

7 Field Regiment Association

Yandoo

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7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATION

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## **PRESIDENTS REPORT 1996/97**

**I would like to take this opportunity to thank all for the support over the last three years, and to wish our new President, Don McVay, good luck and good leadership for his term as President.**

**I would also like to thank the Committee who have supported me, especially John Balfour who has once again proved invaluable, and is continuing to do so. I wish the new committee good luck and congratulate them on their selection.**

**It was good to see the number of people who attended the AGM. For once there were more than enough people to fill positions, and have some left over. It is pleasing to see serving gunners such as Bdr Pat Gates and Sgt Rod Chetwynd on the committee.**

**The last year as previously has shot by. The Church service was held at St Johns but was poorly attended from both the Association and the Regiment's point of view. Please endeavour to attend next year. Bdr Gus Elgersma was presented with the award for Most Proficient Soldier ; congratulations Gus.**

**The 10th Anniversary Reunion was a great success, but we were not able to fill the auditorium at the Legion, in fact we had only average numbers. Despite this a great night was had by all.**



**FROM THE DESK OF LT COL R.J.BRENNAN RFD  
COMMANDING OFFICER, 7TH FIELD REGIMENT RAA**

1997 Kicked off with a new team, a new focus and a new and invigorated attitude to the way business would be done at 7 Field Regiment. At the pinnacle of this new focus was the mission to have an AFX interstate this year - and it will happen in October with the Regiment deploying to Wide Bay Training Area, Queensland, for two weeks !.

Gone from last year's full time component was both the OPSO and Adjutant with MAJ Simon Kirby and CAPT Shaun Harding taking over the reigns respectively in 1997 (Simon coming on posting from P&EE Port Wakefield and Shaun from the Directorate of Artillery). Both SMIGs also moved on with WO2 Wes Pine taking over at 113 and WO2 Brett Franklin setting up camp at 28. SGT Tom Devereaux (Tpt), BDR John Blaik (Q Store) and CPL Steve Blair (clerical) were also new additions to the **full time component**.

In the part time camp it was generally situation no change after a minor reshuffling of appointments. LTCOL Ray Brennan took over from LTCOL Andi Kariks as Commanding Officer, on promotion. CAPT Andrew O'Brien took over from Gary Bryant as BK 113, CAPT Simon Worboys (promoted in June) took over as BK HQ Bty, LT Jones, RA Sigs became the Regimental Signals Officer, LT Mark Lockhart took over as OC TST from Ian Bruce, LT Mark Schweikert was re-posted to the unit as IO, WO1 Brian Marshall was posted on promotion to DARTY-A and WO2 Mick Banham took over as BSM HQ Bty.

On a sad note, this year saw the untimely passing away of WO2 Tony Jones. WO2 Jones contributed much to the unit in his tenure with 113 Fd Bty and will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts still go out to his family and loved ones.

MAJ Michael Shevak resigned from the Army in June and handed over command of 28 Fd Bty to MAJ Gus Pallot who will be re-enlisted some time in September. MAJ Shevak contributed a wealth of experience and knowledge to the unit in his two year tenure as Battery Commander 28 Fd Bty but leaves his sub-unit in capable hands.