

Royal Military College Duntroon

1969 – 1972



50 years since Graduation in 1972

MATES FOREVER

*When it's not always raining there'll be days like this
When there's no one complaining there'll be days like this
When everything falls into place like the flick of a switch
Well my mama told me there'll be days like this*

(Van Morrison)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

While many were quick to point out that I had perhaps not learned the lesson to 'never volunteer', I have really enjoyed putting this book together.

Thank you to all those classmates who contributed their biographies, especially the large number of former classmates who were not actually part of the graduating class of 1972. A special thank you to those who went to great lengths to harass, harangue and cajole classmates who were a bit reluctant to send in their bio, and to those who worked with family members of deceased classmates.

Thanks also to the Reunion Organisers, David Cran, Steve Jones, Kym MacMillan, and Warwick Elliot who, apart from their other activities, acted as editors to keep me on track.

Finally, thank you to Vic Gibbons for permission to reprint certain items from the Class of '71 Old Mates Guide.

Tony McKenna

FOREWORD

For some of us it's hard to imagine that fifty years have gone by since the big day we said goodbye to the Corps of Staff Cadets and became officers in the Australian or New Zealand Regular Army. Our passage through the College was a mixture of highs and lows and is summarised later in this book.

A total of 114 cadets are counted as members of our class during our time at the College. Some chose the alternative path to a commission and opted to transfer to OCS Portsea, some decided that the army was not for them and returned to civilian life, while a few others opted to repeat a class and graduated the following year. 60 of us made it to graduation on 12th December 1972. Regardless of which path we took, the events of 1969 ensured that we became a very close-knit class and became "*Mates Forever*".

The aim of this book is to document what every one of us has done since leaving Duntroon. While some classmates have lost contact or have chosen not to participate, we have been fortunate to be able to include a short biography for 85 classmates. Their stories are of course widely varied and make interesting reading.

One significant factor that comes through in the biographies is summed up in the following quote from an email from Peter Martyn:

"I cannot close without mention of the number from our class who now find ongoing fulfilment in the voluntary work they undertake in support of the community. The service which all our class maintained over many years continues in our retirement."

Finally, as we all know, the Army is very big on the use of acronyms and abbreviations. For those readers who did not have the pleasure of serving or those of us who weren't in long enough to be exposed to all of them, we have included a glossary at the end of the book explaining their meaning. The list may not be exhaustive and other terms may be defined within the text itself but hopefully we have captured the vast majority. Corporate and Geographic acronyms have been excluded.



The Badge Gates as we knew them



The College back then



.....and Today



Parade Ground 1913



Parade Ground Today

CLASSMATES

1969 ENTRY (99)

2744	Allan	2681	Goggin	2714	McNaughton
2745	Bagot	2682	Greenham	2706	Meecham
2652	Barwick	2683	Hall	2707	Moody
2756	Bell	2684	Hammond	2708	Muirhead
2748	Bishop	2685	Hardman	2747	Oldfield
2653	Black	2686	Hill	2715	Overstead
2654	Blue	2687	Hindle	2716	Parry
2655	Borchardt	2688	Houston	2717	Pattinson
2656	Braithwaite	2689	Huggins	2718	Poole
2657	Brennan	2690	Hunt	2719	Price
2658	Brock	2691	Izzard	2720	Rigter
2659	Callan	2692	Jameson	2721	Rowlands
2660	Carter	2693	Jenke	2722	Scarrabelotti
2661	Chalmers	2694	Jenkins	2723	Schmidt
2662	Clark	2695	Johnston	2724	Shaw
2663	Cleaver	2696	Jones C	2725	Simmons
2664	Cobley	2697	Jones G	2726	Skinner
2665	Coghlan	2698	Jones S	2727	Smith G
2666	Cran	2699	Kelly	2728	Smith M
2667	Cronin	2700	Leyshon	2729	Smith T
2668	Croxson	2701	Loughrey	2730	Southern
2669	Cullinan	2702	Love	2731	Stokes
2670	Davies	2743	MacIntyre	2732	Stone
2671	Despoges	2703	MacMillan	2733	Swan
2672	Donovan	2749	Mander-Jones	2734	Teys
2673	Dreghorn	2704	Martens	2735	Thomas
2674	Edwards	2705	Martyn	2736	Tier
2675	Elliott	2709	McCann	2737	Tonkin
2676	Elphinston	2746	McGrath	2738	Tracey
2677	Ford	2710	McKenna	2739	Urquhart
2678	Franklin	2711	McLeod	2740	Wallace C
2679	Garner	2712	McMurrin	2741	Wallace R
2680	Gibson	2713	McNamara	2742	White

1968 ENTRY (15)

2573	Bevan	2613	Kearney	2631	Park
2617	Bywater-Lutman	2614	Lawrence	2638	Reid
2587	Dickens	2621	McInnes	2640	Ross
2591	Elston	2626	McPherson	2642	Ryan
2604	Hay	2628	Newman	2646	Snell

Note: Peter Frith, Steve Perrett and John Poiner were also members of our class for a brief period in 1970 before returning to their original class.

OUR JOURNEY: 1969 – 1972

Prologue

At some point in 1968 or perhaps even 1967, we made the decision (for whatever reasons) to apply for admission to the Royal Military College, dutifully submitted the paperwork and awaited a response. Once the Army decided that we were worth a look, we received an invitation to attend the first Selection Board which consisted of a series of aptitude tests and a psychological interview, followed by a face-to-face interview by the panel of officers who had the pleasant task of deciding whether or not we were “officer material”.

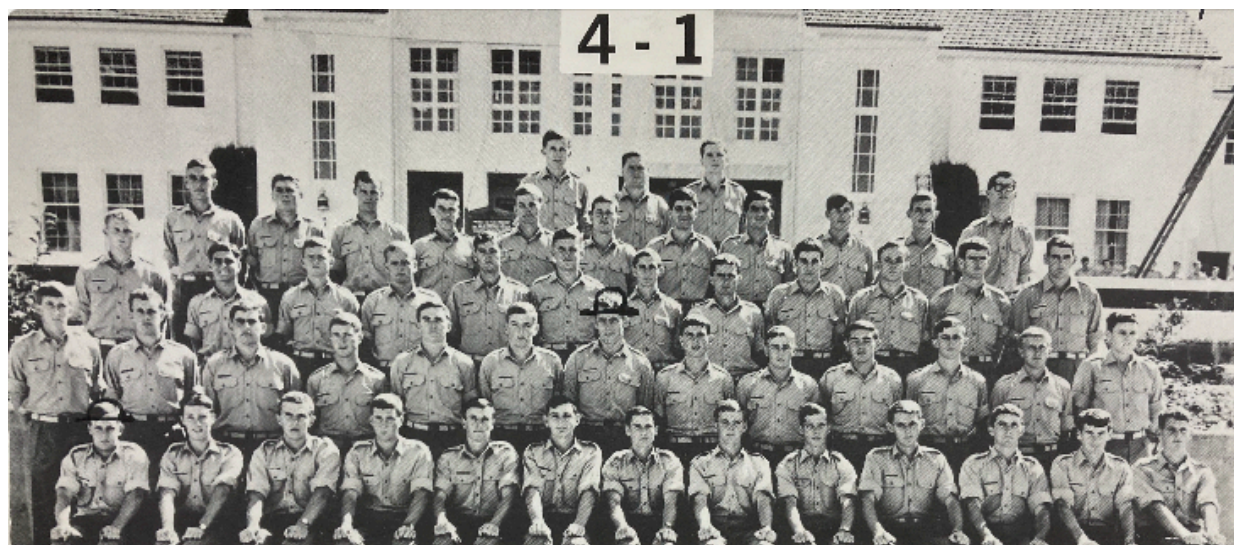
Of course, they thought we might be so they invited us back for a second round of assessment. This day included a medical examination, several group tasks which tested our leadership skills and of course the inevitable panel interview to round out the proceedings. We all have fond memories of radio-active bridges, crocodile infested rivers, giant twin walls etc. but perhaps most of all lunch in the Officers’ Mess (buffet style) where we were surreptitiously observed to see if we could eat gracefully while standing up and engaging in conversation at the same time. What we didn’t know then was that this would be the first step in honing our multi-tasking skills which would become so vital once we arrived at RMC.

The esteemed gentlemen of the selection panel were obviously impressed by our performance and sent us a letter of acceptance for admission to the college, in most cases subject to a satisfactory pass level in our final Year 12 school exams. Having satisfied this last hurdle, we were instructed to report to our local Personnel Depot in January 1969 for transport to Duntroon.



Ian, Mick, and Pete ready to go

Fourth Class



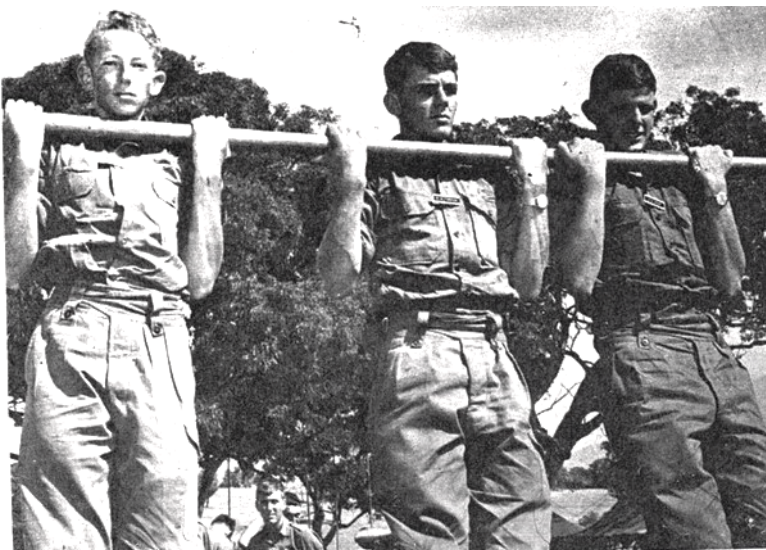
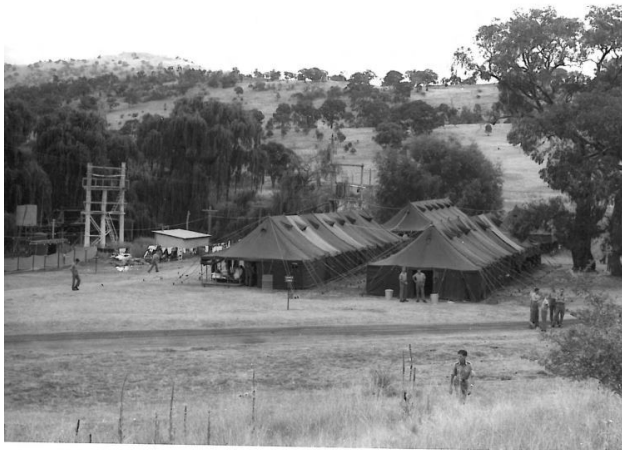
Back Row: BAGOT BORCHARDT BRAITHWAITE
 Fourth Row: CALLAN, CARTER, CLARK, CLEAVER, COBLEY, CRONIN, CROXSON, DESPOGES, DICKENS, DONOVAN, ELLIOT
 Third Row: ELPHINSTON, GARNER, GIBSON, HAMMOND, HILL, HOUSTON, HUGGINS, HUNT, JENKE, JENKINS, JONES G.R., JONES S.J.
 Second Row: LOUGHREY, LOVE, MANDER-JONES, MARTYN, MEECHAM, McCANN, McGRATH, McLEOD, McMURRAN, McPHERSON, OLDFIELD, OVERSTEAD, PARRY.
 First Row: PARK, PRICE, RYAN, SCHMITT, SHAW, SIMMONS, SMITH G.R., SMITH M.E., STOKES, THOMAS, TONKIN, WALLACE R.C., WHITE.



Back Row: ALLAN BARWICK BEVAN
 Fourth Row: BISHOP, BLACK, BLUE, BRENNAN, BROCK, CHALMERS, COGHLAN, GRAN, CULLINAN, DAVIES, DREGHORN
 Third Row: EDWARDS, FORD, FRANKLIN, GOGGIN, GREENHAM, HARDMAN, HAY, HINDLE, IZZARD, JAMESON, JOHNSTON, JONES C.A.
 Second Row: KELLY, LEYSHON, MacINTYRE, MacMILLAN, MARTENS, McIRNES, McKENNA, McNAUGHTIN, McNAMARA, MOODY, MUIRHEAD, PATTINSON, POOLE.
 Front Row: REID, RIGTER, ROWLANDS, SCARRABELOTTI, SKINNER, SMITH T.C., SOUTHERN, SWAN, TEYS, TEIR, TRACEY, URQUHART, WALLACE C.J.

On Friday, 24th January 1969, having made our way by various means, the majority of us arrived at Duntroon to begin life in the Corps of Staff Cadets. For the QLD and NSW cadets this entailed arriving at the Queanbeyan railway station on a hot, sunny early afternoon to be greeted by the sight of a tall ramrod straight figure and a couple of support staff in uniform striding purposefully down the platform to 'greet' us. We quickly discovered that this welcoming party were none other than the RSM, WO1 Norm Goldspink and a couple of his drill sergeants. We were to get to know these very professional and loud gentlemen very well in the coming months.

After being herded onto some army green buses we were driven to the college where we met up with the remainder of our new classmates, assigned to one of the four companies and allocated our rooms. The remainder of the day and the next were taken up with the issuing of clothing and equipment, kit checks, haircuts, medicals, and attestation. All this activity took place in relative peace and quiet as the cadets in the classes above us had not yet returned from leave. Once all the administrative activities had been completed, we prepared ourselves for the three-week orientation camp at Point Hut, a delightful little spot on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River, some 20 miles from Duntroon. Little did we know that this time was very much the calm before the storm.



For 95 young men, most of whom had just left school, their second day in the Army was an unforgettable experience. They started a three weeks' course of physical activities that most of them had never previously undertaken in civilian life. The young men, from every State in Australia and New Zealand, with an average age of 18, were the latest intake of cadets at the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

* Staff Cadets Jeff Brock, of Edwardstown, Greg Thomas, of Wayville, and David Cran, of Beaumont.

The camp consisted of four big marquees for the cadets' sleeping quarters, another for a mess tent, a kitchen, and staff accommodation, all under the command of Captain Fred Pfitzner. Drill and weapons training was conducted by WO2 Brian Foster and the "Drillies" and physical training by the PTI's. During the camp our numbers were swelled by a few late comers whose arrival had been delayed for various reasons and several cadets who had enjoyed Fourth Class so much in 1968 that they decided to repeat it.

On completion of our orientation, we returned to Duntroon where, as many have described it, "all hell broke loose" when we came face to face with the senior cadets, particularly Second Class. This was our baptism of fire in a hazing regime known as 'bastardisation'. We had one more week of military training while we prepared for the start of the academic year which extended from the beginning of March to the end of October. During this time, we also had five hours per week for military subjects (drill & PT) as well as compulsory sport in addition to academic lectures.

One of the first things we discovered was that we were to have no leave for the first 12 weeks and then only after passing the dreaded 'Screed Test'. To make up for this though, following the Easter Bunny's annual visit, we spent the Easter break on "Rec" camp in the Nowra region where we had a leisurely time swimming, canoeing, water skiing, hiking, and indulging in other relaxing pursuits such as sleeping. For some however the most popular activity was skiving off to the TilbaTilba pub in the evenings and trying not to get caught by the staff on return.



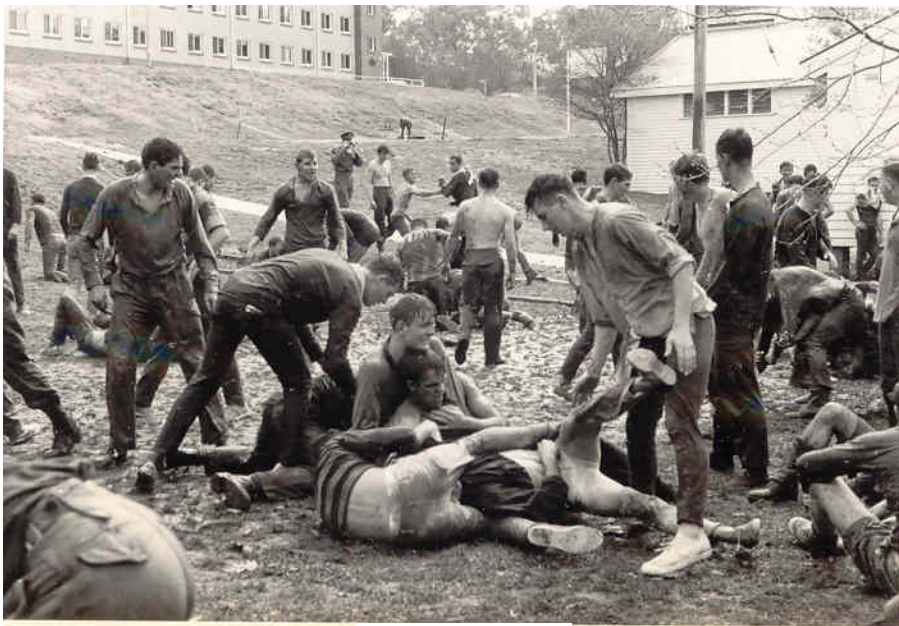
And who could forget the joys of "Amateur Boxing"?

A few weeks later was the Fourth Class Tennis Party (an interesting experience) and soon after, the end of Term 1. While the senior classes went on leave for the term break, we were whisked off to Holsworthy for a tour of Army establishments in the then Eastern Command. After that it was back to the college and a return to studies.

The Queen's Birthday long weekend in June saw us participate in our first Trooping of the Colour Parade and the QB Ball that evening. That weekend was also a milestone event for Fourth Class as from then on, we were entitled to wear the Corps lanyard, another rite of passage.

The remainder of the academic year was fairly routine except for one momentous event which was the “bastardisation” scandal and the ensuing Board of Enquiry in September, chaired by Justice Fox. We all have differing opinions regarding the enquiry but suffice it to say that it did lead to some changes to college culture and our benefits also improved (pay, leave etc.).

The academic year concluded with exams in October and in November the Corps of Staff Cadets was temporarily disbanded as we became the 1st Battalion Yarralumla Light Infantry (1YLI) and headed off to repel the invading hordes in the Brindabella Ranges to the south-west of Canberra for the annual field training exercise. At the conclusion of field training, we returned to RMC for the Banner Parade and Grad Week. Following the Graduation Parade and Grad Ball on 9th December we spent the next day shifting rooms in preparation for the following year and a day later headed off on Christmas leave.

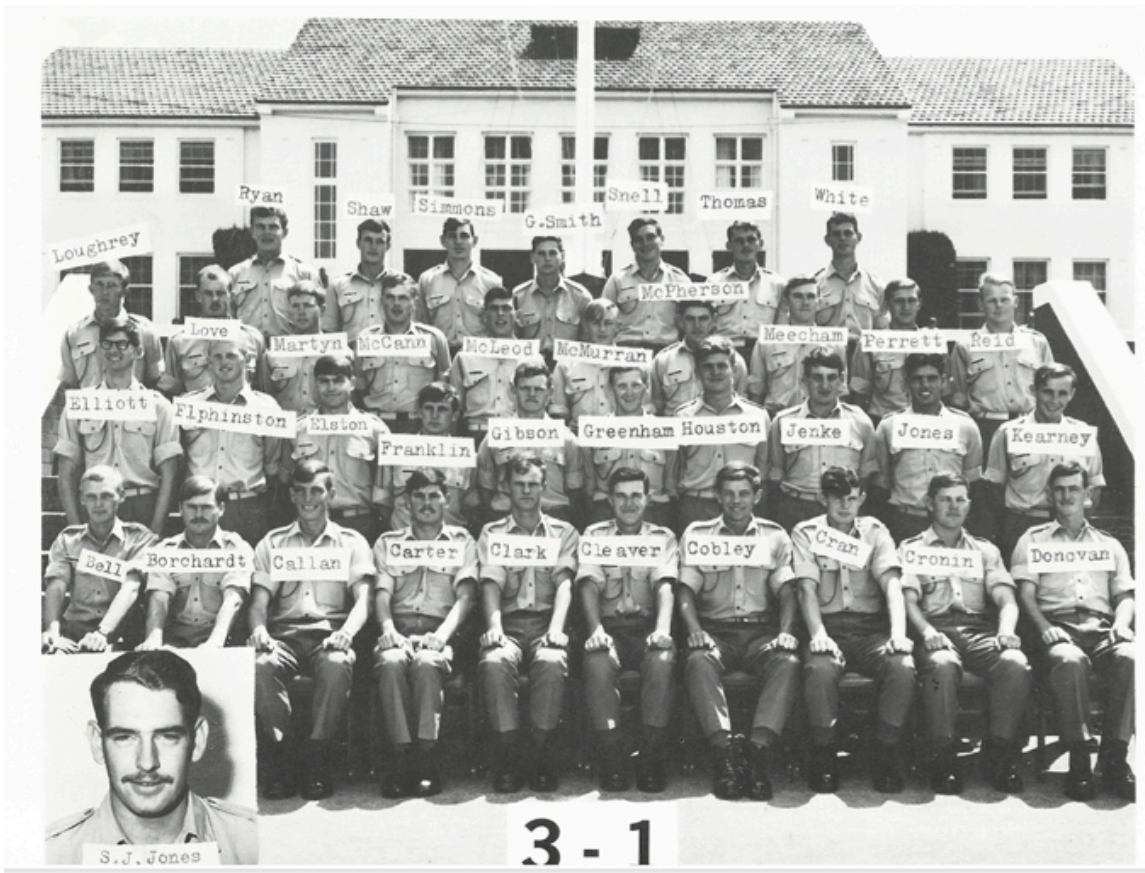


100 Days to go



Graduation Parade 1969

Third Class



The return to the college in late January saw our numbers somewhat depleted from the previous year. Throughout Fourth Class we lost several classmates who decided that the Army was not for them and chose to return to civilian life. Others chose a different path and transferred to OCS Portsea while a few more opted for the five-year plan and repeated Fourth Class in 1970. On the plus side however, we welcomed several new classmates (some briefly) who felt repeating Third Class might be the way to go.

Perhaps the best part was that we had left 'bastardisation' behind, both from no longer being in the junior class and also due to the changes implemented following the Fox Report. Consequently, college life for us settled down into the routine of academic studies interspersed with basic military training.

While the year may have been a routine affair there was one very significant event that will always be remembered by those who were there: the presentation of new colours to the College on 27th April 1970 by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Who could forget the hours and hours of practice prior to the event? It was all worth it in the end however as the Corps did itself proud and produced a first-class parade with world class drill.

As the training syllabus dictated, we finished the year with the annual Field Training exercise. This year the 'enemy' decided upon a different front and 1YLI was despatched to the area around Bateman's Bay to confront them. Having successfully thwarted them, we returned to Duntroon and Grad week once more.





General Pearson, Officers and Staff Cadets of the Royal Military College of Australia:

In 1954 I had the pleasure of presenting the old Colours to the Corps of Staff Cadets. I am happy to see that the standard of your smartness and drill is as high as ever.

These new Colours, based on the Australian Flag, are different in design from the old ones, but they stand for the same things. They have been consecrated and therefore they are to remind you of your duties as Christians. The symbols of Crown and National Flag are to remind you of your loyalty to your Sovereign and of your service to your country.

When you complete your training here at Duntroon, you will be following in the footsteps of Graduates who have given gallant and devoted service, both in peace and in action. They have set a fine tradition which I know you will live up to and perhaps surpass.

In handing you these Colours, I charge you to remember what they stand for; to guard them well; to honour them through your conduct and example, and to pass them on untarnished to your successors.

Elizabeth R

27th April, 1970.

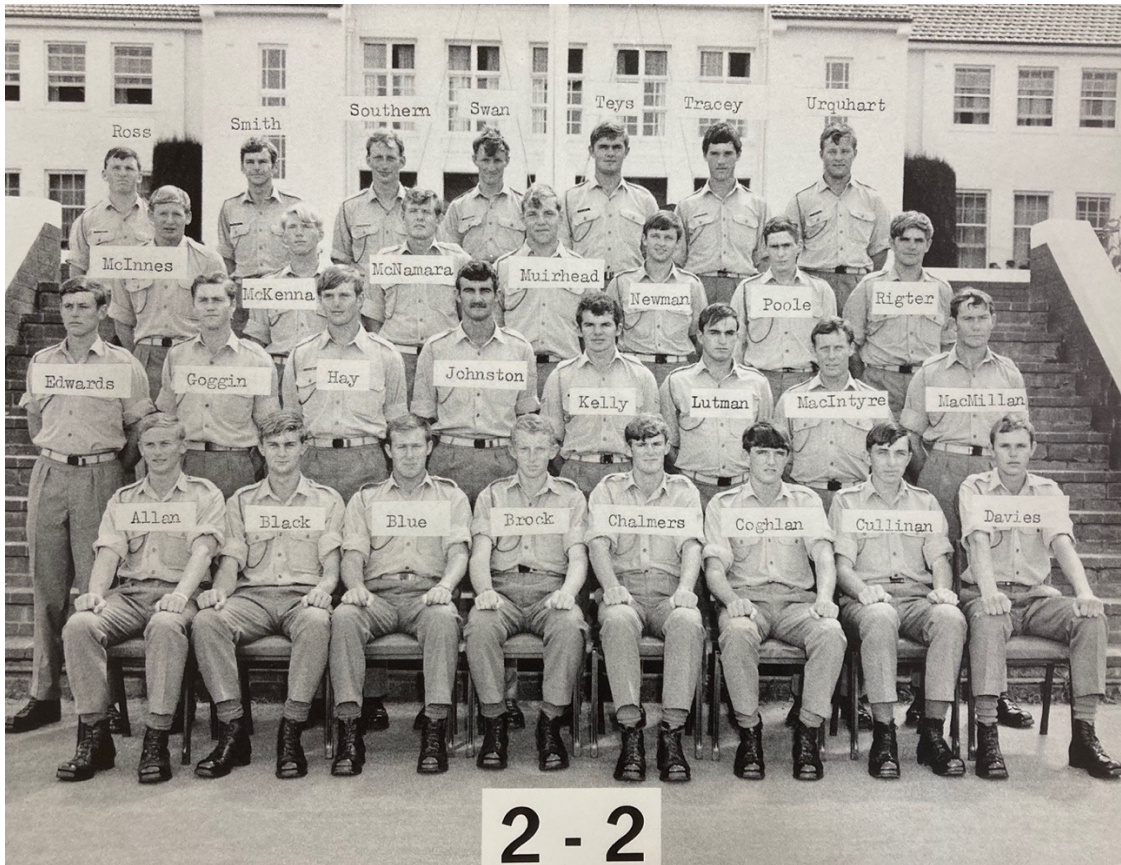


Meeting the Queen after the parade



HRH The Duke of Edinburgh chats with cadets

Second Class



1971 saw us climb another rung on the college ladder as we entered our penultimate year. Once again it was a routine existence with cadets in the Arts and Science courses tackling their final academic year while the Engineers took on the third year of their four-year course.

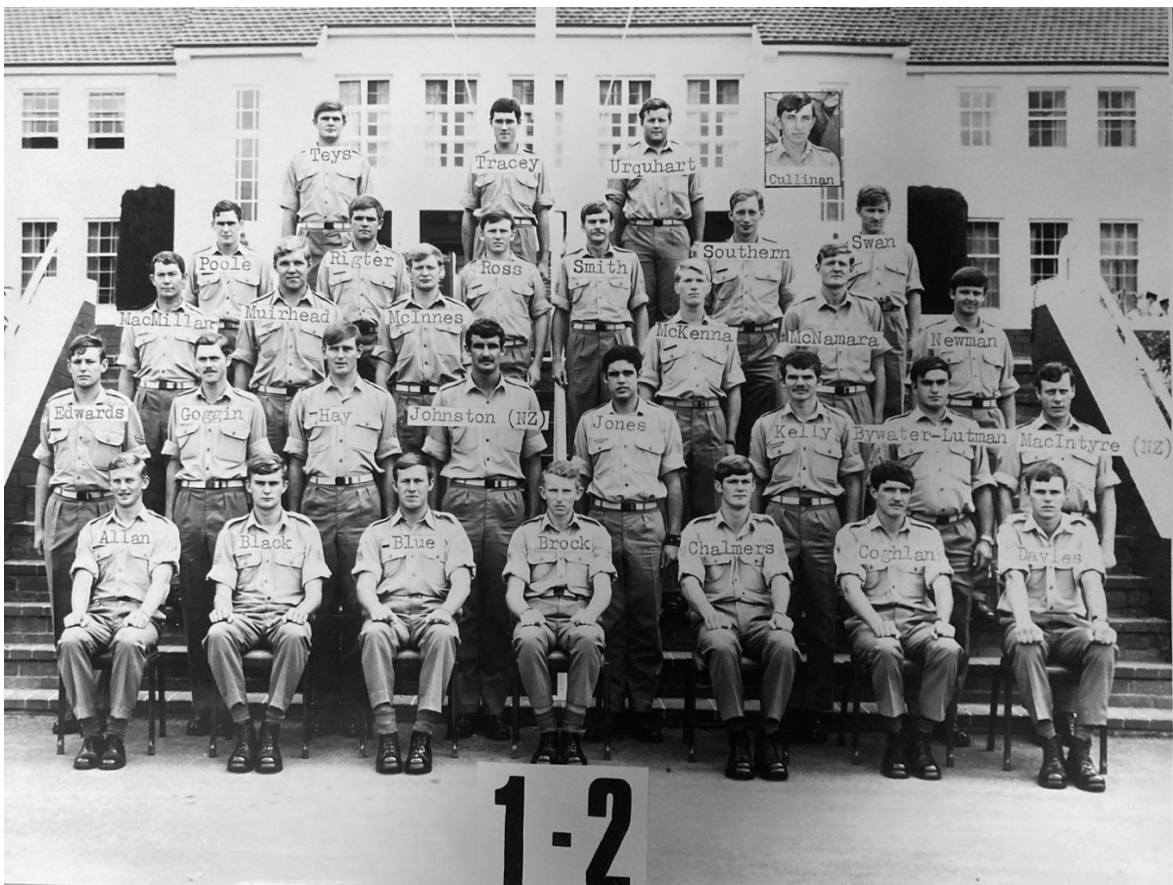
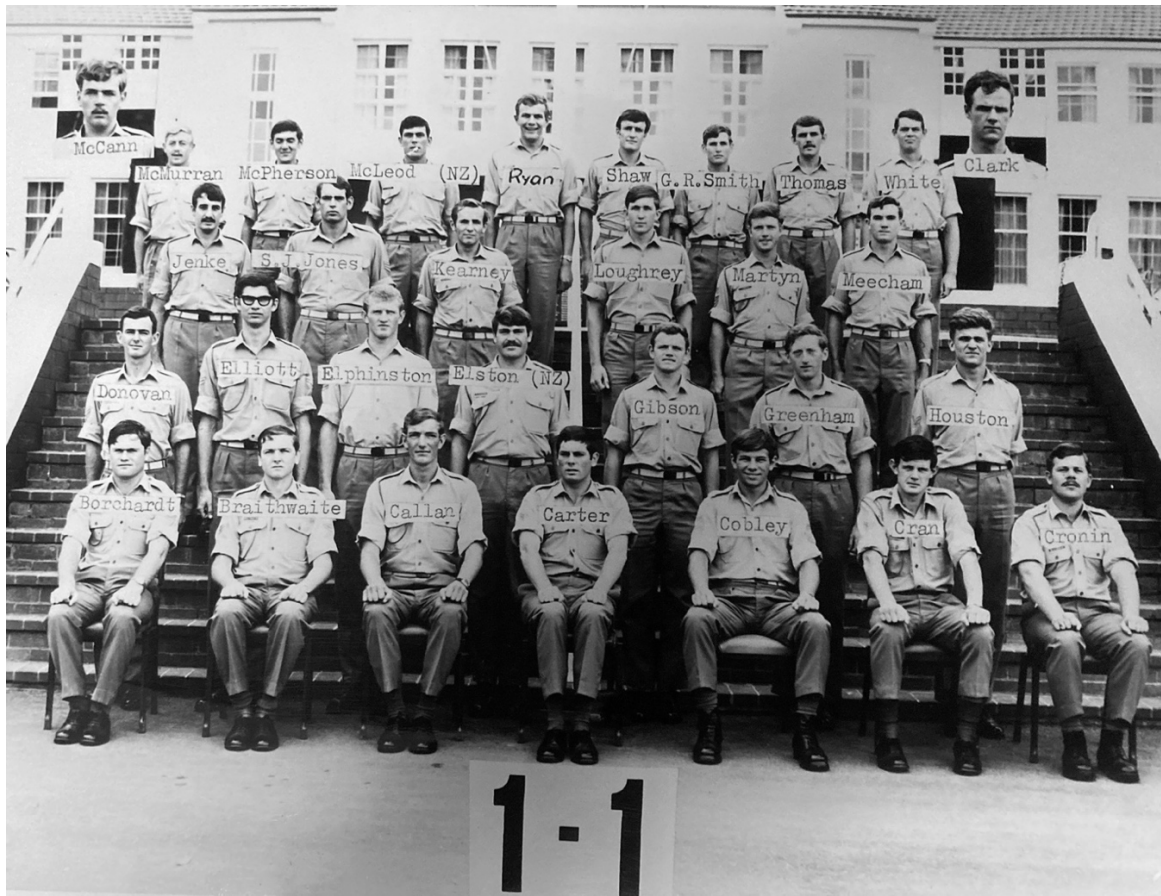
The military component at the start of the year was more interesting than in previous years. We left Infantry Minor Tactics etc. behind and returned to Point Hut for some field engineering activities. Much fun was had playing with assault boats on the Murrumbidgee and building rafts when the DS decided the boats were not available. One night we even got to lay a minefield on the opposite riverbank but weren't very impressed with the result when viewed by light of day next morning. More practice needed here!

Towards the end of the year when First Class were away on attachments, we were all promoted to maintain a command structure within the cadet ranks. The majority were appointed to the dizzy heights of Lance Corporal while a chosen few were awarded two stripes.



After two years at the College, you'd think we could read a map by now!

First Class



Finally! 1972 had arrived and we had made it to the top of the tree. For the Artists and Scientists, the academic studies were over, and we were embarking on a full year of military training. For the Engineers a final academic year was ahead before embarking on the Graduate Engineer Military course at Canungra following graduation.

The military curriculum for the year was quite varied with introduction to Corps specific instruction in Armour, Artillery, Engineering and Signals. Infantry training was covered in the Tactics classes – hours and hours in the model room moving a battalion around fictitious places with Asian sounding names and TEWTs out on the field firing range in the freezing cold. We also undertook general military subjects such as Peace Administration, War Administration, Staff Duties, Military Law, and Leadership.

Training in this final year was not restricted to Duntroon and its surrounds. We had several trips away from the college to undertake various activities: Armour training at Puckapunyal which included a visit to the School of Signals at Watsonia, and Artillery training at Holsworthy.

In August we spent two weeks at the Jungle Training Centre at Canungra in the Gold Coast hinterland. September saw the celebration of ‘100 Days to Go’ which, in our case involved the class retiring to the Araluen Hotel for the weekend to participate in social activities such as drinking, playing cards and more drinking.

Perhaps the highlight of our training came in October when we were temporarily promoted to 2nd Lieutenant and spent three weeks as platoon commanders at one of the three Recruit Training Battalions which saw the class split between Puckapunyal, Kapooka and Singleton. This phase of our training was a good rounding-off of all that had gone before and gave us a good taste of what was before us.

On completion of this attachment, we returned to RMC for our final Field Training in which we filled the roles of Platoon Commanders, Artillery Forward Observers, Mortar Fire Controllers, and other senior appointments before heading back to Duntroon for Grad Week – **our** Grad Week!

On Tuesday 12th December 1972 we paraded for the final time and marched off as the graduating Class in front of proud parents and friends. Following the parade, we were presented with our degrees/diplomas and headed off to spend the afternoon with family. In the evening we assembled in the gymnasium for the Graduation Ball. At the stroke of midnight, the days to go board ticked over to ‘000’ and we became Lieutenants as our mothers and girlfriends pinned on our pips.

Some 12 hours later our final duty as a class was the traditional lunch in the RMC Sergeants’ Mess, after which we formed up in three ranks to receive our final order from BSM Tracey:

“First Class... From Duntroon...DISMISS”

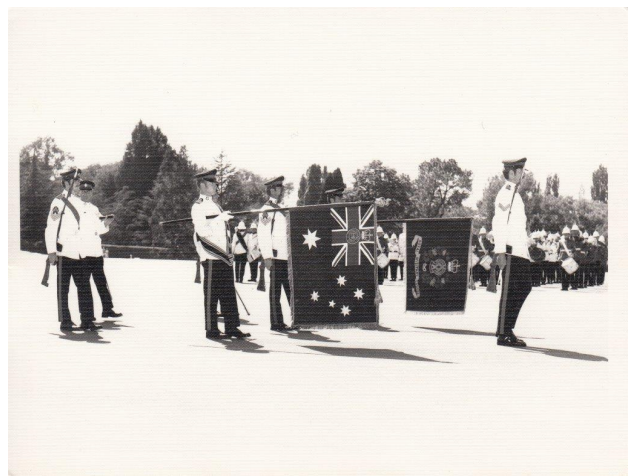
Our Graduation Parade



First Class enters the parade ground



"March on the Colours!"



The Colour Party marches past in slow time



The Class of '72 marches past (slow time)

Significant Staff Members we met along the way

During our time at RMC, we encountered two Commandants, two DMA's, three CO's, two RSM's and quite a considerable number of other staff members who were responsible for our training in all aspects of the military curriculum and our academic studies. It is fair to say that they were of a uniformly high standard, with a few being unique! Some were present for our entire time at the college while others rotated through the usual postings and moved on to other things, leaving us to get to know their replacements.

There are of course far too many of them to list them all but there were three members who perhaps had the greatest influence on our class. A brief biography for each of them is included in the following pages.



"How the DMA really does, it", Colonel J.M. Maxwell

Did Maurie use the same technique?

Major General Cedric Maudsley Ingram "Sandy" Pearson, AO, DSO, OBE Commandant 1970-73

Major General Pearson, was born on 24 August 1918 in Kurri Kurri, New South Wales, the son of Margaret and the Rev. George Ingram Pearson, a Methodist minister. Pearson attended Newington College (1932–1936) then the Royal Military College, Duntroon, graduating in 1940.



Major General Pearson served during the Second World War from 1942 to 1945. He subsequently served in Singapore from 1966 to 1968 and was the Commander of the 1st Australian Task Force in Vietnam during 1968 to 1969.

Following the bastardisation scandal at the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1969, he was posted as the Commandant from 1970 to 1973. This was followed by posting as the Chief of Personnel of the Australian Army from 1973 to 1975.

After retirement from the Army, Sandy Pearson continued to hold leadership roles firstly as the Executive Director, Royal Agricultural Society of NSW from 1976 to 1983 and then as a Director of Brickworks Ltd from 1983 to 1998.

Sandy Pearson died on 7 November 2012 aged 94 at the RSL Village in Narrabeen, New South Wales. His funeral was held eight days later at the Newington College Chapel, Stanmore. Known for his dedication to duty, Major General Pearson was awarded the Military Cross for his efforts at Maprik Ridge during World War II where he demonstrated his ability to lead by example and motivate his troops. On multiple occasions, Major General Pearson exposed himself to enemy fire with complete disregard for his own safety to enable his platoons to advance up an almost vertical slope. Later, on his own initiative, Major General Pearson led an attack on the enemy, enabling the battalion to advance 2000 yards.

Major General Pearson was also awarded the Companion of the Distinguished Service Order for his role as Commander of the 1st Australian Task Force in Vietnam and was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for his leadership of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment. In 1975 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia.

Sandy Pearson was a breath of fresh air at Duntroon. He was involved in all the activities of the Corps of Staff Cadets – seen at the mess for meals, on all the sports grounds and so on. He was approachable and friendly – one cadet recalls him stopping to pick up his fiancée and give her a lift home!



17023 Lieutenant General Henry John Coates, AC, MBE CO Corps of Staff Cadets 1971-74



Lieutenant-General John Coates served in the Australian Army for forty years, retiring as Chief of the General Staff in 1992.

He was born on 28 December 1932 in Adelaide, South Australia, but lived for most of his life before joining the Army, in Queensland. He had a troubled early life but finished his schooling as a boarder at Ipswich Grammar School, where he was the School Captain in his final year.

He entered the Royal Military College Duntroon, on 11 February 1952, graduating on 14 December 1955 and being allocated to the Royal Australian Armoured Corps. He returned later as the Company Commander of Gallipoli Company in 1963, the Commanding Officer, Corps of Staff Cadets in 1971 and as its Commandant in 1983. He was the first Commandant of the College since 1942 to hold a higher degree,¹ having attained a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Australia in 1962 and a Master of Arts from the Australian National University in 1975.

His early regimental life included postings to 1 Armoured Regiment, 10 Light Horse and postings to the UK and with the British Army in Germany as a tank squadron commander. He saw operational service in South Vietnam with 3 Cavalry Regiment as a squadron commander, followed by an appointment as G2(Ops) in the Task Force Headquarters.

He was the CO CSC from May 1971 until January 1974. Following attendance at JSSC, he was posted on exchange to Fort Hood in the USA where he led a team examining developments in training. He had various appointments in operational planning as both a Colonel and Brigadier.

On promotion to Major General and as the newly arrived Commandant at Duntroon, he had to deal with a bastardisation scandal which became public – he handled the matter effectively and promptly, albeit that punishments that he awarded were lessened on Ministerial direction.² He instituted a number of changes for the reception and treatment of new arrivals, for supervision of cadets by staff and to the operation of the class system³. The concurrent furore over who would live in Bridges House was probably the least of his worries! During all three postings to Duntroon, he was emphatic about the complementary roles of the military (Sparta) and academic (Athens) disciplines and was a strong advocate of developing both equally.

His other appointments included head of the Defence Staff in Washington DC; Assistant Chief of the Defence Force (Policy); and as a Military Fellow at ADFA. He then became the CGS.

After his military career he became an author and researcher, with several published books, papers, and reviews. In recognition of his services to scholarship, and particularly to military history, the University of New South Wales awarded Lieutenant General Coates in 2011 one of its highest honours: an Honorary Doctorate.

He died on 11 June 2018.

¹ Coulthard-Clark, Christopher, *Duntroon. The Royal Military College of Australia 1911-1986*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 1986. p 233.

² Moore, Darren, *DUNTROON. The Royal Military College of Australia 1911-2011*. Ligare Pty Ltd, Riverwood, 2001, p. 392.

³ Op Cit, p 257.

51811 Norman Herbert Goldspink MBE Regimental Sergeant Major 1967-71

The towering figure of the RSM of the Royal Military College is probably the most enduring memory of the first day for many of us. Norm – ‘Sir’ to his face – became an icon to us, and to this day represents to us the epitome of the professional soldier: firm, fair, honest, consistent and intelligent.

Norm enjoyed the RSM role, “as it was very satisfying and was not a difficult job as such because of my previous experience as a ‘Drilly’ at RMC, as well as having been involved in training of recruits, apprentices, and officer cadets at Scheyville.” His basis was “that I only expected people training under me to undertake things that I would be happy to accept myself.”

The position also involved being the PMC of the Sergeants’ Mess, which was challenging initially, but once he had it sorted it was very enjoyable. He spent a fair bit of time there and appreciated that Lois understood that. There was a good group of NCOs in the mess, including a couple of female Warrant Officers from Russell Offices (Katie Livingston and Claire Brodie) who were very impressive and “helped me out occasionally by accompanying me to functions when Lois was unable to attend.”

Norm remarked that he found that all officer cadets with whom he was involved in training were very similar. They were “intelligent, challenging at times, but getting them to graduation was satisfying.” He didn’t see any discernible difference over the years of his involvement.

There were some challenges in 1969 with the bastardisation scandal but Norm didn’t believe that he had anything to be concerned about, as he had not done anything other than training in the way that he had done in the past. However, it was a tense time and he told Lois to be ready to move. Obviously some people moved as an outcome, but it settled down fairly quickly.

One of the highlights for Norm, and for most cadets, was the Queen’s visit and Trooping of the Colours in 1970. Other highlights were seeing successful graduations at the end of each year.

One of his best mates while at RMC was Tom Waters (known to cadets as BTW). They had known each other since before Korea, and had been posted together a couple of times, most notably in Japan and at Woodside. BTW was Infantry but did the PTI course at the School of Artillery and topped it, arriving at RMC during the year before Norm.

Norm was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire on 3rd of June 1972.



After RMC

Norm was posted to the Infantry Centre at Singleton in 1972 as an instructor on the WO Course, but became the RSM. This was followed by a period as the WO Ceremonial at Russell Offices, a job and environment he didn't enjoy as he felt that he did not have the staff duties background for it, particularly given that he had to rewrite the Ceremonial Manual. However, one high point was that the Queen visited during that time – the 1974 visit to Canberra.

Following that posting he returned to the AAS at Balcombe as the RSM which was a much more enjoyable posting and had the added advantage of having Lois' parents living nearby. Then in 1981 he was posted as the Ceremonial Officer at RMC. Initially this was as a WO1, but he was advised that he could be promoted to Captain in the PSO system as the position was a Captain's position. He didn't believe that he met the criteria, based on being above the maximum age (he was 53) but agreed to do it if it was possible. "My decision was based more on mercenary reasons given that I would get a higher level of pay and that I was getting closer to retirement so it would benefit me later on." He remained in the position for 18 months and retired in mid-1982.

After Commissioning

The transition to commissioned rank was pretty easy as he knew most of the other officers on the staff – they had been cadets at some stage during his postings. He became the secretary of the Officers' Mess, which needed some work when he took it over. He always intended for his commissioned time to be short, and only intended it to be at RMC which was very familiar to him. He has admitted that the anecdote, in the Class of 1971's anniversary book, that he pressured some of the young officers whom he knew to have a few beers in the mess from time to time are true. They were good company, but he used to take the blame. He was also fortunate that Lois, who was a good tennis player, played tennis with the officers' wives, so he knew all the wives. He enjoyed the experience of that posting.

After the Army

Norm had lined up a position at the Australian War Memorial as a security officer. This required him to wander the floor and keep an eye on things and patrons. He could offer advice here and there, some of it disciplinary and some of it informative. He was a fulltime public servant in the position which he held



for ten years. "I enjoyed it, and it also set up a secondary pension for me in retirement, which I saw that as being important if I wanted to own a house and a good car: looking out for your retirement was important." Once he finished that job, he retired.



Editor's Note: This profile is an extract of a biography based largely on an interview conducted by Bill Fogarty of the AWM on 25 July 2002, at <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/S02650>, and an informal interview with Norm by Steve Jones and David Cran on 30 June 2022 and a follow up interview by Steve Jones for verification. Thanks also to Ross Eastgate for his editing of the biography.

THE NEXT FIFTY YEARS

As with any other reunion, the most common question asked will be “What have you done since leaving RMC? The following pages contain biographies for 85 of our 114 classmates.

And some things not in the bios.....



Chris Jones terrorises Ho Chi Minh City



Bob Bywater-Lutman likes to party!



Grey Nomads.....



Trish & David Cran



Bob's pride & joy

Reunions and Get-togethers



Graduation Parade 2012

Greg, Tom and Bob at morning tea after the parade



*Bob Lutman, Chris Jones,
Graham & Ann Southern.
Ian McNaughton*

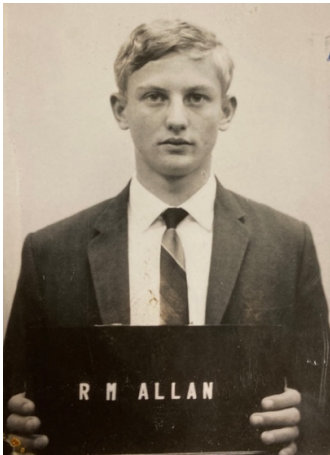


Reunion 2017 in NZ



NSW Lunch 3 Nov 2022

2744 Rod Allan, Kokoda Company



Here we are, fifty years later and I still find myself first in line. No pressure...

On graduation, I was posted to 2RAR in Townsville, but the Army's post-Vietnam contraction saw the unit link with 4RAR. By mid-year, I was a platoon commander in the newly-formed 2/4RAR. My next posting was to Hobart, following the usual pattern: adjutant in an Army Reserve unit, followed by a staff posting to HQ 6MD. In 1976 I took four months leave and went backpacking around the world. I had barely settled back into the job, when I was notified that my next posting would be to the Middle East as a UN observer.

I arrived on New Year's Day 1977, and while there, lived in Damascus and Jerusalem, working on the Golan Heights and in the Sinai Desert. For a country boy from Newcastle, this was an amazing, eye-opening experience and one that I will value forever.

I returned to OCS Portsea as an instructor but by then was contemplating a career switch. Film production always interested me, but I had never considered it as a career because there had never been a formal educational pathway. The newly established film school in Sydney provided such an opportunity. For someone who had been educated at RMC, walking into the film school was like entering another world; I loved it from Day 1, and graduated three years later in 1982. I spent the next decade working freelance on feature films, TV drama and music video; some projects memorable, many forgettable, but all the while gaining experience. I later joined the production company Southern Star, where I produced several well-received dramatized documentaries, including the telemovie *Police State* and the mini-series *Blue Murder*.

My son Nick was born around this time, and I began to look for a more family-friendly job. The conversion of the old Sydney showground gave me the chance to move into studio management and in 1995, I joined the Fox Studios team, where for the next three years, I found myself doing something I had never contemplated before: supervising a major building project. Then followed six wonderful years, managing the studio facilities. The job necessitated frequent trips to Los Angeles booking marquee international clients, which included *The Matrix* films, *Star Wars* and *Moulin Rouge*.

After a four-year interval, I scored the most rewarding job of my career: from 2008 I was CEO of Docklands Studios Melbourne, a cornerstone of the screen industry in Victoria. Again, my role was to keep the studio full and fortunately, my tenure coincided with an expansion of screen activity in Melbourne, both international and domestic. There were more building projects too, culminating in the construction of one of the country's biggest sound stages, which we opened in March this year. I retired two days later.

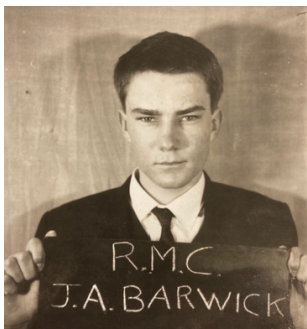
I am fortunate to have had two very different careers. Though I only spent 10 years in the army, I value my military education and the time spent as a junior officer, both of which provided a good foundation for my time in the screen industry.

I am no longer married but my son, Nick and stepson, Rainier each have two delightful boys. Having just retired, I am now working at being a more active grandparent.



2652 John Barwick, Kokoda Company

(Compiled by Steve Jones)



John came from Elwood, an inner suburb of Melbourne. He was allocated to Kokoda Company at RMC and was an engineering student. Coming from that part of the world he was a very good Aussie Rules footballer, excelling as a fullback. John fitted easily into college life and enjoyed and performed well in military subjects.

In his third year at the college, the year when we were able to purchase motor vehicles, John bought a Holden Monaro.

.Unfortunately, he ran into a tree adjacent to Panic Palace in June 1971. The outcome was that John spent an extended time in hospital and lost the use of his left eye.

This long absence from the normal cadet classes resulted in him repeating second class. While still doing well in the military subjects, John continued to struggle with the engineering subjects. Again, he repeated second class and joined with the Class of 1974. In First Class, still academic for Engineers, he failed to complete the course and is therefore not recorded as a graduate of RMC. Instead, in December 1974 he was promoted to Second Lieutenant and allocated to RAE. He is the only cadet to have been at RMC for six years. One consistent comment made by all class groups was that he always fitted in with no airs and graces. Apart from being different with his glass eye, John, as an Aussie Rules fullback, managed to have a quick smoke when the ball was up the other end of the ground. He kept the packed tucked into his socks. Full backs rarely moved out of the goal square in those days.



Following the Graduate Engineer Military course at Canungra in early 1975 John was posted to 2 FER in Brisbane as a troop commander. This was followed by other regimental postings including with the Reserve at Haberfield in Sydney. In the early 80s he was the Adjutant of 2/3 FER in Brisbane. By this stage Bar was becoming a legend with his glass eye tricks – like eye on the bar keeping an eye on his drink. In the mid to late 80's he had accommodation and works postings in Darwin and in Canberra. During this time, he became involved with Royals Rugby Union Club which he remained involved with until the late 1990s.

John left the Army in about 2000. Following his retirement from the Army, John worked full time for Royals Rugby Union Club in Canberra and then he moved on to Queensland where he purchased a garden pottery business at Morayfield (near Caboolture).

John was married to Roslyn. They had no children.

John died on 22 October 2013. He was living at Elimbah (near Caboolture) when he died. His 1974 classmates held a memorial service for him in Brisbane in April 2014 that was attended by members from all three classes that he spent time with at Duntroon.



2756 Allan Bell, Gallipoli Company



I eventually graduated from RMC in 1974 and was posted to 3 Field Engineer Regiment in Townsville. On the way to take up the posting, I married Hilary Versace who I had known from High School. I served as 2IC of 25 Support Squadron, and Construction Troop Commander in 18 Field Squadron.

My next posting was to the Directorate of Engineers in Canberra where we bought a house.

After two years we moved to Perth where I was Construction Officer in 22 Construction Squadron working mainly on building the initial counter terrorist training facilities for SASR. Our first child, Peter, was born in Perth.

From Perth I was posted to the University of Sydney for a year to do the course work for a Masters Degree in Building Science. Then back to Canberra to manage the CELPS computer system implementation for two years. Our daughter Elizabeth was born here.

At short notice I was sent to Mendi in PNG as OC 12 CE Works and Southern Highlands Provincial Manager of the PNG Department of Works. This was a very different role with both engineering and cultural challenges. It was also a different experience for my family.

I returned to Staff College at Queenscliff and was then posted for two years as an instructor to Tactics Wing of the Land Warfare Centre at Canungra.

My last posting was as a LTCOL to HQ 1st Military District in the Chief Engineer's Office.

Having settled in Brisbane, my family was reluctant to move to Canberra and I resigned in 1991.

I then joined the Queensland Department of Main Roads as an engineer working in road and materials technology for several years. During this time, I was fortunate to represent Australia on an international road research committee of the World Road Congress as English-Speaking Secretary. Later, I led work on road asset management and maintenance funding systems for the Department retiring as a Director after 21 years.

Since then, I have enjoyed our 4 grandchildren, travel, walking holidays, vintage car restoration, and voluntary work with refugees and as a handyman and gardener at my local church.



2653 John Black, Kokoda Company



Graduated Dec and Married Jacqui on 6 Jan (we met as a blind date at first 2nd Class Coffee Room party thanks to Phil Newman and Chris), off to Canungra for GEM Course then to Tp Commander 22 Construction Squadron (Cogs was also posted to Perth). 1975 posted to Garrison Engineer WA working out of Swan Barracks. Then on to 12 months with RAAF at HQ OPCOM Glenbrook as Works Engineer (following on from Bob Shaw) and later on to School of Military Engineering as Captain Instructor FE/Bridging. Next - 20 Div Engr Support Sqn as 2IC with lots of logistics challenges for deployment and construction of a bombing range on Townsend Island in Shoalwater Bay, followed by promotion to Major and RMC of S Shrivvenham UK for the Div 1, 12 month course, and then Canberra to Materiel Branch looking after Marine and Materials Handling equipment requirements, during this posting I

attended and placed 3rd (behind Armour and Artillery) on Infantry Company Commanders course as one of 3 token “other Corps” invitees. Command and Staff College came my way (no comment) then to 2IC 2/3 Field Engineer Regiment which included many logistics challenges bringing the 3 Squadrons together, along with some ARES, for exercises in support of Div and to build Williamson Airfield in Shoalwater Bay. Back to Canberra on promotion to Lt Col and work in Operation Branch. My last posting was with Director of Engineers on Operations side. Resigned from the Army after 20 years (did not want to settle in Canberra) and followed up on an opportunity to join Thiess Pty Ltd in Brisbane, thanks to ex RAE Tony Coyle (I was his 2IC on 2 occasions). 22 years rushed by, predominantly in Corporate HR. This job provided an enjoyable and varied work environment in which my knowledge, flexibility and skills learnt in the Army were used successfully (again worked a lot with Tony Coyle). Took a job with Thiess in Indonesia for 12 months on a remote mine site, worth the experience but 12 months was enough. Retired from Thiess and opened my own Consultancy and for 5 years sold my services back to Thiess (or organisations with senior ex Thiess people including Tony Coyle). I feel very privileged to have enjoyed such a variety in my working life. In all of these years I spent quite a lot of time away from home and Jacqui did a fantastic job keeping everything working well at home as well as part time studies to get an Arts degree and Teaching qualification along with the working challenges that then presents.

Now retired we have travelled overseas and caravanned a bit, mind grandchildren, play golf and try to catch a few fish. Our 4 children are each happily married and have produced 9 grandchildren, all live from Brisbane to Gold Coast.

Life is great in SE Qld.



2654 Bob Blue, Kokoda Company



To begin with, a few memories from the Duntroon years:

Like everybody, 4th Class wasn't the easiest of times, particularly when Al McClelland was your section's 2nd Class and Al's reputation extended well beyond Cork Block. I recall lending a textbook to somebody (can't remember who unfortunately), who offered to return the book and asked where my room was. When he was told that I was on the Ground Floor of Cork Block he told me I would have to come and get the book because he wasn't going anywhere near "McClelland's territory". Fortunately, both Al and I played soccer and after thoroughly "cleaning him up" with a slide tackle one training session early in the season he picked himself up muttered something like "good tackle" and pretty much left me alone after that.

Leading up to Grad Parade 1970 I overindulged in the festivities of that week and had to retire from the ranks during a rehearsal. Of course, that resulted in a meeting with Norm, who enquired as to whether I may have consumed some excess "lolly water" the night before, to which I replied in the affirmative and mentally prepared myself for a miserable remainder of Grad Week on "stoppage". All Norm said was "Well you won't be doing that again, will you?" to which I energetically replied, "No Sir!" and to my amazement I was told to leave.

Dave Urquhart and I were walking (it was 1st Class) between Panic Palace and the MI/library block when a voice (Mick Barrett) said from behind "I can't remember ever seeing two bigger arses together". Without missing a beat, or a step, Dave replied back over his shoulder "well you know what they say Sir, it takes a big hammer to drive a big nail", and we continued on our way.

It's the day after Grad Pde and all the newly minted Lieutenants are in the Sgts Mess for drinks. I find myself beside Keith Payne at the bar and Keith asks, "Can I buy you a beer Sir", to which I unthinkingly reply "That would be very nice, thank you Sir" and quick as winking Keith comes back with "You don't have to call me Sir anymore Sir, and it's your shout!"

And to close, the battle cry of Kokoda Coy – "**Sovs for Dogs**".

My ARA postings after graduation were:

- Jan-May 73: School of Signals; Officer Basic Courses Part A & B.
- May 73-Apr 74: 7 Sig Regt; Asst Ops Officer, Asst Adjt.
- Apr 74-Dec 75: 13 Sig Regt, British Army on Rhine, West Germany.
- Dec 75-Nov 77: 7 Sig Regt; Ops Officer, Adjt.
- Nov 77-Dec 79: 139 Sig Sqn; 2IC.
- Dec 79-Oct 80: HQ 1 FF Gp; SO3 Coord.
- Oct 80-Jan 82: JEPS K81; SO2 EW Plans.
- Jan 82-Jan 85; 7 Sig Regt; Sqn Comd Trg Sqn, Sqn Comd Ops Sqn.
- Jan 85-Jan 88; HQ Trg Comd; Army Wargame Centre.
- Jan 88 – Feb 89; 8 Sig Regt; 2IC.

I completed a Graduate Diploma in Management by distance learning over the period 1983-1985.

In 1990 Julie and I separated and subsequently divorced.

I served in the ARES for a further nine years, which included postings to 8 Sig Regt, HQ 2 Div, HQ 8 Bde and a 12-month FTS stint with Plans Gp, HQ Trg Comd, and who should be my boss but Col Peter Lawrence, my “Lord and Master” in 4th Class. Needless to say, the relationship was far more relaxed the second time around.

After leaving the ARA I worked for four years as a Training Officer with the Sydney Water Board, running “train the trainer” and Total Quality Management courses.

During this time I met and married Bernadette, and we bought a home in North Ryde, Sydney. After parting company with the Water Board, I worked for eight years as the Administration Manager/Company Secretary of the Cooperative Research Centre for the Conservation and Management of Marsupials (commonly known as the Marsupial CRC). The organisation’s major partners were Macquarie University (where we had our corporate office), University of Newcastle, Queensland Department of Primary Industries, Perth Zoo, and Landcare Research New Zealand. Regrettably the organisation was forced to close down in 2003 when it failed to gain continued Commonwealth Government funding.

Within a matter of weeks of leaving the Marsupial CRC I was employed as CEO of the Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA), which was based at the old Macquarie Hospital, North Ryde. HIMAA is a small, not-for-profit, professional association of people who manage health records/documentation in public and private sector organisations. I left HIMAA in late 2013.

The amazing thing about the Marsupial CRC and HIMAA was that they were located on opposite sides of North Ryde, and I lived in the middle, which meant that for 18 years I was able to walk to work, in Sydney! I couldn’t believe my luck!

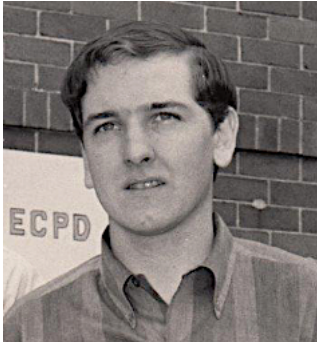
My final paid employment was as Company Secretary of Workability International, which was an international not-for-profit organisation, which advocated/supported the employment of disabled people around the world. This was a nominal three days/week role for 12 months.

After Workability International I retired and 18 months later we sold up in North Ryde and moved to Wyongah, on the western shore of Tuggerah Lake, on the NSW Central Coast. Bernadette continued to work from home in her own business in the advertising industry and I took up golf and fishing and joined the local Marine Rescue NSW unit. Between us we have 4 children and 9 grandchildren from our previous marriages.



2656 Mick Braithwaite, Gallipoli Company

(written by John Elphinston with help from Rick Davies and approved by Jenny Braithwaite)



Mick joined RMC from Griffith NSW having completed his secondary schooling at Waverley College in Sydney. He was originally selected for the 1968 entry, but a bad car accident saw his entry delayed until 1969.

He was a class 'character' and one of the few or indeed maybe the only cadet to graduate in 4 years having never completed 3rd Class, which was due to a head injury in April '69 and subsequent related on-going health issues.

Mick graduated into RAAOC and did the usual round of junior appointments. He married his wife Jenny, and they had two children, David and Carolyn. Mick was sent on the Long Petroleum course in the UK, which channelled his postings thereafter into the specialised world of petroleum storage and distribution.

Mick left the Army after 23 years and established his own successful business in the petroleum consulting area. Unfortunately, he was diagnosed with cancer in early 2012 and died later that year. His funeral was attended by a large number of classmates, partners, and friends from near and far, a measure of the character of the man and the way he was loved by so many.

We all have our memories of Mick; some would say he was irreverent, passionate, and caring, with a wicked sense of humour, a lover of practical jokes; some would add Mick was always there for advice and to lighten the mood, particularly in early '69; a man of colour, vibrance and presence; a quick and irreverent wit.

One of the quirky things about Mick was the different first name used by the different groups of friends when referring to him. Whether he was Michael, Mike, Mick, or his old Duntroon nickname which many still use, he will, to all of us, be long remembered, not by just a name, but by the positive way he influenced those friends and family around him - regardless of what they called him.



2657 Denis Brennan, Kapyong Company



I lasted nearly 2 years at RMC and then went to Portsea, graduating into RAAOC in December 1971. I was initially posted to Brisbane and witnessed the post WW2 supply system and stalwarts in all their outdated glory. I obviously impressed the CO as he then sent me for a delightful few years at the ammunition depot in Wallangarra. A more remote and isolated posting for a young officer and his family, you couldn't imagine. But there was a great community spirit in town and of course the old 'honouraries' loved to make use of the Officers Mess.

I finally resigned and went into various commercial ventures in and around Southeast Asia. I returned to Australia from 5 years in Asia (Thailand and China) in the logistics business in November 2001, and then caught up with many at the 2002 reunion in Canberra. That encounter reminded me that I had spent my formative years crawling around God forsaken parts of Australia training to fight the Vietcong. However, thanks to the intervention of Gough Whitlam that never eventuated, and the reunion set me to wondering on what I had missed out on. So in early 2003 I spent six weeks wandering around Vietnam and came away wondering what we had expected to achieve there. In 2005 I left the shipyard business I was running in Cairns and moved to Thailand. I sold my shares in the Cairns business in 2007 and then spent about 4 months of the year (in 3 week stints) in PNG as Director of a fuel importing and distribution company that I have been associated with for 20 years.

Helen and I split up during this time and she is still on the farm near Esk whilst our son Rohan works with me in Thailand. In March 2012 my partner, a Thai girl called Eed, and I purchased a guest house in Chiangmai. My visions of it becoming an Australian type venue didn't materialise but it did very well with young professional Chinese and European guests.

My next adventure was to buy an old teak hotel/former opium den in Pai which is a small "cult tourist town" in the mountains near the Northwestern border of Thailand with Burma. It could best be described as the Nimbin of Southeast Asia. The venerable establishment called The Pai Pub did quite well. My current enterprise is The Travellers Arms in Changmai – make sure to look me up on your next trip to Thailand!

My time in these days of semi-retirement, is spent between Changmai, Phuket and at Lae in PNG where I still work in the oil business. I manage to combine some trips to Lae with the odd lunch in Brisbane which has been very enjoyable if not a little damaging to the health. Unfortunately, I cannot align everything to make it to Canberra in December 2022. Have a good reunion!!



2658 Jeff Brock, Kokoda Company



After Grad, I completed my Young Officer's Course at the School of Artillery and was posted to 131 Div. Loc. Bty. as a Survey and Sound Ranging Troop Commander. As was the case for a few Artillery Officers, I was selected for Army pilot training and completed my fixed wing course on 18 Army Pilots' course at RAAF Point Cook by the end of 1973.

Inconveniently for Army Aviation at the time, I had the yen to do medicine, and thanks to a number of senior Army doctors recently back from Vietnam, including Major General Bill "Digger" James, I commenced Medicine and Surgery training at the University of Queensland on LWOP in 1976. I had a number of civilian hospital appointments after graduation, working at Princess Alexandra Hospital; The Repatriation Hospital Greenslopes; Queen Elizabeth 2nd Hospital in Brisbane, and Goondiwindi and Stanthorpe Hospitals as Medical Superintendent. In 1983, I returned to the Army as a full time Regimental Medical Officer at 1st Recruit Training Battalion at Kapooka, Wagga Wagga, NSW. In all, I have spent 9 years as an Army doctor at Kapooka.

In 1987, I moved to the UK and completed specialist training in Aviation Medicine with the Royal Air Force and Royal College of Physicians at RAF Farnborough. I was also trained as an aviation accident investigator at RAF Halton.

On return to Australia, I was posted to the Army Aviation Centre at Oakey as the Senior Specialist in Aviation Medicine for the Australian Army, where I completed my flying training and conversion to helicopters and worked as a military specialist and accident investigator.

Much of my medical life I have spent investigating fatal civil and military accidents in aviation, parachuting, road transport, marine and rail in Australia, Indonesia, East Timor, Mongolia, Siberia, New Zealand, the UK, Germany, the Solomon Islands, PNG, Afghanistan, and Vanuatu. During 1996-1999, I was appointed as the Director of Aviation Medicine for the Civil Aviation Safety Authority of Australia and Air Services Australia.

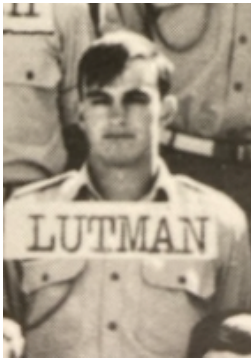
During 1999 – 2007, I undertook multiple deployments to East Timor, Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan where I served with the United Nations and coalition forces on combat operations as a trauma physician, aeromedical operations officer, Senior Flight Surgeon with the US Army and Senior Medical Officer for the coalition naval task group in the North Arabian Gulf.

I continue to serve as the SMO Headquarters 16th Aviation Brigade.

With my partner Rita, our combined families include five daughters, one son and twelve grandchildren.



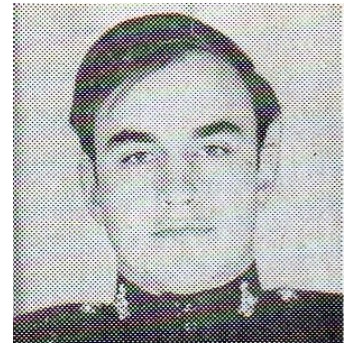
2617 Bob Bywater-Lutman, Kokoda Company



1972-84 Regimental duties including two tours in SE Asia and instructor at Army School.

84-97 Staff Officer in a range of jobs including Middle East Military Secretary and Senior Personnel Officer in Army General Staff.

97-2001 Defence Attaché in Manila



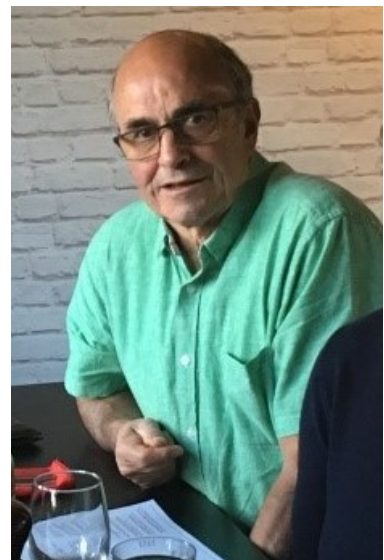
2001-2002 Inspector General in Defence HQ.

2002-20 Inspector of Formal Complaints referred by CDF, Inspector of Penal Service Establishments under OPCAT legislation and Registrar of Court Martial of NZ.

An interesting career with the military from Jan 68 to late 2020. With my activities as a cadet nobody would have picked me to later go on to select judges to courts martial or appointing military members to courts

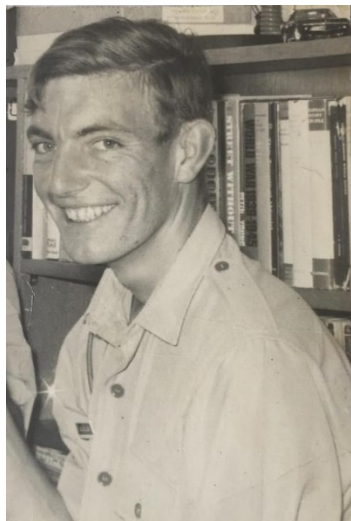
Now retired and touring in the Campervan or engaged as a volunteer two mornings each week with a couple of classes of 5-year-olds.

Married to Rae since 1974. Two kids. Son a lawyer and daughter after two operational tours in the Army is now managing vaccine distribution in the UK.



2659 Ian Callan, Alamein Company

(Written by Barbara Callan)



March 1973-December 1973

This first posting was a dream for the recently graduated Lt Callan - he worked with 28 ANZ BDE HQ AND SIG SQN based in Singapore. We loved our 10 months here and especially as we had a gardener and a house-girl, plus the added bonus that every AU\$ earned was equivalent to \$3.50 Singapore. So we were chauffeured to and from work. Sadly, due to the change of Government back in Australia the posting was cut short and we returned to Melbourne where we stayed for 3 years based in Watsonia- penance.

January 1974 - December 1974 - TP COMD 2 Signals Regt

January 75-December 75 - Instructor School of Signals

January 76-December 76 - Adjutant School of Signals

January 1977 - December 1978 - TP COMD 123 Signals TP

January 1979 - December 1979 - SO3 PERS HQ 1 FF GP

January 1980- March 1981 - 2IC 139 Sig Sqn based in Enoggera

April 81 - August 82 - SO2 Plans D Comms- A Canberra (Ian's least favourite posting)

September 82 -December 83 - 2IC 1 Sig Regt Enoggera

January 84 - December 84 - DCP Solomon Islands

Ian really enjoyed this posting, travelling from Island to Island setting up communications systems for the Solomon Islands Police Force

January 85 - March 89 - Instructor JSW LWC Canungra

The army then wanted to post Ian to Canberra - not on promotion either – Ian's comment was "why would I want to leave the gorgeous Gold Coast to take up a posting as a public servant in Canberra?", so he pulled the pin and left the army

May 89 - July 93 - Inactive Reserve

August 93 - July 99 - Instructor IC & SW

Ian then worked in the private sector for a few years based on the Gold Coast and Brisbane

2006-2010

Ian was fortunate enough to re-join the Army at LWC Canungra. His peers were mostly majors who had done war service so it was a very different army from the one he left 15 years ago.

Ian held a few positions within the Grade 3 Team based at LWC. His primary duty was the lead instructor and Package Master for the Administration and Service Writing component of the course as well as occasionally filling in as the Operations Master. He also performed normal instructional duties and was heavily involved in the course redesign. He developed the remote learning package for his part of the course. *"Ian's vast knowledge he brought to the course, combined with his calm measured approach to problems made him a real asset to the team. He was a great mentor"*. (Thankyou Major Pete Parton for your kind words) Ian loved his time at Canungra and he felt very satisfied with his contribution.

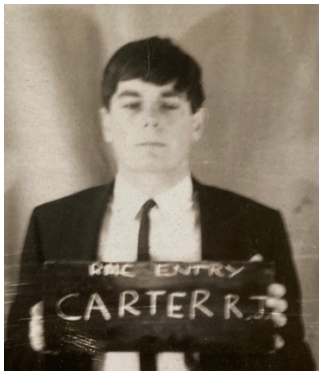
Truly it was a great end to his military career.

Sadly, Ian passed away in December 2020



2660 Richard Carter, Gallipoli Company

(Written by Peter Jenke with help from Rod Allan and David Cran)



Richard (he preferred Richard rather than Rick, which is how we knew him at RMC) died early in 2021, after an extended and painful battle with Cancer. Sadly, Rod Allan and I saw far more of Richard in the last few years of his life than we had since we all came together in 1969. Even though Richard and I were both “Truckies”, our paths never crossed - until my last posting in the Army before retiring in 1990, when Richard and I worked together at SCMA. It was only during that time that we became good friends, although after I left the Army, we had little contact until much later when we began to meet up more regularly again, frequently with Rod Allan, who had also re-established contact with Rick.

In conversations with Tony McKenna, he also mentioned that Richard always felt that it was his posting as an instructor at OCS which was the most enjoyable and rewarding of his career.

After he left the Army, Rick did quite a bit of traveling, and I vividly recall him parking his new SWB Pajero in front of KPMG in Collins Street to bid farewell to me as he left on one of his trips.

For much of his post Army career he worked as a Drugs and Alcohol Counsellor and continued to do so right up until to a few weeks before his death. He had also spent time in the US where he did some “experimenting” with alternative treatments. His descriptions at our barbecues of some of his experiences in this field were for someone who at heart is still a country boy from Gawler, were, to say the least, quite amazing.

Rick remained something of an enigma. His time at Duntroon was not a happy one for him and more’s the pity because he had a lot to offer. His twin sister remarked at his funeral that he had always considered that ‘he was not quite good enough’, which was a result of pressure from his parents. What he achieved in his post-Army career certainly proved that wrong! It took Rod and me (together with our better halves) many catch-ups to finally convince Rick that as unpleasant as his time at RMC might have been, and that was a feeling shared by many, the collective bond we share now is far stronger than any disagreements of the past. Still, although he came to accept that there was a genuine bond and that he was very much a part of it, and despite our best efforts, we never managed to convince him to participate in any of our class activities, and more’s the pity.

In the end, his various afflictions were taking a real toll on him, so much so, that in what I can only consider an act of extreme bravery, he applied for and was accepted into the newly established Victorian Assisted Dying Programme. Just a few days before his passing, several of us met with Rick for a drink and a meal in Fed Square. He made the effort to join us, despite being in great pain from the cancer and other injuries. It was the last time we saw him, as he died a few days later after breaking several bones in a fall.



His funeral was attended by the local Melbourne crew and Dave Cran also made a special effort to be there as well. It was an occasion fitting of Rick who somewhat eerily spoke to us “from the grave” with a recording he made just before he died. It was very special and very moving.

2661 Brian Chalmers, Kapyong Company



Australian Regular Army (1969-1979)

After graduation in 1972 with a Bachelor of Arts into the RAAOC, I served in a number of regimental, administrative and non-corps appointments. These included Adjutant of 41 Supply Battalion (Adelaide), Army Careers Lecturer (SA), Management Services Officer (41 – Rapier Project) and Administrative Officer (Armed Forces Food Science Establishment – Scottsdale, Tasmania). Final rank held – Captain.

Ministerial Training – Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) (1979-1985)

During this period of seven years full-time training at Parkin-Wesley Theological College and Flinders University in Adelaide, I obtained a Bachelor of Theology, Graduate Diploma in Pastoral Studies and a Master of Arts. I also tutored and lectured during post-graduate studies. Ordained in December 1985.

Ministry (UCA) (1986-1990)

Parish minister – Victor Harbor and Port Elliot (SA).

RAAF (1991-1999)

Served as chaplain to First Recruit Training Unit, RAAF Base Edinburgh, base chaplain at Edinburgh and Co-ordinating chaplain at RAAF Base Amberley. Final rank held – Chaplain (Wing Commander).

Ministry – Southern Cross Association of Churches (SCAC) (2000-2011)

Church Planter in Victor Harbor and Director of SCAC in SA. Honorary chaplain to Victor Harbor RSL – responsibilities included planning and conduct of all RSL public services, monthly chapel services for veterans and dependants and pastoral care of members. Retired from full-time/part-time ministry in 2011.

PhD Studies – Flinders University (2012-2015)

Enabled me to continue an academic research interest in the Methodist Church in South Australia. My doctoral dissertation examined the reasons for the widespread expansion of Methodism in the colony and state up until the Second World War. Since I completed PhD studies, I write for the UCA Historical Society and expect to complete a book for publication this year. *I am an academic status holder in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Flinders University.*

Joanne (Tennis Party – 1969) and I married on the Saturday after graduation. Joanne has worked either part-time or full-time as a registered nurse for most of our married life. In retirement, she is undertaking studies in theology. We have three sons (two with PhDs and one with Masters) and seven grandchildren.



2662 Chris Clark, Alamein Company



Having graduated into Int Corps, I did two years regimental training with 2 Cavalry Regt at Holsworthy before being posted to Canberra, initially to a SO3 job at DMI, then in late 1975 to the Joint Intelligence Organisation. I spent the rest of my time in the Army at JIO, successively serving as desk officer for a couple of Asian countries and the Sub-Saharan African region. I left the Army in 1979 and went to ASIO. Realising the limited future there, after about 18 months I moved to Defence as a public servant in Strategic & International Policy Division, until seconded to Foreign Affairs for 12 months.

In 1985 I transferred to Prime Minister & Cabinet as a strategic adviser in International Division. Two years later, a problem with my wife's health meant that I needed to rearrange priorities. At that precise moment an opportunity arose to turn my interest in historical writing into a career change. Up until then I had been writing as a hobby; now I was being offered the chance to write full-time on a history project for the RAAF. By the time that job wrapped up in 1991, I had completed a PhD at ADFA. Soon afterwards I was writing about RAAF operations in Vietnam for the official history unit at the Australian War Memorial, from an office in the Air Power Studies Centre (APSC) at Fairbairn.

While finishing the Vietnam volume in 1993 I was asked to write the history of the Australian government's defence factories (essentially their corporatisation) for ADI Ltd. That job entailed stepping away from the public service and operating as a one-man consultancy, which I maintained for several more books over the next six years.

In 1999 I took a job at ANU as research editor for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. A few years later the War Memorial approached me about joining their Military History Section. Then in 2004 the Air Force invited me to become RAAF Historian at the APSC's successor, the Air Power Development Centre. I did that job until 2013, when I left the public service.

After three years enjoying retirement, I moved to Melbourne in 2016 and have been living in Docklands ever since—still writing, of course. In 2019 I demolished the myth of Lasseter's "lost" gold reef in Central Australia. Currently I am working on a centenary history of RAAF bands and music, due for publication in August 2023. Having ended my first marriage in 1999, and reverted my surname back to Clark, in 2021 I celebrated 20 years with my partner Shawn (who I married in 2018).

Postscript: My history of Duntroon published back in 1986 was last year revived as an ebook under Melbourne University's *Untapped* project to 'breathe new life into important out-of-print Australian books'. Don't ask me how it got selected for inclusion; wasn't my idea.



2664 Philip (Tom) Cobley, Gallipoli Company



Upon graduation I served in 1 PIR as a Platoon Commander from 1973-75. Upon my return to Australia, I was posted as a Company 2IC in the 8/9 RAR from 1976-77. I then served as the Adjutant of the Officer Cadet School, Portsea, Victoria from 1978-79. This was followed by a posting back to 8/9 RAR as a Company Commander from 1980-81. Finally, I served as an SO2 in the Office of the Chief of the General Staff (OCGS) in Canberra from 1982-84.

It was at this time, after serving 16 years in the ARA, that I realised that the likelihood of me ever deploying on operational service were negligible. As a result, I applied to transfer my regular commission to the British Army and my initial service was as a Mechanised, then Armoured Infantry Company Commander in the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, which was part of the famous 7th Armoured Brigade (The Desert Rats), based in Fallingbommel, West Germany from 1985-88. Upon my return to the UK, I became an SO2 at HQ South East District, Aldershot, where I passed the Parachute Regiment Selection Course at 39 years and 10 months of age, becoming the oldest man to have passed the course.

Then followed a posting to the 2 PARA as a Company Commander from 1989-90. During this time, the battalion deployed to County Fermanagh in Northern Ireland on anti-terrorist operations, and for my service I was awarded the MBE. I then served as the Training Major 15 (SV) PARA in Glasgow from 1991-92. Soon after, promotion to Lieutenant Colonel followed, and a posting to Air Force Department, at the MoD Main Building, Whitehall from 1993-94, where I was responsible for all parachuting and parachute trials/development undertaken by the UK forces worldwide

After this service I was selected to become the CO of the 4th Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, which was based in Cumbria and Northern Lancashire from 1994-1997. After completing this command appointment, I was involved in a prolonged series of operational deployments. Initially this was as the Chief Operations Officer, United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG), former Soviet Union, in Sukhumi, Abkhazia from February to August 1997. I was then posted to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium, where I deployed to the NATO Stabilisation Force (SFOR) in Bosnia, during 1998, and then to Kosovo Force (KFOR) from March to July 1999. I then became the first British Officer ever to return UNOMIG for a second tour, this time as the Gali Sector Commander, in Abkhazia from November 2000 to May 2001.

Upon returning from the Republic of Georgia I deployed to the International Stabilisation and Assistance Force (ISAF), in Afghanistan from 2003-04 and then became Chief J2/3 for the NATO Training Mission in Iraq (NTM-I), from 2005-06. As a result of this deployment, I was promoted to the acting-rank of Colonel and awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM), which is NATO's highest decoration for operational service. My final tour was a posting to the European Union Force (EUFOR) in Bosnia from 2007-10.

During these 41 years of service, I completed a BA and BEd through the University of Queensland, then an MEd and MHR through the University of Oklahoma and finally a Doctorate through the Northcentral University. I have also written three books *The Final Tally* (2009), *Combat Command* (2015) and *The British Infantry* (2019). I have completed a fourth book *Duty First* to commemorate our 50th anniversary. I have a daughter Shey and a son Shannon.



2665 Peter Coghlan, Kapyong Company



After graduation, I spent about 3 months at the then Jungle Training Centre, Canungra, Qld where I completed the Graduate Engineer Military (GEM) course. This aimed to make up for completing the fourth year of a Civil Engineering Degree at Duntroon instead of the normal fourth military year. I then moved to 22 Construction Squadron, Perth where I performed a number of roles. The highlight of this posting was a detachment to 5 Field Survey Squadron, which was helping the Indonesians map Sumatra. I was based at RAAF Butterworth in northern Malaysia. This was definitely the highlight of my short and undistinguished military career.

I was then posted to 3 Field Engineer Regiment in Townsville as the Works Officer. During this time, I also did a few months as the A/OC of 25 Support Squadron, a Major's position. I then moved to Melbourne, working as SO3 Engineer for the Chief Engineer, 3MD. While in Melbourne, I completed my required return of service and took discharge. I then moved back to Perth with my wife, Rebecca, a Perth lady, who I married while in Townsville.

My first civilian job was as the Engineer assisting the Engineer in Charge at the Road Traffic Authority. After about 2 years, I then moved to then Metropolitan Water Board, which eventually became the Water Corporation of Western Australia. During my military service, I also started a Bachelor of Commerce Degree by external study at the University of Queensland, which I completed just prior to starting at the Water Corporation. I then spent 35 years at the Water Corporation in a number of roles. These included managing a very large study of domestic water use, assistant to the Director of Finance, planning for the future water needs of Perth, drinking water source protection and the implementation of a better more integrated system of asset management. I also worked extensively on water resources and supply planning. During my early years at the Water Corporation, I also completed about 2 years with the Army Reserve. In 2015, at the age of 64, I was made redundant which was perfect timing for me. Also, a nice financial kick into retirement.

Rebecca and I have four children who have now produced 7 granddaughters and 2 grandsons. Rebecca is now also a Counsellor for the City of Nedlands (our LGA in Perth), which can be quite demanding of her time. She is also very involved in health consumer representation and has served on a number of national committees. Needless to say, we have had no trouble keeping busy since I retired. Until recently, I was a member of the Cottesloe Crabs Winter Swimming Club, even though I am not a great swimmer. I value exercise and keeping fit. The main focus of my fitness activities now is my gym, which I attend at least 3 times per week. Also great for the mind, I find.



2666 David Cran, Gallipoli Company



After graduating into the RAASC and following initial basic transport officer training (I was allocated to RACT after its formation in June 1973), I undertook a wide range of command, regimental, training and staff appointments in the fields of personnel, materiel, logistics and operations, commanding at Lieutenant, Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel levels.

I attended the Royal Military College of Science in 1982, the Australian Army Command and Staff College in 1985 and the Joint Services Staff College in 1991. I obtained a Master of Management Studies, Master of Defence Studies, Graduate Diploma in Strategic Studies, Graduate Diploma in Administration, and a Bachelor of Arts. I was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1991 for service to the Australian Army in the field of logistics and for service to the Army community.

After retirement from the Australian Regular Army, I joined the Commonwealth Public Service in the Department of Defence. For three years, I held various positions in South-East Asia and Pacific Branch of International Policy Division before transferring to the Defence Intelligence Organisation. I was appointed as the Director, Defence Logistics and Infrastructure Analysis and then became the Director of Indonesia and East Timor Section. A highlight of this time was working as a DIO analyst during the fall of Soeharto and then the lead up and deployment of INTERFET. The closest I got to operational deployment was a visit to East Timor as an intelligence analyst in 2001. After four years with DIO, I took up two appointments in Strategic Logistics Branch, Joint Logistics Command. My final appointment in the APS was at the Australian Defence College, developing a new strategic and operational command module for the Defence and Strategic Studies Course.

I retired from the APS to establish my own one-person consultancy business, undertaking a range of consultancies. In January 2008, I took up a contract with the Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies as a Syndicate Director and this was renewed for 2009. Post regular Army service I spent most of my subsequent 22-year Army Reserve 'career' doing history research tasks and reporting for the Army History Unit - until Army decided that I was too old and decommissioned me in mid-2017 – although I have yet to be formally advised of this! I was hoping for the 50-year mark but had to settle for a bit over 48 years in uniform.



Trish and I married on Thursday 14 December 1972 two days after graduation – a big week as Trish turned 21 on the Monday. We have three daughters and now five grandchildren. Trish qualified as a teacher and subsequently specialised as a teacher of English as a Second Language. As you can see, we haven't changed.



2667 Bob Cronin, Alamein Company

(Prepared by: Steve Jones)



Sadly, Bob Cronin died in November 1983. But we remember him fondly and accordingly we believe that it is appropriate to cover him in our book as we reflect on the years that have gone by since our meeting in 1969. Bob and I had an unusual connection in that we spent four years together at RMC and then two following postings together. Over those eight years we saw each other on average of four days per week.

Bob, as one of 14 civil engineers in our class on graduation, went to RAE. Following the GEM course at Canungra in early 1973 he was posted to 2nd Field Engineer Regiment in Enoggera, Queensland, as the Troop Commander of Resources Troop. This sub-unit had tradesmen with construction and maintenance capability in support of the Brisbane based brigade. The most significant occurrence during this period was his marriage to Eileen in June 1973.

During 1974-75 he was posted to Melbourne in the Chief Engineers branch of the Military District headquarters where he was the Works Officer for major works projects. Also in the branch at the same time were Steve Jones and Joff Johnson from the Class of 71. Bob and Eileen lived in a married quarter and during the period had Eileen's sister living with them and finishing school. Eileen worked as a nursing sister. Bob during this time got back into snow skiing and represented Army in inter-service competition.

In mid-1976 Bob was posted as the Garrison Engineer in Bandiana, responsible for assets in the Albury Wodonga military area. They lived in a new married quarter in Wodonga and again Eileen worked at the local hospital. She was very familiar with the area coming from the nearby town of Urana. Again, Bob continued his skiing and also became involved with target pistol shooting. His other main interest during this time was in acting in and directing pantomimes that were played at the Area Theatre. Ever the entertainer. Their first son (Dinny) was born in Wodonga in 1978.

Next was a posting to HQ Op Comd RAAF at Penrith in 1979. This was a posting that was a common attachment to the RAAF, although not necessarily sought after. His main rewarding experience from this period was being deployed to Rockhampton for the Kangaroo 3 exercise where his troop created temporary aircraft parking bays at Rockhampton airport using steel planking and reused some transportable buildings to make operational and sleeping facilities for RAAF personnel based at the airport for the exercise.

During the period 1980-81 Bob was posted as the OC 23 Support Squadron in Holsworthy. They lived in a married quarter in Moorebank. This posting was disruptive in that he undertook both the Engineer Advance Course and the TAC 3 which took him away from his role. The most disappointing aspect was the disbandment of the unit during his second year. On a positive note, their second son (David) was born in 1981.

Then the family were off to the UK in 1982 for Bob to attend RMCS at Shrivenham Div. 1 course. As has been the case for many of our Class, this was a rewarding and interesting experience. That of course was followed by a return to Canberra into Materiel Division.

Bob suffered heart failure and died on 14 November 1983. He was buried in Gungahlin Cemetery following a service at the Duntroon Chapel on 18 November 1983.

Eileen moved to Lockhart to be near her family home in Urana. Their third child (Marnie) was born there in 1984. Eileen remarried and is a long-term resident of Hervey Bay

PS

I would like to thank John Black for renovating the badge on Bob's grave at Gungahlin cemetery.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking Steve Jones for writing and including Bobs Brief in the class magazine.

Well wishes to one and all for this reunion.

Regards,

Eileen Chamberlain (Cronin)

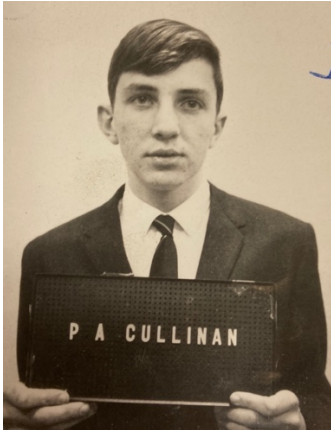


Lt Cronin



Maj Cronin

2669 Patrick Cullinan, Kapyong Company



The Seekers iconic song: *The Carnival is Over* played at the conclusion of the 1972 camp training period was in some ways a fitting musical end to a four year journey primarily covering military and academic training. Back at journey's start, we had expected that following graduation, we'd all be going to Vietnam just as our senior class members had. Accordingly, early military training, much of it good, unfortunately also included in our first year much unofficial and wasteful sessions of bastardisation. At Duntroon, we had been somewhat insulated from outside society – an outside society where Woodstock-type activities flourished or at least, did in our minds. Life improved once we had got through the first year. After four years of study and training, the very worthwhile payback for us had been the making of new lifelong friends, graduating as officers and great opportunities we had each earned for our futures.

Following graduation, I was allocated to Infantry and posted to 5 RAR in Holsworthy which in 1974 was to become the 5/7 RAR. During 1975, SASR instituted the first official officer selection course which I was placed on. Having passed that and the subsequent SASR cadre and basic parachute courses, I, having previously never undertaken any climbing in my life, was appointed SASR Climbing Troop Commander. Later, I took Troop members on a successful Himalayan climbing expedition in Nepal. Following my SASR appointment, I was posted for a year to UN Military Observer Group India/Pakistan (UNMOGIP) in Kashmir in 1977-78. Adventure continued to abound, and my mountaineering journey culminated in standing atop Mt Everest as well as making some lifelong mountaineering friends.

Postings, interspersed with some mountaineering expeditions, included being Ops Offr in both 1 Cdo Regt and later in 6 RAR. One of my best postings at this time was being appointed OC of the 145 strong 6RAR Parachute Company Group. This great posting was followed by a deployment to the Commonwealth Military Training Team (CMTT) in Uganda in 1982-83.



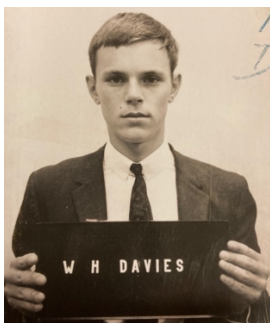
In 1984, I married Sharon and since then, we have embarked on nine overseas cruises including one through the Mediterranean and onto St. Petersburg in Russia. In 1989 and 1990, I was posted to SASR as the 2IC and after that posting promoted to LT COL. Numerous staff appointments followed. After some 40 years' Service, I left the Regular Army in Jan 2010. Sharon and I are happily married, and we have lived in Canberra since 1999. Over the years, it's been great to catch up with friends. Of special note has been Paddy Ryan's fantastic annual Victoria Barracks lunches

followed by great catch-up with Duncan and Carmel McInnes and Steve Jones's periodic lunches for ACT class members and visitors. All just great and very much appreciated.

Separately, I continue to be a member of the Canberra City Lions Club and have been since 2011. In 2013, I was very fortunate when Ian Gordon (1973 class) agreed to publish my manuscript titled *White Sherpas*. Without Ian, my book would still be a manuscript in the back room of my home. Another benefit of having great friends from our RMC days.



2670 Rick Davies, Kokoda Company



I am not highly religious but recently, God delivered me a blunt message. ‘Ricko, about this flying thing!’ he said. ‘For fifty years now, I have saved your miserable hide and frankly, I am well over it. Four engine failures, three lightning strikes, dodging that granite filled cloud in West Irian and night landings on roads lit by dunny rolls soaked in kero – come on! You are on your own from here on!’

So, I thought about his message for three nanoseconds and duly hung up my headsets.

Do I miss flying? No, not really. Been there, done that. Half a century of flying, eight logbooks worth, 140 different aircraft types, endless visits to the lurching cave (simulator) and way too much time dodging around the red bits on the weather radar. Not bad for a bloke with little natural ability to start with.

After graduation I served in 8 RAR and the newly formed 8/9 RAR before Pilots Course at RAAF Point Cook in 1974. I already had civvy time at the Aero Club, fifty missions over North Viet Canberra whilst a cadet, but nothing prepared me for the Winjeel trainer and the RAAF system. Then the Army course on the Pilatus Porter at Oakey and off to 173 SQN at 1 AVN Regt in 1975 which was to be my home revisited for years after. Then the usual postings followed - lots of PNG and West Irian flying time and other places I wish to forget. I attended Central Flying School at RAAF East Sale in 1981 training on the Air Trainer and Macchi jet and my flying instructional career took off (poor pun I know). There were ground jobs as well; three years back on the staff at RMC, Canungra for a year and Staff College in 1984. 20 years in the Regular Army and 25 years in the Active Reserve teaching Flying Instructors. I enjoyed my time in the Army but without doubt my best Army posting was my three years spent with the RAAF. I joined the wrong service; with hindsight I would have been far happier in the RAAF.

Then ten years with the Aviation Regulator CAA / CASA in the flying operations area; substantial corporate jet, seaplane and agricultural aviation exposure (please do not call it crop dusting) and management roles. I mostly enjoyed it and followed by fifteen years with the Royal Flying Doctor Service (QLD Section) in senior operational management roles. RFDS was a fulfilling role and I witnessed medical miracles in flight that lifted me and sadness that crushed me.

Some other aspects of Ricko - apart from work that is. Two marriages and three kids; one of whom we lost in tragic circumstance and from which I will never recover. Three wonderful grandkids, two pragmatic supportive wives and an abiding love of my dogs over the years. I returned to university and completed a law degree in my sixties. I have an interest in aviation law but as I was too late to be a real lawyer, I currently provide aviation management consultancy services to clients instead. I serve my community as a JP and Legatee and have a nice boat that unfortunately seems allergic to water. I am a coach and range officer at my pistol club and absolutely love trap and skeet shooting but struggle as my eyes and judgement fade with advancing years. My pet subject is the Battle of Britain. Importantly, I stay fit by not running, jumping or ever going to the gym!



And my RMC Classmates are still very precious to me.

2671 Stephen Despoges, Alamein Company



I entered RMC Duntroon in January 1969 full of confidence and looking forward to graduating with a commission and arts degree in four years. Seems that wasn't to be for me and I was allowed to transfer and continue my officer training at OCS Portsea in January 1970. Well, again, that didn't work out and I left the army in November that year.

On the day of my discharge, in Sydney, I applied for a spare parts job at Fiat of Australia. I have a fondness for cars and the manager was an Army Reserves officer. Perfect match for a start next day. I met my Italian wife, Giuliana at Fiat and we transferred to Melbourne for 2 years and then back to Sydney. A total of 8 years with Fiat with lots of travel including Italy to the Fiat factories and my wife's village in the north. During my time at Fiat I got involved with the transfer of spare parts onto computer including training of users. Computers were all very new and the work suited me.

In 1977, I moved to Toyota in a similar role but on a much larger scale. Again, mainly user interface, implementation and training programs. Success with the system lead to promotion to a senior role with more responsibility for marketing and dealer incentive programs. Of course, plenty of travel again but someone had to do it! Giuliana and I made a pretty good team of tour leaders.

I left Toyota after 8 years and moved onto other roles that included marketing, warehousing and distribution. While in a retail role with the Trivett Group I was invited to join their new MG Rover franchise in 2002. This brought me back to importing and wholesale until the manufacturing company in the UK folded and ceased production in 2005.

There were about 5,000 cars sold in Australia, so we formed a new company to support those cars with parts. I was a major shareholder and managed the company.

In 2013, when the company was no longer viable, it was wound up and I retired.

We have a son and daughter, a nurse and single mum, with a 13yo son. Apart from being involved with our grandson's activities of which there are plenty, we still enjoy travel including cruises and more frequent visits to Italy and Europe while we can. No health issues.



2587 Ross Dickens, Alamein Company

(Reproduced from Class of '71 Old Mates Gazette)



As some of you may recall, I transferred to OCS from RMC in Apr 70, graduating to RAE in Dec 70. First posting was to SME as a troop commander in Depot Sqn (IET training for Field Engineers) putting through 300 plus every six to eight weeks, a high percentage of those were then posted to SVN because unlike other Corps, the RAE units in SVN were static and only the personnel were changed over. From SME to 1 Fd Engr Regt as LO then in 1973 to 27 Engr Stores Sqn in Broadmeadows as Adj/QM only for 6/7 months as the Engineer Stores function was transferred to RAAOC and the unit disbanded. With no role & no posting, a memo crossed my desk calling for in-service application for flying and I thought why not? I applied and was accepted.

Spent an enjoyable few months at Point Cook but failed to make the grade so put away the powder blue beret.

Spent 2 years HQ RAE 3 Div (another unit gone from the orbat) before heading off to sunny (?) Puckapunyal taking over from Mike Beckingham as the Construction Officer in 21 Const Sqn, although the first twelve months was on crutches having been cleaned up on a motor bike in Melbourne. A posting as the Regional Engineer for central Victoria gave me nearly 4 years in Pucka, unlike many others I actually enjoyed living there. Finally got out of Victoria to LWC at Canungra, unfortunately, my only posting to the sunshine state. From there, promoted and off to Adelaide as the SO2 Works at HQ 4MD, seems as if the Works Service was to be my career stream, because, after two years I went to HQ 2MD as the SO2 Works Programs. Another sideways move to HQ 5 Engr Gp (also gone) where I reinforced my admiration for Reserve soldiers & the sacrifices most of them make.

Next move was to Canberra where I spent the first 3 years at Log Div as the Chief Inspector Army Fire Service, a role which I was somewhat reluctant to take on, but it turned to be quite satisfying and included trips to “exotic” places like Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Malaysia. In 1991, I moved up 1 floor to DGAW to be one of two Project Directors for major new works over \$6M for Army. An interesting time, probably the most fun was organising the test demolition at Woomera of a new design for ammunition storehouses – 50,000 kg of explosives makes a good bang. The other highlight was the initial master planning for what became Robertson Barracks in Darwin, developed from the 2 Cav Regt relocation project.

After Canberra, it was back to Adelaide for my last 6 years in the Army as the Chief Engineer at HQ 4MD, later Central Region, later Manager Facilities Branch, Defence Centre Adelaide until February 1998. Again, noting that these three organisations no longer exist!!

Post Army, I spent some time managing a Defence garrison support tender evaluation for South Australia until taking on the role of the SA State Manager for Defence Housing Authority in 1999, where I



remained for about 10 years; built, bought and sold lots of houses, using other people's money!! Post DHA did some consulting work, mainly with Defence and also spent a couple of years managing a maintenance contract for SA Water.

Like so many others, I had an experience with cancer which has left me with a few less bits internally and an ill performing pancreas, been nearly three years in remission, so I consider myself very lucky.

Nowadays, its playing golf, albeit badly, some woodworking, a bit of volunteer work and enjoying my newest granddaughter.

2673 Grant Dreghorn, Kapyong Company



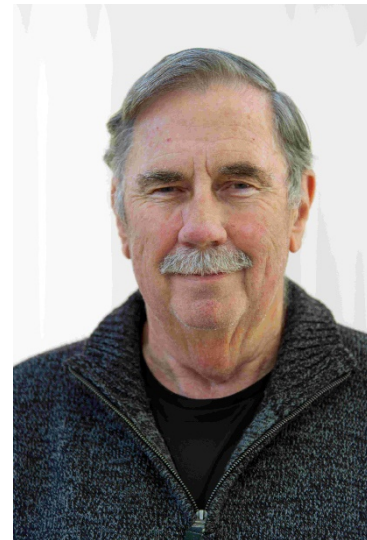
I left RMC in Third Class, attracted to the wild ride that was IT in the 1970's. The Great Escape wasn't. It was great - family, lifestyle, and career - but I'm not sure I actually escaped.

After doing the rounds of some large corporates and global consultants / systems integrators (SI) out of Sydney, world-renowned carpark, in 1994 I relocated to the lifestyle of Canberra, on assignment from one of those SIs.

Noting the differences from my first time in the nation's capital, I also discovered roundabouts and leather patches on cardigan sleeves, but, significantly, I re-connected with many from our era as I plied my trade of selling stuff to government and Defence. The intent was a two-year stay, but I stayed on - just changed jobs a few times, working for other SIs and myself, the latter being the worst employer I've had.

In early 2020, we took the retirement decision - to leave Canberra for the coast at Port Macquarie. Our timing was superb; we had the chance to spend weeks on end inspecting every aspect of the internals of our new abode due to COVID, saving us the inconvenience of experiencing the sights, sounds and tastes of our newly adopted city. We did allow ourselves the luxury of a daily 59-minute walk - one must ensure compliance - and the fun of the daily draw-straw to see who would go the supermarket to line up for toilet paper. It wasn't that inconvenient; they allow you to wear a mask, so no-one sees you buying the single-ply house brand.

Escape! All our grandchildren live in Canberra, oh! and their parents too; one even married an RMC Graduate. There is no escape!



2674 Frank Edwards, Kokoda Company



Graduated in 1972 into RAIInf and served in infantry battalions as a platoon commander, rifle company commander, support company commander and battalion operations officer. I was the Senior Instructor Field Training at OCS Portsea prior to attending Command and Staff College before serving as the exchange instructor at the United States Infantry Centre and School, Fort Benning, Georgia. On return to Australia, I was the Land Operations Staff Officer in the ADF Command Centre as a Lieutenant Colonel. In this role I deployed on a reconnaissance to Namibia (UNTAG), to Singapore to help plan their first UN deployment and to PNG due to various border issues. I was then Commanding Officer (and later also Chief Instructor) of the Corps of Staff Cadets at RMC. After promotion to Colonel in December 1992 I served three years as Head, Australian Defence Staff PNG, during the lead up to the deployment of the Australian led Peace Monitoring Group to Bougainville. This was followed by an appointment as Director Operational Support Army from which I transferred to the inactive Army Reserve in June 1996.

I was invited to transfer to the Active Reserve in 1998 and served as Commander 5 Training Group for three years followed by promotion to Brigadier in January 2001 and a final three-year appointment as Commander 13 Brigade.

I attended the Australian Army Command and Staff College 1985 and the Joint Services Staff College in 1990. I obtained a Graduate Diploma in Strategic Studies and a Bachelor of Arts.

I was awarded the United States Meritorious Service Medal in 1987 for excellence as a tactics instructor and a Conspicuous Service Cross in 1996 for outstanding achievement as the Head of Australian Defence Staff and Defence Advisor PNG.

After leaving the Army in 1996 I returned to Western Australia and worked in local government. I was Director of Customer Services for two years followed by four years as Chief Executive Officer at the Town of Kwinana. I then spent over ten years as the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Perth. In this role I also travelled widely around the world promoting Perth as a business destination for the oil and gas industry and served two terms as the Chair of the Executive Committee of the World Energy Cities Partnership.

Following retirement in 2012 I served as the independent member and subsequently Chair of the State Emergency Management Committee of Western Australia for over five years overseeing the planning and readiness for response to all natural and man-made disasters in WA. I also held voluntary board director roles with the Margaret River Tourism Association, Arts Margaret River and as Chair of the Management Committee of the Saint John Ambulance Subcentre in Margaret River.

I am married to my second wife, Pamela, and we live on a one-hectare property near Margaret River. We have four children and six grandchildren between us.



2675 Warwick Elliott, Alamein Company



After graduation I was allotted to RASigs. Brenda and I were married in Balgownie, NSW on 6 January '73, before taking up my first posting at the School of Sigs, at Watsonia VIC. We have one son and two daughters, who have given us 7 grandchildren.

During my first posting, I applied for, and was posted to 4 years Civil Schooling at RMIT and successfully completed a Diploma in Communications Engineering in 1978. Two postings in Field Force at 2nd Sig Regt and as

ADJT 1st SIG Regt saw me posted to Canberra on promotion to Major in 1981. That posting was as an engineer in the Defence Communications Systems Division. During a detachment to attend the Military Operations and Research (MOAR) course at RMCS Shrivenham UK, I completed a Graduate Diploma in Military Operations Research. My family came to the UK with me, and we enjoyed driving all over the UK on weekends. We returned to Canberra in May 1983 to take up a posting in the Scientific Adviser's Branch. For the remainder of my first period of Regular Army service I was posted in Operations, and Materiel Branches until I resigned my appointment at the rank of LT COL in January 1989.

I had a number of mini careers during the next few years where I was a Field Service Engineer, Public Servant with Austrade, and communications consultant for outsourcing and consulting companies, including a stint with Telstra. My favourite projects were developing the worldwide Austrade computer network and installing a communications system for NSW Freight Rail. During this time, I served in the Reserve Staff Group until 2000.

I was offered a FTS position in 2004 to work on the Senate Inquiry into Military Justice for about 6 months then took up a Short Service Commission. I worked in Personnel Branch, Defence Recruiting, and finally Pay and Allowances, where I was part of the team that introduced the new pay structures for officers and then ORs. I resigned in Jan 2010 to become an Engineer in DMO on a Communications project until I retired.

Always the petrol head, I have had a number of high-performance vehicles, including 3 Ford Mustangs. Brenda helped me strip down our 1965 Mustang convertible and rebuild it from a bare shell in 2001-2003. It has been driven to Perth, Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane to attend Mustang Nationals over 16 years.

We downsized to a smaller townhouse in 2014. I retired in 2017 and have been re-activating my interest in Model Railways. I have been a Rotarian since 2000.



2676 John Elphinston, Gallipoli Company



My first posting was to a sleepy Brisbane WWII era supply depot and whilst it was good to be free of RMC discipline and constraints, it was pretty demoralising from a professional military point of view, if I could be bold enough to consider myself a professional at that stage of life.

For the first 4 years I did a range of technical depot jobs and also a stint in a field going unit, none for which I had been technically trained. I was then posted to Melbourne and, you guessed it, the 'not trained to do the job' situation continued.

I requested to do a computer course because from what I saw in Brisbane, and confirmed in Melbourne, the Army was struggling to deal with the post-Vietnam, post-National Service environment and the standard offering was looking fairly mundane. The good news was I was clearly so out of step with the 'standard offering' that I was sent on full time schooling for a year to Caulfield Institute of Technology (now Monash Uni), followed by 2 years on exchange with the British Army. A fantastic 3 years, firstly living the life of a student for a year and then the sudden transformation into representing the Australian Army on a large British base just outside Oxford. As the tame colonial, the Brits felt obliged to invite me to everything and anything, but it also gave me the opportunity to see how the British Army was embracing computing technology for field operations.

I was able to use that experience and training later on to manage an Australian Army project to computerise the field accounting in operational units – what a nice change to feel equipped to do a job before taking on the role! By the time I resigned in 1992 I was more than ready to tackle civvy street but struggled a bit with the transition to the Canberra private enterprise computer world. So, for the first and only time, I made the decision to uproot the family and we moved to Brisbane. I've now lived in the same house in Brisbane for 26 years, a stark contrast to having lived in 16 houses in my 19 years in the Army after graduation. The Gap storm of 2008 caused significant damage to the house and grounds but in the end, it probably helped to kick start the transformation to a very quiet, private, close to the city retreat - one of the reasons we don't intend to ever move again.

I worked for a number of companies in Brisbane including GE and IBM and managed the Qld business for a private company called CDM for a number of years before going out on my own as a Project Manager, working in the IT space. Working for myself as an independent contractor was very satisfying and very necessary to restore the coffers after my divorce.

I met my current wife Sandra Davies 12 years ago and we have been married for the last 6 years. Sandy is still working in her horse-riding business and whilst I previously had more experience riding motor bikes than horses, I have enjoyed some great trail rides on the property and around the hinterland behind Dayboro.

I try to keep fit and busy with regular golf and gardening, a bit of serious travel back when we took it for granted, and spending time with good friends and family. We have 5 children between us and 6 grandchildren who thankfully, all now live in Australia and when circumstances allow, we hope to see a lot more of them.

Life's good. Would I change anything or do it differently again – probably not except for no, only kidding! Life's very good.



2591 Roger Elston, Alamein Company

(Compiled by Tony McLeod)



Roger Allan Elston, better known as “Ocker” was a unique person. He had a very strong intellect and a photographic memory. He was a very likeable person, in fact the only people that didn’t like him at Duntroon were the Drillies. He really enjoyed life, particularly the fun things like billiards, pool, TV, and the odd drink or twenty. He was at home in the Quarter Bar when our class got elevated to 1st Class.

Ocker didn’t like to waste his time studying when he could be relaxing. Like some of the Science students, he developed the knack of falling asleep in many lectures. When it came time for annual academic exams, he would come to my room the night before each exam, lie on my bed and capture my notes in his mind. Like a few of us, Ocker had to repeat 2nd Class – I can only assume that I was the problem – several my notes must have been wrong.

Roger never practiced the piano – in the 1st Class coffee room one day Roger sat down at the piano and played Chopin’s Prelude in A minor perfectly. After a standing ovation, Roger said “I dropped two F*****g notes!”.

He was good at most sports that he played – particularly rugby union.

Most people would have thought of Ocker as a very loveable rogue. His biography in the 1972 RMC Journal was classic:

“Not many people saw much of “Rodge” this year except when he needed a smoke or a rest. Known by the fourthies in his platoon as “that sergeant who stands out front on some 0800’s”. Rodge has shown a keen interest in all things unmilitary; and swears that it has taken the place five years to find out how good he really is. Soon to be wed to the bird who drives his “other” car and sent back to the land where he can order his grog by the tanker load. Never one to complain, it can be said that he has shown a remarkable interest at being disinterested during his short stay at Duntroon.”

Roger successfully completed his Bachelor of Science and graduated into the Royal NZ Signals Corps where he served for ten years, filling various regimental positions before retiring in 1980.

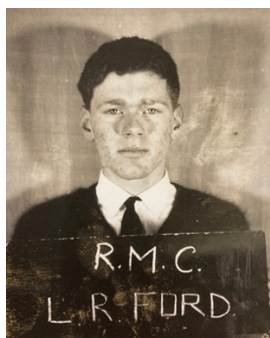
He moved to Auckland in the 80’s where he became the chief technical person for a local auctioneer company, where he specialised in repairing secondhand computers. Roger passed away in Auckland in 2008 at the age of 57 years. At his funeral those who presented eulogies (including his great mate Bill Kearney) mentioned his intellect, his wit, his love for a card game and his ongoing pride and love for his grandchildren.



Sadly missed and very fondly remembered.

2677 Lindsay Ford, Kapyong Company

This is an extract from the eulogy written by Russell Robinson and posted the Herald Sun at <https://www.liv.asn.au/LIV-Home/Practice-Resources/Law-Institute-Journal/Archived-Issues/LIJ-August-2009/Obituary--Lindsay-Robert-Ford>



Lindsay Robert Ford was a man of diverse interests and accomplishments. He was first and foremost a lawyer. But he was also a radiographer, an astronomer, a scientist and a soldier. He was a self-taught Mandarin speaker - which he described as “reasonable” - and a keen student on all aspects of the horse racing industry.

Above all else, Lindsay was devoted to his family. Lindsay passed away on 21 May, aged 57, after a long illness, leaving his devoted wife Jayne and loving children Natasha, Julia and Alex.

Dr Gregory, who shared an office with Lindsay for seven years, recalled their time together at the Migration Review Tribunal. “In 1999, the Tribunal was a new body - we had to learn our way into things. Lindsay, with his experience and background, had a wonderful grasp of the law. His broad knowledge proved a great help as we all learned the ropes. He was productive and efficient. He was a character, always with a smile, a greeting and a joke, and popular with the staff. He treated everyone the same.”

Lindsay’s legal and life skills were also adeptly applied in other roles as chair of the Firearms Appeals Committee and the Electricians’ Licensing Authority, and as a member of the Chinese Medicine Registration Board.

Lindsay was a radiographer for nine years before beginning his legal studies at Monash University, where he met fellow law student Jayne. While studying law and working part-time as a radiographer, he helped spearhead the successful campaign to have radiographers registered and for greater professional recognition.

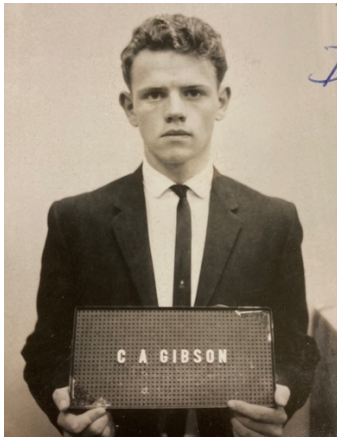
After graduating he completed his articles and worked as a solicitor at Galbally & O’Byrne between 1979 and 1982, before going to Holding Redlich. In 1984, he joined Juliano Ford & Co where he remained for 11 years and became a partner. In 1996, he moved to Marshalls & Dent and three years later joined the MRT. A highlight of his legal career was appearing in the High Court.

Lindsay also gave freely of his time to professional organisations. He was a member of the LIV Council from 1987 to 1997. He was a founding member of the Administrative Law Committee from 1984 to when the Committee became the Administrative Law Section (ALS) in 1989. He was the LIV representative on the Firearms Consultative Committee. He served on the Ethics Committee and the Migration Committee of the ALS.

Lindsay was an honorary member and consultant on administrative law (disciplinary fairness) issues with the Australasian Institute of Radiography, and dealt with ethical and medico-legal issues. He also served as an honorary member and consultant on administrative law (disciplinary fairness) with the Association of Child Psychotherapists (Vic).

He was a member of the Returned and Services League.

2680 Chris Gibson, Gallipoli Company



Hi Gentlemen, before starting to talk about me I would like to say thank you to a group of men who have had such a large, beneficial impact on my life, initially at RMC, through all the processes and learning we are all aware of, through my military career, with friendship, support, and assistance, and through life with your camaraderie.

Well after 4 years at RMC I graduated into Infantry, a true soldier, (ha ha), and was posted to 7RAR and as a result of the “no more National service” edict was fortunate to have the only Platoon in the Battalion. The year was spent on developing the training and instructing on the NCO training courses in leadership, ZULU here I came.

On amalgamation I was fortunate to go to Butterworth with C Coy 5/7RAR. This was followed by 1 Cdo Coy then a range of non-corps postings and 8/9RAR before leaving the Army in January 1990. Getting a job wasn't too hard as I had stood for State Parliament in Tasmania 6 months prior to resignation and due to a recount became a member of Parliament as my resignation took effect. This lasted for 2 ½ years until I was replaced by Michael Hodgman at the next election but a very interesting time with the first Labor/Green Accord and I did have a hand in the Liberals election win in 1992. Following this I worked as a consultant with Tourism Tasmania on Special Events where, due to my experience with BATRA, I was quite involved with the first Targa Tasmania motor sport event.

My first marriage broke up in 1993 and I began working for the Tasmanian Department of Economic Development as Director of ISO/ICNL where I remained until 2001 before moving to Canberra as Project Manager with ICNL (Industry Capability Network Limited) for 4 years, back to Tasmania until 2007 then back to Canberra before taking my final job as Executive Officer of the Australian Clay Target Association in Wagga Wagga, leaving just prior to a grant for the new conference centre (NSW residents will get the reference to Gladys and Daryl).

In my personal life I was fortunate to meet Sue at the very end of 2008 (New Year's Eve) and begin the best part of my life so far. Yes, you people who look down at infantry men will note we met online so I can use a computer for good, and we also have two published authors from our infantry ranks, so we are not just all action. We married in 2011, in a surprise wedding, and live in Young which is the centre for our travel, both in the van and overseas. This location and travel have allowed us to see many classmates and their partners in Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane, a joy to both of us.

As a group we can be very thankful to Callo for Snippets and the contact details and it is wonderful to see Elf, Dave Cran and Graeme Smith, with others, keeping this alive in many ways to inform us all of classmates and activities. Look forward to seeing as many as possible in December. Any questions about the above can be answered then or taken on notice.

Mates Forever.



2681 David Goggin, Kapyong Company



Following graduation to RAInf I travelled north to 1RAR.

Yvonne and I and married in June 1973. We returned to Sydney in September 1975 to care for her father, and I was posted to HQ Trg Comd. In December 1977 I was posted to DSU Randwick.

After a number of injuries, I gave up sports for Photography.

I resigned on 29 May 1981 with the rank of Captain and started a Furniture Manufacturing Business. I closed my business in 1992 started looking for other work, eventually being employed by Luxottica Pty Ltd (OPSM, Sunglass Hut). I retired on 2 January 2020.

Yvonne and I have two children, a daughter and two grandsons (in London) and a son in Sydney.

(Interesting aside):

The Araluen Commercial Hotel was run by my great-great grandparents during the final four decades of the nineteenth century and hosted Sister Mary McKillop among others. I am proud to find out through the published family history just how extensive my family roots are in southern highlands and Cobargo.



2682 Bill Greenham, Alamein Company



On Graduation, I was allocated to AAVN and attached to RAAC for my Regimental experience. After my Young Officers' Course, I was posted to 2 Cav Regt in Holsworthy, Sydney where I spent the remainder of 1973 and the first half of 1974 as an APC Troop Leader. Then off to 1FTS, Point Cook for pilot Training along with Rick Davies.

I managed to pass all my flying training including my Instrument Rating and was even certified as a first pilot day/night on the Winjeel in Nov 1974. Unfortunately, I scrubbed out that Month. I then did a Corps Transfer to RAAC and returned to 2 Cav Regt at the end of 1974. I then again served as a APC Troop Leader and, after promotion, Adjutant and then Squadron 2IC (acting Sqn Comd for 3 months) and then Technical Adjutant.

In June 1978, I dislocated 2 vertebrae in my neck playing Aussie Rules for the Regt and spent some months in rehab. That injury limited my continuation with Regimental positions and so it was off to a Staff posting at HQ Training Command. During my time there in various positions, it was discovered that "I could spell computer" (having majored at RMC in Maths/Computing) and so became the Project Manager for the introduction of Word processing into all Trg Comd Schools. This then earned me a trip back to Canberra and I spent most of 1984 at the then CCAE and gained a Grad Dip Info Systems.

I then spent the next two years in Canberra working on the AMAN System as the Army LO. I was then posted to the newly formed Army Wargame Center in Georges Heights, Sydney in 1987. I stayed there until my retirement in 1990 as the Deputy Director. Whilst there, I travelled a lot around Australia and Overseas (Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, and Hawaii) and became the Defence Project Manager for the introduction of JANUS, an ABCA Model for simulations and travelled to the US (White Sands, NM and Lawrence Livermore Lab (near San Francisco) California for a month.

After retiring from Regular Service in 1990, I moved to Brisbane, QLD and, with my background in simulations was recruited to the ARES and posted to the 1st C&SC at WACOL. I spent 11 years as an instructor teaching Comms & Op Staffwork and was very happy to be joined by Ian Callan as a fellow Instructor for some years. I retired from ARES and civvy employment in 2000.

In 1990 I was also recruited by QPS as a Computer Support Officer and then moved to DEVETIR and did more training and became a Certified Novell Engineer and moved to administer their server systems.

In 2000, I got remarried and moved to San Antonio, TX, I was employed by Northside School District in their Server Support Area as a Senior Sys Admin. I retired again in 2012, remarried again in 2013 and moved into Self Storage Management in 2014. I now Manage 2 properties (1 in New Braunfels, TX, which I reside on and one in SA.)

Married Three times now. 2 Daughters and a Son, 5 Grandchildren (4 boys & 1 Girl), 2 stepdaughters, 5 Step grandchildren (4 girls and 2 boys).

I joined Toastmasters International in 2009 as I missed training people and in 2014 become District Governor for District 55 (South Texas). Still active and DTM twice over.



2684 Chris Hammond, Gallipoli Company

(No recent photo available)



I have never really given much thought to writing my memoirs, so I guess this is as close as it is ever going to get. Dave Cran persuaded me to put pen to paper for the 50-year reunion publication, so here goes.

I, along with several others from the class, relocated to the blissful shores of Portsea in 1972, where we spent the year enjoying the attentions of another group of drill sergeants intent on correcting imperfections in our RMC drill. After graduating to RAAOC I filled several appointments up and down the East coast with several repeat terms in Melbourne.

In the 20 years that I served I did not run across many RMC classmates apart from the Corps promotion courses and the memorable Tac 3 and Tac 5 at Canungra. The main exception being my last appointment as SO2 Log Ops in Log Branch Canberra where I worked for Chris Wallace. However, at about that time, I decided to test my worth outside of uniform, and in 1989, I resigned and joined CSIRO as Finance officer for Forestry and Forest Products. I spent 20 years working for CSIRO in various divisions and corporate finance where for several years I became the forward scout for CSIRO at Senate Estimates. It was very enlightening to see how some of our politicians and senior bureaucrats interacted with each other. I retired in 2008 to be around Kaye for support in her battle with cancer that she had been fighting since 2003.

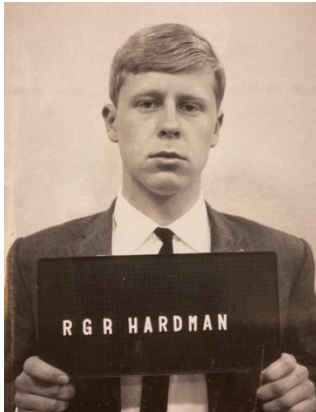
It was during my time at RMC that I met my future wife Kaye, and we were married at the Duntroon Chapel in 1973. For some reason or quirk of fate all our sons were born in Melbourne, Matthew in '77, Rohan in '79 and Simon in '83. We moved to Canberra in 1986 and have been here ever since, happily residing in Stirling before Kaye passed away in 2009. The boys have all settled in Canberra not far from me and between them produced 4 grand daughters and 2 grandsons. None of my mob have followed their father's footsteps into the services, probably a result of the many schools and moves they had when younger.

I have done a bit of travelling with trips to the UK and France to see the battlefields of WW1. I paid for my own tour of Vietnam and Cambodia, which I must say was a lot more comfortable than for some of our earlier graduates. I have also done Canada, the USA, China (glad I did that a few years ago) and New Zealand. I think from now on I will stay a bit closer to home with Assie bound expeditions.

I have also occupied my time in retirement by spending several years as assistant secretary of the Woden Valley RSL Subbranch, until due to a minor health problem, I stepped back from that in the last couple of years. In 2019 I had a quadruple coronary bi-pass and then a few stents This getting older is definitely not all it is cracked up to be. My time now is spent chasing grand kids to sport, gymnastics, dance and occasionally to nippers' surf events at the Broule Surf Lifesaving club on the South coast. I enjoy gardening, cooking and the odd beer at the Weston Creek Labour club (walking distance from home).

I am looking forward to a quiet beer later this year and catch up with the class to hear in more detail the events that have shaped their lives over these past 50 years.

2685 Reg Hardman , Kapyong Company



Graduated Portsea in December 72 and spent the next few years in long-term schooling, doing engineering. Posted to the workshop of 2 Fd Engineer Regt in Brisbane, then Div HQ RAEME, then OC Tech SP Tp of 1 Fd Regt Arty, which finished off my much appreciated Field Force days in SE Qld. The next five years were spent in Melbourne as SO2 Wpn in the Maintenance Engineering Agency. I don't regret my 15 years in the Army, but feel I was a bit of a « square peg », so to speak.

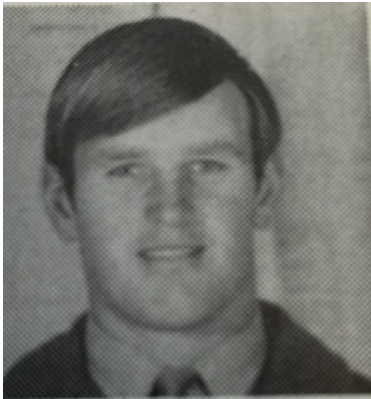
Then my real engineering career started when I took a job as production engineer at Hobart manufacturing in Sydney, followed by several years in my own business writing technical documentation for software and engineering companies. Following an interest in mathematics, I was corresponding with a commercial research group in France. On a holiday there, I made contact and was offered a position as technical writer. The plan was to work for three years in Paris, plus another two years if it worked out.

Well here I am still after 22 years slightly retired living in France, where I pursue other interests, in theatre and dance, as president of the Théâtre Laboratoire de Paris and dancing Argentine Tango with my partner Réjane.



2604 Geoff Hay, Kokoda Company

(previously published in the Class of 1971 Old Mates Gazette)



On the basis that I was selected for RMC on a sporting scholarship, not an academic one, I spent five years at clink and graduated in 1972. Artillery was my chosen Corps and a good decision that was. Regimental service was entirely in Sydney, 12 Field Regt at Ingleburn in 1973 then 8/12 Medium Regt at Holsworthy 1974/5 interspersed with a stint at HQ 1TF as LO to the Commander (BRIG Ian Geddes).

In May 1975 I married Caroline and our two children were born in 1979 and 1981. We have four grandchildren. Just after our marriage I was posted to England to attend the Gunnery Staff Course at Larkhill for 12 months then three months in Germany with BAOR. I returned to Oz in 77 as an instructor at the School of Artillery North Head. In 1979 I went back to 8/12 as Adjutant and then Battery Commander of HQ and A Field Batteries. 1982 saw me at HQ 2 Div in Sydney doing my staff stint for two years, then Staff College in 1984 at Queenscliff. Back to North Head in 1985/6 as Senior Instructor Gunnery then off to Canberra in 1987 where I served out my uniformed service in various roles as a LTCOL and COL at AHQ, Development Division and the Defence Personnel Executive, including command of Defence Force Recruiting in 2000. In 1989/90 I was posted to the Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College in Kuala Lumpur as the first Australian Directing Staff – played more golf in two years there than in the previous five back in Australia. This was a memorable posting as the cultural differences and association with the High Commission provided a very different experience to military life back home. Amongst several, my career highlight was my selection as Equerry to Her Majesty the Queen for her 1988 Bicentennial Royal Tour of Australia. I attended JSSC in 1991.

After my discharge in 2002 I gained an APS appointment in Defence in the Defence Support Group, principally employed as the Director of Operations which provided command of Defence support teams in each State, facilitating support to major exercises, assistance to the civil community and Special Forces domestic operations.

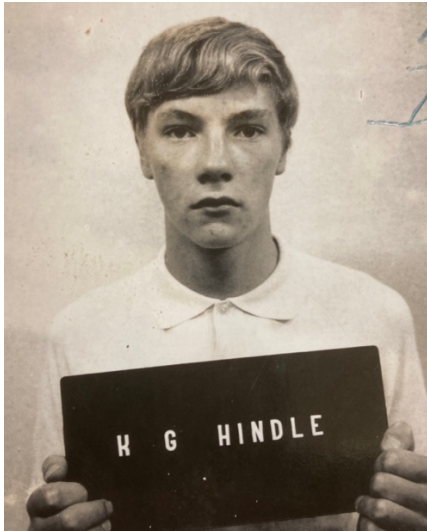
Retirement occurred in 2012 and Caroline and I have done lots of travelling in the Pacific. South-East Asia, Europe and the UK and Ireland. We have done cruises along the Danube/Rhine; Mediterranean; Mekong and Kimberley. Caroline and I are active golfers at Federal Golf Club here in Canberra.

Best wishes to all, Geoff and Caroline.



2687 Kevin Hindle, Kapyong Company

(written by John Elphinston and Kevin's daughter Georgia)



Kevin was born 15th of October 1950 in Paddington, Sydney, NSW. He attended The Scot's College in Bellevue, Sydney and spent his time outside of school surfing, playing the guitar and roller boarding. He was given a Fender Stratocaster at the age of 12 and his talent and love for music never ceased.

From the outset, it became apparent that Kev Hindle was unlikely to be the RSM's choice for demonstrating the correct gait, or the perfect about turn. But he excelled in matters of the mind, and some would say billiards and snooker as well; he was never reluctant to question authority and regimentation. It was therefore no surprise to learn that Kevin chose to leave RMC after successfully completing first year and chose a life of academic pursuits. Kevin initially graduated BA (First Class Honours) from ANU and later received an MBA from Adelaide University and a PhD from Swinburn University of Technology.

It was in Adelaide that Kevin met Joey Moore when she was the lead singer in an Adelaide Hills hippy folk band. Kevin recognised Joey's talent and with Kevin as her manager, she went on to secure contracts for children's TV programs such as Patsy on the Humphrey B Bear show. Being so young when they met and married, they eventually recognised their differences and separated amicably in 1980.

Kevin relocated to Melbourne where he indulged his passion for French culture, vintage cars, fly fishing and music. It was in Melbourne in 1987 that he met and fell for Kitty; they were married and had two children, Joshua (January 1989) and Georgia (October 1993).

Kevin's favoured endeavour was in applying leading-edge research to practical problems. He initiated and developed new ventures and worked for and consulted on entrepreneurship to organisations large and small, public and private, Australian and international. Kevin's consultancy was grounded in a long career as a management educator. He developed curricula and taught courses in entrepreneurship and associated disciplines in a range of degree award and executive development programs throughout the world. In addition to his 18 years at Swinburn, Kevin also developed or founded programs in Finland, USA (Texas), France), Switzerland, Denmark, Sydney and Adelaide.

Kevin always had a love for music. To say he and Ray Davies from The Kinks were soulmates, may be putting it too strongly but he was a lover of their music along with others that fitted his self-styled highly cerebral mould. His You Tube persona as Professor Brighton Beeche – Professor of Ukulele Jazz Licks, Cigar Box Road Strumming and Road Poetry gives us a clue. He described himself as the world's only Septuagenarian Supper Star, the only legend who became such in their own supper time.

Kevin was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2014 but made a miraculous recovery. Unfortunately, he was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer in May 2022, and he passed away peacefully in August 2022 surrounded by his friends and family.

Kevin is survived by his children, Joshua, Georgia and his two granddaughters Holly and Zoe.



2688 Bill Houston , Gallipoli Company



I graduated from RMC to the RAAC and headed off to spend six months on the Young Officers Course at Armoured Centre. I was then posted to 1st Armoured Regiment, just up the road in Puckapunyal. The RAAC had an oversupply of subalterns at that time, so I spent my first six months as a Charlie crew commander (C/S 14C). The following year I became Sqn LO of B Sqn and subsequently Troop Leader of 3 Tp. (C/S 23).

In 1976 I was posted to DAT in AHQ as the junior member of a team working on how Army would fit officer training into the proposed ADFA. From there in 1978 to 4 Cav Regt in Enoggera as an APC troop leader (once again, C/S 23). Then to 12/16 HRL in Armidale as training officer followed by a posting to Armoured Centre as a doctrine officer.

In 1984 I was fortunate enough to be selected for C&SC Queenscliff. Then off to the USA in the Primary Standardisation Office just outside Washington DC. I thought I was doing well until I found out how I was selected for that job. On return to Australia, I had a series of staff postings, mostly in Canberra. By 1999 both I and the Army decided it was time for me to leave the ARA (the Army's subtle hint was a posting order to Darwin).

Fortunately, I was offered an APS job as a Historian in the Army History Unit, which meant I was now based in Campbell Park. I transferred to the ARes and, when the Army decided a historian was needed in East Timor for OP WARDEN/TANAGER off I went for six months on my first operational deployment. My role was advising units on keeping Commander's Diaries and conducting oral history interviews with a cross section of ranks.

As historian, I had a number of short visits to various operations, including Afghanistan. I was also deployed for six months to Iraq for OP CATALST as the historian. After 30 years ARA service I experienced all my operational deployments in the ARes. Admittedly, all were pogue postings, but I did see some of the less salubrious parts of the world.

In 2019 we decided that working was for other people, and I retired. We sold up in Canberra and bought a place in Melbourne. We moved to Melbourne in February 2020, just in time for the first lock down.

On the personal side I have been married three times (one mistake, one disaster and one success – third time lucky). I have one daughter and one stepdaughter and two grandchildren who are seriously fitter than I am. The grandkids are in Canberra, so Marina and I travel between Melbourne and Canberra – COVID permitting.



2689 Graham Huggins, Alamein Company



I was 17 when I boarded the train at Central in Sydney bound for Canberra and the unknown that was RMC. Some played 500 but I just sat immersed in anxiety about what lay ahead. Reality sank in on arrival at Queanbeyan and meeting SGT Gerry Berson who was to become our Drillie in Sovereigns Company. But that was just the entree!

I met new friends in Fourth Class, young boys who were to become 'mates for life'. Bastardisation was our baptism of fire with some senior class cadets taking great delight in pushing us to our limits. That said, 100 days to go was our day of reckoning.

My room on the top floor of A61 overlooked the Obstacle course. I was very fit and did well in the physical aspects of college life rather than the academics which I failed to embrace at my own peril. I recall the saying 'Bogging keeps you off the square, but it's the Accas that will keep you here'. Pity I spent so much time bogging - hence my delayed graduation in 1973.

I actually enjoyed that first year. Be it reciting 'How's the Cow', taking turns narrating the morning news, running up to Bridges Grave to count the links on a non-existent chain, eating submarine meals or beating the scientists and engineers to morning tea.

I graduated to Infantry and was posted to 2/4 RAR in Townsville. Rod Allan was there, and my CO was LTCOL John Deighton. By 1973 however Australia had withdrawn from Vietnam. The Army was scaling down in size, moving from jungle to open warfare and a prolonged period of peace. My only service outside Australia was to the rifle company at RAAF Base Butterworth in 1975. Following postings to AHQ, AAS Balcombe, LWC, 1 RAR, GLO at RAAF 35 Sqn, MA to Comdt RMC, OPSO 41 RNSWR Lismore and finally back to Canungra I retired 1993.

My military career was over, or so I thought. I had spent 13 years in real estate and audio-visual technology sales before putting the uniform back on. With so many young officers committed to operations in the Middle East, opportunities arose for Dad's Army to fill a range of vacancies. My final posting on Continuous Full Time Service, prior to my second retirement in 2010 was, as an Infantry Officer, to be 2IC of an Artillery unit at Enoggera. This was a particularly enjoyable time as my son Matthew was posted to Brisbane. I was able to live with him during the week and return home to the Gold Coast on weekends. It was also valuable in enabling me to maintain my military currency and thereby facilitate discussions with both of my sons.

I married Gail, a Speech Pathologist in 1976. We have two boys, Brett and Matthew who both attended ADFA and RMC graduating to Transport and Infantry. Unlike me they have had several deployments to Timor, Iraq, and Afghanistan. We have four delightful grandchildren living in Sydney and Canberra (soon to be Darwin) who we don't see nearly as much as we would like - the lot of Military parents and grandparents.

We enjoy an active retirement on the Gold Coast where a number of our military and non-military friends have settled. We were fortunate to travel widely pre COVID but will probably now limit our trips to within Australia. Our most recent venture was to the magnificent Lord Howe Island.

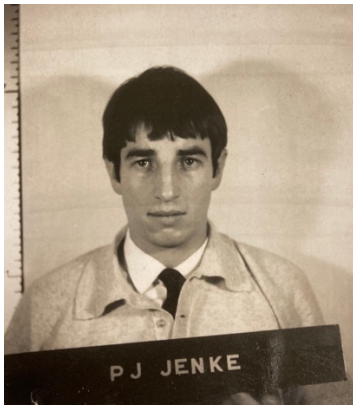
I had some exciting times riding my Ducati Multistrada growing old disgracefully with Ulysses, however Gail was very relieved when, after 100,000 kms I had a reality check and sold it. I now spend much of my time in quieter pursuits at the Nerang Veterans Men's Shed where I have enjoyed honing my woodworking skills, learning from some very skilled veterans. Gail has also been retired for several years but remains connected with her profession in a number of capacities.

Life is good. Duntroon and the friends made there will always hold many good memories. With age we tend to forget the not-so-good ones!

Stay safe and enjoy life! Never let the bastards get us down.



2693 Peter Jenke, Alamein Company



Despite the promise that if I joined the RAASC I would be posted to Adelaide and my home state of South Australia, following graduation, I was Townsville bound. It was here that I met and married Kerry, my bride of now 48 years. Whilst there, I also attended the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition (ANARE) LARC V selection course in Sydney. This saw me appointed OC of the amphibious platoon based in Sydney as well as OC of the ANARE detachment, then based in Melbourne. This was an 8-month detachment and included two voyages on the Nella Dan to all 4 of the Australian Antarctic bases.

Sydney was followed by Puckapunyal and from there to the US to undertake a 10-month course at the USA School of Military Transportation in Virginia, then two years as the Australian exchange officer. In the process of returning to Australia, all of our household effects were destroyed by fire on the docks of Baltimore.

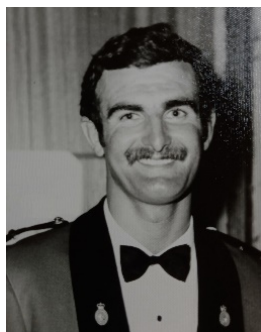
Command and Staff College was followed by a posting as Staff Officer to the GOC Log Comd for two years and promotion to Lt Col in Dec 85. For 12 months I also filled a red hat position in HQ Log Comd and was subsequently posted as an instructor to Command and Staff College. However, when I advised the Commandant that I would be unaccompanied, his response was that I would be coming accompanied – or not at all. My Army career was ending. My final posting was as the SO1 Soldier Management at CARO under our old RMC Adjutant, Col Rollo Brett and the best job I had in the Army.

In late 1990, Larry Wilson (Class of 70) rang with a job offer with KPMG, where he was the HR Director. I resigned, joined KPMG and then 12 months later, the part of KPMG I was in broke away to form a separate accounting firm, Pitcher Partners. I was their Director of Finance and Administration and remained in that role for the next 20 years.

Now in my 12th year of retirement and still living in Melbourne, Kerry and I continue to enjoy our horse-riding (although we no longer own horses), but we retired our motor-bikes last year. Our son and his family of 3 children live in London, so we are frequent visitors there and to Queensland where our daughter and her brood of four live. When we're not involved in these activities (and frequently when we are) we are very much involved with Legacy. Kerry is the first female President of Melbourne Legacy and we both sit on Melbourne's Board of Management. I previously sat on the National Board of Legacy Australia.



2695 Mike Johnston, Kapyong Company



On graduation I joined the RNZIR but after two years transferred to the RNZAOC. In 1976 I had the opportunity to do the very first Longlook Exchange, with a BAOR unit in Germany.

Karen and I were married in 1978. I left the Regular Force in 1979 to study earth science at Waikato University, specialising in coastal resources. After graduating with a MSc (Hons) in 1984 I took up resource management roles in regional government. During this period, our boys Strachan and Lachlan were born.

Through the 1980s I served with 5WWCT, a Territorial Force infantry battalion. I enjoyed my role as company commander including taking a company to exercise in Shoalwater Bay, so decided to return to the Regular Force in 1988. Having left as a captain I returned as a major in the Logistics Corps so more or less picked up where I had left off. I had a six-month secondment to UN HQ in New York 1993. Karen and the boys were able to join me for part of the secondment.

In 1993 I was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and held appointments in the Wellington area. I did a brief trip to Bosnia in 1995 and in 1997 served with UNTSO as Station Chief of OGGT (Observer Group Golan, Tiberias). That was a great command, in a fascinating part of the world, having responsibility for 19 different nationalities. It was also great to be accompanied by Karen and our sons.

On leaving the Army in 1998, I joined Serco and after a couple of years was appointed General Manager of a joint venture logistics enterprise with 120 people which provided base support services to NZDF. Following that, in 2002 I established my own business to provide management advice in the education sector and statutory intervention to support schools with financial difficulties.

In 2006 an unexpected opportunity arose to work for the Cayman Island Government as a management adviser and project manager. Karen and I were there for four years. The job was good, but the SCUBA diving and open water swimming were even better. I took up underwater photography there and that became a passion which I still actively pursue.

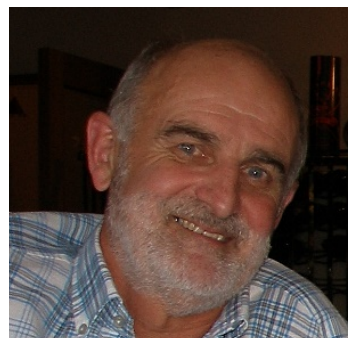
We returned to NZ in 2010 and I went back to the military world as a commercial contract manager with NZDF. I retired in 2015 and we now live permanently at our beach house just north of Wellington.

I am active in masters swimming, still taking part in open water swims around NZ and continue to SCUBA dive and take underwater photos. In the past ten years I've become very involved in maritime archaeology, researching and writing archaeology reports, leading field trips and giving talks about my research. The maritime archaeology that I have come across at this stage of my life seems to fit well – it blends my interests, qualifications, and experience.

In the coming years, Karen and I are aiming to circumnavigate NZ a few times in our motorhome. This will give us plenty of opportunity to see our sons and families, especially our three grandchildren.

I've been very fortunate during my varied career, in particular that my family has been able to join me for much of my time overseas. By the time our sons finished high school they had 19 countries stamped in their passports.

I value the training and background the Army has provided, right from the RMC days. Together with my broader background, it's resulted in rewarding roles, has taken us to some amazing places and along the way we've got to know many wonderful people.



2696 Chris Jones, Kapyong Company

Christopher Alan Jones, Ph.D. (Bus Mgt), M.A. (Hons), Litt. B. (Merit), B.A.(Mil), Adv.Dip, Bus (RE), psc, MICM.



RMC Staff Cadet 2696 Jones, CA. West Australian, Age 17 on entry.

1969 SC Kokoda Company

1970-71 SC Gallipoli Company

1972 Sgt Kapyong Company. Graduated into the RAA (first choice was Aust Int Corps). Obtained B.A.(Mil) degree

1st XV Rugby. 1st XI Soccer. Downhill skier.

1973-74 Forward Observer, 108 Fd Bty, 4 Fd Regt RAA, Townsville.

1975-76 Post graduate studies.

1977 SO3 Ops, ARES Branch AO. Completed M.A. (Hons) degree.

1978-79 Transferred to Aust Int Corps, Desk Officer Indonesia. Co-

authored the book, the first of many publications, 'The Indonesian Integration of East Timor'.

1979 Married in Pretoria, South Africa.

1980-81 Instructor Combat and Strategic Intelligence at the School of Military Intelligence, Canungra. Completed Litt.B. (Merit) degree.

1981-82 SO2 Ops, Directorate of Military Intelligence, AO.

1983 Liaison Officer, Multinational Force & Observers, Egypt and Israel.

1984 Graduated, Staff College.

1985 SO2 Ops, Operations Room, AO. Resigned from the ARA to go to Saudi Arabia as Business Manager of two large environment contracts for the Australian-Saudi Government-to-Government agreement. Completed Ph.D. (Bus. Mgt) degree.

1987-89 Returned to Perth to start own company, Transworld Developments. Joined ARES. Instructor ARES Staff College. Went to Vietnam to undertake investments.

1990 Returned to Australia and started from scratch my own 6 branch real estate and business broking group in Perth, Australian Business & Property Services.

1991-2002 Expanded into real estate developments, real estate settlements, debt collection, industrial advocacy. Numerous companies.

2002 Divorced. Gave all to ex-wife. Returned to Vietnam with nothing.

2003-05 CEO of a manufacturing company in Saigon.

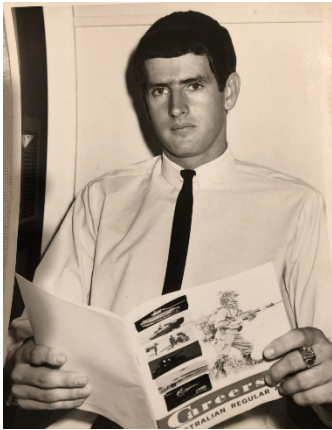
2006-19 Started and managed Star Corporate Vietnam, international management consultancy and corporate services company based in Saigon. Financially recovered.

2020 Sold the company and semi-retired to manage numerous property investments in Western Australia while remaining in Vietnam, where my partner and I also own many properties.

Immediate family is Mdm Nguyen Thi Huan, Vietnamese partner for 19 years. 3 adult sons, Anthony, Justin, and Jake, all living in Australia. Grandfather of Grace and Eve.



2697 Gerry Jones, Alamein Company



On 24 January 1969 allocated to Sovereigns Company and enrolled in the Arts course, Diploma of Military Studies. Granted supplementary examinations in History I and Economics I. Departed Alamein Company for OCS Portsea on 2 March 1970. Appointed 2LT on 12 December 1970 and allocated to the RAAOC. Posted Instr R & T Wing RAAOC Centre 4 January 1971, AQM 5RAR 2 August 1971, PL COMD PNG WKSP 29 October 1972, S03 Stock MNGT DSA PNG 10 July 1974, Admin Officer 22 SUP BN 12 January 1976, OC Food Stuffs/POL 22 SUP BN 5 October 1976, OC 25 Combat SUPPL 13 December 1977, Admin Officer AFFSE (AC) 27 November 1978, SUP O(MAJ) WHS 31 SUP BN 12 January 1981, SUP MNGT WG RAAOC Centre 14 December 1981, OC 221 SUP COY Bogan Gate 16 December 1983, S02 PERS/LG JEPS-DOD (Central) 15 December 1985, S02 EE SSRP 15 December 1987. Resigned 31 January 1989. Transferred to RAAOC Active Area 2 MD 1 February 1989. S02 SUP HQ2 Div 24 April 1990, OC 8 FD SUP Coy 9 June 1990, S02(SUP) HQ LSF 1 August 1992.

Controller APSIS North Region Newcastle NSW January 1989 (Civilian career), BM BASC HV February 1992 (APS), BM HV Log Coy and HV Log BN (Disbanded) 1994, Base Manager DEF SPT Singleton (Inc. Nth NSW) 1994, until retirement (medical reasons) October 2010.

I married in April 1974 to Annette, with daughters Ashley (born 1977) and Kristy (born 1978) and son, Tristan (born 1981). We had 10 house moves during my time with Army and returned to the Hunter Valley in 1989 so my children could have a stable education and home life. I have been in Apex, Rotary, Freemason. My sports and interests have included swimming, rugby league, rugby union, water polo, motor sports, scuba diving, tennis, squash, martial arts, golf, and shooting. I obtained my pilot's licence in 1976 and utilised it for about 15 years.

Significant events were as a Guard Commander for the RAAOC Sovereigns Banner Parade in 1981, Armoured vehicle storage study for the Malaysian Forces in 1983, Umpire on Ex Lionheart in 1984 in Germany, the oversight of the SMA Redevelopment (incl SOI, SFTC and Range) from 2005 onward. I also managed the in-house option for the HV LOG BN outsourcing project.

I enjoyed my time in Army and spent 43.5 years within Army and Defence.

I have experienced significant health issues in recent years with kidney and pancreatic cancer, heart attack and now have a stent and as a consequence of the above issues developed type 3C diabetes. However, I continue to enjoy life, exercise regularly and spend quality time with grandchildren. Living between a house in Port Stephens and unit in Morpeth NSW.

I appreciated my time with the class of 1972 from 1969/70.

God bless all!



2698 Steve Jones, Gallipoli Company



Following graduation, we Engineers (RAE, RA Sigs and RAEME – 17 of us in total) spent three months on Battle Wing at Canungra doing what was known as the Graduate Engineer Military (GEM) course. In effect this was for us to catch up on at least some of the learning that the rest of First Class did while we were doing our fourth-year academic studies. Being in Canungra in the middle of January following graduation celebrations, Christmas and in some cases, marriage was a bit of a shock. Still, we survived and more importantly learnt some things.

I stayed in the Army until July 1997. I enjoyed my time; lived in some interesting places – Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Canberra, Gold Coast, Albury – Wodonga, Queenscliff, Jerusalem, Nahariya, Cairo and Washington; met a range of interesting people – many capable, some hopeless; had some unique experiences that I would not have had otherwise; and had no regrets. I had a range of regimental and staff postings the most notable being the OC of an independent squadron in Brisbane and being the CO of the Army Apprentices School. Much to my surprise one of the most rewarding postings was as an instructor in Tactics Wing at Canungra. Living on the Gold Coast for two years was part of that. I also had a posting to the Middle East with the UN in 1978, arriving a few days after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and ended up working in Lebanon and Egypt. My other overseas posting was as Liaison Officer to the US Corps of Engineers in 1993-94. When my time came, I found it was easy to leave the Army having made up my mind in 1993 that I was ready, and deliberately sought a posting to Canberra as part of that transition planning. My final position as a Project Officer on capital works projects was a great job as well as being a good platform for the future.

Post Army I had a second career of over 20 years of full time and part time paid work, all in Canberra, retiring from full time in 2016 and part time in 2021. That period saw me working for the federal government and private enterprise including working in the Australian Government overseas estate for Department of Administrative Services, Department of Finance and Administration and PricewaterhouseCoopers; working for Multiplex Asset Management on works projects; and corporate positions in the Australian Sports Commission finishing as the General Manager Corporate for the five years leading up to my retirement. My part time work was with YMCA Canberra in the property management area. I consider myself lucky to have had those post Army roles, which were rewarding, and both broadened my experience and enabled me to use my experience to assist the organisation and people with whom I worked.

Outside of my normal work I have had a number of involvements. I am a long-term member of the Facility Management Association, which included being the ACT Chair and six years on the national board of the association. An offshoot of this was that I became involved in the International Facilities Management Association, based in Houston USA, but truly international. I was on and then became chair of the International Credentialling Commission within the association, overseeing the ISO approved credentialling system. Many trips to the US emanated from this involvement. I am also a Graduate of the Institute of Company Directors. However, my main outside work involvement has been with Legacy. I have been a member since 1989 and have been the Secretary of Canberra Legacy for the last five years with a workload of over 15 hours per week. A worthy cause and good head stuff for me.

I am very fortunate to be married to Debra since 1975. Like me she has generally worked as well as us raising two children – now adults one in Canberra with three children, and one on the Gold Coast. We live in the Canberra suburb of Nicholls and are happy to be long term Canberrans.

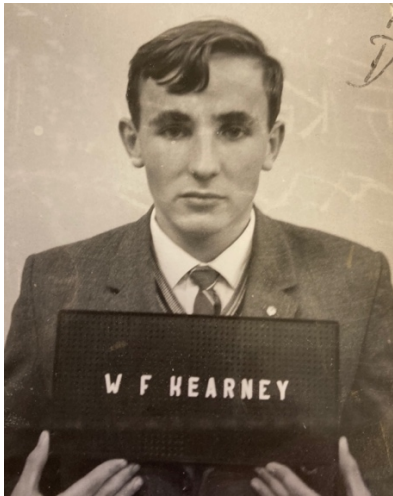
I would also like to acknowledge my classmates, particularly those in Canberra who I meet with at least twice a year and the small group of RAE members based in Canberra who I meet with every Wednesday.

How good is that!



2613 Bill Kearney, Gallipoli Company

(Reproduced from Class of '71 Old Mates Gazette)



I was posted to Watsonia for 5 months Young Officer Technical training followed by my first posting to 104 Sig Sqn at Ingleburn, and second posting to 5 Sig Regt.

I was posted to Canberra where I started in a staff posting followed by a posting to the Defence Computing Systems Division where I worked in operations management on the Defence mainframe.

Originally, I was to be posted to Watsonia to develop a training course for DISCON. D Sigs changed the posting to SO2 Doctrine. After much thought I took the tough decision to apply for a civil position taking over where I left off in uniform.

After a number of years with the ATO and Telecom Defence and Intelligence, I was recruited by Lockheed to fill a project management role contracted into the Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation.

I have spent more than 25 years inside the intelligence community managing significant projects such as the design and construction of the Harman Data Centre and managing the creation of the Australian Cyber Security Centre.

I ceased full time work on 30 October 2015, and we moved to Mount Martha to be close to our grandchildren. We spent five wonderful years on the Mornington Peninsula which we greatly enjoyed. The wineries and restaurants were amazing. The National Golf Club was a very regular haunt for Cherylle and me. I joined the Volunteer Coast Guard at Safety Beach.

We moved to Mirador (between Merimbula and Tura Beach) in Jan 2021 to be closer to our son and his partner who live in Canberra. Thankfully our son is a much better golfer than his dad – he got down to a handicap of 4 at Royal Canberra. I joined Marine Rescue Merimbula on arrival.

I continue sporadic part time work in Canberra and am currently working remotely for two facilities for Attorney Generals in Sydney – I still really enjoy what I do.

2699 Garry Kelly, Kapyong Company



After graduating to Engineers and completing the three-month Graduate Engineer Military Course at Canungra (to catch up on the military work that engineers missed in First Class), I married Alison McNaughton (sister of Naughts) and was posted to 3 Fd Engr Regt in Townsville. Combat engineer support to 3rd TF seemed to take a back seat after Vietnam and we actually spent most of my two years there undertaking construction works at High Range Training Area. I was then posted for a year as Garrison Engineer, North Qld.

In 1976 I completed a post graduate diploma course in Operations Research at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham in the UK, including a research thesis into scatterable mines at the Royal Armaments Research and Development Establishment in Kent. I came home to two staff postings in the Directorate of Engineers in Canberra during which our two sons, Scott and Damon, were born.

In 1980 – 81, I was OC Romani Company and Instructor Engineers at RMC. This was followed by a posting as OC 17th Construction Squadron at Holsworthy. This was an augmented unit of about 230 soldiers as the unit was on extended standby for UN duty in Namibia. Staff College followed in 1984.

In 1985 - 86 I was posted as instructor at the US Army Engineer School on the outskirts of Washington, a career highlight for me and the family. On return to Australia, I served as Chief Engineer, 5th Military District in Perth, where the highlight was construction of Counter-Terrorist Training Facilities for SASR. I was then posted to Canungra as CO / CI Junior Officer Wing, which ran staff courses for captains and Direct Entry Officers. In 1992 I returned to Canberra as a Project Director in Army Accommodation and Works (AW), where the highlight was construction of Robertson Barracks near Darwin, along with a multitude of other projects around Australia. In 1995 I was promoted to Deputy Director General of the AW Branch and later had a short stint in Defence Recruiting.

In 1997 I was posted as Director of Engineers at SME Moorebank, a job that only lasted 10 months before the positions of Corps Directors were abolished, although I held an appointment of Honorary Head of Corps for another two years. In 1998 I was promoted Brigadier and served for four years as Director General Project Delivery Branch in Facilities and Property Division, responsible for all capital works projects in Defence. This was a very rewarding appointment, with strong focus on ADF capability.

After retiring from the Army in early 2002, I worked as a consultant for about a year before accepting a position with John Holland, a major construction contractor, working primarily in Government and Defence business development. I fully retired in 2012. We live in Canberra and have four grandchildren – all now local. They are a large part of our lives and I still enjoy cycling, kayaking and the Brumbies. Extended tours of Gallipoli and the Western Front have completed the trifecta I started on the Kokoda Track at RMC in 1971.



2614 Peter Lawrence, Kokoda Company

(previously published in the Class of 1971 Old Mates Gazette)



After a struggle to understand how the atom was split and other scientific things that meant little to me as a teenager I opted for the short(er) officer course after two and a quarter years at Clink. To my delight this was at Army's Victorian seaside retreat of Portsea. Many delightful memories of fog and rain which guaranteed Victoria as a 'not want' for future postings.

The short course meant Anneliese and I were able to marry in April '71 after the YO's course, so we have celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary already!

Anneliese really enjoyed her introduction to Army life. Our first married quarter was equally located between the Darra cement works, Wacol Prison and the Wacol pickling factory. Fortunately, I was away on exercise or courses most of the time, so it really wasn't that bad. Life eventually settled down and just when we had our first baby (Rebecca) we were posted to Holsworthy. Then followed a series of regimental, staff and training jobs, including back to Duntroon as Instructor Artillery (really the Wallaby Troop Commander) and the arrival of son James.

Postings then followed the normal two-year cycle moving to Manly, Larkhill, Queenscliff, Canberra, Holsworthy, Toronto, Mosman and finally Victoria Barracks.

I retired on my 30th anniversary of our Attestation Day. Since then, Anneliese and I have enjoyed a more cosmopolitan life. I worked in an operational role at Sydney International Terminal for the Olympics and then project managing construction at the Airport – and I was just a Gunner! My final role was CEO of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists – yes, I have heard all the 'sleeping' jokes – retiring in 2012.

Anneliese's career was non-existent for our first 30 years, but on settling down in Sydney she was able to focus on interior decorating, design, art, and colour consulting; starting her own consultancy and business. After retiring, Anneliese volunteered in a number of areas including teaching art to the disabled and 'Dress for Success', an organisation that assists disadvantaged women to return to the workforce and become financially independent.

Both our children chose careers in finance (wonder why?) and moved back to Sydney in the last 10 years; so, we see more of Rebecca and James's family, and our grandkids, than we ever had the opportunity with both our parents.

In retirement, I volunteer two days a week for the Harbour Trust at North Head in the restoration centre – great team of old chaps – with David Taylor too! Also, since retiring I have been a director of the RAA Historical Company (with John Cox); having filled some of the 'not want' roles of Secretary and now, again, Treasurer.

I have become an avid kayaker. Most weekends I roam the Harbour with my two paddle buddies – both anaesthetists! Anneliese and I enjoy walking the headlands or over the bridge into Sydney for exercise. And yoga is our thing twice a week – hard to believe!

Writing this, has made me think about our lives, our opportunities, and challenges. We have enjoyed our postings and (just about) every job. The experiences and skilling I gained prepared me very well for roles in and out of uniform.

Anneliese and I have been very fortunate.



2700 David Leyshon, Kokoda Company



The Facts: Name DAVID WILLIAM LEYSHON

Rank STAFF CADET

Army No. 219251

Enlisted at DUNTROON 24TH JANUARY 1969

Discharged at DUNTROON 11TH DECEMBER 1970

Reason ... RMC REG 33 (1) (g)

Period of Service ... 1year 341 days

Distinctive Marks or Scars ... NONE

The Definitive Story

It all began one fine and mild Sunday afternoon in April 1970 at RMC Duntroon golf club when I was about to have a friendly 9 holes with the Dentist, I think it was, when up strolled Bill Richardson and asked me if I was interested in playing in a representative golf team for the college. As a result, Bill's father organised for a group of us interested golfers to get some lessons from a young pro golfer called Gary Player (not THAT Gary Player), the other one. The highlight of playing Junior Pennants for RMC was watching a young girl by the name of Jan Stephenson practice putting at Royal Canberra Golf Club. Geoff Hay and, I think it was Roger Powell, were convinced it was her, through the fog.

Upon returning to civvy life I joined a financial institution and in 1973 was offered a posting to Norfolk Island. The golf course there reminded me very much of a battlefield with all 9 greens encircled with barbed wire and the fairways strewn with landmines (cowpats). Johnny Barwick came to visit, enough said. I regret not being at Bar's grad and his funeral, but I still fondly remember him. He was unique.

1988 was a memorable year; bi-centenary, expo and I reacquainted my ageing PGF Status Mk IVs with, at the time Sydney's newest golf club, Wakehurst. What in 1972 when it opened were 18 holes of torture eventually turned into a very good track. I managed to attain a captaincy, a few club champs (B Grade) a couple of aces and some great friendships.

My wife, who I met and married on Norfolk (she was from the Northern Beaches originally) plays the game as do our three children. Elder daughter took it further and is a Professional and member of the PGA.

2021 saw my wife and I move north to a little coastal town with a 9 holer, knew some people, met new ones, and still enjoy the game and hope to for some time to come. 2022 will see the 50th anniversary of a golf club that was an enormous part of our lives and also the same anniversary of that fabulous class of Duntroon graduates.

Congratulations Gentlemen"

2701 Kevin Loughrey, Alamein Company



On graduating from RMC, I promptly married my wife, Janice. We were posted to Melbourne, me as the OC of an Automotive Engineering Company at 3 Base Wksp Bn. Whilst there, I improved on the rifle I had made at College.

Because I became known (or notorious) for this, after two years, I was posted to a staff appointment in Melbourne in charge of armaments and small arms. Here we had our first child, Felicity, in 1975. Whilst there I invented a new type of portable, adjustable physiotherapy table for children suffering from cystic fibrosis.

In 1977, I was posted to Coopers Plains, Qld, to create the 1st Medium Workshop and be its 2IC. Tammy our next daughter was born here.

In 1979, I was appointed OC of ACT Workshop Platoon where I developed a computerised accounting system for management of contract repair, using the RMC's Minicomputer for that purpose. This impressed the Director General of RAEME and so he appointed me to handle, as the SO2 Systems Development, the conception, specification, and development of a new generation of Computerised Maintenance Management Systems which came to be known as EMEDATER and EMEMic.

In 1982, I was posted to Command & Staff College in Queenscliff, Vic and then in 1983, to Germany on secondment with the British Army as a Forward Company Commander of an Armoured Workshop. Andrew, our son, was born in a hospital in Hannover. In 1985, I served in Ops Branch, Army Office Canberra and was responsible for causing the transfer of all helicopters from the RAAF to the Army.

In 1987-89, I was the CO of 1 Base Wksp Bn where I created software that enabled IBM PCs to communicate with any Defence Standard Mini-computer. I was then posted to 27 District Wksp in the UK where I developed my software further and, as Production Manager, created a novel automated spare parts ordering system and a system that computerised the management of equipment calibration.

In 1990, on return from the UK, I attended Joint Services Staff College and, after that, was the Army's representative on what was called the Defence Regional Support Review. This depressed me so badly, I decided to leave the Army to seek the excitement of private enterprise. In 1991, I was the Engineering Superintendent of Consolidated Rutile's mining operation on North Stradbroke Island. The mines closed at the end of that year, so I found a job as Head of Maintenance Support Branch in the Civil Aviation Authority of Australia. I quit that job after a year to be the GM of Tech Development of a start-up company that eventually listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and had substantial interests in two other companies in the US. The focus of this company was on the development of novel Radio Frequency Identification equipment and the manufacture of chips incorporating a novel type of memory. In 1997, I started up my own companies, one of which was focused on computer systems & bespoke software development and systems maintenance. In 2005, I was recalled onto full time active duty because of a shortage of chartered engineers in the military. I served in a number of technical specialist appointments and retired again 2012. On leaving the Army a second time, I became involved in the commercialisation of a new type of ID system. When that project folded, Jan and I decided to move to Ballina to build a house and be near recently born grandchildren. Jan and I now have three adult children and 5 grandchildren.



2743 Rick MacIntyre, Kapyong Company



Graduation '72 saw me both newly commissioned into the RNZASC, and newly married to my Cremorne bride, returning to New Zealand, close to home territory in the South Island. In the way that only the military could organize, Bronwyn and I came south while our gear went north! A late change of posting was the culprit; was this to be a scene setter?

The next couple of decades saw us, like most others, frequently on the move up and down the country, interspersed with some time overseas. We were living in Waiouru in the mid 1970's when the nearest volcano erupted - heralding the arrival of our first child; in Singapore in the late 1970's when Vietnam invaded Laos (time to check the passports); and in Auckland doing aerial delivery work in the early 1980's where we really enjoyed sailing in and around the Waitemata Harbour.

A final return to the South Island (mainland) saw our time in the military come to an end on my birthday in 1989. We settled in Christchurch where we hoped to give our two children stability for their high school years following the normal Army children bucket load of primary schools. Two years later we started home-schooling the children and added three more to their number during the early-mid 1990's!

For a number of years I worked for local government in Canterbury in the emergency management field, which I found both interesting and a reasonably smooth transition from military days. We had our share of alerts and emergencies, but I was well gone before the Christchurch earthquakes! Retiring in 1997, we moved south onto a small rural holding to be nearer to family for a time; returning to North Canterbury where we have lived in the country for the last couple of decades. Bronwyn and I have become involved in the life of our local Church where the needs of the folk and the community always are present. Like others, we have found the Covid pandemic has brought demands of its own and has caused some family traumas.

This fiftieth year since graduation also brings our fiftieth wedding anniversary on 14 December, a milestone that we anticipate warmly; as well as being a reminder of the march of time! Most of our family live in North Canterbury, while our older son and family presently live in Denmark. Three children are married, and we enjoy six grandchildren to date; while our younger enfants are in their mid-twenties. These days, Bronwyn and I spend as much of our time as we can touring the land in our camper which, for us, is a lot of fun and a new adventure each trip.



2703 Kym MacMillan, Kapyong Company



One of the few in the Class (probably the only one) not to get any of my three Corps preferences, the Army in its wisdom decided I was a grunt. So, after Graduation I dutifully went off to 3RAR in Woodside, where I took over the Assault Pioneer Platoon.

A posting to the Defence Intelligence Organisation (coincidentally Int was one of my Corps choices) was followed by a return to the Infantry Centre in Singleton (where I met Robyn, my wife-to-be, a teacher in Newcastle). Next was the middle east with UNTSO, for duty on the Golan Heights and Lebanon, and as Operations Officer in UN HQ Jerusalem. Robyn came over to visit, stayed, and we were married in Tiberias in May 1979.

We returned to Australia in 1980 to a posting as a Company Commander back in 3RAR. Highlights were the infamous Ex Droughtmaster where we tested the CO's idea that walking in front of APCs was better than riding in them, and the start of the conversion of 3RAR to the parachute role. But in the meantime, I'd made the mistake of putting a paper to the Head of Corps arguing for better weapons – as punishment, I was then invited to do the technical staff course at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham in the UK. Effectively, that ended my career as a field infantry officer and I spent much of the next 30 years on capability development, project management and military technology related work.

In 1988 I returned to the UK as the Exchange Instructor at RMCS, teaching weapons technology including artillery and armour systems (ironically, artillery and armour had been my other two corps preferences!). I returned to Canberra in 1990 as a Visiting Fellow at the Defence Force Academy, where I did a Masters' degree and had the task of designing a local post-graduate course to match the very expensive RMCS program. The unimaginatively named Australian Technical Staff Officer Course began at ADFA in 1993 and is still going strong.

In 1996 we headed off to Washington DC where I became the Director of the Australia-Britain-Canada-America (ABCA) standardisation office for three years. Bob Cooper ('71), Lee Osborne ('74) and Pete Overstead were part of the team at various stages. That was probably the best posting of my career, with travel all over the States and Canada and Robyn even found work as an analyst in the Centre for Land Warfare in the Pentagon.

We returned to Canberra at the end of 1999 to take up an appointment as Director Battlefield Command Systems but within months I was advised that a move to Melbourne was necessary if I wanted further promotion. No offence to our classmates from south of the border, but that just wasn't appealing, and Robyn thought it was time we settled down and I got a real job.

In 2001 I began a new career, working for a major US defence consultancy (Booz Allen). That was an interesting 10 years, working in Defence across numerous projects but also having the opportunity to work with their global team in NZ, Japan, UK, UAE, and Saudi Arabia. Eight months in Riyadh was a great experience but quite long enough! In 2012, we were taken over by PWC but I didn't like their accounting focus so in 2014 I set up my own 1-man consulting service. That kept me busy until 2020 when I decided it was all getting a bit repetitive, so I decided to retire - just in time for COVID to destroy all our travel plans.

Along the way, Robyn and I managed to have two children and 3 grandchildren. We're fully settled in Canberra where Robyn still does part-time work with ACT Education and I'm a volunteer researcher in the Official History section of the War Memorial.



2749 Jon Mander-Jones, Gallipoli Company



I was born in Adelaide, I had a very stable safe upbringing, I went to the same school till I left to join the Army in 1969. I have two brothers, one in Sydney and one in Melbourne. I joined the Army and went into it to make it my profession. My Dad had been in WW2 and was a senior officer. He was on Blamey's staff and ended up as DDMI, at full Colonel. It's what I wanted to do, Vietnam was happening, it seemed like the right thing to do for me. It all looked aligned, then RMC '69, then I failed my engineering math subject, I was offered a repeat, but the thought of it did not gel. So, I chose to get out. I went to university and became an engineer. I joined the Army reserve and was light years ahead of my cohort.

After Uni, (which was fun) I went straight into the largest construction outfit in Australia and was fortunate to work on the largest civil engineering projects in Australia. My approach was simple, volunteer for everything. I was better equipped than most of my peers from my military training in marshalling people, equipment, and the logistics. We had a twin engine Cessna 402, and we did the new rail line to Alice Springs. I loved it and could contribute. At one point the company had to do some blasting of some hard rock. So, the Project Manager said to me 'you were in the Army, go and buy the explosives' We had a powder monkey, so I went into Coober Pedy, got an explosives licence at the Police Station and bought the TNT. What could go wrong?

Met a girl, as you do, fell in love, as you do, got married as you do. I had no idea about females, I was raised in an all-boys family. The only female I knew was my dear mother. The marriage fell apart after two years, she ran off with another bloke, and broke my heart into a thousand pieces.

I went into work mode, threw myself at everything that I could find and did well, got promoted, would have been a senior manager, but all too easy really. I was a project manager running roads rebuild on the Stuart Highway in NT including two bridges at a place called Barrow Creek. I was also progressing fast in the Army Reserve. In our unit we had a thriving Officers Mess and there were about 30 officers all ranks. At one point I was Mortar Platoon commander initially on 3inch, then transitioned to the 81mm. I had a full platoon of 6 tubes and about 50 all ranks. The Army asked me (or perhaps more accurately the Unit) would I like to keep a section of 3" as there was a boat load of ammo left around. Well, that wasn't a hard decision. So, I had a platoon of 8 tubes for a while. We held live firing often at Murray Bridge, Cultana and once with our Bn in Puckapunyal with the Leopard tanks. I had wonderful Regular Army Training WOs, and they saw to it we had everything we needed. They were such great sponsors I was in awe of their resourcefulness. In the Army Reserve I ended up as 2IC of the Bn, also served on HQ 9Bde as SO2 ops. We did several of the Kangaroo series exercises, most fun was the time we were in Derby WA. We had a part Sqn of RAAF FA18. The enemy were SAS det. We did exercises with the USAF 'Talon' aircraft.

But I had a career to build, I applied for a position overseas with a big American company, Bechtel, in the Middle East in Saudi Arabia. Got it, I resigned my job and went o/s. The world opened up for me. At the age of 31 I had a shot at a career with the third largest construction outfit in the world. Loved it, worked on the largest civil project in the world at the time. In Saudi I was in the Eastern Province, at Jubail. I had huge projects and learnt a great deal about project

management and engineering than I would ever encounter in Australia. We had 800 engineers on the project, and a workforce of 20,000. I had met several girls since the divorce but nothing to hold me back, to say I was wary, is probably correct. In Saudi we had regular leave to London, so I met several likeminded Aussies and we hit it hard when we went on R n R.

I spent seven years in that lifestyle, did well in Bechtel, was promoted. Went all over the world. Went to the US several times, learnt to fly there in my spare time and then flew helicopters. I was offered a job flying choppers off Tuna Boats out of San Diego. But there was no support, I had to do the maintenance and there is no SAR in the south pacific. So, I thought “hmmm, Jon, you aren’t a mechanic” So decided to go back to Bechtel as they offered me a position in Australia at Portland Vic.

Guess what? I had met a girl. Thought I had fallen in love, got married, and we returned to Australia, to settle down, have kids, there were several, all lovely, beautiful, wonderful children.

I took what I could get in Adelaide, found a good position in a middle level building company, the work wasn’t hard for me, but to progress it took me away. The marriage became unbearable, she tried to control me, and things ended very sadly. There were kids involved so she got everything, and I got access. I have nine kids,

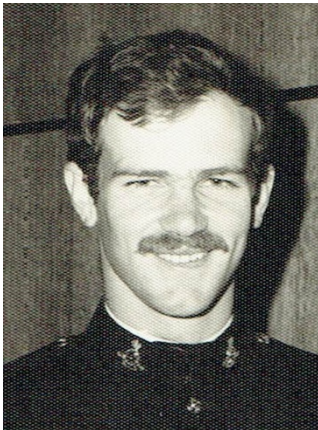


three boys, and six girls. All are scattered over Australia, and one in the USA. My kids were my priority, still are really. That’s them in the photo with partners and Grandkids

I was headhunted, and I ran a company in KL Malaysia for 3 years, went all over the world, had projects in Guinea Africa, Albania Europe, India, Myanmar, China. By the end of 2000 I came back to Australia, found a job in Sydney in the rail industry managing the major projects, and since then I have become a consultant in construction, where I am now here in Brisbane. Another relationship in there, now very much over.

So, my mates that is my story in a nutshell. I live an apartment in Brisbane, still work as a consultant engineer, still enjoy that, particularly the mentoring and interaction with the younger ones. I live alone, talk, and visit my kids often, have 3 grandchildren in Adelaide, one more coming. I believe life has much more to offer. Some people can’t understand me, I guess the answer is I have seen a lot more than most and realize that each day is just very precious.

2704 Robert (Bob) Martens, Kokoda Company



Entered in '69 with Class of '72 repeated 3rd class in '71 and graduated with class of '73.

On graduating into RAEME in Dec 73 my first posting in 1974 was to the General Engineering Company in the Technical Services Unit (TSU) at Broadmeadows in Melbourne. My next posting in Jan '76 was to the RAEME Trg Cen (RTC) at Bandiana as the 2IC Vehicle Wing, but my immediate role was to become the RTC lead for Leopard Tank training. This included a very interesting 4.5 month posting to the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) as it was then, to train with the Bundeswehr and then with the major suppliers of components for the tank. After also serving as acting OC Vehicle Wing for six months my time in the Regular Army was up, leaving in Mar '79.

My new career in civilian life started with the NSW Department of Main Roads in the Mechanical Section where I had roles in the Head Office in Sydney CBD and then at the Central Workshop at Clyde. However, I had decided that a life of commuting for three or four hours per day was not for me and in 1983 we moved to Canberra where I was to start a long-term association with the Commonwealth and ACT Territory Governments. My first position was working in the DoD as the project engineer on the Minehunter Inshore project within Navy Office (pre DMO).

In 1987 I moved to the Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce as a project manager and then in 1989 to the newly formed ACT Territory Government General Works Section as the Senior Engineer Building Services. Staying with the Territory Government I moved to the ACT Bus Service (ACTION Buses) as the Fleet Manager and after a reorganisation, as the General Manager for services for the South side of Canberra. From ACTION to ACT Electricity and Water in 1995 as the Manager Hydraulic Operations North and in 1999 got caught in a redundancy and left the Public Service (PS) to take a position with a project management consulting firm.

2001 back in the Public Service with the Health Insurance Commission in the program management office and stayed until resignation in mid-2005. Worked for a couple of consulting firms until we left the ACT in 2008 when I re-joined the PS and moved to become the Contracts Manager at Williamtown AFB with the DMO for the maintenance of the FA18 Hornet fleet. Left that role after 18 months to a position on the NSW Central Coast to become the fleet manager for Pall Australia to supply the ADF with water purification and desalination plant. In mid-2013 I started my own company to contract back into Pall. Closed the company in 2019 and was engaged by the Central Coast Council as a Commercial Analyst from mid-2019 to late 2020.

My ARes career began during my time in the DMR when I joined one of the DMR sponsored squadrons in 21 Const Regt. Corps transferred to RAE and was appointed as a Sqn 2IC. After completing the Reserve Command and Staff College (Intermediate) and the ROAC course at SME I was appointed as OC of a Sqn. After moving to the ACT I was posted to the Reserve Staff Group which was a big mistake as it was like a graveyard after the Regiment and prompted my departure from the Reserve in about 1988.

On my way through all this I completed my engineering degree conversion, a Bachelor of Economics, and an MBA. Of late, I have been studying Mandarin Chinese for five years but

decided to cease my association with the Confucius Institute 12 months ago as I didn't wish to be involved with any organisation connected to the Chinese Communist Party. I am about to restart this study with a private on-line tutor. I am currently a member of the local Central Coast committee for Engineers Australia and still maintain my registration as a Chartered Professional Engineer.

I have been married for 48 years and have one daughter and a grandson who live in Canberra.



2705 Peter Martyn, Alamein Company



Acceptance into RMC was my exit ticket from a small country town and a chance to improve on a haphazard education. So began a career of luck and opportunity. Those four years passed in a flash. So quickly in fact that I only managed to cop two extra drills and they came from Prof David Swan for skipping one of his enchanting science classes.

The 1971 decision to allow cadets to access external libraries for research on Thursday nights was the perfect opportunity to study the effects of alcohol and gambling. In company with another classmate, we regularly studied at the Queanbeyan Leagues Club enjoying a T bone steak, a few cleansing ales and several hours on the one arm bandits. Maybe it was the illusion or forlorn hope that our meagre pay might be supplemented. Like most who engage in games of chance we never lost!

When it came to nominating Corps preferences, I faced the dilemma of reconciling my future Army career and the prospect of years of peace with my future post-Army career. I elected Ordnance to the surprise of some and the dismay of others.

The first posting - to the far North - was on a promise my new unit was preparing to go to Vietnam. However, that promise didn't account for a change of Government and plans or the '73 reorganisation of the Army's Service Corps. Lesson one in the real Army - there is no such thing as a temporary building or permanent establishment. It proved to be a great life living in a regular infantry battalion and working externally in a service environment. From the far North I was able to gain selection for the Ammunition Technical Officers course. What I hadn't allowed for was the inevitable change to the plan. The Colonel CO in Brisbane decided he needed a liaison officer, and I was it - ATO course cancelled, move to Brisbane.

The sun shone in the Qld capital as it was here that I met my wife Sue, an Army Psychologist, and eight months later in August 1975 we married. Sue and I have two wonderful children and five beautiful grandchildren. Two weeks after marriage we were living in the USA while I attended the US Army Management College. Typically, I didn't use much of the training while in the army, but it was invaluable for my post-army career.

I can't really claim to have had the usual run of Corps appointments because I didn't. Apart from the three command appointments my most fulfilling appointment commenced in the latter half of '79 with the chance to work with Brian Mitchell and then Doug Formby in the Office of the Military Secretary, managing the officer postings of major and below.

Luck continued after Command and Staff College in '82 with two years in 1 Division headquarters followed by the first command appointment. Having been given six months' notice to return to Townsville to command a Battalion, the plan changed yet again to the Command of a Battalion in NZ - with only six weeks' notice to be there with family. Three years in NZ was followed by six months in Canberra at Joint Service Staff College then off to Sydney to Command the Logistic Support Force (now 17 Brigade) for three years.

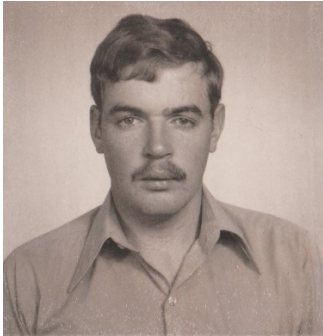
So, by the early nineties we were in Sydney and up to move number 18. Following our daughter's attendance at five different primary schools around the country and overseas I had promised both our children that they would attend only one high school in their secondary years. The opportunity to join Nokia provided the needed solution. However, little did I realise at the time that working for an international company involves international travel ... lots of

it. Several senior roles in Australia and NZ culminated in another three years in the US with Nokia following which it was time for early retirement. After only three months and halfway through a Scuba licence the joint venture company, forerunner to BAE Systems, offered a senior management role. There followed another seven years in harness before finally retiring at the third attempt.

Retirement has been a life of leisurely travel and time to enjoy family, grandchildren, long lunches, drinks with classmates and some volunteer work.



2709 Peter McCann, Alamein Company



After Grad I headed for sunny Puckapunyal to attend the “Grubs” course and afterwards and was posted to the A/Adjt position at the School. Subsequently I was posted to Driver Training Wing as a Pl Comd. I had the honour? of commanding the first ever all-female drivers’ course. One Friday I was called to the OC’s office, and he congratulated me on being posted as the OC of 88 Tpt Pl at Randwick which at that time was the Army’s only tipper platoon though there were actually 3 sections of cargo vehicles. He said, “be there Monday!” In those days a Tpt Pl strength was 30 task vehicles, 2 Offrs and 75 ORs which was quite a big responsibility for a young Captain.

I then was posted to the Ops Officer 18 Tpt Coy and finally to the Adjt of 9 Tpt Colm.

In 1978 I was posted to Canberra as the SO3 IGRES which was basically a boring non-job. Most days I had absolutely nothing to do. I was offered a job in the public service in Darwin which sounded interesting, so I got out. After a few years there I got a job with Nabalco, a bauxite mine and alumina plant, in Gove NT in 1981 as an industrial engineer. I was asked to join the new NORFORCE Unit that was just starting up, so I started being involved with the Army again. We moved to Brisbane in 1983 and I joined Brambles as the Operations Officer of their Security company. I stayed in the Army Reserve, and I transferred to Infantry (I know, I know, hard to believe but the promotion prospects were much better) and eventually reached LT COL and commanded a Training Unit 1RTU. I also started my own business and ran it for 11 years.

In 2001 I had sold my business and was at a bit of a loose end. I attended JSSC and afterwards I got a job selling new cars for a while which I quite enjoyed. Then came 9/11. An Army Reserve mate had recently been offered a short service commission, so I rang DOCM and offered my services. They told me I had to voluntarily reduce rank to Major. Within a few weeks I was back in uniform at HQ Trg Comd. I was re-enlisted in the ARA after the expiry of the SSC. Ironically, I was one of the first to leave the Army, but I think the last to serve in the ARA.

In 2007 they discovered a tumor in my left groin. After three rounds of surgery, I decided it was time to enjoy life a bit more as they only gave me a 40% chance of lasting 10 years. The next nine years were spent sailing in the USA and the Bahamas in between stints of Reserve and full-time service at HQ JOC and AHQ. My second last posting was working with Ben McLennan whose father Tony was my Section Commander in second class! I finally left the Army in 2016.

At the same time, we renovated two houses, one in Batemans Bay and then Lemon Tree Passage in Port Stephens NSW. We now live in Long Jetty which is on the Central Coast of NSW about 90 mins North of Sydney. I have been a member of Marine Rescue NSW for 5 years and am kept busy as the Deputy Unit Commander of the local Unit.

I married Gayle in 1975 and we had two children and now have seven grandchildren, four boys and three girls. Our health is good although, like many, I have had a total knee replacement. I have had no recurrence of the carcinoma.



2621 Duncan McInnes, Kokoda Company



I entered Clink a year earlier than you guys. Joined you when you got back from Point Hut. Actually, I could have been your First Class! Given the many transfers of my father as a NSW country bank manager, I had attended six primary schools, repeated 5th Class and then was in the first cohort to do the six years of secondary schooling and new HSC. Yes, I could have been waiting for you at Anzac Hall!

Clearly, I chose the wrong academic course in 1968. Almost every night back in Anzac Hall, the infamous Cosgrove and McDermott would encourage my studies with “you know you can’t go to Infantry if you do that Engineering Course”! And Joff Johnson still dines out on a story of my performance in Physics under the Dean. You will recall that Military Subjects were marked out of 10; in which I did quite well. After an assessment test in Physics, as I entered the lecture room the Dean said, “and Mr McInnes, you scored 8.” I showed my delight, until Joff called out from the tiered seats “percent!!” I was asked to repeat 4th Class. The Arts Course was more my liking.

Overall, I enjoyed my years at Duntroon with all classmates. “Boys Own” stuff in the outdoors, always busy and lots to do. After all, I did come from six years of boarding school, so I was already institutionalised! I was allotted to Field Artillery and posted to a Regiment (not of my choosing) for my rugby skills! On arrival, my Battery Commander greeted me with, “Ah!! so you’re that f..... footballer coming to the Regiment”. Me Sir??

A year later, in January 1974, I married Carmel Ryan in the Duntroon Chapel with several of you along. Andy Rankine was my Best Man.

I had a lack-lustre Army career with postings to three ARA Regts, two ARes Regts, OCS Portsea and HQ Trg Comd. Fell out early with DArty when I refused to be ADC to GOC 1 Div late in 1974; and later knocked back a UN Observer job in 1976 to leave immediately when Carmel was about to give birth. Yes, I know, I did it my way!

I attended NZ Army Grade 2 Staff & Tactics Course in 1981. Although 3rd on course after the Brit and the Yank, I was to find out later this was “poor man’s staff college” for me. Years on, as an economic conscript, I was going nowhere but as a Major (SO2 Finance) at HQ Trg Comd; I resigned in 1990.

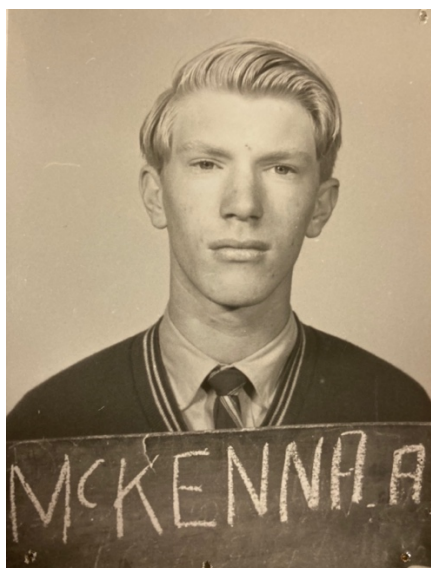
Post-Army, I served as Executive Director of NSW Parents Council for 16 years; being the face and voice for parents with children at non-government schools in schooling policy and funding matters.

Since 2007, I continue to work as a free-lance BAS Agent with a variety of owner-operated and medium-sized businesses in Sydney.

Carmel and I have been most fortunate in our marriage; with four children, nine grandchildren and all living around Sydney. The Clan Castle has been at North Willoughby since 1985. The real estate agents will come back when my pine box goes out the front door. But not yet!! Mates forever!



2710 Tony McKenna, Kapyong Company



On graduation from Duntroon I was allocated to the RAA and headed off to spend three months on the Young Officers' course at the School of Artillery at North Head. On completion of the course I was posted to 1 Fd Regt based at Wacol in Brisbane where I spent 1973 as a Section Commander in 101 Fd Bty (Peter Lawrence was GPO) and 1974 as GPO 105 Fd Bty before being posted again at the beginning of 1975.

This new posting saw me as SO3 Trg/Air HQ 6TF at Enoggera for the next two years followed by a move to Perth at the end of 1976 on appointment as Trg Offr 7 Fd Bty at Karrakatta. During my time there I chose to embark on a career in 'civvy' street and left the Army in December 1977.

I spent the next eight years in a number of roles with BP Australia in WA, living in Merredin and Albany as the local Territory Manager and then back to Perth as a Project Manager installing computers in country fuel depots. This position saw me transferred to Melbourne in 1986 to take on a national role in support of this project and subsequently as a Business Analyst on the project team developing the next generation system.

After 15 years with BP, I moved on and spent the next five years at Lockwood, mainly as Customer Service Manager. Finally, I spent 15 years as Customer Service Manager then Marketing Services Manager at Grand Battery Technologies until early retirement in 2013. I got restless after 6 months and started at the Sandybeach Community Centre in Sandringham where I am currently the Transport Co-ordinator. This position also includes the roles of Driver and Support Worker for programmes directed towards Seniors and people with age related conditions.

During my working career I quickly found that there was not a big calling for a qualified gunnery officer, so I undertook part-time study for nine years at Monash University where I gained a Bachelor of Business (Management) and a Master of Business (Marketing).

Twice married, I have two daughters, two step-daughters, and six grandchildren – two boys and four girls. They are spread between Port Macquarie, Adelaide and Perth which leaves us all to ourselves in Melbourne.

I have been a Rotarian since March 1999, currently as a member of the Rotary Club of Beaumaris.



2711 Tony McLeod, Alamein Company



I graduated into the Royal NZ Artillery and had a twenty year career, mainly in gunnery roles including CI School of Artillery (4 Years) and attendance at the Long Gunnery Course in Canada in 1981. My non regimental appointments included ADC to the GG Sir Keith Holyoake, and UNTSO (1979/80). I went to Staff College (Queenscliff) the year after all my classmates (1986), and finished my career as Lt Colonel, Director of Artillery (1987/88). Mary and I had 3 young kids at this time, and I wanted a stable base to bring them up. So, then things got interesting!!

My first post army move was to buy a large supermarket in Wellington (the greatest number of millionaires in NZL are supermarket owners!). Unfortunately, that was the same time as an aggressive expansion of supermarkets in Wellington and 4 years later we got squeezed out of business. This was a very difficult time as we lost our shirts, had to sell our house etc, but it also coincided with a great period in the Auckland Real Estate market, so we moved to Auckland in 1994 and got into the property development game. I got hands-on, actually doing the building myself which I loved. So, we got our shirts back on, then had a 13 year stint as owner/operators of a Bookshop/NZ Post/Kiwibank franchise.

In about 2010 Mary got sick of being made redundant from her high-powered corporate jobs so set out and established her own Early Childhood Education Centre company. We now have seven Centres employing 150 staff and looking after about 800 children in the South Auckland area. I keep well clear except to keep the MYOB accounts and keep out of her way! We still have some property developments as works-in-progress.

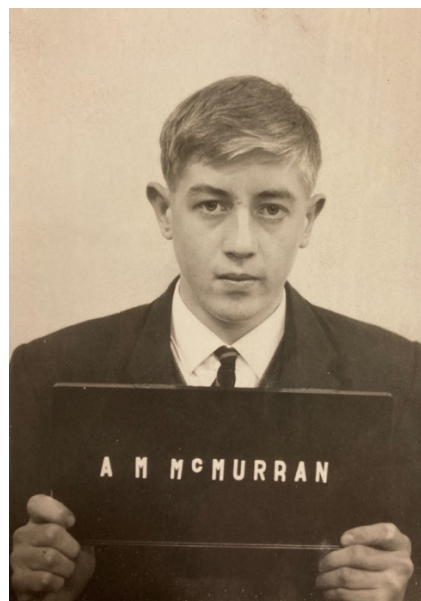
I was appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 2013, with letters of support from the local squash club which I had been heavily involved with over the 1990-2010 period, and the Royal NZ Artillery Association which I presided over from 2010 -2021. I loved the involvement with both those organisations and hope to `repurpose` my volunteer efforts in the near future.



2712 Alan McMurrin, Gallipoli Company

Chronology:

- Met Steve Garner at Singleton in 1967, by happenstance, and discovered we were both contemplating Duntroon.
- I was on scholarship from 1968 after selection trials at North Head in Sydney.
- My team didn't do very well, and so I was not optimistic, then surprised I was accepted.
- Don't remember much except for the psych questions which I found bizarre.... ('*Would you cross the road to avoid someone?*'), and the fact I was considered '*quite small*' and '*do you have a problem with that?*' I thought I had failed the 'size' requirement, even more so when I realized most of our class were quite large when I met some of them at Central, and on the train (Mike Braithwaite, Dave Goggin, Dennis Brennan and Kevin Hindle, John McNamara, to mention a few); felt better when I met Tony McLeod and Pete Overstead!!



- 1969-1972 is still a 'blur', but I loved every minute.... well almost!
- At Point Hut, met the repeats on Day 3, and I never saw such an unhappy cadet as Patrick Ryan esq, who went on to become a very good mate.
- I left in September 1972 after a considered decision not to spend the rest of my working life in the Army, and a long and candid conversation with the Commandant, General Pearson
- The departure was quite sudden and a bit unseemly, but I was asked not to delay as it might unduly affect more junior cadets ... so I left within the space of a few days – no regrets save for not having had an opportunity to say proper farewells to classmates, many of whom I have still not seen since First Class.
- I was at UNSW from 1973-1976 – completed a Law degree; lived by couch surfing for most of it, driving taxis and labouring and TEAS allowance (how lucky were we with 'free' university);
- Shared a flat with Paddy Ryan and we both played rugby at Gordon Club in Sydney
- 1977, I worked as a research assistant in the UNSW Law Faculty, completed my PLT and was a volunteer solicitor at Sydney's inaugural suburban Legal Centre at Redfern.
- 1978 I worked with the NSW Dept of Education with an editing team to produce illustrated texts for teaching law in NSW high schools for the newly created Legal Studies course.
- Co-edited the NSW Legal Practice Guide produced by the Redfern Legal Centre with Butterworths.
- I was contemplating a teaching career, and in 1979 went to France. I taught English in a secondary college at Avignon in southern France in Provence for 12 months.
- Returned in 1980 and worked as a solicitor in private practice. Worked in 3 firms over 40 years principally in civil litigation. Started my own firm (finally!) in 2014 which is still operating.

- In that time, I spent 20 years working on a voluntary basis on committees for the NSW Law Society, the NSW District and Supreme court liaison committees and Professional Conduct and was elected to the Law Society Council for 4 years in 2009. I worked as a District Court arbitrator from 1991, and as a professional mediator since 1994. I was appointed to the NSW Civil Administration Tribunal in 2011 and to the Cth Administrative Appeals Tribunal as a Member in 2017. I am still working at the AAT and in my own practice. So many interesting stories over the years, too many to recount here.
- Have enjoyed two RMC reunions in that time and had the good fortune to keep contact with some of you, including Rod and Pete Jenke in Melbourne and Paddy in Sydney. Mike Braithwaite was a dearly loved mate who I miss every day.
- I married Debbie in 1981 and we have spent 40 very happy years together. We have a daughter Elyse and her partner Fabio from WA, no grandchildren yet.
- We have another 'adopted' son, Aaron, who teaches maths at Oxley High School in Tamworth.
- Our children are very much adults, but still the centre of our universe and require constant attention!!!
- I still love all things Rugby and every time I watch snippets from the '72 grand final marvel at our youthful energy, however misplaced at the time 'cause we lost [damn the referee]!!

Speaking of 'snippets' what a great job Callo did keeping us all informed. I was always pleased to see and hear the news.



2713 John McNamara, Kapyong Company



I have lived in Brisbane since 1992. I resigned to be located with my son and to give a new relationship, which had started in Townsville, a chance. Thankfully, Margaret and I married in 1997. My post-employment was primarily in Rail Logistics, and I now know and understand how freight moves around our country. I worked in both State and Federal Enterprises and in the private sector.

At one stage, I was the CEO of a road transport company which was owned by Private Equity. This is a ruthless business with little recognition of past achievements. My final 6 years were as a GM for the Australian Rail Track Corporation, a phase that I really enjoyed. I retired at 67 as I was still travelling weekly and decided it was time to play.

I was fortunate enough to have had two overseas postings during my military career. The first in 1976 at the Army Logistic Centre in U.S.A and the second at Staff College in Pakistan in 1983. Unfortunately Pip and I divorced in 1985 but remain good friends and committed to our son Justin and his two boys. I attended JSSC in 1987.

My career highlight was a three-year posting in Townsville as CO 2 Field Supply Battalion. I was blessed to work alongside a wonderful group of people. We had a purpose, life was exciting, and most of all we had loads of fun.

In January 1991, I received an Order of Australia (AM). I am always thankful to the members of the Battalion and those who nominated me for this huge honour.

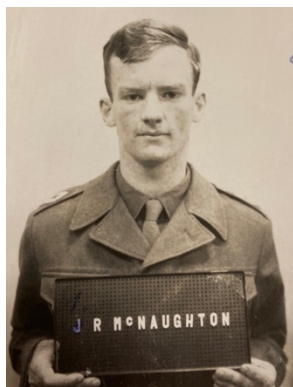
Marg and I have three children between us and four grandchildren. We have a daughter in the UK and enjoy traveling overseas and especially to Italy. Marg is a Naturopath and is still working part time. I look after the food and beverages department, an acquired nonmilitary skill. This is fun but sometimes I feel like a fox in charge of the chook house!

Post my retirement we have renovated three properties and don't mind getting our hands dirty. We are regulars at the gym and at The Melbourne Cup Carnival.

As we say - "basically, we are doing OK".



2714 Ian McNaughton, Kokoda Company



I entered RMC in 1969 and undertook the long course repeating that year and graduating in 1973 to RAA. After corps training my first posting was to 1st Field Regiment at Wacol where I spent four years. I was then posted to HQ 6 Task Force as SO3 Air. I also had a short stint as a successful rugby coach while there.

From there I was posted to 8/12 Medium Regiment at Holsworthy as Battery Captain A Field Battery which I think is the oldest unit in the Army wearing our white lanyard on the left shoulder.

After that I was promoted and posted as Senior Instructor Regimental Training Wing at the School of Artillery at North Head at the end of which I spent a time as OC Support Wing (otherwise known as OC Archways as my office was near the archway entry to the School).

Following that I was posted as SO2 Training Support at HQ Training Command at Middle Head Mosman. Of interest to some may be that part of that position was oversight of the bi-annual Combined Colleges Tour of military establishments, so I saw this tour from both ends.

From there I attended civil schooling at the then Nepean College of Advanced Education gaining a Grad Dip in Business Computing followed by a stint as Computer Development Officer at HQ Field Force Command Victoria Barracks Sydney.

I left the Army from Sydney and started work with the Queensland Government in 1989 first in workers' compensation then in workplace health and safety. This was an interesting time as it saw the end of right-wing government and many changes for the good in Queensland. I stayed with the government for about eighteen years gaining a Master of Science in Occupational Health and Safety by correspondence from the University of Greenwich along the way.

After leaving the government I started my own business doing training and systems auditing and the auditing part continues today. Latterly I include systems consulting. My son in law works in the business and will probably take over someday. We cover quality, environment, OHS, business continuity and information security.

I have been married twice and remain happily married with three successful children and six grandchildren. I was lucky to run into my second wife as she has and is a rock to me and the family. I have travelled widely, mainly following my children around the world and have many wonderful memories of overseas trips.

I played rugby after Duntroon for several years before injury precluded this. I also played cricket well into my thirties and thoroughly enjoyed that. After leaving the Army I became involved in basketball both administratively and as a coach and probably enjoy this game more than the two other sports. All things considered my health remains pretty good.

I am thinking about retirement and gradually moving that way but still enjoy contributing where I can.

My thanks to those who keep us in touch with our former Army friends as this contributes to our wellbeing.



2626 Geoff McPherson, Gallipoli Company

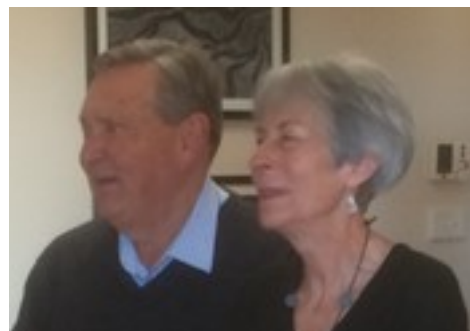


After graduating from RMC in 1972 I was allotted to RAASC, and then to RACT on its formation in 1973. My early career focused on transport and logistics roles, although I also obtained my air dispatch wings while posted to 26 Transport Coy in Puckapunyal. An early career highlight was authoring the inaugural Peacekeeping Doctrine while posted to Canungra. Attending the Royal Military College of Science in Shrivenham UK in 1981 was memorable as a young Captain, affording international connections and travel opportunities with my young family. A range of project manager positions and Staff College followed, before appointment as OC of 9 Transport Sqn. As a Lt Col I undertook various capability roles, including as Director Project Perentie. A further international opportunity saw me take up the appointment of Assistant Army Adviser at the Australian High Commission in London, from 1991- 1993. I saw out my Army career in Canberra in capability development positions covering a wide brief, including amphibious warfare, and received a Chief of Army commendation on 28 August 1998 for enhancing the Australian Defence Force's amphibious warfare capability.

I continued providing consulting services to Defence after my retirement in 1998, but increasingly turned my focus to finding ways to make a greater contribution to our community without the constraints inherent in life as an Army Officer. In 2001 I helped to establish Canberra Refugee Support Inc. (CRS) and became its founding president. CRS provides 'good neighbour' support to refugees and asylum seekers in the Canberra community, supporting clients to become as independent as possible, as quickly as possible. CRS continues to be generously supported by the community, receiving no government funding, important in allowing CRS to take on a role in advocating for refugee and asylum seeker issues at both the Federal and ACT government levels. I was recognised by the community of Canberra in 2004 by the award of Citizen of the Year and was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia in 2014 for "For significant service to the multicultural community of the Australian Capital Territory through the provision of refugee assistance programs".



I married Elizabeth shortly after graduation, on 16 December 1972, and went on to have three children and nine grandchildren. Elizabeth had a distinguished career in education culminating as Director, Learning Centre at Canberra Institute of Technology, and has also been active in the work of Canberra Refugee Support. We have been fortunate to travel extensively around Australia and the world. We had a property on the NSW South Coast for many years, and enjoyed holidays, fishing, beach and boating with family and friends. Elizabeth and I remain in Canberra, and while Parkinson's disease has started to slow me down, we continue to enjoy a lot of time with family and friends, as well as the odd bit of travel.



2706 Maurice (Maurie) Meecham, Gallipoli Company



Cavalry officer, Armoured officer, Regimental officer, Staff officer, Small Businessman, Family man and Adventurer; these summarise my life after Duntroon; and those who skim read can now skip the rest....

My military career after RMC included the normal range of command, training and staff appointments and these included spending multiple times in Brisbane, Puckapunyal and Canberra as well as Queenscliff; and three separate postings in the UK (Bovington Camp, Schrivenham and London), one in the USA (Fort Knox, Kentucky); and a shorter time in the Federal Republic of Germany attached to German, British and American units, and industry associated with the newly purchased Leopard tank. I had the honour of commanding at all levels from Troop to Brigade and finished my service as Commander 7th Brigade in Brisbane in 1997. My regimental command was Australia's only tank regiment, 1st Armoured Regiment; and my most interesting staff appointment was as Personal Staff Officer (Operations) to the CDF during the first Gulf War.

Retiring early for family reasons in March 1998, I settled in Brisbane and embarked on a consultancy career, initially as a single operator and after a few years with two partners. Our main focus was tracking government initiatives that compelled change with an emphasis on resilience, emergency and disaster management. Clients included Federal, State and Local government agencies and the Water and Mining industries.

I married Joan Parsons in December 1975 in Dorset in the UK after my Bovington course and we have two children, Tristan and Georgina, and two grandchildren. We have lived in The Gap in Brisbane since I left the Army. Joan is an agricultural scientist, qualified teacher, pianist, sewing enthusiast, avid reader and is a social and environmental warrior.

My interests are many; most of which I share with Joan. Foremost is yacht racing and cruising. I raced in the 1970s and was a crewman on the line honours winner "Apollo" in 1978. We purchased a Catalina mono hull after we both retired and spent each winter for six years cruising the Queensland coast and offshore reefs and islands, usually as far as the Whitsundays, Townsville or Cairns. We also sea kayak, hike and camp and I enjoy fishing, crabbing, and oystering.

We both have a love and interest in travel and have been fortunate to visit all seven continents, some in more detail than others. Other interests include Rugby, current and international affairs and conservation picture framing; and I am a Life Member of the Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association of Queensland whose Advisory Board I chaired for many years; and the 2nd/14th Light Horse Regimental Association which I established and was the inaugural President. I was honoured to become a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for my service to Army, particularly as Commander 7th Brigade and Director of Military Art and Deputy Commandant at Duntroon in 1998.



Fully retired now, I hope to live long enough to enjoy many more adventures with Joan....

2708 Don Muirhead, Kapyong Company



Military Career

Had a boys-own life for the first 15 years.

Resigned as a Lt Col reaching 20years service (last period on furlough half pay)

Highlights

Operational postings in 3Task Force Townsville (1973-74 and 1980-81)

Reconstruction works in Darwin after Cyclone Tracey (19 Chief Engineer Works 1975-76)

UNTSO Sinai and Golan 1979/80

OC 22 Construction Squadron Perth 1983-4

- Big boys' toys; bulldozers, trucks etc.
- Foreign aid to Fiji

Lowlights

Postings to “drive a desk” in Training Command and HQ 2MD (SO1 Works CE2MD); mind boggles at my title of SO1 Devices Trg Comd!!

C&SC 1984; Could have been a much more inspirational course, not exactly realistic/enthralling pretending you command battalions of tanks etc.

Following Class of 72 at GEM Course Canungra 1973; thanks guys (not) 😊

Civilian Career

Moran Health Care Group as Group Projects Manager 3 years: construction and maintenance of their nursing home, private hospital, and retirement village empire. Lesson; never work for a family company; blood is thicker than water no matter how bad the blood may be!!

Optus 9 years; great fun in a start-up. Jobs included:

- national manager for site acquisition, design, and construction for the initial build of the Optus digital mobile network
- national manager for customer connections to the Hybrid Fibre Coaxial network acquired from Optus Vision. Managed the transition of services from pay TV to telephony and then broadband.

Stream Communications/Tech2Home 9 years. Invited to join as partner/director of this private company that did home installations for telcos, Harvey Norman and NBN. Left on buy out by IINet. Retired 2014

Sport

Played representative rugby (services and civilian) till Middle East posting but blew a knee that never really recovered; now have a new knee but my rugby ambition has died!!

Try to play golf; ambition high but athleticism and capability has died!

Family

Married Deidre in 1991 (always a slow starter)

Daughter (b 1994) Katie lives in New York (Journalism, Modelling)

Son (b 1996) Scott lives in Darwin (Project Manager/Civil Engineer)



Travel

Covid has significantly impeded our SKI (ie spend kids inheritance) plans; maybe we get back on the planes/ships soon!!

Have lived in Greenwich Sydney for 30 years; at the time of writing this we are thinking of down-sizing and moving somewhere new; time for a different adventure.

2628 Phil (Alfie) Newman, Kokoda Company



I enlisted with the Class of '68, scraped through the engineering “acca” work in 4th Class over in Anzac Hall, then did not succeed in 3rd Class “accas”. I was told to repeat 3rd Class, so I joined our Class in 1970. That was a tough call at the time, but I became part of the Mates Forever group – a move I have never since regretted.

My subsequent career in Engineers was fairly typical, with a range of field unit, training, admin and works postings. Notable variations to the norm were a one-year exchange to the RAAF works section at Operational Command in Glenbrook, a year at RMCS Shrivenham, UK, and two years at the US Army Engineer

Research and Development Centre at Fort Belvoir Virginia.

My Army career finished in 1993 as a LTCOL when I was discharged in Brisbane. We settled there and remain so. I embarked on a second career in Occupational Health and Safety after completing a Graduate Diploma part time in the late 80's while I was still in the Army. In that period of my working life, I worked as a consultant in a small company, and OHS manager/adviser in three diverse areas – local government, newspaper printing and a private hospital. I retired in 2014, and I have been enjoying my new lifestyle since.

Now for my family news. I met and fell in love with Christine Rutzou from Pialligo during my first attempt at 3rd Class – some may say that she contributed to my academic downfall, but I could not possibly comment!! I certainly do not intend to delve into my RMC records to seek confirmation of that theory. We got married in 1974, had a son in 1975 and a daughter three years later. We did the normal biannual move to new locations and enjoyed living in the various places and getting involved in the communities and schools.

Chris pursued her teaching career in a number of my posting locations, and since we settled in Brisbane. She specialised in Early Childhood Education and has worked at the same centre for the past 27 years. She has now fully retired.

We have downsized and moved to a 3-bedroom unit in a nice retirement village in Albany Creek, Brisbane. We are really enjoying our retirement time, particularly the freedom and flexibility it offers. We are volunteering at a couple of places, keeping as active as possible and travelling a little.

Chris and I have five wonderful grandchildren who now range from 16 to 11 years old. They provide a fabulous new dimension to our lives.



2715 Peter Overstead, Alamein Company

(Extract from the Eulogy by Peter Keene (Class of '73 – June 2010)



Commencing at Duntroon in 1969 and graduating from Portsea in 1972, Peter was initially selected for Aviation to become a pilot, but with dodgy knees he took a career redirection to the artillery – a fortunate circumstance for us gunners! This was to become his speciality military trade so to speak and over the next 15 years he would continually return to regimental life with appointments from young officer to battery commander, mostly at 1st Field Regiment in Brisbane. These were halcyon days for a young artillery officer, the crash of the guns in the field, the smell of range fuel in the gunpark, the camaraderie of the mess life, learning the technical skills at Gunnery Wing at the School of Artillery, North Head.

Most significantly, regimental life was about leading soldiers. Peter wore leadership like a glove – confident, competent, charismatic – he had a strong bond with his soldiers, he was always very involved in soldier issues, fighting for their individual and collective causes – sometimes tilting at the windmills in the process. He was very much respected by his soldiers as an officer and as a human being.

But Peter was a competitor and was there to win whether playing golf, running the inter-battery cross-country, or flipping a card. As a collegiate but competing battery commander in 1 Field Regiment in the mid 1980's, I can clearly remember those adrenalin charged fire planning days at Shoalwater Bay with the CDA's ARTEP assessment team breathing down our necks, and Peter, with binoculars in one hand, and a radio handset in the other, coolly taking control of the OP, directing the shoot, and instilling confidence into his young FOs and their ACKs. He was a good man in a tight situation.

Pete breezed through Staff College in 1986, finding time to use his sporting skills and competitive nature to raise and lead an indoor cricket team in the local Bellarine competition. So good was this team in winning that competition that year on the back of Overs' cricketing skills that staff college were never invited to play again.

Never mind time for cricket, after staff college, Pete and Bronny were off to see the world with high profile postings in the UK, the Defence Intelligence Organisation, NORFORCE in Darwin, Lavarack Barracks in Townsville, and Washington DC. In several of these postings, Pete found himself working in the international intelligence world, much of which he couldn't, wouldn't and didn't talk about ... often heard to say '... if I told you I would have to kill you!'

Nevertheless, we know that Pete found himself in Iraq in 1991 where there was a bit of a skirmish called 'Desert Storm' going on. His was intelligence work souveniring and collecting war materials for the Australian military in a dangerous environment. Some of these souvenirs, and by that, I mean equipment such as armoured vehicles and eight ton howitzers had been destroyed or damaged by depleted uranium munitions. Many of us sense a connection between his duties there in Iraq and the debilitating condition that he subsequently developed.

Of course, the path of life is not always straight and clearly marked. I choose my words carefully. In Washington, Peter made a critical personal decision that changed his life and others forever – family and friends were stunned - perhaps it too was linked to a developing condition.

After Washington, Pete was never the same bloke – we all know that. It was evident that things were seriously amiss, and many of us lost real contact with him as his military career came to a conclusion. He left the Army in May 2005 as a lieutenant colonel after 37 years of dedicated service to his country. In addition to his Australian service medals, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by the US Army.

These last few years were about dealing with the Alzheimer's condition. He was fully aware of what it was all about and what was facing him – he showed a soldier's courage in the face of adversity to the end. He was supported by his family, that 'band of brothers' in Brisbane, and his friendship network across Australia.



2631 Larry Park, Alamein Company

(Reproduced from Class of '71 Old Mates Gazette)

This story written by Rev. Capt. Tony McLennan, Class of '71, with the help of the Park family and his mates.



Larry invited me to come and see him in January '21 when Ross Eastgate told us that Larry was seriously ill. When I heard the news, the first thing that came to mind was a picture of Larry standing in a muddy sports field, face streaked with mud and sweat as he handled the ball from the pack in one of those fierce, deadly games of Rugby Union at the RMC. I can still see him now, his face showing his dogged determination to endure and to win.

As a classmate of Larry at the Royal Military College it was my privilege to honour his memory by conducting Larry's funeral in February 2021. Here is an extract of the eulogy and the story of his life over the years - Larry Park set a standard for determination in life. A rugged individual with a fine mind and an able body, a good sportsman, Larry achieved what few people in Australia would ever achieve – he qualified to enter RMC as a Staff Cadet.

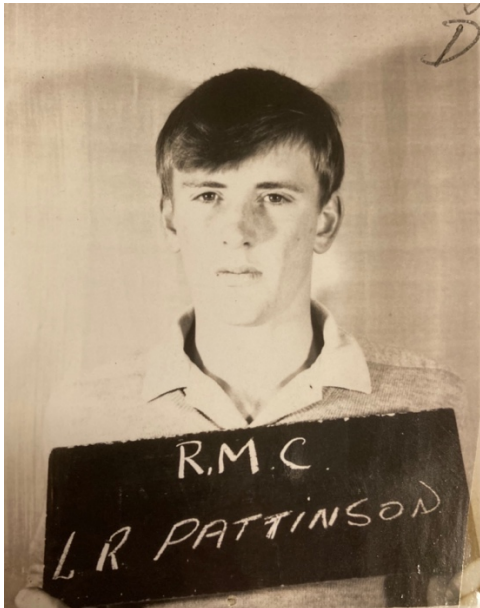
The Vietnam War was in full swing in 1968 and Larry wanted to be an engineer. After a gruelling year of fourth class, Larry's efforts in military studies were exceptional but the engineering course proved too demanding. He decided to repeat his year with the Science course in 1969. Sadly, although he excelled in his military studies, Larry had to leave off his planned career to pursue a very fruitful 20 years of service with the Department of Supply. Later Larry went on to run Cargo Loss Assessments for 11 years and subsequently joined Wridgways before his retirement in 2014.

Larry may have said good-bye to Duntroon and the Army, but he kept in touch with his classmates from the entry years of '68 and '69 all his life. Seven graduates from Class of '72 attended Larry's funeral. One classmate, Peter McCann, remarked on how much Larry had helped him when he had arrived at RMC in '69. All the other classmates remarked on Larry's faithful involvement at class events over the years.

Over the 53 years following on from RMC days Larry married Janice, the love of his life on 31st August 1986. They were blessed with two children: Nicole Maree and Matthew Thomas, both born in August - Nicole in 1987 and Matthew in 1989. They have been a steady, close knit and devoted family. Larry's faithfulness to his friends both old and new will be long cherished in all of our memories. Since Larry was seriously ill, I shared some thoughts with Larry that one can know God personally through faith in Jesus Christ. I am glad to say that Larry prayed to receive Christ into his life. I thank God for His mercy. "Mates forever!" were Larry's last words to me. How true that will turn out to be! I so look forward to seeing him again.



2717 Lee Pattinson, Kapyong Company



I left RMC in May 1970 and returned to Wakool and as my parents owned a trucking company, I started driving trucks. I also started work part time in the local RSL Club as a barman and poker machine mechanic. After about 18 months or so, I loaded up my trusty HD Holden and worked my way around Australia as a barman etc for about 14 months and landed in Geraldton W.A. Stayed there about 6 months as a deck hand on a fishing boat. I then arrived in Perth and decided that I needed to do something worthwhile; and in the April, I attempted to join the W.A. Police Force, not realizing at that time that they only had one intake a year and that was in February. I headed back east and applied to join the Victoria Police Force and graduated from the Academy in October 1974. I was posted to South Melbourne Police station and remained there until June 1980 and then transferred to Wangaratta until May 1981. Whilst at South Melbourne I was promoted to Senior Constable and was seconded to the St. Kilda Crime Car Squad for about 6 months and to Victoria Dock (with the Federal Police) for about 3 months. I decided that I did not like being a country copper, and as the firm was thinking of changing its name from “Force” to “Service”, which it eventually did, I left and returned to Wakool as a Purchasing/Supply officer for the NSW Department of Water Resources in June 1981. In 1989 I applied within the Dept. for the position of a Channel Attendant, was successful and transferred to Moulamein in October 1989. After the kids finished school and started University, I transferred sideways to Deniliquin in March 2008 as a C/A. Whilst in Deniliquin I relieved as a C/A in Finley, also as Channel Superintendent in all three centres, Deniliquin, Finley and Wakool, and was appointed as the Channel Superintendent, Wakool, (the last one due to restructuring etc etc) in 2014 until I retired in December 2017.

Whilst in Moulamein, I joined the Local Lions Club in 1991 and remained a member until 2002, because it was never the same after females were allowed to join. After arriving in Deniliquin, I started driving Taxi's part time during the evening and after I retired, I changed to daytime driving, 5 days a fortnight, and I finally gave that up in December 2021.

I was married twice, have one son from the first relationship and he has two sons, and they live in Perth, have a son and daughter with second time around, son lives in Geelong and has 1 daughter and two sons, and our daughter lives in Bendigo and she is due to have her first child sometime at the end of this June.

Currently in retirement I play Golf 2 to 3 times a week and play pennant bowls in the summer. I have always enjoyed gardening, a great believer in “if I can’t eat it I won’t grow it”, so the vegetable garden is full bore.

I have been a NSW Freemason since March 1991 and was appointed District Grand Inspector of Workings in 2002 for 3 terms, (6 years), and was appointed Regional Grand Counsellor in 2009 for one term (2 years). I was also a member of the 2018 Victoria Grand Lodge Ceremonial Team. See photo (me all dressed up...doesn’t happen too often).



2719 John Price, Alamein Company



The boyish, in uniform photo taken at some stage in 4th class, was the only one I could find. I resigned from RMC a few days after Graduation Parade in December 1969. I made great friendships during the year which have continued ever since.

My first full time job was a cadetship with William A Ray Pty Ltd a fast-growing property corporation, based on the central coast of NSW which was home prior to RMC. The company grew to about twenty real estate agency offices complemented by building, rural land, and development divisions. I qualified as a valuer and held all property licences. However, the credit squeeze of 1975 and high debt in vacant land holdings led the company into receivership, despite many property branch offices including the one I managed, being in profit.

Needing to regroup, I joined the public service in Canberra as an industry liaison officer in the Dept of Housing and Construction. A couple of promotions, and three different departments later I made a big career shift. I joined in Sydney one of the first specialist recruiting firms in the Information Technology Market, Battles and Associates. Two years later after struggling with the direction of the business I resigned. The Focus Group commenced in 1981, my first business. We grew quickly including a Melbourne office. In addition to recruitment from senior technical, sales and senior executives, I founded a national remuneration survey as a joint venture with a publicist and a university, we also offered psychology assessment services and operated a training business, Leaderskill. We exited the business by trade sale in 1988, to Eurolink, a UK group specialist contracting group. I remained for two years as CEO. On leaving I worked under contract in corporate consulting roles with Digital Equipment (DEC), Apple and Techway Ltd. The next venture, JSP Associates commenced in 1992, a retained selection and search model. Once again, a national business also growing to 50 staff, but with international alliances as part of International Technology Partners (ITP). We exited the business in 2000 by trade sale to another UK firm, Alexander Mann. I then finally completed university studies with a Master in Organisational Coaching at Sydney. This was followed by about 3 years as regional VP for NIIT Technologies a global outsourcing business. Since then, in retirement, I have been involved with angel investment groups coaching and mentoring start-up founders.

In parallel with my commercial career, I had two other careers firstly ARES service, last posting at UNSWR, OC A coy preceded by OC Support Coy. The second was voluntary service to industry: from 1985 as member of the Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) initially serving on the state board and from 2003 the national board (15 years) and chaired for 3. I still chair the Alumni <https://aiia.com.au/about-us/aiia-alumni/>. I have been a Director of the ACS Foundation since 2008 and last year became an honorary life member of The Australian Computer Society (ACS). I learnt as much from voluntary service as I did in the business.

Family life and interests: My first marriage in 1972 was brief concluding in 1975 but resulted in my eldest daughter and now two grandchildren. I am happily married to Vivienne my wife of 41 years and we have three adult children. I enjoy family, tennis, travel, and singing in an amateur blues band.



2720 Eric Rigter, Kapyong Company



On graduation I was posted to 1 Field Engineer Regiment, Holsworthy, where I was to be the Transport Officer. Something I thought my RMC training did not actually prepare me for. However, before I could take up my duties, I along with all other Engineering graduates endured the three-month Graduate Engineer Military course at Canungra. So, In April of 1973 I finally arrived at my unit.

In order to limit my weekly commute to Canberra, Paulette and I married in December of that year. On return after Christmas Leave / Honeymoon in January 1974 I was moved to Resources Troop Commander in 23 Support Squadron.

In January 1975 I was posted as Works Officer of the PNGDF Engineer Company in Port Moresby, however as I refused to sign for my sub-account, I was moved to be the Quartermaster for the unit. With a change of OC mid-year, I was moved back to the Works Officer position. This entailed six months being located on the Kokoda Trail (I saw Paulette every second weekend) and then 12 months at Green River in the West Sepik region – home 10 days every three months. Since I could not arrange my removal to Brisbane at the end of this posting (since I was in the bush) there were no flights available to Australia for eight weeks. So, Paulette and I went on our first big overseas holiday to Europe. This also ensured that I used up all my leave before taking my posting as SO3 Works, HQ 1MD.

In 1979 I was posted as the Works Officer at 21 Construction Squadron, in Puckapunyal. I was assured that I would be in the posting for 3 years, however after 10 months I was posted as SO2 Works, DGAW-A, located in Melbourne. I was told not to unpack all my boxes as I would move to Canberra after 10 months. During my 3 years there I was the Project Officer for the Bonegilla (Army Apprentice School), Armoured Centre Rebuild, Queenscliff Rebuild, and the Defence Force School of Music projects.

This very busy and rewarding time was followed by a 12-month posting to attend the Div 1 course at the Royal Military College of Science, at Shrivenham in the UK. On return to Australia, I was forced to do my penance as the SO2 Marine in what Materiel Branch, Army Office.

In January 1986, I was posted on promotion to LTCOL as a Project Officer in DGAW-C where I became the Project Director (Facilities) for the Australian Defence Force Academy as well as numerous other smaller projects. This was followed by a posting to the Army Training Facilities Project Team when Dotswood was acquired to supplement the Townsville Field Training Area.

I then took up the position of SO1 Field and Construction Equipment which over time morphed into SO1 Vehicles in Materiel Division – Army. I took a redundancy package in December 1992.

After hanging up my uniform, I undertook a number of projects in the facilities, materiel, and information technology sectors of the Department of Defence. I fully retired at the end of December 2013.

I am married to Paulette (50 years in December 2023) and have two children and four grandchildren. We enjoy both our houses in Canberra and at Kioloa (NSW south-coast)

Paulette and I have travelled extensively throughout eastern Australia in our Kimberly Kamper Trailer. Our overseas trips have been:

- a. Europe - Dec 76 – Apr 77 (by train)
- b. Scandinavia – Aug 83 (by train and ferry)
- c. South America – Sep 04 – Oct 04
- d. Canada & Alaska – May 07 – Jul 07 (by hire-car and ferry)
- e. Thailand / Laos – Oct 18 – Nov 18
- f. Africa – Jul 18 – Aug 18 (a self-drive safari trip through Namibia and Botswana.)
- g. North Vietnam – Aug 19 – Sep 19 (another self-drive adventure using “reconditioned” left over American Jeeps.)



2640 William (Bill) Ross, Kokoda Company



So, after Graduation, I did the GEM Course at Canungra and then joined 1FER at Holsworthy. Francesca and I got married and we spent the next sixteen-ish years in the Army. I left the Army in 1988 and later joined the Army Reserve in Melbourne.

Fran and I raised five beautiful children during an enjoyable but undistinguished Army career. After a more successful second career we have happily retired to the south coast of NSW. We are lucky to have four beautiful grandkids. The three little boys, who we see as often as possible live close-by in Canberra and our Nora is in Washington for the next few years.

My Army career was: (dates are approximate)

- 1 Fd Sqn (1FER Holsworthy) (73-74) with Nev White, Eric Rigter and Dave Urquhart close by at SME
- HQ Land Comd Engineers (Victoria Barracks Sydney) (75-76) with Bob Shaw
- Garrison Engineer Sydney (76-77)
- Mt Isa as OC 35 Fd Sqn (ARes) (77-78)
- Dip Arch Science at University of Sydney (79) with Peter Teys
- Directorate of Engineers (Canberra) as SO2 CELPS (Computerised Engineering Logistic Planning System) (80-82) Garry Kelly was also at DENGERS
- OC Ops Wing at SME (83-84) Garry was at 17 Const Sqn
- Staff College (85) with Dave Urquhart, Nev White, Steve Jones and others
- Army War Game Centre (86-88) with Bob Blue and Bill Greenham

After too many moves with 5 kids, Fran said enough, and I spent the next few years working for engineering consulting firms in Sydney and Melbourne. Back in Canberra in the early 2000s, I established a business which later became RPL Consulting. We were a project management firm, mainly working for the Commonwealth Government in Canberra. I retired in 2016/17. Then Fran and I moved to Broulee and like many South Coast residents have lived through fires and floods and waves of the pandemic.

Whenever possible I catch up with the Canberra Engineers at the Arboretum. These Curmudgeons (Fran's description) along with Alison, Deborah, Michele, Paulette, Betty and of course Rae are friends we've shared the journey with and are forever mates.

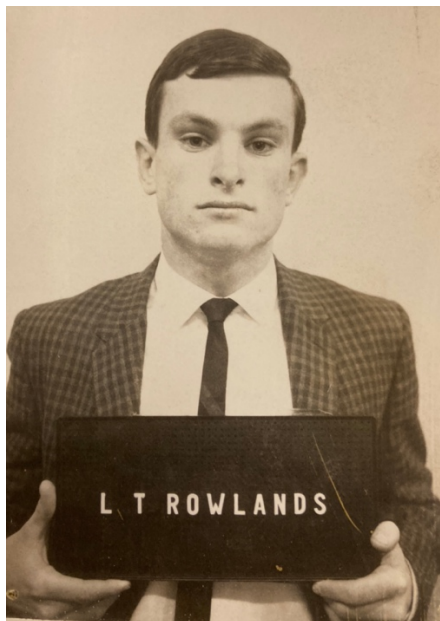
Garry K and Dave U and I did a trip to Gallipoli in 2015 which was terrific fun and in 2018 we did a battlefield tour of France/Belgium WWI battles with Alison, Betty, and Fran.

Garry and I do a bit of kayak/camping and solve world and Brumbies/Wallabies problems around the fire. No one knows the answers better than us.

RMC is all a bit of a blur. I remember the parties – especially Urq's Party in Brisbane and returning via Elph's place at Byron and Bar's Party (RIP mate) in Elsternwick.



2721 Lindsay Rowlands, Kapyong Company



I “marched in” to RMC in Jan ’69, from North Sydney Boys High School, after I had been granted a Y12 scholarship. I blew the HSC because of my big-scholarship-head and entered RMC as a diploma student. It was never going to work – my military career was doomed from day one, rather than a degree student – an own goal.

I “marched out” at the end of Third Class, December ’70, having loved nearly everything about RMC except my academic performance; I loved the obstacle course challenge, and take my kids and grannies to it to remember my glories, and tell them about the tank; the comradeship; bastardization was a mere irritant; I came to the ’72 graduation with some envy and left with a terrible hangover; with Paddy Ryan beside me I shook hands with QEII and the late Phil, so Mum, a journalist in the Queen’s press party, was very happy with the photo she shot.

RMC years were my “gap” year(s), as it’s called these days. It shaped my life. I learned so much about myself, about ironing, and leaps. I often tell people I went to the Royal College of Ironing – I still iron everything the family throws at me, within an inch of its life! My wardrobe contains carefully folded aligned clothes, to the point of being anal, she says.

I joined the Reserve Bank in December 1970, leaving 11 years later; my father, a veteran of the working on a British merchant ship for the duration of WWII on convoys across the Atlantic, Med, and North Sea, died at 99, was very disappointed at my separation from RMC – the non-welcome home wasn’t quite what I expected - but he helped me get the job. My mother, a girl from Leeds, UK, who lost most of her male school mates in WWII, was ecstatic at my separation.

I took a sabbatical from study for the first year at the Bank – there was so much fun going on, “work” only went from 9-5 on a bad day, we played Rugby at lunchtime in winter, or squash in summer; an hour for lunch and half an hour for each of morning and afternoon tea; you could smoke at your desk. It was an easy work-life balance for a 20-year-old – shorts and long sox was the dress. I succumbed eventually and completed an accounting degree, graduating with wife and one child-at-foot. I did a couple of years in Army Reserve.

At the Reserve Bank, I was 4-years as EA to the then-Governor, Sir Harry Knight – a substantially uneventful job, with occasional exceptional national events, but fantastically educational for me.

The Bank later released me to be EA to the Chairman, Australian Financial System Inquiry, Sir Keith Campbell, run by Commonwealth Treasury, in 1979 for 3 years.

Then on to Investment Banking at Partnership Pacific as Company Secretary under Sir Robert Norman – once-a-knights-enough I can tell you! During 20 years in this sector, completed my MBA at Macquarie Graduate School, appointed a JP in NSW, and was a Foundation Fellow of Australian Institute of Company Directors. I started a venture capital business, with some

involvement from RMC starter, John Price, at one stage; later completed an ASX IPO listing with my son and was able to retire gracefully about 6 years ago.

My wife, Sue, made me a marriage offer I couldn't refuse in 1975 and she has managed me for 47 years so far, and importantly stayed with me through various life disasters, none of them health related, but caused by my predilection to take business risks beyond my ability. We have three daughters and a son, and now manage 10 grandchildren. I hope they stop because it's hard work keeping up with them, the kids, their partners, and seemingly endless birthdays.

We live at Manly Beach NSW. I ride a wave ski most days, something I started doing in my early 20's when I was in a surfboat crew at Maroubra. I've been riding an e-bike to work for 20 years. I recently upgraded to a fast road (non-e) bike for exercise and speed, at a bike shop in Fyshwick, ACT on a 2022 visit! Canberra is a beautiful place to ride a bike, so much so I have forgiven Canberra for those freezing early mornings stomping my feet on the Square with other recalcitrant.



We have travelled extensively overseas for business and pleasure, and lived in France for a period, in our life journey. After driving from the top of Scotland, John o' Groats, to Land's End in west Cornwall for 3 months in 2018 we started a 5-year plan travelling Oz in our caravan. We have been to the most northern and southern points, of Oz, amongst other journeys, and in 2022 will complete a route from the eastern most point to western most point, directly across the middle of the continent. I imagine many from RMC have followed a similar well-worn path in Oz.

2642 Paddy Ryan, Alamein Company



Well now, what should I tell you about my army career & life after that, eh????

And I did play a lot of rugby - 7 years at RMC (5 years as a cadet, 2 as an officer); 18 months for Victoria & about 6 years for the Gordon Rugby Club in Sydney. Yep, you guessed it - it's payback time now as far as my body is concerned. I'm old!

Career wise, I got out of the Army at age 29 (square peg, round hole, I think) & after a short stint with a national transport company, ended up with a 35-year career in finance (AMP, Westpac, Fitzpatrick's Financial Services). Owner of a gym (failed), a coffee shop (success) & a financial planning business (success).

Family wise & for me the most important part, I had a great time, recently tinged with sadness. I met my wife, Mary, in Sydney in 1976. We had a girl & 3 boys within 5 years, so life changed dramatically pretty quickly.

Our children have grown into wonderful (my opinion) adults, contributing to the Australian way of life & appear to be responsible citizens & between them have 12 children - 11 girls & 1 boy (so far).

The sadness came after sharing 35 years with Mary, we broke up & she passed away in 2020. I'm still coming to terms with that, as are my children.

Out of the blue, I met up with Judy, who was introduced to me by Stephen Garner in 1969 on our Army Orientation trip to Sydney. Who woulda thunk it!!!

Anyhooooo, we share a unit on Sydney's north shore. stay in touch with many mates from RMC through lunches organised by Peter Martyn, coffee catch-ups etc. Good fun.

Best wishes to all.
Paddy Ryan



2724 Bob Shaw, Gallipoli Company



Sitting on my back deck high above the beach and the Coral Sea, looking North to the tourist town of Pt Douglas, I reflect on why the journey from the Parade Grounds of Duntroon have flashed by so quickly. How the f*** did that happen?

Two of the best decisions I ever made were to join the Army and then to leave in August of '81. No job, no hope 24/7. Drove taxis in Sydney for a while waiting for my house in Glebe to settle, not such a good decision.

Bob Hawke was about to become Prime Minister so in a Canada moment I left the country to go to Indonesia for 12 months. Fortunately, a dodgy BE Civil from RMC, Military Service, and basic Indonesian language skills had some credibility at the time. First of many jobs by 1990 in the oil and gas industry was with Asamera Oil (by coincidence a Canadian company) which led easily to others lasting over a period of 9 years.

But by 1990 a return to Australia beckoned along with a plan for a tourism business in Qld. 1700 kms is the distance Gold Coast to Cairns, I did it twice in the search for Palm Cove, happening upon a small resort 'For sale by receivers'. My hand was the last one raised at the auction, and I became the successful purchaser of what is now the Reef Retreat. Expanded it from 10 rooms to 40, travelled the world marketing it with Tourism Palm Cove and Tourism Tropical North Qld over 15 years. Strata titled it, sold, and retired in 2006.

In retirement I got divorced, did a Law Degree, travelled widely, got Dan Murphy on speed dial, and purchased the deck on which I am now sitting, which came with the house. Sadly, the two golf courses in Palm Cove have been taken over by land developers and 'little boxes' so I've given up golf.

And so here I sit on my deck enjoying the view up to Port Douglas.



2725 Roger Simmons, Gallipoli Company



I joined the military directly from Nelson College and was part of the 1969 Fourth Class. I took the Engineering option and followed the five-year plan, graduating in 1973.

After graduation I joined RNZE and was posted to The School of Military Engineering, initially for Corps training and then as Plant Training Officer. In March 1976 I was appointed Senior Training Officer at the school and promoted to Captain. I represented the Army in both rugby and cricket and played in Senior Club sides in both sports in the Manawatu competition. I resigned from the Army in March 1978.

I did a Bachelor of Business Studies between 1975 and 1982, graduating with Financial Management and Marketing majors. In 1993-94 I did a Master of Business Administration, with a focus on Strategy and Agri-business. The Agri-business was part of research I was doing for a quite large Corporate deal I was doing at the time. Call it using resources!

On leaving the Army, I took up the role of Association Secretary with the Automobile Association where my main roles were financial and membership management. I left that role in 1983 to be a Merchant Banker with AGC Merchant Securities. In this role I traded fixed interest securities and constructed financial arrangements a Corporate Financier.

After the 1987 stock market crash, AGC quit the Merchant Banking game and I took my skills into the Contract Management space and was hired by Prudential Assurance to set up and run its retail investment operation, mainly Unit Trusts, the forerunner of Managed Funds. On Prudential being bought by Sovereign Insurance, I moved to AMP as the Corporate Trust Manager for AMP Trust. In that role, apart from overseeing some significant receiverships, I also significantly expanded their client base and profitability.

In 1995, I joined Price Waterhouse as a Business Consultant to head their Strategy and Business Improvement consultancy, where I consulted to such companies as Mitsubishi, AFFCO, Foodstuffs and numerous Government Departments. During this period, PW underwent considerable change with Nationalisation, Australasianisation, and Globalisation, followed by the merger with Cooper & Lybrand to form PWC. In 1997, I was headhunted by SAS Institute to head up their New Zealand operation. Yet again came the Australasianisation, so in 2000, I headed out to consult on my own account. In 2006 I was recruited by Expense Reduction Analysts to consult in supply chain rationalisation and ceased that in 2016 to chase a less hectic lifestyle. I set up and currently run a virtual golf club, where, apart from providing affiliation to NZ Golf for casual players, I also run golf tours and have developed two Smartphone Apps. COVID got in the way of the tours and in the uptake of the Apps, but forever the optimist, I am currently in a relaunch phase.

Over the course of my life, sport has played a big part. I have played many sports – basketball, orienteering, triathlon, touch, scuba diving, fishing, hiking and of course golf. My daughters both played karate and both represented New Zealand, with my younger, Stephanie, winning the Commonwealth Open title.

I married Paula in 1979 and separated a few years ago. We have two daughters, Megan and Stephanie, and one granddaughter, Isya. I currently live in Paraparaumu, a contented soul!



2727 Graham Smith, Alamein Company



I was allocated to RAEME on graduation and eventually posted to 4 Base Wksp Bn in Bandiana. However, before I could take up the posting, the Army determined that the engineers of the class were not sufficiently educated in the Military Arts and needed three months at LWC Canungra. This was not entirely wasted because when we came to do Tac 3, the TEWTS were very familiar.

On arrival in Bandiana my CO told me, as he left to play golf, that there was not much for an engineer to do. He made me A/Adj and set me to work helping to demobilise the National Service conscripts who were being set free. My CO did me a great service by nominating me to attend the Long Aero Course in UK starting in June 1973. This was a fantastic opportunity and while we were completing the academic phase at the RN Engineering College in Plymouth I met Maxine, the love of my life, and we were married in December that year. At the end of the course all the Australians were sent on detachment to various European deployments. We were posted to Celle in Germany, only a short tank roll from the East German border. The task there was to take on the Soviet first echelon with helicopter launched missiles and then to withdraw and launch tactical nuclear weapons. It puts what is happening today in sharp focus.

Eventually we returned to Oakey in Queensland. Our two sons, Nick and Mark, were born in nearby Toowoomba. I spent most of my time maintaining Pilatus Porter and Nomad fixed wing aircraft and travelled widely in Australia and New Guinea supporting mapping operations with 173 Gen Spt Sqn.

An essential staff posting to Logistic Command in Melbourne followed. What a change from Oakey; living in suburbia and commuting daily to the city. The hardest part was being shunned on public transport because one was in uniform. I engineered my promotion to Major by saving millions of dollars in the repair of 25 and 77 radio sets.

I was fortunate in receiving another overseas training posting to England to complete a MSc in Guided Weapons. On the course, I led a design team to take on Soviet second echelon armour with top attack sub-munitions delivered by RPV. Current events once again show that little has changed in Europe. Some of the Brits did not want to cooperate with a colonial and they did not even know of my convict ancestors (neither did I at the time)! A detachment followed to the MOD to complete a task to arrange the upgrade of all the RAF Rapier systems. A useful project that I could directly apply on returning to Australia in the Maintenance Engineering Agency in Melbourne.

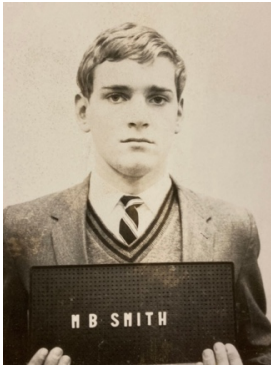
After Army Command and Staff College, Queenscliff, I was promoted to Lt Col and posted as CO of 3 Base Workshop, Broadmeadows where I remained until I experienced the Canberra bubble directing electronics acquisition projects. A move to Brisbane ended after nine months when my job disappeared, and I was once again called to UK; this time to oversee the RAVEN VHF manpack radio project with Siemens-Plessey.

My reward was the highlight of my Army career, with appointment as the Controller of the Maintenance Engineering Agency and promotion to Colonel. Postings after that with Support Command were an anti-climax. A civilian job with the newly formed Directorate of Technical Regulation-Army was tailor made for my background. I managed the development of the Technical Regulation of ADF Materiel Manual and its implementation in Army and relevant parts of the Defence Materiel Organisation.

After 31 years in uniform and another 12 as a civilian I finally retired in 2013. Retirement has brought good times with 4x4 trips into the heart and extremities of Australia, long overseas trips, and the richness that comes with seeing our five grandchildren growing up.



2728 Murray Smith, Gallipoli Company



I left RMC at the end of 4th class and returned to civilian life. I made a brief visit to RMC for graduation in 1972 but apart from that I have had no contact with any of the class. I have stayed on the mailing list and received emails over all the years as I like to keep up with what has happened to those of you that I can remember from 1969.

When I left Duntroon one of my options was to return to the farm at Barraba in NSW which I thought about and tried briefly but I guess I couldn't stay away from a uniform.

I joined the NSW Police Mounted unit which is the oldest continuous mounted police unit in the world. I transferred from Sydney to Tamworth in 1974 and stayed with the NSW Police as a Weapons Instructor and Auditor until 1987.

After that I bought a lucerne irrigation property and also a small sheep property and did contract rural fencing and many other jobs and enterprises over the years before my marriage broke up in 1994. I re-married in 1997 and in 1999 moved to Coffs Harbour where I have remained in semi-retirement.

I have 2 daughters from my first marriage who both live in QLD and my wife Judy has a son in Sydney, so we oscillate between Sydney and South-East Queensland a couple of times a year.

I can't make it to the reunion in Canberra but send my best wishes and hope to catch up in the near future.

2729 Trevor Smith , Kapyong Company



I graduated in 1972 into the RAAOC. I continued at RMC after graduation for another two years doing a master's degree in science. I wore civilian clothes and had no military duties except as a Kapyong company officer. I also tutored junior classes in chemistry. It was like being on sabbatical from the Army.

Following that, I had a variety of field and staff postings in Queensland and Canberra. I attended the Royal Military College of Science UK in 1980 and the Command & Staff College Queenscliff in 1985. My last posting in the Army was as commanding officer 2 Army Quality Assurance Unit Sydney in 1989. I left the Army in 1990 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

After leaving the Army I joined Mincom and spent the next two years working as a contractor on the pilot system using the Mincom software as part of the Defence supply system redevelopment project in Canberra. The project was such a success from Mincom's perspective (they are still contracted to Defence 30 years later), that the company sent me to Singapore in 1992 to help set up a new office. I eventually became the Asia Managing Director. I remained there for six years until my wife, Ainslie, was recruited for a job in the Asian Development Bank in the Philippines.

I followed Ainslie to Manila where I immediately landed a job with a Spanish information technology company. I had a great time working for them and travelling back and forth to Spain. However, it only lasted a year. I then went back to my old company Mincom in Jakarta for nearly two years. After having had enough of living by myself, I returned to the Philippines, and began work as a security risk consultant for Control Risks, a British company, famous for kidnap & extortion consulting. It was an exciting time dealing with international clients with all sorts of problems in a high-risk environment with terrorists, separatists, and criminals to deal with. I eventually became the country manager for Control Risks.

In 2007, I transferred to the Control Risks Japan office and worked on security and crisis management projects for large Japanese and Chinese corporations throughout Asia, mainly in Japan and China, but also in Africa and Afghanistan. The jobs were varied and interesting. I was never home but had some exciting experiences. In 2012, following Ainslie's cancer diagnosis, we returned to Australia to the Gold Coast where we still live. I continued to work on projects for Control Risks for another five years in Japan, China, South Korea and Australia until they decided I looked too old.

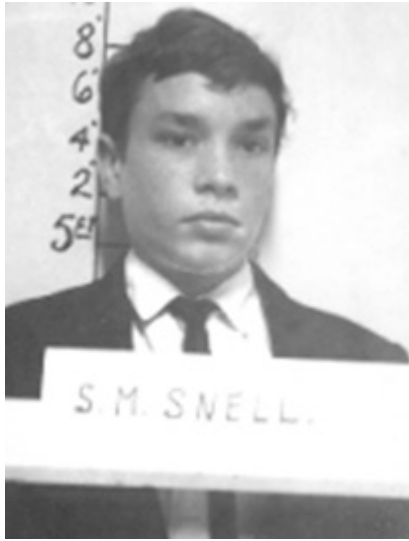
Ainslie graduated from the University of Canberra in 1973 into teaching. She taught in Canberra and Queensland until we had a son, Stewart, in 1975. Ainslie was forced to resign from the QLD Education Department because she became pregnant. We had a daughter, Katie, in Townsville in 1977. On moving back to Canberra, Ainslie did a librarianship degree and then worked in Attorney Generals, Taxation and the National Crime Authority in Canberra and Sydney. In 1985, Victoria took almost a year to accept her ACT and QLD teaching qualifications, after which we left on posting anyway. It was never easy for spouses.

In Singapore, she worked for the Asia Pacific Economic (APEC) Forum secretariat and in 1998 became the web manager for the Asian Development Bank in Manila. She transferred to the ADB Research Institute in Tokyo in 2007 until 2012. She continues to do editing work for them from home to this day. Our son has lived and worked for international banks in Singapore for the past 20 years and has two daughters. Our daughter is based in Canberra with DFAT and has become an Ambassador. She had a daughter in 2021.



2646 Stewart Snell, Gallipoli Company

(Reproduced from Class of '71 Old Mates Gazette)



Stewart entered RMC when he was 16. At the age of 15 he had committed himself to a career in the army. To Stew, it seemed like a natural progression from school cadets at which he had excelled and would provide further education and a secure job with a defined career structure.

Stewart did not graduate with the class of 1971. As it turned out, he decided a military career was not for him. Although his time at RMC enriched his life, Stew resigned on 13 November 1971 before graduation in December. Permission to leave RMC was finally granted by the then Minister for Army, Andrew Peacock, requiring him to personally pay back his bond (which Stew later estimates was the equivalent of 6 months wages). He did this in instalments. Stew credits the army with, “allowing him to grow up on someone else’s time”. He had decided he wanted to be able to determine his own life

and career trajectory.

Stew was able to find immediate work. He applied to the CSIRO and entered their graduate programme in Canberra. He was given time to attend lectures and finished his science degree part-time at ANU studying computer science and applied mathematics. Stew went on to work in leadership roles at both of the Divisions of Computing Research and Entomology, CSIRO.

While at RMC Stew met Kathy and became engaged in 1971. They went on to marry in 1972. So beginning a marriage – a partnership – that saw them inseparable for 50 years. Side by side they created a life and a family ... always together.

In 1978 the family returned to Perth, Western Australia. Stew was recruited to work at the State Energy Commission of WA in a leading role in strategic planning.

Several years later he joined QPSX, a company formed between Telstra and the University of WA to commercialize research projects. Initially Stew was in Business Development but he later went on to become the Head of Research and Development. Stew’s engineering team built and installed the first Metropolitan Area Network. The MAN can be thought of as the forefather of today’s internet. QPSX’s first generation equipment went on to be installed throughout Europe and the USA, under license to Siemens and Alcatel. The group moved on from QPSX to Jtec and then Ericsson with Stew being instrumental in each of the deals being done.

When the tech bubble burst in the early 2000s, Stew and 5 colleagues formed their own company ATAMO (And Then A Miracle Occurred) with Stew as CEO. Stew’s ATAMO years saw him recognized as a main stay of the innovation industry, giving advice and guidance for business development, funding ideas, marketing, or solving a particular engineering problem.

Stewart died in October 2019 after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. He had not retired.

VALE STU.



2730 Graham Southern, Kokoda Company



I never did see myself as a gung- ho warrior, but despite my protests I was allocated to RAInf. With the DMA's words ringing in my ears, that if I did not like infantry after twelve months, I would be given a Corps transfer, I departed for 2 RAR in Townsville. It was only after three years that I finally got my request to transfer but by then it was all too late, and I was out in December of 1976. Fortuitously, during my second posting to Adelaide I had purchased a house in the hills and my family and I duly moved there and we have resided here ever since.

Career wise, after my discharge, I very quickly got involved initially with the life insurance and superannuation industry and teamed up with a group of accountants to provide business insurance and superannuation products to their client base.

I very quickly realised that I would require further qualifications to enhance my career prospects and I studied at Adelaide University to convert my diploma into a degree. I also embarked on a specialist graduate diploma course with the Financial Services Institute of Australia, which enabled me to become a Financial Planner and advise in all financial products and services. I also did further studies to eventually become a Certified Financial Planner with the Financial Planning Association.

I have remained in the financial services industry in a variety of roles, eventually starting my own practice in 1990 and continuing through to my retirement in 2012.

I was also actively involved with the Financial Planning Association, as a board member and office bearer at a state and national level.

I have been married twice and have a son and three daughters who have collectively produced 10 grandchildren. As they all reside in Adelaide, they keep me quite busy especially since my early retirement.

Ann and I have enjoyed annual overseas travel and we are looking forward to the end of this pandemic so we can spread our wings once again.



2732 Shane Stone, Gallipoli Company



I didn't last long at RMC, arrived January and gone end of March 1969. For a Duntroon Scholarship holder, a short-lived experience.

Returning to Wodonga I joined the CMF, 8/13 Mounted Rifles (that confused the Army), serving 5 years during my new career as a teacher and achieved the exalted rank of Corporal. I learnt how to drive a Centurion, Studebaker truck, Ferret scout car and APC. Even topped my gunnery course at Pucka.

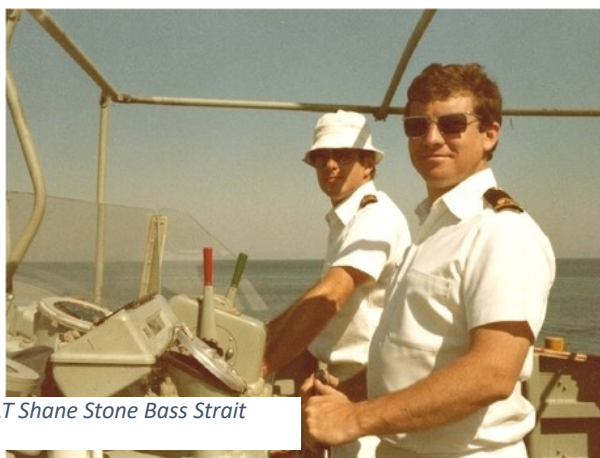
5 years on and I was off to ANU then Melbourne University to complete my law degree. Practice as a barrister followed and I switched services to Navy. I graduated Executive Seaman Officer HMAS Creswell Royal Australian Naval Reserve Officer course.

By this stage I had moved to the Northern Territory where I served in the Legislative Assembly and ultimately as Chief Minister. I retired from Parliament undefeated in 1999, was elected Federal President of the Liberal Party in the Howard Era. In the following 10 years post Parliament I transferred to the Legal Panel Northern Australia (was promoted HOP), and sat on Boards in the UK, USA, and Australia.

I dined out of Navy 2016 with my 'brass hat' and retired the following year. I came out of retirement 2019 to oversee disaster planning for the Commonwealth, North QLD Monsoon event and ultimately Co-ordinator General National Recovery & Resilience Agency, PM&C including bushfires and national drought.

In between I served 8 years on the Order of Australia Council, 2 terms as Chairman. I have now returned to retirement.

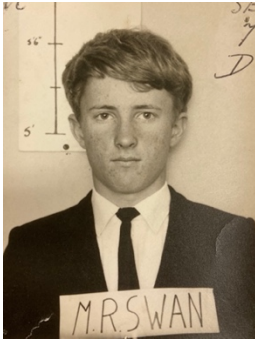
I was very hesitant in engaging this reunion but acknowledge the good will of including those of us who started rather than finished.



SUBLT Shane Stone Bass Strait



2733 Mike Swan, Kapyong Company



Having majored in physics, I suppose RASigs made sense. In fact, I was so confident of my first choice that I think I had RA Inf as my second! Talking about my major, I can still get some laughs when I tell the story about winning the physics prize at graduation! A decade or more after graduation I realised that I was ever only a pseudo-scientist and that my real interests lay elsewhere. That sense was confirmed by a postgraduate year at ADFA in 1988, majoring in history and politics. Never having heard of Bismarc, it really was a case of “faking it until you make it”!

Payback on ADFA was a year on the Directing Staff at Queenscliff in 1991, a wonderful time for our family. I was promoted in 1992 on return to Canberra when our fourth child was born. I reckoned I was the only Colonel pushing a baby pram around the Woden Shopping Mall! A year at the Defence College at Weston in 1996 was another highlight. I was promoted at the end of that year and appointed to a branch in the ‘old’ Army Headquarters. That was the year of the Defence Efficiency Review which mercifully cut short my posting. It was followed by a couple of years helping to shape an organisation-wide approach to information systems.

To this day, I have never understood why I was considered for my next job in the new Army Headquarters as Director General Future Land Warfare. It matters little. I survived and perhaps made a modest contribution. For sure though, I had some of Army’s best and brightest in the branch, several of whom went on to the most senior appointments. It was from that job that I was selected for command of the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville in 2001. I was very fortunate.

I left the Army in 2004 and later that year was recruited to the head office of Defence Housing Australia. I stayed with them through until 2013 when I decided there were other things I wanted to be doing. I retired and enrolled in undergraduate philosophy at the ANU. I also took up a leadership role with the Australian Navigators, an inter-denominational Christian group I first met while still at Duntroon, and with whom I am still associated.

My wife Rhonda and I have four boys and three grandchildren, one deceased. We are happily settled in Canberra.



2734 Peter Teys, Kokoda Company



After graduation with a BE(Civil), I had the joy of being posted as a Const Tp Commander at Puckapunyal. Next was Garrison Engineer in Port Moresby which spanned PNG Independence. Followed by 2 FER at Enoggera and then 19 CE Works at Mosman. By this time I was a Major and got my final posting as SO2 (Wks) at Victoria Barracks in Sydney. My next posting was foreshadowed as non-corps in Canberra.

My last course was Tac 3 at the end of 1981. On this course, despite Peter Martyn's gushing about a career in the army, I came to the conclusion that

nine years of strategic aimlessness was enough and time to use my training and experience on the outside. I resigned the day after the course and moved back to Brisbane.

For the next eight years I worked for a number of Project Management consultancies, initially as a construction programmer and subsequently as a project manager. My projects included high rise buildings, shopping centres, the commencement of the Hyatt Coolum resort, the redevelopment of Hayman Island and the Dockside mixed-use development on the Brisbane River. The next ten years I had my own consultancy managing smaller projects including fitouts, unit blocks and education facilities (mainly QUT).

In 2000, I took a three-year contract with the Qld Govt to project manage the Suncorp Stadium Project. Upon completion, my contract was extended to include the Upgrade of the State Library and the development of a new Gallery of Modern Art. Back in the private sector I was recruited to project manage the Christmas Island Detention Centre. My last project was the redevelopment of Brisbane City Hall.

I retired fully upon turning 60 at the end of 2011.

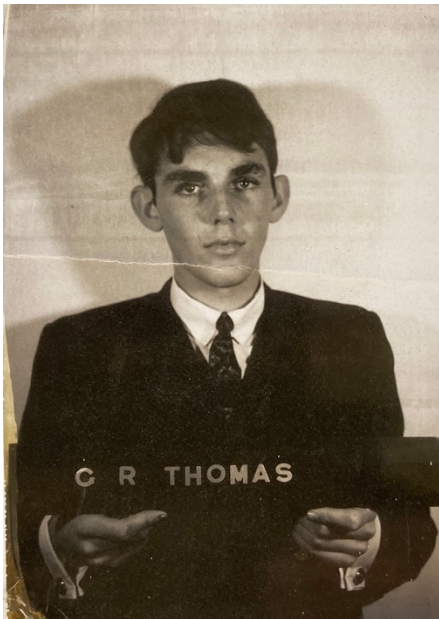
Helen and I married in 1974 and have two children and seven grandchildren. All of whom live in Brisbane.

We currently live at Redland Bay next to Brisbane. For extracurricular activities we have always had a 4WD since leaving the army. We are avid campers graduating from tenting to a camper trailer and now an off-road caravan. We are both keen golfers and travel for golf tournaments as well as music festivals, leaning towards country and folk.



2735 Greg Thomas, Alamein Company

(Written by Tricia Thomas with a little help from Steve Jones)



Greg graduated into the Royal Australian Ordnance Corps. Sadly he passed away in June 2018.

Travels with the Army: And so it began - we married in January 1973 and caught the train from Adelaide to Cabramatta. Our postings were as follows:

January 1973: 21 Supply Battalion - Moorebank

May 1975: 41 Supply Battalion - Keswick

January 1979: Mat Branch- Russell Offices Canberra

January 1981: Shrivenham RMC Science - UK

January 1982: Colchester Research and Development - UK

October 1982: Log Command Vic Barracks - Melbourne

January 1985: Command and Staff College - Queenscliff

January 1986: 31 Supply Battalion - Broadmeadows

January 1987: Log Command Vic Barracks - Melbourne

January 1989: 41 Supply Battalion - Keswick

January 1990: Russell Offices Canberra

January 1991: Joint Services Staff College - Canberra

January 1992: 21 Supply Battalion DNSDC – promoted Colonel

January 1995: Log Command - Vic Barracks Melbourne – promoted Brigadier

January 1997: Australian College Defence Strategic Studies - Canberra

January 1998: Russell Offices Canberra

Greg left the Army and enjoyed the challenge of starting Integrated Solutions consulting. He enjoyed the freedom of working for himself and continued to do so for another 16 years.

In June 2018 Greg died suddenly of a heart attack. We miss him every day and are only just starting to believe it.

Canberra is the place we decided to call home, despite thinking it was the last place in the world. We quickly realised how wrong we were.

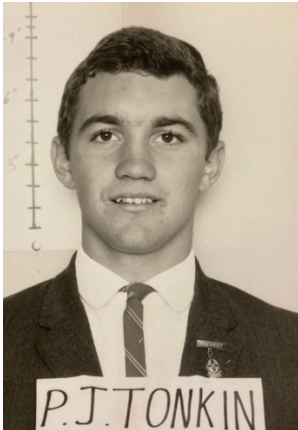
I'm pleased to say that Greg thoroughly enjoyed the journey.

Warmest regards

Tricia Thomas



2737 Peter Tonkin, Gallipoli Company



Peter Tonkin came to RMC from Western Australia. He was allocated to Gallipoli Company. He was always an enthusiastic person, maybe even excitable. The one thing we all remember though was how fast a sprinter he was, being among the top three cadets in the 100 meters and 200 meters sprints and represented the College in inter collegiate competition. Like a number of our classmates, he left RMC in early 1970 and in his case returned to WA. Unfortunately, we were never to be in contact with him again, but as can be seen by his obituary below, he lived a worthy and fulfilling life. Sadly, he was lost too early.

(Steve Jones)

Obituary *(Reproduced with permission from Engineers Australia)*

Peter Tonkin, Chairman of the Institution of Engineers Australia (IEAust) National Committee of Engineering Associates, died suddenly on 21st February 2002.

A colleague, friend, fellow engineer and true gentleman — words flood to mind that best describe Peter's unstinting energy and contribution to the goodness of life — adjectives such as passionate, considerate, kind, professional; a leader, Peter offered support and governance to members of the Institution of Engineers.

What his colleagues found best about Peter was that he was genuinely concerned in achieving the best outcome, no hidden agendas.

Born in Subiaco, an inner suburb of Perth, raised in country WA towns of Quairading and Busselton.

Schooled at Sacred Heart Convent primary, Christian Brothers High School at Highgate WA to matriculation. Great ability as an athlete becoming State Open Champion in 100 and 200 metre events. A popular and responsible schoolboy was elected Head Prefect.

Tertiary education followed at Royal Military College Duntroon, Canberra, then Army Reserve Engineers in WA for 10 years.

Career progressed to cadet structural draftsman then with Commonwealth Dept of Housing and Construction.

Whilst undertaking further engineering studies in 1970's, Peter gravitated to assisting fellow students — was encouraged by TAFE lecturers to pursue a career in teaching.

He accepted the challenge, pursued teaching qualifications to lecture at TAFE. Worked at Wembley TAFE, then Leederville Campus as Head of Department.

Peter had a prominent and active involvement in the Institution of Engineers, Australia, being President for the last four years of the National Committee of Engineering Associates, the

Associates representative on Congress, the Board of Engineering Practice and the Articulation Committee. As well Peter was a member of the Western Australia Division Committee, the National Structural College Board and the WA Structures panel. He had been a strong advocate for the recognition and interests of Engineering Associates within IEAust and a serious contributor to the debates on the leadership and administration of the Institution of Engineers. His participation in future meetings on national IEAust issues will be sadly missed.

In late February the WA Division of IEAust had decided to invite Peter to upgrade his level of membership in IEAust to Fellow of EAA. When informed of this decision, he was, typical to his modest style, flabbergasted.

Peter also had strong links with the Australian Institute of Steel Construction over a number of years. He was responsible for the recently established world's large Xsteel 3-D modelling and detailing teaching facility at the Central Metropolitan College of TAFE, Leederville Campus in Perth. Peter was a lecturer in engineering drafting and steel detailing at the College.

Keen sportsman coaching or managing teams in tee ball, football with a passion for social tennis.

His contribution and dedication to his family and others was quite outstanding and his passing leaves an immense void.

Married in 1972 to his high school friend, Maria Campagna. We thank Maria and children, Daniel and Joanne, for sharing Peter with us.

**Brian Knight - Chairman
Engineering Associates Australia Sydney Division**

2738 Rowan Tracey, Kapyong Company



Since graduation in December 1972, I spent 20 years employed in the Army and 30 in outside occupation. I remember I had concerns at the time of graduation relating to the end of the war in Vietnam, an inevitable downsized Army which was in the process of reorganisation (Hassett Report) and the contradictory burgeoning officer graduation numbers. Having at a later date experienced the effects of downsizing in other organisations some of the challenges we faced became clearer in retrospect.

To this time, I regard myself as very fortunate to have been part of our Class, where lifetime friendships have been retained despite geographic separation.

My Army career was spent in in the RAAC and in RAAOC, with my last 8 years in Sydney which was where I had my home. With very few officers wanting to be posted to Sydney at this time, this was not as difficult as it may have seemed, but I had joined what was then known as the Sydney “mafia”. I had two staff postings at Victoria Barracks, Paddington in Land Command which were very worthwhile.

After leaving the Army in 1992, I worked in NSW corporate utilities and at Westpac. I also became involved in the trekking industry in PNG, taking treks over the Kokoda Trail. In recent years, I have worked for the very worthwhile charity, Lifeline at Hornsby in Sydney.

I married Jane in 1978 and we have three children and two grandchildren. We share a keen interest in the outdoors and over the last 20 years have been very fortunate to have trekked in Ecuador, Peru, Mt Kilimanjaro, Iceland, Mt Elbrus, England, Tour of Mt Blanc, the Camino in southern France, Montenegro and Bosnia. Our time overseas was it part initiated by our youngest son who studied in Oxford for 5 years. We spend time babysitting at Bowral in the Southern Highlands where one of our sons lives and at Blackheath in the Blue Mountains.



2739 David Urquhart, Kokoda Company



With a friend in PNG: I was the 4th white man he had seen

After grad, GEMs course at Canungra and marriage, I was posted to SME filling roles as Tp Comd, A/Adjt and Capt Instr, Plant Roads and Airfields wing. Then across to Holsworthy to 1FER as Plant Tp Comd and fixer of building jobs that went wrong. Highlight of Sydney posting – banging heads across the scrum with a future GG. I was flattered – he didn't try to punch me! He stomped on my feet though!

Then to a highlight posting, Provincial Engineers Office, Mendi, Southern Highland Province, PNG. Did real engineering and bought progress to a still stone-age people in terms of education and access.

Back to a job with the ARes in Brisbane with Bob Blue and Callo at times. Then another highlight posting to Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, Wilts UK. Came equal top of the Aussies with the same grade as Darryl Poole. Staff jobs followed, next a disastrous year at Staff College. Less said the better.

Made it to the dizzy heights of Lt Col then knew I was going no further I decided to do some study to prove to myself I wasn't stupid. Finished a M Def Studies with Mick Swan and Buck Buchanan then Mil Sec had a glut of half Colonels, so I put in a submission to do a 2 year MA (Hons) full time at ADFA. It was accepted and I had a wonderful 2 years and finished the degree. I had plans for a PhD but inertia overcame me.

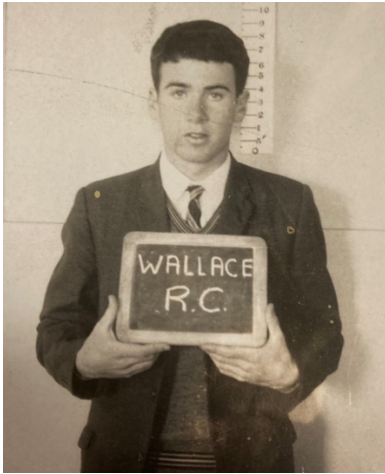
I started looking around and won a job at AusAID in 1992 in their short-lived technical assessment area. They closed that and I went mainstream. I was the Country Program manager for Laos, then Cambodia and then won a posting to South Africa for 3 years. Another career highlight, saddened by the passing of my wife Rae. On return I managed infrastructure projects in PNG for a while then looked for a change and went across to the Office of Transport Security initially to help them with their assistance program to Pacific Island countries. Things change and in 2009 I took a redundancy and have been very happily retired ever since.

In 2001 I met Betty. It was on the Indian Pacific train travelling from Perth to Adelaide. We married in 2003. We love to travel and are looking forward to starting again after a 2 year gap.

I have a pretty settled life, I have coffee with my Canberra based RAE classmates on Wednesday mornings, bowls on Thursdays and golf with the seniors on Fridays. We live on a golf course and yes, I have a cart. I have become a pretty competent cook and I have a wine fridge that holds 400 bottles, but I am lighter now than I have been for 40 years, some 60 kgs lighter than my peak.



Two favourites: travelling and good wine



I left Duntroon at the end of 1969 – the year they landed on the moon.

I completed the year so I could claim first year university credits from the University of NSW. Although during the year I wanted to run away many times. I think what kept me hanging in there was the good fiends I made and the fact that we shared the same issues.

I did learn a lot though – always keep your shirt buttons lined up with the fly on the trousers and belt buckle. Always wear clean and tidy shoes. I remember going for a job interview in the 70's and the first thing the boss looked at was my shoes which were a bit on the worn side but somehow, I still got the job.

Returning to Tasmania I considered continuing university either at Hobart or Melbourne. My athletics coach from school in Tasmania was in Melbourne with his family and wanted me to go to Melbourne.

I think leaving Tasmania to go to Duntroon was the catalyst to stay on the mainland (as we Tasmanians like to call the rest of Australia). Tasmania is a great place but when I visit, I eventually think I have got to get off this small island.

I started 2nd year tertiary studies at the University of Melbourne. I felt completely out of my depth in both forming relationships and being a student. Melbourne, like Sydney was so big in my eyes compared to Tasmania and Canberra.

I managed to keep my Commonwealth Scholarship (\$12 per week) from Tasmania's last year of school but still had no money. I was into the travelling by train and tram for everything before getting a motor bike for cheap travel. Even a 500cc Suzuki twin 2-stroke would cost as much as 30 to 40 cents to top up the tank. I tried odd labouring jobs but then got into tutoring high school year 11 and 12 mathematics and physics students for pocket money – usually \$1.50 to \$2 per session. I would ride all over Melbourne to tutor and the parents feeling sorry for me would usually feed me.

I got into high school teaching in '72 and continued to about '77. I continued extra studies after my degree in science especially mathematics and information technology (IT). I did a year at Dunlop as an IT programming person in 1978 (using a teletype setup – no screen just paper – as the interface). I returned to teaching as I felt more freedom being a teacher at the time.

I continued riding motor bikes and could afford the more powerful ones. I continued my athletics training and added karate and surfing.

I travelled to Europe and got a liking for the European lifestyle – that is French village life and skiing. On return to Australia decided on Queensland as I was over the cold.

In the early 80's I taught in Queensland in Brisbane and then the Gold Coast. However, as a teacher I felt that I was just an overgrown schoolboy – always waiting for the bell, doing homework, and waiting for the school holidays.

I wanted to become independent – what does that mean? I had continued external study through the 70's and 80's and was there at the forefront of the IT revolution.

I left teaching in high schools to do teaching in TAFE colleges – mathematics and IT.

I was offered a job in IT at an accountant's office by one my fellow students also doing an IT course.

I went from being a scientist to understanding business and accounting. From there I was able to eventually get out on my own.

Enjoyed this part of work as it was up and down and a fight for survival in a way. I realized I had learnt a lot from both Duntroon and my teaching careers, and I still enjoy the independence and that little bit of uncertainty.

I met my wife in the 80's and we got married in '95. We were both ex teachers and into IT although different directions. We divorced in about 2005 or so but remain good friends

I added wrestling, skate boarding, mountain biking and later BMX to my recreational activities. Only dropped the wrestling in the last couple of years as (my excuse) the younger wrestlers were causing me too many injuries.

Participating in the different activities means that I am not a master of any, so each activity is always a challenge. I think the flaw in the logic is that we think we are improving as we get older. I still upgrade at least 2 surfboards a year as well as one or 2 changes in mountain and BMX bikes. One of the comments I often make when going for a surf or a ride is that there are too many old guys doing it.

About 2009 I did further study as a full-time student in bio med at Bond University then medicine through the now defunct Vanuatu College of Medicine followed by Paramedical Studies at QUT. I was able to do medical student rotations at Launceston General Hospital and the Royal Melbourne Hospital. I felt out of place as an older student among the younger crew. Worked for a short time as a Paramedic for QAS but could not adjust to the shift work, the culture and felt I was not good enough (in the short term – which you do get reminded about – not quite Duntroon level). I felt I needed my independence so returned to IT.

I am now a director of an IT company with another director, and we specialize in web database programming. We have developed expertise in payroll applications for the construction industry.

Unreal to get back in contact with the '69 Duntroon crew and I enjoyed my first catch up.

Yo



2742 Neville White, Alamein Company



Career wise, I believe I may have peaked at graduation, as various studies and employments since have not been entirely satisfactory in pointing to a preferred career choice. So perhaps it was just as well that the decision (sometimes by others) to remain in uniform for most of my working life was appropriate. As an Army brat (WO2 father), I had no illusions as to aspects of Army life before RMC, with my father's postings interstate occurring at every key juncture of my school education. This was definitely not something I wanted for my kids, and I was thankful that the "system" did not create any real issue during their schooling years.

Graduation was followed by about 3 months for all we "professional" engineers at Canungra (JTC), where the Battle Wing DS must have decided that we would pay the penance for whatever pain our classmates inflicted on them in 1972. Then to Holsworthy April 1973 (1st Field Engineer Regiment) when the Institution of Engineers sought my presence as a graduate on the Council. I'd suspect not for my somewhat limited academic prowess, but because of my formal complaint direct to UNSW in 1970 about a practically useless 3-year engineering degree. Fortunately, the UNSW and Institution follow-up with RMC was productive. More fortunately was that they gave no names, or probably I'd have had later resignation efforts brought forward.

A resignation effort was made end 1973. It was an abject failure but highlighted my lack of adequate staff training as the OR discharge paperwork was not considered good form, leading to a prompt "no" response. Re-executed properly led to the same outcome, so in I remained. Mainly the usual RAE postings thereafter – training, regimental, corps, and non-corps staff roles (in Defence, AHQ and regional Works postings). The most interesting tasks (to me) were involvement in Lord Howe Island airstrip construction in 1974, and a secondment to the Eraring Power Station project in 1979. Unlike CSC, JSSC in 1990 was good fun and included accompanied travel in dedicated/fitted out C130s to SE Asia and within Oz. Also enjoyable was a US posting 1994-95 in an ABCA role, providing the opportunity for travel through the US. Eventually I was found out (around 2000) by a senior APS member who invited my departure before he could formalise his issues. So, at the end of my (Regular) Army service (January 2003), I achieved the exit that I'd requested 30 years earlier.

In the space of less than 19 years since discharge, I've managed to go through 6 employers like they were postings – DHA, Multiplex FM, University of Canberra, Brookfield Multiplex Services (MFM as updated by the Canadians on takeover), GHD and JLL. We've also fitted in some travel that we'd planned to do after retirement, with mostly annual trips to Italy (in bite size geographic chunks), but also to other European countries and UK. Study since RMC yielded Masters' degrees in Engineering and in Business/Economics, with further study in law (concluding with entry onto the ACT Supreme Court roll of lawyers in 2006). This last effort definitely concluded any desire for further study.

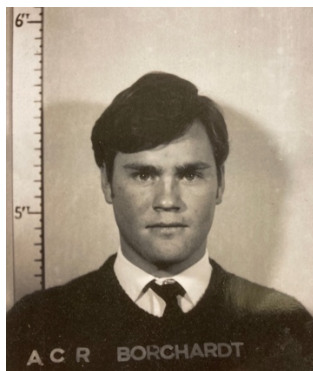
Finding and keeping my soul partner is the real highlight that counts for me. I met Michele in my final school year (1967), dated through my year off (1968), and she waited until 1973 to be married. We've been blessed with 2 great kids, with the family since adding 2 grandchildren. Michele and I both retired in November 2021.

I can't say every job since graduation (in and out of uniform) was fun; a few were not. But all were good learning experiences. I have been blessed with a happy & healthy life, a great (& infinitely tolerant) partner, and a family I'm proud of.



And not forgetting these graduates.....

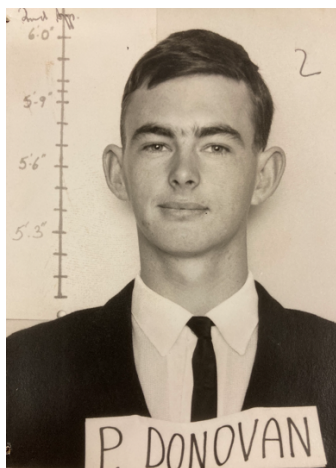
2655 Tony Borchardt, Gallipoli Company



Tony was allocated to RAE on graduation and duly headed off to Canungra for the GEM course.

Attempts to contact him recently have remained unanswered.

2672 Pat Donovan, Gallipoli Company



Pat graduated into AAvm but we have lost contact with him.

Originally from Western Australia, it is believed he is now in Tasmania. Any assistance in connecting with him again would be appreciated.

2718 Darryl Poole, Kokoda Company



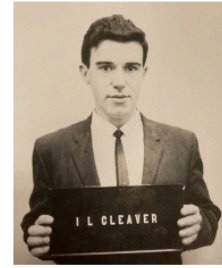
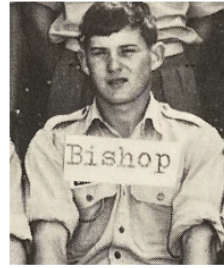
Darryl was the class academic extraordinaire and was awarded the Queen's Medal for the cadet graduating first in his class. He went to RASigs after graduation.

Darryl chose not to provide a biography for this book but remains in contact with local classmates and enjoys their get-togethers.

Nor these classmates.....

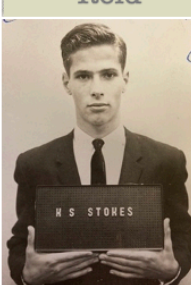
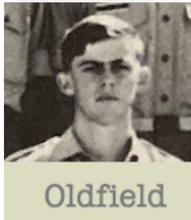
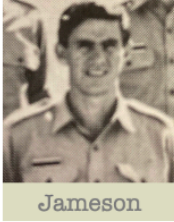
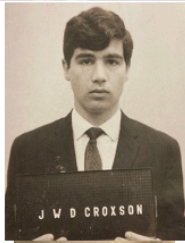
A number of our former classmates could either not be located, did not wish to contribute to this book (some as they will be included in their graduating class), or do not want to maintain contact. Their wishes are respected, and we wish them well as we remember them.

We do, however, have some photos from the time (some better than others).....

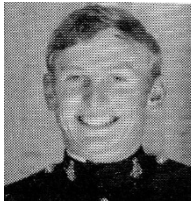


Graham Hall

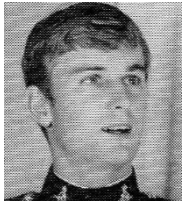
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including in Half
Class photos.



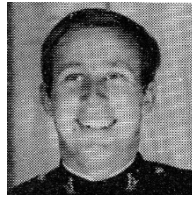
THE GRADUATES



Rod Allan
RAInf



John Black
RAE



Bob Blue
RASigs



Tony
Borchardt
RAE



Mick
Braithwaite
RAAOC



Jeff Brock
RAA



Bob Bywater-
Lutman
RNZInf



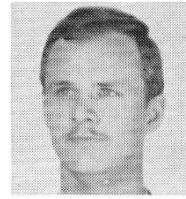
Ian Callan
RASigs



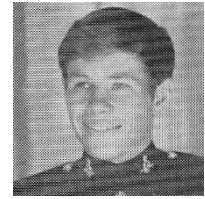
Richard Carter
RAASC



Brian
Chalmers
RAAOC



Chris Clark
AIntCorps



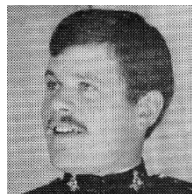
'Tom' Cobley
RAInf



Peter Coghlan
RAE



David Cran
RAASC



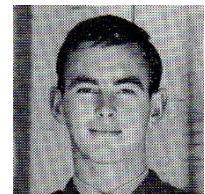
Bob Cronin
RAE



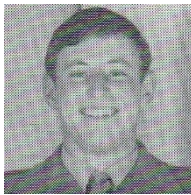
Pat Cullinan
RAInf



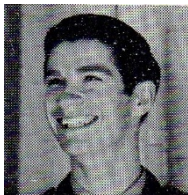
Rick Davies
AAAvn



Pat Donovan
AAAvn



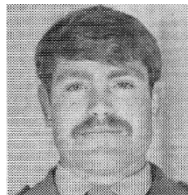
Frank
Edwards
RAInf



Warwick
Elliott
RASigs



John
Elphinston
RAAOC



Roger Elston
RNZSigs



Chris Gibson
RAInf



David Goggin
RAInf



Bill Greenham
AAAvn



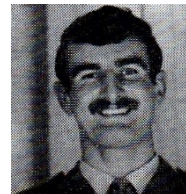
Geoff Hay
RAA



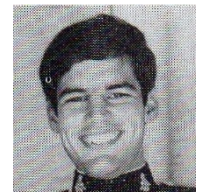
Bill Houston
RAAC



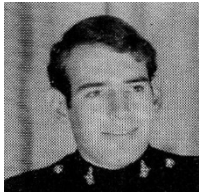
Peter Jenke
RAASC



Mike
Johnston
RNZInf



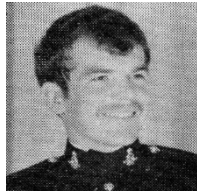
Chris Jones
RAA



Steve Jones
RAE



Bill Kearney
RASigs



Garry Kelly
RAE



Kevin
Loughrey
RAEME



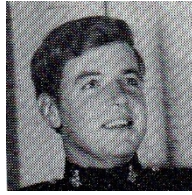
Rick
MacIntyre
RNZAS



Kym
MacMillan
RAInf



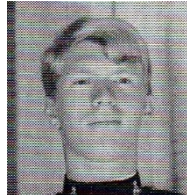
Peter Martyn
RAAOC



Peter McCann
RAASC



Duncan
McInnes
RAA



Tony McKenna
RAA



Tony McLeod
RNZA



John
McNamara
RAAOC



Geoff
McPherson
RAASC



Maurie
Meecham
RAAC



Don Muirhead
RAE



Phil Newman
RAE



Darryl Poole
RASigs



Eric Rigter
RAE



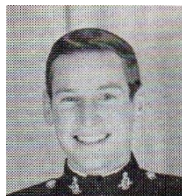
Bill Ross
RAE



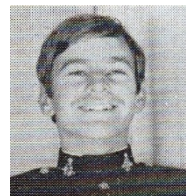
Paddy Ryan
RAASC



Bob Shaw
RAE



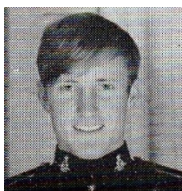
Graham Smith
RAEME



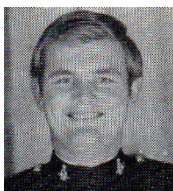
Trevor Smith
RAAOC



Graham
Southern
RAInf



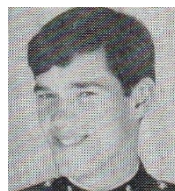
Mike Swan
RASigs



Peter Teys
RAE



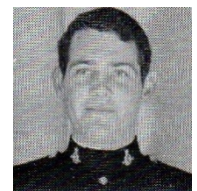
Greg Thomas
RAAOC



Rowan Tracey
RAAC



David Urquhart
RAE



Nev White
RAE

Note: RAASC Graduates later transferred to RACT

IN MEMORIAM

We salute our Mates who have been called to higher service.
Forever in our thoughts.

Vic Hunt - date of death unknown

Bob Cronin - 14 November 1983

Peter Tonkin - 21 February 2002

Roger Elston - 9 March 2008

Lindsay Ford – May 2009

Peter Overstead - 2 June 2010

Mike Braithwaite - 28 May 2012

John Barwick - 22 October 2013

Rick Franklin - 19 January 2014

Greg Thomas - 15 June 2018

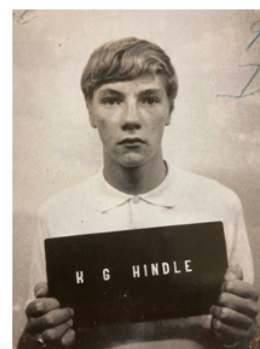
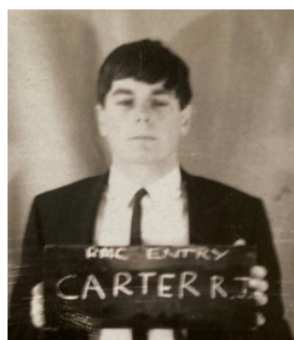
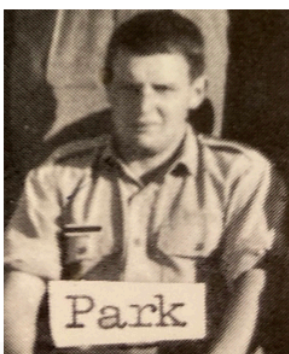
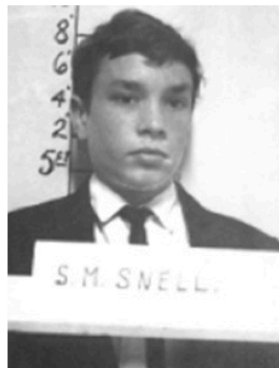
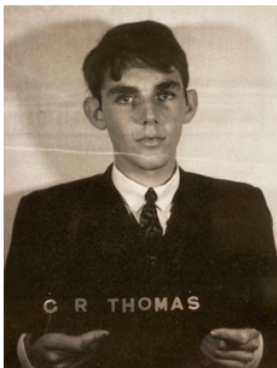
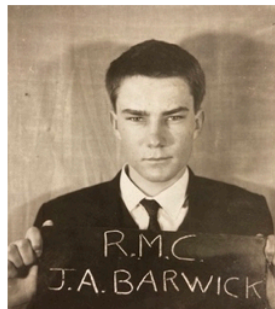
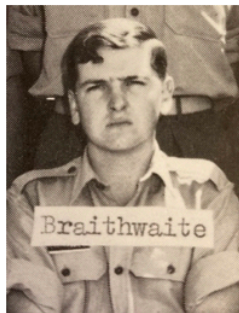
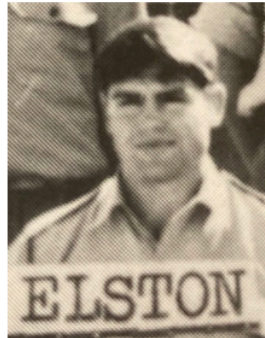
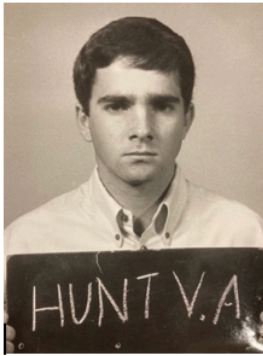
Stewart Snell - 30 October 2019

Ian Callan - 21 December 2020

Larry Park - 31 January 2021

Richard Carter - 2 April 2021

Kevin Hindle – 10 August 2022



ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

2IC	Second in Command
2LT	Second Lieutenant
5WWCT	5th Battalion Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment

-A-

A/Adjt	Assistant Adjutant
A/OC	Acting Officer Commanding
AAAvn	Australian Army Aviation (Corps)
AAS	Army Apprentices School
ABCA	American, British, Canadian & Australian (defence treaty)
AC	Companion of the Order of Australia
Accas	Academics
ACKs	Assistants
ADC	Aide de Camp
ADF	Australian Defence Force
ADFA	Australian Defence Force Academy
ADI	Australian Defence Industries
Adjt	Adjutant
AFB	Air Force Base
AFFSE (AC)	Armed Forces Food Science Establishment (Army Component)
AHQ	Army Headquarters
AIntCorps	Australian Intelligence Corps
AM	Medal of the Order of Australia
AMAN	Army Manpower System
ANARE	Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition
ANU	Australian National University
ANZ Bde HQ	Australia & New Zealand Brigade Headquarters
AO	Army Office
AO	Order of Australia
APC	Armoured Personnel Carrier
APS	Australian Public Service
APSC	Air Power Studies Centre
APSYS	Australia Post Security & Investigation Service
AQM	Assistant Quartermaster
ARA	Australian Regular Army
ARES/ARes	Army Reserve
ARTEP	Army Training & Evaluation Programme
ASIO	Australian Security Intelligence Organisation
ATO	Ammunition Technical Officer
Avn Regt	Aviation Regiment
AW	Army Works

-B-

BEd	Bachelor of Education
BA	Bachelor of Arts
BAOR	British Army on the Rhine
BASC	Base Administration Support Centre
BATRA	Berry and Tick Racing Association (in-joke)
Bde	Brigade
BEcon	Bachelor of Economics
BM	Business Manager
BN	Battalion
BRIG	Brigadier (rank)
BSM	Battalion Sergeant Major (at RMC)
Bty	Battery

-C-

C&SC	Command & Staff College
C/S	Callsign
CARO	Central Army Records Office
Cav	Cavalry
CDA	Commander Divisional Artillery
CDF	Chief of the Defence Force
Cdo	Commando
CE	Chief Engineer
CELPS	Computerised Engineering Logistic Planning System
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CGS	Chief of the General Staff
CI	Chief Instructor
Civvy	Civilian
CMF	Citizen Military Forces
CMTTU	Commonwealth Military Training Team Uganda
CO	Commanding Officer
COL	Colonel (rank)
Comd	Command
Comdt	Commandant
Coy	Company
CSC	Corps of Staff Cadets
CSM	Company Sergeant Major
Cth	Commonwealth

-D-

DSigs	Directorate of Signals
DArty	Director of Artillery

DAT	Directorate of Army Training
DCP	Defence Co-operation Program
DDMI	Deputy Director of Military Intelligence
DEF SPT	Defence Support
DEVETIR	Dept of Employment, Vocational Education Training & industrial Relations
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DGAW	Director General Army Works
DGAW-A	Director General Army Works - Australia
DHA	Defence Housing Authority
DIO	Defence Intelligence Organisation
DISCON	Defence Integrated Secure Communications Network
Div	Division
Div Engr	Divisional Engineer
Div Loc Bty	Divisional Locating Battery
DMA	Director of Military Art
DMI	Directorate of Military Intelligence
DMO	Defence Materiel Organisation
DNSDC	Defence National Storage and Distribution Centre
DOCM	Directorate of Officer Career Management
DoD	Department of Defence
Drillies	Drill Sergeants
DS	Directing Staff
DSA	Defence Supply Agency
DSO	Distinguished Service Order
DSU	District Support Unit

-E-

EA	Executive Assistant
EE SSRP	Executive Enhancements Supply Systems Redevelopment Program
EUFOR	European Union Force
EW	Electronic Warfare

-F-

Fd	Field
FE	Field Engineer
FER	Field Engineer Regiment
FF	Field Force
FO	Forward Observer
FTS	Full Time Service
FTS	Flight Training School

-G-

G2	Staff Officer Grade 2 (Major)
GEM	Graduate Engineer Military

GG	Governor General
GLO	Ground Liaison Officer
GM	General Manager
GOC	General Officer Commanding
Gp	Group
GPO	Gun Position Officer
Grad	Graduation

-H-

HQ	Headquarters
HQ OPCOM	Headquarters Operations Command
HR	Human Resources
HRL	Hunter River Lancers
HV	Hunter Valley

-I-

IC & SW	Instructor Communications & Service Writing
IET	Initial Employment Training
IGRES	Inspector General Reserve
Int	Intelligence
INTERFET	International Force in East Timor
ISAF	International Stabilisation & Assistance Force
IT	Information Technology

-J-

JANUS	Roman God who can look both ways
JEPS	Joint Exercise Planning Staff
JEPS-DOD	Joint Exercise Planning Section - Department of Defence
JIO	Joint Intelligence Office
JOC	Joint Operations Command
JP	Justice of the Peace
JSSC	Joint Services Staff College
JSW LWC	Junior Staff Wing Land Warfare Centre
JTC	Jungle Training Centre
JV	Joint Venture

-K-

KFOR	Kosovo Force
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-L-

LARC	Lighter, Amphibious, Resupply, Cargo
LG	Logistics
LGA	Local Government Authority
LO	Liaison Officer

Log	Logistics
LSF	Logistics Support Force
LTCOL	Lieutenant Colonel (rank)
LWC	Land Warfare Centre
LWOP	Leave Without Pay

-M-

MA	Military Assistant
MA	Master of Arts
MAJ	Major (rank)
Mat	Materiel
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MBE	Member of the Order of the British Empire
MD	Military District
MEd	Master of Education
MHR	Master of Human Resources
MNGT	Management
MOAR	Military Operations and Research
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MSc	Master of Science
MSM	Meritorious Service Medal

-N-

NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NCO	Non-Commissioned Officer
NORFORCE	North-West Mobile Force
NTM-I	NATO Training Mission in Iraq
NZDF	New Zealand Defence Force

-O-

OBE	Order of the British Empire
OC	Officer Commanding (a Company)
OCGS	Office of the Chief of the General Staff
OCS	Officer Cadet School
Offr	Officer
OGGT	Observer Group Golan, Tiberias
OHS	Occupational Health & Safety
Op	Operations
OP	Observation Post
OPCAT	Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture
Ops Offr	Operations Officer
OPSO	Operations Officer
OR	Other Ranks
orbat	Order of Battle

-P-

PARA	The Parachute Regiment (UK)
PERS	Personnel
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PIR	Pacific Islands Regiment
PI	Platoon
PMC	President of the Mess Committee
PNG	Papua-New Guinea
PNGDF	Papua-New Guinea Defence Force
POL	Petrol, Oils & Lubricants
PSO	Proscribed Service Officer
psych	Psychology
PT	Physical Training
PTI	Physical Training Instructor

-Q-

QB	Queen's Birthday
QM	Quarter Master

-R-

R&T	Regimental & Training
RAA	Royal Australian Artillery (Corps)
RAAC	Royal Australian Armoured Corps
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
RAAOC	Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps
RAASC	Royal Australian Army Service Corps
RACT	Royal Australian Corps of Transport
RAE	Royal Australian Engineers (Corps)
RAEME	Royal Australian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (Corps)
RAF	Royal Air Force
RAInf	Royal Australian Infantry (Corps)
RAR	Royal Australian Regiment
RASigs	Royal Australian Signals (Corps)
Regt	Regiment
RMC	Royal Military College (at Duntroon)
RMC Ops	Royal Military College Operations
RMCS	Royal Military College of Science
RMIT	Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
RN	Royal Navy
RnR	Rest & Recreation
RNSWR	Royal New South Wales Rifles
RNZA	Royal New Zealand Artillery (Corps)

RNZAOC	Royal New Zealand Army Ordnance Corps
RNZASC	Royal New Zealand Army Service Corps
RNZE	Royal New Zealand Engineers
RNZInf	Royal New Zealand Infantry (Corps)
RNZIR	Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
RNZSigs	Royal New Zealand Signals (Corps)
RPV	Remotely Piloted Vehicle (drone)
RSL	Returned Services League
RSM	Regimental Sergeant Major
RTC	RAEME Training Centre
RTU	Recruit Training Unit

-S-

SAR	Search & Rescue
SASR	Special Air Service Regiment
SCMA	Soldier Career Management Agency
SCUBA	Self-contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
SFOR	NATO Stabilisation Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina
SFTC	Special Forces Training Centre
SGT	Sergeant
SHAPE	Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe
Sig	Signals
Sig Sqn	Signal Squadron
SMA	Singleton Military Area
SME	School of Military Engineering
SMO	Senior Medical Officer
SO1	Staff Officer Grade 1 (Lt Col)
SO2	Staff Officer Grade 2 (Major)
SO3	Staff Officer Grade 3 (Capt)
Sqn	Squadron
SSC	Short Service Commission
SUP	Supply
SUPPL	Supply Platoon
SVN	South Vietnam
SWB	Short Wheelbase

-T-

Tac	Tactics
TEWT	Tactical Exercise Without Troops
TF	Task Force
Tp	Troop
Tp Comd	Troop Commander
Tpt	Transport
Trg	Training
TSU	Technical Services Unit

-U-

UN	United Nations
UNMOGIP	United Nations Military Observer Group India and Pakistan
UNOMIG	United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia
UNTAG	United Nations Transition Assistance Group
UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation

-V-

VHF	Very High Frequency
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-W-

WG	Wing
WHS	Warehouse
Wks	Works
WKSP	Workshop
WO	Warrant Officer
WO1	Warrant Officer First Class
WO2	Warrant Officer Second Class
Wpn	Weapon
WWI	World War 1
WWII	World War 2

-Y-

YLI	Yarralumla Light Infantry
YO	Young Officer

NOTES

NOTES

