

# Bass Hill RSL Sub-Branch

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*"The price of liberty is eternal vigilance"*

# Newsletter

Issue 114

January, 2023

## SUB-BRANCH COMMITTEE—2020—2023

<b>President</b> .....	Ian Muirhead*
<b>Vice Presidents</b> .....	Ambrose Dinh JP, Jamil (Jim) Baba
<b>Secretary</b> .....	Gary Roser JP *
<b>Treasurer</b> .....	Ron Duckworth *
<b>Minute Secretary</b> .....	Lee-Ann Taylor JP*
<b>Committee</b> .....	Max Stone, David Tu, Brian Abbot
.....	Ian Kennedy, Greg Brown
<b>Welfare Officer</b> .....	Greg Brown
<b>FSMDC Delegates</b> .....	Ron Duckworth, Ian Muirhead
<b>FSMDC Alt Delegate</b> .....	Ian Kennedy, Gary Roser JP
<b>Sub-Branch Trustees</b> .....	Ron Duckworth, Jim Baba, Jeff Stone
<b>Newsletter Editor</b> .....	Gary Roser JP - 0409 919 364
<b>Newsletter Editorial Production</b> .....	Ron Duckworth
<b>Bankstown City Aged Care</b> .....	Ian Muirhead, Greg Brown
<b>Schools Liaison Officer</b> .....	Ambrose Dinh JP

*For service, ring the Secretary, Gary Roser on 0409 919 364*

\* *Life Member*



### **EDITORIAL\*\***

*Gary Roser, Editor*

As you have probably read in the Secretary's column, RSLNSW is not giving up on trying to stop us from Incorporating as IA. It is my belief that they don't like anyone questioning their decision. But they are our elected representatives. Not our bosses. Their boss is the Membership. Without us, they wouldn't be there. And I want to point out that it is their electoral year this year. Also the independent Board Members have a three year tenure. They are not elected by the Members, but are selected by the Board as per the [RSL NSW Act 2018](#), Part 2, 5. (5). Under that same Act:

*It must be noted that Part 2, 6 (1) All decisions relating to the functions of RSL NSW are to be made by or under the authority of the Board.*

That said, we have the right to challenge the Board's decision. It is a democratic organisation. If they wish to make it hard for us, we will use our democratic right to challenge.

*\*\*The editorial is entirely my own opinion and does not reflect the Sub-Branch Executive.*

<b>Sub-Branch Meetings</b>	
<b><u>Committee</u></b> <b>Mondays 4.15pm</b>	<b><u>Sub-Branch</u></b> <b>Sundays 10:30am</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2023
20 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	26 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 AGM: 10am
20 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	No Meeting
Tues 25 April 2023, ANZAC Day 7am	

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**



Greetings Members

The first meeting in the year and I hope that you had a good Christmas and a safe New Year. I trust that I will see you many time this year at the meetings.

I would like to thank our hard working Treasurer for his assistance whilst our Secretary has been enjoying himself in New Zealand.

I attended the ARVN New Year in Fairfield last week and had a thoroughly good time. Excellent food.

If you get the chance , have a look at the refurbished front seats in our bus. An excellent job by the upholsterer at a reasonable cost.

I travelled to Orange over Christmas to see my new Great Granddaughter. It certainly makes me feel my age.

Keep safe and I will see you at the meetings.

*Ian Muirhead*

### **From the Treasurer**

We have now had our books Audited and we are waiting to receive the final figures. It is expected that we will have a small Capital loss due to the revaluation of our shares.

However we made a significant gain in our income during the year. This should enable us to re-invest some of that back into shares to cover inflation.

Regards

Ron

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hello again Folks,

Once again I am writing this Newsletter from New Zealand. I'm back by the time you see me at the January Meeting.

I am printing out a response to RSL NSW from our legal representative vide their CEO Jon Blake.

*Hi Jon,*

*No. The letter was in regards to the meeting last week. We have now received a copy of the email.*

*We are instructed to advise that our client will not be withdrawing the Dispute Notice until the motion is placed on the Congress 2023 Agenda. This is as per para 3 of our letter dated 23 November 2022.*

*Our client has also requested that RSL NSW issue a circular and call for submissions from members and sub-Branches about incorporated association (IA), as referenced in para 5 of our letter dated 23 November 2022. Our client believes in an open*

*and transparent process that enables submissions on this topic.*

*Our client has suggested several options:*

- *The Board calls for submissions on IA and a return date being Feb/March 2023. Then the Board can consider the submissions etc in April/May 2023.*
- \* *The Board approves IA as a model now and enables sub-Branches to incorporate. With only some amendments required to SOP 13 and releasing the model IA Constitution.*

*The later option is suitable, cost effective and does not create any extra burden on RSL NSW.*

*We look forward to your response so we can advise our client.*

*Kind regards, Mick*



**Comment:**

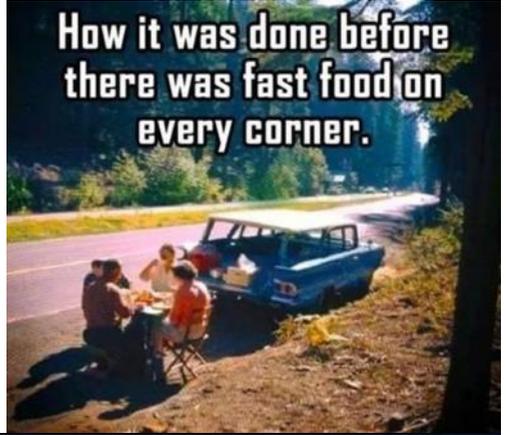
At that meeting with Jon Black and their Solicitor Reuben Bowd, Mr. Bowd agreed with our barrister Ben Jacobs, that there is no reason that RSLNSW can have for not allow our sub-Branch to become an Incorporated Association other than it will create work for him as there will be three forms of sub-Branches. Trustees, Company Limited Guarantee and Incorporated Association.

It must be noted that just after the meeting their in house solicitor resigned.

Jon Black and Sophie Ray, the Chairperson of the RSLNSW Board, do not agree with us, however are looking at it in greater detail as was agreed too at our on line meeting. That's all I will say as your Secretary. All the best of health and happiness for 2023, *Gary Roser, J.P.*



# You Know When Your Over the Hill When.....



## Senior Moments 🤔🤔



After all the eating I did over the holidays, I'm proud to say my socks still fit.

## The Grenade Launcher

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grenade\\_launcher#:~:text=The%20earliest%20examples%20of%20standalone,Gun%20developed%20in%20the%201930s](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grenade_launcher#:~:text=The%20earliest%20examples%20of%20standalone,Gun%20developed%20in%20the%201930s).

A **grenade launcher** is a weapon that fires a specially-designed large-calibre projectile, often with an explosive, smoke or gas warhead. Today, the term generally refers to a class of dedicated firearms firing unitary grenade cartridges. The most common type are man-portable, shoulder-fired weapons issued to individuals, although larger crew-served launchers are issued at higher levels of organisation by military forces.

Grenade launchers can either come in the form of standalone weapons (either single-shot or repeating) or attachments mounted to a parent firearm, usually a rifle. Larger crew-served automatic grenade launchers such as the Mk 19 are mounted on tripods or vehicles.

Some armoured fighting vehicles also mount fixed arrays of short range, single-shot grenade launchers as a means of defence.

### Early precursors

The earliest devices which could be referred to as grenade launchers were slings, which could be used to throw early *grenade* fuse bombs . The ancestors of modern ballistic grenade launchers, however, were simplistic



*French grenade launchers from 1747*

muzzle-loading devices using a stake-like body to mount a short, large-bore gun barrel into which an explosive or incendiary device could be inserted; these were later refined into shoulder-fired blunderbuss-like firearms referred to as "hand mortars". These weapons were not highly regarded due to their unreliability, requiring the user to ignite a fuse on the projectile before firing and with a substantial risk of the explosive failing to leave the barrel;

attempts to ignite the fuse on firing using the gunpowder charge resulted in weapons that would often force the fuse into the grenade and make it explode in the barrel.

## Hand grenade launchers



*French soldiers with a Sauterelle  
circa 1915*

During the First World War a number of novel crew-served launchers designed to increase the range of infantry hand grenades were developed, such as the *Sauterelle crossbow* and *West Spring Gun* and *Leach Trench Catapult* devices. None were particularly effective, and such devices were ultimately replaced by light mortar systems like the *Stokes Mortar*, while the task of increasing the range of infantry explosive projectiles was primarily taken by rifle grenades.

A late example of such a system was the Japanese Type 91 grenade, which could be used as a thrown hand grenade, or fitted with adaptors to either be fired as a rifle

grenade or used as a projectile by the Type 89 grenade discharger, a light infantry mortar.

## Rifle grenades

A new method of launching grenades was developed during the First World War and used throughout the Second World War. The principle was to use the soldier's standard rifle as an ersatz mortar, mounting a grenade (in many older cases an infantry hand grenade) fitted with a propelling charge, using an adaptor or socket on the weapon's muzzle or inside a mounted launching cup, and usually firing with the weapon's stock resting on the ground. For older rifle grenades, igniting the charge generally required loading the parent rifle with a special blank propellant



*Rifle grenade on an M1 Garand*

cartridge, though modern rifle grenades can be fired using live rounds using "bullet trap" and "shoot through" systems.

The system has some advantages: since it does not have to fit in a weapon's breech, the warhead can be made larger and more powerful compared to that of a unitary grenade round, and the rifle's weight and handling characteristics are not affected as with underbarrel systems unless a grenade is actually mounted.

While older systems required the soldier carry a separate adaptor or cup to attach to the rifle to make it ready to launch (such as the German Schiessbecher), later rifle grenades were often designed to attach to the standard factory-mounted flash hider of the parent rifle; for example, the NATO-standardised 22mm rifle grenade can be mounted to most post-WW2 Western military rifles without the need for an adaptor.

The disadvantage of this method is that when a soldier wants to launch a grenade, they must mount the grenade to the muzzle prior to each shot. If they are surprised by a close-range threat while preparing to fire the grenade, they have to reverse the procedure before they can respond with rifle fire. Due to the lack of a barrel, rifle grenades also tend to be more difficult to fire accurately compared to underbarrel or standalone designs.

Prior to the development of lightweight disposable anti-tank weapons such as the M72 LAW, large HEAT rifle grenades such as the ENERGA anti-tank rifle grenade were the preferred method for allowing infantry who were not part of dedicated anti-tank teams to engage vehicles. Rifle grenades have largely fallen out of favour since the 1970s, replaced in most of their traditional roles by dedicated grenade launchers, though there has been a recent resurgence in interest in such devices for special purposes.

The M79 grenade launcher is a single-shot, shoulder-fired, break-action grenade launcher that fires a 40×46mm grenade, which uses what the US Army calls the High-Low Propulsion System to keep recoil forces low, and first appeared during the Vietnam War. Because of its distinctive report, it has earned the nicknames of "Thumper", "Thump-Gun", "Bloop

## M79 grenade launcher



Tube", "Big Ed", "Elephant Gun," and "Blooper" among American soldiers as well as "Can Cannon" in reference to the grenade size; **Australian units referred to it as the "Wombat Gun"**. The M79 can fire a wide variety of 40mm rounds, including explosive, anti-personnel, smoke, buckshot, flechette (pointed steel projectiles with a vaned tail for stable flight), and illumination. While largely replaced by the M203, the M79 has remained in service in many units worldwide in niche roles.

As with the M79, the concept of mounting a dedicated grenade launcher to a service rifle has its roots in the Special Purpose Individual Weapon program; though the experimental Colt XM148 grenade launcher had been produced earlier, it had proved too problematic to adopt. One AAI submission for SPIW mounted a "simple" single-action, single-shot breech-loading underbarrel grenade launcher in lieu of the required semi-

automatic multi-shot device. With refinement, this was adopted as the M203 grenade launcher in 1968. A variety of lengths of M203 are available along with numerous parts kits to fit it to various rifles aside from the AR15 pattern weapons it was designed for.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

COM. 69/0623/VN

*Australian soldiers instructing South Vietnamese soldiers in the M79*

## Automatic

An *automatic grenade launcher* or *grenade machine gun* is a crew-served support weapon which fires explosive rounds in quick succession from an ammunition belt or large-capacity magazine. As most are heavy weapons, they are normally attached to a tripod or vehicle mounting, and as well as being used to provide heavy suppressing fire in the manner of a heavy machine gun, also have sufficient firepower to destroy vehicles and buildings. Examples include the Mk 19, AGS-17, and the HK GMG.



*Mk 19 grenade launcher*

Automatic grenade launchers generally use a higher-velocity round than infantry weapons; NATO launchers use a 40×53mm grenade round rather than the 40×46mm round used by infantry. There are exceptions to this rule: the crank-operated Mk 18 Mod 0 grenade launcher, a unique example of an AGL which was not fully automatic, and the Mk 20 Mod 0 grenade launcher both used the 40×46mm round, and the Chinese Type 87 grenade launcher, a device intended to be employed like a general-purpose machine gun, uses the same 35×32mm low-velocity grenade round as the QLG91B underbarrel launcher for the QBZ-95 assault rifle.

## Fixed arrays

Some armoured fighting vehicles also mount fixed arrays of short range, single-shot grenade launchers as a means of defence. These devices usually fire smoke grenades to conceal the vehicle behind a smoke screen, though can also be loaded with chaff, flares, or anti-personnel grenades to repel infantry attacks. Vehicle-mounted smoke grenade launchers are also known as *smoke dischargers*.

## Ammunition

Recently militaries have paid great attention to the development of "smart" grenade systems with integrated sighting systems, which can be used as point-detonating rounds as normal, or fuzed to detonate in mid-air at a pre-set distance to engage targets in cover with their fragments. This ammunition was first developed as High Explosive Air Burst (HEAB) as

part of the Small Arms Master Plan (SAMP) projects: the Objective Individual Combat Weapon (20×28mm and 25×40mm low-velocity) and Advanced Crew Served Weapon (25×59mm high-velocity) projects. The low-velocity round was to have been used by the XM25 CDTE. Following the failure of the SAMP weapon programs, the United States developed 40mm grenades incorporating similar technology, including the 40×53mm MK285 Programmable Prefragmented High Explosive/Self



*76mm smoke grenade launchers on a German Flakpanzer Gepard anti-aircraft vehicle*

-Destructible (PPHE/SD) round for the Striker AGL and more recently the SAGM round for 40×46mm underbarrel launchers, an airburst-only computerized grenade which does not require an integrated sighting system. Other countries have also produced grenades using similar technology, including South Korea for the S&T Daewoo K11, Australia during the Advanced Individual

Combat Weapon program, and China for the ZH-05 grenade launcher module.

## Currently in Australia

F90 assault rifle, also known as EF88 (Enhanced F88) is an evolution of the F88 assault rifle, which was adopted by Australian and New Zealand armed forces during late 1980s. The original F88 rifle is a licensed copy of the Austrian Steyr AUG rifle, and it was produced in Australia at Australian Defence Industries factory in Lithgow. Today this same factory is operated by the Thales Australia, which developed EF88 / F90 rifle as a next weapon for Australian army, as well as for export. While internally and externally the F90 is still close to Steyr AUG, it has many distinctive upgrades and changes, developed by Thales to fulfill current and near-future requirements of Australian armed forces. The Thales F90 rifles were first displayed to the public in mid-2012, and initial production is scheduled for 2013. The resulting weapon is said to be much more



reliable and comfortable than original F88 / Steyr AUG rifle. It is also noticeably lighter: standard F90 with 50 cm / 20" barrel is about 0.5 kg / 1.1 lbs lighter than standard F88 rifle; with new 40mm underbarrel grenade launcher installed,

resulting weapon is more than 1.6 kg / 3.5 lbs lighter than F88 rifle equipped with **M203PI grenade launcher**.

[https://odin.tradoc.army.mil/mediawiki/index.php/EF88\\_Austeyr\\_\(F90\)\\_Australian\\_5.56mm\\_Assault\\_Rifle](https://odin.tradoc.army.mil/mediawiki/index.php/EF88_Austeyr_(F90)_Australian_5.56mm_Assault_Rifle)

## **Australian Defence Force personnel : A Memorable Deployment** By Petty Officer Jason Wilson

<https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2023-01-10/memorable-deployment>



*Australian observer Leading Aircraftman Ben Whitfield, right, observes personnel from the Ministry of National Defence for Killed in Action Recovery and Identification conduct human*

*remains recovery at White Horse Hill. Photo: Petty Officer Jason Wilson*

The White Horse Hill battlefield is silent, yet decades on it remains contested and dangerous.

There are signs of recent activity, but now the ground is too frozen to dig. The Korean War battle site remains silent, waiting for the spring thaw and the chance for searchers to return to find more remains of the fallen.

*Continued on Page 14*



"I agree, Mr. Richards, there is a special bond between a man and his dog, but could you at least try and see why Mary has a problem with it?"



They're cute and look harmless but they are loud, incredibly expensive to keep, and absolutely untrainable! The other one is a kangaroo. I don't know anything about kangaroos...

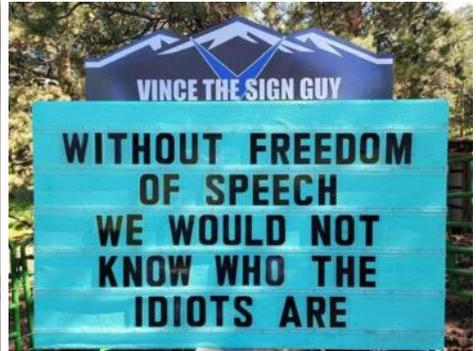


"Will I be OK Doc?"

"I doubt it, Mercury is in Uranus right now"

"I don't do that Astrology stuff"

"Me neither, my thermometer just broke!"



How was your golf today?

I found a wood that can lower my score.  It's called a pencil. 

In September 2018, North and South Korea signed a comprehensive military agreement, which included a plan to transform the demilitarised zone (DMZ) that separates the two Koreas into a “peace zone”.

This has allowed South Korea to search for human remains within the DMZ and carry out explosive-remnants-of-war disposal.

This work is undertaken during the warmer months of the year, as the ground freezes in winter making excavation too difficult for the delicate work.

Among the uniforms of South Korean service personnel and government agency workers at White Horse Hill in 2022 could be seen those of Australian Defence Force personnel.

Australia deploys four members twice a year under Operation Linesmen, the ADF’s contribution to the inter-Korean peace process, deployed at the request of the United Nations Command (UNC) to support the work in the DMZ.

As part of the UN Command Military Armistice Commission, the four-person team provides three observers to ensure tasks conducted within the DMZ are monitored and are in accordance with the terms laid out in the Korean Armistice Agreement of 1953.

The fourth member is a mine action staff officer.

In 2022, the Australian team operated at White Horse Hill, located inside the four-kilometre-wide DMZ just north of the provincial township of Cherwon.

Linesmen Rotation 8 members observed the de-mining and remains recovery operations being conducted by the Republic of Korea Army (ROKA) 5th Infantry Division and the Ministry of National Defence for Killed in Action Recovery and Identification (MAKRI).

Australian contingent commander Flight Lieutenant Joon-Hee Wang, who speaks Korean, provided valuable assistance to the mission.

She said Operation Linesmen was an important component for upholding the agreement against a backdrop of military tensions between South and North Korea.

“White Horse Hill was the site of a bloody battle between the ROKA 9th Infantry Division and Chinese People’s Volunteer Army (PVA) 38th Corps, fought during October 1952,” she said.

“Possession of the hill changed hands 24 times and resulted in thousands of casualties due to an intensive bombardment campaign by ROKA, PVA and the United States Air Force.

“The establishment of the DMZ meant the site has been frozen in time, and it is only now that major battlefield recovery efforts can get underway.”

During Rotation 8’s tenure, MAKRI recovered many remains of ROKA and PVA personnel.

The remains were ceremonially removed from the battlefield and taken to MAKRI laboratories in Seoul, with Chinese remains repatriated to China. The Korean remains were examined using a DNA database, which enabled identification and reunification of those killed in action with their long-bereaved families.

The ADF team’s deployment also included an opportunity to visit MAKRI headquarters in Seoul, where they were shown the process of identification and reunification of those killed in action.

Australian contingent translator Leading Aircraftman Ben Whitfield said the recovery and repatriation process was an emotional journey for all involved.

“The closure given to the families and the satisfaction felt by MAKRI made this deployment honourable and memorable for the Australian team,” he said.

At White Horse Hill, the earth still clings to many names and memories.

While the remains of 45 missing in action soldiers were removed from the hill in 2022, the project has many years ahead of it, with the number of missing soldiers from ROKA and PVA possibly running into the thousands.

Seventeen thousand Australian troops served in the Korean conflict, with 340 killed and 1216 wounded.

Two hundred and eighty-one lie with thousands of their UN allies in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery at Tanggok, in Busan, South Korea, while another 10 are buried at the Yokohama War Cemetery in Japan. 44 Australians remain missing in action.



*Able Seaman William Scott, centre, receives his promotion from Commodore Malcolm Wise, right, and Lieutenant Terri Jenkin at Fleet Headquarters, NSW. Photo: Leading Seaman Sittichai Sakonpoonpol*

Able Seaman William Scott is the first sailor to be recruited, employed, promoted and deployed, paving the way for other maritime logistics – general mariners (GM).

From Thursday to Saturday, Able Seaman Scott juggles his university studies with instructing gym classes.

When he steps off the fitness mat, he spends the remainder of the week as a GM.

The new rate currently has 32 personnel, all reservists who undertake a wide range of roles.

GMs were established in December 2021 after increased Defence support to crisis like COVID-19 stretched full-time ADF resources.

They have no training continuum beyond recruit training, making the role flexible.

Earlier this year Able Seaman Scott was an office manager for Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2022 at Fleet Base East, and later deployed to support maritime logistics in Singapore.

He said the rate would benefit those looking for flexible, part-time or full-time employment.

“It has incredible opportunities for deployments and exercises whilst generating strong connections with sailors and officers,” he said.

Lieutenant Commander Lisa-Jo Laing, GM workgroup planner at Future Navy Workforce Branch, said the rate could be employed in various elements.

“You could be used at port services for wharf preparation, conduct transport activities, administrative duties, assist in security and checkpoint duties, ceremonial activities, and any general duties in support of ADF operations, humanitarian and natural disasters,” Lieutenant Commander Laing said.

The main transfer method into the category is through the completion of the Gap Year.

If the sailor chooses not to sign on to permanent Navy, it is an automatic transfer to GM.

There is also an option to transfer to GM on the 50th day of recruit school, or if they are unsuccessful at category training.

Lieutenant Commander Laing said it was an opportunity to harness a capability that otherwise slipped through the cracks.

“A lot of GMs are university students, so they are out there continuing to develop their own education and improving their skill bases, which can only be advantageous if they choose to come back into the Defence Force on completion of study,” Lieutenant Commander Laing said.

“The GM can earn over \$180 per day tax free.”

2 December 2021

The Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Rick Burr, AO, DSC, MVO, today announced the establishment of a new Army Aviation Command, at a ceremonial parade and helicopter flyover at Blamey Square, Canberra.

Lieutenant General Burr said the formation of Army Aviation Command is a significant achievement for the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

“The alignment of Army’s aviation capability under its own command optimises Army Aviation to better support land, amphibious and special operations,” Lieutenant General Burr said.

“The command will improve resilience and adaptability and ensure Army’s training system is agile and contemporary.

“The unity, sense of purpose and focus in a single command will optimise Army Aviation and support our land forces to achieve more tasks, in more difficult environments.

“The command also represents the delivery of another key milestone set out in the 2020 Defence Strategic Update and 2020 Force Structure Plan.”

Commanded by Major General Stephen Jobson, AM, CSC, Aviation Command will deliver aviation capability to support Army’s land power to enable the Joint Force.

“Aviation Command will coordinate the introduction into service of new helicopters and unmanned aerial systems, and enhance and assure the safety, effectiveness and sustainability of current aircraft,” Major General Jobson said.

“The changes to Army’s aviation command and control structure will simplify the management of Army’s helicopters—one of the most multifaceted and resource-intensive platforms used by the land forces.”

As of 2 December 2021, 16th Aviation Brigade and the Army Aviation Training Centre will transfer from Army Forces Command to Aviation Command.

Army’s aviation capability provides aviation reconnaissance, firepower support, air assault, and battlefield support and surveillance, in combined, joint and interagency environments.



*Boeing CH-47F  
Chinook*



*Eurocopter Tiger*



*NH Industries  
MRH90 Taipan*

Army operates various types of aircraft including the Boeing CH-47F Chinook, Eurocopter Tiger armed reconnaissance helicopter, NH Industries MRH90 Taipan multi-role helicopter and leased civil light utility helicopter.

## Fresh eyes to oversee air surveillance wing

By Leading Aircraftwoman Jasna McFeeters

<https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2023-01-13/fresh-eyes-oversee-air-surveillance-wing>



*Incoming Officer Commanding 42 Wing Group Capt in James Parton (left) and outgoing Commander Group Captain Angus Porter in front of a 2 Squadron E-7A Wedgetail at RAAF Base Williamtown, NSW.  
Photo: Corporal Craig Barrett*

The wing of Air Force that oversees aircraft involved in surveillance and electronic warfare has a new Officer Commanding who has more than 5000 flying hours under his belt.

Group Captain James Parton accrued his flying hours through operational postings to 10 Squadron, 292 Squadron and 11 Squadron as well as an overseas exchange posting to 120 Squadron in the Royal Air Force from 2002 to 2005.

His most recent posting was as Director of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Transition Office at Air Force Headquarters.

The outgoing Officer Commanding of 42 Wing, Group Captain Angus Porter, will post to the US as Australia's Air and Space attaché in Washington.

Together, they marked the changeover with a change of command ceremony at RAAF Base Williamtown, NSW in November.

Group Captain Porter said it had been an honour to command 42 Wing over the past two years.

“We have some incredible capabilities to offer the joint force, however, it is the people of 42 Wing – and all who support us – that make the E-7A and the AP-3C (EW)’s performance on exercises and operations truly exceptional,” Group Captain Porter said.

“We know our regional environment is becoming increasingly complex. I have full confidence that the 42 Wing team, led by Group Captain James Parton, is ready to face the challenges of the coming years.”

Surveillance and Response Group’s 42 Wing prepares airborne intelligence surveillance reconnaissance and electronic warfare, and early warning and control effects for the joint force.

“Being part of Air Command as we prepare for operations is a privilege,” Group Captain Parton said.

“I know we are up to whatever challenge may come our way, and making sure we do it safely is our more focused pursuit.

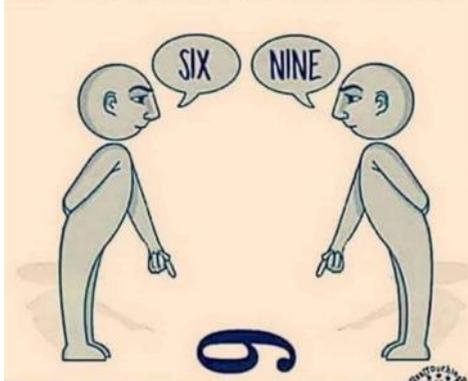
“Our mission is to enable the joint force in peace and war: protect our sovereignty, resist coercion and exercise our rights under international law.”

Operated by 42 Wing’s 2 Squadron at RAAF Base Williamtown, Air Force’s fleet of six E-7A Wedgetails provides Australia with one of the most advanced airspace battle management capabilities in the world.

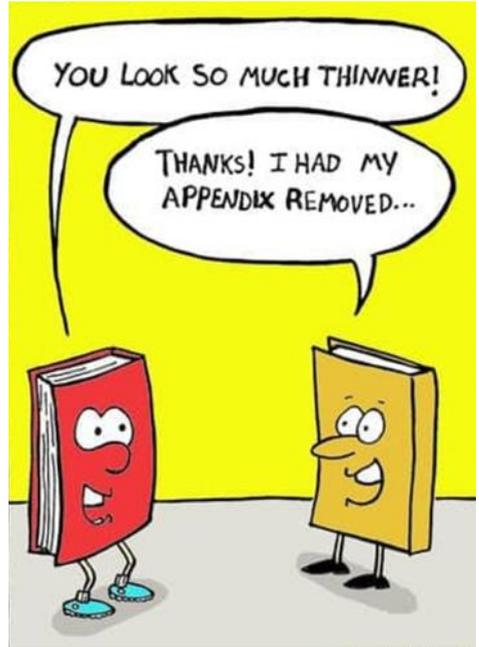
The Wedgetail combines long-range surveillance radar, secondary radar and tactical/strategic voice and data communications systems to provide an airborne early warning and control platform.

The AP-3C (EW) Orions, operated by 10 Squadron at RAAF Base Edinburgh in South Australia, include enhanced electronic support measure systems and high-capacity satellite communications that enable the transmission of large quantities of intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and electronic warfare data to processing nodes in Australia.

This is one of the realist things I've read...



Just because you are right, does not mean, I am wrong. You just haven't seen life from my side.



### Best Slogan on a MAN's T-Shirt :

"Please Do Not Disturb me, I am Married and already very Disturbed"

*Bad and Corny Dad Jokes for Today*

**What sounds like a sneeze and is made of leather?**

**A shoe.**

**What's orange and sounds like a parrot?**

**A carrot.**

**Where did the cat go after losing it's tail?**

**A The retail store.**

**What do you call a potato wearing glasses?**

**A A spec-tater**



"It's okay! I found the keys."



"Don't blame me. I was cleaning his cage and he flew up the pipe."

## LAST POST

### **We are All Here**

A former member of many years  
passed away in December

### **David Howard Okell**

19 May 1925 - 16 December 2022

AIF - 13/01/1942 - 21/10/1942

RAN - 10/05/1943 - 06/05/1946

*Lest We Forget*

**STOP PRESS**