

Mortar Platoon

The year started off with a bang for Mortars. A lot of cobwebs were shaken out early at HRTA and the Platoon was ready to go. Off to Bluewater, where the Pl learnt how to push trailers and lift heavy things. MIL SKILLS proved the dominance of Mortars, with CPL Brown coming 5th and CPL Maclean close behind. HMAS Cairns was the next trip away. The boys live firing off the back, with mortars and 50 cal. Shoalwater became home for a couple of weeks. Good shooting, with PTE Whyte taking the cake for being so ugly that goats run away. Then it was off again with our Artillery friends to High Range. Some of the guys volunteered to stay longer to wait for the Bn LFX. The Bn LFX certainly proved how much firing had been done this year. The end of the year has been taken up with "EX FAULTY TOWERS", where Red blew up SM1 — much to the chagrin of the MLO, who kept telling everybody at BHQ "It's coming, it's coming."

CPL Elliott took a section to Singleton to support the Offr/NCO Course and made sure the wineries would not go out of business. A big changeover this year. The Platoon says goodbye to CAPT Faulkhead, LT Thomae, SGT Townsend, CPL/SGT Stephens, CPL Williams, CPL Hawken, LCPL Milligan, and LCPL Marthick. Congrats to PTE Haynes, the 1st man in Australia to fail on the computer fire controller.



Mortar Platoon holding ground during Battalion Birthday Parade