



## The 12th/16th HRL and 24th Light Horse Regiments Association Annual Report

The year kicked off with the arrival of a new CO, LTCOL Ian McNab, a new RSM, WO2 Guy Musgrove and a new OPSO, MAJ Garry Warren.

Immediately the Regiment was required to provide personnel for Op NSW FLOOD ASSIST. This it successfully did, while at the same time providing a number of members for various Transit Security Element deployments as part of the ongoing Op RESOLUTE as well as the ongoing ADF support to Op COVID-19. So far this year the Regiment has deployed more than 40 personnel and that number will continue to grow.

When MAJGEN Iain Spence passed in 2020 the Regiment was unable to conduct a memorial service in Armidale with the onset of COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdowns and other restrictions. A memorial service was finally held in Armidale on May 1st in the Gaza Training Depot. The service was very well attended, including his close family and university work colleagues, which reflected the very high regard Iain had in the Regiment and the wider Armidale community. The military eulogy was delivered by the Regiments HONCOL, Major General Roger Noble, AM, DSC, CSC and the Association eulogy was delivered by LTCOL (retired) Rod Davis, OAM, RFD, ED, a former commanding Officer and HONCOL of the Regiment and a close personal friend of Iain.

After not being able to hold an AGM on 2020, the Association was finally able to hold an AGM in April this year via Zoom. While it was not that well attended, I think it's the way of the future given the distances between our sub-branches.

The Hunter Valley Branch has been in a state of limbo for the last 2 years. I have been talking to a few members from the 1990/2000 era and I am hopeful that the Branch will be fully re-invigorated by the end of this year. I am meeting with a large group at a reunion in November and my aim is to conduct an AGM and vote in a President and a Committee.

The email database of members has continued to grow enabling the Association to get more news to more members and the Association Facebook page continues to get hits and likes.

The Regimental History is still being written by myself. I am due to (finally) retire from the Army at the end of October and I am confident I will have more time to devote to it, and therefore I plan to have it complete by Beersheba Day 2022.

The Unit History Room continues to grow and be added to by the Curator, WO1 (retired) Doug Lennox, OAM.

### **VIRTUTIS FORTUNA COMES**

Yours in Armour,

Wayne Clarke  
President  
12th/16th HRL and 24th Light Horse Regiment Association