John Charles Yenn was born in Sydney on 15 October, 1950 and completed his secondary education at Westmead Juniors Boys High School. Before entering the Army as a 'Nasho' John was employed as a Trainee Manager by G. L. Productions Pty Ltd. He joined the Army on 19 April 1972 as 2799894 and commenced his Recruit Training at 1 RTB, Kapooka, at Wagga. John went through the selection process for OTU and he, along with Jeff Gordon, Paul Rutherford and Doug Willingham, were held at Kapooka as 'OTU Aspirants'.

Three Cadets did not commence at OTU with Class 2/72 and these vacancies allowed the 'Aspirants' to commence OTU two weeks late with Class 2/72 around 20 May. The three Cadets who did not commence were Air Cadets Phil Cavanagh and Ian Hendricks who commenced with Class 3/72 and Barry Flaherty who transferred to the ARA and commenced at OTU with OCS Class 2/72. Graduating on 5 October, John was allocated to the Survey Corps and with his knowledge of printing was posted to the Survey Regiment at Bendigo, Vic, where he became involved with map printing.

John had ballroom dancing training and with these skills, was tasked to be the partner for Miss World, Belinda Green at a ball in Bendigo. After the 2 December 1972 election win by the Labor Government and National Conscription ended, John opted to continue in the Army until December 1973. He then returned to Sydney where through mutual friends, met Helen Daly. Helen and John married in December 1975 at Five Dock, NSW. Post-NS John returned to work in the printing industry and by his retirement in 2013 had reached the position of an Operations Manager in the Printing Industry with Hannapak at North Richmond, NSW. In 2018 John spent three weeks motorcycling in the USA. Shortly after returning to Australia John left Sydney on his motorcycle heading to Adelaide for a motoring event. Unfortunately, on this road trip on 18 September 2018, John and his motorcycle collided with a school bus and he was killed. John was cremated at Northern Suburbs Crematorium in Lane Cove on 5 October 2018.