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TASMANIAN EMPLOYER “DEPLOYS” TO MALAYSIA WITH DEFENCE

SORELL resident and Under 17s football coach, Jonathon Brimfield, is “deploying” to Malaysia.

Mr Brimfield joins 18 other employers from around Australia on a five-day program that will take him into the jungle to observe the Australian Army’s rigorous training regime.

As a guest of the Defence Department’s Directorate of Reserve Support, Mr Brimfield will learn about survival training and platoon attack exercises. He’ll even have an opportunity to participate in a live fire shoot on a range with the army’s Steyr rifle.

The Woolworths Petrol manager was nominated for the program by colleague, Ashley Emmet, who doubles as an infantry Private when he’s not organising petrol deliveries.

Mr. Brimfield is looking forward to seeing what Private Emmet gets up to in his spare time. The overseas trip is part of an ongoing program called Bosslift that allows employers of defence reservists to enhance their understanding about reservists’ roles as they work alongside Australia’s permanent military forces.

“I was honoured to be asked to go and see Ashley in action,” said Mr Brimfield.

“I’ve been to a few army events and I’ve noticed that they’re all confident, authoritative people. Joining the Reserves grows them as people. Getting paid for getting physical and staying fit is my idea of good work.

“Ashley’s been on a lot of deployments with the army and he was recently posted to South Australia for 12 months. As soon as I heard that he was back here in Tasmania, I offered him a job.

“Everything he does at work is well done. His army training has made him very thorough and he’s scrupulous with paper work – exactly what we need in the petrol supply business,” he said.

The Bosslift trip will be Mr. Brimfield’s first visit to Malaysia.

“Ashley’s such a diligent worker it really pricked my curiosity about the Reserves,” said Mr Brimfield

“I can’t wait to go and find out what they do in the army and have been thinking about joining up myself.”

For details about the many programs run by Defence Reserves visit www.defence.gov.au/reserves or call the toll free information hotline on 1800 803 485.

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