

# Legacy Brisbane Board 2025

## Dr Annabel McGuire- President

Annabel, with a PhD in Psychology, is the Director of Gripfast Consulting, leading the Advisory Consulting team on projects ranging from policy rewrites to business cases for hydrogen plants. She specialises in evaluating and advising on community programs. Previously, she was the Director of Research at the Centre for Military and Veterans' Health at The University of Queensland, publishing nearly 100 peer-reviewed papers on the health impacts of military service. Annabel is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has served on multiple advisory boards. As a military wife, she also has a deep personal understanding of the need for Legacy services.



## Don Roach- Vice President

Don Roach is responsible for Defence and Industry engagement at Defence Jobs Queensland, where he works to identify and pursue strategic opportunities for the state's defence industries. With over 30 years of service in the Australian Army, retiring as a Brigadier, Don brings extensive military experience and strong networks within the ADF and Defence industry. His past roles include leading Government and Defence programs at Volvo Group Australia and serving as the Industry Director for Prominence Consulting. Don is well-versed in state and federal government Defence industry programs and has been actively involved in initiatives supporting SMEs, supply chain integration, and export opportunities. He holds multiple advanced degrees, including a Master of Strategic Studies and a Master of Defence Studies, and serves in honorary and leadership roles, including as a Colonel Commandant for the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery and a Director for Brisbane Legacy. Known for his strategic thinking and leadership, Don fosters a collaborative environment focused on robust, executable plans and frameworks.



## **Anne Irwin- Treasurer**

Kerry is an experienced tax agent with a background in accounting and tax law, and holds a Bachelor's in Commerce, Graduate Diplomas in Management and Tax Law, and a Diploma in Financial Services. A member of the NTAA, Kerry has been providing compliance advice since 1982 and is also an ASIC agent. Kerry served 16 years in the Australian Army as an officer in the Ordnance Corps before working as a school accountant and business owner for 22 years. In addition to her professional career, Kerry has been an Australian Scout for 27 years and actively contributes to both Women's Veterans Australia and North Gold Coast RSL Sub-branch as Treasurer. Kerry is a Legatee with the Logan Contact Group and provides her professional expertise as Treasurer for Legacy Brisbane.



## **Phil Lilliebridge**

Phil Lilliebridge has had a distinguished career in the Australian Army, serving from 1984 to 2011 in various roles, including Armoured Corps Crewman, Quartermaster, and Second-in-Command of the 2nd/14th Light Horse Regiment. His service included significant deployments to Bougainville and Iraq, where he played key roles in training and logistics, notably with the Australian Army Training Team Iraq, which helped train the New Iraqi Army. Phil's leadership extended to operational and command positions, culminating in his work as Operations Officer for the Combat Training Centre in Townsville.

Since retiring from the Army, Phil has been deeply involved in veterans' affairs, particularly through Legacy Brisbane, where he chairs the North-East Contact Group. He also served on the Board of the Kedron Wavell Services Club for over a decade, including as Chair. He remains active in the veteran community, contributing to the Department of Veteran Affairs Men's Health Peer Education Program and other ex-service organizations. Phil holds several professional qualifications and memberships, underscoring his commitment to the welfare of his fellow veterans.



## Paul Smith

Paul has over 30 years of experience in the construction industry, holding senior management roles with contracting companies. After initially completing engineering qualifications, he earned a Bachelor of Business and has since managed complex projects across various sectors, including education, health, aged care, and commercial developments. With expertise in Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) and 2 Stage Managing Contractor delivery methods, Paul has helped set up projects for success, ensuring that risks, value management options, and safety considerations are addressed from the outset. Recently, he co-founded Construction Unity Group, providing advisory services, project management, superintendency, and construction services. Paul is also deeply involved with Legacy Brisbane, serving on the Legacy Brisbane Board and as Chair of the Legacy House Development Committee, where he is excited to contribute to the delivery of a new head office for the organisation.



## Todd Crowley

Todd has a long history of supporting both for-purpose organisations and the Australian Defence Force. He has provided strategic guidance to a range of organisations, including the Edmund Rice Foundation, Xavier, Red Cross, and Endeavour Foundation, and has recently supported the Legacy Brisbane Development Committee in their efforts to transition to a new headquarters. Over the past 20 years, Todd has worked with the ADF, allied forces, the U.N., and international development agencies, providing strategy and logistics support in remote and austere locations such as Timor Leste, Afghanistan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. As Managing Director of Vaxa Group, a Brisbane-based firm specializing in communications, data analytics, and organizational growth, Todd has a proven track record of delivering impactful outcomes for commercial, government, NGO, and for-purpose clients.



## **Prof Elisabeth Findlay**

Professor Elisabeth Findlay is an academic at Queensland College of Art and Design at Griffith University. Elisabeth has held various senior leadership roles within the tertiary sector, with responsibilities for strategy and the management of financial and staff resources.

Elisabeth was a military spouse for nearly four decades. Her husband, a veteran of five deployments, is a retired Major General. They have two children and moved 17 times before settling in Brisbane.



## **Dr Amy Johnson**

Dr Amy Johnson is a senior lecturer and Head of Course for Arts at Central Queensland University. She holds a PhD in military sociology. Amy's research focuses on supporting modern Defence families, particularly through projects like the Children Family Resilience Program, which provides online resources for parents and educators of young children from military families. With lived experience as both a reserve officer in the Royal Australian Navy and the partner of a Navy veteran, Amy was a finalist in the 2023 Prime Minister's National Veterans' Employment Awards. She has been a Legatee with the Rockhampton and Central Queensland Group since 2021 and lives in Rockhampton with her husband, two teenage sons and their golden retriever.





## Anthony Birch

Anthony Birch is the Head of Operations at Disaster Relief Australia, a veteran led charity that helps communities recover from disasters.

He is a former Infantry Officer in the Australian Army who commanded from Platoon to Unit level during his 30 years of service. Recent roles included the Director of Operations and Training Areas Queensland, the Australian Army Liaison Officer to the British Army and the Deputy and Acting Commander of the 7th Combat Brigade in Brisbane.

Anthony has been a Legatee since 2021 and during his two years in the UK he was an active member of London Legacy. His qualifications include a Master of Business, Bachelor of Economics and Graduate Diploma in Strategy. Anthony is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Institute of Executive Coaching and Leadership. Anthony is married to Camille, and they have two teenage sons.



## Andrew Middleton

Lieutenant Colonel (LTCOL) Middleton, now retired, served as the Australian Army Liaison Officer to the United States Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia. A distinguished graduate of the Royal Military College and the Australian Command and Staff College, he holds a Master of Military Studies and several graduate diplomas. LTCOL Middleton's military career spanned numerous operational roles, including Joint Aviation Operations Officer on Operation Anode, Troop Commander on Operation Sumatra Assist, and Battle Captain in Headquarters Regional Command – South during Operation Slipper. He also commanded Joint Task Force 637.2 Aviation Rotary Wing Group during the Queensland Flood Relief. LTCOL Middleton's leadership was recognised as Army Aviator of the Year, and he played key staff roles in various commands, culminating in his role as Commanding Officer of the Army Helicopter School. Outside of his military career, he is passionate about triathlons, photography, and reading autobiographies, and is an active volunteer for organizations including Surf Lifesaving Australia and Legacy.

