

SAPPER PROFILE

Eric Howatt (JOCK) was born in Glasgow in 1953 and moved to Australia in 1970 at the age of 17.

During the seventies he completed his trade as Fitter& Turner was married in 1976. He joined Australia Post and Joined the Army Reserve, in 1979 at 7FER in Ringwood East.

In 1984 was he promoted to Corporal. He was Posted to JIRU for 12months for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. He was also posted for 12 months at Ringwood on CFTS as Ops Sgt in 2004. He retired in Aug2013 at 22ER having served most of his career in Sapper NCO postings.

Awards & Decorations: Soldiers Medallion 1997, RFM 3rd clasp, Australian Defence Medal.

Eric has been married to Joanne for 40 years & had 4 children.

In 1989 one of his children Adam died of cancer at the Royal Children's Hospital aged 8 and since that time members of the Regiment at Ringwood & Oakleigh have raised over half a million dollars through the Good Friday Appeal. Next year will be the 30th year of collecting.

Other Achievements:

Given the honour of Honorary Life Governor Royal Children's Hospital 1990.

1993 Awarded Shire of Lilydale Citizen of the Year.

2000 Carried the Olympic Torch .

2004 was Chairman of Board for Anchor Community Services.

2006 Carried the Commonwealth Games Baton.

2007 Was given the Honour of becoming a Justice of the Peace.

2014 was appointed to the Committee of the Royal Australian Engineers Association Victoria.