

ON PATROL

November 2025

ALTC Marathon Fundraiser



SNRREP Kristian Kemper recently had a great weekend at the Shepparton Running Festival. The Australian Defence Force School of Health (ADFSH) entered a team and started a GoFundMe page in support of Everyman's.

SGT David and Pte Charlotte from ADFSH led a team of about 23 of soldiers on a gruelling 42km run through Shepparton. Kristian had the brew truck set up at Victoria Lake Park to support ADFSH and the civilian participants. He had a great day talking and sharing with all who attended the event. Despite the cold night and threat of rain, spirits remained high throughout the event.

The GoFundMe page started at \$2,000 and quickly surpassed that, reaching \$5,000 before an additional donation raised the total to \$6,289.

Kristian would like to extend his appreciation to the ADFSH runners and to all who donated to the GoFundMe page for their great effort. A great result for Everyman's!

SNRREP Chris Kemper designed the tee the runners wore and the flag to carry across the finish line.

SNRREP Kristian Kemper



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Taliman Sabre 2025

My experience on Talisman Sabre exercise was unique. It was my first time convoying with the army. The convoy left Adelaide for Darwin on a five-day trip with about 35 vehicles, including the Everyman's brew truck. When Ben and I arrived in Darwin, we were able to join REP Leane Dabitz. We had daily devotions and fellowship, which without a doubt strengthened and empowered us for our witnessing and service to the defence personnel. In Darwin we initially served our sponsoring unit 10/27, some US Coast guards and the incoming defence members who arrived before the exercise started.

Most of the time Ben and I spent in the Northern Territory, we served on Darwin's various bases and barracks, however, we also drove to the Mount Bunday Training Area, Katherine speedway and the RAAF base Tindal. Ben, Leane and I also went to Bradshaw training area where we served Leane's unit, 16th regiment from Adelaide/Woodside and some US Marines.

All the driving around, early mornings and late nights facilitated many opportunities to share the love of Christ, the gospel and our testimonies. Ben and I gave away around 100 New Testaments. This sometimes happened after spiritual conversations, and sometimes the offering of Christian material opened opportunities to share Christ with them.

We also encountered some believers in the ADF who we were able to encourage in their faith and witness for Christ. We also prayed with them and gave away some Everyman's devotional books.

I was asked to share my testimony in two church services organised by chaplain Franc Ahlin, services which combined American and Australian defence members. Ben was able to play the guitar and sing for the chapel meetings.

By the grace of God, we had no accidents, hiccups or health problems during our entire time going from Adelaide to Darwin and then back home.

We also prayed that no major military accident or fatality would happen during this exercise, and we were able to see an incredible answer of prayer when there was an accident with a tiger helicopter which crashed without major injury.

In conclusion, I can say confidently that it was a terrific time both personally and, in eternity, very fruitful. Praise God!

REP Claudia Ridley

Talisman Sabre 2025 was a much different Talisman Sabre to any I had previously participated in. Now that we're based in Adelaide, we had a great opportunity to get to know the team from 9th Brigade as we travelled with them. The 3,000 km drive in convoy from Adelaide to Darwin through the Red Centre was a first for both Claudia and me.

The last time I was in Darwin was in 2005–06, when I was a new soldier in the Army. I was involved in Operation Relex II, working on Navy patrol boats as a transit security element defending Australia's northern waters. I spent five months conducting numerous boardings, and as a young soldier I enjoyed seeing many of the sights in the Northern Territory.

Twenty years later, it was great to come back as an Everyman and have my wife Claudia serving alongside me. One of the more unusual events that took place was when I was able to put out a grass fire that had ignited in front of a house in Darwin city. As Claudia and I were driving by in our Brew Truck on Mitchell Street in the CBD, we saw two ladies on the side of the road trying in vain to extinguish the fire in the front yard of a house. It had well and truly gone beyond what their small water bottles could handle. By the time we arrived, the fire had burnt out most of the yard and was about to ignite a large tree and possibly the house itself.

With an 80 L water tank, pump, and hose—normally used to refill the tank—we were able to quickly get the fire under control. The fire was out before the fire department had even arrived, and it left one of the firefighters asking me how I had managed it. Who knew that the old Brew Truck could double up as a fire truck?

It's only because of our invaluable supporters that we can have a truck with features able to be used even in unconventional ways!

SNRREP Ben Ridley



In Northern Territory



In Queensland

Randwick 2 (AS) DIV Everyman Peter Harvie was attached to 5 Brigade for the duration of Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025. Peter's brew truck was mechanically readied, stocked, then convoyed for sea lift on 28th May 2025. Peter left for Darwin on 11th July, overnighing at Holdsworthy on the 12th and then airlifted with 5 Brigade troops to Darwin on 13th July 2025. The same evening, Peter met up with Leane, Claudia and Ben and was reunited with the truck.

Peter camped in a Hoochie line at RAAF Darwin for a couple of nights, taking the opportunity to get to know some of the troops. This time was used to do a final prep of the truck, while providing Everyman services to the troops at RAAF Darwin. Peter was then convoyed to RAAF Tindal and was accompanied by Chaplain Tim Kay in the Everyman's Brew Truck. The complementary arrangement between Tim and Peter continued for much of the exercise to the benefit of both. After arrival at Tindal and meeting up with RSM Matt Hall and CO Tim Dawe at 5SRTUHQ, Peter stayed with Infantry on base at RAAF Tindal.

Once the exercise was underway, there was capacity to visit units with freedom within the confines of Tindal, however, excursions outside the base and consequently outside the security of RAAF Tindal, required armed escorts.

Highlights of the time in Katherine included participation in a parade at the Katherine Show, as well as the opportunity to meet religious leaders from various traditions in Katherine.

For the rest of the exercise Peter was based at 5SRTU HQ CP, responding to requests to make regular day and overnight field visits both on and off base at Tindal. These visits were greatly appreciated. Aside from planning the next field visit, there were occasional code red attacks resulting in heading down into a bunker until given the "All clear" to resurface and get on with the next tasking.

Peter enjoyed an amazing visit to 75 Squadron and was given a tour by Airforce member Stacey Toohey, in the process meeting Eryn, the only person ever to have her name on the side of two F35 Class A fighter jets.

At the end of the exercise, Peter responded to a request by Leane to provide EWS services to 1CSR and Health Battalion who had stopped for a night at Katherine Speedway while enroute back to Darwin. This was well received.

After participating in an airstrip photo that included the perfectly timed flyover of 2 x F35 fighter jets, Peter headed back to RAAF Darwin enjoying a proper catchup with Leane, Claudia and Ben, followed by an early exit to RAAF Darwin for departure.

REP Peter Harvie



REP Peter Harvie, SNRREP Leane Dabitz, REP Claudia Ridley and SNRREP Ben Ridley



SNRREP Leane Dabitz, REP Peter Harvie, SNRREP Ben Ridley and REP Claudia Ridley

A big hello to all our supporters, it's Gibbo here with an update on what's been happening in the field over the past couple of months of 2025.

This year exercises at Shoalwater Bay started off with Exercise Diamond Strike, a combined 7th Brigade exercise preparing our troops for the main event, Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025. TS 2025 involved over 30,000 military personnel from 19 nations who gathered to practice their warfighting skills. Activities included amphibious and airborne lodgements, firepower demonstrations, and combat across land, air, sea, space and cyber domains. The large number of participants this year meant plenty of work for the Everyman's Reps!

This year we were able to introduce the use of the Everyman's all-purpose trailer. Having the trailer means less trips to town for resupply and consequently, less pressure on the brew trucks.

I was greatly encouraged by a conversation I had with a young man again this year after having met him two years ago in Townsville. He reminded me of a talk I had given in which I spoke about why I chose to be baptised after I committed my life to Christ. He told me that after hearing that talk and speaking with me he had experienced significant change in his life and made the decision to be baptised after he returned to Brisbane. However, after being baptised, he also noticed that some things became harder and he struggled with many things that had not troubled him before. He asked me if I understood what he was experiencing.

Upon reflecting on my own baptism, I realised what was happening to my friend. I explained to him that the reason I was baptised was because I wanted to submit to God and follow Jesus for the rest of my life, no matter what happened. I explained that things changed for me as well and while I am challenged daily to become more like Christ, there is spiritual opposition from the enemy of God, Satan, who will not stop challenging you because of your commitment to Jesus. I encouraged my friend to feed on the Word of God and to pray, reminding him that Jesus never promised things would be easy, however, he did promise that those who endure to the end will be saved. I encouraged him to find a good church, and when things became difficult in his life, to find a quiet place to pray, confessing sin and coming before our heavenly father who will answer our prayers.

In a short time, my friend had to go, but I was left thinking what a cause for praise it is when we see the way God is working through the ministry of EWS and our volunteer staff.

I hope this little testimony has encouraged you all as much as it has encouraged me. Thank you all for given generously towards this ministry, May God bless every day. Amen

ACCOM Richard 'Gibbo' Gibbins

In recent months in the Top End, and not long off the back of the NT Predator Series of exercises, I was ready to hit the road once again in support of Talisman Sabre 2025. This iteration would become the largest bilateral military exercise between the United States and Australia, focused on advancing a safe and secure Indo-Pacific region through interoperability with allies from 18 other nations.

Joined by fellow Reps Ben and Claudia Ridley and Peter Harvie, our trusty brew trucks covered significant kilometres of rugged territory, supplying members of 1BDE and visiting Reserve units with much welcomed morale. RAAF Base Darwin was a hive of activity as soldiers arrived from all over the nation and we greeted them with a cold drink and a brew. As the exercise kicked off for 1BDE, we journeyed south to Katherine Speedway where we stopped over with 5/7 RAR and 1CSSB for a few nights before arriving at Bradshaw Field Training Area for the Brigade's main logistical move to Queensland by air.

Each day was a new opportunity to meet servicemen and women from all over Australia and the US, hearing about their various backgrounds and sharing in their experience of the Territory. Beginning the mornings with fellowship and prayer was particularly encouraging for me as we set out to share the message of hope in Christ with those who visited the trucks. Many tracts and Bibles were distributed, and we experienced many engaging conversations about life and eternity. One man speaking about the work of Everyman's Reps said, "You bring life to the spirit". I'm very grateful for my colleagues who are committed to serving with such passion and faithfulness, and for our supporters, who help EWS to grow from strength to strength in our presence within the ADF."

SNRREP Leane Dabitz

CO-LABOURERS

At Everyman's we realise we can make a small impact on the ADF, but in conjunction with fellow ministries, the results are magnified. We gratefully acknowledge these like-minded ministries with whom we work to serve the ADF:

Chaplains	FOCUS	Military Christian Fellowship (MCF)
Navigators	SASRA	Red Shield Defence Service
Focus on the Family	Solid Rock	The Bible Society
Association for Conferences Teaching and Service (ACTS)		Naval Military and Airforce Bible Society

From the CCOMM's desk

Well, here I find myself saying it again, where has the year gone? It seems to be speeding up, but what an amazing time we have had serving our troops around our wonderful country. As you have no doubt noticed, we have dedicated this On Patrol to the recent Talisman Sabre Exercise. This was a large-scale, multinational military exercise involving Australia and 18 partner nations across Australia and Papua New Guinea, focusing on high-end warfighting and strengthening allied interoperability through land, air, sea, and also cyber operations.

What an honour to serve alongside military personnel. The Australians were so grateful for our service and many of the internationals were a bit overwhelmed because they were unfamiliar with our type of service. There were many questions about our service and many more conversations about the plight of our world and where we are heading. It was encouraging to see the comradery through the interaction around the brew trucks, soldiers from each nation talking and laughing together in readiness for the exercise to start.

We had hours of sharing with troops from many nations about our motto of 'Welfare with Purpose'. It was very encouraging to see their interest and to be engaged in conversations about the Everyman's being about care for the physical needs in the present and care for spiritual needs for eternity."

We had opportunity to respond to many requests for material from our trucks including many requests from troops asking for Bibles, which of course we were happy to provide. In fact, all our trucks were emptied of Bibles, such was the interest this year.

Numerous EWS Reps received praise from command levels for our support. How does that saying go? Some things never change and the need for the Philanthropic element of ADF is very much alive, both in requests for service, thanks and praise.

It is only because of your ongoing financial support that we can continue, so allow me to tell you what many diggers said to me, THANK YOU! When we tell our story, explaining the incredible trucks we have and how it only happens because of people and groups like you, the troops asked me to pass on their thanks. Yes, many troops also contribute to the cause by giving a donation above the cost of the sausage roll or pie or bag of chips or cold drink or the hot coffee... you understand. On numerous occasions, however, I heard them talking while donating. "I think my complete field allowance will be emptied into the Everyman's truck, but I don't care, I love it". Statements included comments like; "You guys are saviours" and "This is the best part of the ex". Others said, "This is more than a sugar fix, this is a morale fix. I look forward to coming for a chat. Words cannot express how important you guys are to us". I remember an officer coming over late one night for a coffee who said, "I'm sure Canberra doesn't get it, but this service is simply outstanding for everyone out field. We must do whatever we can to ensure it never stops". I'm sure you realise many pages could be filled with comments along the same lines and I am certain many reading this article will remember, with great fondness, your own experience out bush. While you were in the field amongst the thick of activity and pressure, there was the enjoyment of some brief relief around the brew truck.

I am so thankful for your ongoing support. We are so thankful. The troops are so thankful! Please know your giving is not in vain, your gift is well utilised, we stretch it out to achieve the greatest benefit possible. Please, do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any queries or opportunities for me to present what our service provides to the ADF. It would be an honour to see how together; we can expand our 'Welfare with Purpose' to many more.



*Phil Marshall
CCOMM*

*Bless ya, Phil 'Snowy' Marshall
CCOMM Phil Marshall*

EWS LOCATIONS

- RAAF Base, AMBERLEY, QLD
- Robertson Barracks HOLTZE, NT
- Gallipoli Barracks, ENOGGERA, QLD
- Victoria Barracks, PETRIE TERRACE, QLD
- Simpsons Barracks, MACLEOD, VIC
- Randwick Barracks, RANDWICK, NSW
- Blamey Barracks, KAPOOKA, NSW
- Gaza Ridge Barracks, BANDIANA, VIC
- Latchford Barracks, BONEGILLA, VIC

Congratulations REP Gorgon Hoskin (ret'd)

Gordon was born in 40's and grew up and was educated in Melbourne.

After Gordon left High School, he went to work for Lloyds of London, based in Melbourne. He was called up for National Service and was allocated to the Medical Corps. After his two years, Gordon joined The Army Reserve and rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Gordon also worked in administration for the Methodist Church (which became the Uniting Church) for eighteen years and was often involved in preaching and pastoral ministry in his own time. He was also a member of the 'God Squad' led by John Smith which was a ministry to bikies and everyday Australians. Gordon joined Campaigners for Christ - Everyman's Welfare Service Active Reserve and was attached to 3 Division HQ serving as Senior Representative to several units, notably artillery, for three and a half years. His daytime work was once again in educational administration overseeing the amalgamation of two Technical Colleges and High Schools. Gordon served as State Chaplain of the National Service Association for Victoria for 18 years. Gordon has had a wide and effective ministry serving in the name of Christ. Gordon was presented a Certificate of Service from Everyman's in recognition of his valued contribution to our organisation.

RET CCOMM Stacey Kruck



SNRREP Shane Lavell, Ret'd REP Gordon Hoskin, Ret'd CCOMM Stacey Kruck and Ret'd REP Denis Bell

More ways to give.....

It's now possible to set up regular (or one-off)
Direct Giving from your own bank account straight into ours!
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Reference: Your Name



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2025 End of Year Christmas Giving

Allow me to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to everyone who has given financially to Everyman's Welfare Service through 2025. I am sure you realise it is the only way we can continue to operate, as Defence does not provide any financial assistance toward our work.

It has certainly been a blessing to have Defence provide 'Fuel cards' for our vehicles and at times, some units do assist with payment towards service/tyre expenses, however while this is appreciated, it accounts for only a fraction of our ministry expenses.

Throughout our 85 years of service, we have been blessed to receive enormous support in return from those who were once the recipients of our service. They may have encountered us during an overseas deployment or at home on exercises. The lasting impact of that drink and snack, the listening non-judgemental ear, the few words of encouragement or empathy in the moment has made a significant difference and enabled them to keep going when it seemed almost impossible for them. We thank those who once served who now support us.

As you have seen in this issue of On Patrol, we were in numerous locations throughout Exercise Talisman Sabre. We served and spoke with many, doing what we have always done because you have stood up and supported us. So, to you I say a huge THANK YOU!

We stand at the year's end again, and our faithful God has stood with us and, through you, sustained us.

Could I encourage you to continue to stand with us. It may be possible for you to pass this On Patrol to someone who might not know about EWS. It may be possible for you open a door of opportunity for me to present to a group interested in supporting us. It also may be that you come into unexpected funds over and above the usual as was the case with a recent donor. As a result of her generosity, we have been able to purchase and equip two replacement brew trucks.

Let's continue to increase our ability to provide 'Welfare with Purpose' to our ADF members.

Bless ya,
Phil (Snowy) Marshall

Name.....

Email.....

Phone.....



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