



Like the men and women of the Australia Army, the feathered and furry mascots of Robertson Barracks are fierce and strong. The intimidating menagerie of mascots includes two majestic birds of prey and two stealthy big cats.

Above: Members of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment with their mascot, WO Courage; and then clockwise; 1st Armoured Regiment's TPR Leo Paratus; 5RAR's PTE Quintus Rama; 1st Aviation Regiment's LCPL Alert.

Meet the feathered and furry mascots of our Australian Army 1st Brigade

Species: Wedge Tailed Eagle

Name: Courage

Age: 25

Rank: Warrant Officer Class Two

Unit: 2nd Cavalry Regiment

Enlistment Date: 1987

Located: 2nd Cavalry Regiment, Robertson Barracks

WO Courage was hatched at Taronga Park Zoo in Sydney in 1987 and began representing the Army not long after.

Courage was promoted from Trooper to Corporal in 1988, then to Sergeant in 2001 and Warrant Officer Class Two in 2010.

His last promotion coincides with the 40th anniversary of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment.

"It has taken him a bit longer than most to achieve his warrant

but, as they say, better late than never," handler Trooper Pearce said.

Species: Peregrine Falcon

Name: Penny Alert

Age: 7

Rank: Lance Corporal

Unit: 1st Aviation Regiment

Enlistment Date: April 26, 2006

Located: Territory Wildlife Park

LCPL Alert takes her name from 1st Aviation's motto which is also simply "Alert". The unit is home to the Tiger Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter which, like the peregrine falcon, is fast, sleek and agile.

Species: African Lion

Name: Leo Paratus

Age: 10

Rank: Trooper

Unit: 1st Armoured Regiment

Enlistment Date: October 29, 2011

Located: Crocodylus Park

When Trooper Leo Paratus enlisted 1st armoured Commanding Officer Scott Winter drew parallels between big cats and the army, saying they don't just lie around in the sun enjoying the company of women.

"They have the stealth and agility to hunt in packs and destroy the enemy," he said.

Species: Bengal Tiger

Name: Quintus Rama

Age: 10

Rank: Private

Unit: 5RAR

Enlistment Date: September 27, 2012

Located: Crocodylus Park

Quintus Rama is the latest 'Tiger Battalion' mascot to carry the name Quintas.

The naming tradition began with 5RAR's first Quintas, a Sumatran Tiger cub, presented to them by Taronga Park Zoo after the battalion returned from their first tour of Vietnam in 1967.

