

## ADMIN COMPANY HQ

They say a new broom sweeps clean, and Admin Company made a clean sweep at the start of 1990. Marching in were the new OC, 2IC, CSM and Padre. To welcome the new push to Coy HQ was CQ Geoff Lawman and his formidable team of LCPL's Twomey & Zuliani. They also say there's no rest for the wicked, and with a very busy start to the year we were wondering who to blame for the workload.

Once we got stuck into the job the Coy settled in quite well and we were soon improving old ideas and sometimes re-learning old lessons.

With clerks rotating through the orderly room like

the rotor blades on a Blackhawk, the Coy HQ always tried hard to provide a good service.

Exercise Maxi Beagle proved that the Echelon can live in mud like anyone else and all concerned were glad to scrape their boots clean of the South Johnstone Forestry Camp.

Victory was sweet when we scored a hard fought win over D Coy in the Inter-Company Rugby and also came home very well in the Bn Swimming Carnival.

Next year promises to be challenging, and Coy HQ will again be hard at it to see the job done well so that Admin Coy can provide the service and support the Bn expects of us.

## Transport Platoon

### "THE HARDEST WORKING PLATOON IN THE BATTALION"

This year started busy as usual and once again this year having a Platoon Commander for the second time in a long while. LT C. SMITH who leaves us mid 1991, we wish him all the best. In the next month different members will be returning from leave and preparing for the 3 month Tour of Duty in Malaysia, all the best fella's. PTE J. MITHCELL "MITCH", PTE D. BOULTON "BOULTO", PTE R. CLARK AND PTE KERTON, PTE G.J. SHIN-

NERS "SHIFFTEY" have returned alive from the USA and want to be posted there doing anything.

PTE G. ROLPE, "JEFF STYKER", is going on his own tour of Malaysia and Thailand — will he return?

LCPL B PATTERSON "PATTO" has taken a well deserved long service leave, don't worry Patto, Zac's doing a great job. All in all it's been a busy year with the so called normal problems, like not enough vehicles and drivers. The Platoon this year has covered some 465,000 kms.

"KEEP ON TRUCKING"

## Technical Support Platoon

The year started quite well with new March-in's — CPL Mick Harris, CFN Robert Murdoch and CFN Brendon Southy. We also had the loss of CPL Keith Chambers and CPL Nick Cashman to 102 Field Workshops and Canberra Workshops respectively.

Of course, who could forget Bougainville with all it's drama's. But Tech Spt came through again, managing to inspect the entire Battalion's weapons in a day, and poges or not, we were prepared to go at a moments notice.

Mil Skills managed to teach craftsman's Walker, Southy and Robinson a few things about the infantry role. The Admin Sect performed exceptionally well by beating several of the rifle company sections.

Air training week saw us deploy to High Range for some serious practise in putting up and pulling down cam-nets. It was a welcome sight to see civilization after that one.

The next deployment was to South Johnstone. The ASM adopted the new role as CSM and gave the enemy a run for their money. Between the mud, rain and jungle it's got me bugged how we ever won the 2nd World War. CFN Robinson saw some action out with B Coy and CPL Harris saw some action at the Milla Milla Pub — doing it hard. Meanwhile the real workers were doing a tour or two of Fantasy Island.

Anyway no sooner back off standdown than out on Swift Eagle, which saw Tech Spt split into two groups. Half going to Macrossan, the other to Forrest Beach. Macrossan saw our storeman Dave Harper become the centre of many a practical joke and several new pairs of underwear. Forrest Beach was nothing exciting, excepting, of course, the move out when CPL Van Shaik and CFN Tucker decided to take the wrong turn, not once but 3 times — due to their excellent sense of Direction. Luckily the rest of the convoy was switched on. The next phase was for the two groups to come together at High Range for the Firepower Demo. The definite highlight of this phase was when we were being probed, a smoke grenade was thrown by the enemy — Just missing the ASM. The ASM took great offence to this and in the light of the full moon all that could be seen was the enemy disappearing over a hill with the ASM in hot pursuit. Five minutes later CFN Walker pointed out an enemy to the OC, who then opened fire, to the words of "Don't shoot it's the ASM".

This about sums up the exercises and fun stuff for the year. But there were several other highlights.

ASM Dave Williams: Finally resigned himself to the fact that he had been stitched over his posting and tended to relax the pressure a little on his workers. There is some justice in the world.

CPL Phil Colliero: Meeting, Marrying and Conceiving a wonderful woman in under 12 months.

CPL Mick Harris: Would have to win the duck and weave award hands down. As a new member he achieved this feat tremendously.

LCPL Peter Meredith: Stepped on his slug early in the year several times, but managed to put it back in his pants just long enough to get promoted.

CPL Paul Van Shaik: Trying to become the ultimate poge by obtaining the 1 of a ton but being disappointed in finding out CFN Walker was well over this weight.

CFN James Walker: Unsure of where home was, decided to spend most of his time at Mt Vince gaining much needed armourer experience.

CFN David Robinson: Having quite a year by not telling us of his financial dominance very 5 mins (Only after slight persuasion).

CFN Brendon Southy: The psycho who only just managed to survive the armourers course, or was that his alter ego.

CFN David Larkin: True to his usual quiet self, did very little other than sit around and put on weight, like the rest of us.

CFN Robert Murdoch: Marching in this year and off to Malaysia already. Don't forget the wheelbarrow to get your own and CFN Walkers stomachs back into the country.

CFN Sean Tucker: Selling his trailer for \$200.00 and buying another for \$400.00. Good business sense Tuk.

CFN David Harper: Going on standdown both times and not being able to walk afterwards due to consecutive bike stacks. In summing up we would like to offer this piece of advice to our much loved Infantry Brothers. If you get the chance come and see what we do because we don't bite and you may just learn something.

So to end 1990 we bid a big farewell to the ASM Dave Williams who is being posted to Melbourne (He, He, He), CPL Paul Van Shaik who is going to Albury/Wodonga and Sean Tucker who is going to Puckapunyal. Some may say its our loss and their gain but that's debatable. However, we wish them the very best of luck. Everybody have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and see ya in '91".

## R.A.P. Med Platoon

1990 has been a busy year for the Med Platoon and has seen many changes.

Members leaving at the end of the year are:

SSGT Tony Sherlock (Wammy King) Promoted to WO2 2 Fd Amb  
SGT Jim Scott (Mr Fitness) HQ 1 Construction Regt

CPL Brett Dick (Biggest Dickest) Promoted to SGT at 2 Fd Amb  
CPL Ted Simons (Blow-Fly) to 4 Fd Regt

To all the other members, well done guys and best wishes for the future.

Still holding the fort will be:

CAPT Warren Wark (completed his shoe laces course)

SSGT Peter Symonds (welcome back Peter)

CPL Pablo Cardenas (hand in there Pabs)

CPL Les Shelley (enjoy Malaya buddy)

CPL Phil Wilkin (read labels mate)

PTE Allan Payne (on ya blue, medic extraordinary)

Med Platoon has supported the Companies in all areas again this year, with trips overseas as well as many on the ground here in Queensland. Tully, Paluma, Mt Spec, Cowley Beach and Blue Water. Maxi Beagle proved to be very demanding with close to 50 no-duffs evacuated from the forestry area, many of which were by helicopter, well done to all the medics and soldiers that participated.

We have been more than pleased with our performance this year and look forward to assisting the Battalion again in the years to come, in all medical and soldiers aspects.

From the staff of the RAP we wish all the Battalion the best for Xmas and the New Year.

DR. SHIRL

OR — BLOW-FLY

## PIPES AND DRUMS

### A YEAR TO REMEMBER

Thank God for Diaries, the best thing the Chief Clerk gave me. Mind you there is no way I'll be able to reuse it in 91. 1990 saw an increase in small jobs and the major tasks were major. We were asked to play for many dinners, and I've mentioned only the memorable ones.

On 23 January, 1990 the Royal Australian Airforce held a Dining-In Night for their Air Vice-Marshal. I must admit their Officers are tending to uphold the traditional way of dinners as did their predecessors. It was a very well run traditional dinner.

The dinner at 2/4 RAR Sgt's Mess on 25 January was the start of many other dinners we performed at. The first major Parade was the 4 RAR Birthday on the 1st February, followed by the 2/4 RAR Officers Mixed Dining-in. It was also at this time that the Pipe Major got diked for the Battalion Cricket Rep's job. Ever seen a duck out of water?, ask the Battalion cricket team, God knows how they put up with him.

Our affiliated unit, 31 RQR also employed us for their Offr/SNCO Dinner on 24 February, 1990.

Pleasant things were to come with the Wedding of "Tassie" Graham, CSM Charlie. It was a very radiant ceremony in Queens Gardens and an enjoyable reception. We hope our contribution helped to make the day.

Even the Townsville Boat Club had itself squared away and they enjoyed our company once again for their Blessing of the Fleet. I must admit the Commodore and his members looked after us extremely well. It was the first time our P/D President MAJ Davey Paterson ventured out with us, and I hope we didn't let him down.

During this time the P/D's were preparing their music for the North Queensland Pipe Band Championships. So every job we did incorporated the selection of tunes which eventually won the day. Mind you, it was a lot more practise, during our own time that brought us to a competition peak. Just to blow our horn a bit, let us once again, tell you of our victories:

### Pipe Band Results

- 1st Champion Pipe Corps
- 1st Champion Free Selection
- 1st Champion Standing Selection

1st Champion Street March Element

1st Champion Drill Element

1st Champion Dress Element

The RSM attended and gave us a few pointers reference dress and drill, that's how we won that section. An old piper never forgets his tricks. Solo players did well on that victorious day, including "Pte Kathy Fraser", our LADY PIPER who played well, dressed well and wore our uniform with the pride of an ANZAC.

Check this out: Solo's

1st Champion Drum Major "Dick Damen" 2/4 RAR D/Maj

2nd Runner Up "Tim (budgie) Macey"

Champion Drum Major of the Games "Dick Damen"

**A Grade Placings** Pipe Major one 2nd/ four 3rd's

**C Grade Piping**

1st and one second "Simon Bedding"

3rd placing "Kathy Fraser"

**D Grade Piping** 1st Place "Kathy Fraser"

**Best Dressed Bands Women** 1st Place "Kathy Fraser"

**A Grade Drumming (Side Drum)** 1st "Tim Macey" 2nd "Jeff Timmings"

**B Grade Drumming (Side Drum)** 1st "Tim Macey" 2nd "Jeff Timmings"

**A Grade Drumming (Tenor Drum)** 1st "Mark Lanham" (Markus Lanamus)

**B Grade Drumming (Tenor Drum)** 1st "Mark Lanham"

To consolidate all the Placings your Pipe Band took out: a 25 Placings and 8 Trophies out of 11. This is a good tally for a well earned day and I was very proud, as was the RSM and P/D PRES MAJ Paterson who both went gal gal after each event. It was getting embarrassing during the presentations, all we could hear was 2/4! 2/4! 2/4!

Well after that big upper the CO let us venture to the Victorian Mini-Band camps and we soon realised how Bagpipes react to cold weather. We must have Kentuckian Bagpipes for when we went to Victoria, the Bast....ds played hell. We gained a lot of experience not only how to prepare our instruments for cold weather but how to prepare ourselves coming off an upper. We got a Fourth place out of six bands in our grade.

The P/D's also got down to the Australasian Championships in

Brisbane, however, weren't large enough in manning to compete. Instead we assisted the Queensland Pipe Band Association to erect a few 11 x 11's. Dirked in by an Ex Pipe Major who knew some Col (Army) type who asked indirectly to assist. 32 tents in all. During all the time, of course, between swanning we did another three major Parades and started to lose count of the "on the spur of the moment" jobs. Dining-in's, Farewells, Welcomes, Departures, Birthday's, Show Day, and that was throughout the Brigade.

The 42nd Royal Queensland Regiment invited us to assist their Pipe Band in the Freedom of the City of Rockhampton, and this is where a fairy tale romance began. During that visit our Markus Lanamus fell in love. His future bride to be is the President of the 42nd Other Ranks Club. A very talented lady in her profession and in her role in the Army Reserve. Mark and Annette are getting married in Rocky on the 17 November.

Being away a fair bit this year set the mode for Baby making and Births, starting with Carol Bedding, giving birth to a boy (Piper)?, and our "Tangles", Greg Pritchard managed to pot a few, without going asleep. Rayline his wife, at this time is falling out nicely and is expecting early next year.

On the P/D advancement side, this year saw the RAR Pipe Band Competition which was conducted at the same time as the Gloucester Cup at the Infantry Centre, Singleton.

Our results there weren't what we expected and we took out third place in the Band Competition. However, the Pipes and Drums Section at the Centre presented for the first time a Bugler of the Regiment Trophy which "Tim Macey" our senior side drummer took out decisively. A golden bugle mounted on a wood grain plaque now hangs proudly in the Band Hut.

Also in this busy year the Pipe Major managed to do some recruiting up north and south with the Townsville recruiting office and thanks goes to WO1 "Keith" Macleay and his highly professional staff for the assistance. Keith, as some of you may know, is an Ex CSM of Bravo Company. The Pipe Major this year got a few swans such as: Suman Warrior, and the 2 RAR reunion down at the famous Tweed Heads Service Club.

It was a pleasure to be part of our Battalion History. Old soldiers never die is true to the letter, for those diggers during the reunion are as proud as ever and talk with their heads high when anyone mentions 2 RAR or 2/4 RAR, it was a great honour to be part of one of their reunions and knowing you are still part of the history of one of the greatest Battalions raised in the Regiment.

Whats to come?

- 9 Nov Lofty Wendt's Farewell (RSM - A)
- 10 Nov Stocktake
- 10 Nov Rehearsals at St. Andrews Church (11 Nov Armistice) 11
- Nov St. Andrews Church Tri Service Remembrance
- 15 Nov Arrival of Piping Judges from the Centre
- 15 Nov CO's Farewell at Sgts' Mess (Dining-Out)
- 21 Nov Comd Land Comd Visit — Guard of Honour
- 23 Nov CO's Farewell from Offrs' Mess
- 23 Nov Regt Birthday Dining-In Sgts' Mess
- 26-29 Rehearsals 9 Tpt Sqn Banner Parade
- 30 Nov 9 Tpt Sqn Banner Parade

- 3 Dec CO's Handover Parade
  - 5 Dec 1 Div Comd Farewell Parade, Brisbane
  - 6 Dec RTU Townsville
  - 6 Dec 3 Bde Comds' Handover
  - 23 Dec 3 Bde Sgts' Mess Dinner (we may think about it, well the P/M may)
  - 31 Dec Bedarra Island New Years Eve (Perhaps the P/D Pres?)
- As always a plea for volunteers but perhaps I may be able to temp you a little. Events that have happened in the past two years, with the output from the Battalion, THE SECOND/FOURTH. a 2/4 RAR introduced the Australian Tartan Military Set to the Regimental Council, RESULT: Approved as the Royal Australian Regiment Tartan;
- b. Paper outlining the career structure for the Regiment Pipes and Drums including a qualifying system, RESULT: Approved with minor amendments;



*Pipe Major praying for more pipers.*

c. An outline structure for qualifying for Piper, Drummer level for future pay levels, RESULT: Under review Pay Levels 5 and 6. d. A change in the primary, secondary and third roles of employment. RESULT:

Primary role: Piper/Drummer/Bugler  
Secondary role: Combat Medic (RAAMC Trg)

Third role: Infantryman, Inf/Specialist.

e. Submitted orders of dress to the Corps Council for review, RESULT: Approved 4 out of 6 orders of dress;

f. Submitted a plan to assist in the retention of Pipes and Drums members. (i.e., regular visits to overseas Tattoo's, exchange of allied Pipers and Drummers), RESULT: Under review at Corps level.

g. The requirement for a Pipes and Drums wing at the School of Infantry with qualifications, Military and Civil, RESULT: Courses have been running for the past twelve months at the school with excellent results. Qualifications as follows:

1. Military, Commonwealth recognised;
2. Australian Pipe Band Federation;
3. Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (A world\_wide qualification).

What else could you want? Thanks to all CO's of the Regiment, RSM's and Pipes and Drums Officers, they have developed a future for the Pipes and Drums after 20 years; and it owes its birth the THE BATTALION, what more could anyone want? So think about what talent you have and its easy, all you have to do is have the GUTS to have a go. Instead of listening to those so called mates that are

going to laugh at you when you mount that Jumbo Jet to CRETE, SCOTLAND, NEW ZEALAND, mind you you could stay and go to: BUTTERWORTH!!!!

I'm running a course early in 1991 and I'm looking for honest workers who won't wimp out of hard graft. Believe me we are going places in 91, 92, 93, 94 and on \_ and it isn't BUTTERWORTH. So if you can handle it, prove it!!!

NO!! EXPERIENCE NEEDED, WE, THE REGIMENT WILL TEACH YOU. CONTACT: Pipe Major William Gall, P/M of 2/4 RAR Pipes and Drums, 25 years of experience to pass on for free, just be able to work!!!!

## THE EVENTS THAT SHAPED THE GYM IN 1990

LCPL Edelman trained hard for his PTI Course, early in the year. His demanding regimen paid off with an A Pass for the course. The highlight of the year was the Battalion Boxing Tournament. The Gym staff were certainly glad to see heaps of beer, heaps of blood, heaps of guts (shown by the fighters) and heaps of tit, on the night.

Also in August we saw, Mr Chest, James make a conspicuous arrival to the Gym. He has proved that he has got what it takes, by working hard on his fitness and has shown an eagerness to learn everything he can about PT. Even daily kicks in the arse are subsiding.

Ede's and James recently spent two glorious weeks in the field with Mortars. Mortar Platoon used them as

work horses. The very considerate Mortars did explain that Ede's and James would have lost fitness if they weren't worked so hard.

Johno broke the Guinness Book of World Records for the most number of foot injuries over a 12 month period.

On a happier note, the prisoners in the 2/4 RAR cells have never had it so good. They've been receiving regular personalised boxing sessions. The only thing stopping them from becoming stars of the ring are the no boxing, no bleeding and no concussion chits they obtain.

Apart from being involved with the Wives Club, taking the kids at Kirwan Special Unit and conducting platoon PT the Gym Platoon say "We've ad a good year".

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