

From the Commanding Officer

Men and women of the Fighting Ninth,

Welcome to the second edition of your Battalion Magazine for 2009.

The first edition this year was described by the Regimental Colonel, Brigadier Hamilton as by far the best he had ever seen in all his time. **“The style and strength of the publication are the signs of a battalion going places!”** he wrote in congratulations.

He was right of course.

This edition covers our most recent exciting period including Ex Shaggy Ridge, ASAAM, the three RRF activities we ran mid-year and another Mod 1 and 2 together with all the great Company and Platoon training that has been going on. Get amongst it.



So, where are we now at as a Battalion?

By any measure – by every measure – we are now **the largest, readiest and strongest Reserve Battalion in the Australian Army**. We are exceedingly well regarded and stand ready to deploy soldiers on operations.

Directly off the back of your outstanding efforts and success so far this year, I have been offered a third year in command. I have snapped it up with great personal excitement.

Thank you.

Please reflect on what we have achieved so far this year. These are no small things. **Strong; competent; fit; ready . . .**

I have seen great leadership from all ranks across the Battalion. I have delighted in getting to know each of you.

I remain honoured to be your Commanding Officer.

Lead with me.

Lieutenant Colonel M.D.A. Bond