

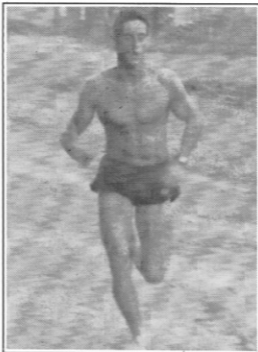
## Cross Country

Even though most of us did not feel it as we ran them, 1990 was a most successful year for Cross Country in 2/4 RAR.

### Unit Cross Country

The Unit Cross Country was run in March — on the day that Cyclone Ivor dumped 300mm of rain on Townsville. As OC C Coy started the race he advised that water wings and SCUBA equipment were optional. The course consisted of mud and thigh deep creeks but seemed to do little to slow LT Brad Horn who recorded the winning time of 28 minutes 54 seconds. Close behind and showing a clean pair of heels as well were second placegetter CPL Trevor Brown and bronze medalist PTE Bird. In all some 513 runners completed the course in appalling conditions.

At Company level the competition was close. B Coy were the eventual winners closely followed by D Coy. C Coy ran third showing even six weeks leave was not enough to slow them down.



CAPT HORN

### Brigade Cross Country

2/4 RAR entered a strong 80 man team in the Brigade Cross Country held in May. The CO's instructions to the team were quite specific — "I know we cannot win, but we are to beat 1 RAR". As with the Unit Cross Country the Brigade race was held on a wet and unpleasant day after a weekend of heavy rain, and on a course a little longer than what the Unit ran.

The starters gun saw a flurry of red T-Shirts move to the front of the field. The finish line was also quickly swamped with 2/4 RAR team members. The first three places were taken by CPL Trevor Brown (in 33 minutes 04 seconds), LT Brad Horn and PTE Bird. Many more 2/4 RAR team members followed closely behind with most finishing in the top 100 in the Brigade.

The result for 2/4 RAR was outstanding. The Brigade Commander announced the results immediately after the event — 2/4 RAR first, followed by 103 Sig Sqn and

102 Fd Wksp — and yes the team did as the CO ordered — they beat 1 RAR who could only manage a distant fourth.

Well done to the team.

## Hockey

1990 was a quiet year for Hockey in 2/4 RAR. Only a dedicated few in the Battalion turned up to either play or support. This small squad however, under the coaching of CPL Rob Palmer, acquitted themselves well and made it into the finals series. Unfortunately, we were knocked out of the finals by 1 RAR. In a close fought game we went down 2-1, with 1 RAR scoring their second goal in the last minute of the game.

Strong support throughout the season was provided to the Battalion team by stalwarts such as SGT

"Radar" Barker, LCPL "Buck" Rogers and LCPL Geoff Tulk. We also farewelled just before the finals, "old" team members LT Keith Turkington, LT Mick Collins and LCPL Frank Fersterer, all who left on postings, and PTE Doug Henderson who took his discharge. Thanks for your efforts for Battalion Hockey over the years. Thanks also for the rest of the guys who turned up and tried.

Inter-Company Hockey was not contested in 1990. Few Companies had sufficient players to make teams viable for a safe and well fought competition. Hopefully 1991 will see a resurrection of the game at this level.