LAC Daniel McCormac performs a clearance sweep with military working dog Outlaw during Exercise Cope North. Photo: SGT Amanda Campbell

Exercise Cope North
Sniffing out the ‘danger’ in Guam
Special lift-out inside: The next generation on show at Avalon
Stand against violence

SGT Dave Morley

DEFENCE’S commitment to reducing the occurrence and impact of family and domestic violence was strongly reinforced at the launch of the Defence Family and Domestic Violence Strategy at Russell on March 15.

Launching the strategy, Defence Minister Marise Payne said reducing domestic violence was a priority for governments across Australia.

“Family and domestic violence can have devastating and lifelong effects,” she said.

“Whether directly affected by family and domestic violence or not, everyone has a role to play and you can make a difference.”

“So it’s important that Defence, as an organisation, is actively engaged in making sure those affected are appropriately supported.”

Senator Payne said Defence personnel must know they can safely report incidents of family and domestic violence, that their reports will be taken seriously and that Defence will act accordingly.

“It’s important to remember family and domestic violence isn’t just physical violence. It can also include psychological violence such as controlling behaviour, restricting access to family and friends, sexual violence, financial abuse, technologically-facilitated abuse or neglect of physical needs,” she said.

“We must continue to work together to ensure Defence members and their families have a safe and supportive environment.”

Defence has a zero tolerance policy towards family and domestic violence.

DISCLAIMER
Air Force News is published fortnightly by the Directorate of Defence News and Multimedia. It is printed under contract by Horton Media Australia Ltd. The material published is selected for its interest. The views expressed in published articles are not necessarily those of Defence or Air Force News. Every advertisement is subject to the approval of Defence News and Multimedia. The safety and domestic violence may be, at its discretion, refuse to accept an advertisement. The Directorate accepts no responsibility or liability in relation to any loss due to the failure of an advertisement to appear or if it appears in a form not in accordance with the instructions received by the Directorate of Defence News and Multimedia. Defence does not endorse the products or services published in advertisements.

CONTACT US
raafnews@defencenews.gov.au
The Editor, Air Force News, RAAF HQ, PO Box 7809, Department of Defence, ACT 2600
Fax: (02) 6265 6580

ADVERTISING and SUBSCRIPTIONS
Marketing Manager
Tim Asher: (07) 3322 7651 or 0459 842 551
Assistant Marketing Manager
Trish Dillon: (02) 6266 7607
advertising@defencenews.gov.au
subscriptions@defencenews.gov.au

A FATHER and son have clocked up a first and probable last between them as they return from simultaneous deployments to the Middle East.

WGCDR Philip Sexton deployed as the senior personnel officer at Headquarters Joint Task Force 633, at Australia’s main logistics base in the Middle East.

His son LAC Caleb Sexton served at Australia’s main operating base as a communications electronics technician with Theatre Communications Group 3.

It was LAC Sexton’s first deployment to the MER in his three-year service career, while WGCDR Sexton said his deployment was likely to be the last of his 30-year career.

During the Theatre Communications Group 3 transfer of authority medal parade, WGCDR Sexton had the honour of presenting his son with his first Australian Operational Service Medal (AOSM).

“I received my AOSM in November last year and it is great to be given the opportunity to present my son with it,” he said.

WGCDR Sexton said the pair were geographically closer in the Middle East than they are in Australia.

“Caleb is posted to RAF Base Edinburgh and I’m in Canberra, so it was quite funny that our deployments actually brought us closer together,” WGCDR Sexton said.

“We were able to catch up for Christmas, which meant a lot to us both.”
Pilot program spreads wings

AIR Combat Group (ACG) is keen to share its success in improving the quality and quantity of fighter jet graduates in the past two years with the long-standing re-role program.

Commander ACG AIRCDRE Steven Robertson said the group was always on the lookout for new fighter pilots and had transferred training support initiatives to No. 2 Flying Training School’s graduate and re-role fast jet trainee activities already undertaken by the US and Australia.

“ACG has undergone a cultural transformation and the PEP, fast jet trainee performance coaching/mentoring and No. 78 Wing’s Safety and Risk Management Program,” he said.

“ACG has undergone a cultural change in the way we train fast jet pilots – even down to the language used in our training manuals. The current re-role paper-based application process will be supplemented by a one-week Fighter Jet Selection course to be held biennially at RAAF Base Williamtown,” he said.

“We want women and men flying the next-generation fighter jets. A structured and more thorough selection process for re-role candidates will be introduced to improve selection methodology, manage candidate preparations and enable individual trainee risk assessment and management,” he said.

AIRCDRE Robertson said this would be supported by Performance Enhancement Program (PEP) mentoring and coaching and a tailored preparation and induction program for re-role candidates before their Introductory Fighter Course at No. 79 Squadron.

“Graduation numbers have been at historic highs with initiatives such as the PEP, fast jet trainer performance coaching/mentoring and No. 78 Wing’s Physical Conditioning and Injury Management Program,” he said.

“AGC has undergone a cultural change in the way we train fast jet pilots – even down to the language used in our training manuals. The current re-role paper-based application process will be supplemented by a one-week Fighter Jet Selection course to be held biennially at RAAF Base Williamtown,” he said.

“8WG will also develop a re-role preparatory course at 79SQN using the new LFICAP (Lead-In Fighter Capability Assurance Program) simulator and basic skills assessment, PEP assessment of key mental skills, exposure to daily squadron working environment and exposure to Operational Conversion Unit) and operational squadrons.”

Friends who fix airfields

COL Dwayne Robison, Chief of the Civil Engineering Division in the Directorate of Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection, HQ PACAF, led the PACAF team during the EAC key leadership engagement.

COL Robison and No. 65 Squadron WGCDR Jeffrey Howard held a series of meetings with the Combat Support Group senior leadership team at RAAF Base Amberley, in addition to participating in tactical field damage repair training opportunities for broader air base recovery exercises.

WOFF Pete Douglass, of 65SQN’s EOD Flight, said USAF and USMC involvement in 65SQN-led exercises and other combined airfield damage repair (ADR) training activities would benefit the squadron.

“Exposing 65SQN members to USAF and USMC rapid airfield clearance techniques and equipment will also directly contribute to a more robust airfield recovery capability within 65SQN,” he said.

WGCDR Howard said combined ADR training, built around scenarios in northern Australia, would strengthen Air Force’s interoperability and relationships with USAF and USMC.

“The ADR capabilities of both air forces are critical for humanitarian and disaster relief operations in Australia and the South Pacific region as well as expeditionary operations and deployments overseas,” he said.

Prepare your resume before you need it …

See website for Recognition of Prior Learning Fees & Conditions

www.hamel.edu.au

1300 7 999 14

info@hamel.edu.au

Qualifications Assessed by Hamel Institute RTO 10355

* Issued by Hamel Institute RTO 10355

2 Issued by Baflante Pty Ltd RTO 35156

3 Issued & Issued by PIPII Australia Pty Ltd RTO 40094

4 Validated & Issued by RLA Australia Pty Ltd RTO 33884

RTO 01684
Complex times for peace ops

SGT Dave Morley

PARTICIPANTS from as far away as Egypt and Jordan attended a peace operations seminar at the ADF Peace Operations Training Centre at Weston Creek in Canberra from March 6-10.

Commandant Australian Command and Staff College AIRCDRE Matt Hegarty said in his opening address that the UN peacekeeping system was facing increasing challenges as the multidimensional aspects of contemporary peacekeeping operations became more complex.

"The scope and scale of UN peacekeeping is huge, with more than 117,000 military, police and civilian personnel deployed across more than a dozen peacekeeping missions," he said.

"Increasingly, peacekeepers are being deployed to conflict areas in difficult operating environments, where often there is little peace to keep, host state capacity is weak and local stakeholders are openly hostile to the UN's presence."

AIRCDRE Hegarty said the nature of peacekeeping had changed.

"Originally developed as a means of dealing with interstate conflict, UN peacekeeping has been increasingly applied to intrastate conflicts and civil wars," he said.

"Peacekeepers are increasingly required to protect civilians and non-combatants in mission areas rather than observe buffer zones. Peacekeeping personnel are mandated to protect civilians and safeguard the human rights of all those who are called on to protect."

How resilience grows in a testing environment

SGT Dave Morley

COMMANDER Joint Health and Surgeon-General ADF AVM Tracy Smart’s first overseas deployment was one she’ll never forget.

After six years in the Air Force she found herself part of the 300-strong AUSMED contingent to the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR II) in 1995, as senior RAAF officer, AME coordinator and OC Clinical Services.

She said the AUSMED mission was to provide health support to UNAMIR II’s 5500 troops and to the local population on an opportunity basis.

"The conditions we dealt with were different from anything we’d faced in Australia and included infectious diseases, malnutrition, exotic tumours, old war injuries and trauma from grenades, mines, gunshot wounds and motor vehicle accidents," she said.

"We faced the risk of HIV, we were fatigued from long shifts and being on call, we had limited resources and support, and we had patients dying on a scale not experienced in Australian hospitals."

AVM Smart, who was a presenter at the peace operations seminar in Canberra, said there were occasions when they faced ethical dilemmas of “playing God” by prioritising patients.

"Western health providers are taught to save lives at any cost, to prioritise in accordance with medical, not mission, needs,” she said.

"The capabilities of clinical practitioners can exceed the planned logistic support to the mission."

"So we had to make decisions which were extremely stressful. These types of events had long-term effects on many of my colleagues."

AVM Smart said there were positives to come out of the Rwanda experience.

"We did the job we were trained for – saving lives. Each child we saved or left a positive imprint on had the potential to grow up and make a positive difference in their country – a small victory," she said.

"I also believe these experiences made many of us stronger and more resilient as individuals, a concept known as post-traumatic growth."
Unique perspectives on tough issues

THE chance to broaden her understanding of the ADF’s role in peacekeeping operations with the UN and, in particular, the women, peace and security role in these operations, was the reason one Air Force officer applied to attend the peace operations seminar in Canberra in early March.

Senior military training adviser at HQ DFR SQNLDR Zoe Goldsmith said the guest lecturers at the seminar “had a broad range of policy and practical experiences, allowing students to gain an appreciation not only of the key conceptual issues involved in peace operations but also how they are implemented on the ground”.

“They were personal and they shared their experiences so willingly and honestly. Their presentations will remain with me for a long time,” she said.

SQNLDR Goldsmith appreciated the participation of foreign students. “These students from diverse countries such as Pakistan, Jordan and Myanmar provided a unique perspective on peacekeeping and willingly shared their extensive peacekeeping experience in operational theatres where the ADF has not been deployed,” she said.

“Being given the opportunity to network with these international members and also Defence graduates was one of the many highlights.”

SQNLDR Goldsmith was impressed with how the course tackled some of the challenges of peacekeeping operations, including working with local partner forces, addressing conflict-related sexual violence and integrating women, peace and security principles.

“This seminar has given me a sound understanding of the roles and contributions of the many organisations involved in peacekeeping,” she said.
Inspiration in the present and future

SGT Dave Morley

ADFA cadets shared morning tea with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Defence Minister Marise Payne and Minister for Women Michaelia Cash to celebrate International Women’s Day on March 8.

More than 150 people attended the event, including ADF senior leadership and other senior female members.

Mr Turnbull said the purpose of the event was to celebrate the achievements of women in the ADF and at ADFA.

“We thank you, the women of the ADF serving here and overseas,” he said.

“Each of you are magnificent role models for young women and girls right across Australia.

“Women in Defence are making a huge contribution across the range of military planning, policy and operations in support of our national interest. This year, women make up more than 20 per cent of all recruits to the ADF.”

Senator Payne said more than 40 per cent of the Defence Graduate intakes in the Defence Organisation were now women. The number of women in SES positions was also increasing and women were now filling senior deputy secretary roles.

“Can I say to the female cadets who are here today that there are many women who’ve gone before you – some, many, still in place,” she said.

“In your future – and in your present – you represent their voice and aspirations, and your own, for what women can and will achieve in the ADF.”

OFFCDT Janet Mulder, who joined the Air Force in 2015, said International Women’s Day was an amazing opportunity for women and it reinforced the message that all women were capable of doing what she was doing in the ADF.

“Seeing all the high-ranking female officers attending this event is really motivating and inspiring for women like us,” she said.

“It shows we are able to achieve things that previously would be perceived as things only males could achieve. It’s really reinforcing the fact we have a future in the ADF and we’re able to do things we’d never have been able to do before.”

Treat yourself with our DHOAS Home Loan

Take out a DHOAS Loan with Home & Contents Insurance through us and receive a $1,000 gift card*

*Min. loan $250,000. Apply by 30 June 2017 and settle by 30 Sep 2017. T&Cs apply.

DHOAS Home Loan + Home & Contents Insurance = $1,000 Visa Gift Card

Apply in branch, online or call 1800 739 347 today
**International Women’s Day**

March 23, 2017

**Be the change you want to see**

**SGT Dave Morley**

**DEFENCE** members at Russell Offices were treated to an inspirational presentation on March 10 to celebrate International Women’s Day. Former rugby league great and 2014 ACT Woman of the Year Katrina Fanning, a proud Wiradjuri woman from Junee, NSW, shared her story with more than 200 people over high tea.

She said she wanted to focus on being the change people wanted to see in the world. “All of us impact someone and something every day – what impact that has is up to us,” she said.

“As a young person I faced a lot of adversity and was vulnerable to decision-makers, who at the time didn’t always have my best interests at heart.”

“This gave me a determination to be as big a part of the decision-making process as possible, and what better place than the public service?”

“I soon also became focussed on being the voice for many Australians who couldn’t be at the decision-making table, but that seat at the table can test you in ways you didn’t see coming.”

Ms Fanning said another thing she had learnt in her journey was the value of what it took for true commitment.

“Find things you’re passionate about, where you want to make an impact and why,” she said.

**Making a difference by taking bold action**

**FLTLT Natalie Giles**

THE International Women’s Day Being Bold for Change campaign this year has challenged people to nominate the area in which they will take “bold action”.

For PTI CPL Candice Freeman, who is deployed with the Air Task Group in the Middle East as part of Operation Okra, inspiration comes from a little closer to home.

“International Women’s Day for me is about celebrating one woman’s journey and the barriers she has overcome to get where she is today,” CPL Freeman said.

“This year I have been particularly inspired by Turia Pitt. “I read her biography and her journey inspires me to train harder and push harder in my goals.”

For FLTLT Naomi Holmes, an operations officer deployed with the Air Task Group as part of Operation Okra, inspiration comes from a little closer to home.

“My mum, Jenny, inspires me every day with her kind-heartedness and her significant service to the community through her volunteer work,” she said.

“This has inspired me to want to serve my country and make a difference in the world by contributing to Operation Okra.”

**International Women’s Day, held on March 8, is a global celebration of the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.**

**New South Wales and The Great War**

When the Great War began in August 1914, the people of New South Wales took up the call to arms. NSW sent more people than any other state to serve overseas and many more worked and volunteered to support the war effort.

Written by historians Naomi Parry and Brad Manera, Will Davies and Stephen Garton, **New South Wales and The Great War** is an informative mix of stirring text, archival records and emotive photographs, that enable us to visualise our state’s war experience.

It is an authoritative history that uses the rich visuals and written records held by the Anzac Memorial, the State Library of NSW, NSW State Records, the NSW Department of Education and the University of Sydney that reveal the impact of war on the ordinary citizens of NSW, in theatres of combat and at home in our cities, towns and rural communities.

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret’d) Governor of New South Wales launched **New South Wales and The Great War** at Government House in November 2016, describing it as a “visually arresting and authoritative account of NSW during and after the Great War”.

**New South Wales and The Great War** honours the sacrifice, the service, the dedication and patriotism of those men and women who left our shores. There are also great tales and honours the sacrifice, the service, the dedication and literacy of those men and women who left our shores. There are also great tales and

**This is a book that every household should own, and an opportunity to pass on our state’s history to current and future generations.**

Get your copy now for only $35, delivered in time for Anzac Day

Visit the State Library shop or online


All proceeds go to support the Anzac Memorial’s heritage conservation and collection of military artefacts, and new education programs.

Bulk purchases are available for a discounted price. Buy 10 or more books for $25 per book (plus P&H). Contact the office of Veteran’s Affairs on 9228 4952 for further information.
Paws return to applause

CROWDS five deep welcomed back military working dogs (MWD) to this year’s Clipsal 500 after an absence of three years.

Daily displays by 3SECFOR dogs were just one part of the ADF’s presence at the three-day Adelaide event early this month.

ADF Oval, in the centre of the track, played host to ADF displays by personnel from RAAF Base Edinburgh and the Army’s 1st Brigade.

While the Australian International Air Show was demonstrating fifth-generation aircraft, the Clipsal 500 display highlighted how the fifth-generation hardware of Army, Navy and Air Force is integrated by the work of the Air Warfare Centre, under Plan Jericho.

A cyber-security display by No. 462 Squadron drew much attention.

Electrical engineer FLGOFF Max Jeffries said visitors were fascinated by the Norse cyber-attack map, “which shows some of the cyber attacks occurring on the internet in real time”.

“Younger patrons enjoyed trying on a fighter pilot’s helmet, getting inside an Aerolite 10 life raft, bandaging a No. 2 Expeditionary Health Support training mannequin and posing behind a range of weapons displayed by 3SECFOR.”

A No. 79 Squadron Hawk 127 performed an aerial display and fly-over during a combined services rendition of the national anthem.

AC Rhys Mitting said the crowds were impressed by the G-Wagon he displayed and the Air Force Bushmaster protected mobility vehicle.

“At the end of each day the Australian War Memorial farewells visitors with the Last Post Ceremony. Further details on the ceremony can be found at https://www.awm.gov.au/events/last-post-ceremony/”

3SECFOR handler AC Danny Westwood orders MWD Atlas to grab CPL Andrew Smith at the Clipsal 500.

Photo: CPL Colin Dadd

Reflection on lives lost in duty of care

A COMMEMORATION of the WWII Bangka Island massacre at the Australian War Memorial (AWM) in Canberra on February 16 was a stark reminder of what military nurses endured when caring for the wounded in wartime.

Rhonda Davies, wife of CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies, took part in the ceremony marking the 75th anniversary of the massacre.

Mrs Davies and FLTLT Lisa Swanwick, wife of WOFF-AF Rob Swanwick, were invited to lay an Air Force wreath beside the Pool of Reflection at the AWM in honour of Sister Lorna Florence Fairweather, who died in the massacre.

The ceremony was especially moving for Mrs Davies, who is a nurse.

“It is truly humbling to be here today to reflect on and honour these stoic nurses whose lives were dedicated to others. Yet sadly they lost theirs,” Mrs Davies said.

“I understand the calling and dedication of these nurses. In times of great need and tragedy, we see the true capacity and strength of the human spirit. These women are exemplars.”

FLTLT Swanwick, a logistics officer, said it was important that personnel remember “our remarkable wartime nurses who take on the care-giving role, as they do so at great personal and emotional risk”.

“Participating in today’s ceremony has been a great privilege and honour – a heartbreaking and moving occasion I will never forget,” she said.

At the end of each day the Australian War Memorial farewells visitors with the Last Post Ceremony. Further details on the ceremony can be found at https://www.awm.gov.au/events/last-post-ceremony/”

YOUR DHOAS HOME LOAN SPECIALISTS

Talk to us today about making your dream home a reality.

1800 033 189
defencebank.com.au

Defence Bank

Defence Bank Limited ABN 57 067 451 385, AFSL (Australian Credit Licence) 234582

Call NJN now ➤

Australia’s No 1 ADF Resume Writer

- Certified Professional Resume Writer
- Over 15,000 ADF to civvy resumes written
- Spouses may be eligible for free support
- Free cover letter & coaching with every CV

The ONLY ADF provider that does a CV interview
CPRW, CDAA, PARWCC Certifications

www.nextjobnow.com.au

AWARD WINNING RESUMES
1300 112 114
Taking inclusion in stride

Katharine Martin

LEADING the Air Force contingent in the Sydney Mardi Gras parade on March 4 was an “exhilarating” experience for WGCDR Vince Chong.

Taking part in his fifth parade, OIC Defence Contingent WGCDR Chong said he was “incredibly proud of Defence’s support for diversity and inclusion”.

Up to 160 members from the Air Force, Navy and Army, along with Defence public servants and family and friends, took part in the parade, with around 100 volunteering to march in uniform.

The theme for this year’s Mardi Gras was Creating Equality, and personnel who marched demonstrated their support for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) Defence community.

“Defence’s presence at this iconic national festival for LGBTI people demonstrates our ongoing commitment to inclusive culture and support for the diverse people who operate and sustain our advanced military capabilities,” WGCDR Chong said.

LGBTI champion and First Assistant Secretary Defence People Group Richard Oliver and his wife Louise marched with the contingent.

Personnel have marched in uniform since 2013 and their participation is one of the significant efforts VCDF VADM Ray Griggs said Defence had made over the years to improve its culture of inclusion.

Inclusion is critical to our combat capability, which relies on team cohesion and respect. An inclusive culture also promotes a broader range of perspectives to enhance operational planning and activities, and helps to ensure Defence was more representative of the community.

Package a new car and save on tax

Did you know that you can save thousands by salary packaging your next car?

Let the experts at Fleet Network take the hassle out of car buying - we’ll source your car, pass on national fleet discounts and package all your running costs, while you save on tax.

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

Call us for an obligation free quote

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.

Mention this advert when you enquire and get a bonus Dash Cam Vicovation Marcus4 or an iPad Mini when your new vehicle is delivered!
ASK any Air Force officer and they will tell you that adventure training was one of the most challenging, exciting and memorable aspects of their initial officer training.

So it was with much anticipation that Initial Officer Course (IOC) participants travelled from RAAF Base East Sale to Buchan State Forest in Victoria for Exercise Wirraway in early March.

This is a physically and mentally challenging two-day exercise that exposes officer trainees to self-mastery, resilience and leadership in an environment outside their comfort zone.

Initial officer trainee FLGOFF Mahatia Minniecon found the experience personally rewarding.

“I learnt a lot about myself during this exercise and during the critical self-reflection phase. I particularly enjoyed the opportunity to bond with and learn things about the other members of my section during adventure training,” she said.

Students participated in caving, abseiling and navigation, and constructed a field living environment.

FLGOFF Minniecon participated in an abseiling activity at Rocky Knob, under the supervision of the Officers’ Training School adventure training staff.

She and the other students were then encouraged to tackle a 30-metre “caving ladder” climb back to the top of the cliff face.

“We had to climb a ladder, which provided a significant physical challenge. My hands were in excruciating pain as I was coming close to the top and the physical pain was making my mind weak,” FLGOFF Minniecon said.

“It did cross my mind to just give up and I found myself repeating ‘failure is not an option’ over and over again in my head, until I reached the top.”

“This exercise forced me out of my comfort zone. Making it to the top removed any self-doubt I had in my abilities. I am into week three of Initial Officer Training and I am getting used to getting comfortable with the uncomfortable.”

FLGOFF Minniecon originally completed the Indigenous pre-recruitment course at HMAS Cerberus in 2014 before being accepted into the Air Force undergraduate program as a nursing officer in 2015.

She has completed her rotations through emergency and general medicine. Her post-graduate studies include a transition into a specialty practice program in the field of advanced medical surgical nursing.

On completing the Initial Officer Course, FLGOFF Minniecon will be posted to RAAF Base Richmond’s Health Centre.


Pushing through the pain

FLTLT Tanya Carter

Initial officer trainee FLGOFF Mahatia Minniecon takes part in adventure training in the Victorian high country. Photo: FLTLT Charles Tomlinson
Pilots of the future fly high

Flight camp gives young women a taste of life in our ranks, PLTOFF Anthony Lufi reports

The future pilots of the Air Force took to the skies at the flight camp for young women at RAAF Base East Sale early this month.

The camp, which coincided with International Women’s Day on March 8, introduced girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 to a potential career in the Air Force.

Twelve participants engaged in various activities, including flying in a CT-4, operating a joint battlefield airspace controller simulator and testing out their pilot skills in a King Air simulator.

Genevieve Forshaw said the camp was “an experience I didn’t want to miss”.

“It was the chance to see what life in the Air Force is really like,” she said.

“I want to become a pilot – fast jets are my goal.”

“The opportunities we were all given was beyond anything I could dream of.”

Paris Capel was excited about her flying experience. “My favourite activity was flying in the CT-4. I loved the weight you feel when you’re pulling Gs and the freedom you have doing aerobatics. I almost stalled on my first loop while upside down but saved it,” she said.

Felicity Hull said the experience changed her perspective on an Air Force career “in a positive way”.

She said it showed “how women can be just as emotionally, mentally and physically strong as men”.

The flight camp is an initiative aimed at increasing diversity within the ADF. Its specific goal is to increase the number of women in the Air Force from the present level of nearly 20 per cent of personnel.
Exercise Cope North proved its worth as a building block of allied cooperation, FLTLT Shaun Donnelly reports

MORE than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies during the annual Exercise Cope North from February 15 to March 3. Fighters, tankers, bombers and control aircraft took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.

More than 100 aircraft from the Australia, Japan and US air forces took to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North, the Australian, US and Japanese air forces take to the skies in formation for Exercise Cope North.
Helping the Afghan Air

Our personnel are working shoulder-to-shoulder with Afghans to rebuild their fledgling AAF so it can fly independently again, FLTLT Jessica Aldred reports.

Ten officers and airmen are playing an important role in the development of the Afghan Air Force (AAF), as part of Train, Advise, Assist Command – Air (TAAC-Air). The AAF, still in its relative infancy, is building its capacity to deliver air power effects in recent years to help defeat terrorism in Afghanistan.

As part of the NATO-led Resolute Support, TAAC-Air Director of Operations GPCAPT Terence Deeth said the RAAF team was working side by side with their AAF counterparts to build a sustainable air force for their future.

“We are working shoulder-to-shoulder with the Afghans to build a more professional, capable and sustainable Afghan Air Force, not only for the fight now, but to create security and stability in Afghanistan for the future,” GPCAPT Deeth said.

As part of the NATO-led Resolute Support, TAAC-Air Rotary Wing Maintenance Officer SGT Pete Ranson said the Australian team has learnt it was important for the AAF to develop their own solutions to sustain their air force into the future.

“Not all Western air force solutions are right for the Afghan Air Force,” SGT Ranson said.

“We encourage them to come up with their own solutions and then enable them to carry it out.

“The ultimate aim for us, as advisors, is to work ourselves out of a job.”

FLGOFF Matthew Sturgiss said advising senior Afghan Air Force logistics officers in Kabul was a long way from managing the No. 382 Squadron warehouse at RAAF Base Amberley.

Embedded as the supply adviser within the NATO-led coalition at Train, Advise, Assist Command – Air (TAAC-Air), FLGOFF Sturgiss advises the Afghan Air Force (AAF) 1st Logistics Squadron.

He supervises all of the Afghan Air Force’s Kabul warehouses and is the first line of supply for all AAF units across Afghanistan.

“I’d help them coordinate their incoming provisions and support with logistics planning,” FLGOFF Sturgiss said.

“My time at 382SQN helped prepare me for this, as I planned for three exercises in my first 18 months there.”

FLGOFF Sturgiss said communication is the most important part of his relationship with the AAF logistics officers.

“Good communication is essential for my job here,” he said.

“Co-ordinating aircrew to ensure they can plan, prioritise and engage their targets, using the right aircraft for the specific task.

“Good communication is essential for my job here,” he said.

“The ultimate aim for us, as advisors, is to work ourselves out of a job.”

FLGOFF Matthew Sturgiss said advising senior Afghan Air Force logistics officers in Kabul was a long way from managing the No. 382 Squadron warehouse at RAAF Base Amberley.

Embedded as the supply adviser within the NATO-led coalition at Train, Advise, Assist Command – Air (TAAC-Air), FLGOFF Sturgiss advises the Afghan Air Force (AAF) 1st Logistics Squadron.

He supervises all of the Afghan Air Force’s Kabul warehouses and is the first line of supply for all AAF units across Afghanistan.

“I’d help them coordinate their incoming provisions and support with logistics planning,” FLGOFF Sturgiss said.

“My time at 382SQN helped prepare me for this, as I planned for three exercises in my first 18 months there.”

FLGOFF Sturgiss said communication is the most important part of his relationship with the AAF logistics officers.

“Good communication is essential for my job here,” he said.

“Co-ordinating aircrew to ensure they can plan, prioritise and engage their targets, using the right aircraft for the specific task.

“Good communication is essential for my job here,” he said.

The Australian personnel at TAAC-Air are deployed to Afghanistan under Operation Highroad as part of Joint Task Force 633.
Helping the Afghan Air Force take flight

FSGT Smylie, working as the aircrew flight equipment (AFE) adviser for the Afghan Air Force (AAF) is both challenging and fulfilling.

FSGT Smylie is currently deployed to Train, Advise, Assist Command – Air (TAAC-Air) in Kabul, Afghanistan, for Operation Highroad working to build a capable and sustainable AAF.

The coalition team of three AFE advisers – part of Australia’s commitment to the NATO-led Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan – mentors 24 Afghan AFE personnel in life support including care of all equipment for fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

FSGT Smylie said he knew the life support equipment role was critical to the AAF being able to support itself into the future.

“We are working with the Afghans to build a more professional, capable and sustainable Afghan Air Force, not only for the fight now, but to create security and stability in Afghanistan for the future.”

GPCAPT Terence Deeth
TAAC-Air Director of Operations

Afghanistan Air Force Cayuse Warrior helicopters prepare to take-off for a mission from Hamid Karzai International Airport, Afghanistan.
Photos: SGT Ricky Fuller

International engagement

Life support critical in building an independent service

FOR life support fitter FSGT Rod Smylie, working as the aircrew flight equipment (AFE) adviser for the Afghan Air Force (AAF) is both challenging and fulfilling.

FSGT Smylie is currently deployed to Train, Advise, Assist Command – Air (TAAC-Air) in Kabul, Afghanistan, for Operation Highroad working to build a capable and sustainable AAF.

The coalition team of three AFE advisers – part of Australia’s commitment to the NATO-led Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan – mentors 24 Afghan AFE personnel in life support including care of all equipment for fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

The team also provides critical life support to 70 coalition aircrew.

FSGT Smylie said he knew the life support equipment role was critical to the AAF being able to support itself into the future.

“Life support is important. If we don’t teach the Afghans this, the aircrew won’t have the equipment to fly,” FSGT Smylie said.

“It’s important for them to build their own sustainable Air Force for the future, so we don’t just teach them our way of doing things.

“We help them come up with their own solutions.

“The Afghans continue to improve and I can see the changes since I started here.”

Deploying to Afghanistan to work in a coalition air force environment has been a highlight for FSGT Smylie.

“Operating with coalition air forces has been great, although they do some things differently to us,” he said.

“It’s been eye-opening and is so different to any other deployments or exercises on offer than in Air Force.

“It’s also been a great chance to work with different aircraft including attack helicopters, something I don’t get to do at home.”

Aircrew flight equipment adviser FSGT Rod Smylie fits an Afghan Air Force pilot for his new helmet.
More and more, people are choosing the salary packaging specialists at Smartsalary to help them make their pay packet go further, whether they’re spending a little or a lot.

That’s because Smartsalary does salary packaging differently: customers are at the centre of everything they do - and they have the awards to prove it - so when people choose Smartsalary, they stay.

Making set-up and management of your benefits easy
Mobile apps and online tools for easy claims on the go
Fast payment with funds in your bank account within 48 hours
Award-winning customer service when and where you need it
Exclusive discounts across a range of national retailers

Talk to Smartsalary today and find out how much you could be saving every day.

1300 116 846 | airforceleasing.com.au
Masters of reinvention

‘Lazarus’ squadron has changed with the times, FLT L T Stephanie Anderson reports

A

BRISTOL Bloodhound missile was the star of the show when No. 30 (City of Sale) Squadron celebrated its 75th anniversary on March 9.

The missile and a plaque dedicated to the squadron and the men and women who have served in its ranks were unveiled in a ceremony at RAAF Base East Sale.

Current squadron members attended the ceremony along with past members, who have contributed to its history and its legacy.

A function was held that evening to further commemorate the milestone. Among the guests were Commander Combat Support Group AIRCDRE Ken Robinson, OC No. 96 Wing GPCAPT Martin Smith, OC Air Training Wing GPCAPT Mark McCallum, Wellington Shire Mayor Carolyn Crossley and members of 30SQN Association.

The squadron was formed in 1942 as No. 30 (Long Range Fighter) Squadron at RAAF Base Richmond. It flew the Beaufighter aircraft in the Pacific during WWII before being disbanded in 1946.

It was re-formed in 1948 and used Beaufighter, Beaufort, Wirraway, Anson and Mustang aircraft to operate target towing, radar calibration and cloud seeding capabilities.

The squadron was again disbanded in 1956, being the first and last unit to fly the Beaufighter aircraft.

30SQN was again re-formed in 1961 to receive the Bristol Bloodhound Mk 1 surface-to-air missile and launchers into service.

When air defence moved away from missiles, the squadron was disbanded for the third time in 1968. 30SQN was most recently re-formed in 2010, to provide and coordinate aviation support to operations and training at RAAF Base East Sale.

CO 30SQN WGCDR Martin Quirke said the squadron was “Lazarus” with a quadruple bypass and each time it re-formed it reinvented itself to meet the challenges of the day.

“We are proud of the legacy we have inherited,” he said.

“It is a rich and significant history that we have been gifted, and one we will protect and promote and contribute to in the years to come.”

WGCDR Sharyn Bolitho, a previous commanding officer of 30SQN and instrumental in acquiring the Bristol Bloodhound missile, and Ivan Hawthorn, a sergeant at 30SQN during the Bloodhound era, unveil the 75th anniversary commemorative plaque.

The Bristol Bloodhound missile unveiled at RAAF Base East Sale. Photos: PO Rick Prideaux
Ewad Dimond reports

AVM Neil Hart is leading the team responsible for implementing the recommendations of the First Principles Review.

The formal implementation phase of the FPR needs to be completed by June 30. AVM Neil Hart notes that the FPR implementation office has been working to develop the implementation phase, and he says it is important that Defence reaches a “point of no return” on its transformation journey to One Defence becoming business as usual by June 30.

“Key to the One Defence approach is working together as an effective team, leveraging the range of skills available, with a focus on delivering overall Defence and one capability outcomes, rather than the previous emphasis on increasingly complicated processes to coordinate independent activities,” he says.

“This holistic approach is critical to the development of advanced capabilities, systems, enablers and workforce so the ADF is prepared and ready to meet the challenges of the future.

The point AVM Hart makes is that we aren’t just about changing processes, structure and mindset to satisfy FPR implementation, but about being more able to realise the opportunities created in the Defence White Paper 2016, along with the Integrated Investment Program and the Defence Industry Policy Statement.

“Through this combination, the government has given us a once-in-a-generation opportunity to ensure Defence and the ADF are in the best possible position to respond to future challenges, and deliver against our outputs with the minimum resources necessary. The review was directed by government and has the full support of senior leadership, including the three Service Chiefs who have embraced its concept of ‘One Defence’.

In the new Air Force Strategy 2017-2027, CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies discusses a period of increasing strategic uncertainty, rapid change and complex operational challenges. "The Air Force’s future success depends on being a valued and effective part of a much more joint ADF, and of One Defence more broadly,” AIRMSHL Davies says.

AVM Hart agrees it is a fair point that in the early days of the implementation many changes were happening on numerous fronts.

“Many folks commenting on the FPR two years ago would say that this didn’t affect them. But much of that early work created a necessary foundation for where we are now, what we are starting to see and what we will see as we go forward, especially base services and personnel services with more customers, and a greater focus on the local market. This will start to make a difference in the everyday activities for our important local industry. In turn, this will let them focus on delivering, generating, preparing and training our advanced capabilities."

He says the FPR is underpinned by a set of seven principles, which he sums up with three key questions.

“What are we doing outcome orientated and effectively? Are we being transparent? If we can answer ‘yes’ to all three of these questions, then we will be on the right path to One Defence,” he says.

“If we tailor processes and management structures to deliver effective outcomes, then we can help ensure soldiers, sailors and aircrew have the right weapon in the right spot, with effective platforms, systems and networks, and the right information and intelligent advice."

AVM Hart says substantial investment is programmed for the Air Force and its air lift capability.

“Over the next decade, the Air Force will introduce 12 E-7A/ A-10 Growlers, up to 100 F-35A Lightning II, seven high-altitude MQ-4C Tritons, two additional KC-30A air-to-air refuellers, eight P-8A Poseidons, and support C2 systems, among other capabilities," he says.

“With the new equipment, we now have to adapt our people, processes and tactics to make sure that we can fully utilise those advanced capabilities."

“We are moving away from the FPR implementation, which was a period that gave us a foundation for the One Defence approach, but this is not an end state if we are to maintain our edge,” AVM Hart says.

At the time of printing, Defence had delivered 55 out of 75 recommendations.
THE Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience (SACE) travelling exhibition is entering its final stretch after more than 18 months touring the country. The immersive and interactive exhibition of WWI artefacts has visited 21 regional, rural and capital city locations and is currently finishing up in NSW.

SACE will open in Newcastle on March 29 for seven days before a 13-day finale at the Sydney International Convention Centre from April 15-27.

By the end of the Geelong SACE exhibition in February, Defence will have supported SACE with some 1100 individual personnel in the order of around 20,000 hours – or 45 per cent of the volunteer force.

A number of Air Force personnel have been so taken by their initial volunteering event that they put their hands up to assist in subsequent locations.

SGT Greg Bower said he was looking forward to the Newcastle and Sydney exhibitions after supporting SACE in Orange this month. Prior to the Orange exhibit, SGT Bower attended the previous nine exhibitions in a row.

“The thing that stands out the most to me in my travels with SACE is that no matter from which background people come, they are all united and share the same feelings once they have been through the experience,” SGT Bower said. “It is quite incredible actually, and a little bit hard to explain to those who haven’t experienced SACE.”

Not surprisingly, personnel in uniform have been the ones most easily recognised by the public, receiving the most of the hugs, handshakes and words of appreciation from more than 300,000 visitors to date.

WGCDR Terry Fisk said there was reward enough in helping to bring the stories of WWI to communities across Australia.

“Seeing the positive reaction of those attending the exhibition, it is the interaction with the public and their powerful and insightful stories about their relatives from WWI and other military conflicts that provides the most compelling reason for me to continue supporting the exhibition across multiple sites,” he said.

Three other RAAF supporters, FSGT Cliff Marshall and SQNLDRs John Buckley and David Mustard have also volunteered numerous times.

FSGT Marshall was happy to call himself a “serial volunteer” when talking about his involvement with SACE.

“I come from a proud service family and have been proud to be part of exhibitions that commemorate the significance of our armed forces contributions towards peace, regional security and humanitarian assistance,” he said.

More information about SACE, including how you can book a free ticket for Newcastle and Sydney, is available at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au

Claudia Harrison reports

After more than 18 months of educating people across the country, an exhibit on WWI gears up for its finale in Sydney, Claudia Harrison reports

LACW Penni Nankivell and SGT Greg Bower at the Spirit of the Anzac Centenary Experience at Goldfields Oasis Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

WGCDR Terry Fisk said there was reward enough in helping to bring the stories of WWI to communities across Australia.

“Seeing the positive reaction of those attending the exhibition, it is the interaction with the public and their powerful and insightful stories about their relatives from WWI and other military conflicts that provides the most compelling reason for me to continue supporting the exhibition across multiple sites,” he said.

Three other RAAF supporters, FSGT Cliff Marshall and SQNLDRs John Buckley and David Mustard have also volunteered numerous times.

FSGT Marshall was happy to call himself a “serial volunteer” when talking about his involvement with SACE.

“I come from a proud service family and have been proud to be part of exhibitions that commemorate the significance of our armed forces contributions towards peace, regional security and humanitarian assistance,” he said.

More information about SACE, including how you can book a free ticket for Newcastle and Sydney, is available at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au

LACW Penni Nankivell and SGT Greg Bower at the Spirit of the Anzac Centenary Experience at Goldfields Oasis Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

WGCDR Terry Fisk said there was reward enough in helping to bring the stories of WWI to communities across Australia.

“Seeing the positive reaction of those attending the exhibition, it is the interaction with the public and their powerful and insightful stories about their relatives from WWI and other military conflicts that provides the most compelling reason for me to continue supporting the exhibition across multiple sites,” he said.

Three other RAAF supporters, FSGT Cliff Marshall and SQNLDRs John Buckley and David Mustard have also volunteered numerous times.

FSGT Marshall was happy to call himself a “serial volunteer” when talking about his involvement with SACE.

“I come from a proud service family and have been proud to be part of exhibitions that commemorate the significance of our armed forces contributions towards peace, regional security and humanitarian assistance,” he said.

More information about SACE, including how you can book a free ticket for Newcastle and Sydney, is available at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au

LACW Penni Nankivell and SGT Greg Bower at the Spirit of the Anzac Centenary Experience at Goldfields Oasis Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

WGCDR Terry Fisk said there was reward enough in helping to bring the stories of WWI to communities across Australia.

“Seeing the positive reaction of those attending the exhibition, it is the interaction with the public and their powerful and insightful stories about their relatives from WWI and other military conflicts that provides the most compelling reason for me to continue supporting the exhibition across multiple sites,” he said.

Three other RAAF supporters, FSGT Cliff Marshall and SQNLDRs John Buckley and David Mustard have also volunteered numerous times.

FSGT Marshall was happy to call himself a “serial volunteer” when talking about his involvement with SACE.

“I come from a proud service family and have been proud to be part of exhibitions that commemorate the significance of our armed forces contributions towards peace, regional security and humanitarian assistance,” he said.

More information about SACE, including how you can book a free ticket for Newcastle and Sydney, is available at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au

LACW Penni Nankivell and SGT Greg Bower at the Spirit of the Anzac Centenary Experience at Goldfields Oasis Kalgoorlie-Boulder.
Conquering the art of recovery

SONLDR Jamie Abbott

TIME is running out to apply for the next ADF Arts for Recovery, Resilience, Teamwork and Skills (ARRTS) program.

The four-week triservice program is designed for members who have been wounded, injured or became ill during service. Held at the University of Canberra from May 15-June 9, it will feature a series of arts workshops aimed at supporting the rehabilitation and recovery of Defence personnel facing service-related health and wellbeing issues.

SGT Cathryn Houtsma completed the last program and chose to do acting and performance, one of four creative streams on offer, as a way to complement and enhance recovery.

“It has given me so much more confidence, it’s just been so enjoyable where I can be in an environment where I can spend four weeks with other people who are going through similar issues and just have some fun, it’s a great program,” LAC Courtney said.

Participants have various injuries ranging from post-traumatic stress disorder to physical wounds and they will benefit from improvements in health, increased self-esteem and motivation.

Heads of ARRTS, BRIG Wayne Goodman said ADF personnel did not need to have any prior experience or training in the Arts.

“You can come here without even having sung in the shower, you don’t need to know anything about it, you can just come here and be yourself, it is so far removed from a regular military environment,” BRIG Goodman said.

That aspect was something which Ground Support Equipment Fitter SGT Ivan Macdonald enjoyed.

“Although it took me about a week and a half to ‘de-tune’ as I was wandering around and waiting for someone to tell us what to do it’s just been so good to just be free,” SGT Macdonald said.

The next ARRTS program will be held at the University of Canberra.

To apply for the next program, email ADF.ARRTS@defence.gov.au, or phone Nina Craven (02) 6265 5923 to find out more.

THE LONG WAY HOME

That’s what the ADF Arts for Recovery, Resilience, Teamwork and Skills (ARRTS) program is all about. Hords of people with various injuries ranging from post-traumatic stress disorder to physical wounds and they will benefit from improvements in health, increased self-esteem and motivation.

To 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 annual Rent Allowance (RA) review is coming soon. This review checks your personal circumstances and confirms your ongoing RA eligibility. You can get ready for the review now by updating your personal circumstances in Online Services, and obtaining a current rent receipt or tenant ledger from your real estate agent.

From 23 March if you are selected for the review:
- you will receive an email notification and be notified via your dashboard in Online Services
- you then need to log in to Online Services, upload your tenant ledger and answer eight simple questions.

Get ready now to avoid missing the RA review deadline. Visit our dedicated RA review web page for further information.

dha.gov.au/rareview  139 342

OPERATION Southern Discovery has concluded its second season of enabling deep-field science projects through its support of the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD).

Between November last year and February, C-17A Globemasters from No. 36 Squadron flew six missions to the Wilkins Aerodrome runway in Antarctica, delivering 84 passengers and 57.5 tonnes of cargo.

On return flights, they brought back 85 passengers and 29.5 tonnes of cargo, and carried loads including AAD helicopters, snow vehicles and a member requiring aeromedical evacuation.

Drums containing 8000 litres of aviation fuel were also airdropped for a science project that will investigate the contribution of the East Antarctic ice sheet to sea-level rise.

AAD operations manager Robb Clifton said fuel had traditionally been delivered by locally based helicopters or ski-equipped aircraft.

“It takes a suitable weather window and numerous flights over several days to move the same amount of fuel as delivered by the C-17A in a single mission,” Mr Clifton said.

“Supporting deep-field science projects with fuel, equipment and rations is often our biggest challenge.”

FLTLT Justin McFadden piloted the fuel airdrop mission on December 1.

The aircraft flew a 7600km round trip and delivered to a drop zone 300km west of Wilkins Aerodrome.

“The drop consisted of 10 container delivery store bundles, totalling 40 drums of aviation fuel,” FLTLT McFadden said.

“The mission was 11 hours long, departing Avalon Airport in Victoria and landing at Hobart. The fuel planning was quite complex due to the fluid and unpredictable weather patterns to the south.”

The C-17A crew dropped their supplies on the bull’s-eye.

“We caught a break in the weather and were able to drop in visual conditions, placing the first container 25 metres from the intended point of impact,” FLTLT McFadden said.

“There were no damaged or leaking drums and the AAD personnel were very happy and appreciative of Defence’s efforts.”

Army’s 176 Air Dispatch Squadron, which prepares these loads, went to considerable effort to ensure the fuel drums wouldn’t burst on landing. Another consideration was how the aerial delivery equipment (ADE) was managed following the drop.

Parachutes and rigging lines can be dragged by winds, snagged on loads or on ground features, or otherwise rendered unsuitable for future use.

LCPL Ashleigh Shannon, an air dispatcher with 176 AD SQN, worked as part of the team that prepared the 44-gallon drums for airdrop to Antarctica.

“We had to prevent any damage to our equipment without an air dispatcher on the ground to help with recovery,” LCPL Shannon said.

“We created an informational video highlighting key aspects of recovery of parachutes and other ADE to help maintain their serviceability.

“The video that was made for AAD will be useful for years to come and hopefully we will be able to deliver their goods again.”
Look forward
“Lest We Forget” exhibition Thursday 20th April to Sunday 23rd April 2017. Morpeth Gallery, 5 Green Street Morpeth NSW 2321, free entry. Stunning paintings of classic planes, by aviation artist John AB radley. Prior to 1982, John worked as an Avionics Technician, Aircraft Inspector. This gave John the technical experience to accurately portray his subjects. These originals are also available as Giclee reproductions or canvas prints which will last 100 years and look like an original painting; you do not have to frame them with glass so there is no reflection.

湿分区
原作及复制品
http://www.morpethgallery.com/anzac/
www.morpethgallery.com info@morpethgallery.com
Phone (02) 49331407
Morpeth Gallery 5 Green Street Morpeth NSW 2321

Boosting yourself
Changing your diet to include key nutrients could be just the thing to restore the spring in your step. CPL Mark Doran reports

EVE RYONE seems busy. Yes, life is busy. But waking up feeling more exhausted than when going to bed is a drag.
If some of the smallest tasks become an effort – if it’s hard to concentrate on simple jobs – it may be time for some lifestyle changes to boost energy levels and improve your quality of life.
Low energy can have a cumulative effect and the consequences can affect work, safety and relationships with workmates, supervisors and loved ones.
CPL Sophie Woolford, a PTI at RMC, said some people needed more sleep than others while others learnt to cope. The body and mind became drained without enough rest.
“While asleep, the body repairs itself and regenerates to be able to function at its optimum performance levels,” she said.
“It’s also important to relax. The world never stops and neither do those emails from work. Allocating some time every day to rest the mind. Turn off the phone. Watch a movie, read a book, or just take a slow walk.”
Exercise and movement are the best ways to raise energy levels. A gym session, a swim, or a walk around the block can increase energy as it will improve blood flow and increase the production of energy-releasing hormones while improving the metabolism.
CPL Woolford said sugar was not our friend.
“Although it can be tempting, it’s a short-term pick-me-up, and look out for the crash,” she said.
“Eat natural whole foods to maintain more natural energy levels. We also need protein, fibre, calcium, carbohydrates and good fats.
“Everyone is different, but without a balanced diet of fruit, vegetables and whole foods, there may be a gap in the nutritional intake.”
When the body becomes deficient in one or more essential nutrients, it can become tired, sluggish and no longer functions at its best.
Even if a diet is balanced, if meals are not eaten regularly, or are heavy in processed carbohydrates, it will leave the body lethargic and sluggish.
A lack of energy can be a symptom of a nutritional deficiency, which may not be related to diet and can be detected by a simple blood test at the local garrison medical centre.
CPL Woolford said stress puts pressure on every area of the body and the effects were mentally and physically exhausting.
“It’s always an immediate solution to remove the cause of stress, but there are ways to manage the responses to stress,” she said.
“Drink more water, as dehydration can leave the body feeling drained. A medical check should be booked with a doctor if you’re suffering with continually low energy levels.”
If the doctor gives the all-clear, then try and implement these steps to improve your energy levels and enjoy a life of quality, today.”

For more energy try a balanced diet of fruit and vegetables as well as whole foods.

THE INVESTMENT

THE RETURN

YOUR DREAM IS POSSIBLE

Sit back today and look forward to tomorrow with a DHA property investment. We’ll pay your rent, manage your tenants, take care of day-to-day maintenance and even guarantee a rental income for up to 12 years.
Visit dh.gov.au/lookforward

Look forward

Attention: Investment is subject to DHA’s lease terms and conditions of sale. Investors retain some responsibilities and risks including property market fluctuations. Prospective investors should seek independent advice. Rent may be subject to abatement in limited circumstances.

War Bird Art

“Lest We Forget” art exhibition Thursday 20th April to Sunday 23rd April 2017. Morpeth Gallery, 5 Green Street Morpeth NSW 2321, free entry. Stunning paintings of classic planes, by aviation artist John AB radley. Prior to 1982, John worked as an Avionics Technician, Aircraft Inspector. This gave John the technical experience to accurately portray his subjects. These originals are also available as Giclee reproductions or canvas prints which will last 100 years and look like an original painting you do not have to frame them with glass so there is no reflection.

Originals and Reproductions
http://www.morpethgallery.com/anzac/
www.morpethgallery.com info@morpethgallery.com
Phone (02) 49331407
Morpeth Gallery 5 Green Street Morpeth NSW 2321

Health & Fitness

March 23, 2017

AIR FORCE

22

RCEAIR F

Health & Fitness

March 23, 2017
EXCITEMENT is building for a squad of 53 athletes who attended the training camp in Canberra from March 9-14 to be selected to compete in the next Invictus Games.

The 2017 Invictus Games will be held in Toronto from September 23-30 with participation of more than 550 serving and former military personnel from 17 nations.

The ADF has 19 soldiers, sailors and airmen and the RSL has 34 veterans in the initial squad, which will be reduced to a final team of 43.

SQNLDR Danny Jeffery, of No. 81 Wing, hopes to be selected for this year’s games. After deploying on seven operations in Afghanistan, East Timor and the Middle East, he has injuries to his spinal cord and knees as well as depression and PTSD.

SQNLDR Jeffery said adaptive sports became a part of his rehabilitation when he returned from Afghanistan in 2013.

“T was fortunate to be able to compete in London in 2014,” he said.

“With a relapse in theatre. The system looked after me and I went through a recovery program with the United States Air Force before I was sent home.”

SQNLDR Jeffery said the setback meant he had to begin his recovery again. “This year is another opportunity for me to reach my goal of returning to full-time work with Air Force,” he said.

“The Invictus Games is a magical tool for the recovery of mental and physical injuries.”

“My message is to reach out and ask for help as soon as possible, because it doesn’t mean the end of your career. Don’t hide in the shadows – mental health is not something to be scared of.”

Head coach WOFF Tony Benfer exercises with the athletes during the Invictus Games training squad camp.

For more at www.invictusgames2017.com/
Teams vie for Invictus Games selection

SMASHING BARRIERS

SQNLDR Danny Jeffery, of 81WG, before a match of wheelchair tennis during the Invictus Games training squad camp.

Photo: CPL Mark Doran

Assisting serving and ex-serving ADF members and their families in times of injury, illness and crisis.

rsldefencercare.org.au
BOLD VISION

Our future as a fifth-generation force on stage at the Australian International Airshow

LACW Jamie Lee Thanjan and LAC Nathan Goulding of 36SQN experience the Plan Jericho Hologram on display in a C-17A Globemaster at the Australian International Airshow.

Photo: CPL Craig Barrett
AFTER 10 months of careful planning, the 2017 Australian International Airshow (AIA) was a spectacular experience for a record-breaking crowd of more than 210,000 – the largest in the event’s 25-year history.

An arsenal of jet fighters, bombers and heavy lift aircraft was joined by attack helicopters and troops for a series of breathtaking routines and simulated combat manoeuvres.

The event, held between February 28 and March 5, also featured a collection of aerobatic daredevils, whose high flying antics and precision manoeuvres left the crowd spellbound.

Historic aircraft from the classic years of aviation and a collection of WWII aircraft also took to the skies. On the ground military re-enactment groups recreated famous land battles while the aerospace showcase featured the technology of tomorrow.

Commander ADF Task Group AIA GPCAPT Terry Van Haren said preparation for the site at Avalon Airport began five weeks earlier with No. 65 Squadron laying AM-2 matting to form taxiways and areas for aircraft operations and maintenance.

“Air Force engineers erected tents, constructed the military village and set up the kitchens and mess,” he said.

“They were then assisted by combat support teams from No. 381 Contingency Response Squadron and other units to organise communications and IT.”

“When the aircraft and trucks began arriving on February 24-27, the ADF personnel were in the midst of the action.”

There were more than 65 semitrailers and four C-17A Globemasters loaded with equipment needed to establish the air base set up alone.”

The task group actually declared it was ready for AIA on February 26, two days before the opening of the four-day defence trade and industry exposition on February 28.

GPCAPT Van Haren said the trade displays focused on Australia’s aviation industry with more than 600 companies showcasing their technologies and services to a national and international audience.

“At the same time CAF ran his symposium with 17 of the visiting air force chiefs and representatives,” he said.

“There was a lot of interest around Plan Jericho, especially among the ministers and visitors from other government organisations, as they looked at the innovation and integration of Air Force’s air power.”

Behind the scenes there was also a major effort especially for the security of the high value Air Force assets and the people who visited AIA on the three days it was open to the public.

Personnel from 1, 2 and 3 SIECFORs along with the dog-handling teams worked in the background to provide 24-hour security with a deterrent and response capability.

The security force team worked closely with the Victoria Police and other agencies to provide a layered response capability.

Military air traffic controllers worked alongside their civilian counterparts to assist in the management of the airshow while ADF personnel were also members of the firefighting, refuelling, air movements and air operations teams.

GPCAPT Van Haren said open days were well received by the public.

“We estimate about 70,000 people flooded through the gates by midday on Friday for the flying displays and fireworks,” he said.

“It wasn’t just about Air Force big-ticket items, as the Army and Navy had equipment on show as well.”

“Other popular displays included the dog handling demonstration and the Air Force puppies generated a lot of interest.”

“The No. 3 Aero-Medical Evacuation Squadron’s C-130J Hercules display was a favourite, while the Air Force Cadets, Defence Force Recruiting and the unmanned aerial vehicle stands were kept very busy.”

Crowds were also wowed by foreign aircraft displays including the USAF’s potent war machine, the F-22A Raptor, which gave an amazing demonstration of its combat flying capability.

France, Japan, New Zealand, Canada, the UK and Singapore also showed off their military hardware in flying or static displays.

GPCAPT Van Haren said AIA was a clear indication of the Air Force strategy of becoming a fifth-generation air force.

“It was also a highlight for the members of the task force to have personal contact with the public who asked many questions and were impressed by our aircraft, capabilities and systems,” he said.

“There was a great effort by No. 28 Squadron as the media operations team, which produced high quality imagery, much of which was posted to social media to give us a bigger and longer lasting audience.”

As the airshow came to a close, videos posted by 28SQN had recorded more than 1 million views on Facebook alone.
Feeling the need for speed

People flock to see the C-27J Spartan, C-130J Hercules and C-17A Globemaster.

Photo: CPL Ben Dempster

AIA FAST FACTS:
- 350 aircraft
- 79 military aircraft from eight air forces
- 158 official delegations including 79 international delegations from 45 countries
- 40 ADF air displays during the four trade days
- 50 ADF air displays during the three public days
- 1246 personnel including supporting contractors
- Nearly 900 ADF personnel
- 127 ADF ground displays staffed by 200 people
- More than 10,000 movements coordinated through the command post
- 119,900 meals delivered by the deployable catering capability with 11.6 tonnes of meat, chicken and seafood

It was exciting to see the F-35A Lightning and the F-22A Raptor and I enjoyed seeing the ground displays and other aircraft.

LAC James Vinton 65SQN

The Warbirds put on a spectacular performance for the spectators at the Australian International Airshow.

Photo: CPL Craig Barrett
KC-30A is on top of the world

Eamon Hamilton

FUTURE upgrades to Air Force’s fleet of KC-30As will see it become the world’s most advanced aircraft of its kind.

They include the introduction of air-to-air refuelling technology and communications systems that have never before been fitted to an operational tanker aircraft.

An agreement announced during the 2017 Australian International Airshow will see Airbus Defence and Space develop the systems for the Australian KC-30As, building on capabilities demonstrated on deployment to Operation Okra.

CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies said the first milestone was development of Automatic Air-to-Air Refuelling (A3R) technology.

“We are delighted to contribute to the research and development of A3R with Airbus to automate the process for boom refuelling without the need for control by our on-board air refuelling operator,” AIRMSHL Davies said.

“This will reduce fatigue of air refuelling operators during tasking missions, and expedite the refuelling of receiver aircraft.”

Delivery of A3R to the KC-30A would make it the first operational tanker to potentially employ such a capability.

Since the inception of aircraft refuelling booms in 1948, they have been controlled by an operator inside the tanker aircraft.

A3R would include a software upgrade to the tanker aircraft that allows it to identify a receiver aircraft through external cameras mounted on the tanker.

The tanker aircraft would then automatically “plug” the receiver aircraft’s fuel receptacle using the tanker’s refuelling boom.

Air refuelling operators will continue to manage and monitor the KC-30A’s refuelling systems, with A3R reducing fatigue levels during missions.

To date, Airbus Defence and Space have conducted initial trials with A3R technology, with physical contacts between a tanker and receiver aircraft planned for the near future.

Fernando Alonso, head of military aircraft in Airbus Defence and Space, said the opportunity to develop the KC-30A coincided with Air Force’s Plan Jericho.

“We’re ready to move forward,” Mr Alonso said.

“We expect to develop some semi-automatic modes along the way, to expedite delivery to operators.”

The research and development partnership with Airbus Defence and Space is for the life of the platform, and there are options to partner other developments in future.

“The KC-30A also offers tremendous combat potential at the heart of the integrated Air Force of the Future, including using the platform as a communications node, to maximise air power delivery,” Mr Alonso said.

The KC-30A is already a constant presence within the battlespace during air-to-air refuelling missions, demonstrated over Iraq and Syria during Operation Okra.

New systems would capitalise on the “real estate” onboard a KC-30A during tanking missions, using it as a node within the battlespace to retransmit secure information from far away.

Airbus Defence and Space is also exploring hardware and software systems to monitor KC-30A performance in real time, to provide enhanced condition-based maintenance and improve platform availability.

FINAL Operating Capability (FOC) for the KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport fleet was announced by CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies at the 2017 Australian International Airshow.

The type first entered service with No. 33 Squadron in mid-2011, and since then the fleet of five aircraft has ably demonstrated its ability to support Defence operations at home and abroad.

Initial Operating Capability was declared in early 2013.

Defence Minister Senator Marise Payne declared the commencement of FOC as significant.

“This is a milestone for the fleet, which is now able to refuel a range of aircraft from our Air Force and our international partners,” she said.

The declaration confirms the KC-30A’s ability to conduct air-to-air refuelling with its 18-metre-long refuelling boom, as well as the delivery of key infrastructure and equipment to operate the tanker.

The KC-30A has already been used by 33SQN crews to great effect, delivering more than 33,000 tonnes of fuel to other aircraft since September 2014 under Operation Okra in the Middle East region.

“It is on the frontline, making sure the Hornets can take the fight to Daesh effectively,” Senator Payne said.

On top of this, the KC-30A was responsible for ferrying Air Force’s first EA-18G Growlers and F-35A Lightning IIs for their debut appearance at the AIA.

“Just one KC-30A can support the deployment of four fighter aircraft over 5000km, with 50 personnel and 12 tonnes of equipment.”

“It is an extremely versatile aircraft that is suited to the long range of the Australian continent.”

AIRMSHL Davies said FOC for the KC-30A was a critical component of our aviation capability.

“The achievement signifies that our boom refuelling capability is now fully operational and compatible with a wide range of Australian and international aircraft,” AIRMSHL Davies said.

“It has been transporting passengers and equipment, and refuelling with its ‘hose and drogue’ technology for some time.

“This tanker has come a long way since its introduction, undertaking significant operational, test and evaluation activities with a range of coalition aircraft, including United States Air Force F-35A Lightning II aircraft.”

“This was a vital test of the KC-30A to ensure we are prepared for our future force, including our F-35A arriving in late 2018.”

The fleet of five KC-30As flown by 33SQN will grow with an additional two aircraft due for delivery in late 2017 and late 2019 respectively.

In Australian service, the KC-30A has refuelled the F-35A Lightning II, F/A-18A/B Hornets, F/A-18F Super Hornets, F/A-18G Growler, C-17A Globemaster and E-7A Wedgetail.

International aircraft have included Hornets and Super Hornets from the United States Navy and Marine Corps; Rafale jet fighters from the French Air Force; Typhoon strike jets from the United Kingdom; and Tornado aircraft from Germany.

The KC-30A has also used its refuelling boom to refuel a United States Air Force B-1B bomber, and a Republic of Singapore Air Force F-16D Fighting Falcon.
AIR FORCE’s EA-18G Growler airborne electronic attack aircraft made its public debut at the Australian International Airshow with a team of No. 6 Squadron maintainers to ensure the aircraft looked and performed at its best.

Australia’s newest joint electronic warfare capability is a heavily modified version of the F/A-18F Super Hornet. It can provide force-level electronic warfare support by disrupting, deceiving or denying access to an adversary’s electronic systems, including radars and communications systems.

Air Force is the only foreign operator outside of the US and by the middle of 2017, all 12 of Australia’s Growlers are expected to have arrived at RAAF Base Amberley.

FLTLT Mark Storey is the Armament Officer with 6SQN and said he was an Air Force engineer in charge of the squadron’s armament personnel.

“My primary role is anything related to the stores, suspension and egress,” he said.

“As a non-tertiary qualified engineer, I did the four-and-a-half-month armament engineers course before posting to 6SQN.

“I completed my on-the-job training on the F/A-18F Super Hornet before going to the US to receive a three-month training package on the Growler at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington.

“To me, the Growler is still a Super Hornet, but there are subtle yet distinct differences.

“The make up of the maintenance crew is dependant on the mission and amount of aircraft and can vary from 17 to 23 with this type of deployment (Avalon), without aircrew.”

FLTLT Storey said he was excited when the first Growlers arrived in Australia and pleased to be a part of the squadron.

“It’s a big deal for Air Force and the squadron,” he said.

“It’s a user-friendly aircraft – the maintenance can be challenging at times, but we get through as a team.”

LAC Lorne Browne, an armament technician with 6SQN, said he was responsible for the Growler’s armament systems, including the ejection seats, fuel tanks and the air-to-ground missiles.

“After the 52-week armament system course, I began working on the Super Hornet where I worked on the 20mm cannon and the bombs as well as the other explosive systems,” he said.

“The job is awesome. I have been doing it for five years and love the work. It’s exciting to be a part of the Growler team and work on a new platform with a new capability.”

LAC Browne said the best part of being involved with the airshow was engaging with the public, talking about the aircraft and explaining his role.

“Most of the skills I learnt on the Super Hornet are transferrable to the Growler,” he said.

“It’s a user-friendly aircraft – the maintenance can be challenging at times, but we get through as a team.”

We are delighted to contribute to the research and development of A3R with Airbus.

CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies
The appearance of the F-35A at Avalon was a chance for Australians to see the future in the ‘flesh’, and there’s so much information there and the tactics we use are different to the F/A-18 Hornet to the F-35A.

Amberley, Williamtown and Avalon are one aircraft.

The main difference from the F/A-18 Hornet, said the F-35A’s chief engineer, Mr Paul Pavoni, was the ability to employ a wide range of weapons, including air-to-ground, air-to-air and precision strike.

The upgrade will take about four months for each aircraft and will include upgrades to increase the aircraft’s performance in lighting, propulsion and avionics.

The F-35A’s total flight time is about 200 hours before they arrive in Australia for their first F-35A squadron.

Two Sorties

THE return flight of the F-35As to the US replicated the 1934 flight of Australia’s first F-35A aircraft, named the Lady Southern Cross. The journey of the Lady Southern Cross (illustrated by the red dotted line) is compared in this graphic to the journey of the F-35As (illustrated by the purple dotted line) on their return flight to Avalon on March 5.

A TALE OF TWO SORTIES

THE threat of thunderstorms prompted the RAAF to delay the F-35As’ flight to Avalon on Saturday, but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, “we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, ‘we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight,” Cmdr Andrew Jackson, said it was a great opportunity to expose the aircraft to the Australian public.”

SQNLDR Bell said the F-35A’s resistance to lightning, protection and stealth technology, the F-35A had an upgrade that took about four months for each aircraft and will include upgrades to increase the aircraft’s performance in lighting, propulsion and avionics.

It was the threat of thunderstorms that prompted the RAAF to delay the F-35As’ flight to Avalon on Saturday, but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, “we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, ‘we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight,” Cmdr Andrew Jackson, said it was a great opportunity to expose the aircraft to the Australian public.”

SQNLDR Bell said the F-35A’s resistance to lightning, protection and stealth technology, the F-35A had an upgrade that took about four months for each aircraft and will include upgrades to increase the aircraft’s performance in lighting, propulsion and avionics.

It was the threat of thunderstorms that prompted the RAAF to delay the F-35As’ flight to Avalon on Saturday, but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, “we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, ‘we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight,” Cmdr Andrew Jackson, said it was a great opportunity to expose the aircraft to the Australian public.”

SQNLDR Bell said the F-35A’s resistance to lightning, protection and stealth technology, the F-35A had an upgrade that took about four months for each aircraft and will include upgrades to increase the aircraft’s performance in lighting, propulsion and avionics.

It was the threat of thunderstorms that prompted the RAAF to delay the F-35As’ flight to Avalon on Saturday, but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, “we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, ‘we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight,” Cmdr Andrew Jackson, said it was a great opportunity to expose the aircraft to the Australian public.”

SQNLDR Bell said the F-35A’s resistance to lightning, protection and stealth technology, the F-35A had an upgrade that took about four months for each aircraft and will include upgrades to increase the aircraft’s performance in lighting, propulsion and avionics.

It was the threat of thunderstorms that prompted the RAAF to delay the F-35As’ flight to Avalon on Saturday, but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, “we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, ‘we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight,” Cmdr Andrew Jackson, said it was a great opportunity to expose the aircraft to the Australian public.”

SQNLDR Bell said the F-35A’s resistance to lightning, protection and stealth technology, the F-35A had an upgrade that took about four months for each aircraft and will include upgrades to increase the aircraft’s performance in lighting, propulsion and avionics.

It was the threat of thunderstorms that prompted the RAAF to delay the F-35As’ flight to Avalon on Saturday, but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, “we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight but due to the thunderstorm forecasts, ‘we didn’t want to take any unnecessary risks with safety on the flight,” Cmdr Andrew Jackson, said it was a great opportunity to expose the aircraft to the Australian public.”

SQNLDR Bell said the F-35A’s resistance to lightning, protection and stealth technology, the F-35A had an upgrade that took about four months for each aircraft and will include uploads to the aircraft’s software.

The upgrade will take about four months for each aircraft and will include upgrades to increase the aircraft’s performance in lighting, propulsion and avionics.

The F-35A’s total flight time is about 200 hours before they arrive in Australia for their first F-35A squadron.

Two Sorties
COMBAT Support Group (CSG) was out in full force at the Australian International Airshow at Avalon, working on the ground and behind the scenes to ensure the personnel and aircraft at the show were well taken care of.

More than 200 CSG personnel supported the event, and they included everything from forklifts and aircraft stairs to tankers, airfield sweepers and a portable aircraft arrestor system.

The equipment came from around Australia and meticulous planning was required to ensure the bases were not affected and flying operations were guaranteed.

The capability displayed by members of No. 336 Support Unit was part of the Combined Task Unit 640.4.3, which provided airfield engineering, force protection, logistics, equipment operation and maintenance, refuelling, communications, catering, air movements, health care and administration as part of its support to the flying elements of the show.

It took 10 months of planning to organise the world’s fourth-largest air show. It took seven weeks to implement the event and up to 10,000 tasks were carried out through the command post during the show.

Ground Component Commander ADF Warrant Officer Graham Sadler said the component performed exceptionally well under challenging circumstances.

“The combat support element in particular received significant praise for both the standard of the catering and support form the forward command post staff,” he said.

“Overall, it was a successful event for the ground component and combat support element, and the commitment shown by CSG personnel on the ground was outstanding.”

96 Wing provided ground support equipment for aircraft and airfield safety. This included everything from forklifts and aircraft stairs to tankers, airfield sweepers and a portable aircraft arrestor system.

The equipment came from around Australia and meticulous planning was required to ensure the bases were not affected and flying operations were guaranteed.

The deployable catering capability (DCC) was set up for the first time at Avalon, and produced more than 1500 meals a day with additional hotboxes for one person per meal.

The DCC is a full commercial kitchen. It was fully operational within two days and operating 24 hours a day, providing regular meals and an around-the-clock breakfast, snack and sandwich bar. Feeding upwards of 1400 personnel a day, the DCC team produced more than 20,000 meals during the show.

No. 3 Aero-Medical Evacuation Squadron held a display of the AME capability inside a C-130J Hercules, demonstrating the support Health Services provides to both operations and humanitarian aid and disaster relief.

No. 65 Squadron was the first unit into Avalon in early February, laying out more than 209 tonnes (equivalent to 10km) of aircraft matting for taxies, aprons and pathways.

65SQN also constructed and outfitted three deployable aircraft maintenance and logistic support hangars, set up multiple Base X tents, and ensured compliance with Victorian safety regulations.

It was the last unit to leave Avalon after it dismantled the infrastructure it had painstakingly constructed.

The force protection security element for Avalon consisted of 66 personnel, as well as military working dogs (MWDs) and explosive detection dogs (EDDs). It was responsible for 24-hour aircraft security and for the CAF symposium and VIP program.

It conducted an airfield defence guard static display and another SECFOR element provided personnel to conduct a live display of the SECFOR capability deploying from fly-in-fly-out aircraft.

The MWDs featured in public displays during the air show and the EDDs were used for explosive detection at public venues for the VIP program. They were also used for crowd sweeps and infrastructure explosive detection.

Commander CSG AIRMEDRE Ken Robinson said the achievements of his personnel at the air show was a testament to their professionalism and dedication.

“Our personnel were at Avalon for weeks, set up capabilities for 24-hour support to air show participants and were a part of the displays to show the public exactly what it means to be a member of the Air Force,” he said.

“I’m incredibly proud of CSG’s hard-working personnel and I look forward to seeing them deliver the same level of support in the operational environment.”

The capability displayed by members of No. 336 Support Unit was part of the Combined Task Unit 640.4.3, which provided airfield engineering, force protection, logistics, equipment operation and maintenance, refuelling, communications, catering, air movements, health care and administration as part of its support to the flying elements of the show.

During the three-day trade period, more than 33,000 international delegates from 45 countries travelled to the exhibition. When the gates opened to the public in the last three days, about 177,000 people watched the world’s best aircraft in the sky.

Squadron Leader Riannon Quemard, of 1SECFOR, provided security with a Bushmaster protected mobility vehicle and quad bikes as an Air Force P-8A Poseidon lands during a display at the Australian International Airshow at Avalon.

Photos: CPL Mark Doran

IT MAY have not been flying, but the aero-medical evacuation configuration of an Air Force C-130J Hercules was a drawcard for many of the visitors to the Australian International Airshow.

The capability displayed by members of No. 3 Aero-Medical Evacuation Squadron (3AMES) demonstrated how critical-care patients are transported when the Air Force assists with operational and humanitarian emergencies.

The Hercules crew was working 24 hours a day, providing regular meals and an around-the-clock breakfast, snack and sandwich bar. Feeding upwards of 1400 personnel a day, the DCC team produced more than 20,000 meals during the show.

No. 3 Aero-Medical Evacuation Squadron held a display of the AME capability inside a C-130J Hercules, demonstrating the support Health Services provides to both operations and humanitarian aid and disaster relief.

No. 65 Squadron was the first unit into Avalon in early February, laying out more than 209 tonnes (equivalent to 10km) of aircraft matting for taxies, aprons and pathways.

65SQN also constructed and outfitted three deployable aircraft maintenance and logistic support hangars, set up multiple Base X tents, and ensured compliance with Victorian safety regulations.

It was the last unit to leave Avalon after it dismantled the infrastructure it had painstakingly constructed.

The force protection security element for Avalon consisted of 66 personnel, as well as military working dogs (MWDs) and explosive detection dogs (EDDs). It was responsible for 24-hour aircraft security and for the CAF symposium and VIP program.

It conducted an airfield defence guard static display and another SECFOR element provided personnel to conduct a live display of the SECFOR capability deploying from fly-in-fly-out aircraft.

The MWDs featured in public displays during the air show and the EDDs were used for explosive detection at public venues for the VIP program. They were also used for crowd sweeps and infrastructure explosive detection.

Commander CSG AIRMEDRE Ken Robinson said the achievements of his personnel at the air show was a testament to their professionalism and dedication.

“Our personnel were at Avalon for weeks, set up capabilities for 24-hour support to air show participants and were a part of the displays to show the public exactly what it means to be a member of the Air Force,” he said.

“I’m incredibly proud of CSG’s hard-working personnel and I look forward to seeing them deliver the same level of support in the operational environment.”

Squadron Leader Riannon Quemard, of 1SECFOR, provided security with a Bushmaster protected mobility vehicle and quad bikes as an Air Force P-8A Poseidon lands during a display at the Australian International Airshow at Avalon.

Photos: CPL Mark Doran
A deft display of safety and security

CPL Mark Doran

AN AMALGAMATED force of Air Force personnel, Victoria Police and other agencies provided security for the Australian International Airshow.

Air Force’s airfield defence guards, military working dog handlers, security police, and air base protection flight personnel were on site 24 hours a day, ensuring the safety of the public and the ADF’s high-value assets.

They also showcased their weapons systems through static displays and took part in the air show’s flying displays. The C-130 Hercules and the C-17 Globemaster provided security for the extraction of ground troops by the Army’s MRH-90 Taipans.

SGT Bradley Clayton, of 1SECFOR at RAAF Base Williamtown, said five teams of military working dog handlers held public demonstrations with their dogs in action twice a day while maintaining their core security and asset-protection role.

“During the three trade days industry personnel who manufacture some of our equipment provided my personnel with a much broader knowledge and understanding of the current in-service assets we utilise,” he said.

“When the gates opened to the public there was a constant flow of people visiting our display and asking a lot of questions. The public love the ability to see and touch our in-service weapons systems and gain an understanding of our security role.

“Senior Defence personnel and other government agencies also took a keen interest in SECFOR’s capability and how we provide support to other ADF elements.

“The best part of the air show for my team was the ability to interact with the public and provide that hands-on weapons display. For the public it is something they probably would never have the ability to do.”

Examining assets from a medical perspective

CPL Mark Doran

RESERVISTS with the ADF Regional Health Advisory Group attended the Australian International Airshow at Avalon on March 5.

The main aim of the reservist medical professionals’ visit during their annual conference was to see Defence assets and understand the connectivity of Air Force’s Plan Jericho.

It also gave them the opportunity to explore the newer Air Force, Army and Navy assets in a joint environment and talk to the people who operate them.

The group of 110 people was a mix of general practitioners, cardiac surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses, dieticians, forensic scientists and one forensic archaeologist.

They were also joined by 30 possible recruits, who were able to see the type of military hardware they might work with and ask questions about life as a reservist.

Director RAAF Health Reserves (Vic/Tas) and chairman of the ADF Regional Health Advisory Group, GPCAPT Chris Potter, said as an Air Force officer he was excited to have a close look at the new C-27J Spartan and the P-8A Poseidon.

“We don’t normally get to see many RAAF assets in Melbourne and watching the F-35A Lightning II flying was a fascinating bonus,” he said.

“We were also able to bring a medical perspective to the air show, which helped us understand the occupational stresses on the human body, the environment they work in and what happens when things go wrong.”
The next 12 months could prove a banner year for No. 35 Squadron (35SQN) as it brings the C-27J Spartan to service.

“During the 2017 Australian International Airshow, senior figures within Australia’s C-27J Spartan program spoke to media about what the future holds for the battlefield airlifter.

Four aircraft are currently operated from RAAF Base Richmond by 35SQN.

Commander Air Mobility Group AIRCDRE Richard Lennon said the full fleet of 10 aircraft was expected to be in Australia by early 2018.

“Our priorities for the C-27J in 2017 are to increase cooperation with the Australian Army, and to bring more of our training back to Australia,” AIRCDRE Lennon said.

“We can expect to see the 35SQN participating in Exercise Talisman Sabre 17 in July.”

“We’re also planning for 35SQN to get out into the region more this year, with training in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Ocean region.”

Initial Operating Capability for the Spartan was declared in December 2016, clearing the Spartans to conduct basic tactical airlift missions, as well as some airdrop of cargo and paratroops.

However, the road to Final Operating Capability will include realising the full potential of the Spartan as a Battlefield Airlifter, as well as construction of permanent squadron facilities at RAAF Base Amberley.

At present, 35SQN operates from interim facilities at RAAF Base Richmond. Aircrew and technicians are trained in Texas under the training services provider, L-3 Communications.

AIRCDRE Phil Tammen, Director General of Airlift and Tanker Systems, spoke to media at Avalon about how Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group (CASG) was supporting the Spartan into the future.

“This year, we will release a tender for industry to provide Air Force with training devices for the C-27J,” AIRCDRE Tammen said.

“Training devices will be installed at RAAF Base Amberley, and will include a Full-Motion Simulator for the C-27J cockpit, a Cargo Compartment Trainer, and other desktop training solutions.”

These devices would be similar to those being provided for the C-17A and C-130J, and would reduce the requirement for real aircraft to be used for training and currency events.

Moving further into the Spartan’s future, AIRCDRE Tammen said Defence was already looking to how best to support and develop the C-27J’s potential.

“We are working with Defence Science and Technology Group to test the aircraft structure to ensure we get the maximum life-of-type from the C-27J,” AIRCDRE Tammen said.

Such a program would entail collecting performance and usage data from the Spartans and testing a sample of the aircraft structure to destruction.

From this testing, new aircraft usage management practices and structural enhancements would allow the aircraft to be used to greater effect.

Defence was also working closely with the aircraft’s manufacturer, Leonardo, and other C-27J operators to consider future development of the type.

This includes a near-term goal of installing a Mode 5 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) system, which would enable the Spartan to more effectively operate with coalition forces.

“CASG and Air Force will also work with Leonardo on a C-27J avionics upgrade, to be delivered in the next 10 years,” AIRCDRE Tammen said.
Forging a future with industry

Leigh Watson

THE importance of a networked and integrated future force is well understood, but Air Force will rely on relationships with industry and international partners to achieve it.

The Australian International Airshow included two events aimed at increasing relationships across new areas – an international breakfast on March 1 and an industry breakfast on March 2.

Welcoming Defence Industry Minister Christopher Pyne on March 2, CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies said networking and building relationships was important to building the future force.

“I am absolutely convinced that our Air Force cannot grow on its own. We will need our technicians and operators to take full advantage, but we will also need industry to show us what is possible; we will need CASG to support us; and we need smart airmen to come through the door for the future,” AIRMSHL Davies said.

“We talk about fundamental inputs to capability [FIC]. The aerospace industry is a FIC in the Air Force context and we’re on the right track.

“The experts from industry that are here – are those companies, those industries that are providing us with the parts, the ingenuity, the sustainment factors that allow our aircraft to keep flying, to provide an option for government as we are currently doing in the Middle East right now.

“I’m rather excited about what the future does hold. A great example for industry is how do we grow a Low Observable technician to look after the F-35A? I don’t know how to grow one, but I think there are many industry people in this room who do. We need to team with you to understand how that will grow,” AIRMSHL Davies said.

Minister Pyne thanked industry for its involvement. “Everyone in this room is part of our national Defence industry project. It’s an incredibly exciting time to be in Defence and in Defence industry in particular,” he said.

“What I’ve heard from so many people is that they’ve never felt so valued and engaged as they are right now, as part of our national Defence industry project.

“The Defence White Paper with the Integrated Investment Plan, and the Defence Industry Policy statement, all working together has been the difference between the success we’re seeing now, and the excitement we’re seeing in the sector, versus what’s been hoped for in the past.

“Rather than industry talking about how difficult it is to get to see people in Defence, I’m now hearing from captains of industry, from small and medium enterprises, that Defence is engaging with them in a way they haven’t been before.”

Speaking at the international breakfast on March 1, Air Commander Australia AVM Gavin Turnbull said relationships and partnering would be essential.

“Our oldest platform as we turn 100 will be the C-130 Hercules. For an air force of our size, that recapitalisation is probably unprecedented, and in our Air Force an enormous change,” AVM Turnbull said.

“We have to grow from an organisation that was created last century and borne out of WWII, and into a networked and integrated future Air Force, it won’t matter who has the missile, who has the sensor and who is carrying that weapon,” AVM Turnbull said.

“What will matter is who is making the decision and where the button is that enables that weapon to be launched, who is providing the targeting solution and it doesn’t matter where that decision-maker is – inside an F35, inside an air warfare destroyer or in joint operations command.”

A ‘fantastic’ start

Leigh Watson

THE Australian International Airshow was an opportunity for Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) from around Australia to view the latest aviation capabilities, and even consider a future career in aviation.

Visiting a group of cadets, CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies was presented with the first AAFC Avalon Flight Plan and Log Book by Commander of AAFC, GPCAPT (AAFC) Mark Dorward, who said the airshow was an excellent opportunity for cadets.

“Some of the leading edge technologies that some of the cadets are involved in are certainly great to see,” GPCAPT Dorward said.

He said the product was a great recruiting tool for people who visited the AAFC display and it was also a “record of service for us all to use”.

CAF congratulated the cadets on their involvement in the Airshow.

“This log book is a great way to capture for you what you’ve achieved, and what’s coming next. We’re trying to provide you with more flying opportunities and more enjoyment for the work that you do. But it’s you – the cadets – who make it happen,” he said.

“Cadets is a fantastic way to understand what the Air Force is about, and what an aviation career might be about.”

“By being part of the cadet movement, you begin to start to understand those values that we must uphold. But you also learn essential core values that will be good use for you throughout your life.”

CAF took the opportunity to mix with the cadets and answer questions, but said: “I can answer any questions you’ve got, but what invariably happens is a couple of photos and selfies!”

The Flight Plan and Log Book can be used by cadets as a personal record of their AAFC experiences. It provides AAFC members with information about AAFC activities and benefits, including leadership, solo flying, Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award, and the TAFE Certificate III in Business.

The notebook also includes detailed information for parents. The Flight Plan and Log Book was trialled at the airshow, and if successful, consideration will be given to distributing to Cadet Wings Australia-wide.
IN welcoming the first two PC-21 training aircraft to Australia during the AIA, there was excitement for both the aircraft and the training system for which it plays a key role.

After pulling out all the stops to make an appearance at the airshow, the aircraft were welcomed by Defence Minister for Personnel Dan Tehan, the Member for Gippsland Darren Chester, and CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies.

AIRMSHL Davies said the aircraft itself was only part of the story. “Lockheed and ‘Team 21’ have been generating a training system for us that allows us to fly this aircraft to the full extent of its capabilities,” he said.

“It is the complex fighting environment we need to train for – this aircraft, the training system and our selection process will ensure the men and women we train to be aviators will reach their highest potential. This really is the start of us becoming a fifth-generation Air Force.”

CAF congratulated ‘Team 21’ partners Lockheed, Pilatus and Hawker Pacific and the new aircrew training project office for their work on the project.

A big thank you to CASG who have delivered the project and got us to the point of being able to deliver these two aircraft,” AIRMSHL Davies said.

Air Force, Army and Navy aviators will graduate from this new training system.

Mr Tehan said he was excited to see WGC DR Andrew “Jacko” Jackson fly and land the F-35A during its AIA debut.

He emphasised that this would not have been possible without RAAF training systems.

“Young men and women will be able to train, and train safely, in the PC-21, a very ‘jet-like’ plane,” he said.

“Our Air Force pilots are among the best in the world, and the Government’s investment in the PC-21 system is part of our commitment to continue investing in producing highly skilled and talented Australian Defence Force personnel. “This new system will train more people, faster, and to a higher standard than our current aircraft.

“I congratulate Air Force in ensuring we get the best products for the people who go into harm’s way to keep our nation safe.”

Mr Chester said he was looking forward to the PC-21 commencing flying operations at RAAF Base East Sale.

“I am very proud of the role my electorate plays in the training of Australia’s pilots,” Mr Chester said. “RAAF Base East Sale is a valuable part of our community and we look forward to producing a generation of pilots trained on the new system.”

The PC-21 departed the airshow for its new home at RAAF Base East Sale for testing before acceptance into Air Force service.

**PC-21 TRAINING SYSTEM PUSHES RIGHT BUTTONS**

Air Force’s new PC-21 pilot training system comprises electronic classrooms, personal learning devices, cockpit procedures trainers and flight training devices systems.

Modernised pilot training, incorporating blended learning in the classroom and flying, will maximise learning and prepare Defence pilots for processing information needed to operate fourth and fifth-generation aircraft.

Networked electronic classrooms distribute lesson content downloadable to the personal learning device. This device aids pilots to learn theory and aircraft operations using video and simulated demonstrations.

The cockpit procedures trainer, with an out-the-window front view from a mock PC-21 cockpit, simulates flying sequences and procedures.

Trainee pilots will practise in a realistic PC-21 cockpit, flying simulated missions in the flight training device, where the flying instructor will bring together everything the trainee needs to operate the aircraft safely and efficiently.

---

**SONLDR Paul Warner**

After pulling out all the stops to make an appearance at the airshow, the aircraft were welcomed by Defence Minister for Personnel Dan Tehan, the Member for Gippsland Darren Chester, and CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies.

AIRMSHL Davies said the aircraft itself was only part of the story. “Lockheed and ‘Team 21’ have been generating a training system for us that allows us to fly this aircraft to the full extent of its capabilities,” he said.

“It is the complex fighting environment we need to train for – this aircraft, the training system and our selection process will ensure the men and women we train to be aviators will reach their highest potential. This really is the start of us becoming a fifth-generation Air Force.”

CAF congratulated ‘Team 21’ partners Lockheed, Pilatus and Hawker Pacific and the new aircrew training project office for their work on the project.

A big thank you to CASG who have delivered the project and got us to the point of being able to deliver these two aircraft,” AIRMSHL Davies said.

Air Force, Army and Navy aviators will graduate from this new training system.

Mr Tehan said he was excited to see WGC DR Andrew “Jacko” Jackson fly and land the F-35A during its AIA debut.

He emphasised that this would not have been possible without RAAF training systems.

“Young men and women will be able to train, and train safely, in the PC-21, a very ‘jet-like’ plane,” he said.

“Young men and women will be able to train, and train safely, in the PC-21, a very ‘jet-like’ plane,” he said.

“Our Air Force pilots are among the best in the world, and the Government’s investment in the PC-21 system is part of our commitment to continue investing in producing highly skilled and talented Australian Defence Force personnel. “This new system will train more people, faster, and to a higher standard than our current aircraft.

“I congratulate Air Force in ensuring we get the best products for the people who go into harm’s way to keep our nation safe.”

Mr Chester said he was looking forward to the PC-21 commencing flying operations at RAAF Base East Sale.

“I am very proud of the role my electorate plays in the training of Australia’s pilots,” Mr Chester said. “RAAF Base East Sale is a valuable part of our community and we look forward to producing a generation of pilots trained on the new system.”

The PC-21 departed the airshow for its new home at RAAF Base East Sale for testing before acceptance into Air Force service.

---

**All systems go**

**PC-21 TRAINING SYSTEM PUSHES RIGHT BUTTONS**

Air Force’s new PC-21 pilot training system comprises electronic classrooms, personal learning devices, cockpit procedures trainers and flight training devices systems.

Modernised pilot training, incorporating blended learning in the classroom and flying, will maximise learning and prepare Defence pilots for processing information needed to operate fourth and fifth-generation aircraft.

Networked electronic classrooms distribute lesson content downloadable to the personal learning device. This device aids pilots to learn theory and aircraft operations using video and simulated demonstrations.

The cockpit procedures trainer, with an out-the-window front view from a mock PC-21 cockpit, simulates flying sequences and procedures.

Trainee pilots will practise in a realistic PC-21 cockpit, flying simulated missions in the flight training device, where the flying instructor will bring together everything the trainee needs to operate the aircraft safely and efficiently.

---

**Graphics: Pilatus**