



# eNews March 2025

## Defeating the Unseen Enemy



In the film Lord of the Rings when Frodo Baggins places the ring on his finger the screen turns to black and white and he becomes terrified as he sees the parallel world of spiritual darkness. This is symbolic of the reality of the unseen spiritual world in which we live today.

When a person is born again, God takes the veil away from their eyes enabling them to discern the spiritual realm. Unless we are aware that there is an unseen spiritual world the enemy can defeat us whilst we are totally focused on operating in the physical realm. Some of us have come face-to-face with the physical enemy on the modern battlefield of today but all of us are situated on the spiritual battlefield whether we are aware of it or not.

Not everyone is aware of the fact that the battleground is in our mind. The enemy's aim is to dominate our thinking with lies and deceptive thoughts that destroy our hope and our destiny. He continually whispers lies and deceptions in our ears, heart and mind.

Whilst a unit commander in the ADF-Army I had a "Damascus Road" experience accepting Jesus as my Lord and Saviour, being born again dramatically in the twinkling of an eye following crying out to God for help when I was facing a grievous health issue.

Following my salvation and immediate miraculous healing, praise Jesus! - my beloved soldiers in the unit were taken aback by the instant makeover of their Unit Commander.

As a member of the Military Christian Fellowship (MCF), I have forwarded a number of formal prayer requests to MCF HQ Canberra seeking "top prayer cover" for Brigade and Unit complex live firing training exercises. Copies were also sent to participating senior ranking officers and SNCOs and I was blessed in one instant by one of my non-Christian Field Ranking Officers rating the outcome of the prayer request as one hundred percent effective.

In recent times the Holy Spirit has led me to train emerging "spiritual commandos" in the lethality of applying the natural Principles of War to the Spiritual domain as a way in which we can take the "high ground" in defeating the unseen enemy.

Some examples of the application of spiritual lethality as Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs) -

**# Supernatural Spiritual "Fires"** - Ammunition for our 155mm M777 Howitzers can be symbolic of the word and promises of God. Loading ammunition into the breach is symbolic of meditating on the word of God. Speaking aloud God's promises is akin to firing an "artillery barrage" in the spiritual domain without range restrictions,

**# Authorised Precision Strikes** - Acting with God's spiritual authority targeting "high value targets" in the spiritual battlefield is analogous to an authorised JTACs (Joint Terminal Attack Controller / Artillery Observer) calling in battlefield fire support from close air support (CAIRS), ground and naval firepower assets as an authorised observer.

The attached article entitled “*Defeating the Unseen Enemy*” published in the MCF Crossfire Magazine Number 17 in May 2016 outlines in more detail additional spiritual TTPs that can be employed to maintain our offensive posture.

Strength and Honour in Christ UBIQUE

Major Geoff Robertson RAA (Rtd) – on MCF-A Council as one of the three Member Reps. (Image by [Vilius Kukanauskas](#) from [Pixabay](#))

## MCF-A at DMFS ADF Welcome Events



MCF-A have been privileged to be invited to host stalls at a number of DMFS Welcome Events across Australia in 2025. A huge thank you to the MCF Reps, volunteers, Chaplains, and others who have helped make it possible to spread the word about MCF-A across Defence. Remember to keep an ear out for events near you where MCF may be able to have a stall or talk. The MCF Office is here to help support you, so get in [touch](#) if you need give-aways, Bible material or other support at these types of events, or if you'd like to start an MCF Small Group in your local area – on or off Base.

*Photo – MCF-A Chair and Staff Worker at the welcome event in Canberra recently. Thanks to our partners [Solid Rock Ministry](#) and the ADF Chaplains for a fun day as we shared the shade space.*

## Thanking God for Christian Fellowship



The Military Christian Fellowship group meeting at RAAF Base Williamstown organised an end-of-year wellness and reflection activity on Fri, 29 Nov 24. Participation was opened up and advertised to the entire RAAF Base through Base Notices, and a base ADMININST endorsed by the SADFO. This provided valuable exposure for MCF to the wider community, and drew participation from a number of fellow Christians who had not previously been engaged in Christian fellowship on base, as well as some MCF members' spouses.

Ten participants from multiple resident units across RAAF Base Williamstown met in Newcastle City on a beautiful Friday morning, enjoyed a walk along the foreshore, a long chat at the café, lunch at the pub, and culminated in a guided tour and tower climb at Newcastle Christ Church Cathedral.

The activities provided meaningful opportunities for discussion and reflection. Together, we deepened relationships, explored the challenges and opportunities of being a Christian in Defence, and engaged with the fascinating military history and connections at Newcastle Christ Church Cathedral.

It was a wonderful day providing us valuable time to reflect together, and encourage one another in Christ, and MCF Williamstown hopes to establish this as an ongoing annual event moving forward.

We thank God for his provision and for an enjoyable, safe event, and look forward to more MCF events in the future!

Paul Robson (3), MCF-A Rep, RAAF Williamstown

# National Day of Prayer for Defence – Save the date

All who have a heart to pray for Defence are welcome to join in praying together. Groups will be meeting all across Australia and it is hoped that many local churches will host an event or use the prayer points during their services. Please get involved and uplift the Australian Defence Force in prayer. All welcome, ***you don't need to be in Defence to host a gathering***. It can be in a Small Group, at a Defence Base, in a local Church or by getting a few friends together to pray for these important issues. **You are welcome to organise a time of prayer that works for you and your location.**



**Suggested time: Saturday 24th May, 2025** has been nominated as the date for this event, but you are welcome to host an event before this time that suits your Base, School or Church situation.

**To register your event, time and location, or for if you have questions please email:**

[mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au) Churches and Schools are most welcome to host an event or use the prayer points.

***Use the link below for more info, to find if there is an event near you. Events added as they register. There will be a Prayer Booklet, that can be adjusted for your local area, available via this link in a few weeks' time.***

[National Day of Prayer for Defence 2025 - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia](#)

## Meet one of your two new MCF-A Member Reps

### FLTLT Paul Robson



Paul Robson commenced his defence career at ADFA in 2010. His lovely wife Emily joined him in Canberra after they were married at the end of 2011. Paul finished his BTech Aero degree before commencing pilot training in 2013. His first posting was to 32SQN in East Sale, before staying in Sale as a flying instructor at 1FTS.

Seven and a half years in Sale proved an intense training ground and time of spiritual formation. Paul found himself thrust into church leadership after the passing of their local church pastor. God was incredibly faithful (as always) and used the experience to grow Paul and the community in ways that would not have otherwise been possible, providing a new pastor in due course prior to Paul's departure. While posted there, Paul re-started the MCF group meeting in East Sale with the help of a few local Christians, and Sale was also the birthplace of three of Paul and Emily's four wonderful children.

The Robson family moved back to Newcastle (Paul and Emily's hometown) in late 2021, posted to HQ SRG as SO CDR SRG before returning to a flying role at 2SQN in early 2024. Paul has been thoroughly enjoying seeing God bringing his kingdom to earth at RAAF Base Williamtown through MCF for the last few years, and is looking forward to seeing how God will continue to work in and through him as an MCF Member's Rep.

Paul's interests include listening to and talking about The Bible Project podcast, skiing, sport, and reading good books to his kids.

Paul is on the MCF-A Council as one of 3 MCF-A [Member Reps](#) as elected at the Nov 2024 AGM.

## Grace

### Why events like the National Day of Prayer for Defence are important



From Centre for Public Christianity (CPX) - On Monday 4th November 2024, CPX's Senior Research Fellow Max Jeganathan gave the keynote address at the [National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast](#) in Canberra. He spoke on the topic of grace, something we all need but is often in short supply. In the room were the likes of Peter Dutton, Michelle Rowland, Milton Dick and other parliamentarians, faith leaders, and many everyday Australians. *(Including members of MCF-A.)*

We were really honoured to have the opportunity to be part of the public conversation at an occasion like this. The National Prayer Breakfast is the biggest public faith event in the National Parliament's calendar and Max spoke with humility and encouragement into that space.

*(This [link](#) will take you to a short video from Max discussing his talk and the importance of prayer events. It also has another link where you can watch Max's powerful talk given to the Prayer Breakfast.)*

### The Sallyman celebrates 125yrs of service to the ADF



Since the second Boer war, The Salvation Army has supported serving men and women in times of peace and in conflict. Whether it is field training, in barracks preparing or deployed overseas, The Salvation Army has worked alongside and faithfully ministered to bring comfort, counsel and sustenance. Members of the ADF and the Forum of Christian Military Ministries (FCMM), including the Council of MCF-A, were invited to celebrate 125 years of Red Shield Defence Services (RSDS) with an evening at the Australian War Memorial.

The evening commenced with the Last Post Ceremony in which the story of [William Bramwell 'Bill' Tibbs \(1909-1943\)](#) was read. Bill Tibbs is the only Salvation Army Red Shield Representative who was lost during conflict and members of his family were present.

The ceremony was followed by a group photo by the pool of reflection and then a lovely dinner with representatives of RSDS and its supporting partners in the Aircraft Hall. During the dinner The Salvation Army band played, including a new score written for the anniversary, and they launched a new book on the history of RSDS, "Still serving" by Lindsay Cox, covering the work of The Salvation Army from the Boer War and into the first world war. The book is available through [SalvosOnline](#).

It is a great testimony to God's grace that what started as a brave but simple act of mercy by faithful servants of God 125 years ago has flourished and continues to support and encourage our serving men and women today. This should spur each of us on in our respective Christian service since we may never know what legacy we leave through even our smallest acts of faithful Christian service.

Dave Coleman – MCF Secretary

## First of its kind for ADF Chaplains

Chaplaincy in War – a first of its kind publication has been produced to help ADF Chaplains, Commanders and planners understand the role of Chaplaincy across the spectrum of conflict. You can read more about this in the latest [Army Newspaper](#).

## Other items

### Have you posted or moved house? Are you deploying or away from home for a long time?

**Posted or moved**, please update your details [HERE](#)

**Deploying or on a long exercise?** MCF-A would love to support and pray for you while you're away. Let us know at: [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au)

## Membership

[Membership](#) is free and **open to every Christian**. If you've not had an association with Defence or you don't identify as Christian you can be an associate member via the same link.

## Donations

**MCF is supported almost entirely through freewill donations by members and supporters.** Please look at Supporting MCF in prayer, with your time and through [financial support](#). (Direct debit preferred – details at right side of the webpage link)

***Note that donations (over \$2) to MCF-A are tax deductible.***

## Prayer requests

To put forward prayer points for inclusion in the Prayer Calendar please email the MCF Prayer Coordinator Dr Daniel Solomon [HERE](#)

You can also send through **urgent prayer points** that are sent on confidentially to the MCF Prayer Warriors, or enquire about becoming an MCF Prayer Warrior, by contacting Daniel.

## Contacting the MCF Office

**PHONE:** 02 6132 7845

**EMAIL:** [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au) You can also find us on Facebook and ForceNet.

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