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COLONEL COMMANDANT 8TH / 12TH REGIMENT RAA

Brigadier (Retd) Graeme W Finney, OAM, FAIM, CAHRI

Brigadier Finney has enjoyed a 30 year leadership career, the last nine of which were in senior executive roles. He has predominantly served in strategy, operational and training assignments including as Deputy Commissioner Strategic Capability for Fire and Rescue NSW, Director General Operations for the Australian Army and as Director Future Operations for the NATO led International Security Assistance Force (Afghanistan). He has also served in a range of training appointments within Australia and the United States, including as Assistant Commissioner Education and Training (Fire and Rescue NSW), Commandant of recruit training at Kapooka (Wagga Wagga) and as an instructor with the US Army Command and General Staff College (Fort Leavenworth). Brigadier Finney is current pursuing a career change with StatePlus (specialising in NSW and Federal Public Service Superannuation Schemes) as a Financial Adviser.

He is a recipient of the 2002 Australian Human Resources Institute Award. He has previously been appointed to the Management Board of the Royal Darwin Hospital and he has held civilian appointments on the Wagga Wagga Business Advisory Board and the Wagga Wagga Chamber of Commerce.

Brigadier Finney was awarded a Commendation for Distinguished Service in 2000 for his service in East Timor, has received two Australian Army Service commendations (1994 and 2002) and two United States Meritorious Service Medals (2008 and 2012). He was made a Paul Harris Fellow in 2010 and in that same year was nominated to be Wagga's Citizen of the Year. He was awarded the COMD Australian Defence College Award (2011) and in 2012 was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (in the General Division) for his service to Wagga Wagga during his time as Commandant ARTC.

Deputy Commissioner Finney holds a Masters Degree in Defence Studies (2000), a Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management / Industrial Relations (2002) and a Masters Degree in Strategy (2011). He is currently undertaking further Graduate study (Masters) in Financial Services.

He is married to Tracey and has two daughters. He is heavily involved in a range of volunteer and not-for-profit enterprises and in his spare time, enjoys sailing, running and cycling.