



PRESS RELEASE

4th July 2011
For Immediate Release

1960s Howitzer Field Gun – An Unexpected Participant

As if running 12km isn't tough enough, the Army Reserve is stacking on an extra 2,829 kilograms in this year's Chevron City to Surf for Activ.

Approximately twenty members of the 7 Field Battery will push an M2A2 105mm Howitzer Field Gun along the 12km course at this year's event.

Warrant Officer Class Two Gary Hogg said this challenge had never been undertaken at such a large event in Australia before.

"I wanted to challenge the men and foster 'Esprit de Corp', which is all about comradeship, mateship, loyalty and team work", he said.

In order to prepare, the team will undertake endurance training, including long distance running and upper body strength, as well as learning load carrying technique.

WO2 Hogg said it would be a challenge on a number of levels.

"Physically, it will be a challenge because the soldiers of the battery have never had the opportunity to take part in such a demanding activity and, in general, rarely run more than three kilometers. Group dynamics will be the other key challenge so we will need to work together and develop a strong sense of team work.

"We believe we can finish the race in around one hour and 45 minutes, however we may achieve a time nearer to 1.5 hours", he said.

Safety is the number one priority for the 7 Field Battery team – safety of the gun, of their personnel and of the other 40,000 participants on race day.

The gun will have a Gun Commander to control the soldiers and three dedicated Safety Staff to supervise movement of the team. This to ensure the safety of those around them and to clear the way along the route. The gun has dedicated brakes and ropes and handles have been fitted to ensure the gun can be easily controlled.

This is the inaugural year of the Out in Force Challenge, where teams from the Defence Force and Emergency Services compete in the Chevron City to Surf for Activ to win a perpetual trophy and ultimate bragging rights for 2011. The arm with the most number of participants will win.

The Chevron City to Surf for Activ is Western Australia's largest community event and includes the Marathon, Half Marathon, 12km run/walk, 4km run/walk and 4km wheelchair race. This year the event will be held on Sunday 28 August 2011.

To register visit www.perthcitytosurf.com or pick up an entry form at your local IGA.

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For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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Notes to Editors:

Please note, the official event name for 2011 is the “**Chevron City to Surf for Activ**”.

About the Howitzer Field Gun

The gun is the American manufactured M2A2 105mm Howitzer produced in the 1960's by the Rock Island. The gun has seen service in many theatres, the last for Australia was in Vietnam where it was primarily deployed into the Fire Support bases to provide an indirect capability to Australian operations. It weighs 2829 kg and is capable of firing out to ranges of 10,000 meters using a variety of ammunition including smoke, Illumination and High Explosive Point.

About City to Surf for Activ

The City to Surf for Activ is Western Australia's biggest community event and is Activ's major fundraising event. Now its 37th year, it has become the second largest official timed race in the Southern Hemisphere, with over 40,000 participants in 2010, event organisers expect entries in 2011 to top this. For the last 36 years, the Perth City to Surf has been an icon on the Western Australian sporting calendar, capturing the hearts of tens of thousands of people have embraced the event. The Chevron City to Surf for Activ takes place this year on Sunday 28th August.

Participants can select from various events including the Marathon, Half Marathon, 12km Run/Walk, and 4km Run/Walk/Wheelchair.

The Marathon and Half Marathon courses are one of the most picturesque in the world, offering runners the opportunity to run past key Perth landmarks including the Swan River, Kings Park on to the beautiful Indian Ocean at City Beach, The Marathon, Half Marathon and 12km Run/ Walk races all start in Perth CBD on St Georges Terrace while the 4km has its start precinct at MacLean Park in Floreat. All races finish on West Coast Highway in City Beach.

The 2011 Chevron City to Surf for Activ registrations are now open at www.perthcitytosurf.com .

About Activ

Activ is one of the largest disability service providers in Western Australia. The organisation provides accommodation, employment, transport, recreation, respite, training and community support to thousands of people with disabilities and their families. Activ's services are provided across the Perth metropolitan area, as well as in regional towns, Albany, Bunbury, Busselton, Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Kellerberrin, Manjimup and Narrogin.

Established in 1951, the community organisation is celebrating 60 years of enabling people with disabilities and their families to pursue a better life. For more information, Activ visit www.activ.asn.au

About Chevron

Chevron is one of the world's leading integrated energy companies and through its Australian subsidiaries, has been present in Australia for almost 60 years. With the ingenuity and commitment of more than 2,000 people, Chevron Australia leads the development of the Gorgon and Wheatstone natural gas projects; manages its equal one-sixth interest in the North West Shelf Venture; and operates Australia's largest onshore oilfield on Barrow Island and the Thevenard Island oilfields. The company is also a participant in the Browse liquefied natural gas development and is a significant investor in exploration offshore northwest Australia, one of Chevron's four global focus areas for exploration.

In addition, Chevron's Perth-based Global Technology Centre provides technology support and solutions to the company's operations in Australia and around the world. www.chevronaustralia.com