.

For most Army members, the ADF TWM will be business as usual.

The model will assist members if they have a change in circumstances throughout their career.

Serving in a different category for a period, when approved, may assist you to balance work and personal responsibilities.

What does this mean for commanders?

The ADF TWM provides commanders increased access to a wider pool of skilled personnel and workplace options to fill critical capability gaps.

It also provides commanders with greater options to support members requesting access to flexibility to balance personal and service commitments.

THE ADF TWM does not change the pay and conditions for permanent Army members serving full-time or active service members.

What does this mean for APS staff and AP staff?

For most Army members, the ADF TWM will be business as usual.

During 2016 you can expect to see some changes in PMMeSy showing the service category you belong in.

What does this mean for me?

Army will roll out the new ADF TWM Implementation Directive (06/15), which details coming changes.

Throughout implementation this year, Army members will be transferred to a specific SERCAT based on their current service categorisation.

What are service categories?

SERVICE categories (SERCAT) group members together according to their approved availability to serve. These categories will replace those currently in place.

Commanders and career managers will be responsible for recommending and approving a member’s transfer between SERCATs.

Throughout implementation this year, Army members will be transferred to a specific SERCAT based on their current service categorisation.

Types of service categories

SERCAT 1 – Defence Civilians – Defence APS employees who are ‘force assigned’ to provide specialist services on operations.

SERCAT 2 – Inactive Reserve – Members of the reserve who are listed but do not serve.

SERCAT 3 – Reserve – Members of the reserve (who previously worked under DAD) who are available to volunteer for service. The level of service the member provides is determined by Army.

SERCAT 4 – Reserve – High readiness reserve members who are available for voluntary service at short notice, when required by the services. This category will not be used initially by Army, but may be used in the future if needed.

SERCAT 5 – Reserve – Reserve members who agree to a specific pattern of service. The level of service the member provides is determined by Army.

SERCAT 6 – Permanent – Permanent Army members who receive approval to work flexibly. Service could be days a week, weeks a month or months a year. Service could be within a year period, or over a number of years as approved. Approval to transfer to SERCAT 6 is dependent on the unit’s capability requirements.

SERCAT 7 – Permanent – Permanent Army members serving full-time. Permanent members rendering continuous full-time service.

What are service options?

Service Options (SERVOP) are ways members from a variety of SERCATs may be approved to serve. They relate to specific SERCATs and are not applied independently of any SERCAT.

SERVOP C – Continuous Full-Time Service – This service option applies to reserve members from SERCAT 3, 4 or 5 who are approved to provide continuous full-time service. SERVOP C is available to reserve members at Army’s discretion.

SERVOP D – Dual Employment – This applies to permanent members in SERCAT 6 or reserve members from SERCAT 5. This option allows members to serve in a part-time capacity, while also working part-time with a civilian employer under a formal shared service/employment arrangement.

MARCH TRIAL RESULT

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER

Defence Force Magistrate

1 x prejudicial conduct – DDA s 60(1)

The member was accused of prejudicial discipline by grabbing a subordinate member. The member pleaded not guilty to the charge but was found guilty. The member was convicted without punishment.

All court martial and Defence Force Magistrate trial results are subject to command review and appeal. The results are of trials across the ADF.

The timetable will be available shortly on the SeMPRO website. More information on SeMPRO is available at www.defence.gov.au/sempro

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU?

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU?
A plan of attack pays

Understanding your superannuation is important because it is a key to realising your retirement dreams.

ASIC’s MoneySmart tip is to stick with a defined benefit fund unless you’re sure that you will be better off in another type.

If you are a member of MSBS, consider getting professional advice before changing to the new ADF arrangement. Remember that once you leave the fund you can’t get back in.

The new ADF arrangement will allow ADF members to join the superannuation fund of their choice.

One of those choices will be a self-managed superannuation fund. Some people want the control that comes with managing their own super, but this comes with greater responsibility, time and effort.

Self-managed funds can be suitable for people with skills in financial and legal matters as they are personally liable for all the decisions made about the fund.

You should be aware of the costs of accounting and auditing. You should also consider whether the investments you choose will outperform a standard super fund.

If you’re managing your own fund, you will typically need a large amount of money in the fund to make set-up and yearly running costs worthwhile.

You will also need to budget for ongoing expenses, such as professional accounting, tax, auditing, legal and financial advice fees.

Make sure you have enough time to research investments and manage the fund and, importantly, that you have the financial experience and skills to make sound investment decisions.

Use ASIC’s MoneySmart superannuation calculator to compare super funds. This will help you work out how much super you’ll have when you retire and how fees can affect your final payout.

Super comparison websites can also help you weigh up super funds, but don’t take their ratings as gospel.

Before making a decision about leaving or joining a super fund, evaluate all the options.

You might even consider getting professional advice from a licenced financial adviser who specialises in superannuation, especially military superannuation.

A little planning for your retirement can go a long way, Australian Securities and Investments Commission Chairman Greg Medcraft writes.
ANYONE who has been in my shoes would know how difficult it is to give up smoking. As a bit of background, I have been smoking for roughly eight years now. I started at the tender age of 16, the way that I'm sure a lot of smokers took up the habit. I thought it was cool and by extension, I was cool.

Fast forward a few years to when I joined the Army. At that stage, I was probably smoking between five and 10 cigarettes a day.

After my first year in, that number turned to 25-30 a day.

Why, I hear you asking? There were a number of factors, downtime being the primary one. If we had some cigarettes, the smokers would excuse themselves for a break.

The extension of that is when one of the smokers went out for a break they would invite the rest of us out as well. As they say, smoking is a very social thing.

Let's fast forward again, to the present. When people ask me why I smoke, my common answer is “I don’t know actually. I’ve been quitting for the past five years.”

And that’s true. I’ve been at one stage or another of quitting throughout those five years. In 2014, I quit for a month and a half, and then fell back onto the bandwagon when I went out into the field.

I’ve tried patches, e-cigarettes and even replacing smoking with eating trail mix. Unfortunately, none of them stuck for a variety of reasons.

Smoking isn’t even a social thing anymore. None of my co-workers smoke, nor do any of my friends.

It has reached the point where I need to give it up.

The first thing I need to figure out is how I am going to quit smoking. I’ve gone cold turkey for various amounts of time in the past, but it doesn’t seem to stick.

For this part, I need to visit my local ADF health centre and see what options are available.

I know the common methods – nicotine replacement therapy using patches, gums and mints – but I’ve heard both good and bad things about Champix.

A great resource to get some facts and information is the government-run Quit Smoking website, which has all the information you could want about quitting smoking.

The first thing I deduced from the website was that I needed a personal reason for quitting.

Now this reason isn’t something which came to me overnight. It’s something I’ve thought about in the back of my mind for the last few months.

I want to be as fit as I was before I started smoking. I used to be able to run 2km in eight minutes, now I can barely run 2km in 10 minutes.

I’ll leave off here until my next report, in which I will cover the advice given to me by a medical officer.

If anyone has any tips or tricks they would like to share to aid me in my quest for better health, feel free to email me at sebastian.beurich@defencenews.gov.au.

For more information, visit your local health centre or www.quit.org.au

Quitting cigarettes would be such a breath of fresh air. Photo by LS Jayson Tufrey

Smoking is a drag, so how do I quit?

In the first of a series on his quest to stop smoking, Cpl Sebastian Beurich tells of his battle to get started.
Skaters take to the ice for camp

**Fit-Lt Kirstie Winter**

While many people gorged on chocolate during the Easter holidays, 13 women from all three services were sweating it out with the ADF Ice Hockey Association (ADFIHA) in Newcastle.

Lt-Col Iain Addinell, crosses the finish line in the World Triathlon event on the Gold Coast.

ITRIATHLETE Lt-Col Iain Addinell ran second in his age group during a World Triathlon event on the Gold Coast on April 10. Lt-Col Addinell, of HQJOC, narrowly missed out on victory in the 45-49 age group and placed 42nd overall against about 1000 competitors in the event, with a time of 1hr 21min 15sec.

"I lost the age group win by six seconds to an athlete from Singapore who ran 17min 33sec off the bike," Lt-Col Addinell said.

"I didn’t see him in the field until he passed me in the last 400m. It was a good race and you never know who is in the field."

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**Played in ‘great spirit’**

Sgt Dave Morley

The inaugural Commandant’s Cricket Shield match played at Kapooka on April 2 ended in a win for the Puckapunyal Cricket Club (PCC).

PCC batted first and were all out for 105, which included an outstanding 44 runs from PCC’s civilian player Luke Marshall, who has been playing for PCC for 10 years.

While the Commandant’s 1st XI were all out for 93 runs, their bowling and fielding was outstanding with team captain 1RTB OPSWO WO2 Maurice Hall taking two catches and two wickets early in the game.

"PCC captain Albert Davey said he had been captaining PCC on and off for the past three years. I was quite happy with the way the blokes performed, although I would have liked more runs on the board, however, with the condition of the ground I think it was a fairly decent result," he said.

"Our best player was Cpl Eamon Hale. He opened the batting, holding up one end and took two valuable wickets when we needed them, and he played some nice shots."

WO2 Hall said with the time put in at work by the recruit instructors it was hard to get time for a training session.

"So for the training we did get, I think we did pretty well," he said.

"Overall, the game was played in great spirit."

Commandant ARTC Col Steve Johnson said he appreciated the efforts so many people had made to ensure the day was a success.

"PCC’s win has set the stage for the Commandant’s 1st XI to visit Puckapunyal and reclaim the shield," he said.

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**Army second to seasoned triathlete**

Maj Johnson also enlisted Canadian power skating coach Debbie Strome to put the women through their paces.

ADFIHA, while only 12 months old, has come a long way and continues to improve and recruit new members.

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Five titles on the trot

Soldiers smash Air Force and Navy in interservice Aussie Rules carnival

Maj Felicity Hamblin

IT was a case of deja vu for the women of Army footy, with another victory clocked up at this year’s ADF Aussie Rules (ADFA) national carnival in Melbourne from April 2-9.

While rain made it difficult on their first day of play against Air Force, not a drop fell on the final and deciding game of the series against Navy, resulting in a fifth-year-straight-win for the Army women’s team, who have again held onto the coveted Geoff Ledger Cup.

In her second year captaining the women’s side to victory, Cpl Rhiannon Busch, of 10FSB, said she was happy for the team, with a comfortable victory clocked up at this year’s carnival.

“I didn’t score, they really gave it a great effort and it was good to see an Air Force women’s team come along again this year.”

“They played a hard game in wet conditions,” she said.

“While they didn’t manage to score, they really gave it a great effort and it was good to see them back at the national carnival.”

Their first game at Whitten Oval saw Army finish up 19.6.130 against Air Force 0.0.00. The deciding match at Moorabbin against Navy was a little closer – 12.9.81 to Navy’s 11.6.72.

“This is my seventh year of playing for the Army women and we’ve developed a new game plan and a new structure, and just managed to have more legs than the Navy this year,” Cpl Busch said.

The best player award went to Pte Kate Lutkins, who was key to the Army women’s success on the ground.

For the men, the disappointing loss against Navy last year was all but forgotten as they sailed through their games and snatched back the Jim Smail trophy this year, with impressive victories over both Air Force and Navy.

Army team captain Capt Rob Frankland said the Army men changed up their tactics from last year, resulting in a focused approach to each game.

“We had a very deliberate approach with our coach, Sgt James Debono. When we came in to camp we were introduced to a specific game plan and we worked to that plan the whole season,” Capt Frankland said.

The new approach clearly worked for the team, with a comfortable victory over Air Force at Whitten Oval. Final scores were 16.13.109 to 5.8.38.

The decision against Navy at Moorabbin Oval looked like it was heading in the same direction, until Navy managed a last quarter burst of energy that had the Army team worried.

“Navy kicked the first three goals in the last quarter and I became a little bit nervous then, but Pte Sean Penski kicked the sealer and from there I was pretty happy,” he said.

Army managed to hold on for a 15-point victory, with scores finishing up 11.6.72 to Navy’s 8.9.57.

“Every single player involved in the competition has represented their side to an extremely impressive standard,” he said.

A new addition to the competition this year saw adaptive sports teams, primarily from 1 Bde, take on other state-based teams and RSL NSW veterans in the new game of Wheelchair Aussie Rules, played at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre.

“It was fantastic to take to a chair and test our footy skills in a different way,” Brig Hall said.

“Partnering with Disability Sports Australia to introduce a national Wheelchair Aussie Rules competition for the first time was a great opportunity for everyone involved. A highlight was legend Ron Barrassi meeting soldiers undergoing recovery and rehabilitation during the wheelchair carnival.”

With the ADFAFAR nations now over, top players from each service have been selected to represent the ADF in All Stars matches played in both Melbourne and Adelaide.

The women’s team will take on the tough players of the Victorian Women’s Football League, and the men’s team will play at Adelaide Oval against a team from Combined Emergency Services, as a curtain raiser to a major AFL game.

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Women take on rugby at Kapooka

Sgt Dave Morley

WOMEN graced Kapooka’s rugby fields for the first time during the K-Series Rugby 10s on March 19. ADF Rugby Union (ADFRU) player Cpl Mollie Gray, of DFR – Paramatta, said women didn’t have a strong presence at the Kapooka 10s, but they were trying to change that.

“ADFA brought a women’s team along to K10s and we hustled up some extra women from Kapooka, the School of Infantry (SOI) and a few other units,” she said.

“They were all grouped together and we split the teams evenly, making sure there was a mixture of new and old players.

“We held a quick training session before the game and refreshed the players on the basic rules of rugby. “It’s fantastic how quickly new players can pick up the rules of rugby,” Cpl Gray said the most exciting thing for her was watching new players come along and get right into a sport she loves so much.

“When we took to the field for a game of sevens I was amazed at how they performed,” she said.

“I took control of one team and Capt Erica Hanisch, of SOI, took control of the other team. The ADFA players were split between both teams and the competitiveness that came out between them was unbelievable.

“The game was broken into two seven-minute halves and it was on.” Cpl Gray said having just come back from an eight-month injury it was a great game for her to ease herself back onto the field.

“Your fitness is definitely not what it was before my injury, but it was such a great feeling to get back out on the park and do what I love,” she said.

“ARFC players split the Pucka Boars 25-5, while The Riverina Army Rugby Club defeated the Pucka Boars 25-5, while ADFA defeated the Riverina Army Rugby Club 12-10 in the Bowl final.

“K-Series organiser WO2 Mark Fisher, of ARTC, said he was happy with how the event ran.

“Some great rugby was played, and in the right spirit of the game,” he said.

“The teams that got down for the knockout did well to get their teams together on short notice.

“Having the women there for the first time was important so we could promote the women’s rugby as well.”

Captains of the 6 Avn Regt team Sgt Logan Chin said they were quietly confident going into the weekend with the game plan and the players they had.

“It was great to play Socomd in the final again as I know there were a few rivalries between friends from the different sides, plus they really wanted it after we beat them last year,” he said.

“Rugby season is the best time of year and the more exposure women will get to it the more competitive selection will be for Australian Army Rugby Union and ADFRU,” she said.

Socomd goes down to aviators

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“Rugby season is the best time of year and the more exposure women will get to it the more competitive selection will be for Australian Army Rugby Union and ADFRU,” she said.

“It was the most physical and fun game for us and a great way to finish the day.”

Cpl Mollie Broad said despite winning on the day his team could have done better if their communication hadn’t occasionally broken down leading to their patterns losing shape and efficiency.

“Because of this I believe we could have improved communication to maintain our patterns, but this breakdown was expected due to the limited time players had together practicing before playing. As the day went on fatigue obviously played a factor,” she said.

Cpl Mollie Gray was 6 Avn Regt’s best player for the series. According to Cpl Chin, although Cpl Broad had only been playing for two years, he had managed to pick up the skills really well.

“It’s reliable in making his tackles as he puts his body on the line and commits to each and every tackle,” he said.

“He played the majority of every game and was in the right place at the right time supporting his team mates, which resulted in a few tries for him.”

WO2 Fisher said planning for next year had already started and there would be ample notice given for the K10s in March 2017.
Army blitzes
ADF Aussie Rules
Championships in
Melbourne

INSIDE:
♦ Aviators defend
Kapooka rugby title
– P31
♦ Pucka cricketers
impress
– P29
♦ Triathlete six
seconds off victory
on the Gold Coast
– P29

Lt Jennifer Cooper, of
HQ 1 Bde, gets a kick
away from Smn Amanda
Doyle during a match
against Navy.
Photo by Cpl Nunu Campos

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