



Major Jenny WALKER



Major Walker is distinguished as having been the Club's first female President 2013 - 14

Family and Education

Jennifer Walker was born at the Brisbane Women's Hospital in 1955. Her parents Len, a boilermaker, and Pat lived in Indooroopilly; and Jenny had 2 sisters and a brother.

The family moved to Cronulla in Sydney when Jenny was 2 years-old, and Jenny completed her schooling in Cronulla and Liverpool.

On leaving school, Jenny was employed as a cadet draftsman with the NSW Government and gained her drafting qualifications [Land and Engineering Survey Drafting Certificate] part-time at Sydney Technical College.

She returned to Brisbane in 1976, and later graduated as a Bachelor of Business (Marketing). She also has a Diploma of Marketing Research, and is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Military

Major Walker enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1981 and was accepted into 18 Course at OCTU, 1st Training Group. She graduated as Second Lieutenant in 1983 into the Australian Intelligence Corps

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes. The series will be progressively expanded and developed. They are intended as casual reading for the benefit of Members, who are encouraged to advise of any inaccuracies in the material.

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and was posted to 140 Signal Squadron for Regimental Training. She was subsequently promoted to Captain (1988) and Major (1992).

Amongst her postings were 1 Intelligence Unit (Field Force); HQ 1st Division and Deployable Joint Force Headquarters (in staff postings on 3 occasions); as Second-in-Command of 1st Division Intelligence Company; and as an Instructor at the School of Military Intelligence. She was the first Reserve Officer to be trained as an Interrogator and deployed in that role to ARA and Ares exercises within Australia.

For her sixteen years' service she was awarded the Reserve Force Medal and the Defence Force Medal.

Club

Major Walker joined the Club in 1995. She was first elected to the Committee in 2008 and served on several sub-committees – including Strategy and Policy; Member and Member Services; Audit and Risk; and Finance Policy and Property.

She was Vice-president in 2011-12 and was elected President in 2013-14. There were several notable events during her presidency. The first General Manager without a military background was appointed. The Committee was restructured to reduce its numbers, and the distinction between service and civilian Members was abolished. In common with a number of Presidents over the years, she engaged with members preparatory to the consideration of the further development of the Club premises to ensure long-term viability. Importantly, in 2013 she led Club members on its first World War One Battlefield Study Tour – during which the grave of every Club Member who died on the Western Front was visited; and on return the Club established the memorial rose garden on the terrace.

Civil

Before she moved into management consulting, Jenny's career included roles in marketing, management services and industry development, as well as drafting and mapping functions.

For the decade prior to 1996, Jenny filled several senior commercial and marketing roles in the Queensland Government – principally in the Department of Transport.

She then established her own consulting practice and worked across a variety of organisations including private companies, government owned corporations, non-government organisations, not for profit organisations, community organisations and government commercialised / contestable business units

From 2014 to 2018, Jenny was appointed as Chief Executive Officer, Legacy in Sydney. This role was the first ever national CEO for Legacy, successfully bringing together 50 autonomous Legacy Clubs into one national Incorporated association.

In 2018 she returned to the consulting industry. She has been a Member of the Veterans Review Board since 2013; and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee of the Queensland Police Service since 2014. She also chairs the Strategic Governance Board of the Veterans Advocacy Training and Development Program.

Sources included:

- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports and sundry documents
- Interview with Major Walker