



GUILDFORD CENTENARY 2013



OFFICERS & NCO'S 1917



18 POUNDER, GUILDFORD REMOUNT DEPOT PRE-1918

ARTILLERY IN GUILDFORD



Notice Board

Mark this date in your calendars

**GUNNERS DAY
GUILDFORD CENTENARY 2013**

NOVEMBER 3rd 2013

See page 4 for details

RAAHS BUSY BEES for 2013

26th Jan 23th Feb 23th Mar 27th Apr
25th May 29th Jun 27th Jul 31st Aug
28th Sep 26th Oct 30th Nov 28th Dec

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.

Inside this Issue – Main points

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Next Issue – December 2013

Subs to your Association or Society are now due – RAAA 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

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION WA (INC)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Gunners,

BTY Birthday/ RAA Corps Dinner

On 6 July I attended the BTY Birthday/ RAA Corps Dinner. The dinner was well attended by about 100 people and it was great to see and catch up with many of the olds and bolds who attended. The BDE COMD, BRIG Steve Coggin and a number of representatives of the 11/28 Battle Group (BG) attended. It was good to see the support extended to 3 LT BTY and the Corps. This year there was a change of format with the pre and post dinner drinks in Hobbs Artillery Park drill hall. The actual dinner was in the Area OR's mess. The food was excellent and the new format proved a success; I think better than the old format of dinner in the Drill Hall (particularly on a cold night). The COL COMD, BRIG Gerry Warner spoke well about times of uncertainty and change and the need for us to step up to the challenge and to support the Army, the BTY and the Gunners as they forge the new directions. Some have expressed concerns with the loss of the guns and the move to the new BG structure. If we do not embrace the changes determined by Army we threaten to undermine not only the change, but more importantly the morale of the BTY, the serving Gunners and the Corps.

I presented the Association's annual award for the most outstanding soldier to GNR Iles-Fealy. He was presented the book and the trophy. There was also a new award, the Gavin Bonzer Award, provided by the RSL. His children presented the award and his wife spoke which was very touching. The BDE COMD noted the family culture of the Bty and the need to retain it. Overall it was a very successful night. Well done to the Bty and I would encourage all to attend next year.

Gunner Memorial

The RAA Association and RAAHS are working with the 11/28 BG with a view to moving the Gunner Memorial from out front of HAP to the rear entrance (near the Q Store entrance) and co-locating the Gunner Memorial and the 11/28 RWAR Memorial. This decision is based on a desire to co-locate the memorials and to have them in a more visible location. The Stubbs Terrace entrance is blocked off and the main entrance to HAP has for some years now been via the rear entrance. Don Rae has done a lot of work on the relocation and the plan, and I think will result in a more visible and better memorial presentation. The relocation is planned to be undertaken by the engineers. Whilst not commenced the planning is well advanced.

Promotion

On behalf of the Association and all Gunners, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate MAJ Andrew Dunjey as the CO elect to take over as the CO of WAUR from LTCOL Scott Sullivan. It is great to see another Gunner Officer moving into the command ranks.

Gunners Day 2013

Our next major event will be Gunners Day 2013, which will be held on Sunday, 3rd November. This year will be a much bigger event as it will mark the centenary of Artillery moving to Guildford prior to WW1 and is being strongly supported by the City of Swan. We will form up at St Mathew's Church, Stirling Square, Guildford at 11:00 am and step off shortly thereafter. We will march to the memorial, however along the way there will be the opening of the Hobbs Gates followed by the traditional memorial and church services. Following the church service we will be moving to the Guildford Town Hall for refreshments provided by the City of Swan. The centenary service will be a big event supported by the City, Guildford Grammar and other local Schools and the local community. I would strongly encourage you all to attend to mark this significant event. It is important that we, the Gunners, are well represented for the event to be a success. Those wishing a stronger drink or lunch can retire to the Rose & Crown hotel after the refreshments.

I look forward to seeing you on Gunner's Day. Let's provide a "concentration" of Gunners.

Next year Gunner's Day will fall on Sunday 2 November which will clash with the Centenary celebrations to be held in Albany to mark the departure of the ANZAC contingent on their journey to the war and Gallipoli. We are aware that many will be attending the Albany celebrations and for this reason we are considering the need to move the date for Gunner's Day in 2014, most probably to Sunday, 9 November 2014. More on this in due course.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of, and promote the Artillery WA website <http://www.artillerywa.org.au/>

Ubique,
Bob Farrelly
LTCOL
President, RAA Association

GUNNERS DAY 3rd NOV: GUILDFORD CENTENARY 2013

The intention is to make GUNNERS DAY 2013 a stand out event. The RAA A Committee has been working closely with the RAAHS-WA and the Guildford Artillery Centenary Committee to make GUNNERS DAY 2013 one to remember.

The City of Swan plans to unveil the Talbot Hobbs Memorial Gates at Stirling Square Guildford on this occasion with the gates being constructed partially from existing materials used in the original Talbot Hobbs gates from his Nedlands home.



Additionally they are providing financial assistance with catering and the production of a pamphlet detailing the history of GUNNERS DAY.

Brigadier Peter Gates the current Head of Regiment RAA has had to withdraw his offer to attend due to financial restraints but Brigadier Gerry Warner, the Representative Colonel Commandant RAA will officiate instead for the unveiling of the gates with the Mayor of Swan.

100 years ago 38th Battery was established at what is now Palmer Barracks in Guildford.

- 1100 hrs** Marching group to form up on the roadway to the church
- 1110 hrs** The parade will step off, taking approximately 2 minutes to reach the gates
- 1115 hrs** Gates unveiling ceremony: Mayor of Swan and Representative Colonel Commandant RAA
- 1125 hrs** The official party and guests move to the saluting dais. The parade will then step off and continue the normal route.
- 1130 hrs** The Wreath Laying ceremony will be followed by the Last Post and Reveille. LTCOL Farrelly will then recite the Ode. These procedures will take about 15 minutes.

The Parade will then move off, passing through the Memorial Gates to a position between the Church and the Church Hall, to the Church main entrance.

1145 hrs The official party, will walk from the Memorial to the Church and will be ushered to their seats in the front pew, South side, after the returned and service personnel have entered the Church.

1230 hrs At the completion of the church service the official party will then leave the Church followed by the congregation with all moving to the Guildford Town Hall (across the road) where a light luncheon will be served.

During the light luncheon there will be a short address by the President of the RAA Association. This concludes GUNNERS DAY with the exception of those who wish to make their way to the Rose and Crown for social interaction.

PROJECT 2013 - Rottnest Island's 75th Anniversary of Artillery

Join us on the island for **PROJECT 2013**

...the long-awaited **free public event** on

Saturday, 19 October 2013.



This action-packed day hosted by Rottnest Island commemorates 75 years of artillery history in Western Australia and the proofing of the 9.2-inch Guns at Oliver Hill and 6" guns at Bickley Battery, reopened to the public after a \$1.2 million refurbishment.

Held at Kingstown Barracks, the event will pay homage to those who served on Rottnest Island with music, drill dancing, World War II Bren Gun Carrier and military vehicle displays, the Bofors Gun, military exhibitions, historic footage and photographs, entertainment and food stalls.

Jump aboard our free tours of the Oliver Hill Guns and Tunnels or take in the stunning views from the breathtaking Bickley Battery walk trail.

Gates open 12pm and the entertainment starts at 1.30pm.

Ex-service personnel with official identification will receive free return ferry transfers to Rottnest Island only from Fremantle B-Shed, thanks to Rottnest Express Ferries. Don't miss out - Call 1300 467 688 to book today.

More information available at www.rottnestisland.com/events

Rottnest Island Authority
enquiries@rottnestisland.com
Phone (08) 9432 9300



VALE
Eric Taylor





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

Right Honourable Sir Christopher Geidt, KCVO, OBE, PC
The Private Secretary to Her Majesty The Queen
BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Dear Sir Christopher,

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 August 2013, commemorating 142 years of dedicated service to Australia.

We extend our congratulations to Her Majesty on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of her Coronation and we express our appreciation for the enduring leadership and dedication to the service of the people of the Commonwealth shown by Her Majesty.

Our involvement with the operations in Afghanistan will soon draw to a close and conclude another chapter in our close partnership with our British counterparts from the Royal Artillery. Australian Gunners remain deployed on operations and training across the globe.

This year our thoughts are with our gunners and their families who continue to prepare for and support several operational theatres.

Ubique

Yours faithfully,

A.G. WARNER, AM, LVO
Brigadier (Retired)
Representative Colonel Commandant
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Brigadier A. G. Warner, AM, LVO,
Representative Colonel Commandant,
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery.

Please convey my warm thanks to the Colonels Commandant, the Head of Regiment and all Ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery for their message of loyal greetings. sent on the occasion of Royal Australian Artillery Day which will commemorate one hundred and forty-two years of dedicated service by the Regiment in this, the Sixtieth Anniversary Year of my Coronation.

I was pleased to learn that your operations in Afghanistan will soon draw to a close and, as your Captain-General, I send my very best wishes for the safe return of all troops from overseas.

ELIZABETH R.

1st August, 2013.

B.C.'s NOTE

We have nearly completed the first 12 months as 3 Light Battery. We have certainly had challenges along the way, but overall we have continued to provide capability and I have been impressed with the way that all members of the Battery have continued in the fine gunner traditions.

We have conducted two LFX's in May and June at Lancelin. Both activities were extremely successful with around 400 bombs fired. The June LFX was actually a four day activity, starting on a Thursday night which enabled an extra day of live firing and we will certainly look at continuing that in 2014.

For the first time Infantry officer's attended the May weekend and live fired a fireplan in support of their company attack, realising firsthand the importance of coordinating the indirect fires and how we as gunners can make their plans work.

We are continuing getting all members rank and trade qualified and we have just had 5 members complete the CP course in Sydney.

The highlight of the year so far has been the annual Battery Birthday Dinner. This year's dinner was held in the Other Ranks Canteen, with pre and post drinks held at Hobbs Artillery Park. Nearly 100 current serving and past members of the Artillery family and partners attended the night and enjoyed the fellowship. Gunner Illes-Fealy was recognised as the 'best gunner' whilst Sgt Scott McMahon and LBDR Quarles De Quarles were joint winners of the inaugural Gavin Bonser Memorial Award.

Looking towards 2014 we have recently been advised that 3 Light Battery will be providing three mortar detachments, CP and a Joint Fires Team for Exercise Hamel to be conducted in Queensland around July 2014.

This year again will be firing the salute on 28 September to honour the Queen's Birthday and of course a large contingent of the Battery will be parading in Guildford in November to celebrate Gunners Day. I look forward to catching up with you there.

Ubique

Rob Coales
Battery Commander



Most Outstanding Soldier

GNR James Grant ILES-FEALY

GNR Iles-Fealy enlisted 14th Feb 2011 and was posted to the Battery in July 2011. He then quickly completed the necessary courses for a Light Gunner including additional heavy weapons courses.

GNR Iles-Fealy has been proactive in seeking opportunities for learning while regularly attending. He has not missed a parade. Additionally he has taken on a role as the assistant bar member.

GNR Iles-Fealy has rapidly become a valuable asset on the mortar line, quickly assimilating training of military skills demonstrated by a recent Battle Group activity where on his own initiative he back briefed the Joint Fires Team Commander on the activities that he and the other two members of the Battery had participated in while acting as section members working for an 11/28 RWAR BN section.

GNR Iles-Fealy is always AIRN compliant maintains an excellent level of physical fitness and is a positive member of the Battery.

GNR ILES-FEALY is a well-deserved recipient of the Most Outstanding Soldier Award for 2013.

Robert Coales
Major
Battery Commander

6th July 2013

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, 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 you change your email address, so we can keep up to date.

You can Now pay your Membership Fees (\$15 per annum) 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



RAA JACKET POCKET BADGE – Actual size of Badge is 100mm wide x 90mm high - \$15

RAA EMBROIDERED BERET BADGES – Actual size is 55mm wide by 40mm high - \$10

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 \$15 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 ADDRESS

Dear Members,

Welcome to the Spring edition of matters concerning your Society. The Management Committee members have met each month and have kept our house in order- we find ourselves in a solid financial position. I thank those gentlemen for their time and good advice.

Our prime asset Leighton Battery continues to draw steady visitor numbers 2300 as at 17/ 7. A pleasing observation is the surge in out of hours tours happening in the next quarter. Members who attend the busybees keep the site in tip top condition. Don and Neil have just about finished the Battery Command Post interior upgrades. In the tunnel complex, members have now installed a professionally produced colour image of the breech mechanism and interior of a 6" coast defence weapon. The visitor confronts an almost full sized weapon! Thanks go to Barry Ellis the initial photo and Neil and Don for the concept development.

The construction of a toilet attached to the B.C.P. is about to commence. That item is a necessity now that the site attracts such visitor numbers. Member Merv Ward will supervise the work as site manager. The cost will hopefully be partly met with an application to Lotterywest thanks Don.

Formal application has been lodged with the Town of Mosman Park to resite the 3.7" gun and introduce the 40mm weapon on site. That is expected to be passed by Council and be put before W.A. Planning Commission. Members are aware this improvement to Leighton has been a long time in coming but things are on the move.

Turning to matters at Irwin Barracks. The President thanks all members who continue to arrange Society matters each Wednesday week by week. Things get done because Members do them.

In my last address I commented on the change of ownership of Hobbs Drill Hall. With the new format of a Battlegroup 11th/28th Battalion has occupied more space in that building. The Society's interests especially the guns and the contents of the Bessel-Brown room have been represented ably by Don as our representative on the Scoping Committee. The contents of the room have been largely resited in their display cabinets onto the mezzanine floor and look good too.

Your President, our curator Don Rae and R.A.A. President Bob Farrelly have recently met with Brigadier Coggin to discuss the R.A.A.H.S. continued occupancy of the Annex site. The Brigadier was made aware of our period of residence there and was certainly sympathetic to our cause and our request for future permanence onsite there but we came away without any real assurances. So at this stage it remains business as usual at Karrakatta but your Committee will be keeping its ear to the ground in the Brigadier's terminology he doesn't want to throw anyone out onto the street. If push came to shove we could well be resited within the Barracks that would be the best deal short of having to vacate all our activities offsite entirely. Watch this space.

We have at present amassed an amount of clothing ex Q.M. at the annex, if any member would care to visit and liaise with our Curator you could well leave looking like WW 2 was still on!

To finish, I would like to inform members that the ceremony that is Gunner's Day 2013 November 3 will be a special event as it coincides with 100 years of artillery presence in Guildford the Council has arranged suitable support events to the Gunner's Day ceremony do consider coming along to take in these unique military sights if the weather is kind perhaps a picnic in St. Matthew's Square mid-morning?

But how could I end without wishing two of our veteran members Mr Bob Eggleston and Mr Ray Bird a better level of health than they are currently experiencing. We all miss seeing you gentlemen around!

Please enjoy the Spring showers,

David Carter.
President.

COME ON DOWN.....



How long is it since you visited the Leighton Battery Heritage Site?

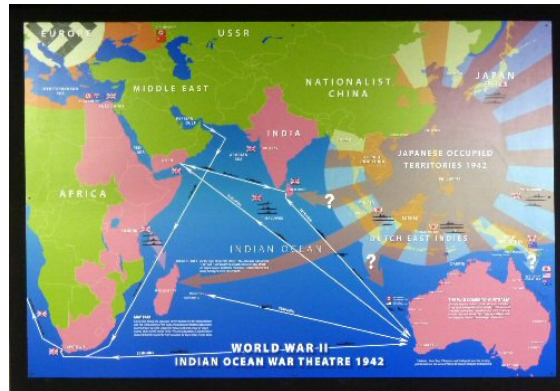
If it is over 12 months there's every possibility you would not recognise the interior of the Command Post and the Tunnels. During these past 12 months there have been innovative enhancements made to the site with the intention of improving the Visitor experience.



"A picture tells a thousand words." Never a truer statement! The use of World War 2 black and white photographic images have been put to good use in explaining the role of the strategic Port of Fremantle and Leighton Battery.

These innovations have complemented the presentation of our dedicated Guides.

We'd love to see you.....come on down. We're open every Sunday !



Leave it another 12 months and there will be more than ever to see. Future plans include the relocation of the 3.7 inch HAA Gun and introduction of a 40 mm Bofors LAA Gun to complement the Air Defence interpretation of the Site and (hopefully) the acquisition of a Shield for the 6 inch Gun Barrel, and.... wait for it...the installation of the long awaited Visitor "Dunny".

By Neil Lodge

ANZAC DAY SERVICES IN FRANCE

Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for youth, school or community choral groups so maybe you children/grandchildren are part of choir, so pass on this information.

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from youth, school or community choral groups to participate in Australian Government-led Anzac Day commemorative services in France from 2015 to 2019 inclusive. This period includes commemorations marking the centenary of the First World War.

The EOI asks choral groups to demonstrate:

- the ability to provide quality choral members for the period;
- experience delivering high quality and appropriate performances for commemorative or other significant events, including any that may be broadcast;
- the ability to provide a choir comprising members over 15 years of age, of mixed gender and representative of the Australian community; and
- financial viability sufficient to cover associated costs.



The choral group performing should not exceed 30 choristers.

View and download the EOI documentation (ATM ID: ADWF 13) at the [AusTender website](#). You must first register on AusTender to access this documentation.

Expressions of interest should be lodged by 12 pm Friday 18 October 2013. Late submissions will not be accepted.

WELFARE FUND and OFFICER

John Blylevens 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 john.bly@auspost.com.au or telephone 043 869 5711.

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.

You can Now pay your Membership Fees (\$25 per annum) 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.

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)



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3 Lt Bty Merchandise FOR SALE



TIE



DETAILS ON TIE



PT SHIRT

To purchase **7 Fd Bty RAA Tie** or **3 Lt Bty PT Shirt** Cut below and return to 3 Lt Bty ORs Canteen, Hobbs Artillery Park, Irwin Barracks, Stubbs Terrace, KARRAKATTA WA 6010 or for further details contact *Andrew Quarles*:

I would like to order 7 Fd Bty RAA Tie / 3 Lt Bty PT Shirt (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)

3 Lt Bty PT Shirt

(Ties are \$25 each. PT Shirts are \$25 each.)

Name _____

Street Name _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

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