

The Lion's Roar the year book of the royal tasmania regiment





From the Colonel Commandant



Once again it is my great pleasure to contribute to the Lion's Roar in my capacity as the Colonel Commandant of The Royal Tasmania Regiment. The Lion's Roar is a key document of historic record in the lineage of one of Australia's most esteemed Army units.

The past 12 months has seen significant activity across

both Tasmania and nationally as the Centenary of ANZAC celebrations conclude their final year. I have been privileged to have been involved in a number of these and it is of note that our forebear members of the 12th and 40th Battalions, 1st Australian Imperial Force figure prominently in many of the significant actions that have been referenced from World War One. The Battle and Theatre Honours emblazoned on the Queen's and Regimental Colours of the 12th/40th Battalion, The Royal Tasmania Regiment silently attest to the service of so many who made the supreme sacrifice. As we near the conclusion of these Centenary celebrations, focus will shift to other commemorations and it is the soldiers of today's 12th/40th Battalion who now write the annals of the Regiment's more recent experiences.

One of my duties is to Chair the Regimental Council and in the past 12 months, a decision was made to combine the meetings of the Council and the Williams Bequest Trust. This has not only simplified administration of both of these bodies but has ensured more effective utilisation of the investment proceeds from the Williams Bequest to support the needs and development opportunities of soldiers of the Regiment. I would like to record my thanks to the members of the Council and the Bequest Trust for their ongoing work throughout the past year.

I would also like to publicly acknowledge and thank Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC Governor of Tasmania in her capacity as Representative Colonel of The Royal Tasmania Regiment. Her Excellency has been an obvious and strong supporter of the Regiment and its activities, and has shown a particular interest in the achievements of our soldiers.

During the year, I was privileged to attend the annual Royal Australian Infantry Corps Conference held at the School of Infantry in Singleton. Of particular note was the broad representation at this Conference by senior leaders from across the Army, all major Army schools and training establishments, and other Corps. The Conference covered a wide range of key issues and was forward looking in the nature of discussion around new technologies and future developments. Army Reserve representation and participation at this key forum was also obvious, and the Battalion's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Mark Neich led a working group on the development of evolving tasks and responsibilities for the Reinforcing Battle Group. There are clear opportunities ahead for Army Reservists in support of wider Australian Defence Force operations and members of the Battalion are now well positioned to take advantage of these.

As with every year, a number of members of the Battalion will leave the unit on posting. I thank each of you for your contribution to the Unit and for value-adding to the Regiment's rich history. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding service of the Battalion's outgoing Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class One Stephen Logan. Warrant Officer Logan will move to the well deserved appointment as Regimental Sergeant Major of the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australia Regiment and I have no doubt that he will excel in that appointment as well.

I have mentioned previously that successful service in the Australian Army Reserve requires a sustained balance of lifestyle. There are many opportunities for soldiers of the Regiment to develop themselves both personally and professionally during the course of their military duties, and I encourage each and every one of you to seek these out.

Good soldering.

S.L.Smith, AM, CSC, RFD Major General Colonel Commandant The Royal Tasmania Regiment

From the desk of the Commanding Officer



It was a great honour to have been appointed as the Commanding Officer, 12th/40th Battalion, the Royal Tasmania Regiment at the beginning of the year, a Unit a with such a proud and strong history. Throughout 2018, it has truly been a privilege to lead the fine Soldiers and Officers of the 12th/40th Battalion.

In my commander's guidance for 2018, I outlined three priorities:

- 1. Deliver Directed Capability Requirements:
 Our focus is to deliver our directed capability requirements, with BG JACKA being our ME. Our supporting effort is our individual rank and trade training, competency and proficiency training, collective training for operational requirements and the provision of NPSR. And we have successfully delivered on these requirements.
- 2. Develop our future capability: Our Battalion is our people. To deliver our capability requirements we have invested in our people to be rank and trade qualified, proficient and competent at their jobs; resilient, agile and adaptive; and capable of operating in challenging and contested environments. Our focus on our people needs to extend to Professional Military Education, training, and development of junior leaders in order to form better teams, and perform better. Through the continued investment in our people, we will become a better led and better performing force, to meet future challenges head on. This will only come by investing in our people, which we continue to do.
- 3. Strengthen the Reserve in Tasmania: We are the Tasmania Regiment, and the premier unit on the island, and therefore we have taken the lead on projects to support recruiting initiatives, community engagement, cadets and wider people initiatives to reinforce that 12/40 RTR is a great place to work. We are investing in the modernisation of Tasmanian ranges, Weapon Simulation Training Systems, Care of Battle Casualty and Army Combative facilities and the development of Platoon integrated UAV surveillance. This Battalion will continue to lead the way in Tasmania and 9th Brigade, and will continue to be a great place to serve.

The unit has met challenges of the Operational Generation Cycle and delivered beyond what was has been asked of us. We truly live in uncertain times and future demands remain unclear. We can; however, be without doubt that this Unit, and members of this Unit, will be required to contribute to operational tempo in the years to come. In my short tenure so far, we have welcomed home our members from Rifle Company Butterworth in Malaysia, from the Middle East, have made ready our domestic Counter-Terrorism response plans, and are well postured to support contemporary operations next year. Through the hard work of all our teams, we are well prepared to fulfil the expected demands upon us, and prepared for demands in a dynamic and uncertain future.

We completed our first rotation of the Force Generation Cycle and are about to mount the HQ for the Reinforcing Battle Group. Battle Group JACKA will be our priority going into 2019. On successful completion of the JACKA series of exercises, in the New Year our training will culminate with Exercise Talisman Sabre 2019, the largest joint, coalition military exercise conducted by the ADF, at Shoal Water Bay Training Area. This will provide a fantastic opportunity for our Soldiers and Officers to represent the Regiment on the international stage, and will open opportunities for them to deploy on current and future operations.

Ceremonially we have continued our ongoing support to the community, with the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day and ANZAC Day. The Battalion provided ongoing support to the Tasmanian Headstone Project with regular ceremonies to unveil new headstones of our veterans of World War One who lie in unmarked graves, throughout Tasmania.

We should remember that we are custodians of two sets of Colours, and as such, we bear more battle honours than any other Regiment in the Australian Army. This is a hard-won history and I am proud of the Regimental Historical Collection revitalisation for presenting this unique history. My thanks and admiration for COL (retd) Dennis Townsend and his team for their hard work in presenting this body of knowledge for the Regiment and the public.

Our Regimental Association remains close to the Battalion in their regular luncheons and keen support to Regimental life. It is with great sense of honour and responsibility that we remember those who have gone before us and continue our Battalion's proud heritage into 2019 and beyond.

The old adage that 'it has been a busy year' defiantly applies to us, and next year we see that tempo





From the desk of the Commanding Officer (cont.)

maintained. Our success will be measured by the quality of our people, the strength of our teams and our performance on BG JACKA, not statistics. Bound by common values of Courage, Initiative, Teamwork and Respect, we will work together to Deliver on our directed capability requirements, develop our future capability and strengthen the reserves in Tasmania.

I need to give special thanks to my command team, particularly MAJ Jamie Cotton, XO, CAPT Tavis Harling, ADJT and WO1 Stephen Logan, RSM: who are being posted in 2019, for their significant contribution to the Battalion over the past two years.

Thank you; I greatly appreciate what you have done for the Battalion.

In closing, I wish all members and their families a peaceful and happy Christmas period. We have had a great year in 2018, achieved a lot and continued our Units proud legacy. I look forward to continuing to serve with you; Tasmania's finest, in 2019.

Mark Neich

Lieutenant Colonel Commanding Officer 12th/40th Battalion, The Royal Tasmania Regiment.



Wisdom from the RSM



So another year has come to an end and what an extraordinarily busy year it has been. The soldiers of the 12th/40th Battalion, The Royal Tasmania Regiment (12/40 RTR) have achieved so much in a year that time has been our biggest resource that was lacking. The Soldiers and Officers of 12/40 RTR should be extremely proud of what they have achieved

during a very busy and challenging year.

2018 started off with a very successful induction training in February, then backing up in March with members from 12/40 RTR taking part in a combined Brigade, Divisional Military skills competition. Unfortunately we did not win, but it was a tightly contested competition with only a few points between first place and last place. The soldiers involved can hold their heads high with the effort and commitment they put in.

Towards the end of March saw the 12/40 RTR, RCB 120 contingent return to Tasmania after what was described as a very busy, challenging but extremely rewarding trip. Members were reunited with families and loved ones with many a story to tell about their time in Malaysia. The Commanding Officer and I would like to congratulate all involved from 12/40 RTR, who from all accounts set a very high standard and showed the 9 Brigade and 4 Brigade members the high quality of the Tasmanian soldier.

After Easter 12/40 RTR members rolled into Egypt II and AGFEST all in the same weekend. This was a busy weekend combining live fire training as well as joining Defence Force Recruiting running a stand at AGFEST. This was a very successful activity and the soldiers of 12/40 RTR accounted themselves professionally at all times whilst engaging themselves with the public, which in turn ensured an unusually high interest in joining the Part-time and Full-time Defence Force.

May was again busy for myself attending the RSM's conference at Randwick Barracks, then from Sydney heading straight to Canberra for fashion week at the Directorate of Soldier Career Management Agency.

June saw five of 12/40 RTR members rewarded for their hard work and commitment with an exchange with 1 Brigade in Darwin. The members were lucky enough to embed with 5th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment

(5 RAR) and the Marine Rotational Force Darwin (MRF-D). For the men and women back in Tasmania we were privileged enough to host 5 RAR and MRF-D members in Hobart and Youngtown. This exchange was the second time occurring and strengthened the ties with the Brigade which will hold us in great stead for Talisman Sabre and potential Deployments next year.

The rest of the year has seen myself and the Commanding Officer attend Hamel as observer Trainers. The Battalion has been involved in and taken the lead in numerous ceremonial activities, including ANZAC Day, the Headstone Project which has included VIP's such as the Governor General, Remembrance Day in Hobart and at the One Day International against South Africa. We had over a Platoon take part in JACKA Walk as well as training weekends which have included live fire activities in addition to care of the battle casualty, Army Combat Procedures and Military skills which were all well received by unit members.

In conclusion I would like to congratulate all the members who have been promoted this year, all are worthy recipients as well as being a wonderful achievement. I would like to make mention To SGT Maynard and Hendrickson who were both promoted from CPL to SGT and WO2 Macdonald who has been promoted from SGT to WO2, all being members of A Coy. I would also like to congratulate CPL Hutch from B Coy for receiving a soldier's medallion for exemplary service. I would like to also farewell and thank the Soldiers and officers leaving the Battalion this year, I hope your time in 12/40 RTR has been rewarding and challenging. Finally as most know I too with a heavy heart must depart 12/40 RTR to take up the RSM position in 6 RAR next year. I am sincere in saying that it has been an absolute privilege to be RSM of 12/40 RTR and I include it as a career highlight. Good luck to all next year and if any of you are in Brisbane please don't hesitate to stop in and say G-day

Stephen Logan

Warrant Officer Class One Regimental Sergeant Major 12th/40th Battalion, The Royal Tasmania Regiment.





Regimental Collection

Firstly let me correct an erroneous perception that the Regimental Collection belongs to the RTR Association. The Collection is owned by the Regiment and 12/40 Battalion is the current custodian. It is your collection and is supported financially and in kind by the RTR Association. The collection committee is appointed by and reports to the Regimental Council.

The ongoing enhancement and refinement by the Regimental Collection Committee, with the able sup-port from some association members, continued during the year. The highlight was undoubtedly the exhibition of 12th and 40th Battalions AIF memorabilia under the Exhibition banner of The Regiment Remembers. The exhibition opening was attended by some thirty interested personnel with the main speaker being the Federal Member for Denison, Andrew Wilkie MP.

The committee is Colonel Dennis Townsend, Mr Graham Alomes, Mrs Andrea Gerrard, Mr Brian Grundy and Mr Roger McGinniss with volunteers being Mr Tas Evans, Mr Ralph Cooper and Mr Richard Cairns.

The Regiment Remembers Exhibition is housed in the collection building near the entrance to Koepang Lines. The exhibition pays tribute to the soldiers of the 12th/40th Battalions AIF. These soldiers were those who won the WWl Battle Honours some of which are emblazoned on the Queens Colour of the 12th and 40th Battalions and of which 12th/40th Battalion is the custodian. Also exhibited are items of Nursing Sister Alice King who married Ltcol Charles Elliot in December 1917.

The display of many items was made possible by a grant from the Centenary of Armistice Grants and I thank Andrew Wilkie, MP for supporting and forwarding our submission. I also thank Senator Eric Abetz, Majgen Steve Smith and Ltcol Alex Thompson for their support in the application process.

My thanks to Mrs Andrea Gerrard who acted as the curator of the exhibition.

It is proposed that the content of the exhibition would change at least annually.

I would also extend an invitation to any interested person to join the volunteers in assisting to preserve this piece of Regimental history.

The committee would like to hear from any currently or recently retired member who have documents, diaries, photographs, etc of any deployments, while serving with the regiment, including Rifle Company

Butterworth. We would seek security clearance and then copy items for the collection as they form part of our history.

Conservation resources are a continuing expense and I would thank the RTR Association for the ongoing contributions. I would also acknowledge the assistance from the Military Museum Of Tasmania and am grateful for their advice.

The audit of the relevance of items to the collection is ongoing and the volunteers contribute greatly to this onerous task.

With B Company moving to Derwent Barracks, the majority of hard items such as medals, weapons, equipment etc are displayed in the Ray Ewell Club along with some photographs. Also a display has been set up in the Company HQ.

A display cabinet has been acquired to display items at A Coy and when security and other arrangements are in place it is hoped that some items can be displayed there next year.

Recently the President of Hobart RSL Sub Branch, WO1 Kieran Lennard presented a magnificent photograph of Ltcol Charles Elliott to the Colonel Commandant, MajGen Steve Smith for inclusion in the Regimental Collection.



The photograph was stored in the Hobart RSL having been presented many years ago by the 12th Battalion Association.

As it was not being displayed, the President believed the photograph should be in the Regimental Collection.

The Photograph is displayed in the Regiment Remembers Exhibition depicting the 12th and 40th Battalions AIF.



Commanding Officer LtCol Mark Neich and immediate past Commanding Officer LtCol Alex Thompson discuss the collection pertaining to LtCol Charles Elliott, CO 12th Bn AIF.

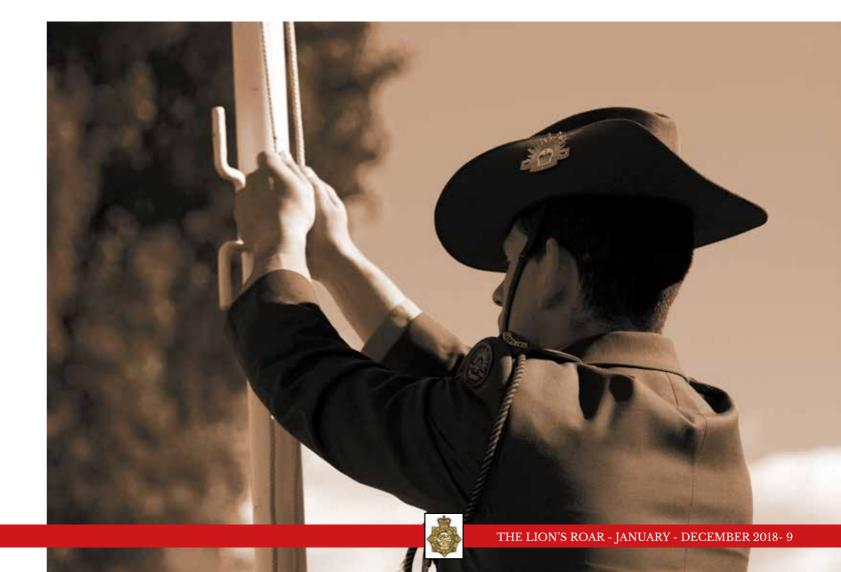
The Tasmania Museum And Art Gallery's Devil exhibition featured Bluev the Battalion Mascot and reference to the Tasmanian Devil the 12th Battalion took to Egypt.

This year has been difficult as the storage of the non displayed portion of the collection is in the process of relocation. It is envisaged that the relocation will be complete early in 2019 and enable enhanced retrieval of stored items.

I commend the collection to members of the Regiment and the greater military family. We are advertising the collection to the general public in an endeavour to gain a broader understanding of the Regiments role in the Tasmanian community.

Dennis Townsend Colonel Chair Regimental Collection Committee







OC Alpha Company





As 2018 draws to an end, it gives me that opportunity to reflect on the last twelve months. When I was approached late last year to fulfil the OC A Coy position in 2018 I was honoured to be given such a prestigious position. Given that this my first posting with an infantry company and as an Artillery Officer I was a little unsure what to expect. I was pleasantly surprised to find a very busy welcoming and professionally run Army Sub-unit. I would like to publicly acknowledge the strong position MAJ Steve Silver left A Coy in and wish him all the best on his deployment to Afghanistan.

The Company started the year with the promotion of WO2 Daniel Grovenor to Captain before being posted to 2 FSB. LT Mills posted back to A Coy from AUR to take up the role as 2IC. Newly promoted SGT Richie Vincent as the orderly room sergeant and SGT Sharon Gunton as CQMS. The first training weekend for the year was Force Preservation Training, which was well attended with 80% of the Coy in attendance. CPL Jonathon Surtees was promoted to Sergeant and taking up the position of PL SGT at the Burnie depot. The Sunday saw the majority of the company fire in the WTTS, which fulfilled our requirements for AIRN.

March saw the return of LT Richman, WO2 Cowburn, SGT Groves, CPL Hayes, LCPL Dawson, PTE Bowman, PTE(P) Corcoran, PTE(P) Cox PTE Graham, PTE Hogan, PTE Lane and PTE Weller from Malaysia as part of Rifle Company Butterworth. After being away for four months they had a three week decompression back at Youngtown Depot before finishing full time service on the 27 Mar 2018.

In April we supported Defence Force Recruiting at the V8 Supercars and again at AGFEST in May. This returned over 270 expressions of interest in joining the Army Reserve and is a testament to the enthusiasm and professionalism that they all displayed in representing 12/40 RTR.

A Coy attended its first live fire activity as part of exercise Egypt 2 in May, this gave me the opportunity to observe the company participate in number of range shoots. The level enthusiasm and professionalism shown by the staff and soldiers of A Coy throughout this activity is to be commended. At the conclusion of this activity saw the promotion of SGT Groves to WO2 and his posting to BHQ as S7 to assist with training.

June saw WO2 Cowburn selected to go onto the Darwin Exchange for a week. Exercise Egypt 3 was well attended by the members of A Coy and they participated in a number of advance shooting ranges culminating in a section live fire attack. This gave all the soldiers a chance to practise and work on their core infantry skills. With the discharge of LT Mills in June after a long and committed career, the company was

left very short of officers with only LT Richman and myself remaining.

July and August saw A Coy enter into a DEFACA phase of low level stability ops concentrating on Cordon and Search over Exercise Devils 1/ Devils 2. Forty personnel from the company were trained in Army Combatives Program Level 1 and two in Level 2.

September had A Coy involved in a Combat Shooting Courses and RAINF 343-3 training. This was conducted at Stoney Head over a 7 day period backing straight into a weekend CPX conducted in Hobart. This was a confirmation for the last few months of training in support of Low Level Stability Ops.

October saw a significant amount of the company participate in Jacka Walk CPX/FTX/LFX in Puckapunyal. The company will round up the year in Hobart late November with the Battalion Mill Skills on the Saturday and a BBQ with families on the Sunday.

A Coy will be farewelling SGT David MacDonald, we wish him all success in his new posting with AUR on promotion to WO2. A Coy will be farewelling SGT Johnathon Griffiths at the end of this year, we wish him all the best in his new posting. Congratulations to CPL Dominic Hendriksen and CPL Bradley Maynard on their promotion to sergeant and appointment to PL SGT with effect 1 Jan 2019. Congratulations to LCPL Timothy Witherden and LCPL James Preece on their promotion to CPL and appointment as Sect COMD. Congratulations to PTE Michael Lane and PTE Nicholas Bowman on their promotion to LCPL and appointment as Sect 2IC.

I would like to personally thank LT Richman, Training WO WO2 Cowburn, CSM SSGT Devlin, Burnie Training Sargent SGT Griffiths, CQMS SGT Gunton, ORC SGT Vincent and all the members of A Coy for their dedicated support and level of professionalism that all have shown this year. It has been a very busy year with an ever increasing training tempo and I feel very honoured to be given the opportunity to guide A Coy throughout 2018.

Graeme Howard

Major, OC Alpha Company





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1 Platoon Story, Alpha Company

As 2018 draws to a close, now is a good opportunity to reflect on the solid year of training and development. As 9 Brigade transitions from 'Reset' to 'Readying', the soldiers of 1 Platoon have continued to show commitment in their strive for excellence. This year has been filled with unique and challenging training opportunities. For many of the soldiers, this year has provided the first look into the relatively new concept of developing a 'Combat Mindset'. Through the conduct of Combat Shooting and Care of the Battle Casualty Courses, in addition to the Army Combative Program, our soldiers are focusing on winning the close fight. Fortunately, our soldiers and junior leaders have also been qualified as instructors in these areas so we can continue to provide realistic and valuable training.

1 Platoon have represented the unit on a range of training exercises, promotion courses, recruiting activities, and ceremonial duties throughout the last twelve months, beginning with the return of soldiers from Rifle Company Butterworth Rotation 120 in March. Following this, soldiers participated in a number of Battle Group Jacka nine day exercises, 'Egypt' live fire training weekends, and the 'Devil' exercise sequence. These activities have







enabled the soldiers of 1 Platoon to increase our war fighting capabilities ranging from jungle warfare to conventional mounted operations. This year has also seen the introduction of the Multi Rotor Unmanned Ariel Systems into our ORBAT which will provide an exciting and unique capability to soldiers for future operations.

A special mention goes to the soldiers of Alpha Company who have undertaken the next step in their career development with attendance of promotional courses this year.

SGT D MacDonald, SGT R Vincent, CPL J Hayes, CPL D Hendriksen, CPL B Maynard, LCPL S Dawson, LCPL J Preece, PTE G Arnott, PTE H Barber, PTE N Bowman, PTE T Corcoran, PTE L Cox, PTE J Graham, PTE T Hogan, PTE M Lane.

This year has provided Alpha Company soldiers with the opportunity to consolidate their skills and develop as professional soldiers in a realistic, challenging and safe environment. There have been opportunities for soldiers to seek extra qualifications and to represent the Battalion across the country. Next year is a new chapter, and for the members of Alpha Company it will bring more situations for growth and development as individuals and as a team. As 9 Brigade prepares to transition into the 'Ready' phase, 1 Platoon will continue to provide its critical capability for the ADF.

LT William Richman 1 Platoon, Alpha Company 12/40 The Royal Tasmania Regiment



Pozieres Club PMC Round-up

2018 has been another fantastic year for the Pozieries club. Morale remains high and functions have been well patronised. The standout achievement of the Pozieres club in 2018 have been the purchase of a deep fryer and implementation of a square reader. Tuesday nights and functions have been transformed with Paywave payments and regular deep fried goodies including dim sims, chips and spring rolls. The Pozieres training weekend Goffa trunk has also been accepting 'FIELDpos' with the Square reader going field to enable easy payments for goffas and gumpy bars whilst in the field. Great new merchandise of the Poz Club this year also included new Hoodies and challenge coins. A quick blow by blow of late 2017/2018 at the Pozieries is as follows

November 2017 – Christmas function / RCB120 farewell

The 2017 Christmas function was held in the Pozieries club with great co-ordination between members to provide a three course meal include soups for entrée, spit roast meat and vegetables as the main and cakes for desert. The function was also the last attendance at the Youngtown Depot for the nine Youngtown members who commenced CFTS the following Monday as part of RCB120. The function also farewelled Alpha companies last ARA company clerk, Corporal Amy GREEN who posted out to the middle of nowhere.

February – Launceston Cup

The Pozieres club returned to the Launceston Cup with its regular Ledger site. Fashions were high but winnings were low. Another great day showing that grunts can match it with Launceston's high class.

March – CPL D. Hendrickson 40th birthday / Return of RCB120

On the evening of Saturday the 3rd March CPL Domonic Hendrickson celebrated his 40th birthday at the Pozieres club. It just so happened to coincide with RCB120 members flying back from Adelaide to Launceston. What a way to return to back to the Poz and Launceston. And as with any Hendrickson function, the fridge was drunk dry.



Assimilating back to Tasmania life with a good Tasmanian coffee after PT



Our flight home with a flat tyre so the pilot had to do a quick tyre change

April – ANZAC day

The Pozieres club opened on ANZAC day for breakfast and Lunch. For the first time also, the Pozieres club laid wreaths at Launceston and Burnie ANZAC day services to honour past members that had returned from active service but had lost the battle at home.

June - PTE Quinney Graduation

A number of members of the Pozieres club travelled South one fine Friday to attend the Tasmania Police Academy at Rokeby. This was to witness the graduation of long term Pozieres supporter, PTE Quinney who graduated that day as a Constable with Tasmania Police.



From left to Right: PTE Chris Langshaw, PTE Nathan Ford, PTE William Quinney, CPL Josh Hayes, PTE Ben Warren and PTE Luke Webster



Constable William Quinney, rear rank, second from left

July - Poz Vegas

The annual Poz Vegas retuned as per usual and as always, the odds were in the punters favour. Unlike previous years, Poz Vegas coincided with 'Ex Devil I' which enabled Burnie based soldiers to easily participate. Orange stripy thing and head in the sand man won races on the day. The auction at the end of the evening was amusing as always with PTE Nicholas having the highest bid for the mystery bag. Special thanks to croupiers CPL Vincent Hendrickson and PTE Josh Knight who doubled as auctioneer. Also special thanks to CPL Dominic Hendrickson for being bar man.



Two unidentified members and PTE Luke Cox in mixed dress parading the new A Coy hoodies

August - Melbourne trip

This year the Melbourne trip followed Poz Vegas with eight members of the club travelling to Melbourne for the weekend. A defensive position was established early at the regular Nomads to allow heads to be rested for short periods of time. During the weekend members attended Etihad l Stadium to see Essendon vs St Kilda and the MCG to see Hawthorn vs Geelong. Special thanks to a Bravo Company liaison PTE Cameron Mitchell for his continued support and organisation of the Melbourne trip.

September - AFL Grand final

One of the best Grand Finals in recent memory was witnessed at the Pozieres Club. A number of fanatical Collingwood Supporters attended and were very confident very early on but for unknown reasons left the Pozieres Club before the final siren? A handball competition and half time sprint were also run with yours truly defeating an overly confident PTE Luke Cox in the open division of the sprint. The under 12's half time sprint was also well contested with a close finish. Thanks to PTE Sam Henry for being the bar man for Grand Final Day.

November / December - Christmas dinner

This year the Pozieres club is holding two Christmas Functions. The first in late November will see the Pozieres club dining out, attending Stonesthrow Café in Norwood for a three course meal. The following week, the Pozieres club will be holding a second Christmas function at the Wivenhoe Army Depot.

Corporal Josh Hayes

President Mess Committee - Pozieres Club



Pre MCG drink



The view at the MCG



The crew at the MCG



Sunday breakfast



OC Bravo Company

B Company hit the ground running this year with an expedited move from Warrane to Derwent Barracks, immediately exploiting the enhanced training opportunities that our new home afforded. The Derwent Barracks Training Area has allowed us to practice core skills in a more appropriate environment and with the opportunity to conduct blank fire, has quickly became a favourable location and an enhancement to the sub-unit's capabilities. Additionally, the Ray Ewell Club established itself in the old mess annex, the Platoons benefited from the extra office space and Private Banks made himself at home in the new orderly room. Gradually increasing numbers have also facilitated the manning of two complete platoons which has seen development of individual platoon identities and competition within the Company, thus further driving capability and performance.

The first half of the year saw training progression through a series of build-up exercises coordinated by Lieutenant Ingram, culminating in a Company exercise in late May. This saw the platoons demonstrate achievement of directed training outcomes for the first half of the year in a range of QRF tasks. Subsequently, the second half of the year saw the Company concentrating on Battalion lead training including the live fire Egypt series, the recently developed Army Combatives Program, Care of the Battle Casualty training and Low Level Security Operations training. This culminated in Exercise Jacka Walk in October which saw a significant number of the Company deploy to mainland for training with Battle Group.

The catalyst for such a strong performance by the Company this year has been the contributions made by key staff. Warrant Officer 2 Class Jeff Fraser marched in January 2018 and has been instrumental in empowering the Reserve Chain of Command whilst simultaneously ensuring that the details don't get overlooked during the week. Similarly, Sergeant Alan Walker has continued his invaluable work driving capability through soldier career management and assisting the Training Warrant Officer in keeping he ship afloat during the week despite the best efforts of myself at times. Finally, the PHQ staff and JNCOs strong leadership has been reflected in significantly improved attendance throughout the year. The subsequent benefits of consolidated and maintained team identity at every level were demonstrated clearly on Exercise Jacka Walk whereby 12/40 RTR soldiers were the stand out performers across the Battle Group. Additionally, congratulations goes to Corporals' Tyson Beveridge, Jayden Michalkowski, Nick Boron and Lance Corporals' Ronnie Andrews and Michael Mani for their promotions this year.



Sadly, we will lose some members next year who have been strong contributors over their time with the Company. Sergeant Alan walker will depart and will be missed both professionally and personally. He displayed an unfailing can-do attitude and could always be relied upon to raise spirits when required. Captain Nathan Grandin will depart for BHQ and will continue his good work within that capacity after spending two years with us outside of normal RAA role. Lieutenant Pat Ingram has provided excellent service in his training development and projects role and will likely depart for the Regular Army next year. Corporal Tom Nicholls will be leaving following many years of service within B Coy, including recent time as the PMC of the Ray Ewell Club. Corporal Dave Chadwick will also depart, leaving behind a legacy of efficient and respected leadership. Finally, Lance Corporal Kristian Wynn will likely depart for the Regular Army as a Legal Officer. By the time this article is published there may well be other departures and I apologise if those people have been missed.

Building on the progress this year, 2019 looks to be another similarly good year with strong leadership throughout the NCO ranks and plenty of potential coming through in the future.

Iain McCausland Major OC Bravo Coy





4 Platoon Story, Bravo Company

This year proved to be a challenging and high-tempo one for the Battalion. This year the brigade transitioned into it's Readying cycle, with the focus of the Battalion also shifting into preparation for Talisman Sabre 2019. The year for 4 Platoon began with several high-speed training activities, with the incorporation of blank firing activities into Tuesday night training seeing 12/40 RTR becoming the envy of other units in the wider Brigade, and certainly making the MP's and CSSB take serious consideration into a Corps-transfer.

The weekend activities kicked off at Ex Egypt with strong attendance and a good result through the live fire ranges, which provided continuation of training for those who completed the Combat Shooting Package in 2017, with the excellent shooting demonstrated on the Sneaker and Snap ranges speaking for itself.

The focus shifted on to the new Battalion tasking for stability operations, with 4PL putting in excellent attendance and results throughout the Devil series of exercises. All members attending gained valuable skills in RASO tasks, Care of the Battle Casualty and became experts in the throat-punch during ACP training. The series culminated in the full 48-hour mission profile activity Ex Devil Ready conducted at Derwent Barracks. This saw a dynamic and cunning enemy co-ordinated by CPL Payne and LCPL Wynn attempt to undermine our efforts at restoring the rule of law within the Derwent Training Area, however despite a lack of sleep and high tempo the members of 4PL distinguished themselves throughout the exercise with excellent feedback from the activity staff.

Honourable mentions of the year include:

- Multiple awards and promotions within the platoon of LCPL Ronnie Andrews and CPL Boron, and CPL Hutch receiving his Soldier's Medallion.
- Strong representation and feedback at ceremonial activities on ANZAC Day, Headstone Project, Remembrance Day and the Cricket.
- Attendance on promotion courses by LCPL Andrews and CPL Langley with a strong result proving the quality of Tasmanian members.
- CPL Ross Langley and LCPL Cameron Treloar provided excellent capability to the unit through their CFL positions, with several memorable and hurtful PT sessions, and will be leading the charge on the delivery of PESA training in 2019.
- Consistent attendance from the junior & new members enabled a progression of training throughout the year and has seen remarkable improvement of skills across the board

Following the end of the Devil series of exercises focus shifted towards Talisman Sabre and potential deployments in line with the Battle Group Jacka Ready year 2019/20. 4 Platoon fronted a strong section on Exercise Jacka Walk and proved excellent throughout the live-fire activities as well as the platoon live-fire assault, with excellent feedback passed on from the staff as to the quality of the exercise. With a strong battalion-wide focus on gaining the necessary skills and qualifications necessary for deployment and the continued enthusiasm and dedication to excellence from the members of 4 Platoon 2019 will prove to be an solid year.





5 Platoon Story, Bravo Company

5 Platoon has had an encouraging year with strong attendance, high morale and quality training outcomes from all members. We have grown in capability and size with a steady stream of new members joining throughout the year to combine with some of B Coy's seasoned soldiers to make up 3 full sections and a dedicated Platoon HQ sig.

One of our first tasks of the year was to set the platoon behaviours and values which directly branch out from the Army's core values. This has ensured all members keep each other to account and sets the standard for how we train and carry ourselves. These behaviours set the tone for the year and results have flowed.

Some highlights of the year include

- With the move over to Derwent Barracks we have fully utilised the larger space and facilities.
 Including blank fire activities on Tuesday nights, larger platoon office space for briefings/ lectures and regular use of WTSS facilities to improve our marksmanship skills.
- Most 5 PL members attended the Army Combatives Program (ACP) training and a good number staying on the course to gain level 2 accreditation and train the trainer capability. This will ensure that we continue to keep the ACP training going into the future.
- Two Platoon members attended an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle course which will be an asset for future training and exercises.
- Members represented the unit and platoon in Rifle Company Butterworth to a high standard.
- We have had multiple awards and promotions within the platoon with LCPL Jayden Michalkowski

- and LCPL Beveridge both being promoted to CPL after sitting in the Section commander role for quite some time. PTE Mani was also promoted to LCPL at the end of the year. Congratulations to all three on well-deserved promotions.
- The platoon has also developed future leaders with a number of members taking on promotion courses throughout the year.
- Lance Corporal Boron was awarded the Australian Border Force Medal in recognition for his service on Operation Sovereign Borders 2017.

5 Pl was well represented at EX Jacka Walk, with 20 members attending to form the majority of call sign 32 under BG Jacka. Throughout the exercise the platoon performed well and received excellent feedback from instructors, Observer Trainer's and other units. The culminating activity was a live fire platoon attack and 32 was recognised by 4 Brigade Commander as conducting the best platoon attack of the exercise. This was incredibly pleasing and a credit to the soldiers who performed to a high standard throughout the year in attendance, attitude and demonstrated a willingness to learn and develop their skills. The bar has now been set and we will look to raise that next year!

The platoon has a busy 2019 in store as we look to complete the readying year with EX Jacka Run in March/April and the main effort put in to Exercise Talisman Sabre in July. This will then put our soldiers in a strong position to be selected for deployment if required towards the end of 2019.

PTE Damon Heather











Ray Ewell DCM Club Report

2018 Marked the move of BCOY to Derwent Barracks, and with that the relocation of the Ray Ewell DCM Club into the former 12/40 Sergeants & Officers messes, which we now share with the RTR Association.

We commemorated the move in December 2017, by hosting our largest event of recent years, with attendance by many past members of BCOY and former training depots.

We shared stories, learned the origins of some of our traditions and acquired memorabilia, and gained the endorsement of former ORs that BCOY is in very safe hands.

Immediately following the event, the relocation to our new home at Derwent Barracks began, with many hands making light work, and with all property being accounted for without damage or loss. We marked the move complete in September, when

our pool table & hat racks arrived from Warrane.

The role that the ORs mess holds is vital to retention & morale, welcoming & "blooding" new members not only to the professional workplace, but also to the tightly knit social structure that often transcends rank structure, and to cultivate the "Esprit de corps" of our unit.

Mid 2018 CPL Nicholls stood down as PMC. We thank him for his fastidious efforts through the past 18 months, which included the move from Warrane, and all of the administration & logistical requirements that surrounded it.

Since then I've revelled in the opportunity to stepup into the role for the remainder of 2018 and have worked diligently to deliver new initiatives for the benefit of the members, as well as to strengthen the bond with the RTR Association, for whom we thank for allowing us to share their space, and with it the legacy and history that lie within.

As for social events, members enjoyed another thrilling instalment of the Winter Olympics, which doubled as our unofficial christening of the new mess. Our AFL Grand Final day event was the best patronaged in several years, with a key focus on providing a warm environment for friends and family, and some impressive halftime heroes performances.

Our remaining social event for 2018 will consist of catering for family & friends after the Mil Skills weekend 24-25 November, which will offer the rare opportunity for members to share with those close to them what we do, and perhaps even witness their promotion or presentation of award.

LCPL Nick Boron



8 former members reminiscing and enjoying the entertainment



CPL Price caught mid-speech whilst being presented the 2017 Efficient Leader award



LCPL Jenkins humble in victory, collecting his "Blue Bayonet" awar



PTE Michalkowski elated to receive his Christmas wishes from Santa (Jenko)



10 former Ray Ewell DCM Club presidents gathered for one last time





Rifle Company Butterworth



Humidity, relentless rain, monkeys and insects. These are the initial thoughts of a soldier embarking on a rotation of Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB). These thoughts would prove to be accurate, yet they represent only a small part of the experiences that make up RCB.

The 6th of November 2017 saw the concentration of 116 troops from around Australia (predominantly Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria) at Keswick Barracks, Adelaide for the beginning of RCB120. With soldiers coming from over 20 units nationwide to make up the contingent this period offered valuable time for integration with sections and platoons coming together to develop SOPs, undergo training and form bonds. Pre-deployment medicals, admin and physical training filled November, culminating in a certification exercise held at Murray Bridge Training Area. With the training completed and standards set, it was time for the soldiers to pack bags and make their way to Malaysia.

On the 28th of November at 0400h the contingent arose to board buses and head to RAAF Base Edinburgh where they would board the Cl7 Globemaster destined for Malaysia. But, the volcanic ash cloud surrounding parts of Indonesia had different ideas. Unable to fly around or over the cloud we spent a night in Darwin to refuel and, in the afternoon of the 29th of November, the contingent touched down at Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) Base Butterworth on the North West coast of Malaysia.

We dedicated the first week spent in country to acclimatisation (through daily 0600 physical training sessions), introduction to country briefs and Jungle Training under the watchful eye of instructors from the Jungle Training Wing. With the company set to deploy to the field on the 7th of December the training period was busy and intense. Instruction included how to pack for the jungle, wet/dry routine, and various infantry skills especially important in the jungle environment. Essentially, how we could sustain operations out there

without being wet and miserable all the time! There were 2 field training phases for RCB120 in the Sik and Kulim National parks. In what could be considered a stroke of luck it happened to be 2 of the driest field phases observed in several rotations! With the intensive jungle training complete, a cultural tour of Penang rounded out the first month nicely visiting destinations such as the Botanical Gardens, Kek Lok Si temple and the Snake Temple.

After a week of leave over the Christmas/New Year period, on the 2nd of January it was time to get back into training. January saw an emphasis on live high explosive (HE) weapon training and ranges, courses and 343-3 (Infantry rank and trade) qualification training. The weapon packages ran at Gurun Range where soldiers participated in static grenade, 66mm LDFSW, 84mm MDFSW ranges and a culminating live fire section attack and fighting withdrawal. The courses ran were Supervisor Infantry Operations – Section (SIO-S) Modules 1 and 3 with the focus being on leadership at the section level, the military appreciation process, orders and range qualifications. The end of these packages saw a vast increase in the skillsets and capability of a majority of the contingent.



On the 25th of January the contingent commenced the drive from RMAF Butterworth to the Pulada Training Area in the south of Malaysia, home of the Malaysian Army School of Infantry. This was to be home for the next two and a half weeks as various ranges and training activities took place. Pulada exposed soldiers to more HE ranges including the GSMG Mag 58, 40mm grenade launcher and assault grenade ranges, along with more time on the 66mm and 84mm rockets. There was also training for some on the 9mm Pistol and M4 rifle. These ranges culminated in a live fire platoon area defence and a live fire platoon antiarmour ambush which utilised various weapon systems and ammunition natures. It all went off with a bang! The time in Pulada included Exercise Boss Lift (for civilian employers of reservists) and a 2-day survival exercise conducted with members of the Malaysian Army Combat Survival School.

From Pulada the contingent travelled to Singapore to conduct urban operations training at the Murai Urban Operations Facility, a first-class facility utilised by defence forces from around the world. Between this facility and the live fire indoor range at the Singapore Defence Force training academy we received valuable exposure to urban operations. Although the time spent in Singapore was brief it was culturally rich. A cultural tour around the island to sites such as the beach head invaded by the Japanese, Allied bunkers and the Kranji War Cemetery gave a detailed insight into the contribution (and sometimes lack thereof) of Australian forces in Singapore during World War II. After 5 days in Singapore it was time to head back to RMAF Butterworth for the final leg of the rotation.



The final couple of weeks in Malaysia saw the urban skills learnt put to use in old live-in lines. The abandoned buildings across the road from the RMAF base offered the perfect landscape in which to enact mock urban scenarios. With this confirmation of training the contingent was able to shift the tempo down. With the beginning of return to Australia admin and hand over take over requirements there was more scope for the inclusion of a few non-military activities. One such activity was an adventurous training day at Escape Malaysia, which tested soldiers on high ropes and obstacle courses, took leaps of faith, and were able to cool down in the water theme park. Another was involvement in the Pink Stumps Day 6-a-side Cricket Tournament against various defence and civilian teams from the area. It should be noted that team put forward from RCB120 won the grand final of the tournament (and were captained by a Tasmanian!) The event to top off the trip was the CO's Challenge Penang Hill "Run" (a brisk walk for most).



It was humid. It rained a bucket load. There were monkeys and there were insects. But for every soldier on RCB120 they came away with a lot more than what made up their initial thoughts. Of the 116 troops almost a whole platoon came from 12/40RTR and each and every one of those members conducted themselves in a way that makes the unit proud.







Darwin Exchange Program



From the 4th to the 10th of June, the 9 Bde MilSkills team participated in an exchange program with 5 RAR and Marine Rotational Force - Darwin. The program seeks to reward those soldiers that have committed time and energy to the Unit, in particular by participating in the MilSkills competitions. 9 Bde sent six soldiers and one officer to Darwin, and in exchange 12/40 RTR hosted three soldiers and three Marines. The exchange was a unique opportunity to get a glimpse in to the day-to-day life of the rank and file of 5 RAR and the Marines, as well as participating in commemorations, sight-seeing and social activities. The program runs differently each year, depending on time and tempo in the unit; this year it was as follows:

Day 1

We spent the first day in the same way most first days are; travel, briefs and introductions. Arriving at Robertson Barracks, we had a basic idea of what the first few days would contain, but the program after that was up to us. After all, the exchange program is quite a significant carrot, and our hosts committed to it remaining that way. With the keys to a white fleet van, and told that our use of it after-hours was more or less up to us, we cut away with a 0730 first parade timing the next morning. That suited us nicely.

Day 2

The second day was our 'day-in-the-life' of 5 RAR; where we shadowed B Coy for the day. The morning started with PT, then showers, breakfast etc. before we following the boys out on to the oval for some basic IMT drills. As the day grew hotter, the lessons became more theoretical, and held under the shade of the few trees surrounding the oval. By about lunch time the scene resembled early afternoon on the African savannah, with clusters of bodies stretched out in the shade and the sun beating down on the bare grass.

A heavy lunch followed in true Army fashion by a few hours in a classroom, learning about 5 RAR's history and, in particular, the Battle of Binh Ba in preparation for the commemorations the next day. As it became clear that the classroom was about to slip in to a collective catatonia, we knocked early and told to show up the next morning in PT gear for the commemorative footballs matches. We took full advantage of the free evening and drove in to Darwin, where we made sure to familiarise ourselves with local food, attractions and cultural hubs.

Day 3

Some of the boys woke up feeling under-the-weather, although the cause of this sudden mass affliction remains unknown to this day. As a result of the mystery malady, those that were keen to partake in the commemorative sporting matches in the morning were unfortunately forced to withdraw. Even so, the CPL Brady Taylor rugby match, and the PTE Jason Chalice AFL game, were well-attended and well-played. Lunch followed soon after the conclusion of the games, and afterwards the Binh Ba Day commemoration ceremonies followed. Speeches, wreath-laying and reflections on the bravery and soldierly qualities displayed by the men at Binh Ba, and of the ADF more generally followed. We explored the 5 RAR military museum, with the displays of weapons, battlegrounds and memorabilia, as well as countless stories of individual daring and the distinction of 5 RAR as a Unit. The Soldier's Club opened mid-afternoon, and soldiers young and old, serving and retired came together to enjoy a BBQ and a beer. After the formalities concluded the festivities continued, with afternoon stretching in to evening, and evening in to the night.



Day 4

We spent the fourth day attached to the Marines; in particular to their next generation of leaders as they completed their JLC-equivalent. The stage of the course we observed focussed on moral leadership and ways to better oneself as a whole individual, not just as a soldier. This course took most of the day, and after a concluding address by the brass, we retired to the Soldier's Club for an international social event. After representing Australia to the best of our ability, we decided to head in to town and do a bit more sight-seeing, ending up down on the waterfront where we enjoyed some quiet hydration for the rest of the night.

Day 5

The fifth day had been set aside for recreation and sight-seeing, which was ideal because the unexplained morning lurgy of the third day had returned with a vengeance. We spent the morning at the idyllic Berry Springs; the cool running water and relative silence gave a new lease on life, as most of us felt the old lease was quite close to expiring. After Berry Springs we drove to the local tavern for lunch, and then proceeded to Litchfield National Park. Litchfield was another glorious sight, and gave us even more opportunity to soak away our sorrows. We returned in the evening (mostly) rejuvenated, ready to sleep the sleep of the Just.

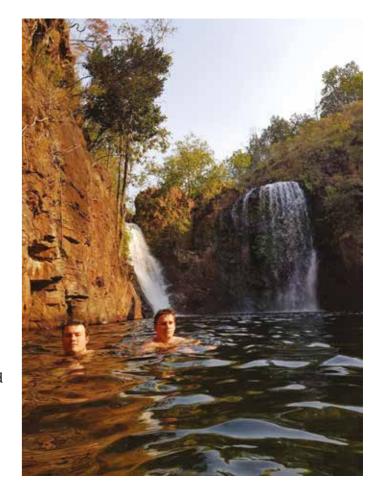
Day 6

Thanks to our local guide, we had come to know of a Greek Festival that was being held in Darwin City, so with another free day ahead of us we piled in to the bus and head out to join in the festivities. The day was a flurry of octopus, ouzo and "Opa!", as well as an opportunity to get some education on Darwin's significant Greek population and their history in the city. After we had taken advantage of all the festival had to offer, we once again moved in to the city to enjoy the local attractions for the last time on the trip.

Day 7

We spent the final day of the trip in typical Army fashion; washing vehicles, handing back keys and shaking off hangovers. We said goodbye to our hosts, took the bus to the airport, boarded our flights and went to sleep. Next thing we knew we were stepping out on to the tarmac with bitter wind and raining tearing at our face and sending our body temperature through the floor. It was good to be home.

I would highly recommend the Darwin Exchange program to any and all who have the opportunity. It is a unique experience in Army, and one that I hope continues long in to the future.





WO2 Hendrik Blok showing US Marines around Port Arthur Historical Sight





Headstone Project

2018 has been an incredibly busy year for The Headstone Project Committee. We have kicked some goals along the way and made huge progress in ensuring that all Tassie's First World War veterans have their service commemorated and a headstone over their last resting place.



On 28 April, we had the privilege of once again welcoming Her Excellency, Professor Kate Warner, Governor of Tasmania and Mr Richard Warner to a service at the North Circle Cemetery at New Norfolk. The couple have a soft spot for New Norfolk, being where Mr Warner grew up and where the couple once lived.

Joining us this day were family members of the veterans whom we were commemorating, which was just great to see. Among them was the descendants of Albert Sutton who whilst trying to save the life of a work mate, lost his own life. Sutton had served with the 40th Battalion and through his own quick actions saved the lives of many of his mates in August 1918.

Her Excellency walked around the cemetery and unveiled all ten plaques, stopping to talk briefly with family members which was much appreciated before giving an interesting and thoughtful speech. Also speaking on this occasion was local identity Mr Ken O'Brien who recalled some of the men whom we honoured this day – men whom he had known personally which added another dimension to the stories of these men.

Since then two more veterans have been located at the North Circle Cemetery. Alfred Warren has been given official war graves and it is hoped that Charles Blanche will be given one shortly.

Over the cooler months we held indoor services at both Cornelian Bay Cemetery and our inaugural dedication at Carr Villa Cemetery. On 26 July we dedicated new headstones to nine veterans including three men from Cape Barren Island. Among the crowd that filled the little chapel to almost overflowing was Bradley Maynard who is serving with the Royal Tasmanian Regiment as well as his father and other family. They now have a place to go and mourn the loss of James Henry Paul Maynard who served with the 12th Battalion

It was great to be able to showcase to the north just what the project is all about. We certainly had good publicity through radio, newspaper and TV which was great, generating quite a bit of interest in the project.

In September we welcomed the Honourable Darren Chester MP, Federal Minister for Veteran's Affairs to a dedication service in which we honoured and commemorated 32 First World War veterans. Following the service, we were able to take him out into the cemetery and show him what we have been doing there. While he was non-committal about any financial assistance, we are still hopeful that by seeing first hand what we are about, that we might be able to secure some funding in the future, particularly if we can get a national response going.

As I write this report we have two dedications coming up. On 10 November we will be unveiling four headstones at Currie on King Island. In May we were approached by the Secretary of the King Island RSL to help with ensuring that these three First World War veterans and a Second World War veteran have their last resting place commemorated. Several members of the committee are travelling to King Island to take part in their Centenary of Armistice activities.



On 15 December we will be holding the last dedication at Cornelian Bay Cemetery, our work there all but complete. His Excellency Sir Peter Cosgrove and Lady Cosgrove have accepted our invitation to attend whilst spending some time in the state. This should be a fitting conclusion to that part of the project and we look forward to welcoming the Governor General and his wife.

When we started the project, we set ourselves the goal of completing Cornelian Bay Cemetery by the completion of the Centenary of the First World War. In the early years it seemed like we had set ourselves an impossible task when we were unveiling just four at a time. To know that we will achieve this goal is amazing, but only possible by the hard work and support of a large group of people, some who don't even realise just how important they are to the project.

We hope to get back to working at Carr Villa in the new year. In the mean time we also have veterans in country cemeteries dotted around the state who also need their service commemorated. There is still much to do.

A special thank you must also go to Lieutenant Colonel Mark Neich and RSM Warrant Officer Stephen Logan and to all the personnel from the Royal Tasmanian Regiment who have not only been involved but supported us in other ways – including Captain Tavis Harling who made a great Master of Ceremonies. We wish them both well in their new postings.

Without the support that we receive from the staff at Millingtons the project would have stalled long ago. We would also like to thank our partners - including the City of Hobart, RSL Tasmania, Hobart RSL Sub-branch, Families and Friends of the First A.I.F., The Naval Military and Air Force Club of Tasmania, the Royal Tasmanian Regiment Association, staff and ADF students at Claremont College and King Towbars and Trailers.







Royal Tasmania Regiment Association

As 2018 marks the Centenary of Armistice, it has been a very positive and fulfilling year for the Association with members state-wide attending various functions and events over the proceeding months, namely the ANZAC Day Parade, WW1Headstone Unveilings & Parliament House Reception, Reserve Forces Day Reception & Parade, 100 Tasmanian Stories Exhibition, Friends of the Soldiers Memorial Avenue, Tasmanian Military Commemoration of Armistice Ball (Launceston), Claremont College VET course ADF Graduation Ceremony, Armistice Concerts, The Regiment Remembers Exhibition, 12/40 RTR Mils Skills Competition and 12/40 RTR Friends & Employers Day.

The movement of B Coy to Derwent Barracks has seen an increase in our membership, with serving personnel receiving 3 years free membership. It is the focus of the association to pursue this interest if we are to prosper into the future.

One of the highlight for the Association occurred on the 5th of June 2018, between 1900-22300hrs, at the invitation of the Commanding officer, LTCOL Mark Neich 12/40RTR, the committee members consisting of John Higgins, Ken Reid, Norm Heatley, Richard Cairns, Roger Mc Ginniss, and myself, were warmly greeted by the B Company 12/40RTR personnel, and enjoyed the opportunity to observe training activities,

We also met up with PTE's Joshua Livesey and Lindsay Cotter of 5RAR and LCPL Morris Castro of the US Marine Corps, who were on an exchange visit to 12/40RTR. It was pleasing to show our visitors the Regimental Collection consisting mainly of the WW1 photographic display of our 12th & 40th AIF battalions. The 3 inch mortar on display greatly aroused interest with much discussion relating to their experiences with mortars.



L-R; PTE Cotter, CPL Castro, PTE Levesey & committee members

We also attended an informative presentation by CPL Payne outlining the structure of 12/40 RTR with an enlightening discussion around the training of a present day soldier, along with the use of the 66mm (WETTS) rocket launcher.

At the conclusion of training, we all meet up socially with 12/40 RTR personnel for refreshment in the Ray Ewell Club. It was also an opportunity for me as President and other members to talk about the role of the Association and present the Association's Commendation Certificates to B Company PTE's; David Coglan, as Best Overall Soldier, Cameron Scott, Cameron Mitchell and Phillip Jackson and Sean Buchanan of A Coy.

ANZAC Day

Our members, as on previous occasions, attended Services state-wide. The Hobart Parade had a significantly smaller number of our members participating in the march to the Cenotaph, with the absence of 12/40 RTR personnel due to prior commitments. Ken Read carried the Regimental banner, whilst Alan Ashbarry led the parade. I laid a wreath at the Cenotaph, on behalf of the antecedent battalions of the Regiment. After the Service, members adjourned to the Sergeants' Mess at Anglesea Barracks, catching up with family and friends for a barbeque lunch and refreshments.

Reserve Forces Day

This event was held in Hobart on Sunday 1st of July 2018 at 1000hrs, in commemoration of the final year of The Centenary of the First World War and the 20th Anniversary of the Reserve Force Day Council and subsequently being federally announced as the final R F Day Parade. The contingent assembled in ANZAC Avenue proceeding to the Cenotaph forecourt under the direction of the Parade RSM Kieren Lennard.

The contingent was welcomed by the Chairman, LTCOL Peter Hodge RFD (Ret'd) of the Reserve Forces Day Council, with the official guests being RADM Allan Du Toit, AM, CMD Bob Curtis Senior Naval Officer, MAJGEN Steve Smith, AM, LTCOL Mark Neich, CO 12/40 Battalion Royal Tasmania Regiment, AVM Peter Scully, AM and SQNLDR Paul Gough, XO 29 SQNl.

The Honoured Guest, the Honourable Elise Archer MP, gave a reflective address to the Parade in reference to the Reservist's roles with regard to their on-going commitments in the ADF, to their families and employers, as well as our State's continual recruitment being high in relation to Australia's overall population. It was also on this occasion, most pleasing to see MAJ. Bob Pattison, in the presence of his family, receive his Federation Star in recognition of his 40 years service

RTR Luncheons

Our monthly Luncheons at the Ray Ewell Club, Derwent Barracks, have continued to prosper with good attendance of members, families and friends. Their support has continued in the raising of funds for our on-going donations to Legacy, the Headstone Project, Regimental Historical Collection and the Mil Skills prizes and awards to 12/40 RTR personnel. It is also great to see the numerous B Coy's items added to the Ray Ewell's Club since their shift from Warrane Barracks, with their memorabilia on display alongside that of the Regimental Collection.





L-R; MAJGEN Steve Smith, MAJ Bob Pattison & Mrs Kate Smith

Friends of the Soldiers Memorial Avenue (FOSMA) On the 3rd of August 2018, at the invitation of Mr John Wadsley, the President of FOSMA, our members attended the Queens Domain for the Centenary Commemorations of tree plantings by friends and families of WW1 soldiers who did not return.

Speeches were delivered by His Excellency, Honourable Alan Blow, AO who outlined the history of the avenue which provided a place for families and friends to visit to ease their grief and mourning, whilst Dr Brendon Nelson gave an poignant speech reflecting on the 13000 Tasmanians sent overseas, with a loss of 2,700, from a population of barely 200,000. He made mention of Captain Ivor Margetts, 12Bn AIF, along with 62,000 others who made the ultimate sacrifice, on the 20th of August 2018, who had their images projected onto the Australian War Memorial.



L-R;LTCOL A.Thomson, R. Mc Ginniss, K. Read, A. Asbarry, G. Alomes & N. Heatley

Captain Margetts, was killed at Pozieres, on 23 July 1916, having a gravesite marked with a large white cross, which was ultimately pulverised with no trace by continued bombardment. — He has his tree and plaque here — number 430, in the heart of the home he loved.

Lest we forget

Finally, on behalf of the Committee and members, I express our appreciation of the continual support shown to our Association throughout the year by 12/40RTR personnel, notably our Patron, MAJGEN Steve Smith, the Commanding Officer, LTCOL Mark Neich, MAJ Stefen Shearer, ADJ CAPT Tavis Harling, and RSM Stephen Logan.

Graham AlomesPresident of the RTR Association





Battlegroup Jacka 2018



This year saw soldiers from 12th/40th Battalion Royal Tasmania Regiment engaged in the JACKA series of exercises this year, as a part of the Readying cycle of the Reinforcing Battlegroup. Several members attended Exercise Jacka Crawl, with a large contingent on the exercise in the second half of the year on Exercise Jacka Walk.

The nine day exercise brought together more than 520 soldiers who travelled from Tasmania, South Australia, NT and Victoria. Over 60 members of 12/40 attended, constituting a platoon-plus in the field and making up key appointments within BG HQ and the range team.



From the BG Jacka CO LTCOL Mark Neich, "Exercise Jacka Walk is a unique opportunity to bring the disparate components that make up Battlegroup Jacka together and train in the lead up to Exercise Talisman Sabre 2019. EX JW our next step on our road to ready, involving a CPX for the BHQ and CT HQ as well as Platoon level FTX and FLX culminating in a Platoon live fire attack integrating combined arms. The CPX included the BHQ being exercised for the first time with BMS. Overall, this was an excellent exercise that achieved the training objective required and sets the





BG up for Carbon Predator and Jacka Run 30 March - 7 April 2019."

Exercise Jacka Walk also saw the integration of BMS, MRUAS and WASP UAS as part of the Reinforcing Battlegroup providing improved surveillance capability for better situational awareness and command and control within the Battlegroup HQ. Several 12/40 members successfully qualified as UAS operators, which will be integrated into training and exercises in 2019.

During the exercise the battlegroup attended range and field activities throughout the Puckapunyal Training Area before the culminating life fire platoon attack activity. 12/40 RTR received high praise in both the field and during the live-fire elements, with the quality of training making itself evident during the platoon live-fire, with Commander 4 Brigade noting it as the best attack of the exercise.

The exercise provided a firm foundation with which to lean into things and build on further training on the road to Talisman Sabre 2019 and beyond.

PTE Cameron Scott









Exercise Broodseinde and Awards

Annual Military Skills Competition

Derwent Barracks was once again the setting of the annual Military Skills Competition on the 24th November 2018. This day saw sections from both Alpha and Bravo Company compete in a series of challenges aimed at testing military knowledge, physical fitness, military-based skills and section-level tactics, techniques and procedures.

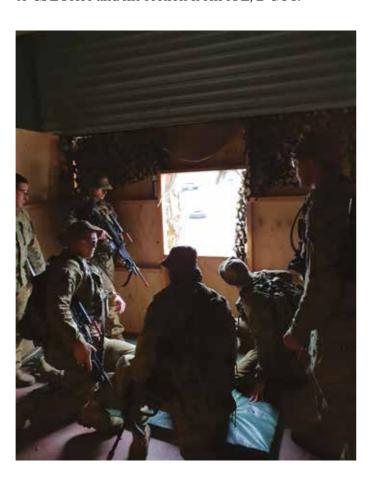
Five sections entered into this year's competition. In accordance with all true milskills competitions conditions were less than ideal, with heavy wind and intermittent rain providing an additional challenge.

Each section moved through a series of stands at both Derwent Barracks and Risdon Dam including:

- Marksmanship at the WTSS
- Navigation/Resection
- Stores Carry
- Detainee Handling & QDEs
- Observation Lane/Judging Distance
- All-Arms Call for Fire
- Section Assault and Building Clearance
- Care of the Battle Casualty
- Trailer Push
- LZ Marking/CASEVAC

Scores from each stand were collated to determine the performance of each section and determine the winner.

Despite heavy competition from both Alpha and Bravo the winner of the 2018 Exercise Broodseinde military skills competition was well earned and once again went to CPL Price and his section from 5PL, B COY.







Family and Employers Day

The 25th November was the Family and Employers Day which was held at Derwent Barracks. The day allowed guests to experience various aspects of our training and capabilities and provide exposure to the role of each soldier within 12/40 RTR. Several stands were set up to allow family and employers to view our weapons, night fighting equipment, experience the PWTSS and view several stands from support agencies and neighbouring units. A blank-fire demonstration of a section urban assault and building clearance led by CPL Ross Langley allowed the crowd to experience an impressive full urban assault and orders.

Various presentations were made by the guest-ofhonour the Honourable Professor Kate Warner, Governor of Tasmania to recognise the outstanding achievements of members throughout the year.

Awards

- Champion Soldier: LCPL Mani, M
- INCO of the Year: CPL Hendriksen, D
- Subbie of the Year: LT Ingram, P
- Top Shot: PTE Body, A
- RTR Association Prize:
- Champion Milskills Section: I21B B COY
 - CPL Price, D
 - LCPL Mani, M
 - LCPL Wynn, K
 - LCPL Lane, M
 - PTE Austin, D
 - PTE Pattison, N
 - PTE Upton, D

Promotions 2018

- To SGT
 - CPL Hendriksen, D
 - CPL Maynard, B
- TO CPL
 - LCPL Boron, N
 - LCPL Preece, J
 - LCPL Robertson, J
 - LCPL Witherden, T
- To LCPL
 - PTE Andrews, R
 - PTE Bowman, N
 - PTE Lane, M
 - PTE Mani, M
 - PTE Webster, L

















Nominal Role - 2018

BHQ

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LTCOL	Neich,Iain Mark
MAJ	Shearer, Stefan James Robert George
CAPT	Bowditch, Christopher James
CAPT	Harling,Tavis Laird McInnes
CAPT	Lambert,Roger Edwin
WO1	Hodge,Craig Allan
WO1	Logan,Stephen
WO2	Blok,Hendrik Thomas Alois
WO2	Groves, Joshua Gregory
WO2	Parsons,Ross Anthony
SGT	Ross, William Nao Keith
CPL	Bosselmann, Marissa Jane
CPL	Drew,Vickie Margarette
CPL	Ferguson,Tracy Helen
CPL	Horgan,Sarah-Anne Lee
CPL	Kube,Thomas William Sandford
CPL	Stoop, Michael Anthony
PTE(P)	Crompton,Millissa Anne
PTE	Gibbs,Zian William Fox
PTE(T)	Millar, Gillian Frances
PTE(P)	Skinner,Anthony Mark
APS	Keep,Melissa

Alpha Company

MAJ	Howard,Graeme John
LT	Richman,William Peter
WO2	Cowburn, Craig Anthony
SSGT	Devlin,Lindsay Bruce
SGT	Gunton,Sharon Elizabeth
SGT	MacDonald,David Lauchlan
SGT	Vincent,Richmond Mark Dixon
CPL	Hayes,Joshua Linden
CPL	Hendriksen,Dominic Theodore
CPL	Hendriksen,Vincent Cornelis
CPL	Maynard,Bradley Neil
CPL	Rankine,Kevin James
CPL	Sheehan,Joshua William Charles
LCPL	Dawson,Shaun Robert
LCPL	Hardacre,Broderick John
LCPL	Murray,Rohan Glen
LCPL	Perinski,Jason Edward
LCPL	Preece,James Simon Roy
LCPL	Witherden, Timothy Murdoch
PTE	Arnott,Geordie Robert

PTE(P)	Barber,Hannah Amy
PTE	Berryman,Mitchell Alan
PTE	Bilson,James Robert
PTE(P)	Boam,Glenn Robert
PTE	Bowman, Nicholas Peter
PTE(P)	Buchanan,Sean William
PTE(P)	Coglan,Bryan Eric
PTE(P)	Corcoran,Thomas James
PTE(P)	Cox,Luke Aaron
PTE(P)	Dent,Phillip Walter
PTE(P)	Douglas,Joel Scott
PTE	Everett,Zachary Peter
PTE(P)	Filce,Aaron Stephen
PTE(P)	Ford,Nathan Mark
PTE	Gilligan,Daniel Morgan
PTE	Graham,Justin Michael
PTE(P)	Griffin,Daniel Patrick
PTE(P)	Henry,Samuel Peter
PTE	Hummerstone,Alex James
PTE(P)	Knight,Joshua Samuel
PTE	Lane,Michael William
PTE(P)	Langshaw,Christopher Phillip
PTE(T)	Levett,Sophie Grace Mary
PTE(P)	Marsden,Oliver Ross
PTE	Nicholls,Trent David
PTE(P)	Pearce-Lieutier,Benjamin Hamilton
PTE(T)	Perry,Lauren Ashleigh
PTE	Quilty,Aiden James
PTE(P)	Quinney,William John Bruce
PTE(P)	Reid,William Angus
PTE(T)	Rizzo,Darren James
PTE(P)	Schultz,Hugh Edmund
PTE(P)	Shaw,Geoffrey Lloyd James
PTE	Thomas,Stuart Matthew
PTE(P)	Warren,Benjamin James
PTE(P)	Webster,Luke James
PTE	Weller,Kayden Trent

Alpha	Company – Burnie
SGT	Griffiths,Jonathan Luke
SGT	Surtees, Jonathon Andrew
LCPL	Fenton,Benjamin James
LCPL	Magnusson-Reid,Jack
LCPL	Robertson, Jaaziel Bruce
PTE(T)	Baldwin,Joshua Luke
PTE(P)	Boarder,Simon Jon Laurence
PTE(P)	Edwards,Shaun Phillip
PTE	Hogan,Thomas Mark
PTE	James,Tyson John
PTE(P)	Moore, Alexander Peter
PTE(P)	Richardson, Matthew John
Bravo	Company
Diavo	Company
MAJ	McCausland,Iain Duncan
	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin
MAJ	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John
MAJ CAPT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David
MAJ CAPT CAPT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2 SGT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew Godman,Alexander Peter Sea
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2 SGT SGT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew Godman,Alexander Peter Sea Walker,Allan Mark
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2 SGT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew Godman,Alexander Peter Sea Walker,Allan Mark Beveridge,Tyson Alexander
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2 SGT SGT	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew Godman,Alexander Peter Sea Walker,Allan Mark Beveridge,Tyson Alexander Chadwick,David Owen
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2 SGT SGT CPL CPL CPL	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew Godman,Alexander Peter Sea Walker,Allan Mark Beveridge,Tyson Alexander Chadwick,David Owen Fagg,James Roger
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2 SGT SGT CPL CPL CPL CPL	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew Godman,Alexander Peter Sea Walker,Allan Mark Beveridge,Tyson Alexander Chadwick,David Owen Fagg,James Roger Hutch,Lewis Philip Stratford
MAJ CAPT CAPT LT LT LT WO2 WO2 SGT SGT CPL CPL CPL	McCausland,Iain Duncan Fountain,Justin Grandin,Nathan John Gregg,Paul David Ingram,Patrick Alexander Williams,Zachary Lucas Andersen,Luke Nathanial Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew Godman,Alexander Peter Sea Walker,Allan Mark Beveridge,Tyson Alexander Chadwick,David Owen Fagg,James Roger

LT	Gregg,Paul David
LT	Ingram,Patrick Alexander
LT	Williams,Zachary Lucas
WO2	Andersen,Luke Nathanial
WO2	Fraser,Jeffrey Andrew
SGT	Godman, Alexander Peter Sears
SGT	Walker,Allan Mark
CPL	Beveridge,Tyson Alexander
CPL	Chadwick,David Owen
CPL	Fagg,James Roger
CPL	Hutch,Lewis Philip Stratford
CPL	Langley,Ross Cameron
CPL	Lilley,Matthew David
CPL	Michalkowski,Jayden Russell Bogdan
CPL	Nicholls,Thomas Peter
CPL	Payne,Michael Gilbet
CPL	Price,David Francis
CPL	Wood,Nathaniel David
LCPL	Andrews,Ronald Gordon
LCPL	Bishop,Rowena Michelle
LCPL	Boron,Nick
LCPL	Clarke,Samuel Alexander
LCPL	Coglan,David Thomas
LCPL	Jenkins,Matthew John
LCPL	Kober,Shaun Miller
LCPL	Owen,Angus Charles Edward
LCPL	Treloar,Cameron Boden

LCPL	Undy,Andrew Raymond
LCPL	Wynn,Kristian Alexander
PTE	Abdullah,Zakaria Ali
PTE	Austin,Douglas Robert
PTE	Banks,Claye William
PTE	Bitolkoski,Aleczander
PTE	Body,Adan Tye
PTE	Bowdal,Jayce Griffin
PTE	Crombie,Lewis Craig
PTE	Cullen,Sebastian Mark
PTE	Fox-Hughes,Samuel Devlin
PTE	Gardner,Samuel Michael
PTE	Hearn,Jake Ross
PTE	Heather, Damon Douglas
PTE	Hodge,Tom David
PTE	Jackson,Phillip Graciano

PTE King,Noah Jonathan
PTE Lavers,Matthew John
PTE Levis-Stratemeier,Jonas Gabriel
PTE Li,Xiang
PTE Maddox,Joshua Laurance

Johnston,Rowan Joseph

PTE

PTE Li,Xiang
PTE Maddox,Joshua Laurance
PTE Mani,Michael Mukesh
PTE Marshall,Oskah Trent
PTE Mathys,Hugh Eliott
PTE McDevitt,Patrick Edward
PTE McKean,Joel Simon

PTE Michalkowski,Danyon Albert
PTE Mitchell,Cameron James
PTE Overeem,Jesse

PTE Pattison,Nikkolai Terence
PTE Ragus,Eden John
PTE Rose,Ashton Kevin

PTE Ross,Cameron David PTE Scott, Cameron James Sharp, Mathew Allan PTE PTE Shephard, Douglas Lloyd PTE Siggers,Adam John PTE Sims,Brandie Margaret PTE Stein, Iain Frederick Vere PTE Tayler, Christopher James

PTE Upton,Dillon
PTE Venables,Isaac Robert
PTE Wanicki,Jacob Robin
PTE Winter,Ben Michael





