

INFORMATION DEFGRAM NO 168/2012

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QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL

Introduction

1. This Information DEFGRAM provides advice to all Defence personnel regarding the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Background

2. The 06 February 2012 marked the 60th anniversary of the accession of the Queen to the throne. Australia's plans for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee were announced in Parliament by the Prime Minister on 07 February 2012 and includes the following:

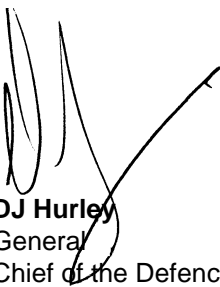
- a. \$5 million contribution to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Trust (which supports charitable organisations and projects across the Commonwealth);
- b. Parkes Place will be renamed Queen Elizabeth Terrace;
- c. a Jubilee stamp and coin will be issued;
- d. an essay competition will be hosted; and
- e. an annual scholarship on women's leadership will be established.

3. Further information regarding these celebrations can be found at: <http://www.pm.gov.au/press-office/queen-elizabeth-diamond-jubilee-trust>.

Current situation

4. The government is maintaining the tradition of not establishing any Jubilee medals in the Australian honours system. Since the establishment of the Australian honours system in 1975 there has been no Australian medal created to celebrate the Queen's Jubilees. British Imperial honours (except for a few which are in the personal gift of the Queen) are no longer awarded to Australians as Australia has its own distinctive honours system.

5. Defence is aware that there are a number of internet campaigns petitioning the establishment of a Diamond Jubilee Medal within Australia, or seeking issue of the British medal to Australians. This Information DEFGRAM provides the official advice to any Defence personnel who have supported these petitions.



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