

# 2003 Vol 1 No 17



#### 7 FD REGTRAA ASSOCIATION

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

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for electing me to this position at the AGM. Hopefully the next 12 months will be fairly active for the Committee & members and we will notify you all of our new projects that we will be working on shortly.

Unfortunately Brian Heckenberg, our Immediate Past President, has endured some medical problems over the past 12 months and we all wish Brian a speedy recovery and hope to see him at Association activities again soon.

Well done again to our Secretary, John Balfour who continues to pull together all the Association matters whilst still managing the RBA Conference Centre at Kirribilli and performing the duties of Formation Recruiting Officer at HQ 8 Brigade at Dundas in his spare time.

Thank you to the members of the previous Committee who will no longer be serving in that capacity, in particular Alec Burke who has been a Committee member for many years and also to John Stanford and Peter Truelove for their assistance.

I am pleased to announce that the Committee has appointed Major Laurie Hindmarsh ED to the position of Patron and we look forward to his attendance at Association activities in his new role.

Good to see the Asociation Banner on parade on ANZAC Day and Reserve Forces Day and thanks to the regular group of members who continue to support these occasions. We would love to see more members attending next year.

Members – Once again we have a major change in respect of the Anuual Reunion. This year we have returned to a FRIDAY NIGHT which we believe is more popular with most members, BUT the event will be held at DUNDAS VALLEY RUGBY UNION CLUB. We would welcome any feedback.

Iam also pleased to announce that COLONEL Don Tait, RAA Colonel Commandant, has accepted our invitation to attend the Reunion and will talk on matters currently affecting the Regimental Committee.

Best Wishes.

John Fairless Colonel President

## FROM THE COLONEL'S DUGOUT

As I write this article for Yandoo for 2003, 22 members of the Regiment's "High Readiness" troop are preparing to leave for Exercise CROC 03 where they will reinforce the RDF (Rapid Deployment Force) Regiment, 4 Field Regiment.

This is the culmination of major training activities for this year, and together with the remainder of 8 Brigade's Force Protection Company Group (FPCG) forms the only commitment from 2 Div to the ADF's major exercise this year.

Our soldiers have been able to do this through thorough professional training and the completion of all their courses for rank and trade, plus compliance with the readiness requirements of the Army through AIRN. I have every confidence that they will all perform very well and be exposed to considerably more shooting and deployment than would otherwise have been possible given the unit's meagre resource allocation.

This type of reinforcement is of great interest to others outside our immediate Brigade environment, should pave the way for future activities of this type, and will prove that fully qualified RAA Reserve soldiers are every bit as competent as their full time counterparts.

Our last field firing activity for the year will occur in October and will involve cooperation between 12/16 Hunter River Lancers (APC) and the Regiment. Our FO's and parties will be mounted in APCs and will accompany 12/16 troops in their live fire battle runs. In addition both units will conduct direct firing practices together. Something a little different and which should prove to be an enjoyable finale to the unit's live firing activities for the year.

The past two years have been challenging for the Regiment with restrictions on all classes of resources and the impact especially of ammo problems. Despite the constraints and limitations imposed on us, I firmly believe we have achieved a great deal in the period.

Recognising that 2 Div is really in the business of providing trained individuals and limited collective capability (through resource limitations, particularly ammunition), it is interesting to note that the unit has been the leading provider of training for RAA personnel in the Division. The following table shows the extent of training provided by the unit, not only to our own soldiers and those of other 2 Div RAA units, but also to 1 and 4 Fd Regt personnel.

# 7 FD REGT Course Training Schedule Feb 02 – Jul 03

Month/	Course	No of Students attended	7 FD REGT students
Year			9
Feb 02	Advanced GNR	16	3
Feb – Jun 02	Non-Continuous Advanced OPCP	3	15/
Jul 02	OPCP Module 1	2	1
Jul 02 Jul 02	OPCP Module 2	9	9
Jul 02	GNR GD 1 Module 1 All Corps Soldier Training	23	16
Jul 02	GNR GD 1 Module 3 Gun Course	24	16
Jul 02	Specialist Combat Communicators Course	12	12
Jul 02	ROBC Module 1	5	4
Nov 02	GNR GD 1 Mod 3 Gun Cse	6	6
Feb 03	GNR GD 1 Module 1 All Corps Soldier Training	16	14
Feb 03	GNR GD 1 Module 2 Communicators Course	24	14
May-Aug 03		3	3
Jul 03	ROBC Module 1	12	6
Jul 03	Specialist Combat Communicators Course	33	13
Jul 03	Detachment Commanders Course	7	5

In summary, a total of 178 soldier students and 17 officers successfully completed training. Of interest is that 7 Fd was the only organisation outside of the School of Artillery to be authorised to conduct officer training, and on the last ROBC we ran in July this year, we had a full time officer from 1 Fd as a student on the course. This is a testament to the quality and professionalism of the training the unit has provided during the period.

None of this magnificent effort would have been possible without the total dedication of our full time staff, in particular my two Adjutants, the RSM and our SMIGs, and of course the hard work of our students.

An examination of the table above will indicate that the biggest beneficiary of the conduct of these training courses has been the soldiers and officers of 7 Fd Regiment, and as a direct consequence, we now have more people fully trained for their position than has previously been the case. The down side is that we have also transferred a large number of our people to the Regular Army (36 in the last 12 months alone!)

This, whilst a loss to the unit, is of overall benefit to the Army, but it does make the job of recruiting quality people to our ranks even more important.

December 31 this year marks the end of my period of command, and I'm posted to the plans branch of Headquarters Australian Theatre from January next year. My successor is LTCOL John Gunn, an air defender, who has recently separated from the ARA. I wish him well in his tenure as CO and will maintain an active interest in the unit as a member of the Association.

Finally may I wish all members of the 7 Fd Regt Association and their families a safe and enjoyable festive season.

**UBIQUE** 

LTCOL John Wilson Commanding

YANDOO 7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATION

TYPING, EDITORIAL, PRINTING & PHOTOGRAPHS BY WO1 JOHN BALFOUR

#### MURPHY'S LAW OF COMBAT OPERATIONS

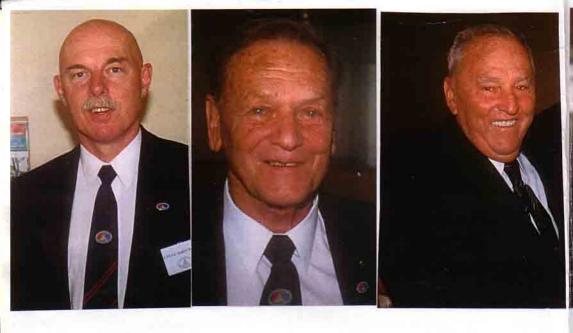
- Incoming fire always has right of way
- Try to look unimportant they might be low on ammunition
- Teamwork is essential it gives them someone else to shoot at
- Don't look conspicuous it draws fire
- Never draw fire it irritates everyone around you
- The only thing more accurate than enemy fire is friendly incoming fire
- No battle plan services contact with the enemy
- If your attack is going very well, it's an ambush
- Never share your foxhole with anyone braver than you
- When you have secured an area, don't forget to tell the enemy
- Make it tough for the enemy to get in and you won't be able to get out
- If you're short on everything but the enemy, you're in a combat zone
- The enemy only attacks on two occasions when you are ready and when you are not
- When in doubt, empty your magazine
- Your weapon was made by the lowest bidder
- The easy way is always mined (usually by friendly forces)
- In combat it only rains twice all day & all night
- If it's stupid and it works it ain't stupid



Patron Colonel John Fairless with Most Improved Soldier 2002, GNR Clinton Wong (28 BTY) and Runners-up GNR Byron Littlewood (113 BTY) & PTE Gabrielle Marjoram (28 BTY).

## ANNUAL REUNION - NOVEMBER 2002





LTCOL John Wilson Doug Coppard

Harry Taylor

**ANNUAL REUNION NOVEMBER 2002** 

John Stanford Bob Corbett

Noel McCarthy









Jes Hansford Stuart Staziker

Jim Nash

ANNUAL REUNION NOVEMBER 2002

Peter Truelove Phil Power Peter McGrath









Alec Burke Fred Bastock Kevin Flanagan
7 FIELD REGIMENT BIRTHDAY DINNER – DEE WHY- MARCH 2003
Glenn Milham Jack Gwilym John Balfour







# 2002 Reserve forces Day Parade BEST BANNER PARTY

AWARDED BY

Reserve Forces Day Council

# 7 Field Regiment RAA Association

For being judged the best Banner Party taking part in the Reserve Forces Day Parade 7 July 2002.

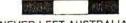
Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC
Covernor of New South Wales

New South Wales Reserve Forces Day Council

The Honourable Sir Laurence Street AC KCMG QC National & New South Wales Chairman Reserve Forces Day Council

# AUSTRALIAN SERVICE MEN AMENDMENT TO AWARDS

#### New ribbon system



NEVER LEFT AUSTRALIA RIBBON

Celebrates 25 years service without a passport stamp



MY WIFE'S UNCLE KNEW SOMEBODY WHO SERVED IN WW2 RIBBON



DAD IS A GPCAPT

Stripes denote Dad's acutal rank



CPL / SQNLDR FOR LIFE

device worn on captain's ribbon only to denote the extra pay incentives



ALWAYS BEEN IN THE FIELD

device denotes an additional 5 year tour



CAREER MANAGER
RIBBON
Palm tree device for each
really cushy posting



AIRMAN OF THE MOMENT RIBBON

I came! I saw! What the heck.

#### ·· • 03 >>

EVERYBODY WENT TO TIMOR / BOUGAINVILLE EXCEPT ME RIBBON

Numeral denotes number of years you have been asking for overseas posting



MY UNCLE SPENT WW2 HIDING IN A SMALL CAVE NEAR DARTMOUTH RIBBON



AIRHQ / CANBERRA

Skull device for each life sucking 3 year period spent in HQ



DUI AND STILL IN THE RAAF RIBBON

Y Device denotes number of convictions

#### 

PUBBON

House device denotes each successful threat of release if posted



GOT MY LAST BOSS PROMOTED

RIBBON
Numeral denotes number of superiors promoted by your hard work who have already forgotten your name

787

DRINKING BUDDY'S COMMENDATION

AIBBON

I device denotes consecutive awards







NEVER SERVED WITH THE U.N.
RIBBON

Gobe device added to each additional bur we as eled out of



GOT DIVORCED AGAIN

\$ device for each divorce



BEEN TO DFCE RIBBON

Gold Lock device for those who served at Holsworthy



NEVER BEEN IN THE FIELD RIEBON

device denotes an additional 5 year four



EIGHT TO FOUR

RIBBON
Shows up for work, does
the minimum requirement
of work and goes home



ATC RETENTION BONUS

Took the money and ran, then came back



NEVER EARNED A RIESON RIESON

TEMPORARY DUTY IN THE U.S.A. RIBBONS

Entire set of ribbons so senior personnel won't look like complete losers standing next to U.S.A.F. junior personnel. NOTE: Only to be wom in the U.S. as somebody here might complain we look too military.

#### ANNUAL REUNION 2002

For your information, the following attended the Annual Reunion in November 2002:

John BALFOUR, Fred BASTOCK, Graham BLACK, Leo BRADLEY, Alec BURKE, Alf CLIFTON, Doug COPPARD, Bob CORBETT, John FAIRLESS, Max FALCONER, Kevin FLANAGAN, Gary FRY, Jack GWILYM, Ian HAYLEN, Neil HAWKINS, Jes HANSFORD, Laurie HINDMARSH, Bill KNIGHT, David LEEK, James NASH, Noel McCARTHY, Peter McGRATH, Don McVAY, Peter MENDL, Dene NELSON, Bob OWENS, John POSENER, Phil POWER, Rusty RUSSELL, Maurie SAINSBURY, John STANFORD, Bill STARKE, Stuart STAZIKER, Danny TOPLIS, Peter TRUELOVE, Harry TAYLOR, Darcy WILLIAMS, LTCOL John WILSON, WO1 Robert THOMPSON, WO2 Darren DEEBLE.

#### MOST PROFICIENT SOLDIER 7 FD REGT

The following is a list of winners for your information:

2001	BDR Daniel EVANS	113 FD BTY
2000	CPL Steven BALFOUR	HQ BTY
1999	GNR Henry LEE	HQ BTY
1998	GNR Gerard STAPLETON	28 FD BTY
1997	GNR Peter ROWORTH	113 FD BTY
1996	BDR Gus ELGERSMA	HQ BTY
1995	BDR Rod CHETWYND	28 FD BTY
1994	GNR Paul WHEATLEY	28 FD BTY
1993	GNR Richard ROBINSON	28 FD BTY
1992	GNR Richard SHUNWAH	HQ BTY
1991	GNR Anthony GASPARDIS	HQ BTY
1990	BDR David WHITE	28 FD BTY

Note: The new "Mike Banham Memorial Most Improved Soldier" Award commenced in 2002.

#### DECEASED MEMBERS

ROBERT JOHN HILL RFD - 18 October 2002 - Aged 59

Bob enlisted into "A" Company 4 RNSWR on 20 June 1965 before transferring to OCTU on 21 January 1967. He was promoted Corporal on 1 July 1967.

On completion of the Course, as a second Lieutenant, Bob was transferred to 18 LAA REGT on 25 August 1968.

On 5 March 1970 he was promoted Lieutenant and then Captain on 29 July 1973.

When 18 LAA REGT was disbanded Bob transferred to 23 Field Regiment from 1 September 1974, with postings to 10 & 11 Field Batteries. Bob was promoted Major, Battery Commander on 4 January 1980.

Bob's next posting was to 2 Training Group on 1 February 1984 where he received the Reserve Force Decoration on 3 December 1984. He returned to 23 Field Regiment on 1 February 1986.

On promotion to LTCOL on 13 August 1986 he became Commanding Officer 7 Field Regiment until 10 May 1988.

In January 1989 Bob was transferred to HQ 2 Div and he retired in 1991.

#### GORDON LEO CARROLL - 18 July 1999 - Aged 51

Gordon was called up for National Service on 17 June 1968 and served in Vietnam with 105 Field Battery, 1 Field Regiment from 10 March 1969 to 11 March 1970.

On 28 June 1971, Gordon enlisted in the ARA and served in Malaysia with 106 Field Battery, 1 Field regiment and also with 105 Field Battery in 1976/77.

He was posted to 7 Field Regiment in 1983 as Technical Sergeant and then moved to 8/12 Medium Regiment on promotion to Staff Sergeant in 1985.

In 1986 Gordon returned to 7 Field Regiment as RQMS on promotion to WO2.

In 1986 he was posted to the School of Artillery and was promoted to WO1 on 11 April 1990.

On 15 April 1992 he was posted to 2/10 Medium Regiment as Quartermaster and in 1994 his last posting was to HQ Logistic Command.

Gordon took his discharge in November 1994.

## 

#### LEST WE FORGET

The President and members extend sincere condolences to their families, relatives and friends

	RAA ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE	7th Field Re Key Posting	
President	COL J.A.L.Fairless RFD	СО	LTCOL J.V.Wilson RFD
Vice-	K.E.Flanagan	2IC	MAJ S.Nicholson
Presidents	D.Leek	OPSO	Vacant
Secretary	WO1 J.G.Balfour	ADJT	Capt A.Keogh*
Treasurer	F.J.Bastock RFD	RSM	WO1 R.Thompson *
Committee	WO2 K.S.Aiston	CC	SGT W.Piggott*
	M.L.Falconer MBE	QM	SGT S.Mason*
	G.J.Fry	BC HQ	Vacant
	T.J.Gwilym	BSM HQ	WO2 G.Ryan *
	D.J.McClelland	OC TST	CAPT Y.S.Lee
	D.B.McVay	ASM	WO2 L.Vella
	J.A.Nash	BC 28	Vacant
	WO2 S.W.Noakes	BK 28	CAPT W.Young
	P.Sengos	BSM 28	WO2 G.Applewhite
T. Phys.	R.C.M.Toplis	SMIG 28	WO2 K.Hall *
Immediate Past Preside	nt B.J.Heckenberg	BC/BK 113	Vacant
Patron	MAJ L.P.Hindmarsh ED	BSM 113	WO2 P.Linsley
Hon Audito	or J.A.Nelson or W.J.Neill ***********	SMIG 113 * AR *******	
	ANNUAL REU	NION	

#### ANNUAL REUNION

Friday 14 November 2003 - Dundas Valley Rugby Union Football Club

BE THERE\*\*\*\*\*\*BE THERE\*\*\*\*\*\*BE THERE\*\*\*\*BE THERE

#### 7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATION Members as at 1 October 2003

AISTON	Karen
ATTARD	Andrew
BAGSTER	Mark
BAILEY	Norman
BALDWIN	Murray
BALFOUR	John
BASTOCK	Fred
BATEMAN	Ray
BAYNIE	John
BIBBY	Vic
BLOW	David
BOWEN	Chris
BRADLEY	Herb
BRADLEY	Leo
BRENNAN	Raymond
BREWER	Charles
BRINCAT	Alex
BROADHEAD	Ken
BRYANT	Kevin
BURNETT	Jerry
BURKE	Alec
BURKE	Leo
BUZACOTT	David
CARLSSON	Jim
CARMENT	David
CARSTENS	John
CASHMORE	John
CHAD	Allan
CHASELING	Brian
CHETWYND	
	Rodney
CHRISTIE	
CLARK	David
CLARK	Neville
CLIFF	Kevin
CLIFTON	Alfred
COASTER-GART	ON Max
COCHRANE	John
COLE	Mick
COLLINS	Don
CONDON	Schon
COOTE	Glen
COPPARD	Doug
COX	Josephine
CUNNEEN	Stephen
DAVIDSON	Duncan
DOHERTY	Carl
EAGLETON	Harold
EDWARDS	Hugh
ELDERTON	Frederick
ELSLEY	Graham
FAIRFIELD	Peter
FAIRLESS	John
FAIRLEY	Jack
FALCONER	Max
FITZPATRICK	Roy
FLANAGAN	Kenneth
LEMINORIA	recuirent

MEHIDELA	as at 1 Otto
FLANAGAN	Kevin
FLIPPENCE	Addie
FLOWER	Stephen
FOX	Напту
FRAZER	Ian
FRY	Gary
FULCHER	Sharon
GABRIEL	Reginald
GATES	Graham
GATES	Patrick
GIFFNEY	Desmond
GILKINSON	Lance
GILL	Greg
GLADEN	Noel
GRESLEY	Wal
GWILYM	Jack
HALL	Barry
HAMER	Colin
HANSFORD	Jes
HARGREAVES	Thomas
HARLE	Charles
HARRISON	Allan
HARROWER	David
HAVARD	Richard
HAWKINS	Neil
HAYLEN	Ian
HECKENBERG	Brian
HILL	Robert
HINDMARSH	Laurie
HOEY	lan
HOGAN	Christopher
HOGGE	Richard
HUGHES	Russell
HUNGERFORD	Bruce
IRELAND	John
JACKSON	Kim
JACKSON	Neville
JAMES	Ian
<b>JEFFRESON</b>	Edward
<b>JEFFRESON</b>	Norman
JOHNSTON	Warwick
JONES	Michael
JONES	Ronald
JORGENSON	Kenneth
KARIKS	Andi
KEEFE	John
KEEN	Kenneth
KIRKWOOD	John
KISS	Alex
KOHLHAGEN	Paul
KOHLHAGEN	Ross
KOINA	Jeffrey
LANGFORD-BRO	
LAURENCE	Michael
Contract the Association	

LEDWICH	Samuel
LEEK	David
LEWIS	Brian
LINCOLN	David
LONGFELLOW	Virginia
LORD	Dick
LYLE	Stuart
MARTIN	Graham
MAIN	Rick
MASON-JONES	Nicoll
MEGGATT	Thomas
	Peter
MENDL	Glenn
MILHAM	
MILIC	Karl
MOONEY	Ronald
MOORE	Dennis
MORGAN	Robert
MOYSEY	David
MOYSEY	Robert
MUIR	Gayle
MUIR	Lawrence
MUIR	Peter
McCLELLAND	David
McFAYDEN	Barry
McGRATH	Peter
McKECHNIE	David
MCLEAN	Russ
MCVAY	Donald
NASH	James
NEALE	Geoffrey
NEILL	William
NELSON	Dene
NELSON	John
NOAKES	Steven
	Robert
OWENS	Laidley
PINNINGTON	
POSENER	John
POWER	Brian
POWER	Phil
PRIMROSE	Brian
RICHARDSON	Robert
ROBERTS	Bruce
ROBERTS	Paul
ROGAN	Robert
RULE	Donald
RUSSELL	Robert
RUSSELL	Ross
SAINSBURY	Maurie
SCOTT	ian
SEDGMAN	Evan
SENGOS	Patrick
SHUNWAH	Richard
SMITH	Colin
S-5075.7-55	3500

ICOIL
nomas
ter
lenn
arl
onald
ennis
obert
avid
obert
ayle
титепсе
eter
avid
arry
eter
avid
uss
onald
mes
coffrey
/illiam
ene
ene hn
hn
hn teven
ohn teven obert
ohn teven obert aidley
ohn teven obert aidley
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian
ohn obert aidley ohn rian hil
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hil
ohn obert aidley ohn rian hil rian obert
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hil rian obert
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hil rian obert truce aul
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hil rian obert ruce aul
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hil rian obert ruce aul obert
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hil rian obert ruce aul obert onald obert
obert iruce aul obert
ohn teven obert aidley shn rian hil rrian obert ruce aul obert obert obert sonald donald donald donald
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hil rian obert ruce aul obert lonald obert donald obert aurie an
obert
ohn teven obert aidley ohn rian hill rian obert ruce aul obert ooset tooset tooset aurie an tooset t
obert

SMITH	Galacte
SMITH	Roger
STANFORD	Seine.
STARKE	33
STAZIKER	Shum
STEDMAN	James
STONE	Perm
STRICKLAND	K-m
SUNDERLAND	3.29
TAYLOR	Harry
THORNTON	Stephen
TOPLIS	Danny
TRANTER	Peter
TRENTIN	Mark
TRUELOVE	Peter
WAGLAND	Ross
WAGSTAFF	Gracine
WALKER	Sohn
WATSON	Alex
WHEATLEY	Marcin
WHEATLEY	Park
WHITE	Dentis
WHITE	Peter
WHITFIELD	Timodry
WILLIAMS	Darcy
WILLIS	Kenneth
WILSON	John
WORBOYS	Simon
WRIGHT	Colin

#### NEW MEMBERS SINCE JANUARY 2001

BURKE	Leo
CLARK	David
DOWN	Patrick
IZARD	Michael
KNIGHT	William.
LEWIS	Brian
MCCARTHY	Noel
MARTIN	Graham
MORRIS	Douglas
YEATES	Chris

#### HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

CORBETT	Robert
CROWE	John **
LEWIS-Hughes	Ken **
** Deceased	