



# Artillery WA



Official Newsletter of Royal Australian Artillery Association of W.A.(Inc.) RAA Historical Society of W.A. (Inc)  
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## **Order of the Day**

### **Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery Anniversary Greetings 2018**

This year marks the 147th Anniversary of the formation of a permanent component of the Australian Artillery when the New South Wales Artillery was formed. A part of this Regiment was later designated 'A' Battery and continues in service on Army's Order of Battle to this day. This is also the date that, by convention, we celebrate not only the beginning of the Australian Gunner journey, but also its continued service as the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery to the Army, our Nation and the Commonwealth. On the 1st of August this year, with the 100th Anniversary of the end of the Great War only three months away, we will pay special attention to commemorating the significant role Gunners played in that conflict.

As part of this commemoration, four young soldiers from the RAA were recently part of an ADF contingent that travelled to France to attend commemorative activities for the Battle of Hamel. In addition, it is hoped that the RAA will be part of a Commonwealth Gunners commemoration in November this year when, at 11.00am on the 11th of November across the time-zones of the Commonwealth, Minute Guns will be fired in as many Commonwealth Artillery units as possible to mark the time when the guns fell silent.

As is customary on the 1st of August each year, our Representative Colonel Commandant has once again written to Her Majesty The Queen, our Captain General, on behalf of the Colonels Commandant, the Head of Regiment, and all Ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery to convey to Her Majesty our respect and loyalty on the marking of another milestone in our history. Congratulations were also extended to Her Majesty on the occasion of her ninety second Birthday and our appreciation was expressed for the enduring leadership and dedication shown by Her Majesty to the service of the people of the Commonwealth.

On behalf of the Representative Colonel Commandant, Brigadier AG Warner AM, LVO, and our Colonels Commandant, I sincerely thank all ranks of the Royal Regiment, both serving and retired, for their outstanding service. Let us also remember at this time the members of the Regiment who have passed away during the last year and please join me in appreciating and honouring their service. They will be sadly missed.

Finally, our thoughts are with those members of the Regiment who still remain deployed on operations around the world. We wish them all good shooting and a safe return to their families.

Ubique,

CD Furini AM CSC  
Brigadier  
Head of Regiment

| August 2018

*Gunners: Accurate. Responsive. Dependable. Joint*

## NOTICE BOARD



EDITION	DEADLINE TO EDITOR	EDITING AND PREPARATION	FINAL EDITION	MAIL OUT
<b>4/2018</b>	<b>30/11/18</b>	<b>1/12/18</b>	<b>23/12/18</b>	<b>24/12/18</b>
1/2019	28/2/19	1/3/19	28/3/19	30/3/19
2/2019	30/4/19	1/5/19	28/6/19	30/6/19
3/2019	30/7/19	1/8/19	28/9/19	30/9/19
4/2019	1/10/19	3/10/19	30/10/19	31/10/19

To ensure that the printing deadline is met would you please observe the dates listed above. Items on any topic or subject, for inclusion in the newsletter, subject are most welcome and should be emailed to Bob Arnold on [arnold353@bigpond.com](mailto:arnold353@bigpond.com)

### WELFARE FUND OFFICER

John Blylevens is the Association's Welfare Officer. Anybody that needs to discuss any welfare funding can contact John via email [info@artillerywa.org.au](mailto:info@artillerywa.org.au) or telephone 043 869 5711. Access to funds can be made by applying in writing using the Welfare Fund Application 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.

**For those who need it - a reminder - subs are due on the First of January each year.**

#### RAAHS BUSY BEES FOR 2018

27 October  
24 November  
29 December

#### LEIGHTON BATTERY OPEN DAYS

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

### London and the Army

By tradition, the only British Army regiments that are allowed to march through the City of London with bayonets fixed and Colours flying are: *3rd Battalion of the Grenadier Guards - 2nd Battalion of the Gloucesters - The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) - The Buffs*



## THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Gunners,

The BTY Birthday/ RAA Corps Dinner was held on Saturday the 7th of July. The dinner was attended by some 80 past and serving members and their partners. There was great food, camaraderie and once again great entertainment by the WA Army Cadet Pipes and Drums - a great credit to themselves and the cadet organization. It was great to see Steve Holloway, a former ARA Training Officer was able to attend the dinner as he was visiting Perth on business. A great night was held by all.

The Association's Annual Award for the most outstanding soldier was presented to GNR John Paton. GNR Paton was enlisted into the Australian Army Reserve on the 26 of Nov 12 and was posted to the 3rd Battery of the Royal Australian Artillery on 10 Aug 13. He has demonstrated dedication to his service, consistently participating in all Battery activities. GNR Paton has been charged with leading Battery Physical Training on a weekly basis as the sub unit Combat Fitness Leader. His enthusiasm and diligence to the execution of this task has been unwavering. GNR Paton has successfully completed his Artillery Forward Observer's course and was identified as performing to a very high standard and has displayed leadership qualities and soldiering skills surpassing his training and time in rank. His commitment to Army's values has been unwavering. GNR Paton is a deserving recipient of the Most Outstanding Soldier Award for 2018.

Our next major event is the 90th Anniversary of Gunners Day to be held on Sunday 4th November. We form up at St Matthew's Church, Stirling Square, Guildford at 10:00 am and step off shortly thereafter. After the march we will have snacks in the Church Hall and then retire for refreshments. I would encourage all Gunners to attend and look forward to seeing you there.

The Feast of Saint Barbara will be held at Hobbs Artillery Park on Friday 7th of December. Given the numbers required to hold a successful dinner we have opened this event up to all ranks. The cost is \$ 80.00 per head. Invitations have been sent out but pass the word. If you have any enquiries, please contact Stan Davies on [stfdavies7@bigpond.com](mailto:stfdavies7@bigpond.com) or phone 0412 973 351. This will be a great opportunity to catch up pre Christmas.

**Ubique**

**Bob Farrelly**

LTCOL

President RAA Association



*A Drill Sergeant had just chewed out one of his soldiers, and as he was walking away, he turned to him and said: "I guess when I die you'll come and dance on my grave."*

*The response was "Not me, Sarge! "I promised myself that when I got out of the Army I'd never stand in another line."*

## THE AIMING POST

### Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**W**elcome to your winter update of the Society's events for the last few months.

Late June saw the last stages of our involvement, as consultants, with Whiteman Park's restoration of their 75mm German field gun. Curator Don and Workshop Supervisor Harvey have seen the project through to completion. Whiteman Park has invited RAAHS to attend the function to unveil the gun in October.

On a sad note, we marked the passing of our Foundation Member and original Society Librarian, Bob Glyde on 16 June 2018. Bob was a very keen historian on matters artillery. I remember Bob as a quietly spoken gentleman who was highly approachable on all matters related to RAAHS activities. Our thoughts go to Helen and the family members.

June also saw curator Don, committeeman Graham and I meeting with TOMP's CEO and his department heads to discuss aspects of our lease, the ongoing heavy maintenance events, the payment of fire insurance and an update of the Council's Conservation Plan.

Our 5.25" project funding received a boost when the penny finally dropped with TOMP that their ratepayers are not being asked to fund it. TOMP will approach LotteryWest for a community based grant that TOMP will hold on our behalf. It will be progressively spent as contractors feed their bills to them on completion of the work stages. The turret and barrel cost will have to be partly met from RAAHS existing bank funds. As Lessee we have done everything necessary to advance this big ticket project to date. We hope Council work on their requirements as quickly as they are able.

July saw a noted increase in after hours use of our tunnels by those "ghost busting" enthusiasts known as paranormal investigators. We hosted three different bands all with a common request. "Can we occupy space down there from 7pm to 11pm?" I know the customer is always right, but it made a long day.

The 3<sup>RD</sup> Battery Birthday evening, held in the Hobbs Drill Hall was another success. The usual dine in formalities were mixed in with good food and company. The Cadet Pipes and Drums did their usual strident efforts!

My periodic doctor's visit turned up the fact that his father was an A.I.F. member who served with 2/7 th Field Regiment. Gary kindly donated to me an interesting set of documents – including hand written notes on fire procedures, and an original map case with 1:250,000 maps of the north African coastline. I presented these to our Curator for retention in our collection, or return.

In July our Secretary John B, was on-site at the tunnels to supervise a team who did a comprehensive Ground probe radar survey around our hilltop. We are keen to clarify if, or where, any other Tunnels existed around our present site. There was no cost to the Society. Watch this space!

In early August Don Rae and I met with Susanna Bessell-Brown whose family links to the 2/3 Field Regiment A.I.F. Her father served in the 2/3, and was captured on Crete. Our Society has now linked with a military museum there. Susanna was presented with a 2/3 Banner and a porcelain dish with Crete W.W.2. artwork on it. A family party will visit Crete soon and will present the two items to the Museum on the Society's behalf.

I note that the "Mighty Redlegs" are on the march to the finals in the footy that really matters!

Enjoy the remaining weeks of winter everyone.

**David Carter.**



**A member of Parliament to Disraeli: "Sir, you will die on the gallows or some unspeakable disease." "That depends Sir, said Disraeli, "whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."**

### 3 BATTERY 9 REGIMENT

#### RAA ASSOCIATION

### BATTERY COMANDER'S REPORT

It is a great privilege to return to service as the Battery Commander of 3 Battery, 9 Regiment. I was fortunate to serve for 15 years in the regular Army. Graduating from the Australian Defence Force Academy in 2000, I was commissioned in 2001 after completing the training at the Royal Military College Duntroon. I was fortunate to be placed in the Royal Regiment as this was my first preference choice; artillery had the most opportunities to command soldiers.

I was first posted to 4<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment as a Section Commander in 108<sup>th</sup> Field Battery. Moving to Gun Position Officer 108<sup>th</sup> Field Battery I was blessed with a full compliment of 6 guns and fully manned command posts. Supporting all mission profiles including danger close and event based fire planning. Moving to 107<sup>th</sup> Field Battery I advanced to Forward Observer in support of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. This however was cut short when I was selected for Exercise Long Look, posted to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battery Royal Horse Artillery in Germany. The highlights of this rotation was as the air observer for a tank heavy battle group in Canada and the horse riding course hosted by Kings Troop Royal Horse Artillery in London.

Posted on promotion to Captain to 8<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment in Darwin, 101<sup>st</sup> Medium Battery I was the Forward Observer in support of A Squadron, 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Regiment. At short notice I deployed to Iraq as part of the Al Muthanna Task Group 1. Returning from deployment I spent a period in Headquarter Battery as Assistant Operations Officer and Acting Operations Officer.

Posted to 1<sup>st</sup> Field Regiment as the senior Artillery Captain, I fulfilled a wide variety of Regimental roles. Importantly I was identified to support 2/14 Light Horse Regiment in their preparations for deployment to Iraq. Subsequently deploying to Iraq as a Forward Observer I was responsible for the coordination of all joint effects and had the great fortune to source, plan and utilise a British AS-90 Self Propelled Gun in counter rocket operations. Returning to 8/12<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment as the Adjutant I supported the training of observers for Afghanistan. During this period it was identified that a Brigade Headquarter element would be established. Selected as the Chief of Joint Fires I was promoted and deployed to Afghanistan. This was an extremely challenging role, overseeing the fire support network for Uruzgan Province as the priority task. I was also responsible for all non special operations effects planning which in a complex multi national battlespace proved challenging and rewarding. Illness amongst key staff led to a period as the plans officer for the Brigade where I was fortunate to lead planning serials for both winter and spring periods

Returning from deployment I was posted as the Battery Commander of 102<sup>nd</sup> 'Coral' Battery in Adelaide, as part of 8/12 Regiment. The Headquarters and Commanding Officer were in Darwin presenting many more opportunities than challenges. This posting was a career highlight and I hold very fond memories of long road trips to the Northern Territory and Queensland. I was selected for Australian Command and Staff College but elected to move on to new challenges.

Discharging in 2013 I returned to my home state, moving to the South West. I was initially appointed as the Managing Director of the South West Institute of Technology (TAFE) and have subsequently been appointed as the Managing Director of South Regional TAFE. In this role I oversee all publically funded training in an area bounded by Bunbury, to Narrogin and South to Esperance. I also hold the position of Chair of Regional Development Australia South West and am a board member of TAFE Directors Australia and the Returned and Services League Western Australia. I am married with two children and have an unhealthy obsession with working dogs. It is a great privileged to be involved with 3 Battery and I look forward to working alongside the wonderful soldiers and young officers as the Battery as we support 9 Regiments and 2<sup>nd</sup> Division.

## THE RAAHS LIBRARY

The range and variety of books in the library continues to grow from donations by members, but disappointingly their usage does not. Although by far the majority of the publications cover matters military, including autobiographies and biographies, there are many which will also appeal to those readers whose interest is primarily fiction. There is also a wide variety of technical publications which will appeal to those interested in research.

Listed below are a number of books recently donated by Robert Glide, all in pristine condition, and is a small sample of the wide appeal to readers which the library offers.

We are open on Wednesdays and arrangements can always be made for those wishing to pay us a visit. Just let us know in advance of the time and date so that the necessary security requirements for entry can be organised. - Telephone: 92694544 (Wednesday only)

A History of Artillery  
 Australia's Forgotten Army  
 20<sup>th</sup> Century Artillery  
 Early British Quick Firing Artillery  
 A Record of World Service 28<sup>th</sup> Bn  
 Artillery in Tasmania  
 British and American Artillery of WW 2  
 70 Years Of Rails and Wire  
 Australians under Fire  
 Expose - A History of Searchlights in WW2  
 War Trophies from the First World War  
 Artillery – John Batchelor, Ian Hogg  
 Sky Watch  
 The Potshot Exmouth Secret Base -  
 the artillery presence 1943 -1945  
 Coast artillery Instruments  
 Fremantle's Secret Fleets  
 Field artillery 1939 – 1945  
 Behind Stone Walls and Barbed Wire  
 Secret Code Breakers of Central Bureau  
 Gallipoli a Battlefield Guide  
 The Guns and Gunners of Hong Kong  
 The Anti-Aircraft and Air Defence Branch of the  
 RAA 1926 -2009  
 The Lady was not a Spy  
 The Letter Batteries  
 The History, customs and traditions of the RAAOC  
 Australia Under Siege – Japanese Submarine Raiders 1942  
 Australian Military Equipment – Profiles

(Instructions for the treasurers among us)



## THE TREASURE CHEST

*The funds of the regiment are deposited in the treasure chest, but may be banked in the name of the commanding officer, either in a Government bank or with the Post Office Savings Bank or be placed in a Civil treasury or invested in Government paper, with the previous sanction of the Controller of Military Accounts of the Circle. The interest accruing on the above will be credited proportionately to those funds which have contributed to the sum at fixed deposit, or invested in Government paper.*

*To withdraw any money in a bank the cheque must be drawn by the treasure chest committee and be endorsed by the commanding officer. The treasure is managed by a Committee consisting of two British officers and one Indian officer, of whom one of the British officers will be called the Accounts Officer and the Indian officer is Cashier.*

Extracted from the Sepoy Officer's Manual 1914



*Who's for Golf?*



# Last shell friendly message

■ Liam Croy

The last shell fired by the Allies at Gallipoli had a message for the Turks.

"Compliments to a worthy enemy," the message read, scrawled in pencil around the nose of the shell.

The shell was fired by a gun crew from the 8th Field Battery, a WA unit that was among the first to see action on the peninsula almost eight months earlier.

The crew included Gunner Fred Cunningham, a 22-year-old who became a Battery Sergeant Major.

He recorded his memories of the withdrawal decades later, recalling that those last shots at the Olive Grove were not fired in anger.

"We did not fire these rounds in any spirit of ill will, but more in the nature of farewell," he said.



**Proud: Rex Clifford with Fred's medals.** Picture: Ben Crabtree

His proud grandson, Mad-dington's Rex Clifton, said the gun's breech block was presented to his grandfather before he died aged 94. It now sits at the Irwin Barracks.

The shell case, inscribed with his name, is kept at the

Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

"Grandpa was a traditionalist and a very proud royalist," Mr Clifton said. "(Australia) was part of the empire back then. It must have been like a boy's own adventure."

*With thanks to Wendy Mahoney*

Editorial comment:

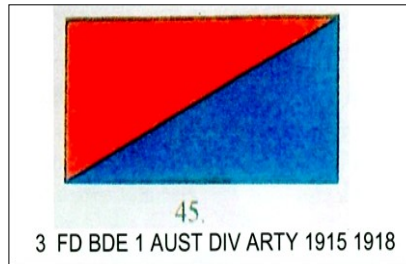
*Extracted from the Cunningham Autobiography Achieving the Impossible 1979, Bob Williamson was to remove the breech block and this I have been given to understand was sent back to Western Australia, and if my information is correct it is now in the Museum of the Artillery Depot at Karrakatta.*



The gun is the rallying point of the detachment; its flag, its banner. It is that to which the men look, by which they stand, with which they fall. As long as a gun is theirs they are unconquered, victorious; when the gun is lost, all is lost. It is their religion to fight until the enemy is out of range or until the gun itself is withdrawn, or until both it and the detachment are in the hands of the foe.

(Origin unknown)

(History of 8 Battery  
Continued From Artillery 2/28)



Lord Kitchener instigated a heavy veil of secrecy, even from his General Staff. Most were kept in ignorance of the subsequent Gallipoli military operation. Disagreements between Churchill and Kitchener added to the lack of clarity.

This secrecy led to a trickle-down effect everywhere. The lack of consultation, co-ordination and appreciation, made a coherent artillery plan impossible, leading to a lack of organisation and poor execution. This was responsible for major artillery concerns and confusion.

### Artillery Commanders' Concerns at Gallipoli

There was no clear doctrine as to how artillery was to be used. Some division commanders sub-allotted the artillery to infantry brigades, others kept the artillery in reserve under central control, and others treated the divisional artillery as another manoeuvre unit like the infantry brigades." (Horner, 1995, p. 78)

Many staff officers were appointed on the way to Gallipoli and so little artillery appreciation had occurred. Lt Col G.N. Johnson, a British Officer commanding the New Zealand and Australian Divisional Artillery, was unaware of their destination from Mena in Egypt. With the divisional artillery he sailed for the Greek Island of Lemnos on 10th April, arriving mid April. He remarked that, "Wherever we were going we had not enough ammunition." On board ship when told the destination, "as soon as I saw from the map what the country was like, I sent in a report pointing out the inadequacy of the artillery arrangements." (Horner, 1995, p. 87)

The senior Anzac Artillery Commanders had not been consulted about appropriate guns for the campaign. The lack of howitzers was a major fault in the deployment of artillery, hence reliance upon the 7th Indian Mountain Brigade (21 Battery and 26 Battery with their 12 small 10 pdr guns. (Horner, 1995, p. 88)

It is important to note that communication and control of artillery was undeveloped and rudimentary at the time of the Gallipoli landing. CRA Hobbs had no artillery communication with his Brigades. He used the scarce resources of the divisional signals company if they could be spared, or sent liaison officers on horseback. Communication between the forward observation officer (FOO and his guns, was by field telephone, which was prone to disruption from Turkish fire or other line breakages. (Horner, 1995, p. 78)

Indirect fire needed improved communications

between the supported arm and the gun line, between the CRA and his Brigades and between the forward observer officer and his guns.

The new notion of indirect fire role was not clearly accepted or understood in the British army upon whom the Australian artillery was modelled. Some high level non gunners preferred the direct fire role. (Horner, 1995, p. 76)

Artillery support of the infantry had not yet been clarified. There was little understanding of the need to coordinate infantry plans and timings (gunner time). (Horner, 1995, p. 78)

Their new 18 pounders fired to 6,500 yards (5940 metres) in a flat trajectory, but were suitable to fire in the indirect role, as was the 4.5 inch howitzer. The 18 – pounder had a flat trajectory up to 2000 metres so could not reach the deep gullies or trenches occupied by the Turks at Gallipoli. In gunner terms, this meant that targets under the line to shoot down to (2000 metres) could not be engaged by indirect fire, the use of which was not well understood outside of gunner circles.

Only shrapnel shell was available until June (then only in very limited quantity) when small numbers of High Explosive (HE) projectiles began to arrive. Shrapnel effect was rather like shotgun pellets, effective against troops in the open, but not against sandbagged trenches.

The infantry commanders, observing mounds of earthworks being thrown up 300 yards to their front, especially at Lone Pine, demanded the guns be brought forward into the trenches and fired in the direct role at the earthworks. They did not appreciate that shrapnel was not effective against earthworks and trenches - unless with enfilade fire. Shrapnel fired from a valley, fused at short ranges would burst sending pellets upward or forward. If the range was shortened the round would hit the forward slope of the crest where the infantry trenches were. Field guns and shrapnel were simply the wrong weapons for such close terrain, hence the resort to direct fire. It was useful for troops in the open, useless for troops with overhead cover or in trenches. HE was effective in destruction of overhead trench cover.

Ammunition was in short supply. During the early period of the occupation of Anzac Cove, Hobbs was forbidden to expend more than 2 rounds per gun per day, except in emergencies which he could thoroughly justify; such was the difficulty of the ammunition supply. All ammunition had to be carried by hand from the beach to the gun line half a mile over bullet swept terrain which included hills up to 400ft high.

Shortly after 20th June, 15 rounds of HE per battery was supplied for experimental use. After 2nd August 150 rounds of HE per battery began arriving.

As mentioned earlier, the CRA 1st Division, Lt-



General Sir Talbot Hobbs and Rosenthal, 3 Brigade Commander had both asked for a howitzer battery from Australia but it was not sent. (Horner, 1995, p. 86)

The British army had not yet resolved the conflict on the use of artillery – direct fire versus indirect fire. This had important ramifications for the Australian field artillery, which was modelled on the British control of artillery. More specifically the lack of clarity on how the guns were to be used caused “a severe difference of opinion between Hobbs and his divisional commander, Bridges, who on 6th May ordered the field guns ‘to be brought into a more forward position.’ Hobbs accepted the need to place guns in relatively exposed positions, but he did not accept Bridges’ wish that they be used ‘as if they were shotguns for the infantry’”. (Horner, 1995, p. 95)

The landing was further north than had been planned.

There was great difficulty in finding suitable gun positions in the cramped narrow beach-head. Deep gullies and ravines covered in thick bush made artillery observation of fire extremely difficult. Often the officer observers were in the infantry trenches or in more exposed positions. The short ranges precluded the 18 pounders being used in the indirect role.

Any gun positions found were almost always in full view of enemy observation. Building earthworks, sand bagging and digging gun pits were essential for protection.

### **Hob's Reconnaissance**

Hobbs watched the landing from the deck of “Minnewaska” becoming nervous as the Turkish artillery bracketed the ship which had hundreds of cans of petrol for the staff motor cars on the unprotected deck. When a 50 metre bracket had been achieved, the fire suddenly ceased. He also observed men on the skyline of Plugge’s Plateau were being held up by Turkish artillery which also swept the beach and the boats bringing the infantry ashore.

He transferred to a destroyer, HMS “Ribble” with Divisional Artillery Headquarter Staff and infantry. “Ribble” was peppered with shrapnel on the way in, with few casualties. When a few hundred yards from shore they transferred to boats and landed at 10 am. With his Brigade Major, Major Anderson, a British officer, Hobbs climbed the arduous cliffs to Plugge’s Plateau to search for gun positions. While lightly clothed and armed he marvelled at the infantry performance in getting to the top as heavily equipped as they were.

From Plugge’s Plateau Hobbs reconnoitred Nth to Russell’s Top at 11 am. Here they were fired on by Turkish snipers. He moved from the left flank, exposed to fire as it was and reconnoitred the whole of Anzac Cove around to the right flank. He was dismayed there were no suitable gun positions for the 18 pounders.

Hobbs noted that as the afternoon wore on, Turkish counter attacks as well as increased artillery fire had caused the invading force withdrawals to the last ridges

before the beach. At that time evacuation was being considered, something Hobbs maintained would have been disastrous. At 2am Hobbs rolled himself into a blanket and slept, waking at 4 am in a pool of water caused by a heavy downpour that night. He resumed the search for gun positions. (Hobbs, 1932, pp. 29,66-67)

Shortly after 4 pm some guns approached the beach but were sent back to the ships because of the lack of security and suitable gun positions. Simultaneously Hobbs found positions for two or three guns and sent for them. A gun from 1 Battery and a gun from 4 Battery were landed and whisked south along the beach to the cheers of hundreds of wounded awaiting evacuation to the ships. They were then manhandled by 100 men up a steep path to the position close to where earlier the Indian 26 Battery had suffered severe losses (near Hell’s Spit). A first shot was fired at 6 pm and by nightfall had fired 62 rounds helping to silence a troublesome Turkish gun on the headland of GabaTepe. This gun had caused considerable disruption. On the morning of the 26th, from their position on the extreme right of the ridge overlooking GabaTepe these guns fired about 400 rounds of shrapnel projectiles each. Each gun was controlled by an officer with its own nominated arc of fire. They fired shrapnel projectiles set at fuse zero because the Turks were 500-1000 yards away. Ammunition supply was difficult, rounds having to be carried by hand from the beach over a bullet swept area of half a mile, with steep cliffs rising to 400 feet. Later in the day, 7 Battery, 3 Brigade was emplaced on the same ridge (Bolton’s) and the single guns of 1 and 4 Battery were removed

During the afternoon of the 26th, without orders, two guns of 3 Bty 1 Bde and two guns of Bessell-Browne’s 8 Bty were emplaced. These were ordered back to the ships, much to the chagrin of Rosenthal. By 3 May two 8 Bty guns were in action on Bolton’s Hill, much to the chagrin of Rosenthal.

### **CO 3 Brigade: Rosenthal’s Reconnaissance**

Meanwhile, just after midday on day 1, Lt Col Rosenthal, CO of 3 Brigade AFA landed with 2 officers and 16 men from his HQ staff. They disembarked in a ship’s boat manned by his Brigade Ammunition Column. He reported to CRA Hobbs and was told that the Divisional Commander Bridges had ordered that no guns were to be brought ashore.

Rosenthal was given the task of rounding up lost stragglers and getting them back to their units in the firing line. When this was completed at 5 pm, Rosenthal thoroughly reconnoitred the right flank overlooking Gaba Tepe. He liaised with the three battalion infantry commanders and reported to the CRA that he had found suitable positions for his batteries on Bolton’s Hill. After much forceful representation and discussion, Rosenthal was given permission to land two of his three 18 Pdr batteries. Shortly after this, Rosenthal was told to land two guns only.

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued from Page 9)

Overnight, Rosenthal's HQ staff prepared a track from the beach to Low Scrub Hill, the gun position near Hell's Spit, south of Anzac Cove. By 5:30 am on the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup>, however, permission to land two guns had been revoked. (To be continued in Artillery WA 4/18)

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## Had a wet Sunday afternoon?

### **BERNADETTE**

The act of torching a mortgage.

### **BURGLARIZE**

What a crook sees through.

### **AVOIDABLE**

What a bullfighter tries to do.

### **EYEDROPPER**

Clumsy ophthalmologist.

### **CONTROL**

A short, ugly inmate.

### **COUNTERFEITER**

A worker who puts together kitchen cabinets.

### **ECLIPSE**

What an English barber does for a living.

### **LEFT BANK**

What the bank robbers did when their bag was full of money.

### **HEROES**

What a man in a boat does.

### **PARASITES**

What you see from the Eiffel Tower.

### **PARADOX**

Two physicians.

### **PHARMACIST**

A helper on a farm.

### **POLARIZE**

What penguins see through.

### **RELIEF**

What trees do in the spring.

### **RUBBERNECK**

What you do to relax your wife.

### **SELFISH**

What the owner of a seafood store does.

### **SUDAFED**

Brought litigation against a government official.

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## WILDEAN PARADOXES

Nowadays, all the married men live like bachelors, and He hadn't a single redeeming vice.  
all the bachelors live like married men.

I can believe anything provided it is incredible.

Scepticism is the beginning of faith.

It is only the modern that ever becomes old-fashioned.

A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies.

All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. No man does. That's his.

There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that's not being talked about.

I must decline your invitation owing to a subsequent engagement.

A true friend stabs you in the front.

I love acting. It is so much more real than life.

I can resist everything except temptation

The way to get rid of temptation is to yield to it.

## Self-propelled Russian howitzers roll through Moscow's Red Square

( From a recent BBC article)



Ever since our lopsided victory in the Gulf War in early 1991, the U.S. military has been venerated by many Americans as an unbeatable force. How rapidly our combined air-ground offensive crushed Saddam's large yet ponderous army gave the Pentagon an aura of invincibility. Military leaders and defense thinkers proclaimed the dawn of new era in warfare. With our advanced technology and precision strikes, everything was different.

But was it? In hindsight, the Gulf War merely confirmed what military historians always knew, namely that

better weaponry and command-and-control habitually crush large numbers of less well-equipped enemies. A generation on, the "lessons" of 1991 appear no more noteworthy than the "lessons" of Omdurman in Sudan in 1898, when two brigades of British regulars easily crushed a force of 50,000 jihad-fueled natives because, as the wags of the day put it, "We have got the Maxim Gun, and they have not."

Yet since the Gulf War, the U.S. Army's technological edge over its potential foes— what defence doyens term overmatch—has dwindled,

slowly but irrevocably. Through the decade after 1991, the army was busy managing post-Cold War cut-backs and peacekeeping in the Balkans and saw no peer-competitors anywhere. Since 9/11, as plausible rivals like Russia and China have slowly come into focus, our army has been busy managing costly and ultimately futile campaigns in the Greater Middle East. Our diffident war in Afghanistan, America's longest by a good margin, is in its 17th year, and strategic victory is now as far off as it has ever been.







## ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY

# GUNNERS' DAY

SUNDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2018

All Gunners, their families, guests and other interested parties are invited to attend the Annual Gunners Day parade and service at Stirling Square Guildford Sunday 4th November 2018.

10:00am: RV at St Matthews Church

10:10am: Parade forms up in Stirling Street. Guests and families seated at dais in front of memorial

10:15am: Parade steps off, left onto footpath alongside Meadow Street, past the saluting dais then left into memorial

10:25am: Wreath Laying Ceremony

10:45am: Gunner's Day Service in St Matthews Church

11:30am: Light Luncheon in the Church Hall

12.00pm: Camaraderie at the Rose & Crown Hotel Guildford

Parade led by Australian Army Band Perth, Gunners past and present, serving Officers and Soldiers of 3 Battery RAA and members of the Australian Cadet Corps.

Service will be conducted by Reverend Katrina Holgate

Guests include Members of Parliament, Local Government, R&SL and other Associations.

Enquiries to Hon Secretary Royal Australian Artillery Association Western Australia (Inc):  
[john.blylevens@iinet.net.au](mailto:john.blylevens@iinet.net.au) 0438 695 711

GUNNERS Day has been conducted every year since 1928 in memory of those who fought and fell during WW1 (and subsequent conflicts). It is a special day for remembrance and a great opportunity to catch up with Gunner colleagues.

*UBIQUE*