

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS (DSC)**

### ***Australian Army***

#### **Lieutenant General John James FREWEN AM, ACT**

For distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations as the Commander Joint Task Force 633 on Operations OKRA and HIGHROAD from January 2017 to January 2018.

Lieutenant General Frewen demonstrated outstanding commitment and dedication by leading Australia's contribution to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and more broadly throughout the Middle East Region. His exceptional operational oversight, critical leadership engagement and tireless efforts ensured the effectiveness of Australia's military contribution and greatly enhanced the international reputation of the Australian Defence Force in the Middle East Region.

#### **Colonel M,**

For distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations as the Commanding Officer of a deployed Task Group during Operation OKRA, May 2017 to December 2017.

Colonel M expertly led the Task Group in advising, assisting and enabling the elite Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service during a period of intense combat and rapid change in the ground campaign. Through his outstanding leadership, he established a strong foundation of trust and respect among Iraqi and Coalition force senior leaders. Under his command, the Task Group facilitated enhanced tactics and procedures and helped enable the Iraqi security forces' defeat of Da'esh in Mosul, one of the most significant urban warfare battles of modern times.

### ***Royal Australian Air Force***

#### **Group Captain J,**

For distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations as Commander Task Element 630.1.1 on Operation OKRA from March 2016 to September 2016.

Group Captain J displayed distinguished leadership and exemplary professional mastery during strike operations on Operation OKRA. As an airborne leader, he personally made a significant contribution to a number of major strike outcomes. On the ground, he led a highly effective Task Element to deliver exceptional results. His efforts contributed to the success of operations in Iraq and to the excellent reputation of the Australian Defence Force both within the coalition and Iraq.

## BAR TO THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (DSM and Bar)

### *Australian Army*

#### **Major S,**

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as the Officer Commanding within a deployed task group on Operation OKRA in Iraq from May 2017 to December 2017.

Major S consistently displayed distinguished leadership as the Officer Commanding within a deployed task group. Through his actions and his team's exceptional advice and assistance to the partner force, Iraq's security force was enabled to successfully plan, prepare, coordinate and execute operations that led to the disruption and defeat of Da'esh throughout Iraq.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (DSM)**

### ***Australian Army***

#### **Corporal A,**

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations while deployed as a Special Operations Medic during Operation OKRA, from May 2017 to December 2017.

Corporal A demonstrated distinguished leadership and commitment as a Special Operations Medic and lead medical advisor of Iraqi and coalition medical practitioners during the battle to liberate Mosul. His professionalism under extraordinary circumstances and relentless pursuit of excellence resulted in the delivery of an outstanding level of medical support to the Iraqi Special Operations Forces. Corporal A has brought credit upon himself, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

#### **Lieutenant Colonel Giles Julian CORNELIA CSM, ACT**

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as Commanding Officer Training Task Unit of Task Group Taji V while deployed on Operation OKRA from June 2017 to December 2017.

Lieutenant Colonel Cornelia demonstrated distinguished service in his leadership of the Training Task Unit within Task Group Taji V. Under his command, the Training Task Unit delivered training to over 3,800 members of the Iraqi security forces. Lieutenant Colonel Cornelia's exceptional leadership, innovation, and diligence enabled the implementation of new and highly complex training courses to Iraqi security force units and individuals, resulting in an enduring effect on their war-fighting capability.

#### **Colonel Steven John D'ARCY, NSW**

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as the Commander of Task Group Taji V in Iraq from June 2017 to December 2017.

Colonel D'Arcy skilfully led Task Group Taji to deliver training that enabled the Iraqi security forces to engage and defeat Da'esh in the Battles of Mosul and Tal Afar. Task Group Taji advised and assisted the North Baghdad Operations Command to significantly reduce the Da'esh threat to the civilian population and the Iraqi security forces around the Taji Military Complex. Colonel D'Arcy commanded with resolve ensuring the most favourable operational conditions to protect his Task Group from potential threats.

#### **Brigadier Michael David PRICTOR AM, QLD**

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as the Commander of Task Group Afghanistan on Operation HIGHROAD from November 2016 to November 2017.

Brigadier Pricor distinguished himself through his outstanding command, leadership and professional mastery. Under his command, Task Group Afghanistan made a substantial contribution to the outcomes of Operation HIGHROAD, mentoring and developing the Afghanistan National Defense and Security Force to achieve self reliance for defence. His superb and professional leadership in the Afghan Air Force recapitalisation program made an enduring improvement to the Afghan Air force capability.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (DSM)**

### **Brigadier Craig Donald SHORTT DSC CSC, ACT**

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as the CJ3 Chief of Operations, Headquarters Resolute Support, Kabul, Afghanistan while deployed on Operation HIGHROAD over the period September 2016 to October 2017.

Brigadier Shortt's distinguished leadership and dedication to duty significantly enhanced the success of the Resolute Support and Operation FREEDOM SENTINEL missions during advising and combat operations. His adept management of scarce combat resources and his highly productive relationships with key Afghan leaders played a critical role in the battlefield successes of 2017. His outstanding leadership and accomplishments reflect great credit upon himself, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

### ***Royal Australian Air Force***

### **Squadron Leader D,**

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as the Strike Element Executive Officer on Operation OKRA from April 2017 to August 2017.

Squadron Leader D demonstrated distinguished leadership of flying operations at the height of the battle to liberate Mosul. During his tenure as Strike Element Executive Officer, Squadron Leader D expertly mentored strike aircrew, led highly effective strike missions and commanded the task element with distinction during an extremely intense period of fighting. Squadron Leader D's exemplary leadership in the air and on the ground contributed greatly to the success of the coalition campaign against Da'esh.

## COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

### *Royal Australian Navy*

#### **Lieutenant Patrick Charles McGUIRE RAN, NSW**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Aviation Operations Officer for Train Advise Assist Command - South, while force assigned to Operation HIGHROAD, Afghanistan from August 2017 to February 2018.

Lieutenant McGuire's distinguished performance as the Aviation Operations Officer at the United States Army led Train Advise Assist Command - South Headquarters was characterised by his planning and resource management that generated a disproportionate output of air capability in support of ground manoeuvre. His performance directly contributed to an increased capability of rotary wing lift assets in Southern Afghanistan and enhanced the Australian Defence Force's reputation among coalition partners.

### *Australian Army*

#### **Warrant Officer Class One A,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Regimental Sergeant Major of a deployed Task Group on Operation OKRA from May to December 2017.

Warrant Officer A consistently made an exceptional contribution and commitment as the Regimental Sergeant Major. He led by example, demonstrating outstanding tactical acumen in the provision of astute advice to Commanders and counsel to junior leaders who were advising Iraqi soldiers. His distinguished performance of duties on Operation OKRA in Iraq directly contributed to the enduring success of Australia's contribution to operations in the Middle East and development of the Australian Army's future leadership.

#### **Colonel Michael Timothy BYE, ACT**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Chief Future Plans, CJ5 Branch, Headquarters Resolute Support, Kabul, Afghanistan while deployed on Operation HIGHROAD over the period December 2016 to November 2017.

Colonel Bye's drive and commitment to duty had a direct and positive impact on the performance of the Afghan security forces and significantly enhanced the success of the Resolute Support and Operation Freedom Sentinel missions during combat operations in Afghanistan. Colonel Bye's distinguished leadership reflects great credit upon himself, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

#### **Major Edouard Charles COUSINS, QLD**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Officer Commanding Training Company Kilo One of the Training Task Unit, Task Group Taji V, while deployed on Operation OKRA from May 2017 to December 2017.

Major Cousins demonstrated outstanding leadership and devotion to duty as a Training Company Commander. Major Cousins' leadership, professional mastery and work ethic were essential to the success of Task Group Taji-V's training of 53rd and 2nd Iraqi Army Brigades. His dedication in developing and delivering two highly successful Iraqi Forward Air Controllers Courses that markedly increased the combat readiness of the Iraqi Army and boosted the enduring operational capability of the Iraqi security forces is highly commendable.

## COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

### **Brigadier William Robert DATE, QLD**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Senior Military Advisor and Chief of Military Advisor Unit in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan from July 2013 to July 2014.

Brigadier Date expertly led a multinational team of United Nations staff and applied judgement, tact and remarkable diplomacy skills, proactively dealing with multiple stakeholders in a complex, demanding and high threat environment. His successful liaison and engagement with the United Nations and partner nations enhanced Australia's significant position as a key contributing nation in the rebuilding of Afghanistan.

### **Colonel David Charles HAFNER CSC,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Director of Plans in Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command - Operation INHERENT RESOLVE while deployed on Operation OKRA from April 2017 to January 2018.

Colonel Hafner provided outstanding coordination and leadership to the combined planning work of the international Coalition and the Iraqi security forces for operations against Da'esh. He distinguished himself by his military expertise, nuanced understanding of a complex environment and ability to generate robust and flexible plans in a high tempo, rapidly evolving operational environment. His performance contributed significantly to the effectiveness of Coalition support to the Iraqi security forces, leading to the completion of the liberation of Iraq from Da'esh.

### **Major David Steven HILL, NSW**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Chief of Staff of the Special Operations Advisory Group in support of the Afghan General Command of Police Special Units on Operation HIGHROAD, from December 2016 to June 2017.

Through Major Hill's exceptional leadership and exemplary staff skills, the General Command of Police Special Units achieved numerous strategic successes in high risk police operations, and in developing plans for the expansion of the special policing capability. Major Hill demonstrated calm leadership and faultless judgment as he provided simple yet workable solutions to many complex problems.

### **Brigadier Rupert John HOSKIN AM, ACT**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Director Plans in Headquarters Combined Joint Task Force - Operation INHERENT RESOLVE from January 2017 to January 2018.

Brigadier Hoskin's tenacious pursuit of improvement, combined with excellent leadership and diplomatic skills, directly enabled the mission to defeat Da'esh and enhanced Australia's standing within the International Coalition. He distinguished himself through leading the development of the revised multinational joint campaign plan to defeat Da'esh. This provided the structured framework for the Iraqi Defence Force to be trained and sustained at an appropriate level of capability and readiness which will allow them to effectively respond to future threats within their borders.

## COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

### **Sergeant M,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Second in Command of the Force Protection Team from June 2017 to November 2017 for the Special Operations Advisory Group, while deployed on Operation HIGHROAD.

Sergeant M demonstrated outstanding devotion to duty in executing force protection operations in support of Coalition multi-national advisers during the resolution of a series of high profile attacks in Kabul. His professionalism, tactical acumen, judgement and leadership directly decreased risks to force within a complex high threat environment which enabled successful mentoring. Through his leadership and superior performance of duty, Sergeant M has brought great credit upon himself, Task Group Afghanistan, and the Australian Army.

### **Lieutenant Colonel N,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Chief of Staff and Operations Officer of a deployed Task Group on Operation OKRA in Iraq from May 2017 to December 2017.

In a high tempo multi-role appointment Lieutenant Colonel N distinguished himself through the coordination of complex operations in an extremely fluid operational environment. He led a Task Group headquarters staff, synchronising and coordinating effects directly supporting deployed expeditionary Advisory Teams throughout Iraq. He provided adroit leadership and oversight to the execution of multiple missions in support of Iraqi security forces enabling the progressive defeat of Da'esh in Iraq.

### **Captain N,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as an Officer Commanding for Special Operations Task Group 632 Rotation V during Operation OKRA, July to December 2016.

Captain N was responsible for a breadth and complexity of tasks far beyond his rank and experience, conducting all tasks with the highest level of professionalism and skill. His distinguished performance significantly enabled the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service operations and directly contributed to mission success during a critical period in the war against Da'esh in Iraq.

### **Major David Patrick READY, ACT**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as Officer Commanding Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Company, Task Group Taji - V, in Iraq on Operation OKRA from May 2017 to Dec 2017.

Major Ready distinguished himself through his tireless devotion to duty, pursuit of excellence and superior understanding of the operating environment, in the design and application of effects in support of Task Group Taji - V and Coalition and Iraqi security force partners. He significantly enabled the protection of the Task Group, and the provision of intelligence support to operations in the Baghdad area to defeat Da'esh in Iraq. Major Ready's achievements were vital to the wider operations in Iraq and brought great credit to the Australian Defence Force.

## COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

### **Major Darrin William TYSON, ACT**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Headquarters Task Group Afghanistan Operations Officer and Officer Commanding Force Protection Element-7 in Kabul, while deployed on Operation HIGHROAD from January 2017 to September 2017.

Major Tyson demonstrated composure and tactical excellence whilst commanding the Force Protection Element and coordinating all Task Group Afghanistan tactical operations; directly contributing to the success of Australia's mission in Afghanistan. Through his actions he maintained uncompromising force protection standards and significantly enhanced Australia's reputation amongst coalition partners.

### **Warrant Officer Class Two Matthew Colby VERMEY, QLD**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Operations Warrant Officer and Logistics Officer of the Training Task Unit, Task Group Taji-V, JTF 633 whilst deployed on Operation OKRA 2017, from May 2017 to December 2017.

Warrant Officer Vermey made an exceptional contribution to Joint Task Force 633. His expert and exemplary support to planning and coordination of operational and logistics tasks were an essential enabling component in the achievement of Task Group Taji's training mission. His steadfast professionalism, stoicism and devotion to duty have ensured enduring capability for the officers and soldiers of the Task Group.

### ***Royal Australian Air Force***

### **Squadron Leader H,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations whilst deployed as the Strike Task Unit Dynamic Targeting Legal Advisor on Operation OKRA from March 2017 to October 2017.

Squadron Leader H provided superior legal advice to the Australian national target engagement authority, enhancing Australia's application of strike support to Iraqi security forces during the unprecedented surge in air operations over Iraq.

### **Group Captain Antony Edward MARTIN, NSW**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations whilst deployed as Commander Air Task Group 630 on Operation OKRA from December 2015 until July 2016.

Group Captain Martin (then acting Air Commodore) distinguished himself in command of Air Task Group 630 during a period of sustained coalition pressure against Da'esh. He identified a series of important considerations to Defence leadership that drove changes to tactical planning, rules of engagement, targeting and sustainment concepts that enhanced the effectiveness of the Air Task Group on Operation OKRA. Through excellence and tireless devotion to duty, Group Captain Martin's distinguished performance reflects great credit upon himself and the Australian Defence Force.



## COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

### **Squadron Leader P,**

For meritorious performance of duties in warlike operations as the Senior Intelligence Duty Officer, Combined Air Operations Centre, in support of Operation OKRA from June 2017 to January 2018.

Squadron Leader P's devotion to duty and pursuit of excellence directly contributed to the efficient and effective collection and use of intelligence in support of Australian Defence Force and coalition operations in Middle East operations. Her leadership enhanced the professional expertise of the multi-national team within the Combined Air Operations Centre and significantly enhanced the Australian Defence Force's reputation among partner nations.

### **Wing Commander P,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations whilst deployed as Commander Task Unit 630.2 on Operation OKRA from August 2017 to January 2018.

Wing Commander P displayed outstanding leadership, adaptability and judgement as Commander Task Unit 630.2 at the United States-led Combined Air Operations Centre in the Middle East Region. His leadership and judgement as the Australian National Dynamic Target Engagement Authority was critical to the successful projection of Australian air power during a rapidly-changing period in the campaign against Da'esh in Iraq and Syria.

### **Squadron Leader S,**

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Strike Executive Officer for Task Element 630.1.1 on Operation OKRA from August 2017 to December 2017.

Squadron Leader S was the Strike Executive Officer on Operation OKRA during the offensives against Da'esh in the Battles of Tel Afar, Avghani, Hawijah, Al Qa'im and the Jazeera Desert. His dedication to duty led to improvements in the tactical effectiveness of the Australian Super Hornets, and his leadership ensured that junior aircrew were mentored to achieve skills qualifications under operational conditions. His distinguished performance in multiple roles exceeded expectations.

## **BAR TO THE CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC and Bar)**

### ***Australian Army***

**Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Gerard McLENNAN CSC, QLD**

For outstanding achievement as the Commander Joint Task Group 629 on Operation AUGURY (Philippines) from October 2017 to February 2018.

Initially leading a small planning team and then the Joint Task Group, Lieutenant Colonel McLennan consistently displayed outstanding leadership, exceptional planning skills and a selfless commitment to assist the Armed Forces of the Philippines strengthen their ability to combat terrorist threats and prevent the spread of Da'esh in the region. His efforts have had an immediate and enduring impact and significantly enhanced the relationship between the Australian Defence Force and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

### ***Royal Australian Navy***

#### **Captain Peter Darrell BARTLETT RAN, NSW**

For outstanding achievement in the field of Navy Task Group pre-operational training and preparation.

Captain Bartlett's outstanding drive and passion for improving warfighting standards led him to develop an enduring, sustainable and repeatable programme for the delivery of Maritime Task Groups and warfighting training. His initiative, dedication and professionalism have resulted in well planned and executed exercises that incrementally improved the Fleet's combat exercises, deployments and operations.

#### **Lieutenant Commander Victoria Anne CATON RAN, NSW**

For outstanding devotion to duty in the field of Defence nursing and personnel support.

Lieutenant Commander Caton demonstrated outstanding devotion to duty as a Nursing Officer and Member Support Coordinator. Her dedication to supporting injured and ill members of the Royal Australian Navy in their return to the workforce or assisting with their transition to civilian life when they can no longer serve, has directly contributed to the wellbeing of these members and their families during times of significant stress.

#### **Captain Nicholas Byers HART RAN, NSW**

For outstanding devotion to duty, dedication and achievement as the Naval Attaché to Indonesia.

Captain Hart demonstrated outstanding commitment, exemplary dedication and superb professionalism as the Naval Attaché Jakarta from 2015 to 2017. He directly contributed to the successful enhancement of the Defence bilateral relationship between Australia and the Republic of Indonesia by increasing the sophistication of activities and developing new opportunities to expand engagement with the Indonesian military. Captain Hart was also instrumental in progressing enduring Indonesian Government protection for the wreck of HMAS *Perth (I)*.

#### **Commander Rachel Elise JONES RAN, ACT**

For outstanding achievement in the application of exceptional skills as the Command Legal Officer within Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 on Operation ACCORDION from March 2017 to September 2017.

Commander Jones' extraordinary capacity for work and exceptional professional knowledge allowed her to comprehensively review and improve all Directives, National Approval Authorities and legal advice to Commanders in theatre. She developed and implemented an improved process for managing sensitive issues reporting and in so doing made an enduring and substantial contribution to the conduct of operations within the Middle East Region.

#### **Captain Anthony Michael KLENTTHIS RAN, ACT**

For outstanding achievement in strategic workforce planning for the Royal Australian Navy.

Captain Klenthis skilfully led and developed the Royal Australian Navy's expertise in the professional analysis and planning of current and future workforce requirements that will enable the Navy to have the people with the right skills, in the right place and at the right time, now and in the future. He used this experience and skill set to update Navy's analytical workforce planning capabilities in line with global leading edge military workforce planning.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

### **Commodore Antony Simon PARTRIDGE RAN, ACT**

For outstanding devotion to duty as the Director General - Defence Force Recruiting.

Commodore Partridge's service as the Director General, Defence Force Recruiting, has been marked by outstanding leadership and commitment. His focus on diversity, communications and teamwork has led to outstanding improvements in the way Defence Force Recruiting functions. In particular, he tailored recruitment programs to service needs which contributed greatly to the Australian Defence Force people capability.

### **Captain James George RENWICK SC RANR, NSW**

For outstanding devotion to duty as a legal officer in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve.

Captain Renwick provided exceptional legal support in relation to complex military justice and national security law. His outstanding devotion to duty, legal knowledge and skills, and leadership greatly assisted the Australian Defence Force through the many seemingly intractable legal national security challenges faced since 2001. His distinguished accomplishments over many years of service have served as an inspiration for his fellow legal officers.

### **Commander Luke Richard RYAN RAN, NSW**

For outstanding achievement in the performance of duty as the Commanding Officer of the Royal Australian Navy Recruit School.

Commander Ryan undertook a complete restructure of the General Entry recruit course and the Recruit School annual training program based on the requirement to increase the Navy workforce to meet planned strategic capabilities. The changes addressed the utilisation of facilities and instructors to increase the trainee intake capacity, reduce failure rates and improve graduation and retention rates all without the need for additional resources. The changes also contributed to reducing the female attrition rate to that of their male counterparts.

### **Captain Mark David SIROIS RAN, ACT**

For outstanding achievement in the application of exceptional skills, judgement and dedication as the Commanding Officer of HMAS *Newcastle* while deployed on Operation MANITOU from July 2017 to November 2017.

Captain Sirois' drive and dedication directly and positively shaped operations in globally significant maritime domains within the Operation MANITOU area of operations. His determined leadership of HMAS *Newcastle* actively deterred narcotics smuggling as a major source of terrorism funding, and positively shaped Australian and Combined Maritime Forces operations in the Middle East Region. In doing so he has significantly enhanced the Australian Defence Force's reputation with partner nations.

### **Captain Cameron W R STEIL RAN, NSW**

For outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer HMAS *Arunta*, while deployed on Operation MANITOU from November 2016 to July 2017.

Commander Steil's leadership of HMAS *Arunta* delivered exceptional operational outcomes as part of the Combined Maritime Force in the Arabian Gulf. His expert pursuit, boarding, and searching of smuggler's vessels led to the seizure of 1390 kilograms of illicit narcotics and established a peerless reputation for his ship among the Combined Maritime Force. His efforts helped combat international terrorism and significantly enhanced Australia's reputation within the Middle East region.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

### *Australian Army*

#### **Lieutenant Colonel Scott James BARRAS, ACT**

For outstanding devotion to duty in the field of Defence capability development domain.

Throughout a succession of appointments in the Capability Development Group and Vice Chief of the Defence Force Executive, Lieutenant Colonel Barras has made a profound and lasting contribution in the domain of Capability Development. Lieutenant Colonel Barras' exceptional service and outstanding devotion to duty has directly contributed to enhanced vehicle capabilities for Defence, and the design and implementation of improved capability development functionality of the Australian Defence Force Headquarters.

#### **Lieutenant Colonel Margaret Ghislaine BEAVAN, NSW**

For outstanding achievement as the Staff Officer Grade One, Army Gap Year Program, in planning, establishing and delivering Army's Gap Year programs on an annual basis.

Lieutenant Colonel Beavan demonstrated exceptional dedication and superior planning skills while delivering Army's annual Gap Year programs. Her remarkable initiative in developing a successful parallel Officers' program has provided demonstrable capability to Army's full time and part time components. The successful recruitment and retention of a highly competitive target demographic for the Australian Army are testament to her outstanding performance.

#### **Colonel Daniel Nicholas BENNETT, ACT**

For outstanding achievement as the Senior Military Liaison Officer for Bor and Juba while deployed as the Commander of the Australian Contingent on Operation ASLAN from November 2016 to August 2017.

Colonel Bennett's exemplary leadership significantly contributed to enhanced capability for United Nations Mission in South Sudan. Colonel Bennett seamlessly executed the concentration of the Australian Contingent from Bor to Juba, while concurrently closing Australia House and relocating the Australian staff into United Nations bases and closing the Australian National Support Element in South Sudan. His implementation of improved security and force protection measures significantly enhanced the readiness and sustainability of the Australian contingent.

#### **Lieutenant Colonel Wade Graham COOPER, WA**

For outstanding achievement and devotion to duty as the Brigade Major, Headquarters 1st Brigade.

Major Cooper demonstrated outstanding achievement and devotion to duty during his tenure as the Brigade Major for the 1st Brigade. His superior planning and management led directly to the success of the 1st Brigade in both exercises and support to training and operations. His mental agility, planning acumen and leadership on Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2017 ensured the Brigade's success. His inclusive and people-focused leadership style built robust teams and greatly enhanced the reputation of the 1st Brigade and the Australian Defence Force.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

### **Colonel Anthony Gawain DUUS, NSW**

For outstanding achievement in the performance of duties as Director Armoured Fighting Vehicles, Army Headquarters.

Colonel Duus's outstanding leadership and devotion to duty in successfully facilitating key Government decisions resulted in Army being equipped with a new Cavalry Reconnaissance Vehicle, the delivery of facilities across the entire armoured vehicle fleet and options development for the remainder of the armoured vehicle capabilities.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Louise Ann MARTIN, NSW**

For outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer of the 2nd General Health Battalion.

Lieutenant Colonel Martin's outstanding leadership, foresight and tireless pursuit of excellence have significantly contributed to the development and transformation of the Combat Health continuum. Achieving Trauma Verification by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons for the Army's deployable hospital and developing a forward surgical capability have enhanced the Army's medical capabilities and will also inform the modernisation of Army's future health capabilities.

### **Colonel Blaydon Wesley Marston MORRIS, ACT**

For outstanding achievement in leadership, skills and application as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Morris demonstrated exceptional command, leadership and service as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Signal Regiment. His exemplary knowledge and leadership were influential in the Regiment's cultural reform and modernisation of the expeditionary Deployable Joint Force Headquarters communications systems. His development of the Beyond Line of Sight Battle Management System enabled the Australian Defence Force's Amphibious Capability and the Australian Army's Pre-Landing Force.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Colin Robert MORRISON, NSW**

For outstanding achievement as the Combined Joint Chief of Operations of the Multinational Force and Observers, Sinai, Egypt and as the Commander Australian Contingent, Operation MAZURKA from February 2017 to February 2018.

Lieutenant Colonel Morrison's exemplary initiative and advanced military planning skills significantly enhanced the alignment, integration and operational capability of the Multinational Force and Observers; his outstanding achievements have had an immediate and enduring impact on the Force. His superior leadership of the Australian Contingent enhanced the reputation of the Australian Defence Force within a dynamic operational and multi-national environment.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Paul David NELSON, ACT**

For outstanding achievement as the Staff Officer Grade One Technical Management within Headquarters Forces Command.

Lieutenant Colonel Nelson's outstanding commitment and technical expertise have led innovation and reform across a number of Army's technical management and maintenance processes, achieving both significant workforce efficiencies and cost savings. In particular, he independently identified opportunity to reform the governance liability surrounding Non-Technical Inspections of Army equipment. With conspicuous dedication he initiated a trial reform activity which was conservatively calculated to have achieved the reduction of 40,773 hours of work effort.

## **CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)**

### **Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Ian PASHLEY, QLD**

For outstanding achievement in leadership, skills and application as the Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Pashley's exceptional command and leadership contributed significantly to the transition of the Battalion from a light infantry role to a standing Pre-Landing Force. The transition required significant corporate governance changes and stakeholder engagement, Lieutenant Colonel Pashley was meticulous in this process and ensured that the equities across Services and Functional Commands were positively maintained. His actions contributed significantly to the success of this Defence capability milestone.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Mark Christopher SMITH, QLD**

For outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer of 25th/49th Battalion, the Royal Queensland Regiment and Commanding Officer of Battle Group CANNAN.

Lieutenant Colonel Smith's exceptional leadership, commitment, initiative and judgment were instrumental in the training, development and force generation of the largest Army Reserve Reinforcing Battle Group. The excellent performance of Battle Group CANNAN under his command represents a historically significant increase in the sustained capability generated by Army Reserve. Lieutenant Colonel Smith's outstanding performance in all aspects of command as Commanding Officer of both the 25th/49th Battalion and Battle Group CANNAN has enhanced the capability of Army.

### **Colonel Fern Mary-Ellen THOMPSON, ACT**

For outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer of the 6th Aviation Regiment.

Colonel Thompson's outstanding leadership in command of the 6th Aviation Regiment resulted in critical modernisation, operational combat preparedness and safety management system enhancement. Her actions have contributed significantly to the future of the Special Forces combat aviation capability and the reputation of the Australian Defence Force.

### **Colonel Joanne Kathleen WHITTAKER, ACT**

For outstanding achievement as the Director of the Land Command, Control and Communications Directorate, Systems and Integration Branch, Army Headquarters.

Colonel Whittaker was a driving force behind the successful progression of numerous complex projects that fundamentally underpin the ability for Army to modernise its force. Colonel Whittaker's tireless and collaborative work across Defence and Industry ensured the provision of an integrated, programmatic approach to the delivery of Land Capability, in a time characterised by generational technological change.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

### *Royal Australian Air Force*

#### **Warrant Officer William Edward GIBSON, QLD**

For outstanding achievement in cultural development and maintenance management as the Warrant Officer Engineering at Number 33 Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force.

Warrant Officer Gibson's extraordinary skill and inspirational leadership of Number 33 Squadron's maintenance personnel were key to the Squadron being awarded the 2017 Pathfinder Air Mobility Squadron of the Year, followed by the Royal Australian Air Force Maintenance Trophy in March 2018. Through his superb change management, outstanding professionalism, and conspicuous commitment to the development of his people, Warrant Officer Gibson established a superior culture of maintenance excellence at Number 33 Squadron that will endure well beyond his tenure.

#### **Wing Commander Vhonda Gay HEWSON, NSW**

For outstanding devotion to duty in training development and delivery as the Commanding Officer of the Royal Australian Air Force School of Administration and Logistics Training.

Wing Commander Hewson's inspiring leadership and outstanding professionalism significantly enhanced force generation outcomes at the Royal Australian Air Force School of Administration and Logistics Training and driven learning practice reform throughout the Royal Australian Air Force Training Group. Her pursuit of excellence, exceptional business acumen, and adroit application of the training system delivered on the Chief of Air Force's intent to create the exemplar of a contemporary training institution for a rapidly evolving military organisation.

#### **Flight Sergeant K,**

For outstanding achievement in the development and delivery of specialised air to surface communications integration capabilities for the Royal Australian Air Force.

Flight Sergeant K demonstrated extraordinary professionalism, superior judgment, and outstanding leadership in developing and delivering innovative air to surface integration capabilities to the Royal Australian Air Force in highly challenging circumstances. He is an exemplary Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of rare skill and ability and who has made a lasting contribution to effective air to surface communications integration over many years of most devoted service.



## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

### ***Royal Australian Navy***

#### **Lieutenant Commander Benjamin Daniel CROWTHER RAN, NSW**

For meritorious achievement in the in the field of Naval unmanned aircraft.

Lieutenant Commander Crowther led the introduction and development of a Maritime Tactical Unmanned Aircraft Systems capability into the Navy under complex circumstances through outstanding leadership and personal commitment. His professional knowledge and dedication have been instrumental in contributing to a contemporary technological advance in the Fleet Aviation Arm which will enhance future Fleet operational capabilities.

#### **Lieutenant Commander Neil Jonathon DAVENPORT RAN, NT**

For meritorious achievement and devotion to duty in the field of minor war vessel capability development with the Royal Australian Navy.

Lieutenant Commander Davenport made an outstanding contribution to minor war vessel capability development in support of Australia's maritime security outcomes. His leadership, innovation and drive have been instrumental in the delivery of two new-build Cape Class Patrol Boats to the Royal Australian Navy and establishment of a replacement patrol boat program for thirteen Pacific Island nations under the Pacific Maritime Security Program.

#### **Petty Officer N,**

For meritorious achievement in the field of Navy Expeditionary Reconnaissance and Clearance Diving training.

Petty Officer N demonstrated superior devotion to duty and initiative to enable the effective establishment of Australian Clearance Diving Team Four's Expeditionary Reconnaissance and Clearance Defence Element. His foresight and drive to train and prepare a safe, sustainable, mission ready and deployable asset to amphibious operations has been exemplary.

#### **Lieutenant Jennifer Louise NEUHAUS RAN, NSW**

For meritorious achievement in the performance of duty as the Course Implementation Officer at the School of Navigation Warfare.

Lieutenant Neuhaus has been instrumental in re-shaping the school's culture from being assessment centric to one based on a positive training and development environment focussing on the learning needs of the students. Her efforts directly contributed to a ten percent reduction in training failures across the early phases of officer navigation training. Her active involvement in the Women in Maritime Focus initiative contributed positively to the awareness of the challenges facing Navy as it seeks to increase female participation rates.

#### **Lieutenant Commander Darryl Wilton SCOTT RAN, QLD**

For meritorious achievement as the Senior Instructor Maritime Intelligence Wing at the Defence Force School of Intelligence.

Lieutenant Commander Scott consistently displayed outstanding leadership and dedication to improving the provision of intelligence training and capability to the Royal Australian Navy. His efforts to modernise the Naval Intelligence Officer Course resulted in the implementation of training that is contemporary, enduring and world-best practice. His efforts to support external agencies in the implementation of contemporary intelligence doctrine and instructions made a significant and enduring impact on the Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Defence Force.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

### **Chief Petty Officer Andrew SPENCER, WA**

For meritorious achievement in weapon safety and materiel management in the Royal Australian Navy.

Chief Petty Officer Spencer made an outstanding contribution to the inspection, maintenance and availability of Navy's weapons systems. He displayed exemplary professional mastery and initiative in developing personnel training, re-utilising dormant equipment and implementing updated procedures. His efforts contributed to improved availability of systems to the Navy, improvement in support capability and maintenance competencies and reduction in long-term support costs.

### ***Australian Army***

### **Lieutenant Colonel Hamish Jon ASHMAN, USA**

For meritorious achievement in defensive cyber capability development as the Deputy Director - Land, Joint Cyber Directorate within Information Warfare Branch, Joint Capabilities Group.

Lieutenant Colonel Ashman's meritorious achievements have ensured that the Australian Defence Force's Defensive Cyber Operations capabilities will be realised ahead of schedule and will be optimised for the complex operating environments of the future. Lieutenant Colonel Ashman achieved this through his exceptional vision, initiation and leadership of concept development, tireless energy and commitment.

### **Major Nigel Bruce BELLETTE, NT**

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Operations Officer of the 1st Combat Service Support Battalion.

Major Bellette's extraordinary efforts have been instrumental in the delivery of combat service support to the 1st Brigade. His efforts in modernising his Battalion's deployable equipment have enhanced logistic survivability and increased efficiencies. His work rejuvenating the Robertson Barracks Amenities Club has provided soldiers posted to Northern Territory additional opportunity to build resilience and teamwork during a remote posting experience.

### **Major James Duncan BURCHMORE, ACT**

For meritorious achievement in the development and implementation of mental health and suicide prevention initiatives for the Australian Defence Force.

Major Burchmore demonstrated exceptional commitment in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of mental health programmes for Australian Defence Force members, particularly in the area of suicide prevention. His unwavering devotion to duty and dedication to pursuing mental health best practice outcomes have informed policy, programmes and systems which have significantly contributed to the quality of mental health care for members of the Australian Defence Force and have strengthened the organisation's approach to suicide prevention.

### **Corporal Hayley Louise CORNISH, QLD**

For meritorious devotion to duty as an Orderly Room Clerk and Acting Chief Clerk within 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

Corporal Cornish performed to an exceptional standard, devoting significant effort to administratively preparing Charlie Company to deploy on Operation HIGHROAD as Force Protection Element-Nine. Her tireless work ethic, matched by excellent application of trade knowledge and processes, had a direct operational effect in enabling Force Protection Element-Nine to meet all mandated pre-deployment administration.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

### **Corporal Jayden Mark DAY, QLD**

For meritorious achievement as a Corporal in the headquarters of 1st Field Squadron, 1st Combat Engineer Regiment.

Corporal Day continuously displayed outstanding performance and leadership within the 1st Field Squadron. In a senior role, at times far above his rank and experience, he directly enabled his Squadron, Regiment and Brigade to meet their operational, contingency and force generation requirements, along with achieving certification of the Ready Battle Group.

### **Chaplain Ralph Gary ESTHERBY, NSW**

For meritorious devotion to duty as a Chaplain and in supporting the welfare of seriously wounded, injured and ill soldiers and their families across numerous Australian Army units from 2014 to 2018.

Chaplain Estherby's compassion and personal dedication to supporting the welfare of Australian soldiers and their families extended far beyond expectation. He committed to improving soldier and family welfare through periods of extreme trauma, rehabilitation and deployment, ensuring pastoral and welfare needs were met, and providing confidence to deployed members and their families. Chaplain Estherby established a family welfare network in New South Wales, personally visiting families to provide additional support.

### **Warrant Officer Class One David Anthony HAYES, NSW**

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Assistant Army Attaché, Australian Defence Staff - Jakarta.

Warrant Officer Hayes demonstrated commitment, exemplary outputs, and superb professionalism as the Assistant Army Attaché over three years in Jakarta. He is to be highly commended for enhancing Army's bilateral relationship with the Indonesian Army, in particular facilitating senior officer engagement, executing a demanding and complex bilateral exercise schedule and enhancing intelligence sharing and counter-terrorism training with the Indonesian Army.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Jake Richard KEARSLEY, SA**

For meritorious achievement as the Commanding Officer of the Adelaide Universities Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Kearsley's drive, knowledge and exceptional communication skills have enabled him to engage with stakeholders to significantly improve the number of trained soldiers and officers in Army Reserves. He implemented a number of reform initiatives in the recruitment and appointment of officer candidates, which have provided systemic and lasting improvements to Army's capability.

### **Captain Megan Hayley McDERMOTT, NT**

For meritorious achievement as the Deputy Public Affairs Officer within Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 on Operation ACCORDION from February 2017 to September 2017.

Captain McDermott's meritorious performance of duty greatly improved the conduct of Public Affairs within Headquarters Joint Task Force 633. Her efforts in developing social media and exploitation procedures has set a new standard for innovative packages with a focus on key news values to maximise mass audience exposure. Captain McDermott's application of skills enhanced the image and reputation of the Australian Defence Force in the Middle East Region.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

### **Major Matthew Richard McFARLAND, ACT**

For meritorious achievement as the Deputy Director Exercise Plans - J7 Branch, Headquarters Joint Operations Command.

Major McFarland demonstrated exemplary performance as a lead planner for Joint Collective Training. His meticulous attention to detail and intimate knowledge of joint operations allowed him to plan and execute demanding and complex Combined Joint collective training activities which enhanced preparedness and bilateral interoperability. Major McFarland's planning and training directly contributed to the strengthening of Coalition interoperability through operationalising the strategic relationship between Joint Operations Command and Pacific Command.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Paul Mellin O'DONNELL, TAS**

For meritorious achievement as the Operations Officer within Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 on Operation ACCORDION from February 2017 to November 2017.

Lieutenant Colonel O'Donnell made a significant contribution to the Joint Task Force during a period of diverse and challenging operations in a range of domains and theatres. With exceptional professional knowledge and sound judgment, he provided operational advice and reporting which directly contributed to the successful achievement of Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 outcomes and the safety and success of deployed Task Groups.

### **Major Pierre Robert PEL, ACT**

For meritorious achievement as the Joint Task Group 629 Liaison Officer to the Armed Forces of the Philippines during Operation AUGURY - PHILIPPINES.

Major Pel displayed exemplary performance as the Joint Task Group 629 Liaison Officer to the Armed Forces of the Philippines. In the wake of the Marawi siege, he enabled the planning of counter terrorism training for the Armed Forces of the Philippines and strengthened bilateral relationships. In doing so, he enhanced the Australian Defence Force's reputation as a regional security partner.

### **Lieutenant Colonel John Lloyd VENZ, QLD**

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Contingent Commander of the 2017 Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Programme deployment in Toomelah, New South Wales.

Lieutenant Colonel Venz consistently displayed professional mastery and outstanding leadership skills that directly contributed to the success of the Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Programme in 2017. Through his tireless efforts in commanding the contingent, and his passion in developing the future officers of Army, he ensured mission success in one of the longest and most complex Aboriginal Community Assistance Programme activities to date.

### **Major Ross A WEHBY, NSW**

For meritorious achievement in Joint Close Air Support as Officer Commanding Joint Terminal Attack Control Troop and Chief Instructor, Standardisation Officer at Number 4 Squadron.

Major Wehby's meritorious professionalism, extraordinary skill, and conspicuous drive have guaranteed that the Australian Defence Force retains a robust Joint Terminal Attack Control capability and an effective international Joint Close Air Support network. He is an officer of impeccable character and rare skill and ability whose in-depth knowledge, professional excellence, and devotion to duty have melded to produce a lasting contribution to the combat capability of the Australian Defence Force.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

### ***Royal Australian Air Force***

#### **Wing Commander Louise Ellen BURSTOW, NSW**

For meritorious achievement and devotion to duty in a non-warlike operation while deployed as Task Group Commanding Officer Expeditionary Airbase Operations Unit, Middle East Region on Operation ACCORDION from April 2017 to October 2017.

Wing Commander Burstow significantly advanced the Australian Defence Force's expeditionary air base capability through her outstanding leadership and delivery of superior air base support. Through her exceptional efforts, Wing Commander Burstow has been able to promote cooperation and collaboration with the Host Nation and coalition forces greatly enhancing support and safety of Australian Defence Force operations.

#### **Squadron Leader Grant David EVERETT, NSW**

For meritorious achievement in organisational change and workforce reform as the Transformation Project Manager in the Tactical Fighter Systems Program Office of Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group.

Squadron Leader Everett distinguished himself in delivering a range of outstanding achievements as the Transformation Project Manager within the Tactical Fighter Systems Program Office. Through exemplary leadership, superior skill, extraordinary judgement, and conspicuous dedication to duty; he significantly enhanced sustainment support for Australia's air combat capability; improved relationships with Industry; advanced Defence's professional reputation; and produced enduring benefits in this crucial area of capability, over years of most devoted service.

#### **Corporal Kelvin GREEN, QLD**

For meritorious achievement in aircraft surface finishing maintenance support for the C-17A Globemaster III heavy transport aircraft for the Royal Australian Air Force.

Corporal Green had a profound positive impact on aircraft surface finishing maintenance on the entire global C-17A Globemaster III transport aircraft fleets, resulting in reduced costs over the life of the capability and improved aircraft availability for all major users including Australia, the United States of America, Canada, India, and the United Kingdom. His extraordinary vigilance, incisive actions and outstanding devotion to duty were key to the delivery of benefits on a global scale through swift intervention and professionalism of the highest order.

#### **Squadron Leader Allan Andrew HAGSTROM, USA**

For meritorious achievement in air combat capability sustainment for the Royal Australian Air Force as Executive Officer of Number 1 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Hagstrom is an officer of extraordinary skill who displayed exceptional leadership, superior judgement, conspicuous devotion, and remarkable professionalism to deliver a range of superb outcomes in air combat capability sustainment during a period of unprecedented change and intense operational demands. His professional mastery resulted in safe and effective air combat operations whilst he deftly managed competing priorities in support of Australia and its international allies during a major capability transition and period of high operational tempo.

## **CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)**

### **Wing Commander Marija JOVANOVIĆ, SA**

For meritorious achievement and devotion to duty as the initial Commander of Task Element 629.3.1.1 during Operation PHILIPPINES ASSIST, supporting the liberation of Marawi.

Wing Commander Jovanovich is an outstanding aviator who assumed responsibility for optimising operational employment of the AP-3C in support of Armed Forces of the Philippines' liberation of Marawi from occupation by Islamic State - Philippines. She applied her leadership, intellect, skills and experience to manage battle-worthiness risk to the AP-3C in an uncertain threat environment, ensure Rules of Engagement compliance within a dynamic and complex context, and optimised delivery of critical AP-3C mission data to host nation ground forces.

### **Squadron Leader Aaron Marko JOZELICH, NSW**

For meritorious achievement in aircraft structural integrity engineering in the Australian Defence Force.

Squadron Leader Jozelich's superior skill and conspicuous dedication as an Aircraft Structural Integrity Engineer produced a range of capability improvements for the Australian Defence Force. Through his unwavering professionalism, impeccable foresight and decisive leadership, he directly increased C-130J aircraft availability and improved safety through the introduction of an innovative structural integrity inspection program; and by the implementation of improved structural fatigue management and usage monitoring systems.

### **Leading Aircraftman Casey Alexander MIERS, SA**

For meritorious achievement in avionics maintenance development at Number 92 Wing for the Royal Australian Air Force.

Leading Aircraftman Miers displayed extraordinary skill and dedication in the development and application of specialised software for aircraft maintenance, including maintenance delay analysis for AP-3C Orion aircraft. In an outstanding demonstration of initiative, he developed a program to remediate and enhance an immature publication system, while also providing additional tools for routine maintenance tasks on the P-8A Poseidon aircraft that significantly reduced maintenance staff hours whilst enhancing the airworthiness of these two crucial operational platforms.

### **Sergeant James Thomas OATES, NSW**

For meritorious achievement in targeting accreditation and training for the Australian Defence Force.

Sergeant Oates' remarkable achievements in accreditation of Australian and Allied Precision Point Mensuration programs and his contribution to strategic doctrine have been exemplary. His superior technical knowledge and complete mastery of this complex and highly regulated discipline produced well trained and appropriately prepared Royal Australian Air Force targeting personnel capable of operating effectively within the stringent demands of this critical capability in order to meet Australia's obligations under the Laws of Armed Conflict.

## CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

### **Flight Lieutenant Kalyan Murthy RACHAKATLA, ACT**

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Officer-in-Charge of Visa Coordination, Expeditionary Airbase Operations Unit - 1 from April 2017 to October 2017.

Flight Lieutenant Rachakatla's exceptional dedication and commitment enabled Australian Defence Organisation personnel timely access to the necessary visas to support the operations of Joint Task Forces 633, 630 and 632. Coupled with his creative thinking, pragmatism and attention to detail, he negotiated innovative and enduring changes to immigration processes resulting in a significant reduction in time and cost; and an improved level of flexibility for Headquarters Joint Task Force 633.

### **Flight Sergeant Leonie Angela READ, NSW**

For meritorious achievement in training development at Number 3 Control and Reporting Unit for the Royal Australian Air Force.

Flight Sergeant Read demonstrated outstanding leadership and superior professional mastery in improving the core skills of air surveillance leaders and operators. Her analysis of training needs and her conspicuous initiative to develop robust and contemporary operational procedures, combined with her dedication to optimise training, directly enhanced the leadership and capacity of surveillance personnel to fully employ and integrate their weapon systems both within the Royal Australian Air Force and the Joint environments.

### **Squadron Leader S,**

For meritorious achievement in the delivery of intelligence support to Australian Defence Force operations.

Squadron Leader S demonstrated exceptional leadership and foresight during a challenging and complex operational support period within the Australian Signals Directorate. Her tireless efforts to innovate and drive positive change in the way signals intelligence support is provided to the Australian Defence Force has ensured that personnel were trained, equipped and postured to provide the best intelligence support to Australian Defence Force operations.

### **Group Captain Stephen Wedgewood YOUNG, SA**

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Commander of Air Task Group Headquarters on Operation OKRA from December 2016 to October 2017.

Group Captain Young commanded the Task Unit during a highly demanding and dynamic period of operations against Da'esh. His superior planning and leadership ensured the Task Unit's combat effectiveness during the high tempo operations for the liberation of Mosul and Tel Afar. His efforts in support of Operation OKRA enhanced Australia's reputation as a valuable contributor to operations in the Middle East Region.