



Service: Captain David Charlton, wife Kate and children James and Ben yesterday Pictures: Matthew Vasilescu

ANZAC spirit lives on

By STEPHEN CORBY

AMONG the straight backs and multi-medalled chests on parade at Victoria Barracks yesterday were a few men and women standing a little taller, and prouder, than the rest.

They were the Australian Defence Force Reservists, the generous-spirited individuals being recognised yesterday at the launch of National Reserve Forces Day 2006, which will be held on July 1.

A multi-coloured melange of flags, representing the countries where reservists have served over the past 50 years fluttered as the parade was inspected by military brass and MPs.

The Chief of the Australian Defence Forces, Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston, told the crowd that 220 reservists are currently serving in five separate operations in various parts of the world.

"Our ANZAC tradition is built upon the concept of the citizen soldier," he said.

"We know that the work you do is very demanding and requires great sacrifices from you, your employers and your loved ones.

"National Reserve Forces Day is an opportunity to acknowledge the people from all walks of life who selflessly give up what little spare time they have to serve their country."



Pride: The active service medal