

Twice the Citizen

by Phil Pyke

Winston Churchill once described them as 'twice the citizen' – men and women who had chosen to join their territorial or reserve forces to defend their country on a part time basis.

In over a century of policing in Tasmania, many officers have supported Australia's defence interests through participating in the militia, Citizen Militia Forces (CMF), the Army, Navy or Air Force Reserves – or the Australian Defence Force Reserves as the reserve forces are now known.

Members of Tasmania Police went on to serve full time in the defence of Australia during 1914-18 and again in 1939-45.

Currently Tasmania Police employs officers who have served overseas in Vietnam, Cambodia, Somalia, East Timor, the Balkans and Bougainville. Some police officers, also ADF Reservists, served in East Timor as part of the UNCIVPOL.

J.E.C. Lord was the Commissioner of Tasmania Police between 1906-1940. He was also a member of the citizen militia, joining in 1898 as a private with the Sandy Bay Company in Hobart.

Lord received his officer's commission in 1899 and became the militia adjutant with the 93rd Regiment. Later he became the Commanding Officer.

At the outbreak of conflict in 1914, Lord, as a militia major, was in charge of the Harbour Defences of Hobart.

He volunteered for overseas service in 1916 and was given the command of the 40th Battalion – one of the few fully Tasmanian battalions – as part of the Third Division AIF.

Seeing action in France and Belgium, Lord participated in some of the more intense fighting on the Western Front, including Messines, Ypres, Passchendale, the Somme and the Hindenburg Line.

On returning to Tasmania in 1919, Lord resumed his role as Commissioner of Police, and his militia role as Commanding Officer of the 40th Battalion. He retired from the militia in 1928.

In many ways Commissioner J.E.C. Lord was representative of today's police officers who have chosen to contribute to the defence of Australia through the ADF Reserves.

Support for the training and deployment of Reservists has now been made easier through a closer working relationship between the Defence Reserve Support Council (DRSC) and Tasmania Police.

Constable Colin Riley Major – Operations Officer (Reserves) CSIC-TAS Honorary Aide-de-camp to the Governor

Colin Riley is one person who makes the most of any challenge. Since joining the Army Reserve infantry corps in 1987, Colin has completed a number of courses, including officer training. He currently fills the role of honorary aide-de-camp to His Excellency, the Governor of Tasmania, in addition to the operations role.

His standing as a reserve officer has not gone unnoticed, with Colin being the only reserve officer in Australia selected for the Australian Command and Staff College for 2003. He attends this 48-week course with the support of Tasmania Police and the DRSC.

"I first joined the Reserves in a strong belief that I have a role to play in protecting our way of life in Australia," said Colin.

"I also joined to receive quality training to develop my individual skills, and then to be placed in challenging positions to utilise these skills."

Colin attributes the skills and knowledge of his

Major Colin Riley,
second from left



Reserve positions to assisting him in attaining the student of merit on a National Marksman's Course in 1999, and a runner up on an international sniper course in 2000.

"These skills have also greatly assisted me in my current role as an instructor at the Tasmania Police Academy and also on Special Operations Group selection courses."

**Detective Sergeant John Gilbert
Lieutenant – 33 Military Police Platoon**

Tertiary qualifications in policing gave John Gilbert the opportunity to apply for a Direct Officer Entry into the Military Police, becoming the first external specialist service officer appointed to the corps.

The ADF also accepted John's Tasmania Police qualifications as a detective for appointment with the Army Special Investigation Branch. He has already undertaken a number of Army investigations.

Lieutenant John Gilbert,
Military Police



With prior service with the Navy and Army Reserve, John believes his reserve role contributes to his police role.

"Tasmania Police have been supportive of my involvement, and I believe the experience and competencies gained are of benefit to my police duties," he said.

"The experience and training I have received from my twenty eight years in Tasmania Police, coupled with previous military experience, has given me a distinct advantage in my return to the Army Reserves."

John is joined at 33 Military Police Platoon by Captain Greg Chambers and Lieutenant Melanie Parry – both police officers in Forensic Services.

**Constable Jon Ford
Lieutenant – Royal Australian Navy**

Jon has been a member of the Navy Reserve for sixteen years, following nine years full-time service with the Navy.

"I joined the Reserves to maintain the skills and knowledge that I had gained during my permanent service," said Jon.

"I have found my previous naval service has assisted me as a police officer in the application of my naval training to policing situations."

"This has particularly been of value in the areas of time and people management, and communication, both within Tasmania Police and when dealing with the public."

Jon also applies his policing skills to his reserve role during periods of postings to patrol boats working in Northern Australia.

"I have often used my policing skills when dealing with foreign fisherman and searching their boats. This also includes explaining and applying relevant legislation as required."

**Detective Adam Hunter
Musician**

– Australian Army Band – Tasmania

Fourteen years continual service in the Australian Army Band – Tasmania has given Adam the opportunity to play saxophone with many professional musicians and perform at many major concerts.

"My experience within the Band, as part of the Army Reserve, has been invaluable as I have learnt many other aspects of Army life," said Adam.

"I have played with professional musicians on the mainland, and performed at major events such as A Night in the Gorge concerts."

Adam sees his Reserve service, albeit different to that of other Reservists, of benefit to his police role.

"When I graduated in 1995 and was "walking the beat" in uniform, I found it easier to cope with being constantly in the public eye."

Despite being armed mainly with a musical instrument, band members must still undergo the six monthly individual readiness tests with weapons and fitness assessments.

"Tasmania Police have assisted me in regard to my training by allowing paid leave for the two week annual camp," Adam said.

"I also believe my employment in Tasmania Police has been beneficial not only for myself but also for my other peers within the band."



Musician Adam Hunter, Anzac Day 2002



Leading Aircraftman Jarrod Gibson, front centre, No. 29 Squadron First Parade, Anzac Day 2002

Constable Jarrod Gibson Leading Aircraftman – No. 29 (City of Hobart) Squadron

Swapping the blue for blue came easier when Jarrod joined Tasmania Police. After serving as in the RAAF Security Police for eight years, joining Tasmania Police seemed the natural progression.

With the raising of the new RAAF Reserve Squadron in Hobart last year, Jarrod saw an opportunity to continue his defence service.

"With my career choice now with Tasmania Police, I chose to return to the RAAF Reserve in a clerical role," said Jarrod.

"I felt that re-joining RAAF Security Police would not have given me the contrast in roles with different responsibilities and expectations."

"My full time and reserve service assists my police role. This certainly occurred through my time in the Academy due to the high level of discipline in the RAAF."

Constable Phil Pyke Captain – Defence Public Affairs 1st Joint Public Affairs Unit(P) Canberra

"Returning to the ADF Reserves has given me the opportunity to utilise both my tertiary qualifications in media, communications and journalism, as well as public affairs skills learnt in Tasmania Police."

With a previous reserve history of ten years as an infantry corporal with the 12/40th Battalion, Royal Tasmania Regiment, Phil was looking for opportunities to combine his qualifications, skills and previous military experience.

"I applied to re-enter the ADF Reserves in 2000 as a specialist service officer – public affairs," said Phil, who is attached to the 1st Joint Public Affairs Unit in Canberra.

"Many of these skills I use in policing – especially in the fields of public affairs and community policing. I am currently undertaking a defence course in administration, leadership and management."

"Under IJPAU(P), the focus is purely on operational public affairs. East Timor highlighted the need

for this strategic role and as a result this tri-service unit was formed in January this year."

"The unit is busy, with a number of deployments both here in Australia, South Africa, Bouganville, East Timor, Gallipoli and Afghanistan since formation."

"It provides a very different, and challenging, military public affairs perspective."

Constable Lyndon Bellis Sergeant – University of Tasmania Company Royal Military College Duntroon

Specialised as an avionics technician, Lyndon had a career in the regular Army of ten years before becoming inactive and heading for a career change.

After transferring from Queensland Police to Tasmania Police in 1998, Lyndon returned to Reserve service in 2001. He was promoted to sergeant in the University of Tasmania Company, a detachment of the Royal Military College.

"In my position, I train and administer potential GRES (general reserve) officers, so the standard of my performance directly impacts on the standard of the Staff Cadets when and if they graduate," Lyndon said.

"The Staff Cadets are the potential leaders of the Reserve forces, and I need them to be the best. My performance must dictate that same high standard."

Lyndon sees his Reserve service as enhancing his police role.

"I feel both jobs enhance each other as they are both about dealing with people. Both the ADF and Tasmania Police are organisations that deal with issues management between different parties.

"While the tools to deal with each situation may be different, it all comes back to following rules, procedures, common sense and people skills."

As an employer, Tasmania Police see the value in its members belonging to the ADF Reserves.

"The Australian Defence Forces and Tasmania Police are both disciplined services," Commissioner of Police, Mr Richard McCreadie said.

"This makes the transition from daily work life to life as a Reservist so much easier for our personnel and enables them to adapt to new demands more easily and quickly."

"The skills and experience our people gain as Reservists are invaluable and significantly enhance the professionalism and the operational capabilities of our organisation."

In 1998, Tasmania Police was awarded an Employers Support Award for the ongoing support for members who are actively involved in the ADF Reserves.

The closeness of defence and policing as disciplined services is reflected in the number of police applications from serving members of the ADF. Policing, as a disciplined service, provides a career path in a comparable organisational structure.

From this exchange of skills and knowledge, both organisations in Tasmania will continue to benefit greatly.

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