

BIOGRAPHY

MICK SPRING

I was born in Yarrawonga in December 1959 and my family farmed out at Wilby. We moved into town in 1966 and then to Melbourne in 1970. I spent my entire adult life in the Australian Regular Army from 1978 to 2012 and then doing Reserve work until being aged retired in December 2024.

On 30 September 2008, I was deployed to IRAQ for a period of seven months in the Australian Headquarters in Baghdad. In this role as the J13 (Joint Service Personnel Operations), I was awarded the Joint Task Force Commanders Silver Commendation for the creation of a “real time” battle casualty system and introduced a Mortuary Affairs Instruction to compliment the battle casualty system which allowed the dignified and smooth transition of Australian casualties back to Australian shores. I deployed to Afghanistan in 2010 which would be my last tour.

In June 2009 I was recognised in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List with the award of the Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM) for outstanding achievement as the Personnel Operations Warrant Officer in Army Headquarters, Canberra. I created a system to deploy formed troops and individuals for operational deployments. Headquarters Joint Operations Command (HQ JOC) still use this system today.

I was approached in September 2020 about running for the YMGCRC board, which I did and was elected as a Director. In mid-2021 I was appointed as Vice-Captain due to the departure of John Ashby. In October 2022 I was elected as Captain of YMGCRC for a period of one year. I did not seek re-election due to personal reasons.

A large part of my role as Captain was to keep communications lines open and I was diligent in producing information for members on a very regular basis. I was proactive in ensuring that every member was advised of changes that were to occur. I would like to have thought that I was approachable, listened and provided leadership through actions. I’m a club person at heart. I like to have a chat with all members and guests when I can.

Due to my heart attack in February 2022, I am unable to do any physically demanding work. I volunteer at the club, doing Cockatoo/Corella patrols over the summer months and am the current Masters Pennant Captain. I also really enjoyed being on the board of directors, having a voice and helping to grow the club’s strategic plan.

With my many years of military strategic planning experience under my belt I believe I can make a difference once again.

I’ve been married to Donna since 1980. My sporting interests are Golf and fishing.

Thanks for taking the time to have a read.