

Yandoo

**The Newsletter of the 7 Field Regiment
Royal Australian Artillery Association**

Vol 2 No 2 (2007)

Website Address: <http://www.7fd-regt-raa-association.com>



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(Separate attachment)

Upcoming Social Events

Annual Reunion 9 Nov 2007 Pymble Depot
Regt Christmas Function 1 Dec 2007 Forestville RSL
St Barbara's Day 2 Dec 2007
Regiment Cocktail Party North Fort 8 Mar 2008
Anzac Day 25 Apr 2008
Reserve Forces Day Jul 2008

New Committee 2007/2008

President: D.Leek
Vice Presidents: D.Blow and J.Nash
Secretary: WO1 J.G. Balfour
Treasurer: D.B.McVay
Committee: WO 2 K.S.Aiston
BDR J.Brown
K.Cochran
S.Fulcher
G.Fry
J.Gwilym
A.McCallum
A.Millar
WO2 P.Sengos (Website Manager)
R.C.M.Toplis
Regimental Reps: Major A.Dunand
LBDR S.Fender
Patron: LT COL G.S.Staziker RFD, ED
Hon Solicitor: MAJ G.Barter
Hon Auditor: W.J.Neill

The Presidents Report

Members of the Association

G' Day

My Name is David Leek and at the 21st Annual General Meeting of the Association on the 1st of August I was voted in as your President. It was a surprise and a pleasure to be elected and I only hope the committee and I can keep the Association heading in the same direction as the past few years.

I would like to thank Bob Corbett for his hard work as past President, especially his efforts to bring the constitution up to date with the assistance of Jim Nash.

I would also like to thank the committee for all their work over the past twelve months and to welcome the incoming committee which has some new faces this year namely Tony Millar formerly from 28 Bty, BDR Jeff Brown a current serving member of 28 Bty, Andrew McCallum formerly from TST and finally Gary Fry who has previously served on the committee.

The only project the committee has outstanding is the Regiments pictorial and video history which is being collated by Pat Sengos and David Blow and we are hoping to produce a 2 CD/DVD set for the dinner in November.

The Association has 3 official functions each year, ANZAC day, Reserve Forces Day and the Annual Reunion in November. There are a number of other functions that the Association is represented at, as well, but by far the highlight of the year is the Annual Reunion which will be held for the first time at Pymble Depot the home of the Regiment. I would encourage you all to attend this year. We expect to see some Old and Bolds who have just joined the association to add their charisma to another good night of camaraderie in a mess environment

In the next 12 to 18 months the Regiment faces a new challenge with a change of ordnance from 105 mm Hamels to 81 mm Mortars to take place. I see this as a positive move as the Regiment adapts to the current battlefield scenario, of a close all arms support. I will keep the Association informed as more details become available.

Recently I had a meeting with the CO and RSM and they are both very keen to foster the relationship with the association. Our request to use the Pymble depot for the reunion was enthusiastically received. As the depot is central to the members, close to Pymble train station and with ample parking as well as holding many fond memories, I feel it will be a great night.

The CO has again invited the association to attend their Regimental dinner being held at Forestville RSL on the 1 Dec 2007 and the Regimental Cocktail party held at North Fort in March 2008, more details will be passed on to the Association shortly. The Regiment could be possibly losing their guns late next year so I have expressed the association's interest to be present at the final shoot.

The committee has some issues with insurances to deal with this year which may be a costly exercise and that is why your annual subs have increased. This is the first time they have increased since the Association was formed. As I indicated at the AGM, if this increase is found to be in excess of funds needed I will move to rectify that situation.

The Website has come ahead in leaps and bounds and is now not only a point of contact and a place to go to keep up to date, but I believe it is the place to store the Regiments and the Associations History. It's a place where all interested parties can view this history in the comfort of their home at their leisure, otherwise this information would be locked away in some dusty box in the museum. I would like to thank Pat Sengos for his tireless efforts in this regard. North Fort is the place where we can go and touch, and I would like to also thank all of our members who volunteer their time and efforts at the museum.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Reunion in November and remember bring your Gunner mates, more the merrier.

UBIQUE

David Leek

President

The CO's Corner

I am proud to have started the year by being posted to 7 Fd Regiment. It was an honour to have been given this command particularly after my absence from the Regiment. On commencing this role I was glad to see the large number of familiar faces of members still servicing at the unit. I was also most pleased to see the number of quality staff around and how they have worked to ensure the smooth running of the unit. There is little doubt that without their diligent work this would have been a most difficult year, with many a hurdle that could easily have affected our ability to meet the needs of our soldiers and the demand from higher Headquarters.

On mentioning key staff it is perhaps appropriate that I note the key Regimental appointments for 2007. These were:

Lieutenant Colonel Max Shaday – Commanding Officer;

Major David Ellson – Second in Command (on deployment for the first half of the year);

Major Alain Dunand – Battery Commander 28th Field Battery;

Major Dhugald See – Battery Commander 113th Field Battery;

Captain Greg Applewhite– Adjutant;

Capt Andrew White – Training Officer and acting OPSO for the first half of this year but who has since accepted commissioning into the Royal Artillery.

Warrant Officer Class One Brett Franklin – Regimental Sergeant Major.

The Regiment also welcomed back some old hands – Captain Stephen Caines.

With these experienced staff my prime aim for 2007 was little different than that of my predecessor, that is to raise, maintain and exercise with two distinct firing units. Despite this aim, higher headquarters have also placed upon us a number of new demands specifically with regards to the raising of High Readiness Reserve (HRR) and RRF capabilities.

Despite these challenges we have been successful in moving up to the mark, setting the ground work to achieve the tasks placed before us.

In particular, HRR remains the greatest challenge to the reserves for many a decade. For us our task has been to raise JOST groups at a competency level in every way as good as our ARA counterparts. In an age where the RAA appears to have limited relevance in the current operations, we find ourselves in a difficult position as a Corps and in particular as Reservists. However it is the HRR that provides us as Reservists with focus and purpose for the future. At a time when the ARA are stretched and the demands of JOST parties are at a premium, the HRR not only provides the Regiment with purpose we require but even suggests the possibility of operational service for some of our staff. For 7 Field Regt we have already signed the necessary volunteers and as more of our members complete their requisite courses we will meet the targets set for 2008.

In addition RRF targets have been set and again we have moved to meet these. To ensure our success we converted our mid year AFX activity, to that of an RRF course. Open to the Regiment and other members of the Brigade, it was completed at Holsworthy with the course being run by the unit with only some assistance from RRF staff from within the Bde. The only downside came from the last minute pull out of the MPs in the delivery of their training modules. Overall the course was so successful that 7 Fd Regt has been directed to take the lead in BDE RRF training in the first half of 08.

We have not however neglected our other roles. Training for the year commenced with induction and mandatory training, conferences, orders groups, officer training and the annual RAA Safety course. Maintenance was always on the agenda. Thereafter we continued with our prime role of providing offensive fire support to units of the Bde. This calendar year we have planned 3 LFXs with a fourth postponed due to BDE RRF commitments conflicting with previous LFX arrangements. These weekends practiced both the gun line and JOST capabilities. Our aim was to develop individual and detachment, collective fire support and all arms defence skills by day and night. All elements of the Regiment were exercised including the Forward Echelon. Training included deliberate and quick deployments, convoy drills and fire planning. We continued to show our ability in a wide variety of mission scenarios.

While we achieved our aim of deploying to and from the field as Bty Unit, our aim placing as many staff as possible of training course to fill key future roles has prevented us from having all members available for LFX activities. As a result our firing this year was conducted as a combined firing unit. Nonetheless by concentrating on having our soldiers attend courses we have put ourselves in the position to have members in the coming years to meet the aim of fully deployable separate firing units.

Throughout the year we attended both the Sydney and Newcastle Gunner Dinners, supported ANZAC Day, and conducted a small arms training weekend at Singleton. In addition the Regiment was tasked as duty Regiment and continued to provide ceremonial responsibilities for the Australia Day and Queen's Birthday salutes and banner parties during the NSW Gunner Dinner.

Socially, the Regiment celebrated its 91st anniversary with a Birthday cocktail party at North Head in March 2007. Over 100 members and guests including Colonel Don Tait, our Colonel Commandant for Eastern Region attended. We were entertained by the band of the 23rd Field Regiment and staff from the Royal Australian Artillery National Museum. The highlights for the evening included a guided tour of the fort system, the Memorial Walk and the cutting of the birthday cake. In June, we continued with our second MESSINES Dinner as a combined activity between the Officers and Sergeants Mess. The Battle of MESSINES occurred in June 1917 and was the first occasion whereby the 7th Field Artillery Brigade fired in direct support of its parent division, the 3rd Division (AIF). The Regiment has adopted MESSINES as a regimental tradition and we will continue to use this as a standing fixture on future training and mess calendars.

The Regiment plans to wrap up the year with the annual all ranks dinner at Dee Why followed by attendance at the annual RAA Church Parade at the Garrison Church in The Rocks.

As hectic as the year has been we achieved much and have set ourselves the ground work to achieve our aims for 2008. There is no doubt that with our tasks over RRF training and HRR, the challenges for 2008 will be no less that what we have experienced in 2007. To this end I wish to thank each and every member of the Regiment and the Association for their

support this year and for their support in the coming year.

Ubique

Max Shaday

Lieutenant Colonel

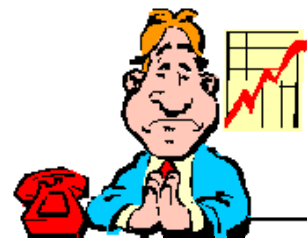
Commanding Officer



If you have not yet informed the Association of your email address, please inform Pat Sengos on patseng@tpg.com.au.

Also please ensure you advise the Secretary of any change of home or email addresses.

Internet Banking



The online banking has proved to be successful with some 25% of members utilising the new concept.

Payments for the **Reunion and Membership fees** can be made to:

BSB No 062 – 272 Account No 1001 3543

Don't forget to include your name

Sick Parade



I am pleased to advise all members are in good health.



Last Post



**CARMENT David Maxwell (Max)
3 July 2007 Aged 88**

Max enlisted in 1936 in 1 Cavalry Division Signals. In 1937, as a CPL, and at the recommendation of then LT A.G. (Tom) Hanson, he transferred to 7th Field Brigade R.A.A. (Militia) being allocated to 107 (H) Battery as NCO Signals.

In October 1939 Max was promoted to Provisional Lieutenant. On 6 May 1940 with 78 other members of the Brigade, including the Commanding Officer, LTCOL Ralph Daly, he transferred to the AIF to form 2/6th Australian Field Regiment AIF. As a Sergeant, on 23 November 1940 his appointment as a Lieutenant was confirmed. He was then transferred to 2/15th Australian Field Regiment AIF.

**HOGGE RICHARD ALAN MENZIES
13 FEBRUARY 2007 AGED 62**

Richard was born in Aberdeen, Scotland on a day that became a part of history, 6 June 1944 D Day and migrated to Australia with his family as a child. In November 1964, he joined Sydney University Regiment where he obtained his commission as a Lieutenant in 1971. He later transferred to 7 Field Regiment RAA and over the years served as Survey and Signals Officer, and many other positions in the Regiment. He later served in RAA HQ 2 Div & 2 Training Group.

Richard was promoted Captain and was awarded the Reserve Force Decoration with First Clasp.

He transferred to the Reserve of Officers in December 1992.

Richard also worked for the Dept of Navy in the logistical support branch, working his way up to executive level. During his civilian career he served in both Portsmouth UK and in the USA.

MILHAM Glenn 1 May 2007 Aged 43

Glenn joined 7 Field Regiment RAA on 1 February 1983 and was allocated to the Australian Army Catering Corps (AACC) as a cook and later transferred to the Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps (RAAOC) as a clerk in December 1985.

Glenn was promoted Corporal on 8 March 1988 and to Temporary Sergeant on 25 October 1991. This rank was made substantive on 13 December 1992.

On 14 December 1992 Glenn transferred to the Royal Australian Army Pay Corps RAAPC) and at the time of her death was the Regiment's pay clerk.

Glenn was awarded a Soldier's Medallion for Exemplary Service in March 1995, the Defence Long Service Medal in August 2001 and the Australian Defence Medal in October 2006.

All members extend sincere condolences to their families, relatives and friends.

We Shall Remember Them - Lest We Forget

Pavers for Serving Members

The Committee has decided to place a North Fort Memorial paver for all current serving members of the Regiment who have passed away since the Association was formed.

Shortly, we shall place a paver for Sgt Glenn Milham (2007), WO2 Mick Banham (2000) and WO2 Tony Jones (1997).



Association Website Update

Hi all

The website has been gaining popularity amongst our members and other interested parties and to date we have 4300 hits. Thanks again for the comments that have been passed on.

The Committee has decided to start recording all of the Association and Regiments history, so we have increased the sites capacity to 1000 meg, thus I have been busy loading many interesting matters such as:

CO's Photos and Biographers (on going)

List of the Most Improved Soldiers

All Previous Yandoo's

More Photos, including recent Regiment ones.

A few areas I wish to bring to your attention are firstly Memorabilia, this area is now holding various scanned items ranging from WW 1 diaries and history

letters written by past gunners to copies of parade cards and newsletters. Many of these records have been copied from the North Fort Museum archives. The second area is the Group Photos as they are now organised into their relevant Batteries as well as a Regimental area, I also have added names to faces (as best me and a couple of others can remember), so if you can place a name to a face please give us a yell. Finally, the Newspaper clippings which has numerous articles and pictures from 1916 to present.

I am also keen to create a special members photo page, so if anyone wishes to send me in 6 photos of their choice I will add to them to the website under their name, also if you have any other interesting articles or documents please scan and email them to me at patseng@tpg.com.au, or you can post it to me and I will scan and return. My address is 67 Tapestry Way, UMINA BEACH NSW 2257. If it's a photo please advise when, where and who (if known)

I would like to also thank Dave Blow (photo scanning), Danny Toplis (CO bio's), Jack Gwilyn and Max Falconer for their various videos and all other members who have passed on their photos.

Regards

Pat Sengos Website Manager

Annual Reunion North Sydney Club 17 Nov 2006

Another enjoyable night was held at the North Sydney venue. It was great to see TC Williams, Ken Spider Webb and Dave Buzzacott coming from interstate for the night. The Committee was extremely pleased to see so much activity before, during and after the dinner, some members even kicked on to other nearby watering holes when the bar was closed.

For your information, the following attended the Annual Reunion in November 2006:

Karen AISTON, John BALFOUR, John BAYNIE, Tony BLAIR, David BLOW, David BUZZACOTT, Kathy COCHRAN, Rob CORBETT, Kel CROZIER, Peter FAIRFIELD, John FAIRLESS, Max FALCONER, Kevin FLANAGAN, Sharon FULCHER, Jack GWILYM, Ms V.HANNAH, Ian HAYLEN, Brian HECKENBERG, Laurie HINDMARSH, John KEEFE, Michael LAURENCE, David LEEK, James NASH, Andrew McCALLUM,

Noel McCARTHY, Russ McLEAN, Don McVAY, Tony MILLAR, Bob MOYSEY, Bob RICHARDSON, Pat SENGOS, Richard SHUNWAH, John STANFORD, Stuart STAZIKER, Elaine STAZIKER, Kevin SULLIVAN, Lawrence TAYLOR, Danny TOPLIS, Bob WALLER, Ken WEBB, Trevor WILLIAMS, John WILSON, COL Allan PIERCY, LTCOL Craig TAGGART, WO1 Brett FRANKLIN, GNR Kim ALLANSON, LCPL Dale EELES, GNR Joel HOLGERSSON.



Presentation of the Most Improved Soldier 2006

L to R: Bob Corbett, GNR Holgersson (28), GNR Allanson (113), LCPL Eeles (HQ) and COL Piercey



A good feed, a few drinks and a lot of catching up

7 Field Regiment Key Postings 2006

CO	LTCOL M.Shaday
2IC/BC CSS	MAJ D.Ellson *
ADJT	CAPT G.Applewhite
PADRE	CAPT G.Prospere
RSM	WO1 B.Franklin *
CCLK	WO2 H.Hall *
RQMS	SGT A.Salcole *
OPS WO	WO2 P.Clemance *
OC TST	Vacant
ASM	WO2 L.Vella
BC 28	MAJ A.Dunand
BSM 28	WO2 P.Sengos
SMIG 28	WO2 D.Kristan *
BC 113	MAJ D.See
BK 113	WO2 G.Nicholls
BSM 113	WO2 P.Linsley
SMIG 113	WO2 G.Ryan/WO2 Hawkett *

* ARA

New Members

The Association welcomes on board the following new members. We hope to see you at the Annual Reunion in November.

Jeff Brown, Greg Borrowman, Suzanne Donnelly Lachlan Finch, Peter Fridolfsson, Mark Hemsley, Stuart Hobson, David Jarman, Margo Lowe, Paul McDonough, Karl Morixbauer, Peter Slater, Peter Smith, Vernon Sotter, Warwick Young

Association Members as of Nov 07

AISTON	Karen	🔴
AMOR	William	🔴
ATTARD	Andrew	🔴
BAGSTER	Mark	
BALDWIN	Murray	🔴
BARNETT	Michael	🔴
BARROW	Gilbert	
BASTOCK	Fred	
BATEMAN	Ray	🔴
BAYNIE	John	🔴
BIBBY	Vic	
BLOW	David	🔴
BORROWMAN	Gregory	🔴
BOWEN	Chris	
BRADLEY	Leo	
BRENNAN	Raymond	🔴
BREWER	Charles	🔴

BRINCAT	Alex	
BROADHEAD	Ken	🔴
BROWN	Jeffrey	🔴
BURKE	Alec	🔴
BURKE	Leo	
BUZACOTT	David	
CARLSSON	Jim	
CARSTENS	John	
CASHMORE	John	🔴
CHAD	Allan	
CHASEBERRY	Joseph	🔴
CHASELING	Brian	
CHETWYND	Rodney	🔴
CHRISTIE	Carl	
CLARK	David	🔴
CLARK	Neville	
CLIFF	Kevin	🔴
CLIFTON	Alfred	🔴
COCHRAN	Kathryn	🔴
COCHRANE	John	
COLE	Mick	
COLLINS	Don	
CONDON	Schon	🔴
COOTE	Glen	
COPPARD	Doug	
CROZIER	Kel	🔴
CUNNEEN	Stephen	🔴
DONNELLY	Suzanne	🔴
DOWN	Patrick	🔴
EAGLETON	Harold	🔴
EDWARDS	Hugh	
ELDERTON	Frederick	
ELSLEY	Graham	
FAIRFIELD	Peter	🔴
FAIRLESS	John	🔴
FENDER	Shane	🔴
FINCH	Lachlan	🔴
FITZPATRICK	Roy	
FLANAGAN	Kevin	🔴
FLIPPENCE	Addie	🔴
FLOWER	Stephen	🔴
FOX	Harry	
FRAZER	Ian	🔴
FRIDOLFSSON	Peter	🔴
FRY	Gary	🔴
FULCHER	Sharon	🔴
GABRIEL	Reginald	
GATES	Graham	
GIFFNEY	Desmond	
GILKINSON	Lance	
GILLESPIE	Rod	🔴
GLADEN	Noel	
GRESLEY	Wal	🔴
GWILYM	Jack	🔴
HALL	Barry	
HAMER	Colin	
HANSFORD	Jes	🔴
HARGREAVES	Thomas	
HARRISON	Allan	🔴

HARROWER	David	
HAVARD	Richard	
HAWKINS	Neil	🔴
HAYLEN	Ian	
HECKENBERG	Brian	
HEMSLEY	Mark	
HEYS	Rodney	
HINDMARSH	Laurie	
HOBSON	Stuart	
HOEY	Ian	🔴
HOGAN	Chris	🔴
HORSELL	Drew	🔴
HUNGERFORD	Bruce	
IRELAND	John	
IZARD	Michael	
JACKSON	Neville	🔴
JAMES	Ian	🔴
JARMAN	David	🔴
JEFFRESON	Edward	
JEFFRESON	Norman	
JOHNSTON	Warwick	🔴
JONES	Marcus	🔴
JONES	Michael	🔴
JONES	Ronald	
KARIKS	Andi	🔴
KEEFE	John	
KEEN	Kenneth	
KIRKWOOD	John	🔴
KNIGHT	William	
KOHLHAGEN	Ross	🔴
KOHLHAGEN	Paul	🔴
KOINA	Jeffrey	
LANGFORD- BROWN	Ian	
LAURENCE	Michael	🔴
LEDWICH	Samuel	🔴
LEEK	David	🔴
LEWIS	Brian	
LINCOLN	David	
LONGFELLOW	Virginia	
LOWE	Margo	🔴
MAGYAR	Mick	🔴
MAIN	Rick	🔴
MARTIN	Graham	🔴
MASON-JONES	Nicoll	
McDONOUGH	Paul	🔴
McCALLUM	Andrew	🔴
McCARTHY	Noel	
McCLELLAND	David	🔴
McFAYDEN	Barry	🔴
McGRATH	Peter	🔴
McKECHNIE	David	🔴
MCLEAN	Russ	🔴
MCVAY	Donald	🔴
MEDWAY	Harold	
MENDL	Peter	🔴
MILIC	Karl	
MILLAR	Anthony	🔴
MOONEY	Ronald	

MOORE	Dennis	
MORIXBAUER	Karl	🔴
MORGAN	Robert	
MORRIS	Douglas	🔴
MOYSEY	David	🔴
MOYSEY	Robert	
MUIR	Gayle	🔴
MUIR	Peter	🔴
MUIR	Lawrence	
NASH	James	🔴
NEILL	William	
NEWBERRY	Malcolm	🔴
NICHOLS	Grant	🔴
NOAKES	Steven	🔴
OWENS	Robert	🔴
PINNINGTON	Laidley	
POSENER	John	🔴
POWER	Brian	
POWER	Phil	🔴
PRIMROSE	Brian	
QUINTON	Graham	🔴
RICHARDSON	Robert	🔴
ROBERTS	Bruce	🔴
ROBERTS	Paul	
ROGAN	Robert	
ROWORTH	Douglas	🔴
RULE	Donald	
RUSSELL	Rusty	
RUSSELL	Robert	
SAINSBURY	Maurie	🔴
SCOTT	Ian	🔴
SEDGMAN	Evan	
SENGOS	Patrick	🔴
SHADAY	Max	🔴
SHUNWAH	Richard	🔴
SLATER	Peter	🔴
SMITH	Colin	
SMITH	Grahame	🔴
SMITH	Peter	🔴
SMITH	Roger	
SOTTER	Vernon	🔴
STANFORD	John	🔴
STARKE	Bill	🔴
STAZIKER	Stuart	🔴
STEDMAN	James	
STONE	Peter	
STRICKLAND	Kent	🔴
SULLIVAN	Kevin	🔴
SUNDERLAND	Ray	🔴
TAYLOR	Harry	
TAYLOR	Lawrence	
THORNTON	Stephen	🔴
TOBIN	Phillip	
TRENTIN	Mark	
TRUELOVE	Peter	🔴
WAGLAND	Ross	🔴
WALLER	Robert	🔴
WATSON	Alex	
WEBB	Ken	🔴

WHEATLEY	Murelia	🔴
WHITFIELD	Timothy	
WILLIAMS	Darcy	
WILLIAMS	Trevor	🔴
WILLIS	Kenneth	
WILSON	John	🔴
WORBOYS	Simon	🔴
WRIGHT	Colin	
YEATES	Chris	
YOUNG	Warwick	🔴

Honorary Life Members

BALFOUR	John	🔴
CORBETT	Robert	🔴
CROWE	John	Deceased
FALCONER	Max	🔴
LEWIS-HUGHES	KEN	Deceased
TOPLIS	Danny	
	Denotes Email address held	



Missing Members

Please have a “good” look at the members listing and if you know of anyone who’s name does not appear, please remind them to renew /or apply for membership, they are just a phone call away

Believe it or Not.....

Had a close look at statues lately?

It seems there are hidden meanings in just about every aspect of portrait statues.

If a Statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle.

If the horse has one front leg in the air the person died as a result of wounds received in battle.

If the horse has all four legs on the ground then the person died of natural causes.

Anzac Day 2007



“Hurry up and wait”
Both past and present members of the Regiment wait for the march to start



Members of the Regiment proudly marching the Association banner



The Regiments 91st Anniversary Cake

Reserve Forces Day 1 July 2007



The Gunners meet a VC Winner 26 Jun 07



L to R Gnr Patterson, Gnr Wilson, Gnr Barber, LCPL Beharry VC, Rec Miller, Gnr Evans, Gnr Vowell, Bdr Brown, Gnr Hammang

PR 19 & 66 Reporting Comments

The following comments would have been quoted on some unfortunate members yearly reports.

1. Since my last report, this member has reached rock-bottom and has started to dig.
2. I would not allow this member to breed.
3. This member is really not so much of a has-been, but more of a definite won't be.
4. Works well when under constant supervision and cornered like a rat in a trap.

5. This member is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot.
6. This member should go far, and the sooner he starts the better.
7. Got a full 6-pack, but lacks the plastic thingy to hold it all together.
8. He doesn't have ulcers, but he's a carrier.
9. He would argue with a signpost.
10. He brings a lot of joy whenever he leaves the room.
11. When his IQ reaches 50, he should sell.
12. A photographic memory but with the lens cover glued on.
13. A prime candidate for natural de-selection.
14. Donated his brain to science before he was done using it.
15. Gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming.
16. He's got two brains cells, one is lost and the other is out looking for it.
17. Some drink from the fountain of knowledge; he only gargled.
18. Takes him 2 hours to watch '60-minutes'.
19. The wheel is turning, but the hamster is dead
20. Got into the gene pool when the Lifeguard wasn't looking



The Army has now extended the retirement age for the Army Reserve to 65 years.

Sorry Taffy Jack they don't need any Q staff, so put the GP's and Starched greens back in the closet mate.....

Those were the days.....



107th (H) Bty Firing at night, Rutherford Sept 1939

The Thunder of the Guns

*Like the storm that's in the making
When the rumbling thunder runs
And the hills and valleys tremble:
That's **THE THUNDER OF THE GUNS.***

*When the aiming posts are planted
And the firing order comes,
Then the layers work their magic
With their sight and bubble runs.
Then the check is on the charges
And the range that's on the drum,
Then the muzzle flashes lightning;
That's **THE THUNDER OF THE GUNS.***

*It's in the fury of the battle
When the understanding comes
That the gunner is forever,
A partner with the guns.
The gunner's pride is legend
And the battles he has won,
Bring Regimental Honours,
Through **THE THUNDER OF HIS GUNS.***

*With the smoking breaches empty
And the dust and cordite gone,
There's a rumble in the distance:
That's **THE THUNDER OF THE GUNS.**
The Gods of War have finished
And the Sands of Time have run,
But always there's the memory of
THE THUNDER OF THE GUNS.*

*And as today becomes the future
Our sons will tell their sons,
That the men whose blood they carry:
Knew **THE THUNDER OF THE GUNS.***

*In the valley of the shadows
When his comrades are as one,
Their hearts will surely gladden
For they're the only ones
That understand the music:
In **THE THUNDER OF THE GUNS***

The poem was written during service in WW2.

By NX12891 Gnr W.S.T. Stacy,
2nd/3rd Field Regiment



A Lesson in Naval Logistics

On 23 August 1779, the USS Constitution set sail from Boston, loaded with 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of water, 74,000 cannon shot, 115,000 pounds of black powder and **79,000 gallons of rum.**

Her mission: to destroy and harass English Shipping

On 6 October, she made Jamaica, took on 826 pounds of flour and **688,300 gallons of rum.** Three weeks later, Constitution reached the Azores, where she provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and **300 gallons of Portuguese wine.**

On 18 November, she set sail for England where her crew captured and scuttled 12 English merchant vessels and **took aboard rum.**

By this time, Constitution had run out of shot. Nevertheless, she made her way unarmed up the Firth of Clyde for a night raid. Here, her landing party captured a whiskey distillery, transferred 13,000 gallons aboard and headed for home.

On 20 February 1780, the Constitution arrived in Boston with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, **no rum, and no whiskey.**

She did, however, still carry her crew of 475 officers and men and 18,600 gallons of water. The math is quite enlightening:

Length of cruise: 181 days **Booze consumption: 1.26 gallons per man per day**
 (this does not include the unknown quantity of rum captured from the 12 English merchant vessels in November).

Naval historians note that the re-enlistment rate from this cruise was 92%. **(ARMY Take Note!!!!)**

Gun Salutes



For those members fortunate to be involved in the many salutes the Regiment has participated in over the years, the following are the number of rounds fired for the various ceremonial occasions of which can be Royal, General or National.

Royalty, Presidents and the GG	21
State Governors, Commonwealth and Foreign Heads of Government	19
Lt Governor if administering	15
Field Marshals	19
Generals	17
Chief of Army and Lt Generals	15
Major Generals	13

I vividly recall the first round fired during a Mrs Macquarie's Chair salute in the 90's, as we woke up the local drunks sleeping off the night on the turps. I swear by their quick movements they thought Sydney Harbour was under attack by the Japs.

Also who could forget the 26 oz blanks making the guns recoil, jumping when firing, breaking windows in Duntroon and setting off car alarms, yes all without hearing protection.....



The Regiment Firing the Australia Day Salute at the Domain, January 1958

Australian Statistics First World War

- 421,809 enlisted AIF (includes AFC) -13.43 percent of the white male population and probably about half the eligible men.
- 331,781 enlisted and served overseas
- 61,720 died (all causes)
- 155,000 wounded (all services)
- 4,044 taken POW, 397 died while captive

Cause of Death	WW I	WW II
Battle related deaths	53,993	19,235
Non-Battle deaths	7,727	20,194
Wounded in action	137,013	23,477
Gassed	16,496	0
Prisoners of War	3,647	28,756
Prisoner of War deaths	109	8,031

Stats obtained from AWM website.



The following has been extracted from the Official War Histories written by C.E.W. Bean. (Sorry, but either throw the glasses on or enlarge the page as it is just that little bit too big for the columns)

EXPANSION OF THE FIELD ARTILLERY OF THE A.I.F.

The gradual development of the field artillery of the A.I.F. and the numbering of its batteries and brigades are puzzling to outsiders, but the following explanation may help towards an understanding.

The 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions were at first provided with artillery on the low establishment of thirty-six 18-pounders (and no howitzers) to a division.¹ They were organised in 4-gun batteries as follows:

<i>1st Division</i>	<i>2nd Division</i>
1st Brigade (1, 2, 3 Bties.)	4th Brigade (10, 11, 12 Bties.)
2nd Brigade (4, 5, 6 Bties.)	5th Brigade (13, 14, 15 Bties.)
3rd Brigade (7, 8, 9 Bties.)	6th Brigade (16, 17, 18 Bties.)

Before transfer to France, in order to bring the Australian artillery to the normal New Army establishment, it was increased by adding one battery to each brigade of field-guns and also by forming for each division a howitzer brigade (consisting, however, of only three 4-gun batteries). At the same time a large number of new batteries had to be formed for the new divisions,² each division now having 60 guns.

<i>1st Division.</i>	1st Bde. (1, 2, 3, 22); 2nd Bde. (4, 5, 6, 23); 3rd Bde. (7, 8, 9, 24); 21st How. Bde. (101, 102, 103).
<i>2nd Division.</i>	4th Bde. (10, 11, 12, 19); 5th Bde. (13, 14, 15, 20); 6th Bde. (16, 17, 18, 21); 22nd How. Bde. (104, 105, 106).
<i>3rd Division</i> (formed in Australia).	7th Bde. (25, 26, 27, 28); 8th Bde. (29, 30, 31, 32); 9th Bde. (33, 34, 35, 36); 23rd How. Bde. (107, 108, 109).
<i>4th Division</i> (formed in Egypt).	10th Bde. (37, 38, 39, 40); 11th Bde. (41, 42, 43, 44); 12th Bde. (45, 46, 47, 48); 24th How. Bde. (110, 111, 112).
<i>5th Division</i> (formed in Egypt).	13th Bde. (49, 50, 51, 52); 14th Bde. (53, 54, 55, 56); 15th Bde. (57, 58, 59, 60); 25th How. Bde. (113, 114, 115).

At the time of the arrival of the I Anzac Corps in France the British organisation was in process of change, howitzer brigades being abolished and their batteries being distributed to the 18-pounder brigades, each howitzer battery displacing one field battery. The displaced 18-pounder batteries (which, in the A.I.F., were the last batteries of each brigade) were formed into new brigades (which, in the A.I.F., took on the numbers of the old howitzer brigades).³ In the Australian and some British divisions, which had only three howitzer batteries, one of the four brigades in each division was then without a howitzer battery. The organisation was then:

<i>1st Division.</i>	1st Bde. (1, 2, 3, 101); 2nd Bde. (4, 5, 6, 102); 3rd Bde. (7, 8, 9, 103); 21st Bde. (22, 23, 24).
<i>2nd Division.</i>	4th Bde. (10, 11, 12, 104); 5th Bde. (13, 14, 15, 105); 6th Bde. (16, 17, 18, 106); 22nd Bde. (10, 20, 21).
<i>3rd Division.</i>	7th Bde. (25, 26, 27, 107); 8th Bde. (29, 30, 31, 108); 9th Bde. (33, 34, 35); 23rd Bde. (28, 32, 36, 109).
<i>4th Division.</i>	10th Bde. (37, 38, 39, 110); 11th Bde. (41, 42, 43, 111); 12th Bde. (45, 46, 47); 24th Bde. (40, 44, 48, 112).
<i>5th Division.</i>	13th Bde. (49, 50, 51, 113); 14th Bde. (53, 54, 55, 114); 15th Bde. (57, 58, 59); 25th Bde. (52, 56, 60, 115).

¹ See Vol. III, p. 37.

² It will be noted that the new field batteries were given numbers over 18 (that being the number already existing). But the howitzer batteries were numbered from 101, and the howitzer brigades from 21. Some of the new field batteries were irregularly allotted, 19-21 going to the 2nd Division and 22-24 to the 1st.

³ It is said that in at least one case the guns and the title of the batteries, but not the men, were exchanged.

It will be seen that the reorganisation was not quite regular, the newly formed 18-pounder brigades in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Divisions being allotted howitzer batteries, and one of the older brigades in each case going without; whereas in the 1st and 2nd Divisions howitzer batteries were given to all the old brigades and the new brigades went short.

In July 1916 the Army Council decided to "standardise" all brigades, and Australia was asked to raise an additional howitzer battery for each division—five in all. By the wish of the Army Council notified shortly afterwards, these were created from Australian artillery reinforcements in England (although by then special personnel had already been raised in Australia). The 3rd Australian Division, which was training at Salisbury, formed its own. These additional batteries were numbered 116-120; but only that of the 3rd Division (the 118th) had joined its brigade (the 9th) when the artillery was again reorganised in preparation for the spring offensive of 1917. To economise battery commanders, whose numbers were short, all batteries were raised from four guns to six, the number of *divisional* brigades being reduced by half, but "army" brigades (three in number in the A.I.F.) being formed. (The "army" brigades were thenceforth moved wherever required, not being permanently tied to any infantry division.) In the A.I.F.—

In 1st Division the 1st and 2nd Bdes. absorbed the 21st Bde. and the 116th (new) How. Bty.

In 2nd Division the 4th and 5th Bdes. absorbed the 22nd Bde. and the 117th (new) How. Bty.

In the 3rd Division the 7th and 8th Bdes. absorbed the 23rd Bde. including the 109th How. Bty.

In the 4th Division the 10th and 11th Bdes. absorbed the 18-pdrs. of the 24th Bde. and part of the 119th (new) How. Bty.

In the 5th Division the 13th and 14th Bdes. absorbed the 18-pdrs. of the 25th Bde. and the 120th (new) How. Bty.

The 3rd and 6th (Army) Bdes. (surplus from the 1st and 2nd Divisions) absorbed the 15th Bde. and the 115th How. Bty.

The 12th (Army) Bde. was given the 117th How. Bty., and absorbed half of the 9th Bde. which included the 118th (new) How. Bty.

There were thus left over half of the 9th Brigade, part of which had not yet crossed from England but part of which (including the 118th Battery) was in France. The unused part of this brigade was broken up and used as reinforcements.

The brigades thenceforth were as follows:

<i>1st Division.</i>	1st Bde. (1, 2, 3, 101); 2nd Bde. (4, 5, 6, 102).
<i>2nd Division.</i>	4th Bde. (10, 11, 12, 104); 5th Bde. (13, 14, 15, 105).
<i>3rd Division.</i>	7th Bde. (25, 26, 27, 107); 8th Bde. (29, 30, 31, 108).
<i>4th Division.</i>	10th Bde. (37, 38, 39, 110); 11th Bde. (41, 42, 43, 111).
<i>5th Division.</i>	13th Bde. (49, 50, 51, 113); 14th Bde. (53, 54, 55, 114).
<i>Army Bdes.</i>	3rd Bde. (7, 8, 9, 103); 6th Bde. (16, 17, 18, 106); 12th Bde. (45, 46, 47, 112).

After this final reorganisation each divisional artillery comprised 48 guns and howitzers, and each "army" brigade 24. A division holding an important sector was always, if possible, reinforced by several "army" brigades and/or by the artillery of other divisions whose infantry was out of the line.

⁴ A circular of the General Staff of I Anzac Corps states that part of the 119th How. Bty. went to the 112th.

Rule 303

Fort Scratchley Newcastle Update



For the ones that have visited the former home of 113 Battery, Fort Scratchley has been going through a major refurbishment to the cost of nearly 10 million and due to various problems the final completion date has slipped to early 2008.

Once an opening date is finalised, I will pass it on to Association members. It will be good excuse to drop in for a beer or two hic...

Executions in the British Army: 1914-1918

Offence	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
Desertion	3	46	71	90	35
Cowardice	1	4	10	2	-
Quitting Post	-	2	2	2	1
Disobedience	-	1	3	1	-
Murder	-	2	4	3	10
Striking a superior officer	-	-	3	1	-
Casting away arms	-	-	1	1	-
Mutiny	-	-	1	2	-
Sleeping on post	-	-	-	2	-
Totals	4	55	95	104	46

When the British Army went into action in the summer of 1914, a number of offences were punishable with death. This included mutiny, cowardice before the enemy, self-inflicted wounds, disobedience of a lawful order, desertion or attempted desertion, sleeping or being drunk on post, striking a superior officer, casting away arms or ammunition in the presence of the enemy, leaving a post without orders, abandoning a position, and treacherously communicated with or in any way assisting the enemy. At total of 304 were executed during the First World War, while another 18 suffered the same fate while waiting to leave the army after the signing of the Armistice. Of those executed, the vast majority, 286, committed the offence while in the trenches on the Western Front.

Medals Mounted, Replica Medals supplied
and Ribbon Bars made to order



Kevin Sullivan
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E-mail: kevin.sully@bigpond.com

All Medals are Court Mounted unless requested to be Swing Mounted.

Cost for 7 Field Regiment Members is \$10.00 per medal.

Most replica medals can be supplied and Court mounted for \$25.00. Clasp if required is an additional \$6.00.

Postage would be extra, however arrangements can be made through WO2 Pat Sengos at the Dee Why Depot.



Whilst going through the 7 Field files held at North Fort museum, I came across an old School of Arty handout which mentioned Artillery rounds fired during WW1. The following figures reflect how busy the gunners were during the Great War.

Type of Round	Total Rounds Fired
13 Pdr Q.F.	1,162,174
13 Pdr A.A.	2,963,757
3" 20 cwt	152,252
15 Pdr	122,592
18 Pdr	100,537,983
4.5" How	25,913,119
5.0" How	53,604
4.7" & 60 Pdr	10,828,545
6" How	21,519,613
6" Gun	1,049,036
8" How	3,951,601
9.2" How	3,123,020
9.2" Gun	45,162
12" How	218,818
12" Gun	3,812
15" Gun	24,227
14" Gun	372

Total Rounds Fired all Natures 171,670,687

Tonnage shipped to France 4,807,927

Approx Value £ 806,545,743

Maximum expenditure for any one day was 12,600 tons or 33 train loads. This occurred in Sept 1918.



I hope you have enjoyed this years rag, if you like to contribute to next years or pass on any ideas, please drop us a line at patseng@tpg.com.au.

Ed (BSM Blankets)