

SIGNALS PLATOON

This has been a year of both frustration and excitement. The year kicked off with the return of some old hands such as Cool Dressing SGT Matoga, the ever balding CPL Jacko Wilson, CPL Sniper Hitman Penfold and the Heavy Weight CPL Headman Drayton. New arrivals were CPLs Dickson and Wood, PTEs Buckton, Burke, Gilmartin, Litchfield, Timmins and Parsons. Sackings from the Platoon this year are CAPT 'I'll be Playing Rugby' Baker, SGT Dicky Knee Jakins, CPLs Have a Chat Nelson, Yeh Mate Tulk, LCPLs Grundy, The Brown Bomber Molineux, PTEs Elliot, Gray, Millington and who could forget Gobben Off Gav Moyle.

Exercises this year has seen the Platoon combating the settling in periods of the new infrastructures of Battalion Headquarters. At the Company level it has been all systems in over drive as the pack mules disguised as Company Signals Detachments have galloped along with the ever increasing speed of the Rifle Companies.

The introduction of the VHF Raven Set left a bewildering look on the faces of some people within the Battalion. However, the combat communicators took this well within their stride and managed to be trained and train the Battalion before deploying

on Exercise Maxi Beagle where the radio proved itself to be more than capable of doing the job; though we should not forget how well the 77 Set served us - you will get no argument here that it was well and truly time to move on.

The Platoon this year has seen a Detachment deploy to New Zealand and the States and at present another preparing for a stint in Butterworth. The real excitement came when twelve members were warned out for duty in Rwanda. This was followed closely by bitter disappointment when Royal Australian Signals Corps filled the slots and our Signallers were left behind. Well done to PTE Gilmartin who managed a slot as a rifleman.

At the present time the Platoon is preparing for another arduous Signals Course in the treacherous training area of Cowley Beach which should prove to be a great success. From there the Platoon will begin its wind down for a much deserved Block Leave but only after a 100% security check and non tech of all equipment within the store has been carried out.

Looking forward to the challenges of next year. Until then, this is Signals Platoon Waiting Out!



*"Can you hear me Stocksy?"
"Shut up Tulk"*