

DEFENCE COMMUNITY ORGANISATION

*The Defence Community Organisation
Defence capability by delivering family
services, information and programs to
commanders of the Australian Defence*



DCO supports ADF families in peace and war

WELCOME TO SINGLETON



Australian Government

Department of Defence

Welcome to Singleton

This Welcome Book has been prepared by the Defence Community Organisation (DCO) for Defence personnel and their families posting to the Singleton region.

The book captures a wide range of general and local information to assist you to settle into your new location. Singleton and the surrounding region have a lot to offer you, making this a posting with many exciting opportunities.

We have endeavoured to include as much information as possible in this guide, however if you have specific needs or require further information, please feel free to contact us. A list of essential services and useful contact numbers is included at the back of the book.

Your local DCO team hopes you enjoy your posting and we look forward to being of assistance to you.

'DCO supports ADF families in peace and war'

Publisher's Note:

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information given in this publication, the publishers do not, in any way, accept liability for inaccuracies or for any loss of any kind caused through editorial material.

Published by: Early Childhood Australia Inc. for the Defence Community Organisation

Contents

| | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-----------|
| Welcome to Singleton | 1 | Health | 16 |
| Introduction and Welcome | 3 | Defence Community Groups | 17 |
| Defence Support Services | 4 | Defence Special Needs Support Group | 17 |
| Defence | 5 | Defence Families of Australia | 17 |
| Defence Base at Singleton | 5 | Singleton Military Area Support Groups | 19 |
| Units located in Singleton Military Area | 5 | Locality Information | 20 |
| School of Infantry | 5 | General Services | 21 |
| Tactics Wing | 6 | Essential Services | 23 |
| Rifleman Wing | 6 | Transport | 24 |
| Special Forces Training Centre | 7 | Important Numbers | 28 |
| Defence Support – | | Map | 31 |
| DS CNNSW/CS-Singleton | 7 | | |
| Education | 9 | | |
| Regional Education Liaison Officer (REDLO) | 9 | | |
| Defence School Transition Aides | 9 | | |
| Handy Contacts | 9 | | |
| Employment | 10 | | |
| The Services Workforce Access | | | |
| Program for Partners (SWAPP) Select | 10 | | |
| Family Day Care | 11 | | |
| Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) | 11 | | |
| Children's Services | 11 | | |
| Special Needs | 13 | | |
| Relocations and Housing | 14 | | |
| Defence Relocations and Housing Manager | 14 | | |
| Defence Housing Australia | 15 | | |
| Toll Transitions | 15 | | |

Introduction and Welcome

On behalf of the Australian Defence Force and the local community, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your family for your upcoming move to Singleton. It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the Defence Community Organisation's great work in producing this Welcome Book.

Many of you have been posted to a number of locations in your careers so far, however, I have no doubt that you and your family can take heart from a quality of life beyond what is normally expected of a medium-sized rural community. Singleton and its immediate surrounds have a well-established selection of education choices, generous sporting amenities, many shopping options and modern public amenities. It maintains good health facilities, a variety of church and religious presences and many active service groups, all of which see Defence as an integral part of the community. Additionally, DHA and other supporting agencies are actively seeking to build on the excellent living standards already provided.

There are also a number of nearby attractions. Significant recent changes in the adjacent Hunter Valley wine district have occurred in the past decade. The Pokolbin area in particular has become a major tourism drawcard right on our doorstep. The close proximity of Maitland – and the waterways in and around Nelson Bay and Newcastle – provide notable outdoor diversions across a wide range of activities ranging from antiques to fishing and boating.

I would urge you to consider involvement with the local community through education, sporting, religious and business affiliations. Not only will you enjoy your time more, your efforts will assist in keeping the Singleton community vibrant.

Welcome to a great part of Australia and enjoy your time in Singleton.

Lieutenant Colonel Tony Egan
CO/CI School of Infantry



Defence Support Services

Defence Community Organisation (DCO)

How We Can Assist You

On behalf of Command, DCO delivers a broad range of targeted programs and services to support ADF personnel and their families to balance the demands of military service with personal and family commitments.

Your local DCO team is staffed by social workers, military support officers, regional education liaison officers, family liaison officers and administrative staff who are available to assist you and your family through the provision of:

- support in time of crisis
- information on Defence matters in general
- advice on community, recreational and interest groups
- deployment support
- mobility support
- professional counselling for personal, relationship and family problems
- various courses, information sessions and support groups
- specialist education advice and assistance
- special needs recognition and review
- employment assistance
- child care assistance.

Upon your arrival, please contact our staff if you would like further information not covered in this publication or if you would like to be linked to local Defence and community activities and support groups.

Where To Find Us

Infantry Drive, Singleton

Tel: (02) 6570 3348

Fax: (02) 6570 3337

Email: dco.singleton@defence.gov.au

DCO Website

The DCO website <http://www.defence.gov.au/dco> provides ready access to information for Defence families on a broad range of ADF member and family topics.

After Hours Emergency Support

The DCO Office is open from 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. All requests for emergency DCO assistance outside these hours and on public holidays should be directed to the National Welfare Coordination Centre (NWCC) on Tel: 1800 801 026.

NWCC will not transfer callers directly to DCO but, where necessary, will pass a request for assistance to a DCO Duty Officer who will return the call. DCO assistance out of hours is available in emergency situations only. Any non-emergency cases are referred for follow-up assistance during normal business hours.

Chaplains

Protestant denominations
Tel: (02) 6570 3289

Salvation Army
Tel: (02) 6572 3279

All-Hours Support Line

Tel: 1800 628 036 (freecall within Australia)
Tel: +61 2 9425 3878 (outside Australia)

National Welfare Coordination Centre (NWCC)

Tel: 1800 801 026 (freecall)

Defence

Defence Base at Singleton

Lone Pine Barracks
Singleton Military Area
Singleton NSW 2331

Units located in Singleton Military Area (SMA)

School of Infantry (SOI)

The School of Infantry's main task is to train officers and soldiers – GRES and ARA – from all over Australia in the skills required of them for their employment in the Infantry Corps. To do this effectively, all staff posted to the School of Infantry work very long hours, often in excess of 60 hours a week. There are approximately 200 military personnel and many civilian staff employed at the School of Infantry.

The school is kept extremely busy, with approximately 40 courses conducted each year and approximately 18 platoon-sized march outs of IET soldiers annually. To run these courses effectively to the high standard that is required, the School of Infantry is made up of wings or sections.

■ HQ School of Infantry

In order for the SOI to operate effectively, the administration is left largely to the HQ, which is supported by the Defence corporate support staff.

■ The Regimental Aid Post (RAP)

The RAP is responsible for providing medical support to all soldiers in the SMA. Sick Parade is 7.30–10.30am daily.

■ Gymnasium

The gymnasium staff are concerned with the physical fitness of all staff and students alike.

Opening times:

Gym

Mon–Fri, 6.30am–6pm

Sat, Sun and public/hols, 9am–12pm

Cardio Room

Mon–Fri, 6.30am–10pm

Sat, Sun and public/hols, 9am–5pm

Pool

Mon–Fri, 6am–8pm

Sat, Sun and public/hols, noon–5pm

Tactics Wing

This wing is responsible for all infantry promotion and specialist courses, from the rank of corporal to captain. The wing has sections consisting of:

- the Platoon Team, which conducts the Regimental Officer Basic Course, which prepares recently graduated lieutenants for service as platoon commanders. It also conducts the Supervisor Infantry Operations – Platoon course to prepare CPLs to be platoon sergeants.
- the Recon/Sniper Section, which is responsible for the conduct of officer/NCO recon/sniper training.
- the DFSW section, which conducts the Officer/NCO DFSW course and is currently implementing the training for the Javelin Anti-Armoured Weapon System.
- the Company Team, which conducts module one of the Supervisor Infantry Operations – Company course for SGT's being considered for promotion to WO2.

Rifleman Wing

Rifleman Wing conducts the 11-week Infantry Initial Employment Training (IET) course for all Regular Army Infantry Soldiers. Rifleman Wing Headquarters consists of Operations/ Training Cell and a Personnel/Logistics cell. The Headquarters commands two companies: Alpha Company consists of six IET Training Platoons, who are responsible for the conduct of the IET course, and a Holding Platoon for soldiers about to begin training; while Bravo Company consists of a Training Support Platoon, Rehabilitation/Retraining PI for medically restricted personnel or soldiers who require remedial training before completing the course, and a Transition Platoon for soldiers who are transferring to another corps or discharging.

Rifleman Wing – The future of the Royal Australian Infantry Corps

Special Forces Training Centre (SFTC)

SFTC is a separate unit that belongs to Special Operations Command. SFTC's mission is to support individual training and reinforcement of the Special Forces Group, in order to enhance the operational effectiveness of Special Operations Command. SFTC consists of a HQ and three Wings, with 60 personnel. The unit conducts a variety of tasks including:

- recruitment, testing and training of potential reinforcements
- conducting the Commando Reinforcement Training Continuum
- supporting Special Air Service (SAS) selection
- providing operational support to Special Operations Command.

Each year SFTC conducts the Commando Reinforcement Training Cycle with the aim of training up to 144 commandos to be employed within Special Operations Command. It is a demanding training continuum that necessitates a strong commitment of dedicated, professional instructors and supporting staff. Overall, SFTC is a high-tempo unit run by a relatively small cadre of staff that trains soldiers in a variety of environments to include amphibious and land-based training areas.

Defence Support – DS CNNSW/CS-Singleton

DS-Singleton provides the full range of DSG products and services to CNNSW, which extends from the Hawkesbury River in the south to Tweed Heads in the north, Newcastle in the east to Cobar in the west. It covers all ARA, GRES and Cadet Depots/Units. It also provides support to units visiting CNNSW. The Regional HQ is located on RAAF Base Williamstown. DS-Singleton also includes the Singleton Training Area (STA). The DS-Singleton Customer Service Centre (CSC-S) provides administration support to the SOI and some aspects to SFTC.

■ Area Theatre

Centre Drive
Singleton Military Area
Tel: (02) 6570 3283

■ Military Museum

Wings Road
Singleton Military Area
Tel: (02) 6570 3257
Hours: Wed–Sun, 9am–4pm

■ Barber

Theatre Way
Singleton Military Area
Tel: (02) 6570 3282
Hours: Tues, Wed, Thur, 8am–4pm

■ Legal Officer

(visits first Tuesday each month)

* Soldiers from Singleton Military Area are to book through the DS-Singleton Customer Service Centre
Tel: ext# 3100

■ Defence Community Hall

Infantry Drive
Tel: (02) 6570 3116

■ Military Police

Infantry Drive
MP Duty Room
Tel: (02) 6570 3406

■ Australian Defence Credit Union

Tel: (02) 6570 3288
Hours: 10am–2pm; pay Thurs, 9am–2pm;
Pay Fri, 10am–2.30pm

■ Sporting Facilities

(e.g. swimming pool, squash courts)
Area Gymnasium
Centre Drive
Tel: (02) 6570 3479

■ Defence Credit Union

Tel: (02) 6570 3326
Hours: 9am–2pm and Thurs evenings, 6–7pm

■ Post Office

Theatre Way (located in Australian Commercial Catering Canteen)
Tel: (02) 6570 3463

■ Australian Commercial Catering Canteen

Hours of operation
Mon–Fri, 8am–8.30pm
Sat, closed
Sun, 5–8.30pm

■ Infantry Library Heritage Centre

Tel: (02) 6570 3462

■ SNP Security

Duty Room
Infantry Drive
Singleton Military Area
Tel: (02) 6570 3215

Call to arrange an appointment for security access ID. Form available on the Singleton Military Area Bulletin Board.
Tel: (02) 6570 3417

Education

Regional Education Liaison Officer (REDLO)

The Regional Education Liaison Officer (REDLO) can provide you with information and advice about the education system in your posting locality and the Education Assistance Scheme available through the Department of Defence.

The DCO booklet, *Education – New South Wales*, is available from the REDLO and contains information about preschool, primary, secondary and tertiary education in New South Wales. It also covers services available for children with special needs, information on changing schools and details of the Education Assistance Scheme.

Defence School Transition Aides

Defence funds Defence School Transition Aides in a number of schools in the state. Defence School Transition Aides (Primary) and Defence Transition Mentors (Secondary) are employed to assist families as they relocate to a new school.

They can:

- organise activities that welcome and farewell ADF families and help them settle into the new school community
- assist the school to understand the needs of ADF parents and their children
- inform the school and support families if ADF members are deployed
- help families with special needs
- assist families collect work portfolios and academic records or reports for the new school
- act as a point of contact for ADF families in the new school.

The DSTA helps all Defence children at the school should they seek or require assistance. It is not intended that the DSTA work with one child on a long-term basis.

Contact the REDLO for further information.

REDLO NSW Contact Details:

Tel: (02) 9377 3316

Email: redlo.nsw@defence.gov.au

Handy Contacts

Guide to NSW Secondary Schools

Internet: www.schoolchoice.com.au

Public Schools NSW

Internet: www.schools.nsw.edu.au

Employment

The Services Workforce Access Program for Partners (SWAPP) Select

SWAPP has been enhanced with the new SWAPP Select, providing a greater selection of employment-enabling initiatives to assist an ADF partner become job ready and gain employment in the new posting locality. These initiatives include:

Professional Employment Services

Funding of up to a maximum of \$2,500 is available for a partner to choose a professional agency to provide some or all of the following services:

- career transition assessment and advice
- job search techniques and strategies
- preparation and presentation for interview
- application and selection criteria preparation
- identifying training options
- identifying job options.

Training

Assistance with individual training required to secure immediate employment is available, up to a maximum cost of \$2,500. Training can either be as a direct result of an employment offer, or identified by your professional service provider as enhancing your prospects of gaining immediate employment. The training must be completed within 12 months.

Personalised Resume Preparation

Funding assistance is available to a maximum of \$500 for a partner to choose a professional agency to prepare their resume. Alternatively, a resume preparation CD is available through your local DCO office, which provides assistance in preparing your own resume.

Child Care

Reimbursement of childcare costs, up to a maximum of \$250 per child, is available while you pursue job search activities, for example: travelling to appointments; participating in training; preparing job applications; or attending interviews.

Internet Access

If you are posting to a specified 'very remote locality', assistance with funding internet access costs, up to \$30 per month, is available to allow you to undertake distance learning that could enhance your employment opportunities.

Professional Registration Expense Payments (PREP)

If you post to a new locality and are required to re-register or undertake a short upgrade course of up to 12 months in duration (inclusive of university or TAFE) in order to obtain the same employment opportunities you had in your previous locality, this cost can be reimbursed under PREP.

Family Day Care

Funding is available under the Extended Child Care Program (ECCP) to assist with the mandated initial set-up costs incurred by Defence spouses commencing employment as carers with registered Family Day Care schemes.

For more information on how to become a family day care provider, or where to find your local family day care scheme, please contact Family Day Care Australia.

Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT)

Assistance provided under SWAPP Select and the ECCP will attract FBT. Further information on this is available on the DCO website.

Further Information

Further eligibility information for SWAPP Select and the ECCP, including application forms, can be obtained from your local DCO office and on the DCO website at <http://www.defence.gov.au/dco>

Children's Services

Defence Child Care Program

The purpose of the Defence Child Care Program is to aid mobility by facilitating priority of access to child care for Defence families where the local community is unable to meet the demand for child care places. Accordingly, the program is focused on ensuring mobile Defence families can access some form of child care on arrival in the gaining locality. This is achieved through a variety of centre and non-centre based child care. Defence does not directly subsidise the cost of any form of child care for Defence families, nor is child care an entitlement.

Defence Child Care Centres

All Defence/Corporate Child Care Centres across Australia are managed for Defence by ABC and are required to meet the state/territory Child Care Regulations for licensing and the requirements for Child Care Benefit (CCB). The centres provide priority of access to Defence families in accordance with Defence's Priority of Access (POA) guidelines.

A full list of the centres and the Defence POA guidelines are available on the DCO website.

National Enrolment Call Centre

The ABC National Enrolment Call Centre can be contacted on Tel: 1800 222 543 for Defence families to:

- access placements in Defence/corporate child care centres
- book child care in the preferred location in advance of relocating to that area
- receive information on other centres in a general line of travel between work and home, if child care is not available in the family's preferred centre
- receive information regarding employment in Defence/corporate child care centres.

Family Day Care

Family day care is home-based child care by a qualified, monitored family day care provider. For more information on family day care, you can contact other schemes in your area through Family Day Care Australia.

Army Playgroup – Little Diggers

DC Hall, Infantry Drive
Tel: (02) 6570 3296

Handy Contacts

Defence Community Organisation

Internet: www.defence.gov.au/dco/childcare.htm

ABC

Internet: www.childcare.com.au

Tel: 1800 222 543

Child Care Access Hotline – provides up-to-date information about childcare options and locations:

Tel: 1800 670 305

Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Internet: www.facsia.gov.au

The National Childcare Accreditation Council (NCAC)

Internet: www.ncac.gov.au

Family Day Care Australia

Tel: (02) 4320 1100 or 1800 658 699

Internet: www.familydaycare.com.au

Special Needs

When Defence families with special needs are posted, they might have difficulties accessing the services they require. These problems tend to relate to obtaining (or keeping) appropriate specialised equipment, waiting lists for accessing respite or therapy services in the new locality, and having appropriate accommodation that caters for the additional requirements of the family member with special needs.

In order to address some of these difficulties, Defence has a comprehensive program of assistance and support measures that can be accessed by ADF families who are formally recognised as having a dependant with special needs. The Dependants with Special Needs Program includes:

- a procedure whereby families can have their status as a special needs family formally recognised and reviewed by Defence
- a procedure whereby families can have their special needs status reviewed prior to relocating (required where families are seeking assistance in the new posting locality)
- a special needs pre-posting visit
- assistance to access specialised equipment in the new locality
- assistance to access therapy services in the new locality
- assistance to access respite services in the new locality
- assistance in the provision of appropriate housing and transit accommodation.

Contact your local DCO office for more information or to make an appointment to formalise recognition or for an assessment of assistance on posting.

Children with Special Needs

The decision on where to enrol a student, and with what level of support, will depend on a number of factors, including the student's educational needs, the expressed desires of parents and caregivers, the capacity of the education system to provide the level of support services required generally and at a particular location, and the availability of appropriate support services at alternative locations.

It is important that parents of children with special needs contact the REDLO as soon as notification of posting is given to facilitate the appropriate placement, so that the support is available for the student from the time of arrival at the new school.

Relocations and Housing

Defence Relocations and Housing Manager

Defence Relocations and Housing Managers are employed to assist ADF members and their families by liaising with DHA, Toll Transitions and the Defence Community Organisation in each region to make their relocation easier for them and their families. If you have an enquiry regarding your housing maintenance/allocation or relocation services, do not hesitate to contact your local Defence Relocation and Housing Manager listed below.

| Area | Names | Telephone | Mobile | Fax |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Williamstown | Roger Lamothe | (02) 4964 6964 | 0413 728 512 | (02) 4964 6972 |
| | Vanessa Sellick | (02) 4928 6565 | 0429 127 082 | (02) 4964 6972 |

Defence Housing Australia



Defence Housing Australia (DHA) delivers a range of housing and relocation services through a network of Housing Management Centres (HMCs) across Australia. DHA will help you and your family find a suitable service residence or other permanent accommodation in your gaining location. DHA is your first point of contact for relocations, allocations, emergency maintenance or queries you have regarding your housing needs.

For information about your removal, entitlements, allowances, or for help with any aspect of your move, please contact your local Housing Management Centre.

Handy contact information:

Defence Housing Australia

National Call Centre

Tel: 1800 249 711

Australia-wide 24-hour maintenance hotline

Tel: 1300 366 615

DHA website: www.dha.gov.au

Toll Transitions



You can complete your inventory online, in your own time at www.tolltransitions.com.au/defence. When you need to, you can save the inventory and return to it when you have the time. You can re-use the inventory every time you relocate. Simply log onto the website and amend your stored inventory.

You can download the 'Easymove Guide' from the website. DHA will also provide you with a hard copy of the guide when you are relocating.

After your move, in the unfortunate event of loss or damage, you can submit your Notice of Loss or Damage online direct to Toll Transitions' Warranty Management Centre (WMC).

For 24-hour relocation enquiries and assistance contact Toll Transitions on Freecall Tel: 1800 819 167.

Health

Community Health

Singleton District Hospital

Dangar Rd, Singleton
Tel: (02) 6571 9222

Singleton Community Health Centre

Hospital Grounds, Boonal St, Singleton
Tel: (02) 6571 9248

Services available: asthma education, clinical psychology, speech pathology, social work, audiometry (paediatrics only), child and family health (early childhood), type-2 diabetic education, occupational therapy, dietetics, immunisation, continence and footcare. Other visiting services: Aboriginal health liaison officer, adolescent and family counsellor, drug and alcohol counsellor.

Other Support Services

Home and Community Care Service of NSW

3 Bathurst St, Singleton
Tel: (02) 6571 2300

Neighbour Aid

3 Bathurst St, Singleton
Tel: (02) 6571 2300

Singleton Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

88 George St, Singleton
Tel: (02) 6571 2499
Email: snc@hunterlink.net.au

This centre provides information and access to a variety of services, including women's health, financial counselling and migrant services.

Defence Community Groups

Defence Special Needs Support Group (DSNSG)



The DSNSG is a national volunteer organisation established to provide support, information and assistance to Defence families who care for someone with a disability or special need. Membership is free. Services provided include local support groups, respite program, posting plans, specialised support for adults with special needs, Computers 4 Kids, access to grants, national newsletter, social skill programs for children and much more. For more information, contact the National Office.

National Coordinator

Margaret Fisk

Tel: 1800 037 674

Internet: www.dsnsng.com.au

Defence Families of Australia (DFA)



Defence Families of Australia (DFA) has been representing the views of Defence families for more than 20 years. It is a voluntary group of energetic and dedicated Defence spouses appointed by the Minister assisting the Minister of Defence. We are in the unique position of having access to the minister, senior Defence members and key organisations that directly impact on the lives of Defence families.

DFA's aim is to improve the quality of life for Defence families by providing a recognised forum for their views and by reporting, making recommendations and influencing policy that directly affects families. The DFA Executive attracts volunteers from all services and ranks, to ensure we represent families adequately and understand the issues at all levels. We are all living the unique lifestyle that comes from being married to a Defence member. DFA also recognises that families today are very diverse and face different challenges as they move through their phases of life.

Geographically, DFA volunteers are located all around Australia, representing families at a local, regional and national level. Our national delegates are located in each state and we try to have a senior representative on each base around Australia. We rely on good communication between each other and families in each region to ensure that, when issues are raised, they are taken to the appropriate stakeholder at a local level or, if necessary, raised to a national level.

Issues and committees that DFA are currently involved in include:

- child care expansion program
- Family Support Funding Advisory Committee
- Defence Housing Australia Advisory Committee
- New Housing Classification Policy
- superannuation review
- deployment, relocation and housing support
- education assistance review
- support to community groups and houses.

DFA's national conference is held annually and provides an opportunity for face-to-face time where we discuss and develop feedback from all regions. We liaise with Defence stakeholders and work with areas that support ADF families. Together, as a team, solutions, additions, improvements and initiatives are created for ADF families.

Support!

DFA seeks the opinion of families about essential services and entitlements. By joining our DFA family network, you are supporting our aims to represent your needs and improve service conditions for all ADF families. Please take a few minutes to enter your details on our website www.dfa.org.au/subscribe.php. You will receive quarterly DFA news bulletins updating you on DFA activities and contribute to being a 'voice for Defence families'.

How can you be involved in DFA?

If you are interested in learning more about DFA, or becoming a volunteer in your area, please contact your local national delegate or check out our website.

Up-to-date family/spouse information is available on our website: www.dfa.org.au.

If you need help or advice:

Tel: 1800 100 509

Singleton Military Area Support Groups

There are a number of groups that have been formed by wives/partners of serving members as community support groups. If you are interested in joining any of these groups, contact the Defence Community Organisation on Tel: (02) 6570 3296 for further information.

Lone Pine Community

Lone Pine Community is the 'umbrella' organisation for other Defence spouse groups such as SWISH and Playgroup. It is run by a group of volunteers and they oversee the overall management of the groups and discuss any matters brought to their attention. The Defence Community Organisation works closely with the groups and supports them in their efforts.

Playgroup

The Little Diggers Army Playgroup meets on Monday mornings from 9.30am–12pm at the Defence Community Hall. There are organised activities for the children and a chance for mums to have a cuppa and meet new friends. From time to time, the group meets at a park in town or a place of interest – e.g. a visit to the fire station.

SWISH (Singleton Wives Initiating Self Help)

This group is made up of service spouses who meet on a regular basis. These meetings are informal and the ladies do craft work. Tutors throughout the year teach new crafts. Some crafts include painting, card-making, embroidery, patchwork and cross-stitch.

For further information on times, topics and requirements, contact the Defence Community Organisation on Tel: (02) 6570 3296.

Locality Information

Statistics about Singleton

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Population: | 21,000 |
| Shire Area: | 4,893 sq km |
| Height Above Sea Level: | 73.2m |
| Annual Rainfall: | 698mm |
| Average Temperatures: | Summer 29°C, Winter 6°C |
| Wettest Month: | January |
| Driest Month: | June |

Shopping

Woolworths and Big W, located in the Gowrie St Mall Complex, Gowrie St

Franklins, located in The Plaza, Gowrie St
IGA, located in The Square, John St

Sports

For information on current sporting clubs, phone the family liaison officer on Tel: (02) 6570 3296.

The contact details for the AFL could be of interest to members posting into SMA.

Australian Rules Football Club

Singleton Roosters

Train: Tuesday and Thursday nights, 6–7.30pm

Where: Rose Point Park (ovals behind Big W in Singleton)

Contacts Tel: Corey on 0431 338 348 or

Naomi on 0407 480 814

Email: singleton_bdaf1@yahoo.com.au

Movie Theatres

Singleton Army Base Area Theatre

Screenings:

Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday nights

Tel: (02) 6570 3283

Cost: \$4 adults, \$2 children

Singleton Rose Point Cinema

Rose Point Complex, 21 Ryan Ave, Singleton

Tel: (02) 6571 5253

Movie Info-line Tel: (02) 6571 5252

General Services

General Contact Information

Electoral Information

Australian Electoral Commission – Hunter
Division
13 Mitchell Dr, East Maitland
Tel: 13 23 26

Centrelink

Shop 16 The Square, Singleton 2330
Appointments
Tel: 13 10 21
Family Payments
Tel: 13 61 50
Email: www.centrelink.gov.au

Singleton Post Office

138–140 John St, Singleton
Tel: (02) 6572 2577
Internet: www.auspost.com.au

Australian Taxation Office

Personal Tax Infoline Tel: 13 28 61
Internet: www.ato.gov.au

Department of Community Services

Shop 7 Commercial Centre
Market Lane, Muswellbrook
Tel: (02) 6543 2455

Domestic Violence Line 24-hour
Tel: 1800 656 463 (freecall)

DOCS Helpline
(To report child abuse and neglect) – 24-hour
Tel: 13 21 11

Singleton Court House

Elizabeth St, Singleton
Tel: (02) 6572 1170

National Parks & Wildlife Service

General Information
Tel: 1300 361 967

Hunter Range Area Office/Workshop
Tel: (02) 6574 5275
Internet: www.npws.nsw.gov.au

State Emergency Service

For assistance during flood
and storm emergencies.
Tel: 13 25 00

Banks

Banks and building societies
all located in John Street.

Newspapers

Singleton Argus
Published Tuesday and Friday
6-8 Campbell St, Singleton 2330
Tel: (02) 6572 2611

NRMA Road Service

84 John St, Singleton 2330
Tel: (02) 6571 4260
Road Service Tel: 13 11 11

Churches

Anglican

All Saints Church, High St
Tel: (02) 6571 1414

St Luke's Church
Wynyard St

Singleton Family Christian Centre

23 Maitland Rd
Tel: (02) 6572 1878

Seventh-Day Adventist

Doyle St
Tel: 02 6571 2102

The Salvation Army

4 York St
Tel: (02) 6572 2690

Uniting

Church St
Tel: (02) 6571 1557

Presbyterian

Elizabeth St
Tel: (02) 6572 4560

Christian Israelite

Cnr Bishopgate & Goulburn Sts
Tel: (02) 6572 1198

Singleton Evangelical Church

Hunter St
Meets at the Public School
Tel: (02) 4933 0145

Catholic

St Patrick's Church Office
Queen St
Tel: (02) 6578 9600

Jehovah's Witness

Kingdom Hall
Curtis St
Tel: (02) 6571 2255

The Faith Walk Church Inc.

562 Gresford Rd
Sedgefield via Singleton
Tel: (02) 6574 1311

Baptist Church

Gardiner Cct
Tel: (02) 6573 1582

Essential Services

Energy Australia

Residential Inquiries

Tel: 13 15 35

A \$200 security fee is required for reconnection of supply.

Business hours: Mon–Fri, 7am–4pm

Electricity & Gas Sales

Residential

Tel: 13 15 03

Loss of Electricity/Emergencies

Tel: 13 13 88

Internet: www.energy.com.au

Telstra

Tel: 13 22 00 and follow the prompts.

The connection fee is from \$59 if service has been disconnected.

Internet: www.telstra.com

Gas

■ **Elgas**

General Enquiries

Tel: 13 11 61

Internet: www.elgas.com.au

■ **Kleenheat**

Tel: 13 21 80

Internet: www.Kleenheat.com.au

■ **Hunter Premium Lubricants**

Maison Dieu Industrial Area

6 Hambledon Hill Rd, Singleton

Tel: (02) 6571 1472

Garbage Collection Services

Contact Singleton Shire Council to check correct day of garbage service and location of garbage dumps.

Tel: (02) 6578 7290

Transport

Defence Driving Scheme

With the exception of Victoria and the Northern Territory (NT), Commonwealth, state and territory authorities implemented a Defence Driving Licence Scheme (DDLS) for ADF personnel and eligible members of their families. Under the DDLS, personnel and their family's driving licences are recognised throughout Australia and thus no requirement exists to change a driving licence solely because of a transfer interstate. On expiry, however, licences must be renewed in the current state or territory of residence.

Partners of defence members can drive in NSW on an interstate licence but must carry with them a valid driver ID document issued by the Commonwealth. Refer to DI-G (Pers 17-2) Form AB135, available in the Singleton Military Area from Transfield.

Registration

Registering a vehicle in NSW can be quite a daunting task – what with 'Blue Slip', 'Pink Slip', 'Green Slip', it can get quite confusing. Hopefully, the following information will address some of the questions you might have.

If your vehicle is registered interstate, it is classed as unregistered for NSW registration purposes. To transfer the registration of a vehicle from interstate to NSW, you will need to take the vehicle for an inspection at an AUVIS (Authorised Unregistered Vehicle Inspection Station) to obtain a 'Blue Slip'

– a Vehicle Identification and Inspection Report (identity and safety check). These are usually mechanic shops and service stations and are all around the local area, displaying a blue AUVIS sign.

Once you have obtained a Blue Slip you will need to arrange to purchase a 'Green Slip' – compulsory third party insurance. Green slips provide compensation for other people injured by your vehicle, when you or the person driving your vehicle is at fault. Advise the insurer that a new policy is required and the number plate field must be left blank.

Green Slips can be purchased through agencies at pharmacies, newsagents, banks and building societies. Shop around for quotes before you purchase, as there can be substantial differences in prices.

Green Slip Helpline

Tel: 1800 021 031 (freecall)

Internet: www.mass.nsw.gov.au/price_guides/

Proof of Ownership

You will be required to prove ownership of the vehicle – i.e. registration papers in your name.

Interstate vehicles require a clearance from the Register of Encumbered Vehicles (REVS); NT and ACT are exempt.

Queensland and Victorian drivers can obtain a clearance from NSW REVS on Tel: (02) 9600 0022; Tasmanian on Tel: (03) 6238 9263; Western Australian on Tel: (08) 9222 0711; and South Australian on Tel: (08) 8232 0800.

Note: REVS clearances are valid for 38 days from date of issue. If your vehicle is under finance, you will be required to produce authorisation from the lending body to register the vehicle in NSW.

Once you have obtained your Blue Slip, your Green Slip and REVS clearance, you need to fill in the appropriate form at the Motor Registry and pay for registration. You must provide proof of your identity when you attend the Motor Registry to register the vehicle, for example:

- Defence Force identity card
- a current driver's photo licence from interstate
- passport/birth certificate
- Medicare card/credit card/passbook
- telephone/gas bill.

At least one of the identity documents must show your signature and all documents must be originals. (It is always a good idea to take more than one form of identification with you.)

The Motor Registry offices are notorious for waiting times so allow plenty of time. When your registration comes up for renewal, a renewal notice will be sent to you in the mail. You are then required to obtain a Pink Slip (roadworthy certificate) from an authorised inspection station and a Green Slip (compulsory third party insurance) and take them, along with the renewal notice, to the Motor Registry for payment.

Should you require further information, you can contact the RTA customer service centre on Tel: 13 22 13, or 1800 624 384. You can also visit the RTA website: www.rta.nsw.gov.au.

Note: NSW authorities permit ADF members and their dependants to drive interstate-registered vehicles only until the expiry of the registration. People illegally operating in NSW can be liable for fines of up to \$2,200.

Registration Costs

Registration and associated costs vary depending on the tare and type of vehicle being registered. Green slip prices depend on the age and type of vehicle and the age of the registered driver.

Road & Traffic Authority

Unit 11/12 Rose Point Centre
9/21 Ryan Ave, Singleton
Tel: 13 22 13
Internet: www.rta.nsw.gov.au

Transport Services

Bus

Hunter Valley Bus Co.

19 John St

Tel: (02) 6572 2555

Internet: www.huntervalley.com.au

A regular bus service from Singleton Heights to town and from South Singleton to town and return. Daily service to Maitland and return.

Keans' Travel Express

Tel: (02) 6543 1322

Regular coach from Singleton to Sydney via Cessnock.

McCafferty's Express Coaches

Reservations and Enquiries

Tel: 13 14 99

Internet: www.mccaffertys.com.au

Greyhound Australia

Tel: 13 14 99

Saxbys

36 Carrington St

Tel: (02) 6571 4666

School and private bus hire.

Anvil Bus Charters

18 Macquarie St

Tel: (02) 6572 4224

School and private bus hire.

Cowans Bus Service

Maggie St

Tel: (02) 6571 1011

Valley Bus & Coach

PO Box 280

Singleton

Tel: (02) 6571 2022

School and private bus hire.

Singleton Community Transport Group Inc.

3 Bathurst St, Singleton

Tel: (02) 6571 2300

HACC funded to assist people who are aged, frail or disabled with transport.

Planes

A comprehensive flight service is available at Williamtown Airport. It is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes from Singleton. Bookings through local travel agents listed below.

Harvey World Travel

85a John St

Tel: (02) 6571 2870

Travelscene Singleton

127–129 John St

Tel: (02) 6572 4488

Taxi

Singleton Taxi Service

Tel: (02) 6572 1133

Trains

Singleton Railway Station, Munro St
Tel: (02) 6572 1034

Singleton–Newcastle

Monday–Friday

Departs Singleton: 6.45am and 10.40am

Departs Newcastle: 4pm and 5.45pm

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays

Departs Singleton: 7.25am

Departs Newcastle: 5.40pm

Ticket office open at Singleton Railway Station

Monday–Friday, 6.15am–1.30pm

Saturday, 7–10am

Closed Sunday and public holidays.

If office unattended, pay fare at destination.

Country Link (XPT) departs Singleton 1.40pm
daily

Must book through Country Link

Tel: 13 22 32

Ticket office at station for XPT tickets: 7am–
1pm

Internet: www.countrylink.info

Serco Sodexho Courtesy Bus Timetable

Service between Singleton Military Area
and Singleton:

Fridays

5pm – Base to Town & Return

6pm – Base to Town

9.30pm – Town to Base

Saturdays

10am – Base to Town

9.30pm – Town to Base

Sundays

6.45pm – Railway Station to Base

Singleton Base pick-up points are:
Curry Club, Jeffries Club, Rifleman Wing HQ,
Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Mess.

Town pick-up points are:

Gowrie Street Bus Shelter, Gowrie Street
RSC Club, Castlereagh St

Important Numbers

Life-Threatening Emergency
Tel: 000

Support Services

Singleton Police, 22 Hunter St
PAL Police Assistance Line Non-Emergency
Tel: 131 444
General Enquiries
Tel: (02) 6578 7499
Internet: www.police.nsw.gov.au

Ambulance
cnr George and Pitt Sts
Tel: 13 12 33

Fire Brigade
Pitt St
Tel: (02) 6572 1495

Singleton Hospital
Dangar Rd
Tel: (02) 6571 9222

State Emergency Services
Storm/flood emergencies
Tel: 13 25 00

National Security Hotline
Tel: 1800 123 400

Volunteering & Safety Information
Tel: 1800 201 000

Lifeline 24-hour Counselling Service
Tel: 131 114

Poisons Information Centre
Tel: 13 11 26

Civilian Numbers

Defence Housing Australia – Maintenance
Hotline
Tel: 1300 366 615

Defence Housing Australia
Local Area Office
Tel: (02) 4983 5300

Electricity
Tel: 13 15 35

Emergency (After Hours)
Tel: 13 13 88

Garbage
Tel: (02) 6578 7290

Gas

Elgas
General enquiries
Tel: 13 11 61

Kleenheat
Tel: 13 21 80

Taxi
Tel: (02) 6572 1133

NRMA Singleton
Tel: (02) 6571 4260
24-hour Road Service
Tel: 13 11 11

Singleton Council (Customer Service)
Tel: (02) 6578 7290

Singleton Shire Council (After hours
emergencies)
Tel: (02) 6572 1400

Defence Health

Tel: 1800 I'm Sick (467 425)

Defence Community Organisation

Contact During Business Hours

Tel: (02) 6570 3297

After Hours Emergencies Contact

National Welfare Coordination Centre

Tel: 1800 801 026

FIND

Tel: 1800 020 031

All Hours Support Line

Tel: 1800 628 036

National Welfare Coordination Centre (NWCC)

Tel: 1800 801 026

Vietnam Veterans Counselling Service

Tel: 1800 011 046

Legal Aid: Lawaccess

Tel: 1300 888 529

Court House Singleton

Tel: (02) 6572 1170

Neighbourhood Centre

Tel: (02) 6571 2499

Marriage, Family and Separation Counselling

UNIFAM

Tel: (02) 4943 9186

Relationships Australia

Tel: (02) 4940 1500 or 1300 364 277

Child Protection and Family Crisis Service

District Centre – Muswellbrook

Tel: 13 21 11

DoCS District Centre – Muswellbrook

Tel: (02) 6543 2455

Adolescent Counsellor (Upper Hunter)

Tel: (02) 6542 5300

Internet: www.community.nsw.gov.au

Community Health

Tel: (02) 6571 9248

Singleton Family Support

Tel: (02) 6572 4288

Alcoholics Anonymous

Tel: (02) 6572 1583

Al-Anon Family Groups

Tel: (02) 4962 3844

Alcohol & Drug Information Service NSW

Tel: 1800 422 599 (freecall)

National Depression Initiative

Beyond Blue

Tel: 1300 224 636

Child Support Agency

General Enquiries

Tel: 13 12 72

Internet: www.csa.gov.au

Domestic Violence Line 24 Hours

Tel: 1800 656 463 (freecall)

Military Telephone Numbers

When phoning from outside into the Singleton Military Area (SMA), phone numbers take the prefix 6570, then extension – i.e. 6570 3XXX; for example, the officers' mess would be (02) 6570 3428.

Area Messes:

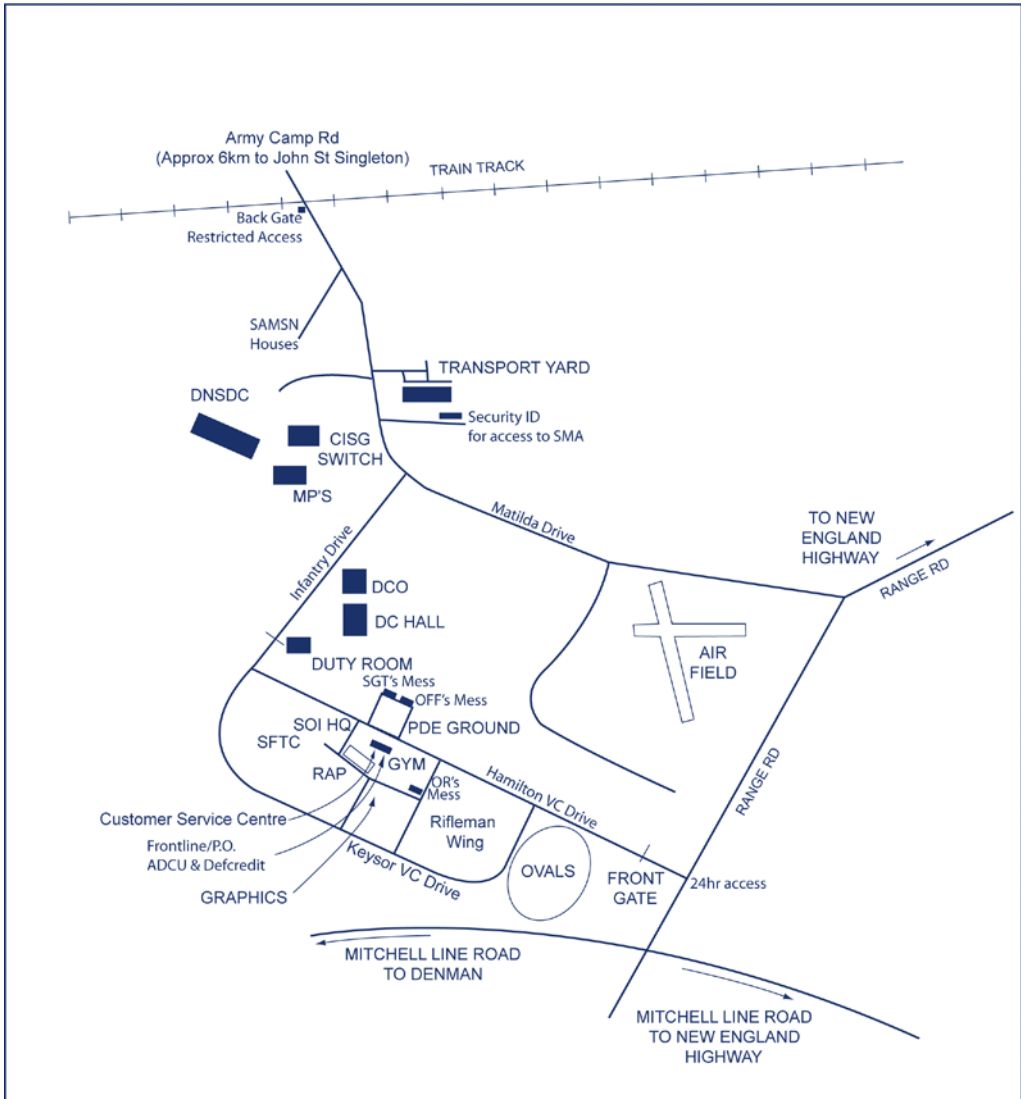
| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Officers' Mess | 3428 |
| Sergeants' Mess | 3430 |
| Currey Club | 3180 |
| Jefferies Club | 3460 |

Chaplains

| | |
|---|------|
| PD | 3289 |
| Salvation Army | 3279 |
| Defence Community Organisation | 3297 |
| Defence Community Hall | 3116 |
| Military Post Office (in Jefferies Club) | 3463 |

Map

MAP OF SINGLETON MILITARY AREA (SMA)



Notes



Australian Government

Department of Defence