

THE BATTALIONS1 RAR

601. Origin. 65 Aust Inf Bn was raised at Balikpapan on Dutch Borneo on 12 Oct 45 before joining 34 Aust Inf Bde on Morotai later the same month. Volunteers for the Battalion were drawn from 7 Div AIF.

602. History. See Annex A to this chapter.

603. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented in Brisbane on 30 Mar 57 by the Governor-General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, GCB, GCMG, GCVO, GBE, DSO, MC, KStJ. New Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 1 RAR by the Governor-General His Excellency, The Honourable Sir John Kerr, AK, GDMG, KStJ, QC in Townsville on 5 Jul 76.

604. Alliance. The Grenadier Guards. Greetings are exchanged on Waterloo Day (18 Jun) and Australia Day.

605. Band. Brass.

606. March. 'Waltzing Matilda'. 'British Grenadiers' is played in review order.

607. Mascot. Shetland Stallion named Septimus Tertius.

608. Battalion Identification Colour. Garter Blue (BCG 132).

2 RAR

609. Origin. 66 Aust Inf Bn was raised on 16 Oct 45 at Labuan before joining 34 Aust Inf Bde on Morotai. Volunteers for the Battalion came mostly from 9 Div AIF.

610. History. See Annex B to this chapter.

611. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented on 28 Sep 55 in Brisbane by the Governor-General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, GCB, GCMG, GCVO, GBE, DSO, MC KStJ. New Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 2 RAR by the Governor-General, His Excellency Sir John Kerr, AK, GCMG, KStJ, QC in Townsville on 17 Sep 76.

612. Alliance. The Coldstream Guards.

613. Band. Drum and Fife (originally) and presently Irish Pipes and Drums.

614. March. 'Ringo' and 'Back In Black' for Pipes and Drums

615. Battalion Identification Colour. Black (BCC 220).

616. On 15 Aug 73, 2 RAR and 4 RAR were linked to form 2/4 RAR. On 1 Feb 95 2 RAR was re-raised with the unlinking of 2/4 RAR. On 1 Feb 95 2 RAR was re-raised with the unlinking of 2/4 RAR.

3 RAR

617. Origin. 67 Aust Inf Bn was raised as part of 34 Aust Inf Bde on 20 Oct 45. Volunteers came from various AIF divisions then serving in the South West Pacific Area (mainly in New Guinea, Bougainville, New Britain and the Solomon Islands).

618. History. See Annex C to this chapter.

619. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented in Sydney on 24 Apr 56 (Kapyong Day) by the Governor-General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, GCB, GDMG, GBE, DSO, MC, KStJ. New Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 3 RAR by His Excellency, the Governor-General Sir Ninian Stephen, AK, GCMG, GCVO, KBE on 24 Apr 85, in Sydney. The old Colours are laid up on display at the Australian War Memorial Canberra.

620. Alliances. 3 RAR has alliances with the following:

- a. The Scots Guards.
- b. The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars.

621. Band. Scottish pipes and drums.

622. March. 'Our Director'. 'Kapyong' is reserved for Kapyong Day only. 'Highland Laddie', the march of the Scots Guards, is used to march on the Colours.

623. Kapyong Day - 24 Apr. Celebrated by 3 RAR in commemoration of the Battle of Kapyong (22-25 Apr 51). The celebration on this day includes the commemoration of the Regimental and Battalion birthdays. For its part in the action of Kapyong, 3 RAR was awarded the United States Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation.

624. Battalion Identification Colour. Rifle Green (BCC 27).

4 RAR

625. Origin. 4 RAR was raised on 1 Feb 64 from selected personnel from the three original battalions, with some of the officers coming from the Pacific Islands Regiment. The inauguration parade was held at Woodside, SA.

626. History. See Annex D to this chapter.

627. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented in Adelaide on 11 Apr 65 by the Governor-General, The Right Honourable Viscount De L'Isle, VC, PC, GCMG, GCVO,

KStJ.

628. Alliance. The Irish Guards. Greetings are exchanged on St Patricks Day (17 March).

629. Band. Originally Irish pipes and drums.

630. March. 'Inverbrackie'.

631. Battalion Identification Colour. Scarlet (BCC 209).

632. On 15 Aug 73, 2 RAR and 4 RAR were linked to form 2/4 RAR. On 1 Feb 95 4 RAR was re-raised with the unlinking of 2/4 RAR. On 1 Feb 95 4 RAR was re-raised with the unlinking of 2/4 RAR.

5 RAR

633. Origin. In 1965 it was decided to abandon the pentropic establishment which had required a battalion of some 1,300 men. At Holsworthy 1 March 65, 1 RAR split, half of its officers and men forming 5 RAR.

634. History. See Annex E to this chapter.

635. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented at Holsworthy on 29 Oct 67, by the Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler, VC, KCMG, CBE.

636. Alliance. The Welsh Guards. Greetings are exchanged on St David's Day/5 RAR's birthday, 1 Mar (both days coinciding).

637. Band. Drum and bugle.

638. March. 'Dominique'.

639. Mascot. Sumatran tiger named Quintus.

640. Battalion Identification Colour. Gold (BCC 114).

641. On 3 Dec 73, 5 RAR and 7 RAR were linked to form 5/7 RAR.

6 RAR

642. Origin. 6 RAR was raised at Enoggera on 6 Jun 65. Initially the Battalion consisted of a nucleus command structure of officers and NCOs, two rifle coys and specialists transferred from 2 RAR. In Sep 65 the Battalion was brought up to strength by a large draft of National Servicemen.

643. History. See Annex F to this chapter.

644. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 6 RAR on 10 May 68 at Townsville by the Governor-General, The Right Honourable Lord Casey, PC, GCMG, CH, DSO, MC. KStJ. The Long Tan streamer is attached to the Regimental Colour pike on Long Tan Day.

645. Alliance. Reserved.

646. Band. Scottish pipes and drums.
647. March. 'The Crusaders'. For brass band, 'Spirit of Youth'.
648. Long Tan Day, 18 Aug. Celebrated each year in commemoration of the Battle of Long Tan, 1966. For this action D Coy was awarded the United States Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation.
649. Battalion Identification Colour. Khaki (BCC 72).

7 RAR

650. Origin. 7 RAR was raised at Puckapunyal on 1 Sep 65 from officers and other ranks from 3 RAR and the establishment brought up to strength from the second National Service intake of 1965.
651. History. See Annex G to this chapter.
652. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 7 RAR at Holsworthy on 6 Oct 68 by the Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler, VC, KCMG, CBE.
653. Alliance. The Gordon Highlanders.
654. Band. Scottish pipes and drums.
655. March. 'Cock O' the North'. For brass band 'Australaise'.
656. Battalion Identification Colour. Maroon (BCC 39).
657. On 3 Dec 73, 5 RAR and 7 RAR were linked to form 5/7 RAR.

8 RAR

658. Origin. 8 RAR was raised at Enoggera on 8 Aug 66. One hundred and fifty soldiers from 1 RAR were included among the original members.
659. History. See Annex H to this chapter.
660. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 8 RAR on 25 Sep 68 at Terendak in Malaysia by the Colonel Commandant, LTGEN Sir Reginald Pollard, KBE, CB, DSO.
661. Alliance. The Parachute Regiment. Greetings are exchanged on Arnhem Day (17 Sep) and 8 RAR's birthday.
662. Band. Drum and bugle.
663. March. 'Let's Go'.
664. Battalion Identification Colour. Slate Grey (BCC 154).
665. On 31 Oct 73, 8 RAR and 9 RAR were linked to form 8/9 RAR.

9 RAR

666. Origin. 9 RAR was raised at Keswick on 13 Nov 67. On that day the Battalion consisted of the CO, six officers and three other ranks. A week later the unit moved to Woodside, and reached full strength in Apr 68.

667. History. See Annex I to this chapter.

668. The Colours. Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 9 RAR at Enoggera by the Governor-General, The Right Honourable Sir Paul Hasluck, GCMG, GCVO, KStJ on 29 Apr 71.

669. Alliance. Reserved.

670. Band. Drum and bugle.

671. March. 'Pass Me By'.

672. Mascot. Merino sheep named Lance Corporal John Macarthur IV.

673. Battalion Identification Colour. Beech Brown (BCC 69).

674. On 31 Oct 73, 8 RAR and 9 RAR were linked to form 8/9 RAR.

2/4 RAR

675. Origin. Following the cessation of National Service and the reduction of the Army in 1973, several battalions of The Royal Australian Regiment were linked to preserve the history and traditions of all original nine battalions. On 15 Aug 73, 2 RAR and 4 RAR were linked to form 2/4 RAR.

676. History. See Annex J to this chapter.

677. The Colours. 2/4 RAR carried the Queen's and Regimental Colours of both 2 RAR and 4 RAR, on all ceremonial and other appropriate occasions. New 2 RAR Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to 2/4 RAR in Townsville on 17 Sep 76 by the Governor-General, His Excellency Sir John Kerr, AK, GCMG, Kstj, QC.

678. Alliances. 2/4 RAR maintained the alliances with The Coldstream Guards and The Irish Guards for 2 RAR and 4 RAR respectively, throughout its history.

679. Band. Irish pipes and drums.

680. March. 'Ringo' and 'Inverbrackie'.

681. Battalion Identification Colours. Black (BCC 220) and Scarlet (BCC 209).

5/7 RAR

682. Origin. 5 RAR was linked with 7 RAR on 3 Dec 73 to form 5/7 RAR.

683. History. See Annex K to this chapter.
684. The Colours. 5/7 RAR carries the Queen's and Regimental Colours of both 5 RAR and 7 RAR on all ceremonial and other appropriate occasions.
685. Alliance. 5/7 RAR maintains the alliances with The Welsh Guards and The Gordon Highlanders for 5 RAR and 7 RAR respectively.
686. Band. Scottish pipes and drums.
687. March. 'Dominique'.
688. Mascot. 5/7 RAR holds the Sumatran tiger 'Quintus' in trust for 5 RAR.
689. Battalion Identification Colours. Gold (BCC 114) and Maroon (BCC 39).

8/9 RAR

690. Origin. On 31 Oct 73, 8 RAR and 9 RAR were linked to form 8/9 RAR.
691. History. See Annex L to this chapter.
692. The Colours. 8/9 RAR carries the Queen's and Regimental Colours of both
8 RAR and 9 RAR on all ceremonial and other appropriate occasions.
693. Band. Scottish pipes and drums.
694. March. 'The Brown and Grey Lanyard'.
695. Mascot. 8/9 RAR holds the merino ram 'John Macarthur IV' in trust for 9 RAR.
696. Battalion Identification Colours. Slate Grey (BCC 154) and Beech Brown (BCC 69).

Annexes:

- A. 1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- B. 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- C. 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- D. 4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- E. 5th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- F. 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- G. 7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- H. 8th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- I. 9th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- J. 2nd/4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- K. 5th/7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.
- L. 8th/9th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, A Brief History.