



THE MISSION

Everyman's Ministry to the 8th/9th Battalion
the Royal Australian Regiment

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I thought I would get out one last short update for the year to thank you and wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. We are truly blessed to have you as a supporter in prayer and finances, may the Lord bless you for this love you have shown to us, we simply could not do what we do without you.

FIRST TEST FOR THE TRUCK



I deployed out to Shoal Water Bay up north near Rockhampton and I was excited to be able to use my new brew truck to support the 8/9 RAR War Fighter exercise and the Brigade exercise. It was a very busy time as I was the only philanthropic support for probably over 1000 people in total. This meant much driving to and from the training area to resupply from the nearest Coles or Woolworths and many late nights but it really was worth every second. I had many opportunities to share the gospel and hand out some 'Battle Bibles' as I mentioned in the last update. I clocked up a few km's as I also needed to go back to Brisbane to move house and there was much involved with that. The new truck has been such a blessing as it is like a five star hotel compared to my previous trucks plus one of my favourite things is the cruise control! It keeps me from accidentally going over

the speed limit on those long drives which is about 10 hours from Brisbane to Shoal Water. Another great feature is the 'Zip' hot water system which is able to boil water in 7 minutes meaning we are more self-reliant than having to always need to find power to heat the water the old way. Oh and did I mention the cappuccino machine! For the rear of my truck I decided to purchase a sticker which has the ribbon bar of the medals that I earned over my time in Defence, I did this not to glorify myself but showing that I have served does open doors with people as it gives me a certain level of credibility with other soldiers and veterans. This is like how Paul became all things to all people in order to win them. May the Lord use this for His glory!





† A WALK TO REMEMBER †

I was invited to participate in an event that was organised by a veterans group that were raising money for their charity. I have been looking to get more involved in this area with the intent of meeting other veterans and being able to share Christ with them. This opportunity was one that would involve some participation. The event was called '42 for 42' the idea began last year when a veteran walked for 42 hours around



Suncorp Stadium with a 42 kg pack on, a mighty feat! The number 42 comes from the 41 soldiers killed in Afghanistan with the 42nd being for all the suicides that have occurred as a result of PTSD post coming back from the war. This year the event was structured differently with teams sharing the load of the 42 kg and swapping over every hour. It was a good opportunity to provide some much needed coffee from the brew truck and to meet some of the families of the fallen soldiers and even sharing my testimony and the gospel with a few.

ON THE HOME FRONT

I mentioned last time that we were about to move, which we did, we moved into a 3 bedroom house in Daisy Hill only a couple of minutes away from where we were. We also have two new house mates – Bjorn and Pancho. Bjorn I have mentioned before who I used to work with in the Army and came to the Lord about 12 months ago and Pancho who is from Bulgaria came to the Lord about 3 or so months ago (he is pictured above with me at the '42 for 42' event. It is really a blessing to be able to have constant fellowship and to teach them the ways of the Lord. Bjorn is going to be married next year and it has been great to be able to share with him some of the lessons we have learnt from our nearly 5 years of marriage.

The year is all but wrapped up for all the Everyman's team as well as the majority of the Defence Force its self. We look forward to 2018 with the expectation of another action packed year. Claudia and I hope that you are able to take some rest during this holiday period to spend it with your loved ones. We urge you to keep your eyes on the Lord especially as our society is changing rapidly to a post-Christian and neo-pagan one that seems to know no bounds in its depravity. Now more than ever we need to take a stand and be the body of Christ despite persecution that will come our way for it and remember what Jesus said:

*"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."
- Matthew 5:11-12*

Merry Christmas!



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Serving the Australian Defence Force