
Editorial

Chaplain David Grulke
Interim editor

This is my first and last editorial for the Australian Army Chaplaincy Journal (AACJ). It has been a long journey to this point, as the past is reshaped from the days of *Intercom* into a new, more professionally oriented journal that sits within the suite of recognised Military academic journals. As with all journals, however, they only form a life of their own when they provoke, engage and disseminate the intellectual constructs being formulated within their specific field of interest. Consequently, the AACJ will only take a life of its own once Chaplains and other interested parties embrace the theological discourse required to sustain chaplaincy as a unique and meaningful element within a Military context. In this edition, some of that has begun. With the introduction of the Hulme-Moir lectures, a lecture given to Duntroon's graduating class on character, faith and leadership, the conversation extends itself beyond the clerical voice. Craig Bickell's article is a wonderful personal exploration of the way faith shapes leadership, and Tim Fischer's reflections on Chaplain Frank Roland, interesting in itself as one Catholic reflects on the ministry of a Protestant, demonstrates the diversity with the theological conversation beyond the cloisters of the clerical elite. Even so, there remains an earthy struggle in John Saunder's exploration as to what chaplaincy may look like in an operational context, with a strong focus on reconciliation and peace making being central tasks of chaplaincy. This struggle is also reflected as Stephen Brook's reflects on evil and the various attempts at reconciling this in the contest of a loving God. There is a correlation between the Saunders & Brooks articles,

offered by a Jewish Army Rabbi, which earths the entire discussions in the wake of Young's reflections of Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn after the battle of Iwo Jima. In the midst of evil, suffering, and the inhumanity of war, Chaplaincy functions to reconcile and create peace not just in the lives of those it touches, but beyond with greater capacity into a larger operational setting. Finally, Ben Myer's reflection on Bonhoeffer and community centres the conversation back into the context in which theology become a lived praxis. Chaplaincy exists within a community, not simply a community within the Army, but as part of a larger faith community from which to draw its strength for the task it cases. The articles in this edition provide a breadth in which the theological conversation concerning chaplaincy, faith, leadership and ministry takes place. I pray that you are blessed and engaged by the discussion these writers invite you to join. ■

With the task of preparing the winter Journal almost completed by Chaplain David Grulke it has fallen to me to see it through to completion. It seems appropriate to include an article by David himself as a way of marking his significant contribution to the establishment of the Australian Army Chaplains Department. It is hoped that this article will also serve as a stimulus to theological debate and discussion that will overflow into the 2014 Summer Journal.

Chaplain Don Parker

In the Summer 2013 Edition of the Australian Army Chaplaincy Journal the article *The Past, Present and Future – Conversations on the tensions, Theology and Professionalism of Chaplaincy* was wrongly attributed to Revend Darren Jaensch. The article was authored by Revend Dr David Grulke in consultation with Revend Darren Jaensch.