



Lieutenant Colonel S. J. MAITLAND OAM, RFD



Colonel Maitland was President of the Club 1996 - 97

Stephen James Maitland was born in Sydney on 30 October 1950. His father, Bruce Keith Maitland [1919 – 2008], was a WW2 RAAF navigator and a senior banker and his mother, Betty Irene (née Smith) [1922 – 2006] a professional pianist and accompanist. His elder sister Margaret [1947 -] became a nursing sister.

His primary education was largely in the UK where his father worked for 6 years. This was followed by early high school in Perth and completed at Telopea Park in the ACT. A degree in economics (accounting major) was gained at the University of Sydney (1969-72). He also holds Masters' degrees in business and in law.

In 1975 in Sydney, Stephen married Frances Patricia (née McGann), a primary teacher who became a school librarian. They had two sons – Peter Simpson [1981] who became a teacher; and Robert John [1983], a professional athlete [water polo, including 2008 Olympics] and later a management consultant.

Stephen joined the Citizen Military Forces (3 RNSWR in Canberra) in September 1968 while still at school. He transferred to Sydney University Regiment on entering the university, was commissioned in November 1970, and had postings as Platoon Commander and Regimental Signals Officer in

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addition to several periods of Full Time Duty with various ARA units. In 1973 he transferred to 4th Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment where he commanded Administration, "A", and "C" Companies and was the Battalion Operations Officer.

On moving to Brisbane in 1980, he was posted as a Senior Instructor in the Tactics Wing at Reserve Command and Staff College, 1st Training Group, and in 1982 as Second-in-Command 9th Battalion, Royal Queensland Regiment. In 1983 he completed his Senior Officers Tactics Course (Tac 5), served as Brigade Major, HQ 7th Brigade, and in 1986 was promoted Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Chief Instructor of the Officer Cadet Training Unit, 1st Training Group.

At the conclusion of that command he was posted as SO1 OR Career Management at HQ 1st Military District. In addition, he served as Executive Officer of the Committee for Employer Support of the Defence Forces (CESRF) [Queensland] – the Chairman being Club Past-President Captain "Ossie" May OBE, VRD, RANR. He transferred to the Inactive Reserve in December 1990.



Miss Frances McGann and Captain Maitland (1975)

Stephen's civil career has been as a banker and company director. He joined the Commonwealth Bank's Graduate Scheme in 1973 and progressed through various divisions of the bank until resigning in 1980. He was appointed to establish the Queensland and Northern Territory operations of the federal government's Australian Industry Development Corporation. In 1984 he was appointed to Hill Samuel's Brisbane office to establish Macquarie Bank's office in the State – responsible for its lending operations. In 1988 he was appointed to manage the credit and recovery operations of the troubled Bank of New Zealand in Queensland.

In 1992 he was appointed the CEO of the Queensland Office of Financial Supervision - a statutory authority that was the prudential supervisor of the state's building societies, credit unions and friendly societies under the Financial Institutions Scheme. On QOFS rolling into APRA on its establishment in 1998, he established an advisory business, "Delphin Associates", and embarked on a career as a non-executive company director. Amongst the boards on which he has served have been Tarong Energy, Mackay Permanent Building Society, Australian Unity, RACQ, QInsure, the RNA, and several community and educational bodies.

Stephen joined the Imperial Service Club, Sydney in 1971 and transferred to the United Service Club in 1980. He joined the Committee in 1988 and was Treasurer [1992 - 93], Vice-President [1994 - 95] and President [1996 - 97]. He recalls ... "After my term as President (and after discussion with my predecessor and successor), I proposed that the Immediate Past President role be disbanded, and the Committee be reduced to 10 members. The reasoning was that this role was not in keeping with modern management structures; it could impede the President; and that a smaller Committee

was likely to be more effective. The proposal, however, was not successful at the 1999 AGM. With the concurrence of the new President, I attended few meetings until the expiry of my term as Immediate Past President.”

Amongst the changes in the Club during his term as President were commencing the Book Club (with guidance from Frances); Committee Code of Conduct; Committee Schedule of Entitlements; Five-year Operational and Capital Expenditure Forecasts; and up-dating of the Club’s Property Master Plans.

Since ceasing military duties, Stephen has been committed to the Surf Life Saving movement – as a patrolling member, competitor, administrator and national fund raiser. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2007 Queen’s Birthday Honours List for his services to Surf Life Saving. He remains a committed long-distance ocean swimmer.

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
- Contribution from Colonel Maitland April 2020