

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA NEWS



**DEFENCE RESERVES SUPPORT COUNCIL**

SUPPORTING AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE RESERVISTS AND THEIR EMPLOYERS

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## MORE INFORMATION

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## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The start of 2006 is a time for review of past activities and identification of targets for the coming year. In 2005 our Committee realised several important goals, particularly the launch of the West Australian State Government Defence Leave Policy in July and the inclusion of a Defence Leave Policy in the West Australian Local Government Association's Human Resources Manual in June. An increase in tempo of involvement in regional activities has seen significant consultation with business and community leaders in Albany, Bunbury, Geraldton, Karratha and Kalgoorlie.

**In 2006 our intention is to focus our attention on raising employer awareness of the DRSC and the Reserves through involvement with the larger employer groups in WA.**

Firstly this will see the DRSC on the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) website followed by an article in the CCI newsletter. In this way we aim to reach those employers who may as yet be unaware of the Employer Support Payment, the Defence Reserve Service Protection Act 2001 and the training benefits of employing a Reservist.

The feature article in this edition is the 2005 Employer and Reserve Excellence Awards. The awards publicly recognise those employers who are supportive of Reservists and encourages them to offer further support through formalisation of a Defence Leave Policy, submission of a Statement of Support or participation of their managers on Exercise Executive Stretch.

My Committee and staff are available for consultation by Defence Reservists, their employers, and potential employers to discuss matters relating to current legislation, conditions of employment of the Defence Reserves or other concerns or initiatives that would be relevant in enhancing employer support and Reserve service. Contact can be made on 1800 803 485.



*DRSC-WA Chairman, Mr Dan Smetana*

## NEW PATRON ANNOUNCEMENT

His Excellency Dr Ken Michael, AC, Governor of Western Australia, has advised that he is delighted to accept patronage of the DRSC-WA. This follows LT GEN John Sanderson's departure from the appointment of Governor of Western Australia.



## EES 2006

Planning is under way for the next Exercise Executive Stretch on 22 to 23 April 2006, with an Army and Air Force focus. Expressions of interest from middle to senior managers can be registered by phoning 1800 803 485.



# WESTERN AUSTRALIA NEWS

## DRSC EMPLOYER AND RESERVE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### State Employer of the Year



Major Auke Steensma, Lieutenant Colonel Steve Macarthy & Mr Jim Brown of the Water Corporation with Commissioner of Police Karl O'Callaghan, APM.



Councillor Bill Mitchell & Ms Ricky Burges of WALGA, with Colonel Stephen Cain.

### Employer Award Photos



Mrs Leanne Merchant, St John of God Health Care & Commissioner of Police Karl O'Callaghan, APM.



Mr John Tyrer, Petty Officer Michael Kuipers & Warrant Officer Ron Pease of Murdoch University with Commissioner of Police Karl O'Callaghan, APM.

The DRSC-WA Employer and Reserve Excellence Awards were held at the Parmelia Hilton Hotel on 16th November 2005 and recognised supportive employers and outstanding Reservists in Western Australia.

Commissioner of Police, Karl O'Callaghan, APM was the guest of honour and gave a speech that highlighted the strong support of the Western Australian Police for the Defence Force Reserves.

**Employer Recognition Certificates** are awarded to employers who have supported their Reservists in their Reserve Service. This is the first step in the awards structure of the DRSC. Recipients of these certificates have been nominated by their Reserve Employees. Recipients of the Employer Recognition Certificates 2005 are:

- AIMS Corporation
- Australia Post Transport
- Bizlink
- Bushcomm Pty Ltd
- Chemdry Quality
- Christ Church Grammar School
- Conservation Volunteers Australia
- Crown Mushrooms
- Emoleum Maintenance
- Supa Valu Supermarket, Carine
- Murdoch University
- Neil Mildenhall Building

**Employer Appreciation Certificates** are presented to employers who take an active interest in their employee's Reserve service. Usually these employers endorse Reservist leave and pay provisions, and are prepared to publicly show their support for the Reserves by providing a Statement of Support. Recipients of the Employer Appreciation Certificates 2005 are:

- Alcoa World Alumina
- Austral Bricks and Bristle Roofing
- City of Swan
- Fremantle Hospital
- Shire of Kalamunda
- St John of God Health Care, Murdoch
- Water Corporation
- WA Department of Education and Training
- West Australian Local Government Association

## STATE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR 2005

The Employer of the Year is the third stage of the DRSC awards program. It recognises those employers who have given exceptional support to their Defence Reserve Employees during the year.

This year there are two winners of the Employer of the Year award for WA.

### West Australian Local Government Association

The West Australian Local Government Association drafted a Defence Reserves Leave Policy with the assistance of the DRSC. That policy was ratified in July 2005 by each of WALGA's Regional Zones, thereby making Western Australia the first State where all Local Government Areas (LGA's), some 144 City's, Shire's and Towns, unilaterally adopted a Defence Reserve Leave Policy.

This award recognises the statewide commitment of WALGA and all West Australian LGA's to their Reserve employees. Through its support, WALGA has become a model Reservist employer and deserves the title of Employer of the Year 2005.

### Water Corporation

The Water Corporation currently employs a number of Reservists from both Army and Navy and includes several Officers of Cadets. The Water Corporation recognises their strong communication, leadership, organisational and teamwork skills and how their Reserve training has contributed to the continued success of the Water Corporation.

The Water Corporation has, through its support, become a model Reservist employer and deserves the title of Employer of the Year 2005.

## NATIONAL EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR 2005

The National Employer of the Year Award is presented by the National Council and recognises those employers who have given exceptional support to their Defence Reserve Employees during the year. They have also demonstrated that they have a strong Defence Leave Policy. This year we are proud to announce that two of these awards have been made to Western Australian Organisations.

The recipients of these awards are:

Government:	Edith Cowan University
Small Business:	Chalmers & Partners

## RESERVE EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2005

Nominees for Reserve Excellence Awards are exceptional Reservists selected on the basis of military and specialist skill, personal attitude, attendance, and contribution to unit effectiveness. The Awards are presented annually by the DRSC.

If you employ a Reservist who deserves this recognition contact (08) 9311 2341 for more information.

The Reserve Excellence Award winners for 2005 are:

Leading Seaman Rosa Muchmore  
Fleet Intermediate Maintenance Activity (FIMA) Perth

Lieutenant Karin Radig  
Assistant Manager Reserve Pool WA

Captain David Bowdidge  
The Pilbara Regiment

Captain Brett Douglas  
13 Field Squadron

Staff Sergeant Phillip Gibbings  
13 Field Squadron

Private Joyce McKinley  
13 Combat Service Support Battalion (CSSB)

Private Dale Walker  
13 Combat Service Support Battalion (CSSB)

Sergeant Cathie Eatts  
25 SQN RAAF



### National Employers of the Year Photos

Left: Mr Warren Snell, Edith Cowan University; Parliamentary Secretary Ms Teresa Gambaro and Mr Dan Smetana, Chairman DRSC-WA



Left: Mr Gary Barrow, Chalmers & Partners; Parliamentary Secretary Ms Teresa Gambaro and Mr Dan Smetana, Chairman DRSC-WA.

## Open day spent with Army



THE Army took off its camouflage for aspiring soldiers recently when the 13th Brigade held an open day for people interested in a part-time career in the military.

Tammy Wallis, from Como, was one of the potential recruits who took part in a mock patrol: rode around Irwin Barracks in armoured personnel carriers, ate army food and did some fitness drills.

Organiser Greg Smith said a highlight for participants was firing Steyr assault rifles on the Brigade's new \$3 million indoor laser rifle range.

Dubbed "Army Live", the day was part of the Brigade's aim to boost numbers in the Army Reserve.

"With more than 30 different part-time careers available to people - including apprenticeships in electrical and mechanical trades.

"There's no limit to what you can do in the Army Reserve," Major Smith said. Anyone interested in the Army Reserve can call 13 19 01.

Tammy Wallis on target with a Steyr assault rifle during her visit to Irwin Barracks.

## TAMMY JOINING RESERVES

The DRSC may not be focussed on recruiting, but it seems its members just can't help but get people through the door.

Tammy Wallis (pictured) is the Personal Assistant to Sharon Brown, one of DRSC-WA's committee members.

Tammy was interested in the Reserves and went to Army Live with her partner, Brenden Flatman, and now they're both applying to join the Army Reserve.

## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT JOYCE CORPORATION

Employers receive significant benefits from the training that Reserve personnel receive. Reserve training promotes personal and physical development, teamwork, initiative and leadership and over all resourcefulness, all of which makes them more productive employees, whilst at the same time helping Australia in its Defence needs.

These qualities along with specialist skills gained through Reserve service readily transfer to and enhance their abilities in civilian employment.

I commend the employment of Reservists to all employers.

## EES 2005

Reproduced courtesy of the WA Department of Health

Several Department of Health executives were given a taste earlier in the year of what it's like to be in the Army Reserve. Colin Xanthis, Tanya Gawthorne, Terry Lennard and Sharie Sampson attended 'Executive Stretch', an adventure training program run by the Armed Forces to give managers an appreciation of the training and skills their staff receive when they are in the Army Reserve. The physically challenging program took participants out of their comfort zone by making them deal with a number of extreme situations, such as a fire on board a ship. The program demonstrated how Reservists are taught team building and leadership skills, which can be of immense value to the organisations they work for.



To nominate managers in your workplace to participate in EES 2006 please see the advertisement on the cover.

## PROFILE: GEORGE SHAW, COMMITTEE MEMBER

George Shaw is the Sales Manager for the South Pilbara Region, Coates Hire, and has been a Karratha resident for the last 12 years.

George is President of the Karratha and Districts Chamber of Commerce and is on the Board of the North West Community Liaison Group. He has recently accepted the position of Pilbara Regional Representative for the Defence Reserves Support Council, Western Australia Committee.

## DEFENCE RESERVES SUPPORT COUNCIL WESTERN AUSTRALIA COMMITTEE

The Defence Reserves Support Council (DRSC) is a group of industry, community and Defence representatives whose prime aim is to promote the benefits of Reserve Service to employers and the community. For further information on the DRSC, or this newsletter, please contact 93 11 2341, freecall 1800 803 485 or view our website: [www.defence.gov.au/drsc](http://www.defence.gov.au/drsc)

### 2006 Western Australia Committee Members:

Mr Dan Smetana	Chairman
Mr Mal Wauchope	Employer, Government
Mr John Langoulant	CCI Representative
Mr Murray Lampard	Employer, WA Police
Mr Bradley Woods	Employer, Hotels & Tourism
Dr Andrew Robertson	Employer, Department of Health
Mr Lloyd Smith	Employer, Recruitment
Mr Duncan Warren	Employer
Ms Sharon Brown	Employer
Mr Brett Lane	Media Representative
Dr D. Gurumoorthy	Ethnic Communities Council
Mr Brian Handcock	Regional Representative
LCDR Rachel Randall RAN	Liaison Officer
Major Phil Sumner Assistant	Liaison Officer
WO2 Peter Burnes	Staff Officer
Mr Peter Burnes	Office Manager

### Service Representatives:

Navy	Commander Ian McGuckin RANR
Army	Brigadier Geoff Hand
RAAF	Squadron Leader Wally Gargano

### Regional Representatives:

Mr David Knox	Albany
Mr George Shaw	Karratha
Mr John Evans	Geraldton
Vacant	Kalgoorlie
Mr Kim Rudd	Bunbury



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