Royal Australian Navy

Warrant Officer Scott James SHIPTON, NSW

For meritorious service to training and personnel management within the Royal Australian Navy.

Warrant Officer Shipton made a substantial contribution to the Royal Australian Navy's capability through his knowledge, dedication, attitude and tireless commitment to the training and mentoring of personnel. His inspirational leadership and outstanding communication skills were pivotal in the introduction of revised Patrol Boat crewing strategies and Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Force restructuring in order to better support current and emerging Fleet capabilities.

Warrant Officer Brett Andrew SOUTH, WA

For meritorious service to the Royal Australian Navy in the field of submarine marine engineering.

Warrant Officer South distinguished himself during a range of demanding and influential postings in support of the Australian submarine capability. His outstanding levels of leadership, technical proficiency, innovation and professionalism have led to wide-reaching improvements in submarine performance, training effectiveness and culture. He rendered meritorious service to the Royal Australian Navy far beyond the call of duty.

Commander Glenn Alan WILLIAMS RAN, ACT

For meritorious service in the field of Navy Communications and Information Systems.

Commander Williams demonstrated meritorious service in the fields of Navy Communications and Information Systems operations support, training and sustainment. His dedication, leadership, technical knowledge and professionalism have been instrumental in the planning and implementation of policy and standards to reflect contemporary technologies and strategic capability development. His influence has been pivotal in facilitating current and future capability acquisition of Navy Communications and Information Systems.

Australian Army

Warrant Officer Class One Kelvin James BAULCH, NSW

For meritorious service in the field of Engineering Services and Construction Management within the Australian Army and wider Australian Defence Force.

Warrant Officer Baulch consistently displayed professional mastery that directly contributed to the generation of military engineering capability. Through his tireless efforts, he ensured the highest quality of engineering workmanship. His technical acumen is of the highest order and he has shown outstanding initiative and ingenuity. His investment in the development of junior tradesmen, foreman and junior officers is commendable.

Warrant Officer Class One Matthew Francis BOLD, Qld

For meritorious service as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 9th Battalion, the Royal Queensland Regiment and the 7th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

Warrant Officer Bold's dedication to his roles as Company Sergeant Major in the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, and the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 9th Battalion, the Royal Queensland Regiment and the 7th Battalion, has been fundamental in improving the welfare, skills and operational effectiveness of soldiers who served under him.

Major Richard Paul CLARK, SA

For meritorious service as the Brigade Major of Headquarters 9th Brigade and the Assistant Operations Officer at Headquarters 2nd Division.

Major Clark displayed exemplary leadership and professional dedication to duty which transformed the training of the 4th and 9th Brigades, and led to the successful evaluation of the Battle Group during Exercise HAMEL in 2016. His additional development of evidence-based cost models linking the capabilities required with funding allocation have revolutionised program budgeting within the 2nd Division.

Warrant Officer Class One Paul Justin SIMPFENDORFER, NSW

For meritorious service in the field of Forward Arming and Refueling and Aviation Special Operations and as the Leadership Package Master at the Warrant Officer and Non-Commissioned Officer Academy.

Warrant Officer Simpfendorfer's exemplary performance in Forward Arming and Refueling and Aviation Special Operations has made a significant contribution to the aviation capability of the Australian Defence Force and has enhanced the reputation of the Army Aviation Corps. His unwavering and deep dedication to improving the proficiency, leadership and welfare of Army's Junior Non-Commissioned Officers and soldiers has contributed to organisational success and cohesion within the aviation community and across the Australian Army.

Warrant Officer Class Two John William SMALLACOMBE, NT

For meritorious performance of duty in promoting positive relationships between Indigenous communities and the Pilbara Regiment and rehabilitating wounded, injured and ill soldiers within the 5th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

Warrant Officer Smallacombe demonstrated selfless dedication to duty over two consecutive postings. He developed positive Army relationships with Indigenous communities, organisations and businesses within the East Pilbara Region as Training Warrant Officer. Warrant Officer Smallacombe worked tirelessly to rehabilitate wounded, injured and ill soldiers significantly reducing the number of downgraded personnel as the Unit Welfare Officer in the 5th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

Captain Matthew James SULLIVAN CSM, Vic

For meritorious performance of duty as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st Brigade and Regimental Master Gunner of the Combined Arms Training Centre.

Captain Sullivan displays the highest standards of leadership and professionalism in all tasks asked of him. His sensitive management of complex and nationally significant events, his strategic acumen and engagement with the Marine Rotational Force - Darwin, and his leadership of significant change in skills and capability across the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery to realise the potential of new capabilities, highlight his current and enduring impact as one of Army's senior soldiers.

Warrant Officer Class Two W

For meritorious performance of duty, application of skills and leadership as a Manager of Intelligence Operations within the Australian Defence Force.

Warrant Officer W made a meritorious contribution through the implementation of a Human Intelligence assessment process and consistent leadership over multiple deployments and postings. Warrant Officer W's application of skills and leadership has directly contributed to the Force Protection of Australian Defence Force personnel and the provision of safe, effective training.

Royal Australian Air Force

Group Captain David John HOUGHTON, Qld

For meritorious service in materiel acquisition and sustainment as the Joint Program Office Lead, Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft System Program Office, and as Commanding Officer of the Training Aircraft Systems Program Office in Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group.

Group Captain Houghton displayed outstanding professional excellence in developing joint United States Navy acquisition and sustainment arrangements for the P-8A Poseidon aircraft, and in reforming the sustainment of Defence's fixed-wing aircrew training systems. His outstanding devotion to duty, impeccable diplomacy, and innovative problem solving in extremely ambiguous acquisition and sustainment environments have strengthened international relations, enhanced aircrew training, and delivered a raft of benefits for Defence that will endure for decades.

Sergeant Katrina Louise LISTON, ACT

For meritorious service in instruction, case officer support, and training medical supervision as a Divisional Senior Non-Commissioned Officer at the Australian Defence Force Academy.

Over years of devoted service at the Australian Defence Force Academy, Sergeant Liston established herself as an outstanding instructor, mentor, team member and Case Support Officer; displaying sustained exemplary professionalism, service and skills across every dimension of a challenging and demanding training appointment. Her natural ability to lead, teach, mentor and develop trainee officers; combined with her insight, aptitude, communication skills and empathy, allowed her to directly and indirectly influence and inspire numerous cohorts of junior officers.

Squadron Leader Christopher Nicholas PLAIN, WA

For meritorious service in project management as the Number 78 Wing Transition Team Manager for the Hawk 127 Lead-In Fighter Capability Assurance Project.

Squadron Leader Plain demonstrated extraordinary leadership, superior managerial skill, conspicuous dedication, and honed professional acumen to successfully implement the Hawk 127 Lead-In-Fighter Capability Assurance Project. He successfully overcame a number of complex technical and coordination challenges to achieve initial operating capability; and has been instrumental in ensuring that the upgraded Lead-In Fighter Training System is now well prepared and able to support the introduction of the F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter.