

# The Royal Australian Artillery **LIAISON LETTER**

---

Spring Edition 2010

---



---

The Official Journal of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery  
Incorporating the Australian Gunner Magazine

---

First Published in 1948





# RAA LIAISON LETTER

## Spring Edition 2010

### Contents

Editors Comment	1
Letters to the Editor	4
Regimental	11
Operations	29
Around the Regiments	35
Take Post	45
Personnel	59
History & Heritage	65
Associations & Organisations	83

### Next Edition Contribution Deadline

Contributions for the Liaison Letter 2011 – Autumn Edition should be forwarded to the editor at his home postal or email address, by no later than **Monday 28th February 2011**. 'Late' correspondence or submissions after that date should be forwarded to the editor via the School of Artillery or his defence email address.

### Liaison Letter In Colour On-line

If you have access to the defence restricted network you can read the Liaison Letter in colour on the Regimental web-site found at:<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/RRAA/>.  
**RAA DRN content managers are requested to add this site to their links.**

---

### Publication Information

Front Cover:	Major General John Whitelaw, AO, CBE (RL); 11th June 1921 – 19th June 2010. <i>Officer, Gentleman, Military Historian – A Gunner of Distinction.</i> Photograph: Retirement Parade as RCC in 1984.
Front Cover Designed by:	Major D.T. (Terry) Brennan, Staff Officer to Head of Regiment
Compiled and Edited by:	Major D.T. (Terry) Brennan, Staff Officer to Head of Regiment
Published by:	Deputy Head of Regiment, School of Artillery, Bridges Barracks, Puckapunyal, Victoria 3662
Desktop Publishing by:	Michelle Ray, Combined Arms Doctrine and Development Section, Bridges Barracks, Puckapunyal, Victoria 3662
Printed by:	Defence Publishing Service – Victoria
Distribution:	For issues relating to content or distribution contact the Editor on email <a href="mailto:stratford01@bigpond.com">stratford01@bigpond.com</a> or <a href="mailto:terry.brennan@defence.gov.au">terry.brennan@defence.gov.au</a>

Contributors are urged to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in their articles; the Royal Australian Artillery, Deputy Head of Regiment and the RAA Liaison Letter editor accept no responsibility for errors of fact.

The views expressed in the Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter are the contributors and not necessarily those of the Royal Australian Artillery, Australian Army or Department of Defence. The Commonwealth of Australia will not be legally responsible in contract, tort or otherwise for any statement made in this publication.

---



# NATIONAL 'CORAL' GUNNER DINNER



Saturday 14th May 2011 – Canberra

*This is only the third National Gunner Dinner held since the opening of the RAA National Memorial on Mount Pleasant in 1977.*

*The Regimental Committee has agreed that national Gunner dinners will be held on a more frequent but still ad hoc basis. It agreed the dinner will be known as the National 'Coral' Gunner Dinner to commemorate the Gunner contribution to the Battle of Coral in 1968 and that it should be held in May on the Saturday nearest the 13th May to mark the anniversary of the attack on 102nd (Coral) Field Battery in 1968. Holding the national dinner in May also ensures that it does not clash with dates for State based annual Gunner Dinners.*

*It is hosted jointly by the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major General Tim Ford and Head of Regiment, Brigadier David Coghlan.*

- Format – Traditional Gunner Dinner including guest speaker Lieutenant General Des Mueller, AO (Retd) – former CO/CI School of Artillery and VCDF
- Attendance – Serving & Retired Gunners welcome
- Date – Saturday 14th May 2011
- Location – Federal Golf Club, Canberra
- Timings – 1830h for 1930h
- Dress – Minimum of coat and tie. Guests are encouraged to wear Mess Kit (Winter for Officers) or Black Tie with Miniature Medals
- Indicative Cost – \$110.00
- RSVP – Deadline – Friday 22nd April 2011. Acceptances until all places filled.

---

#### **RSVP and/or More Information Contact:**

Major Terry Brennan - 07 4651 0939 or 0419 179 974 or email stratford01@bigpond.com, or terry.brennan@defence.gov.au;

Major Greg Metcalf - 03 5735 6465 or 0400 854 323 or email: greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au

#### **Payment Details:**

- To pay by **cheque**, cheque to be made out to 'RAA Regimental Fund (National Dinner)' and sent to: Major G.D. Metcalf, SO2 HOR, School of Artillery, Bridges Barracks, Puckapuyal, VIC, 3662.
- To pay by **electronic funds transfer** using a bank or credit union, use the following:

Credit Union: Australian Defence Credit Union (ADCU)  
Account name: RAA Regt Fund  
BSB: 802 397  
Account Number: 526805

The description or reference must include Initials, Surname and the word 'National Dinner'.

# Editors Comment



Welcome to the 2010 Spring Edition of the Liaison Letter. As always it is very pleasing to see members of the Regiment taking time from their busy lives to support this edition. There are a range of contributions from current operations to matters related to heritage. The 'Operations Section' contains two very interesting topics on Afghanistan - the new ANA School of Artillery and the 105th Battery 'Observers' tour of duty. The way ahead for the management of the preservation of the heritage across the Royal Regiment is explained in the 'History and Heritage Section'. The busy tempo across the Regiment is captured in the stories contained in the 'Around the Regiments Section'.

Whilst the mantra 'undergoing significant change' may be a touch over used in Army nevertheless it seems apt at the moment - the Royal Regiment is entering a period of sustained and evolutionary change. For our offensive support capability some may even argue we are about to undertake biggest paradigm shift in our profession since World War I. One should embrace this positive change and explore ways and means to exploit it to the fullest to ensure every opportunity is taken to harvest the benefits this revolution affords the Regiment.

Underpinning all this positive change is the Strategic Reform Program (SRP) (see CA Order of the Day published on page 58) which requires Defence to make savings of \$10 billion (\$3 billion by Army) over the next 10 years. The challenge for Army along with the remainder of the Defence Force is essentially to redirect money from 'underperforming' areas into the combat and combat support areas where we will receive 'more bang for our buck'. The point stressed by all involved is that this program is not a cost cutting exercise.

I support the SRP concept and wish those managing it every success. I also appreciate it is everyone's duty to contribute to saving waste and that it starts with the individual. I just wonder how we as a Defence Force can achieve savings when as an

organisation it has grown in the last decade in both uniformed and non uniformed areas. It seems to me that the Army has been involved in a constant 'reform agenda' since at least the Sanderson Review in the late 1980s.

In my personal view the SRP concept is very much a corporate methodology which does not readily fit the Australian Defence Force. In my limited observation of the corporate world, is that when there is a down turn, boards of directors cut away underperforming non essential components of their business. I recall many years ago being told that if you wanted to ensure your worth and therefore long term employment with a company that you must ensure you were employed in the 'operations' area rather than a support function or non essential areas to that which makes the money for the business. To an extent during the implementation of the commercial support program (CSP) this is what Defence did to the logistic support areas. Decisions taken here and changes implemented have not always proven to have been a success.

We cannot keep making reductions and economies in these areas - there will come a time when there is no more excess to cut without impacting on doing the allocated tasks of a nominated organisation. I saw an example of this here at the School of Artillery in the late 1990s when the Regimental Headquarters including its training and logistic support management areas was reduced in manpower to essentially five people - CO/CI, 2IC / OPSO, OPSWO and a Chief Clerk. This did not last and the headquarters has regrown to some 11 full-time people (including a civilian) plus a couple of reserve positions.

A key aspect of the budget mix for Army is the cost of manpower. I recall when I worked in the force development in Canberra being told that Navy and Air Force manned equipment, whilst we in Army equipped men. The point being manpower is expensive. The conundrum with which Army seems to be confronted is that it is striving to find economies that can be redirected into capability by making 'micro' improvements. I just wonder how we can continue to find meaningful savings without making some real 'macro' change to manpower. To achieve this goal it would mean Government reducing its expectations of the capability options it requires the Army to provide the nation.

On the theme of roles currently performed by military personnel that could be commercialised in order to make savings, the one area that has stood

out to me since the early 1990s and that is of the Education Corps. With all the reforms that have been implemented in the last 20 years I do not understand why Army (and more widely the ADF) has not contracted the role of education to civilians.

The bottom line is that to make real savings, like in the commercial world, Army needs to make cuts in manpower and this means to combat capability. If Government deems this approach is unacceptable than perhaps it is unrealistic for Government to ask Army to find the level of significant saving currently being sought.

My observation throughout my career is that every time a senior leader has attempted to make real change with regard to force structure or capability the plan has become unstuck for a range of reasons - sometimes political (never underestimate the impact of an Army presence on the economy of individual electorates), sometimes inter-service competition, and sometimes due to internal conflict within their own service.

All Governments appear to have a philosophy that the Army, regardless of strategic guidance, must be prepared to be ready for any contingency at short notice. In my view while this attitude and expectation exists, Army will find it extremely difficult to achieve real substantial saving.

As the CA and DCA have said, to make the SRP a success it will take imagination and the removal of preconceived bias by everyone and allow each idea, no matter how unusual, to be considered on its merit. I recall many years ago at Staff College I wrote a paper in which I questioned the need for a blue water navy. I advocated a littoral fleet supported by an increased submarine force. Those above and around me treated my proposal as though I was preaching heresy.

It seems to me that the very role of Defence means that it is difficult to fully impose corporate philosophies on the organisation to gain economies. I wish all of us every success in making our very own contribution to the overall SRP and proving me wrong.

Finally, I again thank everyone who has contributed to the Liaison Letter. I encourage everyone to continue to do so and for those who have yet to contribute please consider recording your experiences as they are always welcome and most appreciated. The capture and recording of our history as it unfolds is the responsibility of all of us not just a select few individuals. Remember - 'What we do today is tomorrow's history' - we all have a duty to assist.



D.T. (Terry) BRENNAN  
Major  
Editor

Tel: 07 4651 0939 (h) Mobile: 0419 179 974  
Email: stratford01@bigpond.com or  
terry.brennan@defence.gov.au  
Postal: 'Stratford' BLACKALL QLD 4472  
<http://www.defence.gov.au/army/RRAA>  
<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/RRAA/>

**Editor's Note:** Retired or serving Gunners who would like to receive future copies of the RAA Liaison Letter should contact the editor by email or write to the address above with their mailing details. Conversely if you would like your name removed from the mailing list please advise the Editor.

## **ASBESTOS WARNING**

### **105mm M2A2 Dummy Drill Charge Bags**

Defence has identified that ADF members and APS employees may have been exposed to asbestos during their Defence training with 105mm M2A2 Dummy Drill Bags. Current and retired ADF members and APS employees who think that they may have been exposed and would like to have their asbestos-related medical status evaluated are encouraged to contact the 1800 Defence (1800 333 3623) and register with the Defence Asbestos Exposure Evaluation Scheme. More information can be located at:

(Defence Internet) <http://www.defence.gov.au/dpe/ohsc/programs/asbestos/> or (Defence Intranet) <http://ohsc.defence.gov.au/Programs/Asbestos/default.htm>

# 2011 Regimental Conference and Farewells

## ANNUAL REGIMENTAL CONFERENCE

- School of Artillery
- Thursday 24th March 2011 to Friday 25th March 2011
  - Capstone Day - Friday 25th March 2011
- Further Information & Attendance Contact - SO2 HOR Major Greg Metcalf  
Telephone 03 - 5735 6465 (bus) 0400 854 323 (mob) and/or  
Email [greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au](mailto:greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au)

## OFFICER FAREWELLS DINNER

- RAA Regimental Officers Mess - Friday 25th March 2011
  - Indicative Cost - \$55.00
- Dress - Winter Mess Dress or Dinner Suit with Minatures
  - Serving & Retired Members Welcome
  - RSVP - Friday 5th March 2011
- For Attendance Contact - SO2 HOR Major Greg Metcalf  
Telephone 03 - 5735 6465 (bus) 0400 854 323 (mob) and/or  
Email [greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au](mailto:greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au)
- For Information Contact - SO to HOR Major Terry Brennan  
Telephone 03 - 5735 6213 (bus) or 07 4651 0939 (h) or 0419 179 974 (mob) and/or  
Email [terry.brennan@defence.gov.au](mailto:terry.brennan@defence.gov.au) or [stratford01@bigpond.com](mailto:stratford01@bigpond.com)

## WARRANT OFFICER AND SENIOR NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER FAREWELLS

- RAA Regimental Sergeants Mess - Saturday 26th March 2011
  - Indicative Cost - \$50.00
  - Dress - Coat and Tie
  - Serving & Retired Members Welcome
  - RSVP - Friday 5th March 2011
- Contact WO2 Paul Galloway 03 - 5735 6279 Email: [paul.galloway@defence.gov.au](mailto:paul.galloway@defence.gov.au)

# Letters to the Editor

---

## Call to Embrace the Future

I would commend you and Brandon (Lieutenant Colonel B. Wood – CO/CI SOARTY & DHOR) on yet another great Regimental Conference. It was a pity all the Commanding Officers could not make the conference and dinner. The attendance of Deputy Chief of Army and our Brigadiers at the Regimental Dinner was extremely appreciated.

The Regiment clearly remains a proud place to serve. This was self evident in the quiet and introspective manner in which the Regiment saw an emerging problem with maintaining its fighting skills and went about fixing those problems with innovative solutions and training like Exercise Long Guns in 2008. I am not sure this can be said about the other Corps.

It would appear the Regiment has a busy few years ahead with re-rolling of the Air Defence Regiment into an Air Land Regiment, the acceptance into service of a range of new field artillery systems like AFATDS and M777 howitzer, the cementing of the Uninhabited Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment, the re-equipping of Army Reserve Regiments with mortars, and the re-organisation of the Artillery Regiments into observer batteries and delivery batteries. The Regiment will be doing all this at the same time it is conducting operations overseas with gun detachments, observers, UAV teams and soon the Counter Rocket and Mortar systems. I just hope the Regiment has not bitten off more than it can chew.

In a busy time like this it will be important that we focus on the basics and be brilliant at them. Core to being brilliant will be concentrating on what has made the Regiment strong: effective leadership, remembering our past and focusing on training. I say this because we may have forgotten them in our rush to deploy on operations. Our leadership is pretty good and has been evolving to the changing environment well. Our senior Gunners are buying into our future and mentoring the Regiment through the Liaison Letter (Deputy Chief's letter was a very timely reminder) and Regimental Conferences. Responding to this mentorship is our task now.

Remembering the past is probably waning a little and I say this based on the paucity of information in the recent Liaison Letters on our current operations and major Regimental achievements. It is important that our units and Gunners record and share their insights to better inform Regimental training and preparation for the future. Please record these insights and share them with everyone.

Finally, the modern electronic age is both a gift and curse. Chasing e-mail is good and bad. As a curse e-mail might be distracting us from focusing on mentoring and training the regiments and batteries. The Regiment cannot forget it was training that enabled us to re-arm whilst fighting Malaya during World War II, quickly deploy batteries to Vietnam and fill gaps in the Royal Artillery in Afghanistan. Train for the future.

I encourage the Regiment to keep up the good work, swallow the enormous challenge ahead one bite at a time. Good shooting.

Yours sincerely, Colonel Sean Ryan

---

Editor: I wholeheartedly endorse the sentiments and welcome contributions from everyone on their individual and collective experiences on this professional journey.

---

## Concerned Gunner

I write after reading the letter (Concerned Gunner) by Colonel Sean Ryan in the Spring 2009 edition of the Liaison Letter. I am totally in agreement with his sentiments, and wonder whether his letter has elicited any response, save for nodding heads. As my two letters to the Editor on the same subject have to date produced no response (at least for Cannonball), I no longer wonder where our heritage and history is headed - in my opinion, in the vernacular, south.

If you wanted to test the water re a response to a book on our artillery history, you would imagine amongst the 150 or so senior and junior officers who contribute to the Regimental Fund, and are listed in each edition of the Liaison Letter, there would be, even from former serving members of 102 Battery or admirers of Brien Forward, a reasonable response to Gunners in Borneo. The answer is 6, of which 4 have contributed to published artillery history subsequent to David Horner's, *The Gunners*.

From time to time I line up former officers and senior non-commissioned officers and give them my by-line; 'Surely your 20+ years of service weren't so bloody boring that you cannot think of anything to write about?' For example exercises, artillery essays at staff colleges, secondments to

the UK, US and Canada, equipment trials and the like - anything to fill a gap.' Way back in the 'fifties' I was seconded to the Royal Artillery Territorial Army for nine months and the Royal Canadian Artillery for 7 in self propelled regiments. The editor of the Royal Artillery Journal published my account of it without a hesitation a couple of years ago. It was five pages long - 3000 words. If I can manage that, why cannot they?

Admittedly my censorious comments relate to the time between Korea and Vietnam, but in the absence of a war to create history, without any input for (say) 1972-1990 from the officers of this period, their contribution to the Regiment's history will be a blank sheet.

I put in a lot of hours and dollars into Cannonball but after 17 years of writing, contributing and editing my enthusiasm will dry up if past and present Gunners' interest in our recorded heritage is not acknowledged and stressed by serving officers with your orientation. I acknowledge your reference to the utility of RAAHC resources at North Head. That made my day. I leave it with you.

Ubique , Major Alan Smith

Editor: The list in the Liaison Letter to which the author refers is Life Subscribers. Annual Subscribers are not published.

### Response by Colonel Sean Ryan

Thank you for your letter and I apologise for the delay in replying. I appreciate the support for my point of view. We, the Royal Regiment, face some challenges in the current operational environment where the RAA, and possible even the other arms, have no recognisable history. The nomenclature of Task Forces and Battle Groups is valuable now for creating the combined arms philosophy but probably not that useful in the future for writing unit histories, seeking recognition for brave and courageous acts or learning lessons from operations.

If the RAA did not have David Horner's book that drew upon war diaries, unit histories and RAA liaison letters we would not have been able to recognise the efforts of the men of 102 Field Battery at Fire Support Base Coral. What is important now is that the RAA elements deployed retain their unit names, like 131 Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery, in some way so that their achievements are recorded and can be recognised. So I encourage the deployed groups to retain their battery and regimental identity, regardless of whether they are in role or as infantry, as their identity should be important to them and the Regiment.

While this is all pessimistic I would like to say that many of our commanding officers, officers and soldiers have realised the importance of contributing to the RAA liaison letter and the Regimental Conference. In 2008 we were lucky enough to have both the commanding officer 7th Regiment Royal Horse Artillery and the gun position officer of the RAA gun troop under command 7th Regiment Royal Horse Artillery brief on their experiences and lessons from operations in Afghanistan. Furthermore in 2009 Captain Peter Watkins wrote of his experiences in dynamic targeting, an old concept of depth fire with a new name. So the message is getting out there and the RAA liaison letter is forming a stable foundation for RAA history and education. I would like to think now we can expand upon the RAA liaison letter recent success under the Editor to areas like 'Cannonball'.

Colonel Sean Ryan

### 7th Field Regiment History

Thank you for the Autumn Edition of the Liaison Letter. Perusing the 7th Field Regiment history overview there are some additions and amendments and required. These are:

- Messines should be added to the battles supported by the Regiment.
- Formation 31st March 1921:
  - 26 Battery AFA (North Sydney) - formed from elements of 14 Field Battery (5 AFA Brigade) and 22 Field Battery (4 AFA Brigade).
  - 27 Battery AFA (Hornsby) - formed from elements of 15 Field Battery (5 AFA Brigade) and 25 Field Battery (4 AFA Brigade).
  - 107 Howitzer Battery AFA (North Sydney) - formed from elements 48 (H) AFA Battery (4 AFA brigade).
  - 26 Battery was disbanded 1st July 1922.
  - 27 Battery was transferred to North Sydney on 1st January 1926.
- February 1941 - Regiment two eight gun batteries.
- October 1941 - Regiment allocated to full-time duty.

I wrote the original history in the 1970's / 1980's with the assistance of many people and have been continually updating it. From the 1990's I have had the assistance of Warrant Officer Class Two Pat Sengos of the Regiment. I do not know who wrote the précis in the Liaison Letter

Yours Sincerely, R.C.M. Toplis

Editor: The corrections are appreciated to ensure our history is recorded accurately.

# It's a lost cause without blood, boots and perseverance

**Australia must increase its commitment**

**STEPHEN BARTON**

It is easy to be pessimistic about Oruzgan province, the most neglected part of a backward region. Illiteracy hovers at more than 90 per cent, including at one time the provincial government's education minister (a charismatic and slightly sinister former mujaheddin commander).

Children, potbellied from malnutrition, their skin dry and scaly from want of soap and water, die from easily preventable diseases. Then there is the maddening complexity of Afghan tribalism, the Taliban and medieval infrastructure.

A functional Western-style democracy is clearly not achievable. However, a semi-stable government characterised by endemic but not crippling corruption, a reasonably competent Afghan national

security force and a low-level insurgency in rural areas is certainly doable.

This is a job worth doing. The alternative, not least for the Afghans, is bleak; however, it needs a significant Western investment in time, treasure and, alas inevitably, blood.

The Australian government has been poor at making this case, appearing half-hearted in its support for the war in Afghanistan and reluctant to sell it to an indifferent public. The government has refused to take the lead in Oruzgan or to increase troop numbers; its focus appears to be achieving the strategic goal of looking like a good ally without doing too much more. While looking like a good ally is important, demonstrating you are one is even better.

Despite the best efforts of former major-general Jim Molan and the Australia Defence Association's Neil James, there has been little debate on troop numbers or a winning strategy.

In a few months, the bulk of Dutch forces will leave

Afghanistan, having provided the backbone of Task Force Oruzgan since 2006. Though Australian personnel may at times be privately critical of the Dutch approach to soldiering, there is little doubt the Dutch gave a serious and considered approach to counter-insurgency warfare (COIN), providing a battlegroup, a provincial reconstruction taskforce, trainers, air assets, counter-insurgency enablers and significant aid.

It blithely has been assumed the Americans will replace the Dutch, with all their resources and hard-learned lessons on what not to do. But this complacent assumption may well overstate how much the Americans, overstretched and overcommitted, will be able to contribute to Oruzgan. Their focus, rightly, will be on securing Helmand and Kandahar.

It is possible that the Americans will offer less than the Dutch contribution. If this were to happen, it would have serious implications for the success of the COIN fight in Oruzgan.

COIN is multi-layered, nuanced and labour-intensive; it requires boots on the ground to convince local Afghans their government (however imperfectly) and NATO's International Security Assistance Force can provide security.

Crucially, with that security will come roads, clinics and schools, something the Taliban cannot provide.

However, faced with a choice between an Afghan National Army and ISAF patrol that might visit your village once or twice every few months, and the Taliban living in the next *qala* (farmhouse), the choice is clear.

While there has been progress in Oruzgan, there are simply not enough coalition or Afghan troops. A step forward in one valley invariably means a step back in another, leading to a frustrating game of whack-a-mole. A reduction in the overall number of coalition troops in Oruzgan would only compound this problem, making it harder to convince locals we are committed to their security.

It would lead to a restriction in the activities of coalition and Afghan troops. While this might allow a concentration on some areas, it would do much to undermine coalition credibility; and as the ISAF and ANA presence recedes in some areas, the void would quickly be filled.

It would put at risk much of what has been achieved during the past four years, sometimes — as Monday showed — at an almost unbearable price.

In August it may come to pass that there are fewer coalition troops in Oruzgan, not because the situation has improved but because no one, including Australia, is willing to do any more.

If you commit troops to a COIN struggle, they must have the time, resources and boots on the ground to win.

If not, what the hell was it all for?

Stephen Barton served in Afghanistan and Solomon Islands with the Australian Army. These are his personal views.

'The Weekend Australian', June 12-13, 2010



**AUSTRALIAN ARMY**  
Head of Regiment  
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery  
Bridges Barracks, PUCKAPUNYAL VIC 3662

I1721799

**The Private Secretary to Her Majesty The Queen**  
BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Dear Sir,

I request that you submit for Her Majesty's consideration the following loyal message from the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery:

The Colonels Commandant, the Head of Regiment, and all Ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery convey to Her Majesty, our Captain General, their respect and loyalty on the occasion of Royal Australian Artillery Day, 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2010, commemorating 139 years of dedicated service to Australia.

20<sup>th</sup> Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment continues its successful support to operations in Afghanistan while Royal Australian Artillery instructors support the First Mentoring Task Force training Afghani gunners in Oruzgan Province. The close ties with the Royal Regiment of Artillery continue with gunners from 4<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment on operations with 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Royal Artillery in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, and gunners from 1<sup>st</sup> Field Regiment have now commenced their pre-deployment training with 7<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery.

This year our special thoughts are with our gunners and their families who continue to prepare for and support operations throughout the world.

Ubique

Yours faithfully,

**T.R. FORD, AO**  
Major General (Retired)  
Representative Colonel Commandant  
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery

Tel: +61 3 5735 6465  
E-mail: [greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au](mailto:greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au)

*28<sup>th</sup>* June 2010



**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

Major General T. R. Ford, AO,  
Representative Colonel Commandant,  
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery.

Please convey my warm thanks to the Colonels Commandant, the Head of the Regiment and all Ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery for their kind message of loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of Royal Australian Artillery Day which will commemorate one hundred and thirty-nine years of dedicated service by the Regiment.

As your Captain General, I much appreciate your continued support and, in return, send my best wishes to all concerned for a most memorable day.

**ELIZABETH R.**

1st August, 2010.



AUSTRALIAN ARMY  
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery

11852536

**Representative Colonel Commandant,  
Colonels Commandant,  
Commanding Officers,  
Battery Commanders,  
Regimental Sergeant Majors,  
All Ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery,  
Associations and affiliated friends of the Regiment.**

**ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF AUSTRALIAN  
ARTILLERY – 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2010**

The 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2010 marks the 139<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery service to the Army and Australia. Today we again celebrate the history, lineage and customs of the Regiment through a range of dinners and activities.

The Regiment continues to support operations in Afghanistan, East Timor, Solomon Islands and across the world whilst those in Australia continue to meet the challenges of preparing for operations, accelerating change and the introduction of new equipment. The coming year brings new challenges– look forward, be ready, remain focussed and embrace the changes to come.

In celebrating our anniversary this year, I ask you all to reflect on our gunners currently deployed or in training for deployment to operations across the world, to thank and support their families during their absence; and to wish all those serving overseas a safe and speedy return to their beloved Australia and their families.

On behalf of the Representative Colonel Commandant and Colonels Commandant, I congratulate all ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, serving and former, for their service.

Ubique

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'D.R. Coghlan', written over a thin blue line.

**D.R. COGHLAN, AM**  
Brigadier  
Head of Regiment

Telephone: (02) 6265 3153  
E-mail: [david.coghlan@defence.gov.au](mailto:david.coghlan@defence.gov.au)

3 | July 2010

# Birds have big impact

By Lt Bill Heck

THE modern battlefield seems to rely on better armour and bigger weapons, but a small group of Australian soldiers at Multinational Base Tarin Kowt is making a big impact without bullets or bombs.

Gnr Joe Hennessey, 20 Surveillance Targeting and Acquisition Regt, loves flying and has followed his passion for model helicopters into a career as an air vehicle operator. He said flying the UAVs, or 'birds', was the best job he could hope to find.

"I fly the bird, which is largely automated, but I am also trained in maintenance and preparation," Gnr Hennessey said. "In flight, the UAV pretty much looks after itself, but the launch and recovery is where things can possibly go wrong quickly and the bird is vulnerable; that's where I really earn my money."

The UAVs can be in the air for more than eight hours at a time and can carry out a variety of tasks and missions to provide real-time information to commanders on the ground. They also have the versatility to support patrols or conduct fixed location surveillance, deterrence or counter-IED missions.

"When we are operating in the direct support role, we feed a constant flow of information to the patrols on the ground and that directly effects how the commander reacts," Gnr Hennessey said.

"I fly almost every day and every mission is different; I know I am making a difference."

Detachment commander Lt Ben Allan-Agnew said the technology allowing the UAV to be deployed remotely had improved rapidly since the ADF acquired the equipment.

"The mountains here have always been problematic but with operators in different locations we can now take control and put the bird where it is needed," Lt Allan-Agnew said.

"We used to have to deploy a container, similar to the control centres shown in the movie Avatar, but now we can be mobile in a Bushmaster or static with a man-pack system. The operating procedures are now more streamlined so it is no longer the logistical problem it used to be."



**Model career:** Gnr Joe Hennessey, 20 STA Regt, prepares his bird for flight Photo by LS Paul Berry

Maj Chris Flear, OC of the Tarin Kowt UAV mission, praised the achievements of his detachment, especially given their small manpower and footprint.

"We are an integral part of the overall coalition effort in gathering battlespace information," he said.

"We have the ability to scope the whole operational area and get a feel for the dynamic and what people or vehicles are moving around, both before and after an event. We are able to build an intelligence picture through sustained surveillance about who is doing what, when, where and why."

Maj Flear explained that because the UAVs were a relatively new capability to the ADF, how best to deploy them was still in the developmental stage.

"It takes a period of time to develop skills but as time goes by and the birds become more common-place, force elements will work out better ways to employ them," Maj Flear said.



'Army', July 8, 2010

# Regimental

## Representative Colonel Commandant

*Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retd)*



Dear Fellow Gunners

The Regiment remains at a high level of activity across the board undertaking a wide range of complex training exercises and operational deployments of both regular and reserve Gunners in

Afghanistan, Timor Leste, the Solomon Islands and other peacekeeping operations and commitments around Australia. This has all been achieved while responding to the challenges and opportunities of dynamic change to the Army and the RAA as a result of current Force Modernisation reviews, and the introduction of new structures, equipments and processes that affect all our units.

The Regiment has also been busy acknowledging its long and proud history. Gunners paraded across Australia and overseas on Anzac day. This year I attended the national services in Canberra at the RAA national memorial on Mount Pleasant and at the Australian War Memorial followed by a healthy gathering of gunners for lunch. I have also been honoured in recent months to attend the 50th Anniversary of 4th Field Regiment in Townsville and the 150th Anniversary of the Launceston Volunteer Artillery Company now continued in 16th Field Battery RAA. Both activities, which included exercising the right of freedom of entry to their cities, were very well conducted and well attended by Gunners past and present. In September we celebrated the 125th Anniversary of the School of Artillery.

There have also been sad events in this period and you will find in this Liaison Letter a number of farewells to our departed colleagues. I do wish to specifically acknowledge the long contribution to the Regiment by Major General John Whitelaw, AO, CBE who passed away in June. Many of us have been blessed to know and learn from John. He was by all means a Gunner of distinction with a forty-year military career spanning World War II and Vietnam prior to community service in many national fields. We remember him particularly for his love of Australian Army and Artillery history and heritage and his achievements with the construction of the national Artillery Memorial at Mt Pleasant, the initiation of the Australian Army History Unit and the RAA Historical Society, and as the RAA Representative Colonel Commandant and first Chairman of the History Sub Committee. We will certainly miss his guidance and wisdom - but I am proud of the way that the Army and the Regiment responded so well to acknowledge his contribution at his funeral at Royal Military College Chapel. This was greatly appreciated by his family and colleagues.

---

*... acknowledge the long  
contribution to the Regiment by  
Major General John Whitelaw, AO,  
CBE who passed away in June.*

---

I wish to acknowledge the change in the RAA Head of Regiment with Brigadier Wayne Goodman deploying overseas. This important appointment has now been assumed by Brigadier David Coghlan. Wayne did a wonderful job in representing the Regiment within Army and in coordinating the gunner response from our units to many changes under consideration. Many thanks and best wishes for a safe tour on active service. David has quickly taken up the mantle and has been active in visiting unit and association activities around Australia. We have also changed Colonel Commandants in Eastern region with Colonel Ian Ahearn taking over from Colonel Al Piercy. Welcome back Ian, and thank you Al for your significant contribution to the Regiment over the last four years.

Amongst all that is happening in the Army, the RAA Regimental Committee and the Colonel Commandants have been considering how their appointments and activities can best support the Regiment today. A wide gunner community and family exists across Australia that includes our serving and past gunners in regular and reserve units, state and regional RAA associations, and a range of other unit and service associations and historical groups. The RAA Colonel Commandants, Head of Regiment and unit commanders loosely coordinate and support the various local activities, culture and heritage through the actions of the Regimental Committee, but we feel that we could do this better by becoming more relevant to today's gunners and providing clearer guidance on preserving our history and heritage.

---

*... to support the restructure of the RAA Historical Company as a national body focused on the preservation and maintenance of artillery history and heritage throughout Australia, including the history being created today ...*

The Regimental Committee meeting in July decided to examine how other Corps support their past and present soldiers, and the schemes they have in place to fund such actions. We also decided to continue the development of a national artillery heritage plan, to support the restructure of the RAA Historical Company as a national body focused on the preservation and maintenance of artillery history and heritage throughout Australia, including the history being created today by RAA units and individuals, and to get information on what is happening in the Gunner community better communicated to all through websites and today's technology. You will hear more of this in the coming months and we welcome your input to this process.

Finally, on behalf of the Regiment, I was pleased to congratulate two Gunners who featured in the Queens Birthday Honours list. Warrant Officer Class Two Paul Boswall received the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) for distinguished leadership in action while the Troop Sergeant Major with the Royal Australian Artillery Troop, in Afghanistan. Lieutenant Colonel Stuart Kenny was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC) for outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Field Regiment. Well done to them and all Gunners out there building the reputation of the Regiment.

I look forward to meeting with you at RAA activities over the next year and to your continued contributions to our effectiveness as a Regiment and to our heritage. Good luck and good shooting to all.

*Ubique*



---

## Head of Regiment

*Brigadier David Coghlan, AM*



Dear Fellow Gunners

This is my first Liaison Letter as the Head of Regiment (HOR) and I would like to thank my predecessor Brigadier Wayne Goodman for his great efforts and we wish him a safe and successful deployment.

As a Regiment we are embarked on an exciting and demanding journey of change that will see us transform Artillery into a modern, agile and highly effective force. The degree of change is profound and represents the largest transformation to the Regiment in well over a generation. Our challenge is to embrace this change while still preserving our high level of support to operations and the myriad of other activities that demand our attention. As I visit, talk to and hear from Gunners around the country I am confident we are meeting this challenge.

In joint fires the introduction into service of the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) will see 'Digitisation' finally become a reality. AFATDS will be linked to the M777A2 155mm Lightweight howitzer gun system. The first M777 recently arrived in Australia and the initial training of Gunners on the system in the US is complete. Army is continuing the process to acquire a 155mm self propelled gun system for use in support of the Army mechanised capability.

Complimenting the gun systems is the Excalibur ammunition and the introduction of other smart munitions.

---

*The degree of change is profound and represents the largest transformation to the Regiment in well over a generation.*

---

Across the Regiment in other areas we are also witnessing capability enhancements which add to the exciting and challenging dynamic of the 'revitalised' Regiment. The need to improve the force protection of our forces in Afghanistan has seen the Government approve the rapid acquisition of a Counter Rocket and Mortar (C-RAM) capability. Also recently announced was that the Shadow 200 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) has been selected as the long term platform to meet Army's UAV capability needs.

I would also like to flag another significant change in the Gunner establishment with the restructuring, from 2012, of 16 AD Regt into the 16th Air Land Regiment (16 ALR). This unit will be established from an amalgamation of 16 AD Regt and 1 GL Gp to provide an enhanced AD, CRAM and GL capability to Army and the ADF.

---

*... restructuring, from 2012, of 16 AD Regt into the 16th Air Land Regiment. This unit will be established from an amalgamation of 16th Air Defence Regiment and 1st Ground Liaison Group ...*

---

Whilst adapting to the challenges we must never lose sight of our number one priority, artillery support to operations, especially those in Afghanistan. Our level and type of support in Afghanistan is evolving. After a number of demanding and successful deployments, the nature of the requirement for support to the Royal Artillery (RA) has evolved and troop rotations to Operation Herrick will draw to a close. We currently have a troop from 4 Fd Regt in Afghanistan, 1 Fd Regt in the UK training with the RA prior to deployment; and they will be followed by a final troop deployment from 8/12 Mdm Regt next year to complete our support to Operation Herrick.

As our Operation Herrick support draws to a close, the first deployment of C-RAM by a troop from 16 AD Regt is approaching. This new capability, with

soldiers for the deployment undergoing training in the US, will further enhance the level of force protection provided to coalition forces deployed in Oruzgan. We will continue to provide offensive support coordination and observation to the Mentoring Task Force through the provision of JFECCs, JFTs and JTACs.

As HOR I have been able to use visits in my normal Defence job to visit Gunner units or attend functions in Tasmania, South Australia, Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. These have been enjoyable, worthwhile and informative and I look forward to further visits. One of my first representative roles as HOR was to be the official mourner at the funeral service of Major General John Whitelaw, AO, CBE (RL). In the words of the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retd), Major General Whitelaw was a 'Gunner of distinction' and his life-long contribution to the Regiment was significant. Further detail on his life can be found in the Vale section. Although a sad and sobering service the contribution made by members of the Regiment to his funeral was appropriate and of high quality.

---

*As our Operation Herrick support draws to a close, the first deployment of C-RAM by a troop from 16 AD Regt is approaching.*

---

Recently, at the Royal Military College, I had the pleasure to present the Royal Australian Artillery Prize to Lieutenant Aaron Ridgeway posted to 8/12 Mdm Regt. I was also privileged to welcome the following graduates from the mid-year class to the Regiment: Lieutenant's Robert Best and Luke Seymour posted to 1 Fd Regt; Lieutenant Cooper Dale posted to 4 Fd Regt; Lieutenant Nicholas Clarke posted to 8/12 Mdm Regt; Lieutenant's Daniel Evangelisti and Dean Varian posted to 20 STA Regt; and Lieutenant Mark Bosse posted to 16 AD Regt. On behalf of the Regiment I wish them good shooting.

The Regimental Conference was held in July this year. This was earlier than normal to deconflict from a number of activities scheduled for later this year. To further deconflict our annual conference from other activities, and to align ourselves to other Corps, we expect that March of each year will become the norm for Conferences.

The Regimental Conference this year was well attended and successful - thank you to the

organisers who did a very good job to ensure all went to plan. The theme of the capstone day was - 'Adapting the RAA to new capability and meeting the challenge of digitisation' with Brigadier Greg Bilton, Director General Development and Plans in Army Headquarters, as the keynote speaker. His address touched on a number of issues that have or will influence the Regiment as it modernises and served to further reinforce the degree of change we are currently undergoing.

---

*We are lucky to have a Regimental Committee so motivated and effective in preserving our heritage and history ...*

---

During the conference the Regimental Committee also met under the chairmanship of the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retd). At this meeting a series of Regimental history and heritage matters were discussed and the way ahead agreed including the future direction of the RAA Historical Company and options to develop support for the Regimental Fund. We are lucky to have a Regimental Committee so motivated and effective in preserving our heritage and history and, as I emphasised at the Regimental Conference, despite our busy tempo we need to take the time to recognise that our actions of today represent the history of tomorrow and ensure we capture the activities of the Regiment for posterity.

---

*I encourage you to remain flexible, strive to see the long term benefits and not let the odd bump in the road throw you off contributing to maximising the future capabilities of the Royal Regiment.*

---

The Regiment also used the conference as an opportunity to farewell members who have devoted more than 20 years service to the Army. They have all made their own unique professional contribution to improving and making the Army and the Royal Regiment a richer and better place. On behalf of the Regiment, I thank them for their Service, the support of their families over such a long period of time, and wish them all the best for future.

As the Regiment undergoes fundamental change it is both an exciting and challenging time for all of us regardless of our rank, role or length of service. As mentioned earlier since assuming my appointment as HOR I have had the opportunity to visit a number of units and Regimental events. I am pleased to say that wherever I have visited I have been struck by the positive attitudes I have encountered. I look forward to visiting more units and activities in the coming months. I would ask that in these dynamic times you remember that it will not be always be a smooth road as we transition from the old to the new. I encourage you to remain flexible, strive to see the long term benefits and not let the odd bump in the road throw you off contributing to maximising the future capabilities of the Royal Regiment.

*Ubique*



Head of Regiment presenting the Artillery prize to Lieutenant Aaron Ridgeway from the 2010 RMC mid-year graduation class

## Head of Regiment Profile

Brigadier David Coghlan was born in Canberra and graduated from the Royal Military College Duntroon in 1984 to the Royal Australian Artillery. From 1985 to 1988 he held a variety of Regimental postings in the 16th Air Defence Regiment at Woodside in South Australia involving both the Rapier and RBS-70 surface-to-air guided missile systems.

In 1989 and 1990 Captain Coghlan was the SO3 Operations at Headquarters 3rd Brigade in Townsville and from there was posted as an instructor at the US Army Air Defense School at Fort Bliss Texas. For his service at Fort Bliss he was awarded the United States Army Meritorious Service Medal. Upon return to Australia in 1993 he was the Operations Officer and Battery Commander of Headquarters Battery at the 16th Air Defence Regiment.

From there Major Coghlan attended Army Command and Staff College at Queenscliff followed by a posting to Brisbane as the SO2 Operations at the Deployable Joint Force Headquarters. In 1998 he was posted to Canberra as Staff Officer to the Director General of Preparedness and Plans - Army. In 1999 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel as the SO1 Organisational Structure in Army Headquarters. For his efforts in this area he was awarded a Chief of Army's Commendation.

While posted to Army Headquarters he completed a Master of Defence Studies at the Australian Defence Force Academy where he was awarded the Defence Studies prize as the top student in the program. In 2001 Lieutenant Colonel Coghlan was awarded first and second prizes in the Chief of Army's Essay competition for his papers *The Revolution in Military Affairs and The Prospect of a United Nations Standing Force*. A later article, *Australia's Defence Policy in the Post-Cold War World*, was published in the Army Journal.

During 2002 Lieutenant Colonel Coghlan deployed as the contingent commander of the Australian United Nations Military Observers and Senior United Nations Military Observer in the Oecussi Sector of East Timor. In 2003 and 2004 he commanded the 16th Air Defence Regiment during a period of rapid expansion and revitalisation. Promoted in 2005 he was appointed as Colonel Plans Headquarters Training Command - Army. During 2006 he was the J5 - Plans at Headquarters Joint Operations Command in Sydney. Following this appointment Colonel Coghlan deployed to Afghanistan as the Deputy Commander Joint Task Force 633 (Afghanistan). In this role, based in Kabul, he was the senior Australian Defence Force representative in Afghanistan. For his performance as J5 and in Afghanistan Colonel Coghlan was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2008 Australia Day Honours List. In 2007 and 2008 Colonel Coghlan attended the US Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania as a member of the resident Class of 2008 graduating with a Masters of Strategic Studies. His major research paper for the course *Prospects from Korean Reunification* was published by the Strategic Studies Institute, the US Army's institute for geostrategic research and analysis. A recent article *Clausewitz: Strategist of Choice for the Twenty-First Century* has been published in the Autumn 2010 Edition of the Australian Army Journal.

Promoted in October 2008, Brigadier Coghlan is currently the Director General of Military Strategy in Strategic Policy Division of the Department of Defence.

Brigadier Coghlan is married to Trish and they have three children, Jessica 18, and twins Benjamin and Sarah who are 15. His interests include his family, reading, history and he is a keen follower of cricket. They live in the suburb of Forde in Canberra.

# Former Head of Regiment

*Brigadier Wayne Goodman, AM*



I was able to advise some of you earlier that I am soon to deploy on operations at short notice. Unfortunately, as you can imagine, this impacts significantly on my ability to represent you as Head of Regiment for the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. I was not expecting to be deployed and this deployment reminds me

that we must all remain prepared at all times for any eventuality.

The Deputy Chief of Army has appointed Brigadier D.P. Coghlan, AM to replace me as Head of Regiment and I am sure that you will provide him the same level of support that I have enjoyed.

The Regiment continues to face a significant period of change which is challenging our leadership and our flexibility. As we know, each element of the Regiment is facing a number of exciting equipment and structural changes that will test our ability to adapt. As we have come to expect of the Regiment, we will manage this change, quickly adapt to the challenges posed and continue to provide the capability required and expected of the Gunners.

I have welcomed the opportunity to represent you, I thank you for your forthright views and your support over the last 18 months and I look forward to renewing our acquaintance in the future. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the continued support of our families in this time of operational intensity. I wish you and your families the best of health and encourage you to make the most of the opportunities that you have to be together.

I acknowledge that we have three distinct Regimental professions that all perform laudably from operations in Timor Leste, to the Middle Eastern Area of Operations including Operation Herrick and all of the operations in between where the Regiment is represented.

Finally, I offer you all the traditional greeting in farewell, good shooting.

*Ubique*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wayne Goodman'.

# Joint Fires Cell

*Colonel Brian Bailey, Colonel Joint Fires*

The Joint Fires Cell within 6th Brigade (CS&ISTAR) has gone through an incremental change throughout 2010, with Colonel Brian Bailey, Colonel Joint Fires (COL JF) remaining at the helm. Major Stu Seabrook replaced Major Josh Bolton on Operation Slipper with the RAAF Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) - HERON Detachment and the cell was invigorated with the inclusion of Captain Col Smith (previously 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment [20 STA Regt]) to provide locating and Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) expertise to the organisation.

---

*CASAC endorsed the amalgamation of 16th Air Defence Regiment (16 AD Regt) and 1st Ground Liaison Group (1 GL Gp) to form the 16th Air Land Regiment (16 ALR).*

---

The cell has adapted in 2010 since its inception as the Offensive Support Regeneration Team (OSRT) to the Joint Fires Cell and Technical Controller (TECHON) on behalf of the Forces Commander (FORCOMD) for joint fires. The confirmation of the tasking has enabled the cell to grasp hold of developing and introductory capabilities such as the Counter - Rocket, Artillery and Mortar (C-RAM) system, the UAV SHADOW 200 (to replace SCANEAGLE), the rationalisation of Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) training, support to the Force Modernisation Review (FMR) for ISTAR and Unit Establishment Review (UER) for the development of the Air Land Regiment (ALR). The following paragraphs outline the events and the assets being tracked by Joint fires Cell.

## **Air Land Regiment Unit Establishment Review**

CASAC endorsed the amalgamation of 16th Air Defence Regiment (16 AD Regt) and 1st Ground Liaison Group (1 GL Gp) to form the 16th Air Land Regiment (16 ALR). The integration of the two units officially commenced with the execution of the Unit Establishment Review (UER) in July 2010. The confirmed role of the unit to 'provide force protection for land forces against air and indirect fire threats through GBAMD, CRAM and C2 for Joint

air-land integration..<sup>1</sup> drove the fundamental inputs and rationalisation of the unit. Although the unit will not be activated until Posting Planning Cycle (PPC) 2012 planning for the ALR will continue in earnest with the rapid introduction of Counter-Rocket and Mortar (C-RAM) and the essential force protection requirement which it has been endorsed to provide.

### Counter-Rocket and Mortar

Immediately following the announcement of the C-RAM capability a Joint Planning Group (JPG) chaired by COL JF brought together the key stakeholders successfully mapping out the future requirements of the capability, and highlighting the critical training and introduction to service issues which are to be faced with the capability. 16 AD has the operational lead, Headquarters 6th Brigade is the mounting headquarters and the Joint Fires Cell is assisting with the second and third order effects related to training for additional rotations, introduction of an Australian training package and acceptance of the capability within the Army ORBAT in lieu of current in-service platforms.

The first rotation of C-RAM will commence equipment specific training in the coming months in preparation to meet the Minister of Defence's timeline to introduce C-RAM force protection measures in theatre by December 2010. The integration of C-RAM and AD highlights Army's commitment to invest into the Air Land Integration (ALI) environment.

---

*... paradigm shift in the structure of 20 STA Regt to support the arrival of SHADOW 200 which will dramatically change the locating and surveillance role ...*

---

### JP129

The replacement UAV for the current in-service platform - SCANEAGLE, was recently announced as the SHADOW 200. The new UAV will require a restructure of 20 STA Regt as the unit continues to provide SCANEAGLE support to AS FE in theatre whilst additional members are trained across the spectrum of SHADOW 200 operational, maintenance and air-worthiness requirements in preparation to assume in-theatre UAV ISR responsibilities from the SCANEAGLE detachment. Unlike the SCANEAGLE contract which is supported by Boeing (Insitu Pacific Limited) the SHADOW 200 will not be reliant upon entirely civilian Field

Service Representatives (FSR) but will maintained by uniformed members with subject matter expertise from one FSR.

The ISTAR Force Modernisation Review (FMR) highlighted the fundamental requirements for a paradigm shift in the structure of 20 STA Regt to support the arrival of SHADOW 200 which will dramatically change the locating and surveillance role which it has traditionally maintained.

### Joint Terminal Air Controller

The rationalisation of Joint Terminal Air Controller (JTAC) training commenced in 2009 with the establishment of the Joint Training Advisory Group (JTAG) which meets quarterly, the development of a Joint Training Management Plan (TMP) and the introduction of the FORCOMD JTAC Management Plan. The future intent for JTAC is to enhance the ongoing currency and competency of the JTAC community through scheduled and monitored JTAC training concentrations and investment into FORCOMD JTAC's career progression as Supervisory JTACs (SUPTACs). The JTAC skill will remain at each of the formations, however JTAC Troop (a unit within the ALR) will continue to be the premier FORCOMD JTAC establishment augmenting formations with subject matter experts as required.

### 2nd Division Mortar Conversion

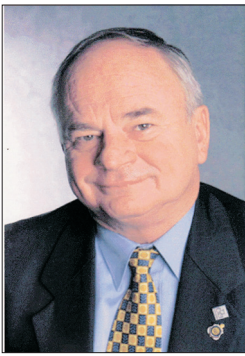
The approved conversion of the 2nd Division RAA units to mortars by 2011 has been re-directed with all those units which have commenced conversion to complete as per the initial timeline, however the remaining units are to maintain the extant 105mm role until informed to commence conversion to an entirely mortar fleet.

### Exercise Hamel 10 and Talisman Sabre 11

COL JF as the 6th Brigade lead for Joint Fires and ISTAREW has been involved in all levels of planning for forthcoming exercises. The key output from each has been the development of the 6th Brigade enabling capabilities being fused together to form the All Sources Information Cell (ASIC). This Bde enabled element will be further enhanced with the re-configuration of the Battlefield Coordination Detachment (BCD) at the AOC and enhancements to 3rd Brigade's Joint Fires and Effects Coordination Cell (JFECC) to provide the supported commander with a holistic appreciation of the battlespace.

# New Colonel Commandant Eastern Region

## Colonel Ian 'Scrubber' Ahearn



Colonel Ian Ahearn was born in Sydney 1945 and matriculated from Epping Boys High School in 1962. Ian entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon the following year and graduated in 1966 into the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. Posted to 102nd Field Battery he saw Active

Service in South Vietnam (1968-1969) both as gun position officer and forward observer with C Company 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.

On return from Vietnam Ian married Elizabeth was promoted captain and posted to Tasmania as Adjutant 6th Field Regiment RAA. He also performed the role of Army Careers Lecturer Tasmania Command before leaving the far South for the far North in 1971. A short stint with 4th Field Regiment in Townsville followed before Ian accompanied 106th Field Battery to Singapore as the BK. 106th Field Battery formed the Australian component of 28 ANZUK Field Regiment which in turn was the artillery element of the ANZUK Force. Singapore also saw the birth of Ian and Elizabeth's first son Nathan.

Promoted Major on return to Australia in 1974, Ian was appointed as Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General (DAQMG) in Headquarters 3rd Military District. This posting was short lived and in September 1974 he joined 8th/12th Medium Regiment as Battery Commander 102nd Field Battery in Holsworthy. Shortly after arrival in Sydney a second son, Justin, was born. The family then moved back to Victoria while Ian attended the Australian Staff College at Queenscliff.

Staff appointments in Headquarters 2nd Military District and HQ Training Command followed before a posting to the United States where Ian assumed the appointment as Staff Officer Grade Two Training. The Ahearns' returned to Australia in 1981 and Ian was promoted Lieutenant Colonel and in succession served as Deputy Commander 2nd

Training Group and Staff Officer Grade 1 Co-ordination Headquarters Training Command. In 1985 Ian attended the Joint Services Staff College followed by promotion to colonel and appointment as Chief of Staff of the newly formed Land Force Headquarters.

In 1988 Ian was posted as Commandant 1st Recruit Training Battalion and Commander Kapooka Military Area. In 1990 a move was made to Canberra and a 'purple' appointment in Headquarters Australian Defence Force as Director Support Force Development (Land). This was followed by a final position of Director Corporate Information Policy and Plans-Army in Army Headquarters.

---

*Posted to 102nd Field Battery he saw Active Service in South Vietnam (1968-1969) both as gun position officer and forward observer with C Company 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.*

---

Ian left the Army in 1997 and worked in the Information Technology industry with C3I Pty Ltd, Know1 Pty Ltd, Election.Com and Catalyst Interactive before retiring in 2004. In retirement has spent six years as a Board Member of Federal Golf Club including two years as President, continues to be a member of the RSL National Committee for Conditions of Service and has an avid interest in rugby, golf and cricket as well as the Sing Australia Choir.

Ian and Elizabeth continue to live in Canberra. Elizabeth holds a Bachelor of Education and a Graduate Diploma in Special Education and works as a disability consultant for the NSW Department of Education. Their eldest son, Nathan is a Warrant Officer Class Two in the Royal Australian Regiment currently serving at the Royal Military College. Justin has a Bachelor of Science (Marine Biologist) and is currently in Darwin with the Northern Territory Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

# Queens Birthday Honours 2010

## Distinguished Service Medal

Warrant Officer Class Two Paul Robert BOSWELL

*For distinguished leadership in action while the Troop Sergeant Major with the Royal Australian Artillery Troop, Afghanistan, Rotation Two and attached to the 29th Commando Regiment (United Kingdom).*

Warrant Officer Boswell demonstrated exceptional leadership following the ignition of an improvised explosive device which injured three British soldiers, two of whom very seriously, in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He immediately took command of the dangerous situation and by his excellent judgement and decisive actions, contributed significantly to saving the lives of the injured soldiers. He also provided excellent support to the others involved. His professionalism, leadership and poise were of the highest order and in keeping with the finest traditions of the Australian Army.

## Conspicuous Service Medal

Sergeant Phillip Robert SCANLAN

*For meritorious achievement as a Battery Quartermaster Sergeant, 16th Air Defence Regiment and Company Quartermaster Sergeant, Timor Leste Battle Group Five.*

Sergeant Scanlan has displayed exceptional professionalism and outstanding dedication to duty while effectively performing the role of a Warrant Officer Class Two in three consecutive appointments, both in barracks and on operations. His accomplishments and outstanding service over a sustained period of time have brought great credit upon his unit, Corps and the Australian Army and are the actions of an exceptional soldier.

## Conspicuous Service Cross

Lieutenant Colonel Stuart Nicholas KENNY

*For outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Field Regiment.*

Lieutenant Colonel Kenny has consistently demonstrated the highest level of leadership, professionalism, and personal determination during his current posting. As the Commanding Officer of the 1st Field Regiment he has led an undermanned unit to great success on exercise, deploying its members on operational service and in corporate governance while in barracks.



# Vale

## Major General John Whitelaw, AO, CBE (RL)

*Colonel Arthur Burke, OAM (Retd)*



Major General John Whitelaw AO CBE (RL) passed away peacefully in Canberra on 19th June 2010.

John Whitelaw was destined to follow a military career. He was born into the military family of Captain, later Major General John Stewart and Esther Augusta

Whitelaw on 11th June 1921 at Hawthorn, Victoria just after his father had completed a course at the School of Gunnery in Sydney. Both his brothers, Fred and Norman were also Gunners.

John was educated at the Sydney Boys High School and Wesley College, Melbourne. He started work in 1937 as an indentured clerk with the paper merchants Spicers & Detmold Ltd, Melbourne. The artillery in his blood led to his joining the 10th Field Brigade Royal Australian Artillery at Batman Avenue, Melbourne as a senior cadet. On his 18th birthday, he was appointed a gunner and rose quickly through the ranks to become a gun sergeant, then battery commander's assistant. His unit was horsed until 1939 but John 'was not very fond of horses' and believed that 'the drivers had it in for the gunners'.

With the advent of the Second World War, Sergeant Whitelaw was commissioned on 15th March 1940 and his father reluctantly sanctioned his transfer to the AIF soon after his 20th birthday in 1941. Lieutenant Whitelaw became a 6th Division reinforcement for the 2/1st Field Regiment. Colonel Bill Ford, OBE (RL) remembers John fondly from that time as a 'very keen and bright young officer with a yearning to learn'.

The Japanese thrust in the Pacific ended any chance of John's going to the Middle East and he was at Headquarters 2nd Division in Western Australia

when posted to New Guinea. After a painfully long train trip from Geraldton, WA to Townsville in North Queensland, Captain John Whitelaw joined the last elements of 4th Field Regiment (Jungle Division) AIF as they sailed for Lae, New Guinea. He moved forward to Dumpu in the Ramu Valley and became the battery captain of 12th Battery. Amongst the guns his battery took over from the 2/4th Field Regiment AIF were the two 25-Pounder Shorts that had been parachuted into Nadzab at the beginning of this campaign in September 1943. He recalled the extreme physical effort required to move single guns and ammunition forward across the towering Finisterre Ranges - '50 men took three days to deliver 50 rounds of ammunition to the left flank gun'.

In June 1944, John succumbed to dengue fever and hepatitis, was hospitalised and returned to Australia for recuperation leave. On return to his unit then near Lae, he became the commander of E Troop and endured the divisional artillery undergoing 'School of Artillery type' training.

Relief came when Captain Whitelaw's unit was deployed as part of the 2nd Australian Corps to Bougainville on 1st November 1944 where he observed that Torokina living conditions left by the Americans were luxury.

---

*He recalled the extreme physical effort required to move single guns and ammunition forward across the towering Finisterre Ranges - '50 men took three days to deliver 50 rounds of ammunition to the left flank gun'.*

---

John's 11th Battery was deployed up the Numa Numa Trail in support of the 31st/51st Battalion. As a forward observation officer, he was continually involved trudging on patrol support with the occasional 'little bit of a job on a Japanese position' to improve his morale.

On 6th June 1944, an amphibious assault onto Porton Plantation by the 31st/51st Battalion was planned to cut off the withdrawing Japanese. This developed into a disaster and Captain Whitelaw was tasked to navigate the final group of armoured barges with assault boats to collect the survivors. He earned a mention in despatches for his accurate navigation and laying a very effective smoke screen along the beach to cloud the clear moonlight and facilitate a successful withdrawal.

News of peace was received on 11th August and in October Captain Whitelaw was transferred to the 2/14th Field Regiment in Rabaul. There he was posted to the Army Movement Control Staff which began returning soldiers to Australia and in September 1946, it was his turn to go home. Captain John Whitelaw was transferred to the Reserve of Officers and returned to his old job back with Spicers in Melbourne. When asked what was the greatest benefit he derived from six years of war service, he replied, 'Without it you don't know what ... [soldiering] is all about ... the noise of an angry shot ... focuses your mind!'

John married Nancy Bogle (the sister of fellow Gunner officer Bruce Bogle) in December 1947. The following year, Spicers transferred him to their Perth, WA office.

---

*When asked what was the greatest benefit he derived from six years of war service, he replied, 'Without it you don't know what ... [soldiering] is all about ... the noise of an angry shot ... focuses your mind!'*

---

When the Citizen Military Force (CMF) was restructured, Captain Whitelaw returned to the Active List with Headquarters Western Command on 4th July 1948. After six years' full-time war service and with a father and brother in the permanent Army, John's ambitions led him to apply for a commission in the Interim Army. His appointment on 1st July 1949 began a full-time army career which consumed him for the next 29 years during which he rose to become a major general and Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

To discuss the 26 postings John held throughout a most successful military career would take more time than can reasonably be allowed for this tribute. However, the following have been selected to highlight the remarkable career of Major General John Whitelaw.

His first substantial posting back to the Gunners was as adjutant of 1st Field Regiment at Georges Heights in Sydney under the command of Paddy O'Hare.

During 1955, now Major Whitelaw, Nancy and their three daughters enjoyed the delights of the Canadian Staff College at Kingston. The Canadians liked John so much, he was appointed the exchange instructor for the next two years.

His Grade One staff appointments included Headquarters Western then Northern Commands and Headquarters 1st (Pentropic) Division, Sydney in 1963. Then came another accompanied overseas posting to Singapore as the Assistant Adjutant and Quarter Master General at Headquarters Australian Army Force, Far East Land Force in 1966. This posting with the British Raj continued as he then stepped up to the Deputy Commander's appointment.

The penance for Singapore was returning to Army Office in Canberra in 1968 as the Director Equipment Policy: the salve was being promoted colonel.

In April 1970, Colonel Whitelaw was appointed the Chief of Staff at Headquarters Australian Army Forces Vietnam. For his sterling work in this appointment, John was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) and awarded the United States Bronze Star.

Back at Army Headquarters in March 1971, John was appointed Director Military Operations and Plans and promoted brigadier. He then became the Chief of Operations and rose to major general. The Chief of Personnel's door opened to John Whitelaw in 1975 and the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 1977 appointed him an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his distinguished service in this position.

John reached the pinnacle of his army career in 1977 when he was appointed the Deputy Chief of the General Staff. Major General John Whitelaw, AO, CBE was placed on the Retired List of officers on his 57th birthday on 11th June 1978, bringing to a close a total of 41 years of almost continuous service as a soldier.

Retirement from the Army did not mean giving up work and for the next 24 years, John Whitelaw continued to serve - on the Council of the National Heart Foundation, as the founding Executive Director of the National Farmers' Federation and finally with Greening Australia for which he was given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in December 1996. In parallel with this work, he had been very active in veterans' welfare matters as national president of the Regular Defence Force Welfare Association and vice-president of the Australian Veterans and Defence Services Council.

Delivering the military eulogy at John's funeral, Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retd) emphasised that, 'the golden thread throughout John Whitelaw's military and civilian careers was his

abiding passion for history and heritage. For over 50 years, John Whitelaw displayed an extraordinary interest in the Australian Army, and particularly its artillery heritage and history. As DCGS he established and was the founding chairman of the Army History Committee that created the first Army Staff Instruction on Army Heritage and History.'

John Whitelaw was the driving force behind construction of the RAA National Memorial on Mount Pleasant and its opening by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, our Captain General in 1977, and in the creation of the RAA National Museum at North Fort in Sydney. He was the founding and only patron of the RAA Historical Society which lay the foundations for the outstanding collection and display of artillery equipments and memorabilia now resident at North Fort-the site of the 9.2-inch Coast Artillery Battery over which John had walked frequently when his father was Commander Fixed Defences during the Second World War.

He was the first chairman of the History Sub Committee (HSC) of the RAA Regimental Committee which was formed in 2005. His inspired leadership, dedicated example and continuing as a project team leader on several issues after ill health obliged him to hand over the chair, were inspirational to all other members of the HSC. He impressed the whole Regimental Committee with his dedication and enthusiasm for this task which now has some 20 volunteers undertaking research into 28 artillery related topics.

In addition to these historical services to the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, Major General John Whitelaw was the Colonel Commandant of NSW from 1978 to 1984 and Representative Colonel Commandant of the Regiment from 1980 to 1984, a role in which he sagely guided the RAA's history, customs, traditions and standing in the community.

John Whitelaw not only came from a military family - he became an integral part of the military family of the Gunners of his Regiment, the soldiers of the Australian Army and was a shining example to all members of the Australian Defence Force. John was also a devoted family man. To his wife, Nancy, his three daughters Angela, Belinda and Virginia and their families, he was the loving patriarch of the family.

Vale Major General John Whitelaw, AO, CBE - officer, gentleman and military historian – a Gunner of distinction.

## Lieutenant Colonel Peter Louis Overstead

*Colonel Arthur Burke, OAM (Retd)*



Lieutenant Colonel Peter Louis Overstead passed away peacefully from the terminal effects of Alzheimer's Disease on 1st June 2010.

Peter was born at Stanthorpe on 10th May 1950, the third son of Gordon and Maisie Overstead, the local bakers. The family moved to Warwick where Peter spent the next 17 years and from his earliest age, it was obvious that sport was second nature to him-cricket in the back yard (complete with regular broken windows) and swimming in the local club. At high school, he excelled at both rugby and cricket and had a real passion for the school cadets, becoming an under-officer and receiving a certificate for being top cadet of his year.

Gentle, well spoken and well behaved, Peter served as an altar boy at St Marks Anglican Church two mornings each week and every Sunday. His pastoral faith was so strong that in his final year at school he faced a very real dilemma deciding whether he would enter the priesthood or the Army. His childhood sweetheart was Bronwyn Dowling and, though Peter went off to the Royal Military College Duntroon in Canberra and she went to Brisbane for nursing training, they remained very close and were married at St Marks in 1973.

Peter entered Duntroon in 1969 and graduated from the Officer Cadet School at Portsea, Victoria in 1972, allocated to Aviation to become a pilot. His classmate Peter Keane recalls him as 'the little 'smart arse' who always had the last cheeky comment for the drill sergeant, the trick handshake, the cockatoo whistle and the readiness for a quick game of cards.' Above all, however, he was remembered as an outstanding sportsman who could run, throw, catch, hit, tackle or shoot anything.

Unfortunately, Peter's dicky knees ruled him out for aviation and Artillery was his next choice-and the Royal Regiment's good fortune. As a young officer

with the 1st Field Regiment in Brisbane, another attribute became apparent. 'Leadership,' said Keane, 'He wore it like a glove-confident, competent and charismatic-he had a strong bond with his soldiers', was always involved with their issues and fought for their causes and thus earned their respect as both an officer and a person. Though the junior captain in 105th Battery in 1976, he was an above average battery captain who championed the battery sports' teams in barracks and led the gun group skilfully in the field.

Captain Overstead was the perfect image of an Army officer-a 'Robert Redford look-alike'-fit, handsome, always well dressed and very versatile. His postings emphasised these attributes-adjutant School of Artillery, Royal Military College, Headquarters Australian Defence Cooperation Group PNG and 1st Army Recruiting Unit. Back with 1st Field commanding 101st Battery, he was a good man in a tight situation as demonstrated by his calmness at the observation post during the traditional pressures of Commander Divisional Artillery assessments. Keane again compliments him: 'Binoculars in one hand and a brew mug in the other, coolly taking control ... and instilling confidence into his young officers and their assistants.'

---

*'Leadership,' said Keane, 'He wore it like a glove-confident, competent and charismatic-he had a strong bond with his soldiers' ...*

---

These postings were also a catalyst for Peter and Bronwyn's love of travel and the outdoors life. His brother, John recalled how they played sport, dived on coral reefs, wandered through jungles, trekked mountains and surfed some of the most magnificent beaches in the world. With no children, they happily found the world as their oyster.

After 'breezing through Staff College in 1986' (Keane), Pete and Bronny began a worldwide tour of high profile postings with the Defence Intelligence Organisation-the United Kingdom, Norforce in Darwin and after passing through the Base Administrative Support Centre in Townsville and the Joint Services Staff College in Canberra, the Australian Army Staff in Washington USA. Without prying for 'if I told you, I'd have to kill you,' as he told Peter Keane, it was learnt that he'd been involved obtaining military equipments from

vehicles, eight-ton howitzers and the results of depleted uranium munitions.

These locations fuelled Peter and Bronwyn's sense of adventure and facilitated further treks to Africa, the Himalayas, the Maldives, the Rocky Mountains and camping and fishing in national parks worldwide. Brother John recalls they even spent one Christmas in a tent in Iceland with just a candle and a few tins of baked beans. At the other end of the thermometer, they also spent a summer in Jamaica when Washington was freezing. Peter became an excellent photographer and faithfully recorded their many happy days together. But life was not always beer and skittles and his hard work for the intelligence community was recognised by the Americans with the award of the US Army's Meritorious Service Medal.

---

*... he'd been involved obtaining military equipments from Operation Desert Storm in 1991-armoured vehicles, eight-ton howitzers and the results of depleted uranium munitions.*

---

At this most sensitive part of the military eulogy at Lieutenant Colonel Overstead's final parade, Peter Keane said, 'Of course, the path of life is not always straight and clearly marked. I choose my words carefully. In Washington, Peter made a critical personal decision that changed his life and others close to him forever-family and friends were stunned- perhaps [this] was linked to a developing condition' [of Alzheimer's Disease]. Peter and Bronwyn separated.

After Washington, Pete was never the same bloke. It was evident that things were seriously amiss with his health and, after 36 years in uniform, his Army career came to an end on 8th May 2005. When the Alzheimer's reached the stage where he needed a close eye kept on him, Peter moved in with his brother John in Brisbane. From there he progressed to Greenslopes Private Hospital and then to high care at Cazna Gardens.

Throughout this final period, his former Army officer classmates drew up rosters and took Peter on regular outings. When he became too ill for these, they took turns to visit him. Memories of old times often won through and the happiness of these could be seen on his face. Classmate Deacon Gary Stone who assisted Chaplain Ken Hopper at the celebration of Peter's life described how he

would appear regularly in both his Catholic and Ken's Anglican Church before he went to hospital. His old faith had been reinvigorated and he was quite aware that his body had reached its 'used-by' date. Gary described Pete's frustration of dealing with a 'worn out body' and how he was 'ready to cross the bar'.

Peter Overstead crossed the bar on 1st June 2010 and, despite the short notice of his farewell on 3rd June at St Mark's Anglican Church at The Gap, Brisbane, there was standing room only for his many family and friends, particularly those from the Army whom he had touched and left tangible memories during his 36 years in uniform. Bronwyn was present. She has remarried to an American and lives in Belgium.

Vale Peter Louis Overstead-Gunner officer, charismatic leader, one who always enjoyed life to the fullest. Called to the Great Gun Park up above at only 60 years young.

---

## Lieutenant Colonel Peter Maw

*Major D.T. (Terry) Brennan*

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Maw was born on 1st February 1959. He commenced his career as an Army apprentice in 1975. Colonel Chris Burns enlisted with him and recalled Peter fitted in very easily to Army life. Always the one to see the positive in everything, he quickly made friends and was able to find humour under some of the most demanding of circumstances.

He observed that Peter loved being a 'chippy' and quickly became a perfectionist and an artist at his craft. Being a 'chippy' came easily as he was a natural builder, not just of bricks and mortar or timber and steel; throughout his life Peter worked at building successes from everything he undertook. He valued everybody and relished getting to know people and building lifelong relationships based on mutual respect and friendship.

At the end of the first two years of their apprenticeships, they were posted to the School of Military Engineering in Sydney in 1977. He said Pete loved learning to be a 'Sapper' and enjoyed all aspects of the role whether it was building bridges; laying minefields or just plain blowing things up. Towards the end of their apprenticeships it was suggested to a group of them, including Peter, they

consider applying for officer training. Colonel Burns recalled them all going to the soldiers' club to consider their futures and, after a number of beers, collectively deciding 'why not', it seemed like a good idea at the time.

In January of 1979 they headed off to the Officer Cadet School, Portsea. Peter's previous four years of service meant he was one of the 'old soldiers' of the course. Peter's natural leadership came to the fore and he became a mentor to those cadets fresh from civilian life, not only offering assistance, but wise counsel, a compassionate ear as well as a taste of his unique sense of humour.

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Maw graduated in December 1979 and commenced his long association with the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. He marched into 1st Field Regiment as a Second Lieutenant in 1980. He served as a section commander, gun position officer and forward observer in the Regiment and was eventually promoted to Captain in 1985 and posted to Headquarters 1st Division.

In 1986 he returned to the Army Apprentices School and among other appointments, served as Officer Commanding B Company until 1988. Lieutenant Colonel Maw was then posted to 8th/12th Medium Regiment in 1989, where he served as battery captain and adjutant and was then promoted to Major in 1990.

---

*He described Peter as a great warrior and ambassador, always the consummate professional; he had a great sensing for his surrounds.*

---

He commanded 103rd Medium Battery from 1991 to 1992. He was subsequently selected for overseas staff college and attended Command and Staff College overseas at Quetta, Pakistan and on his return to Australia was posted to the Land Warfare Centre as an instructor. Although posted to Army Headquarters in 1999 he decided to transfer to the inactive Army Reserve in that year.

Colonel Burns observed the abilities of Peter were well recognised and respected throughout Defence. It was no accident that he was given very demanding and arduous assignments both in Australia and overseas. It was a testament to the value and regard in which Peter was held that he was repeatedly asked to serve and represent our nation overseas. Colonel Burns said he felt it a very

great honour to have served with Peter in the Middle East as a UN Peacekeeper. He described Peter as a great warrior and ambassador, always the consummate professional; he had a great sensing for his surrounds. Peter respected the life and culture of others without taking sides or apportioning blame.

On transferring back to the regular Army in 2002, he was posted as the Staff Officer South Queensland Australian Army Cadets until 2004. In 2005 he served in Headquarters Northern Command. A further posting followed, this time as Staff Officer Grade Two Training in Washington until 2006. Peter was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and posted to the Land Warfare Development Centre on his return to Australia. In January 2010 Peter was posted as the Assistant Defence Advisor in Port Moresby.

Lieutenant Colonel Graeme Phillips observed Peter was a bit of a larrikin who enjoyed a good laugh, but who had a serious and deeply caring side. He recalled that whilst going through old photograph albums; he was struck by how much time they had spent together and in all corners of the globe. He said the photographs did not just stir memories of the fun seeking, happy go lucky Peter Maw but the deep conversations about the meaning of life – have we made a difference, are we good people. It was a side of Peter that not everyone was privileged to share.

---

*Peter was a bit of a larrikin who enjoyed a good laugh, but who had a serious and deeply caring side.*

---

A great memory I share about Peter was when Annie and I met up with him and Deb in Cairo. We did all the touristy things together, led on with Peter's slim but humorous grasp of Arabic. We decided to see the pyramids on horseback, much like the Light Horseman from the First World War. But of course, the horses weren't just any old horse - they had to be Arabs, a truly feisty breed of horse!! So there we were, no helmets, galloping across the sands around the pyramids without a care in the world. And who was out in front without any fear? You guessed it - Pete!! It was pretty much how he led life - from the front, full on, lots of friends close by, and lots of laughter!

Egyptian mythology states that before you are allowed entry in to heaven, you are asked two questions, and the answer to both must be yes. The

first is 'Have you found joy in your life?' and the second 'Has your life brought joy to others?'

Well I know Peter's answers to both will be an emphatic YES. He had much joy in his life, through his family, his friends and his never ending pursuit of fun. He has also touched many lives, especially mine, and brought joy to many. He will be deeply missed, but always fondly remembered.

Colonel Burns described him as a loving and caring husband, father, son, brother and mate. Sometimes the joker, he was always compassionate and put others ahead of himself. A passionate patriot he loved serving his country, living life to the full and getting the most from every experience life offered him. He loved his sports and the outdoors lifestyle. In particular he had a great passion for fishing.

It was only last year that the 'Class of 79' gathered at Portsea for the 30th anniversary of our graduation. It was an amazing weekend to reminisce with stories of our adventures and experiences. I can't describe the outpouring of grief from Pete's classmates at the news of his death.

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Maw is remembered as an officer who was highly professional, dedicated, cheerful and resourceful. As a clear and insightful thinker his guidance, advice and opinions were always eagerly sought and the counsel and judgement that he offered was always well appreciated. There is no doubt that he held the respect of all who knew him because of his contribution and dedicated service to the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, the Army and the Australian Defence Force

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Maw passed away suddenly in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on 12th May 2010 whilst serving as the Assistant Defence Advisor in Port Moresby. His funeral was held in Canberra on the 20th May 2010. Peter is survived by his wife Deb and children Ashley and Harry. I thank Colonel Chris Burns, Lieutenant Colonel Graeme Phillips and Major Greg Metcalf for providing the information for this tribute.



## Major Richard Newell Wickenden

*Colonel Arthur Burke, OAM (Retd)*



Major Richard Newell (Dick) Wickenden (Retired) passed away on 6th April 2010 following a short battle with a terminal condition of his pancreas.

Dick was born Herbert Newell Wickenden in Casino NSW on 6th September 1940. His four brothers didn't like the name Herbert so called him Dick. This nickname stuck and he became so used to it that he formally changed his name from Herbert to Richard after his mother passed away. He attended school to Intermediate level then moved to Brisbane in search of work. He was prepared to do anything for an income and in turn tried his hand in a department store, the Arnott's biscuit factory producing Iced VoVos, then as a jackeroo in western Queensland.

However, it wasn't till 1958 when Dick joined the Army that he really found his niche. Between the School of Artillery then 1st Field Regiment young Gunner Wickenden was very active on the Sydney scene. As an indication of his becoming settled, he met Evelyn Ellis, their relationship flourished and they were married in Brisbane on 8th August 1959. They honeymooned on the Gold Coast-with two of Dick's four brothers-but that is another story.

This was all orchestrated by the fact that Gunner Wickenden's 101st Field Battery was about to deploy to Malaysia for two years and what could be a better way to start a married life than an overseas posting with the last of the British Raj?-right down to a married quarter with a housekeeper and houseboy. In September, they sailed on the MV Flaminia for a new life together in this idyllic environment. It is interesting to note that Dick was, in fact, the youngest soldier in the battery at that time. Happily settled working as a line signaller with D Troop, it was with great joy that he and Eve welcomed the arrival of their son, Richard Jnr a year later.

The 101st Battery returned to Australia and became part of 4th Field Regiment at Wacol in 1961. Dick's Army career was blossoming and in January 1963 he entered the Officer Cadet School at Portsea, Victoria where he became mates with blokes like

Juergen Raasch and Barrie Winsor who turned out to be lifelong friends.

Second Lieutenant Wickenden had a fairly typical Gunner career over the next five years- back to 4th Field in Brisbane, 130th Gun Locating Battery in Sydney then on promotion to captain back to Brisbane with 1st Field Regiment as the adjutant of this unit which had been warned for active service in Vietnam in 1969. He was a loyal and firm, but fair and understanding adjutant and became firm friends with other officers who had also come up through the ranks-Denis Casey and Greg West to name a couple. On the family side, daughter Jennifer arrived in 1967 to complete a pigeon pair for the Wickendens.

---

*He was a loyal and firm, but fair  
and understanding adjutant ...*

---

On 4th March 1969, Dick arrived in Vietnam and began his war of fighting paperwork by day and artillery operations by night as a duty officer the Artillery Tactical Headquarters at Nui Dat. Commanding officer Craig Beck recognised Captain Wickenden's solid dependability and planned that he would have a rounded experience whilst on active service. As such, when an injury led to a forward observer vacancy in 105th Field Battery, Dick was posted to this position. He took this in his stride and an unflappable, confident voice could always be heard on the radio net, no matter how hot the situation was at the 'sharp end'.

A staff posting on the 3rd Task Force / North Queensland Area Headquarters in Townsville was next on the list and this began Dick and Eve's love affair with the Far North of Australia. Unfortunately, they had only really settled in when Holsworthy called him back as the battery captain of 102nd Field Battery. This positioned him nicely for his return to the locating world on promotion to major and appointed the battery commander of the 131st Divisional Locating Battery which was then in the same 8th/12th Medium Regiment.

Stepping through Headquarters Royal Australian Artillery 2nd Division to round off his experience, Dick arrived in the USA for two wonderful years at the School of Artillery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma as the Australian exchange instructor in gunnery. This was a wonderful reward for his years of going wherever he was told and performing as an above average dedicated officer. Tripping around the States with his family during the vacation periods made this the most enjoyable posting since 20 years ago in

Malaysia. In recognition of his exemplary performance in this appointment, Dick was awarded the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara (USA) by the Americans.

However, the payback for this posting to Eden was an appointment on return to Australia in the Office of the Chief of the General Staff in the Directorate of Coordination-the 'adjutants' of Army Headquarters. At this stage in his career, Dick had completed more than 20 years' service, had enjoyed three overseas postings and realised that his love for North Queensland was far stronger than life in Fort Fumble in Canberra-even if it meant forgoing promotion.

---

*... an unflappable, confident voice could always be heard on the radio net, no matter how hot the situation was at the 'sharp end'.*

---

Major Wickenden bit the bullet and was granted a posting with 11th Training Group in Townsville. There, his dedication and professionalism with the Army Reserve was recognised and he was granted a subsequent posting to Headquarters 11th Field Force Group. This was an ideal time to exit full-time service as he realised that there were a number of positions available within the Reserve that could be filled by someone with his experience- and there was no risk of being posted out of Townsville. So, on 22nd March 1984, Dick transferred to the Australian Army Reserve.

True to his word, Dick continued his service with the 11th Field Force Group, 11th Brigade and the Defence Support Group North Queensland. Ken Borgges who worked opposite Dick in the personnel area recalls him as quiet, competent and never being ruffled. Finally, after more than 33 years of uniformed service to his country, Major Wickenden hung up his spurs and retired on 5th September 1991.

Retirement from the Army, however, did not bring an end to Dick's service and now he directed his energies even more towards the local community-including the Coast Guard, the Community Information Centres and the RSL. He had always been a keen fisherman and now he was able to spend even more time following this passion as a member of the Ross Island Amateur Angling Club. His spirit was not diminished by heart surgery and he bounced back to become a devoted rehabilitation councillor to others as they recovered from their heart surgery.

Dick never forgot his Gunner roots. He was a most supportive member of the RAA Association of North Queensland and had an ongoing connection with 4th Field Regiment whenever the Association was invited to an occasion. More recently, he will be remembered for being the secretary of the Townsville committee responsible for the handover of the original gun fort, Kissing Point barracks from Defence to the local council.

Suddenly, pancreatic problems caused Dick to be admitted to the Mater Hospital where, after a relatively short time, he passed away with his loving family by his side. He is survived by his widow Evelyn, children Richard Jnr and Jennifer, three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Vale Richard Newell (Dick) Wickenden-dedicated professional soldier, officer and one who devoted himself to a life of service to community and country. Taken to that Great Gun Park up above at only 69 years of age.

---

## Neville Jolliffe

*Ian Ryan*

Neville Jolliffe born on 26th May 1947 was 63 when he passed away on 1st July this year. He had suffered the dreaded 'Jimmy Dancer' for some time and had been in ill health for many years. Neville served in Vietnam with 1st Field Regiment from 9th May 1969 - 7th May 1970.

---

## Ian McGregor Simpson

*Major Hilton Lenard (Retd)*

Ian Simpson was a Rampart Rammer from at Holsworthy 1965-1967, Malaysia 1967-1969, Townsville 1969-1970 and Vietnam 1970-1971. He had three tours of duty in Vietnam, the first two while with the battery in Malaysia including one at Fire Support Base Coral. He was affectionately known within 107 Battery as 'Uncle Captain'.

# Trials prove successful



**Ready to launch:** LBdr Nathan Payne prepares to fire an RBS-70 missile.

**By Maj Marc Bryant**

IN A recent operational test and evaluation exercise conducted at Cultana and Woomera ranges in South Australia, soldiers from 16 AD Regt successfully trialled a new air defence command and control system – the Tactical Command and Control System (TaCCS).

The new system networks both missile and radar detachments with command posts and provides a correlated local air picture. It identifies and prioritises air threats and allocates them to the most appropriate missile detachments for engagement.

The trial also involved live missile firings using the new system to automatically cue the missile firers onto targets, including at night.

CO 16 AD Regt Lt-Col John McLean said it was “a boost to our air defence capability to be able to network multiple radars with the other components of the air-defence system”.

“This allows much more flexibility in the deployment of the system, improves situational awareness and the capability overall – including operations at night,” Lt-Col McLean said.

“Down the track, we will be looking to further network this system with new capabilities coming on-line as well.”

The 16 AD Regt gunners selected to fire the RBS-70 missiles during the exercise went through one month of intensive operator training on the three air-defence simulation systems at 16 AD Regt.

These systems can replicate a variety of air platforms and environments for the operators.

**Army, August 5, 2010**

## DATE CLAIMER

Regimental Conference Capstone Day & Officer Farewells  
Friday 25th March 2011

For details see page 3.

# Operations

## OBSERVERS

### OUR TOUR SO FAR

*Major Paul Duncan  
Battery Commander 105th Battery  
(Chief Joint Fires CTU / formerly BC MTF-1)*

It is hard to believe that the 105th Battery Observers have now been deployed and responsible for providing fires to Mentoring Task Force One (MTF-1) for almost eight months. The time has passed quickly and we are now focussing on the prospect of another month improving the Area of Operations (AO) when it would be far easier to begin contemplating our upcoming reunion with loved ones in Australia.

---

*... success in Afghanistan comes at a cost and MTF-1 have lost a number of men to insurgent activity.*

---

The transformation of Uruzgan Province since our arrival has been heart-warming. There has been tangible success within our AO; however, success in Afghanistan comes at a cost and MTF-1 have lost a number of men to insurgent activity. The ever-developing 'inkblot of security' has been pushed out further than anticipated. New Patrol Bases manned by the Battle Group, as well as the ANP (Afghan National Police) and the ANA (Afghan National Army), have been established across the AO. This has given the local Afghan people a greater sense of safety and improved the reach of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA).

Callsign (C/S G29) has worked tirelessly, supporting the deployed observers and providing advice and technical support. Manning the Fires Desk 24 hours a day can be quite tedious but under the guidance and motivation of Warrant Officer Class Two Mick 'Blue' Kelly the team has done a great job in challenging circumstances.

C/S G21 has supported Combat Team Alpha (CT-A) within the Mirabad Valley. This area has been the focal point for numerous insurgent activities and has kept Joint Fire Splinter Team (JFST) Commanders Warrant Officer Class Two Kev Dolan, Bombardier Dean Crust, Bombardier Glenn Swain and (earlier) Lance Bombardier Ryan Jack extremely busy. They have been involved in a number of Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blasts and fire-fights and been required to call in the fires of Apache gunships, mortars and M777. Of particular note was the performance of the observers during the numerous, prolonged and intense engagements in Sorkh Lez and Musazai.

C/S G22, consisting of 2-man JFSTs commanded by Lieutenant Graham Cummings and Sergeant Kyle Faram has been kept busy since arriving in April as Relief Out of Country Leave (ROCL) replacements and then being required to stay to help MTF meet the additional allocated tasks. The C/S has performed very well, filling in the gaps during ROCL and more recently supporting MTF elements on essential convoys and liaison tasks.

C/S G23 led by Captain Pete Allan (and later Captain Christian Sandner) supports CT-C. The C/S has maintained its excellent start to the tour and have remained within the expansive CT AO consisting of Chora and the Baluchi Valley. Chora is frequently visited by dignitaries and is widely described as the model for counter-insurgency. G23 has been instrumental in providing timely UAV, AH and fires to CT-C during community engagement and partnered patrols whilst faced with a well resourced and determined insurgent threat.

C/S G24 ably led by Captain Brendan Perkins, Bombardier Dane O'Brien, Bombardier Dean Crust (for the first five months) and Bombardier Ben Cook have provided outstanding support to CT-D in very fluid circumstances. Initially providing support to key operations as well as convoy protection and local security tasks around Tarin Kot, six months into the tour the team was required to deploy to Deh Rawud, an area previously owned by the Dutch and French. Shortly

after arriving in Deh Rawud the team closed with and decisively engaged the enemy in a number of incidents. Of particular note is the team's ability to control multiple assets, and in one case an Excalibur engagement, in support of frequent and significant contacts in the areas of Derapet and Gharam.

The 1st Field Regiment team back in Brisbane has provided great support to us as a deployed element by ensuring that our partners and family are always well informed and have gone out of their way to ensure that partners have been looked after and reassured during trying times.

---

*'Courageous restraint' is a term  
that is far easier to say than  
actually execute ...*

---

'Courageous restraint' is a term that is far easier to say than actually execute; however we are glad to report that although we are at the higher scales of kinetic activity, the judgement shown by all the observers on the ground has been exemplary. As such there have been no reported cases of civilian casualties as a result of indirect fire. As aforementioned, the success within MTF-1's time here in Uruzgan has been tinged with loss. To date we have lost six men to insurgent actions and a further 34 wounded.

---

*... we are constantly challenged  
by a dynamic, thinking enemy ...*

---

So with the end of tour in sight we reflect on what has been a very busy eight months for the observers of 105th Battery. The pace of activity coupled with the rate of progress within our AO has been immense and we are constantly challenged by a dynamic, thinking enemy. The manner in which the observers have taken to this demanding and dangerous task has been humbling. Their bravery, professionalism and sense of humour has been noted, and remarked upon, at all levels of the Battle Group. All our families and friends, as well as the wider RAA community, should be immensely proud of the tremendous job that the men are doing in such difficult circumstances.

---

# Training Team – Kabul

*Lieutenant Adam Murcott*

*'Experience is a brutal teacher, but  
you learn. My god do you learn.'*

C.S. Lewis

The Artillery Training Team - Kabul (ATT-K) was initially formed as the Artillery Intellectual Development Team (AIDT) in April of this year. It was a 10 man team of field gunners with varying levels of experience - all but the Commanding Officer were from the 8th/12th Medium Regiment. The team's initial mandate was to develop an Afghan National Army (ANA) School of Artillery and the foundations of the ANA Field Artillery Branch. However, what actually ensued was a far more complex, demanding and encompassing mission.

---

*The results were not what would  
be expected from a group of  
'qualified' gunners within a  
'western' technical framework.*

---

During the first month of its tour, the ATT-K observed the qualifying live fire practice of an artillery graduating gun course - taught under the now defunct Advanced Combat Training Brigade. The results were not what would be expected from a group of 'qualified' gunners within a 'western' technical framework. Graduating students were not allowed to use the panoramic sight, neither staff nor students were confident enough to be within 20 metres of the gun when it fired, it was only a direct fire practice and there were six rounds in total for over 50 students. This single, poorly run exercise proved to be a representation of wider, systemic issues that permeate the ANA Field Artillery capability.

At the time of the live fire practice, the ANA lacked key enablers that have been identified as essential to generating an operational capability. The currently fielded batteries are not employed 'in-role' anywhere in Afghanistan. Any firing being conducted in support of operations is tightly controlled by mentoring personnel. A lack of a national training framework and technical doctrine continuously undermine efforts towards standardised training. No dedicated ANA School of

Artillery existed. The required knowledge base of Field Artillery personnel had been drastically underestimated - no courses for Fire Support or Fire Direction. Tactics, techniques and procedures remained Soviet in nature and were not tailored to current operations. In addition, equipment for the provision of fire support either did not exist or was otherwise inadequate (guns in disrepair, ammunition mismanagement, lack of infrastructure and basic issue items). It would be the responsibility of the ATT-K to rectify the above points, alongside a myriad of other issues, from its location in Kabul.



Live Fire Exercise May 2010

Kabul is a busy city by even the highest of international standards. The city's original capacity of 650,000 people has been exceeded three times over. Infrastructure has not caught up with the population explosion. Rubbish accumulates in the gutters due to a lack of sanitation control and is collected and burnt daily. Moving in convoy through the centre of Kabul city is maniacal with the most prevalent threat being road accidents. The Afghan National Police provide a 'ring of steel' which is meant to control movement around the CBD and government buildings. People, livestock, SUVs, and armoured vehicles all fight for a spot on cracked and neglected roads. The city is dominated by rugged features adorned with communications facilities. In certain places the remnants of Russian occupation can still be seen. For the first three months of its tour the ATT-K would be split into two locations - Camp ALAMO and Camp DUBBS - with this sprawling city separating personnel.

The ATT-K forward detachment consisting of Major Piero Bertocchi (BC 101), Lieutenant Anthony Mumford (JFECC TP COMD), Lieutenant Adam Murcott (GPO 103), and Warrant Officer Class Two Dave Warren (BSM 103) commenced operations in Camp ALAMO on the north eastern outskirts of

Kabul. Camp ALAMO is a small FOB filled to capacity. The majority of personnel are from 2-22 (Triple Deuce) Battalion of the 10th Mountain Division. It is also home to British, Mongolian, French, Turkish, Greek and Romanian personnel. The Camp is situated within the much larger Kabul Military Training Centre (KMTC). KMTC is an ANA facility which trains up to 14,000 soldiers at any one time - the ANA is surging toward a total strength of 171,600 soldiers by October 2011. It is also now the interim home of the ANA School of Artillery before it moves to Kandahar as part of the Combined Arms Training Centre in 2013. The remainder of the ATT-K was located at Camp DUBBS, approximately two hours away by car, and south west of the city.



Sergeant Walton Instructs on the T3 Course

Camp DUBBS is also located within a larger ANA base. It shares its location with the Counter Insurgency Training Academy, the ANA 201st Corps and the Headquarters of the Combined Training Advisory Group - Army. The Darulamen area has the historical landmark of the Kings Palace at its base and Camp DUBBS is no more than one hundred metres from the Queens Palace. This Camp was home to Lieutenant Colonel Richard Vagg (DDWS-Land / CO ATT-K), Major Karl Britton (BC 102), Captain Jonathan Ronayne (BK 101), Lieutenant Luke Haitas (GPO 101), Sergeant Kayne Falconer (SIG SGT 101), and Sergeant Dean Walton (SIG SGT 103). The office life of CTAG-A was hectic. The location serves as a perfect example of ISAF personnel working extremely closely with their ANA counterparts at a formation headquarters level. Security here was the domain of the ANA and Gurhka contractors. At both locations, the ATT-K benefited from the assistance of members from the United States military.

Although Australian led, the ATT-K is a multinational Coalition Force (CF) Mentor Team. It has benefited from the service of members of the United States Marine Corps (USMC) and United States Army (US Army). Initially, the ATT-K was assisted by Captain Steven Migliore, US Army and Sergeant First Class Shannon Doucet, US Army, however, they departed when their 6 months in theatre came to an end in May. At Camp DUBBS, Captain Christopher Cox, USMC, assisted in the development of manual prediction systems and other aspects of Fire Direction. On his departure, the ATT-K was joined by First Lieutenant Rafael Diaz, USMC. Lieutenant Diaz will remain with the ATT-K as the Officer in Charge of the Artillery Basic Officers Training Course (BOTC) until the end of 2010. At Camp ALAMO Captain Clint Hauger, US Army, Fire Support Officer (FSO) for 2-22, was instrumental in preparing and shaping the ground for future operations. His advice and liaison with 2-22 and other agencies was a constant asset in the development of the ANA School of Artillery. The ATT-K has also received larger and slightly more challenging support from less obvious sources.

---

*People, livestock, SUVs, and armoured vehicles all fight for a spot on cracked and neglected roads ... the remnants of Russian occupation can still be seen.*

---

The ATT-K also has a 10 man Mongolian Training Team (MTT). Assisting Afghanistan under a bilateral agreement, the Mongolians have a great deal of experience with equipment of Russian origin. The Mongolians assisted ATT-K personnel with instruction on the Russian 122mm D-30 Howitzer and its sighting system and Russian PM-22 Aiming circle (director). A significant language barrier exists between the ATT-K and the MTT. Two members of the MTT speak some English, however, when it came to discussing complex training and gunnery issues, conversations early in the tour could rapidly degenerate into charades. Regardless, the Mongolians have been a pleasure to work with. Given the language difficulties, it would be easy to dismiss them; however, they have become an effective and important part of the team. In the near future, the ATT-K will be joined by members of the Singaporean Armed Forces. The team will also be assigned soldiers from the US Army for assistance with the many ancillary tasks that are vital to the development of a school.

The development of Training Support Packages (TSPs) and Programs of Instruction (POIs) for the

ANA artillery took place at Camp DUBBS from May to mid July. Analysis showed that the ANA Field Artillery would need to be divided into three streams - Fire Direction, Guns and Fire Support- if the professional development of the Artillery Branch was to be successful. Each stream would have a Basic Course (11 weeks) and a Squad Leader Course (8 weeks). Each stream would also have time dedicated to it on a Platoon Sergeants Course (8 weeks) - similar to the old RAA WO Gunnery - and Artillery Basic Officers Training Course (BOTC). For 'senior' officers, a Captains Career Course (CCC) would be developed and installed into the officer training continuum. Collectively, 11,417 power point slides were produced in addition to numerous speaker notes, assessments and handouts. Each course would fit into the career continuum for enlisted soldiers and officers. Concurrently, with the development of POIs and TSPs, the ANA doctrine would be written.

The development of the ANA Artillery doctrine was an enormous undertaking for all those involved. The task was to design a bespoke ANA Artillery Doctrine Set using an amalgamation of Australian, British and American doctrine. The ANA now have an Employment of Artillery, Duties in Action, Gun Drill and Procedures, and Communications publication. The doctrine was designed with the current conflict in mind but with enough flexibility that it will remain relevant for at least the next 10-15 years.

Translation of our vast library of freshly produced English documents into Dari is an ongoing process that has been challenging at times. The main effort for translation revolves around a US\$100,000 translation contract. This contract has been procured to ensure the 900 hours of translation can be handled in a matter weeks. Currently, the ATT-K translation capability extends to a handful of barely qualified, underpaid interpreters - individual sentences, written as succinctly as possible in English, pose a significant question to the translator who is not familiar with gunnery terms and definitions. At times, documents are victims of an individual interpreter's own language idiosyncrasies or laziness. The ruthless implementation of the independent check - a Gunner's best friend - on translation has become a key requirement to ensuring success. Translation among other things, have also provided the team numerous challenges in the conduct of the Train the Trainer (T3) course.

The T3 course has been developed to retrain the new Afghan IGs and SMIGs of the ANA School of Artillery in the doctrine drafted by the ATT-K

(NATO centric tactics, techniques and procedures). The CF instructors from the ATT-K have largely been lieutenants and sergeants, with the ANA student instructors on the course ranging from sergeants to full colonels. The inherent challenges of trying to teach senior ranks that they need to change their way of doing business is made more difficult and complicated because of the differences in age, language, and culture. The two month T3 course is designed not only to revisit the science of artillery from a different perspective; it is to develop the art of artillery for the ANA and be a catalyst for a cultural shift. The ANA artillery capability will be precise and discriminating. The ATT-K is attempting to impart the required knowledge to the School of Artillery which will foster a level of ownership that will ensure that the Afghan officers and soldiers are capable of self-determination. Coupled with this, is the challenge of securing mission essential equipment for the Afghans to achieve their mission.

Without acceptable equipment, the task of providing timely and effective indirect fire is impossible. The acquisition of new equipment in the 6400 mils scale was a key step in moving away from the old Russian 6000 mils system. In order to bring Afghanistan into line with NATO standards, the guns, sights, and aiming circles have been converted to 6400 mils. In addition to the 6400 mils scale conversion, the ANA D-30 fleet is being completely refurbished. Currently, on the KMTC gun-park are eight guns, there is one breech, two types of tyres, three different types of muzzle break and two hydraulic systems. There is one aiming circle and a panoramic sight. The 68 Afghan guns currently in service (and in various states of disrepair) are to be completely refurbished in an old for new program where unserviceable components are completely replaced. 44 Guns are being sourced from the Ukraine in a foreign sales contract; in addition 60 Bosnian guns will be donated by the government as a good will gesture. All these guns will come with a full complement of Basic Issue Items (BII). This program is worth millions to the ATT-K, ISAF and the ANA and would be coupled with systems procured by the ATT-K.

The ATT-K has also run its own validation and trials process for various equipment. A hand held Gunnery Computer (GC) is being acquired from a Ukraine Defence Contractor. With necessity being the mother of all invention - a contract and trials period that would have taken several years in Australia and administered by a heavily manned DMO project team has been done in less than two months by a second year lieutenant. New TFTs have been acquired in English, Dari and Pashtun. Lieutenant Haitas and Lieutenant Diaz have

developed the ANAs own manual prediction system. Additionally, infrastructure development has been a key focus of the ATT-K.

---

*... trying to teach senior ranks that they need to change their way of doing business is made more difficult and complicated because of the differences in age, language, and culture.*

---

The establishment of key infrastructure and sustainment plans has been an essential task of Major Bertocchi in his appointment as Second In Command ATT-K and ANA School of Artillery S1/4 mentor. This involved the identification and securing of appropriate facilities for the ANA School of Artillery. Additionally, the Multi-Purpose Instructional Facility (MPIF) project was also secured. Costing over two million US dollars, the MPIF is being developed to provide housing for the School's 36 new D-30s and instructional facilities for 600 students at full operating capability. A robust sustainment plan is also being pursued to ensure that the ANA School of Artillery is able to continue to deliver training well into the future. The ATT-K has performed many tasks, but its members are fundamentally mentors.

While much of the ATT-K has revolved around the development of key components of the ANA Artillery capability, its primary role should not be confused. The ATT-K's mission is a mentoring mission. ATT-K's fair and firm mentoring has paid dividends in the T3 course. The ATT-K does not subscribe to patronising or being unrealistic with our student instructors. The ANA has come to respect us for our direct no-nonsense approach. In mentoring you fight small battles; any progress is good progress. The task is a challenging one, but ultimately rewarding.

What the ATT-K will achieve by the end of its tour is a functioning School of Artillery. It is up to subsequent iterations of the ATT-K to ensure that the changes made to the ANA Artillery form a legacy of Australia's involvement. On 4 October, the opening ceremony for the ANA School of Artillery is to be conducted which will mark the official beginning of ANA teaching the new ANA Artillery Doctrine using the programs of instruction drafted by the ATT-K. It will be the culmination of a great amount of work on the part of the ANA and their mentors. It will take some time but the future of this country will be ensured 122mm at a time.

# Rolling out big guns



Words of advice: Capt Christian Sandner, Mentoring Task Force 1, instructs Afghan National Army gunners on the D-30 122mm gun

By Sgt Andrew Hetherington

AUSTRALIAN artillery personnel are not just deployed to Afghanistan serving alongside their British counter-parts in Helmand province.

At Multinational Base Tarin Kowt, six gunners are working with Mentoring Task Force 1 to train more than 70 Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers.

WO2 David Nutini, Mentoring Team Echo - Artillery, said his unit was teaching the newly formed ANA artillery kandak, or battalion, in gunnery, artillery command post and signals procedures.

"We are teaching them a basic artillery gun course, working our way up to forming a command post and explaining to them how all the different roles, including forward observers, work together," WO2 Nutini said. "We are also in the process of preparing them to conduct a live fire."

The kandak's guns are Russian-made 122mm D-30 pieces, which have a range of more than 25km and were given to the kandak 12 months ago.

Before the Australian team finishes its deployment it has a number of goals.

"We want to conduct a direct-fire practice, with the possibility of leading up to an illumination mission as a partnered battery," WO2 Nutini said.

"When we leave, another mentoring team rotation will come in, progress from our curriculum and hopefully progress to firing a high-explosive mission."

Bdr Lance Newell said he was teaching the detachment commanders how to run a gun and their soldiers how to use the gun. "Most of my teaching is a hands-on demonstration and then I work with the students as they repeat what I've just taught," he said.

He also deployed to Helmand province in 2008 with the British on Operation Herrick.

"This job's completely different to my 2008 deployment, which was a hard trip; we fired a lot of rounds and saw a lot of action," he said. "I think it's one of the best jobs working with the ANA because of the flexibility of the way I can instruct and the small size of the sections I mentor, which is about three soldiers."

Gnr Noorden is one of the 4th Kandak Artillery Bty soldiers being trained by Bdr Newell.

"I've been working with artillery for more than a year," Gnr Noorden said. "The Australians have taught me every-thing about artillery, including elevation and other things to make me qualified."

"They are teaching us, we are getting better and in the future Afghanistan will be really good."



'Army', July 22, 2010

# Around the Regiments

## Meeting the Challenges

*Lieutenant Alexander Vanstan  
1st Field Regiment*

1st Field Regiment has had a productive and high tempo year. This year there has been a contribution to three separate deployments, preparing to restructure the Regiment in 2011, and becoming accustomed to the new digitalised systems that the RAA and Army are introducing, has absorbed a vast amount of time this year.

This year Regiment has deployed soldiers as part of Mentoring Task Force 1 (MTF 1) in Afghanistan, Operation Astute in Timor Leste and Operation Herrick in the United Kingdom (UK) and subsequently Afghanistan.

### Mentoring Task Force 1

The team from 1st Field Regiment that deployed as part of MTF 1 was grouped into two separate organisations, the mentoring team and the observers who plan and execute joint fires for the battle group. The mentoring team has been busy training the Afghan National Army (ANA) to develop the Artillery Capability of the 4th Brigade 205th Hero Corps. The Gunner team, lead by Captain Sandner and consisting of Captain Brilliant, Warrant Officer Class Two Nutini, Warrant Officer Class Two Kristan, Bombardier Marshall, and Bombardier Newell, have faced many challenges throughout the deployment. An example of one the challenges faced by the Gunner team was that upon arriving in Uruzgan province the ANA Artillery Company possessed only three Russian D30 Howitzers in

varying condition of serviceability. Needless to say the state of these guns was poor, and ammunition was scarce with what was available ranged in age from 25 to 30 years old. Captain Sandner and his team immediately commenced their tireless training program to develop the gunnery skills of the ANA and repair the equipment to a standard to permit the conduct of live firing. With a comparably inefficient ANA logistics system it took a significant effort to acquire the assets to repair the guns and to obtain the 120 rounds required for the proofing of the D30s. However by late June the Team was poised to fire some 122mm ammunition down range.



A D30 being fired by soldiers of the ANA with members of 1st Field Regiment deployed on MTF 1 observing

The live firing exercise was a complete success with the 4th Brigade senior officer's expressing their delight with the ANA Artillery Coy and mentors, on a job well done. With confidence in the howitzer re-established, the mentors will now focus attention on indirect firing, initially with illumination in support of nearby patrol bases. This progress by the ANA Gunners has resulted in a significant increase in the contribution by the ANA to the security of Uruzgan province and 1st Field Regiment officers and soldiers involved with MTF 1 have played a significant role in this progress.

The observation team has been busy conducting patrols in dynamic and complex terrain. After a brief handover, the Joint Fire Teams (JFTs) were pushed out to the patrol bases to commence operations in their two man Joint Fire Splinter Teams (JFST) consisting of an observer and a signaller. Patrols will not leave without their JFST resulting in some observers patrolling well in excess of 1000 km already. To date there has been numerous illumination missions as well as kinetic actions from observers utilizing 30mm and hellfire missiles from attack helicopter assets, with all missions being conducted safely and effectively. Of particular note throughout the tour has been the tireless performance of our junior non-commissioned officers who have exceeded the expectations of the battery commander and received frequent praise from the infantry commanders that they support.

---

*... it took a significant effort to acquire the assets to repair the guns and to obtain the 120 rounds required for the proofing of the D30s.*

---

### **Operation Astute**

The Regiments contribution to Operation Astute as part of the Civil Military Co-operation Branch (CIMIC) to JTF 631 has also been highly productive and has provided assistance to the security and stability of Timor Leste. The CIMIC team arrived in Timor Leste on 15th February 2010 and commenced their handover and takeover. This was a busy time with members trying to adjust to their new jobs in the hot and humid weather of Dili. All in all the team commenced its deployment with enthusiasm and energy.

The CIMIC role required members of the team to become experts in local engagement activities including assisting orphanages, schools and hospital staff. Lieutenant Tetro, as the local police liaison officer, was instrumental in influencing the training and operations conducted by the local police. Lieutenant's Window and Daire became the heart and sole of the Civil Assessment Team, visiting all districts and conducting patrols to some very isolated areas. Both commented on the friendliness of the locals and their appreciation of the Australian efforts in rebuilding their country. Lieutenant Wood has been a member the Plans Cell ensuring that all CIMIC activities were well supported and conducted professionally.

Bombardier Gray and Corporal Smedley acted as drivers and support staff for the JFT and assisted Medical Capacity Building activities conducted in isolated villages where no medical facilities were available. Warrant Officer Class Two Johansen's role as company sergeant major had more than the normal difficulties as over 50% of the Camp Phoenix personnel were officers. Many of the 1st Field Regiment members of the CIMIC team also took part in the Cancer Council Walk for Life. This resulted in JTF 631 contributing over \$35,000 for this very worthwhile cause.

---

*... a comprehensive training program which has involved learning UK doctrine and familiarisation of the Artillery systems offered by the UK in addition to the physical and mental hardening program ...*

---

### **Operation Herrick**

Those officers and soldiers deployed on Operation Herrick from the Regiment have so far endured a tough and rigorous training regime with their counterparts in the United Kingdom (UK) from 7th Parachute Regiment Royal Horse Artillery 7 (Para) RHA. They have endured a comprehensive training program which has involved learning UK doctrine and familiarisation of the Artillery systems offered by the UK in addition to the physical and mental hardening program which has involved significant pack marches or tabbing as the soldiers from the UK like to refer to it. From all accounts both the members from 1st Field Regiment and 7 (Para) RHA are well trained and ready to relieve their counterparts currently deployed in Afghanistan from 4th Field Regiment.

### **At Home**

Those members of the regiment who remain in Brisbane have not escaped their fair share of challenging but rewarding exercises. The Regiments first exposure to Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) and Army's Battle Management System was realised on Exercise Blue Diamond, a Brigade level command post exercise conducted in June. Members were quick to adapt to the new systems and provided valuable feedback to assist with further development.

The RAA Band Brisbane has provided exceptional service to both the Regiment and wider community through the conduct of over 50 performances throughout the year. Of note was the bands support to 4th Field Regiments 50th Birthday celebrations in Townsville in May. The Band continues to demonstrate that it is an integral part of the fabric of 1st Field Regiment.

The day to day life in barracks at 1st Field Regiment has been at a high tempo. Seldom a day goes past without the sight of 1st Field Regiment soldiers co-ordinating and moving equipment and furniture in preparation to receive A Battery at the start of 2011. The efforts of all of those involved in facilitating the Regiments restructure has been outstanding. Overall 2010 has proven to be a rewarding year for all members of the Regiment with 2011 set to offer up a new set of challenges.

---

## The Pacific Rim

*Lieutenant Rory Morse  
108th Field Battery, 4th Field Regiment*

The Rim of the Pacific Exercise (EX RIMPAC) is the world's largest international maritime exercise, hosted by US Marine Corp (USMC) and the US Navy. Held in Hawaii it incorporates a multitude of nations. The purpose of the exercise is to demonstrate the maritime capability of coalition partners and to foster cohesion and develop relationships between forces from around the globe. For EX RIMPAC 2010 the Australian Army sent an augmented Combat Team based upon Bravo Company (CT-B) with Support Company assets as well as engineers and a Joint Fire Team (JFT) from 108th Field Battery (108 Bty) comprising Lieutenant Morse, Lance Bombardier Wittorf, Lance Bombardier Anu, Gunner Watkins and Gunner Timm. For the members from 108 Bty this would be a rare opportunity to interact and share tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) with other JFTs in a multinational littoral environment.

Arriving in Hawaii on the 25th July, the CT-B began training with their USMC counter parts. For the gunners this entailed integration into the USMC offensive support training program and development of relationships with the Canadian JFT, members of the USMC Fire Support Coordination Centre (FSCC) and Fire Support Teams (FSTs). The offensive support training for the

pre-deployment week consisted of a battalion level computer simulated airmobile operation and culminated with a pair of live Hunter Hawk aircraft for the Joint Fires Observers (JFOs) and Joint Terminal Air Controllers (JTACs) to practice their controls. This training week enabled a large amount of discussion on how each nation conducted offensive support operations. For the Canadians and the Australians, we discovered that our communications procedures, fire discipline and attitude towards offensive support were very similar, if not the same. In comparison, the USMC practices were found to be functionally different with small but fundamental differences in the conduct of offensive support, which would prove to be hotly discussed topics throughout the exercise.

---

*... USMC practices were found to be functionally different with small but fundamental differences in the conduct of offensive support, which would prove to be hotly discussed topics throughout the exercise.*

---

The Australian forces along with an attached USMC platoon boarded the USS Cleveland, an Austin Class amphibious transport, on the 4th July and set sail from Pearl Harbour the following day. During this time a recon section along with snipers from 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (2 RAR) and a JFO were being inserted by Blackhawk into the northern mountains of Oahu. The recon team's task was to conduct a close target reconnaissance of an encampment as part of the USMC's experimental construct. This experiment also included recon forces from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines and lasted for 10 days. Once onboard the USS Cleveland life for the embarked forces developed into a simple pattern of meals, physical and job specific training. For the JFT, training consisted of their own program and providing instruction to CT-B on all arms call for fire (AACFF), JFT structure and basic close air support. Additionally, the observers were required to present briefs on fire planning, weapons characteristics, the new danger close procedure, the interaction between the manoeuvre arm commander and Forward Observers (FOs) and a discussion on Fire Support Coordination Measures (FSCMs). Prior to the live fire activity this pattern of life on board the USS Cleveland was only broken twice. The first was for an Amphibious Armoured Vehicle (AAV) familiarisation, the second

was for a rehearsal of the mechanised raid that the combat team was to conduct at the end of the exercise. Both of these expeditions provided excellent training for the members of the JFT as it enabled them to attempt to communicate with each other during the sea voyages through their own organic means and through the AAVs communications suite.

On the 17th July, JFT2 moved by landing craft to a training area on the Big Island and were attached to the Weapons Company of 2/3 Marines for the beginning of the live fire phase. Aircraft (Iroquois, Cobras and FA/18s) were on station from 0830 h to 0001 h each day, with a half battery of M777s and a platoon of 81mm mortars in support. Each team would be given a mission to be conducted using the available assets; predominately a suppression of enemy air defence (SEAD) mission to ensure that all platforms were utilised at the same time and to add complexity. During the time between aircraft being on station, teams were free to conduct mortar and artillery missions. This was exceptional training for the JFT, it enabled them to conduct fire missions using USMC procedures, conduct numerous controls of aircraft and to be fully immersed into the conduct of USMC offensive support war fighting.

---

*... an excellent forum for discussions on the merits and disadvantages of each country's offensive support systems.*

---

The live fire component of EX RIMPAC was a significant time for all of the offensive support personnel involved. It enabled observation of techniques and an excellent forum for discussions on the merits and disadvantages of each country's offensive support systems. The scope to fully confer the lessons learned and the procedural differences observed during this live fire activity between the USMC offensive support system and the Australians is far too large to be discussed in this article; however there were several observations which generated the most discussion during EX RIMPAC.

The first observation was the use of the FSCC structure for offensive fire support, which is both highly organised and detailed. It was seen to enable tight control and coordination to be maintained of all assets within an area of operation and is an interesting consideration for use in the RAA. The FSCC is a task organised nucleus of supporting arms representatives (artillery, mortars, air and other

specialties), which functions around mission approval process. Its role is to provide planning, subject matter expertise and coordination of offensive support in order to facilitate the commander's intent. During EX RIMPAC we observed numerous missions sent to the FSCC artillery representative from the observers. The artillery representative would detail these missions to the FSCC coordinator, who plotted the target and determined if it was at odds with any FSCMs, ground or air units and that it conformed to the attack guidance matrix. Once the mission passed through all of these checks it was then approved and plotted on the battle board (a piece of string is tied from the firing units pin to the target). Talking to the FSCC coordinator it was clear that this structure enabled him to have exceptional situational awareness and to provide a back stop for the FSTs in the field. This ability to provide an independent check was also seen in the use of the air liaison, this position was able to provide an independent check of final attack headings, stay above/below altitudes and clear aircraft for JFOs.

---

*... an ability to reach down and direct the conduct of a mission became a real source of frustration for the observers.*

---

However, it was observed that there was a large amount of rigidity in the FCSS in relation to FSCMs and the Attack Guidance Matrix (AGM). This combined with an ability to reach down and direct the conduct of a mission became a real source of frustration for the observers. Another subsequent effect which this approval process created was that the observers were treated and acted like 'eyes on the ground', without drawing on their experiences or using critical thinking to conduct their missions. This conclusion is drawn from the conduct of the observers who would heavily rely on the FSCC to promote and guide them. After observing the function of the FSCC approval process it is not recommended that it is incorporated into the RAA structure, due to its rigidity and because of the responsibility it takes from the FOs. The message that the JFT took from its interaction with the FSCC structure is that although planning can be done in order to produce FSCMs, AGM and to coordinate the offensive support, there needs to be flexibility and creative thinking in order to adapt to a changing situation, this is the critical element that the FSCC structure does not provide.

Another point of note was the overwhelming amount of technology that the USMC FSTs have (unfortunately no digital battle space coordination system were able to be observed) to enable them to direct and control fires from both air and land assets. A number of observers were asked by myself to determine a grid for a target 1500 meters away without using their Vectors/Daggers. None were able to achieve the task or were able to discuss zone (on any level) or how slope determines/affects fall of shot. It was apparent that although their level of technology gave the FSTs a huge advantage in the battle space, its continuous use has meant that basic observer skills have in some cases not been maintained or appear to have been lost entirely.

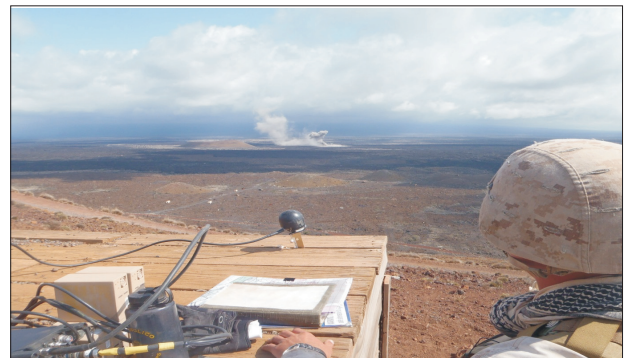
*... their level of technology gave the FSTs a huge advantage in the battle space, its continuous use has meant that basic observer skills have in some cases not been maintained or appear to have been lost entirely.*

Another observation was a lack of gunnery knowledge; a mission conducted by a USMC FO was ended because the opening engagement impacted over 300m from the target, requiring a fresh call for fire where only a correction was required. This mission on the surface appears to be an isolated case, but it was latter learnt that this was an SOP. One of the fundamental lessons that can be learnt from the observations on RIMPAC was that, as the RAA becomes more technologically advanced it must not become over committed to technology. To rely solely on the capability which technology provides will result in it becoming an Achilles heel for the RAA, thus degrading our gunnery, fire discipline and basic skills which will in turn seriously affect our adaptability and effectiveness.

Comprising of four key members a FST consists of a commander, a JTAC, an artillery FO and a mortar FO. What was surprising to the gunners was that each one of the members of the FST has a job specific role (unlike in a JFT) and each member is not cross trained and is unable to do the job of another person. It was discussed with the FSTs as to whether this creates a serious problem for them if a member of the team is lost. For example, if the artillery FO is killed in combat then the team loses that capability until a replacement can be found. The FSTs explained that this is an inherent weakness in their ability to provide offensive support, particularly in a sustained campaign. From

observing this composition and job specific allocation of members, it is believed that the cross training and wide job capability of the members of a JFT is critical to that teams capability and adaptability.

During the live fire phase there was also time for cross training between recon, snipers and the observers. The merit of this education was discussed by the team commanders at the end of the exercise. It was determined that this cross training was a huge benefit to the capability and the level of understanding of all involved. Of particular note, the training in urban hides given to the 108 Bty members, this lesson was exceptional and provided a completely new scope for the deployment of the JFT. Additionally, lessons and discussions on CTRs, infiltration, exfiltration, TTPs and lesson learned were excellent and provided a new dimension to understanding. It is highly recommended that this cooperation and cross training be maintain and possibly expanded between all of the teams on return to Australia.



ANGLICO Master Sergeant Forbes looks on as a MK83 engages a position being suppressed by M777s.

On the 22nd July, JFT2 along with the rest of the CT-B returned to the USS Cleveland to conduct the final phase of EX RIMPAC. This consisted of a return to ship routine and the planning and conduct of a mechanised raid for the culmination of the activity. On the morning of the 31st July, CT-B moved into the FUP for the mechanised raid. This raid was the culminating point for the Australians on EX RIMPAC and was conducted in the form of a live fire company assault on an encampment, with support from AAVs, Cobras and Iroquois.

The Officer Commanding Bravo Company, Major Buchannan stated that 'the real winner for RIMPAC has been the JFT'. The participation of the JFT from 108 Bty on EX RIMPAC was without a doubt an exceptional training and liaison opportunity. It enabled the development of a valuable understanding of not just the USMC TTPs, but also

those from other coalition partners. All the members of the JFT who participated developed lifelong friendships and now have a greater professional understanding and capability. There is little doubt that in years to come those members who participate on EX RIMPAC will draw on this experience.

In closure, it is my belief that we can draw a number of lessons regarding the future of the RAA from our experiences on RIMPAC. Although the USMC is an exceedingly capable organisation, its offensive support modernisation has caused it to lose fundamental skills and knowledge. The loss of this knowledge has created a situation where by their observers are so reliant on technology and coordination/direction from the FSCC that a loss of either would make them unable to achieve their assigned task. The RAA needs to learn from the USMC model, it can not afford to rely on its technology or upon a rigid approval process, to do so will take away the ability of the FO to draw on his own experience to make critical decisions in the field and will cause the RAA as a whole to become rigid and predictable.

---

# Force Protection

*Warrant Officer Class One Anthony Hortle  
Regimental Sergeant Major  
16th Air Defence Regiment*

16th Air Defence Regiment had another demanding year with the members of the Regiment exemplifying the Chief of Army's call for adaptive campaigning with the Battery's demonstrating flexibility and responsiveness. The Regiment has pursued three separate tasks this year, that have competed for priority: supporting the Army's re-invigoration of Air-Land integration, assisting the Defence Material Organisation with assessing the feasibility of fielding a Counter-Rocket Artillery and Mortar (C-RAM) Sense and Warn capability at short notice and maintaining our traditional mastery in Ground-Based Air Defence (GBAD).

## 110th Air Defence Battery

The New Year began at a hectic pace for 110th Air Defence Battery (110 AD Bty), supporting 111th Air

Defence Battery (111 AD Bty) and Brigade exercises before deploying straight into its own. When sport afternoons were cut the soldiers were outraged, and the Battery Commander was called upon to pacify the masses on numerous occasions. Never-the-less, the extra time gained made it possible for the Battery to prepare for its numerous commitments, the most important of which was the conduct of Operational Testing and Evaluation (OT&E) of the enhanced GBAD capability provided by major project LAND 19 Phase 6.

After extensive training conducted for a month in the Advanced Air Defence Simulator, the missile firers of 110 AD Bty were well prepared to engage targets with live missiles. Five missiles were fired by day and night with good results. It was then make or break time for the Battery as they were called upon to conduct the rest of the OT&E under the watchful eye of the Australian Defence Trials and Evaluation Office. The men and women of the Battery managed to track rotary wing platforms and fast jets out to 30km, using TaCCS to allocate targets and cue firers accurately onto the target. The system worked better than anyone had ever seen thanks to the hard work and patience of 110 AD Bty personnel. By all accounts the evaluation was conducted well, and pending a favourable trial report will result in a much enhanced GBAD capability for Army.



**Gunner Denton Engages an Aerial Target at Woomera during the First Engagement that Successfully Employed the Tactical Command and Control System (TaCCS)**

The Battery more recently deployed on Exercise Trailblazer, a junior leadership development exercise. It started with a 48km walk along the Yurrebilla Trail in the Adelaide Hills over the course of a day followed by a second day of scenario-based leadership stands and culminating with activities on the Murray Bridge obstacle course on the third day. This was completed in sections commanded by

the junior non-commissioned officers of the Battery and was designed to test their leadership and strength of character in arduous conditions. There were many 'zombies' hobbling around the day after the walk but to their credit, very few soldiers pulled out. Instead they pushed through physical and mental barriers to carry on with their tasks as directed. This exercise proved to be extremely beneficial as it pushed all members past their perceived limits and forged a strong bond between the Battery junior soldiers.

---

*16th Air Defence Regiment is currently undergoing a radical transformation and is broadening its capabilities with the new C-RAM capability and in enhancing Air-Land integration, in addition to sustaining the traditional GBAD capability.*

---

With a large amount of the year being spent away, the Regimental Physical Training Instructors and Combat Fitness Leaders have done a first class job in preparing the soldiers of 110 AD Bty for the large number of physical activities planned for the year. Of particular note is the Regimental sporting competition in which the Battery has convincingly beaten the other sub-units in all sports to date. The players have been training hard and even organised a trip to Alberton Oval to tour Port Adelaide's facilities. The Battery is now focusing on the remaining sports of triathlon, soccer and basketball.

A chosen few were sent to support the 3rd Brigade Command Post Exercise, Exercise Silicon Brolga, to facilitate the Regiment's shift towards Air-Land Integration. Here, they integrated themselves within the Tactical Air Control Party and conducted air task planning for inclusion in Air Tasking Orders over a rolling 72 hour period. It was the first time the Regiment had conducted this kind of activity and once again 110 AD Bty took the lead, developing new SOPs and fitting into the airspace battle management system quickly and effectively. This function will continue to be provided in the future by the Regiment as it moves towards becoming the Air-Land Regiment in 2013, with the Bty sending personnel to 3rd Brigade Headquarters on Exercise Hamel with an improved understanding of Air-Land Integration.

16th Air Defence Regiment is currently undergoing a radical transformation and is broadening its

capabilities with the new C-RAM capability and in enhancing Air-Land integration, in addition to sustaining the traditional GBAD capability. 110 AD Bty is at the forefront of this transition and after a number of restructures the Battery is now in its stride and is prepared to fulfil numerous roles on Exercise Hamel. After a busy year, the soldiers of 110 AD Bty are well trained, well prepared and both physically and mentally conditioned for the challenges ahead.

### **111th Air Defence Battery - 'In the Business of Force Protection'**

It has been another demanding year for the 111 AD Bty, assisting the Defence Material Organisation with assessing the feasibility of fielding a C-RAM Sense and Warn capability at short notice and maintaining our traditional GBAD role by supporting 110 AD Bty during OT&E and other activities.

The Regiment has always been closely integrated with the RAAF and other coalition air forces on exercise and operations whilst supporting various Army formations. We need direct access to the Tactical Air Control System (TACS) to get airspace for Missile Engagement Zones (MEZ), which warns friendly aircraft of a GBAD unit. Our Rules of Engagement generally come from the RAAF as they are the Service most in danger of fratricide, which is further mitigated by access to their Recognised Air Picture (RAP). The introduction of the Air Land Integration (ALI) Cell was an attempt to use this access and working knowledge, to enhance the integration of our supported formation with air forces.

---

*... maintaining command and control over two sub-units widely separated using our existing communication means was difficult.*

---

We can provide situation awareness, generate airspace control means for other users and support the JFECC and the nested Tactical Air Control Party by generating air support requests, when resources do not exist within the formation. The ALI Cell has effectively supplemented the traditional troop command post, integrating improved Recognised and Local Air Pictures, consolidating air defence procedures and allowing air defence units to operate as part of a higher headquarters or geographically separated by significant distances.

It is envisaged in the future that an air defence battery will maintain two ALI Cells which will provide the flexibility of a step up if required.

This restructure has been taking shape throughout the year. However, the first opportunity to test the concept was during Exercise Raptors Crawl at Cultana Training Area in March in support of Headquarters 1st Brigade. 111 AD Bty exercised two RBS-70 weapon troops and one radar troop over a two week period with support from DSTO and RAAF F-111s and P3-C Orions. The ALI Cell was integrated as part of the Battery Command Post and established overall command and control of the Battery; for the first time, traditional troop command posts were not established. Initially, maintaining command and control over two sub-units widely separated using our existing communication means was difficult. Essentially, the Battery was forced to operate only two nets, where as in the past there could have been up to seven. The establishment of new SOPs, making better use of data and strict RATEL allowed commanders to maintain an accurate picture of the battle space and positive command and control.

DSTO provided essential technical support by demonstrating that we could fuse our Local Air Picture (LAP) generated by our organic Portable Surveillance Target Acquisition Radar-Extended Range (PSTAR-ER) radars with the wider RAP. The software that performed this correlation is known as ENTRPRIS. This program allows the ALI Cell to gain specific feeds from RAAF and other established civilian air traffic control radars and for the RAAF to gain access to our LAP. Importantly the bearer for this capability is any telephone line rather than relying on the operational satellite communication bearers for deployed formation headquarters. This integration enhances our mutual early warning of hostile threats and awareness of friendly air traffic out to ranges of 120km. For the weapon detachments on the ground combating fast moving threats, the enhanced early warning not only increases the probability of a kill, but is also a significant passive force protection measure.

As the first trial of the ALI Cell, the exercise identified key requirements and planning considerations as the Regiment moves into the future. Communications are the cornerstone of this concept and currently, the in-service equipment does not provide reliable links throughout the battle space. As this equipment is upgraded, the ALI Cell will become a key enabler for all supported units.

On 13th May the Minister for Defence, Senator John Faulkner, announced that a new radar system designed to warn Australian troops of insurgent rocket attacks on their Afghanistan base should be in place by the end of the year. The system, known as C-RAM Sense and Warn was a key initiative in the May budget. 'Such a system is vital given the ongoing threat from insurgent rocket attacks,' he said on the day. 'It will provide a sense and warn capability which detects projectiles in flight and warns our forces.' Detecting and warning the force of hostile aerial threats using radars is a role we have always undertaken. In addition, the Regiment was due to field a C-RAM capability as part of Project Land 19 Phase 7 in 2018. As a result of this announcement, the Battery Commander, Major Corey Shillabeer has been tasked to lead the first contingent to field the Rapid Acquisition of C-RAM Sense and Warn equipment. Elements of the system should be in place by the end of 2010 with subsequent progressive delivery of improved levels of protection. The Battery will be utilising Giraffe Agile Multi Beam (GAMB) radar manufactured by SAAB Bofors, and Lightweight Counter-Mortar Radar (LCMR) from the US firm Syracuse. This will be the first deployment of 16th Air Defence Regiment personnel in their core roll since the last deployment to the Persian Gulf aboard HMAS Kanimbla in July 2003.

---

*... announced that a new radar system designed to warn Australian troops of insurgent rocket attacks on their Afghanistan base should be in place by the end of the year.*

---

Initially, C-RAM will provide early warning to incoming enemy rockets and mortar shells, but there is scope in the near future to purchase a 'shooter' system to destroy projectiles in flight, and to link to the existing 'fires' network to provide immediate counter-battery fire. GAMB is the 'Rolls Royce' of air defence radars and it will have a lot of latent capability, which will not be required for the C-RAM role. There is potential for it to be used as an Air Traffic Control radar and for situational awareness in coordinating coalition aircraft. After the deployment there is also an opportunity to utilise Giraffe AMB in a traditional air defence roll with the RBS-70 or its successor.

Since the announcement in May, Gunners from the Battery have been working hard on lead-up training in preparation for a deployment. Some of

this training will include overseas instruction on the LCMR and CRAM command and control systems in the US, and for a lucky few, GAMB training in Sweden with SAAB. Along with the technical training, there has also been a concentrated effort on improving fieldcraft, small team tactics and knowledge of the threat and environment. As personal readiness is paramount to the deploying soldiers, the C-RAM training officer, Lieutenant Jeremy Satchell, has had his work cut out ensuring the Gunners are ready to go.

In parallel, the GBAD capability that we had previously maintained has had to be reduced. The C-RAM announcement led to a restructure of the Battery in May. F Troop was raised, providing a GBAD capability through an independent sub-unit GBAD troop. GBAD training was able to recommence, focussing on our junior Gunners. The training that was conducted consisted of basic radar theory, aircraft recognition, airspace management and communications. This training culminated with the Troop deploying on Exercise Remember Blackburn10 at Cultana Military Training Area in August.

*Initially, C-RAM will provide early warning to incoming enemy rockets and mortar shells, but there is scope in the near future to purchase a 'shooter' system to destroy projectiles in flight ...*

During the exercise F Troop members were exercised in Vital Point Defence, Route Defence as well as Mobile Defence, which is a mission that requires work up training due to the complexity of command and control. Members were exposed to P3-Cs, PC9s, S70s and F/A-18s aircraft from the Aircraft Research and Development Unit, flying realistic profiles as part of a demanding scenario based around a Non-Combatant Evacuation Order. This allowed the junior RBS-70 operators the chance to track rotary as well as high performance fixed wing aircraft, under demanding environmental conditions.

In the background the Battery has been involved in the champion battery competition, a combination of theory tests, assessed deployments, personal fitness and sporting competitions. The competition is due to conclude on 26th November and whilst 110 AD Bty has had the better run at sport, 111 AD Bty has consistently demonstrated its technical prowess. Bombardier Luke Cooper has also represented SA ADF team at hockey, Bombardier

William Matthew and Gunner Timothy Keen represented the ADF and the Regiment at golf and Gunner Sean Smith won the long jump at the Army track and field competition, making the back page of the Army News.

It has been an exciting and demanding year for the Battery. Having Gunners deployed on operations performing their core role of protecting other members of the ADF, will undoubtedly be a highlight of next year. As this article has shown the Battery not let the hard-earned air defence skill lapse. We need the broad, technical skill-set to remain adaptable for whatever the future holds. As the Commanding Officer stated, 'We are in the business of Force Protection'.



# NATIONAL 'CORAL' GUNNER DINNER

**Canberra**

**Saturday 14th May 2011**

GUEST SPEAKER

**Lieutenant General Des Mueller, AO (Retd)  
Former Vice Chief of the Defence Force**

See advertisement in this edition



# Gunners earn their UK stripes

By Sgt Andrew Hetherington

BEFORE arriving in Afghanistan more than four months ago, the 14 Australian gunners of Cutler Tp started their deployment in the UK in September last year.

The gunners completed a comprehensive pre-deployment package with their sponsor unit 4 Regt Royal Artillery.

"We left Australia on September 1 last year for the UK and a majority of our gunnery training was conducted at Otterburn, south of the Scottish border," Cutler Tp SM WO2 Brett Donaldson said.

"We first attended an all-ranks brief, similar to our force preparation courses run at Randwick in Sydney.

"Then all personnel in command down to the level of gun detachment commander attended a five-day tactical commanders cadre camp."

It consisted of lectures and theory on the current tactical situation on the ground in Afghanistan.

"In the afternoons we would go out and conduct a series of practical tutorials putting into practice what we'd learnt in the morning," WO2 Donaldson said.

"After the course we took the information we'd learnt back to our soldiers."

While key personnel participated in the cadre camp, soldiers took part in a team medic course.

It dealt with catastrophic bleeding, application of tourniquets and Hemcon bandages used to seal wounds and the administering of morphine.

This course and other first-aid exercises were a favourite aspect of the UK pre-deployment training for most of the Australian gunners.

Gnr Chris Haire said he'd learnt a lot from the UK medical training.

"The first-aid training was unbelievably realistic," Gnr Haire said.

"They brought in real amputees, made them up and put us in real situations where we had to help them."

During the training, medics watched the gunners rendering assistance and provided feedback on their performance.

"It was good to know if you saved a life - or if you stuffed something up you were told you could have killed them," he said.

"When I made a mistake I took it on the chin and learnt from it.



**The team:** Cutler Tp comprising members of 4 Regt Royal Arty, A Fd Bty, 4 Fd Regt and 107 Bty in Afghanistan

"It was awesome training, as after you called in your casualty nine liner over the radio and patched them up, a helicopter would be flown in to take them to safety."

Gunnery training formed a large chunk of the pre-deployment program including conversion from the Australian L119 to the L118 105mm gun.

Gnr Jake Hyland said he'd enjoyed the gunnery and weapons component.

"The most valuable thing I learnt was the new gun, with the new sight the British use and everyone was talking about how good it would be to have it on our guns at home," Gnr Hyland said.

"The sight cuts down on how long it takes to get the gun into action and to fire it.

"It was also interesting to learn how the Brits do their work too.

"During their training, the gunners did face challenges. One of them was dealing with the cold UK weather.

"It was ridiculously cold, getting down to more than minus 10 degrees celsius at night," Gnr Hyland said.

"We were sleeping in tents, sleeping bags and sometimes under hootchies.

"I'll never forget that, it gives me good memories and all we could do was laugh at how bad it was."

Once they arrived in Afghanistan WO2 Donaldson said the gunners participated in another course lasting eight days at Camp Bastion.

"We covered counter-IED training, where we were trained to detect them with a mine detector," he said.

"Every British soldier who is deployed here is trained to detect IEDs and we were taught to find a safe path to travel on.

"Once soldiers do come across what they think is an IED they are trained to find where its exact location is.

"You get down on your belt buckle and scratch in the dirt until you find something that is not meant to be there," he said.

Other course subjects covered com-pound clearances, small arms range practices, a forward operating base (FOB) scenario and dismounted and mounted patrolling skill scenarios.

Gnr Haire said his pre-deployment time with the British Army was the most challenging training he'd completed in his Army career.

'Army', September 2, 2010

# Take Post

## Executing a Plan

*Major W.J. Francis  
Instructor Combat Command Wing*

The purpose of this article is to outline some of the key lessons being dealt out in the world of the Joint Fires and Effects Coordination Centre (JFECC) Execution activity. This is not a solo effort by any stretch of the imagination as the training vehicle is the offensive actions against the Musorian Army during COAC. I could sub title these thoughts, paraphrasing Monty Python, 'What have the Musorians ever done for us?'

In days of yore, the mark of a Field Gunner Officer was the flare with which he drafted, briefed and dispatched his Battery Commander's (BC) Fire Plan. Usually it was in support of the Direct Support Battalion's attack. There were three adjusted targets, five Defensive Targets and an On Call smoke activity. Potentially, one fire unit was only General Support and yet another did not share the same Survey State. On a good day, there was Close Air Support (CAS) that was sent in early so we could empty the battle space and get closer to those splinters.

---

*There were three adjusted targets,  
five Defensive Targets and an On  
Call smoke activity.*

---

The considerations of the Instructor-in-Gunnery (IG) setting the BC's Fire Plan varied from the methodology of solving the problems of met and survey of the guns to the inevitable time compression and nasty, unanticipated mine fields. In my own experience, this model produced a methodology of considering many facets of the gunnery problem rapidly. It also produced the ability to interpreting the current situation in terms of a time continuum.

Later in my career, when I was integrating effects to a manoeuvre plan, the over arching consideration was to understand the purpose of the manoeuvre to achieve the Commander's Intent of the next higher

echelon. BC's Fire Planning is an important component of the Combat Officer's Advanced Course. In an effort to re-focus the role of the Battery Commander in the 21st Century, BC's Fire planning has been re-badged as the JFECC Execution activity. The focus on solving the gunnery problem has shifted to aligning the prosecution of targets to the purpose of the offensive or defensive activity.

---

*The leap that has to be made  
between bottom up fire planning;  
where the technical calculations  
to achieve an effect; to  
understanding how this action  
supports a higher commander's  
intent, is the sport of COAC.*

---

A BC of ten years ago operating in a contemporary Battle Group would find an embarrassment of riches at his disposal. He may be allocated UAS, GSR, WLR, and precision strike weaponry previously owned at Brigade or Divisional levels. This has stretched the horizon well and truly beyond the close fight, while our enemy appears for shorter periods above the detection threshold. While we have learnt to employ our assets, there is no prescribed methodology that informs our approach to applying tactics at a Battle Group level, in the context of the formations purpose.

The leap that has to be made between bottom up fire planning; where the technical calculations to achieve an effect; to understanding how this action supports a higher commander's intent, is the sport of COAC. In the absence of a specified approach, I have recognised the utility of the Royal Artillery methodology for the integration of Joint Fires articulated by combat functions to: *Find, Fix and Strike*. The fires integrated to fight the close battle are controlled by the observer, as resourced by the BC in accordance with the Manoeuvre Commander's intent. It is the deep fight where the Musorians are susceptible to interdiction. More over, it is the key decisions required to push the Musorians off balance that consume exponentially

greater depth of thought than the scheduling of fires.

This contrast between the effort of scheduling coordinating fires versus the effort to find the enemy and determine his intentions, I have paraphrased '*The Fire Plan versus the Find Plan.*' COAC Trainees generally experience a good deal of friction when it comes to integrating ISR plans to the scheme of manoeuvre. Not until Intelligence, Manoeuvre and Joint Fires planners interact is there any real notion of how tight Corps allegiances are held. The combined effort of all stakeholders is required to confirm the enemy commander's decisions. While this may be a generally accepted fact, the powers of influence one preserved for the convincing the manoeuvre commander that he should sequence his assault to optimise concentration of fire are adapting to influencing the staff as to the optimal coordination of the ISR assets.

---

*There is another layer of complexity ... the impact of the Laws of Armed Conflict (LOAC).*

---

There is another layer of complexity that has to be considered, closely aligned with understanding and supporting the purpose of the activity and that is the impact of the Laws of Armed Conflict (LOAC). I argue that many of the considerations for LOAC have been ingrained in how we have judged ourselves in terms of accuracy, timeliness and safety. Because of this familiarity, the role of the Joint Fires and Effects Coordinator is definitely the key observer and advisor to the manoeuvre commander on LOAC in particular the Six Step Targeting Process.

The Musorians present themselves time after time, some times above the detection threshold, some times below. This provides a framework for developing the 'Find Plan' and real opportunities to prod an enemy to see how it will react. Ultimately, the Musorians have their vulnerabilities that, if exploited, can un-hinge their numerical superiority.

In conclusion, I present these three areas for your consideration as key developments in the maturity of the BC commanding a JFECC. *Find, Fix, Strike; Find Plan versus Fire Plan;* and elevating LOAC Six Step Targeting procedure in the Command team consciences bring the Musorians apart every time. Take what you like from these collective experiences and enhance or leave the rest.

## 'What Have the Musorians Ever Done For Us?'

I keep a running tally of the training lessons identified from JFECC Execution activities which I have included for the benefit of all. These issues are very important to us coordinators of Joint Fires.

CAS, consider the following:

- How will the target be 'detected'?
- Is there a 'find' phase required prior to CAS?
- Have you set the conditions? Requirement for there SEAD.
- What is the likely method of separation of fires?
- Give a description of the targets to be reported as acquired eg 2 x AFV.
- Give windows for engagement and not a specified time.
- CAS is a mutually exclusive activity to the Fire Plan where time is NOT the separation method.
- BDA- task an asset to acquire - requirement of ROE in many cases.
- The target should cover off either the ME or MDCOA or HPTL.

Orders to Tactical Group, consider:

- Detail tasks.
- Primary and alternative tasks.
- Action on re-organisation.
- Back brief from observers.
- Once on the objective, focus on DF tasks.
- Continual situation reports.
- Use request modify to inform the plan wherever possible.
- Who has authority to use the superimposed callsign, who has to request it?
- Who are the primary and alternative observers for tasks?
- Pass FP planning info to the observers.

Smoke:

- Is a sub optimal way to achieve suppression.
- Is optimally used in conjunction with HE.
- When scheduled, must come with the 5 smoke questions details.

Flexibility, consider:

- Keep an ammunition reserve not a Call Sign.
- Remember lead in times to make decisions and to send modifications.

- Couple dwells with a change to the rate.
- If you are using L hour, consider a pre-L timing to cover the overlap.
- Give each phase of the plan a phase in the fire plan.

#### Commanders Intent:

- Remember that at BG you are looking to the Brigade Commander as the One up for intent.
- There are both offensive and defensive phases to an attack and orders and plans need to be developed for both.
- The deep battle needs a plan to Find Fix and Strike the High Payoff Targets (HPTs).
- Have a methodology for dealing with targets as they are detected, allocate a target number and a response and task an observer/ agency to deal with the target.
- 6 Step LOAC Targeting process is here to stay, confirm that you have a target.

*for the AIF in the Great War ... it did not involve costly trench-to-trench assaults, slogging, futile attacks, and mud; instead, it was short battle of rapid movement and quick decision made by many commanders, often acting on their own initiative.'*

After buying not one but two copies, I eagerly commenced reading with high expectations and immediately felt myself feeling a little let down. The author explained my concern in the acknowledgements section where he states: '*.. it began as a war history and ended as Australian social history, ..*'. I quickly overcome my disappointment and found myself consuming a very easy to read and different style of military history book, which most importantly contained an easy to follow and understand storyline.

---

*Mont St Quentin holds a special place in Australian military history for a number of reasons including it was the battle where the most Victoria Crosses have ever been awarded to Australian's on a single day.*

---

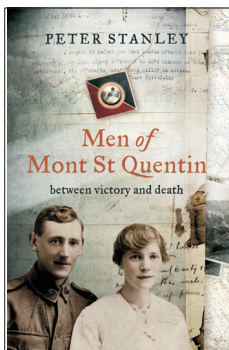
## Book Reviews

### *Men of Mont St Quentin: between victory and death*

By Peter Stanley

*Reviewed by Major D.T. (Terry) Brennan  
Editor RAA Liaison Letter*

ISBN 9781921215339 (PBK); PUBLISHED 2009;  
SCRIBE PUBLICATIONS PTY LTD; B&W  
PHOTOGRAPHS; MAPS; 298 PAGES



As someone with a keen interest in the circumstances surrounding the battle for Mont St Quentin I was excited when I heard Peter Stanley was writing a book on the subject and eagerly watched the bookshops and newspapers for notice of its release. Mont St Quentin holds a special place in

Australian military history for a number of reasons including it was the battle where the most Victoria Crosses have ever been awarded to Australian's on a single day. The author also highlights the significance by describing it as '*a most unusual battle*

This book describes the Battle of Mont St Quentin through the lives of Nine Platoon, Charlie Company, 21st Battalion based on the letters of Frank Roberts and scrap books compiled by his father Garry Roberts. Frank was killed during the attack on Mont St Quentin on 1st September. As a reader you cannot help but become engrossed in the story of Nine Platoon both during the battle, the war in general and afterwards for those who survived.

The author's introduction sums up the nature and style of the content: '*This is book about war for readers who may not normally read or may even be uncomfortable with military history. Whilst it included a close study of an afternoon of battle, ... It does not assume that the reader knows or cares about Australian military history, the structure and functions of an infantry battalion on the Western Front, or the tactics of war in 1918.*'

A sign of the times was that at Mont St Quentin Nine Platoon attacked with 12 men, a far cry from the size of what we understand and expect as a platoon today. A chapter is devoted to the attack and provides a concise overview of the circumstances leading up to and the actual battle on the 31st August and the 1st September 1918 at different levels including the very personal battle through the eyes of Nine Platoon members. On 1st

September 1918 as the sun set on Mont St Quentin only five members of Nine Platoon had survived unharmed - three were killed and five wounded.

A key to the defence were the German machine-gunners and their strong points. It would seem that whilst elements of the German Army were demoralised and on the verge of defeat, the machine gunners were defiant, with many, against all odds, remaining at their posts until they were overrun and killed.

An interesting aspect of the battle is the German's may have aided the ultimate Australian success by replacing their troops defending Mont St Quentin on the night of 31st August with fresh troops. On the first day the Australian attack was defeated due to the fierce and determined resistance of the German forces. Fortunately for the Australians the replacement German troops whilst relatively fresh and determined, they did not have the same 'will' to fight as the defenders from the previous day.

---

*A member of Nine Platoon  
summed it up as 'none of us had  
any mercy that day'.*

---

The members of Nine Platoon commenced their assault from the protection of Elsa Trench with the ominous words of their company commander ringing in their ears; *'Over with best of luck'*. The objective was a heavily defended Quarry which was the centre of a network of trenches, dugouts and machine-guns posts. Sergeant Alby Lowerson was a member of Ten Platoon assaulting with Nine Platoon when his actions resulted in him being one of those awarded the Victoria Cross that day. The close fight against the fortified machinegun posts was known as a *'bomb fight'* utilising grenades to take trenches and positions rather than bullets and bayonets. The author describes the outcome as *'.. the bomb fight was in essence a contest of nerve - the trench went to those whose nerve lasted.'*

The author describes in detail the attack by Nine Platoon using accounts written by a number of the platoon members (many had been encouraged to do so by Gary Roberts the father of Frank Roberts). The detailed descriptions of the close fighting, horrific scenes of battle and scale of what these individuals witnessed is hard to comprehend. This is particularly the case if you try and compared it to the manner in which we as society react to the unfortunate loss of even a single soldier on the modern battle field.

A sample of the carnage is described as *'Germans - both dead and wounded, and men paralysed by fear and exhaustion - lay all over the trenches in the wood. ... The Australian's, grimly fulfilling their orders to take the hill, made no attempt succour the German wounded, and treated all live Germans as enemies to be killed.'*

The personal stresses to which people were subjected and their desperate desire to survive against all odds during the assault is highlighted in the treatment of enemy trying to surrender. A member of Nine Platoon summed it up as *'none of us had any mercy that day'*. In my view despite Australian commentator and observers always appearing to claim the high ground with regard the treatment of prisoners, I do not believe the actions at Mont St Quentin was a rare occurrence. The reality is that in the heat of battle, in days gone by, soldiers did what they thought was necessary.

An underlying theme which is evident is the discipline of the soldiers and the leadership of individuals in what were difficult and chaotic circumstances. The mateship and bond between these men was highlighted when the Frank Roberts was killed. Vic Edwards, another member of Nine Platoon, at the first opportunity, went back to recover Frank's personal effects including his watch before his body was looted.

The book looks at the grief brought by the death of Frank Roberts to his family and especially his father. It documents a grieving father who had a desperate desire to know more about the death of his son as part of his healing process. As the veterans of Charlie Company returned home, Frank's father took every opportunity to press any individual who knew Frank for information especially on the circumstances surrounding his death. The ongoing development of the scrapbooks he had commenced when Frank was alive became a means to express and record his grief. Gary summed up circumstances of Frank's death simply as *'The war took him.'*

The author traces the lives of the survivors post war and details their experiences including the battles by some individuals to overcome the long term effects of the war on them and their families.

It also outlines the rise and fall of a very proud 21st Battalion Association. The final edition of the Association newsletter the *'Diamond'* concluded with the comment; *'Our Battalion ... inspired us and gave us memories that will never fade ... we will never forget.'*

The book also highlights an interesting personal connection between Frank and the Mont St Quentin diorama at the Australian War Memorial, as well as, the 2nd Division Memorial built at Mont St Quentin after the war.

The author concludes by questioning whether the attack on Mont St Quentin was, as has been claimed for 90 years, the AIF's '*finest single feat of the war*'. Personally I prefer to accept the accounts of those who were there rather than the opinion of an historian 90 years later. If you read this book which I encourage you to do so, you will make up your own mind. The awarding of six Victoria Crosses in one day (not to mention one the day before and one the day after) must stand for and say something about the nature of the battle.

I recommend this book to anyone who has the slightest interest in Australia's involvement in World War One. A strength is the flowing style and clarity in capturing and explaining the battle itself; whilst placing a spotlight on the personal and private lives of individuals and highlighting how war affected them and their families.

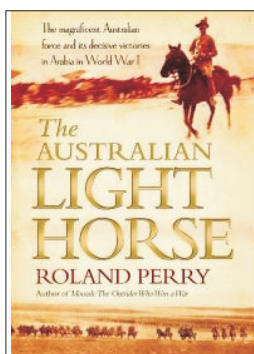
---

## ***The Australian Light Horse***

by Roland Perry

*Reviewed by Captain M.P. McCarthy  
4th Field Regiment*

ISBN 978 0 7336 2272 4 (HBK); PUBLISHED 2009;  
HACHETTE AUSTRALIA; B&W PHOTOGRAPHS; 537  
PAGES



Roland Perry follows the journey of The Australian Light Horse from the declaration of the Great War through to the end of the Middle East Campaign. Perry provides a well researched narrative in a straight forward manner that is easy to absorb. Whilst Perry provides a

detailed account of events he does so in a manner that does not overwhelm the reader with too many facts and figures. Throughout the book he also shares stories and exploits of individuals who were either apart of the Light Horse or had a direct involvement with them and this makes for some very entertaining and informative reading.

Given the prominent role that Sir Harry Chauvel played within the Light Horse, it is perhaps not surprising that Perry pays particular attention to his life. The biographical component on Chauvel describes not only his part in decisive events including Gallipoli, Sinai, Palestine, Syria and Beersheba but also his life prior to the Great War. The insight into Chauvel's formative years, in addition to his experiences during the early part of the War at Gallipoli, allows the reader to gain an appreciation of the mindset of a commander that achieved such great success in the Middle East.

---

*... allows the reader to gain an appreciation of the mindset of a commander that achieved such great success in the Middle East.*

---

Perry also follows closely the undertakings of T.E. Lawrence, aka Lawrence of Arabia. Although Lawrence was not apart of the Australian Light Horse, his role as an advisor and leader to the Arab forces made him an important player in the Middle Eastern region. Apparently mindful of his place in history, Lawrence exploited the British War Cabinet's desire to highlight the Arab contribution to the Middle East campaign, his standing within the Arab community and the complex relationships that he maintained with several senior British commanders in an effort to bring to fruition his personal vision of a post Ottoman Middle East. Lawrence's politicking and manipulation of both the British and Arab led forces had a direct impact on the Australian Light Horse's operations and perhaps no more so than during the capture of Damascus.

A key theme reverberating throughout the book is the strength of character of the Australian soldiers. A soldier in the Australian Light Horse is typically described as a man who had honed his skills as marksmen and survivor out of necessity whilst living and working in the harsh Australian outback. As a result of their upbringing, and perhaps reflective of the general Australian population at the time, the soldiers had a great sense of fairness, equality, loyalty and hard work. They also held a distrust of authority and maintained a rebellious streak. Although these experiences and characteristics were distinctive of the Australian Light Horse throughout the War, Perry also conveys that their experience at Gallipoli had the effect of steeling their efforts and exacerbating the qualities of the soldiers and the beliefs that they held. Indeed, when the Australian Light Horse arrived in

Palestine from Gallipoli and were reunited with their mounts, it was arguably a more determined and aggressive fighting force driven by survivor's guilt and the desire to seek vengeance on an enemy who inflicted so much death and destruction.

---

*A key theme reverberating throughout the book is the strength of character of the Australian soldiers.*

---

Throughout *The Australian Light Horse* Perry succeeds in highlighting the achievements of Sir Harry Chauvel, providing insight into the politics and players that shaped some of the significant outcomes during the War and drawing attention to the ANZAC spirit which was a driving force behind the success of the men of the Australian Light Horse. In summary, a well written book that provides an excellent overview into the Light Horse's involvement in The Great War.

---

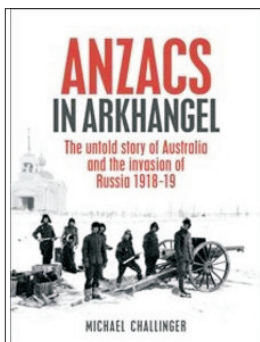
## ANZACS IN ARKHANGEL

### *The untold story of Australia and the invasion of Russia 1918-19*

By Michael Challenger

*Reviewed by Major D.T. (Terry) Brennan  
Editor RAA Liaison Letter*

ISBN 978 1 74066 751 7 (PBK); PUBLISHED 2010;  
HARDIE GRANT BOOKS; B&W PHOTOGRAPHS;  
MAPS; 285 PAGES



I was attracted to this book as I felt I had a distinct gap in my Australian military history knowledge. This gap was Australia's involvement in the war in northern Russia in 1918 and 1919. Therefore when this book was published I took the opportunity to improve my knowledge.

Whilst an easily read book there were sections where I found myself somewhat confused about the story being related by the author. This was particularly the case when trying to follow troop movements and associated battles. The situation was not helped by the fact that I was not familiar with the geographic area, along with the Russian names meaning nothing to me. This is in contrast to

reading articles and publications on most other Australian military history, for example, most readers are at least aware of the names associated with the Western Front in France.

As a consequence of the 1917 revolution in Russia, the author describes the circumstances leading up to a decision by the British Government to send troops and how the Australian's became involved in this deployment, which was essentially a coalition of nations to support the 'Whites' (Russians loyal to the Tsar) against the 'Reds' or Bolsheviks (communists). The coalition nations supporting the 'Red' forces found themselves in a situation which could easily be superimposed on world affairs today. The author makes the observation; *'In 1919 there was a coalition of the willing, the were muddles aims, an invasion by subterfuge, an escalation in numbers. There was optimism and reassurance, then a sudden announcement that the situation was untenable. The similarities to Vietnam, Iraq and now Afghanistan are striking.'*

---

*The political arrangement which ultimately saw Australian's fighting in Russia is still not even clear to me now.*

---

There was friction in the coalition partners especially between the British and Americans, with the two groups unimpressed by the other. Again in a modern context these circumstances are not unheard of today.

The political arrangement which ultimately saw Australian's fighting in Russia is still not even clear to me now. If the author's description is anything to go by Russia was in chaos with sixteen countries invading Russia after the revolution. *Apart from wanting to get rid of the Bolsheviks, the foreigners did not quite know what they were aiming to achieve.* When asked a question in the Australian Federal Parliament regarding the involvement of Australian's in the war in Russia, the acting Prime Minister of Australia denied all knowledge.

Australia's involvement commenced in March 1918 when AIF headquarters in the UK asked for volunteers (experienced officers, warrant officers and senior non-commissioned officers) for a secret mission. Ultimately nine were selected and joined hundreds of other British, Canadian and New Zealand troops. This small Australian commitment was the initial deployment and would be followed by a much larger contingent later. I assume both

deployments had the support of the Australian Government of the day.

The author goes into detail on the background of the mission and the individual Australian's selected to deploy. The British force was divided into three - the Australian's were to deploy as part of 'Elope' force to Arkhangel to organise, instruct and lead Russian units. They sailed as part of the British contingent from the United Kingdom on 16th June 1918. They were joined in country by troops from a range of countries including America, France, Poland, Serbia and Italy. The author claims '*The Americans were bewildered to find themselves in Russia. They had expected to go to France to fight Germans.*' The first group of Australian's, less two officers, departed Russia on 17th June 1919.

The biggest threat to the participants of this first deployment was the 1918-1919 Russian winter. Temperatures of minus 30 degrees Celsius were common - twice it dropped to minus 57 degrees Celsius. Attempting to work in these conditions was difficult; '*Breathing .. felt as if a blowtorch was being aimed down his throat ..*'. The weather posed major problems - machine guns froze and grenades failed to explode. It also made fighting difficult for both sides as none could survive outside in the weather.

As we have seen in recent years in Iraq and Afghanistan, circumstances arise where Governments find it politically no longer viable to support the coalition and withdraw. This is what happened in Russia, the American and French Governments decided to withdraw forcing the British Government to take the decision to withdraw before the winter of 1919-1920.

Winston Churchill in his role as the British Secretary of State for War, successfully argued that to make a safe withdrawal it would be essential to deploy fresh troops to support the withdrawal of those troops already present. The volunteer 'North Russia Relief Force' was born which included additional Australian troops. In Australia it was interesting to note only two newspapers even reported on Australian's fighting in Russia.

I became quite confused over the status of Australian troops who volunteered for the Relief Force. The British Army targeted the AIF troops remaining in the UK waiting to return to Australia after World War One. To be part of the force they had to enlist in the British Army for one year, however before this they had to apply for discharge from the AIF. It was agreed they could continue to wear their Australian uniform including the slouch

hat (in fact all personnel who served with the Australian's wore Australian uniforms). They were also promised that they could serve together under the leadership of Australian non-commissioned officers.

In the end 115 men took discharge from the AIF. It is estimated that in total some 150 Australian's served in the North Russia campaign. The author attempts to explain why these men volunteered, he concluded one of the main reasons was loyalty to fellow soldiers, boredom, and the urge for excitement. Another reason proffered was some of the men had arrived in England too late to fight in World War One and felt they still needed to prove themselves in combat. This second group of Australian's departed England on 3rd July 1919.

On arrival many of the Australian's were deployed as part of the defence of two areas. The majority were allocated the Railway Front and a small number to the Dvina [River] Front. The railway and river were the key lines of communications. On the Dvina Front the Australia's spent significant time behind enemy lines.

---

*Even more so the fighting, when it occurred, was fierce and often hand to hand summed up by one veteran as 'the bayonet soon got to work'.*

---

There were only two major operations during the deployment of the 'Relief Force' and both were just prior to the planned evacuation; the Dvina and Railway Offensives respectively. The key objective of both was described as to provide a 'disengaging blow' in order to disrupt the enemy and assist the British contingent withdraw from Russia.

On the ground conditions were terrible to fight although there was no snow the thaw resulted in severe boggy conditions and swamps. Even more so the fighting, when it occurred, was fierce and often hand to hand summed up by one veteran as '*the bayonet soon got to work*'.

An ongoing theme in this story was the continual movement of Russian troops from one side to the other whenever it suited them. This was a major concern as it could even occur during a battle and if being lead by coalition officers they would be murdered.

The Australian's were some of the last troops to leave Russia as they had the task of rear guard finally boarding their ship home on 27th September 1919. This departure brought to an end

a little known chapter of Australian military history. There were only two Victoria Crosses awarded during the campaign and both were to Australian's - Corporal Arthur Percy Sullivan (Dvina Offensive) and posthumously to Sergeant Samuel George Pearse MM (Railway Offensive). The circumstances under which these two individuals enlisted opens the perennial debate on the number of Victoria Crosses awarded to Australian's. The thrust of the argument being were they British or Australian soldiers? I would have thought they were technically British soldiers therefore their award would be categorised as British.

---

*There were only two Victoria Crosses awarded during the campaign and both were to Australian's ...*

---

This is a somewhat 'dry' book which did not readily hold my attention. Having expressed that view I still recommend that for anyone with a desire to know more about Australia's involvement in the Russia campaign it is still well worth reading as it will certainly contribute to your knowledge.

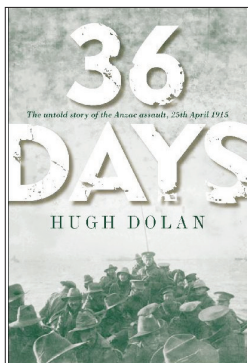
---

### **36 Days: The Untold Story behind the Gallipoli Landings**

by Hugh Dolan

*Reviewed by Brigadier J.R. Cox, AM  
Chair History Sub-committee*

ISBN 978 140 503 985 7; (SBK); PUBLISHED 2010;  
PAN MACMILLAN; 462 PAGES



Stimulated by a week spent last year on and around the Gallipoli Peninsula, looking at the whole campaign, I recently acquired '36 Days' by Hugh Dolan.

It might be my intelligence background that made it appeal to me, but it is a well told piece of 'popular history' writing. Its coverage of naval operations, MEF and in particular ANZAC intelligence, preparation and planning, air operations by the MEF, Turkish artillery, submarine operations and snippets on technology in the 36 day lead up to 25 April greatly improved my understanding. Good extracts from key

communications are included. Dolan employs a style similar to, but not taken as far as Carlyon. It appears well researched and referenced, and has an index.

---

*The book certainly shows that Hamilton and his Commanders had more than enough information that he was 'out numbered and outgunned' in all respects ...*

---

It does not answer the question as to why no-one in high command could contemplate and articulate through Hamilton back to London that the costs of the land assault would be extreme and it was most likely that the operation would fail - and it should not go ahead. The book certainly shows that Hamilton and his Commanders had more than enough information that he was 'out numbered and outgunned' in all respects - especially as the combined Navy had taken a flogging and its gunfire was ineffective against Turkish forces who quickly adapted.

Another Gallipoli book!!! - I recommend it to you if you are interested in the Gallipoli campaign. It is an easy and pleasant read, supported with helpful maps.

Dolan is an RAAF officer.

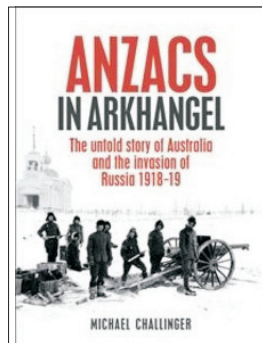
---

### **ANZACS IN ARKHANGEL**

By Michael Challenger

*Reviewed by Colonel S.T. Ryan  
Director, Military Strategic Commitments*

ISBN 978 1 74066 751 7 (PBK); PUBLISHED 2010;  
HARDIE GRANT BOOKS; B&W PHOTOGRAPHS;  
MAPS; 285 PAGES



"ANZACS in Archangel" is a book that will naturally attract an ANZAC gunner to read. Why? The cover includes the word ANZAC, suggests Australian soldiers fighting in Russia, and has a gun and detachment on the cover. However, soon after picking up the book you

will realise that the gun is a French 75mm quick firing gun manned by Canadians and that the

ANZAC contribution was very small. This should not dissuade a military enthusiast from reading this interesting appendix to Australia's efforts during the Great War.

Michael Challenger's book sheds light on Australia's small military contribution to Britain's little known military endeavour into Russia in 1918 and 1919. This little endeavour, clearly outlined in the book, demonstrates yet another strategically ill conceived military campaign by the British. A bold statement but nonetheless required. What initially was an altruistic idea to rid the world of Communism soon became another poorly conducted campaign like Gallipoli.

The campaign was launched in March 1918 during the last days of the Great War. A small force under the command of General Poole left England with a 'home by Christmas' mentality. A view one might expect from the British at the time. It did not take too long for the campaign to run into trouble. The reliability of the White Russians, Poole's inept colonial-style leadership, a tough climate, a less than cohesive coalition and an ambivalent population all laid the foundation for the mission to quickly flounder.

A change of command to the energetic General Ironside might have made a difference had he been given some time to rally the troops but a harsh northern winter only made it more of a forlorn hope. The campaign ebbed and flowed between the two protagonists in the spring and summer of 1919 until the ultimate withdrawal in August 1919. A withdrawal that was not a great surprise and only served to demonstrate that a war weary Britain had lost an appetite for war and supporting a corrupt, self interested and autocratic White Russian regime.

Despite this generally pessimistic overview of the campaign Challenger manages to provide some notable insights into the campaign.

The first is the general nature of the Australian participation. Australian soldiers were quickly targeted and recruited into the British Army to serve to prevent their raucous behaviour from destroying London. The diggers were a unique breed amongst the Commonwealth troops. Their egalitarian, fiercely nationalistic views and all in nature came to the fore on more occasions than not. This nature made them both the troops of choice for getting the mission done and a disciplinary nightmare for the British. It is probably for this reason that Australian's were given the tough part of Archangel during the initial

occupation to keep them out of trouble and keep the locals in line. The ANZAC fighting skills were equally well known to the British with the Australian's spearheading the 1919 offensive South where they won two Victoria Crosses. Their nationalistic fervour ran deep as demonstrated during their recruitment where they didn't mind joining the British Army provided they could wear their Australian uniforms and slouch hats - a provision the British reluctantly gave into. It is a far cry from today's diggers who would rather wear a beret than a slouch hat.

A second insight was the truths of combat the book revealed. The psychological effect of combat was notable in the letters and reports from the soldiers. The diggers did not write before, during or after they had participated in a bayonet attack. The emotion charged nature of such events was kept for their inner most thoughts. A similar effect was recorded after the Second World War amongst RAAF crews in Bomber Command and Prisoners Of War from Changi prison. They said very little of their operational experience and left their stories to be told by others. This is a common trait of most of our veterans and one we might wish to remember as our young men and women return from Iraq, Afghanistan and Timor.

Michael Challenger's book is a snap shot of the Australian involvement in Russia at the end of World War One. It is not a great historic work for the ages like a Paul Ham 'Kokoda' or a C.E.W Bean but it does capture the colour of a less well known military expedition by Australians. The book is worth a read to broaden your knowledge on Australia's military commitments and serves as an example of yet another ill conceived simplistic strategic from the final days of the colonial period in Europe. Have a read and enjoy.



## MEDIA RELEASE

**Who:** Jack Mulholland, WWII Darwin Anti-Aircraft Gunner

**What:** Jack unveils new model at Darwin Military Museum showing all ships involved in the 1942 attacks. Submarines revealed for the first time to be part of that force.

**When:** 4pm Thursday 10 June 2010

**Where:** Darwin Military Museum, East Point, Darwin

---

### SUBMARINES FOUND TO BE PART OF THE 1942 ATTACK FORCE

New research carried out by historians at the Darwin Military Museum has shown for the first time that submarines were part of the 17-ship attack force that launched a devastating raid again the Top End in February 1942. According to the original logs of the carrier fleet – now located and translated for the first time – there were six submarines present in addition to the surface fleet.

Darwin Military Museum Director Dr Tom Lewis said the submarines would have likely deployed to sanitise the areas ahead of the carrier fleet – which utilised the same ships as attacked Pearl Harbor two months earlier – so that Allied ships and submarines could not impede the carriers' progress.

'You don't want a vast and complicated operation such as launching 188 aircraft against a distant target to be distracted by having to fight a surface battle, even a small one, at the same time.' Dr Lewis said.

'Submarines were employed to scout the seas ahead of the force and ensure the attack was uninterrupted. And usually a few lurked behind to attack any enemy vessels which sought to attack from that direction.'

A new model of the Japanese fleet, accompanied by a painting from renowned war artist Bob McRae, shows one of the submarines – the *I-16* – trailing the fleet. A hat and tunic from Imperial Japanese Navy personnel complete the display.

Jack Mulholland, who was one of a gun crew on what is now Darwin's Esplanade, and the author of the autobiographical account *Darwin Bombed*, said he was pleased to be asked to unveil the display. 'And hearing that we are finding out even more today about what happened 68 years ago is so important.' Jack said. 'I congratulate Darwin Military Museum on their initiative in forging a new focus for their national tourist attraction.'

Jack will be signing copies of his book from 10am on Saturday at the Museum.

*Dr Lewis and Jack Mulholland are available for interview*

**For more information, contact:**

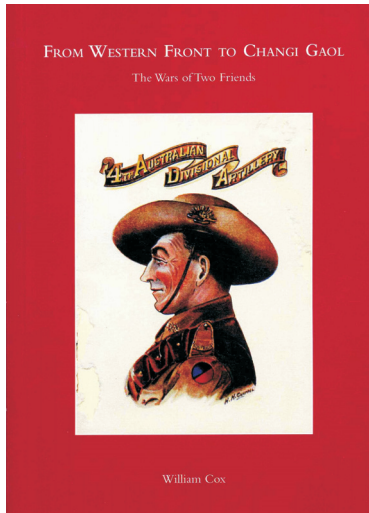
Darwin Military Museum

GPO Box 3220, Darwin 0801

[darwinmilitarymuseum@bigpond.com.au](mailto:darwinmilitarymuseum@bigpond.com.au)

(08) 8981 9702





# FROM WESTERN FRONT TO CHANGI GAOL

## THE WARS OF TWO FRIENDS

By William Cox

In this well illustrated volume William Cox tells the story of his father, Ellis Cox's, experiences as a gunner officer in WW1, reproducing many of the letters he wrote home to his parents in Launceston. Enlisting in 1915, he embarked from Melbourne in late November having sat, 5 days earlier, for the last 3 subjects of his Law course, and crossing the Equator 2 weeks later on his 21st birthday. The letters deal with his embarkation, life on the

troopship, training in Egypt and his involvement in the many 'stunts' the 4th Divisional Artillery was engaged in on the Western Front including Fromelles, Bullecourt, Passchendaele, Hamel, Amiens (where he won the Military Cross and was promoted Major) and the Hindenburg Line. He gives a cheerful and fascinating picture of life, not just at the Front, but in reserve and on occasional leave.

In the 1920s, practising as a solicitor in Hobart he met Dr E A (Bon) Rogers, 4 years his senior. When WW2 broke out, Bon, though 50 years old, enlisted in the AIF and went to Malaya with the 8th Division. Captured in Singapore, he endured 3½ years as a POW on the Thai-Burma Railway and in Changi Gaol where he was, for nearly 18 months, the sole resident medical officer. His bravery in nursing back to health POWs sentenced to death or lengthy prison terms and fooling the Japanese that they were far sicker than they in fact were, together with his care for other prisoners, endeared him to all the inmates of the infamous gaol. He is one of the unsung heroes of that distressing time.

The Hon. William Cox was Governor of Tasmania from 2004 until 2008. Previously he was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tasmania (1995-2004); a Puisne Judge of the Court (1982-1995); Crown Advocate (1977-1982) and prior to that in private practice. William Cox has also had a distinguished career as a senior Artillery officer in the Army Reserve.

**SPECIAL OFFER: \$25.00** Books can be purchased direct from the Author using this form.

Title: Dr Mr Mrs Miss Ms (Please circle) Other .....

First Name ..... Surname .....

Address .....Post code .....

No. of books..... Total Cost .....

Send to: Hon W J E Cox, 214 Davey Street, Hobart, Tasmania 7004

Attach cheque payable to W J E Cox

An additional charge of \$7 for postage & handling is required for delivery Australia-wide

# Looking Forward, Looking Back

## Customs and Traditions of the Australian Army

by Christopher Jobson

*'Every army marches to the tune of its customs and traditions. The customs and traditions of the Australian Army reflect the often glorious legacies that define the Army of today. They are visible acknowledgements of the history that has shaped the character, the values and the pride of Australia's modern Army and those who serve in its ranks.'*

Lieutenant General Peter Leahy,  
former Chief of Army

*Looking Forward Looking Back - Customs and Traditions of the Australian Army* provides a wealth of knowledge on the Australian Army's proud history. These customs and traditions, are dynamic, they evolve and adapt, as does the Army itself. They continue to retain their relevance to the modern Army as they inspire in the digger a strong sense of belonging. The teamwork, pride, discipline and respect of the past inspire the present.

The Australian Army boasts a broad variety of traditions, some of which belong to the Service as a whole, others to a particular corps, regiment or rank. These customs and traditions vary greatly, some are serious and solemn, others humorous and some encompass the rules of social etiquette, manners and style.

Many of the Australian Army's traditions are derived from the battle tactics and fighting dress of old. Some of the drill movements seen on today's parade ground were originally manoeuvres performed by soldiers in battle. Various items of uniform had practical uses for their wearers in combat and some customs retain their original practical use as they did hundreds of years ago.

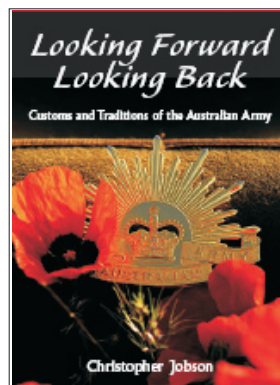
While the ever-changing modern military environment demands that soldiers continue to look forward, looking back to the customs and traditions of the Army serves as a

constant and reassuring reminder of past victories and the journey so far.

*Looking Forward, Looking Back* is written by Christopher Jobson, a Vietnam Veteran who discharged after 30 years of professional soldiering. In his final years of service he was posted as the Army's Regimental Sergeant-Major Ceremonial & Protocol. His interesting compilation of the various customs and traditions is complimented by photographs and illustrations. *Looking Forward, Looking Back*, will ensure in part, the military heritage that created the foundation of the fighting force of today is not lost over time.

**On Sale at all good book stores or available on-line [www.bigskypublishing.com.au](http://www.bigskypublishing.com.au)**

*Defence organisations will receive a discounted price when purchasing 5 or more copies direct from Big Sky Publishing. Freight is free.*



## NOTICE

### Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery Customs and Traditions

by Christopher Jobson

Copies available from the Museum Shop at  
North Fort  
[www.northfort.com.au](http://www.northfort.com.au) or  
Phone (02) 9976 613855





## Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery REGIMENTAL SHOP

NEW STOCK

Check out all the latest deals on the SOARTY web page  
<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/ARTYSCH/>

- **Field Equipment**

- \* Sleeping Mats
- \* INOVA AA Torch, Photon Micro Light, Mag Light with Filters
- \* Customised Field Packs, Day Packs and Webbing (can be ordered)
- \* Day Packs
- \* Bivvy Bags
- \* Nomex Field Gloves (DPCU)
- \* Leatherman Knives
- \* Silva Compasses

- **Plaques and Presentational Items**

- \* RAA Regimental Plaque
- \* School of Artillery Plaque
- \* RAA Cyphers
- \* Prints and Artwork
- \* Statuettes and Action Figures
- \* Desk Sets
- \* Canes and Stands
- \* Decanter and Whiskey Sets (can be engraved)
- \* Medal Boxes (can be engraved)

- **Things to Wear**

- \* Jewellery (Including Cuff Links, Tie Pins, Lapel Pins)
- \* Polofleece Casual Jackets (with RAA Regiment embroidered badge)
- \* Regimental Ties
- \* RAA Caps

- **Models - L119 and M198 resin kits and assembled kits available**

**For Information and Orders:**

School of Artillery, Bridges Barracks  
WO2 Damien Lindsay - [damien.lindsay@defence.gov.au](mailto:damien.lindsay@defence.gov.au)  
Telephone: (03) 5735 6234

**Trading Hours:**

12.30 -13.15 hrs every Thursday and Friday



SERGEANT, VICTORIAN HORSE ARTILLERY 1890



## **ORDER OF THE DAY**

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC REFORM PROGRAM**

**31 MARCH 2010**


The Strategic Reform Program is a decades-long campaign to transform Defence. Today, the CDF and the Secretary briefed the Defence Senior Leadership Group on joint plans for its implementation. Understand that it will have major impacts on the Army. In the years ahead we will need to apply our highest standards of care, rigour and discipline to planning and executing the changes that it represents.

Many of you will have noted recent media coverage attacking Defence's management of money and its peoples' time. This coverage highlighted the scope that exists to improve our performance. This is something we must do. We are all accountable for the effective and efficient use of Defence resources.

Together we must rise to the challenge. Seizing this opportunity to update the ways we go about our business will ensure we are able to deliver the combat ready land forces Australia requires. I see this as continuation of our work to adapt the Army to the challenges of the information age. We must now forge ahead with a positive spirit, mindful that we have a tremendous opportunity to fundamentally transform our Army for the better. Realising this opportunity will require us to review critically our work and take forward the best aspects of our culture.

The Army is good at implementing change. In 2009, under Adaptive Army, we streamlined our command and control structures and established Forces Command, among many other changes. We must now exploit our new structures by modernising our processes. Each of us must look at how we work and find ways to do it smarter and better. In many instances this will mean individuals changing long-held habits and behaviours. This is no small task, and for many it may be an uncomfortable process.

The direction I issue today is to all members of the Army: critically examine your areas of responsibility for waste and inefficiencies and start the changes that are within your power to make. Use the chain of command and Army Suggestion Scheme to bring to my attention issues beyond your power to influence.

  
**K.J. GYLESPIE AO, DSC, CSM**  
Lieutenant General  
Chief of Army

31 March 2010

# Personnel

## Conference & Farewells

*Major D.T. (Terry) Brennan  
Staff Officer to Head of Regiment*

### Conference & Capstone Day

The Regimental conference this year saw a change of dates and was held in July instead of late October or early November. The rescheduling was for a range of reasons including a clash with Exercise Hamel.

The theme was 'Adapting the RAA to the new capability and meeting the challenge of digitisation' and the key note speaker was Brigadier Greg Bilton. He covered a wide range of subjects and topics which were of interest. The one which probably resonated the most with the audience was confirmation that the Royal Regiment was definitely going to acquire a self-propelled gun capability.

Presentations covered a wide and varied range of topics from the immediate issues being faced by the Regiment with the introduction of a range of new capabilities to the potential force structure options of the Army of the Future in 2030 and beyond. Other presentations included the Joint Fires Cell by Colonel Brian Bailey which addressed the state of the nation for artillery units within Forces Command including the establishment of 6th Brigade (CS&ISTAR) and the air land concept and the plan to create an air land regiment through the amalgamation of 16th Air Defence Regiment and the 1st Ground Liaison Group.

During question time a range of queries and concerns were raised. Warrant Officer Class One Scott Driscoll, Regimental Sergeant Major School of Artillery expressed concern with the adoption of bombardiers as detachment commanders. The issue was raised regarding the ability and experience of lance bombardiers to 'step-up' to the position when the detachment commander was

unavailable. Lieutenant Colonel Charles Weller, Commanding Officer 4th Field Regiment, commented that the new approach was necessary to make the new force structural changes sustainable. Colonel Bailey, Colonel Joint Fires, spoke positively of the ability of the Regiment's junior non-commissioned officers and observed their ability to perform the role should not be underestimated. Lieutenant Colonel David Kelly, Commanding Officer 1st Field Regiment, stated that these individuals still need to be mentored even after they were in their appointment.

*The one which probably resonated the most with the audience was confirmation that the Royal Regiment was definitely going to acquire a self-propelled gun capability.*

During discussion on the M777A2, the soon to be introduced 155mm towed gun which will replace the 105mm Hamel gun in the full-time force, comment was made that the Regiment needed to identify and develop methods to employ conventional ammunition. It was stated that there were a range of options currently being investigated including course correction fuses and 'high blast - low fragmentation' ammunition.

It was also agreed it was essential that every opportunity was taken to promote to the manoeuvre community the benefits that Excalibur will bring to the fire support mix on the modern battlefield.

The subject of the Army Reserve and mortars was raised and Brigadier Bilton said that 2nd/10th Field Regiment had been outstanding in the professional manner in which they had embraced the transition to mortars. He observed these members of the Royal Australian Artillery had shown up the Australian Regular Army mortarmen.

Attendance was unfortunately down on recent conferences however this could be explained by the relatively late notice of the new dates. The concept of the Friday 'capstone day' is to permit

busy senior officers and other highly committed officers and Regimental Sergeant Majors to attend the conference for a single day.

### **Regimental Committee Meeting**

The first day saw the Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retd), Representative Colonel Commandant, chair the annual meeting of the full Regimental Committee. The thrust of the meeting focused on how to best secure the long term financial security of the Regimental Fund, whilst identifying how to ensure the goals and aspirations of the committee were relevant to all ranks of the Royal Regiment. It is worthy of note that in the past the Regimental Committee has not sought financial support from the anyone below the rank of sergeant, instead it has relied on members of the officers and sergeants messes, along with retired individuals, to provide the capital for the fund.

---

*... strategy to review the 'modus operandi' of the Regimental Committee is to ensure it is relevant in order to engage all members of the Regiment regardless of rank.*

---

Two key aspects of the strategy to review the 'modus operandi' of the Regimental Committee is to ensure it is relevant in order to engage all members of the Regiment regardless of rank. This engagement of the wider Regiment should in turn broaden the funding base for the Regimental Fund. There are a range of ideas being explored on how to achieve both these goals - relevance and increased funding.

### **Regimental Farewells**

The Regimental Farewells were held in conjunction with the conference as has become the norm these days. There were on three officers farewelled in the Regimental Officers Mess despite more despite more that 20 invitations being send to individuals. The message I received from those who still would like to be farewelled was that the change of dates had caught them by surprise as they were expecting them to be later in the year.

Despite this the Regiment farewelled Colonel Ross Parrott, Lieutenant Colonel Warren Smith and Major Greg Bartels, individuals who between them had contributed 193 years service to the Royal Regiment. Major Bartels was farewelled by Colonel Frank Colley, Lieutenant Colonel Smith by Brigadier

Greg Bilton and Colonel Ross Parrott by Colonel Ian Lynch. All three individuals delivered entertaining and heartfelt responses. An undercurrent of their comments was the enjoyment and satisfaction they had personally received from their service to the Royal Regiment and the Army in general.

---

*... individuals who between them had contributed 193 years service to the Royal Regiment.*

---

The traditional 'roll call' of commanding officers present at the farewell dinner was conducted and despite 8th/ 12th Medium Regiment being initially overlooked (this error was quickly corrected through some guidance from Colonel Craig Furini) the results recorded the winner as a draw between the School of Artillery and 4th Field Regiment with four each. It should be acknowledged there were also four individuals who had also been either Director of Artillery, Head of Regiment, Commander Land Command Artillery or Colonel Joint Fires. The other results were 1st Field Regiment - two; 8th/12th Medium Regiment - two; 7th Field Regiment - one; 23 Field Regiment - two; 16 Air Defence Regiment -one; Joint Proof and Experimental Unit - one; and 1st Field Regiment - one. This outcome was a very positive indication of the support for both the conference and farewells from our senior officers both serving and retired.

Although the late notice of the new conference dates appeared to impact on the officer farewells the same could be said for the warrant officer and senior non-commissioned officer farewells. In fact this year the Regimental Sergeants Mess saw the most people farewelled for many years. Those farewelled were Warrant Officer Class Two Kieran Devlin, Anthony Dix, Clayton Hall, Chris Moore, and Col Yanner; and Sergeant Izzy Anu, Frank Cresta, and Don Smit

### **Conference Dates 2011**

The conference and farewells will be held even earlier next year with the period selected being *24th to 26th March*. It is requested that everyone put the dates in their diary.

# CO & RSM Appointments

## Unit Command

The Head of Regiment wishes to advise the Chief of Army's recent announcement of new Royal Australian Artillery command appointments for 2011 (17th January 2011):

- Lieutenant Colonel A.M. Haebich - 8th/12th Medium Regiment
- Lieutenant Colonel R.A. Vagg - Air Land Regiment (2012)
- Lieutenant Colonel M.R.C. Kennedy - School of Artillery

The Head of Regiment wishes to advise the Chief of Army's recent announcement of new Royal Australian Artillery Regimental RSM appointments for 2011 (17th January 2011):

- Warrant Officer Class One P.T. Washford - Regimental Master Gunner
- Warrant Officer Class One M.J. Sullivan - 1st Field Regiment
- Warrant Officer Class One C.W. Mayfield - 8th/12th Medium Regiment
- Warrant Officer Class One R.E. Andersen - 20th Surveillance & Target Acquisition Regiment

The Head of Regiment wishes to advise the Chief of Army's recent announcement that the following Regimental RSM have been selected to attend the Command, Leadership and Management and single service component of the Australian Command and Staff Courses and their subsequent RSM appointments:

- Warrant Officer Class One M.I. Johnson - RSM LWC
- Warrant Officer Class One D.R. Lehr - SI WO& NCO Detachment NQ
- Warrant Officer Class One R.J. Torney - AHQ

The Head of Regiment would like to congratulate, on behalf of all ranks of the Royal Regiment, the nominated officers and warrant officers on their new appointments.

# DOCM-A

Major James Kerr  
Career Advisor Artillery

I hope that those of you who received Posting Orders are happy with where they are off to and are looking forward to the challenges that 2011 will bring. As usual, there will be some of you who have concerns with the current plan and I will be working to find better solutions if possible for the next few weeks.

Now is the time for the Career Advisor Group to produce individual and tailored plans for your careers in the form of Annual Career Guidance (ACG). I will be paying close attention to:

- Any contractual arrangements, cohort and pay issues.
- Course completion requirements.
- A plan for the next five years that meets your desires and the service need.
- Feedback on your milestones, pathways and competitiveness.
- Information about any upcoming Personnel Advisory Committees (PAC).
- PAR concerns.

**Please note:** Lieutenants do not receive ACGs.

Remember, your course completion is an individual responsibility. You must nominate for the relevant course through your unit using PMKeyS. As always, many of these courses are over-subscribed so expect to be wait-listed initially until priorities are confirmed.

---

*To repeat my message of last year, I cannot over-emphasize the importance of the PARs ...*

---

To repeat my message of last year, I cannot over-emphasize the importance of the PARs to the processes carried out at DOCM-A (especially the PAC). Whether you are writing or receiving a report, it is vital that the maximum care is taken with report construction, and its subsequent arrival in Canberra. Make an effort to ensure reports are signed correctly in every area, and then sent to DOCM-A in 'e-copy' and in its original hard-copy form. The email address is docmpar@defence.gov.au.

Remember to use the DOCM-A website for information about deployment opportunities. There are many options for captains and majors to deploy, but I need your chain of command to release you. If you think you can be released at some point then let me know so that we can come up with a plan for an individual rotation.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that my replacement at DOCM-A in 2011 will be Major Nicholas Wilson, who is currently studying at Staff College. Rest assured that he and I will be conducting a detailed handover at the end of the year. I will be remaining at DOCM-A, but taking over the psc major portfolio in 2011. I look forward to continued engagement with those officers next year.

---

# SCMA

*Captain Rob Ryan  
Warrant Officer Class One Brett Franklin*

## Introduction

2010 has once again proven to be a hectic year and one that has seen the RAA implement significant changes that will reshape the way we operate in the coming years. From a Career Management perspective, SCMA has been confronted with numerous challenges across a spectrum of issues. In recent times SCMA has fostered and facilitated numerous retention initiatives in order to maintain a competent and competitive work force. These initiatives have been successful to a point where the work force is now over established. This in itself has been challenging and coupled with the RAA Force Modernisation Review, the Regiment is well postured for the future. The end of the year is fast approaching and I wish to take a few moments in order to extend a warm thanks to those that have supported SCMA's efforts and re-affirm some key matters in relation to personnel management. However, as a prelude, let us examine the year in brief from a career management perspective.

Initially, the Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) cleared 29 RAA soldiers for promotion across all ranks and trades. Approximately 250 posting orders were issued, this figure was significantly increased due to the relocation of 'A' Battery to

Brisbane and the establishment of an 8/12 element in Edinburgh. Career guidance interviews were completed in all major localities, with all members demonstrating an active interest in the new trade structures. There are currently significant numbers of RAA soldiers deployed in all theatres of operations, and likewise posted to high profile appointments both within Australia and overseas. Thus in review, the year although extremely busy has been challenging yet rewarding.

---

*There are currently significant numbers of RAA soldiers deployed in all theatres of operations, and likewise posted to high profile appointments both within Australia and overseas.*

---

## Notable Achievements

Congratulations needs to be extended to all those soldiers who were successful in clearing the PAC for promotion in 2011. The standard was very competitive at every rank and trade.

I would also like to congratulate Warrant Officer Class Two Paul Boswell in being awarded the Distinguish Service Medal (DSM) as part of the 2010 Queens Birthday Honours List. He was awarded the DSM for distinguished leadership in action whilst deployed with the 29th Commando Regiment, United Kingdom, on Operation Herrick.

## Career Management Cycle (TBC)

Please use the following time line for planning purposes:

*Personnel Advisory Committee:*

- RSM PAC November 2010 (Regimental WO1 across Army)
- WO1 PAC March 2011 (for target rank Regt WO1)
- WO2 PAC April 2011 (for target rank of WO2)
- SGT PAC April 2011 (for target rank of SGT)

*Postings - NLT Aug 11*

*Unit Visits/interviews - Jul/Aug/Sep/Oct 11*

*Please note: Units should look to visit SCMA post 25 Apr 11.*

## Key Issues

2011 promises to be equally as challenging for the RAA. The following issues deserve special mention:

- *Empowering the Soldier.* SCMA has tasked you, the soldier, to take ownership of your career. The responsibility for effective career management lies as much with you, the individual, as the career manager, and you must take all opportunities and support mechanisms to assist in achieving your goals. Notably, you need to ensure that you submit an Electronic Preferences and Restrictions (EPAR) on PMKeyS Self Service whenever your personal circumstances / preferences change. This keeps the career manager up to date and informed when making decisions about your career. Instructions for its use are maintained on the SCMA web site.
- *Career Courses.* To grow Army, develop our people and enhance our work force soldiers must attend career courses. The way to achieve this is through early and continuous engagement with the career manager to ensure they have a clear understanding of the impact of operations and personal circumstances of your soldiers so that a pathway can be agreed. With the current tempo that exists amongst the units it is important that our soldiers are panelled as early as possible or when an existing window appears, in order to minimise any delays in career progression. In consultation with the career manager, units can then agree on the best window to get the soldier qualified. By removing the 'just in time' approach we will achieve better results. Next year will see the implementation of ab-initio entry in to the 254 and 255 trades. This will see the implementation of the new RAA training structures for all three offensive support trades.
- *Chief of Army.* The chief of Army is clear in his intent to ensure that training establishments (including ARTC, RMC and SOARTY) are manned to the best possible level. Although the RAA is deficient at the rank of sergeant, this years PAC and PPC has significantly reduced the vacancies at this rank level. Even though we do have some vacancies at sergeant level it does not lessen our responsibilities in providing necessary support. As per the RAA Employment Specifications, all personnel from bombardier to warrant officer class two should expect several training appointments/non-corps postings throughout their career. Be realistic in your expectations. Such postings raise your profile when striving for promotion. In what is becoming a very

competitive environment, it is even more critical that soldiers embrace both the training and non-corps appointments in order to enhance their profiles and inturn be more competitive.

- *Unrestricted Service.* Once again, we must reinforce the requirement for unrestricted service. Last year's message remains extant: Our 1st Division ARA units are in Australia's north, and the training establishments/non-corps appointments are generally in the south. As a non commissioned officer, senior non commissioned officer and warrant officer, you will be required to uplift in order to meet the needs of the Service as outlined above. If you refuse to post stating that it is not possible due to a range of factors (the normal ones include home ownership, wife's employment, family network, undesired locality), you are providing restricted service, and your personal needs no longer meet those of Army. At times, this creates unfavourable friction and will inevitably end with separation. Read DI (A) PERS 36-3. The inherent requirements of service in the Australian Defence Force are well described.

## Incoming CM RAA

In conclusion, I would like to wish my replacement CAPT Adrian Bucci, who is currently posted as an instructor at the Royal Military College - Duntroon, all the best for what I have found to be a very demanding but rewarding job. Finally, I would like to thank WO1 Brett Franklin for his efforts this year, his guidance and advice has been greatly appreciated. I wish you and your families a very happy festive season and a safe return for 2011.



# Change for the best

By Barry Rollings

The Strategic Reform Program offer Army a tremendous opportunity to transform for the better, according to DCA Maj-Gen Paul Symon.

Maj-Gen Symon told Army (HQ) personnel at the Australian Defence Force Academy on April 21 to treat the Army "Like we own it, because we do".

He said SRP was a reinvestment program, not a cost-cutting exercise. Of the \$20.6 billion that would be reinvested in capability over the next decade, Army's share would be \$3 billion.

"It is not about simple cost-cutting or doing more with less - Army capability remains central during reform," he said.

"Cost reductions will follow if clever initiatives are encouraged and managed with goodwill and common sense. The reforms will improve our efficiency and free up funds for reinvestment in capability.

"It took courage from CA to commit to \$3 billion savings in Army and it takes a fair bit of trust in work we have been doing over the past few years that we have thought through how we will change."

With the implementation phase imminent, he was confident Army had "jumped in the drivers seat" on reform.

He said it would be important to generate innovation and ideas from the bottom up, and not to drive initiatives from the top down.

"Reform will free up resources. We don't want to cut and paste the procedures we have used in the past," he said. "This means Army will need good ideas from its people, as detailed



Time for change: DCA Maj-Gen Paul Symon speaks to Army HQ personnel about strategic reform plans  
Photo by Grace Costa

in CA's Order of the Day on SRP Implementation of March 31."

"This is about building a better Army. We must use all our resources wisely and live within our means. Those resources include our people's knowledge and experience."

Examples of Defence-wide cost saving initiatives that Maj-Gen Symon cited were the proposed new super bases, reducing numbers of logistic warehouses 21 to seven mega warehouses, and a recent decision to issue and use 10,000 sets of old DPCU clothing instead of disposing of them.

He said real opportunity lay in the way localised reform could be linked to localised benefits. Where people and units see logical ways to improve their workplace, they should be able to have a go at it and be recognised for success.

"All members have a vital role to play in looking at how we work and

finding ways to do things smarter and better," Maj-Gen Symon said.

"If the SRP is to deliver benefits to Army, we must all take responsibility for the effective and efficient use of Defence resources. Army's business processes must generate military capability efficiently to deliver value for investment the Australian people make in their Army.

'Army', May 13, 2010

## DATE CLAIMER

Regimental Warrant Officer & Senior Non-commissioned Officer Farewells  
Saturday 26th March 2011

For details see page 3.

# History & Heritage

## Launceston Volunteer Artillery Company 150th Anniversary Dinner

*The Hon. Peter Underwood, AC  
Governor of Tasmania*

Saturday 17th July 2010

Thank you for inviting me along to this dinner this evening to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the formation of a citizens' volunteer militia force in Launceston.

---

*... the first public meeting called  
to set this new organisation up  
was held on 5th May 1860.*

---

As I expect most of you know, the first public meeting called to set this new organisation up was held on 5th May 1860. A fascinating report of this meeting, published in the Examiner newspaper three days after the event is published in Mr Douglas Wyatt's book, 'Tasmanian Colonial Artillery'<sup>1</sup>. The decision was to form the Launceston Citizens Volunteer Rifle Corps. The Examiner reported that the meeting was very well attended and set out some of the Rules for the Corps that were adopted. It was agreed that there would be a parade and drill twice a week, each not exceeding one hour. Another rule, one that you might think still resonates today, was that 'The Corps was not to

serve afloat or outside the northern Division of Tasmania, [ie] north of 42 degrees of latitude which passes between Campbell Town and Ross.'

It is difficult for us to imagine the circumstances as they existed in Launceston 150 years ago. Don't forget that the Federation of the States of Australia and the vesting of the Defence power in the Commonwealth were then more than 40 years away, and each of the separate colonies was on its own so far as Defence was concerned. Because of its position as an island Tasmania perhaps felt even more alone than the other colonies. The Crimean War had just ended and according to Mr Wyatt<sup>2</sup> there followed a movement right across the British Empire to form up volunteer Defence Forces. This movement was given impetus in Tasmania by the enactment on 22nd October 1858 of the Volunteer Act, or according to its long title, 'An Act to authorise the Formation of Volunteer Corps in Tasmania and the Regulation thereof.' In the quaint language of the day, section 12 of the Act provided:

*'In all cases of actual invasion of the Colony or hostile or predatory attack or of imminent danger thereof all such Corps of Volunteers shall whenever they are summoned by the Governor [those were the good old days!] or upon the making by order of the Government of any general signal of attack, forthwith assemble and shall be liable to march or embark on board a ship or otherwise according to the terms and conditions of their respective services ....'*

The Act then went on to provide in effect, that until "the enemy is defeated and expelled" the volunteers would be subject to all the Imperial Acts and laws in force in times of war. So the Launceston Citizens Volunteer Rifle Corps was formed under this Act but had a short life. Before a month had passed since its formation the secretary of the

1. 'Tasmanian Colonial Artillery - 1803 - 1903' Douglas Morris Wyatt RFD ISBN 0-646-43765-8 at page 8.  
2. Supra at 7.

Corps received a commission from the Colonial Secretary accepting the offer of service of the Corps but suggesting that it add artillery practice to its drill and named a suitable instructor who lived in Launceston. The Colonial Secretary even sent the Corps a book on artillery drill. The Royal Engineer promised to send a 32 pounder gun to Launceston and the Rifle Corps became so enthused by all this that on 6th June 1860 it decided to change its name to Launceston Volunteer Artillery Company. Forty-five persons took the oath of allegiance that day<sup>3</sup> and so began an unbroken period of 150 years of volunteer service.

This change of heart from riflemen to gunners made me think of World War I and the man who was flying in his hot air balloon and realized that he was lost. He reduced height and spotted a man down below.

He lowered the balloon a bit more and shouted, 'Excuse me, can you tell me where I am?'

The man below said, 'Yes, you're in a hot air balloon, hovering 30 feet above this field.'

'You must be an artillery officer,' said the balloonist. 'I am,' replied the man. 'How did you know?'

'Well,' said the balloonist, 'everything you have told me is technically correct, but it's of no use to anyone.'

The Artillery Officer said, 'Then you must be an infantry man.' 'How did you know that?' replied the balloonist.

'Well,' said the Artillery Officer, 'you don't know where you are, or where you're going, but you expect me to be able to help.' 'You're in the same position you were in before we met, but now it's my fault.'

According to an account by Sir George Crawford<sup>4</sup>, consistent with the aims of the Volunteer Act the Government supported the Volunteer Corps, including the Launceston Artillery, by the provision of arms, uniforms and the like but whether this support included payment for services is not clear to me. However, at all events, as is the way with governments, between 1870 and 1878 it was decided that the State could not afford to continue with this support. Sir George reported that,

'Although numbers fell away to about 25, the Launceston Artillery [continued] to hold regular drills and fired the annual salutes on Windmill Hill, hauling the guns there by manpower to fire punctually at noon.' Graeme E. Petterwood, a past serving member of 6th. Field Regiment, RAA reports<sup>5</sup>:

*'In 1875 the Hobart Town Artillery Company was ordered to disband, but the Launceston Volunteer Artillery, who had consolidated their personnel and had still continued to train and fire their salutes, was allowed to continue by virtue of Governor Francis Aloysius Weld's solicitation to the Tasmanian Parliament. Amongst Battery members this period, between 1870 - 1878, was known as 'The Winter of Neglect'.*

In 1878 the fortunes of the volunteer forces were reversed when a general increase was ordered and support for these forces renewed. The Launceston Artillery increased its strength from about 25 to around 80. In a report to the Parliament on 1st January 1899 by the Commanding Officer of the Tasmanian Forces, it was stated with respect to the Launceston Artillery that:

'...[it] numbers 88 and maintains its former good standard of efficiency, both as regards officers and men. The men are carefully drilled and instructed, but their technical knowledge will be more up to date after the advent of the new instructor who will be especially useful in assisting to carry out the long postponed part organisation of this corps into field artillery. This has always been the role proposed and approved of for the Launceston Artillery.'<sup>6</sup>

---

*Since its formation in 1860 the  
Launceston Artillery has  
undergone ...*

---

In his March 1901 report to the Tasmanian Parliament Commandant Colonel Legge stated the Launceston Artillery had increased its strength to 118 and that it 'maintains its usual efficiency at drill and always turns out strongly at my inspections.'<sup>7</sup> I have to say however that he did add, 'The physique of a few of the men is not quite as good as I should wish!!!!' Immediately following this report the Defence Forces of Tasmania came under the

3. 'The Launceston Artillery.' A paper written by Sir George Crawford and presented to the Royal Society of Tasmania (Northern Branch) on 5th June 1970, at page 7.

4. Supra at 10

5. See: [http://www.vision.net.au/~pwood/6th\\_field.htm](http://www.vision.net.au/~pwood/6th_field.htm)

6. Wyatt supra at 87.

7. Supra at 95.

control of the Commonwealth following federation.

Since its formation in 1860 the Launceston Artillery has undergone a bewilderingly large number of name changes, often reflecting the changing nature of warfare. It has never fought as a unit but virtually all its members have served their country in conflicts in which Australia has been involved. It has never disbanded and has a proud tradition of volunteerism. This unique state of affairs brings us together this evening to celebrate an Australian record - 150 unbroken years of Artillery service in Northern Tasmania. This record stands as a shining beacon of encouragement to Volunteer Citizen Military Service, today and into the future.

---

## Customs and Traditions

*Provided by Christopher Jobson  
Former RSM Ceremonial & Protocol Army  
Author of RAA Customs and Traditions; and  
'Looking Forward, Looking Back'  
Customs and Traditions of the Australia Army*

### Slouch Hat

The story of the Hat Khaki Fur Felt (the Slouch Hat) goes back to 1885, to the Victorian Mounted Rifles. The Commanding Officer, Colonel Tom Price, had his soldiers turn up the right-hand side of the hat so that his troops, when marching past on ceremonial parades could (to quote the book) 'look the inspecting officer in the eye'. The style was picked up by the remainder of the Australian colonial armies in 1890. In time, the sides changed with the brim being turned up on the left to assist in small arms drill.

The hat's puggaree takes its name from the Hindu 'pagre' meaning a turban or thin scarf of muslin. The puggaree was worn around the hat, sometimes falling down behind to keep the sun off the neck. It has in time been worn on the Slouch Hat in many forms. However, during The Great War a plain khaki cloth band was worn and this style continued until 1929. In 1930, new puggarees were introduced with different coloured folds denoting Arms or Services. During the Second World War a flat puggaree was issued to the 2nd AIF. However, the troops serving in the Middle East introduced a

folded puggaree as a distinguishing mark of active service. In time, this style has become the puggaree of today (it's said that the seven folds in the current puggaree represent the six States and the territories of Australia; well, it's a nice story anyway).

---

*The hat's puggaree takes its name from the Hindu 'pagre' meaning a turban or thin scarf of muslin.*

---

The Hat's chin strap is worn with the buckle on the left-hand side, and in line with the mouth. The cadets at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, however, wear the straps on their hats back-to-front. This custom goes back to the death of Major General Sir William Bridges at Gallipoli in 1915. Bridges was the founder of the College and it is said that when he was shot he had his hat on back-to-front; in respect, the cadets at the College turned their hats around. Today, cadets at the College wear the hat correctly; however, the chin strap is attached with the buckle on the right-hand side of the face.

### Berets

The origin of the beret goes back to the latter days of The Great War.

During a British Army Tank Corps dinner, held at Bernicourt in 1917, a discussion was held by some officers with regard to what type of uniform the new Corps would wear with the coming of peace. It was decided to adopt the 'beret Basque' which was, at the time, being worn by the Chars d'Assault (the French tank regiment). The opinion was that the beret, which was black, hid oil stains and was considerably more practical for use with tanks than the khaki peaked cap or the leather helmet. After some debate, a recommendation was put forward to, and approved by, His Majesty King George V in March 1924.

---

*The opinion was that the beret, which was black, hid oil stains and was considerably more practical for use with tanks than the khaki peaked cap or the leather helmet.*

---

The Australian Army then adopted the beret and its general duty beret colour is dark blue and is worn by a number of corps', including the Royal

Regiment of Australian Artillery. A number of corps' and units adopted other colours for their berets; these are Rifle Green (Royal Australian Regiment), fawn (Special Air Service Regiment), Sherwood Green (the commandos), dull cherry (airborne), scarlet (Military Police), Slate Grey (Nursing Corps) and light blue (worn by both the Aviation Corps and by soldiers on United Nations operations).

*Editors Note: Berets are no longer an authorised form of headdress in the Australian Army except for Special Operations Command.*

### Peak Caps

The Service Dress Cap (the peaked cap) was introduced in 1902 and over the years it has gone through a number of changes with regard to its shape and size (most notably in 1911 and again in 1925). It is now generally accepted that in the Australian Army it was only worn by commissioned officers and warrant officers; however, up until the end of The Great War it was a general duty item of dress and was worn by all ranks (it is generally agreed that at Gallipoli more Australian soldiers wore the peaked cap than the Slouch Hat).

*Editors Note: The peak cap is no longer an authorised form of headwear in the Australian Army.*

### Helmet Ball

The white helmet worn by Artillery bands is the same as that worn by the Australian Army Band Corps; however, whereas the helmet of the Band Corps is topped with a metal spike, the Gunners' helmet has a rounded metal ball.

After the defeat of the French by Germany in the Franco-Prussian War of 1871 the British Army adopted the German 'Picklehaube' helmet as an item of headdress. The helmet had a spike on its top; however, this caused problems when the gunners were tightening the girths of their horses as the spike would, at times, stick into the horses' sides. In 1881 the Gunners removed the spike from the helmet, to overcome this problem, and replaced it with the ball. The ceremonial helmet of the Gunners still has the ball on its top.

### Regimental Badge

The Royal Australian Artillery was formed on 24th August 1899 from the regular army artillery units of the Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland colonies. In 1903 it adopted as its badge a multi-flamed grenade bearing a circular strap with the inscription Royal Australian Artillery; within the strap was the Royal Cypher of King Edward VII. In

1911, with the death of Edward, the Cypher was replaced with that of King George V.

In 1913 the Royal Australian Artillery adopted a badge based on that of the Royal Artillery; the badge contained the 9 pounder RML (rifled muzzle-loader) gun and two scrolls, and was surmounted with the Crown; the motto on the upper scroll (above the gun) was Ubique (Everywhere), however, the lower scroll contained both the motto *Consensu Stabiles* (Firm and Steadfast) and the title Australia. The badge remained in service until 1942.

During both The Great War and the Second World War all Australian soldiers wore the badge of the Australian Commonwealth Military Forces (commonly referred to as the Rising Sun). With the end of the Second World War gunners continued to wear the Rising Sun badge until 1949.

In 1949 His Majesty King George VI granted the Royal Australian Artillery (which now, since 1936, included the militia) the badge of the Royal Regiment of Artillery. The design of the badge's Crown was based on the Imperial Crown (commonly, but incorrectly, referred to as the 'King's Crown'); it was approved by both King George V and King George VI to be worn on badges during their relevant reigns.

In 1954, with the ascent of Queen Elizabeth II to the Throne in 1952, the badge's design changed slightly; the new Crown was one based on the St Edward's Crown (commonly referred to as the 'Queen's Crown').

The official description of the Regiment's badge is:

*A 9 pounder RML (rifled muzzle loader) with rammer; above, a scroll bearing both the Regimental Battle Honour and motto UBIQUE (EVERYWHERE) surmounted by the Crown. Below, a scroll inscribed with the Regiment's second motto QUO FAS ET GLORIA DUCUNT (WHITHER RIGHT AND GLORY LEAD).*

---

### Notice

Chris Jobson welcomes questions on customs and traditions.

Should you have a question or general enquiry contact Chris via his email address [ctjobbo@gmail.com](mailto:ctjobbo@gmail.com)

# RAAHC Report

Mr Kevin Browning  
Chairman RAAHC

The past year has been a difficult period once again for the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company (RAAHC) resulting in some very tough decisions having to be made. As a result the Board considered it was time to review the position of the Company and I will discuss that later as it is appropriate to report on the period 2009/2010 first.

## Cafe

In July 2009 the RAAHC was required by Army History Unit (AHU) policy to hand over all gate takings received at the Museum for use in the Museum. This money had previously been used to support the position of an Office Manager. Attempts to cover the shortfall by increased Cafe revenue were unsuccessful and as a result the RAAHC decided to cease operation of the cafe on 14th February 2009 and terminate the services of the Office Manager.

*They see the need for a cafe at North Fort and have committed \$500,000 to upgrade the building and have advertised the site for tender.*

As a result the AHU has now taken on responsibilities previously coordinated by the RAAHC including managing volunteers, collection of gate takings, banking and bookings. The building which housed the café has been handed over to the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (SHFT), the landlord for the whole Museum site. They see the need for a cafe at North Fort and have committed \$500,000 to upgrade the building and have advertised the site for tender. This is expected to open for business in October. Whilst the loss of the building is disappointing the upgrade of the cafe should be beneficial as an attraction to the site.

We need to acknowledge the work done by the Cafe staff and Office Manager over the last few years in trying to make the process a success. The limitations placed on operations contributed to making the results expected from the café difficult to achieve.

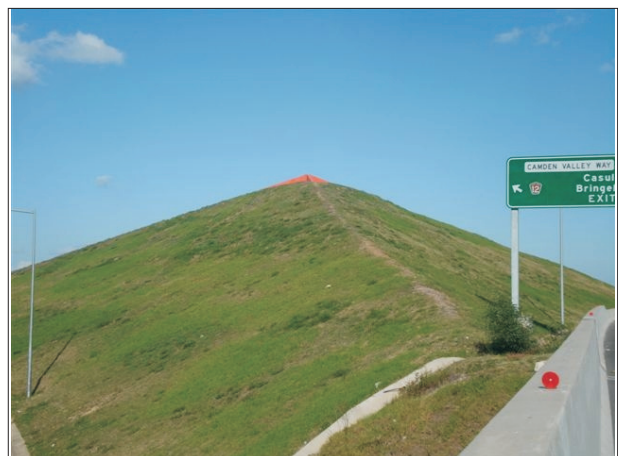
## Memorial Walkway

The sale of pavers in the Memorial Walkway has slowed in the past year and has delayed its completion and dedication. To date 58 centre pavers and 3587 pavers have been laid, resulting in a total of \$235,665 being provided to support North Fort. We require a further \$8000 to complete the memorials with plaques and provide funds for the dedication ceremony. Once funding is clearer we will advise the date when the dedication of the Memorial walk will be held. The RAAHC is especially grateful to Terry Waters and Gerry Butler for the outstanding work they have done throughout the year and also to all those who have assisted along the way.

## 9.2 Inch Gun

The battery at North Fort containing two 9.2-inch coast defence guns with its essential equipment cost £300,000 (\$600,000) to construct in 1935. Each gun was worth £80,000 (\$160,000). These guns were declared obsolete and disposed of in 1962 as scrap. It is interesting to note the basis upon which the income from disposed was calculated. 'Bearing in mind the current (Dec 59) prices of scrap steel are £4 (\$8) per ton, and those for scrap bronze and brass are 1/6 (15 cents) and 1/2 (12 cents) per pound respectively, delivered to dealers, the total return for gun and mounting which could be reasonably expected, is of the order of £1,400 (\$2,800)'.

For several years now attempts have been made to replace a gun and a possible source has now been identified. Thanks to the Minister of Defence we have been able to open initial discussions. There have been problems progressing the acquisition but we have now obtained an interested party who have indicated their support in funding the acquisition. At about 211 tonnes it is a major undertaking but if successful will add enormously to the North Head attraction.



Proposed location of the 25 Pounder at the Junction of the M5 and M7 Motorways

## Sir Roden Cutler, VC Memorial Interchange

The interchange at the junction of the M5 (road from Canberra) and M7 (ring road west of Sydney) motorways has now been named the Sir Roden Cutler, VC Memorial interchange. The Remembrance Driveway Committee now wish to place a 25 Pounder gun on top of the earthen mound at the crossroads to acknowledge its connection to Artillery.

Their initial request to Defence for a gun was unsuccessful and they asked the RAAHC for assistance. As a result the Chief of Army has now advised a gun is available and recommended the Remembrance Driveway Committee write to the Minister of Defence. This has been done and a reply is awaited.

## Brochure

The RAAHC has been working with the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority and NSW Heritage Office to produce a limited print and online brochure highlighting the various forts around Sydney. A grant for \$20,000 has been obtained from the Heritage Office and requires a \$ for \$ contribution, that is, a \$40,000 project. The bulk of the contribution will be in-kind with any monetary contribution coming from the other partners. What is particularly pleasing is the importance, seen by all those involved, of the museum at North Fort as evident by the following from the draft brochure:

*'If your main interest is military history, rather than simply great places and views, you should consider either starting or finishing your itinerary with the North Fort Museum.'*

## Heritage Listings

Members of the RAAHC have been active assisting with heritage listings of important sites and items relevant to the history and heritage of artillery in Australia. Two guns at Deniliquin were nominated for listing, the 1854 fort at Bradleys Head in Sydney, Bowensfels 3.7 inch anti aircraft station near Lithgow, Tomaree Point emplacements, Wollongong Harbour have all been nominated.

## Research

Company volunteers have undertaken research for individuals and organisations during the year. Ex-gunners and their families often seek details of equipments, units and locations for claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs and family history.



Deniliquin NSW. 75 mm Field Gun Model 1904  
Restored by their Volunteers with Advice from  
RAAHC

Information has also been provided to assist with heritage nominations. Assistance has also been provided to the National Library of Australia and the Australian Defence Force Academy. The latter requested information for a study they are conducting on the Battle of Long Tan. We provided details of the battery locations, dead ground traces and other details to explain the gunner contribution. Their reply says it all:

*'From Dr Bob Hall, the team and myself this is just a short note to thank you and the team. Thanks very much for the information about artillery and the Battle of Long Tan received by mail yesterday. We are blown away (to use a pun) by the extent and accuracy of the data you've given us. You have put in an impressive effort on our behalf for which we are very grateful. Thanks very much for the effort you've put into answering our questions. It has and will make our job much easier. We wish all the agencies we had made enquiries with were as diligent and thorough as you are.'*

Assistance has also been provided to the RAAHS (WA), Fort Scratchley at Newcastle, the RAA History Sub Committee and other Gunner institutions and we have enjoyed support in return.

## Volunteers

Volunteers at North Fort have been active during the year accessioning and restoring items in the collection. Volunteers are not required to be members of the RAAHC to assist and many are not. The Locating Artillery Association and 19 LAA Association provide very valuable support. Among a number of items, the 18 pounder gun, 3.7 inch mobile AA gun, 20 pounder Armstrong RBL gun, 75 mm minenwerfer, two 150 cm searchlights, 20 mm Type 98 Japanese AA gun and No 6 Bofors Blitz wagon have been restored or are presently undergoing restoration. The work undertaken by volunteers should not be judged simply in hours provided but more accurately in dollars saved. Had the work undertaken by volunteers been conducted through commercial avenues they would have cost in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

20 Pounder RML (Armstrong) gun has been removed for restoration. The breech screw that had been rusted in place for over 40 years has been freed and missing parts being manufactured. This naval version of the gun will have a carriage built to authentic specifications.

## Membership

Membership of the RAAHC has been steady over the year but is well short of where we would like it to be. The attraction of a historical organization to serving members is probably low but we must encourage all our soldiers to participate and a special effort be made at the time of their separation. We also need to encourage ex-serving gunners and their families to join. The cost of membership is low but may be a deterrent to some. We have therefore reviewed our annual subscription to separate the cost of the Historical Journal 'Cannonball' from membership fees. So you can be a member for \$10 but we do encourage subscribing to Cannonball for a further \$25. There is strength in numbers in the bargaining arena and when trying to obtain Government funding.

The RAAHC has contributed greatly to the RAA over the years through its work with the Museum and in its other activities. The value of the collection and volunteer support provided totals into the millions from which the RAA has benefited not just at present but into the future. Members assist with this enterprise simply by being a member. Those who can provide additionally with their time make the tasks easier.

## Cannonball

The Journal of the RAA continues to provide valuable insights into the history and heritage of the RAA and we especially acknowledge the contribution of its Editor Alan Smith. Unfortunately the changes in funding arrangements with Defence has prevented us from continuing with the free copies to units and selected formations. Somehow we need to correct this lack of contact with the Regiment on heritage issues so that not only can we learn from the past but also through articles and information from present activities.

---

*The cost of membership is low but may be a deterrent to some. We have therefore reviewed our annual subscription to separate the cost of the Historical Journal 'Cannonball' from membership fees.*

---

Production costs of printing are increasing but then the cost of postage has to be added. Postage represents nearly a third of the costs and that has just increased further with the recently introduced postage rates. We are open to suggestions on how we can improve availability of our Journal. The Board has decided to reduce the number of issues from four to three per year but increase content so the outcome should remain the same. We hope you understand the difficulties involved.

## Collection Ownership

When the RAAHS was formed in 1981 it set about acquiring a wide range of gunner heritage items. This collection was then transferred to the RAAHC and in recent time it was found much of the collection had been incorrectly entered in the Museum system as belonging to the Commonwealth. The Company has been in positive discussion with Headquarters AHU to clarify details. It would appear we have moved forward on this matter and we are presently awaiting a final agreement. Whilst the Company is the legal owner we now need to ensure the collection is protected for the benefit of the Regiment and the Australian community.

Whilst every item in the collection is valuable in the Gunner story, and some items are unique or rare, the biggest asset is the library with its books, papers, photos and maps, etc. A great deal of work is required to make these records more readily accessible to researchers. This would have the

added value of making the collection more attractive to those wishing to donate material.

Two years ago the Collection was assessed as 'Significant to the Australian Nation'. This year a Conservation Report identified where the Museum is doing things well and where we need to improve. Both these reports open the Collection to increased funding.

---

*The Board is recommending that the RAAHC revert back to being an organisation focussed on Australian Artillery heritage and history on a national basis.*

---

### **The Future**

In 1981 the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society (RAAHS) was established with the following objectives:

*To foster and maintain the history of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery.*

*To collect, acquire, preserve and display forts, sites, weapons and other material that relate to the history of the Australian Artillery.*

*To prepare and publish articles, documents and magazines on subjects of historical interest and provide a source of reference and historical record for approved institutions, societies or individuals.*

*To identify places and weapons that may be considered suitable for inclusion in the National Estate and to advise the appropriate authority of the details of such places and weapons.*

To make arrangements for the administration and control of property acquired by, given to, or bequeathed to the Society.

When the School of Artillery moved to Puckapunyal in 1998 the RAAHS was asked to oversee the operation of the museum and a permanent member of the RAA was made available to assist. A short time later the AHU was raised with the responsibility to manage all the Army museums. At this time the AHU asked the volunteer organizations at each museum to form as a company as a means of overcoming financial restrictions and volunteer protection. As a result the RAAHS changed to become the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company (RAAHC) and assets of the RAAHS were transferred to the RAAHC. The RAAHC was created as a company limited by guarantee and its Constitution has the following Object:

*'The only objects for which the Company is established are the charitable objects of providing money property and other benefits to the Museum in the manner set out below and in such other manner as may be requested by the Museum and agreed to by the Company.'*

In recent times the restrictions placed on Army that required the foundation of the Company to support the Museum have changed and volunteers no longer are required to be members of the RAAHC to be covered for insurance. Since February the fee which was due to the RAAHC (as defined in the operating agreement) has been retained by AHU. The Museum continues to prosper and the RAAHC now finds itself with no worthwhile Object. The Board has sought advice and looked at a number of options for the future of the RAAHC. The Board is recommending that the RAAHC revert back to being an organisation focussed on Australian Artillery heritage and history on a national basis. To that end it is proposed that the Objects of the organisation (subject to member endorsement) will be changed to (final wording but not intent may change):

*Establish, maintain and conduct a charitable society to enable members to foster, develop and maintain the heritage of artillery in Australia.*

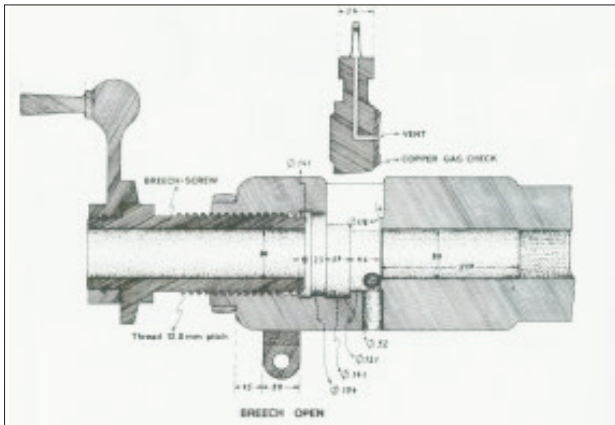
*To promote all aspects of the traditions, history and heritage of artillery in Australia and consider guidance advice from the Regimental Committee of the Royal Australian Artillery.*

It will be necessary for RAAHC to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Defence to protect the collection of the Company, including the library, and allow its continued use at the Museum. Of course all of this will need your, the members, agreement and will be tabled at the annual general meeting or an extraordinary general meeting. Hopefully we will achieve the former. Your involvement is essential.

The RAA Regimental Committee supports the refocus of the RAAHC back to a national organisation that supports the history and heritage of Australian artillery. The RAA Representative Colonel Commandant and our Patron has issued a statement to this effect that is being distributed widely.

This will be a dramatic shift and it is critical that new Board members take up the challenge. It is my intention to step down as Chairman to clear the way for a new direction. I wish to thank the members of the Board during the year, Ian Taylor, Jeff Evans, Nick Durrant and Terry Waters for their

support and efforts. Also to Alan Smith and Schon Condon for their contributions as Associate Directors. A special thank you to Graeme Hall for all the work he has done in making sense of the financials. Lastly but certainly not least to our Honorary's Jeff Madden, John Elliot, Bill Neill and Colin Dunston.



20 Pounder RML (Armstrong) gun has been removed for restoration. The breech screw that had been rusted in place for over 40 years has been freed and missing parts being manufactured. This naval version of the gun will have a carriage built to authentic specifications

We do not see our actions impacting in any negative way upon the Museum at North Fort. Support where required will be continued.

---

*It is my intention to step down as Chairman to clear the way for a new direction.*

---

It is with regret we learnt of the passing of Major General John Whitelaw AO, CBE (Retd). He was undoubtedly the driving force behind the establishment of the RAAHS and continued to be a very strong supporter for all endeavours.

# Draft North Head Management Plan

## Cultural History (Page 87)

An important component of the sanctuary will be the facilities to present the 'human history' of the site, and the past uses of North Head. This will include the Aboriginal heritage, the defence and military heritage and the quarantine history.

The significant heritage values of the site will be protected, conserved and interpreted. This includes the conservation of the buildings and structures relating to the Quarantine Reserve, the World War II Defence period and the School of Artillery, particularly the 3rd Quarantine Cemetery, the Art Deco Barracks Complex, North Fort and the remaining structures from Fortress Sydney. It is proposed that the institutional and campus-like character of the site is retained and enhanced, and the connection of the site to other surrounding sites on North Head is interpreted.

The fortifications and remaining structures from the World War II period will be the focus of defence history. The linkages between North Fort and the Barracks will be an important component of the interpretation program as will the link between the former Defence lands and surrounding lands now managed by other agencies which once formed part of the Fortress Sydney.

## Design Outcomes (Page 89)

There are three main precincts defined by the clusters of buildings that made up the fortifications complex. They are:

- The North Fort Precinct, made up of the buildings and fortifications at the southern end, associated with the operations of the fortifications.
- The Parade Ground Precinct, made up of the core area of the former School of Artillery at the northern end, grouped around the former Parade Ground.
- The Sheds Precinct, made up of the service sheds built primarily along the road connecting the other two precincts, above.

## The Parade Ground Precinct (Page 91)

The former Artillery School has a cohesive character given by the formal grouping of

restrained, art deco buildings around the parade ground and the garden-like setting. It is also very institutional, inward looking and un-welcoming for visitors. This is consistent with it being an Army base, but at odds with the objectives of opening it up to maximise public access. Access to it via the curved drive from North Head Scenic Drive to the Gate House reinforces its sense of isolation. The institutional, military character is part of its heritage, so it needs to be respected and preserved, though made more convivial. This conundrum will be addressed by working with the special character of the place by making the sense of arrival even more of a discovery so that the arrival to the graceful core at the Parade Ground increases the sense of wonder and remoteness. This is a valuable part of the visitor experience for a Sanctuary.

---

*The institutional, military character is part of its heritage, so it needs to be respected and preserved, though made more convivial.*

---

### Adaptive Re-use

With its sense of isolation and the architecturally cohesive, yet diverse size of buildings grouped around the formal Parade Ground, the precinct is well suited to cater for the human aspects of the Sanctuary such as a place for relaxation and respite, as well as research and education related to the natural environment. This will include uses such as accommodation for visitors, researchers or students, cafe/ restaurant/bar facilities, function or conference facilities, offices, administration, training, classroom space, and environmental research facilities. The buildings will be repaired and conserved, with special attention given to the retention of their distinctive architectural features. Their fit-out for new uses will be sympathetic to their character and heritage values.

The houses provide the opportunity to explore the issues associated with dwelling inside a fragile ecosystem. They are an opportunity to provide special places of retreat and respite.

Over time, the houses will be renovated for a range of compatible uses and demonstrate renewable energy technologies such as water recycling. Subject to environmental considerations, the gardens of these houses may even supply organic produce to the Sanctuary food outlets.

Uses will need to satisfy criteria relating to environmental impact, public benefit, compatibility

with public access, heritage conservation, traffic generation, parking requirements and transport needs, service and infrastructure constraints, BCA requirements and the Objectives and Policies set out in Section 3 of the Trust's Comprehensive Plan.

### Public Domain

The cohesive character of the Parade Ground Precinct is provided by the formal grouping of similarly detailed buildings as well as the landscape elements such as the saw-cut concrete paving, the handrails, light standards, rows of ornamental trees and shrubs. The internal street and path pattern will be retained, as it is an important characteristic of the former Army occupation. Changes within the precinct will be for the purpose of improving access into and around the site, and repair of the infrastructure, pathways and garden beds. These changes will be carried out in a manner that retains the institutional, garden like character and cohesiveness of the core area. For details of the design principles for the Parade Ground Precinct refer to Policies 35-41.

This is in stark contrast with the external edges of this precinct, which creates the first impression of the Headland and of the Sanctuary. Once through the stone Park Hill arch, there is a suburban streetscape. Although the houses are a part of the military heritage of the site, they are far more dominant than their relative significance would warrant. This streetscape is also at odds with the vision of North Head as the tied island with a relatively intact ecosystem and with the long-held desire for a magnificent park on the headland at the gateway to Sydney Harbour. The Trust will work with NPWS to revegetate in front of the houses, whilst maintaining footpath access and providing opportunities for foraging bandicoots and other wildlife.

Additional planting will continue along the edge of the former Artillery School along North Head Scenic Drive. Portions of the white picket fence of the former Artillery School will be retained near the entry points, but it will mostly be removed to facilitate pedestrian access and to provide a more befitting character to the whole of the headland along its major entry spine. The landscaping will also be designed to control water run-off from the Artillery School site, improving conditions for the bushland to the west of North Head Scenic Drive.

A part of this landscape treatment may take the form of small wetlands below the Officers Mess, Officers Annex and St Barbaras Avenue - areas

currently subject to almost permanent inundation. Entry via the Gatehouse is important to provide a sense of arrival and as a way of introducing the former army base to the public. Design modifications will be necessary to provide pedestrian access from the Gunner Road carpark, or to accommodate a bus drop off near the Gatehouse. These changes will retain the curving entry way that provides a sense of arrival from North Head Scenic Drive. This will include signage, pedestrian paths leading to the main entry, particularly from bus stops and set downs. Improvements will be designed to provide clear definition of access routes to the entry point.

---

*A part of this landscape  
treatment may take the form of  
small wetlands below the Officers  
Mess, Officers Annex and St  
Barbaras Avenue ...*

---

### **The Sheds Precinct (Page 94)**

The utilitarian buildings to the south of the Parade Ground Precinct along North Fort Road together form the Sheds Precinct.

### **Adaptive re-use**

These buildings are suitable for a wide range of supporting uses such as workshops/ offices, scientific research facilities, nursery, storage and 'back of house' activities related to the operation of the sanctuary. These back of house functions are also of potential interest to the public and these facilities are also at the meeting point of the pedestrian paths that link some of the main attractions of North Head. Therefore a range of uses that engage the public more directly will also be sought, such as small scale art and craft studios with content relevant to the Sanctuary and / or North Head, meeting rooms, community uses, educational or training facilities and refreshment facilities, The water tower presents an opportunity to provide a viewing platform in an unobtrusive way.

A number of buildings in this area (12, 35, 36, 50 and 74) are considered to be important historical structures related to their wartime function, such as the plotting room or miniature range. Due to their small scale and purpose built nature, they will be repaired, conserved and mostly suited for interpretation purposes in association with the other military installations within North Fort and Sydney Harbour National Park (see Policies 42-47).

### **Public Domain**

The back of house and workshop uses of this area require the retention of some of the extensive paved areas. There will be additional landscaping, however, to improve the amenity of the access routes, particularly along North Fort Road and around the Gun Shed and the Gun Park, to make the access between North Fort Road and the walking track more attractive and inviting.

Due to the proximity of these buildings to the bushland some of the buildings may be removed or re-modelled. Issues such as noise, light spillage, bushfire management and traffic generation will be important considerations in the retention and selection of appropriate uses.

### **Third Quarantine Cemetery**

The third quarantine station cemetery is one of the most intact of its type in Australia and is recognised on the National Heritage List. The cemetery is located to the west of the North Fort Precinct, in an elevated position to the north of North Head Scenic Drive, but obscured from the road by ESBS.

Careful management of the cemetery will be required to restore existing graves and grave markers, restore the natural landscape and facilitate managed access to the cemetery for groups and individuals. Removal of noxious weeds, invasive grasses and trees and shrubs that are undermining graves, and replacement of the current unattractive boundary fence by one more sympathetic to the Cemetery, will assist in the preservation of this.

### **The North Fort Precinct (Page 96)**

Visitors to North Head are naturally drawn to its southern end, the culmination of the headland with sweeping views over the entrance to the harbour, along the coastline and towards the city. This group of built facilities is therefore in an ideal position to cater for and enhance the visitor experience of North Head. North Fort is at the point of convergence for many of the themes of North Head - the topography, geology and the views, observation point for major harbour events and the migration of whales, the flora and fauna and the quarantine heritage (with the third Quarantine Cemetery and some of the stone walls). It embodies features from the earliest attempts to open up the headland as a public park, and it is the culmination of the fortification of Sydney Harbour.

North Fort is therefore a major public entry point to the Sanctuary and it should allow for the paths

on the headland to converge at the magnificent lookout points, such as the Fairfax Lookout. The continuation of a Museum at North Fort fits in with this role, subject to opening up the site to general public access and the focus of the museum being the Defence of Sydney Harbour, particularly, the fortifications system of North Head. The opportunity exists to link Defence facilities between the North Fort complex and the former Artillery School complex with the pathway network (including the Avenue of Honour and Memorial Walkway) and interpretation programs that draw upon the expertise and enthusiasm of the Volunteers.

---

*The continuation of a Museum at North Fort fits in with this role, subject to opening up the site to general public access and the focus of the museum being the Defence of Sydney Harbour, particularly, the fortifications system of North Head.*

---

### Adaptive re-use

A number of buildings and structures located around the entrance to this complex (201, 202, 203, 205, 206, 207, and 208) are considered to be important historical structures related to their wartime function. They are well suited for uses related to the public appreciation of the Sanctuary, the defence of Sydney, the site's views and natural features, certain events or functions and other uses that encourage or support public access such as refreshment facilities, public amenities and visitor information / orientation for North Head.

The built fabric will be conserved and their former, Defence use interpreted. The unity of design of these buildings will be retained and subject to the requirements of the new uses, altered details (such as the former timber windows) will be restored. Any additions or alterations of the buildings are to be designed in a manner that does not adversely affect their unity and historical significance.

Although robust and functional, the metal sheds that were erected since 1990 are considered to be highly visible and intrusive, They may be removed or altered to fit more sympathetically with the heritage values of North Fort, take advantage of views, make the site more welcoming and provide uses that encourage greater public access and appreciation of the site.

### Public Domain

Improvements will take the form of landscaping near the entrance to make it more open and welcoming, particularly around the café and the precinct entry. The landscaping will be designed to help control the quality and quantity of water run-off to improve conditions for the bushland down slope within Sydney Harbour National Park and facilitate weed control.

Internally, as the site is successively opened to greater public access, OH&S works around the fortifications and other features may be required. The design of these measures will need to be as unobtrusive as possible whilst not compromising safety and equity of access.

### New Buildings and Structures

The Trust will attempt to accommodate proposed uses by either conserving or adapting significant existing buildings, or by more substantially modifying less significant structures. New buildings/structures will be considered when neither of the two above options is feasible to achieve a desirable use.





**Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retd)**  
**Representative Colonel Commandant Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery**

**Tel: 02 83949161**

**PO Box 744**  
**Surry Hill NSW 2010**  
**Australia**

22nd August 2010

Mr Nick Hollo  
Deputy Executive Director  
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust  
PO Box 607  
MOSMAN NSW 2088

Dear Nick,

I am writing to you in my role as the Representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA) and the Chairman of the RAA Regimental Committee. This Committee is the foremost body of Australia's Gunner community, past and present, and is charged with the oversight of the Nation's rich artillery heritage. As you will appreciate North Head and its three precincts, especially the site of the Artillery Museum at North Fort, are of special interest to us.

Brigadier (Retired) Vince Williams attended your meeting on Thursday and has briefed me with regard to your plans. I have also read your draft Management Plan. We agree that the latest draft of the SHFT Management Plan for North Head is a commendable advance in terms of explaining your Organisation's proposals for the future use of the area for which you are responsible. The latest draft is also very timely for us as the RAA Regimental Committee is in the process of developing a national strategic plan for Australia's artillery heritage that encompasses all regions in Australia.

We do have an area of concern with your draft plan, as it currently stands. We believe that it does not adequately explain the contribution of the Artillery based at North Head, including the Australian School of Artillery, to our Nation's military history, and the significant ongoing, albeit diminishing, link to today's RAA deployed on operations overseas. At present, the Artillery Museum at North Fort does this very effectively and its contribution to the achievement of your plan's Objectives therefore should be expanded upon. I appreciate that to achieve this may require a level of expertise not necessarily at your disposal. Consequently, I would propose to offer the SHFT the cooperation and support of the Regimental Committee to assist you in development of your Management Plan.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Ford'.



21<sup>st</sup> August 2010

Kathryn Werner  
Senior Planner  
Planning and Special Projects  
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust  
PO Box 607  
MOSMAN NSW 2088

### **Draft Management Plan North Head Sanctuary**

Dear Kathryn,

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and Nick Hollo to discuss the subject draft plan. The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company applauds the endeavours of the Trust and generally endorses the thrust of the plan. We do recommend some additional information be placed in the plan and consideration be given to widening the focus of a Museum at North Fort.

Specific comments on the plan have been forwarded separately and these mainly provide information on errors of fact. We hope they have been of assistance. Generally though we believe the Plan does not fully relate the story of the School of Artillery and its association with North Head, other sites in Sydney and to Australia. That association has made the Sanctuary area a significant focus for the Gunner community around Australia. Whilst many associate with the actual Barracks Precinct, they also now have a strong affiliation with the North Fort Precinct through the Artillery Museum which in part tells their history.

On page 93 of the Plan it states:

*'The continuation of a Museum at North Fort fits in with this role, subject to opening up the site to general public access and the focus of the museum being the Defence of Sydney Harbour, particularly the fortifications system at North Fort.'*

The RAAHC fully supports the need to open the site to general public access and whilst some may be concerned at the security problems this may incur those problems can be remedied. Focus on the 'Defence of Sydney' though is considered to be too narrow. It would not meet the requirements of the NSW School's curriculum and therefore limit the attraction of the site for the School's to visit, and it fails to meet telling the 'human history' of the site:

*An important component of the sanctuary will be the facilities to present the 'human history' of the site, and the past uses of North Head. This will include....the defence and military heritage.' (page 87 Cultural History)*

#### **Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company**

ABN 66 084 470 539

North Head Scenic Drive Manly NSW 2095 P.O. Box 1042 Manly NSW 1655

Phone: (02) 9824 9275

Email: [brownink@cybercentral.com.au](mailto:brownink@cybercentral.com.au) Website: [www.northfort.org.au](http://www.northfort.org.au)

*The RAA Historical Company is a Not for Profit Organization*



It is suggested expanding the focus of the Museum to 'Defence of Sydney and the Australian School of Artillery' would enhance the attraction of the Museum to general visitors and the schools. A history of the School is not simply what was taught there but includes how that knowledge was used. Therefore it is possible to meet the requirements of SHFT as presently stated and the desire of the wider Gunner community. Increasing the vision for the Museum would not require any additional space as the equipments and stories are basically the same. We appreciate the costs associated with this wider vision may be outside the support allowed through SHFT but that could be taken up by another partner (eg Defence) or private sponsorship.

We also acknowledge the need to improve the facilities to enhance not only the visual impact upon the site but also the safety of the items in the collection at North Fort. There is also tremendous scope, should the partners cooperate, to spread the collection to best interpret the whole of the North Head Sanctuary site.

The RAAHC is also very concerned to ensure the highly valuable library collection is protected and made available for research and interpretation. Retention of this facility would greatly enhance community attraction to the site. Presently the library is housed in building 206.

We are also very pleased to see the Memorial Walk is included in the planned visitor routes and believe the visitors will gain greatly by the stories told along that Walk. It will add significantly to their opportunities to reflect on the beauty of the site and the contribution of servicemen and women. The security of the Walk and responsibility for its future care needs to be determined.

Volunteers at North Fort have contributed greatly to the site and the collection. The knowledge and dedication of those volunteers have added greatly to the site and their continued involvement would require that their concerns and interests are reflected in the final plan. The requirement for continued access to facilities to undertake their work is critical. We would hope the increased interest in North Head generated by the successful implementation of the management plan will result in more volunteers joining.

We recommend that the SHFT development plan provide a more appropriate balance in recognising the overall contribution by the military and specifically artillery to the North Head Sanctuary. In particular the plan should appropriately acknowledge not only the Defence of Sydney but also the importance of North Head (and North Fort) to all Australian gunners and artillery generally.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Browning OAM  
Chairman  
RAAHC

# A Toast to the Ladies

## NQ Gunner Dinner 2010

*Colonel Arthur Burke OAM (Retd)*

'Behind every good man is an even better woman.'

Discussing this subject in 2003, Flannery, O'Connor et al agreed, 'When we used to think about a woman, we envisioned a pale wisp of a lady who swoons if it gets too hot. She is delicate and beautiful and must be taken care of by a man.'

However, during the last century in Australia, the impact of two world wars, the Great Depression, flower power, the liberation of women and the changing role of women in the workforce have generated tough and capable women who are willing to take on any role a man can do. Amongst these, there are none stronger than the lady who stands behind her soldier.

---

*Soldiers are rather like rugby forwards – with heads down and blinkers on, they charge through an Army career ...*

---

Soldiers are rather like rugby forwards – with heads down and blinkers on, they charge through an Army career – and it takes a very particular breed of woman to stay with such a man.

Now let's be quite clear, women are not second class citizens. That renowned British radio broadcaster, David Shankland, MBE points out: they are healthier and generally live longer; they are generally more sophisticated, more civilised and more subtle; and when it comes to the constitution of the mind, they are made of much sterner stuff. Men tend to bottle up tensions until they erode into ulcers or clog the arteries of the heart. Women, on the other hand disseminate stress in tantrums or harmless tears. You know, it took two million years to make man out of a monkey but when it suits them, the ladies can reverse this process in two minutes.

A wise old warrant officer told me when I was a young cadet undergoing officer training, 'Marry a teacher, an airline hostess or a nurse,' he said, 'because they are used to a Nomadic lifestyle and can tolerate the upheavals of Army life.' I actually took this advice to heart – I had affairs with a couple of teachers and a few airline hostesses ... and ended up marrying a nurse.

But it's not only the upheavals that take a toll, it's the separations. In the 1950s and the 60s, there were the operational absences from the life of the British Raj in south-east Asia, and the long hours of training the National Servicemen in Australia. In the 1960s and the 70s, the Vietnam War led to 12 month separations not only for the Regular soldiers, but also for the civilian who, at the drop of a lottery ball, was suddenly swept into the Army. During the last quarter of the 20th century, the relative calm of service life was punctuated by sudden operational bursts from Rawanda, Somalia, New Guinea, the Gulf and Cambodia. And of course, since 1999 there has been a plethora of six-month repeated operational tours of duty in East Timor, Iraq, Afghanistan, Bougainville and the Solomons.

---

*There comes a time, however, when the soldier stops soldiering. This means he stops being paid, but still revels in the Army camaraderie of service mates. This introduces a new range of old problems – old ghosts, old injuries and old age.*

---

Throughout all these absences, it is the ladies – many of whom were in demanding jobs – who have had to be the family financial manager, the disciplinarian, the bill disputer – and let us not forget how they also became the lone figure on the sideline cheering at Johnny's first rugby try, the sole family face at the parent-teacher interview at school, the only one to shed a tear of pride for Jessie's first thespian endeavours at the concert, or the lone extra jolly face at Christmas when Dad was overseas.

There comes a time, however, when the soldier stops soldiering. This means he stops being paid, but still revels in the Army camaraderie of service mates. This introduces a new range of old problems – old ghosts, old injuries and old age. These are not easy on the ladies, particularly if

these lead to the soldier becoming a cranky old bugger.

When a lady took her oaths at the alter – 'to love, honour and obey', 'in sickness and in health' – she reasonably believed this was part of a team deal. Little did she realise how the Army was going to reduce this 'we' to an 'I'. This was above and beyond the call of her duty and the greatest sacrifice any lady can make is to stay by her soldier and keep that third oath, 'till death us do part'.

In conclusion, I am unable to find a better tribute to our ladies than the words of David Shankland again:

- \* Let us give thanks for the sweethearts of this world for bringing romance into our lives.
- \* Let us give thanks for the spinsters of this world for they are unclaimed treasures.
- \* Let us give thanks for the wives of this world for their loves, their loyalty, their passion and their patience.
- \* Let us give thanks for the mothers of this world for theirs is the most noble role of all.

Gentlemen, please be upstanding and join me in a Toast to the Ladies ... To the Ladies.

### **Editor**

I have no doubt there will be readers who believe that by publishing this toast I am displaying, maybe even promoting, resistance to change within the Royal Regiment. This could not be further from the truth as I readily acknowledge that we now have females standing side by side their male counterparts in a range of roles within the Regiment.

I appreciate that in the future, toasts of this nature will no doubt change to reflect the evolving role of the spouse in support of members of the Regiment. In the short term there will still be functions where the serving or former members are all male and this style of toast will remain appropriate. Political correctness aside I feel it is a very erudite toast that would be of interest to some readers.

## **Shot at future**

By Michael Brooke

RAA gunners deploying on Operation Herrick are returning with valuable experience from combat that has validated current artillery doctrine and training for the first time since the Vietnam War.

Lessons learnt by NCOs and junior officers while serving in the gun line with British artillery units in Helmand province, Afghanistan, have better prepared the RAA for future operations.

CO 8/12 Mdm Regt Lt-Col Neil Sweeney said there were numerous benefits for the RAA detachments involved in Op Herrick, where they operate the L118 Light Gun.

"The six-month training in the UK with our British counterparts, followed by six-month deployments to Helmand province, allows the RAA to build new levels of experience we can inject in all gun-line personnel," he said.

Lt-Col Sweeney said Op Herrick confirmed the quality of Army's training because the feedback from the UK artillery regiments was that Australian gunners were highly trained and highly respected.

"There is an immediate recognition that we produce very professional gunners who are capable of integrating into a unit, go on operations with that unit and successfully fulfil their tasks and jobs."

He said Op Herrick had allowed Aussie gunners to validate the training regimes that have been in place over the past 30 to 40 years and have now been tried and tested in combat.

"The lessons learnt will drive some doctrinal improvements for operating in terrain and environments like Helmand province."

Capt Nick Cooper, 8/12 Mdm Regt, said in Helmand province the RAA gunners conducted a whole range of fire missions in support of British and Coalition forces and were primarily involved in fire support for manoeuvre forces.

Capt Cooper, who deployed in 2008 with Rotation 8, as part of 7 Parachute Regt, Royal Horse Arty, said they conducted 191 fire missions and fired about 2900 rounds in support of British, Danish and US forces.

"The missions ranged from direct and indirect fire missions in certain areas such as the valleys they are working to control, illumination missions, smoke and the application of high explosive ordnance in support of Coalition forward manoeuvre operations," he said.

Capt Cooper said the main benefit of the deployment was learning and sharing that experience.

"The bombardiers have gone on to train recruits or junior soldiers in this regiment and the experiences have taught them what is important in the modern counter-insurgency field-gunnery environment."

'Army', July 22, 2010

## MEDIA RELEASE

**THE HON. GREG COMBET, AM, MP**  
Minister for Defence Materiel and Science

### Government Surrenders Guns To Townsville

The Federal Government will surrender two, one hundred year old naval guns to Townsville City Council, the Minister for Defence Materiel and Science Greg Combet announced on a visit to Townsville today.

The move follows the Federal Government's decision last year to put Jezzine Barracks into community hands by transferring the ownership to the Council.

Mr Combet said that the two historical guns, which are located at Townsville's Kissing Point Fort, would now be owned by the Council and hence the local community.



'Since the turn of the twentieth century these guns have stood guard over Townsville.' Mr Combet said.

'Now the community of Townsville will stand guard over the heritage and preservation of these guns for future generations.'

Mr Combet said that Jezzine Barracks and two naval guns at Kissing Point Fort were an important part of Townsville's long and enduring military history.



'The Federal Government recognises Townsville's long and lasting military history and the important role that places like Jezzine Barracks and Kissing Point Fort have played in that history.' Mr Combet said.

'We are also committed to ensuring a long and lasting role for Townsville in future of the Australian Defence Force.'

The Federal Government has also made significant investment in the expansion of Lavarack Barracks, making way for an additional 730 troops who will soon call Townsville home.

**Media contacts:** Rod Hilton (Greg Combet): 0458 276 619

#### Editor

Colonel Arthur Burke has provided the following information on the provenance of the guns.

These are both 64-Pounder rifled muzzle loaders but are quite different guns. One belonged to The Clifton Guns group and the other has a most remarkable cascabel - the standard eye modified possibly for towing. The former has the Royal cypher of the time, but the latter does not have any cypher upon it.

# Associations & Organisations

## Contact List

### **RAA Regimental Fund**

SO2 HOR School of Artillery  
Bridges Barracks, Puckapunyal, VIC 3662  
Phone: (03) 5735 6465  
Mob: 0400 854 323  
Email: greg.metcalf@defence.gov.au

### **RAA Historical Company & North Fort Museum**

P O Box 1042, Manly, NSW 1655  
Phone: (02) 9976 3855  
Email: northfort@ozemail.com.au  
Website: www.northfort.org.au  
[See Membership Form]

### ***Cannonball* (Official Journal)**

### **Australian Army Artillery Museum**

Museum Manager - Major John Gallagher  
Email: bluegallagher77@hotmail.com

### ***Battery Guide* (Newsletter)**

### **RAA Historical Society WA (Inc)**

President - Bruce Campbell  
Phone: (08) 9221 2494 (Bus)  
Secretary - Tom Arnautovic, OAM  
P O Box 881, Claremont, WA 6910  
Email: info@artillerywa.org.au  
Phone: 0419 923 584 (mob)  
Website: www.artillerywa.org.au

### ***Take Post* (Quarterly Newsletter)**

### **4 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association**

R. J. (Gabby) Hayes  
36 Ravel Street, Burpengary, QLD 4505  
Email: gabbyhayes@ozemail.com.au  
Peter Bruce  
Phone: (03) 5752 2114  
Mob: 0419 349 317  
Email: pjbruce8@bigpond.net.au

### **7 Field Regiment Association**

President - K.E. (Barney) Flanagan  
Secretary - WO1 John Balfour  
Email: john.balfour@defence.gov.au  
Correspondence to:  
P O Box 206, Frenchs Forest, NSW 2086  
Website: 7fd-regt-raa-association.com

### **10 Medium Regiment Association Inc**

P O Box 1915, Geelong, VIC 3220  
President - Pat Eldridge  
Mob: 0415 098 046

### ***The Big Gun* (Newsletter)**

### **12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association**

President - John Sullivan  
Email: sullivanjohn157@gmail.com  
Vice President - Rob Costello  
Email: cossie0102@bigpond.com  
Secretary - John Allen  
P.O. Box 312, Belrose, NSW 2085  
Mob: 0407 672 849  
Phone: (02) 9975 5537  
Email: jallen@datamasteranz.com

### **23 Field Regiment Association**

President - Barry Willoughby  
Phone: (02) 9533 3215  
Mob: 0417 400 902  
Email: barrywillos@optusnet.com.au  
Secretary - Peter Merlino  
63 Penshurst Road, Penshurst, NSW 2222  
Phone: (02) 9570 2776  
Email: the23fdassoc@yahoo.com.au  
Website: www.23fd-regt-raa-association.org

### **A Field Battery Association Inc**

President - Ron (Tex) Bassan  
Secretary - Clare Bassan  
6 Harveys Road,  
Beaconsfield, QLD 4740  
Email: texbassan@yahoo.com.au  
Email: bonniebassan@yahoo.co.uk  
Phone: (07) 4942 5433

### **A Field Battery National Newsletter**

Editor - Ron (Butch) Slaughter  
Email: ronbutchslaughter@hotmail.com  
Website: <http://afdbty.australianartilleryassociation.com/>

### **101 Battery**

Secretary - Jim Booth  
104 Edinburgh Drive, Mt. Hallen, QLD 4312  
Phone: 07 5424 6506  
Mob: 0417 731 393  
Email: jbooth1@bordnet.com.au

### **101 Battery (Malaya 1959-1961)**

President - David Troedel  
36 Murphys Creek Road,  
Blue Mountain Heights, QLD 4350  
Phone: (07) 4630 8787  
Email: davidpat@bigpond.net.au

### **102 Battery**

Don Tait  
Mob: 0419 287 292  
Email: don.tait@castlehillrsl.com.au  
Ian Ahearn  
Mob: 0417 691 741  
Email: ifahearn@iimetro.com.au

### **103 Battery**

Doug Heazlewood  
10 Tarhood Road, Warrnambool, VIC 3280  
Phone: (03) 5561 4370  
Email: heazlewd@standard.net.au

### **104 Battery**

John Sullivan  
P O Box 34, Taralga, NW 2580  
Phone: (02) 4840 2283  
Mob: 0417 298 925  
Email: sullivanjohn157@gmail.com

### **105 Battery**

President - Graeme Maughan AFC  
Email: gimaughan@dodo.com.au  
Secretary - Greg West RFD, ED  
14 Marral Street, The Gap, QLD 4061  
Phone: (07) 3300 5303  
Email: gwest105@optusnet.com.au

### **Tiger Rag (Newsletter)**

Editor - Arthur Burke OAM  
7 Aspley Court, Aspley, QLD 4034  
Phone & Fax: (07) 3263 6025  
Email: arthurburke@bigpond.com  
Website: [www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/105/](http://www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/105/)

### **106 Battery**

Contact Information Required

### **107 Battery**

President - Warren D. Feakes  
Phone: (02) 6231 8369  
Email: wfeakes@netspeed.com.au  
Secretary - Hilton Lenard  
Mob: 0418 695 345  
Email: hiltonlenard@hotmail.com  
Correspondence to: 107 Field Battery RAA  
Association, P O Box 199, Erindale, ACT 2903

### **Ram - Ramblings (Newsletter)**

Editor - Barry Pearce  
Website: [www.107fdbty.com](http://www.107fdbty.com)

### **108 Battery**

John Wells  
P O Box 407, Beaconsfield, VIC 3807  
Phone: (03) 5944 3157 (H)  
Email: john.wells8@bigpond.com

### **The Journal With No Name (Newsletter)**

---

**RAA Association (QLD) Inc**

President - Colonel Vern Mullins RFD ED  
Secretary - Lieutenant Colonel Ron West  
Email: qld.gunline@gmail.com  
Mob: 0408 073 944  
P O Box 174, Lutwyche, QLD 4030  
Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/raaaqld>

**Gunline (Newsletter)**

**RAA Association (NTH QLD)**

President - Lieutenant Colonel Mike Dinnison  
18 Mango Ave, Mundingburra, QLD 4812  
Phone: (07) 4725 8081  
Email: mdib50@yahoo.com.au  
Secretary - Steve Wilson  
Phone: (07) 4778 3119  
Email: whippet@aapt.net.au

**Gunners Gossip (Newsletter)**

Editor - Steve Wilson  
Email: whippet@aapt.net.au  
Website: [www.ozatwar.com/raa-nqld.htm](http://www.ozatwar.com/raa-nqld.htm)

**RAA Association (NSW) Inc**

President - Lieutenant Colonel Schon Condon RFD  
Mob: 0409 091 157  
Email: president@artillerynsw.asn.au  
Secretary - Bill van der Veer  
G P O Box 576, Sydney, NSW 2001  
Mob: 0401 691 575  
Email: secretary@artillerynsw.asn.au

**'Gunfire' (Magazine)**

Editor - P O Box W1034, West Cessnock, NSW 2325  
Phone: (02) 4990 8560  
Mob: 0417 680 617  
Email: editor.gunfire@optustnet.com.au  
Website: [www.artillerynsw.asn.au/](http://www.artillerynsw.asn.au/)

**RAA Association (NSW) Newcastle Sub-Branch**

Secretary - Grant Nicholls  
P O Box 918, Charlestown, NSW 2290  
Email: secretary@raaanewcastle.com  
Website: [www.raaanewcastle.com](http://www.raaanewcastle.com)

**RAA Association (ACT)**

President - Brigadier P. Gates CSM  
Vice President - Lieutenant Colonel Nick Bolton

Secretary - Major Alwyn Payne  
Phone: (02) 6266 7034  
Email: alwyn.payne@defence.gov.au

**Shot Over (Newsletter)**

**RAA Association (VIC) Inc**

President - Major N. Hamer RFD  
Phone: (03) 9702 2100  
Email: nhamer@bigpond.net.au  
Secretary - Mrs Rachel Decker  
8 Alfada Street, Caulfield South, VIC, 3167  
Email: rachel.decker@bigpond.com.au

**'Cascabel' (Magazine)**

The Editor 'Cascabel'  
Editor - Alan Halbish, 115 Kearney Drive,  
Aspendale Gardens, VIC 3195  
Phone: (03) 9587 1676  
Email: ahalbish@netspace.net.au

**RAA Association (SA)**

President - Geoff Laurie  
12 Chatsworth Grove, Toorak Gardens, SA 5065  
Phone: (08) 8332 4485  
Email: gunnersa@chariot.net.au

**RAA Association (NT)**

The Secretary  
G P O Box 3220, Darwin, NT 0801

**RAAANT Newsletter**

POC: National Liaison Officer, RAAANT - John Johnston  
Mob: 0419 836 669

**RAA Association (WA) Inc**

President - Bruce Campbell  
Phone: (08) 9221 2494 (Bus)  
Vice-president - Peter Rowles  
Email: rowles@highway1.com.au  
Secretary - Tom Arnautovic, OAM  
P O Box 881, Claremont, WA 6910  
Email: info@artillerywa.org.au  
Phone: 0419 923 584 (mob)  
Website: [www.artillerywa.org.au](http://www.artillerywa.org.au)

**Artillery WA (On-line Newsletter)**

### **RAA Association (TAS) Inc**

President - Colonel Stephen Carey RFD, ADC  
Honorary Secretary - Norm Andrews OAM  
Tara Room, 24 Robin Street, Newstead, TAS 7250  
Email: forfar@gmail.com  
Phone: (03) 6344 8307  
Mob: 0409 539 430  
Website: www.tasartillery.com

### ***The Artillery News (Newsletter)***

Editor - Graeme Petterwood  
P O Box 10, Ravenswood, TAS 7250  
Email: pwood@vision.net.au

### **Australian Air Defence Association Inc.**

President - Tony Brennan  
Email: president@aadaa.asn.au  
Secretary - Alan Mears  
AADAA, P O Box 41, Rosedale, QLD, 4674  
Email: secretary@aadaa.asn.au or  
bottlecreekau@hotmail.com  
Website: http://aadaa.asn.au

### **Locating Artillery Association**

President - Major Allan Harrison RFD  
P O Box W43, Abbotsford, NSW 2046  
Phone: (02) 9719 2252 or 0412 021665 (M)  
Email: allan@harrisonsolution.com.au  
Vice President - Major Joe Kaplun  
Phone: (02) 9339 3000  
Email: joe.kaplun@defence.gov.au  
Secretary - Bob Morrison  
Phone: (02) 4861 6463  
Mob: 0417 447 504  
Email: robmor@ozemail.com.au  
Email: info@locatingartillery.org  
Website: www.locatingartillery.org

### ***LOCREP (Newsletter)***

Editor: Major Allan Harrison (see above)

### **18 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment Association**

Secretary - Alan Lark  
1 Manor Hill Road, Miranda, NSW 2228  
Phone: (02) 9522 4815  
Mob: 0428 461 621  
Email: mokingalong@optusnet.com.au

### **9 HAA/LAA Regiments Association**

President - Phil Easton  
29 Michael Crescent, Kiama, NSW 2533  
Phone: (02) 4237 6087  
Email: pjeaston@westnet.com.au

### **13 Battery Association Inc**

President - Paul Scarborough  
Email: paulscarborough@bigpond.com  
Secretary - Wayne Crocker  
Email: ju69@bigpond.com

### ***13 Bty Assoc Inc SITREP (Newsletter)***

### **41 Battery / 11 Field Regiment RAA Association Inc**

President - Graeme Fitzpatrick  
25 Manakin Ave, Burleigh Waters QLD 4220  
Phone: (07) 5535 1211 (H)  
Email: graemefitz@dodo.com.au

### ***Gunner Ear (Newsletter)***

### **Fort Lytton Historical Association Inc**

President - Maurice McGuire, OAM  
P O Box 293, Wynnum QLD 4178  
Phone: (07) 3399 3198  
Email: flhguides@gmail.com

### ***'The Custodian' (Newsletter)***

Editor: Harry Lynas

### **Fort Scratchley Historical Society**

Website: www.fortsscratchley.org.au

### **RA Association**

Website: www.forums.theraa.co.uk.php

### **RAA Unit Websites**

RAA and other unit websites maybe accessed via the Australian Army website.

<http://www.defence.gov.au/army/RRAA>

<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/RRAA>

### **Important Website**

#### **'Australian Artillery Association'**

*Website*

[www.australianartilleryassociation.com](http://www.australianartilleryassociation.com)

*Email:*

[editor@australianartilleryassociation.com](mailto:editor@australianartilleryassociation.com)

# Regimental Fund Benefactors

*Correct as at 1st September 2010*

LTGEN D.M. Mueller	COL J.F. Bertram	COL D.M. Tait
MAJGEN J.E. Barry	COL J.P.C. Black	COL A.D. Watt (see note)
MAJGEN M.P. Crane	COL R.V. Brown	LTCOL C.W. Andersen
MAJGEN P.J. Dunn	COL A.R. Burke (see note)	LTCOL B.J. Armour
MAJGEN G.J. Fitzgerald	COL D.L. Byrne	LTCOL R.M. Baguley
MAJGEN T.R. Ford (see note)	COL S.R. Carey	LTCOL J.E. Box
MAJGEN S.N. Gower	COL S.E. Clingan	LTCOL D.N. Brook
MAJGEN B.A. Power	COL F.G. Colley	LTCOL M.A. Cameron
MAJGEN J.P. Stevens (see note)	COL M.C. Crawford (see note)	LTCOL J.H. Catchlove
MAJGEN P.B. Symon	COL J.A.L. Fairless	LTCOL I.D.S. Caverswall
BRIG M.G. Boyle	COL G.W. Finney (see note)	LTCOL S.G. Condon
BRIG D.P. Coghlan	COL C. D. Furini	LTCOL R.J. Crawford (see note)
BRIG J.R. Cox	COL S.T. Goltz	LTCOL D.M. Edwards
BRIG G.P. Fogarty	COL G.C. Hay	LTCOL L.D. Ensor
BRIG W.L. Goodman	COL E.D. Hirst	LTCOL E.P.M. Esmonde
BRIG N.D. Graham	COL C.B.J. Hogan	LTCOL J. Findlay
BRIG J.G. Hughes	COL J.H. Humphrey	LTCOL N.H.B. Floyd
BRIG J.A.R. Jansen	COL A.G. Hutchinson	LTCOL R.J. Foster
BRIG P.R. Kilpatrick	COL W.T. Kendall	LTCOL A.W. Garrad
BRIG R.A. Lawler	COL M.J. Kingsford	LTCOL I.D.W. George
BRIG I.G.A. MacInnis	COL J.C. Kirkwood	LTCOL R.G. Gibson
BRIG T.J. McKenna	COL P.J. Lawrence	LTCOL G. Gilbert
BRIG K.B.J. Mellor	COL M.G. Lovell	LTCOL K.R. Hall
BRIG M.F. Paramor	COL I.A. Lynch	LTCOL M. Harvey (RNZA)
BRIG D. I. Perry	COL R.M. Manton	LTCOL B.N. Hawke
BRIG K.V. Rossi	COL N.H. Marshall	LTCOL J.F. Henry
BRIG G.T. Salmon	COL R.V. McEvoy	LTCOL P.L. Hodge
BRIG J.R. Salmon (see note)	COL R.B. Mitchell	LTCOL B.G. Hurrell
BRIG W.M. Silverstone	COL D. J. Murray	LTCOL D.J. Kelly
BRIG G.B. Standish	COL R.A. Parrott	LTCOL S.N. Kenny
BRIG R.Q. Stanham	COL P.R. Patmore	LTCOL P. Landford
BRIG B.G. Stevens	COL A.T. Piercy	LTCOL S.F. Landherr
BRIG R.A. Sunderland	COL A.A. Plant	LTCOL B.L. Lloyd
BRIG D.J.P. Tier	COL J.C. Platt	LTCOL J.L. Macpherson
BRIG P.J. Tys	COL G.G. Potter	LTCOL R. Maurice
BRIG A.G. Warner	COL D. Quinn	LTCOL J.H. McDonagh (AALC)
BRIG D.D. Weir	COL S.T. Ryan	LTCOL P.D. McKay
BRIG V.H. Williams	COL S.M. Saddington	LTCOL K.W. McKenzie
BRIG P.D. Winter	COL G.M. Salom	LTCOL P.D. Monks
COL B.M. Armstrong	COL R.H. Stanhope	LTCOL J.E. Morkham
COL B.J. Bailey	COL B.J. Stark	LTCOL S.G.T. Mott
		LTCOL D.M. Murphy (see note)

LTCOL S.W. Nicolls  
 LTCOL T.C. O'Brien  
 LTCOL G.F.B. Rickards  
 LTCOL M. Shaday  
 LTCOL C. Taggart  
 LTCOL R.A. Vagg  
 LTCOL W.R.C. Vickers  
 LTCOL D.H.R. Wilton  
 LTCOL B.A. Wood  
 MAJ J.D. Ashton  
 MAJ G.K. Bartels  
 MAJ G.F. Berson  
 MAJ P.E. Bertocchi  
 MAJ D.T. Brennan  
 MAJ P. Cimbaljevic  
 MAJ C.T. Connolly  
 MAJ S. Denner  
 MAJ P.K. Dover  
 MAJ M. Dutton  
 MAJ J.B. Evans (see note)  
 MAJ M.J. Finnerty  
 MAJ C.A. Flear  
 MAJ A.O. Fleming  
 MAJ W.J. Francis  
 MAJ T.J. Gibbings  
 MAJ W.H. Grimes  
 MAJ N. Hamer  
 MAJ L.P. Hindmarsh  
 MAJ D.A. Jenkins  
 MAJ D.E. Jones  
 MAJ J.B. Kelly  
 MAJ M.D. Laurence  
 MAJ R.S. McDonagh  
 MAJ M.W. Middleton  
 MAJ G.K. Milic  
 MAJ D.R. Morgan  
 MAJ L.W.C. Partridge  
 MAJ P.J. Prewett  
 MAJ V.J. Ray  
 MAJ S.G. Rohan-Jones  
 MAJ W.A. Ritchie  
 MAJ K.F. Schoene  
 MAJ L.F. Searle  
 MAJ L.J. Simmons  
 MAJ A.H. Smith (see note)  
 MAJ A.E.R. Straume

MAJ M. Taggart  
 MAJ W. Tapp  
 MAJ A.A. Thwaites  
 MAJ M.L. Van Tilburg  
 MAJ A.C. Turner  
 MAJ T.W. Vercoe  
 MAJ M. St C. Walton  
 MAJ C.V. Wardrop  
 MAJ P.R. Widelewski  
 CAPT J.P. Casey  
 CAPT J.M. Groves  
 CAPT M.S. Hodda  
 CAPT S.A. Hompas  
 CAPT A.M. Ludlow  
 CAPT S.R. Nebauer  
 CAPT D.T. O'Brien  
 CAPT M.A. Pasteur (AAAvn)  
 CAPT A.E. Sheridan  
 CAPT P.J. Smith  
 CAPT P.J. Watkins  
 CAPT P. Wertheimer  
 LT S.L. Shepherd  
 WO1 D.G. Annett  
 WO1 D.W. Bowman  
 WO1 B.A. Franklin  
 WO1 G.A. Jebb  
 WO1 M.I. Johnson  
 WO1 M.A. Johnston  
 WO1 T.L. Kennedy  
 WO1 D.R. Lehr  
 WO1 P.A. Matthysen  
 WO1 R.J. Thompson  
 WO1 M. Vandyke (see note)  
 WO1 P.T. Washford  
 WO1 C.F.J. Watego  
 WO1 G.J. Webster  
 WO2 D. Bannerman  
 WO2 M. Broughton  
 WO2 M.R. Dawson  
 WO2 R.T.B. Hay  
 WO2 J.J. Hennessy  
 WO2 D.G. Ogden (see note)  
 WO2 A. Palovich  
 WO2 R.N. Skelton  
 SGT J. Nield  
 SGT D.H. Wood

*Note:*

COL M.C. Crawford and COL E.D. Hirst have paid three life subscriptions. MAJGEN T.R. Ford, MAJGEN B.A. Power, MAJGEN J.P. Stevens, MAJGEN J.D. Stevenson, MAJGEN J. Whitelaw, BRIG R.K. Fullford, BRIG J.R. Salmon; COL A.R. Burke, COL G.W. Finney, COL A.D. Watt; LTCOL D.M. Murphy; MAJ J.B. Evans, MAJ A.H. Smith; WO1 M. Vandyke and WO2 D.G. Ogden have paid two life subscriptions.

**Deceased Benefactors**

Sir Roden Cutler  
 MAJGEN T.F. Cape  
 MAJGEN G.D. Carter  
 MAJGEN P. Falkland  
 MAJGEN R. G. Fay  
 MAJGEN J.D. Stevenson (see note)  
 MAJGEN J. Whitelaw (see note)  
 BRIG R.K. Fullford (see note)  
 BRIG A.G. Hanson  
 BRIG R.Q. Macarthur- Stranham  
 LTCOL R.H.E. Harvey  
 LTCOL P.L. Overstead  
 LTCOL G.W. Tippetts  
 MAJ M. Dawson

**Associations**

RAA Association (Tasmania)  
 RAA Association (Queensland)  
 RAA Association (North Queensland)  
 RAA Association (Victoria)  
 RAA Association (NSW) - Newcastle Branch  
 105th Field Battery Association  
 Fort Lytton Historical Association  
 Royal Australian Artillery Retired Officers of South East Queensland  
 Australian Air Defence Artillery Association

# Regimental Fund – Needs Your Support

**Warning Warning Warning Warning Warning**  
**New subscription rates now apply.**

## Introduction

The RAA Regimental Fund is designed to provide a source of funds that can be utilised for the benefit of all Gunners. One of the most important uses for these funds is to support requests from RAA units and organisations to assist in the ongoing preservation and promotion of the Regimental heritage. Other worthy goals that this funding supports, is not limited to, but includes purchasing:

- Cyphers for presentation to those who retire from service or transfer from full-time to part-time after more than 20 years service.
- Paintings depicting the Regiment in its many campaigns and at peace.

The Regimental Committee cannot achieve these very worthy goals without the support of individual members and organisations within the Gunner community. All officers, warrant officers and sergeants are encouraged to make an annual financial contribution to the Regimental Fund either as individuals or as a mess or organisation/association or take up the option of a 'Life Subscription' which then absolves the subscriber from being asked for any further subscriptions. The list of life subscribers is published in the Liaison Letter and they automatically receive a complimentary copy.

## Recent Projects

Over the years the Regimental Fund has supported a wide range of requests for financial support, including some of which are ongoing such as insurance and maintenance of the AIF and Mount Schank Trophies. It is worth noting that the sums of money requested from the Fund are generally significant and therefore can only realistically have any chance of being provided if each and everyone of us support the Fund. Projects supported by the Fund include the allocation of:

- \$2,500 to 8th/12th Medium Regiment to assist the Regiment to build a Regimental Memorial to coincide with the Regiments 30th anniversary celebrations;
- \$500 to 131st Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery to improve the Battery memorial and add a plaque to mark the 50th Anniversary of the unit and its name change from 131st Divisional Locating Battery;
- \$1,000 to 1st Field Regiment for its 50th anniversary celebrations;
- \$1,000 to 4th Field Regiment for its 40th anniversary celebrations;
- \$1,500 for shield to be held by winner of Mount Schanck trophy;
- \$1,000 to 1st Field Regiment to mark 50th anniversary of 105th Field Battery, 50th anniversary of commitment to Malaya and 40th anniversary of commitment to South Vietnam;
- \$1,000 to complete the Major General T. Cape Bequest to the Regimental officer's mess;
- \$5,000 to commission a painting to mark the withdrawal from service of Rapier;
- \$6,000 to support commissioning a painting to mark the RAA/RA deployment in Afghanistan;
- \$2,500 towards the Anti-Aircraft and Air Defence Memorial at 16th Air Defence Regiment; and
- The on-going Royal Military College Graduation Artillery prize which is approximately \$100 per graduation.

## Subscriptions/Costs

The recommended new rate of contribution is deemed as \$155 for a life subscription and the following sliding scale based on rank for an annual subscription:

- LTCOL and above – \$30,
- MAJ and CAPT – \$25,
- LT and WO – \$20, and
- SGT – \$15.

It is understood that some individuals may not be in a position to meet the suggested scale, therefore any contribution will be gratefully appreciated in helping to continue the good work the Fund has provided the Regiment over many years.

Without your financial support the Regimental Committee is unable to support the preservation of Regimental history and requests for financial support from units.



# RAA Regimental Fund

## Subscription

Rank/Initials: \_\_\_\_\_ [BLOCK letters please]

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
(or Association)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ P/Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

- Enclosed is my/our contribution to the RAA Regimental Fund
- A receipt is required

Please return this form with a **cheque** made out to 'RAA Regimental Fund':

Major Greg Metcalf, SO2 HOR, School of Artillery,  
Bridges Barracks, Puckapunyal Vic 3662

or to pay by **electronic funds transfer** using a bank or credit union, the following is required:

Credit Union: Australian Defence Credit Union (ADCU)  
Account Name: RAA Regt Fund  
BSB: 802 397  
Account Number: 526805

The description or reference must include Organisation (i.e mess or association) or Initials and Surname and the word 'subscription'

For further information contact Major Greg Metcalf on (03) 5735 6465

### Annual Subscription:

- LTCOL & above: \$30.00
- MAJ and CAPT: \$25.00
- LT and WO: \$20.00
- SGT: \$15.00

### Life Subscription:

All Ranks: \$155.00 (*You will never be asked or expected to subscribe again.*)

# Memorial Walk

*Mr Kevin Browning  
Chairman RAAHC*

The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company is seeking your assistance to complete the Memorial Walk at North Fort. Consisting of five monuments and a paved path the walkway is a place where visitors can reflect on the service given by the members of the defence force and their families throughout our nations history. The path follows an old track that weaves through the flora of the headland and offers views over the entrance to Sydney harbour. Many troops moving overseas would have sailed past the headland on their way to foreign shores.



The Entrance to the Memorial Walk containing the Badges of the RAN, Australian Army, RAAF and Merchant Navy

The Walkway contains five memorials commemorating the Colonial Wars, World War I, World War II, Post 1945 Conflicts and Peacekeeping. Each memorial will contain story and photo plaques that tell the story conflicts. Funding for the project commenced with a \$10,000 grant from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Through the donation of an engraved paver we have raised a further \$225,000 but we are still short of completing the project. Donations of engraved pavers, donations are tax deductible, has slowed in the past year and we require another 300 donations to achieve our goal. Presently we have over 3500 pavers and 58 centre piece pavers.

The centre piece pavers have been generally donated by Associations, units and organisations such as RSL Clubs. They cost \$1500 and provide the

organization members a reduction in member contributions for general pavers. The general paver is \$50 for the first and \$40 for subsequent ones. Many families have contributed to the project and it is very interesting to hear their stories and reflect on how much many families have contributed. Allied servicemen and families have also supported the work. Service from the Imperial troops to the present conflicts have been represented.



Centre paver donated by Forestville RSL Sub Branch and some of the individual pavers

If your organization, contingent or individually you would like to contribute please contact us. An Order Form is enclosed and it contains our contact details. Once we have the fund to complete the monuments a dedication ceremony will be organized to formally recognize the Memorial Walkway. It is one of the larger memorials in Australia in terms of names recorded and certainly in one of the most scenic locations.

The volunteers of the RAAHC have constructed the walkway as a memorial to all servicemen and their families. Please assist us to complete the memorials.



Looking back down the Memorial Walk with the Peacekeeping Memorial to the right





## APPLICATION FOR ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP of the ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL COMPANY (RAAHC)

Honorary Secretary  
RAAHC  
PO Box 1042  
MANLY NSW 1655

Phone 02 9824 9275  
Email [brownink@cybercentral.com.au](mailto:brownink@cybercentral.com.au)

I apply to become an Ordinary (Active) member of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company (RAAHC) and agree to abide by the Company's Constitution and its By-Laws.

Rank/Title..... Surname.....

Given Names..... Post nominals/qualifications .....

Address for mailing and contact details

No & Street.....

Suburb..... State..... Post Code.....

PO Box .....

Suburb..... State..... Post Code.....

Phone ( )..... Fax ( ) .....

Email .....

.....  
(Signature) (Date)

Membership including Cannonball \$35 (1 year) \$70 (2 years) \$160 (5 years)

Membership only \$10 (1 year) \$20 (2 years) \$ 50 (5 years)

**Payment Authorisation:** Cheques should be made payable to: Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

Please tick  Cash  Cheque  Credit Card  Money Order

Please debit my (tick)  MasterCard  Visa

Card No

Expiry Date:...../..... Card Holders Name:.....

Signature ..... Date.../.../....

# Regimental Publications Index

## Liaison Letter

Ser	Title
1	Director Royal Artillery Technical Liaison Letter 1/48+
2	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 3 June 1954#
3	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 18 October 1954+
4	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 24 November 1954+
5	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – February 1955+
6	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 31 May 1955+
7	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 30 September 1955#
8	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 20 January 1956+
9	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 18 June 1956+
10	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 26 November 1956#
12	Director Royal Australia Artillery Liaison Letter – 24 February 1957+
13	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 26 November 1957#
14	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 30 April 1958#
15	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 28 November 1958+
16	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 17 June 1959+
17	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – January 1960#
18	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 29 July 1960#
19	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 17 February 1961#
20	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 6 November 1961+
21	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – July 1962#
22	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – October 1962#
23	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – February 1971#
24	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1972#
25	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – February 1973#
26	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1973#
27	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1974#
28	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1974#
29	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1975#
30	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1975#
31	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1976#
32	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1976#
33	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1977#
34	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1977#
35	Royal Australian Artillery Personnel Notes – October 1977#
36	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – May 1978#
37	Royal Australian Artillery Personnel Notes – 1978#
38	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1980@
39	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – December 1980@
40	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – May 1981@
41	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – November 1981@
42	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1982 (Issue One)@
43	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1983 (Issue One)@
44	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1983 (Issue Two)@
45	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1984 (Issue Four)@
46	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1986 (Issue One)#
47	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1986 (Issue Two) – 4 November 1986#
48	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Issue One – 1987 – 18 June 1987#
49	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Issue Two – 1987 – 11 November 1987#

Ser	Title
50	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1988 – 23 June 1988#
51	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 2 – 1988 – 14 November 1988#
44	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1989#
45	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 2 – 1989#
46	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1990#
47	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 2 – 1990#
48	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1991#
49	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1992 – First Edition#
50	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1992 – Second Edition#
51	Royal Australian Artillery – August 1993 – Liaison Letter#
52	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1996 – First Edition#
53	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1996 – Second Edition#
54	1997 – Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter#
55	1998–99 RAA Liaison Letter+
56	RAA Liaison Letter – 2000+
57	RAA Liaison Letter – 2001+
58	RAA Liaison Letter – 2002+
59	RAA Liaison Letter 2003 – Autumn Edition+
60	RAA Liaison Letter 2003 – Spring Edition+
61	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2004 – Autumn Edition+
62	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2004 – Spring Edition+
63	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2005 – Autumn Edition+
64	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2005 – Spring Edition+
65	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2006 – Autumn Edition+
66	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2006 – Spring Edition+
67	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2007 – Autumn Edition+
68	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2007 – Spring Edition+
69	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2008 – Autumn Edition+
70	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2008 – Spring Edition+
71	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2009 – Autumn Edition+
72	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2009 – Spring Edition+
73	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter 2010 – Autumn Edition+

## Australian Gunner Magazine

Ser	Title
1	Australian Gunner – Vol. 1 No. 1*
2	Australian Gunner – Vol. 1.No. 2*
3	Australian Gunner – Vol. 2 No.1 – September 1979*
4	Australian Gunner – March 1980*
5	Australian Gunner – December 1980*
6	Australian Gunner – May 81*
7	Australian Gunner – November 81*
8	Australian Gunner – The Official Journal of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery – March 1997*

## Miscellaneous Regimental Publications

	Title
1	DARTY Personnel Notes – December 1969#
2	Royal Australian Artillery Personnel Notes – 1978#

**Note:**

\* Copy held by SO to HOR

# Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library

+ Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery

@ Not available to HOR at School of Artillery



# RAAHC

## NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company  
Needs Your Help to Support the Ongoing Development  
of the Australian Army Artillery Museum and the  
Preservation and Promotion of Artillery History and Heritage  
Nationally

### ■ How Much Does it Cost?

- ☐ With 'Cannonball' - \$35.00 (1 year), \$70.00 (2 years) or \$160 (5 years)
- ☐ Without 'Cannonball' - \$10.00 (1 year), \$20.00 (2 years) or \$50.00 (5 years)
- ☐ All Gunners are invited to join

### ■ What You May Get In Return?

- ☐ Cannonball (3 times per year)
- ☐ Free access to the Museum, most other Australian Army Corp museums and free use of the Museum's Library resources
- ☐ The satisfaction of assisting with the ongoing enhancement of a magnificent facility that preserves our gunner heritage
- ☐ 10% discount on books and merchandise purchased from the Museum shop

### ■ How Does The Company Benefit?

- ☐ They can add your weight to the membership numbers when seeking grants and other assistance from public and non-public sources
- ☐ Your subscription assists with ongoing administration costs, including the publication of Cannonball

### ■ How Do You Join?

- ☐ A membership form can be found in this publication
- ☐ Submit a form and start supporting a very worthwhile cause

**RAAHC THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**