

7 Field Regiment Association

Yandoo

Royal Australian Artillery

2001

Vol 1 No 15



7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATION

2 SUAKIN STREET, PYMBLE 2073
(P.O. BOX 206 FRENCHS FOREST 2086)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

2001 has almost disappeared and throughout this year the Association has enjoyed many activities including the Annual Reunion in November, ANZAC Day and Reserve Forces Day. Membership is now around 280 but a few more would strengthen our ranks on these great occasions.

The Secretary and I attended the meeting in May at North Fort in relation to a possible "Hall of Fame", including Unit Histories, past & present banners etc. This project is in very early stages and more information will be provided when available.

Thank you to our Patron, Colonel John Fairless for his support and to our anchorman John Balfour - words cannot describe his efforts towards Association matters. Also special thanks to Max Falconer, always handy with his camera and to Barney Flanagan and Jack Gwilym for being part of the Ex-Service Guard on Reserve Forces Day.

We currently have 3 projects 'on the go' and you can expect to hear more about these in the not too distant future vis:

- Historical Plaque at site of old School of Arts building, Mount St North Sydney (7 Fd Brigade Drill Hall 1921-1929)
- Historical Plaque at site of Drill Hall, Warrane Road, Willoughby.
- Creation of Association 'Web Site'.

I hope to see you all at the Reunion in November - Best wishes for 2002.

Brian Heckenberg
President

Thought for the Day - Artillery Men believe the world consists of two types of people: Artillery Men and Targets.

FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER

At the beginning of the year we saw the posting out of some very experienced and long serving members of 7 Fd. The OPSO Maj Shaun Harding went back to being a student again at ATSOC in Canberra, the ADJT Capt Brandon Wood went to Land Command, FO Capt Joe Kelly went to Williamstown as our RAAF Rep, WO2 Tim Jones, CCLK, went to HQ Training Command, the QM WO2 Bill Rowe went to start the new Intelligence Battalion at Victoria Barracks and the Orderly Room Cpl, Dominic Adams (with Cpl Ladmore) went to the PWLH Tankies in Melbourne.

Posted in at the start of the year were the OPSO Maj Jason Kirkby from 7 Fd Bty, ADJT Capt Matt Anderson from 8/12 & Timor. Later arrivals were Sgt Wayne Piggott from 8 Sig Regt, OC TST Capt Lee and Capt (Doc) Chin, both from 8 CSSB. The Regt also saw 3 new 2nd Lt's join us from RMC – a most welcome sight. Welcome also to Lt Kylie Wendt from LTS.

The Regt has been recruiting well due to the efforts of WO2 Pete Linsley and Cpl Steve Balfour. They have been putting in many extra hours to help the Regt grow and their efforts are being rewarded.

2001 has proven to be very busy and rewarding with challenging and varied training. 7th Field conducted a live fire Artillery exercise (Menin Road) in March with one 4 Gun Bty, one CP & half a JOST deployed at Singleton Range. This exercise was a return to basics as the Regt had not live fired in 16 months and had only conducted limited gunnery training in that time due to the commitments of OP Search Battalion and Op Gold.

The exercise proved to be wake up call for the Regt, with many areas of concern highlighted, mainly relating to security of the gun position. The catalyst for this was a late night raid into the position by the OPSO, Maj Jason "Killer" Kirkby, who together with 3 soldiers from HQ, managed to infiltrate the position and despatch the Command Post with ease, and then sneak away into the night.

In April, Exercise Broodseinde was conducted at Singleton Range as a continuation of live gunnery training with a focus on local defence. The highlight of this exercise was the 84mm anti armour shoot on the Saturday evening under the illumination of M79 40mm and 84mm Carl Gustav as the Gun Line engaged other targets simultaneously. The following morning the Regiment conducted a Grenade practice followed by a brisk 5 km CFT practice.

We found ourselves again at Singleton in June conducting a live fire small arms exercise. The aim of this exercise was to develop individual small arms skills, employ the NINOX night fighting equipment and to employ the LSW F89.

Exercise Mont St Quentin was conducted in July, consisting of a leadership exercise over a 12 hour period with detachments moving from stand to stand solving problems and putting their soldier skills to the test. On completion of the leadership exercise, the troops moved to the obstacle course and bayonet assault course, where they unleashed their aggression.

In August, another live fire exercise was conducted at Singleton, firing 325 rounds HE, including 54 CVT airburst, 64 illumination and 60 WP. For many of the Gunners it was the first time they had fired airburst ammunition. On completion of the CVT shoot, the guns redeployed and conducted a combined arms practice with 12/16 HRL and 2/17 RNSWR. A number of the Regiment remained at Singleton after the weekend to fire in support of the Forward Air Controllers Course, which included the opportunity to see air strikes by F/A 18 Hornets, including strafing and bombing runs. This exercise was the first time the Regt had the opportunity to deploy and use the new PLGR II (AGLS) Artillery Gun Laying System) equipment.



David Leek



Peter Mendl



Brian Heckenberg



Peter Stone



Graeme Wagstaff



Bill Starke

ANNUAL REUNION NOVEMBER 2000

Bob Owens

Darcy Williams

David Moysey





**Patron, Colonel John Fairless with Cpl Steven Balfour,
HQ Bty(TST), Most Proficient Soldier 2000**

ANNUAL REUNION – NOVEMBER 2000

Fred Hopkinson



Jim Nash



Gary Fry





RESERVE FORCES DAY PARADE - 1 JULY 2001

4th FIELD REGIMENT

The history of 4th Field Regiment harks back to the Howitzer Batteries formed in Egypt in 1916 in support of the 1st AIF. These batteries supported many famous battles in France during WW1. During the second World War, the Regiment's direct namesake was raised as the 2nd/4th Regiment. The Regiment saw active service against the Vichy French in the Syrian campaign and later supported the heavy fighting in the jungles of New Guinea against the Japanese.

The 4th Field Regiment was raised at Wacol, Brisbane on 4 May 1960. In 1965 the Regiment provided the first Australian Artillery Battery to serve in South Vietnam. 4th Field continued to provide batteries on a rotational basis until 1971.

In August 1967, during Operation Ballarat in the Chau Pha Valley, Lt N J (Nobby) Clark, called in fire from 106 Field Battery to within 50 metres of his own position and forced the Viet Cong, who were inflicting heavy casualties, to withdraw. Lt Clark was awarded the Military Cross.

Between 1967 and 1973, batteries of the Regiment served successive two year tours as part of combined Commonwealth Forces in Malaysia and Singapore. The Guns in service at the time were the L5 Pack Howitzer (105mm) and the M2A2 (105mm). It was not until 1968 that the Regiment moved to Townsville. The Regiment then consisted of 106, 107, 108 and HQ Battery. 106th Field Battery was disbanded in 1978 and in 1980 the Regiment was allocated as the Direct Support Regiment for the 3rd Brigade.

Members of 4th Field Regiment have more recently seen service in Somalia as part of Operation Solace and in Cambodia as part of Operation Gemini. The Regiment has also had members deployed overseas on Operation Minurso in the Western Sahara and Operation Tamar in Rawanda. Soldiers are also deployed in Bougainville on Operation Lagoon.

In September 1999, Arty Tac and 108th Field Battery deployed on Operation Warden to East Timor. The command and liaison group of the battery conducted Civil and Military operations in support of the 2nd Battalion RAR. The 108th Field Battery gun line re-configured as an Infantry Rifle Company for the duration. 4th Field Regiment soldiers continue to have a high profile in many overseas deployments.

Compiled by Michael Berriman. Printed with permission of 4th Field Regiment.

THE BATTERIES OF 7 FIELD REGIMENT

By R C M Toplis

(continued from last issue)

27 Field Battery

This Battery was formed at Hornsby from a percentage of personnel from
15th Field Battery, 5 AFA Brigade and a percentage of
25th Field Battery AFA, 4 AFA Brigade.

Lineage from 4 AFA Brigade

1 July 1914 Raised 12th Battery AFA, 4 AFA Brigade
17 August 1918 25th Battery AFA, 4 AFA Brigade
31 March 1921 25th Battery AFA split to form parts of the
following batteries: 21st Battery AFA
27th Battery AFA
55th Battery AFA

Lineage from 5 AFA Brigade

1920 Raised 15th Battery AFA Brigade
31 March 1921 15th Battery AFA split to form parts of the
following batteries: 21st Battery AFA
27th Battery AFA
55th Battery AFA
31 March 1921 27th Battery AFA, V11 AFA Brigade
1926 Moved to Mount St, North Sydney
1929 27th Field Battery AFA
February 1941 Disbanded and reorganised as a troop of 25th Field Battery.
Sept 1941 – March 1942 – Battery reformed Regiment on full time duty.
17 November 1943 Disbanded Wallgrove as part of a regimental
disbandment.
24 October 1965 27 Field Battery raised from Q Battery, 7 Field Regiment
RAA at Marrickville.
1969 Battery moved to Willoughby
1 November 1973 Disbanded and absorbed into 28 Field Battery at Willoughby

26 Field Battery

This Battery was formed at Mount Street, North Sydney from a percentage of personnel from 14 Field Battery, 5 AFA Brigade and a percentage of 22 Field Battery, 4 AFA Brigade.

Lineage from 4 AFA Brigade.

1883 Raised C Battery, NSW Field Artillery
24 July 1903 Redesignated No 2 NSW Battery AFA
1 July 1911 No 2 Battery AFA
1 July 1912 2nd Battery, Field Artillery, 1 AFA Brigade
1 July 1913 11th Battery, Field Artillery, 4 AFA Brigade
1 July 1914 11th Battery, AFA, 4 AFA Brigade
17 August 1918 22nd Battery, AFA, 4 AFA Brigade
31 March 1921 22nd Battery, AFA, split to form parts of the following batteries :
20th Battery, AFA
26th Battery, AFA
54th Battery, AFA

Lineage from 5 AFA Brigade

1 July 1914 Raised 14th Battery AFA, 5 AFA Brigade
31 March 1921 14th Battery AFA, split to form parts of the following batteries ;
20th Battery AFA
26th Battery AFA
54th Battery AFA
1 July 1922 Disbanded as a result of changes to the training establishment of Infantry Divisional Artillery Brigades.
1 May 1939 26 Field Battery raised at Willoughby
17 November 1943 Disbanded at Wallgrove as part of a regimental disbandment
24 October 1965 26 Field Battery raised from 'P' Battery, 7 Field Regiment RAA at Willoughby
1 November 1973 Disbanded and absorbed into 28 Field Battery at Willoughby.

107th Field Battery

16 July 1904 Raised as No 5 NSW Battery at Mount Street, North Sydney
1 July 1911 No 5 Battery, AFA
1 July 1912 5th Battery, Field Artillery
1 July 1913 44th Battery (Howitzer), Field Artillery
1 July 1914 44th Battery (Howitzer), AFA
17 August 1918 48th Battery (Howitzer), AFA
31 March 1921 48th Battery (Howitzer) split to form parts of the following batteries :
107th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA
109th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA
114th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA
31 March 1921 107th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA, V11 AFA Brigade
1929 107th Field Battery (Howitzer), AFA
Feb 1941 Disbanded and reorganised as a troop of 26 Field Battery.

(Continued Next issue)

THE VIETNAM WAR
(All the statistics you ever needed to know)

Estimated overall casualties	5,773,190
Estimated Dead	2,122,244
Assassinations (South Vietnam)	36,725
Abductions (South Vietnam)	58,499
Est South Vietnam Citizens killed	587,000
South Vietnam Military Personnel killed	220,357
Americans killed	58,169
Americans killed under 20 years old	11,465
Americans severely disabled	75,000
US Airmen killed	8,040
Australians killed	503
Helicopters used	12,000
Helicopters Downed (enemy ground fire)	4,865
Ammunition expended each month	71,000 tons
Artillery rounds expended per day	10,000 (average)
Field rations consumed each month	10,000,000
Litres of fuel consumed each month	303,000,000
B52's lost to enemy action	18
B52's lost due to midair collisions	13
Fixed wing aircraft lost	3,750
No of US Sorties	1,899,688
No of tons of bombs dropped	6,727,084

7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATION
Members as at 1 October 2001

AGNEW	Charles	ELDERTON	Frederick	JONES	Ronald	RULE	Donald
AISTON	Karen	ELSLEY	Graham	JORGENSEN	Kenneth	RUSSELL	Robert
ANGUS	John	EWAN	David	KARIKS	Andi	RUSSELL	Ross
ANDERSON	Chrostopher	EWAN	Amelia	KEEFE	John	SABER	Stanley
ATTARD	Andrew	FAIRFIELD	Peter	KEEN	Kenneth	SAFTICH	Rolf
BAGSTER	Mark	FAIRLESS	John	KEFT	Barry	SAINSBURY	Maurie
BAILEY	Norman	FAIRLEY	Jack	KELLY	Wal	SCHEDDING	Richard
BALDWIN	Murray	FALCONER	Max	KILKELLY	Graeme	SCOTT	Ian
BALFOUR	John	FITZPATRICK	Roy	KIRKWOOD	John	SEDGMAN	Evan
BARRY	Andrew	FLANAGAN	Bill	KISS	Alex	SENGOS	Patrick
BASTOCK	Fred	FLANAGAN	Kevin	KOHLHAGEN	Paul	SHUNWAH	Richard
BATEMAN	Ray	FLIPPENCE	Addie	KOHLHAGEN	Ross	SMITH	Colin
BAYNIE	John	FLOWER	Stephen	KOINA	Jeffrey	SMITH	Grahame
BENNETT	Lloyd	FORSYTH	Bill	LANGFORD-BROWN	Ian	SMITH	Roger
BIBBY	Vic	FOX	Harry	LAURENCE	Michael	STANFORD	John
BIRCH	David	FRAZER	Ian	LEDWICH	Samuel	STARK	Glyn
BIRRELL	Robert	FULCHER	Sharon	LEEK	David	STARKE	Bill
BLOW	David	GABRIEL	Reginald	LEEK	Lynettw	STAZIKER	Stuart
BOWEN	Chris	GATES	Graham	LIFU	Patrick	STEDMAN	James
BRADLEY	Herb	GATES	Patrick	LONGFELLOW	Virginia	STONE	Peter
BRADLEY	Leo	GIFFNEY	Desmond	LORD	Dick	STRICKLAND	Kent
BRENNAN	Raymond	GILKINSON	Lance	LYLE	Stuart	SULLIVAN	Kevin
BREWER	Charles	GILL	Greg	MASON-JONES	Nicoll	SUNDERLAND	Ray
BRINCAT	Alex	GLADEN	Noel	MEGGATT	Thomas	TAYLOR	Harry
BROADHEAD	Ken	GODFREY	Anthony	MENDL	Peter	TAYLOR	James
BROWN	Ed	GRESLEY	Wal	MILHAM	Glenn	THORNTON	Stephen
BRYANT	Kevin	GRIFFITHS	Davi	MILIC	Karl	TIMBS	Christopher
BURNETT	Jerry	GWILYM	Jack	MLLAR	Anthony	TOBIN	Philip
BURKE	Alec	HALL	Barry	MOONEY	Ronald	TOPLIS	Danny
BUZACOTT	David	HAMER	Colin	MOORE	Dennis	TRANTER	Peter
CARLSSON	Jim	HAMMOND	Arthur	MORGAN	Robert	TRENTIN	Mark
CARMENT	David	HANSFORD	Jes	MORISON	Jim	TRUELOVE	Peter
CARRODUS	Michael	HARGREAVES	Thomas	MOYSEY	David	WAGLAND	Ross
CARSTENS	John	HARLE	Charles	MOYSEY	Robert	WALKER	John
CARROLL	Gordon	HARRISON	Allan	MUIR	Gayle	WATKINS	Kenneth
CASHMORE	John	HARROWER	David	MUIR	Lawrence	WATSON	Alex
CHAD	Allan	HARVEY	Cameron	MUIR	Peter	WHEATLEY	Murelia
CHETWYND	Rodney	HAVARD	Richard	McCLELLAND	David	WHEATLEY	Paul
CHRISTIE	Carl	HAWKE	Phillip	McDONOUGH	Paul	WHITE	Ces
CLARK	Neville	HAWKINS	Neil	McPAYDEN	Barry	WHITE	Dennis
CLIFTON	Alfred	HAYDOCK	Iain	McGRATH	Peter	WHITE	Peter
COASTER-GARTON	Max	HAYLEN	Ian	McKECHNIE	David	WHITFIELD	Timothy
COCHRANE	John	HECKENBERG	Brian	MCLEAN	Russ	WILLIAMS	Darcy
COLE	Mick	HILL	Robert	MCVAY	Donald	WILLIS	Kenneth
COLLINS	Don	HINDMARSH	Laurie	NASH	James	WILSON	John
CONDON	Schon	HOEY	Ian	NEALE	Geoffrey	WORBOYS	Simon
COOTE	Glen	HOGAN	Christopher	NEILL	William	WRIGHT	Colin
COPPARD	Doug	HOGGE	Richard	NELSON	Dene		
CORBETT	Robert	HOPKINSON	Fred	NELSON	John		
COTTLE	Victor	HORTON	James	NOAKES	Steven		
COX	Josephine	HOWARTH	Sue	OVERTON	John		
CROUCH	Robert	HUGHES	Russell	OWENS	Robert		
CUNNEEN	Stephen	HUNGERFORD	Bruce	OWENS	Robyn	CHASELING	Brian
DAVEY	Gregor	IRELAND	John	PINNINGTON	Laidley	CLIFF	Kevin
DAVIDSON	Duncan	JACKSON	Kim	POSENER	John	DOWN	Patrick
DAVIDSON	Ross	JACKSON	Neville	POWER	Brian	FRY	Gary
DOHERTY	Carl	JAMES	Ian	POWER	Phil	IZARD	Michael
DICK	Anthony	JEFFRESON	Alan	PRIMROSE	Brian	LEWIS	Brian
DOUGHERTY	Robert	JEFFRESON	Edward	PURCELL	John	MAIN	Rick
EAGLETON	Harold	JEFFRESON	Norman	RICHARDSON	Robert	ROBERTS	Paul
EDWARDS	Hugh	JOHNSTON	Warwick	ROBERTS	Bruce	WAGSTAFF	Graeme
		JONES	Michael	ROGAN	Robert	YEATES	Chris

NEW MEMBERS SINCE
JANUARY 2000

CHASELING	Brian
CLIFF	Kevin
DOWN	Patrick
FRY	Gary
IZARD	Michael
LEWIS	Brian
MAIN	Rick
ROBERTS	Paul
WAGSTAFF	Graeme
YEATES	Chris