

WELCOME TO **AMBERLEY**



ANNUAL GUIDE 2025

RAAF BASE AMBERLEY, IPSWICH & SURROUNDING REGION

ABOUT THE BASE
History, operational units
and community

FAMILY ESSENTIALS
Services, housing, health
and education

LIFESTYLE
Local attractions
and activities



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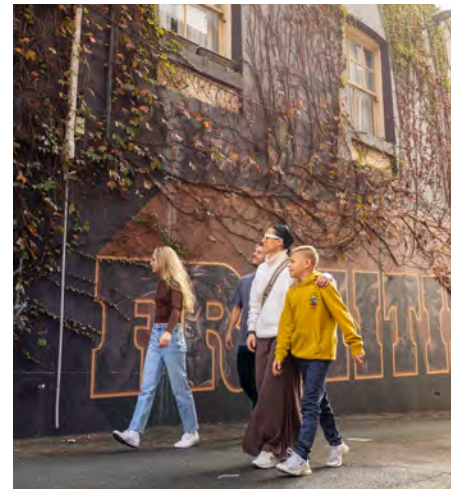
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A No.6 Squadron EA-18G Growler on the taxiway as a RAAF KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport aircraft from No.33 Squadron takes off from RAAF Base Amberley during Exercise Pitch Black 24.
PHOTO: SGT Peter Borys.

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WELCOME TO AMBERLEY



**WING COMMANDER
TANYA EVANS**

Senior ADF Officer
RAAF Base Amberley

WELCOME TO ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE AMBERLEY.

As the Senior Australian Defence Force Officer at Amberley, I have the privilege to represent our Defence people and their families in the wider South-East Queensland community and to concurrently ensure our base is ready to support the range of operational, training and industry capabilities that call Amberley home.

To begin, I want to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which RAAF Base Amberley lies; the Yuggera and the Ugarapul People. Further to the south where we operate the Evans Head Air Weapons Range is Bandjalang country. I pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging and I'm genuinely grateful for the warm relationship we enjoy with the Elders of these communities.

If you're new to RAAF Amberley or South-East Queensland then, welcome. I really hope you (and your family) enjoy your time here. This Air Force base, RAAF Amberley, is our largest operational air base. Large in geographical area, but also incredibly diverse in the roles it supports. There is a range of Air Mobility and Air Combat aircraft stationed here, as well as the engineering and logistics enterprises that

support them; a noteworthy Army footprint; along with a significant number of Combat Support Group capabilities; industry and contractor operations; logistics, training and, importantly, myriad services that support the welfare and wellbeing of our people. There's a lot going on at RAAF Base Amberley! All these different components combine to deliver airpower and joint capabilities to support Australia's national interests.

RAAF Base Amberley was originally constructed in 1939 and officially opened in June 1940. The base continues to grow in size and in the range of tasks it performs. For those interested in the history and evolution of the base, there's an article on pages 6-7 of this publication, or take a look at the storyboard at the Astra Centre (the main conference facility on the base) and you'll be able to better understand how the base has changed over its proud history. For the future, we've mapped out an Estate Base Plan which will deliver the right balance of operational and support infrastructure while concurrently meeting expectations for how we protect our people, our assets, our environment and the communities in which we live.

Again, welcome.



WELCOME TO COUNTRY

The Traditional custodians
of this land welcome you to
RAAF Base Amberley.

← Indigenous Elders
Auntie Mireea (left)
and Auntie Lily during
a NAIDOC event at
RAAF Base Amberley.



TERESA HARDING
Mayor, City of Ipswich

WELCOME TO IPSWICH, one of the most liveable and fastest growing cities in South East Queensland.

Beautiful parks and natural areas, world-class heritage sites and a vibrant local restaurant scene are some of the wonderful experiences available to residents and visitors.

Our region is growing rapidly. Each year, we welcome more than 6,000 residents and by 2046, it is expected that 533,000 residents will call Ipswich home; compared to our current 256,000 residents.

Ipswich has a proud history with RAAF Base Amberley, and the City of Ipswich recognises the key role the Defence sector plays in our social fabric and local economy.

Many community and sporting groups in Ipswich have ADF members, their families and veterans as leaders and members. I encourage

you to join our local community, you will be warmly welcomed.

The city includes a stellar list of defence industry primes and related sector players at RAAF Base Amberley and in Ipswich, including Northrop Grumman, Boeing, TAE Aerospace, Rheinmetall Defence Australia, Lockheed Martin, Thales, Spotless, Downer, Serco and Wilson.

My personal link to Defence is strong. I served in the Army and worked in the APS in Defence, my husband completed almost 35 years of service in the RAAF, our son is a serving member of the RAAF, and our other son has also served in the Army.

On behalf of Ipswich City Council, I welcome you to Ipswich and I hope you enjoy your posting at RAAF Base Amberley and living in Ipswich.



SHAYNE NEUMANN
Federal Member for Blair

WELCOME TO THE federal electorate of Blair, covering most of the Ipswich region, the Somerset region and the Karana Downs area.

Ipswich is my hometown, as well as home to the RAAF Base Amberley. I am proud to represent local ADF personnel, veterans and their families. I understand the sacrifices you make, and I thank you for your service to this nation.


I am here to help and provide information and support. Please contact me if I can make your time in the Ipswich region even better. Contact my office on 07 3201 5300 or follow me on Facebook and Twitter. I look forward to hearing from you and meeting as many of you in the community.

STATE MEMBER FOR IPSWICH WEST

A NEW MEMBER FOR IPSWICH WEST, which encompasses RAAF Base Amberley, was due to be elected at the Queensland state election on 26 October 2024, after this guide went to print.

The sitting member, Darren Zanow, announced in July that he would be stepping down due to ill health. To find out about the new member for Ipswich West and also about MPs representing surrounding electorates, go to www.parliament.qld.gov.au. To discover which electorate you live in, see ecq.qld.gov.au/electoral-boundaries/state-electorate-boundaries.



The West Ipswich electoral office is at Shop 1, Brassall Shopping Centre, 68 Hunter Street, email Ipswich.West@parliament.qld.gov.au.



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↑ RAAF Base Amberley flight line and hard stand.

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST RAAF BASE

Since opening in 1940, RAAF Base Amberley has developed into a 'super base' with an increasingly diverse defence role.

RAAF BASE AMBERLEY is Air Force's largest base, employing approximately 6,000 military personnel, Commonwealth public servants and defence aviation contractors. Located in the Ipswich local government area, 8km south-west of the Ipswich CBD and 50km west of Brisbane, Queensland, the base incorporates approximately 2,500 hectares adjacent to the suburbs of Leichhardt and Wulkuraka to the east, Walloon to the northwest, Yamanto to the southeast and Karrabin to the northeast.

The site includes the Main Operating Area on Ipswich Amberley Road and Attached

Property 2 on Haigslea Amberley Road. The base also incorporates the adjacent Hansen's Farm Conservation Area, Pascoe's Farm, Purga Small Arms Range and five buffer zones (varying in size). The management of RAAF Base Amberley also includes the co-management of the Evans Head Air Weapons Range with NSW Parks and Wildlife.

Prior to European settlement, the RAAF Base Amberley site and surrounding area were home to the Yuggera and Ugarapul clans.

The present-day RAAF Base Amberley has two runways (Runway 15/33, which runs in a southeast to northwest direction, and Runway 04/22, which runs in a west to east direction). It provides

permanent facilities for five military aircraft types: F/A-18F Super Hornet, EA-18G Growler, C-17A Globemaster III, KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport and C-27J Spartan.

The base also accommodates a range of joint capabilities, including RAAF Force Element Groups, Army units, Defence organisations, Australian Air Force Cadets, aerospace companies, retail outlets, base support contractors and the RAAF Amberley Aviation Heritage Centre.

HISTORY

Commencing in 1939, the construction of RAAF Base Amberley was described as one of the largest projects undertaken in Queensland at that time. The base was officially opened on 17 June 1940 and air base operations began the same month.

The first aircraft at the Station Headquarters was the Moth Minor No.A21-26, followed shortly by four CAC Wirraway aircraft. By the end of 1940, there were 54 aircraft based at Amberley. Over the next two years, the base was transformed into a



↑ A parade at RAAF Base Amberley circa 1965.

centre of excellence for the assembly, maintenance and salvage of aircraft, which was the primary focus of the base during World War II.

While essential infrastructure works continued in order to support the assembling of aircraft for the United States Army Air Force and south-western Pacific operations, Amberley became part of a quiet revolution, with the RAAF leading the way in introducing women to the Defence workforce. By the end of WWII, the RAAF was the fourth largest air force in the world and RAAF Base Amberley had accommodated the CAC Wirraway, Lockheed Hudson, Martin B-26 Marauder, Curtiss P-40 Kittyhawk, Vultee A-31 Vengeance, Bell P-39 Airacobra, Republic P-43 Lancer and Boston Bombers, as well as Spitfires and B-24J Liberators.

In 1948, a Lincoln A73-11 crashed in the north-east corner of the airfield, bursting into flames on impact and killing all 16 service personnel on board.

Three years later, the first bomber in RAAF service to be fitted with ejection seats, the GAF Canberra Mk 20, arrived at the base, remaining in service, first as a bomber and then in target towing and photo reconnaissance roles, until 1982.

Prior to the Canberra bomber reaching the end of its service life and the eventual arrival of the much-awaited F-111C, the Australian Government accepted an offer from the United States Government to lease 24 McDonnell-Douglas F-4 Phantoms as a stopgap measure from 1970 to 1973. Sadly, only 23 of the 24 Phantoms were returned to the US as one was lost at sea with both crew members following an exercise at the Evans Head Air Weapons Range on the NSW Far North Coast.

In early 1973, the first six F-111C aircraft arrived at Amberley. This was followed a few months later with the formation of No.12 Squadron comprising CH-47 Chinook helicopters.



↑ A CH-47 Chinook heavy-lift helicopter over RAAF Base Amberley.



← A GAF Canberra Bomber viewed from the tower at the base. BELOW: The arrival of the F-111 circa June 1973.



↓ Aerial view of RAAF Base Amberley circa 1940s.



The transfer of the battlefield helicopters from the RAAF to the Army in 1989 provided the opportunity for further expansion of aircraft capability on the base and three years later, 10 Caribou aircraft were relocated to Amberley.

The 1990s also saw the parade ground, which had been the heart of the base since the 1940s, converted to a car park and a new entrance gate installed, complete with a memorial garden and a static Canberra Bomber A84-201 that was the first Australian built GAF Canberra. It also came second in the 1953 London to Christchurch Air Race.

In 2000, redevelopment works commenced with the relocation of Combat Support Group (CSG) from Glenbrook, NSW, and new headquarters for No.82 Wing, while the base also hosted several operational combat support units and security and fire training capabilities.

Development of the 'super base' continued over the subsequent years, including the construction and refurbishment of accommodation, airfield upgrades, combined mess, gym, military working dog facilities, security and fire training and the Headquarters CSG building.

In 2010, after 37 years of service, the F-111 was retired, with two remaining on display, one at the main entrance to the base and the other at the RAAF Amberley Aviation Heritage Centre.

Throughout its life, RAAF Base Amberley has hosted elements of the Australian Army. From 1960 to 1973, it was home to Army Aviation and since 2006 has supported a variety of Army and joint force units.

In 2015, the Joint Logistics Facility was opened on a 22 hectare site in the centre of the base.

Today, RAAF Base Amberley plays a more diverse Defence role than ever before.

COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP



FORMED IN 1998,
COMBAT SUPPORT
GROUP (CSG) is the
largest force element
group (FEG) in the
RAAF with more than
5,600 full-time and
reserve personnel from
56 different musters and
specialisations.

CSG personnel are employed in Headquarters
CSG, Combat Support Division and across
27 squadrons in No.95 Wing, No.96 Wing and
Health Services Wing.

As Air Force's most diverse FEG, CSG's motto
is *Project and Protect*, which it achieves through
the force projection of air power from airbases

within Australia and globally as part of the
joint force. CSG provides airbase operations
and aerospace health capabilities, with CSG's
airbases producing agile and integrated
outcomes, regardless of the task.

Headquarters CSG provides the collective aim
point for Australia's airbase network, providing
the lead for CSG wings and units. Headquarters
CSG affirms FEG preparedness for the joint
force through dedicated personnel capability,
force generation, capability management and
development elements. CSG's logistics capability
and airbase airworthiness is underpinned by the
headquarter's safety assurance, logistics and
engineering capability cells.



NO.295 SQUADRON

No.295 Squadron provides
individual and collective
training for CSG. The
squadron was formed in
2014 from elements of the
395 Expeditionary Combat
Support Wing to serve as
a central training element

for CSG. The squadron supports the preparation,
mounting and deployment of expeditionary

CSG elements through training, mentoring and
coaching of deploying forces. It also facilitates
force generation of CSG units through planning
of, and participation in, exercises and other
collective training opportunities.

COMBAT SUPPORT COORDINATION CENTRE

Combat Support Coordination Centre (CSCC)
conducts FEG-level tactical planning for
employment of CSG capabilities during exercises
and operations. CSCC is a component of Combat
Support Division (CSD), an operational-level
division within the Air Operations Centre at
Bungendore. CSCC and CSD promote effective
employment of CSG force elements throughout
activity planning and execution. CSCC is a
critical link to consolidate a broad range of
CSG capabilities for projection of air power
domestically, regionally and globally.



HEADQUARTERS NO.95 WING

The wing's origins
can be traced back
to Headquarters
Operational Support
Wing in Townsville in
1991. It was recognised
as No.395 Expeditionary
Combat Support Wing

in 1999, moved to Amberley in 2008 and more
recently was renamed to Headquarters 95 Wing
in January 2014.

While the headquarters resides at RAAF Base
Amberley, 95 Wing is responsible for a number
of Air Force's airbases and specialist units across
Australia. This includes a headquarters element,
five airbase operations squadrons across seven
airbases, two contingency response squadrons,
No.2 Security Forces Squadron and No.65
Airbase Recovery Squadron.

Headquarters No.95 Wing is responsible
for providing airbase operational capabilities
and the planning and execution of exercises
and operational activities. It strives to deliver
agile, short-notice, combat support effects
to help generate and sustain air power across
the national airbase network and deployed
locations in single service and joint coalition
environments.



PHOTO: ELCOFF Michael Thomas

← No.2 Security Forces Squadron aviators
conducting pre-flight checks on a R-70
Skyraider on Exercise Stoic Gauntlet 24 in
northern Australia.



↓ CSG aviators were part of OP Beech, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade-led assisted departure flights being undertaken as a result of the Hamas-Israel conflict. CSG aviators assisted Australian citizens and their families, and other approved foreign nationals, to depart from Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv to Dubai.

PHOTO: CPL Robert Whitmore



NO. 2 SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON

Providing close combat and specialised reaction force capabilities, 2 Security Forces (2SECFOR) Squadron plays a pivotal role in protecting Air Force personnel and assets, to project air and space

power as part of the integrated force.

The squadron originated with the creation of a Defence Pool in the Netherlands East Indies towards the end of 1944. Defence Pool's role was to provide close protection of RAAF installations under the command of the First Tactical Air Force. From this start, 2SECFOR has built a distinguished heritage of battle honours and contributions to operations; from World War II, on Morotai Island, Malaysia, Brunei, Borneo, Indonesia and the Philippines, through deployment in the Vietnam War, then to East Timor in 2000 (receiving a unit meritorious citation). Recent operations include Sumatra, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

As a specialised close combat unit, 2SECFOR is equipped with armoured Bushmaster and Hawkei Protected Mobility Vehicles and Ultra-Light Tactical All-Terrain Vehicles to enhance air base mobility capabilities.

The squadron continues in the proud traditions of its past while continuously evolving to be ready and meet emerging threat challenges. It employs a mix of close combatant and protective security experts trained to operate in high threat environments.

It provides the Air Force with agile security and

combat options throughout the threat spectrum. 2SECFOR is ready to protect air operations against any adversary, anytime, at any airfield.



NO. 382 SQUADRON

No. 382 Squadron (382SQN) was formed in December 2013 and is one of three Air Force Contingency Response Squadrons. The squadron provides Air Force with the ability to project air power from airbases

within Australia and globally where there is no permanent airbase footprint. 382SQN thrives in the provision of agile, rapid, responsive and effective air power projection at short notice.

The squadron maintains a readiness that allows for deployment where needed in a very short time frame. While the squadron is responsive globally, it has the capacity to also provide Defence assistance to the civil community in response to civil disasters.



HEADQUARTERS 96 WING

Originally established in November 2000 as 396 Combat Support Wing in Darwin, the wing was renamed Headquarters 96 Wing and relocated to RAAF Base Amberley in January 2014. While the

headquarters resides at RAAF Base Amberley, 96 Wing is responsible for a number of Air Force's

airbases and specialist units across Australia. This includes a headquarters element, seven airbase operations squadrons across eight airbases, one contingency response squadron, No. 1 Security Forces Squadron and No. 1 Combat Communications Squadron. Headquarters 96 Wing is responsible for providing airbase operational capabilities and the planning and execution of exercises and operational activities. It strives to deliver agile, short-notice, combat support effects to help generate and sustain air power across the national airbase network and deployed locations in single service and joint coalition environments.



NO. 1 COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

Originally formed in September 1965 as the Air Transportable Telecommunications Unit before being renamed in July 1999, No. 1 Combat Communications Squadron

(1CCS) provides communications and information systems in domestic and deployed environments. From humble beginnings with 12 members, 1CCS has grown to over 350 personnel and can support communications and information systems from established Air Force bases to very remote locations anywhere in the world. They are often required to provide tactical field and temporary communications support during disaster relief operations, both in Australia and overseas.

With a headquarters at RAAF Base Amberley, 1CCS also has three flights situated at RAAF bases Amberley, Williamtown and Edinburgh.



PHOTO: FSGT Chris Dickson



NO.23 SQUADRON

No.23 Squadron (23SQN) is the airbase operations support squadron at RAAF Base Amberley.

23SQN was originally formed as a Citizen Air Force unit at Laverton, Victoria in May 1937.

23SQN's presence in Queensland dates back to 1943, although the squadron has only been based at RAAF Base Amberley since September 1955 and has supported Amberley's flying squadrons since 1960.

23SQN provides a wide range of capabilities that are coordinated through the 23SQN Air Base Operations Centre. These capabilities include airfield engineering, catering, chaplains, aviation and structural firefighting, physical training instruction, weapons training, base armoury, airbase security, logistics services, mechanical equipment operations and maintenance, air movements, aviation safety management, visits coordination, road movements, aviation refuelling and base armament management. 23SQN also has a RAAF Safe Advisor, Base Warrant Officer and an Indigenous Liaison Officer who provide specialist support to other units on RAAF Base Amberley.



HEALTH SERVICES WING

Health Services Wing (HSW) formed in December 2001 and its headquarters moved to RAAF Base Amberley in January 2003. HSW is responsible for generating and sustaining agile and scalable

aerospace health capabilities for the joint force. These capabilities include expeditionary medical treatment facilities, a global strategic aeromedical evacuation system and aerospace health support to enable airbase operations. The wing employs a mix of permanent and part-time health, medical specialist and support personnel to deliver aerospace health capability at the right place and at the right time to support joint operations.

← Air Load Team members from No.23 Squadron conduct a final check on pallets of Australian aid bound for Enga Province in Papua New Guinea onboard a C-17A Globemaster III at RAAF Base Amberley.

→ 1EHS aviators working closely with PACAF within the Role 2 Forward RSC on Exercise Viper Walk, Greenbank Training Area GBTA.



NO.1 EXPEDITIONARY HEALTH SQUADRON

No.1 Expeditionary Health Squadron (1EHS) delivers deployable aerospace health support to RAAF and ADF operations. Headquartered at RAAF Base Amberley, 1EHS

also has detachments at RAAF Bases Townsville, East Sale and Richmond. As the lead for the deployable Air Force Role 2 Medical Treatment Facility and resuscitative surgical capabilities, 1EHS maintains specialist health elements to support sustained operations or short-notice contingency deployments.

Its deployable capabilities include primary health/emergency departments, surgery, intensive care, dental, environmental health, general wards, pathology, medical imaging, logistics and a deployable health facility command and control element.

At permanent air bases, 1EHS also contributes to base health effects with personnel undertaking Garrison Clinical Duty within Joint Health Command health centres.



NO.3 AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION SQUADRON DETACHMENT AMBERLEY

No.3 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (3AES) provides a specialised global aeromedical retrieval

capability for the ADF. The squadron was originally formed in 1940 as No.3 RAAF Hospital, providing dedicated hospital services for more than 60 years before evolving into an expeditionary capability in early 2000s, then specialising in aeromedical evacuation from 2013.

With its headquarters at RAAF Base Richmond, NSW, and a detachment at RAAF Base Amberley, the squadron comprises a cadre of medical, nursing, paramedical, specialist critical care professionals and support personnel dedicated to the conduct of aeromedical evacuation missions on a variety of civilian and military aircraft including the C-17A Globemaster, C-130J Hercules and C-27J Spartan.



PHOTO: AC Campbell Latch

↑ Aviators from No.3 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron assist a patient as part of a Critical Care Aeromedical Evacuation Scenario held at RAAF Base Amberley.



HEALTH OPERATIONAL CONVERSION UNIT

Health Operational Conversion Unit (Health OCU) is a dedicated training unit in the preparation of health professionals for the provision of care in operational environments. This training is delivered through the conduct of medical conversion courses that cover a range of essential topics, including tactical, strategic and critical care aeromedical evacuation, trauma management, operational health support, health management, health operations and high consequence assurance training.

By offering comprehensive training in these crucial areas, Health OCU equips its students with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively deliver healthcare services in challenging and high-risk operational circumstances across Air Force, Navy, Army and our international partners.

AIR COMBAT GROUP

AIR COMBAT GROUP (ACG) is one of the largest Force Element Groups in the ADF, with more than 2,000 personnel across three wings, comprising nine squadrons. The group operates the F-35A Lightning II, EA-18G Growler, F/A-18F Super Hornet, Hawk 127 Lead-In Fighter and Pilatus PC-21, as well as maintaining the Combat Control Team capability.

ACG units are located at RAAF Bases Amberley, Pearce, Tindal and Williamtown, where the Headquarters (HQ) is also located. There is a detachment of HQ ACG personnel at Amberley who are co-located with Headquarters No.82 Wing and perform engineering and fleet management, logistics, training support, and maintenance training activities to support 82WG operations.



HEADQUARTERS NO.82 WING

No.82 Wing (82WG) is the RAAF's air combat and electronic attack wing.

Headquartered at Amberley, the wing comprises No.1 Squadron and No.6 Squadron. HQ 82WG provides

resources, support and governance to the squadrons of 82WG, and higher headquarters. The wing has a high tempo around the globe with personnel frequently deployed overseas on, and in support of, international operations.



NO.1 SQUADRON

No.1 Squadron (1SQN) was formed as a part of the Australian Flying Corp in 1916 and served with distinction in the Middle East during World War I. In 2010, 1SQN took delivery of the F/A-18F Super Hornet, becoming

the first squadron to operate that aircraft outside of the US Military. Since then, 1SQN has completed two operational deployments to the Middle East with the Super Hornet as a part of Australia's commitment to the fight against ISIL,

employing kinetic effects in support of local and coalition forces. Although the F/A-18F Super Hornet was originally intended as a bridging capability as the RAAF phased out the F/A-18 'Classic' Hornet fleet and transitioned to the fifth-generation F-35A Lightning II, the Super Hornet has since become a key air combat capability for the RAAF and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future.



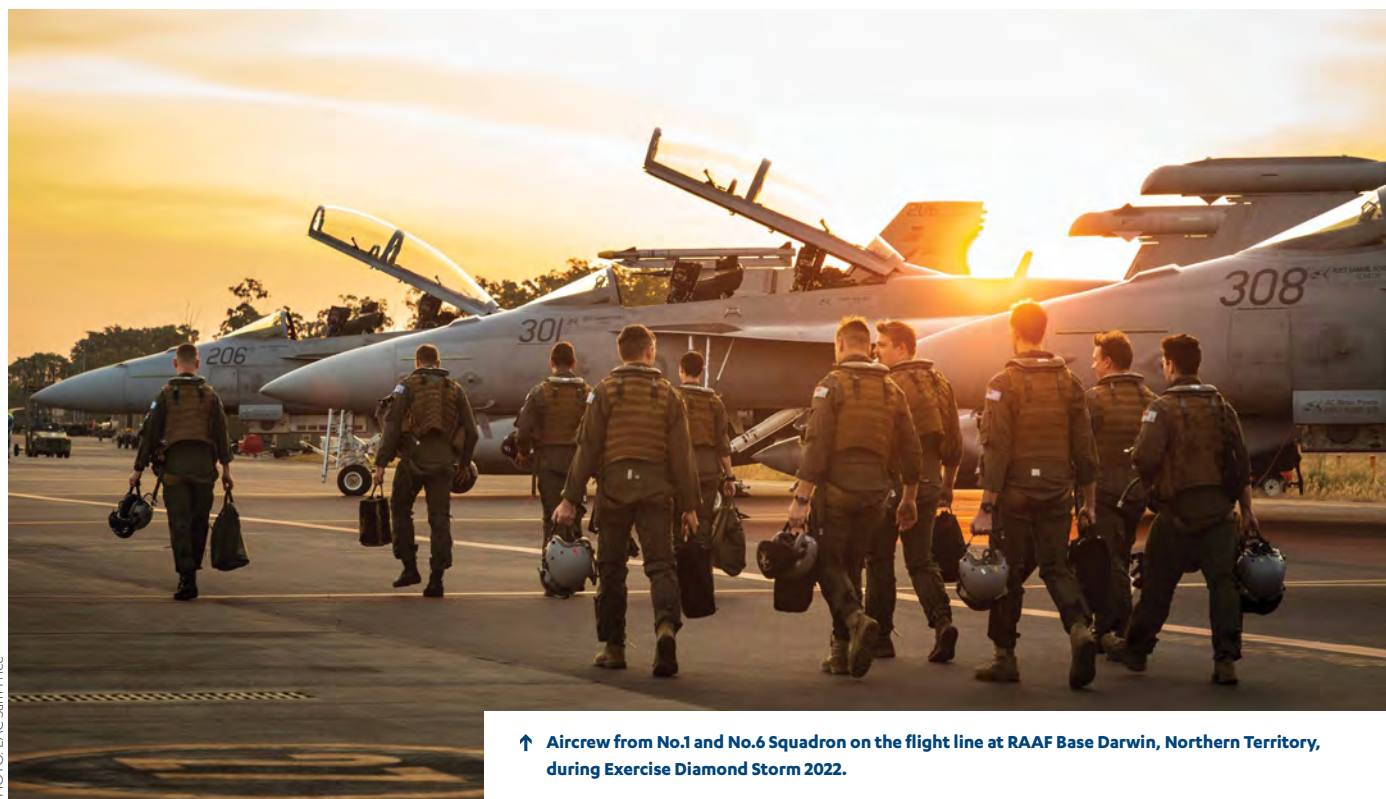
NO.6 SQUADRON

No.6 Squadron (6SQN) formed in England in June 1917, providing vital training for Australian fighter pilots prior to their posting to the Western Front.

Today, 6SQN's mission is to deliver a scalable, agile and dependable airborne

electronic attack capability that enhances the survivability and lethality of joint and coalition forces. As an airborne electronic attack aircraft, the EA-18G Growler is capable of disrupting, deceiving and denying a broad range of military electronic systems such as radars or communications.

6SQN operates a fleet of 12 EA-18G Growlers in conjunction with the ADF's air, land and sea forces with its initial operational capability being declared in February 2019.



↑ Aircrew from No.1 and No.6 Squadron on the flight line at RAAF Base Darwin, Northern Territory, during Exercise Diamond Storm 2022.

AIR MOBILITY GROUP

Air Mobility Group (AMG) was originally formed as Air Lift Group on 2 February 1987, although many of the units within AMG can trace their history back to World War II. Today, AMG is responsible for preparing and conducting air mobility operations for Defence force projection. AMG squadrons are often the first on the scene when deploying Defence assets in times of crisis.

On Defence operations, AMG specialises in providing air logistics support and air-to-air refuelling, as well as conducting airborne operations support. During Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions, AMG is frequently deployed in support of the civilian community to provide evacuation and resupply of vulnerable communities. That includes the delivery of specialist equipment and personnel, or search and rescue missions for those in need.

Although Headquarters AMG is located at RAAF Base Richmond in NSW, RAAF Base Amberley is home to a number of subordinate units – Headquarters No.86 Wing, No.33 Squadron, No.35 Squadron and No.36 Squadron. RAAF Base Amberley is also home to three of the six aircraft types flown by AMG – the KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport, the C-27J Spartan and the C-17A Globemaster III.

HEADQUARTERS NO.86 WING

No.86 Wing is responsible for transport of VIP, government and senior Defence leadership through No.34 Squadron (based at Defence Establishment Fairbairn in Canberra), the command, control and management of the KC-30A through No.33 Squadron and the C-17A capability through No.36 Squadron.



NO.33 SQUADRON

No.33 Squadron was officially formed in February 1942 at RAAF Base Townsville and served in World War II. Re-formed at RAAF Base Richmond in 1983, it flew the Boeing 707

until its retirement in June 2008, relocating to RAAF Base Amberley.

In June 2011, the squadron received its first KC-30A aircraft, a heavily modified Airbus A330 airliner capable of air-to-air refuelling with compatible aircraft, and able to provide strategic airlift of up to 270 passengers and over 37,000kg of cargo. Seven KC-30As are operated by No.33 Squadron from RAAF Base Amberley, which are continuously active in supporting exercises and operations, including Operation OKRA in the Middle East Region from October 2014 to September 2020.



NO.35 SQUADRON

No.35 Squadron was formed as a transport squadron at RAAF Base Pearce in WA, in March 1942, serving throughout World War II. It was re-established in 1966 to fly Caribou transport

aircraft during the Vietnam War, returning

← **A RAAF No.36 Squadron C-17 Globemaster after landing at Australia's main operating base in the Middle East Region.**

to Australia in 1972 and continuing to fly the Caribou until 2000. It was re-established again in January 2013, prior to the arrival of the first C-27J in 2015. In early 2019, No.35 Squadron relocated to RAAF Base Amberley, and today operates a fleet of 10 C-27J Spartans.

With the ability to provide airlift of people, equipment and supplies into the most remote and least prepared airstrips in Australia and our region, the C-27J Spartan complements the ADF's existing air mobility fleet as its light tactical fixed wing capability.



NO.36 SQUADRON

Formed at RAAF Base Laverton in Victoria in March 1942, No.36 Squadron flew Dakotas in New Guinea during World War II and into the post-war years. In March 1953, No.36 Squadron

was based in Japan, carrying freight to and from Korea, evacuation casualties and providing VIP transport capabilities for the United Nations Command. After returning to Australia in 1958, it became the first international operator of the C-130A Hercules transport aircraft, converting onto the C-130H in 1978.

In addition to its role as a strategic airlifter, the Hercules also proved highly suited to civil aid tasks such as fodder drops during floods, air sea rescue work and medical evacuations. With the escalating commitment of Australian forces in Vietnam during the mid-1960s, No.36 Squadron found itself operating a regular courier service, carrying troops and equipment, and evacuating wounded soldiers back to Australia. In December 2006, the squadron converted onto the C-17A and relocated to RAAF Base Amberley. The C-17As play an integral role in the ADF's strategic airlift capability, supporting international deployments as well as disaster relief and humanitarian missions. No.36 Squadron accepted delivery of their final C-17 Globemaster in November 2015, creating a fleet of eight C-17As which allow Australia to rapidly deploy personnel, supplies, combat vehicles, heavy equipment and helicopters anywhere in the world, as well as conduct aero-medical evacuation.

SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE GROUP



SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE GROUP

(SRG) incorporates No.41 Wing (Air Defence and Battlespace Management), No.42 Wing (Electronic Warfare and Airborne Early Warning & Control), No.44 Wing (Joint

Battlefield Airspace Control) and No.92 Wing (Maritime Air Power).

Under the motto *Foremost Sentinel*, SRG is structured for its individual roles comprising of four wings operating as one team to deliver excellence in observing, informing, impacting and controlling the battlespace.

While retaining the individual combat capabilities of both maritime patrol and surveillance and control, SRG is also developing and delivering intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and electronic warfare capabilities to prepare the Air Force for the

introduction of new platforms including maritime unmanned aerial systems. SRG also supports the ongoing development and enhancement of cyber and space capabilities to ensure Air Force and the ADF are mission-ready across multiple domains.

SRG has approximately 2,000 personnel serving across the organisation and is headquartered at RAAF Base Williamtown.



NO.452 SQUADRON

No.452 Squadron (452SQN) Headquarters is located in Darwin with flights spread across the northern half of Australia. There are two 452SQN flights at RAAF Base Amberley:

452SQN Amberley Flight (AMB FLT) and 452SQN

aircraft transiting the Amberley airspace to/from Brisbane, Archerfield, Toowoomba, Wellcamp and upwards of 40 other civilian airfields located in the South-East Queensland and northern New South Wales regions.

In addition to air traffic control (ATC), the flight also has communications electronic technicians (CETECHs) who maintains the ATC radar, communication equipment and a number of vital navigation aids.

452SQN DAT FLT is a high-readiness unit responsible for the provision of deployed ATC and air navigation services in support of ADF operations and national tasking. 452SQN is comprised of ATC, CETECHs, engineering, ground support equipment technicians and supply personnel. These personnel are responsible for the maintenance and readiness of deployable air traffic management systems, such as deployable ATC towers and radars.

452SQN DAT FLT is capable of deploying around Australia and overseas in support of a variety of operations from humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to combat operations.

↓ The RAAF No.44 Wing Deployable Defence Air Traffic Management and Control System Operations Cabin and Transportable Air Operations Tower set up at RAAF Base Curtin, WA, during Exercise Talisman Sabre 2023.



PHOTO: LACW Annika Smit

AIR FORCE TRAINING GROUP



THE AIR FORCE TRAINING GROUP

(AFTG) mission is to deliver essential, effective and efficient education and training and promote the RAAF to meet Air Force needs. AFTG uses best practice training and education philosophies, methods

and tools to deliver innovative training to Air Force members as well as some Navy, Army and overseas defence personnel. With the headquarters at RAAF Base Williams, Victoria, AFTG has two schools at RAAF Base Amberley.



RAAF SECURITY AND FIRE SCHOOL

The RAAF Security and Fire School (RAAFSFS) mission is to deliver security force and fire fighting specialists, in order to support the joint force. Originally established in 1982 as the

Defence Security Training School before being renamed five years later, RAAFSFS conducts initial employment and post-graduate training for Defence personnel engaged in protection and security duties in the ADF, including the Air Force's ground defence, security (including ADF military working dogs) and fire and rescue capabilities.

The school has trained aviators and soldiers to work in and manage some of the most dangerous and physically demanding work environments in Air Force and the broader ADF.



SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES – DETACHMENT AMBERLEY

The School of Postgraduate Studies (SPS) mission is to deliver professional military education (PME)

to aviators to enhance their ability to grow and influence change back in their units. Delivering PME Levels 1 and 2 to over 300 students per year, the small team at the SPS detachment



at Amberley challenges our junior aviators to invest in their own professional mastery, develop a combat mindset and enhance the decision-making skills essential for success in our rapidly evolving strategic, operational and tactical environments.

Through Program Wirraway, SPS develops aviators by building resilience and emotional intelligence, developing their ability to innovate and adapt to complex environments, and challenging them to succeed in the contemporary operational environment. Critically, SPS empowers Air Force people to return to their units prepared to influence

↑ RAAF Security and Fire School airfield defence guard students conduct strength testing using force plate technology introduced by the Human Performance Optimisation team to measure strength and power at RAAF Base Amberley.

change and operate effectively under pressure to achieve Air Force objectives. Through a combined program covering leadership, military management and air and space power, aviators are armed with the knowledge, practical and cognitive skills to succeed across the spectrum of operations.



ARMY UNITS



6TH ENGINEER SUPPORT REGIMENT

Formed in January 2003, the 6th Engineer

Support Regiment (6ESR), which is under the command of the 6th Brigade, is the largest unit within the Royal Australian Engineers with an excess of 400 soldiers spanning 29 different trades. The regiment comprises the 17th Construction Squadron, the 21st Construction Squadron, the 20th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squadron and an Operations Support Squadron.

From RAAF Base Amberley, the two construction squadrons provide enabling support to the joint force with vertical construction, horizontal construction and resource acquisition capability while Operations Support Squadron provides logistics support to the other sub-units and the regiment's headquarters. The two construction squadrons can trace their lineage back more than 70 years, with 17th Construction Squadron formed in 1949 and 21st Construction Squadron formed in 1950.

6ESR's operational history includes Operation Slipper in Afghanistan, Operation Render Safe on multiple occasions and numerous individual deployments to most theatres. 6ESR also leads Army's commitment to the Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Program each year, which delivers health, training and construction effects to remote Aboriginal communities.



↑ Australian Army soldiers from the 9th Force Support Battalion and Air Force aviators carry a fuel hose to a F/A-18F Super Hornet aircraft during Exercise Talisman Sabre 23 at RAAF Base Darwin.

← Sappers from 6th Engineer Regiment complete construction works during AACAP 2021 in Pormpuraaw, Cape York Peninsula.



9TH FORCE SUPPORT BATTALION

The 9th Force Support Battalion (9FSB) is an Australian Army logistics battalion that provides

heavy transport, warehousing, bulk fuel and air drop cargo preparation support to the joint force. Formed in August 1998 and part of the 17th Sustainment Brigade, 9FSB brings together a number of supply, maintenance and transport sub-units to provide third line or 'general' support within an area of operations.

Based at RAAF Base Amberley since 2008, 9FSB comprises the following sub-units:

- Battalion Headquarters
- 9th Logistic Support Company
- 26th Transport Squadron
- 37th Force Supply Company
- 176th Air Dispatch Squadron (RAAF Richmond).

LAND 121 TRAINING WING

Land 121 Training Wing (L121 TW) is part of the Army School of Transport. L121 is a multi-phased project providing the ADF with current-generation, high-capability field vehicles, modules and trailers. L121 TW is the home of Introduction into Service (IIS) training for the L121 fleet of vehicles. Its role since 2011 includes delivery of both operator and maintainer training to Army, RAAF and other selected Defence personnel.

While the team's main effort is the delivery of IIS courses, Defence's L121 capability is enhanced through the establishment of regional driver training (RDT) in key locations across Australia. The focus of the RDTs is the delivery of L121 initial sustainment courses.

L121 TW teams are located across Australia with dedicated training facilities at Amberley, Enoggera, Puckapunyal, Bandiana, Townsville and Darwin.

DEFENCE ORGANISATIONS

SECURITY AND ESTATE GROUP

Security and Estate Group (SEG) develops and sustains the Defence Estate, and is the consolidated security and service delivery organisation for Defence. SEG designs and delivers Defence infrastructure and manages the complex Defence Estate – maintaining environmental stewardship of over 2.8 million hectares, the largest landholding in the Commonwealth with 70 major bases, 100 plus training ranges, and more than 1,000 leased or owned properties. It has a budget of about \$7 billion and approximately 1,900 APS and 150 ADF staff, along with professional service providers.

SEG provides Defence protective security, manages the Defence Industry Security Program and delivers security clearances for Defence, the government and industry through the Australian Government Security Vetting Agency. It delivers base services including access control, catering and hospitality, accommodation, building and grounds maintenance, firefighting, cleaning and laundry. SEG is leading integrated and digital service delivery for Defence.

HEAVY AIR LIFT SYSTEMS PROGRAM OFFICE

Formed in January 2007, the Heavy Air Lift Systems Program Office (HALSPO) consists of elements distributed across RAAF Base Amberley, Robins Air Force Base in the United States, Fairbairn in the ACT and a Technical Liaison Officer in Spain.

A lean Systems Program Office comprised of uniformed members, Australian public servants and specialist contractor staff, HALSPO is responsible for the cost-effective sustainment of the Air Force's C-17A Globemaster, the KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport aircraft and the special purpose aircraft (Boeing Business Jet and Dassault Falcon 7X), each supporting Air Mobility Group to achieve its mission.



JOINT MILITARY POLICE UNIT

The Joint Military Police Station - RAAF Base Amberley Detachment plays an integral part in supporting the Senior Australian Defence Force

Officer - Amberley, Base Manager and Air Base Executive Officer. The Military Police undertake a range of duties, including general policing, law enforcement, criminal investigations and support to emergency management at the base.



PHOTO: AC Campbell/Latch

↑ Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Stephen Chappell DSC, CSC, OAM (right) and Warrant Officer of the Air Force Ralph Clifton speak with personnel from the Heavy Air Lift Systems Program Office during a visit to RAAF Base Amberley.

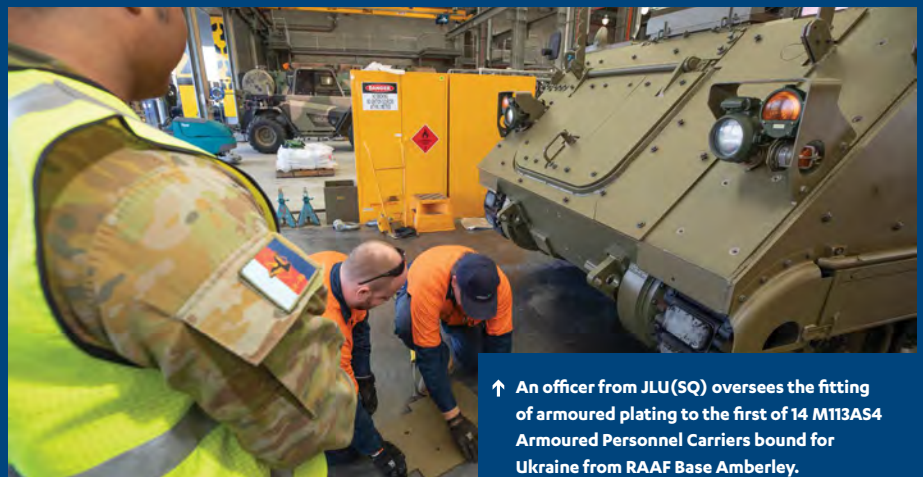


PHOTO: CPL Jesse Kane

↑ An officer from JLU(SQ) oversees the fitting of armoured plating to the first of 14 M113A4 Armoured Personnel Carriers bound for Ukraine from RAAF Base Amberley.

JOINT LOGISTICS UNIT – SOUTH QUEENSLAND

Sitting centrally at RAAF Base Amberley and supporting over 64,000 unique items of Defence materiel, Joint Logistics Unit – South Queensland (JLU(SQ)) and its industry partners Linfox and Ventia, deliver essential warehousing, distribution and maintenance support at both the local and regional level, with reach from Gladstone to Grafton.

JLU(SQ) performs an essential role in the sustainment of Defence operations, platforms and activities across many diverse locations including RAAF Base Amberley, Damascus Barracks (Brisbane), Wallangarra Stores Depot, Gallipoli Barracks and Schwartz Barracks at Oakey and provides a regional service delivery function Retail Store Services at Cararlal, Canungra and Enoggera. JLU(SQ) is the key sustainment unit for more than 38 different capabilities, including small arms, PMV Bushmasters and the C-27A Spartan aircraft.

The JLU(SQ) Amberley facility delivers dedicated specialist vehicle and weapon maintenance, alongside Queensland's Cargo Consolidation Point for the on-forwarding of operational stores and equipment. With over 70 regional customer units, JLU(SQ) prides itself on the delivery of everything from complex aircraft components to ADF retail clothing. JLU(SQ) has provided direct support to regional and domestic humanitarian assistance operations, and has played a significant role in preparing and moving Bushmasters, M113s and other equipment in support of the Australia Government's assistance to Ukraine.



AIR COMBAT ELECTRONIC ATTACK SYSTEM PROGRAM OFFICE

The Air Combat Electronic Attack Systems Program Office (ACEASPO) provides materiel acquisition and sustainment support for the air combat and electronic attack capability for Defence. In close partnership with 82 Wing, Australian industry and the United States Navy, through its unique enterprise arrangement, ACEASPO delivers the F/A-18F Super Hornet, EA 18G Growler platforms and the Mobile Threat Training Emitter System, and supports Air Combat Group in the achievement of its mission.

Located at RAAF Base Amberley with a small team in the United States, ACEASPO is staffed by ADF personnel, Australian public service members and industry partners.

It has functions spanning logistic support assurance, delivery of major projects, governance of major upgrade programs, requirements and product management, airworthiness, safety and regulatory compliance, commercial and foreign military sales arrangements management, and enterprise support.

EXPLOSIVE MATERIEL BRANCH

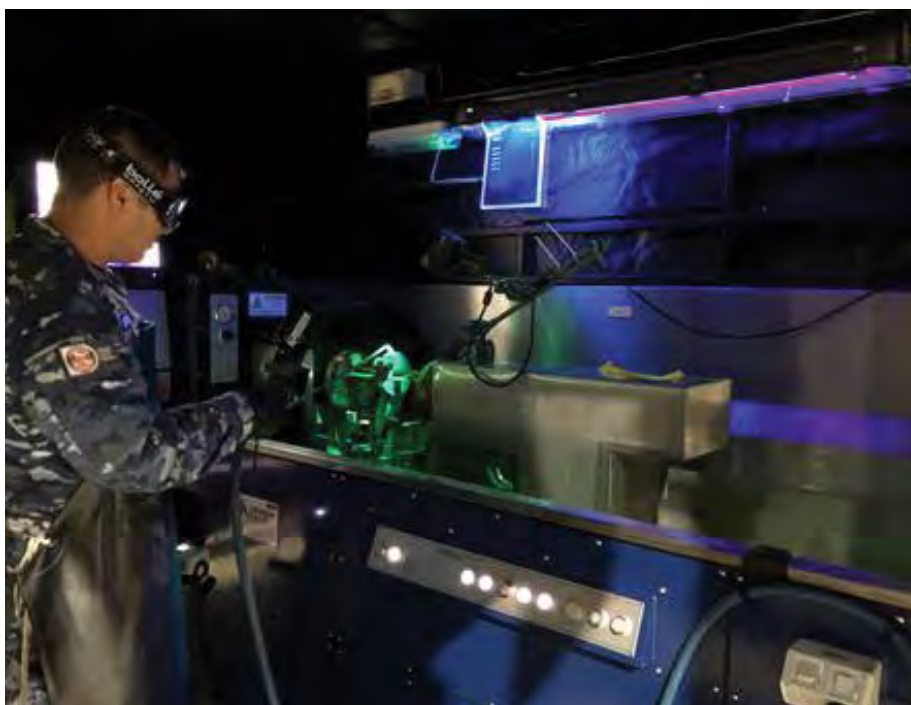
Explosive Materiel Branch (EMB) manages the acquisition, in-service sustainment and disposal of all guided and non-guided explosive ordnance for the ADF. The branch comprises a number of business units that are geographically dispersed. RAAF Base Amberley is home to the Bombs Integrated Product Team and Missile Maintenance Facility Amberley which deliver bomb sustainment capabilities and missile system maintenance. RAAF Base Amberley also hosts EMB Governance staff who provide explosive ordnance and logistics assurance capabilities.

↑ In 2023, members of ACEASPO and the Air Combat Electronic Attack Enterprise celebrated the 10th Anniversary of ACEASPO's establishment.

DEFENCE AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY

The Defence Aviation Safety Authority (DASA) is responsible for enhancing and promoting the safety of military aviation. DASA's Directorate of Aviation Engineering, Non Destructive Testing and Composite Technologies is based at RAAF Base Amberley. They provide:

- Initial employment training for non-destructive testing
- Post initial employment training for aircraft composite technologies
- Non-destructive testing engineering services including Instructions for Continuing Airworthiness and developing new procedures
- Centre of Expertise advice for non-destructive testing and aircraft composite repair.



INDIGENOUS LIAISON SERVICES

AS THE INDIGENOUS LIAISON OFFICER

for RAAF Base Amberley, No.23 Squadron's LAC Andrew Hunter assists in building relationships with local Aboriginal communities, liaises with RAAF Base Amberley's Aboriginal Elders, delivers cultural awareness activities on the base and provides advice on supporting Air Force's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander personnel. LAC Hunter also Assists Air Force develop and maintain ongoing and enduring partnerships with traditional owners in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in remote areas of Queensland where Air Force utilises strategic outposts.

As a proud Iwaidja man from the top end of Arnhem land in the Northern Territory, LAC Hunter has ties to Eastern Arrernte (Alice Springs),

Kaytetye (Neutral Junction) and the Tiwi island (skin name Pandanus). Additionally, he has north-western European, Germanic and Scottish heritage. His cultural heritage and upbringing have enabled him to be culturally diverse, recognising and respecting others.

LAC Hunter's decision to join the Air Force as a Firefighter was fuelled by a desire to push himself to a new level and set an example for his family and friends. His strong work ethic and leadership qualities did not go unnoticed, culminating in his nomination for the prestigious role of Indigenous Liaison Officer for RAAF Base Amberley. LAC Hunter aspires to develop and maintain, genuine and impactful partnerships with traditional owners and Air Force, acknowledging that their



knowledge, skills and connection to Country add significant strategic value to Air Force's capabilities. LAC Hunter provides professional and personal support to Air Force's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander personnel to ensure they are succeeding in their chosen military roles. His role as an Indigenous Liaison Officer is vital in ensuring Air Force creates an inclusive, educated and culturally respectful workplace for all.



PHOTO: LAC Brenton Kwaterski

AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS – NO.2 WING

↑ Australian Air Force Cadets fly past the Gold Coast on a C-130J Hercules during a flight from Ballina.

↓ The Australian Air Force Cadets Band plays at Amberley Heritage Centre's fifth birthday open day.

THE AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS (AAFC)

is a community-based youth development organisation sponsored by the RAAF. The AAFC offers a wide range of activities, including flying, field craft, adventure training, firearms safety training, drill and ceremonial, service knowledge, aeromodelling, navigation and gliding. The AAFC aims to foster Cadet's personal qualities that enhance their ability to develop into responsible young adults who make valued contributions within their community.

AAFC Squadrons in the Ipswich area

- 208 Squadron parades at RAAF Base Amberley from 1800 to 2130 Friday nights.

- 225 Squadron parades at West Morton Anglican College from 1745 to 2130 Tuesday nights.
- 230 Squadron parades at Springfield Anglican College from 1745 to 2115 Monday nights.

Other facilities located at RAAF Base Amberley

- 2 Wing Logistics Flight
- AAFC Elementary Flying Training precinct with dedicated Diamond DA40 aircraft.

To find out more about joining the AAFC, visit the official website which contains detailed information about the organisation's activities and structure, and contact information for joining at airforcecadets.gov.au/how-to-join.



PHOTO: CPL Casey Gaul

CHAPLAINS' WELCOME

RAAF Base Amberley is served by a team of chaplains – Air Force and Army – who provide chaplaincy to Defence Force personnel and their families.

GURUMBA BIGI! That means hello and welcome in the language of the local Yuggera people. This is also the name of the Amberley chaplaincy centre; the Gurumba Bigi Chaplaincy Centre. As chaplains, we are here to care for all ADF members with your families. We are respectful of everything that makes you unique, as well as all that brings us together in community. As your local chaplaincy team, we hope your time at Amberley will be one where you can connect with other Defence members and the community in which you will live, and enjoy the company of family and friends. We trust that you will find deep satisfaction from your work and enjoy the many blessing of life.

RAAF Base Amberley is served by a team of Air Force chaplains (five full-time and five part-time) as well as two full-time Army chaplains (posted respectively to 6ESR and 9FSB). The Army chaplains can usually be found within their units, while the Air Force chaplains will either be at the chaplaincy centre or providing wellbeing support around the various workplaces.

The Gurumba Bigi Chaplaincy Centre is located behind the Base Physical Fitness Centre. Feel free

at any time to drop in for a chat and a coffee.

The key roles of chaplains are:

- to pastorally care for all members and their families regardless of faith group – or none.
- to facilitate religious and spiritual needs for those of other faith groups
- to provide religious ministry to those who share our specific faith group.

We are here to help you and your family to work through the full range of life issues, especially as they apply to military service. Those life issues include, but are not limited, to:

- marriage and relationships
- workplace issues
- relocation on posting
- being posted unaccompanied
- deployments
- practicing faith
- leaving the ADF
- offering moral and ethical counsel
- conducting religious rites such as baptisms, weddings and military funerals
- attending to the spiritual, emotional and welfare needs of all members with their families.

Our pastoral care and counselling are protected

by privacy and confidentiality. Brochures outlining privacy and confidentiality with chaplains are available upon request. To talk to a chaplain, or to make an appointment, please contact us directly during business hours (0730-1630). Alternatively, we are available after hours for emergencies via the Amberley on-call chaplain mobile phone on 0439 301 844. To access a local chaplain when away from Amberley, please call the Defence switch on 1300 333 362 and ask for the on-call chaplain at your nearest ADF base.

Your local Air Force chaplains can also assist in the application process for RAAF Welfare Trust Fund (RWTF) loans. The loans are approved and administered by Canberra-based trustees. The RWTF provides a variety of low-cost loans including home improvement, professional development, long service and emergency loans. Group Life Insurance is available through the RWTF which includes access to loans covering any worthwhile purpose. More details about the loans and how to access the scheme can be found on both the internet and intranet through searching for the RAAF Welfare Trust Fund. Alternatively, contact your local Air Force chaplain.

NO.464 SQUADRON DETACHMENT AMBERLEY

No.464 Squadron was re-established in January 2021 under the Information Warfare Directorate of the Air Warfare Centre, providing public affairs and imagery support. In July 2023, No. 464 Squadron's command and control transferred to the Chief of Staff Branch under Air Force Headquarters. Headquartered at HMAS Harman in Canberra, the squadron has evolved with Military Public Affairs flights that encompass high-readiness deployable military camera teams at RAAF Bases Richmond, Williamtown, Amberley, Darwin, Edinburgh and Canberra. It also coordinates and trains the highly skilled Specialist Reserve Public Affairs Officer workforce across the country.

The squadron provides public affairs and imagery support to high profile public events, Air Force and wider Defence exercises and operations, including significant support to HQJOC activities as directed by CAF and CDF.

The squadron was originally formed in September 1942, flying Ventura bombers from bases in England. It later re-equipped with Mosquito fighter bombers, which were flown in



PHOTO: CPL Jesse Kane

precision attacks on German targets at low level. That included attacking the Amiens Prison in France – also known as Operation Jericho – and other similar raids which led the squadron to be nicknamed The Gestapo Hunters.

Imagery support requests for RAAF Base Amberley can be made by emailing 464sqn.militarypublicaffairs@defence.gov.au.

↑ **Air Force Imagery Specialists from No.464 Squadron take imagery of No.6 Squadron EA-18G Growlers from the ramp of a No.36 Squadron C-17A Globemaster III while conducting air-to-air formation flying off the coast of South East Queensland.**

BASE COMMUNITY

WOMEN'S INTEGRATED NETWORKING GROUPS

The pressure of juggling career, family and friends can be tough enough, but imagine doing that in a role where you might be the only female or where the nature of the job makes it different to those jobs outside the military.

It is not unusual for women in Defence to find themselves in roles traditionally filled by men, so it helps to have a little support from like-minded peers. That's where Women's Integrated Networking Groups (WINGS) comes in. WINGS is a program that not only supports women in the Air Force by providing an open forum for discussion, but also offers mentoring and role models, allowing women to see just how much they can achieve.

"Essentially, the program is about ongoing engagement with all Air Force women throughout aspects of their career. It offers professional development and personal growth – not to mention opportunity to meet other Air Force women on the base in a friendly, non-judgemental environment," said Wing Commander Sue Yates, WINGS National Program Coordinator.

WINGS gives opportunities to Air Force women to be mentored, meet other Air Force women from a variety of ranks and specialisations, and to seek guidance and advice from other Air Force career women, with the aim of giving them a sustainable and long-term career. "Sessions are organised by the WINGS Committee and open to all AF women in the region. Session may include a guest speaker from either within Defence or an external organisation to share their career challenges and highlights or provide strategies and tools useful to career females," Wing Commander Yates said.

"Those Air Force women who have attended sessions have described WINGS as rewarding, relevant, inclusive and worth an investment of their time. Having a good cross section of ranks and experience adds to the networking and sharing of career experiences, as does the inclusion of male colleagues at some sessions to contribute to discussions and understand the challenges facing an under-represented element of our workforce."

Amberley WINGS regularly works with other support agencies on base, including the Amberley Maternity Support Network.

"Working closely with other support agencies at Amberley and promoting those through our vast WINGS network is an important way to help support women at different stages of their career," said Squadron Leader Alison Diete, WINGS AMB OIC. Amberley WINGS also has a successful mentoring program which is run on an annual basis.

Information on AMB WINGS (including newsletters issued) can be found at <http://drnet/raaf/AirForce/AMB/FACILITIES/Pages/WINGS.aspx> or by emailing ambwingscommittee@dpe.protected.mil.au.

DEFENCE FAMILIES OF AUSTRALIA

Defence Families of Australia (DFA) is the official ADF families advisory body to the Minister for Defence Personnel and Chief of the Defence Force.

DFA advocates for ongoing improvement in policy and practical support as they relate to defence families.

Through advocacy and by providing advice to key decision-makers, DFA aims to reduce the height and frequency of hurdles faced by military families, prepare families to overcome them, and

where possible, remove hurdles completely.

DFA is working to address and advocate for change across a number of areas including communication with families, flexible housing, education, family stability and family employment.

DFA's advocacy goals are developed in collaboration with Defence branches and stakeholders, including the Defence Member and Family Support branch, Defence's Recruitment and Retention team, Defence Housing Australia, the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chief of the Defence Force, and many others.



Follow DFA on social media for advocacy updates through the bi-annual Advocacy Map, and sign up to the newsletter at dfa.org.au.

DEFENCE SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT GROUP

Defence Special Needs Support Group Inc. (DSNSG) is a not-for-profit benevolent organisation that has been supporting current Defence and ex-serving members and their special-needs families for more than 25 years. It is available Australia wide at Defence locations.

Volunteers assist local members through advocacy, information pathways and local activities. DSNSG members have access to regular local events organised by the DSNSG Coordinator, along with access to a variety of programs.

To find out what is happening in your local area, email amberley@dsnsg.org.au or brisbane@dsnsg.org.au. For further information about DSNSG, see dsnsg.org.au or call the DSNSG National Helpline 1800 037 674.

AMBERLEY COMMUNITY CONNECT

Amberley Community Connect provides an opportunity for Amberley families to socialise with other families with a range of events and activities. Enjoy a coffee and a chat with other parents and let your children play in a safe, fun environment. See www.facebook.com/amberleycommunityconnect

AMBERLEY DEFENCE FAMILIES

Amberley Defence Families is specifically designed for Permanent Serving Defence members and their spouses posted at Amberley, whether in the RAAF, Army or Navy.

The group offers the opportunity to chat with other Defence families. Members who have been in the area for a while can share their knowledge of all things local (playgrounds, restaurants, playgroups, schools, car mechanics, nail technicians etc.) and share any of your experiences as a Defence family. See www.facebook.com/groups/AmberleyDefenceFamilies

↓ Air Force women at RAAF Base Amberley networking at a WINGS session.





HISTORY AND HERITAGE – AIR FORCE



HISTORY AND HERITAGE – AIR FORCE

(HH–AF) was formally established in May 2017. The branch collects, preserves and displays important RAAF historical artefacts to enhance the knowledge and understanding of RAAF history and heritage both within the Air Force and the broader community while meeting government and the Australian public's expectations. The branch engages the broader community and enhances Air Force reputation through its research program, historical publications and displays of the RAAF heritage collection at the RAAF Museum and the RAAF Aviation Heritage Centres.

Creation of the branch brought together functional areas associated with Air Force history and heritage, which were previously widely dispersed within the RAAF organisation. The resultant branch has seven major functional elements in addition to the management, curatorial standards and governance tasks, namely: Directorate Air Force Heritage Programs; Directorate of Air Force Museums; Air Force Historian; Directorate of History and Heritage Services; Senior Air Force Collection Manager; Directorate of Unrecovered War Casualties – Air Force; and Executive Officer Historical Research and Reviews. The branch has a unique workforce consisting of Air Force reservists, a small cadre of public servants, volunteers (both technical and museum and heritage staff) and permanent Air Force members.

Through the years the directorate has led the restoration and preservation of the Air Force's static display fleet of historic aircraft and in

provision of support to the Air Force heritage centres. Much of the aircraft restoration is conducted by a mixed team of reservists and technically minded volunteers, many of whom are former Air Force members.

HH–AF AT AMBERLEY

The following HH–AF sections are located at RAAF Base Amberley:

- Headquarters HH–AF: responsible for the operational management of all of HH–AF's organisational, personnel, administrative, finance, logistics, safety and business planning
- Static Display Aircraft Support Section: responsible for displaying static aircraft around Australia
- Restoration Support Section: responsible for restoring aircraft and other ADF assets prior to putting them on display in aviation heritage centres around Australia.

AMBERLEY AVIATION HERITAGE CENTRE

The RAAF Amberley Aviation Heritage Centre is a must-see attraction for residents and visitors in South East Queensland, particularly for those interested in military aviation history. Since June 2011, it has boasted a growing range of static historical aircraft, including a World War II Boston era Canberra bomber, Caribou, Douglas Dakota and Lockheed Electra L-10 transport aircraft, Sopwith Camel replica, Boomerang and replica Spitfire fighters, Sabre and F-111 fighter jets, Winjeel, Pilatus Porter, Sioux, Iroquois and Blackhawk helicopters.

Occupying four Bellman Hangars which



↑ Anson W2472 undergoing restoration by HH–AF's Restoration Support Section.

↓ Max Johnson, a volunteer at HH–AF's Restoration Support Section.



were part of the group of 14 identical hangars built in 1942, the centre endeavours to add to the collection as more aircraft and artefacts are restored, loaned or donated for display that tell the story of military aviation in South East Queensland.

The Aviation Heritage Centre is run by a team of Air Force Reservists and supported by local volunteers, each with a keen interest in military aviation history and in particular that of South East Queensland. When you visit the centre, those dedicated people will tell you about each display and the story behind it.

Admission to the Aviation Heritage Centre is free, however, donations are gratefully accepted. Due to the centre being located inside the secure zone of RAAF Base Amberley, access is tightly controlled. See raafamberleyheritage.gov.au for opening hours and call 1800 623 306 or email RAAF.AAHC@defence.gov.au to confirm visit details.

PHOTO: WOFF Darren Whitford

PHOTO: LAC Stewart Gould

SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUBS

You don't need to feel left out at your new posting. Joining one of the recreation clubs or groups at the base will keep you busy.



↑ Lake Moogerah.

RAAF AMBERLEY WATER SKI CLUB

Water skiing is available at RAAF Base Amberley through with the RAAF Amberley Water Ski Club (RAWSC). New members and visitors are always welcome of picturesque Lake Moogerah, about 50km southwest of RAAF Base Amberley. Club activities at other skiing locations options include the Brisbane River (Jindalee and Karana Downs), and Lake Dyer/Bill Gunn Dam at Laidley and the club committee members coordinate these.

The club also owns a shack at Lake Moogerah, and a tow vehicle to get the boat there. The shack is in a prime waterfront position and is a great place to meet with other club members or take the family to be part of the lively and welcoming Lake Moogerah Water Ski Zone community. All you need to take is drinking water, food and linen (including pillows). The shack has a barbecue, television, refrigerator, microwave and the necessities to self-cater for an overnight or weekend stay. There are clean, modern toilet and shower facilities a short walk from the shack. For contact details, visit the RAWSC DPN intranet site accessed through the RAAF Base Amberley homepage or email RA.WSC@dpe.protected.mil.au. The club caters for all levels of skiing/wakeboarding ability, from beginner to advanced, and all apparatus and safety equipment is available for getting started.

RAAF AMBERLEY FISHING CLUB

The RAAF Amberley Fishing Club (RAFC) is a group for the members and families of RAAF Base Amberley; open to all Defence members, APS and Defence contractors. The club is about encouraging safe boating and sustainable fishing in the South-Eastern Queensland area, in a family friendly social environment. The RAFC has various

resources available for hire, including two boats and two camper trailers.

Whether you are new to the area needing a few tips to get you started, or wanting to plan the next adventure, the clubhouse is open every Monday from 4pm. The club aims to run regular fishing/camping trips so get in touch to check on the latest activities. Our mission is to promote the sport of fishing and develop a harmonious relationship with the wider community. For more information see [facebook.com/groups/965170380239191](https://www.facebook.com/groups/965170380239191) or contact the committee at amb-rafc.inbox@defence.gov.au.

RAAF AMBERLEY SCUBA CLUB

Membership to the RAAF Amberley Scuba Club (RASC) is open to Defence and civilian employees working at RAAF Base Amberley, and their dependants. RASC members meet regularly at the "scubashack" to plan dive trips and hire equipment. The scubashack is located in the welfare precinct, near the base gymnasium.

Scuba diving is conducted in the local area (Tweed Heads to Noosa) and trips are planned to more distant locations such as Byron Bay, Hervey Bay and other popular diving sites.

The RASC has a Facebook page, 'Amberley Scuba Club', where photos and videos of club activities can be viewed. Proposed diving events are also detailed. For more information, please visit the RASC DPN intranet site accessed through the RAAF Base Amberley homepage.

RAAF AMBERLEY TOUCH FOOTBALL CLUB

The RAAF Amberley Touch Club (RATC) encourages members of all skill and fitness levels to come and give it a go. Stay fit and healthy with weekly games played on Thursday from 1145-1245, catering for all ages and abilities across summer and winter seasons. The RATC provides a full, fun season of touch footy for all who are interested in participating in this great team sport.

If you want to become involved in this fast-paced sport, please get in 'touch' by emailing ambtouchclub@dpe.protected.mil.au Contact details can also be found at the RAAF Amberley Touch Club DPN intranet site accessed through the RAAF Base Amberley homepage.

RAAF AMBERLEY FLYING CLUB

The RAAF Amberley Flying Club (RAFC) currently offers hire-and-fly and flying training on its fleet of aircraft from RAAF Base Amberley.

The RAFC was formed over 30 years ago by a group of RAAF personnel who shared a common interest in recreational flying and it has since grown into a non-public club open to personnel employed by Defence, their families and the Australian Air Force Cadets. For more information visit the RAFC website at www.rafc.net.au. Contact details can also be found by visiting the RAFC DPN intranet site accessed through the RAAF Base Amberley homepage.

RAAF AMBERLEY MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB

The RAAF Amberley Model Aircraft Club operates on Defence land at Hanson's Farm, not far from the base. It has approximately 50 members who fly remote-controlled aircraft including electric and gas-powered fixed wing, scale, gliders, pattern, turbines and helicopters.

The club welcomes current and ex-serving Defence members and offers introductory flight experiences to trial the sport. More information and contact details can be found by visiting the RAAF Amberley Model Aircraft Club DPN intranet site accessed through the RAAF Base Amberley homepage.

RAAF AMBERLEY PIPES AND DRUMS

Piping and drumming in the Amberley Pipes and Drums contributes to supporting service and civilian communities through a variety of local and national events. Membership is open to service personnel and civilians. If you are a playing piper or drummer, or wish to learn and are interested in being a member of the band, please contact the Pipe Major on ambpb99@gmail.com. Contact details can also be found by visiting the RAAF Amberley Pipes and Drums DPN intranet site through the RAAF Base Amberley homepage.

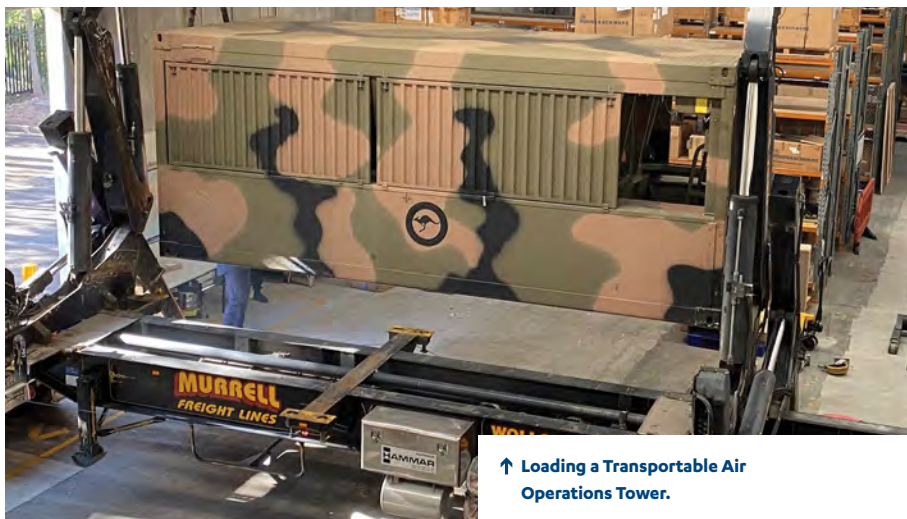
AMBERLEY BRASS

Amberley Brass is an element of RAAF Amberley Band and is a modern brass band proudly based at RAAF Amberley. We are a mix of serving volunteer Air Force members, APS staff, Defence contractors, retired Air Force, Army and Navy personnel, spouses and dependents of serving members and civilian members.

Amberley Brass Band is a community band that provides quality music for service, civic and community events. Rehearsals are on Monday nights, 1930 to 2130 in building 31 adjacent to the base gym. For more information, please contact the band secretary at amberleybrass@gmail.com or 0406 170 201 or visit the RAAF Amberley Brass Band intranet site accessed through the RAAF Base Amberley homepage.

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

The operating squadrons at Amberley cannot carry out their functions without the support of industry partners.



↑ Loading a Transportable Air Operations Tower.

ROHDE & SCHWARZ

Rohde & Schwarz Australia is a subsidiary of a German company founded in 1933 as a small radio frequency test and measurement company. It now develops and manufactures electronic goods for Defence, industry, infrastructure operators and government customers. Rohde & Schwarz is also among the global technology leaders in integrated secure communications solutions, including air traffic control and military communications, spectrum monitoring, UAV/drone detection, cybersecurity and network technology.

The company employs more than 12,000 people including 100 Australians in Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra, Adelaide, Melbourne and Williamstown.

Three Transportable Air Operations Towers (TAOTs) delivered and maintained by Rohde & Schwarz provide the RAAF with a deployable Air Traffic Control capability to support remote military operations and provide aid to the community. A tower (pictured above) was deployed to RAAF Curtin during Exercise Talisman Sabre 23.

The Rohde & Schwarz team works closely with the Surveillance and Control Systems Program Office at RAAF Williamstown, and is currently performing major mid-life upgrades to the TAOTs, which are based at RAAF Amberley unless deployed. Rohde & Schwarz is proud to continue its support to the RAAF and No.44 Wing into the future. rohde-schwarz.com/au

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Northrop Grumman Australia (NGA) works alongside RAAF to deliver long-term aviation maintenance support for its KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport and C-27J Spartan aircraft.

In partnership with No.86 Wing, No.33 Squadron and the Heavy Air Lift Systems Program Office, NGA provide all aspects of through-life support to the KC-30A MRTT fleet, including overall stewardship of the platform, 24/7 logistics, supply chain and engineering services, heavy aircraft maintenance, fleet planning and operational support, training services, capability development and project management support. NGA employees work with No.35 Squadron to provide through-life support to the fleet of C-27J Spartans.

NGA also contributes to the security of RAAF Base Amberley through maintenance and training support for the Expeditionary Tactical Automated Security System. This mobile security system is utilised as a force multiplier for RAAF SECFOR units to protect ground and air assets, both on base and in the field. northropgrumman.com/Australia

ROLLS-ROYCE

Rolls-Royce is extremely proud to have powered the Australian Defence Forces for the past 100 years. Its relationship with the Australian Defence Forces began with the Rolls-Royce Eagle 8 engine fitted to the Fairey IID in service with the RAN in 1920 and the RAAF in 1921.

Today, No.35 Squadron's C-27J Spartan is powered by the Rolls-Royce AE2100D2A engine, while the AE2100D3 variant powers No.37 Squadron's Hercules C-130J. The engines are supported on-site by Rolls-Royce Field Service Representatives embedded within the relevant RAAF squadron.

Rolls-Royce is proud to be a long-term partner of the Australian Defence Forces. It is committed to strengthening Australia's military capability to support the security and stability of the Commonwealth of Australia.

BOEING

Boeing started at RAAF Base Amberley in 1995, supporting the venerable F-111, transforming it into one of the world's most formidable strike aircraft of its time. In those early days on base, Boeing also delivered B707 tanker/transporter through-life support and converted four 737-700 aircraft into the Wedgetail Airborne Early Warning & Control configuration.

Today, it sustains the RAAF F/A-18F Super Hornets and EA-18G Growlers, delivers RAAF C-17 Globemaster III logistics support, maintenance and training, and provides Wedgetail modifications and deeper maintenance. Boeing also provides services ranging from an aircraft paint shop and non-destructive testing to electromagnetic environmental effects testing and design services.

CAE AUSTRALIA

Since 2009, CAE Australia has sustained critical instructional, operational and maintenance support on the RAAF KC-30A MRTT training program, including a KC-30A Part Task Trainer and KC-30A Full Mission Simulator (FMS). The FMS was the world's first A330 MRTT simulator formally qualified to Level D, the highest qualification for flight simulators, and delivers unique advantages for its operators by offering interoperability between CAE devices for collective and joint training. The provision of simulated training ensures aircrew train in a safe, immersive and high-fidelity setting, experiencing the effects and complexities of air-to-air refuelling and critical flight operations across every mission.

CAE is the custodian of the C-27J Training Systems Facility managing training services and courseware. Under contract by Leonardo, CAE will design and manufacture a C-27J flight training device for delivery in 2025, to support critical initial, recurrent and mission training for RAAF C-27J aircrew.

CAE Australia is proud to be a leader in ab-initio and advanced training for ADF personnel for over 29 years, from providing entry-level training devices and courseware to the networking of advanced full-mission simulators operating in a joint environment. cae.com



It's a new dawn for TAOT

We're now completing mid-life upgrades to the Transportable Air Operations Towers, having delivered the capability more than 10 years ago as prime systems integrator.

These upgrades ensure the RAAF has the latest technology to support deployed operations in defence of Australia for years to come.

PROTECTED. CONNECTED. TRUSTED.

ROHDE & SCHWARZ

Make ideas real



↓ DMFS runs a range of welcome events.



DEFENCE SUPPORT

Defence offers a range of programs and services to help ADF members and their families make the most of the opportunities and challenges of military life.

DEFENCE FAMILIES MAKE a significant contribution to the wellbeing of our ADF members and the success of their missions. In support of ADF families, Defence Member and Family Support (DMFS) has a wide range of information and support for families to help them navigate military life.

DMFS delivers national programs and services to ADF families across Australia. There's support available at every stage, from the support for new recruits and their families adjusting to Defence life to partners and children managing the challenges of military life, to the time when a member transitions from permanent service.

Support available from DMFS includes assistance for partners' employment, help with finding childcare, deployment support, assistance for dependants with special needs, social worker support, relocation, support for community groups, help for families during crisis and emergency, and education support for children. DMFS also holds a number of information

sessions and social events throughout the year for military families. For more information about the services and programs, visit the website defence.gov.au/members-families, contact the 24/7 Defence Member and Family Helpline on 1800 624 608 or email the Helpline for advice at memberandfamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au.

YOUR LOCAL DMFS TEAM

The local DMFS team is made up of military and civilian staff, undertaking a variety of roles including military support, social work, family liaison and transition support. The team provides a range of services to families, including:

- support in times of crisis
- deployment and absence support
- mobility and relocation support
- professional counselling for personal, relationship and family problems
- information sessions, social or support groups
- local education advice and assistance

- special needs recognition and review
- partner employment assistance
- finding childcare.

Make sure you don't miss out on the virtual and face-to-face events DMFS hosts to build and maintain connection with other Defence families in the area. Go to DMFS's Eventbrite page where you can register for free tickets to events. You can also see what local events are on by visiting the events calendar on the website defence.gov.au/members-families. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and keep up-to-date with the latest DMFS news and events.

WHO CAN YOU MEET AT THE LOCAL OFFICE?

- **Defence social workers** are qualified professionals who are knowledgeable about the ADF and the military lifestyle.
- **Family liaison officers** have extensive knowledge of the region and can help families connect with local community groups and support services. They also organise information sessions and social events.
- **Education liaison officers** provide information and support to families around children's education and schools in the area.

DMFS PROGRAMS & SERVICES

24-HOUR SUPPORT

If you need support, help, or advice at any time, contact the Defence Member and Family Helpline on 1800 624 608. The Helpline operates 24-hours a day, seven days a week and is staffed by qualified human services professionals, including social workers and psychologists.

PARTNER EMPLOYMENT

The Partner Employment Assistance Program provides funding for initiatives to assist ADF partners with employment when they are relocated on posting, or if their ADF member is medically transitioning, and for some re-registration costs. Partners have the flexibility of opting to receive services from Defence's professional employment services provider or a provider of their choice.

DEPENDANTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Families who have dependants with special needs can get information and practical assistance to reduce the impact of relocation.

SUPPORT DURING DEPLOYMENT

DMFS provides a range of services, practical assistance and products to help inform and prepare ADF members and families for every stage of deployment. Support includes advice and referral to local support services, access to resilience programs, assistance in emergencies and crisis, and connection to community groups. Families can also opt in to receive regular deployment support calls by registering

with the Defence Member and Family Helpline on 1800 624 608.

ACCESS TO CHILDCARE

DMFS maintains a network of childcare centres around Australia, with priority placement for ADF families. Families who are facing difficulties accessing childcare, such as when they move to a new area or change their work or care arrangements, can also access an individual case management service to help them find registered childcare services in their local community.

EMERGENCY AND CRISIS SUPPORT

DMFS provides a range of practical and emotional support programs for families facing emergency or crisis, including assistance in time of illness, injury, domestic crisis or bereavement. Members and their families can access 24-hour support, social work and assessment, or referral from the all-hours Defence Member and Family Helpline.

TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN LIFE

Joint Transition Authority delivers support to members and their families transitioning to the Reserves or separating from the ADF. There is a range of support programs to assist ADF members and their families when they transition to civilian life, enabled by a transition coach. The coach helps to build a personalised package of support based on the circumstances and post-transition goals of the member and their family. The coach remains with the member and their family for up to two years post-transition. For more information, please email transition.amb@defence.gov.au

SUPPORT FOR RESERVISTS

The families of Reserve members can access a broad range of support services when the Reservist is on continuous full-time service or away on deployment or exercise.

PARENTS

DMFS offers information and support services for the parents of ADF members to help them understand and manage the challenging aspects of having a son or daughter in the services.

CONTACT DMFS

The Defence Member and Family Helpline is your first point of call for support, information and connection with your local community. It is staffed by qualified human services professionals, including social workers and psychologists, who can assist you 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Phone 1800 624 608

Email memberandfamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au

Website defence.gov.au/members-families



MAILING LIST

Scan the QR code to join the DMFS Amberley mailing list and keep up-to-date with information.

DEFENCE MEMBER AND FAMILY SUPPORT AMBERLEY WELCOME EXPO

The Welcome Expo is an opportunity for Defence families to get to know their local DMFS team, the services and support provided in the region, and to build community and social networks with other ADF families.

The 2025 DMFS Amberley Welcome Expo will be held in February next year. For more information about the Welcome Expo and other events, keep an eye on the on the DMFS Amberley Eventbrite page: eventbrite.com.au/o/defence-member-and-family-support-amberley-17817356514 or email dmfs.amberley@defence.gov.au.



Australian Government

Defence



Defence Member and Family Support

Defence Member and Family Support (DMFS) are part of the Department of Defence and provide support to Defence members and their families throughout their military journey.

DMFS assists families with:

- » 24/7 access to information and support
- » Accessing childcare
- » Connection to community groups
- » Support for:
 - » Crisis situations
 - » Member absence from home
 - » Children's education
 - » Partner employment
 - » Families with special needs

To access DMFS support services or products:

- » 1800 624 608
- » memberandfamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au
- » www.defence.gov.au/adf-members-families
- » @DefenceMemberandFamilySupport
- » @dmfs_ausdefence
- » www.forcenet.gov.au







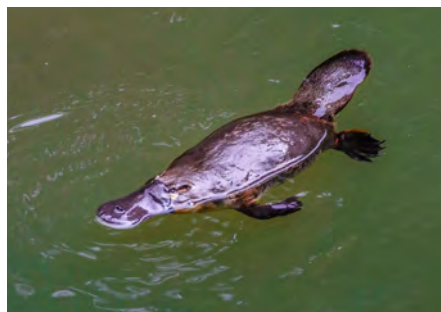
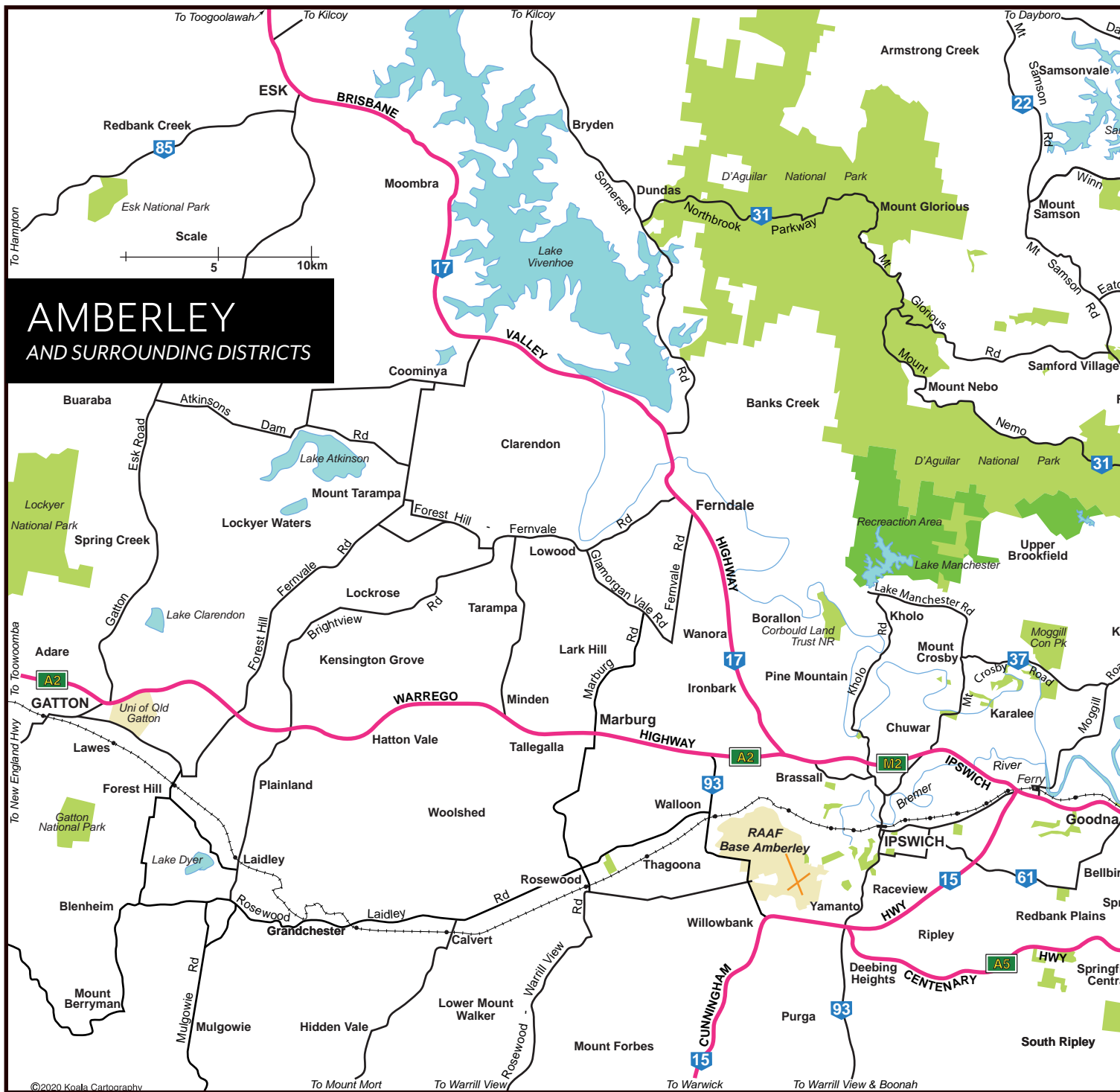
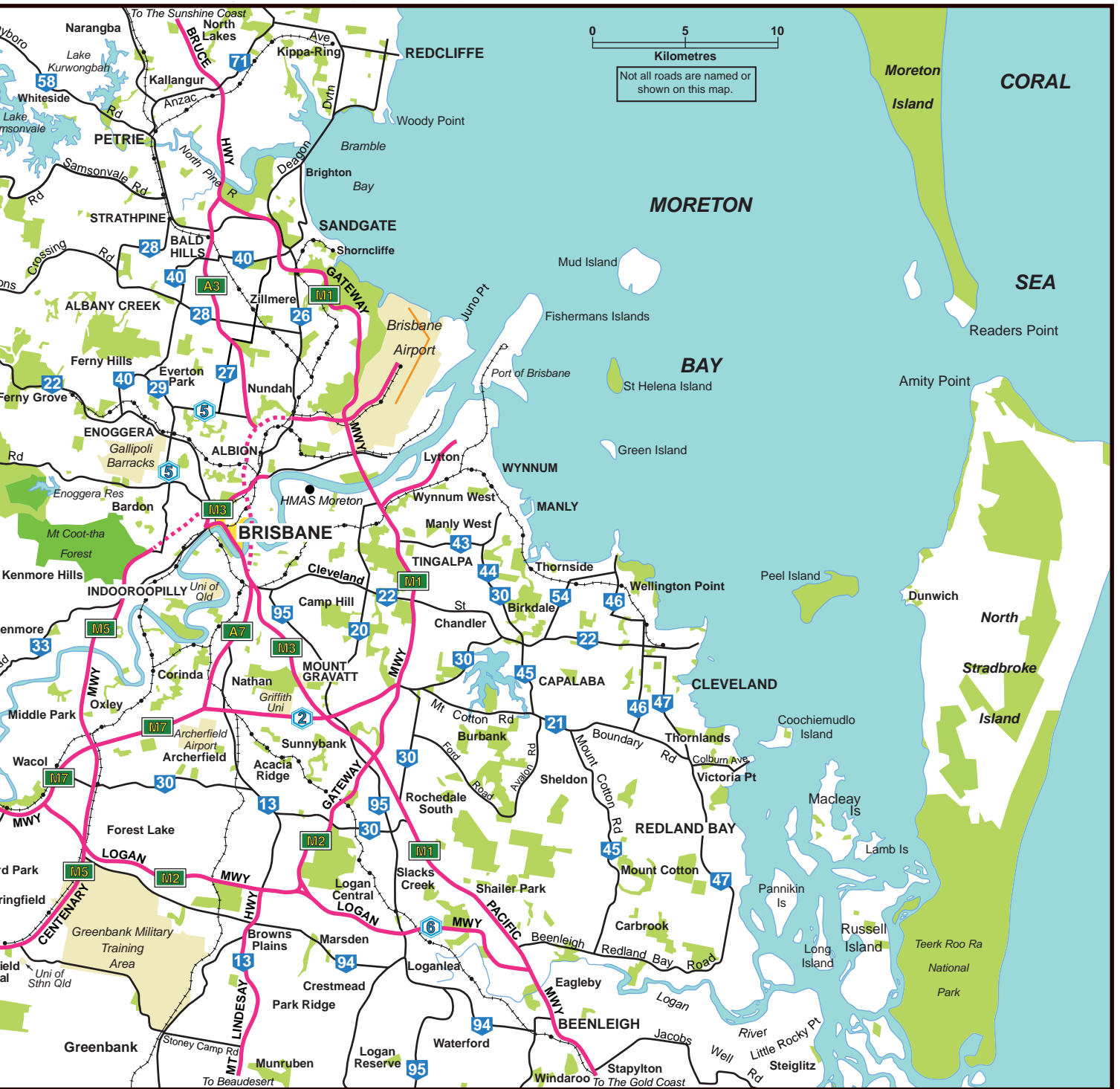


PHOTO: Jewels Lynch

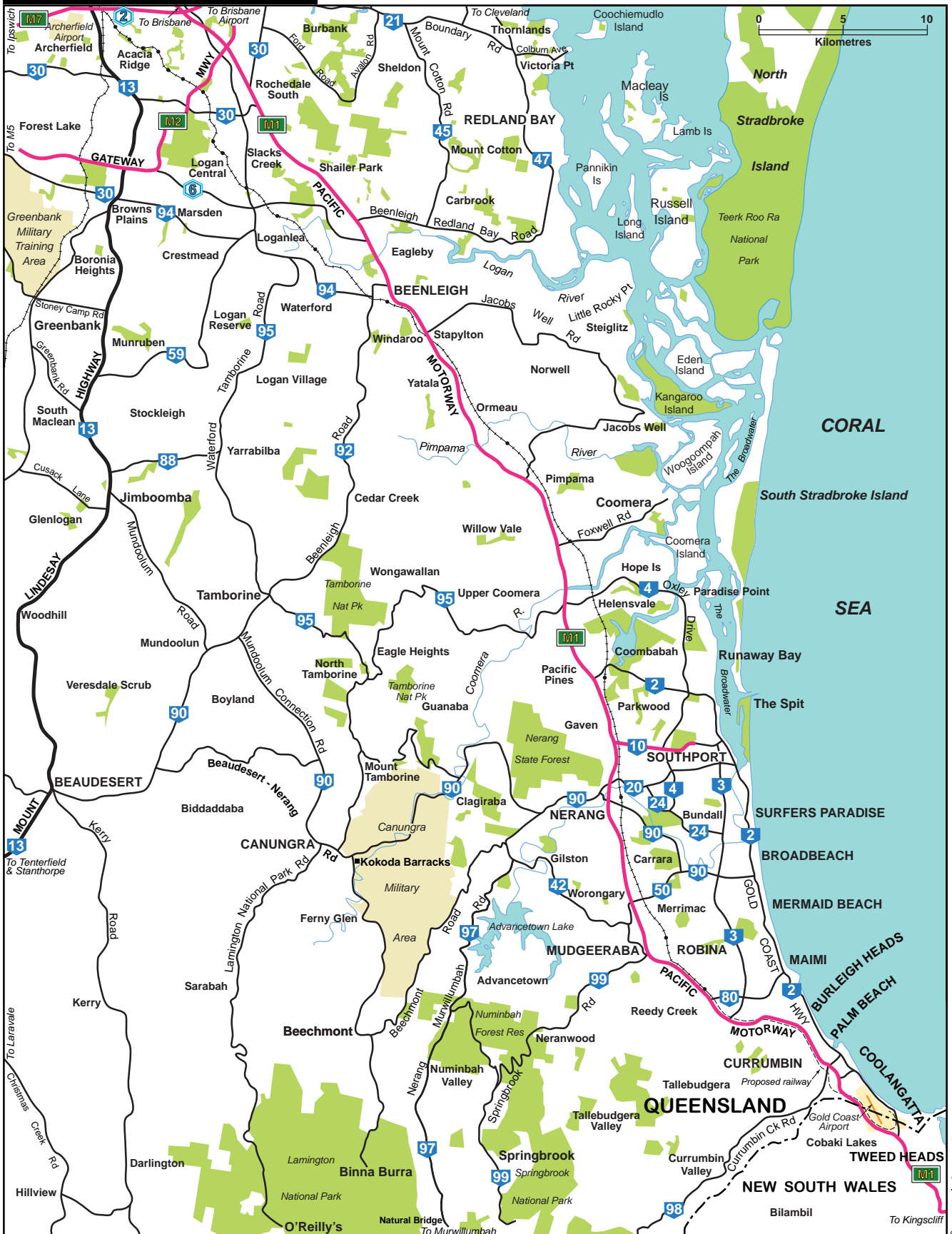


PHOTOS: Tourism and Events Queensland

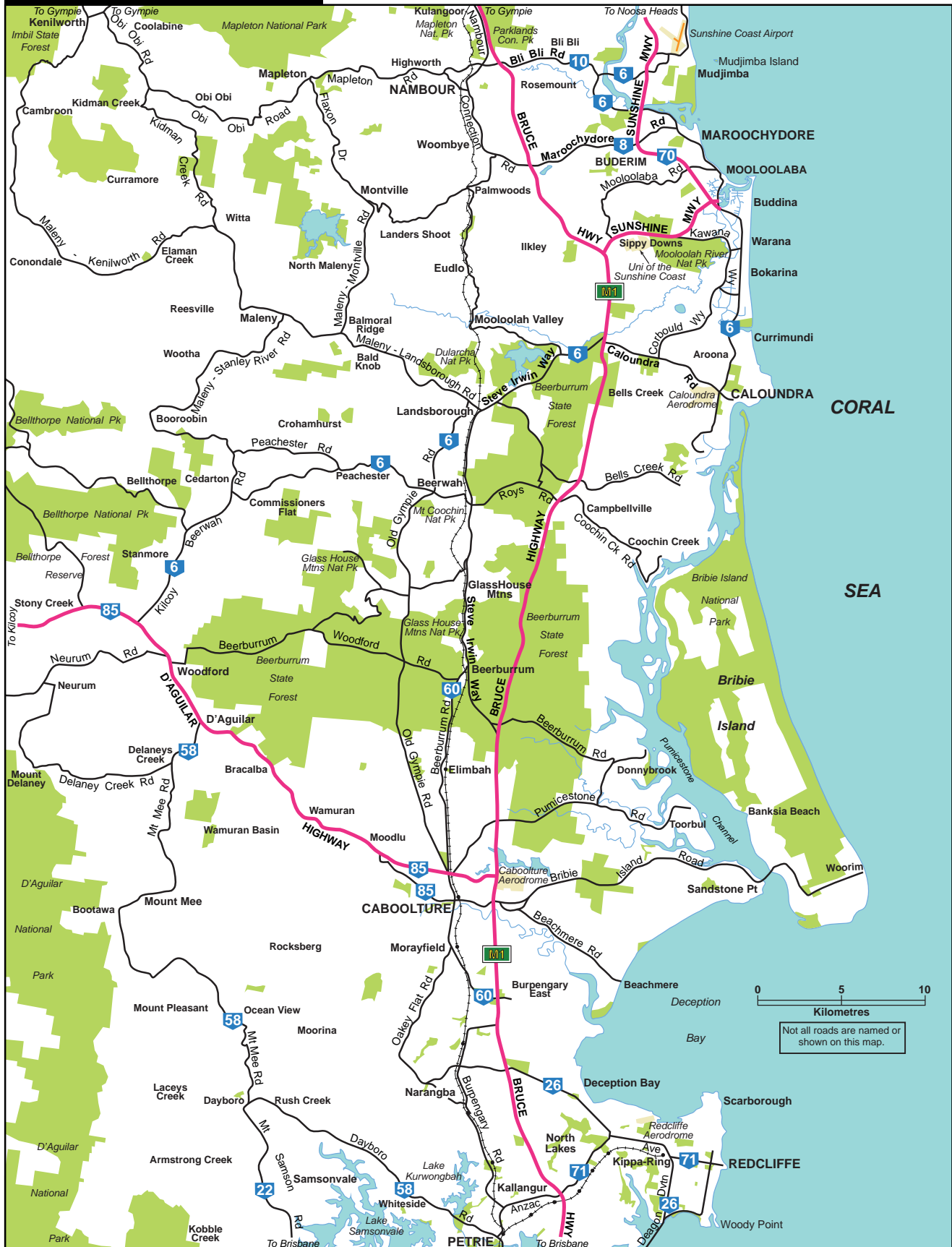


GOLD COAST

Adjoins Amberley & Surrounding Districts map (p30-31)



SUNSHINE COAST



©2020 Koala Cartography

Adjoins Amberley & Surrounding Districts map (p30-31)

LOCAL SERVICES

To help you and your family settle into the Amberley region, here's a quick guide to local services and amenities.

RAAF BASE AMBERLEY is 40km south-west of Brisbane on the outskirts of the City of Ipswich, so it is likely many personnel with a posting here will live in one of these two council areas.

Other nearby local government areas include:

Logan 1300 156 426, logan.qld.gov.au

Scenic Rim 07 5540 5111, scenicrim.qld.gov.au

Lockyer Valley 1300 005 872,

lockyervalley.qld.gov.au

Somerset 07 5424 4000, somerset.qld.gov.au.

LOCAL COUNCILS

Ipswich City Council office hours & emergencies all hours 07 3810 6666, ipswich.qld.gov.au. Council offices, 1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich, Mon-Fri 8am-4.30pm; Rosewood Library Council Connect, 15 Railway Street, Rosewood, Mon-Fri, 9am-4.30pm, Fri 12-4pm

Brisbane City Council Contact Centre (24 hours daily) 07 3403 8888. Brisbane City Council has five customer centres. brisbane.qld.gov.au

GETTING AROUND

South East Queensland is well serviced by a bus, ferry, train and tram network. For timetables, tickets and a journey planner see translink.com.au, or call Translink in on 13 12 30.

Taxis: Yellow Cabs Ipswich, yellowcab.com.au, 13 2227. Black & White Cabs, blackandwhitecabs.com.au, 133 222.

FLOOD, FIRE & EMERGENCY

In the event of a life-threatening emergency call 000 to connect to Police, Fire and Ambulance.

For assistance or information for:

- Floods or storm assistance (SES) 132 500
- Bushfire updates and information, emergency assistance, contact Queensland Fire & Emergency Services qfes.qld.gov.au
- Health advice, talk to a registered nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 13 HEALTH (13 432 584)
- Disasters and alerts see www.qld.gov.au/alerts

HOSPITALS

Ipswich Hospital, Chelmsford Ave, Ipswich, 07 3810 1111, is the major public healthcare facility in the West Moreton region. For information and to find other hospitals and services, see westmoreton.health.qld.gov.au.

Metro South Health (metrosouth.health.qld.gov.au) is the major provider of public health services in the Brisbane south side, Logan, Redlands and Scenic Rim regions. For more, see health.qld.gov.au/maps.

CHILDCARE

There is a variety of childcare options in the area. Turn to page 40 for information.

SCHOOLS

The Amberley posting has a wide range of schooling options including public, private, selective and independent schools. It is important to arrange your housing prior to finalising your schooling choices. Defence does not regard a choice of school as grounds to limit your search for a property. For information on schooling in Queensland turn to the Education section, page 42.

HIGHER EDUCATION

There are a number of quality universities in the region, including the University of Queensland (uq.edu.au) and University of Southern Queensland (usq.edu.au), as well as TAFE campuses (tafeqld.edu.au). For a full list, see queensland-australia.com/tertiary-education-qld.html.

UTILITIES

You will need to arrange your own utilities such as electricity, gas, pay TV and internet. You should contact your local service providers, or you may

like to take advantage of the free Fast Connect service, which will arrange for the disconnection and reconnection of utilities on your behalf. Contact them on 1300 661 464, at fastconnect.net.au, or access the service via Online Services on the Defence Housing Australia website at dha.gov.au. Also see the Housing section, page 36.

SHOPPING

Ipswich and the surrounding areas have a good variety of shops and services, and RAAF Amberley is less than 50 minutes' drive from the centre of Brisbane. Here are a few of the larger shopping centres in the Ipswich area.

Yamanto Village 512-514 Warwick Road, Yamanto, about 6km from RAAF Base Amberley. Woolworths, Super Amart, Priceline and specialty stores. yamantoshoppingvillage.com.au

Ipswich River Link Shopping Centre Cnr Downs Street and The Terrace, North Ipswich. Coles, Woolworths, Aldi, Kmart, Target, cinema, restaurants, cafes, and a range of retail stores and services. riverlink.net.au

Indooroopilly Shopping Centre 322 Moggill Road, Indooroopilly. Aldi, Coles, Woolworths, David Jones, Myer, Kmart, Target, cinema, and a wide range of retail stores and services. indooroopillyshopping.com.au

Orion Springfield Central 1 Main Street, Springfield Central. Aldi, Coles, Woolworths, Big W, Target, cinema, retail stores and services. orionspringfieldcentral.com.au

Brassall Shopping Centre 68 Hunter Street, Brassall. Aldi, Woolworths, retail stores and services. brassallsc.com.au

Ipswich Homebase 339 Brisbane Street, West Ipswich. Furniture and other retail stores.

Silkstone Village 83/81 Blackstone Road, Silkstone, Newtown. Coles, retail stores and services. silkstonevillage.com.au

Booval Fair Shopping Centre, Cnr South Station and Brisbane Roads, Booval. Woolworths, Big W, JP, retail stores and services. boovalfair.com.au

Winston Glades 259 Ash Street Flinders View, Ipswich. Drakes supermarket, banks and retailers. winstongladesipswich.com.au

Ripley Town Centre 20 Main Street (off Ripley Road), Ripley. Coles, gym and specialty stores. ripleytowncentre.com.au

LIBRARIES

Ipswich Libraries have an extensive range of books, movies, music, internet access, workshops, programs for kids and MakerSpace, for crafting, 3D-design and printing, and a mobile library. Free library membership also gives you 24/7 access to the virtual library to download ebooks, audiobooks, magazines and music, stream movies and more. 07 3810 6815; ipswichlibraries.com.au

Ipswich Central Library & Children's Library Nicholas Street Precinct, Ipswich.



PHOTO: Greater Springfield Stadium

Redbank Plains Library
Moreton Avenue, Redbank Plains.

Redbank Plaza Library
Redbank Plaza Shopping Centre.

Rosewood Library
15 Railway Street, Rosewood.

Springfield Central Library
Cnr Main Street and Sirius Drive,
Orion Springfield Central.

Brisbane City Council operates 33 libraries. To find your nearest one, go to brisbane.qld.gov.au and search 'libraries'.

SWIMMING POOLS

Ipswich has five public swimming pools. For opening times, see ipswich.qld.gov.au/live/healthy_lifestyle/recreation/public_pools

Bundamba Swim Centre
256 Brisbane Road, Bundamba. 07 3282 2801.

Georgie Conway Leichhardt Community Swim Centre
21 Toongarra Road, Leichhardt. 07 3281 8743.

Goodna Aquatic Centre
137 Brisbane Terrace, Goodna. 07 3381 8240.

Rosewood Aquatic Centre
Mill Street, Rosewood. 07 5464 1246.

Orion Lagoon
155 Southern Cross Circuit, Springfield Central.

Brisbane City Council has 22 pools and aquatic centres. The closest to Amberley are Bellbowrie Pool, 47 Birkin Road, Bellbowrie, and Carole Park Pool, corner Boundary and Waterford Roads, Wacol. For more locations see, brisbane.qld.gov.au/things-to-see-and-do/outdoor-activities/council-pools

FREE PLANTS

To help residents develop a greener, more beautiful environment, Ipswich Council

endeavours to give away 120,000 plants a year. Species are chosen to suit local climate and soil conditions and are propagated in the council's nursery. ipswich.qld.gov.au/about_council/initiatives/free-plant-program

MORE INFORMATION

Queensland Globe (qldglobe.information.qld.gov.au) is a handy resource if you are looking for a new home, with valuations and school catchment data available on the Globe map, and a titles search a few clicks away. It can also be used to map parks, trails or other information for your area.

For more information, see www.qld.gov.au/about/moving-to-queensland. Find community organisations, sporting teams, facilities, events and more at mycommunitydirectory.com.au.

A NEW CITY

GREATER SPRINGFIELD IS an innovative development within the Ipswich council area. With a total area of 2,860 hectares, a CBD that will cover 390 hectares and two train stations, it is Australia's largest master-planned urban environment.

The Mater Private Hospital, University of Southern Queensland, GE and Northrop Grumman already call Springfield home. Work has begun on a new Mater Public Hospital which is due to open in 2025.

Springfield has more than 50,000 residents, with a projected population of 100,000 by the end of the decade. The vision for the development, which will cost an estimated \$85 billion, is to be Australia's first zero net energy city by 2038, embracing renewable energy and electric vehicles. More than 30 percent of the city is designated as green space, centred around the Robelle Domain and the expansive Orion Lagoon public water parks. greaterspringfield.com.au



HOUSING

MOVING HOUSE CAN be both an exciting and daunting prospect – some big decisions need to be made, the most important one being where you are going to live. Children's education, distance to work for both the member and spouse/ partner, health care, lifestyle preferences and the amenity of available housing are all factors to be considered.

SERVICE RESIDENCES

Unless you own a suitable home in your new posting locality, your first port of call is Defence Housing Australia (DHA). DHA provides housing and related services for Australian Defence Force members and their families through its portfolio of service residences (SR). DHA's portfolio comprises modern houses, townhouses and apartments in selected locations. The majority are off-base, integrated throughout the local community and in reasonably close proximity to Defence bases and establishments, amenities and services. DHA maintains the currency of its portfolio by upgrading existing properties, sourcing new properties through a variety of construction activities, acquiring properties through traditional real estate markets and directly sourcing and leasing properties from private owners. You are eligible for a SR if you fit into any of these groups:

- You have a spouse, recognised interdependent partner or children who live with you (Accompanied Resident Family)

- You are a member with unaccompanied resident family and your dependants need housing (Unaccompanied Resident Family)
- You have Recognised Other Persons who normally live with you.

More detailed information on entitlements can be found in the Pay and Conditions Manual, Chapter 7, pay-conditions.defence.gov.au/pacman/chapter-7, and/or on DHA's website dha.gov.au.

SINGLES

DHA also holds some apartments suitable for single members – called Members Choice accommodation. The process for accessing Members Choice or private rental under Rent Allowance (RA) is the same as for families accessing SR, outlined below.

FINDING A SERVICE RESIDENCE

As soon as you know you require a Service Residence, call DHA on 139 342 to obtain a username and password to access Online Services, a unique online tool that will allow you to select your new home. Online Services will show you:

- Homes within your entitlement
- Interior and exterior photos of the homes
- Property details for each home
- A floor plan
- A map showing the location of the home and nearby facilities.

Once you have researched your options, you can reserve a home on Online Services. Note that, whether you are an Accompanied Resident Family

or a single, if you own a home in your current posting location which is suitable for you to live in, you will not be eligible for a SR or RA.

PRIVATE RENTAL

If DHA cannot provide you with a suitable SR, you may be eligible for RA. While DHA will manage your RA application, it is up to you to find a suitable rental property. Rental properties in the region can be sourced from local real estate agencies or on any of the following commercial websites:

- realestate.com.au/rent
- domain.com.au/rent
- rent.com.au.

BUYING A HOUSE

You may feel it's time to enter the housing market or wish to sell your home in your losing locality and purchase in the gaining locality. Assistance for home purchase may be available through:

- The Defence Home Ownership Assistance Scheme pays a monthly subsidy on a member's home loan interest. The scheme is administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, for details see dhoas.gov.au.
- The Home Purchase or Sale Expenses Allowance reimburses reasonable buying and selling costs. For details see the Pay and Conditions Manual, pay-conditions.defence.gov.au/pacman/chapter-7/part-3.

Note that a decision to purchase your own home in your new locality does not need to be made before you proceed on posting, you can decide at any time during your posting. However, if you are in RA accommodation, you will need to consider the penalties in your lease for early termination.

MORE INFORMATION

For information on all accommodation options, application forms and to access Online Services, visit DHA's website, dha.gov.au.

At times, finding the right housing solution can be challenging. The Directorate of Relocations and Housing is responsible for the provision and delivery of quality housing and related services to ADF members under national contracts and in accordance with Defence Policy. If you require additional support please email DRH.DRHM@defence.gov.au with your enquiry and your local Defence Relocation Manager will be in touch.

POSTING CONNECT

PostingConnect provides direct access to posting services, including Toll and DHA, and is accessible from any device. It allows members and their families to navigate the many aspects of a posting within one application. See defence.gov.au/postingconnect for more information.

HEALTH MATTERS

There are a number of services to help manage your family's health in a new posting.



ADF MEMBER HEALTH

Defence provides essential healthcare to all ADF members, on and off base, including medical and dental, mental health, ambulance transport and hospitalisation. ADF members do not need a Medicare card.

AMBERLEY HEALTH CENTRE

Facility dial-in (automated call direction)
07 5362 6003; ambhc.registry@defence.gov.au
After hours 1800 IM SICK (1800 467 425)
Emergencies 000

24-HOUR HEALTH SUPPORT

ADF members needing urgent medical treatment when away from base should call 1800 IM SICK (1800 467 425). The IM SICK line is a toll-free, all-hours service for ADF personnel to discuss health concerns over the phone and receive immediate advice on where they need to go to receive appropriate treatment. The service is provided by BUPA under the ADF Health Services Contract.

RECOGNISED DEPENDENTS

Members need to make arrangements for the healthcare of their families, but note that financial assistance is available (see under: DEFENCE FAMILY HEALTH CARE).

FINDING A GP

To find a GP in your locality, a good place to

start is the 'find a health service' tool on the Australian Government's Health Direct website, healthdirect.gov.au/australian-health-services, which allows you to filter out GPs who don't bulk bill. GPs who don't bulk bill will charge you for the visit. You can claim the 'schedule fee' from Medicare, but it will probably be less than the GP's account, leaving a residual cost. Many doctors now offer a service called HICAPS that allows you to claim your Medicare rebate when you pay at the doctor's surgery. Joining a social group to connect with others in your area is also good way to glean advice on local GPs and medical centres.

DEFENCE FAMILY HEALTH CARE

The National ADF Family Health Program will reimburse dependants of ADF members for out-of-pocket expenses for all GP visits. Specialist services will also be reimbursed, up to a total allocation of \$800 per dependent which can be shared between dependents. For more information visit adffamilyhealth.com or phone 02 6266 3547.

PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE

Medicare makes adequate provision to cover all Australian citizens for their essential health needs. However, Medicare doesn't cover many 'extras' such as ambulance services, most dental services, spectacles, contact lenses, hearing aids and cosmetic surgery.

You may choose to take out private health

insurance to provide your family with a wider range of options and more comprehensive cover. Health insurance policies can be either hospital or general treatment (extras) or a combination of both. Your decision to purchase private insurance is a personal one and will be based on a number of factors:

- The advantages of having more choices, for instance the ability to choose your surgeon/obstetrician/specialist and the hospital you prefer from the private health insurer's agreed providers
- The probability of obtaining treatment faster than you might do on a public hospital waiting list
- Your desire to be covered for the extras
- The cost of private health cover for different options that are offered by the numerous providers in the health-insurance market.

With respect to the cost, you will also need to consider the tax implications of the Medicare Levy surcharge, which (as distinct from the Medicare Levy) is an additional tax imposed on those with a taxable income above a certain threshold who do not have a prescribed level of private health insurance.

The cost of your private health insurance policy will also be influenced by your age when you commence your policy. Once you turn 31, a Lifetime Health Cover (LHC) loading of two percent is added to your hospital cover premium for every year you're without hospital cover, e.g. if you delay until age 40, your LHC would be 20 percent. Note that permanent ADF members are considered to have had private hospital cover while serving.

This article is published as general education and should not be taken as professional advice.

SOME USEFUL WEBSITE

Health insurance

- accg.gov.au/consumers/specific-products-and-activities/private-health-insurance
- www.privatehealth.gov.au
- choice.com.au/money/insurance/health

Medicare Levy

- Go to the Australian Tax Office website, ato.gov.au, and search 'Medicare Levy'.
- For more, go to help.airtax.com.au and search 'Medicare and Medicare Levy exemption for ADF members'.

EARLY LEARNING

Choosing the right childcare or early learning service will depend on your family's needs and where you and your child will feel most comfortable.

AS WELL AS PROVIDING CARE, childcare and early learning services provide an opportunity for your child to develop social, emotional and learning skills. There is a range of care and play-based learning options available for babies and children up to six years of age. Some childcare providers also offer before- and after-school care to school-aged children.

Childcare may be offered by private providers, community groups, government agencies, individuals, babysitters or nannies. There are various education and care options available and it's important to research the type of early education and care that suits you and your children best well in advance.

LONG DAY CARE

A good option for those who work long days and need care for their children during business hours, long day care operates for at least eight hours a day, typically Monday to Friday, in a childcare centre and caters for children from birth to school age. It provides preparation for school through a play-based learning curriculum.

FAMILY DAY CARE

For parents who want their children to learn and play in small groups in a homelike environment, family day care caters for children from birth to 12 years, and is held in the home of a registered educator. They may also offer outside-school-hours care.

KINDERGARTEN

Aimed at children aged three to five years, kindergarten (or preschool) prepares children for school through play-based learning. It can be a standalone service or part of another care service or school. From January 2024, kindergarten for 15 hours a week, 40 weeks a year is free for Queensland children attending a government-approved kindergarten program.

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Operating before and after school and/or during school holidays, this service works well for working parents with school-age children who need care outside of school hours. It provides education and care with a play-based curriculum.

OCCASIONAL CHILDCARE

Offered on a casual basis for short periods of time, occasional childcare caters for children, from birth to school age and is useful for parents with short-term or last-minute needs.

CHILDCARE RATINGS

Kindergarten, long day care, outside-school-hours care and family day care services are assessed and rated under the National Quality Framework, which provides a national approach to regulation, assessment and quality improvement for early childhood education and care. To check a providers' rating go to [acecqa.gov.au/resources/national-registers](https://www.acecqa.gov.au/resources/national-registers). The Queensland Government monitors all services to ensure they meet their legal requirements, regardless of whether they have been assessed and rated.

APPROVED KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS

Non-compulsory approved kindergarten programs are taught by qualified early childhood teachers and meet strict quality guidelines set by the Australian and Queensland governments. They are offered in kindergartens, long-day-care services and limited-hours care for children in the year before prep (i.e. children who are four years old by 30 June in the year they start). They are play based and run for 15 hours a week for 40 weeks, or one school year. [earlychildhood.qld.gov.au](https://www.earlychildhood.qld.gov.au)

HOW TO CHOOSE A SERVICE

Consider your child's needs and your family circumstances when choosing childcare. While you can expect national or state-approved



services to meet minimum standards, try to visit a selection to compare what they offer before making a decision. Many services have a waiting list, so it is best to make a decision well in advance. Check with your chosen service to find out whether:

- their operating hours and days suit your family
- places are available for new enrolments
- the fees suit your budget
- there are any costs over and above the fees
- there is a fee to be on a waiting list
- children with additional needs are supported
- they offer an education program (such as kindergarten or long day care)
- the staff are well qualified and experienced
- the routine will suit your child
- meals are provided (ask to see a sample meal plan)
- the carer-to-child ratio suits your needs
- you can claim the Child Care Subsidy to help cover the costs of the service.

Visit the service to meet the staff, see the facilities and experience the atmosphere. Make an appointment to ensure someone is available to talk to you. Ask questions and share information about your child. The service should be able to give you written information that may include:

- days and times when the service is open
- all fees you will have to pay (including public holidays, late fees, holidays and when your child is away sick)
- pick-up and drop-off procedures
- how your child's day will be organised and their individual needs met
- excursions and outings
- how injuries, illness and infectious diseases are



- dealt with (including storing and giving medicine)
- hygiene, safety and emergency procedures
- staffing, staff development and child-free preparation times

- how you can participate in the decisions affecting your child and how the service will respond to complaints and concerns.
- For more advice on what to look for see acecqa.gov.au/resources/national-registers.

FIND AN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICE

Search the Starting Blocks website (startingblocks.gov.au/find-child-care) to find a kindergarten, long day care, family day care and outside schools hours care, captured under the National Law and National Quality Framework.

SPECIAL NEEDS

The Australian Government's Inclusion Support Program (education.gov.au/child-care-package/inclusion-support-program) and the Queensland Government's Kindergarten Inclusion Support Scheme (see earlychildhood.qld.gov.au) may provide funding to childcare or kindergarten services to help them provide:

- specialist equipment and resources
- training and professional development for teachers
- extra teacher aide time
- more educators or carers.

WAITING LISTS

Some childcare services use waiting lists to manage high demand and places are allocated to families with the greatest need for childcare. Where demand for childcare is high, all approved services with the exception of Occasional Care must adhere to Priority of Access Guidelines (see dss.gov.au) to ensure there is a fair childcare system.

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

The Australian Government provides families with financial assistance to help cover the costs of approved childcare, under the Child Care Subsidy and Additional Child Care Subsidy. The Child Care Subsidy is income tested and is usually paid directly to approved Child Care Services to reduce the fees that eligible families pay. You can apply for the Child Care Subsidy online or in person through Centrelink. To apply online, visit servicesaustralia.gov.au.

MORE INFORMATION

To find childcare services: startingblocks.gov.au/find-child-care

For more advice: earlychildhood.qld.gov.au; www.qld.gov.au/families/babies/childcare/finding/assessing

Why Choose Us ?

Ally's Kindy offers the Ipswich Community and the Amberley RAAF Community a family orientated learning experience for your children.

- Our mission is based on combining detailed and specific information about your child with our own professional knowledge about children's education and development.
- We have 3 large grassed play areas with forts, bike track and sand pit with lots of shade.
- Our glass security door gives our parents peace of mind that their children are completely safe, with access only by our buzz in system.
- Our Educators are all long term and most have been with us well over 7 years.
- We supply our children with nutritionally balanced, home cooked meals everyday by our qualified chef and we happily cater for any dietary requirements your child may have.
- Ipswich City council has also awarded Ally's Kitchen a 5 STAR Food Safety Rating!
- For our many RAAF families, we are only 5 minutes from the back gate of the base, so many of our families can pop back to the centre, if they have a break during the day, if we have a special event happening with the children.



We welcome all prospective parents to come and inspect our Centre to feel the warmth and caring we share.

Please give our Director, Donna a call to make a time to come visit us on **07 3282 8888**. Alternatively you can visit our web page www.allyskindy.com.au

Follow us on facebook | info@allyskindy.com.au





SCHOOLING

There's a lot to learn about how primary schools and high schools function – especially as different states have different arrangements in place. Here's some information about schooling in Queensland.

IN QUEENSLAND it is compulsory for children to attend school from the age of six years and six months until they turn 16, or they complete Year 10 (whichever comes first). You can choose to send your child to a state/public school (education.qld.gov.au), independent school (www.isq.qld.edu.au) or Catholic school (qcec.catholic.edu.au).

Publicly funded state education includes early childhood development programs; primary schools, secondary schools and P-10/12 schools; special schools; hospital schools; schools of distance education; centres for continuing secondary education; outdoor and environmental education centres; and Queensland Academies.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Starting school is a major milestone for children and their families, so the decision you make about their education is important. The Department of Education Schools Directory (schoolsdirectory.eq.edu.au)

will help you find state and private schools in your area.

Children attending state school usually go to the school closest to where they live. However, parents can send their children to the state school of their choice, depending on available places. Some schools have a School Enrolment Management Plan, which means students may not be able to attend unless they live within the designated catchment zone. To help you choose the best school for your child, look at the school websites for information about performance, mission, staffing, funding and resources. You can also get information and compare schools at the My School website (myschool.edu.au). Once you have a shortlist, make an appointment to meet the principal and staff and see the school facilities.

To help decide which school is best for your child, consider the following:

- What are your child's needs and interests? Will the school be able to cater for them?

- Is the school reasonably close to home, work and carers?
- What facilities does the school offer? Are you comfortable with the feel of it?
- What are the school policies on homework, discipline and safety?
- Are other services available, such as after - school care?

Parents may wish to ask schools about:

- the size of the school
- when to enrol
- teaching methods and classroom environment
- uniform policy
- school hours
- levies
- assessment and reporting procedures
- available resources
- extracurricular activities
- communication between home and school
- student participation, e.g. school council
- parental involvement, such as parents and citizens' association.

Copies of the school rules or code of conduct, newsletters, prospectus and annual report will give you further information about the school and its activities.

STARTING SCHOOL

Enrolment forms and details of school enrolment processes are generally published on school websites. Usually, a child can be enrolled a year ahead for state schools and up to two years for non-state schools.





IPSWICH
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



MADE FOR BOYS

PREP-YEAR 12 | BOARDING YEAR 7-12

**WITH OVER 150 YEARS' OF EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATING BOYS,
WE UNDERSTAND WHAT MAKES THEM TICK.**

When boys enter our community they will journey through a myriad of experiences and emerge as competent, skilled and independent young men ready to take on the world.

Our boys are funny, creative, bursting with energy and willing to take risks.

We inspire, engage and challenge them every day, giving them a solid educational foundation so they leave here ready for the challenges of the world that lies ahead of them.

TO BOOK A PERSONALISED TOUR OR FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE [IPSWICHGRAMMAR.COM](https://www.ipswichgrammar.com)

Before starting school, children are usually invited to visit their new school so they can become familiar with it. There are also lot of things families can do to help make a child's transition to school successful, including:

- getting to know as much about the school as they can
- talking with their child about school
- taking their child to the school to meet the teachers and to find out where things are
- making sure their child knows the transport arrangements for getting to and from school
- getting to know other families with children who will be in the same class as their child
- talking with their child about eating, toileting and hygiene at school
- making sure their child has had experiences of public toilets, libraries and public transport
- if appropriate, ensuring their child knows how before- and after-school-hours care will work
- answering their child's questions about school
- reading some children's books about starting school with their child
- always being positive and realistic about starting school.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Secondary or high school, Year 7 to 12, is the final period of compulsory education for Queensland students. Students are eligible to enter the first year of secondary school, Year 7, after completing primary education (Prep or Year 1 to Year 6). You may enrol your child in the local secondary school by contacting the school directly. Secondary schools have different ways of introducing primary students to their school. Most students settle in quickly in response to the carefully designed transition programs initiated by schools. Primary and secondary schools cooperate to ease students through the transition.

The senior years of education (Year 10–12) are important for students wishing to progress to university or further study. Students who have completed all 12 years of compulsory education from Year 1 to 12 will be eligible to qualify for the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Year 12 students applying for tertiary study will generally be assessed on their Australian Tertiary Admission Rank.

ADJUSTING TO A NEW SCHOOL

If your child is transferring to a new school, the principal will have processes to help them adjust, such as buddy systems. Even for students who are looking forward to it, a change in school may cause distress. Signs of stress include irritability, reluctance to talk, sleep disturbance, stomach aches, headaches and not wanting to go to school. The teacher or principal can provide support and advice if your child is having difficulty settling in.



If your child is moving from a non-state school to a state school (or vice versa) in Queensland, the new school can request a transfer note from the previous school. There is no need for parents or carers to complete any additional forms.

If your child has moved to Queensland from interstate, the new school can request consent from you to obtain your child's information from the previous school using the interstate student data transfer note. This system enables the new school to support the educational placements of new students. A transfer note is not required for students transferring their enrolment from one Queensland state school to another (including primary to secondary). Students who change schools during Year 11 or 12 can receive a credit transfer and their previous study at a school in Queensland, interstate or overseas may count towards their QCE.

When changing schools:

- consider the timing of the move and if the move can coincide with the change of term
- involve your children in discussions and decisions about moving – this may help allay any fears or concerns they have
- discuss the forthcoming move with your current school and collect documentation outlining student achievement levels and education history – this will help with appropriate placement at the new school
- prepare a list of your children's particular needs e.g. preferred subjects, transport needs, sporting and other interests
- consider subject choices, special education provisions, transport to and from school, vocational education programs, and cultural and sporting opportunities
- consider behaviour management, discipline and uniform policies.

MORE INFORMATION education.qld.gov.au; myqce.qcaa.qld.edu.au

SCHOOL DATES FOR 2025

This information is relevant to Queensland state schools. Independent and Catholic school term dates can vary so check with the relevant school. Queensland state schools have three 10-week terms and one 11-week term.

PERIOD	START	FINISH
Term 1	Tuesday 28 January	Friday 4 April
School Holidays	Monday 7 April	Friday 18 April
Term 2	Tuesday 22 April	Friday 27 June
School Holidays	Monday 30 June	Friday 11 July
Term 3	Monday 14 July	Friday 19 September
School Holidays	Monday 22 September	Friday 3 October
Term 4	Tuesday 7 October	Friday 12 December
School Holidays	Monday 15 December	Monday 26 January 2026



**IPSWICH GIRLS'
GRAMMAR SCHOOL**
— & —
IPSWICH JUNIOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL



At Ipswich Girls' and Junior Grammar School your child has every opportunity to discover their true potential. Through bespoke learning pathways, your child is prepared for higher education and leadership roles.

With over 130 years of expertise and a reputation for excellence, the school has a strong tradition in the Ipswich community.

Discover the opportunities that await your child at Ipswich Girls' and Junior Grammar School.

www.iggs.qld.edu.au



ENROL NOW

SUPPORT FOR DEFENCE KIDS

If you're keen to minimise any disruption to your child's education as a result of your family's relocation, talk to Defence Member and Family Support.

DEFENCE MEMBER AND FAMILY SUPPORT

(DMFS) provides information, resources and programs to help with the transition between schools and education systems when ADF members and their families move, and provides support for the unique needs of Defence kids.

ADF EQUIP

The ADF Equip Program is designed to help children manage the challenges associated with Defence life. The program supports children to learn appropriate strategies to help them manage the challenge of parental absence and relocation related to service. It includes facilitated sessions tailored to age group and is open to children aged between five and 18 years.

EDUCATION LIAISON OFFICERS

Education liaison officers are experienced staff who help Defence families as they move around the country, providing information, advice, referral and specialised assistance. They are located in each state and territory and have extensive knowledge about the local schools and education systems as well as the challenges faced by Defence children. The assistance provided includes:

- Informing families about local schools and education systems
- Linking families with special education providers, resources or support agencies

according to their children's individual needs (including special needs students)

- Working with schools to ensure a supportive education environment and to raise awareness of issues facing Defence children
- Informing families about Defence support services available, such as financial assistance under the Education Assistance Scheme.

DEFENCE SCHOOL MENTORS

DMFS's school mentor program provides support to the children of ADF members, particularly when moving in and out of a school on posting or when a parent is absent from home. Under the program, mentors in primary and secondary schools support Defence students transitioning from school to school and during times of parental absence. Mentors help schools, families and children to develop strategies to successfully integrate into the school and community. Their role also includes:

- Coordinating appropriate welcome and farewell activities
- Smoothing the transition between different schools and different education systems (including minimising the impact of relocation on learning outcomes)
- Monitoring the social, emotional and academic wellbeing of Defence students

- Helping students develop self-confidence, self-reliance and resilience
- Referring students to services or school community programs that meet their needs.

To find out which schools in your area are currently funded under the program, see www.defence.gov.au/adf-members-families/family-programs-services/support-for-children/defence-school-mentor-program

CHILDCARE

DMFS maintains a network of childcare centres around Australia and has a range of programs to support the availability of childcare services to Defence families, who might face difficulties accessing childcare. That includes access to an individual case management service to help them find registered childcare services in their local community.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES

Defence families can access a range of financial support to help minimise the disruption to schooling caused by posting and relocations. The support available includes:

- Tutoring assistance
- Boarding school allowance
- Tertiary accommodation
- Students with special needs
- Reimbursement of a lost scholarship
- Reunion travel.

The aim is to provide students with educational stability or short-term assistance to help overcome any immediate difficulties with education or emotional wellbeing as a result of relocation.

CONTACT DMFS

For more information about these services, contact the 24/7 Defence Member and Family Helpline on 1800 624 608, visit defence.gov.au/members-families or email memberandfamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au.



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VETERAN WELLBEING **ONLINE**

Wellbeing your way.



With free and easy 20-minute online learning modules, RSL Be:Well can help you improve your health and wellbeing at your own pace, in your own home.



CONNECT TODAY



RSL
Queensland



PHOTO: AC Campbell Latch

THE VETERAN COMMUNITY

↑ Aviators from No.33 Squadron march in the 2024 Anzac Day parade in Brisbane.

There is wide range of support available to veterans of all ages.

THE VETERAN COMMUNITY is a critical part of the broader Amberley Base community. As the majority of Amberley Defence staff are veterans themselves, having served overseas and in Australia, our staff and units appreciate the vital role veterans' organisation have in supporting our serving and ex-serving veterans.

The organisations are critical to supporting and advocating for our veterans and their families, ensuring the sacrifices of those who have served before us are appropriately remembered and providing a community for veterans to be part of after they leave the defence forces. RAAF Base Amberley works in partnership with those organisations by supporting, promoting and assisting them to deliver the support our serving and ex-serving veterans need and value.

Commemorations are a key support activity for our units where we work with community partners in commemorating those who have served in the defence of our nation. While members participate as a priority in key national commemoration events such as Anzac Day and Remembrance Day, they also support a variety of commemorations throughout the year.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (DVA)

DVA services include:

- Financial support
- healthcare
- rehabilitation
- mental-health care
- help returning to civilian life
- commemoration and recognition
- homecare assistance
- help with housing
- historical information.

DVA continues to transform, changing the way it operates, putting the needs and wellbeing of veterans at the heart of everything it does.

The program of work underway is building a better client experience, making it faster and easier for veterans and their families to get the treatment and support they need, when they need it.

Connect with DVA online

Through DVA's online portal, MyService, you can update your personal and contact details, submit claims and view your veteran profile.

To register visit dva.gov.au/myservice.

Mental health support

DVA has a strong focus on mental-health treatment. Under a program called Non-Liability Health Care, DVA funds treatment for all mental-health conditions, whether related to service or

not, for those with at least one day of continuous full-time service in the ADF, as well as eligible Reservists. Search for 'Non-Liability Health Care' at dva.gov.au. In addition, mental-health support including free and confidential counselling 24/7 is offered through Open Arms (see page 48).

Finding employment after the ADF

For ADF personnel transitioning back into civilian life, there is an information page for veterans on the government's Workforce Australia website (workforceaustralia.gov.au) to help translate service training and skills to the civilian workforce. There is also an optional 'Defence Force experience desirable' flag for vacancies listed on the jobactive website, helping veterans connect with employers.

The Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program was established in 2016 to raise awareness of the enormous value and unique experience of veterans, for more information see veteranemployment.gov.au.

On-base support

Veteran Support Officers (VSOs) can offer members information and advice about the support and entitlements they may be able to receive through DVA. The levels of support range from information on MyService through to instructions on how to submit a claim while you are still enlisted. VSOs are DVA staff located on Defence bases. To make an appointment, email VSO@dva.gov.au.



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION QLD

Who we are

The Air Force Association is the peak veterans

support organisation for RAAF and ex-RAAF members and their families in Australia. As the peak body, the Association is recognised by government and other veteran's organisations as the representative organisation for ex-RAAF members, with a primary goal of providing assistance to fellow members. As one of the oldest veteran support organisations, the Association has been influential in advocating for ex-RAAF members' needs resulting from service in World War I, World War II, post-war Southeast Asia, peacekeeping operations and in more recent years, the high operational tempo of today's modern Air Force.

In Queensland, the Air Force Association (RAAFA) Qld Division comprises 15 branches, with the majority in the South East; and a headquarters branch for members who live in a district where there is no Branch. RAAFA Qld is well positioned to

interact with other veterans' organisations, advocate to the Queensland Government and coordinate Air Force ceremonies throughout the state.

Our Mission

The Air Force Association Queensland exists to support the welfare of the Air Force family through advocacy, assistance, camaraderie, and commemoration.

1. Advocacy. At the federal and state government levels, we provide an influential voice in representing ex-Air Force members' needs on veterans' issues. We work with our national board, state and federal veteran's authorities and other veterans' support organisations in ensuring the needs and interests of those who have served in the Air Force and their families are met. We also assist Air Force veterans in interpreting veteran policy and entitlements supporting them in their development of compensation claims and appeals.

2. Commemoration and Heritage. Recognising the importance of commemorating the deeds of those who have served before and fostering the legacy they have left for generations to come, we partner with the RAAF at Amberley and Townsville and other stakeholders, including the Australian Air Force Cadets, conducting Air Force-specific

ceremonies, the preservation of Air Force heritage and educating Queenslanders on the Air Force story and Queensland's contribution to that story.

3. Assistance. We appreciate ex-serving members and their families of various ages will require assistance and support at times and we can be there for them when needed.

4. Camaraderie. We hold various events, functions and activities across Queensland providing avenues for our broader Air Force family to remain connected. While these activities are popular with our aged members, we also place much importance on bringing our younger veterans together with our older members to share stories, support each other, and provide mentorship and foster values.

Our Priorities

- To provide advocacy in partnership with the broader veteran's support community
- To provide better representation and support for the Air Force family
- To gain recognition as a respected, effective and leading ex-service organisation
- To ensure Queensland has a better understanding of the Air Force story and the state's contribution to that story.



Since 1923, Legacy has strived to ensure that the partners and children of veterans who gave their lives or health in service are looked after.

Legacy volunteers make a meaningful impact in the lives of our veterans' families.

This may be through mentorship, practical and social support, and taking part in activities like youth camps, outings and more.

By donating your time, you can support the Legacy families in the Ipswich and Brisbane communities.

Legacy Ipswich

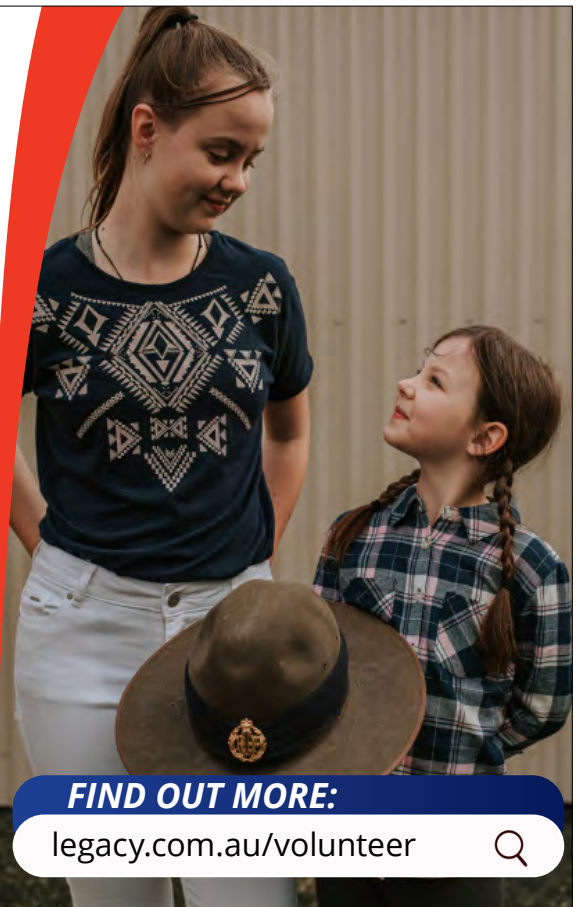
105 Brisbane Road,
Booval, QLD 4304
(T): 07 3281 9419

(E): admin@ipswichlegacy.org.au
legacy.com.au/ipswich

Legacy Brisbane

41 Merivale Street, South
Brisbane, QLD 4101
(T): 07 3029 5600

(E): admin@legacybrisbane.org.au
legacy.com.au/brisbane



FIND OUT MORE:

legacy.com.au/volunteer





Legacy supports the families of former ADF personnel. Its mission is ensuring partners and children of veterans who gave their lives or health in service can fully realise their potential.

Across Brisbane and Ipswich, Legacy supports 6,230 families, including 380 children and dependents with a disability through the help of nearly 320 dedicated volunteers.

Yulia and Javas are one of those Legacy families. Norm, a dedicated husband and father, passed away from cancer as a result of his service. As Yulia's family lives in Indonesia, she and her son have no immediate or extended family in Australia. In Legacy, Yulia and Javas have another family to turn to in times of need. "Being part of Legacy has kept the memory of his dad close to my little boy, because he knows that we have Legacy's support because of his father's war service," says Yulia. When Javas was struggling a little as he only had an old tablet and couldn't access some of the school programs, with the help of donors, Legacy provided him with a new laptop. Yulia said she is incredibly grateful for the support of her Legatee and the many Legacy team members of who have gone "above and beyond" to support her family.

To find out more about Legacy and volunteering around Southern Queensland, see legacy.com.au/brisbane or legacy.com.au/brisbane.

MATES4MATES

Mates4Mates is one of Australia's leading veteran charities actively changing the lives of current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members and families impacted by service. Through mental health and physical rehabilitation services, social connection activities and skills-based clinical programs, Mates4Mates provides a way forward for those experiencing physical injuries, mental health impacts and social disconnection.

All Mates4Mates services are offered at no cost and can be accessed through purpose-built centres in South East Queensland, North Queensland, Tasmania, and the Northern Territory. Clinical support is available from Mates4Mates psychologists, exercise physiologists, physiotherapists, counsellors or social workers who will target all aspects of health and wellbeing. Physical rehabilitation group classes are also available across Mates4Mates centres.

Knowing the power of social connection and community, Mates4Mates social connection activities create regular opportunities for mateship and peer-support. From trauma-informed yoga classes, coffee support groups, cooking classes, creative workshops, bike rides, walking groups, as well as school holiday programs, there is something for everyone.

Mates4Mates staff are from all areas of the



Scootaville Legacy members in front of the Air Force Balloon at Boonah Showground, Qld.

PHOTO: LACW Taylor Anderson

Defence community and are experienced in helping veterans, and those who are currently serving, navigate their recovery. They understand the impacts of service are difficult and can significantly affect someone's health and wellbeing, and those around them.

There is support available. Make the call that makes the difference on 1300 4 MATES (62 837) or visit mates4mates.org.



Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling is Australia's leading national provider of high quality, free and confidential counselling and support services for Australian veterans and their families. Similar to other community-based mental health services, Open Arms clients experience depression, anxiety, substance use challenges, workplace struggles, relationship concerns and parenting and family issues. The difference with Open Arms is that staff members have specialist training in the military experience. And, while they support families experiencing the routine daily challenges, they also understand the unique stressors military and veteran families experience relating to the posting cycle, training exercises, deployments, partner employment, and more.

A unique service offered by Open Arms is their Community and Peer Program. The program connects veterans and family members with peers that have served in the Australian Defence Force – or had family members who have served – and have had the experience of accessing mental health services for their own wellbeing. Peers work collaboratively with veterans, family supports, community agencies and mental health clinicians to complement other services.

To better serve the ADF community, there are five Open Arms office sites in the South Queensland region, with the closest to Amberley in Ipswich, and a network of professional providers across metropolitan and regional areas.

If you or someone you know wants someone to talk to, even just for a chat, Open Arms is available 24/7 by calling 1800 011 046. The service is free and confidential and there is always a team member, who understands the military experience, available to answer your call.



RSL QUEENSLAND

If you've ever served in the ADF, RSL Queensland is here for you and your family.

For more than 100 years, it has supported veterans, current serving Defence members, and their families in real and meaningful ways. It's mission is to provide care, commemoration and

camaraderie to enable veterans and their families to live with dignity and respect. Whether you're after employment, education, social activities with fellow veterans, or help with finances or DVA claims, RSL Queensland has services to help you and your family every step of the way.

Along with a vibrant and supportive community at RSL Sub Branches across the state, you can also access services and support from its subsidiary Mates4Mates (see left), plus many RSL Peer-Led Programs – providing opportunities for meaningful connection and support.

Free support for DVA claims is now available in person or virtually at RAAF Base Amberley. To book, call 134 775 or email vs@rslqld.org. Find out more at rslqld.org.

MATES4MATES

Here for those
impacted by service.



Join Mates4Mates

Find a way to reconnect
and recover.



1300 4 MATES



mates4mates.org

Support for all current and ex-serving Defence
members and families impacted by service.

- ✓ Mental health and wellbeing services
- ✓ Physical rehabilitation and wellbeing services
- ✓ Social connection activities
- ✓ Skills-based recovery programs

IPSWICH RSL SUB-BRANCH

Supporting the veteran community, current defence members & their families since 1917.

- Well-being support advocates
- Badge-selling conducted twice a year for Anzac Day and Remembrance Day
- Large active membership supportive of the objects of the League
- Care-engaging with local aged care facilities, community engagement with local schools to keep the Anzac spirit alive and engaging in RSL Qld "Draw to Remember" and "Postcards of Honour"
- Camaraderie – drop-in monthly morning teas third Wednesdays of each month (excluding Dec-Jan), dinners prior to general meetings (every third Monday)
- Commemorations – Anzac Day, Battle of Fromelles, Korea, Vietnam Veterans, Post 1991 Modern Day Conflicts & Humanitarian Operations
- Membership free for current serving Defence members
- Poppy services at funerals available for all veterans and serving Defence members
- Ipswich RSL Youth Band meets every Wednesday evening at Memorial Hall.



CONTACT US:

Located on the top floor of Ipswich Soldier's Memorial Hall, 63 Nicholas St, Ipswich. Co-located with the Ipswich RSL Memorial Hall Museum.

Follow us on Facebook (Ipswich RSL Sub-branch Inc); www.ipswichrslsb.com.au

RSL

Ipswich Sub Branch

↓ Girraween National Park

TIME OUT

There's plenty to see and do in beautiful South East Queensland.

PHOTO: Tourism & Events Queensland

IPSWICH

THE OLDEST PROVINCIAL CITY in Queensland, Ipswich was established in 1827 as a convict outstation for quarrying limestone and farming. It became a busy port on the Bremer River and grew in importance with the development of coal mines and railways.

The city has more than 6,000 heritage-listed sites, and there are also some charming townships within the western rural areas. Discover Ipswich's heritage through the historical parks and gardens, galleries and antique stores that scatter the city.

HERITAGE

Ipswich Antique Centre is a multi-dealer antique centre in the 1895 Heritage-listed Congregational Sunday School Hall. Its ever-changing collections ranges from Australian and English antiques to retro furniture to jewellery and glassware. 86 East Street, Ipswich. ipswichantiquecentre.com.au

Top of Town is a historic stretch of Brisbane Street bordered by Ellenborough and Waghorn Streets, with cafes, restaurants, vintage stores, boutiques and collectibles on offer. Original shop facades and heritage buildings include the Old Flour Mill Building, designed by George Brockwell Gill, which is now a retail centre.

Cooneana Heritage Centre is the place to learn about Ipswich's mining history. Home to the Ipswich Historical Society, the centre contains historical photographs, artefacts and mining displays. 1041 Redbank Plains Rd, New Chum. ipswichhistoricalsociety.com

Explore the City of Ipswich's history with one of its self-guided heritage trails and tours. discoveripswich.com.au/heritage-trails-you-can-explore-in-ipswich

Ipswich Art Gallery, in the old town hall, has a collection of over 2,000 works and presents a program of exhibitions and heritage displays, performances and workshops. Nicholas Street, d'Arcy Doyle Place, Ipswich City. ipswichartgallery.qld.gov.au

The Workshops Rail Museum features beautifully restored locomotives, Queensland's largest model railway and interactive exhibitions. North Street, North Ipswich. museum.qld.gov.au/rail-workshops.

The Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway runs trips from Swanbank Station. Swanbank Coal Rd, Swanbank. qpsr.org

THEATRE & ENTERTAINMENT

Studio 188 (studio188.com.au) in the former Ipswich Baptist Church is a creative performing arts space for comedy, music and theatre, while **Ipswich Civic Centre** (ipswichciviccentre.com.au) hosts bigger live events. **Ipswich Little Theatre** (ilt.org.au) runs out of the old Incinerator building and award-winning **Ipswich Musical Theatre Company** (ipswichmusicaltheatrecompany.com.au) stages popular productions. To find out about local art trails, events and festivals, see ipswichfestivals.com.au. **Tivoli Drive-in Theatre** (tivolidrivein.com.au) shows movies on Saturday nights and **Limelight Cinemas** (limelightcinemas.com.au) shows new releases and cult classics.

SPORT

The City of Ipswich is home to more than 60 sport and recreation facilities and 150 clubs and groups. To find a local team go to mycommunitydirectory.com.au.

ADVENTURE

For a bird's-eye view, take a hot air balloon flight (floatingimages.com.au) or a helicopter tour (pterodactylhelicopters.com.au).

Willowbank Raceway (willowbankraceway.com.au) has a program of drag racing including the Winternationals. An array of events is held at **Queensland Raceway** (qldraceways.com.au), where you can get behind the wheel of a supercar.

OPEN SPACES

Ipswich has more than 550 parks and reserves covering more than 8,500ha. To find a park, see ipswich.qld.gov.au/explore/parks_reserves_precincts. The Naeus Explore app (naeus.com) can make it easier to locate and explore some of the many tracks within conservation areas, with GPS guided maps, weather details and more.

Hillview Drive Reserve is 37.2ha of undulating bushland. Part of a trail network across four nature estates, the shared-use trail is ideal for walking and mountain biking. 4 Leslie Drive, Muirlea.

Kholo Gardens at Pine Mountain has lush gardens, a lily pond, walks, giant kauri trees and hoop pines. 243 Riverside Drive, Muirlea.

Queens Park has a playground, flying fox, cafe, Japanese gardens and the Ipswich Nature Centre, with a range of wildlife. 10A Milford Street, Ipswich.

Robelle Domain is 24ha of boardwalks, sports fields, playgrounds and walking tracks, plus a zero-depth water play area, cafe and Orion Lagoon. 155 Southern Cross Circuit, Springfield Central.

Lobley Park has an aviation-inspired playground.

White Rock Spring Mountain Conservation Estate is 2,500ha of bush with trails from 200m to 19km.

Denmark Hill Conservation Reserve has a trail leading to a water tower where you can enjoy 360-degree views of Ipswich.

Hidden Vale Adventure Park has 110km of trails for mountain biking, running and hiking. Park access is \$20. hiddenvaleadventurepark.com.au

Castle Hill Blackstone Reserve has more than 15 International Mountain Biking Association-rated mountain bike trails for all levels.

Flinders Peak is a tough 7km return from the Flinders Plum recreation area, with 500m of vertical climb. The summit offers views of the Scenic Rim and RAAF Base Amberley.

Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, one of South-East Queensland's 14 rail trails, runs 161km from Wulkuraka Station, Ipswich to Yarraman.

brisbanevalleyrailtrail.com.au

Other useful links: ipswich.qld.gov.au/live/healthy_lifestyle/walk_cycle_ipswich; parks.des.qld.gov.au/things-to-do/activities; railtrails.org.au.

ON THE WATER

Ipswich has some great canoeing, kayaking and fishing spots. On the **Brisbane River**, Colleges Crossing Recreation Reserve (Mt Crosby Rd, Chuwar) is the most accessible place for a paddle, with a canoe launch area and barbecue facilities. Be aware that there are bullsharks and stonefish in that part of the river. The 21km paddle from Burton's Bridge (East Summervilles Rd, Borallon) to Kholo Bridge is popular. There are numerous sets of rapids as well as long, still sections where you may see platypus.

The **Bremer River** has 25km of water suitable for kayaking. Safe access points include: Shapcott Park, Gladstone Rd, Coalfalls; Cribb Park, Norma Brown St, North Ipswich; and Joseph Brady Park, Riverside Avenue, Barellan Point. From Joseph Brady Park you can explore the junction of the Bremer and Brisbane Rivers.

OUT OF TOWN

Take a drive to **Marburg**, about 20 minutes west of Ipswich CBD. Stop in at Woodlands of Marburg (woodlandsofmarburg.com) for a coffee or lunch on the weekend and stroll around the gardens. Marburg's streets are lined with heritage buildings.

At **The Llama Farm** in Pine Mountain (thellamafarm.com.au), you can take a llama for a walk or book into a Little Llama Farmer school holiday program. Feed and pet a range of animals at the **Haigslea Ewe Nique Hobby Farm** (eweniquehobbyfarm.com.au) and see newborn lambs in lambing season. For a camel ride or camel milk produce, visit **Summer Land Camel Farm** (summerlandcamels.com.au).



PHOTO: Floating Images balloon flight/ Tourism and Events Queensland



PHOTO: Summerland Camels/ Tourism and Events Queensland



PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland

↑ **Brisbane Valley Rail Trail.**

MORE INFORMATION: Ipswich Visitor Information Centre, Queens Park, 14 Queen Victoria Parade, Ipswich. Phone 07 3281 0555. discoveripswich.com.au





Discover Ipswich... *your new backyard*

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@discoveripswich



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QR code
for social
media links and
eNewsletter sign up

IPSWICH VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

VISIT US at Queens Park
14 Queen Victoria Parade, Ipswich

OPENING HOURS

Monday – Friday 8.30 am – 4.30 pm
Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays 9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Closed New Year's Day, Good Friday, Christmas Day
and Boxing Day

 Discoveripswich.com.au
 (07) 3281 0555
 info@discoveripswich.com.au

discover
Ipswich | 



PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland

↑ Felons Brewing Co., Howard Smith Wharves.

BRISBANE

WITH A WARM CLIMATE and an average of 283 days of sunshine a year, it's no surprise Queenslanders spend lots of time outside. Brisbane has plenty of opportunities with open-air produce markets and green spaces such as Brisbane City Botanical Gardens, Roma Street Parkland and New Farm Park, plus the Brisbane River winding through the city centre. Outdoor dining precincts are also expanding, including Fortitude Valley's James Street (jamesst.com.au) and popular Howard Smith Wharves (howardsmithwharves.com).

For a little adventure, brave the Story Bridge Adventure Climb (storybridgeadventureclimb.com.au) or try a kayaking tour, abseiling or rock climbing (riverlife.com.au).

South Bank has 17ha of riverside parklands, eateries and some of Brisbane's best cultural offerings, including the Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art (qagoma.qld.gov.au), SparkLab Sciencentre (sparklab.qm.qld.gov.au), the State Library (slq.qld.gov.au), Queensland Museum (museum.qld.gov.au/queensland-museum) and Queensland Performing Arts Centre (qpac.com.au). You can also swim at the man-made Streets Beach or relax at the cafes, parks and boardwalks. Little Stanley Street and Grey Street are lined with restaurants, hotels and bars, and The Wheel of Brisbane offers panoramic views of the river, city and mountains. The precinct is also home to regular markets (collectivemarkets.com.au), a community garden – Epicurious Garden, and high-end

riverside dining at River Quay. For details see eatsouthbank.com.au.

The free **City Loop** and **Spring Hill Loop** buses (every 10 minutes on weekdays) and **CityHopper ferry** (between New Farm and North Quay) are good ways to get around the city. Foot bridges span the river and join the city's two sides for pedestrians, and Brisbane's **CityCat fast ferry**

travels from one end of town to the other.

For public transport see jp.translink.com.au.

Take a river cruise from South Bank's Cultural Centre Pontoon to **Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary**, where you can engage with a large variety of Australian wildlife in a beautiful, natural setting. 708 Jesmond Road, Fig Tree Pocket, koala.net.

A short drive west of the CBD, visit the **Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha** and **Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium**. You can also explore 31km of multi-use trails, 18.5km of walking tracks and 23.5km of mountain bike trails or visit **Mt Coot-tha Lookout** for the best view of Brisbane. **Mt Coot-tha Library** in the grounds of the botanic gardens has a collection of books specialising in botany, horticulture and landscape design. The heritage-listed **Toowong Cemetery**, formally opened in 1875, is Queensland's largest cemetery.



PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland



PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland

↑ Cultural Centre Pontoon, Southbank Boardwalk.

MORE INFORMATION: Brisbane Visitor Information & Booking Centre.
The Regent, 167 Queen Street Mall, Brisbane, 07 3006 6290.
South Bank Visitor Centre, Stanley Street Plaza,
South Bank Parklands, 07 3029 1797. visitbrisbane.com.au



↑ Exploring the Tangalooma shipwrecks, Moreton Island by kayak.

SURROUNDING REGIONS

MORETON BAY REGION

Just north of Brisbane, the Moreton Bay Region stretches from the lush hinterland to the coast and out to Bribie Island. Take a drive along mountain roads through the forest, stopping off at a boutique winery, or head for the water to swim, spot dolphins and explore seaside villages.

visitmoretonbayregion.com.au

ISLANDS

Bribie Island is the only Queensland island connected to the mainland by bridge and is about an 80-minute drive from the Brisbane CBD. It has national parks (some with camping facilities), surf beaches, calmer, protected beaches, good fishing and a variety of restaurants and accommodation. Pumicestone Passage is a protected marine park, home to dugongs, turtles, dolphins and birdlife, while Bribie Island National Park is the spot to see goannas, kangaroos and emus.

Moreton Island, 75 minutes by ferry from Brisbane, is the third-largest sand island in the world and can be explored only by 4WD. The sandhills are perfect for sandboarding and further inland there are several freshwater lakes for a dip. The Tangalooma Wrecks, a cluster of deliberately sunken ships, are home to colourful sea life and popular with kayakers, snorkellers and divers. Tangalooma Island Resort offers accommodation, day tours and a wild-dolphin feeding experience. There is also a range of campgrounds and bookable glamping tents.

North Stradbroke Island, a 15-minute boat ride from the Redlands Coast or 45 minutes from Brisbane by car ferry, has a rich Indigenous culture, abundant wildlife and a laid-back community. Dive with manta rays, turtles and reef sharks at Manta Bommie, spot humpback whales in the cooler months or swim in the tea-tree infused waters of Brown Lake. There

are some good nature walks and plenty of cafes and markets for sampling the local fare, including seafood straight off the trawler.

stradbrokeisland.com

SOMERSET

Less than an hour north of Ipswich, Somerset features expansive lakes, mountain forests and tranquil valleys. Travel along winding valley roads to Lake Wivenhoe and Lake Somerset for a picnic, birdwatching, fishing or watersports, or explore the region's wine trail. Cycle, walk or horseride along Australia's longest recreational rail trail, the 160km Brisbane Valley Rail Trail following a former train corridor from Fernvale to Yarraman or follow the art trail.

experiencesomerset.com.au

LOCKYER VALLEY

At the foot of the Great Dividing Range, 70km west of Ipswich, the Lockyer Valley offers a laid-back atmosphere, stunning valley views and the perfect mix of town and country. Explore markets, galleries and restaurants, and stunning national parks. The Cobb & Co Tourist Drive follows the 1860s Royal Mail coach route

with stops at heritage-listed pubs and hotels, historic buildings, villages and lookout points. luyvalockyer.com.au

TOOWOOMBA

At the top of the Great Dividing Range, about an hour's drive from Ipswich, Toowoomba has been dubbed the the Garden City for its numerous parks and gardens, and annual Carnival of Flowers. State-heritage-listed Queens Park and Botanic Gardens (43-73 Lindsay Street, East Toowoomba) covers more than 25ha and features stunning plantings and towering trees, barbecue facilities, playgrounds and an off-leash dog park. The University of Southern Queensland's 4.5ha Ju Raku En Japanese Garden is Australia's largest, most traditionally designed Japanese 'stroll garden' and has a mountain stream and waterfall, 3km of paths and 230 species of Japanese and Australian trees and plants.

Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery (531 Ruthven Street) houses three permanent collections that include some of Australia's most famous painters. The interactive, child-friendly exhibits at Cobb+Co Museum (27 Lindsay Street, Toowoomba) include a hands-on science area, play space and a life-sized horse and carriage.

For panoramic views to the Lockyer Valley, Picnic Point (Tourist Road, Rangeville) is a short drive from the CBD, and has a cafe overlooking the escarpment, a waterfall, playgrounds and short bushwalks. visittoowoombaregion.com.au



PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland

↑ Mount Norman Trail, Girraween National Park.

GOLD COAST

Encompassing iconic Surfers Paradise beach, the dining precincts of Main Beach and Broadbeach, a host of theme parks and lush, green hinterland, the Gold Coast attracts millions of visitors a year.

Experience some of the world's tallest and fastest rides and slides at Dreamworld (dreamworld.com.au), meet movie characters and superheroes at MovieWorld (movieworld.com.au), swim with dolphins and sharks at Sea World (seaworld.com.au), cool off with waterslides at Wet'n'Wild (wetnwild.com.au), step into the future at Infinity Attraction (infinitygc.com.au), or cuddle a koala at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary (currumbinsanctuary.com.au). There's also plenty of interactive adventures, ropes courses, treetop challenges and walking trails in the national parks of the hinterland. destinationgoldcoast.com

GRANITE BELT

Known for its distinct seasons and regional flavours, the Granite Belt is the place for a cosy winter getaway or a spring escape to enjoy the wildflowers and blossoming orchards. The heart of the region is Queensland's Big Apple, Stanthorpe, surrounded by apple and stone-fruit orchards.

The region is also home to Queensland's burgeoning wine scene, with restaurants serving local produce and delis and farm stores offering treats for a picnic among the vines.



PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland

↑ Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary.

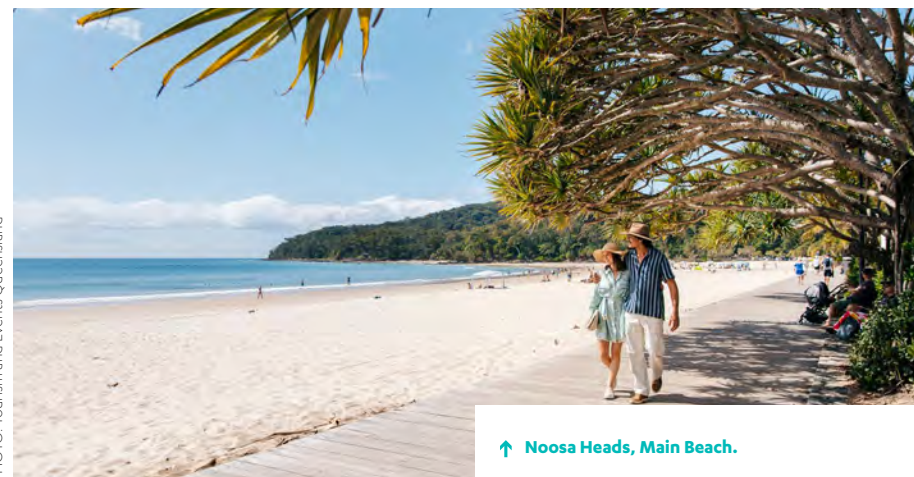


PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland

↑ Noosa Heads, Main Beach.



PHOTO: Tourism and Events Queensland

↑ Street art in Toowoomba.

At Girraween National Park, prehistoric boulders rise out of the landscape and there are plenty of hikes to explore. The Queen Mary Falls circuit in Main Range National Park is a spectacular 40-minute walk through Gondwana rainforests, from the lookouts at the top of the falls to the creek below. southerndownsandgranitebelt.com.au

THE SCENIC RIM

Known for its spectacular scenery, the Scenic Rim also has vibrant art galleries, craft breweries, boutique wineries and bushwalking tracks through national parks. Explore lush rainforests, spectacular waterfalls, rugged mountain ranges and breathtaking lookouts from Mt Tamborine, Lamington National Park, Mt Lindesay and Mt Barney.

Lake Moogerah is popular for boating and jet skiing, with views out to Mt Greville, Mt Alford and the Main Range National Park.

The country roads are dotted with stalls and farm-gate shops offering fresh produce. Take a pub crawl of the country hotels, visit an award-winning winery or relax over a local craft beer. There are numerous driving routes that will take you to charming towns and villages. visitscenicrim.com.au

SUNSHINE COAST

Less than two-hours' north of Ipswich, the laidback Sunshine Coast boasts 100km of sandy coastline, lush hinterland and sweeping views from the volcanic peaks of the Glass House Mountains.

There is a variety of seaside towns and villages, from sophisticated Noosa and urban Maroochydore to easy-going Caloundra.

The hinterland is dotted with charming villages such as Maleny and Montville. visitsunshinecoast.com



VALUED SUPPORTERS

EDUCATION & CHILDCARE

ALLY'S KINDY

Ally's Kindy is a family-owned centre in West Ipswich, five minutes from Amberley RAAF Base. We have been caring for children in the area for more than 16 years. Our mission is based on combining detailed, specific information about the children with our professional knowledge of children's education and development.



CONTACT 07 3282 8888, email - info@allyskindy.com.au, www.allyskindy.com.au

IPSWICH GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A 131-year tradition of academic excellence sets Ipswich Girls' Grammar School apart. As one of Queensland's highest performing non-denominational independent schools, Ipswich Girls' Grammar is a day and boarding school for girls in Years 7 to 12. The School Values, emphasised in every activity, prepare every student for a bright future.



CONTACT +61 (07) 3454 4447

IPSWICH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

With over 160 years of experience teaching boys, we understand what makes them tick. Ipswich Grammar School is one of Queensland's leading independent non-denominational, day and boarding schools for boys from Prep to Year 12. With passionate teachers and a nurturing pastoral care approach, boys are encouraged to develop their character and the confidence and skills to succeed beyond school.



CONTACT 07 3813 9600, ipswichgrammar.com

ONE GIANT LEAP

One Giant Leap Australia Foundation has been established to advance education by providing opportunities for students and educators to develop and build their knowledge and understanding of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The continuation of studies in primary, secondary and tertiary education is encouraged by various activities, including providing education programs about space science, technology and exploration.



CONTACT 0412 326509, onegiantleapfoundation.com.au

WEST MORETON ANGLICAN COLLEGE



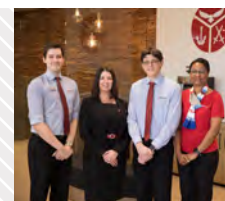
West Moreton Anglican College is a co-educational, independent school set on a picturesque 38-hectare campus. With an all-inclusive fee structure, WestMAC offers diverse opportunities in academics, sports and the arts. Our nurturing environment supports students from Prep to Year 12, fostering individual growth and preparing them for a bright future. Discover a college where excellence meets opportunity. Book a tour today.

CONTACT wmac.com.au, info@wmac.com.au, Keswick Road, Karrabin.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

DEFENCE BANK

Defence Bank is a member-owned bank, serving the financial needs of ADF personnel, their families and members of the Defence community for more than 40 years. With more than 80,000 members and \$3 billion in assets under management, you can be confident your financial security is our priority. Amberley branch open Monday to Friday 9am to 4:15pm.



CONTACT 07 3819 6800, defencebank.com.au, amberley@defencebank.com.au

APS BENEFITS GROUP LTD

APS Benefits Group is a profit-for-member organisation offering a wide range of trusted financial services to help you improve your financial wellbeing through all stages of life, including funeral benefits, loans, investments, wills and estate planning, financial planning, tax, accounting and everything in between. Get in touch with our friendly team to learn more.



CONTACT 1300 131 809, apsbenefitsgroup.com.au

MATES4MATES

Mates4Mates is one of Australia's leading veteran charities actively changing the lives of current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members and families experiencing physical injuries, mental health impacts and social disconnection. More than 11,000 veterans and family members have reconnected and recovered through our mental health and physical rehabilitation services, skills and wellbeing programs, and social connection activities.



CONTACT 1300 4 MATES (62 837), mates4mates.org

RSL QUEENSLAND

Our mission is to provide care, commemoration and camaraderie to enable veterans and their families to live with dignity and respect. That is our guiding light and underpins all that we do. Whether you're after employment, education, social activities with fellow veterans, or help with finances or DVA claims, RSL Queensland has services to help you and your family every step of the way. Free support for DVA claims is now available in person or virtually at RAAF Base Amberley. Call the number below to book.



CONTACT 134 775, email vs@rslqld.org, rslqld.org

LEGACY BRISBANE/IPSWICH

Legacy strives to ensure that the partners and children of veterans who gave their lives or health in recognised military service can fully realise their potential. We provide the essential social, financial and developmental support that these families depend on each day. Your support can help these families in their time of greatest need and deliver personal, long-lasting help.



CONTACT 07 3029 5600, admin@legacybrisbane.org.au, www.legacy.com.au/brisbane, 07 3281 9419, admin@ipswichlegacy.com.au, www.legacy.com.au/ipswich

IPSWICH RSL SUB-BRANCH

The Ipswich RSL Sub-Branch offers a warm welcome to the veteran community, current Defence members and their families. Well-being support advocates are available to help with DVA claims, welfare support and social connection. Drop-in morning teas are held on the third Wednesdays of each month (excluding Dec-Jan), dinners prior to general meetings (every third Monday).



CONTACT 63 Nicholas Street, Ipswich, 07 3281 4159, secretary@ipswichrslsb.com.au, www.ipswichrslsb.com.au

IPSWICH VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

The award-winning Ipswich Visitor Information Centre is home to passionate volunteers who know the region better than anyone and are available seven days a week to assist visitors. The centre provides free booking services for tours and accommodation, free maps, brochures and wi-fi access. It has a cafe and stocks a wonderful selection of local art, gifts and produce.



CONTACT 07 3281 0555, Queens Park, 14 Queen Victoria Parade, Ipswich

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