‘SERVING THE REGIMENT’

Bulletin of
The Royal Australian Regiment Foundation

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GPO Box 3112 CANBERRA ACT 2601 TEL: 02 6265 9842
Email: hq@rarfoundation.org.au Web: www.rarfoundation.org.au
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2nd Battalion (Amphibious), The Royal Australian Regiment RIMPAC 18.
CHAIRMAN’S REPORT 2018

2018 has been a significant year for the Royal Australian Regiment. It has included the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of the Samichon and the Korean War Armistice in July, the 50th Anniversary of the Battles of Fire Support Base Coral and Balmoral from the Vietnam War in May, including the award of the Unit Citation for Gallantry to the 1st Battalion and the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Australian Regiment and the other Australian units involved in these battles. It also included the 25th Anniversary of the 1RAR Battalion Group’s deployment to Somalia in May and finally the 70th Anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Regiment in November. This 70th Birthday and significant milestone in our Regiment’s history will be celebrated with a ceremonial parade involving all the Colours Parties of the Regiment on parade followed by the Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial on Friday 23rd November.

2018 has also been a big year for the Foundation. The New Direction for the Foundation was launched at a Reception in Sydney in March and we are very grateful to His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley, AC, DSC, Governor of New South Wales and Mrs Hurley, both great supporters of the Foundation for their gracious hospitality by hosting the launch at Government House. The Hassett Award winner for 2017 was announced at the launch and received his trophy from the Governor of New South Wales and Corporal Dan Keighran VC.

Following the launch and in accordance with the Foundations’ New Direction with its emphasis on supporting the development of the Regiment and its serving members, the eight nominees for the Hassett Award then travelled to Vietnam for a battlefield tour accompanied by the General Manager of the Foundation. A battlefield tour of this nature funded by the Foundation, will be an annual event for the Hassett Award nominees. Further, each Battalion of the Regiment and the School of Infantry received their first grant of $10,000 to each unit from the Foundation for their use in accordance with the tenets of the Foundation’s constitution and these grants will be provided annually.

The Foundation continues to grow and we are in a strong financial position with a sound investment strategy which enables the Foundation to continue its great work to support the soldiers of the Regiment and their families.

I would like to thank Leo Cusack for his contribution and service as a Director on the Board of the Foundation. I would also like to thank Mr Greg Heywood our General Manager for his work at the Foundation office over the past year. Finally, I would like to thank our Secretary, Brigadier Mark Bornholt and my fellow Directors for their efforts and support throughout the year. May I take this opportunity to wish the Royal Australian Regiment a happy 70th Birthday!

Mark Kelly AO DSC
Major General
Chairman
FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial position of the Foundation at the end of Financial Year 2018 was:

- Net assets at 1 July 2018 were $1,782,698 (2017 $1,731,975)
- Income $237,738 (2017 $233,490)
- Expenses $187,015 (2017 $134,690)
- Profit before income tax $50,723 (2017 $98,800)

The 2018 result reflects a very sound investment result wherein $214,248 was disbursed representing a 12.4% return which was above Board expectations and well above the investment strategy target.

The Foundation made grants of $82,575 to the Battalions and the School of Infantry and disbursed $12,421 to scholarship recipients inclusive of administrative fees.

Details of our financial position can be seen on the ACNC website at www.acnc.gov.au

SECRETARY’S REPORT 2018

2018 has been an excellent year for the Foundation as we have worked to implement our new direction. Our interaction with the units of the Regiment has been positive and we are beginning to be better recognised by the soldiers for the assistance we provide and the development opportunities we have given to them.

The highlight of the year gone was taking the Hassett nominees on the tour of Vietnam where they were able to exchange ideas and discuss leadership in an environment which reinforced the history and culture of the Regiment. The concept is a winner and will be retained for future years with a similar tour planned for early next year and potentially a tour to Korea in 2020. The Foundation also took positive steps to provide support to the Duke of Gloucester Cup competition and this has helped to build brand awareness and encourage support from the soldiers of the Regiment.

A significant amount of work has been done to enhance our communication through redevelopment of the website and use of social media platforms. The new website will be launched shortly.

The net result of operations in 2018 was a profit of $50,723. Total Assets were $1,784,742. These assets are held in cash and managed funds in accordance with the Investment Strategy. The 2018 result reflects another very sound investment return of 12.4% (2017: 11.5%) which was above Board expectations and well above the investment strategy target. These returns have enabled us to fund grants to units and pay for development activities without eroding our asset base. We do not expect that this situation will continue into 2019 with the Board expecting a negative return due to share market volatility.
We currently have 593 Life Governors (2017: 585) of whom 159 are Benefactors (2017: 154) and we have 52 regular allotters of funds (2017: 58). Our challenge remains our ability to increase the number of regular allotters and our new direction and increased presence in units should assist us to do that over the next few years.

In 2018 we provided $82,575 in grants to the units of the Regiment and continued to fund the tertiary scholarship program which will phase out next year.

The Hassett trophy again resulted in some outstanding junior leaders being nominated by their respective Battalions. Interestingly this year three young officers were nominees perhaps reflecting the greater emphasis on young officers not just being commanders but also being expected to be effective junior leaders. The trophy to the winner will again be supplied by the Army Shop and will be presented at the 70th Anniversary reception at the Australian War Memorial in November.

I take this opportunity to thank Greg Heywood for his efforts as the General Manager – he has established an excellent relationship with the units and particularly with the soldiers who he accompanied to Vietnam. I also offer my thanks to my fellow Board members for their dedication and work in support of the Foundation and to the Commanding Officers and Regimental Sergeants Major for their support.

Mark Bornholt
Secretary
The Foundation

**BATTLEFIELD TOUR THROUGH VIETNAM**

The Foundation hosted seven serving members on a battlefield tour across Vietnam in March this year. The Hassett nominees toured significant regimental battlefields, sites and memorials including the Chu Chi Tunnels, Nui Dat, Mekong Delta, Vung Tau and Long Tan.

The trip included guided tours, traditional food, drinks and importantly time to get to know members from other units, share and learn from each other.

“I believe that the Vietnam Tour was a great way to learn about the Regiment’s history. Our second task was to cross pollinate between Battalions, which I think was another great success on the tour” said Pte Tom Florence, 2RAR reflecting back on the trip.

The highlight of the tour was the two day visit to Vung Tau. The local guide Mr Thuan, took the group to Radar Hill with its panoramic view of Vung Tau, now home to over 500,000 people. This was followed by a bus tour of Vung Tau visiting the Front and Back beach, the sites of the Peter Badcoe Club and Harold Holt pool and the airport, home of Wallaby Airlines.

There were stops at the Nui Dat base including SAS Hill and the remnants of the helicopter pad, the RAA artillery site, Luscome airfield and the Nui Dat Kindergarten which was built by Australian Veterans for children in the village.

![Image of the battlefield tour group](image)
The tour also included an important stop to the 2 RAR memorial. Pte T Florence, 2 RAR, placed a flower on the memorial and the group paid their respects to the fallen. This then followed a trip to the Long Tan region, starting at the site of the first contact by D company 6 RAR with a small group of VC. The Long Tan memorial, took your breath away with the history of the battle and the entry of the path to the memorial which included a slow quiet walk down the path to the memorial. Mr Thuan led the ode and each member of the group placed a flower on the memorial, with Cpl M Oram, 6 RAR, placing a second flower on the memorial.

Binh Ba memorial park was an important stop, providing a different reflection as it was dedicated to the North Vietnamese Army troops. Only two of them survived the battle.

The young leaders were thoroughly impressed with the trip and remarked on how it developed them as soldiers, teams and leaders.

“Almost immediately discussion began on how Junior leaders can implement positive change in their own unit” said Lt (now Capt) Patrick Box.

“It gave us an opportunity to visit places that you would only read or hear about through books or your battalion’s history” said Cpl Justin Evans, 7 RAR.

There was also a visit to the famous Cao Dai Great Temple & Chu Chi Tunnels. Skills were tested in the tunnel system with no lack of participation.

The capital of Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City was not missed with visits to the Presidential Palace, War Remnants Museum, Museum of Traditional Vietnamese Medicine, a Buddhist temple and a traditional Pho noodle soup.
HASSETT AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP 2018

The nominees for the Hassett Award for the best junior leader in the Regiment for 2018 were:

- 1 RAR Lance Corporal Adam Seaman
- 2 RAR Corporal Liam Kiernan
- 3 RAR Lieutenant Henry Swindon
- 5 RAR Lieutenant Nicholas Pullinen
- 6 RAR Corporal Joshua Conaty
- 7 RAR Lieutenant Zachary Hucker
- 8/9 RAR Corporal Kurt Holzl
- SoI Corporal Carlos Barrera

The winner of the Hassett Award for 2018 is Corporal Liam Kiernan from the 2nd Battalion.

All eight nominees will proceed on a tour of Vietnam in March 2019 to share their leadership experiences with each other whilst examining a significant part of the Regiment’s history first hand. This cross pollination of ideas will help to strengthen the current Regiment and provide an opportunity for sponsors to also join this elite group of junior leaders.

Extracts from the Commanding Officer’s citation for Corporal Kiernan include the following:

CPL Kiernan was deployed to Iraq with TGT VI under 2 Cav from Nov 2017 – May 2018.

Whilst deployed CPL Kiernan served as a part of the training squadron providing direct support to the Iraqi Non-Commissioned Officers Academy in Taji. His professionalism, initiative and high standard of individual soldier skills resulted in effective and relevant training for the Iraqi soldiers and enabled CPL Kiernan to work independently with very limited support. Outside of directed tasks, CPL Kiernan developed combat shooting packages for the Australian and New Zealand troops and continued his own studies in projectile ballistics to refine his skills as a Sniper. CPL Kiernan was ranked as the No 1 CPL on TGT VI high praise for an Infantry soldier deployed with a Cavalry Task Group.

CPL Kiernan is recognised as a JNCO who is driven in the pursuit of excellence. He consistently seeks to apply himself to tough and challenging training opportunities and has competed in the Duke of Gloucester Cup on an unprecedented four occasions.

Since returning from Iraq in May, CPL Kiernan has worked tirelessly to improve the sniper capability within 2 RAR and prepare the Batallions 2018 Duke of Gloucester Cup team and the Sniper Team which will compete in the Annual US Sniper Competition at Fort Benning. CPL Kiernan has contributed significantly to the development of the sniping capability within the 2nd Battalion, Forces Command and the 1st Division and has significantly enhanced the Army’s ability to conduct amphibious ISR operations.

CPL Kiernan also deployed to Operation Fiji Assist in 2016 and transitioned effortlessly from a sniper team leader position to 2IC of a reconnaissance patrol. He performed to an exceptional standard in this role performing many challenging short-notice operational tasks.

CPL Kiernan is physically and mentally robust and is a junior leader to be emulated by all members of the Regiment. During the pre-selection for 2 RAR’s Duke of Gloucester Cup CPL Kiernan set the standard for navigation, physical fitness and shooting. CPL Kiernan strives for excellence in all facets of his work. He was Student of Merit for the 2012 2 RAR Reconnaissance Basic Course and also achieved Student of Merit for the 2014 SIOS Course. CPL Kiernan’ performance as a junior leader is second to none highlighted by his engaging leadership style, sound decision making and superior level of battle fitness and conditioning.
LIFE GOVERNOR LAPEL PINS

Lapel pins are available for Life Governors. Below is an example of what the pin looks like.

If you are a Life Governor and would like a pin, please contact The Foundation office via email hq@rarfoundation.org.au. If you would like to become a Life Governor there are a few ways this is possible. You can send a cheque for $500 to The Foundation or you can Direct Deposit this amount into our bank account (details below). You can also set up a Direct Deposit into The Foundation account on a fortnightly basis. Once you reach the amount of $500 you will become a Life Governor of The Foundation. On reaching $1000 you will be recognised as a Benefactor. All the information and the Enrolment form is available on our website – www.rarfoundation.org.au Click on SUPPORT US NOW.

THE FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CD

The Foundation Christmas Cards are available to be purchased from the office. They are $22.00 for a bundle of 10 including postage and handling or they can be collected directly from the office.

The CD of regimental tunes and other popular band music is also available from the office for $18.00 including postage and handling. Payment can be made either by cheque to the Foundation or by direct deposit to The Foundation bank account (BSB: 112 908, ACCT: 043 368 817 and REF: Surname).

Call The Foundation office for more information or visit the website – www.rarfoundation.org.au

THE FOUNDATION BANK DETAILS

BSB: 112 908
ACCT: 043 368 817
REF: Surname/LG or Allotment
THE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND UPDATES

The Foundation provides tertiary scholarships of $3000 each year to eligible children of soldiers who are currently serving or have served in the Regiment. An update on our ongoing recipients are detailed below:

EXISTING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Jonathon Cooper started work at the Royal Brisbane Hospital as a Doctor in January 2018 after passing his final exams for medicine and graduated on 11th December 2017. This is wonderful news and the Foundation is pleased that we were able to help him to become a wonderful success.

Stephanie Bragg completed her 3rd year of studying Bachelor of Business Management, International Hotel and Tourism at University of Queensland.

Gail Madden completed her 3rd year of studying Bachelor of Fine Arts at Queensland University of Technology.

Felicity Ward completed her 3rd year of studying Bachelor of Writing at the University of Canberra with two Distinctions and two Credits. She wrote to the Foundation saying ‘thank you for your continuous support throughout my final semester, and my degree, it meant a great deal to me that I has less to worry about financially’.

Jake Melville is in his 1st year of a Bachelor of Physiotherapy at James Cook University. He transferred from a Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences at the start of 2017 and his first semester results were good with a distinction, a credit and two passes.

Courtney Dole is in her final year of a Bachelor of Arts at Deakin University. She has achieved excellent results, three distinction and high distinction - 93% for Professional Practice in Design. Courtney is very excited to be finishing this year and has already begun work on her two graduate shows which will be presented in semester two, one of which she is directing.

Jake Crimston-Smith is currently in his fourth year of a Bachelor of Pharmacy at James Cook University. Jake decided to add a second degree to his study, a Bachelor of Sports Exercise Science, which means he can continue studying in semester two. This will add a further year to his study but it will also give him additional expertise and knowledge in his chosen field of physiotherapy.

Holly Carroll has completed her 1st year of a Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) at the University of Canberra. She said that she would like to express her thanks and appreciation to the Foundation for its provision of generous support during her study. ‘The financial assistance you provided was of great help in funding my educational expenses and allowing me to concentrate more time towards my study, in 2017 I was also able to secure a 2018 graduate position with a global consulting firm and will be commencing work in the near future. My educational and personal pursuits would not have been possible without the support of your organisation. Thank you for affording me these opportunities’.

Bryn McAlister would like to again express his appreciation for the continued support provided to him for the first semester of 2018. Bryn’s grade point average is a high 6. Bryn is a busy student who is enjoying living and studying in a capital city. He reports attending university social functions, including balls and this semester was a volunteer at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. Bryn hopes to work in Qantas management after graduating this year. Thank you for your continued support.
Sebastian Moore is in his second year of a double degree of Bachelor of Science & Bachelor of Arts at the Australian National University in Canberra. After a challenging first semester due to illness Sebastian is looking forward to semester 2. He passed German and was allowed to defer 3 subjects. He said that he would like to thank the Foundation for its support whilst he was in hospital and during his studies last semester, ‘it really does mean the world to me’.

1 RAR 2018

CO: LTCOL BG McLennan CSC
RSM: WO1 M Reyne

Focus on being ‘better’ than any potential adversary, on contributing to our nation’s security, of enhancing capability and strengthening relationships with long-standing regional partners, of pursuing innovation in how Infantry ‘train and fight’ and enriching engagement with our esteemed Veterans and the Townsville community defined the ‘Big Blue One’s’ 73rd year.

Throughout its Ready Phase, 1 RAR maintained its disciplined, and innovative, approach to battlefield shooting. It included significant investment in the introduction of the new Combat Shooting Continuum. This will fundamentally enhance how close combatants develop their battlefield shooting.

The introduction of the Advanced Operational Conditioning Program (AOCP) headlined 1 RAR’s pursuit of ‘better’ battlefield fitness. The AOCP is a revolution in preparing Infantry soldiers, and other close combatants, to be ‘tactical athletes,’ that is to ‘outperform and outlast’ potential adversaries in battle. Embracing leading sport-science analysis and design (James Cook University), as well as tools and techniques employed by elite-level sporting teams, the AOCP has substantially enhanced the fitness, robustness and resilience of 1 RAR’s soldiers.
1 RAR has diligently perpetuated its long-standing focus, and reputation, for small team excellence. This focus manifested in Alpha Company’s excellent performance on the bi-annual Exercise Southern Katipo in New Zealand. It was also evident in the leading outcomes achieved by Alpha and Charlie Companies ‘returning to the jungle’ during their successive Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB) rotations in 2018. Alpha Company further exemplified small team expertise during the Battalion’s return to the Korean peninsula, 54 years later, on the multilateral Exercise Ssang Yong. Bravo Company elevated the benchmark for small team combined-arms expertise via its Combat Training Centre Ready Combat Team Exercise, its efforts, culminating in a live-fire Combat Team attack, by night, supported with ‘danger close’ artillery on the tri-lateral Exercise Southern Jackeroo.

Taking advantage of Army’s world-leading enhanced night fighting equipment (eNFE), the Battalion, its Companies and small teams, resolved to do ‘whatever it took’ to employ the eNFE to its full potential; thereby achieving a competitive edge over potential adversaries.

It would be fair to say that 1 RAR, as the nation’s RBG in its 73rd year, provided a unique and significant contribution to Australia’s security. Aside from continuously ‘standing ready’ on our nation’s rampart, this significant contribution was most evident in 1 RAR’s decisive role in establishing and progressing Operation Augury – Philippines.

Operation Augury – Philippines is a joint operation, rapidly established during the Marawi crisis of 2017. In May 2017, a brazen, well-trained and well-equipped terrorist force, numbering in excess of 1,000, with clear links to Daesh, seized the southern Philippines city of Marawi – a city of 200,000 people. 153 days of war, characterised by savage, close-quarter, urban fighting, ensued. In the end, the courage, tenacity and superior warfighting skill of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFOP) prevailed.

The Marawi crisis, and its potential corollaries, shocked Australia’s region. Australia, a long-standing close partner of the Philippines, offered assistance via the Australian Defence Force (ADF). The Filipino Government graciously accepted this offer. Subsequently, a joint task group, led by the 1 RAR RBG headquarters, augmented by joint and Special Forces liaison officers, deployed to the Philippines to enhance both nation’s counter-terrorist and violent extremist capabilities, strengthen the bilateral relationship between Australia and the Philippines and promoted the ADF’s reputation as a leading regional security partner.

For almost six months, the 1 RAR-led Joint Task Group headquarters pursued these objectives via a series of land, air, maritime and information operations mobile training teams conducted throughout the Philippines archipelago and joint maritime patrols in the Sulu and Celebes Seas; traditional resupply/movement corridors for terrorist fighters and other miscreants. The land mobile training teams, comprising Infantry, Combat Engineers, Gunners and Medics were led by a 1 RAR Combat Team headquarters. In close cooperation with the AFOP, they delivered continuous highly-effective urban close combat, battlefield shooting, urban sniping, joint fires, counter Improvised Explosive Device and urban breaching, combat trauma management and command and control in the urban environment training packages.
Over the last 12 months, the Battalion invested substantially in refining the collective close combat capabilities of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force – namely our sister Battalion, 1st Battalion, Royal Pacific Islands Regiment (1 RPIR). Indeed, mentor training teams, some small, some much larger, have been working with, and learning from, 1 RPIR, in Papua New Guinea and in Townsville. This engagement has also seen numerous 1 and 2 RPIR soldiers attend Infantry Section Command and Support Company Courses in Coral Lines. In all cases, the collective close combat capabilities of, and relationships between, 1 RAR and 1 RPIR, have increased exponentially.

Via RCB, the Battalion has worked closely with the Royal Thai Armed Forces and the Malaysian Armed Forces. During Exercise SSANG YONG, Alpha Company worked closely with the USMC and South Korean Military Forces. During its short notice deployment of late 2017, Alpha Company aided the Vanuatu Mobile Force respond to the mass evacuations caused by the impending volcanic eruption. It also worked closely with an embedded Tongan Platoon and the New Zealand Defence Force during Exercise Southern Katipo. Leading the land component for the inaugural Indo-Pacific Endeavour, a Micro Combat Team from 1 RAR launched from the Landing Helicopter Deck flotilla to work with the Timorese, Singaporeans, Thais, Malays, Filipinos and Indonesians. The Battalion designed and led the inaugural tri-lateral Exercise Carabaroo with the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the USMC in Townsville. Finally, individuals from 1 RAR deployed in support of international engagement and Defence Cooperation Program efforts to Japan and Fiji respectively.

Over the last 12 months, innovating how the Battalion trains and fights remained a key focus area for 1 RAR. Largely ‘bottom-up’ driven, the Battalion continuously questioned its own biases – and ‘why are we doing it that way.’ The outcomes of this reflective innovation focus have improved, considerably, how 1 RAR ‘trains and fights.’ There is profound evidence of this observation.

Firstly, and most importantly, the Battalion’s performance during Operation Augury – Philippines and its raft of international engagements. Secondly, in the performance of its soldiers and teams domestically during exercises, courses and competitions. Thirdly, the way it has sought to maximise the potential competitive edge afforded by new weaponry, body armour, night fighting equipment and protected mobility vehicles. Fourthly, by embracing the science of our profession to ‘get weight off the soldier’s back’ (‘Fight Light’), enhance survivability (‘Signature Management’), maximise lethality (‘Battlefield Shooting’ and understanding the science of ballistics) and promote mobility, robustness and resilience (‘Battlefield Fitness’). Fifth, contributing consistently to the crucial documents and trials defining Infantry’s next generation weaponry, body armour and night fighting equipment. Sixth, by leading the successful integration of female Infanteers into the Royal Australian Regiment, broadening the talent pool from which our Corps can recruit. Seventh, pioneering a ‘mentoring’ program for all new soldier march-ins. Finally, the Battalion’s enduring innovation focus has truly empowered its soldiers and junior leaders to champion ‘bottom-up’ ideas. In all cases, these ‘bottom-up’ ideas are changing the way the Battalion, and broader Army, ‘trains and fights’ for the better.
The Battalion has focused on continually improving its relationship with its esteemed Veterans and the broader, and very supportive, Townsville community. Concerning the Battalion’s engagement with its Veterans, it would be fair to say that the last 12 months has been noteworthy. In May 2018, following 12 months of planning, the Battalion, in close cooperation with the very supportive 1 RAR Association, successfully commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Fire Support Patrol Base Coral, received the Unit Citation for Gallantry for the Battalion's role in this largest of battles involving Australian soldiers during the Vietnam War, graciously accepted New Colours from the Governor General during the Coral 50th anniversary parade, laid-up the Old Colours that flew over 1 RAR for 30 years, launched a book of 1 RAR’s lauded history and commemorated the 25th anniversary of the Battalion's leading role during Operation Solace.

Enriching our relationship with, and support to, the Townsville community has continued in earnest. The Battalion continues to invest in local schools, work experience, indigenous/youth programs and charities – namely Ronald McDonald House and Legacy - while our extraordinary Battalion Band entertained all strands of society with over 200 events. In doing so, it is seeking to ‘give back,’ in kind, to a very gracious and supportive local Townsville and North Queensland community.

1 RAR, in its 73rd year, has intensely focused on being ‘better’ than any potential adversary, on contributing to our great nation’s security, on being innovative and on strengthening our engagement with our closest allies – our Veterans and our community. In doing so, it has hopefully and respectfully, upheld its Regimental motto of ‘Duty First’ and its aspiration to remain ‘First and Foremost.’

2 RAR 2018

CO: LTCOL Doug Pashley
RSM: WO1 Jason Sten, CSM

15 October 2017 was a landmark day in the history of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment. It marked the formal transition of 2 RAR from a standard infantry battalion to a specialist amphibious support unit, and adoption of the designation ‘Amphibious’. Besides the new name, the transition to 2 RAR (Amphib) saw the Battalion’s command shift from the 3rd Brigade to Headquarters 1st Division, exercised through Commander Landing Forces (CLF), and the unit’s strength and structure optimised for a new reconnaissance role. The Battalion is now organised into a headquarters, a rifle company (A Coy), an intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance company (ISR Coy), and an administration company (ADMIN Coy). 2 RAR (Amphib) will remain in Townsville, and maintain strong ties with the 3rd Brigade and the Townsville community.

THE AMPHIBIOUS CAPABILITY

2 RAR (Amphib)’s mission is to generate a light infantry force capable of operating in the littoral to enable full spectrum amphibious operations in support of Australia’s national interests. Specifically, the unit is responsible for generating Army’s contribution to, and commanding, the ADF’s Joint Pre Landing Force (JPLF), which is a task-organised and scalable force dedicated to answering
the information requirements of the joint amphibious force. 2 RAR (Amphib), as the JPLF, has four core missions; Amphibious reconnaissance, Battlespace shaping, Small boat operations and Limited scale raids.

In addition to the above primary missions, 2 RAR (Amphib) has been tasked to be Army’s lead for the development of a riverine patrol capability, and to investigate options for employment in a Divisional land reconnaissance role. At its core, 2 RAR (Amphib) remains a light infantry unit, optimised for amphibious operations, and capable (with reinforcement and appropriate lead time) of reverting to the role of a standard infantry battalion.

The ADF’s joint amphibious doctrine and the amphibious force concept of employment are evolving and are, as of October 2018, undergoing full re-writes. 2 RAR (Amphib) used 2018 to test, evaluate, and validate its structure and concept of operations. The Battalion has found success in 2018 in task-organising into two ‘like’ Pre-Landing Force company groups, PLF-A and PLF-B, based on A and ISR Coy respectively. Each of these PLF company groups is capable of independent employment, and consists of a Company/PLF HQ (reinforced with additional staff from BHQ), a Reconnaissance and Sniper Platoon (the second of which has been generated by re-rolling and training a rifle platoon), a Rifle Platoon and a Small Boats Platoon.

The PLF company group is habitually reinforced with an RAN Expeditionary Reconnaissance and Clearance team, a RAN Defence Geospatial Survey Team, a Light Electronic Warfare Team from 7 Signals Regiment, a Unmanned Aerial Surveillance detachment from 20 Surveillance & Target Acquisition Regiment, a Amphibious Beach Team from 35 Water Transport Squadron and a Engineer Reconnaissance detachment from the rotational Ground Combat Element.

Being part of the 1st Division and working directly to CLF and the Amphibious Task Group has enabled 2 RAR (Amphib) to take some really positive steps in terms of the amphibious capability and associated training, infrastructure, specialist equipment, and international engagement. We have been well-supported from across the joint force; by SOCOMD; by enabling Army units including 35 Water Transport Squadron, 16 Air-Land Regiment, 20 Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment, and 1 and 7 Signals Regiment; and of course by the Navy, especially HMAS Canberra and Adelaide and the Clearance Diver and Geospatial Survey communities. Internationally we have been

Soldier from the 2nd Battalion (Amphibious), The Royal Australian Regiment, follow their zodiac combat rubber raiding craft and jump from a United States Marine Corps CH-53 Sea Stallion helicopter during ‘helo-casting’ training.

A moving ceremony conducted by Regimental Sergeant Major Warrant Officer Class One Jason Sten and Chaplain Joel Vergara, 2nd Battalion (Amphibious), The Royal Australian Regiment, as part of a Samichon Day Commemoration service held on board HMAS Adelaide during Exercise Rim of the Pacific 18.
fortunate to receive support from the United States Marine Corps, particularly the 1st and 3rd Reconnaissance Battalions who hosted exchange officers in Southern California and training in Hawaii respectively, and 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment of the Marine Rotation Force – Darwin. Having a MRF-D rifle platoon and a very capable squad of Scout Snipers attached for the busiest months of the year exposed us to new ideas and equipment and very effectively strengthened the Army-USMC relationship.

**Pushing the Capability.** 2018 has been an exceptionally busy and productive year, providing ample opportunity to test and validate the above structures and the associated concept of operations with the near-simultaneous deployment of PLF-A on Exercise Sea Series 2018 and PLF-B on Exercise RIMPAC 2018.

The Sea Series saw PLF-A deploy aboard HMAS *Canberra* and execute a number of highly successful amphibious reconnaissance missions and company-strength raids, all conducted by night and from well over the horizon (typically 75-100 nautical miles) and accomplished by a combination of small boat and rotary wing insertion. They did great work advancing the amphibious reconnaissance capability, finding solutions to the challenges of extended range insertions, long range communications, and extended duration on target. They also exploited opportunities to progress the helo-casting capability, inserting surface swimmers into the water by jumping from hovering MRH-90 and CH-47 aircraft, and conducted a full-mission profile raid training mission on an abandoned resort on Lindeman Island that required a demanding surface swim approach followed by pathfinding up steep and heavily vegetated slopes.

Perhaps more significantly, the Sea Series saw the first certification of an Amphibious Ready Unit incorporating a rotational Ground Combat Element. 8/9 RAR approached the problem with enthusiasm and a great attitude. They were very successful, demonstrating that amphibious operations are no ‘black art’ and setting the baseline for other units to follow.

PLF-B deployed aboard HMAS *Adelaide* on Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2018, where they visited and conducted mutually-beneficial amphibious training with the host nation security forces in Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. PLF-B was joined by BHQ for Exercise RIMPAC 2018, where the unit formed the multinational ‘Task Force Black’, comprised of some 800 troops from the 2 RAR and attachments, the United States Marines

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**Sergeant Andrew Rimmer, 2nd Battalion (Amphibious), The Royal Australian Regiment, waits to board a United States Marine Corps CH-53E Super Stallion Helicopter onboard HMAS Adelaide during the final amphibious assault for Exercise RIMPAC 2018.**

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**Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion (Amphibious), The Royal Australian Regiment, prepare to depart the beach at Shoalwater Bay Training Area following a night raid as part of Exercise Hamel 2018.**
Corps, Her Majesty's Armed Forces Tonga, the Sri Lankan Navy Marine Corps, and the Japanese Ground Self Defence Force. RIMPAC is the world’s largest multinational naval exercise of which the amphibious component is but a small part, though the location and density of assets affords some unique training opportunities. RSS and Small Boats Platoon maximised their use of the challenging conditions to improve their small boat and surface swimming skills, and leveraged the relationship with USMC 3rd Recon Battalion to achieve an Army ‘first’ (outside SOCOMD), tactically inserting via helo-cast patrols with complete small boat systems. PLF-B took full advantage of the USMC’s different approach to range construction to conduct some great live-fire training, and our organic Joint Fires Team controlled a mix and quantity of fixed-and-rotary wing attack aviation that would be unimaginable in Australia.

**Second to None.** Despite, or perhaps even because of, the changing role and focus, 2 RAR (Amphib)’s soldiers continue to demonstrate excellence in all areas. The 2018 Duke of Gloucester Cup team led by CPL Marc Ford placed a very close second against a strong field, reinforcing 2017’s first place. The Battalion’s team placed second overall at this year’s Australian Army Skill at Arms Meet (AASAM), with stand-out efforts by PTE Keiren Bradburn who was awarded individual champion shot, and CPL Isaac Morgan who was awarded champion sniper. PTE Bradburn and PTE Eugene Rebsdorf went on to acquit themselves well as representatives of the unit and Army at the Canadian Army marksmanship competition. CPL Liam Kiernan deployed with the 2nd Cavalry Regiment to Iraq where he was ranked as their best Junior NCO – a remarkable concession from a proud cavalry unit, and a credit to CPL Kiernan’s professionalism and capabilities.

On the sporting field, too, the Battalion continues to live up to its motto. No longer being a formal part of the 3rd Brigade has not dampened the soldier’s enthusiasm for competition, with our teams victorious in the Brigade obstacle course competition and the tough 20km Pozieres Challenge.

2 RAR (Amphib) continues to look to its proud past for example and to remain humble. In July the Battalion marked the 65th anniversary of the Battle of Samichon with two separate commemorative services, one in Townsville and one on the flight deck of HMAS *Adelaide* for the contingent deployed on Exercise RIMPAC. September 2018 saw the official unveiling of the Matthew Lambert Marksman Training Range at Mount Stuart Training Area, in remembrance of PTE Matthew Lambert who was killed in action during the Battalion’s 2011 tour of Afghanistan.

**Looking to the Future.** A desire to put their skills to the test has been a constant refrain from the soldiers of 2 RAR (Amphib), and to that end late 2018 will see a platoon-sized group deploy on operations to Iraq, with several more platoon-sized rotations scheduled to Iraq and Afghanistan over the next 2-3 years, where I am sure the teams will acquit themselves well. Late 2018, too, will see a composite Small Boats Platoon deploy aboard HMAS *Adelaide* to support Operation APEC Assist in Papua New Guinea.

[Image] Private Lewis McMillian from the 2nd Battalion (Amphibious), Royal Australian Regiment, fights the enemy to secure a helicopter landing zone for follow-on-forces at Shoalwater Bay Training Area as part of Exercise Hamel 2018.
At the start of the year, I set 2 RAR the goal of becoming a world-class amphibious reconnaissance and pre-landing light infantry unit, benchmarked against units like the USMC’s 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, and the UK Royal Marine Commando’s 30 Intelligence Exploitation Group (30 IX Gp). We still have a way to go, but building on the hard work done during the 5 year amphibious trial, and from what I have seen in 2018, 2 RAR (Amphib) is well on track.

It is with sadness that my time as Commanding Officer comes to a close, as at the end of the year I will hand over to Lieutenant Colonel Judd Finger. I have every confidence that under his leadership 2 RAR (Amphib) will continue to push the envelope of the ADF’s amphibious capability, and rise to meet any challenges at home or abroad.

Duty First

3 RAR 2018

CO: LTCOL M.J. Kearns, CSM
RSM: WO1 A.R. Munn

2018 has marked the start of the next exciting chapter in the deep and rich history of ‘Old Faithful’ with the Battalion’s transition to mechanisation as part of Army’s infantry re-balance under PLAN KEOGH. 2018 also saw the Battalion complete its operational commitments in Iraq and Afghanistan, mark the 50th anniversary of the Battles for Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral, including the awarding of a Unit Citation for Gallantry and commence its habitual partnership with the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Pacific Islands Regiment.

On 26 February 2018 ‘Old Faithful’ marked the beginning of what is expected to be a two and half year journey towards becoming a fully mechanised infantry battalion capable of fully integrated, battlegroup combined arms operations. The occasion was marked by a mounted parade that signified the transition of M113-AS4 from 2 CA V REGT to 3 RAR and the return of the mechanised infantry capability to the RAINF.

Tranche 1 saw A Coy and Battalion Headquarters receive their vehicles as the forerunners to conversion. An accelerated training program and with support from 2 CA V REGT to provide ‘blended crews’ of RAINF and RAAC, saw A Coy embrace the firepower, protection and mobility effects of a mechanised capability in a combined arms setting. Further the dismounts within gained an understanding of how fighting with and from the vehicle aids in a more complete capability.

In July 2018 BG KAPYONG deployed to Shoalwater Bay Training Area for Ex HAMEL 18, as a hybrid OPFOR BG consisting of BHQ, a mech CT (including M1A1 MBT, FO and engineers) and SPT Coy mounted in a combination of PMV and G-Wagon SRV. 3 RAR also provide a Human Terrain Company based on B Coy (recently returned from Ops). Overall, BG KAPYONG performed exceedingly well, generating a combined arms capability that was far greater than the sum of its parts; and was well ahead of the expected levels of competence given the embryonic mechanised capability within the Battalion.

Post Ex HAMEL, 3 RAR received Tranche 2 of its M113 fleet. The next wave of M113-AS4 has seen B Coy and elements of SPT
Coy commence their conversion. Supported by considerable investment in RAINF drivers and crew commanders in 2018, the next phase is well set. The Battalion will be fully equipped when Tranche’s 3 and 4 deliver the remaining APC’s to C Coy and SPT Coy, with the conversion complete in 2020 when 3 RAR will have completed its collective training Road to HAMEL 20 as part of 3 Brigade READYING.

Whilst the Battalion’s transition to mechanisation has been the main effort in 2018, it was also heavily committed to operations. Late 2017 saw the successful close out of Op OKRA (Iraq), whilst 2018 saw the conclusion of B Coy and C Coy’s commitment to Force Protection Elements – Eight and Nine respectively as part of Op HIGHROAD (Afghanistan). B Coy started its mission in August 2017 and handed over to C Coy in February 2018, with C Coy returning to Australia in August 2018. This saw the completion of 3 RAR’s operational contributions, which spanned 14 months with close to 500 personnel deployed, in support of Australia’s contributions to stabilising the Middle East and preventing the spread of Islamic Extremism.

On 13 May 2018, 3 RAR had the honour of joining 1 RAR to receive the Unit Citation for Gallantry, which was awarded to both Battalions for their conduct during the Battles at Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral. The ceremony was held in Canberra with the Chief of Army LTGEN Angus Campbell, AO, DSC affixing the UCG streamer to the Regimental Colour. The day marked the 50th Anniversary, yet sadly saw the passing of BRIG JJ Shelton, DCO, MC, (Retd), who was CO 3 RAR during the fighting. Incredibly BRIG Shelton was able to watch the live coverage from his hospital bed, prior to passing.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Fire Support Balmoral, 3 RAR held a Veterans and Families day on Sat 26 May 2018. The unit welcomed over 80 Coral/Balmoral veterans to Townsville, where an intimate memorial service was conducted, followed by the veterans being piped into the Madden Club behind the Queens and Regimental Colours with the new UCG streamer affixed, with the Battalion and Families lining the route as a show of respect. During the day the Battalion demonstrated its mechanised combined arms capability with the Battalion’s officer’s and SNCO’s joining the veterans for a dinner hosted at Townsville RSL.

2018 also saw commemorative activities for the 67th Anniversaries of the Battles of Kapyong and Maryang San on 24 April and 8 October respectively. The Battle of Kapyong was commemorated by the annual ceremonial parade, where Joe Vezgoff (a CPL at Kapyong) affixed the Kapyong Presidential Unit Citation streamer, and
was followed by a mixed officer’s and SNCO regimental dinner in the Green Room. Maryang San was commemorated by a short ceremony at Battalion Headquarters in front of the 38th Parallel marker, and also included the Battalion completing the ‘Three Peaks’ run.

Another significant line of effort this year has been ‘Old Faithful’s’ renewed commitment to international engagement as part of 3 Brigade’s commitment to Papua New Guinea. 3 RAR has officially been aligned to 2 RPIR as its habitual partner and through a number of small teams already deployed to support training is building its relationship. This will continue for the remainder of 2018 building towards C Coy deploying mid-2019 for Ex WANTOK WARRIOR.

Individual soldier skills have continued to flourish in 2018 and this has been evident both external and internal to the Brigade. A solid performance by 3 RAR’s Duke of Gloucester Cup Section saw them finish 3rd overall, and winners of the McDonald Cup for foundation warfighting. Internal to the Brigade, the Battalion’s Military Skills Team dominated the competition and were clear victors. Further, the Battalion has been victorious in the Brigade Obstacle Course competition and Pozieres Challenge, whilst finishing second in orienteering and combat shooting.

Following its very busy period of commitment to operations and force generation activities, ‘Old Faithful’ is finally consolidated again as a complete Battalion in Kapyong Lines. In line with the recent move into RESET, the focus is back on establishing a sustainable battle rhythm; individual development; low level collective training and support to wider Army. Sport has re-established itself as a focal point of Battalion life, with so far this year 3 RAR being crowned Brigade Rugby and Brigade Cricket champions as well as Soccer minor premiers, with the AFL ongoing.

2018 has been a strong year for ‘Old Faithful’. It has seen the Battalion commence its transition to mechanisation and demonstrated significant early advancement during Ex HAMEL 18, whilst seeing the completion of the last of three operational rotations to the Middle East. As ever, the Battalion has commemorated major historical events in its history whilst also looking to the future via a new exciting relationship with 2 RPIR. 2019 will be important to cementing the mechanised capability whilst also establishing a sustainable battle rhythm; individual development; low level collective training and support to wider Army. The men and women of ‘Old Faithful’ as always, are looking forward to the challenge!

5 RAR 2018

CO: LTCOL Travis Gordon, CSM
RSM: WO1 Sean Ransome

After a busy year completing duties as the Ready Battle Group, 2018 has been a year of consolidation for the Tiger Battalion, focusing on individual and collective abilities to shoot, move and communicate. This has seen the unit adopt a traditional approach to the progression in training, focusing on section, platoon and combat team level activities. Key to this progression in training has been the consolidation and development of a motorised culture within the battalion, embedding the Bushmaster as a mobility and communications platform.
The Tiger Battalion has also invested heavily in 2018 in building upon our relationships. Some these relationships were established through the force of nature, with the battalion providing a significant contribution to Operation NT ASSIST, cleaning up the Darwin and Palmerston areas after Tropical Cyclone Marcus. 5 RAR continued to build on its relationships with the Tentara Nasional Indonesia – Angkatan Darat (TNI-AD) and United States Marine Corps (USMC) through a number of different activities throughout the year. The battalion also hosted a number of members of the 5 RAR Association, strengthening our relationship with previous generations of Tigers. Although the intention was to reduce tempo, all of this has conspired to ensure it has been another busy year for the Battalion.

Before outlining the year for the 5th Battalion, it is important to acknowledge the service of LTCOL Paul Shields, MBE, and his stewardship of the battalion from March 2015 through to November 2017. LTCOL Shields’ entire regimental service was at Binh Ba Lines, culminating as the Commanding Officer through a period of extremely high tempo, where the battalion assumed the lead for Army’s conventional contingency force responsibilities, whilst also deploying two sub-units on operations. LTCOL Shields transitioned out of Army in 2018, moving to Germany with his wife Evelyn and their two girls, and I know the RAR family wish them all the best for the future.

The back to basics approach commenced from the beginning of the year, where the Battalion sought to reinvest in foundation infantry skills, especially the development of our junior leaders. Whilst the majority of soldiers were still on leave, the Battalion’s Lance Corporals, Corporals and Lieutenants spent a week discussing command, leadership, training and the roles and responsibilities their appointment entails. The program was put together by the ADJT and RSM, aiming to set expectations for the year. These expectations were further reinforced as all Officers, Warrant Officers and NCOs completed a five day live fire range recertification package. Led by the RSM and CSMs, the training was extremely well received and established solid foundations from which to build in 2018.

The section commanders did not let the impediments of the wet season detract from their training, using the facilities in and around Robertson Barracks to great effect. Training focused around combat behaviours, employing simulated munitions in the battalion’s integral combat skills development area to enhance effectiveness in the close combat zone. The key demonstration of this capability came during the live fire activities on Ex TIGERS WALK in May. Of particular note, the ranges completed by Support Company were excellent, demonstrating a wide array of their capabilities through activities that had not been undertaken for some time. The success of this approach was further reinforced with CPL Booth and CPL Cornish leading their sections to first and fourth, and overall first place, in the 1st Brigade Military Skills Competition in July. CPL Larson and his section also performed admirably at the Duke of Gloucester Cup in August.

The progression to platoon based training in June arrived in conjunction with the deployment of most of the battalion’s senior officers and warrant officers to Ex HAMEL 18.
The Battalion’s platoon commanders relished the opportunity to take responsibility for their teams, utilising the enforced autonomy to building innovative and effective plans to meet their directed training outcomes. Throughout June, July and August, platoons honed their ability to execute dismounted manoeuvre, resulting in platoon level live fire activities on Ex TIGERS RUN.

September saw the Battalion execute a sequenced deployment to Cultana Training Area in South Australia as a part of Ex PREDATORS RUN. Moving the unit’s personnel and equipment 3500km is by no means a simple task, and the planning and coordination by Logistics Company ensured the Battalion was ready to fight when we arrived at Cultana. This exercise was focused at the combat team level, with the Battalion’s companies joining supporting elements from the 1st and 6th Brigades, and the Royal Australian Air Force to complete a series of simulated training exercises. This was the first opportunity for the Battalion to really sink its teeth into mounted manoeuvre, and it proved to be an invaluable learning experience. The increased coordination required to execute synchronised mounted and dismounted manoeuvre necessary in motorised operations was a key theme, setting the platform from which the Battalion can launch into battle group and brigade level exercises in 2019.

The focus on building effective relationships did not start in the lead up to Ex PREDATORS RUN, but instead commenced in September 2017. A company sized element from 5 RAR was required, at short notice, to fill the Force Protection element for Task Group Taji – 6, Australia’s and New Zealand’s commitment to training and supporting the Iraqi Security Forces. A Company was re-raised from across the Battalion to undertake this task. A Company deployed to Townsville to commence training with 2nd Cavalry Regiment, who were leading the deployment, and integrate with the New Zealand Defence Force soldiers who made up a quarter of the Task Group. Once deployed, A Company was responsible for supporting the Task Group’s training sub-units in training Iraqi Army Brigades, Commando Battalions, Junior NCO and Officer Academy, and Support Company weapon courses. When the Task Group rotated home in June, they had trained over 6000 soldiers. This broad base of trainees meant effective relationships were essential for A Company to succeed. The soldiers, NCO’s and Officers of A Company represented the Tiger Battalion fantastically, building excellent relationships across Australian, New Zealand and Iraqi forces and gaining valuable operational experience.

In early March, Tropical Cyclone Marcus struck, uprooting thousands of trees across Darwin and Palmerston. The Battalion responded, linking up with the Darwin
and Palmerston Councils to coordinate the clearing of roads and collection of downed trees. Happening so early in the year, Operation NT ASSIST provided an excellent opportunity for section and platoon commander autonomy, working methodically through their respective areas of responsibility and engaging with the local councils and workers. Of particular note, D Company's outstanding efforts working in Palmerston, saw the local council put on a special breakfast in honour of their clean-up response. This activity proved a great opportunity to enhance our relationship with the community and local councils.

5 RAR is the lead unit for Army's conventional engagement with the TNI-AD, occurring through the annual AUSINDO RHINO and WIRRA JAYA series of exercises. This year, B Company led this engagement, sending a small training team to Indonesia to partner with the 411th Battalion, 6th Brigade, 2nd Division, KOSTRAD (Strategic Reserve) during Ex AUSINDO RHINO. The hospitality shown by the 411th Battalion was first rate, setting a high benchmark for the reciprocal visit to Darwin during Ex WIRRA JAYA. During Ex WIRRA JAYA, training focused on mounted manoeuvre, urban operations and care of the battle casualty. The culminating activity was a combined display for PANG KOSTRAD (Commander Strategic Reserve, TNI-AD) using the Battalion’s combat skill development area, and demonstrating the three focus areas for the exercise. The integration between the two companies involved was excellent, building upon the excellent foundations laid in the previous few years.

The deployment of the Marine Rotational Force – Darwin (MRF-D) provided an outstanding opportunity to train with one of Australia’s closest allies. 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines provided the Ground Combat Element (GCE) for this rotation and were the force with which 5 RAR mostly engaged. The Battalion undertook a number of opportune training activities with the Marines, but Ex KOOLENDONG was again the focal point. C Company deployed to Mount Bundy Training Area with the Marines, operating as a subordinate element to the GCE. Completing a series of vehicle mounted and airmobile operations, C Company established an extremely effective relationship with the MRF-D, enhancing the interoperability between the forces.

The Battalion’s relationship with the 5 RAR Association was brought even closer this year, with the visit of a number of Vietnam era Tigers to the Darwin area. Significantly, Alan McNulty, DCM, Dave Bryan and Doug Bishop were all travelling through Darwin in June and were able to attend the Battalion’s 49th anniversary of the Battle of Binh Ba commemoration. They were all members of C Company during 5 RAR’s first tour of Vietnam in 1966/67, and Alan was a Platoon Sergeant in A Company during the second tour in 1969/70. After the ceremony, they joined the next generation of Tigers in the Garry Holmes Club, before attending the Combined Officer’s and Sergeant’s Messes Dining-In Night. It was a great honour to host members of the 5 RAR Association, demonstrating the importance of these organisations for all those currently serving in the Tiger Battalion.

5 RAR maintains a number of relationships with local schools and indigenous organisations. Activities with young people have proven a great way for the Battalion
The Foundation 2018

to engage with the community, but the Battalion is looking to take this community engagement in a new direction in the coming years. The first two soldiers of the reformed 5 RAR Pipes and Drums completed their piping course in November. Pipes and Drums soldiers will be consolidated in the battalion’s evacuation section, being either a BUSHMASTER driver or combat first aider. The annual grant from The Foundation is being used to purchase instruments and uniforms, with the aim being to have enough qualified soldiers to commence community engagement activities by the end of 2019. Pipes and Drums will be a great way for the Battalion to engage with the community and demonstrate the talent of the unit’s soldiers.

2018 has been another eventful year for the Tiger Battalion, adopting a back to basics approach, whilst simultaneously enhancing the motorised capability within the unit. The progression in training established solid foundations at each command level, providing an excellent launch pad from which to commence the Joint Warfighting Series in 2019. Effective relationships are the key to success in joint warfighting, and 5 RAR has worked hard to build and maintain relationships in 2018 the will enable its success in the future.

Duty First

6 RAR 2018

CO: LTCOL J Bywater
RSM: WO1 M Groves

2018 has been an extremely busy and fulfilling year for 6 RAR. The year started at pace with all Company’s working up to Platoon level before reaching the first agreed mounting point for a range of operational tasks. Since March the Battalion has sequentially entered into reconnaissance, mission specific training, mission rehearsal then deployment into the Middle East Region. This has been a challenging but very exciting time with the majority of the Battalion deploying on operations for the first time. Along with the Battalion’s operational preparations and deployments we have taken the first steps in transitioning to a mechanised Infantry Battalion including receipt of our M113AS4 Armoured Personnel Carriers, individual mechanised courses and Bravo Company conducting a complete training cycle including Exercise HAMEL.

In March the Battalion Headquarters, Alpha Company, Support Company and Administration Company were the first to begin their mission specific training with many additional personnel from across the Brigade and Army. The Battalion formed the core of the Training Task Group Taji – Seven and the majority of the Training Task Unit. This group was soon joined by a contingent from the New Zealand Army to form an ANZAC unit. Sub units including “Whiskey” and “Victor” callsigns were named in partial reflection of the Battalion’s second tour of Vietnam as an ANZAC Battalion. The Training Task Unit is responsible for the conduct of training for Iraqi Army Infantry Brigades and, most significantly during this deployment, the development of the Baghdad Fighting School to conduct the same. The Training Task Unit has already trained more than 3000 soldiers primarily from the 59th Brigade and currently the 41st Brigade with training for the 22nd Brigade due to commence before handover to the next rotation.

The preparation of the Task Group saw the formation of the Rear Details group who have now supported more than two thirds of the Battalion deploying with a reformed Support Company currently in mission specific training to deploy on Task Group Taji – Eight and Bravo Company to enter mission specific training in the next month as the Force Protection Element 11. The Rear
Details group under the command of Major Robert Varcoe has constantly evolved as the year has progressed ensuring that they are everything to everyone as best possible. Nowhere has this been more apparent than the Operations Cell which is currently being led by the third Operations Officer following the early promotion and now imminent deployment of the Adjutant.

Alpha Company started the year with a focus on their own core Infantry skills before forming as Training Team Alpha with Task Group Taji – Seven to focus on teaching core Infantry skills. They were required to give significant support in the mission specific training period to assist across the Task Group with force protection provided to each training team and constituting the Quick Reaction Force. Significant experiences have been gained across the Company with environmental and cultural challenges such as days of up to fifty degrees Celsius, little shade and for the first month training Iraqi Jundi who were fasting through Ramadan.

Bravo Company, with their officers and non-commissioned officers freshly trained in commanding and manoeuvring APCs, has led the way for the Battalion in mechanising. In February and March of this year they completed their first mechanised exercise as a Company complete at Wide Bay Training Area. They were able to develop their standard operating procedures and set a platform of skills and tactics that would enable them to conduct a Battle Group Exercise WARFIGHTER in April followed by Exercise HAMEL in May as an integral part of the Battlegroup commanded by 2/14 Light Horse Regiment. Bravo Company used the remainder of the year focusing on training for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan as Force Protection Element 11 in early 2019.

Delta Company started the year conducting the significant deep Mission Specific Training requirements in preparation for concentration in May as Force Protection Element 10. This has involved a large volume of shooting and specialist courses across a significant period of time in build up to their eventual deployment in August. They have set a very solid benchmark and provided significant insights that have supported the preparations for Bravo Company who will take over from them in the first quarter next year.

Support Company have earned their stripes this year literally in support across the Battalion with heavy emphasis on remaining flexible and fluid throughout. They conducted mechanised mortar and specialist platoon live firing, have provided soldiers across operational sub units but particularly to Training Task Unit - Seven, supported two significant mission specific training periods, conducted trade courses and now after reforming as a training team they are on their own mission specific training as part of Task Group Taji - Eight that will deploy at the end of the year to Iraq.

Administration Company, in a similar vein to Support Company, have been split across training, operational and barracks tasking’s to very good effect this year. This has been further complicated by the influx of so much equipment into the unit associated with mechanisation and operational requirements. The volume has been so great
that it required storing and management across five locations before any had left to the Middle East Region.

The Battalion has had limited opportunity to socialise at sporting or Regimental events this year. The year kicked off with a combined Battalion Officers’, Warrant Officers’ and Sergeant mixed Dining night to show appreciation to our partners. Traditionally held at one of the respective Mess’, this year it was held as a Dining Out at the Gaythorne RSL. This year’s ANZAC Day service was conducted at the 6 RAR Long Tan memorial, followed by a luncheon that was shared amongst all 6 RAR friends and families at the DKVC Club. This was made extra special by the inclusion of our closest allies from the New Zealand Army. The Battalion has celebrated its Birthday and commemorated the Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan with the Battalion attending a Service of Remembrance at St. John’s Cathedral in Brisbane City followed by an informal brunch at Long Tan Lines. The Battalion continues to support Legacy as our primary charity, providing groups for the popular ‘Backyard Challenge’ program and to collect in north Brisbane during Legacy Week. The work with Legacy this year has had renewed context within the operational cycle that the unit is in. The Battalion spent its last week together in March this year conducting a Champion Soldier Competition and Combatives Tournament. The Champion soldier was PTE Brett Downey.

The Battalion had a great showing at the RAR premier competition, winning the Duke of Gloucester Cup this year and then the team winning a Gold Medal at the Cambrian Patrol in the United Kingdom.

With the year drawing to a close the unit will maintain its pace particularly for Delta and Support Companies that will be deployed over Christmas and the New Year period. As the operational cycle continues the elements returning to Australia will conduct internal postings and re-enter the training cycle to mechanise with the Battalion whole again in the last quarter next year.
The past twelve months has proven to be yet another exciting period for the men and women of the 7th Battalion. Following the high tempo of operational deployments in 2016-2017, the focus during the first half of 2018 was on consolidation and regeneration of critical capabilities. While the RESET phase of the Force Generation Cycle imposed a heavy burden on the Battalion of providing external support, individual and collective training was continually developed as 7 RAR advanced through the BOARS and PREDATORS series of exercises. Similarly, 7 RAR continued to lead FORCOMD in re-Mechanisation under Plan KEOGH, achieving several critical milestones. On the International Engagement front, 7 RAR’s relationships were further enhanced with key international partners, particularly Falantil – Forsa Defensa Timor-Leste (F-FDTL) and the Royal Malaysian Armed Forces (RMAF). Having now transitioned to the READYING phase, the focus is squarely on the preparation for assuming Ready Battle Group responsibilities and participation in the Joint Warfare Series in 2019.

**Battalion Activities.** Major training activities for the year commenced with Exercises BOARS BASELINE and BOARS CRAWL, conducted at Murray Bridge and Cultana Training Areas in February and March. These activities saw the conduct of both mounted and dismounted training at individual and section level, establishing a solid foundation for later progression.

For the next few months, the burden of providing significant support to Army’s training establishments, inherent in the RESET phase, restricted 7 RAR’s ability to achieve collective training above Platoon level. However, during April and May, while Alpha and Charlie Company’s deployed to support training at the Royal Military College and the School of Armour, Support Coy and Bravo enjoyed the delights of Jungle Training Wing at Tully. Collective training for the first half of 2018 culminated in Ex PREDATORS WALK in May, whereupon 7 RAR returned to Cultana for the first Brigade field exercise for the year. This saw the Battalion combine primarily with elements of 8th/12th Regiment and 1st Combat Engineer Regiment to achieve the combined arms effect.

The focus for the Battalion in June and July was the conduct of specialist courses, including the first M113AS4 Drivers Course to be conducted by an RAR Battalion since 2012. This achievement marked a significant milestone in the re-Mechanisation of the Battalion under Plan KEOGH, and underlines the progress made by the Battalion in this regard since January 2017.

Also in June, several Officers and NCOs of the Battalion provided Observer Trainer support to our fellow ‘tailenders’, the 8th/9th Battalion during Exercises SEA RAIDER and HAMEL. This experience provided a great opportunity to cross-pollinate and learn from each other, as well as an invaluable insight as to the challenges that lay ahead for 7 RAR as it commences the Joint Warfare Series 2019.

Following a brief period of Stand Down in July, the Battalion once again returned to Cultana for Ex BOARS RUN. With the 1st Brigade now in the READYING phase of the Force Generation Cycle, the training
was aimed at Mechanised Platoon and Company operations, culminating with a series of Company-level Live Fire exercises. Of significance, in another first for the RAR since the implementation of Plan KEOGH, Alpha Company conducted the first Mechanised Company live fire attack with all vehicles crewed by Battalion members.

Concurrent to the Battalion’s other commitments was the training for the 7 RAR Duke of Gloucester Cup team. Corporal Stuart Jacobs led his men with distinction, with the Section bringing home the Royal Ulster Rifles Trophy (Falling Plate competition) and finishing second for overall marksmanship. On an individual level, Corporal Jacobs also received tremendous recognition for his efforts, being judged runner-up as the best soldier of the competition. All involved in the competition performed to an outstanding standard, and should be proud of their efforts.

Furthermore, this year saw 7 RAR introduce the Army Combatives Program (ACP) into its routine Battalion training. The introduction of the ACP, as well as the establishment of the Integrated Combat Club – Edinburgh, has seen the incorporation of combat behaviours and increased physical robustness into the daily training of the Battalion.

Collective training for 2018 culminated with the final Brigade field training event, Exercise PREDATORS RUN in September, again conducted in Cultana. A truly combined arms activity, Exercise PREDATORS RUN saw Combat Teams formed from all elements of the 1st Brigade undergo a challenging series of activities in complex environments. This activity has well and truly set the conditions for the Battalion to progress to more challenging collective training events in 2019 as it prepares for Ready Battle Group responsibilities.

**International and Community Engagement.**

In addition to the Battalion’s foundation warfare training schedule, 2018 has also seen the conduct of several significant international and community engagement activities. In March, Alpha Company hosted the soldiers of 14 Rejimen Askar Melayu DiRaja (14 RAMD), Malaysian Armed Forces for Exercise SOUTHERN TIGER. This activity focused on tactics, techniques and procedures for both urban and mounted operations, allowing both nations to enhance their skills in these operating environments, whilst also building cohesion and camaraderie between 7 RAR and the 14 RAMD.

The Battalion’s partnership with the soldiers of Falantil – Forsa Defensa Timor Leste (F-FDTL) has also been further enhanced this year, with several activities under the banner of Exercise Arafura Warrior. Following on from the success of the inaugural Peace Keeping Operations Mobile Training Team conducted late 2017, in April Bravo Company hosted the members of the F-FDTL shooting team prior to their participation ASAAM. As a mark of the close relationship between the two Armies, the Battalion was honoured to be joined by the shooting team for the ANZAC Day march through Adelaide. In another first for 7 RAR, the Battalion hosted two F-FDTL Lieutenants throughout July and August prior to their attendance at the Royal
2018 has also been a busy year for the Battalion with regards to community engagement. The Battalion has hosted several events at Horseshoe Lines for local charities, such as Youth Opportunities and the Adelaide Women’s and Children’s Hospital, providing not only support to these worthwhile causes, but also a snapshot into Battalion life for the participants. Further afield, the Battalion has focussed its Indigenous Engagement strategy on the communities on the Eyre Peninsula, specifically those communities that have stakeholder interest in the lands on which the Cultana Training Area exists.

Alpha Coy will undertake a week-long mentoring and resilience camp in the Port Lincoln Region in November. Charlie Company are looking to work with high school aged youth from Whyalla in conjunction with Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME). The Battalion Indigenous Liaison Officer (WO2 Joe Pedler) has also met with the elders of the Ceduna community with a view to developing similar programs and links as those in Port Lincoln and Whyalla. Locally, the Battalion has supported numerous remembrance days, ceremonies and cultural activities including the City of Adelaide Reconciliation Breakfast, the Aboriginal War Veterans Day, NAIDOC week activities throughout greater Adelaide and a number of focus groups with local community elders.

Battalion Losses. Sadly, the past 12 months have also seen the loss of two members of the Battalion, both of whom were killed in separate motor vehicle accidents. Private Joel Ryan passed away on the 25th November 2017, and Private Jacob Greening passed away on 23 December 2017. All members of 7 RAR felt deeply the loss of Privates Ryan and Greening, and the Battalion and wider Regiment supported the funerals of both members and remains in contact with the families.

Conclusion. The past 12 months has been busy time for 7 RAR, as the Battalion consolidated and re-built critical capabilities. It continued to lead FORCOMD in the implementation of Plan KEOGH, and has further developed its combined arms, foundation warfighting capabilities. The Battalion has deepened our relationships with both the local community and our key international partners. As the Battalion moves into 2019, the focus is now preparing for the trials of the Joint Warfare Series and Ready Battle Group responsibilities. Overall, 2018 has been another prosperous year for the Pig Battalion with 2019 promising to be just as challenging and rewarding.

8/9 RAR 2018

CO : LTCOL A Bennett, DSM
RSM: WO1 J Watene, CSM

In the span of just 12 months, the Ram Battalion has arguably achieved more than anyone could have expected. Through a professional approach to soldering, we have proven that our Army can deliver a rotational Ground Combat Element as
part of Australia’s Amphibious force. The Battalion has shown Army what a digitised, combined arms Battle Group looks like on three separate field training exercises; as well as the largest combined arms live fire exercise in the past two years. Some would have thought this was impossible but the men and women of the Battalion dug deep, worked as a team and proved they are ‘Ready.

The road to ready started last October when the Battalion, along with attachments forming the Battle group, deployed to Shoalwater Bay Training area for CTC Live War fighter. Battle Group Ram HQ began its planning cycle for combat team operations whilst the fighting elements learnt what it meant to be a part of a Combat Team, rather than a Company. Combat Teams worked together to clear routes, attack main defensive positions and clear objectives either motorised or through air mobile operations. Through this, the Battalion proved it was ready to deploy at short notice to support domestic tasks and roles such as the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

The start of the year saw Battle Group Ram learn about amphibious operations in preparation for the Integrated Sea Land Series 2018. The BG embarked onto HMAS Canberra for a series of exercises in unfamiliar waters. Whilst on board, BG Ram undertook the Wet and Dry Environment Rehearsals which trained all personnel in airmobile and surface disembarkation. The Battle Group performed above and beyond expectations and made some noteworthy achievements along the way. BG Ram was certified as the Ground Combat Element, Amphibious Ready Element and Ready Battle Group concurrently. They cemented the return of the motorised capability including digitised communications.

After successfully negotiating its readiness requirements, the Battalion was tasked to support regional operations including work in the Philippines and Papua New Guinea. 8/9 RAR continued to build regional relationships through the deployment of mentoring teams in Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu to support the development of organic Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations. Concurrently, it deployed Charlie Company as Rifle Company Butterworth in Malaysia.

In such a high tempo year, one might forgive such a unit for pulling back on innovation but this was not the plan for 8/9 RAR. Instituting reforms in the management of the Battalion’s Wounded Injured and Ill program with the re-raising of a Rehabilitation Platoon and a designated Platoon to support soldiers ‘Transitioning with dignity’, the unit is finding new ways to exploit old, and develop new ways to support those soldiers who can no longer serve in the RAInf.

In keeping with the innovation theme, the Battalion refined its program to professionalise the physical training conducted by its members. Named the Tactical Athlete Development Program
(TADP), the program designs bespoke training plans for soldiers that are managed via an application downloaded onto a soldier’s smart phone. This allows the soldiers to train to their individual standards while still training as part of platoon or company PT sessions. Early statistics suggest that the program is reducing injury and increasing base-level fitness across the Battalion.

While the Battalion has been innovating and keeping on top of its numerous and varied tasks, it has led the way in the various elements 7 CBT BDEs Commander’s Trophy. At the time of writing, the Battalion lays claim to winning the King of the Mountain, the Cross Country, the Tug-of-War competition, the Military Skills Competition (including achieving Gold Standard position in Exercise HYDRA) and backing up to take out First, Second and Third in the Obstacle Course competition.

The Battalion has taken every opportunity to support its dedicated charities; Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital and Legacy. Providing soldiers to support fundraising throughout the Brisbane region while also getting out to cheer up the sick kids at the hospital, the members of the Battalion have taken every opportunity to be great citizens within the region.

Finally, the Battalion managed to further cement its tag line of being ‘Brisbane’s Own’ with its support to training and PR for the Queensland Reds Rugby Union Team and the Brisbane Broncos Rugby League Team. This has seen the Battalion develop strong relationships with the respective teams and further its own understanding of professional team management, leadership and physical training – further supporting its professionalization of the art of soldiering.

The Battalion now prepares for the Hand Over of the Commanding Officer from LTCOL Tony Bennett, DSM to LTCOL Steve Dickie and to taking some much needed rest over the Christmas period before continuing with the same level intensity of 2018.

**SCHOOL OF INFANTRY 2018**

**CO: LTCOL M. Flanagan**

**RSM: WO1 A. Hodges**

The School of Infantry (SOI) has had a busy year maintaining a consistent throughput of training our new Infanteers for Army, challenging the Officers and NCOs during their SOI based career courses, upskilling the junior leaders of the Support Company platoons and delivering the land range qualification courses. We have welcomed students from across Army, Air Force, Navy and our international partners. In addition SOI continued the growth of knowledge and competency with the Army Combative Program (ACP) and Combat Shooting continuum. The School again hosted the annual Duke of Gloucester Competition (DoG Cup), over the period of 04-10 August 2018, the RAIC Corps Conference, Corps
Dinner and RAR Council. In the Hunter region we have continued to be deeply involved in the community and take great pride in the strong bond that exists.

SOI during 2018 has heavily invested in seeking improved connectivity with our training audience, either through technology or skilling of instructors. We are trialling, adopting and implementing the latest methods in connecting, mentoring, teaching and assessing the training audience. With the support of HQ CATC and HQ FORCOMD we are implementing blended learning tools across all aspects of courses run at the school.

**DoG Cup** – The 2018 DoG Cup was centred on the theme of ‘Brilliant at the Basics’. It was contested strongly by all attendees, who represented their Battalions and the Corps with distinction. Under arduous, simulated combat conditions, by day and night with little rest or sleep, we observed the quality of our junior leaders and soldiers.

Commendable efforts were made by all, demonstrating the Corps’ values in their endeavours as a team and individually. We thank all those that participated and supported this competition. Congratulations to the team from the 6 RAR for winning the competition this year and we wish them well for their upcoming Cambrian Patrol. A further congratulations to the remainder of the teams and individuals that were recipients of awards. A special acknowledgement and congratulations goes to PTE PB Marro from 1 RAR for achieving the Champion Soldier award in his third time representing his unit in this competition. MAJ A Robinson and WO2 W Swan planned and executed an excellent competition, supported by staff from across the SOI.

**Depot Company.** 2018 has been a great year for Depot Coy which has seen it refined into a more balanced organisation to focus on its main effort: building the next generation of Infanteers for the RAR.

The main effort of training IETs to reinforce the Regiment has continued to evolve. The course is now a 16 week program that consists of weapons qualifications, introduction to Urban Operations, Offensive Operations, and Defensive Operations culminating with Exercise HARD CORPS. The main differences are the sequencing changes and addition of ACP, Enhanced Combat Shooting Course (ECSC), and the Combat Marksmanship Continuum (CMC). ACP is an evolution from Infantry Integrated Combat. The fundamental difference for ACP is its simplicity of techniques and realistic application.

ECSC provides the trainees with a strong foundation of weapons manipulation from where they continue to build on small arms proficiency. This is critical to enabling maintenance of their cognitive ability within the close fight as their “mental desktop” is freed from other distractions allowing them to focus on the changing tactical situation.

CMC is the next evolution of the Live Fire serials for the EF88 and F89. This now incorporates firing from simulated cover and through apertures engaging simulated threats out to 600m. This enables good fire
positions and forces thoughtful application of fire, triaging between close static and moving threats through to single threats at 600m. Fundamental to this program, is fire control orders are delivered and trainees are encouraged to continue to engage the threat until it is neutralised.

Although the focus for the Sub-Unit has been to reinforce the Regiment with soldiers, it has also taken the lead with ACP. The Combatant Training Team has provided courses to RMC-D, HQ CATC and HQ FORCOMD to expose leadership to this skillset and train trainers.

**Tactics Wing.** This year, the Wing has continued to further enhance and adapt the training conducted within the core course suite, including use of blended learning and junior leader decision making activities. Another significant addition to the Wing’s learning environment has been the implementation of the Decisive Adversary Training Environment (DATE) and adapting this to each of the course scenario frameworks.

Platoon Team has maintained a high tempo throughout this year, conducting multiple ARA and ARES Regimental Officer Basic (ROBC) and Subject 2 Sergeant courses. Notably, this year has seen the first integration into the ARA ROBC of seven ARES Gap-Year officers undertaking the Fulltime Army Reserve Officer (FARO) program. Platoon Team have continued to refine these courses with a focus on functional learning and practical skills application to best prepare the Corps’ future Platoon-level leadership for the contemporary battlespace. Platoon Team is further evolving the ROBC to include individual training which will develop the Corps’ newest LTs as Infantry combatants.

The progression of training within the Subject Two Warrant Officers Course sees the trainees conducting TEWTS through the environments of Offensive Operations, Defensive Operations, Stability Operations and Company Sergeant Major duties. This is achieved through visiting instructor led BOS lectures, lessons, and discussion groups. The course has had some major adjustments this year with the introduction of DATE as the first fully integrated course within SOI.

This year the Range Qualification Team (RQT) has been at the forefront of supporting the Army focus on Land Range Safety (LRS). There has been a significant effort from within the team supporting HQ CATC with the new LWD 7-3 series of range publications and planning tools to support activity design and understanding workforce competency and currency.

RQT have been a major part of the planning and construction of an LMP for the introduction of a Director of Practice course, Support to the LRS Assurance Team, reality based training for non-lethal training ammunition, support to AHQ led capability trials and producing SOPs for ADF for the use of drones on ADF ranges.

**Specialist Wing.** Specialist Wing has delivered multiple Direct Fires Support Weapons (DFSW), Reconnaissance, and Assault Pioneer Officer/NCO course along with the Sniper Team Leader/Supervisor courses and the Combat Shooting Cell led courses. This has seen continual adaptation with the increasing technological advancements within Army to further support these critical skills within the RAR Battalions. The Wing has been deeply
embedded with ongoing projects within AHQ to enable the subject matter expertise on Support Company systems and ensuring these capabilities are further enhanced into the future land force.

**Soldier Support Company.** Soldier Support Company (SSC) is responsible for the soldiers waiting to commence an IET session, awaiting transfer to another Corps or Service or wounded, ill or injured. They are managed depending on their condition in two main ways.

SSC’s primary goal is to enable the return of trainees back into training; however, when this cannot be achieved, focus shifts to retention within Army in another Corps or in some cases another Service. For those members that are unable to remain with the Corps or within Army our dedicated transition staff assist the soldiers moving back into civilian life. SSC works closely with the regional transition teams, and the rehabilitation and medical professionals to achieve a suitable transition elsewhere the ADF or a separation from ADF with dignity.

The efforts of the PTIs and Field Medical Section as part of the SSC team are not lost on anyone at the school as they play a critical role in conditioning, rehabilitation and first response for medical issues in the field.

Despite a busy year, the school continues its development to ensure it is capable of taking the next generation of infantry soldier and preparing them for service within the RAR and wider RAINF.
NATIONAL BENEFACTORS

The late Mrs Shirley East
Mr PJ Flower
Mr WJ Forrest

BENEFACTORS

Private TJ Adams
Warrant Officer Class One DJ Allen
Sergeant IR Anderson
The late Colonel JD Andrew
Brigadier C G Appleton
Private BG Arnold
Colonel WJ Austin
Major D Baker
Private J V Baker
Private JC Baldwin
Lieutenant Colonel A V Balmaks
Lieutenant Colonel MB Barrass
Warrant Officer Class Two BA Bates
Private ML Black
General Sir P Bennett
Lieutenant Colonel A Birch
Lieutenant Colonel MJ Birtles
Brigadier J P Blain
Major General M Blake
Mrs M Bolton
Brigadier MD Bornholt
The late Mr JR Brazell
Private ML Brock
Captain J Brook
The late Warrant Officer Class One RJ Bucknell
Private DP Carrick
Mr WER Carter
Private ML Casey
Sergeant P Chang
Private J R Charteris-Pierce
The late Colonel JM Church
Lieutenant Colonel DS Clarke
Private SA Clarke
Commander DE Clinch
Major General A Clunies-Ross
Warrant Officer Class One SA Colman

Major GJ Colton
Sergeant RS Condon
Major T Conn
Corporal R Coopher
General Sir PJ Cosgrove
Mr B Cranston
Major SN Croft
Major C Cromhout
Major GA Crosland
Major T Daniels
Warrant Officer Class One IA D'Arcy
Major M Defina
Colonel JC Dittmar
Warrant Officer Class Two S Doevendans
Private CC Donaghue
Captain JM Donohoe
Brigadier SJ Dunn
Dr C Ellery
Corporal K Fabreschi
Warrant Officer Class One AJ Feige
Brigadier CA Field
Private SP Finnigan
Private BJ Forner
Lieutenant T Friend
Private S Garritty
Private AG Gawne
Lieutenant Colonel J George
Major RI George
Colonel MS Goodyear
Sergeant MJ Greenhatch
Lance Corporal SWG Gregory
Major PG Greive
Lieutenant Colonel IM Guild
Corporal J Harrison
Major L Helmrich
Private LJ Hill
Lieutenant Colonel HP Hoebbe
Major SW Holmes
The Late Major General JC Hughes
General DJ Hurley

Lieutenant Colonel TDR James
Major General PM Jeffery
Lieutenant Colonel CA Johnston
Private D Johnston
Major General MJ Keating
Major General MA Kelly
Major DT Kemp
Mr KM Kipping
Major GM Knowles
Private LM Krause
Lance Corporal GR Lang
Colonel E Lenaghan
Sergeant R Lewin
Warrant Officer Class One BP Lynch
Private KM Lynch
Mr CJ Mayhew
Mr L McAulay
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Captain N McCarthy
Major MR McFarland
Private R McKenna
Private CD McKillop
Private J McNeilly
Mr DG Mitchell
Major General AJ Molan
Lieutenant Colonel S Moore-Wilton
Mr JD O'Shea
Corporal SP O'Shea
Major LT Partridge
Major SA Peachey
Lieutenant Colonel MB Pears
Sergeant R Peck
Major General PR Phillips
Private B Potter
Major ISA Power
Private S Preston
Lance Corporal JL Prewett

Lieutenant Colonel T Ramage
Private JA Reece
Sergeant BA Reid
Private MJ Robinson
Private MA Rogers
Lance Corporal S Rosie
Lieutenant Colonel JB Rowland
Warrant Officer Class One CW Russell
Mr J Sarks
Warrant Officer Class Two RA Schrader
Sergeant A Scott
Brigadier BA Scott
Warrant Officer Class one JR Sheahan
The late Brigadier JJ Shelton
Corporal J Shirdon
The late Warrant Officer Class Two AP Siggers
Sergeant DA Siggers
Colonel TA Simkin
Mr M Skennar
Captain TS Slatter
Lieutenant Colonel BA Smith
Lieutenant Colonel CR Smith
Private JN Sorraghan
Captain GR Sowiak
Captain R Spackman
Captain AE Sparkes
Warrant Officer Class Two SG St Clair
Major MW Stevens
Mr J Stringfellow
Private DB Sullivan
The late Colonel R Sutton
Lieutenant Colonel IC Teague
Warrant Officer Class One JC Thies
Lieutenant Colonel AK Treble
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Private DJ Underwood  
Captain AB Vanden  
Hengel  
Warrant Officer  
Class Two RS Varcoe

Mr AR Vockler  
Major JCM Walters  
Major R W Weir  
Mr L V Westende  
Major General

SL Willis  
Sergeant MS Woodney  
Australian Commando Association Victoria Branch

Larkforce 2/22nd Bn  
PwC Australia  
Women’s Auxiliary  
Wollongong RSL

MAJ GEN PJ Abigail  
PTE TJ Adams  
The late LT COL CJ Adamson  
WO1 DJ Allen  
PTE MJ Allmark  
The late MR RA Anderson  
CAPT WM Anderson  
SGT IR Anderson  
CPL ON Anderson  
The late COL JD Andrew  
MR A Ang  
PTES Ns Anthony  
BRIG CG Appleton  
LT CR Armitage  
MAJ GEN PM Arnison  
PTE BG Arnold  
WO DM Ashley  
COL WJ Austin  
LT COL GM Bagot  
PTE RA Bailey  
MAJ D Baker  
PTE JV Baker  
PTE JC Baldwin  
LT COL A V Balmaks  
LCPL D Barnett  
LTCOL PJ Barta  
LT COL  
MB Bassingthwaite  
WO2 BA Bates  
CAPT JD Bathgate  
REV JS Belmonte  
WO2 JN Bennett  
CAPT CJ Bennett  
GEN Sir PH Bennett  
MAJ SN Bernardo  
MAJ AR Birch  
LT COL MJ Birtles  
BRIG JP Blain  
MAJ GEN M Blake  
COL J Blaxland  
MR DJ Blazely  
MRS M Bolton  
The late MR S Bombell  
PTE GK Bootsma  
BRIG MD Bornholt  
MAJ S Boscato

The late LT COL H Bowman  
LT COL SW Brain  
PTE T Bray  
The late MR JR Brazell  
PTE M Brennan  
COL R Brett  
MR RJ Briggs  
PTE ML Brock  
CAPT J Brock  
WO1 N Brown  
MAJ R Brown  
LT COL S Brumby  
The late WO1 R Bucknell  
CAPT MS Bunker  
The late MR RA Bunting

CPL J P Burns  
MAJ RN Busby  
CAPT T Butcher  
MAJ J Bywater  
MR RJ Cahill  
MAJ GEN JG Caligari  
LT COL MJ Gallan  
WO2 J Callcott  
PTE MJ Cameron  
LT COL IT Campbell  
LT GEN AJ Campbell  
PTE DP Carrick  
LCPL CL Carrigan  
COL MJ Carroll  
MR WER Carter  
CAPT PM Carter  
The late MR RG Carter  
PTI ML Casey  
LCPL GT Castro  
BRIG SF Caughhey  
PTE J Cavanagh  
PTE LJ Challenger  
SGT P Chang  
PTE JR Charteris-Pierce  
The late COL DA Chinn

LT COL EA Chitham  
The late COL  
JM Church  
CAPT JH Clark  
The late COL LG Clark  
The late PTE JM Clark  
LT COL DS Clarke  
PTI SA Clarke  
CMDR DE Clinch  
MAJ GEN A Clunies-Ross  
WOI GA Cochrane  
BRIG FK Cole  
WOI SA Colman  
MAJ GJ Colton  
SGT RS Condon  
MAJ T Conn  
MAJ GEN JM Connolly  
The late MR C Constable  
LT COL MJ Constable  
CAPT DA Cook  
MAJ TJ Cook  
CPL R Cooper  
PTE ML Cope  
The late HON D Corcoran  
LT COL GJS Cornelia  
GEN Sir PJ Cosgrove  
MAJ MA Coutts  
MR B Cranston  
LT COL S Crafter  
PTE B Creek  
MAJ SN Croft  
MAJ C Cromhout  
CAPT RT Crooks  
MAJ GA Crossland  
SSGT RS Cross  
The late REV MONS GA Cudmore  
MAJ R Curtis  
MR LA Cusack  
PTE AR Cuthbert  
The late LT GEN SIR T Daly  
MAJ T Daniels  
WOI JJ Daniels  
The late COL PD D'Arcy  
WOI IA D'Arcy  
LT COL JE Davidson  
The late MR FW Dean  
LCPL A Dean  
MAJ MR Deer  
MAJ MJ Defina  
MR LA Deglmann  
The late BRIG  
JPA Deighton  
COL P Desmond  
MAJ SR Dickie  
MAJ M Dirago  
COL JC Dittmar  
LT TI Dobbs  
PTE RJ Dodd  
WO2 S Doevendans  
PTE OS Doig  
PTE CC Donaghy  
CAPT JM Donohoe  
MR RJ Doolan  
MR WF Douglass  
WOI B Doyle  
WO2 GG Doyle  
LT COL CH Ducker  
WO2 S Duggan  
The late MR H Dunkley  
BRIG SJ Dunn  
The late COL CHA East  
The late MRS S East  
LT COL AJ Egan  
PTE DR Eljak  
DR C Ellery  
COL M Elliott  
LTCOL JM Elwin  
BRIG J Essex-Clark  
LT GEN M Evans  
PTE K Fabreschi  
COL Kahlil Fegan  
WOI AJ Feige  
WO2 JG Ferguson  
BRIG CA Field  
BRIG A Findlay  
CAPT JA Finger  
PTE SP Finnigan  
The Hon TA Fischer  
MR CE Fitzgerald  
MAJ MP Flanagan  
SGT SD Flatman  
BRIG RS Flint  
MR PJ Flower  
COL QL Flowers  
PTE A Ford  
PTE BJ Forner  
MR WJ Forrest  
PTE NJ Forster  
The late WO BW Foster  
CAPT D Foster  
CAPT JT Frankcombe  
PTE JJ Franklin
COL DG Franklin
MAJ KS Fraser
LT CN Fraser
PTE TJ Freitag
MAJ DM French
PTE A Frety
MAJ GEN JF Frewen
LT TD Friend
Sgt JR Fulford
COL SL Gabriel
WO1 WJ Gall
COL AD Gallaway
MAJ Z Gamble
MAJ TJ Gardiner
CPL AD Gardner
COL ME Garraway
PTE SJ Garrity
The late WO2
N Gathercole
PTE AJ Gatt
PTE AG Gawne
MAJ RJ George
LTCOL J George
The late Mr E Giffin
PTE B Billard
WO1 AB Gillman
LT TA Glover
LT COL SC Goddard
CAPT GL Godkin
The late LT COL
JB Godwin
MAJ G Goldsmith
COL DV Goldsmith
PTE MR Goodwin
LT AR Goodwin
COL MS Goodyer
MAJ TJ Gordon
MAJ DH Gosman
BRIG SC Gould
CAPT PW Graham
The late Mr JW Grant
PTE KG Grealy
COL PN Greenhalgh
Sgt MJ Greenhatch
CAPT KV Greenwood
LCPL SW Gregory
MAJ PG Greive
BRIG LR Greville
LTCOL JS Groat
LT COL JM Guild
MAJ PF Ham
MAJ GR Hansen
LT COL JC Harding
The late CPL
R Harper-Green
CPL J Harrison
WO1 LJ Hart
The late GEN SIR
F Hassett
MAJ DN Hasson
The late LT COL JB Healy
LT COL KD Heany
BRIG IJC Hearn
WO2 DM Heaslip
CAPT C Heath
MAJ EJ Hedges
MAJ J Helmrich
PTE DA Heyne
LCPL JA Hill
PTE LJ Hill
LT COL AJ Hocking
LT BE Hodge
LT COL HP Hoebbe
CPL R Hogno
MAJ J Hohnen
BRIG TH Holland
PTE DG Holloway
CAPT LD Holloway
CAPT SW Holmes
PTE SE Hopkins
PROF DM Horner
SGT G Howard
MAJ GEN BW Howard
MAJ M Huggins
WO1 GL Hughes
MAJ GEN JC Hughes
The late MAJ GEN
RL Hughes
GEN DJ Hurley
COL JM Hutcheson
The late BRIG
OD Jackson
COL BN James
MR A James
LT COL TDR James
MAJ CS James
The late MAJ GEN
WB James
MAJ GEN PM Jeffery
WO2 MJ Jelinek
LT BP Johanson
CAPT CA Johnson
LTCOL CA Johnston
PTE D Johnston
CAPT CJ Johnston
WO2 AG Johnstone
PTE D Jones
MR J Joycey
PTE SL Kaylinger
MAJ GM Keating
LT COL M J Kearns
MAJ GEN MJ Keating
CPL D Keighran
MAJ GEN MA Kelly
MAJ DT Kemp
PTE S Kempe
LCPL S Kennealy
WO2 GJ Kermode
PTE WB Kidd
LT COL DJ Kilcullen
CAPT J Kleinman
MR KM Kipping
MAJ GM Knowles
PTE LM Krause
PTE CG Lacey
The late PTE M Lambert
SEN J Lambie
The late COL
H M Lander
PTE DL Landt-Isley
LCPL GR Lang
COL PJ Langford
COL JO Langtry
CAPT TM Larter
CAPT DP Lea
LT GEN PF Leahy
LT COL MD Lean
CAPT CJ Leeds
COL P Leeson
COL EP Lenaghan
CAPT A Lenard
Sgt RJ Lewin
CPL TJ Lewis
WO2 BJ Lipman
PTE SR Livori
LT COL AD Lowe
MAJ DD Lowson
PTE KM Lynch
WO1 BP Lynch
LT COL IB Mackay
BRIG M Mahy
The late COL
DJ Mannett
PTE AP Marks
PTE M Maroge
CAPT J Martin
MR CJ Mayhew
MR L McAulay
CAPT MK McBride
MAJ JF McCaffrey
LT COL
DW McCammon
The late LT COL
A McCann
CAPT N McCarthy
MAJ DS McCarthy
The late LT COL
EM McCarrick
LT COL D McKellar
PTE CD McKillop
PTE E McLachlan
LT COL B McLenan
CPL AJK McNeil
PTE J McNeily
WO1 SB McPhee
PTE H McRobbie
COL DJ Mead
MR TJ Meissner
MAJ R Mickle
CAPT BA Mickelberg
PTE AP Middleton
COL CG Miles
MR DG Mitchell
MAJ AC Mitchell-Taylor
MAJ GEN AJK Molan
The late MRS
P Montgomery
WO2 CD Moore
LT COL S Moore-Wilton
The late MAJ RJ Moran
CPL AR Moran
PTE M Morris
The late MAJ GEN
AL Moran
LT COL MC Morrison
LT GEN DL Morrison
The late BRIG
WJ Morrow
CAPT C Moss
LT COL M Mumford
WO1 DJ Murch
FATHER GJ Murphy
WO2 M Murphy
LT COL MJ Musgrave
PTE MB Nelson
The late LTCOL the
Hon KE Newman
MAJ GEN M PJ O'Brien
The late LT COL
BS O'Dowd
MR P Oldham
CAPT RU Omagi
MAJ RJ O'Neill
WO2 JP Osborne
CPL SP O'Shea
MR J D O'Shea
LCPL AN Osis
The late LT COL
EJ O'Sullivan
LT COL M O'Sullivan
MAJ LT Partridge
PTE DL Pate
LT COL J Patten-Richens
AVM JA Paule
MAJ SA Peachey
MAJ KG Pearce
LT COL MB Pears
SGT R Peck
LT COL AT Pembroke
CPL LIL Perkins
CPL Aj Peters
LCPL MC Pettett
The late BRIG EF Pfitzner
CAPT MJ Phillips
MAJ GEN PR Phillips
WOI SL Podobnik
The late LT COL HW Pope
PTE B Potter
CPL D Powell
MAJ ISA Power
PTE B Pownall
PTE S Preston
LCPL Jh Preston
MAJ PF Prickett
CAPT BA Pronk
The late MR TE Prosser
The late FATHER PJ Quilty
PTE J Quinn
LT COL T Ramage
CAPT AJ Rankin
MAJ D Read
PTE JA Reece
WO2 RM Rees
SGT BA Reid
MR G Reidy
WO2 M Rice
BRIG JH Robbins
PTE SB Roberts
PTE MJ Robinson
LT COL Jh Robinson
MAJ AL Rock
WO2 AP Rogers
CPL MA Rogers
SGT CJ Rogers
CPL CE Rohse
LCPL SM Rosie
LT COL JB Rowland
LT COL MA Rozzoli
LT COL JC Rule
WO1 CW Russell
The late WO1 BM Ryan
WO1 KM Ryan
MR D Salben
PTE B Salm
MR J Sarks
MAJ SB Sarlin
COL RA Sayce
MAJ PA Scanlan
PTE OJ Scanlon
LT COL AM Schaper
MAJ KW Scheuermann
WO2 RA Schrader
BRIG BA Scott
SGT A Scott
CPL WD Scott
COL FP Scott
MAJ RA Scutchings
The late WO1 J Selmes
VERY REV A Sempell
MAJ GEN JJ Sengelman
BRIG DG Sharp
MAJ MF Shea
WO1 JR Sheahan
BRIG JA Sheldrick
The late BRIG Jh Shelton
CPL J Shirdon
WO1 AP Shore
The late WO2 AP Siggers
MAJ DA Siggers
COL JA Simeoni
The late BRIG MB Simkin
COL TA Simkin
COL PK Singh
LCPL TM Singleton
MR M Skennar
MR R Slater
MAJ GEN MD Slater
CAPTS TS Slatter
WO1 P Slattery
MRS M Smethurst
MAJ GEN NR Smethurst
The late MR KA Smith
WO1 D Smith
BRIG SL Smith
MAJ JMB Smith
LT COL BA Smith
MAJ JDM Smith
MR IB Smith
LT COL DJ Smith
MAJ GEN MG Smith
LT COL CR Smith
WO1 RE Smith
MAJ AMF Somerville
MAJ DM Sommers
MAJ PG Stammars
SGT JN Sorraghan
CAPT GR Sowiak
CAPT R Spackman
CAPT AE Sparkes
WO2 SG St Clair
MAJ PG Stammers
PTE LM Stapely
PTE SP Starling
PTE S Steer
The late MR R Stein
MAJ MW Stevens
The late MAJ LA Stewart
LT COL JM Stewart
LT COL WB Stothart
The late MAJ GEN AB Stretton
MR J Stringfellow
CAPT C Stuart
COL SA Stuart
LCPL C Sullivan
CAPT SG Sullivan
PTE DB Sullivan
The late COL R Sutton
MR J Swain
REV HM Swinbourn
MR CH Swinbourn
PTE AJ Taylor
LT COL IC Teague
The late MR H Tedaldi
WO1 JC Thies
PTE JC Thompson
LT SA Thompson
COL NL Thompson
The late WO1 WC Thompson
The late BRIG the Hon D Thomson
COL RA Tiller
The late COL CM Townsend
LT COL AK Treble
CAPT AD Trembath
WO1 D Trill
CAPT M Tull
The late MR KG Turbayne
MAJ KJP Tyrell
COL NJ Underwood
PTE DJ Underwood
CAPT AB Vanden Hengel
WO2 RS Varcoe
MR AR Vockler
MR MB Von Berg
COL GR Wainwright
PTE AJ Wallis
MAJ JCM Walters
MAJ SC Ward
CAPT RJ Watchorn
WO2 D Waterston
MR J Watt
MAJ J A Weaver
MAJ A Weaver
The lateBRIG NH Weekes
The late BRIG SP Weir
MAJ RW Weir
LT COL NW Welch
WO1 DJ Welsh
WO2 A West
MR LV Westende
SGT DL Wilkins
CAPT MJ Williams
CPL SM Williams
MAJ GEN SVL Willis
MAJ GEN RG Wilson
CPL MD Wood
WO1 SE Wood
PTE KJ Woodley
SGT MS Woodney
WO JK Woods
MR E Woodward
CAPT BL Woolmer
SGT JJ Wootton
CAPT J Worthington
CAPT AC Zimmerle
2 RAR Assoc Inc
2/32nd Bn AIF Assn
5 RAR Assoc Inc
7 RAR Assoc Inc
8 RAR Assoc Inc
9 RAR Assoc Inc
Australian Commando Association Victoria Branch
Central Southern District Council of the RSL
Larkforce 2/22nd Bn
PTE J MacArthur VI – mascot
PwC Australia
RAR Assoc NT
RAR Assoc QLD
Western Metro. District Council of the RSL
Women’s Auxiliary Port Kembla RSL
Women’s Auxiliary Wollongong RSL