



RSL QUEENSLAND

2007 CADET OF THE YEAR PROGRAM



Calling on all Queensland
Australian Defence Force Cadets, AAFC, ANC, AAC Cadets and Junior NCO's

JOIN THE 2007 RSL CADET OF THE YEAR AWARD PROGRAM

The RSL in Queensland would like to extend an invitation to all AAFC, ANC, AAC Cadets and Junior NCO's to enter the 2007 RSL Cadet of the Year Award Program (COTY).

The COTY is a joint initiative of the Returned & Services League of Australia (RSL) and the Australian Defence Force (ADF) with awards given to cadets in the Army, Navy and Air Force in each state of Australia.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for the 2007 COTY program you have to:

1. Be Jnr NCO Qualified and hold the rank of LCPL, AB or LAC/W or above by April 2007
2. Commit to attending cadets for all of 2007
3. Be 16 years of age but not older than 18 years as at April 25th 2008

2007 KEY PROJECT DATES

May 30 th	Nominations close
July 1 st	Unit Selections take place
July 30 th	Battalion Selections take place
Sept 30 th	Sth & Nth Qld COTY Selections take place
Oct 30 th	QLD COTY to take place in Nth Qld (date TBC)

PRIZE PACKAGE

The winning COTY from each service will be awarded a trophy and a unique 10 day travelling experience organised by the RSL to a location with military significance.

The 2006 winners will travel to Borneo in a group of tri-service finalists from each state in April 2007.

During 2008 winners will also give presentations on behalf of the RSL (Qld) and the Australian Defence Force Cadets (Qld) at local RSL Sub Branch offices and RSL State Council meetings. These presentations may include members from other RSL branches in Queensland as well as invited guests.

SIGNIFICANCE OF BORNEO

Australia played a significant role in Borneo during the WWII. After the fall of Singapore and Borneo to the Japanese, a prisoner of war camp was established just outside of Sandakan to house approximately 750 British and more than 1650 Australian prisoners.

In 1945, when the Japanese started to realise that the war may have been lost, and the Allies were closing in, the emaciated prisoners were force marched, in three separate marches, to the village of Ranau in the jungle, 250 km away, under the shadows of Mount Kinabalu. Only six Australians of the 2400 prisoners survived the "death march" - no British prisoners survived.

This part of the war is considered by many to be the worst atrocity ever suffered by Australian soldiers.

NOTE FROM RSL STATE PRESIDENT MR DOUG FORMBY

"As one who benefited from my own experience as an Army school cadet many moons ago, I encourage current cadets to apply for this program.



CWOFF Ben Salm (2006 COTY RAAF) with RSL State President, Doug Formby

Everywhere I travel I am asked for my view on the value of the cadet program. So many within our community see the need for the values and experiences offered by the cadet movement in helping to develop our youth.

Those of you who have displayed the commitment to be a cadet are entitled to gain the benefits and in this case a reward for your efforts.

In your future life and career, your intellect and academic achievements will go a long way toward success; but it is your character that will be your most valuable asset. People with a strongly developed character are those that will fill the leadership roles. The experiences gained from the challenges provided in the cadet movement will help to shape your character and therefore help to secure your future.

The 2007 Cadet of the Year Award Program offers an opportunity for you to put yourself to the test and measure your abilities against your peers, something that you should never fear but welcome. Good Luck."

MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about this exciting youth program, please contact MAJ (AAC) June Fielding. MAJ (AAC) Fielding is available to speak about the awards and participation with cadets and/or parents/guardians.

Phone: (07) 5446 7056 (after hours)
 Fax: (07) 5472 7775
 Mobile: 0417 779 801
 Email: June.Fielding@cadetnet.gov.au

RSL COTY representatives, Mr Phil Jones and Mr Ken Green are also happy to attend cadet units to give a presentation on the program.

All requests are to be handed to MAJ (AAC) Fielding in the first instance.

PLEASE NOTE

Unit Bivs and Bn Bivs are the ideal time for selections as this causes little impact on the staff and cadets. Sth Qld AAC Bde selection will take place during Annual Camp.



2007 CADET OF THE YEAR PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM



The COTY program is a core part of the RSL's Youth Charter and greatly benefits those who become involved;

"the young men and women in Australia who are contemplating an involvement in any of the youth programs currently being considered by the League in Queensland, cannot help but give you a sense of pride in the countries youth and a reassurance that the future security of our nation is in good hands".

CADET TO COMPLETE

UNIT _____	SERVICE _____	RANK _____
GIVEN NAME/S _____	SURNAME _____	
ADDRESS _____	POSTCODE _____	
PHONE NUMBER _____	DATE OF BIRTH _____	DATE JOINED CADETS _____

I wish to nominate for the 2007 RSL Cadet of the Year Program and will abide by all rules outlined in the attached selection criteria.

Member Signature _____	Date _____
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PARENT/GUARDIAN TO COMPLETE

I,, parent / guardian / care giver of the above named cadet hereby give permission to nominate for the 2007 RSL Cadet of the Year Program. I also acknowledge that I have read and understand the selection criteria for the 2007 COTY program.

Signature _____	Print Name _____	Date _____
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UNIT/ADMIN OFFICER COMMANDING TO COMPLETE

I, Unit Officer Commanding / Admin Officer Commanding, confirm that the above named cadet is a current serving member of the ANC / AAFC / AAC and has been a member since (date).

OC Signature _____	Print Name and Rank _____	Date _____
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**THIS FORM IS TO FAXED TO (07) 5472 7775 WHEN COMPLETED AND NLT
BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS WED MAY 30th 2007**