

AIR FORCE



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The official newspaper of the Royal Australian Air Force



**Air Force bids
fond farewell
to C-130H**

P5 & 14-16

WE SALUTE YOU: In the lead-up to the official retirement of the C-130H, aircraft A97-005 – painted in the special sunset design – flew over Sydney, the Blue Mountains and the NSW Coast on November 19 to acknowledge the strong links the aircraft has held with these communities over the past 34 years.
Photo: LAC David Said

THANK YOU

Sixth C-17A's big impact

Eamon Hamilton

THE sixth C-17A for 36SQN has already made an impression on the Queensland public.

On November 22, the newly delivered aircraft led three other C-17As in a flypast of Brisbane and Gold Coast, cruising at an altitude of 300 metres.

Landing back at RAAF Base Amberley, the four aircraft were met by VIP guests along with 36SQN personnel, C-17A project members, and members of the media.

Defence Minister Stephen Smith addressed the crowd, saying "the difference in a fleet of four and a fleet of six C-17As is shown today".

"If you have six, you can have four aircraft available for tasking," he said.

On top of the four aircraft which participated in the flypast, another was on task in the MEAO, and another in scheduled maintenance.

During the acceptance ceremony for the fifth aircraft in October 2011, Mr Smith commented that the purchase of a sixth C-17A was being investigated and a Letter Of Request had been sent to the US to seek cost and availability. Announcement of the decision to acquire a sixth aircraft was made in March 2012.

"With the forthcoming handover of security operations in East Timor and Afghanistan, the C-17A will be relied upon to return deployed forces and their equipment," Mr Smith said.

"They will all be put to good use."

Each C-17A has a payload of 70 tonnes, giving 36SQN an effective lift capacity of 420 tonnes – equivalent to 20 C-130s.

Far from replacing the C-130, the expanded C-17A fleet will keep the Hercules concentrated on intra-theatre and tactical airlift.

The four C-17As used in the flypast on November 22 each carried a load which showcased the aircraft's strengths.

The latest aircraft carried an aeromedical evacuation configuration in its cargo bay.

Its fellow C-17As carried a pair of Tiger Armed Reconnaissance Helicopters, an Abrams tank and Bushmaster vehicles.

CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown



HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE: Defence Minister Stephen Smith with CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown during the C-17A flypast at RAAF Base Amberley; left, a C-17A taxis into position. Photos: CPL Casey Smith and LACW Kylie Gibson

He also extended his thanks to the Heavy Airlift Systems Program Office, and the C-17A Project Team.

"Air Force has a magnificent operational capability in the C-17A, but it is underpinned by a magnificent support organisation.

"The C-17A has improved Australia's reach – locally, regionally, and globally."

36SQN C-17A captain FLTLT Mark Nolan was behind the controls of the new C-17A when it landed at Amberley on November 22.

"It is a fantastic aircraft to fly," FLTLT Nolan said. "The capability it delivers is paramount to anything else we have.

"It was a great honour to fly it in today."

called the delivery a great result for Air Force, with its roots in the original procurement of four C-17As in 2006.

"I was at the Long Beach C-17A plant for the pick-up of the sixth aircraft," AIRMSHL Brown said.

"I discovered it actually takes three years to build a C-17A, beginning with the long lead parts through to having a working C-17A."

AIRMSHL Brown thanked his past and present counterparts in the US Air Force (USAF) for expediting delivery of C-17As originally intended for their Air Force.

"There were a couple of phone calls to ask them 'can we have one of your production slots?' and allow us to bring this capability online so quickly," AIRMSHL Brown said.

Cometh the 10,000th hour, cometh the man

NOVEMBER 22 was a great day for the sixth C-17A's loadmaster, WOFF Dave Pritchard.

Not only was he a member of the crew of the latest C-17A in the Air Force inventory, his personal clock ticked over his 10,000th hour as a loadmaster as the aircraft was off the Queensland coast, heading for the base.

WOFF Pritchard said the milestone

took 26 years to achieve, and on a range of aircraft types.

"I have completed 1600 hours on the C-17A, 5300 hours on the C-130H Hercules, 2500 hours on the Boeing 707, and the remainder on the Boeing Business Jet," he said.

He described the Globemaster as a great aircraft.

"You can make some comparisons with the Hercules, however the

C-17A is the biggest and greatest," he said.

His achievement was formally recognised shortly after the Globemaster touched down when Defence Minister Stephen Smith and CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown presented him with a certificate and congratulated him.

"It's been a great career [in the Air Force]; I've travelled Australia and the world," WOFF Pritchard said.



26 YEARS: WOFF David Pritchard. Photo: LAC Bill Solomou



FUEL FOR THOUGHT: AVM Robert Richardson (retd) photographs the refuelling from the KC-30A. Photo: LAC Bill Solomou

Armchair view of latest, greatest

PARTICIPANTS at the 2012 Air Marshals' conference at RAAF Base Amberley were given an insight of the modern Air Force when they travelled up to the event from Canberra on November 22.

Hosted by CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown, the conference was held the same day the sixth C-17A was welcomed at the base.

The conference brought together retired air marshals and air vice-marshals, and this year they travelled in style, courtesy of the new KC-30A, and then attended the welcome ceremony.

On the return journey from Amberley, they also had the opportunity to watch the tanker carry out air-to-air refuelling with an F/A-18 Hornet.

Former Chief of Air Force Personnel, AVM Robert Richardson, (retd), a former test pilot on the Hornet, was impressed.

He said he had never done any refuelling on the F/A-18 but did so on the F-16.

He was very impressed with the tanker's steadiness and, most importantly, the steadiness on the refuelling basket.

"It made it easy for him to hook on," AVM Richardson said.

"I was very impressed at the ease with which he was able to connect to the hose.

"The tanker is a wonderful aircraft, and it is also a magnificent transport platform."

He was also impressed with the new C-17A.

"Once again, it is a magnificent capability; its loading capacity is brilliant," he said.

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Last 2012 edition

This is the last edition of *Air Force News* for 2012. The first edition next year will be published on January 30. The deadline for submissions is January 16.

The team at Air Force News wishes our readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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QUANTUM LEAP: The Wedgetail has reached IOC, which means it can now be put to work in its role as one of the most advanced air battlespace management capabilities in the world.
Photo: CPL David Gibbs

'BIG BRAIN IN THE SKY'

- ▶ IT IS a highly-modified Boeing 737-700 commercial jetliner fitted with an advanced multi-role electronically scanned radar and 10 mission crew consoles.
- ▶ IT IS capable of tracking a range of airborne and maritime targets simultaneously.
- ▶ IT FLIES at an altitude of 10,000 metres and maintains surveillance of an area of 400,000 sq km; on a 10-hour mission it can cover four million sq km.
- ▶ IT IS capable of communicating with and controlling other aircraft, warships and soldiers on the ground.
- ▶ THE requirement for an AEW&C was recognised in the 1990s and Air Force conducted considerable time working with the US Navy and Air Force and RAF to come up with the design principles and developing mission crew skills.
- ▶ THE project to acquire four Wedgetails for the RAAF at a cost of \$3.45 billion was approved in 2000. A subsequent decision increased the total to six.
- ▶ THE first aircraft rolled off the production line in November 2002.
- ▶ THE first Wedgetail visited Australia in March 2005.
- ▶ THE first two aircraft were delivered to RAAF Base Williamtown in November 2009.
- ▶ AIR Force accepted the first two Wedgetails in May 2010.
- ▶ THE third was accepted in June 2010, fourth in December 2010, fifth in September 2011 and sixth in May 2012.
- ▶ SINCE late 2011, the Wedgetail has participated in Exercise Bersama Lima in Malaysia, Exercise Cope North Guam, Exercise Bersama Shield, Exercise Red Flag, Alaska and Exercise Pitch Black 12.
- ▶ THE sixth and final Wedgetail deployed to Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) in July 2012.

Wedgetail milestone

CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown added his voice to the praise for the Wedgetail Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) aircraft on November 19. The occasion was a media conference at the Fairbairn Defence Establishment in Canberra to announce the Wedgetail had reached initial operational capability (IOC).

IOC is the minimum standard required by Defence to operate the fleet. Also in attendance was Defence Materiel Minister Jason Clare, US Ambassador to Australia Jeffrey Bleich and the President and CEO of Boeing Defense, Space and Security, Mr Dennis Muilenburg. Mr Clare said Australia now had one of the most advanced air battlespace management capabilities in the world. "This is a project that is 20 years in the making and a project worth more than \$3 billion," he said. He said the aircraft was one of the most advanced pieces of military hardware that the ADF had ever operated. "The Wedgetail is the big brain in the battlespace. It knows more about what's going on in a war zone than anything else."



MOMENTOUS DAY: CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown, left, and Defence Materiel Minister Jason Clare address the guests at the Wedgetail aircraft press conference.
Photos: LAC Bill Solomon

CAF said it was a great day for the Air Force and the ADF. "Today marks the initial operational capability of what is the most advanced AEW&C aircraft anywhere in the world," AIRMSHL Brown said. "And today marks the realisation of a 30-year capability requirement for the ADF." He said the Wedgetail was at the very heart of the future networked ADF and was critical to nearly all of Air Force's operations.

"The most important thing that Air Force does for the ADF is to control the air domain and that's where this aircraft is absolutely critical. "Fighters are an important part of the orchestra when it comes to an air defence operation but this aircraft is very much the conductor and the brains of the operation and that's where it really comes into its own." AIRMSHL Brown said one of the things that was not often understood about the aircraft was that it was a first of type.

It was a multi-role AESA radar and one of the most advanced pieces of technology anywhere in the world. "Now having established IOC means that the capability is deployable wherever government wants to deploy it and can contribute across a wide spectrum of operations," he said. After the press conference, the visitors inspected a Wedgetail, which 2SQN flew from RAAF Base Williamtown for the event.



PRAISE: The US Ambassador to Australia, Jeffrey Bleich, addresses the Wedgetail aircraft press conference
Photo: LAC Bill Solomon

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'Sorry' to victims

Taskforce to assess individual complaints

DEFENCE Minister Stephen Smith, on behalf of the Government, has apologised to ADF members and Defence departmental employees who have suffered sexual or other forms of abuse in the course of their employment.

The CDF has also issued an apology to ADF members who have suffered sexual or other forms of abuse while serving in the ADF.

Mr Smith also announced on November 26 the establishment of an independent taskforce to assess individual complaints and any wider systemic issues arising from the DLA Piper Review into allegations of sexual or other forms of abuse in Defence.

Mr Len Roberts Smith, QC, will head the taskforce, with Mr Robert Cornall, former Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department, as deputy chair. The taskforce also includes former Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner Ms Susan Halliday and AFP Assistant Commissioner Rudi Lammers.

The taskforce will now start the process of working with



Photo: LAC Bill Solomou

those who have made allegations to determine the best course of action based on their individual circumstances

The DLA Piper Review recommended that a royal commission not be established to inquire into and report on general allegations of abuse in Defence. However, Mr Smith announced that the taskforce would consider if further investigation through a royal commission was required into matters identified in the Report of the DLA Piper Review in relation to ADFA and alleged events at HMAS Leeuwin in the 1960s and 1970s.

"To those men and women in the ADF or the Department of Defence who have suffered sexual or other forms of abuse, on behalf of the Government, I say sorry. You should never have experienced this abuse," he said.

CDF GEN David Hurley said he would work with the ADF's senior leadership to provide a fair, just and inclusive work environment.

"I repeat my previous personal undertaking to endeavour strenuously to defend the right of all members of the ADF to serve in an environment free from abusive behaviour of

any kind," GEN Hurley said. "Defence remains committed to achieving deep cultural reform across the organisation. We will provide the appropriate resources and personnel to support the Government's announcement."

To access information about the Government's response to the DLA Piper Review, call the free telephone hotline on 1800 424 991 or visit the website www.ag.gov.au/defenceabusetaskforce. Serving ADF personnel who feel they need help can call the All Hours Support Line on 1800 628 036.



CRACKDOWN: WOFF Mark Pentreath who has called for members to act when they see wrongdoing.

Photo: LACW Jessica Smith

WOFF-AF rejects bad behaviour

FLTLTs Melody Earl and Gavin Briggs

IN LINE with the New Horizon initiative, WOFF-AF Mark Pentreath is committed 100 per cent to stamp out unacceptable behaviour across Air Force.

"Air Force is serious about making our workplace inclusive for all its members," he said.

"Regardless of rank, everyone has a commitment to ensuring that our workplace provides the conditions and environment that brings out the best in people."

New Horizon – which is Air Force's response to the Pathway to Change strategy for cultural reform in Defence – was unveiled in September when CAF named six Air Force values as the foundation stones for far-reaching reform.

WOFF Pentreath said he believes every member of the Air Force should feel empowered and supported to speak up against unacceptable behaviour.

"If a person is being given a hard time, such as receiving negative comments that have nothing to do with their work performance, but instead for example, about their gender, ethnicity or faith, it undermines their sense of worth and standing among their peers," he said.

"Something that may seem quite innocent to one person, often the perpetrator, is usually not to the person on the receiving end. Often the perpetrator thinks that 'it is just for a laugh'. However, they would not if the situation was reversed on them.

"If you see another Air Force member enduring harassment, constant sniping or receiving inappropriate emails, you must act.

"Report this to your immediate chain of command. If the offender is the next person in your chain of command, then bypass them to the next responsible person.

"To not act is to condone bad behaviour and make it the norm."

WOFF Pentreath said bad behaviour, such as sexual harassment, racial vilification and bullying, were still prevalent in the Australian community.

"Unfortunately, these behaviours can also be found in a small minority within Air Force.

"Let's all act together and deal with unacceptable behaviour head on and make our workplace culture one that is fair, inclusive and supportive."

HOW TO RESPOND

- First point of contact to discuss and resolve any work-related concerns is your supervisor or section commander.
- If your concern is with your supervisor's behaviour, and you are uncomfortable addressing the issue with them, an equity adviser is an option.
- To find an equity adviser near you, contact the Cooma Call Centre on 1800 333 362 or visit Defence People Group intranet site: <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/people/sites/ARE>
- If you are overseas call 0011 61 2 6127 2900.



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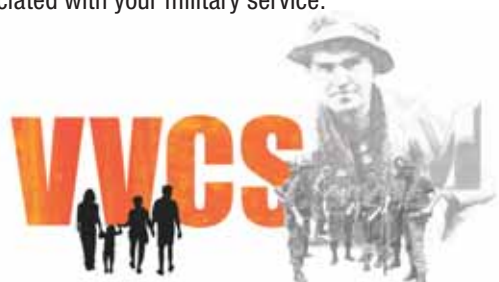
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Emotional end of era

Eamon Hamilton

THE last two C-130H Hercules in Air Force service were formally farewelled at RAAF Base Richmond on November 30.

The pair of C-130Hs – A97-005 and A97-008 – did a flypast of a parade conducted by 37SQN.

Defence Minister Stephen Smith joined AIRCDRE Gary Martin, a former C-130H pilot and current Commander Air Lift Group, in reviewing the parade.

“Since 1978, the Australian Defence Force has asked everything of this aircraft, across the globe, and it has delivered,” AIRCDRE Martin said.

One aircraft carried Bob Carpenter, a former flight engineer leader for 36SQN and a crew member during the delivery flights in 1978.

“I don’t think anybody would think that 34 years later they would be on board seeing them out,” he said.

WOFFs Chris Sinfield and Neal Lewis, flight engineers with 37SQN, had the duty of shutting down the last two C-130Hs after they had flown over the parade.

“It’s especially emotional for me, considering that it is the end of a career working on these aircraft to keep them going,” WOFF Sinfield said.

CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown joined past and present members of the C-130H community for a dining-in night at Richmond on November 30.

It capped off a series of events



THE LAST DUTY: The crew of the last two Air Force C-130Hs in Air Force service which conducted ceremonial flypasts of the 37SQN farewell parade. Back: SQNLDR Ken Rogers, FLGOFF Michael Burns, SQNLDR Robert Sokol, FLTLT Tony Charles, SQNLDR Andrew Johnson, FLGOFF Brett Aaker, WOFF Neal Lewis and WOFF Randolph Jachimowicz. Front: WOFF Chris Sinfield, FSGT Ken Rodney, FLTLT Andrew Petrusma and WOFF Bob Carpenter (retd).

Photos: CPL Amanda Campbell and LAC David Said



which celebrated the C-130H’s service to Australia.

On November 19, the two C-130Hs held a media flight over Sydney Harbour and the Blue Mountains, and on November 23, A97-005 conducted a flypast of Canberra and Wagga.

That same day, A97-008 became the last H-model to visit Lake Cargelligo, Gilgandra and Tamworth.

A 37SQN family day at Richmond on November 24 served to thank loved ones for their patience and support to the Hercules workforce, with dispensation made for family members to go on one last flight in a C-130H.

That night, a reunion in the 37SQN maintenance hangar brought together more than 550 members of the Australian C-130H community.

Disposal plans for the C-130Hs will see several more flights from Richmond.

One aircraft is slated for display at the Air Force Museum in Point Cook to preserve this important aspect of Air Force’s aviation heritage.

Of the remaining C-130Hs, four aircraft will be transferred to the Indonesian Air Force.

Another aircraft is planned to be kept at Richmond for training purposes.

A strategy for disposal of the remaining aircraft is being developed for Government consideration and approval in early 2013.

See pages 14-16 for further coverage of the C-130H’s retirement.

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Home after 10 years



WELCOME BACK: AP-3C Orion A9-665 is given a traditional hose down after returning home from the Middle East for the final time; right, SGT Matthew Newson is greeted by his girlfriend Amelia moments after arriving home.

Photos: LAC Brenton Kwaterski



DADDY: FLTTL Ian Colling is greeted by his excited daughter Kimberley on arrival.

THE crew of the last AP-3C Orion to return from the MEAO knew they were representing many others when they brought the aircraft home on November 29.

Hundreds of personnel who have deployed to the MEAO turned out to witness A9-665 land at RAAF Base Edinburgh.

Two base fire trucks provided the traditional water cannon salute as the aircraft taxied on to the flightline, which was edged with nearly 500 spectators.

As the crew emerged from the aircraft, led by aircraft captain SQNLDR Ashley Joslin, another Orion conducted a flypast, and then excited family members ran to greet their loved ones as they disembarked.

Defence Minister Stephen Smith announced the end of the Orions' Operation Slipper mission in early October. The first of two Orions came home later that month and this latest homecoming closed the era.

Almost 90 personnel from 92WG, comprising aircrew, ground crew and support personnel, have now returned home.

Throughout the almost decade-long deployment, 92WG has rotated personnel on 3500 separate deployments for three- to six-month tours of duty.

The Orions provided intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability to coalition forces – conducting overland intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance tasks in Afghanistan and Iraq, maritime patrols of the Arabian Gulf and North Arabian Sea, and more recently, counter-piracy missions in the vicinity of Somalia, working closely with the US-led Combined Maritime Force and other international task forces.

After the return of the final aircraft, Mr Smith thanked 92WG for their contribution, and acknowledged the support and understanding by families and friends.

He said that during the deployment, 92WG had also maintained operational and training commitments in Australia, clearly demonstrating the professionalism and dedication of all the Wing's personnel in support of Australia's national interests at home and abroad.

Chief Joint Operations Command LTGEN Ash Power, DCAF AVM Leo Davies and OC 92WG GPCAPT Craig Heap were there to welcome the contingent home.

GPCAPT Heap said his personnel should be extremely proud of their achievements.

"Their work has been an important component of Australia's contribution to coalition operations in the Middle East," he said. "I would also like to recognise the significant support and personal sacrifices made by the families, friends and loved ones of those who deployed."

Pilot FLTTL Paul Bowes, who was part of the final crew but returned home ahead of his colleagues, said the MEAO and Operation Slipper had been a part of everyday life for members of 92WG for the past 10 years.

"In that time, most members of 92WG have been deployed," he said.

"It has been a huge team effort, with the significant contribution of 10SQN and 11SQN maintenance and aircrew, 92WG operations officers, intelligence officers, geospatial imagery analysts and Combat Support Unit support staff from many RAAF units."

FLTTL Bowes said it was business as usual when detachment members found out in October they were coming home.

"The crew very much remained focused on the operations at hand," he said.

"It would have been easy to be distracted by the prospect of being given the responsibility for bringing the last aircraft home after 10 years of solid effort by 92WG and all the agencies that have supported us.

"Once the last operation was complete, the crew could start to enjoy the prospect of bringing the aircraft home."



HUGE TEAM EFFORT: FLTTL Paul Bowes.



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FRIENDS REUNITED: Members from the 92WG community welcome home the final AP-3C Orion from the Middle East. Photo: LAC Glynn Jones



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Task Unit 633.2.4 statistics since January 2003:

- 2410 missions
- 22,535 hours

THE FINAL CURTAIN:
SQNLDR Ashley Joslin leads his unit during their farewell parade at Al Minhad Air Base; right inset, the Orion dispenses flares on the crew's last operational mission over HMAS Anzac in the MEAO.

Photos: WO2 Andrew Hetherington and SGT William Guthrie

From start to finish



SQNLDR Ashley Joslin came full circle when he headed AP-3C Orion A9-665's final mission in the MEAO, reports **WO2 Andrew Hetherington**.

AFTER spending a total of 48 days airborne on missions and 18 months of his life living in the MEAO, it was not surprising SQNLDR Joslin said he felt a little sad to be a part of the last AP-3C mission.

SQNLDR Joslin was the commander of the last rotation of Task Unit 633.2.4.

"It feels a bit nostalgic and reminds me of the large part of my life I've spent here," he said. "We've achieved a lot and it's a sad time, but it had come to an end."

After 2410 missions serving in the MEAO, AP-3C Orion A9-665 flew the unit's last sortie on November 21.

The Task Unit first began operating in the MEAO in early January 2003.

SQNLDR Joslin was part of that first detachment.

"I was a junior co-pilot and had been just promoted to FLTLT back then," he said.

His first sortie was a maritime intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (MISR) mission in the Gulf of Oman on January 29, 2003.

The last operational sortie for the Orion Task Unit was also captained by SQNLDR Joslin.

He can lay claim to five rotations to the MEAO and more than 140 sorties.

And, to add a bit a symmetry, his last sortie was much like his first.

"We flew a 10-hour MISR mission in support of Naval Combined Task Force 150, looking for any suspected pirate vessels," SQNLDR Joslin said.

Also on board A9-665 was GPCAPT Kevin Murray, who is JTF

633's Air Component Commander, is an AP-3C air combat officer and was the Commander of Task Unit 633.2.4 in 2007.

He summed up the significance of what the last flight and departure of the AP-3C capability from the MEAO meant by saying it was the end of a generation in Air Force operations.

"It's been nearly 10 years of operations and it's mixed emotions for me," GPCAPT Murray said.

"While MEAO operations have been challenging and rewarding,

I understand why they have to go home. This task unit was one of the best providers in the MEAO in what their mission was."

He said since the early days of the task units association with the MEAO, the AP-3C capability had evolved into a world-class intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platform.

"We really revolutionised this aircraft and its capabilities in the time it operated here," he said.

"More impressive though was the people who took the equipment and used it to its best effect."

Al Minhad says goodbye

WO2 Andrew Hetherington

AIR Force's AP-3C Task Unit 633.2.4 was officially disbanded after a unit parade and medal presentation ceremony at Al Minhad Air Base in the United Arab Emirates on November 25.

The Task Unit first began operating in the MEAO in early January 2003 and operated in the skies over Afghanistan and Iraq, and over the oceans and gulfs in the MEAO.

The unit was officially farewellled by Commander Joint Task Force 633 MAJGEN Michael Crane.

"It's a very sad day for me and Joint Task Force 633 because we say farewell to one of the most capable and versatile capabilities in the joint task force," MAJGEN Crane said.

"The detachment flew 2410 missions, comprising of 22,535 flying hours with a near perfect success rate.

"I was informed this distance flown was roughly the same as flying to the moon and back 14 times.

"I bid the AP-3C detachment



MEMENTO:
AIRMSHL Geoff Brown receives a photograph from the crew of AP-3C Orion A9-665 showing the aircraft dropping flares near HMAS Anzac during its last mission in the MEAO on November 21.

Photo: WO2 Andrew Hetherington

farewell after almost 10 years of continuous operations in support of Joint Task Force 633."

MAJGEN Crane said he was privileged to have had the opportunity to command the Task Unit.

"I'm honoured to have commanded such a professional, adaptable and innovative group not once, but twice," he said.

"You are the quintessential quiet achievers and you can be all proud of your individual and collective achievements."

A special visitor to Al Minhad

for the finale was CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown.

"It was great to visit the Orion detachment and congratulate them first-hand on their achievements in the MEAO," AIRMSHL Brown said. "The crews, the maintainers, and the combat support staff have done an outstanding job over the past 10 years."

AIRMSHL Geoff Brown said it was great to talk with members of the crews and he was very appreciative of the warm welcome they gave him.

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I was informed [the distance travelled on all missions in nearly 10 years] was roughly the same as flying to the moon and back 14 times. – Commander Joint Task Force 633 MAJGEN Michael Crane

Integrated intel

Intelligence musteringings to combine in 2013

Andrew Stackpool

AIR Force Intelligence musteringings will function as integrated multi-disciplinary teams under a single mustering – Air Intelligence Analyst (AIA) – from early next year.

The new organisation will include reservists who will mirror the permanent AIAs, including the necessity to achieve and maintain a Top Secret Positive Vetting clearance.

At the same time a new Air Intelligence Training Flight is being stood up at RAAF Base Edinburgh as a dedicated Air Force air intelligence training organisation.

It will start operations to produce the intelligence and counterintelligence personnel of the future.

The decision follows an extensive 12-month review.

Chief of Staff Aerospace Operational Support Group (AOSG) GPCAPT Richard Trotman-Dickenson said the formation of the AIA mustering represented a fundamental forward-looking transformation of the intelligence airman trade.

“It will ensure Air Force gets the most from its new aircraft and systems as part of a network-enabled future,” GPCAPT Trotman-Dickenson said.

The changes follow a CAF directive to Commander AOSG AIRCDRE Noel Derwort in September last year to assume the role of capability manager for Air Force intelligence and the Air Intelligence Employment Group.

The new AIA mustering will support air operations and deliver a holistic Air Force intelligence capability through combining SIGSOP (Linguist), SIGSOP (Technical), Geospatial Imagery Analysts and some members of the Security Police who are employed in counterintelligence duties into three substreams: Geospatial Intelligence, Operational Intelligence and Signals Intelligence.

Operational intelligence will have the broadest range of skills in the new mustering, and members will be required to gain language proficiency as part of their initial employment training.

The review recognised the increased demand for qualified intelligence analysts across the RAAF and wider Defence, and in 2011 the Air Intelligence Transition Team (AITT) was formed under Project Argo.

Project Argo stood up on November 1 last year.

AITT, headed by WGCdr Col Coghill, was tasked with amalgamating



INCREASED DEMAND: Signals operators, above, and geospatial imagery analysts, right, together with some members of the Security Police, will combine to form the Air Intelligence Analyst mustering from next year.

Photo (right): LACW Jessica Smith



the existing musteringings into the AIA construct and developing new intelligence analysis, counterintelligence and ground intelligence courses.

Transition to the new AIA mustering will take place in March, while the new training flight will begin in January 2013 at Edinburgh as part of AOSG's Information Warfare Wing.

The training flight will conduct ini-

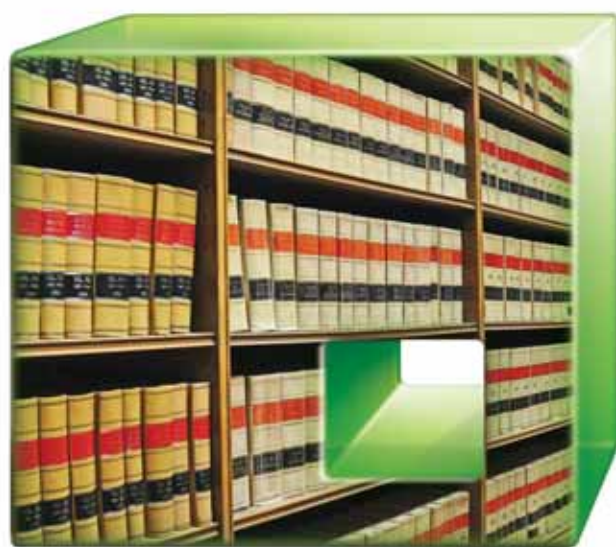
tial Air Intelligence and Operational Intelligence courses as well as ongoing intelligence training at the CPL and FSGT levels. Total throughput will rise to about 260 students a year.

GPCAPT Trotman-Dickenson said: “A dedicated air intelligence training capability for our airmen will provide a career-spanning training and competency attainment system that will enable

them to work more effectively in the future Air Force, joint and coalition ISR and intelligence environment.”

The minimum training period will be 10 weeks, although linguists will take longer.

Further information is available at <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/raafweb/sites/IWWGHQ/comweb.asp?page=1208482>



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Now you're thinking

Timor mission ends

CPL Mark Doran

EAST Timor began a new chapter in its history when the Australian-led International Stabilisation Force (ISF) ceased security operations on November 22.

Members of the ISF marked the end of their mission with a parade at the Fatu Hada HQ of the East Timor Defence Force, which was attended by several dignitaries including CDF Gen David Hurley and East Timor Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao.

After more than six years of helping East Timor security forces keep the peace, the ISF role in East Timor has changed to the redeployment of its people and equipment to Australia and New Zealand.

The current agreement has ISF troops starting to leave East Timor

by early December and current bases remediated for handover by mid-2013.

CDF GEN David Hurley said East Timor's security forces had risen to several challenges during 2012.

“We have witnessed the successful conduct of national elections, the formation of a new government and we celebrated the 10th anniversary of restoration of independence,” he said.

“Each of these demonstrates marked progress.”

Since 2006, the ADF has deployed 9513 soldiers, 913 sailors, 833 airmen and 97 civilians to East Timor.

The ISF currently includes 361 soldiers, 10 sailors, 18 airmen and two civilians with up to 70 personnel from the New Zealand Defence Force.

More on Air Force's involvement in East Timor operations in a future edition.

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Swinging into action

A TEAM of ADF personnel battled monsoonal conditions to build two temporary offshore processing facilities for the Department of Immigration and Citizenship on Nauru and Manus Island at short notice.

Within 10 weeks of the Government's announcement to reinstate offshore immigration processing, ADF personnel delivered two facilities, each capable of housing 500 residents and 200 staff complete with power, kitchen, showers, toilets, sewerage treatment and water purification systems.

On Manus Island the Air Force's 382 Expeditionary Combat Support Squadron deployed up to 159 personnel from 21 units during peak construction phases. The construction effort on Nauru was led by Army's 21 Construction Squadron, with support from 22 other ADF units.

Air Lift Group and Joint Logistics Command heavily supported both missions.

JTF 639 coordinated the effort as part of Operation Resolute under JTF 639.4 at HQ NORCOM in Darwin.

Deputy Commander JTF 639, AIRCDRE Ken Watson, said the ADF units showed great commitment and tenacity in delivering the facilities in Nauru and Papua New Guinea, both on schedule and to the agreed capability, in support of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

"This was a complex operation and ADF members have deployed at



JOB WELL DONE: WGCDR Andrew Lancaster and SQNLDR Alan Brown, both of 382ECSS, inspect the tent accommodation on Manus Island.
Photos: CPL Chris Moore

very short notice, achieved tight deadlines and worked tirelessly in extreme monsoonal conditions including heat, humidity, rain and mud," he said.

Chief of Joint Operations LTGEN Ash Power said the ADF personnel completed the task in a short time

frame as part of a whole-of-government effort.

The first task on Manus Island for 382ECSS engineers was to clear the entire site of vegetation with chain saws and remove a large amount of broken and rotten timber. They then

restored power and water (including reverse osmosis fresh water systems), installed new toilets and washing facilities, and rebuilt or restored the original accommodation blocks, recreation spaces and medical facilities.

The plumbing section leader on



MEETING THE CHALLENGE: CPL Shane Watts removes a pipe to start working on Manus Island ... "there's real satisfaction at seeing the camp come together quickly and to a high standard."

the mission, CPL Shane Watts, of 1 Airfield Operations Support Squadron, said the task had been very worthwhile.

"It's been a pretty challenging mission but we are here to help and there's real satisfaction at seeing the camp come together quickly and to a high standard," CPL Watts said.

"It's also satisfying work when you need to think through and foresee problems and then come up with their solutions."

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship has full responsibility for operating and supporting facilities on both Nauru and Manus Island.

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Mental health videos to raise awareness

Michael Weaver

A NEW series of online videos aims to bring more awareness of the mental health issues faced by current and ex-serving members of the ADF.

Veterans Affairs and Defence Science and Personnel Minister Warren Snowdon said the videos offered an insight into the experiences of veterans and current airmen, sailors and soldiers, and their families post-deployment.

"The pace of military operations has increased considerably over the past decade and we have seen some of the impact of this increase, along with the multiple deployments some members of the Defence Force undertake," he said.

"This impact is not only felt by those who served, but also their family and friends."

The videos feature current servicemen and women, veterans and family members, including an Afghan war widow, sharing their experiences in dealing with issues from depression through to anxiety and loneliness.

SQNLDR Cindy Chawner, one of the serving members featured in the videos, said the issue of mental health had a cumulative effect.

"The person living with the men-



CUMULATIVE EFFECT: SQNLDR Cindy Chawner, one of the serving members featured in the videos.

tal health condition isn't just the person living with the mental health condition," SQNLDR Chawner said.

"Every person around them, all those people who care about them and love them, their family in particular, are also on that journey with them. They're living that experience; it's different, but they're living it with them.

"You just have to start having the conversation and from there good things tend to flow."

CDF GEN David Hurley also stressed the Defence organisation wanted to hear from those who feel they need help.

"We are not necessarily built, I don't think, to see some of the things we see, to do some of the things we do, or experience some of the things we experience in the ADF, so you will react and you will be different," GEN Hurley said.

"Don't suffer in silence. The organisation wants to hear from you and wants to help you."

Mr Snowdon said he hoped the videos would start a discussion among the current and ex-serving communities.

"Reaching out to others is not a sign of weakness, there are other people out there going through the same thing you are. The message out of all this is that help is out there, and help can make a difference," Mr Snowdon said.

Mr Snowdon launched the videos, produced by the Department of Veterans Affairs, on November 20.

The videos are on the DVA YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/DVAAus or via the DVA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DVAAUS. For further information and support, contact the ADF Mental Health all hours support line: 1800 628 036.

Geoff's accolade



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: WGCDR Geoff Kimmins, above, addresses guests at the Engineers Australia awards night at Parliament House.

A SENIOR Air Force engineer has had his more than 35 years' service to engineering recognised with a prestigious civilian award.

Engineers Australia named WGCDR Geoff Kimmins, the Deputy Director Engineering and Technical in the office of the Director General Personnel—Air Force, the National Engineering Associate of the Year.

He received the award at the Engineers Australia 23rd annual Australian Engineering Excellence Awards in the Great Hall of Parliament House in Canberra on November 21.

The awards celebrate the accomplishments of some of the finest engineering companies and individuals in the world and award recipients are selected by a distinguished panel of Engineers Australia members.

Finalists are members of an elite group of Australia's premier engineers who have set global benchmarks for best practice in their fields of endeavour and are leaders in the profession.

WGCDR Kimmins said he didn't see himself as different

than any other military engineer. "To receive this award in such esteemed company is testament to the training, professional development and employment opportunities available in the Air Force and ADF," he said.

He was completely surprised. "I never thought it possible and it shows just how well military, and specifically Air Force, engineers rate amongst the rest of Australia's engineering population," WGCDR Kimmins said.

Judging panel chairman Ian Pedersen said WGCDR Kimmins was a deserving recipient of the award.

"He has dedicated his career to the service of the profession and the Australian community," Mr Pedersen said.

"The award is presented to the engineering associate who best demonstrates significant achievement in their chosen discipline and advances the role and purpose of the engineering profession within society.

"WGCDR Kimmins has gone above and beyond in fulfilling these criteria."

IN BRIEF

2SQN consecration

HUNDREDS of personnel watched as Governor-General Quentin Bryce presented 2SQN with its reconsecrated squadron standard at RAAF Base Williamtown on November 30. The squadron received its standard in 1971, however, it has now had new Battle Honours approved for service in Thailand and Malaysia between 1958 and 1966. Full coverage in the next edition.

FSU 6 return home

FORCE Support Unit 6 (FSU 6) returned to Australia in October after a six-month deployment to the Middle East support-

ing troops in Tarin Kot, Khandahar, Kabul and Al Minhad Air Base. More than 200 family and guests attended a welcome home parade at Lavarack Barracks in Townsville on November 19 which formally marked the closure of the mission.

Blood Challenge over

THE Defence Organisation Blood Challenge finished on November 30 after three months of generous support. At the time of print, results were still being compiled with the official announcement on the results scheduled for February 7. Members need to make sure they have registered on Club Red to ensure their donation is counted. Visit www.donate-blood.org.au/who-can-give/club-red/ to register your donation.



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Realising their dream

CPL Mark Doran

TWENTY-four of the 2012 Defence Indigenous Development Program (DIDP) graduates have applied to become full-time members of the ADF with six applying for Air Force.

Forty-four indigenous Australians from across Australia graduated at ceremonies in Cairns and Katherine on November 13.

The program's graduates completed a seven-month residential program to provide young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults with the life skills and confidence to secure opportunities and sustain continuous employment of their choice.

They combined studies in literacy, numeracy, Year 10 subjects and TAFE certificate-level studies with military skills and familiarisation.

It was also a special day for 2011 DIDP graduate REC Danica Reisener who assisted in the 2012 program as a junior mentor and joined the Air Force herself on November 13.

REC Danica Reisener said it was a long journey with some ups and downs.

"I am looking forward to recruit training as this has been my dream," she said.

"DIDP gave me options and expanded my opportunities – they gave me the opportunity to undertake certificate-level training and provided me with insight into the military."

Defence Science and Personnel Minister Warren Snowdon congratulated the graduates at the ceremonies in Cairns and Katherine.

"I'm honoured to congratulate them on their achievement, and to meet with the many proud parents and elders who travelled great distances to see their young people graduate," Mr Snowdon said.

"I've no doubt that, through their determination and hard work, these graduates will become role models for others in their communities."

The 22 Queensland participants were from regional communities including Thursday Island, Yarrabah, Old Mapoon, Innisfail, Boigu Island, Hopevale, Badu Island, Hammond Island, Yam Island, Bamaga, Napranum, Wujal Wujal, Mossman, Charters Towers and Rockhampton.

As well as being from the Northern Territory, the graduates at the Katherine ceremony included students from across Australia including Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia.

Students from the program are preparing to pursue a variety of career options following their graduation including some who will continue to serve as reserve members of 51FNQR and Norforce while they pursue full-time civilian employment.

The Defence Indigenous Development Program is part of the Australian Government's Indigenous Employment Program.

It is a joint initiative between Defence, the Department of Education,



LOOKING AHEAD: 2012 Defence Indigenous Development Program – North Queensland trainee Shenade Hill, left, and 2011 graduate Danica Reisener, a 2012 Venture Projects junior mentor who enlisted in the Air Force on November 13, look at a picture of a medic in Air Force News. Shenade hopes to become an Air Force medic in the future.

Employment and Workplace Relations, the Queensland Department of Education and the Northern Territory Department of Education and Training.

DIDP graduate Shenade Hill undertook marine studies during the program and said she wanted to be a medical assistant in the Air Force from day one.

"This program has opened doors for me and given me exposure to the military," she said.

"I have increased my fitness and DIDP has given me increased confidence in that joining the Air Force is something I really want to do.

"I am looking forward to making

new friends, the military training and travel."

Planning for the 2013 program is under way and Defence will call for nominations in February 2013.

For more information, contact the DIDP on 1800 447 827 or email info@didp.com.au

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Making a difference

HEALTH Operational Conversion Unit (HOCU) is gleaming the benefits of incorporating the continuous improvement and Air Force Improvement (AFI) methodology into its day-to-day operations.

HOCU is a specialised health training unit that provides education for military health professionals.

CO HOCU WGCDR Michael Penman said that all staff had been instrumental in incorporating the changes throughout the unit in conjunction with the Air Force Values as part of the New Horizon initiative.

"These improvement goals have been incorporated into HOCU's 'Plan on a Page' which is on display in the unit's foyer," WGCDR Penman said.

"This plan outlines the unit's mission, vision, values and CO excellence priorities, along with a list of what tasks have been completed and what tasks remain for the year, in an easy to understand language for staff and visitors alike."

WGCDR Penman said that as part of the unit's plan, HOCU had a statement for Continuous Improvement (CI) behaviours to be displayed by unit members.

"These behaviours complement our new Air Force values," he said.

The successes realised throughout 2012 have been possible as a result of a number of fundamental changes to the unit's business model.

HOCU now conducts unit meetings incorporating a standing item for the Business Plan and 'Just do it' activities, where unit members are encouraged to share good ideas.



MEASURE OF SUCCESS

How has HOCU achieved these results?

- Improving communication at all levels
- Simplifying the business processes
- Sharing information with others
- Rewarding change agents
- Maintaining CI momentum

As a training unit, documentation processes post-course were found to have been duplicated in a number of areas as well as being unnecessarily time consuming.

HOCU have used the 'Just do it' tool as an all in one course reporting mechanism which allows members to document suggested improvements to the courses and identify future projects, if required.

WGCDR Penman said the 'Just do it' tool was also used as a CI form for all other unit activities so there was just one form now for all suggestions.

"As a result of this simplification in the reporting process members have started to realise that improvements can occur on a day-to-day basis and can be as simple as changing a legacy process," he said.

The HOCU executive team has received excellent support from OC Health Services Wing and the Combat Support Improvement Program, along with the AFI team at RAAF Base Amberley. HOCU activities have been

used as examples in highlighting how other units within HSW can embrace the process.

As part of the recognition process, HOCU has also created a Centre of Excellence award that recognises exemplary effort and dedication to CI activities, the unit's mission and vision statements and the Air Force values.

To ensure that the unit maintains the momentum, CI members' contribution to achieving reforms is documented within position duty statements and performance goal setting and reporting as required.

For more information on the HOCU improvement activities, see <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/raafweb/sites/HOCU/ComWeb.asp?page=130281>

Air Force events

Air Force Band
November 26-December 13: Op Slipper, Afghanistan.
December 6-10: Op Asute, East Timor.
December 6: Yarra Valley Country Club community show, Bulleen.
December 11: 1RTU graduation parade, RAAF Base Wagga.
December 13: OTS graduation parade, RAAF Base East Sale.
December 13: SAW graduation parade, RAAF Base East Sale.
December 16: Lunchtime concert, Melbourne Town Hall.

Roulettes
December 8: Sale Baptist Fun Day.
December 8: 462SQN AAFC parade, Taralgon, Victoria.

Air Force Balloon
December 7: HMAS Harman family Christmas party.
December 9: Camp Quality, Jervis Bay.
December 13: Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camp, Canberra Grammar School.

wishing air force personnel a safe **festive season**



At SSDS we see the Air Force as an extension of our family.

We enjoy being a part of the experiences that make a difference in the lives of Air Force personnel. We've been sharing these experiences for the past 20 years and in 2013, we look forward to sharing many more.

SSDS wishes all Air Force personnel, at home and abroad, a safe and happy festive season.

WOFF-AF MARK PENTREATH

I AM not sure if everyone is looking back with the same thought as I am, but where has this year gone? I write this Christmas message as your Warrant Officer of the Air Force with tremendous pride in what we have achieved during the past 12 months.

We continue to meet every challenge required of us, whether that be in supporting the people of Australia through humanitarian operations or as we continue to provide air power in support of Australia's national security.

We achieve this through the dedication and commitment of an amazing team of people; one team comprised of uniformed personnel, Defence civilians and contractors.

Throughout the year I have had the privilege of talking to many of you, both at our air bases within Australia and overseas on operations.

Without exception, I see an amazing level of commitment to get the job done. Unfortunately this is sometimes at the expense of our family, friends and ourselves.

Please spare a thought for those personnel who continue to serve our nation, either at home or abroad, over the festive season. To those personnel, your selfless dedication to our country is appreciated by us all and I thank you for your service.

While I would like to say next year is going to be a breeze, the likelihood is we will continue to be challenged across every facet of the organisation.

Personally, I am excited about these challenges and look forward to working with you all to achieve our mission.

I wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



CAF AIRMSHL GEOFF BROWN

AS 2012 draws to an end, I cannot remember a year where Air Force has asked so much of its workforce yet continued to deliver – exceeding all expectations.

I am proud that RAAF personnel are respectful, inclusive and strive to maintain the high expectations and trust that the Australian public have in us.

I often say that the RAAF is a complex engineering and logistics organisation and our people have enabled a high level of achievement on operations, training and day-to-day ops.

Our latest capabilities, including F/A-18F, Wedgetail, KC-30A and C-17A and their associated systems, have all delivered the desired capability.

Through our people, platforms and systems we will continue to deliver the air and space power to meet Australia's security needs now and into the future, while meeting the challenges of reform to do things smarter and more efficiently.

Our men and women on operations continue to fulfil Australia's most vital national security, border protection and disaster relief roles in the Middle East, Sudan, East Timor and our own borders with incredible professionalism and dedication.

For those of you on operations over the Christmas and New Year period, thank you for your and your family's sacrifice. I wish you a safe deployment while you carry out this vital task.

If you are one of the fortunate with an opportunity to take a break over Christmas, please enjoy this time with your families and keep safe.

You all have my sincere thanks.



CDF GEN DAVID HURLEY

ONE of my favourite tasks as CDF is spending time out in the field with the men and women of the ADF.

Whether I am speaking to our Navy divers, visiting our troops in Afghanistan or meeting our junior RAAF officers at the Officers' Training School in Sale, I am always impressed by our people's passion and professionalism.

I am proud of our people and the work we do at home and abroad that continues to build our reputation.

Over the past year the ADF has conducted 16 operations in the Middle East, the Solomon Islands, East Timor and in support of the Australian Government's border protection tasks.

In addition to these operations,

the ADF has undertaken 65 search and rescue missions and nine additional Defence Assistance to the Civil Community tasks including flood assistance in Victoria, NSW and Queensland.

The ADF reached some significant milestones in 2012.

In November, the Australian-led International Stabilisation Force ceased its security operations in East Timor and commenced its withdrawal.

Our contribution to the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands is drawing to an end after almost 10 years and this month Australian forces in Afghanistan completed the hand-over of forward operating bases and patrol bases in Uruzgan province to the Afghan National Army.

In recognising our progress throughout 2012 we also remember our fallen soldiers: SGT Blaine Diddams, SPR James Martin, LCPL Stjepan "Rick" Milosevic, PTE Robert Poate, PTE Nathanael Gallagher, LCPL Mervyn McDonald and CPL Scott Smith.

My thoughts are also with those who have been wounded on operations and I wish them a speedy recovery.

Our ability to sustain this workload and deliver results is a credit to our deployed personnel and the military members and civilians who support these operations.

I thank you for your efforts over the past year and extend my best wishes for a safe and happy festive season.

DEFENCE MINISTER STEPHEN SMITH

I HAVE had the great privilege this year to meet and talk with Defence personnel and their families, both here and overseas.

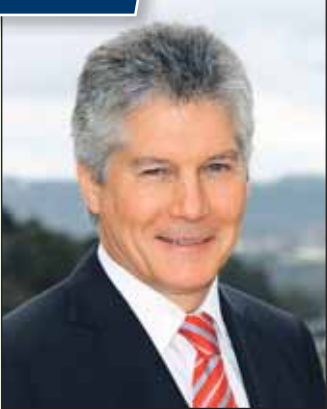
As the year draws to a close, we are able to reflect on our accomplishments and the challenges we will continue to confront.

We have continued to conduct operations in Afghanistan, East Timor, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, the Middle East and support to border security, as well as assisting Australians affected by flooding earlier this year.

For most of us the festive season is a time spent with family and loved ones. At this time, please keep in your thoughts those who are on duty abroad.

The Australian-led International Stabilisation Force in East Timor started its drawdown in November, with most Australian forces to return home by the end of 2012. ADF personnel who served in Timor-Leste have shown great courage and dedication, and built strong personal relationships with Timor-Leste that will last long after the withdrawal of our security forces.

We have seen the start of independent operations by the 4th Brigade Infantry Kandaks. This is a significant step in the process of transition to Afghan-led security responsibility in Uruzgan. We take great pride in the men and women who are working in difficult conditions every day in a country that



needs the international community's continued support.

Christmas will, of course, be a very difficult time for 39 families who will be reminded that a father, husband, partner, son or brother is not with them. For seven families this will be a terrible time because it will be the first Christmas without their loved one.

We honour and remember those brave Australians who have lost their lives serving their country.

Australia is thankful for your service. You are part of a proud Australian tradition going back more than a century and its importance does not diminish.

On behalf of my Ministerial and Parliamentary colleagues and all Australians, we wish all members of the ADF, their families and friends a peaceful Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.



GOVERNOR-GENERAL QUENTIN BRYCE

AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of the ADF, I extend warmest season's greetings and best wishes to all RAAF personnel as we approach this festive season.

Your dedication and professionalism while carrying out your duties in the finest traditions of the RAAF, and your commitment to defending our national interests at home and abroad, are duly appreciated and recognised by all.

This year marks a significant milestone in Air Force history, with the retirement of the C-130H Hercules.

The men and women of Air Lift Group will continue to give vital support to Defence personnel around the world, and to the Australian and international community in times of need.

On November 30, I was delighted to present 2SQN with their colours, and to see first-hand the exciting times ahead with the Wedgetail being declared available for operational service. The introduction of these new capabilities will give our Air Force a leading edge into the future.

Whether you are deployed during this festive season, on duty at home or on leave spending time with loved ones, you can look back on this year

with tremendous pride on your many achievements.

For those of you on operations, I hope there will be the opportunity for you to relax a little, share emails, letters and phone calls with families at home, and contemplate the year ahead.

Michael and I take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to all Air Force servicemen and women, and particularly the wives and husbands, partners, friends and family members who give invaluable support to the Air Force family.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



FLTENG FRIENDS: Past and present C-130H flight engineers join together at the RAAF Base Richmond reunion. The empty chair represents those who were unable to attend or who are no longer with us. Hangar bash photos: CPL Colin Dadd

HIGHLIGHT: C-130H A97-005 – painted in the special sunset design – flies over the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney, on November 19 ahead of the H-model's retirement.

Photo: LAC David Said

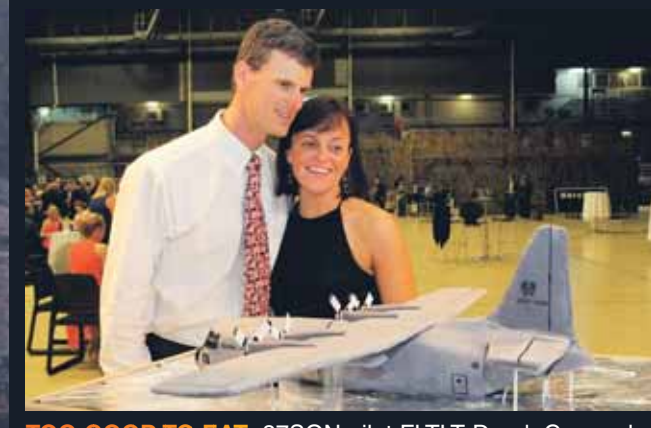
DOUBLE TREAT: 37SQN C-130H A97-005 and A97-008 perform a formation flypast for the guests at the hangar bash.



WELCOME: CDR ALG AIRCDRE Gary Martin addresses the guests to the hangar bash.



TOO GOOD TO EAT: 37SQN pilot FLTLT Derek Cox and his wife Megan admire the H-model cake on display.



MEMORIES: 33SQN's FLTLT Peter "Raj" Fishpool, left, a former 36SQN navigator, reminisces with retired 36SQN flight engineer Phil "Dick" Treacy about their time on the H-model.



FAREWELL TO A LEGEND

The C-130H fraternity unites to celebrate 34 years of the great workhorse, reports Eamon Hamilton.

THE OFFICIAL motto of Air Lift Group is "We fly important people and things to tough places on time". Few aircraft have illustrated this better than the C-130H in its RAAF career.

On November 24, this career was celebrated by more than 550 people at a reunion at RAAF Base Richmond.

Addressing the guests, Commander Air Lift Group AIRCDRE Gary Martin said the C-130H had been present during some of Australia's darkest hours.

"The C-130H has amassed a total of 244,613 hours of accident-free flying, which relates to the equivalent of travelling around the equator of the world 2831 times," AIRCDRE Martin said.

"This is truly a testament to the aircraft's ruggedness of design, and the dedication to duty of everyone who had a hand in operating and supporting this magnificent aircraft. "I am confident that our C-130H fleet, along with its personnel, have been the most impressive providers of reliable, sustainable, world-influencing air mobility support that the air force has ever had."

MAKING AN ENTRANCE: A C-130H lands on a dirt airstrip. Photo courtesy RAAF Museum



Current and former members of the C-130H fraternity recalled memories of their time with the aircraft. Among them was Deputy Air Commander Australia AIRCDRE John Samulski.

In July 1997, a coup against the Cambodian government presented a true test for the C-130H work-force. Air Force pre-positioned six C-130Hs in Malaysia to potentially airlift Australians and foreign nationals.

On July 11, 1997, four C-130H aircraft conducted six flights in to Pochentong Airport in Cambodia, evacuating 455 people. AIRCDRE Samulski – then a SQNLD – was the C-130H detachment commander during the operation, and said there was great uncertainty about the local govern-

ment and rebel forces reacting to the Australian aircraft.

"The last aircraft landed on an unlit airfield at night, in a monsoonal downpour with some remarkable flying by the crew involved," AIRCDRE Samulski said.

"The Air Force team on the ground (at the Pochentong Airport) were not even aware the H-model had landed until it taxied up to them – that's how bad the visibility was. "It was evolutionary – it confirmed that what 36SQN had been developing over time was on the right path, and that we were world class."

Two years later, they proved themselves again, delivering Australian diggers to East Timor, and in 2002, elevated it to conducting coalition operations in Afghanistan. "Afghanistan was a culminating

point in validating the development work and training that we'd done to operate in a hostile environment alongside coalition partners," AIRCDRE Samulski said.

By early 2003, tactical airlift on the C-130H was a mature and proven capability, and was ready for operations in Iraq.

"The crews, and myself as the CO at the time, felt as confident as could be," AIRCDRE Samulski said.

"We knew the equipment was great, we knew the maintenance was great, and we knew our techniques and procedures were second to none."

In the early days of the war, the C-130Hs flew in to Iraq supporting the take down of major airfields.

"Obviously the threat level was far greater than in Afghanistan because the adversary was more capable, but with our techniques and procedures for dealing with those threats, we were confident," AIRCDRE Samulski said.

"All of the missions were challenging, but the crews and the maintenance teams – all of the people involved – excelled."

A more in-depth look at the history of the H-model is on the next page.



GOOD OLD DAYS: AIRCDRE (then SQNLD) John Samulski with a C-130H in Afghanistan in 2002.



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER: A C-130H frames the guests at the 37SQN hangar bash at RAAF Base Richmond. Photo: CPL Colin Dadd

Workhorse extraordinaire

Eamon Hamilton

THE H-model's Australian story began in 1975 with a decision to buy 12 aircraft to replace the ageing fleet of C-130A Hercules at 36SQN.

Adorned in a semi-gloss camouflage scheme, the new Hercules arrived in 1978 to provide a tactical airlift capability over and above the DHC-4 Caribous.

As well as Defence's tactical mobility, they also assisted the Australian and international community.

In 1979, they flew Red Cross flights to Cambodia, where crews unloaded their Hercules at gunpoint.

Between 1978 and 1983, C-130Hs flew to the Antarctic, and in 1989, transported 50,000 members of the public during an airline pilots strike.

The C-130Hs worked hard and played hard.

Bob Carpenter, a former C-130H flight engineer, recalls international airlift competitions in the 1980s at which RAAF C-130H personnel "were definitely punching above our weight".

The greatest success came at Airlift Rodeo 1989 at Pope Air Force Base in the US.

Against 41 American and seven international teams, 36SQN crews were supported by a 486SQN maintenance teams, and flew their Hercules – A97-001 – on missions to test airdrop accuracy, spot landings, and low-level navigation.

The Aussies swept the board, winning the trophies for best C-130 aircrew, best foreign aircrew and best overall team.

"That was like winning the America's Cup – it was that big," Mr Carpenter said.

By 1990, the world had become a busier place for a Hercules, with fresh conflict in Africa, the Middle East and South-East Asia.

Advances in night-vision goggle technology led to C-130H crews train-



WELL-EARNT REPUTATION: The C-130Hs excelled at work and play, and carried important people and stuff to tough places on time out of RAAF Base Richmond. Photos courtesy RAAF Museum

ing to fly their aircraft a few hundred feet above ground in total darkness. Electronic Warfare Self Protection kits, too, found their way on to 36SQN C-130Hs.

Humanitarian work and combat operations continued, including long-distance search and rescue missions from Mauritius in 1995, and delivering peacekeepers to Rwanda and Somalia.

The H-models established a modern tactical airlift capability, which was proven in Cambodia in 1997 when four C-130Hs conducted six flights in to Pochentong Airport to evacuate 455 people, in East Timor in

1999, Afghanistan in 2002, and Iraq in 2003.

The C-130H workforce has established a legacy of carrying important people and stuff to tough places on time, which will now pass to a new generation of airlifters – the C-130J, C-27J, and C-17A.

But perhaps the best adage for the C-130H's career followed its success at the 1989 Airlift Rodeo.

The aircraft's fuselage was adorned with messages written in air-frame tape, announcing its success.

On its back ramp it read: "We Came / We Saw / We kicked Ass".



LIFELINE: FLGOFFs Ben Griffin and Steve Heriban at Lightning Ridge Airfield in February this year when their C-130H Hercules delivered food and essentials. Photo: SGT Brett Sherriff



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A LONG AND IMPRESSIVE H-STORY

July 1978 – A97-001 and -002, the first two C-130Hs for 36SQN, arrive at RAAF Base Richmond.

October 1978 – A97-012, the final remaining C-130H, arrives at Richmond.

November 1978 – 36SQN starts flights to McMurdo Station in Antarctica, supporting the Australian Antarctic Division's research station, continuing these flights until 1983. The first flight carries 12 passengers and 11 tonnes of cargo.

April 1981 – Four C-130Hs fly 162 Army paratroops from RAAF Base Amberley to Tasmania, marking the first standing airborne capability within Defence since World War II.

January 1983 – Three specially-trained crews from 36SQN man a C-130H for summer bushfire patrols in Victoria.

August 1989 – C-130Hs join other Air Force transports to transport airline passengers during a four-month domestic airline pilots strike. They carry 50,000 passengers over 800 flights.

January 1993 – Two C-130Hs from 36SQN lead another two C-130Es of 37SQN in deploying Army personnel to Somalia for Operation Solace, to bring relief to

the starving population of a lawless country.

July 1994 – Two C-130Hs arrive in Rwanda with water purification equipment and medical supplies for survivors of a genocide which claimed 500,000 lives.

July 1997 – A coup in Cambodia leads to four C-130Hs being positioned in Butterworth for evacuating Australians and foreign nationals from the country. On July 11 four aircraft conduct six flights in to the heavily damaged Pochentong Airport to evacuate 455 people.

September 1999 – Five C-130s, including H-models, deliver the first of the International Force East Timor troops to restore peace. Australian and New Zealand SAS personnel, along with HQ elements of Australian 3rd Brigade, are delivered to Dili. On 14 September 1999, a C-130H carries 186 people from Baucau to Darwin during the Timor crisis.

September 2002 – 36SQN is deployed to conduct operations in support of coalition forces, including Australian Special Forces fighting in Afghanistan.

October 2002 – A pair of C-130Hs joins three C-130Js to deliver a field hospital to Denpasar Airport in Indonesia,

following the Bali Bombings. A total of 66 Australians and foreign nationals are aeromedically evacuated to Australia.

February 2003 – A pair of 36SQN C-130Hs are deployed to the MEAO for Operations Falconer and Catalyst in Iraq, conducting airlift operations in support to Australian Special Forces and later transporting Australian troops into Iraq.

November 2006 – A 48-year era of 36SQN C-130 operations closes as the H-models are transferred to 37SQN, making it the world's only combined H-model and J-model unit. 36SQN is relocated to operate the C-17A.

January 2011 – A C-130H provides grocery airlift to towns throughout regional Queensland after floodwaters cut off major roadways. The following month, a C-130H joins a C-130J and two C-17As to evacuate nearly 200 patients from Cairns Area Hospitals, ahead of Cyclone Yasi.

May 2012 – The decision is made to bring forward retirement of the C-130H to 2012.

November 2012 – The final two C-130Hs, A97-005 and A97-008, are retired from Air Force service at RAAF Base Richmond.



MO BRO: FLGOFF Daniel Joinbee, a Joint Battlefield Airspace Control Officer from 453SQN, watches over the flightline. Photo: CPL Amanda Campbell

Stiff upper lip, chaps

Eamon Hamilton

THE face of men’s health has again been seen in Air Force, with more than 600 participants in Movember last month.

The annual charity initiative encourages men to grow moustaches as it seeks to raise money for the treatment of male depression and prostate cancer. At the time of going to print, more than \$85,000 had been raised for Movember across Air Force.

As it was in 2011, leading the charge this year has been the Mo-Schroders, a collection of Joint Battlefield Airspace Controllers from across the Air Force.

For 2012, Mo-Schroders worked together to raise more than \$13,000 for Movember, followed by teams from RAAF Senior Officers, Force Communications Unit 8, and 3 Control and Reporting Unit.

CO of the School of Air Traffic Control and a member of the Mo-Schroders, WGCDR Pat Cooper, was the leading individual RAAF fundraiser with more than \$2400.

“The Mo-Schroders started as a School of Air Traffic Control team three years ago, but as staff and students were posted throughout the Air Force, they kept the Mo-Schroders association,” WGCDR Cooper said.

“Virtually everyone knows someone who’s had a brush with depression or cancer, if not prostate cancer, so Movember has a personal side for each of us.”

“Our school’s staff and students are socially active and have the capacity to do charitable work, so we have fundraisers for men’s and women’s charities throughout the year. But Movember is definitely our biggest, even if not our most attractive, charity push.”

A list of RAAF teams participating in Movember can be found at <http://au.movember.com/mospace/network/raaf>, through which donations can be made.

➤ Support can also be shown through the Air Force Movember Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/RoyalAustralianAirForce#!/events/475366562485642/>



HERCULEAN EFFORT: FLGOFFs Tom Newman and Brendan Everson on the flight deck of a C130H. Photo: CPL Amanda Campbell



LEADING THE WAY: Commander Air Combat Group AIRCDRE Anthony Grady with, from left, FLTTL Justin Thomas, WOFF Robert Ettles and FLTTL Matthew Keam. Photo: LAC Craig Barrett



AERODYNAMIC MOUSTACHES: The Roulettes taking up the challenge against their British counterparts, from left, FLTTLs Colin Burrows, Steve English and Jay Tuffley, SQNLDR Steve Baker and FLTTLs Shaun Rajzbaum and Bernie Gleeson. Photo: SGT Kirk Peacock

Battle for the ‘tashes

THE heat is on between the Roulettes and their counterparts in the Royal Air Force, the Red Arrows.

A ‘Mo Off’ between the two teams is running from December 4 to 9, on a special Facebook event page at <http://ra.af/W8qEHJ>

Photos from both teams are posted to the page, and members of the public are invited to vote for their favourite moustaches by clicking ‘like’ on the corresponding photo.



HIT THE ROAD: LAC Ronald Droguett, of 1CCS, in a Holden Torana. Photo: CPL Amanda Campbell



REVVED UP: LAC Mitchell Evans, of 1AOSS, warms up a motorcycle as FLTTL Alex Garner and FLGOFF David Ghali, of AMTDU, take a look under the hood of a Pontiac Trans Am at RAAF Base Richmond. Photo: LAC David Said



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READY TO HELP: Above, clerk LACW Mia McGeough at the front counter of the CSG headquarters orderly room at RAAF Base Amberley.

Photo: LACW Shannon McCarthy

AT YOUR SERVICE: Right, 33SQN crew attendant FSGT Talwyn Davies in the main passenger area of the KC-30A tanker at RAAF Base Amberley.

Photo: CPL Nick Wiseman



HANDLED WITH CARE: From left, CPL Josh Paech, Nicole Reed, Simone Haines and CPL Paech's wife Pamela pack a care package in the RAAF Base Williamtown mail room bound for the MEAO for ADF personnel in time for Christmas. The group aims to send 200 care packages to the troops.

Photo: LACW Katharine Pearson

club:red
GROUP BLOOD DONATION



DIABETES DONATION: With the support of her proud parents WOFF Simon Holt and Penny Holt, Commander Air Combat Group AIRCDRE Anthony Grady, right, presents 11-year-old Rebekah Holt with a cheque for \$3751 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The money was raised at RAAF Base Williamtown.

Photo: LACW Katharine Pearson

2012 DEFENCE ORGANISATION BLOOD CHALLENGE

The Blood Service thanks the Defence Organisation for their support of the 2012 Australian Defence Organisation Challenge. Final results will be released in the next edition of Defence News.

Roll up your sleeves and give blood together
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Tireless worker to the end

IN MEMORIAM

AIR Force's most senior cook and an endeared member of the Logistics Employment Group lost his battle with cancer on November 13.

FSGT Keith Gwatking was farewelled at the Centenary Memorial Gardens in Brisbane on November 21.

He was 59.

Keith joined the Air Force

as a trainee cook on April 27, 1971, and served for almost 42 years in 18 different locations around Australia. He was also deployed to East Timor.

He served at a number of base squadrons and service depots, later serving at all the expeditionary squadrons. His most recent posting was with Headquarters Combat Support Group.

In his eulogy, colleague and close friend WOFF Gary

Woods said Keith battled to the end.

"He remained at work even though he was ill," WOFF Woods said.

"The ADF has been very fortunate to have such a dedicated airman serving the country and catering has been blessed to have such a dedicated and likeable person in our mustering."

Director General Logistics—Air Force AIRCDRE Peter Brennan said Keith's

services to Combat Support Group and the cook mustering was widely recognised.

"The Logistics Employment Group mourns Keith's loss and sends its deepest sympathies to those who have been personally touched by his passing," AIRCDRE Brennan said.

Keith is survived by his wife of 38 years, Rhonda, and two children, Cameron and Adam.

WOFF Woods said Keith spent every waking moment putting others before himself.

"Rhonda gave permission to post Keith's passing on Facebook; the comments that were posted would bring a tear to any person's eye," he said.

"All the comments acknowledged what a good bloke he was and how we had all lost a very special friend and great mate."

Win a book in our giveaway

IF YOU want to expand your knowledge these Christmas holidays, *Air Force News* is giving away the exciting books listed below.

Two copies of each of the titles are up for grabs.

All you have to do to be in with a chance to win a copy is to email your name and mailing address to competitions@defencenews.gov.au by December 13.

Mossad, The Greatest Missions of the Israeli Secret Service (Vintage Books) by Michael Bar-Zohar and Nissim Mishal.

K9 Cops, Police dogs of the world (BSP) by Nigel Allsop.

Beaten Down By Blood, the Battle of Mont St Quentin-Peronne 1918 (BSP) by Michele Bomford.

Battle Scarred, the 47th Battalion in the First World War (Big Sky Publishing) by Craig Deayton.

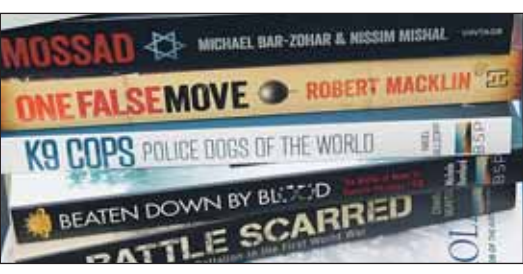
The Changi Camera, a unique record of Changi and the Thai-Burma Railway (Hachette) by Tim Bowden.

The Architect of Kokoda, Bert Kienzle – The man who made the Kokoda Trail (Hachette) by Robin Kienzle.

Pacific 360°, Australia's battle to survival in World War II (Hachette) by Roland Perry.

One False Move, The Australian mine defusers in World War II (Hachette) by Robert Macklin.

The price of valour, The triumph and tragedy of a Gallipoli hero, Hugo Throssell, V.C. (Pan MacMillan) by John Hamilton.



Read the list

CAF AIRMSHL Geoff Brown has released his 2012 reading list, comprising three sections.

Section one has a new selection of 24 books, which are grouped into themes: Concepts, Strategy and Doctrine; Air Power Issues; Command, Leadership, Management and Ethics; Air Power History; Biographies and Memoirs; and a small fiction section. Section two, titled 'Enduring Books for Professional Mastery', contains a broad selection of books considered vital reading for the air power professional and is intended to help build professional expertise; and section three provides an index of previous reading lists.

CAF said his list was designed to draw attention to a number of different perspectives on air power.

"We will all find ideas within these books that we may not totally agree with and I challenge airmen and airwomen to debate these ideas with their colleagues," he said. "I believe reading provides the opportunity to explore new concepts and ideas and it is this exploration that is critical to our education."

Most books are available in electronic format and all are available through the Defence Library Service. Some are available free for download from the Air Power Development Centre internet website at <http://airpower.airforce.gov.au>. Hard copies are available free to ADF members by contacting the centre.



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*Annual savings of \$3,000 are indicative only and are based on an annual salary of \$45,000 and 10,000 km travelled per annum. ^Fleet discount of \$3,700 is based on the average fleet discount given to our customers last month. Actual savings will depend on your tax bracket, vehicle model, lease term, and individual circumstances. Administration fee applies.

November trial results

NCO Restricted Court Martial

Two charges of assaulting a superior officer – DFDA s. 25(1)
Member accused of punching and pushing a superior officer.
Member pleaded not guilty to both charges and was found guilty of both.
Member was fined a total of \$4963, of which \$2481 was suspended and the remainder to be paid in instalments.

NCO Restricted Court Martial

Three charges of assaulting a subordinate – DFDA s. 34(1)
Five charges of prejudicial conduct – DFDA s. 60(1)
Member accused of a variety of unacceptable physical and verbal acts against a subordinate.
Member pleaded not guilty to all charges and was found guilty of two charges of prejudicial conduct, and not guilty of the remaining charges.
Member was fined \$5200, of which \$2600 was suspended and the remainder to be paid in instalments.
Member also forfeited seniority in rank.

NCO Restricted Court Martial

One charge of assault occasioning

actual bodily harm - DFDA s. 61(3) and Crimes Act 1900 (ACT) s. 24(1)
Member accused of punching another individual multiple times in the face, causing injury.
Member pleaded guilty and was found guilty.
Member sentenced to detention for 28 days, which was suspended.

**Other ranks
Defence Force Magistrate**
One charge of obtaining a financial advantage – DFDA s. 61(3) and Criminal Code Act 1995 s. 135.2(1)
Two charges of obtaining a financial advantage by deception – DFDA s. 61(3) and Criminal Code Act 1995 s. 134.2(1)
One charge of failing to comply with a general order – DFDA s. 29
Member accused of knowingly obtaining a service allowance (totalling \$5835) that the member was not entitled to receive, and making false and misleading statements in relation to the application for the allowance.
Member also accused of failing to comply with order in relation to management of the allowance.
Member pleaded not guilty to charge of failing to comply with a general order and was found not guilty. Member pleaded guilty to the remaining charges and was found guilty.
Member dismissed from the ADF.



**GPCAPT Christopher Ward
Director, Military Discipline Law**

A NUMBER of trials before courts martial and Defence Force magistrates involve members obtaining a financial advantage from the Commonwealth, knowing that they are not entitled to it.
This often results either from members intentionally making false statements to receive incor-

Report changes of circumstance

rect allowances, or members failing to report a change in their personal circumstances which affects their entitlement to allowances.
A range of allowances (such as rent allowance or those for dependants) are based on a member's personal circumstances.
If a member receives a rent allowance and their personal circumstances change, the member

must inform Defence Housing Australia of the change.
If this is not done, the member may be receiving an allowance which is not entitled.
It does not matter if the member was originally entitled to the allowance.
If their circumstances change and they are no longer entitled but do not take steps to stop the payment, they may be committing a service offence.

NCO Defence Force Magistrate

One charge of obtaining a financial advantage – DFDA s. 61(3) and Criminal Code Act 1995 s. 134.1
Two charges of obtaining a financial advantage for another person – DFDA s. 61(3) and Criminal Code Act 1995 s. 135.2(2)
Member accused of knowingly obtaining an allowance (totalling \$825) that the member was not entitled to receive, and knowingly obtaining an allowance (totalling \$3520) for another person that the other person was not entitled to receive.

Member pleaded guilty and was found guilty of obtaining a financial advantage. Member pleaded not guilty and was found not guilty of the remaining charges.
Member forfeited seniority in rank.
**NCO
Defence Force Magistrate**
Two charges of making false entry in a service document – DFDA s. 55(1)(b)
Two charges of procuring another person to make a false entry in a service document – DFDA s. 55(1)(b) and Criminal Code Act 1995 s. 11.3
One charge of procuring another per-

son to engage in prejudicial conduct – DFDA s. 60 and Criminal Code Act 1995 s. 11.3
Member accused of making, and procuring others to make, while on operations, false entries in service documents relating to detainees.
Member pleaded guilty to all charges and was found guilty.
Fined \$4000 to be paid in instalments and forfeited seniority in rank.

Note: All Court Martial and Defence Force Magistrate trial results are subject to command review and appeal. The results indicated are of trials across the ADF.

boot camp for your cash

Ensuring the right fit

Reahn Aitchison

FINDING well-fitting boots is being made easier with a range of extended sizes now available.

Air Force has also been working to further develop clothing and footwear issued to members.

Extended sizes of boots with both larger and smaller widths are available to suit those with a slightly wider or narrower foot.

The Director General Integrated Soldier Systems Branch, Land Systems Division, BRIG Mike Phelps, said wearing footwear that did not fit correctly could cause serious blisters, calluses or inflamed arches.

"It is important that all personnel are aware that they can, and should, be measured before they start wearing a new uniform or pair of boots," BRIG Phelps said.

"A recent trial discovered that a significant number of personnel were wearing the wrong size combat boots."

There is also now a more extensive size range in both male and female non-combat uniforms.

The new range is designed to provide an improved fit, with changes to chest measurements, arm length and overall garment length being the key upgrades. These clothing ranges are continually being assessed to ensure a better fit for all members.

The size range for the DPCU has also been increased (including a number of smaller sizes), and trials are under way for an alternative fit DPCU. Greater flexibility in size ranges means that finding the right fit is now even more achievable.

Personnel should visit their local Q-store or clothing store and ask for assistance.

Not all sizes are held by all stores, however, sizes can be ordered to any location. Those members who do not fit into the off-the-shelf sizes can be provided with made-to-measure boots and uniforms.

Individual tailoring services are available for combat clothing and fly-

ing clothing. The service policy for tailoring has been updated. This updated policy can be found in the latest version of the Electronic Supply Chain Manual (Volume 4, Section 8).

As well as uniforms, members can also achieve a better fit for their protective and load carriage equipment through the Diggerworks Train the Trainer package, a service designed to demonstrate correct assembly and fitting of the Tiered Body Armour System.

For more information, contact the ADF Clothing Hotline. <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/dmoweb/sites/CLOSPO/ComWeb.asp?Page=98005#Army>

Departure Lounge

Who's leaving after 20+ years

WGCDR Paul Bastin

ACO

36 years

Last day: November 19

WOFF Ray Bennell

PHOTO

35 years

Last day: November 16

FSGT Karen McDonald

MEDASST

27 years

Last day: November 30

CPL Grant Parrish

CETECH

26 years

Last day: November 7

WOFF Kevin Close

WOD

26 years

Last day: November 13

SQNLDR John Delia

LOGO

24 years

Last day: November 19

FLTLT Colin Kay

ARM ENG

23 years

Last day: November 12

FSGT Tania Johnson

SUP

22 years

Last day: November 30

FSGT Rodney Richards

SECPOL

21 years

Last day: November 13

FSGT Tanya Lans

CREWATT

20 years

Last day: November 11



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Flexibility that works

FLTLT Sam McAleese

AIR Force's flexible employment (FE) policy is gaining momentum with personnel at home and overseas using it to better balance their lives.

WGCDR Sally Dorsett, the Deputy Director FE&R section at the Directorate of Personnel–Air Force (DP-AF), said there was a need to address current and future workplace demands through FE to retain highly skilled and experienced personnel.

"The importance of FE practices is driven by the need to get smarter about the management of personnel to meet current and future challenges," WGCDR Dorsett said.

FE comprises a wide range of options, including part-time, leave without pay, variable working hours and temporary home located work.

Air Force has 380 personnel in Australia and 14 overseas who are undertaking a form of FE.

WGCDR Dorsett said the section provided web pages with extensive content, support documents, policy guidance, checklists and frequently asked questions.

She said while the arrangements were working, and this was supported by statistics, it was imperative that all personnel using FE, permanent and reserves, ensured that they kept their personnel managers informed of their whereabouts and flexible work arrangements.

"Members should refer to the DP-AF FE web pages, if they have access to the DRN, to inform themselves of the processes and systems in place," WGCDR Dorsett said.

"If this is not possible, they can be provided with details and advice from their personnel manager."

DI(G) PERS 49-4–Flexible work arrangements for members of the Australian Defence Force outlines the reporting requirements.

"Providing statistics on FE enables the branch to better negotiate for resources to support further FE initiatives," WGCDR Dorsett said.



YOU CALLED?: FE&R Section deputy director WGCDR Sally Dorsett speaks on Skype to WGCDR Tony Smith who works remotely.

New reporting requirements

All FE applications are required to be sent to DP-AF Registry on arrangement. FE&R Section will collate this information for monitoring, research and statistical purposes.

WGCDR Dorsett said as FE continued to become part of day-to-day working practices there was a risk of FE reporting slipping.

"The Broderick Phase 2 Report has recommended to the Service Chiefs that flexible working arrangements be reported annually, and Air Force is frequently called upon to provide FE data to Government through Senate questions," she said.

The DP-AF FE web pages contain the following documents to assist members and the command with FE advice and information:

- Commander's Guide to FE
- DGPERS Policy Guidance 01/2012–Flexible employment for Air Force members remotely located overseas
- Building the FE business case
- Developing a FE schedule
- Developing a workplace FE communication plan
- Work Health and Safety Self Assessment checklist for Temporary Home Located Work

Copies of these documents can also be supplied by contacting the DP-AF FE&R Cell or the relevant personnel manager at DP-AF.

Reserve promotions update

ADDITIONAL Active Reserve promotion positions for the 2013 Promotion Boards have been added to the list of targets previously published in *Air Force News*.

The targets are: **SQNLDR to WGCDR:** PLT (or ACO) 580682 (B2-RIC); **FLTLT to SQNLDR:** PLT 497895 (B3-RIC); **SGT to FSGT:** ATECH 380690 (B3-AMB); **CPL to SGT:** ATECH 376782 (B2-AMB); **LAC to CPL:** CLK 380018 (B2-AMB).

Members can submit EOIs for numerous positions but need to

ensure that they meet the relevant eligibility requirements to be considered for promotion (including PMET). EOIs are to be emailed to FSGT Marcia at karo.marcia.karo@defence.gov.au by December 14.

For further details on the EOI process and eligibility criteria, members can access this information via: the DP-AF website (intranet) at <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/raafweb/sites/DPAF/ComWeb.asp?page=188566>; the Reserve Task List Network; SO PERS and the DAN website at www.dan.gov.au

COMMENDATIONS



CAF Commendation (Gold)

SQNLDR Bryan Cavanagh

For performance as the Legal officer at 81WG in support of domestic flying operations.

SQNLDR Jonathan Jorgensen

For performance as the Air Force Safety Manual Implementation Manager within the Directorate of Defence Aviation and Air Force Safety.

FLTLT Diane Jackson

For performance as the Project Manager, Air Force Hazardous Chemical Remediation Project within the Directorate of Defence Aviation and Air Force Safety.

FLTLT Luke Paton

For performance as the Logistics Officer at Headquarters 396 Expeditionary Combat Support Wing.

FLTLT Andrew Howard-Rice

For performance as OIC Armament and Life Support section, Army Aviation Systems Program Office.

SGT Brent Moore

For performance as an NCO in the Network Combat Section at 462SQN.

Mr Bernard Bohme

For performance as a Compliance Assurance Officer within the

Directorate General Technical Airworthiness – ADF.

DCAF Commendation (Silver)

SQNLDR Steven Bekker

For performance as the Chief Flying Instructor and Roulette Leader at Central Flying School.

FLTLT Myles Clarke

For performance as the Armament Test Engineer and lead Air Force Improvement 'champion' at Aircraft Stores Compatibility Engineering Squadron within Aerospace Operational Support Group.

WOFF Michael Elliott

For performance as a member of the Air Force Safety Improvement Project Team within the Directorate of Defence Aviation and Air Force Safety.

SGT Scott Ford

For performance as a Technical Training Instructor within the Technical Training and Development Section of Surveillance and Control Training Unit.

LAC Kai Cooling

For performance as the Classic Hornet Improvement Program Developer within the Air Combat Reform Program at 81WG.

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You must include your preferred dates on your AFR, as until we have actual dates we cannot start your relocation.

Complete your AFR online now at www.tolltransitions.com/defence and your Case Manager will contact you to get things moving.

If you have any immediate questions or concerns, please contact us on **1800 819 167**.

Toll Transitions wishes all ADF members and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

TOLL

COMPLETE YOUR AFR ONLINE!

Help us raise vital funds for Legacy.

Legacy will receive \$1 for each Application For Relocation (AFR) entered online via Toll Transitions' website from 1st July to 31st December 2012. Our aim is to raise more than \$10,000 in the coming peak posting period.

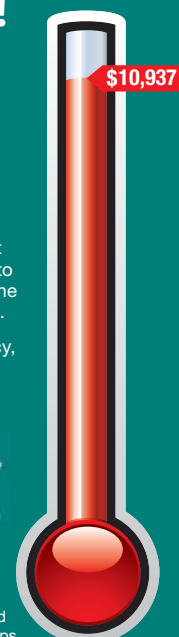
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Australian Securities and Investments Commission chairman **Greg Medcraft** has some cautionary tips for people shopping online for gifts.

'Tis the season to be wary



Photo: LAC Bill Solomou

THIS festive season many of you might shop online for gifts, decorations and other goodies. Before you start clicking, here are my tips on how to make your online shopping experience as safe as possible.

Shop around

If you know what you're buying, shopping around and comparing prices online can be a lot easier than going to lots of different shops. So invest a little time and compare prices from at least three trusted websites. Saving a few dollars on each item can really add up over the summer holidays. It also pays to compare online prices with the prices in shops. You may

be able to take advantage of sales or discounts in shops, as well as online. Another way to make the most of your money is to give gift vouchers, so the recipient can get good value in the Boxing Day sales.

Stay safe online

When shopping online look for websites that have a secure payment system. A secure payment site should have a picture of a closed padlock on the webpage. An open padlock means a webpage is not secure. Stay away from online stores that do not offer secure transactions. Look for an 's' in the URL after the http to indicate it is secure (i.e. https://www.).

Paying with a credit card can also offer an extra level of protection, including the possible right to a 'charge back' if you fall victim to fraud. If this happens to you, talk to your financial institution straight away. Make sure your computer is secure by keeping your operating system and browsers current and using an up-to-date security or antivirus program. **The fine print** Read the terms and conditions of your purchase before you buy. Check carefully for warranties, refund and cancellation policies and expected delivery dates. It also pays to know the full cost of

your purchase, including shipping and handling. Keep a copy of any forms, emails, documents or web pages you have filled in, read or received. They are a record of the sale and will be useful if something goes wrong. Always check your credit card statement every month to make sure your purchases are correctly recorded and there are no charges for things you did not buy. **Unauthorised transactions** An unauthorised transaction is one made by someone else using your account without your knowledge or consent.

If you find an unauthorised transaction, contact your bank, credit union or building society as soon as possible and make a complaint. This is important both to fix up the problem and to prevent any more unauthorised transactions. The Christmas break is a great time to enjoy the company of family and friends but you can still be smart about your spending. For more information, go to ASIC's MoneySmart website at www.moneysmart.gov.au **➤ If you have a suggested topic for this column, email ASIC at ADFcolumn@asic.gov.au**

A credit card that won't steal Christmas

An ADCU Visa credit card is shown with a red tag indicating a 10.99% interest rate on purchases. The card features the ADCU logo, a Visa logo, and the cardholder's name ALEX J. The background of the card shows a soldier in camouflage. To the right of the card is a silhouette of a witch on a broomstick. In the bottom right corner, there is a Canstar Cannex award seal for 'Outstanding Value' in the 'Credit Card' category.

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*As compared to the purchase rate on low rate credit cards from Commonwealth Bank, Westpac, NAB and ANZ. Information was sourced from www.canstar.com.au on 07 September 2012. Terms and conditions available on request. Fees and charges apply to the use of your Credit Card. Australian Defence Credit Union Limited ABN 48 087 649 741 AFSL No. 237 988. Australian credit licence number 237 988.

Finding the right balance

CPL Matt Ewing, of ADFA Indoor Sports Centre, has set the following Swiss (fit) ball exercises to activate core stabilising muscles and strengthen the lower and upper body.

SWISS ball exercises are mainly used for rehabilitation and core strength training. Due to their round shape, any weight placed on the ball requires more activation of stabilisation muscles to conduct the exercise, including

but not limited to the core muscles. These exercises can be performed in limited space and can easily be incorporated into your regular workout.

In each exercise, monitor your posture and ensure your core muscles are engaged at all times.

SWISS BALL LUNGE

- Stand with your feet together
- Place your hands on each side of the ball
- Raise the ball directly above your head, keeping both arms straight
- Take an exaggerated step forward, releasing the back heel
- Bend your knees until your back knee stops just short of the ground
- Keep your front knee in a straight line over your toes
- Activate the glute of the front leg to stand back up
- Keep your head in a neutral position



INCLINE PUSH UP

- Start in a push up position with your hands on the ball
- Activate your core muscles and aim for a straight line from heels to shoulders
- Lower your chest until just short of the ball
- Keep your core activated and straight line from heels to shoulders as you push back up
- Keep your head in a neutral position

HAMSTRING CURL

- Start on your back on the mat with heels and calves on the ball
- Activate your core muscles and keep a straight line from heels to shoulders as you lift your pelvis off the mat keeping arms on the floor
- Head, hips and hands remain in the same position
- Squeeze your hamstrings until the ball and feet come towards your body
- Feet should be flat on top of the ball before you control the ball back to the start position



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JUBILANT MEN'S WINNERS: From left, kneeling: GNR Ben Kingston, CPL David Murray (36SQN), SGT David Walsh (captain), PTE Greg Johnston, LAC Aaron Lobendahn (36SQN); standing: CPL Josh Woo, WO2 Jason Sten (coach), CFN Russell Watson, CPL Allan Rowley, LCPL Arnold Jones, CPL Mick Riebelt, PTE Liam Ross, FLGOFF Joel Pollock (1EHS), PTE Kerrod Reinikka and CPL Tristan Smith.



Touch clean sweep

Tim Asher

TOUCH football teams from South Queensland made good on their home ground with a clean sweep of the tournament finals at the Australian Defence Touch Association (ADTA) nationals championships at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, from October 29 to November 2.

More than 200 players in triservice teams from Northern Territory, North Queensland, South Queensland, ACT/Country, Sydney Metro and Southern States competed in the tournament.

They were joined by 45 players from the New Zealand Defence Force. South Queensland beat ACT/Country 7-3 in the men's open, ACT/Country 9-2 in the men's 40s, ACT/Country 4-3 in the men's 30s and North Queensland 3-1 in the women's open.

Right from the first minute in the men's open final, South Queensland made its intentions known, scoring the first of seven tries.

ACT/Country defended courageously, throwing plenty of attack at the locals, but only managed to score three tries.

After the national titles, representative Australian teams in women's open, men's 30s and men's open were selected to play the Kiwis.

This was the first time a Trans-Tasman tournament had been played in five years.

Australia started well, winning the men's 30s 4-1 and women's open 6-5.

In the men's open, New Zealand dominated the first half, going into the break ahead five tries to two.

Australia fought back throughout the second period, outscoring the Kiwis three to one. If an attempted intercept in the final seconds had been

successful, the match would have gone into extra time. But New Zealand held on to win 6-5.

ADTA president MAJ Norma Hughes said the tournament was a huge success. She thanked the local committee for doing an excellent job coordinating resources and entertainment.

ADTA patron COMD FORCOM MAJGEN Mick Slater presented a Hall of Fame award to WOFF Michael Lennon and two life member awards to WO2 Renee Goninan (Treasurer NQ) and MAJ Hughes.

Tenpin bowlers fall short in team titles

THE Defence Tenpin Association recently competed in the Tenpin Bowling Australia (TBA) nationals and Rachui trophy in Sydney from October 23-26.

The trophy, which is held each year, determines the best state/territory/zone representative team of tenpin bowlers, each consisting of five players a team in both the men's and women's divisions.

Defence has received a permanent invitation to compete following a fine performance last year.

This year there were high hopes for the men's team, but it wasn't to be. The team came up against some tough opponents and struggled in the absence of big-time experience.

The women's team held their heads up high and in the end won more points than their fancier and higher ranked male counterparts. Air Force's SGT Keiran Wyllie won the A grade All events component of the TBA Nationals, which combines the results of the singles, doubles and teams events.



THE DEFENCE TEAM: From left, WO2 Brett Thomas, WO2 Eileen Dixon, SGT Keiran Wyllie, Liz Mulvaney, CPL David Edwards, Maria Haw, MAJ Jamie Arnell, Sean Rash, LCDR Tracey Petrass, Graham Shoesmith (coach), Melita Medrano, AC Dan Soderman, FSGT Brett Byers, Roma Cook, LAC James Wood, Brett Kleidon and Kim Mogg (coach).

In honour of fallen soldier

Michael Weaver

A CHARITY rugby league match in honour of fallen soldier SGT Matthew Locke is gaining momentum ahead of the fifth annual contest between the Army Thunder and Bellingen Magpies, who play in the group two competition on the NSW mid-north coast.

The match will be played on February 23 at Bellingen Park, with organiser and manager of the Army Thunder, MAJ Al Lynch, very confident of securing the Navy and Air Force rugby league teams as well.

"The local community always gets right behind the match, and I'm very confident that Navy and Air Force will also support the game next year as well," MAJ Lynch said.

SGT Locke, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2007, played junior rugby league with the Bellingen club, which now honours his sacrifice with the annual match, while also raising money for worthwhile causes, including Legacy.

SGT Locke's sister Debbie said the Army Thunder team had been amazing in its support of the event.

"It should be an exciting afternoon of rugby league which always attracts a large crowd, not from just Bellingen, but from the whole north coast," she said. "This is a big event and we want to let the ADF audience know about it so they might put it on their calendar and perhaps even make the trip and support the games."

The Army Thunder will still play in the main game against Bellingen, while the Navy and Air Force teams will be up against two representative teams from the group two competition.

There will also be raffles and auctions on the day.

Debbie Locke is also keen to hear from any potential sponsors who wish to support the event. She can be contacted on 0429 977 959, or debbielocke@bigpond.com

Third in yachting

NAVY swept away the competition at the Interservice Yachting Championships, with Army finishing second and Air Force coming in third. Navy decimated the competition from October 30 to November 2, finishing first and second in each of the races on Sydney Harbour, despite only being able to crew two of its three boats.

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Cricketers crack IDCC semi-finals

Michael Weaver

THE Air Force cricket team bowled out of the 2012 International Defence Cricket Challenge to the all-conquering Pakistan Joint Services in the semi-finals.

Air Force played eight games in the 50-over and Twenty20 formats during the tournament in Canberra from November 13-24.

It competed against teams from Navy, New Zealand Army and Air Forces, the Royal Malaysian Air Force (the defending champion from 2009), the Pakistan Joint Services and Anzac Barbarians.

Air Force also reached the Stan Sismey Plate Final of the one-day matches against long-time rival, Army. However, team captains and management decided to call the match a draw and played an unscored friendly game. Their matches during the past few years have been extremely hard fought and a draw seemed a fitting result.

In their early round matches, Air Force opened the tournament with a 102-run win against the Anzac Barbarians, before recording a six-wicket win against the New Zealand Army in a Twenty20 match.

Air Force came up against the

Barbarians for a second match and again proved the better side, albeit with a closer 14-run victory.

The round three game saw Air Force score its most impressive win of the tournament, with a four-wicket win against the defending champion, the Royal Malaysian Air Force. After bowling the Malaysians out for 92 runs in the 35th over, Air Force reached the target for the loss of six wickets, also in the 35th over.

The next two games were T20 matches against the Army and Pakistan Joint Services, which saw Air Force brought back to earth with a six-wicket loss to Army, followed by a hefty nine-wicket loss to Pakistan.

Air Force bounced back in the round six game against their New Zealand Air Force counterparts with a 63-run win in a 50-over contest.

LAC Kevin Chapman, of IAFDS, top scored with 62 off 74 balls, while LAC Kristopher Knight, of 2AFDS, took an impressive 5/19 with the ball off nine overs.

Air Force then took on Navy in the last game before the finals and amassed 218 runs after being bowled out in the 47th over. Opening batsman CPL Daniel Amiet, of 2SQN, cracked an unbeaten 114

runs, but could not find a batting partner to stay the distance.

Navy was bowled out in the 26th over for 199 runs, with CPL Ricky Mace, of 2SQN, the best of the bowlers with 4/24 off 10 overs.

In the semi-final, Air Force came up against the unbeaten Pakistan Joint Services and was bowled out in the 31st over for just 95 runs. Pakistan cruised to victory in the eighth over, losing just two wickets.

In the tournament grand final, Pakistan Joint Services maintained its unbeaten run with a seven-wicket victory against the Royal Malaysian Air Force. Malaysia batted first and scored 9/171 from 50 overs, leaving Pakistan with little trouble in reaching the total in the 28th over.

Pakistan's opener, Mir Azam, scored 111 runs off 91 deliveries, which included eight 4s and six 6s.

LAC Kevin Chapman was selected in the World Defence XI that played against an Australian Cricketer's Association Masters team that included six former Test players on November 24. LAC Chapman was also awarded the IDCC 12 Players' Player as nominated by his peers.

Full results can be found at: <http://www.ascacricicket.com.au/index.php/idcc/idcc12/35-results>

International flavour fuels tournament

LS Paul Berry

NEW friendships and international relations were top scorers during the successful International Defence Cricket Challenge (IDCC) in Canberra from November 13-24.

With a championship motto of 'defence unity through cricket,' teams from Pakistan, Malaysia and New Zealand joined ADF Service sides for some tough competition on the field and new friendships off.

RAAF all-rounder LAC Kevin Chapman said it was great to meet people from such wide cultural backgrounds.

"The Malaysian and Pakistan sides fit in really well on and off the field and the games have been played in good spirit, so it's been a really enjoyable competition," LAC Chapman said.

"The off-field stuff has been the best thing about this tournament," he said.

"We get on really well with the Malaysians, the Pakistanis have always got a smile on their face and the Kiwis are really good blokes,



CAPTAINS' CALL: Air Force captain CPL Ricky Mace (back row, far right) with team captains at the International Defence Cricket Challenge at Manuka Oval, Canberra.

Photo: LS Paul Berry

always up for a laugh and they have lots of songs to sing."

IDCC director LTCOL James Brownlie said it had been brilliant to have the international teams playing in the championship.

"The championship is very much about engagement, unity, understanding and cultural alignment with other teams," he said.

"The international teams have been sensational and they have gone out of their way to make sure they are engaging."

Pakistan Joint Services team manager COL Asif Zaman said it was the first time a Pakistan military side had played outside its home country and that it was a "beautiful" environment to play in.



HOCKEY: PLTOFF Di Casey aggressively repels the ball out of defence for the ADF Masters hockey team Princess Warriors in their match against the Barbarians during the Pan Pacific Games on the Gold Coast. The match ended in a 2-2 draw.

Photo: LACW Kylie Gibson

Gold, silver and bronze at Pan Pacific Games

THE three Defence hockey teams won a full set of medals at the Pan Pacific Masters Games on the Gold Coast from November 4-10.

The 30+ men's team won gold, the 30+ women's team silver and the 40+ men's team bronze.

The teams were made up of members from all three services and the public service.

The women's team also included a few civilians because it was struggling to make numbers two weeks before the start of the competition.

Only seven teams contested the men's competition, which was played as a round robin – until the finals when each age group played off for medals.

This meant the Old Warriors (40+) played the Young Warriors (30+) and as usual, it was a hard-fought game for bragging rights between the two Defence teams.

Both teams were tireless, with age, cunning and experience trying to overcome youth, speed and fitness.

The Young Warriors won 2-0, gaining momentum that took them to the 30+

grand final where they beat Coast Boys 8-1.

The Princess Warriors (30+ women) had a tough week.

By the elimination game the women's team had one major injury (broken hand in three places) and minor injuries (torn muscles).

The two goal keepers took it in turns to play on the field during the week to help out.

But this did not stop the Princess Warriors from beating a local team, Clickety Click Tigerstix, 3-2 to progress to the grand final the next day.

The final game was against another local team, Bulimba Pioneers.

A lucky goal by the Bulimba Pioneers in the first half was the only score for the game. Both teams played determined hockey but Bulimba Pioneers won 1-0.

Defence hockey masters coordinator MAJ Fiona Davis said it was a great week of hockey with each team bringing home a medal.

"Hopefully we'll see the players returning for the next masters competition in 2013 at Geelong for the Australian Masters Games," she said.

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SPORT



HOCKEY MASTERS

Medal haul
at Pan
Pacifics

– Page 27



December 6, 2012

TOP SHOT: LAC Kaleb-John Tymko drives the ball through the covers during Air Force's game against the Pakistan Joint Services side in the International Defence Cricket Challenge at Chisholm Oval in Canberra.
Photo: LS Paul Berry

Air Force
makes semi-
finals as
international
teams take
to Canberra
for cricket
challenge

P27

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