



RUSI OF TASMANIA

Hobart Branch

Thursday 27 June 24

Anglesea Barracks Officers Mess

A presentation by the
Chief of Operations of the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD)
Mr Matt Filipowski

'AAD Operations in the Antarctic'



In his early career, Matt Filipowski was a member of the ADF and in 1991, he apprenticed as a heavy diesel mechanic specializing in plant and construction equipment. In his ADF career he was involved in several large projects for the RAAF including the construction of RAAF Base Scherger. He also became a member of the Australian Special Forces where he was involved with Australian and US cargo aircraft variants in air/ground integration roles and capability development.

Matt joined the Australian Antarctic Division in 2001 where he was initially responsible for all aspects of the work during the construction of Wilkins Runway during the summers from 2003 to 2008; spending almost 90% of his time in Antarctica at the runway site but also integrating with US polar flight operations in Antarctica. The landing of the first intercontinental jet aircraft at Wilkins Runway on 10 December 2007 and the arrival of the first official passengers in 2008 were historic milestones in Australia's Antarctic endeavours, for which Matt was awarded the Australian Antarctic Medal. Since then he has been involved in Antarctic operations in an aviation and logistics capacity, which includes air land and air drop operations, rotary wing operations, medical evacuations, expeditioner and high priority cargo movements both inter-theatre and intra-theatre. He has also led many of the AAD's key capability development projects including the Year Round Aviation Access Project at Davis Station, establishing Australia's overland Traverse capability and he also led the introduction of ADF Heavy Lift C-17A and Medium Lift C-130J into the Australian Antarctic Program. In his present role he manages the AAD's current operations through the newly formed 'Operations Management Centre'; a modern, information driven operations room capability which he stood up in recent years.

**The Presentation will start at 7.00pm, drinks and nibbles from
6.30pm**

RSVP: Friday 21 June 2024 to: paul.grey.2410@gmail.com