

## INFORMATION FOR MARCHERS

### *Serving and Veterans of the Defence Forces*

#### **CEREMONIAL CONTINGENTS**

Ceremonial contingents comprising serving and former members are to form up in the area of Central Ave in the Domain opposite the Art Gallery of NSW by 1030h. If you are being driven to the parade please alight from the vehicle in the lay back in front of the Gallery.

Areas for the five formations, RANR, 2nd Division, 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade and the RAAF to form up will be clearly sign posted. Please report to your Association Sergeant Major to ensure you know your position and where to go to when asked to fall in. Initially the Formation RSMs will be in control before handing over to the 2IC/Formation Commander.

#### **UNIT ASSOCIATION REUNIONS**

Unit Association re-unions will be held at the conclusion of the parade. If you are not a member of your unit's association you would be most welcome to join their activities on the day. Here's your opportunity - 55 unit associations will be on parade. See RFDC web site - details below. Being a member of your Association this year is very important as they will be providing the formal lists of people taking part in the parade and the Governor-General Commemorative Certificates will only be issued to them.

#### **NEATNESS OF DRESS AND GENERAL BEARING**

The Reserve Forces Day Parade is a military parade and former members take pride in their unit association turn out, as we did when we were serving. As a result many Associations have taken the lead by adopting a uniform Association dress code. The Reserve Forces Day Council congratulates them for their initiative and suggests to all Associations to follow their lead.

Unlike past years, members on parade will be viewed by spectators throughout its duration, including the march past and the inspection. In past years the parade proceeded past the saluting dais quickly and any differences in dress e.g. no berets, etc. were not that noticeable. This year we would ask Associations to work on this aspect to ensure we demonstrate the pride and esprit de corps we have in our service and associations. We must remember that our Patron Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO Governor of New South Wales will be wearing her uniform and we should take every effort to be well turned out ourselves and our Association

**Below is a suggested Dress Code for this year's Parade.**

**Beret:** All Associations are requested to adopt the beret to help standardise the head wear except for the Scottish Association and the RAAF NS Association. Many units already wear the beret with pride - for example the Commandos and NSAA. Dark blue is the correct colour for the majority of units and the berets are available at "Christies" (one of our major sponsors) for \$27.50, 127 George Street Sydney, The Rocks - phone 02 9241 5123. See their logo on our web site [www.rfd.org.au](http://www.rfd.org.au). As a reminder the head band must be level and not more than 25mm/one inch above eyebrows join at centre rear, with ribbon neatly knotted and tucked in, cap badge above the left eye, top of the beret pulled over to right side.

**Suit or Jacket:** The preference is for a jacket and tie/suit to be worn. Many associations have a navy blue jacket, white/blue shirt, light grey trousers, (light coloured trousers do not look uniform) black belt, alternatively suit or sports coat. Tie - official Association / Corps tie.

**Lapel Badges:** It is suggested that one or two is adequate.

**Gloves:** White gloves should to be worn by all members of Banner Parties, Standard Bearers and RSMs (and equivalent) for each formation and dress standardised.

**Medals:** Officially issued decorations, campaign and service medals should be worn as appropriate. Medals such as commemorative or souvenir medals - i.e. medals that are purchased not issued by the Government - must not be worn.

**Saluting with Head wear:** Leading members of Contingents are requested to salute to Her Excellency when marching past the dais.

**REGISTER TO MARCH WITH YOUR ASSOCIATION TO BE AWARDED THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S COMMEMORATIVE CERTIFICATE & TO RECEIVE UPDATES. FOR INFORMATION ABOUT JOINING YOUR ASSOCIATION SEE THE RFDC WEB SITE [www.rfd.org.au](http://www.rfd.org.au)**

**MORNING TEA & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE DOMAIN FOR A GOLD COIN DONATION**

#### **KEY DATES:**

**THURSDAY 14 MAY 2009** – FINAL PARADE BRIEFING FOR KEY MEMBERS – 1900H DEFENCE PLAZA. FORMAL INSTRUCTION WILL BE ISSUED LATER.

**SUNDAY 21 JUNE 2009** - PARADE DRESS REHEARSAL ON THE DOMAIN – 0900H. MORE DETAILS WILL BE ISSUED LATER. MEMBERS REQUIRED ARE: STANDARD BEARERS, BANNER BEARERS, FORMATION COMMANDERS, STAFF AND OTHERS AS ADVISED BY RFDC.

**SATURDAY 4 JULY 2009** - PREPARATION OF PARADE GROUND – NOMINATED PERSONNEL

**SUNDAY 5 JULY 2009** - NATIONAL PARADE SYDNEY.