

20th STA Regiment's Soldier of the Year 2017

Report by Terry Erbs, President, SEQ Branch, LSTAA Inc.

In front of a large gathering of family and friends the Regiment paraded in their hanger, due to inclement weather, at Gallipoli Barracks Enoggera Thursday afternoon. During the parade newly promoted members had new rank badges put on uniforms by proud family. Next, awards and commendations were proudly presented by CO LTCOL Peter Grant to a number of members of the Regiment. Then I had the pleasure of presenting to the "Soldier of the Year", BDR Greg Armstrong, a signed copy of "Tracks of the Dragon" and a mounted model of the UAV "Shadow 200" of behalf of the LSTAA Inc.



BDR Greg Armstrong, LTCOL Peter Grant and Terry Erbs, President SE Qld Branch, LSTAA Inc.

Reading Greg's long list of achievements, you can appreciate why he's fittingly 20th STA Regiment's "Soldier of the Year"

Greg, promoted to Bombardier in 2016, has achieved the unit distinction of "Soldier of the Year" for the year 2017. In his primary role as a Mission Commander (MC) he produced an exemplary performance as a TUAS MC. He was one of the MCs during Exercise Griffin Guns; pioneering the Laser Target Designation SOP

for Australian SH200 TUAS. Greg was integral to months of lead-up dry rehearsals with ARH pilots to refine procedures prior to successfully co-ordinating the sensor-shooter orchestration between the two platforms. His high performance resulted in selection to lead ongoing training with 1st Aviation Regiment to further hone MUM-T and SOP 901 skill sets. This activity was significant in the growing of the Shadow 200 capability. Greg's performance as MC during Exercise Talisman Saber 2017 showed great flexibility and technical excellence, ensuring safe Shadow 200 flight operations within complex airspace.

As a member of the 20th STA Regiment recruitment team, Greg has mentored and educated over 600 school age children who have visited the Regiment as part of the Defence Work Experience Program. The Program covers Defence Force Recruiting, Women in Defence and Australian and Torres Strait Island initiatives. He was also lead NCO for these programs, interacting directly with the attendees, overseeing the coordination of the visitors as well as ensuring the simulators and Command Post were manned and properly briefed.

The time and effort that Greg expended in support of the recruitment activities within the Regiment enhanced his ability to support external recruitment activities including the Avalon Air-show and Albany Creek Primary School where he continued to influence interested individuals in Army Unmanned Aerial Systems. His ability to impart technical information at multiple levels enhanced the positive engagements during these events to the wider community.

Greg's representational role has been significant, showing a genuine capacity for work that isn't normally required of his rank or position. This was formally noted in numerous performance reports and informally in comments made by senior members of the battery and regiment on many occasions. Greg is an exceptional NCO, a proud member of 20th STA Regiment and who has taken on more responsibility and performed at an excellent standard continuously throughout the past year.



LTCOL Peter Grant, BDR Greg Armstrong, Terry Erbs & RSM WO1 David Nutini