



Artillery WA



Official Newsletter of Royal Australian Artillery Association of WA (Inc), RAA Historical Society of WA (Inc)
Web Site: <http://www.artillerywa.org.au> Email: info@artillerywa.org.au

Edition 2 / 12

JUNE 2012



ANZAC Day Parade 2012, Perth



LEST WE FORGET



Notice Board

Mark these dates in your calendars

2012 BATTERY BIRTHDAY/ ARTILLERY REGIMENTAL MIXED DINNER CELEBRATING THE 64TH BATTERY BIRTHDAY

to be held in the

HOBBS ARTILLERY PARK DRILL HALL

on

Saturday, 7th of July 2012 at 7 pm for 7.30 pm

See page 5 for details

RAAHS BUSY BEES for 2012

28th Jan 25th Feb 24th Mar 28th Apr

26th May 23th Jun 28th Jul 25th Aug

22th Sep 27th Oct 24th Nov

LEIGHTON BATTERY OPEN DAYS

The Leighton Battery Heritage Site is open on a regular basis every Sunday of every month from 10 AM to 3:30 PM with tours of the tunnels every half hour.

FRONT COVER

ANZAC DAY Parade, St Georges Tce, Perth

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Next Issue – October 2012

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 ● **Subs to your Association or Society are now due – RAA of WA (Inc) - \$ 15 RAAHS - \$ 25** ●
 ● **We now have a Direct Debit facility – Please find the details in the relevant sections -** ●

The Editor gratefully acknowledges the contributions to the newsletter by the members, whose names appear with the corresponding articles.

Articles, editorial comment or book reviews for publication should be submitted to the editor, at: Royal Australian Artillery Association of WA (Inc) PO Box 881, Claremont WA 6910. Phone: 92694544 Fax: 9269 4370 or E-mail the Editor at info@artillerywa.org.au

ADVERTISING

Anybody interested in advertising their business in **ARTILLERY WA** for a donation of \$ 10 (ten) per year, (four issues), both in printed and web site editions, contact

Royal Australian Artillery Association of WA (Inc) PO Box 881, Claremont WA 6910. Phone: 92694544 Fax: 9269 4370 or E-mail the Editor at info@artillerywa.org.au



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION WA (INC)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Gunners,

Bob Farrelly, our President is back at Harvard absorbing yet more knowledge - although very recent intelligence suggests he might only have got as far as Lancelin as this goes to print.

This year I attended two diverse and quite separate Anzac Day events. First in my ADF capacity as 2IC of the WA Cadet Brigade I attended the annual Anzac Day service at the Banksia Hill Detention Centre for young offenders in the week before Anzac day. The entire service was planned, organised and conducted by the detainees and supported by detainee cadets who belong to B Company 509 ACU and a small element of the cadet band. The available detainee population attended the service. It was extremely well conducted and a credit to the efforts of all involved.

I will expand on this experience in a later edition. Although it's not the type of facility one strives to end up in, from what I was able to see during that event, considerable effort is going into providing an environment and guidance to assist the detainees to turn their lives around. B Company, 509 ACU is as far as I am aware unique and detainees volunteer to become members of it. As you might imagine the qualities of courage, initiative and teamwork are not necessarily concepts that some of these young people would readily identify with so fair play to them for accepting that additional challenge.

I then travelled to Broome together with a small number of other gunners for the actual Anzac Day march; once again a more detailed article later. However the march went extremely well and there were many veterans there from all round Australia and it was poignant to reflect in the pre-dawn overlooking Roebuck Bay that it was the 70th anniversary of the first bombing of Broome which resulted in considerable loss of life most of them women and children escaping from Java.

Locally there is plenty happening on the artillery establishment front, most of it unwelcome as far as old gunners would be concerned but a sign of the times nonetheless. Change is upon us whether we like it or not and this serves as a timely reminder that maintaining gunner traditions and esprit de corps is more important than ever. I urge all members to get interested and work towards ensuring our history is retained and that members of the gunner community remain connected.

Ubique - literally

Peter Mahoney
MAJ
Vice President, RAA Association

B.C.'s NOTE

Fellow Gunners,

2012 was always going to be a significant year for change but significant is turning into dramatic. Due to federal budget pressures there have been widespread delays in expenditure including a modest reduction in Army Reserve Training Salaries and the cancellation of the Self Propelled Howitzer (instead more towed M777s will be procured).

Project Beersheba however continues with all ARES units undergoing a unit establishment review with an expectation that ARES Artillery will emerge as a small headquarter element at 2 DIV and one mortar battery per ARES BDE. Whilst this is causing upheaval in the other states, WA has operated along these lines for

many years. Formation into a Battle Group construct and coming under command though is bringing its own set of challenges. Additionally the relocation of 11/28 BN HQ into Hobbs Artillery Park due to the condemning of their barracks at Retimo Lines (originally Anti-Aircraft Hall built in 1942) has made space a lot tighter.

It is likely that all ARES FD REGTs will be disestablished as a result of these changes and 7 FD BTY will become 7 MOR BTY. 3 FD REGT will disappear from the ORBAT.

The annual BTY Birthday/Artillery Regimental Mixed Dinner Sat 7th July will be an especially poignant event for this reason. I encourage all gunners whatever their heritage to make a special attempt to attend this dinner, an invitation with full details is included in this newsletter.

BDR Gavin Bonser, a long serving member of 7 FD BTY is fighting Lymphoma and receiving chemotherapy treatment. Our thoughts are with Gavin, Shelley and his children as they keep their spirits up through this difficult time.

Ubique

John Blylevens
Battery Commander
7 Field Battery 3 Field Regiment RAA



Gavin and Shelley Bonser at Hobbs Artillery Park ANZAC Day

HELP US TO KEEP YOU UP TO DATE

The RAA Association and RAAHS is keen to build up a data base of member's email addresses in order to send out occasional important information relating to GUNNER activities, for example the final live fire of the M2A2 by 7 FD BTY, Battery Birthday Dinner and the latest ArtilleryWA Newsletter which is now on-line.

Please send an email to john.blylevens@defence.gov.au if you would like to be included and when your change you email address, so we can keep up to date.

WELFARE FUND and OFFICER

John Walsh is the contact person as the Association's Welfare Officer. Anybody that needs to discuss any Welfare Funding can contact John via email at info@artillerywa.org.au or jfxwalsh@bigpond.com.au or by phone on 9269 4544, Wednesday mornings.

Access to Funds can be made by applying in writing using the Welfare Fund Form, which is available on request. *(From the Treasurer)*

The Association reminds Members that access to the Fund to help Gunners financially at a time of need is strictly confidential and all applications are treated as such.

MAJOR JOHN BLYLEVENS
BATTERY COMMANDER, 7 FIELD BATTERY, 3 FIELD REGIMENT

REQUESTS THE PLEASURE OF THE COMPANY OF
PAST AND PRESENT GUNNERS, OFFICERS, PARTNERS AND INVITED GUESTS
AT THE COMBINED

2012 BATTERY BIRTHDAY / ARTILLERY REGIMENTAL MIXED DINNER
CELEBRATING THE 64TH BATTERY BIRTHDAY

TO BE HELD IN THE
HOBBS ARTILLERY PARK DRILL HALL
ON
SATURDAY, 7TH OF JULY 2012 AT 7 PM FOR 7.30 PM.

COST \$60 PER PERSON
PAYMENT CHEQUE PAYABLE TO
7 FD BTY OTHER RANKS CANTEEN
DRESS MESS DRESS WHITE JACKET (SERVING OFFICERS AND SENIOR NCOs)
POLYESTER LONG SLEEVE WITH TIE (ORs)
LOUNGE SUIT / AFTER FIVE (GUESTS AND PARTNERS)
POC SGT SCOTT McMAHON
0433 759 377 or scott.mcmahon@dec.wa.gov.au
RSVP SGT SCOTT McMAHON
BY 26 JUNE 2012 – SHARP – REMINDERS WILL NOT BE ISSUED.

*PRICE INCLUDES PRE-DINNER SHERRY, DINNER WINE AND PORT. OTHER DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE DINNER AT MESS BAR PRICES.



ATTENDANCE SLIP REPLY

PAYMENT OFFICER (SGT SCOTT McMAHON)
BATTERY BIRTHDAY DINNER / ARTILLERY REGIMENTAL MIXED DINNER
7 FD BTY, 3 FD REGT HOBBS ARTILLERY PARK
STUBBS TERRACE, KARRAKATTA WA 6010



I WILL / WILL NOT BE ATTENDING THE BATTERY BIRTHDAY / ARTILLERY REGIMENTAL MIXED DINNER ON 7TH JULY 2012.

MY REMITTANCE FOR \$ _____ IS ENCLOSED. I WOULD PREFER TO BE SEATED WITH: (IF YOU HAVE ANY MATES YOU PREFER TO MIX WITH) _____

NAME _____ RANK _____ HONOURS _____

ADDRESS _____

PARTNER / GUESTS

NAME _____ RANK _____ HONOURS _____

NAME _____ RANK _____ HONOURS _____

NAME _____ RANK _____ HONOURS _____

Ubique

PROJECT 2013 SPECIAL TUNNEL TOURS

The Project 2013 Committee recently held special tours of the Leighton Battery Tunnels for representatives of WA Museum, Rottnest Island Authority and Rottnest Voluntary Guides Association.

As reported elsewhere in ARTILLERYWA, Project 2013 is designed to recognise a number of significant Gunner Anniversaries in 2013, with the object of raising funds for the enhancement and further development of Leighton Battery Heritage Site.

Should you wish to financially support this worthy cause, we suggest you visit the new website - <http://www.project2013.com.au/> All donations are tax deductible.

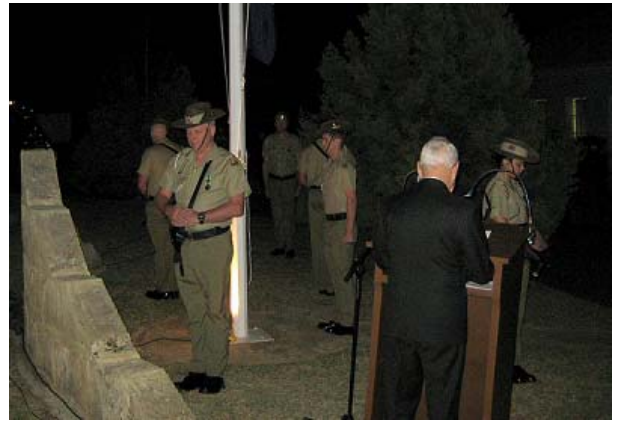


Don Rae (RAAHS-WA), Harriet Wyatt (Rottnest Island Authority), Patsy Vizents (Rottnest Island Authority) John Carroll (President Rottnest Volunteer Guides Association), Neil Lodge (RAAHS WA), Peter Creighton (Vice President Rottnest Volunteer Guides Association)



David Carter (President RAAHS-WA), Ainslie De Vos (Public Relations Manager Fremantle Ports), Geoffrey Harris, Jane Harris (Director WA Museum Foundation), Nicola Cole, Alec Cole (CEO WA Museum)

ANZAC DAY Photos 2012



You can Now pay your Membership Fees by Direct Debit!

Members can go to any bank (or do it by electronic transfer) and make a deposit quoting The RAA Association's BSB and Account Number and your Name. The Funds will automatically be transferred to the Association's Account along with your name.

It's that Simple!!

*Please do not forget to include your name, so we know who the payment is from.
Thank You.*

If you choose this method please quote:

RAA Association of WA (Inc) – (Note: Some banks may require the full wording)

Commonwealth Bank

BSB Number: 066 163

Account Number: 0090 2583



RAAA JACKET POCKET BADGE – Actual size of Badge is 100mm wide x 90mm high

RAA EMBROIDERED BERET BADGES – Actual size is 55mm wide by 40mm high

To purchase Embroidered Jacket and or Beret Badges -
Cut below and return to RAA Association of WA (Inc) - PO Box 881 Claremont WA 6910

I would like to order an Embroidered Badge / Jacket Pocket Badge (circle choice/s) as advertised in the ArtyWA newsletter.

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____(Qty) Beret Badges

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____(Qty) J P Badges

(Badges are \$10 each. Jacket Pockets are \$25 each.)

Name _____

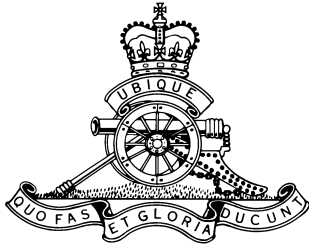
Member of _____

(Name of Association or Society)

Street Name _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode _____ Phone _____ Email: _____

Please make cheques payable to RAA of WA (Inc)



THE AIMING POST

The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society Of Western Australia (Inc)

PRESIDENTS REPORT and LEIGHTON UPDATE

Dear Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing President Mr Bruce Campbell for his efforts over many years to advance the interests of our Society. Your Management Committee finds itself in a sound financial position, largely due to Bruce's business skills.

Members are perhaps aware of our use of floor space in the Hobbs Artillery Park hall. Due to Defence needs we will be increasingly restricted with our displays in the near future. The Committee are addressing our options there. The 11/28th Bn H.Q staff have had to re-locate up there due to unsuitable past accommodation down on the flat.

Members should also be aware that our Society has use of the annex building only for as long as it suits Defence to have us there. We have always prided ourselves on excellent working relationships with the Karrakatta staff, but Canberra can always cost cut – the Committee has considered what our few options would be. At present we are secure –so fingers crossed.

The recent ANZAC DAY services doubtless saw many of you in attendance at your local site. I attended the City of South Perth dawn service- it draws several hundred people of all ages- a simple but moving ceremony.

Tuning to matters at Leighton- the first phase of the re-development of the Command Post interior has now been completed. Due to the planning and outsourcing arrangements done by Special Projects Officer Don Rae and a dedicated team of helpers, a visually impressive panorama of the seawards approaches to Fortress Fremantle now greets our prospective tunnel visitors. For our younger generations hooked on big screen effects, the panorama does the trick.

I thank all members who continue to make themselves available on Sundays to staff our operations there- and in particular those who by necessity fill gaps when they occur.

Members who may not have attended the last Saturday in each month busy-bee for a while [or first timers!] are most welcome . This is a good way to meet fellow members while munching a sausage in a bun. You do not have to be a skilled tradesperson!

I would ask all members to promote the tunnels and the Army Museum whenever possible.
Enjoy the winter rains!

DAVID CARTER
President

Inaugural ANZAC Day Event Welcomed By RAAHSWA

Yet another Australian sport has chosen to mark ANZAC Day commemorations with a special round. The Western Australian Hockey Association has given a ringing endorsement to the conduct, each year, of a special round of hockey between two Perth clubs, local rivals, Victoria Park Xavier Hockey Club and Wesley South Perth Hockey Club in the Melville Toyota League competition at the WAHA stadium in Bentley.

In early April 2012, Mr Peter Sarre of the Vic Park Panthers approached the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society of WA (Inc) requesting a donation of an artefact of WW1 significance which could be mounted to serve as a perpetual trophy for the event. RAAHSWA has donated an 18 pounder cartridge case, struck in 1916 and this now forms the centre piece of a magnificent trophy constructed of Jarrah timber, reclaimed from the old East Fremantle Football Club rooms. The society's donation was warmly received by both clubs and advertising material for both the tunnels and Project 2013 were on prominent display throughout the event.

In true ANZAC spirit the game was a skilful affair, hard fought with Wesley South Perth Wasps taking an early lead before Panthers equalised going into the break. Wasps proved to have a sting in their tail after half time going on to secure a 4 – 2 victory and claim the debut trophy. Phil Rowson representing the Historical Society attended to award the trophy to Wasps Captain Jayme Walsh. WAHA Board President, Peter Churack made the presentation to Most Valuable Player, Kiel Brown of Wasps. The MVP trophy is a replica Pattern 3 Rising Sun Collar Badge as worn by ANZAC troops in 1915. The badge was mounted on printed card with a short description of its significance.

Both Clubs now look forward to next year's event being an all Wasps V Panthers event with the Ladies teams joining the event to make it a whole club fixture at the stadium.



The Trophy



L – R Peter Sarre – *President, Mens Division, Victoria Park Xavier HC* Warrick Greaves – *President, Wesley South Perth HC* Jayme Walsh – *Captain, Wesley South Perth Wasps* Philip Rowson - *Representing RAAHSWA* Philip Hulbert – *Captain, Vic Park Panthers* Damian Knowles – *President, Victoria Park Xavier HC*

Shadow Tactical Unmanned Aerial System commences Afghan operations

The Shadow 200 Tactical Unmanned Aerial System (TUAS) has officially commenced operations in Afghanistan, providing an enhanced capability to the International Security Assistance Force.

The Shadow 200 TUAS is designed to conduct Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) operational support, enhancing the decision cycle of the support force element, through the employment of its sensors.

The Shadow 200 TUAS replaces the ScanEagle which has been in operation since mid 2007

Chief of Joint Operations, Lieutenant General Ash Power said the ScanEagle has provided constant intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance support to ground elements 24/7 for nearly five years.

“During that time the ScanEagle has made significant contributions to the force protection and situational awareness of the Coalition Force soldier on the ground,” Lieutenant General Power said.

“This was an average of 22 hours per day over the four years and 10 month period - a tremendous effort. Approximately 180 ADF personnel deployed in support of ScanEagle, with the bulk from 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment. Other contributing units include 16 Air Defence Regiment, Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation, 1st Topographical Survey Squadron and 16 Aviation Brigade.

“ScanEagle has been the vehicle for the Australian Army to develop its Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) capability and the Army is now taking the next step by employing the Shadow 200 TUAS,” Lieutenant General Power added.

Since being deployed to Afghanistan mid 2007 the ScanEagle has flown approximately 32,000 hours in Afghanistan and over 6,200 missions in support of the Reconstruction Task Force, Mentoring and Reconstruction Task Force, Mentoring Task Force, Combined Team - Uruzgan and the Special Operations Task Group.



Media contact: Defence Media Operations 02 6127 1999

RECOGNITION OF PAST ENDEAVOURS

Members will be pleased to note that your Society formally recognises outstanding efforts made by long serving members. This takes the form of a high quality acrylic display, suitably inscribed and bearing the recipient's name.

Recently a delegation comprising David Carter (President), Stan Davies and Basil Twine were pleased to present the awards to Mr Kevin Hamilton and Mr Malcolm Higham.



Mr Kevin Hamilton



Mr Malcolm Higham

Our Society thanks both those gentlemen for their *'blood sweat and tears'* over many years.

NEW TOUR GUIDES – WELCOME



Are you keen to promote one of WA's premier military history sites to others?

Then you are welcome to join our team of guides who volunteer their time for a few hours on a roster basis once a month on a Sunday to conduct public tours.

This historic site is the World War II Gun complex built as a part of Fortress Fremantle Defence located at Buckland Hill in Mosman Park.

- You will be trained and coached
- You will be part of a friendly team
- You need to be able to climb steps
- Vacancies for Guides and Cashiers

For further information call David Carter 93673539 (after hours)

You can Now pay your Membership Fees by Direct Debit!

Members can go to any bank and make a deposit quoting The RAA Historical Society's BSB and Account Number and your Name. The Funds will automatically be transferred to the Association's Account along with your name.

If you choose this method please quote:

RAA Historical Society of WA (Inc) - (Note: Some banks may require the full wording)

Commonwealth Bank

BSB Number: 066-103
Account Number: 00903744

Please do not forget to include your name so
we know who the payment is from.
Thank You.



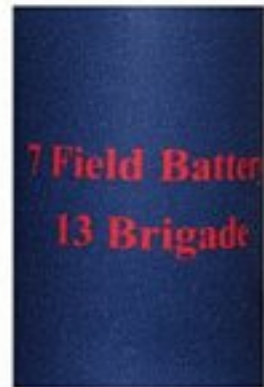
7 Fd Bty Merchandise FOR SALE



TIE



DETAILS ON TIE



STUBBY HOLDER

To purchase **7 Fd Bty RAA Tie** or **Stubby Holder**
Cut below and return to 7 Fd Bty ORs Canteen, 7 Fd Bty RAA, Irwin Barracks, KARRAKATTA WA 6010

For further details contact *Andrew Quarles*:
GNR/Bar member, 7 Fd Bty, KARRAKATTA WA 6010 Mob: 0403 988 961

I would like to order 7 Fd Bty RAA Tie / Stubby Holder (circle choice/s)
as advertised in the ArtilleryWA newsletter.

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____(Qty) 7 Fd Bty RAA Tie

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____(Qty) Stubby Holder

(Ties are \$25 each. Stubby Holders are \$5 each.)

Name _____

Street Name _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

Please make cheques payable to '7 Fd Bty ORs Canteen'