

ISSUE 6 - DECEMBER 2013

Camera



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Air Land & Sea  
the Australian military magazine

ISSUE  
**4**

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Issue 06 – December 2013

**COMBAT**  
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**SOTG FOLLOW  
PRC-U LEAD**

Page 50

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**CONTACT Air Land & Sea** – *the* Australian military  
magazine, issue #40 is in all good newsagents now, so  
please go and buy a copy or three – not least because...

... it's our 10<sup>th</sup> birthday – AND, because #40 is the last issue  
we will print for sale through newsagents.

That's right, starting with the March 2014 issue, **CONTACT**  
will join **COMBAT Camera** as an e-magazine, only  
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Before I go any further, let me assure paid-up subscribers  
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Putting **CONTACT Air Land & Sea** on the Internet as  
well as **COMBAT Camera** means we have to make one  
other small adjustment – and that's simply to make the  
publication date for **COMBAT Camera** one month earlier  
so that both magazines don't come out on the same  
day. That means you'll get an email from us eight times a  
year instead of four – each one with a link to a fresh new  
magazine – with the next one coming your way on  
1 February.

Sincerely,

Brian Hartigan  
Managing Editor

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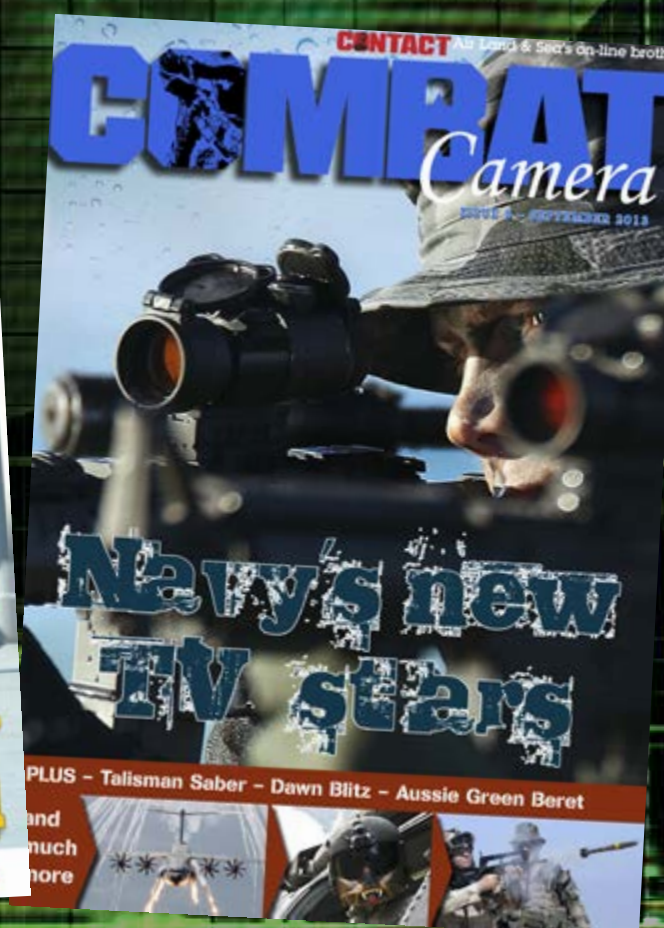
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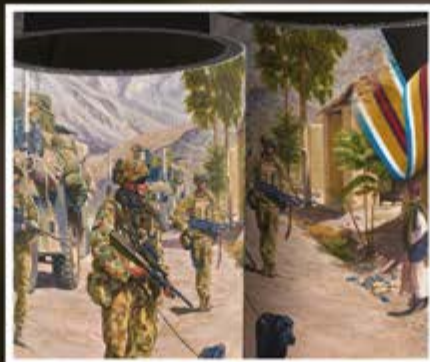


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## KIWI NEWSIE BITS

### Pilot's Gallantry awarded

Multiple displays of 'remarkable courage in the face of extreme danger' in Afghanistan have earned a Royal New Zealand Air Force pilot a Gallantry Medal conferred by Governor General Lieutenant General Sir Jerry Mateparae in November.

Squadron Leader Ben Pryor was a flight lieutenant when he served as a helicopter pilot on secondment to the Royal Air Force between 2009-2012, in support of British Forces in Afghanistan.

On 22 April 2012, as captain of the lead Chinook in an eight-ship aviation assault with the Special Forces Support Group, Flight Lieutenant Pryor's aircraft came under intense enemy fire.

Despite his helicopter being hit three times, he made a second approach to get his troops safely on the ground and to direct suppressive fire from the aircraft.

A month later, he conducted a successful emergency medevac under heavy enemy fire.



### First Kiwis to get AASM

Three Royal New Zealand Navy sailors became the first Kiwis to be awarded the Australian Active Service Medal in November when they were awarded the AASM for their work on pirate patrol in the Gulf of Aden onboard HMAS Melbourne in 2012.

The recipients were Leading Hydrographic Survey Technician Matthew Barber, Petty Officer Seaman Combat Specialist Josh Tatana and Able Seaman Combat Specialist Dylan Thomas.

The medals were presented at Devonport Naval Base by Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Jack Steer and Australian Defence Attaché to New Zealand RAN Captain Stephanie Moles.

The three sailors were part of HMAS Melbourne's boat crew, performing duties such as seaboard coxswain and boarding operations.

Three more RNZN sailors are currently deployed onboard HMAS Melbourne in the Gulf of Aden.





# LEST WE FORGET



In the days before Remembrance Day, 11 November, the ship's company of HMS Lancaster took time out of a busy patrol schedule in the Caribbean to remember the brave men and women who gave their lives or were wounded in the line of duty.

Thousands of miles from home, members of the crew mustered on the flight deck to pay their respects by bowing their heads in silence, creating a bright red poppy in the process.

CO HMS Lancaster Commander Steve Moorhouse said it was a great honour and privilege for he and his ship's company to make the small gesture in remembrance

of all those who have served and been affected by war and conflict.

"I hope this will help symbolise the eternal respect and honour we all have for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice," Commander Moorhouse said.

Poppies grow abundantly in Europe, thriving in disturbed earth. During WWI, they were among the first plants to return to devastated battlefields and soldiers quickly associated the vivid red of the flowers as being coloured by the blood of their comrades that soaked the ground. Consequently, the poppy has come to symbolise the sacrifice of shed blood.



# Intercepted



Russian Federation Air Force fighters intercept a simulated hijacked aircraft entering Russian airspace during Exercise Vigilant Eagle 13 in August. This was the fifth in a series of cooperative exercises that provide an opportunity for Russia, Canada and the United States to enhance international cooperation in detecting, tracking, identifying and following a hijacked aircraft that may travel across international borders.

The Su-27 is a '4<sup>th</sup> generation' fighter with 'supermanoeuvrability' – that is, capable of manoeuvres beyond the limits of aerodynamics. It has been in service with the Russians since 1985 and is still in production. Most often thought of as an air superiority fighter, the Su-27 is capable of most combat operations and is said to be a close counterpart to the American F-15 Eagle in this regard – notwithstanding that until the introduction of the F-22 Raptor in 2005, America did not have a supermanoeuvrable fighter.





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**WARRIORS**



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# Walking Death Railway

A team of 16 former soldiers will step off from Ban Pong, Thailand, on ANZAC Day 2014 to follow in the footsteps of WWII Diggers on the infamous Death Railway.

Dubbed 'The Walk Home 2014' the team, consisting mainly of former members of 8/12 Medium Regiment, 103 Medium Battery, 4RAR (Commando) and NORFORCE, will walk approximately 300km over 12 days to raise funds for Soldier On.

Project OIC Federal Agent Bryon Ramsbottom said that even though team members had been out of the Army for years and had forged successful careers elsewhere, they still felt strong connections to the Australian Army and their old units.

"We have all been deployed and have been fortunate enough to return home in relatively top condition," he said.

"But, there are younger diggers out there now who haven't been so lucky and we want to give something back to these guys and girls through Soldier On."

The Walk Home has already raised more than \$10,000 and invites more support through [www.thewalkhome.com.au](http://www.thewalkhome.com.au) and [www.facebook.com/thewalkhome2014](https://www.facebook.com/thewalkhome2014)



# Recruiting for charity

A Melbourne-based recruiting company specialising in placing former Defence members in civilian employment has started a charitable initiative they hope other companies will emulate – donating \$1000 to Soldier On for every successful placement.

Ironside Recruitment places transitioning Army, Navy and Air Force personnel into private industry positions, especially within the resources sector and defence industry.

And, Ironside's successful placement of a new project manager with Defence vehicle manufacturer Supacat resulted in their first \$1000 donation to Soldier On in October.

Company Director Glen Ferrarotto, himself a former soldier, has pledged to share Ironside Recruitment's success with the men, women and families of the ADF affected by injury or death in the line of duty.

"From the beginning, I was looking for a way to support Defence members and their families in need," Mr Ferrarotto said.

"This is why we decided to donate \$1000 to charities such as Soldier On for every full-time placement we make."

For more info on the organisations discussed, visit [www.ironsiderecruitment.com](http://www.ironsiderecruitment.com) [www.supacat.com](http://www.supacat.com) and [www.soldieron.org.au](http://www.soldieron.org.au)



PHOTO BY PETTER NYQUIST

# The other (cold) road to recovery

## SOUTH POLE CHALLENGE

**Only two years after being shot through the neck by insurgents in Afghanistan and unable to walk as a consequence, Private Heath Jamieson is set to take part in the most gruelling footrace of all time – a race to the South Pole.**

Private Jamieson and his ADF compatriot Corporal Seamus Donaghue – who still has shrapnel embedded in his badly damaged right thigh after being shot in Afghanistan in 2010 – will team up with two wounded Canadians as Team Commonwealth in a race against other teams from the UK

and USA in the South Pole Allied Challenge.

The teams gathered at a former Soviet Antarctic research post, in late November and expect to reach the South Pole around 17 December.

Towing their supplies on pulks, the three teams will be joined by Prince Harry in one of the most high-profile expeditions of modern times.

Organisers say the race across 335km of icy hell will show the world the extraordinary courage and determination of men and women wounded while serving their countries, and will serve to remind

others of the help and support available to them.

Soldier On founder John Bale said Heath and Seamus' involvement would serve not only as part of their own personal recoveries but also as an inspiration to others.

"These guys have been training hard for this event. They've been to Iceland, Norway and the USA in preparation for the hardest 335km they'll ever face," Mr Bale said.

"Getting them ready has been a costly exercise but two fantastic organisations have stepped up.

"Thales is sponsoring Seamus while

Heath is being supported by the Military Shop in Canberra.

"We couldn't have got the boys to the Pole without their generous support."

He said COMBAT Camera readers could also show their support for Team Commonwealth and for Soldier On by getting active – walking, running, riding to raise funds so that Soldier On could continue to help our nation's wounded.

To donate to Soldier On or to get involved in fundraising, visit [southpole.letsfundraise.com.au](http://southpole.letsfundraise.com.au)



**Name:** Heath Jamieson  
**DoB:** 03/05/1978  
**Unit:** 2nd Commando Regiment  
**Wound:** Gunshot wound through the neck

Watch an interview with Heath as he explains his wounding and his long road to recovery.



**Name:** Seamus Donaghue  
**DoB:** 01/06/1983  
**Unit:** 5/7RAR  
**Wound:** Gunshot wound through right leg

Watch an interview with Seamus as he explains his wounding and his long road to recovery.



PHOTOS BY ABLE SEAMAN LEE-ANNE MACK AND CORPORAL MARK DORAN

THE PARENTS OF AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER PRIVATE THOMAS DALE, WHO WAS KILLED BY AN IED ON 20 AUGUST 2010, CONSOLE EACH OTHER AFTER AN EMOTIONAL CEREMONY FOR THE FALLEN AT MULTI NATIONAL BASE – TARIN KOT

# Emotional first and final visit

Shortly after Prime Minister Tony Abbott officially declared Australia's mission in Afghanistan was officially ended, the families of KIA soldiers were taken to the main Australian base in the country where their loved ones fell.

Chief of Defence Force General David Hurley who led the emotional visit said the journey was about helping the families to heal by giving them an opportunity to experience and understand the country where their loved ones lost their lives.

"This was a deeply moving experience for everyone involved, especially the families," General Hurley said.

"They are the ones who bear the true cost of war, yet despite their grief they are able to find comfort in what their fathers, partners, sons and brothers achieved in their service to our nation."

Peter Diddams, whose son Blaine was killed just last year during an engagement with insurgents, said it was a surreal experience.

"It actually conforms with photographs and with Google Earth that I've looked at and books that I've read, but it's still an amazing experience to walk out the back of the C-17 and see the mountains, the dust and the blast walls, the vehicles and the bunkers," he said.

Kim Duffy, father of Captain Bryce Duffy who was killed by small-arms fire during an insider attack in 2011, said the families were grateful for the opportunity to visit.

"I think that for all families – certainly from what I have heard – this is a big closure event for us," Mr Duffy said.

"Nothing will ever remove the pain and the loss, but just being here is a huge closure chapter, I think for everybody."



CLICK IMAGE TO VIEW VIDEO



General Hurley said this was the most important visit he would ever make as Chief of the Defence Force.

"I cannot help but admire the courage and strength of these families.

"It has been a tremendous privilege to make this journey with them."

The families travelled to the Multi-National Base in Tarin Kot on Saturday 2 November where they attended a moving ceremony to honour the men they loved.

Family members laid poppies at a memorial inside Camp Holland and met with Australian troops as they got a glimpse of life on deployment.

After just a few hours on the ground, the visitors returned to Al Minhad Air Base in the UAE before returning to Australia the following day.



AN AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER HOLDS THE HAND OF JENNIFER JONES, MOTHER OF ARMY COOK LANCE CORPORAL ANDREW JONES WHO WAS KILLED IN AN INSIDER ATTACK ON 30 MAY 2011



# Bushfire Assist — Again

Operation XXX Bushfire Assist – where XXX is an Australian State – is an almost annual rollout of Defence personnel eager to help neighbours in need after Mother Nature chucks a hissy fit.

This time XXX stood for NSW, and specifically regions west and north of Sydney.

Ironically, however, it transpired that the worst of the fires that swept across swathes of the region were accidentally started by the Army during an explosives training exercise near Lithgow on 16 October.

By early November, however, after very welcome rains assisted the long-suffering firefighters – but not before more than 200 homes were razed – small teams of ADF personnel were called out to help with 'make-safe' inspections and tasks.

Commander of the assigned task force Lieutenant Colonel Rob Lording said the soldiers had conducted site recons, and had felled both buildings and trees to make sites safe.

Lance Corporal Peter Elliott, a reservist with the 5<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer

Regiment at Penrith and a builder in his civilian life, said local people were pleased to see the Army helping with the clean-up.

"It's a great honour to be able to help where we can and really good when people come up to thank us," Lance Corporal Elliott said.

"A lady and a small boy came over from a shop to thank us, and when we sat the little bloke in the Army truck he thought it was great."

Lance Corporal Elliott lives at Springwood himself and has experienced three fires near his home.

He said this latest fire burnt the fence and a shed at his son's house.

Corporal Lester Meers, an Army Reservist for 30 years, left his job at Young, NSW, at short notice to assist with the clean-up.

"We're trying to assist people who have been devastated by losing their homes, all their possessions and even their pets," he said.

"Reservists are good at working in local communities because often they are part of those same communities," Corporal Meers said.

**RIGHT: Trevor Hoffmann, who is married to Corporal Raelene Hoffmann of Number 2 Expeditionary Health Squadron at RAAF Base Williamtown, sits on what is left of his beloved 1969 Mack-1 Mustang after bushfires destroyed houses and property in the Salt Ash region of Port Stephens.**  
**PHOTO BY LEADING AIRCRAFTMAN CRAIG BARRETT**







CLICK IMAGE TO VIEW VIDEO



**TOP:** Sapper Shaun Ashman, 5<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Regiment, prepares to fell a tree during 'make safe' operations at Yellow Rock in the Blue Mountains.

**BOTTOM:** Engineers from 5CER take a break during their 'make safe' activities at Yellow Rock.

**MAIN:** Sapper Kristy Tinnion, 5CER, supervises tree felling operations in the Blue Mountains.

**PHOTOS** CORPORAL BILL SOLOMOU

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*The mighty Bristol Boxkite*

# FLIES AGAIN

MILITARY AVIATION HISTORY REBORN AT POINT COOK



Photos by Corporal Amanda Campbell



A historic moment in Australian military aviation history was captured at Point Cook on 11 September 2013.

A Bristol Boxkite replica aircraft built at the Royal Australian Air Force Museum in Victoria completed a program of flight testing with Air Vice Marshal Mark Skidmore (retired) at the controls.

A former F-111 pilot and test pilot with the RAAF's Aircraft Research and Development Unit, Air Vice Marshal Skidmore, who was well credentialed for the event, said the aircraft flew approximately 1000m and reached a top speed of about 42 miles per hour.

"It was an exhilarating and humbling experience," he said.

"I am honoured and proud to follow those aviators who pioneered military aviation in this country.

"I now have the honour of being the only RAAF pilot who has flown both the fastest and slowest aircraft in the Air Force."

The Bristol Boxkite has a rich history in the evolution of military aviation in Australia – it was the first official military aircraft built in this country and was used to train our first military pilots.



Air Vice Marshal Mark Skidmore (retired) with the Bristol Boxkite replica built at Point Cook.



CLICK  
IMAGE  
TO VIEW  
VIDEO





Noel Fenton from the RAAF Museum checks aileron movement.



Project Manager Ron Gretton helps reposition the Boxkite after successful handling tests.



Ron Gretton, Assistant Project Manager Geoff Matthews and Air Vice-Marshal Mark Skidmore.



Flight Lieutenant Michael Olsen checks wind during engine run tests.

'State of the art' in its time and one of the most successful trainers of the era, the Boxkite was developed in the UK by the British & Colonial Aeroplane Company and first flew on 29 July 1910.

A Bristol Boxkite was flown in Australia for the first time on the morning of 1 March 1914, when Lieutenant Eric Harrison, an aviation instructor with the Central Flying School (CFS), took one

into the air at Point Cook, Victoria, the then home of the Australian Flying Corps (AFC).

The AFC, the forerunner of the Royal Australian Air Force, initially operated two Bristol Boxkites between 1914 and 1917.

The first example built in Australia was constructed by CFS at Point Cook and flew its maiden flight on 10 August 1915.

Lieutenant Harrison's historic flight in 1914 is, however, recognised as the starting point of military flying in Australia and, in recognition of its historic significance, RAAF Base Point Cook will host a "Centenary of Military Aviation in Australia" event on 1 and 2 March 2014 with the new Bristol Boxkite replica a major draw card.



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# GAME OF BRIDGE

BAE Systems believes it has an ideal solution for the Australian Army's desire to cross dry gaps of up to 45m – a Phase 1 requirement under Project Land 155.

BAE Systems Australia is proposing a solution based on the British Army's proven BR90 General Support Bridging System, coupled to a range of flexible transport and deployment options.

The BR90 concept was originally developed as a modular asset offering a flexible bridging solution for the British Army, offering the ability to bridge gaps between 14m and 60m.

Kim Scott, Director Land and Integrated Systems, said the company had access to existing military-off-the-shelf solutions.

"In the UK, we have provided bridging solutions to the British Army for more than 15 years and delivered proven and reliable operational performance in the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan," Mr Scott said.

"Our equipment has

also been deployed by the Malaysian Army for military use and civilian disaster-relief efforts."

He said the proposed ADF solution would enable faster deployment, improved manoeuvrability and enhanced survivability.

"Our support solution also includes training for the life of the equipment – expected to be at least 15 years."



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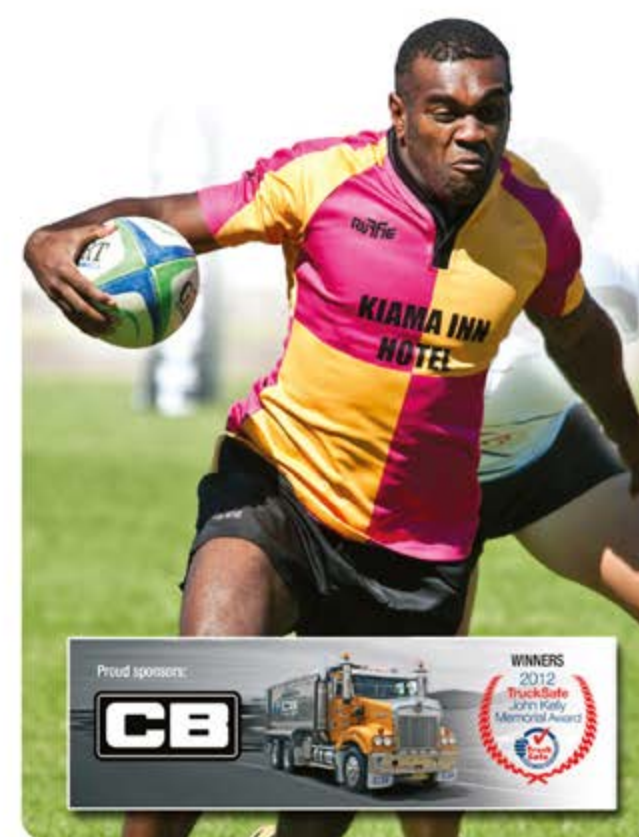
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# Desert Patrol

Leading Aircraftman Noel Klaehn on patrol around Tarin Kot, Afghanistan



Leading Aircraftman Jayde West scans the horizon for possible threats before troops disembark his Bushmaster





# ADG Desert Patrol

Members of Security Force 2, based at Multi National Base Tarin Kot (MNB - TK) conducted one of a number of regular clearing patrols through a village in southern Uruzgan in October.

This patrol consisted of Royal Australian Air Force airfield defence guards, army engineers and a military working-dog team.

Their mission was to sweep through a series of small caves on the outskirts of the

village to search for unexploded ordnance and other items of interest.

A critical element of a mission such as this was interaction with the Afghan locals, which was accomplished through the assistance of an interpreter.

Australia's Airfield Defence Guards are responsible for the physical security of MNB - TK and they conduct regular patrols through Tarin Kot and the immediate area.



Flying Officer  
Will Drewitt-Smith



Flying Officer  
Will Drewitt-Smith



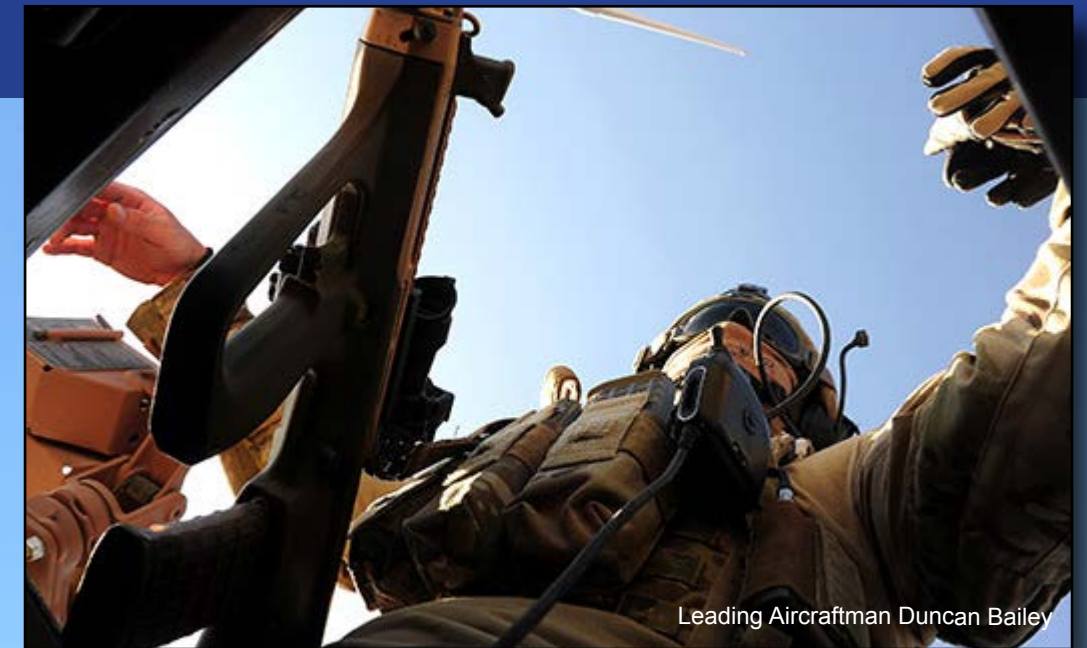
Leading Aircraftman  
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# ADG Desert Patrol

WATCH VIDEO  
INTERVIEW



Leading Aircraftman Duncan Bailey



Leading Aircraftman Sam McGrady



Leading Aircraftman Cohen Thamm  
and Corporal Patrick Bird



Leading Aircraftman Noel Klahn





# ADG Desert Patrol

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**Security Force – Tarin Kot**



Day at the Beach

# Combat Controllers





No. 4 Squadron Combat Controller hopefuls are put through their paces on Stockton Beach, near Newcastle, NSW







The RAAF's Number 4 Squadron supports a diverse range of Australia Defence Force (ADF) capabilities. It consists of three flights, as well as maintenance/logistics sections and a small administrative team. The three flights are; A Flight, which comprises aircrew flying Pilatus PC9/A Forward Air Control (FAC) aircraft; B-Flight personnel employed as Combat Controllers who integrate and control the elements of air and space power to enable precision strike and advanced military force operations; and, C Flight, responsible for training ADF Joint Terminal Attack Controllers (JTACs) as well as facilitating development and assessment of current ADF JTAC-qualified personnel.





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# 40th ISSUE

*Our 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday*

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**BONUS VIDEO** – Ex Iron Moon assault on an oil tanker, including two RHIB's thrown out the back of a C-17! →





# PRC-U lead Security Operations

Special Operations Task Group soldiers and their partners from the Provincial Response Company - Uruzgan (PRC-U) arrive back at Multi National Base - Tarin Kot after conducting a PRC-U led security operation in Uruzgan Province, southern Afghanistan. The 300-strong Australian Special Operations Task Group (SOTG) is deployed to southern Afghanistan to train, advise and assist their Afghan partner units in Uruzgan province. SOTG is primarily based in Multi-National Base Tarin Kot but has

command and liaison elements in both Kandahar and Kabul. SOTG trains, mentors and partners with Afghan National Police officers from the PRC-U and other branches of the Afghan National Security Forces, in order to build their capacity and capability to establish and maintain security and stability in the region. SOTG operations are Afghan led in order to build confidence in the ANSF and improve the connection between the local people and the Afghan government.





Photos by Petty Officer Phil Cullinan



# RRG Ulead Security Operations






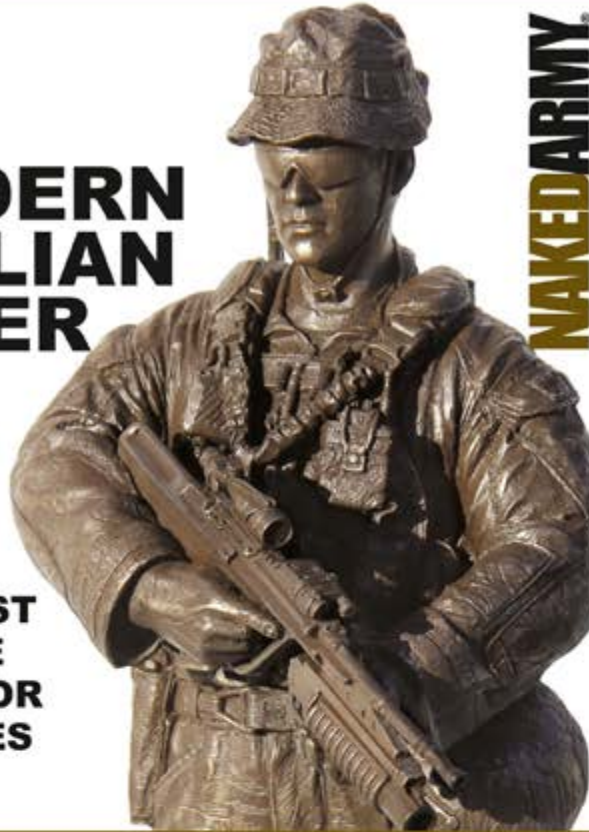
Meanwhile – SOTG members keep their own skills finely tuned by conducting mission-specific training at a purpose-built facility on base at Torin Kot.

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# Deep rescue

Leading Seaman Brenton Freind

Able Seaman Medic David Cusock in a decompression chamber

Lieutenants Carol Baines and Chloe Ryan in the decompression chamber

An intensive three-week submarine escape and rescue exercise drew to a close off the east coast of Australia in late November.

During Exercise Black Carillon 2013, members of the Royal Australian Navy's submarine force were 'rescued' by the James Fisher Rescue Service LR5 submersible from Collins-class submarine HMAS Farncomb, which was bottomed in 112m of water.

With the submariners safely on board, the 21.5 tonne submersible was returned to the surface and lifted onto the deck of ADV Ocean Shield, acting as the rescue vessel, where the submariners were transferred into decompression chambers without being exposed to outside air pressure.

The LR5 submersible had earlier been flown by RAAF C17 Globemaster from its base at Henderson, WA, to the east coast.

Commander submarine force Captain Mark Potter said that while it was unlikely the equipment would ever be needed, maintaining the capability was essential.

"Should the unthinkable happen, it is essential that we have established and have well-practiced procedures in place to rescue our personnel," Captain Potter said.

"During Black Carillon, Navy worked closely with Defence partners and contractor James Fisher Defence to mobilise and test the equipment on the east coast.

"Navy's underwater medical specialists also played a vital part in the exercise.

Navy doctors get familiar with the decompression chamber

Remotely operated vehicle control room

Chief Petty Officer Tim Cummins opens the outer hatch of HMAS Farncomb and looks up into the LR5 submersible





DECOMPRESSION



"Type B decompression chambers were tested and life-saving medical techniques aimed at preventing and responding to decompression sickness were simulated."

This was the 12<sup>th</sup> time the RAN conducted a submarine escape and rescue exercise.

Australia is also a member of the International Submarine Escape and Rescue Liaison Organisation, which would provide international support should an Australian submarine be disabled.



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In what may or may not become a regular feature of **COMBAT Camera** and/or **CONTACT Air Land & Sea** magazines, we feature here the work of an obviously excellent New Zealand-based photographer.

Any photographer who would like their work featured in one or both of our magazines should email [editor@militarycontact.com](mailto:editor@militarycontact.com) to discuss.

# Daniel Hadman

## MAN OF ISLES







### ***Where are you based?***

I was born on the Isle Of Man and raised in New Zealand. I'm now based in Hamilton, on the North Island of New Zealand.

I'm not a full-time photographer. I'm an engineering technician full time, but I run my own photo-based company, Art Alliance, where I sell mine and other photographers work.

I am working on a few photography projects though, involving the New Zealand armed forces and a solo project called 'Unsung Heroes'. I don't want to give too much away but that's based around everyday people risking their lives for others. Keep an eye on my website for details. A lot of my photos so far were captured in the Isle of Man and throughout the UK.

I organise my own photo shoots from the location right through to their load out.

I have done a lot of work in the UK for Airsoft events. [Airsoft is similar to paintball, except the guns, which are more lifelike military-style weapons, fire plastic pellets] Airsoft is a big passion of mine and I have met some amazing people

through its community, including soldiers dealing with PTSD. Airsoft gave me the opportunity to capture some great shots.

### ***Do your subjects pose for long periods or are they snapped on the fly – what's your preference?***

With my photography I try and stay clear of posed positions. To me it has no feeling in it. I already have a fair idea of the shot I want – it's just a matter of making them feel relaxed and comfortable so I can move them about. Nine out of 10 of my photos are snapped on the fly rather than posing.

### ***How much of the final image is produced in the field and how much in Photoshop?***

My military visual art photos are quite heavily Photoshopped. I start with an original photo or photos and quite often overlap them, while adjusting settings such as contrast, shadows and depth of field.

I like these images because I have not seen much else out there like them. I think it's different.





**Why do black and white images excite you?**

Black and white images are a favourite of mine to create. I find that colours can be terribly distracting in some images and can take the focus away from your subject. Black and white images are raw and honest. I want to provoke an emotional response.

**Is it fair to say even your colour photos are almost black and white in their appearance/atmosphere?**

The few color images I have, have very low saturation, so I would agree with you there. I try to create a focus point on my images, something that makes you want to look twice. I find colour images distracting with this as it takes the emphasis away.

**Are you available for hire?**

Yes I am available for hire for any projects across the globe.

Find more of Daniel Hadman's work in issue #40 of **CONTACT Air Land & Sea** – in all good newsagents now – and at [www.artalliance.co.nz](http://www.artalliance.co.nz) [www.danielhadman.com](http://www.danielhadman.com) [facebook.com/DanielHadmanPhotography](https://facebook.com/DanielHadmanPhotography)



**Biography Daniel Lee Hadman**

I was born on the Isle Of Man and raised in New Zealand. After a life of travelling, I have witnessed many great sights and amazing things. My drive is to explore military life and war-torn areas, with a long-term goal to wholeheartedly exhibit human issues, and the human condition, in its most raw and volatile form.



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# Lebanon bound



Irish soldiers now serving with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Group UNIFIL in Lebanon conducted intensive Mission Readiness Exercises in the Glen of Imaal, south of Dublin, in October. The contingent of more than 180 troops deployed to Lebanon in late November with a wide range of capabilities, including armored force protection, patrolling, communications, medical and operational-planning expertise. Personnel of the unit also have a mix of experience, from first-trip soldiers and officers to highly experienced senior NCOs and commanders.



Photos by Corporal Neville Coughlan  
Irish Defence Force PR Branch



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# UK F-35 pilots



## fly from US LHD

Royal Air Force and Royal Navy pilots and crew were embedded as crewmembers on USS Wasp – a multi-purpose amphibious assault ship – as she conducted developmental testing to expand F-35B operations at sea.

The pilots embarked on USS Wasp for the second of three major at-sea evaluations of the aircraft.

Trials encompassed numerous milestone events including the first night

operation at sea as well as the first launch and recovery of the F-35B at sea by a British test pilot.

Squadron Leader Jim Schofield became the first international pilot to conduct sea-based launch and landing in the F-35B.

"It's exciting to see the integration of this new plane with the amphibious assault ships," Squadron Leader Schofield said.

"After a year leading up to this, it's awesome to get here and start.

"Flying the F-35 is the highlight of my career and to come here and fly it from an LHD-class ship is staggering.

"Every time I get in this jet I am excited to fly it – and I'm excited by what this jet will bring to the UK in terms of capability."

F-35B Lightning IIs will eventually fly from the Royal Navy's yet-to-be-launched Queen Elizabeth-class aircraft carriers, scheduled to start from 2018.

US Navy photos courtesy Lockheed Martin by Andy Wolfe



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# Living up to its name



**Spitfire TE311** of the Royal Air Force Memorial Flight (RAFMF), piloted by Wing Commander 'Godders' Godfrey performs a 'hot start' during a public display.

The Spitfire played a major part in World War II and is still revered more than 70 years later as one of the most famous and charismatic fighters of all time.

This image was a winner in the RAF Photographic Competition 2013.

Photographer:  
SAC Graham Taylor

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# Get a handle on this

As millions of blokes around the world grow and photograph sometimes dubious moustaches in aid of charity, one mo caught our eye as a standout this year. **COMBAT Camera's** 'thumbs up' for the best Movember 2013 goes to Mercury, a drum horse with the Household Cavalry Band in London.

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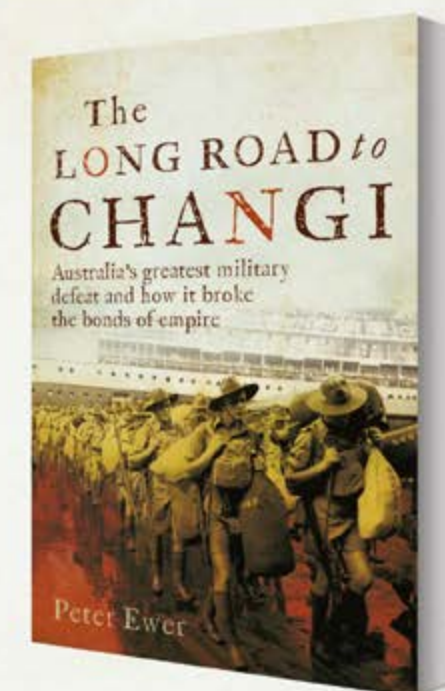
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# UAV Challenge 2013



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**RAAF Edinburgh hosted a UAV flight-test day for around 80 students from schools across Adelaide at the end of October as part of the national 2013 UAV Challenge.**

Mentored by RAAF members from Edinburgh, the students from eight high schools in regional and outer metro Adelaide

developed teamwork and project-management skills as well as constructing an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) and designing a payload delivery system, which had to include a storage and remote-controlled release mechanism.

The flight-test day at RAAF Base Edinburgh

was the culmination of the students' tactical efforts and operational skills.

The UAV Challenge is an international search-and-rescue-based competition with an ultimate prize of \$50,000, which incorporates an Australian high-schools competition with more than \$10,000 in prizes.



**Lieutenant Commander Helen Anderson, a maritime aviation warfare officer and HMAS Melbourne's Flight Commander, celebrated achieving 1000 hours in an S-70B-2 Seahawk on 8 November. To mark the occasion, Melbourne's aircraft, on return from morning patrol with Lieutenant Commander Anderson embarked, conducted several fly-bys of the frigate and deployed flares.**

**1000 HOURS**

# Cadet novels

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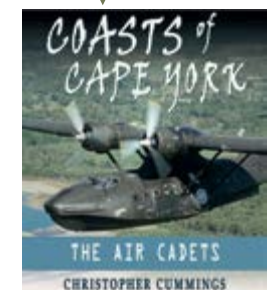
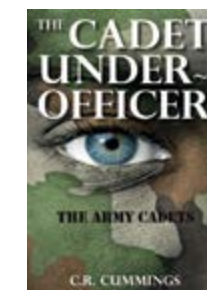
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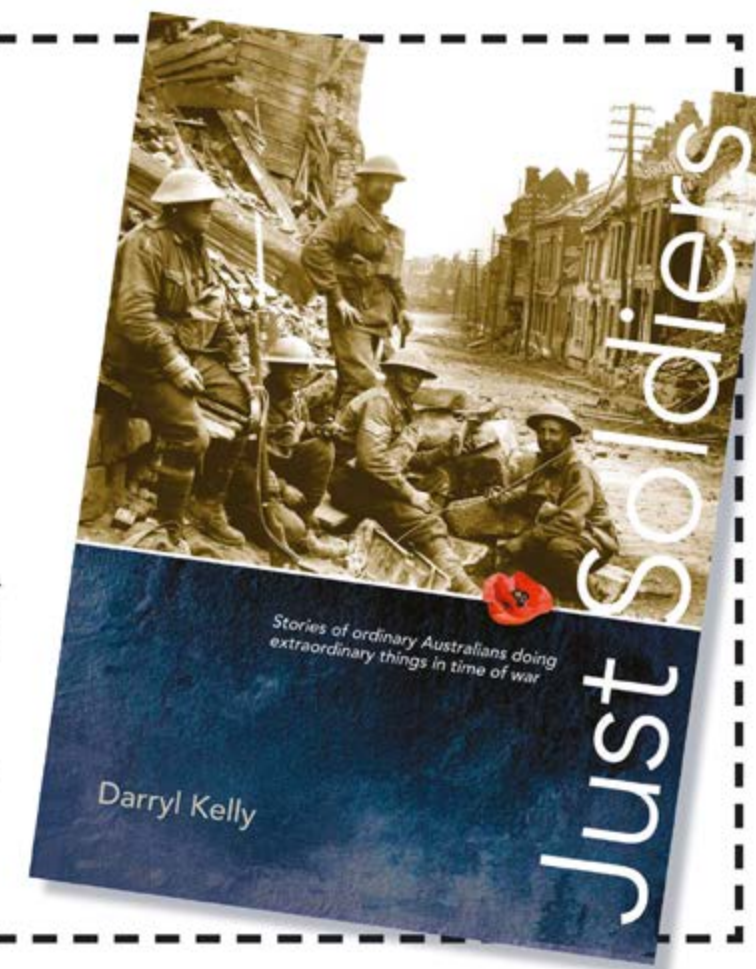
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## NZ's first sea cadet warrant officer

Joining the Sea Cadets in 2008, Grace Winnington could never imagine that five years later she would become New Zealand's first Sea Cadet Warrant Officer.

The Warrant Officer (WO) rank is a new introduction to the Sea Cadets, which have remained largely unchanged since 1929, but brings them into line with their parent service, the Royal New Zealand Navy.

In a fitting gesture, Cadet Warrant Officer (CDTWO) Winnington was presented her new rank slides by Warrant Officer of the RNZN, WO Lennie Shailes.

Also present at the ceremony were members of HMNZS Wellington.

CDTWO Winnington has had an action-packed career with the Cadet Forces, which has taken her around the world,

including the first time Sea Cadets from New Zealand sailed to another country, when a crew from T.S. Talisman sailed to New Caledonia – and this year when she was second in charge of an eight-day leadership voyage through the Marlborough Sounds with her junior Sea Cadets.

CDTWO Winnington returned to New Caledonia in April this year when she was chosen by the Commandant of the New Zealand Cadet Forces and Chief of the New Zealand Defence Force to attend the ANZAC ceremonies in Noumea.

CDTWO Winnington says she now looks forward to passing her experience on to the younger generation of Sea Cadets in Nelson.

## Darling Downs Parade

On Sunday 3 November, Army, Navy and Air Force Cadet units from the Darling Downs, held a tri-service parade at Toowoomba Grammar School to recognise the contributions the units have made to youth and education.

Toowoomba Grammar School Army Cadet Unit, 13 Army Cadet Unit, Training Ship Toowoomba and 210 Air Force Cadet Squadron participated.

The parade allowed the units to thank the Darling Downs community, supporting agencies and service families for their support throughout the year.

Reviewing officer on the day was Major Geoff Rodgers, OC 71 Signals Squadron based at Borneo Barracks, Cabarlah.

Parade commander was National Army Cadet Under Officer and Toowoomba and 13ACU local Cadet Under Officer Daniel Sorrenson.

Parade Sergeant Major was Cadet Warrant Officer Class Two Benjamin Marshall, a year 12 student at Toowoomba Grammar School.

Headmaster of Toowoomba Grammar School Peter Hauser also joined the reviewing party.

Darling Downs cadet units participate in a number of tri-service activities throughout the year, including vigil parties for commemorative services held during the year at the Mother's Memorial in Toowoomba.



## Magnificent kids in flying machines

**Australian Air Force Cadets conducted their annual National Flying Competition – the premier aviation event for the AAFC – on Friday 29 and Saturday 30 November at RAAF Base Amberley.**

This competition is held annually and challenged the airmanship

skills of the cadets in advanced aircraft handling, circuit operations, landings and a range of other aviation disciplines.

Eight wings from around Australia were represented by specially selected, highly skilled young aviators competing in

either powered flying or gliding specialities.

Many of those participating are not eligible to drive a car, but have attained first-solo status as pilots.

While results were not available at time of writing, the cadets vied for the Qantas Cup, which is awarded to the best Wing, the Dux of Gliding and the Rawdon Middleton VC

Trophy for the cadet with the highest motivation and drive.

Director Aviation Training Wing Commander (AAFC) Mark Dorward – himself a qualified professional flying instructor who learnt to fly with the 2 Wing School of Aviation and went solo at RAAF Base Amberley in 1993 and won the cup for most proficient cadet pilot

that year – was full of praise for the cadets and the competition.

"This competition provides an opportunity for these highly motivated young people to showcase their skills and share a united passion for aviation with their peers from all over Australia," Wing Commander Dorward said.

"This is the pinnacle in the AAFC."



# CONTACT

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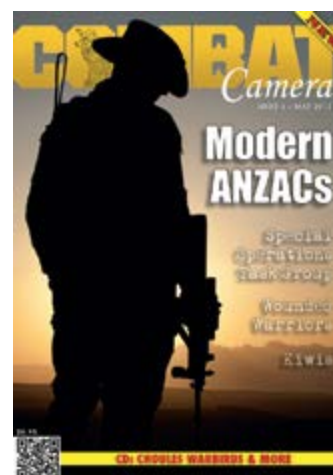
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# IN FOCUS

WITH BRIAN HARTIGAN, MANAGING EDITOR

## COMBAT CAMERA IS ALL ABOUT PHOTOS - SO WHERE BETTER TO GET TIPS ON TAKING PHOTOS THAT GET PUBLISHED?

**W**e've already discussed shutter speed, aperture and ISO as the three key elements of photography we can control, manipulate and balance to get a well-exposed photo.

You will want and need to get a basic understanding of these technicalities when you get passionate about photography – but, it may surprise you to hear that you don't actually need to know or completely understand those three things to actually take a photo.

Of course, as we've discussed, a key reason for that is because most modern cameras are smart enough to take care of the basics for you and, in fact, most modern cameras are way smarter than most modern humans when it comes to understanding these basics.

So, if that's true, then "anyone can take a photo". Right? Well, yes.

But, will that photo you just let your camera do all the work on actually get published? Is it good enough?

And if it isn't good enough, then the camera must be stupid after all. Right?

Well, no, because there's a lot more to photography than just getting the fundamental balance between shutter speed, aperture and ISO right.

So let's explore one of the biggies.

### Composition

Composition is a big one.

While the old saying "anyone can take a photo" is correct in so far as (almost) anyone can pick up a camera, turn on the power and press the shutter-release button, a key extra in the process is to then point the camera in the right direction.

And, believe it or not, that's not quite as easy as it sounds.

Think about this – your boss just closed a big deal with a customer and he wants you to photograph the triumphant handshake to use on the company's web site, newsletter and in the annual report.

You're not keen, but your boss says "anyone can take a photo".

So you grab the office camera, turn it on – setting P for 'professional' (it actually means 'program' which is basically fully automatic), point it at the hand shakers and shoot.

You look at it on the little screen on the back of the camera and it looks fine – it's nicely lit (the camera got the balance between shutter speed, aperture and ISO right) and both men are there in the picture.

Cool. The boss will be happy with you this week.

But then you download the photo to your computer and look at it more closely, on a bigger screen and, OMG, your heart sinks, you feel sick to the stomach. Why?

Well the two men are in the photo all right, but the hands that were clasped in congratulatory shaking are chopped in half. And worse still, the two men are badly out of focus, but that stupid pot plant in the background is as crisp and clear as the men should be.

What the hell went wrong – and where can I hide?

Well we can answer the first question in great detail. The second bit is down to you, I'm afraid.

### Auto focus

One of the big traps with point and shoot cameras and relying

completely on the technology is that, despite its smarts and despite what level of automation you entrust to it, the camera is still really only doing what you ask it to.

By default and at its most basic, a camera will focus on what's in the centre of the viewfinder.

If you think about it logically, when there are two, or any even number of people in a group, there will naturally be a gap right in the middle.

So, if you just point and shoot, the camera naturally will focus on what's in the middle – that is, on what's in the gap. In the example above, it was the pot plant in the background.

Now that you are aware of this issue, what do you do about it?

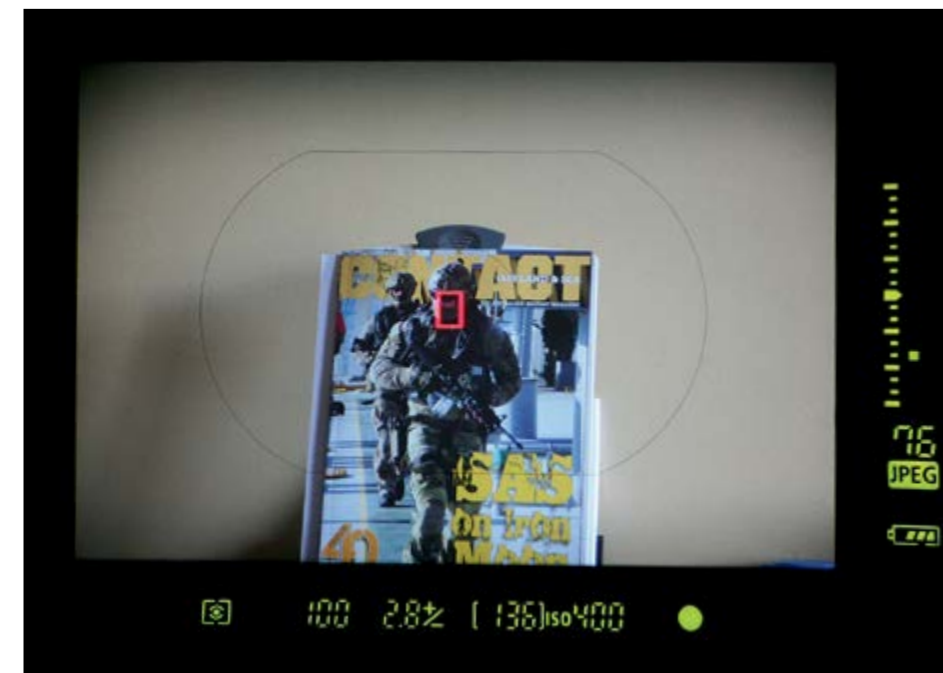
Every modern camera without exception initiates its auto focus feature when you press the shutter release button down half way.

You may have noticed on some cameras (especially cheaper ones) that there's always a delay between when you press the shutter button and when the camera actually takes the photo.

Even if you just pressed the button down all the way to take the photo, the camera focuses (and decides all the other things) first, then takes the photo when it's ready.

This is true on even the most expensive digital cameras too, except that the delay is so short on the better cameras you may not even notice it.

Anyway, it's the act of pressing the button down half way that sets off all this thinking – but, if you hold the button down half way, it does its thinking for what it's actually looking at right then, and then holds that



*LEFT: Using the centre focus point of a viewfinder to focus on a face, risks 'cutting off' important subject matter at the bottom, such as feet – and leaves the top half of the photo filled with 'nothing'.*

*BELOW: Focus on the face using the centre focus point of the viewfinder, then, hold this focus by holding the shutter release button half-way down, move the camera to re-frame the photo so that the frame is filled with interesting and important information – then press the shutter button the rest of the way down to take the photo.*

*Notice how I've divided the photo below into segments? I'll discuss 'the rule of thirds' in another issue.*

information until you either push the button down all the way or you let go.

So here's what you do to get that important handshake photo right the next time.

Point the centre of the camera's view at your boss's face, press the button down just half way and hold it there, then move the camera again to 'compose' the photo – that is, to get the people where you want them in the frame.

Think about this a bit too. You want the people in the middle of the photo, right? Right.

But people are made up of more than just their face.

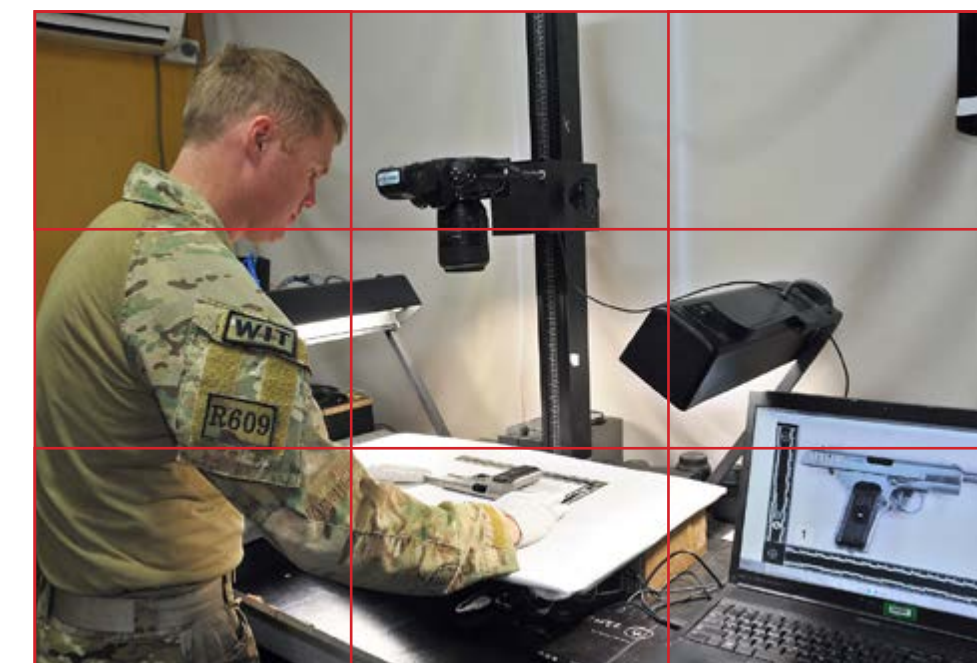
A big mistake is to point the camera at the face and shoot. That's why the shaking hands were missing – and why there's a whole lot of nothing between the faces and the top of the photo.

So, what you need to do is focus on one face, hold the button half way

down, then re-aim the camera at the bosses belly button – because that's the middle of the person. Then press the button down the rest of the way to take the photo.

If you do all that, the boss' face will be in focus and you will also see his hands and his feet and whatever else is important.

And you won't have to look for that hiding place after all.



If you have any particular questions about getting stories or photos published in **COMBAT Camera** or **CONTACT Air Land & Sea**, I'd be happy to try and answer them, either here or privately. Write to me at [editor@militarycontact.com](mailto:editor@militarycontact.com) or PO Box 3091, Minnamurra, NSW 2533.



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