



# YANDOO

87

Vol 1 No 1

7 Field Regiment  
Royal Australian Artillery  
Association

Warrane Road, Willoughby NSW 2068

7th FIELD REGIMENT ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY

NEWS LETTER.

The 7th Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery Association was founded at a meeting, convened by Lt Col G S Staziker who was then the officer commanding 7th Fd Regt RAA, held at Willoughby Training Depot on the 20th of May 1986. Twenty members and ex members of the Regt attended and many apologies and pledges of support were received. It was there resolved to form this Association and a full committee was elected and a draft constitution was discussed.

A very successful re-union was held in October 1986 at the Willoughby Legion Club and the committee has met regularly to formulate a programme of future functions and other matters relevant to the Association. Membership has grown from 42 in August 1986 to 102 at the end of April 1987.

It has been resolved to produce a "Newsletter" periodically for distribution to members, this, we hope, will be the first of many such letters. Your Committee would appreciate contributions of news, items of interest, scandal, stories, articles relevant to the Regt and personal column items of interest etc, for future publication. The Committee would like to know of any of our past members who we may be able to assist with problems or troubles they may have and which we may consider worthy of our attention.

\*\*\*\*\*

COMPILATION OF THE REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

One of the objects of our Association is :- "To foster and maintain the history of 7th Fd Regt and encourage the establishment and/or restoration of unit barracks, sites, museums or memorials".

An excellent foundation for this work was laid in 1980 with the completion of a fine paper on the history of 7th Field Brigade/7th Field Regiment by W.O.2. R.C.M. (Danny) Toplis, who has served in the Regiment for 35 years. Your Association is continuing the work by seeking to complement the factual history with personal experiences, by reference to former members, and/or their next of kin.

We have already made contact with the next of kin of several members of the original 7th Field Brigade, 1916 - 1919. These contacts have resulted in the donation of important items of memorabilia including the medals of Driver E.W.Wynn (10th Fd Bty), the diary of Driver H.R. Herbert (26th and 107th Btys), and a copy of part of the diary of Gunner V.W.Kernahan (28th and 107th Btys). The people to whom we have spoken hold the 7th in the highest regard and in consequence the Association and the Regiment have a great deal to live up to.

To assist us in our project we would be grateful for donations of any memorabilia and militaria. All donations will be carefully recorded and stored. In the long term we hope to have items on display.

If you have some items that you would care to donate or if you know of someone who has such items, please contact Luarie HINDMARSH, 5 McRae Place, Turrumurra, 2074. Telephone 449 1169.



THE BIRTH OF THE YANDOO.

The 7th F. A. B. YANDOO springs into life in compliance with what is believed to be a real and acknowledged demand.

From the desk of Lt. Col. R.J. Hill, RFD, Commanding Officer.

7 Fd Regt RAA.

As part of 2 Div, 7 Fd Regt RAA is training for war. All our training activities and objectives are directed towards this overall need.

During the past nine months the highlights of the Unit have been:--

- the re-introduction of Tuesday night parades for all ranks.
- an increase in the number of field firing activities.
- the restructuring of HQ Bty so that Regimental training can take place - HQ Bty now has a very definite purpose and takes an active role in field firing and other training requirements.
- two recruiting drives in Newcastle and Sydney which achieved a satisfactory level of success.
- an overall increase in the total strength of the unit.
- an increase of four officers.
  - . an ex-Regular Major who comes to the Unit with a wealth of artillery experience including active duty in Vietnam as an FOO.
  - . three lieutenants, one being a graduate from OCTU (Vic), another from UNSWR and a third previously serving with 23 Fd Regt RAA but having been on leave for an extended period.

- two officers have been made available to serve on HQ 2 Div Arty staff.
- 28 Fd Bty were successful in winning the Pagan Cup during AFX 86 at Tin Can Bay, Qld, in Sept '86.

During AFX at Tin Can Bay, Qld, the Unit was privileged to host a visit from senior officers of the Thailand Army, including a Maj General and several of his senior Brigadiers. Their visit was to allow them to observe an Australian Army Reserve unit training in the field and to gain further ideas to introduce into the Thai Reserve system. In March this year the CO had the opportunity to return this visit in Thailand where he learnt more of the Thai systems.

POSTINGS IN 7 Fd Regt RAA.

C.O.	: Lieut-Col. R.J. Hill RFD.
ADJT.	: Capt T.A.G. Kemp.
R.S.M.	: W.O.1. B.E. Johnson.
Q.M.	: W.O.1. K.E. Williams.
B.C's.	: H.Q. Bty. Capt. M.J. Coaster-Garton.
	: 28 Fd Bty. Maj. J.A. Fairless.
	: 113 Fd Bty. Maj. D.J. Barrow.

INVITATION.

Association members are invited to visit a Field Firing Exercise at Holsworthy Range, on Saturday afternoon the 22 Aug 1987.

Three Bty's of 7 Fd Regt RAA will take part. Those wishing to attend please contact W.O.2.J.G. Balfour by the 11 Aug '87 on H 452 2853 or W. 234 9333. He will brief you, and advise times, R.V's etc.

PERSONNEL PROFILES.INTRODUCING OUR PRESIDENT.Max FALCONER, MBE, J.P.

Max was born and educated in Manly N.S.W.. He joined the Bank of New South Wales (now Westpac) at Dee Why in 1951, has carried out duties in various Branches and Departments and is now Manager of the branch at Anandale N.S.W.

He was called up for National Service and trained at 12 NS Tng Btn at Holsworthy, commencing on 29 Apr 1953. After initial training he was posted to 21 Fd Regt RAA at Hornsby, this Regt was transferred to a new Training Depot at Pymble in Sept 1956. Max was promoted Bdr. in Oct '53 and Sgt in Mar '56.

21 Fd Regt was disbanded on 7 Aug '57, Max elected to stay on and was transferred to 7 Fd Regt RAA at Willoughby. By Feb '60 he was qualified and promoted to WO 2 serving as TSM Q Bty, BSM HQ Bty and BSM P Bty. He was an Executive of the Sergeants Mess carrying out his duties with efficiency and care.

Completing 12 years service in Apr '65 he was awarded the Efficiency Medal and received the Clasp to this award in Apr '71.

In the '71 New Year Honours Max was awarded the MBE for -"Exceptional personal service to the Citizen Military Forces", and was invested at Government House Sydney on 23 Apr '71. The late Chips Rafferty was awarded his MBE the same day. Also in 1971 Max was appointed a Justice of the Peace.

Max held the posting of Regtl Recruiting Officer for 5 years and was often seen in the streets and shopping centres in the Units' area of influence. In 1975 he was promoted to WO 1, holding various postings in the Regt till discharged on 23 August 1982.

In Mar '85 Max also received the Defence Force Service Medal and 1st Clasp.

It is interesting to note that when 21 Fd Regt was disbanded in '57, the then members of the Sergeants Mess formed 'The 21 Club', which is still active and will this year hold its 30th re-union.

Max has certainly had a long and distinguished service with the Reserve Forces and his interest has not waned. It is good to note that he received some recognition for such service.

.....

Now here is a short QUIZ.

Test your knowledge of the Regimental Badge and Motto :-

1. What does the motto "Consensu Stabiles" mean?  
.....  
.....
2. In what year did the Military Board approve the now familiar "Gun Badge"  
.....
3. What does the motto "Ubique" mean?  
.....
4. What does the present Regt Motto "Quo Fas et Gloria Ducunt" mean?  
.....  
.....
5. In what year and by whom was this motto granted to the Royal Artillery?  
.....  
.....