

Airlie Beach Whitsunday RSL Sub Branch



PARADISE POST



November 2017

Welcome to this months Paradise Post, we hope you enjoy it, if you have a story or something to contribute please email Secretary@rydav.com
You can also receive Paradise Post via email. Just send me message to subscribe.

Support RSL

We are always seeking people who want to assist us in providing support to our current and former servicemen and women. There are many ways you can get involved:

BUY A BADGE

Show your support to our veterans and those currently serving by buying a badge from an RSL representative and wearing it with pride on ANZAC or Remembrance Day.

DONATE TO AN APPEAL

Donations to our ANZAC and Poppy Appeals enable our Sub Branches to continue to provide welfare and wellbeing services in their local communities.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

RSL Sub Branches are involved in their local communities, visiting veterans, schools and community groups. Some ways you may be able to assist a Sub Branch include driving members for visits, providing administration or specialist support, or helping to sell merchandise to raise funds around ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. Contact your local Sub Branch to find out how you can help.

What's on in October

Next Members Meeting:

Wednesday 1st November
@ 7pm. Reef Gateway Hotel.
Cold drinks and tucker

Badge sales

Remembrance day sales

Whitsunday Shopping Centre

08:00 – 16:00 Fri 27th October until

Friday 10th November.

Whitsunday Plaza

08:00 – 16:00

Friday 27th October until

Friday 10th November

We still need members to assist with the sale. Please contact Bill on 49464486
Your Sub Branch needs **YOUR HELP**

Airlie Beach Whitsunday RSL Executive Committee 2017-2018

President:	Terry Brown	0408763090	alibarber40@bigpond.com
Deputy President:	Chris Bull	0429607849	Kaybull56@gmail.com
Vice President	Bill Rose	49464486	Mob:0404416943
Secretary:	Rod Davies	0499730316	Secretary@rydav.com
Treasurer:	John Schweitzer	0438264114	Johnshweitzer.5@bigpond.com

Management Committee for 2017-2018

Badges	Joan Rose	0404416943	Home: 07 49464486
General Duties	Shane Matthews	0427461849	Jackomatho@live.com
General Duties	Peter Mckellin	0448800091	

Honorary and responsible appointments for 2017-2018

Welfare officer (local)	Bill Rose		
Welfare officer (Mackay)	Tracey Victor	31283275	Mob:0448943604
Asset Trustee	John Schweitzer		
State and District meetings	Bill Rose, Chris Bull		
Auditors	Leader Group		
Legal	Whitsunday Law		
Padre	Stewart Grice		

Patrons for 2017-2018

John O'Neil	0418776606
RGH	(07) 49462600

Life as Bill see's it....

You all know what it is like, your posting takes you interstate and everything in your life has to be brought up to date in the new area. Rego for the car, license, mail etc, Right down to voting forms. During one of these periods, the computer wouldn't recognise Joan's information. So Joan peered over the girls shoulder at the screen and said "There's part of the problem, it shows my date of birth as 15/12/1842" "That's right" I chimed in "She was born on the 15th June not December." Must say after that comment it was cold sleeping on the back verandah in July in Melbourne.

Just a thought: If god did not exist one would have to break the news to the pope very gently.

On one of our trips away we decided to stay at a resort right on the beach. Dumping our bags in the room we looked out the back door at the beach and decided to have a look around. It was beautiful, we found a couple of deck chairs and sat down to take it all in, Shortly after I went back to the room to get some drinks. One of the resort maids was there making up the bed. I grabbed the coolies and put the beers in, when I paused to ask " Can we drink beer on the beach?" "Sure" she said "But I have to finish making up the rest of the room first"

Just a thought: The only thing better than talking about chocolates is eating them.

Enjoy Life, Have fun, Live long, Be happy and don't take it too serious as no-one gets out alive.

Yours aye, Bill.

Our articles are sourced from the following sites.
For more information on our stories and much more please visit

<https://www.rslqld.org/RSL-Members/RSL-News>

<http://www.defence.gov.au/publications/newspapers/>

<http://www.contactairlandandsea.com/>

We would also like to thank our advertisers who without them this publication would not be possible in this format.

We hope that you think of using our advertisers next time you need one of their services. Thank you.

THE ODE

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow
old,

Age shall not weary
them

Or the years condemn

At the going down of the sun,

And in the morning

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.



Innovative soldiers awarded at 6th Combat Support Brigade

Twelve finalists from across 6th Combat Support Brigade presented innovative ideas at a brigade innovations day at 7th Signal Regiment in Toowoomba recently. *Lieutenant Colonel Glen Billington 19th Chief Engineer Works accepts 2nd prize on behalf of Major Tim Napper, winner Signaller Travis Quinn and 3rd place-getter Signaller James Martin, 7th Signal Regiment.*



The soldiers had previously set their minds to developing ideas and equipment that could be used to solve problems across their unit, Army and industry. 6th Combat Support Brigade commander Brigadier Susan Coyle said she was very impressed by the soldiers and their ideas. “They identify a problem and then set themselves a task to find a solution,” Brigadier Coyle said. “It is important to acknowledge where the idea came from and understand how it was realised. “This innovations day provides us an opportunity to be with the soldier in person and acknowledge their inventiveness.” Entries spanned science, technology and engineering domains to advance and integrate Army capabilities. Nine of the 12 entries advanced Army information-gathering techniques facilitating full immersion into an augmented reality that will enhance operability and reduce risk. Brigadier Coyle said she would like to see these concepts developed further with support from Army and associated agencies. “These ideas demonstrate that the 6th Brigade understands the complexity of the battlespace, the need for constant renewal and pursues excellence in everything they do,” she said. Lieutenant Craig Stephenson, a troop commander with 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment (20STA) said all of the ideas were portable, adaptable and highly functional. Major Tim Napper from 19th Chief Engineer Works’ (19 CE Wks), took out second prize for his *Ballpark Blast*, a software innovation that displays blast-event characteristics in order to determine safe and not-so-safe areas. Major Napper said the program’s utility for military planners and emergency first responders had already resulted in distribution across a variety of military, intelligence, police and academic organisations in 10 countries.

Corporal Jakob Marek, also from 19 CE Wks, combining Lumion 3D Pro and Reddit applications so that draughtsmen can render 3D videos of construction projects. See a rendered video [here](#) (on Facebook). “By transforming traditional construction documentation into animated video, I have progressed stakeholder engagement, generating significant opportunities to decrease project costs,” Corporal Marek said.

- The winning and third-place projects were classified.

Foreigners invade NZ for Southern Katipo



Foreign military contingents arrived in New Zealand this week to participate in Exercise Southern Katipo 2017, a multinational exercise run by the New Zealand Defence Force.

The exercise, which runs from 20 October to 24 November at the top of the South Island, aims to test and evaluate the NZDF's ability to plan and conduct joint operations involving a range of naval, land, and air assets. It will also involve military personnel from Australia, Canada, Chile, Fiji, New Caledonia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Tonga, Timor Leste, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Personnel and equipment from Australia, Canada, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom, Tonga, and Fiji arrived last week and began preparing for the exercise.

Platoons from Tonga, Fiji, Brunei and Papua New Guinea have been training at Burnham Military Camp near Christchurch.

The Southern Katipo 2017 (SK17) exercise scenario will be a continuation of that used in Southern Katipo 2015, in which New Zealand deployed a military contingent to lead a multinational combined joint task force to help restore law and order in a fictional South Pacific country called Becara.

The multinational task force conducted stability, support and humanitarian operations, including the evacuation of internally displaced people.

F88 Steyr surrendered during firearms amnesty

New South Wales Police yesterday reported that 602 handguns, 1575 shotguns and nearly 8000 other weapons-related items were surrendered during this year's National Firearms Amnesty.

Surrendered items of interest include 20 SKS assault rifles, eight M1 carbine military rifles, four sub-machine guns, a Colt AR-15 rifle, a .44 calibre magnum revolver, an Adler 110 shotgun, a Mauser model 1918 T-Gewehr bolt-action anti-tank rifle – and one F88 Steyr.



Defence News



RMC-D SCdt Ashleigh Edmond, right, with ADF personnel and Defence civilians participate in the CDF Mental Health Walk.

Hundreds make strides to further awareness

CDF's annual mental health walk around Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra, on October 5 was a resounding success with more than 600 Defence, police and emergency service members taking part. CDF ACM Mark Binskin said it was important to get everyone out and be able to walk and show support, as friends and family, for those suffering from mental health issues. "A lot of times people feel isolated, they feel lonely and so they're not feeling like anyone understands what's going on," he said. "They don't want to reach out -- I just want to tell them that's wrong -- everyone here today is here to support them and we can see the demonstration of that with all the walkers." ACM Binskin said he was happy with the day's turnout. "Getting out with friends and colleagues and walking and talking about the issues sure beats a committee meeting," he said. "I'd just like to thank everyone for turning up, both personally and as CDF." SCdt Ashleigh Edmond, of Neville Howse Pl RMC-D, said she and her platoon mates were walking to raise awareness for mental health. "It's relevant to us in Neville Howse Pl because we're all in recovery, so I guess mental health is definitely a large part of that," she said. "It's just something to be aware of in the general community as well." SCdt Edmond said it was good for Defence to hold an event such as this for awareness, because a lot of the time mental health was not spoken about. "This walk gives us a chance to speak to each other and make sure everyone knows there is support out there for them," she said. The walk ended in Blamey Square at Russell Offices with a range of welfare organisations providing information and a sausage sizzle to replace calories lost along the way.

DEFENCE has been developing a new tool, Posting Connect, which aims to improve the posting process for ADF members and their families. One of the key features of Posting Connect is the ability for members to give access to their partner, or other nominee, to view the tool and help with posting activities. Posting Connect will be launched to a pilot audience in Queensland on October 31. Personnel in the current posting cycle and posting from Brisbane, Cairns, Ipswich, Toowoomba or Townsville are invited to be part of the trial to help shape a better posting experience for ADF members. To become involved, contact posting_improvement@defence.gov.au. Find out more by visiting the Posting-In / Posting-Out project page on the Defence Restricted Network.



Jubilee Central



Serving the local community
7 Days a week 6am-9pm

Raqqah is liberated

Syrian Democratic Forces have officially liberated the Syrian city of Raqqa – the nominal capital of Daesh’s self-proclaimed ‘caliphate’.

Raqqa was occupied by Syrian opposition forces in 2013 and was embroiled in a destructive civil war before being seized by Daesh in January 2014, at which time the city was declared the capital of the terrorist group’s caliphate. The US-led International Coalition’s fight to liberate Raqqa commenced with air strikes against Daesh in support of ground assaults by Syrian Democratic Forces on 6 June this year. Liberation of the city was proclaimed on Tuesday by the US-backed militia who spearheaded the ground offensive and was officially declared by Commander Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve Lieutenant General Paul Funk yesterday, 21 October 2017. Australia’s Minister for Defence Marise Payne today welcomed the official announcement. “This is a devastating blow against Daesh and its perverted ideology,” Minister Payne said. “Raqqa was the nominal capital of Daesh’s so-called ‘caliphate’ and was central to its political and ideological narrative. “[But] hard work remains to defeat Daesh, and the role Australia continues to play in the counter-Daesh Coalition [continues]. “Australian Defence Force aircraft provided air support to the Coalition air campaign in Raqqa. “I acknowledge the great work of the men and women of the ADF who continue to make a significant contribution to the defeat of Daesh in Iraq and Syria. “Alongside our Coalition partners, Australia remains committed to the mission, which now shifts to clearing Daesh from its remaining territory in the Euphrates River Valley on either side of the Iraqi-Syrian border.” Minister Payne said the historic victory in Raqqa marked significant progress in the counter-Daesh campaign, and commended the Syrian Democratic Forces for their determination in liberating the city from the barbaric control of Daesh.



RAAF personnel from Australia’s Air Task Group Task Element 630.1.2, Rotation 11, stand before their E-7A Wedgetail – the aircraft most heavily responsible for delivering Australia’s contribution to the fight against ISIS in Syria. Photo by Corporal David Cotton.

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Army News



Commemorative services to mark the Centenary of the last great cavalry charge on the town of Beersheba during WWI will be held in Israel on 31 October 2017. Commemorations will remember and honour the courage, strength and sacrifice displayed during an all-day battle, which was part of the wider British offensive known as the third Battle of Gaza. During this conflict the famous mounted charge of the 4th and 12th Light Horse Brigades led to the capture of the town of Beersheba and enabled the British empire forces to break the Ottoman line and advance into Palestine. On 31 October 2017, there will be a joint Australian and New Zealand Centenary Service in the morning and an Australia-only service later in the day. Australian Army soldiers were busy recently practicing their drill and making final preparations to commemorate the centenary of the First World War Battle of Beersheba. Corporal Rob Conway will be among a total of 53 personnel travelling to Israel as part of the ADF contingent for this commemoration, including Australian Army soldiers, personnel from Australia's Federation Guard and Australian Army Band members, among others. Corporal Conway had to learn to ride a horse in preparation for his part in re-enacting the charge on 31 October.



THE School of Armour has trained and graduated the first ever tank troop leader of 2/14LHR-QMI. When Lt Tony Mahoney takes up the position in one of the oldest ARA units of the Army, it will symbolically mark a final phase in the application of Plan Beersheba. "Being part of the new Armoured Cavalry Regt in 7 Bde feels like we are the last piece of a much bigger puzzle," Lt Mahoney said. The School of Armour's Warrant Officer Tank Instructor, WO2 Shaun Clements, said Plan Beersheba – announced in 2011 – restructured Army's combat brigades into multi-role formations, with each combat brigade containing a tank squadron. "We have worked tirelessly under Plan Beersheba to ensure the Army is equipped with a reconnaissance, lift and tank capability – on track and on time," he said. By bolstering each combat brigade with armour power,

Wing Sergeant Major of Tactics Wing WO2 Jason Mackay said Plan Beersheba recognised the significant capability of armour in the spectrum of modern operations, from major combat to peacetime military engagement. "It will be fantastic to see 7 Bde's capability complete with the M1A1 assets," WO2 Mackay said. "Armoured corps units provide shock action, versatility and adaptability to the brigade commander no other capain Army can provide." Lt Mahoney and his troop will have less than a year to themselves before entering the ready year of the Force Generation Cycle with the rest of 7 Bde, where they will provide short-notice contingency response capabilities in Australia and overseas. "The School of Armour delivers employment-ready personnel to support the next generation of Army's foundation warfighting capability," WO2 Mackay said. "We look forward to training all the future tank troop leaders of 2/14LHR-QMI and other RAAC members who will contribute to the ever-increasing capacity of the Army.



An Australian soldier watches on as Iraqi soldiers advance in position in the lead up to the Junior Leaders' Course.

Graduating with a bang

Iraqi junior leaders trained by Australian and New Zealand personnel are now ready for the fight against Daesh.

EXPLOSIONS and gunfire rang out at Iraq's Taji Military Complex in Iraq in September as the latest students on the Iraqi Army Junior Leaders' Course graduated from the 12-week training package.

Australian and New Zealand military personnel deployed with Task Group Taji (TGT) 5 have been running the course in conjunction with the Iraqi Army's Non-Commissioned Officer Academy. The 335 Iraqi Army students demonstrated what they've learned throughout the course with a complex activity designed to showcase their combined arms skills. The demonstration began with snipers and simulated mortar fire, followed by infantry soldiers moving in to conduct urban assaults on three objectives.

Engineers breached the doors with explosives before Iraqi Abrams tanks rolled into the area to fend off an enemy counterattack. The exercise finished with a demonstration of combat first aid skills and a helicopter medical evacuation.

OC Training Coy Delta Maj Tim Casey said the course progressed from training in small teams, to platoons, to the combined arms training demonstrated at the graduation. "It was great to see the integration of Iraqi Army armour, aviation, and engineers as well," he said. Following the combined arms demonstration, a graduation ceremony was held where a number of soldiers were recognised for their notable performances during the course. The recipient of the Top Shot award said his training had developed a variety of his skills, including problem-solving, sniping and leadership. The Top Medic award recipient said the course had taught him how to be a better soldier. "Now, rather than just a medic, I am both a soldier and a medic," he said through an interpreter. The Junior Leaders' Course is the third course of this type to be run by TGT, and it continues to be a success. As well as instructing, the task group's trainers have been mentoring Iraqi instructors to enable the Non Commissioned Officer Academy to hold similar courses in the future. The graduating students will return to their home units with enhanced leadership skills, and a greater understanding of how to conduct combined arms combat operations. Many will be heading straight into battle as the fight against Daesh continues in some areas of Iraq.

Warramunga set for ops in Mid-East

ABCSO Elizabeth Williams with parents Gordon, left, and Darlene, right, and family members Michelle, Beau and Beverley. Photo: ABET Christopher Szumlanski

HMAS Warramunga and her ship's company of 190 departed Fleet Base East at Garden Island on October 8, for maritime security operations in the Middle East. Defence Minister Senator Marise Payne and CN VADM Tim Barrett joined family and friends to farewell the ship and loved ones for their nine-month deployment on Operation Manitou.



Senator Payne said Warramunga would work as part of an international coalition, the Combined Maritime Forces, to interrupt the illegal drug trade that funds terrorism. "Australia has a longstanding commitment to the Combined Maritime Forces in the Middle East region, and Warramunga is but the latest Navy vessel committed to this fight against terrorist operations," Senator Payne said. "For decades, the men and women of the Navy have regularly seized drugs and other illegal cargoes from the high seas. "Warramunga will further advance Australia's high standing with our allies, together making a significant global difference and protecting Australia's national interests abroad." CO Warramunga CMDR Dugald Clelland said the ship's company was highly trained and motivated to carry out the tasks ahead. "The men and women who serve in Warramunga have worked very hard in preparing the ship for this long deployment," CMDR Clelland said. "This will be the ship's third deployment to the Middle East and we carry forward a considerable legacy. "For 27 years, Australian warships have made significant contributions to peace and security in the region and we're deeply committed to continuing this legacy and honouring the service of those who have come before us. "We sail with the knowledge our friends and families will support us the entire way as we work to make the world safer and more stable." Warramunga replaces HMAS Newcastle as Australia's ship in the Middle East region. Newcastle is due to return in December.



DURING a visit to the east coast in August, the crew of HMAS Waller opened the hatches to shed some light on those who sail the depths. Over nine days the Submarine Recruiting Team supported Waller's visits to Sydney and Brisbane, holding information sessions at Sydney bases HMAS Watson, Waterhen, Kuttabul, and Gallipoli Barracks, to dispel myths and tempt some current and potential Defence personnel to try the 'silent service'. Australia has operated submarines since 1914, with HMAS AE2 wreaking havoc in the Dardanelles during the Gallipoli campaign, and have been operating the current diesel-electric Collins-class since the early 1990s. As an expanded submarine fleet will be delivered ready for operations in the early 2030s, getting the right people for the job is important, but hard to achieve when you do most of your work out of sight. Information sessions were held to support Defence Force Recruiting staff in Parramatta, Brisbane, Toowoomba and the Gold Coast. Waller also hosted 20 sea riders for a true behind-the-scenes experience. One of the lucky few, SBLT James Blumer, said the experience had dispelled his assumptions. "I had nominated for the sea ride with the intention of proving definitely and for absolute certainty that submarines were not for me," SBLT Blumer said. "The hands-on tour showed me that life in a submarine was not what I had originally thought it to be and I thoroughly enjoyed the small-boat feeling." With a crew of about 40, submariners receive comprehensive rolespecific training, as well as learning the skills to perform multiple tasks on board. The small team environment relies on everyone to be a professional to get the job done. Australian submarines have mixed messing, which means both males and females share accommodation on board, an attribute unique to the subsurface Fleet. The boats are based in Western Australia at Garden Island.



Helping friends in need

LEUT Zac Segger and other members of HMAS Huon's ship's company erect a tent in Luganville.

THE ADF deployed additional humanitarian supplies earlier this month to provide relief to communities displaced from Vanuatu's Ambae Island with the island's Manaro Volcano threatening to erupt. Thousands of people have been evacuated from the island, with about 8000 taken to the island of Espiritu Santo, and about 3000 more to the nearby islands of Pentecost and Maewo. Personnel have delivered much needed humanitarian supplies. Tents for temporary shelter, kitchen supplies and lighting are providing relief to families and improving community safety. Clean water is also being provided. The Australian Deputy High Commissioner to Vanuatu, Susan Ryle, said the aid was helping people who had to leave practically everything behind on the island. "The government here in Vanuatu declared a state of emergency and evacuated the entire Island of Ambae," Ms Ryle said. "People were displaced and they're being housed on Santo, Maewo and on the Island of Pentecost. "The Australian aid includes tents for families, community tents, and a number of kitchen sets carrying pots and pans that can be used for basic cooking." HMA Ships Huon and Choules were deployed to assist in the distribution of aid and supplies to those that had had to leave their homes. Sailors from Huon assisted local aid workers erect community tents in Luganville, to shelter some of the Ambae Island residents.

Many displaced residents had been without shelter since arriving in Luganville, where the population swelled to almost double its usual size. Other Huon crew members erected tents on the island of Espiritu Santo. HMAS Choules assisted with the distribution of relief supplies between the islands. Navy's contribution was part of Operation Vanuatu Assist, which is the ADF Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief contribution to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade-led support to the Government of Vanuatu. Director Humanitarian Operations DFAT Craig Kentwell said it was fantastic to have Huon in the region. "There are a number of men and women from the ship who are happy to volunteer and come up and help out the people who've been evacuated from Ambae," he said. "Most of the stuff that we have here was delivered by an ADF C17 Globemaster. "More flights came in over the next couple of days."



WHILE participating in IndoPacific Endeavour, HMAS Darwin carries with her a group of Navy's future leaders. Eleven warfare officers under training have embarked on a journey that will take them through the full range of experiences they are likely to encounter on a warship at sea. The junior officers are on their way to becoming warfare specialists, and some may get further qualifications in navigation, hydrography, meteorology, oceanography, submarines, clearance diving and mine warfare. Since Darwin has been at sea, these officers have been able to experience the complexities of operating within an integrated task group as it is put through its paces in preparation for the task ahead. From basic ship manoeuvring, navigation and situational awareness, to day and night time replenishment evolutions, the officers have been under the watchful eyes of Darwin's experienced bridge team led by navigator LEUT Simon Murray. MIDN Theodore Squires has enjoyed getting some hands-on experience. "In most of our careers so far we have only been spending time in the classroom learning about all of this," he said. "It's exciting to get on board the ship to see and feel how it all works in the practical sense. "Being involved with such an important operation is pretty special, too. "I'm looking forward to getting as much experience as I can."

A TRIAL will explore the potential for high-speed internet to support aircrew and embarked forces on a C-130J Hercules. One aircraft has been fitted with a Ka-Band Satellite Communications (SATCOM) antenna on its fuselage, which has been coupled with a local area network in the cargo bay. The applications of this system were demonstrated under Exercise Jericho Dawn at Defence Establishment Fairbairn from September 5-6. During the exercise, a scenario utilising the system was played out to show how highspeed data transfer could support air mobility operations. Witnessing Exercise Jericho Dawn first hand were Defence leaders, along with representatives of the Department of Finance and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. AIRCDRE Richard Lennon, Commander Air Mobility Group, said the system could potentially change how Air Force deployed personnel on operations. “For decades, passengers on a Hercules have been carried largely in an information vacuum,” AIRCDRE Lennon said. “A high-bandwidth SATCOM antenna, combined with a wireless area network, dramatically increases the flexibility and application of a Hercules deployed on operations.” High-bandwidth SATCOM could allow the live streaming of updates from a humanitarian disaster, or allow the Hercules to function as an interim “command and control” post at a frontline airfield. While installation of the Ka-Band antenna for the current trial is only temporary, it required airborne testing with the Aircraft Research and Development Unit. AIRCDRE Lennon said the trial had already demonstrated close collaboration between Defence and industry, which was one of the core tenants of Air Force’s Plan Jericho. “We are using a Honeywell SATCOM antenna under loan from Inmarsat, combined with a wireless area network system provided by L-3 Communications,” AIRCDRE Lennon said. “Installation and handling of this equipment has been managed by Airbus Australia Pacific, which has been very supportive of us conducting this trial within our existing through-life support contract with them.”

285SQN gears up for farewell

PAST members of No. 285 Squadron are invited to a function at RAAF Base Richmond on December 8 to coincide with the unit’s disbandment. Established in August 1999, the original role of 285SQN was to train the workforce for the C-130H and C-130J Hercules and Boeing 707. Next year, it will relinquish that role to the newly re-established No. 37 Squadron Training Flight. OC No. 84 Wing GPCAPT Paul Long said 285SQN provided a unique service to Air Force over the past two decades. “The period of 285SQN’s service has coincided with the busiest sustained tempo in Defence history with major operations in East Timor, Afghanistan, and Iraq,” GPCAPT Long said. “The instructors at 285SQN trained and delivered the workforce that has made those operations possible. Amid this, the technology used in support of this training has evolved significantly.” The formation of 285SQN came from the merger of Training Flights for Nos. 33, 36, and 37 Squadrons, along with maintenance workforce training at No. 503 Wing. As well as using real aircraft for training, 285SQN was able to capitalise on the technology being applied to cockpit simulators in the late 1990s. “The RAAF has long made use of training devices and cockpit simulators ever since WWII,” GPCAPT Long said. “In the past two decades, there’s been unprecedented growth in fidelity and potential for this technology to replicate and even replace training in the real aircraft. “The squadron’s B707 simulator was the first of its kind to receive a level five rating – meaning that time spent in the simulator could be logged as equivalent to flying the real thing.” The training devices handed over to 37SQN will bring the promise of networked training with other simulators and live aircraft around the globe. “Participation by 285SQN in events like Exercise Coalition Virtual Flag is evidence that we’ve kept at the forefront of new training technologies,” he said. Ahead of the disbandment of 285SQN, a unit parade and afternoon tea will be held on December 8, followed by a function at Richmond that evening. “Most of 285SQN’s workforce has been instructors – for pilots, navigators, flight engineers, loadmasters and crew attendants,” GPCAPT Long said. “Part of 285SQN’s success has also been built on a partnership formed with industry partners at CAE Australia, which has operated the simulators and provided us with instructors.” All former members are encouraged to RSVP for the closure function using 285.closure@defence.gov.au.



CO 37SQN WGCDCR Matt Cooper makes his address as part of a dedication ceremony honouring the squadron at RAAF Memorial Grove in Canberra. Photo: Jayson Tufrey



A PLAQUE honouring past and present members of No. 37 Squadron, including those who have supported the unit, has been unveiled at the RAAF Memorial Grove in Majura, Canberra. The plaque dedication ceremony, held on September 15, was arranged by the No. 37 Squadron (RAAF) Association, in conjunction with the RAAFA (ACT Division). Some guests travelled from interstate to attend, reinforcing the strong bond between serving personnel and 37SQN (RAAF) Association members. In his commemorative address, CO 37SQN WGCDCR Matt Cooper shared his impressions of what has made the squadron special. “Next year marks the 75th anniversary of the squadron, and while the global landscape has changed, the aircraft have changed, and the capabilities have evolved, the one constant has been the people,” WGCDCR Cooper said. “Professionalism, dedication, and loyalty are just some of the qualities generations of 37SQN personnel have displayed in the past, as has been their commitment to serve others, often at the expense of their personal lives, notably when people need it the most.” More than 40 people gathered for the unveiling of the 37SQN plaque, which commenced with the familiar rumble of a low flying C-130J Hercules from the squadron. Established at RAAF Station Laverton in 1943 to support Australian and Allied forces during World War II, 37SQN has spent much of its history supporting deployed forces around the globe. It has established an impressive record of service including airlift support during the Vietnam War, peacekeeping in the Sinai, and the support of deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. The squadron has also flown airlift missions during disasters such as the Queensland floods, South Pacific cyclones, New Zealand and Indonesian earthquakes, the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, and the Bali bombings. The squadron is based at RAAF Base Richmond. As the commemorative plaque was unveiled, wreaths were laid on behalf of Air Mobility Group, 37SQN, and 37SQN (RAAF) Association. A benediction from Chaplain SQNLDR James Cox concluded a moving ceremony that honoured current and future members. President 37SQN (RAAF) Association Col Coyne thanked all attendees, including AIRCDRE Richard Lennon, CDRAMG representing CAF, WGCDCR Cooper for the squadron support in arranging the C-130J-30 flypast and Bob Weight, president RAAFA (ACT Division) for providing the facilities at the RAAF Memorial Grove. Seven former 37SQN commanding officers attended, including: GPCAPT Stewart Mitchell (retd) (1974-76), GPCAPT (retd) Mike Matters (1976-78), GPCAPT (retd) Don Stott (1983-86), AIRCDRE Ian Scott (retd) (1993-95), GPCAPT Paul Nicholas (2006-08), AIRCDRE Matt Hegarty (2008-10), and GPCAPT Darren Goldie (2012-15). The RAAF Memorial Grove is located alongside the Federal Highway, 15km from Canberra. It forms part of the CanberraSydney Remembrance Driveway, and is maintained by the RAAF Association (ACT Division).

WELFARE

Our area contact for Welfare, DVA, etc,
By state and District representatives'
are,

Tracy Victor (Mackay) 31283275

Frank Radford (Townsville) 4759 9517

Don't let a problem get you down.

PTSD Group Programs

DVA provides group treatment programs for PTSD in hospitals across Australia. These programs treat current as well as former serving members of the Australian Defence Force and veterans. To find out more you can contact the hospitals directly and speak to the PTSD program coordinators. A list of the programs and relevant contact details are available at:

<http://at-ease.dva.gov.au/professionals/files/2016/02/Trauma-Recovery-Programs-Feb-2016.pdf>.

USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency	000
Police Whitsundays	49488888
DVA	133 254
country areas (Freecall)	1800 555 254
VVCS	1800 011 046.
Beyond blue	1300 22 4636

COMSUPER/DFRDB

MEMBERS

Phone	1300 001 677
Fax	(02) 6272 9616

Post: DFRDB, GPO Box 2252
Canberra ACT 2601
Overseas callers +61 2 6272 9624
Operating hours: 9am to 5pm (EST),
Monday to Friday (except for ACT public holidays)

PENSIONERS

Phone:	1300 001 877
FAX:	(02) 6272 9616

Post: DFRDB, GPO Box 2252
Canberra ACT 2601
Overseas callers: +61 2 6272 9626.

If you desire to change your house, contents, car, etc insurance. Defence services home insurance is

GPO Box498
Brisbane, 4001
Or Phone 1300 552 662

As we age, we find we would like a bit of assistance with battery replacement or check out smoke alarms, electrical safety, First Aid or home help, including home safety check list, Ring "Safe Home" on 1300 369 003

Useful web Links.

Veteran Affairs

www.dva.gov.au

Household Assistance

<http://www.dva.gov.au/health-and-wellbeing/home-and-care/household-assistance>

Government Portal

www.my.gov.au

Vietnam Veterans

www.vvaa.org.au

Defence Force

www.defence.gov.au

Comsuper,DFRDB.

<https://csc.gov.au/>

Email: members@dfrdb.gov.au

Email: pensions@dfrdb.gov.au

Bravery Trust

<https://braverytrust.org.au>

Defence Care

<http://www.defencecare.org.au>

RSL

<https://www.rslqld.org/>

<https://www.rslqld.org/Help-us-Help-Them/Services-Overview>

<https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/ADF-Community>

Mental health support

<https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support>

Emergency financial assistance

<https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support>

Bereavement assistance for Defence families who have lost loved ones

<https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support>

Help with compensation claims through the Department of Veterans' Affairs

<https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support>

Referrals to peer support groups and other specialist services

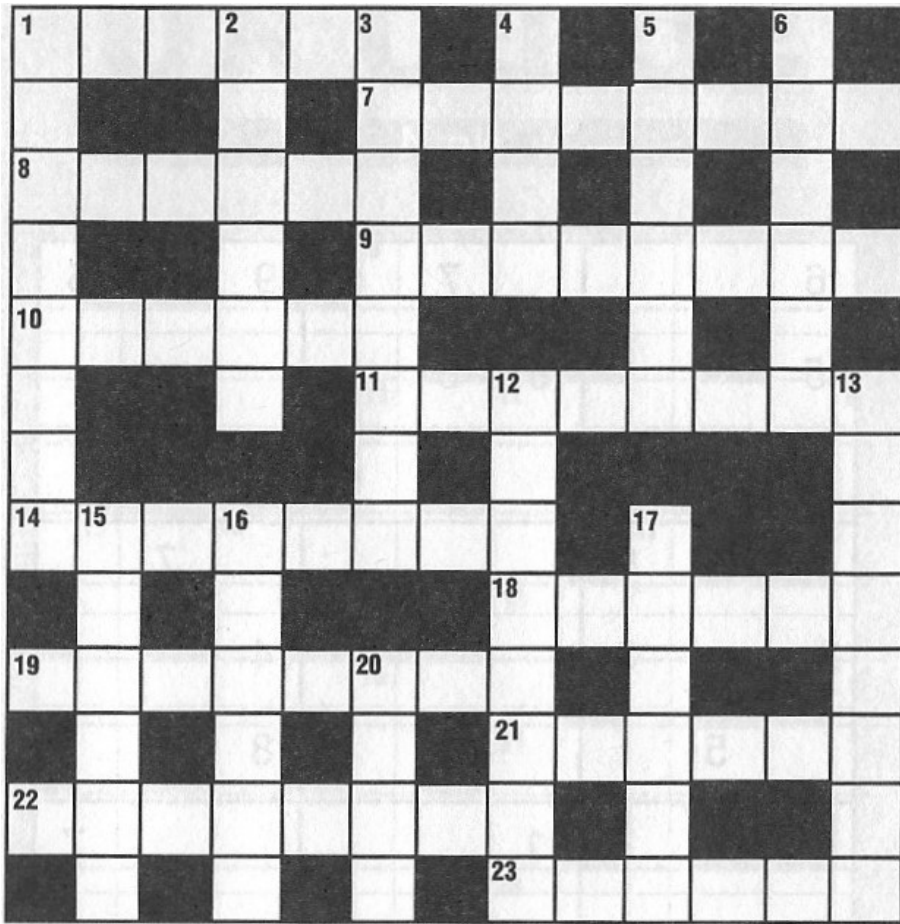
Visiting the sick, injured and lonely in hospital and/or at their homes

<https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support>

Short term crisis accommodation

<https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support>

Subsidised longer term housing solutions



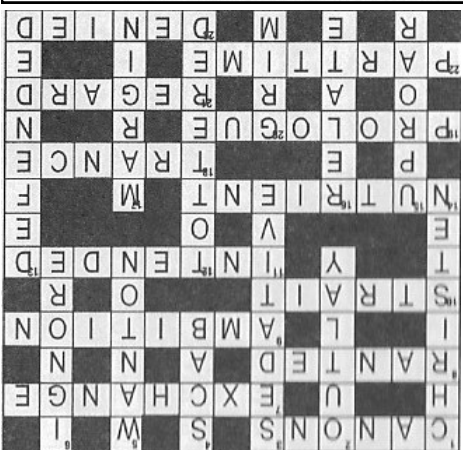
- ACROSS**
- 1. Church Laws
 - 7. Swap
 - 8. Raved
 - 9. Aim
 - 10. Channel
 - 11. Meant
 - 14. Essential Food
 - 18. Stupor
 - 19. Introduction In A Book
 - 21. Esteem
 - 22. Casual Work
 - 23. Renounced
- DOWN**
- 1. Name
 - 2. Expense
 - 3. A Drug
 - 4. Mark After Cut
 - 5. Promiscuous
 - 6. Disregard
 - 12. Toddled
 - 13. Protected
 - 15. Tumult
 - 16. Tell
 - 17. Border
 - 20. Stern

Recently a passenger in a taxi heading for Robina station leaned over to ask the driver a question and gently tapped him on the shoulder to get his attention. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb and stopped just inches from a large plate window.

For a few moments everything was silent in the cab. Then, the shaking driver said, "Are you OK? I'm so sorry, but you scared the daylights out of me."

The badly shaken passenger apologised to the driver and said, "I didn't realise that a mere tap on the shoulder would startle someone so badly."

The driver replied, "No, no, I'm the one who is sorry, it's entirely my fault. Today is my very first day driving a cab. I've been driving a hearse for 25 years."



Word puzzle solution: CENT

4	5	3	6	2	7	8	1	9
2	6	1	9	8	5	3	4	7
9	7	8	1	4	3	2	6	5
8	9	6	2	1	4	5	7	3
1	4	7	3	5	8	6	9	2
3	2	5	7	6	9	4	8	1
6	3	9	8	7	2	1	5	4
7	1	4	5	3	6	9	2	8
5	8	2	4	9	1	7	3	6

SU DO KU

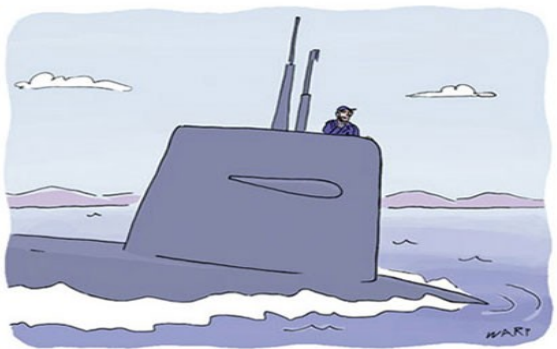
	8						3	
7			5		6			8
6		9		7		1		4
		5		6		4		
			3		8			
		6		1		5		
9		8		4		2		5
2			9		5			7
	5						1	

Instructions: The numbers 1 to 9 must appear in each row, column and 3 x 3 box. Numbers can not be duplicated.

Word Puzzle

Find a four letter word that will fit in all of these to complete another word.

- S _ _ _ _
- AC _ _ _ _
- DES _ _ _ _
- AS _ _ _ _
- RE _ _ _ _
- _ _ _ _ RIST
- _ _ _ _ URY
- _ _ _ _ IME
- _ _ _ _ RED
- _ _ _ _ RAL



"Hey, it's been great talking to you, Mom, but I really have to go."