

7th Field Regiment

Royal Australian Artillery



2007 Journal

7th Field Regiment

2007

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2007 IN REVIEW

COMMANDING OFFICER

Lieutenant Colonel Max Shaday

I am proud to have started the year by being posted to 7 Fd Regiment. It was an honour to have been given this command particularly after my absence from the Regiment. On commencing this year I was particularly glad to see the large number of familiar faces of those still servicing at the unit. I was also most pleased to see the number of quality officers, SNCOs and soldiers around and how they have worked to ensure the smooth running of the unit. There is little doubt that without your diligent work this would have been a more difficult year than would otherwise have been the case. There is also no doubt that with the ever increasing demands we face to deliver RRF and HRR capability, the implementation of Project Focus and the need to attend training to build up our individual skills, this has certainly been a most difficult year. While all evidence suggest that next year will be just as hectic there is also every evidence that the dedication that all of you are showing, will allow us to truly develop our Regiment.

My aim for 2007 was little different than that of last year, that is to raise, maintain and develop the unit so that we can operate as two distinct firing units, however it also remains my policy to have as many soldiers as possible attend courses. In the medium term this will allow us to fill critical vacancies and thus reinforce our ability to achieve our ability to man 2 separate fire units. Unfortunately in the short term this has limited the numbers of critical positions filled on LFXs and our ability to field separate fire units. As a result this has prevented us from achieving separate firing units during the year. While I am sure that sending our people on course will pay dividends in the medium term, it unfortunately only makes it more critical for all of us to make every effort to attend all programmed field events. Even the absence of one or two individuals can make the difference in fielding a gun or achieving the aim of fielding separate firing units

Despite my stated aim, higher headquarters have also placed upon us a number of new demands specifically with regards to the raising of High Readiness Reserve (HRR) and RRF capabilities. In particular, HRR remains the greatest challenge to the Reserves and this unit, for many a decade. For us our task initially has been to raise JOST groups at a competency level in every way as good as our ARA counterparts. In an age where questions are raised as to the relevance of the RAA in current operations, we find ourselves in a difficult position as a Corps and in particular as Reservists. However it is the HRR that provides us as with focus and purpose for the future. At a time when the ARA are stretched and the demands of JOST parties are at a premium, the HRR not only provides the Regiment with purpose but suggests the possibility of operational service for some of our members. For 7 Field Regt we have already signed the necessary volunteers for 2007 and as more of our members complete their requisite courses we will meet the targets set for 2008.

In addition, RRF targets have been set and again we have moved to meet these. To ensure our success we converted our mid year AFX activity, to that of an RRF course. Open to the Regiment and other members of the Brigade, it was completed at Holsworthy with the course being run by the unit with only some assistance from RRF staff from within the Bde. The only downside came from the last minute pull out of the MPs in the delivery of their training modules. Overall the course was so successful that 7 Fd Regt has been directed to take the lead in BDE RRF training in the first half of 08.

We have not however neglected our other roles. Training for the year commenced with induction and mandatory training, conferences, orders groups, officer training and the annual RAA Safety course. Maintenance was always on the agenda. Thereafter we continued with our role of providing offensive fire support to units of the Bde. This calendar year we have planned 3 LFXs with a fourth postponed due to BDE RRF commitments conflicting with previous LFX arrangements. These weekends practiced both the gun line and JOST capabilities. Our aim was to develop individual and detachment, collective fire support and all arms defence skills by day and night. All elements of the Regiment were exercised. Training included deliberate and quick deployments, convoy drills and fire planning. We continued to show our ability in a wide variety of mission scenarios.

As hectic as the year has been we achieved much and have set ourselves the ground work to achieve our aims for 2008. There is no doubt that with our tasks over RRF training and HRR, the challenges for 2008 will be no less than what we have experienced in 2007. To this end I wish to thank each and every member of the Regiment for their support this year and for their ongoing loyalty to the Regiment in the coming year.

Ubique

From the Regimental Sergeant Major

As the year comes to a close I would like to thank all the ARA staff who have worked so hard over the past two years and supported myself and the Regiment, for without these dedicated people all activities would not have been possible. There has been much change this year with Project FOCUS and the conversion to another firing system. All I can say is as leaders, this is happening, we need to embrace this change and be ready to accept the challenges ahead.

The last thing I will talk on is rank and promotion. As rank and promotion are inherently linked to the ethos and values of the army it is always worth reflecting on the values they represent when members amongst us are promoted. This year we have had promotions ranging from Lance Bombardier/Corporal through to Captain, a source of pride to 7th Field Regiment and no doubt to their families.

Rank is a mark of an individual's ability, commitment and dedication to an organisation. Promotion in turn is recognition of that same dedication. A member is promoted when the superiors in an organisation are confident that member embodies the values of their organisation. In the Army this is confidence that the member will put service before self, confidence that when he or she is under stress they will remain steadfast. Confidence the member knows their job, confidence in their professionalism in seeking to learn more, and their ability to teach others.

We must always respect rank as a reflection of what is best about our organisation, and maybe look back to their first promotion with justified pride. I am proud to highlight our most recent members who have aspired and achieved their first promotion, and others who have received subsequent promotions.

CONGRATULATIONS. Lance Bombardier Strategos and Lance Corporal Rennie as they join the Junior Non Commissioned Officer's rank and I expect they will serve 7th Field Regiment and the Army with distinction in the years to come. Other promotions this year have been to Bombardier Greenwood and Nicholson, Lieutenant Egan and Newton and more recently Captain Sendt.

With the school holidays just around the corner, let me wish your families an enjoyable break and commend everyone in advance for continuing the hard work next year. For those leaving on posting may I thank you again for your support throughout the last two years and wish you all the success in your next posting.

Good Soldiering

**WO1 Brett Franklin
RSM**

A few Words from the Q Store

2007 has been extremely busy for the Q elements in 7 Field as from the start of the year we lost one JNCO CPL Patricia Barnsley straight off, (due to birth of a daughter) Congratulations. Then the QM WO2 Mark Benson on a compassionate posting to Melbourne as well as SGT Andrew Salcole (who replaced Beno) on a posting back to 1 RTB later in the year.

The loss of these three people and the restructure of the Brigade have made for a very busy time for members left behind in the Q store. Many thanks to all personnel involved in the return of excess stores, without your assistance the unit would not be in the situation it is now as most of the equipment is now back in the main Q and will be out of the unit by Christmas.

To our GRES personnel, thank you for your diligence and hard work over the year. Without your support the ARA staff would still be working behind the eight ball.

From all your Q staff, we wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a successful New Year.

BDR Gavin Fear

2008 Regimental Daily Timetable

<u>OFFICE TIMETABLE</u>	
9.00	STARTING TIME
9.30	ARRIVE AT WORK
9.45	COFFEE BREAK
11.00	CHECK E-MAIL
11.15	PREPARE FOR LUNCH
12.00	LUNCH
2.45	BROWSE THE INTERNET
3.00	TEA BREAK
4.00	PREPARE TO GO HOME
4.30	GO HOME
5.00	FINISHING TIME

28th FIELD BATTERY

2007 Summary

Major Alain Dunand

Too often we look back on the year that was as a means of revisiting the changes, challenges and congratulations we have been a part of. I still intend to address those points after I share with you my thoughts on where we are and where we need to go.

All of you are aware of the changes we are facing in the next training year or two. We will undergo conversion to Mortars, work in a revised Brigade structure and play a significant part in the wider Army, both in Australia and abroad for those looking for deployment overseas. The key factor to come out of this is our ability to adapt and change to meet these new situations.

I have seen much change over the past three years, more than I have seen since joining the Reserve in 1984. Each member of 28 Bty has demonstrated their ability to adapt to new situations and succeed. The difference between the changes we adapted to in the past and those we face today and tomorrow, is that we face multiple changes across a much wider field than we did previously. The challenge is before us for 2008 and 2009 is to show our agility, our ability to act, react and keep balance all at the same time, most likely with a degree of discomfort and hopefully good humour, in order to achieve the objectives we have been set. Those objectives are increasingly at a personal and team level and our ownership of these objectives will determine how well we perform. It can be as simple as maintaining personal AIRN compliance or committing yourself to be an active member of the RRF or HRR with the added demands and opportunities they present.

You all have the training program for next year. Look at it, make it part of your plan with family, friends and employers. A little forethought and planning will make the best of your busy lives to devote time to all things effectively rather than trading them off one against the other. If you need to make compromises, then by all means make them. I have a plan, not an excuse.

28 Bty contributed to many community, regimental, Brigade, Divisional and Training Command activities where we represented ourselves and our regiment proudly. We have undertaken a wide range of training including Op CP, Advanced Guns, IET Guns, BCCC, SCCC, Driver, Sub 1 CPL, Clerk, RRF, ROBC, GPO, ROGC, COAC to name most of them showing our commitment across the board to professional development as individuals and collectively. We have achieved our targets for HRR and each LFX during the year.

We will also be farewelling Dave Kristan and Darrin Warminger who have worked tirelessly throughout their time with the Battery and will be greatly missed next year. We also said farewell to Stewart Chandler, Nick Jeha during the year. Most sadly we said farewell to Glenn Milham who had a special place amongst us all.

Well done for 2007 and look forward to the challenges of 2008.

113th FIELD BATTERY

2007 Summary

Major Dhugald See

2007 has seen the Battery continue to develop a strong leadership team. This year was WO2 Grant Nichol's first full year as Battery Captain. We have also had 2 young officers, LT's Andrew Wallin and Greg Voight come in as Section commanders, who have been busy picking up their gunnery skills for their upcoming courses.

After having NO SMIG in 2006 the Army decided to compensate us by sending us 2 ARA WO2s for 2007. However Dion Hawke was deployed to Timor during the year leaving Glen Ryan to face the Battery alone. With these positions filled our BSM, WO2 Pete Linsley, has been able to devote more time to his normal duties.

Other positions within the Battery have been well filled by our Sergeants. The development of our junior soldiers has been very pleasing and I make special mention of GNR Stewart and LBDR Strategos who have been 2 of the standouts this year.

Apart from enhancing Regimental activities through our presence the Battery has a strong involvement in the Newcastle and Central Coast Area especially ceremonial activities and supporting ex-service organisations.

2008 is shaping up to be a very important year. Of major significance for the Battery will be the reopening of Fort Scratchley which according to some sources may be reopened after renovations in 2008. Despite the continued rumours that the battery will become independent again and convert to S.T.A. members of the Battery are also enthusiastic toward the imminent conversion to mortars.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

The Regiment AFX Holsworthy/ RRF Course

All batteries converged on old Holsworthy Barracks on Friday evening the 20th of July and for the next 7 days the Regiment learnt how to set up road blocks, search buildings and areas, drink brews, consume biscuits (before the RSM got to them) and test out their sporting prowess on the footy field, noting some diggers are better suited to their computers.

The troops enjoyed the change of scenery and the nightly DVD screening. I will never forget the opening scene of American Pie and the shoot out in the Pommie cop movie.....

Most members of the course were relieved when the course manager could not accept the offer by Bdr's Greenwood and Nicholson on how to legally restrain the bad guys by the use of squirrel grips (Roy and HG variety) and other like holds currently in use by the law enforcement agencies. Likewise ex Customs officer, Sgt Atchison's offer to demonstrate how to conduct body and cavity searches on his BK with and without gloves was also turned down, however the BK was heard to say he was disappointed and muttered something about last time someone losing a watch!.

The Regiment also completed a BFA one chilly Sunday morning with some members smashing their run times by minutes trying to keep warm. The 2IC was somewhat confused as he appeared in his old 2/10 Regt ballet strides, all I can say is someone by him a pair of trackie dackies.

The course got over their shock and progressed on with the training with increased tempo as they were then getting hassled by the enemy party, whilst searching their vehicles and conducting area searches.

We also conducted an AIRN WTTS shoot, and I would like to say the enemy have nothing to worry about, unless they start issuing diggers 105 mm shotguns!

The course culminated in an overnight exercise in the newly opened Holsworthy Special Forces training area, this being an excellent "real life" venue. The Regiment was tasked to search and maintain security of the area. The good old enemy party consisting of Ima Has Been and family tried all the tricks in the book to breach our perimeter, so all sections were kept on their toes during the 24 hours. Next time we deploy we must remember not to bring the chainsaw with us, struth couldn't that Engineer Capt \$@&%*@ snore.

BSM Blankets



The Embassy, part of the 94 million Holsworthy facility

FROM THE WORKSHOP FLOOR

Wow...Another year almost gone...but this one was a little different. This year will be the final year of 7 Field Regiment having a TST in the traditional sense. Next year we will be an FRT of the BOSC but we will all remain here for the moment...we'll just get our work from Newcastle....it makes sense...honest!...no really.

Courses

CPL Scott started the year down in Latchford Barracks at Bonegilla (Albury/Wodonga) to do Sub 4 CPL ...he nearly got away with it but they finally caught up with him. 7 weeks of technical report writing and field trips and he can now operate Microsoft Excel...its something I suppose.

CPL Collins got away on a recovery refresher course, which involved 2 weeks of grunting and farting but at the end of it knowledge was regained on how to operate the MRV and HRV.

CPL Balfour is now able to sexually harass people after spending a week doing a course....its got a PC name like Equity and Diversity but you never let the facts get in the way of a good story.

CPL Scott and SGT Garnham spent a week getting their minds numbed at Dundas for the Workplace Assessors course, again ticks were placed in boxes and they both passed.

August sees SGT Garnham off on his Hamel Maintenance course but he wont be lonely because he will have CFN Clark to talk to whilst he attends his Fitter Armourer Maintenance Techniques course.

October/November has some drivers courses planned of which TST will be heavily involved.

Exercises

It's been a bit light on for LFX's this year but that's not necessarily a bad thing...if you can keep people from using equipment it won't break.

Keen not to repeat our water crossing effort from late last year TST has stayed away from Singleton in droves but we were there for the Small Arms weekend. Topping the bill was the scenarios at the WTSS where the highlight was CPL Scott pumping 18 rounds into a bad guys head in 1.5 seconds and CFN Cleland's 0.02 reaction time to slot the guy in the back of the ute between the eyes.

Other than that we have only been back for the one other bush trip this year with all other training weekends seeing us in the workshop carrying out maintenance and other training.

The majority of the TST spent an interesting week at Holsworthy in July taking part in the unit's AFX for the year – the RRF course. This presented new challenges for some members of the TST as this was their experience with this type of training.

As a result we now have people away on OP Deluge helping the police with search tasks and other activities at APEC.

ANZAC Day

This ANZAC day, TST commanded all four of the catafalque parties provided by Headquarters Battery. This consisted of one at Ravenswood Girl's school lead by SGT Russell on the Tuesday before ANZAC day. CPL Scott headed to Manly Dam and very nearly ended up in it, due to a well sited flag pole. CPL Balfour headed up Chatswood RSL and Willoughby sub branch, which due to the rain, were held inside.

Several members then continued onto march in the city, where CFN Andrews and Cleland carried the banner for the 12/15th Mountain Battery. They along with Cpl Balfour and CFN Caddy then marched in front of the 7th Field Regiment Association along with other serving members of the unit. From there, well you can guess what happened next...

Good luck to all. Hope to see you all next year.

From all at T.S.T
(**TOTAL** Support Troop)



Marching with the 7 Field Association Anzac Day 2007

A Shot Not Fired in Anger - The Regiment in WWII.

Whilst copying all the North Fort Museum records held on 7 Field, for placement on the Association website, I was delighted to read some memoirs of ex members of the Regiment who had served in WW II during their initial call up for training and the Regiments Active Service deployment to Western Australia. One particular collection of letters, *vivid memoirs and donated photo collection*, by BDR Ted Jefferson E Troop (27 Bty), were too valuable to lie hidden in some dusty cabinet. This years Yandoo supplement is dedicated to those who served during the darkest hours of WW II.

Their adventure started in September 1940 when they were called up for a 10 week period of training at the Largs training area near Maitland. Due to acute shortages of critical equipments they had no guns and vehicles, except for 24 vintage 303 rifles that *"kicked like the proverbial mule"*. Uniforms were from various eras and initial gun training was conducted on two cart wheels and a log up the middle until they received their 18 pounders and 4.5" guns. The Regiment also participated in a Brigade war loan march in Sydney.

In March 1941 members were again called up and trained at Ingleburn and were now provided with motor transport, this being improvised civilian hired vehicles as well as issued with a standard uniforms and rifles. Their training tempo was increased and manoeuvres were conducted around the Camden and Campbelltown areas. During this camp they were asked to enlist in the A.I.F, with some members electing to serve overseas with other Regiments. During this camp the batteries were broken up into troops A and B (25 Bty) C and D (26 Bty) and D (107 Bty), strength of the Regiment was some 400-500 men.



Training 1939-40 Largs



On Parade Largs 1939-40



G Truck 1940

One week after the bombing of Pearl Harbour the Regiment was called up for full time service into a camp at Wallgrove, where they took up "Battle Stations" and initially deployed to Frenchs Forest (covering Palm Beach to North Head), Mount Keira (Wollongong) and East Lakes golf course (covering Botany Bay to South Head).

The Regiment strength was now increased to about 700 as they were allocated some 200 A.I.F enlistees that formed E and F troops, these diggers were not too happy at being posted to a chocko unit as they wanted to kill Germans in Africa, however the Australian Government were secretly trying to get their Divisions out of Africa, thus no reinforcements were being sent overseas.

During this deployment the East Lakes troop conducted a live shoot into the sea which went off without drama luckily *"we blew up some fish and not a surf club"* as the various maps they used did not really agree with each other.

When deployed at East Lakes the diggers were offered a "Cooks Tour" of Sydney, the ones that took up the offer were transported to the Wharfs of Sydney and were made to unload ships, as the wharfies were on strike, *"this being the last time anyone volunteered for something"*.

In May 1942 and 1 week before the Japs attacked Sydney Harbour the Regiment was moved to St Ives Showground, lucky for the Japs as the East Lakes battery may have been involved in "Fire Mission Jap Sub" thus firing a shot in anger.

From St Ives they moved up to Greta via the newly completed Putty Road (all dirt), the convoy consisting of some 200 odd vehicles which was 9 miles long. Again on arrival at Greta they were given another opportunity to enlist in the A.I.F.

On one winters day in July 1942 the drivers were tasked to take all guns and vehicles to Centennial Park Sydney and once they arrived, found the system had forgotten they needed to feed some 200 odd drivers and NCO's. Some food finally arrived from the showground, but this was the least of their problems as they now needed to make their way to Central to catch a train back to Greta, with some diggers catching a cab and the others walking. Most personnel arrived back at 2 am "*what a day*". Some 20-30 personnel remained with the equipment.

Matters were kept "Top Secret" and after a few days the Regiment was told to pack up at Greta and march into the railway station where they arrived at 3 pm. Some 650 odd members of the Regiment jumped on a train heading south stopping at Albury to change trains for one heading to Victoria. They were finally told they were heading to WA. The trip took some 4 ½ days, with sleeping arrangements being any where you could find and the meals being stew, stew and yes more stew.

The WA experience started one July morning in 1942 when "we detrained at Chidlow in our batteries and marched up a bush road to our new camp area with our kit and rifles". Once they arrived they were issued their tenting which was children's play tents complete with Indian heads and feathers painted on the sides, maybe this was a new type of cam pattern being trialled, or the system was really doing it tough!. The tents didn't give much protection from the elements and combined with early morning PT parades and freezing cold showers caused many members to catch colds and influenza, which meant a spell in hospital.

In August the Regiment moved to Gin Gin, some 85 miles north of Perth. Here the Regiment received it's guns and vehicles and its own tentage. During mid September leave was being granted in 3 day blocks so diggers started heading back to Perth and the MP's were looking out for diggers who had their buttons undone.

The Regiment conducted further training and then moved back to Perth early November to a rest camp at Bellevue. From here they conducted a shoot at Rockingham and rifle shoot at Swanbourne.



Bdr Ted Jeffreson with "Blitz" 1942



Members on leave in Perth 1942



Regt Camp Mingenew WA 1943

Later in November the Regiment deployed some 300 miles north to Geraldton to an area called Narngula, this being a barren camp area. The Regiment had to make their own mess shelters, kitchens and latrines from the local trees and grass. Water was being carted in from a local bore by water tankers known as Q5 but it had a salty taste, this contaminated water made half of the Regiment go down with dysentery until they got used to it.

Xmas 42 saw the diggers being treated to supplementary rations and being served by the officers, after a sing-song and a few beers. At the wet canteen (a caravan), beer was 6 pence a mug (big or small) It was not long till the gunner ingenuity came to play and the "Tom Blamey" glass appeared, this being a beer bottle neatly cut off at the neck and ground in sand for a couple of hours to smooth the lip.

At this position they dug their pits inside their tents for bomb protection and guns and vehicles were fully camouflaged using the local terrain. Fortnightly day leave was being granted to Geraldton and all outgoing mail was censored. The Regiment also conducted a couple of fire and movement exercises and was fully equipped, even having 3 Bren gun carriers for OP use.

During March 1943, members of Regiment organised dance nights in Geraldton and invited members of the local community as a show of their appreciation.

In March/April they pulled out of Narngula and moved back to towards Moora some 20 miles West of Dandaragin. Here again they had to build their own amenities, but they were now getting good at it. Rugby League was encouraged between the batteries and infantry battalions, with the RAP truck being always on hand.



Catching WA Crayfish



27 Bty Drill Comp Training



Tent lines Mingenew WA 1943

The CO 7, LTCOL Kelso, was heard to have said the "good book", (quoting a quick action taking 8 minutes), was rubbish and the Gunners of 7 Field could easily smash this timing. He was challenged by the Div Artillery General (ex Middle East), and the Regiment made some people eat their words by doing it in 2 minutes.

"In June 1943 we moved camp back to the banks of the Swan River near Point Walter". Day leave was granted for Perth on weekends. Whilst in this rest camp, the Regiment participated in a war loan march through the streets of Perth, *"it was a grand sight seeing the Regiment being lead by the CO, 2IC and Adjutant then by Battery Commanders and their Batteries, with every man in step, rifles all sloped at the same angle, the columns and ranks dead straight"*.

For some unknown reason, the Regiment started to receive some non Gunner type training, with amphibious, rowing long punts around Melville Water, loading and unloading guns onto punts, assault courses, and cliff climbing with ropes. This lasted for some 6 weeks, with no guns being fired..

During July the whole Regiment, guns, trucks and personnel were loaded onto a flat top rail trucks at Fremantle and railed to Marowa travelling all night. From here they detrained and traveled 50 miles in convoy overland to Mingenul where they pitched camp. "After a few days we were told to re pitch out tents in regulation lines using gun directors to make sure everything was square and in line". Guns and trucks were also re parked in the same way. There was more football, an athletic meeting and an inter troop drill competition. The Regiment also traveled to Geraldton, a 180 mile return trip just to play a football match.

In August the Regiment was involved in a Divisional shoot with 2 other WA Regiments, 72 guns in all controlled by CO 7, as he was made the Divisional Gunnery Officer for the shoot. The shoot involved selected

targets, creeping barrages and Divisional concentrations on selected targets (umm not a nice place to be. Ed.), “talk about how to get rid of ammunition”. The shoot was also watched by LT GEN Gordon Bennett.

It was the last time the guns of 7 fired in WW II and after some 2 odd years of training, still not a shot fired in anger.

The Regiment was then moved to an area near a beach where they spent a few days swimming and catching crayfish. From there they moved to Mingenew, boarded a train to Fremantle. After de-training they were given a ships boarding pass, which they placed on their hats then boarded the 13 decked Dutch ship “Nieuw Amsterdam”. The Officers and NCO’s were given luxury suites which had showers and toilets, the diggers were given hammocks on the decks. The Officers and NCO’s came off second best however as the cabins were full of bugs because the ship was on it’s to the United States to de-loused. The troops were given the afternoon off in Fremantle, which in those days had a pub on every corner, one would presume the Regiment had a fun afternoon...

The ship was carrying some 8000 troops including 800 German Panzer prisoners with their Pommie guards. The days were spent exercising on the decks, assisting in kitchen duties as feeding the troops consisted of about 6 meal sittings a day, listening to the Infantry bands and watching the Dutch escort ship scouting around like a watch dog and firing a few practice shots with it’s Bofor guns.

Luckily the seas were not rough and the Regiment arrived in Port Phillip Bay some 3 days later in reasonable shape. There they boarded a train waiting for them at the docks. When it pulled into Flinders St Station the diggers started whistling at the ladies going home from work, then the train reversed and they did it all again...

The train headed to Albury where they changed for the overnight trip to Sydney. They de-trained at Rooty Hill and were then transported to back to where they had started, Wallgrove.

The Regiment was then given 28 days leave and upon returning found out the Regiment was being disbanded.

Most of the SNCO’s were sent to Tenterfield to the 18th Infantry Training Battalion to convert to Infantry. Some of the battle hardened Battalions did not want Gunner NCO’s as they wanted to promote their own diggers, so Gunner NCO’s were being set up for trivial matters like dust on rifles and were charged, demoted and sent to other battalions “*The Final act of Bastardary*”. Some NCO’s decided to transfer to Commandos, Military dock sides, landing craft and some even joined the MP’s. This way they maintained their rank and were well accepted by their new units, however “*the new Corporal rank did not sound as good as Bombardier*”.

No truer words have been said than those of 107 Bty Lt Stuckey who rose from his chair during smoko and addressed his troops at the last Largs camp and said “the only good thing that came out of the war was the comradeship which grew between men”. This camaraderie still exists with the current serving and non serving members of the Regiment.

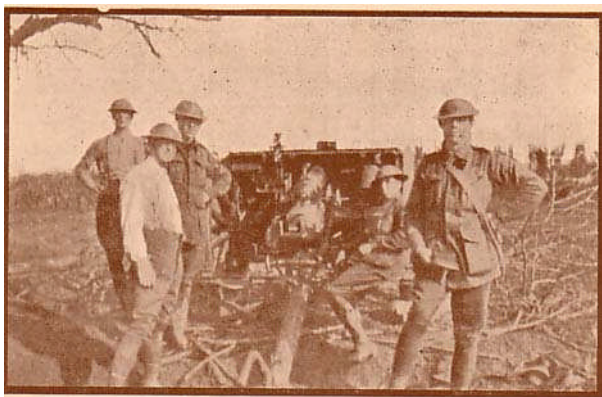
Ubique

BSM Blankets (Pat Sengos)

PS Ted later transferred to the Regular Army (NX110658) and served in New Guinea .

Note, words quoted from Teds original letters are in the “quotation marks”

The Regiment 1916-1940



25 Battery in action on the Somme



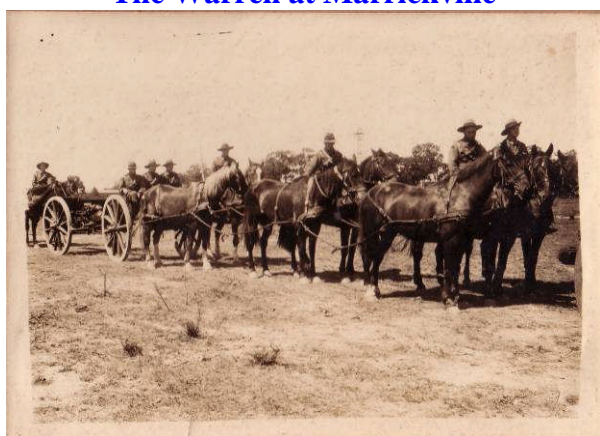
26 Battery coming into action



The Warren at Marrickville



107 Battery gun which received a direct hit



A Sub 27 Bty 1927



1939 Largs near Maitland



25 Battery at Steenwerck 24 Jan 1918



Some photos courtesy of the Australian War Memorial
More photos available on the Association Website

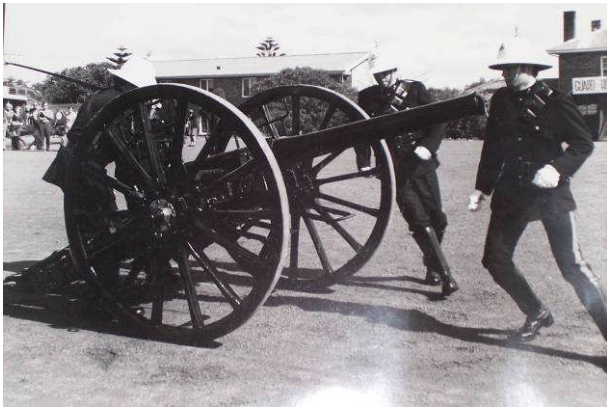
The Regiment 1940– 1990's



25 Pdr Greenhills 1953



1953 Anti Tank



The Black Gun



1965 AFX Chopper Lift at Tianjara



1970's 105mm Pack Howitzer



1980 M2A2 Anti Tank Firing



1984 113 Bty Parachute Training



1990 28 Bty Salute Canberra

The Regiment 1990-2000



1991 75th Anniversary



1992 Freedom of Newcastle



1996 Closing of Willoughby Depot



K95 Tindal NT



Hamels on Parade Pucka mid 90's



1998 NCO Training



2000 Stretcher Carry in NBCD suits



Adventure Training

The Regiment Today



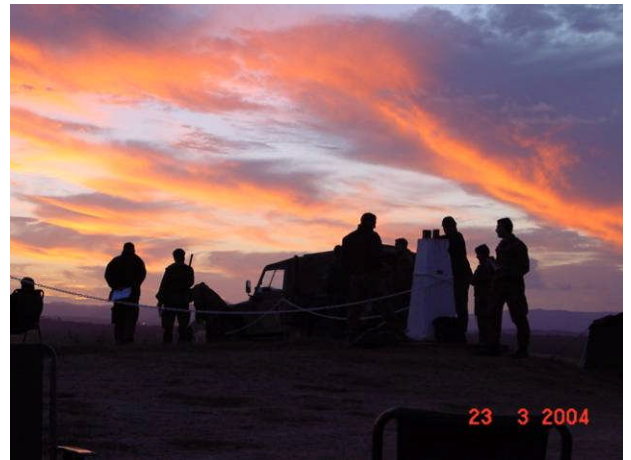
2001 Chopper Deployment



2001 Brew Time



2005 in the Scrub



2004 Prepare for Night Deployment



2005 Aust Day Salute



2005 Queens Bday Salute



2006 Chrissie Function Dee Why RSL



Officers and Sgts Mess Dinner 2007

A Few shots from the Nov LFX



The CP hard at work...



The Parde conducting his service



Ryan'o out in the sun too long



28 Bty Gunnies



113 Bty Gunnies



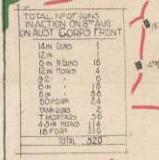
Safety Brief



Safety Party



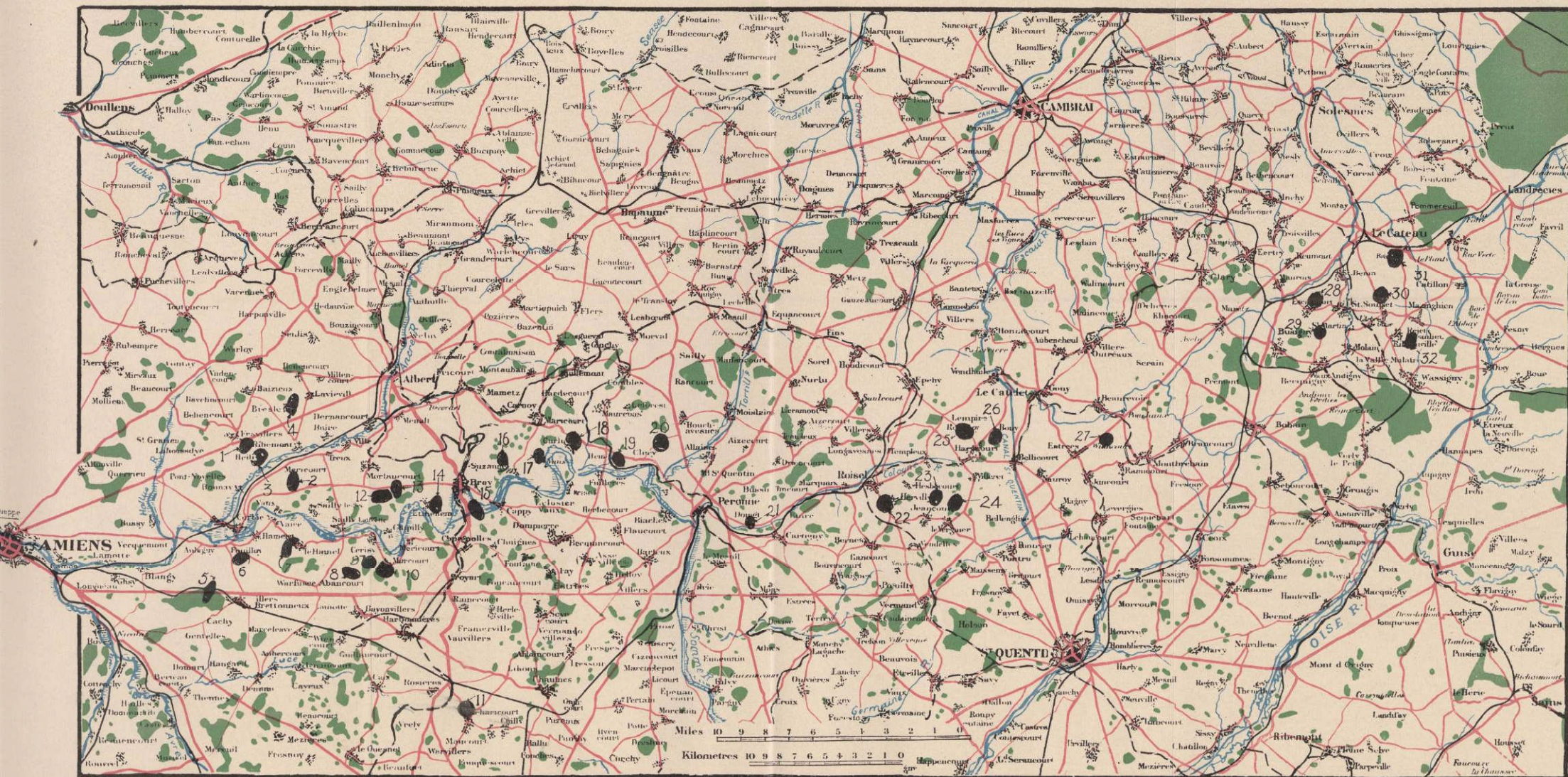
The FO's



Showing the area in which the Australian Field Artillery, assisted by some of the "Tommy" artillery, operated, and the country covered by the barrage. The battery positions (black squares) each represent six guns. The enemy front line is shown red and white across the map. At "zero time" all the artillery opened fire simultaneously and concentrated on the "Artillery start line," and the barrage crept forward at few minutes intervals until the objective was reached by the infantry, which advanced close up behind the barrage. A protective barrage was then put down whilst the infantry consolidated. Each line represents a lift in the barrage, and close to the lower corps boundary are the times of each lift.

At left margin is tabled the British Heavy Artillery, which was controlled by the Australian Corps, and took part in the operation by engaging hostile batteries and covering cross-roads and communications (but whose positions, unfortunately, were not obtainable from the British authorities), and also a list giving the total number of guns of different calibres.

25th, 26th, and 27th Batteries positions are to the west of and 107th Battery to the north of Hamel.



MAP OF THE SOMME (FRANCE).

In which are shown all the positions occupied by the 7th F.A.B., east of Amiens, during the great advance up the Somme, commencing at Hamel, 8th August, 1918, and ending south of Mazinghen, at the signing of the Armistice.

The positions are numbered in black, roads shown in red, railways in black, forests in green, and rivers, creeks, and lakes, in blue.



2007

8/12/2008

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		NOTES
Jan																				CO Planning W/E (1)			Trg			(2)				Trg		JAN	1. CO, 2IC, OPSO, BCs and RSM. 2. AS Day Salute. OCE - RSM. 3. 23 Fd Regt to coord.
Feb																																FEB	4. Nominated ARA only. 5. OCE - 2IC. 6. OCE - 2IC. To be coordinated with BCs.
Mar																																MAR	7. Regt Cocktail Party. OCE - TRG OFFR 8. OCE - BC 113 Bty 9. ANZAC Day. OCE - RSM.
Apr																																APR	10. Instr to be released by 8 CER. TRG OFFR to coord. 11. CO/OPSO/RSM to attend 12. OCE - TRG OFFR
May																																MAY	13. Queens Brithday Salute. OCE - RSM. 14. Offrs & SNCO Combined Mess Finction. OCE - PMCs. 15. NSW Gnr Dinner. OCE - TRG OFFR.
Jun																																JUN	16. NC Gunner Dinner. OCE - BC 113 Bty. 17. OCE - RSM / TRG OFFR 18. Maint W/E & NPMA Audit. OCE - 2IC.
Jul																																Jul	19. OCE - BC 28 Bty. 20. Melb Cup - No parade. 21. OCE - BC 113 Bty. 22. Regt Dinner. OCE - TRG OFFR
Aug																																Aug	23. St Barbara's Day. OCE - RSM. 24. Last parade ni for 2007. 25. Coord by 23 Fd Regt
Sep																																Sep	26. CSS Bty & 28 Bty only 27. 113 Bty only 28. CO/OPSO/RSM to attend
Oct																																Oct	
Nov																																Nov	
Dec																																Dec	

NEXT BFA DUE:

NEXT MED DUE:

HRR:

NEXT WTSS DUE:

NEXT DENTAL DUE:

Date PCNB Updated:

Signature of Soldier

7TH FIELD REGIMENT

NOMINAL ROLL

(as at 14 Oct 07)

LTCOL	Shaday, Maxim	CSS	CPL	Scott, Kirk Stuart	CSS
MAJ	Dunand, Alain James	28	BDR	Thomas, Ryan Nicholas	28
MAJ	Ellson, David Arthur	CSS	BDR	Wagland, Ross Andrew	28
MAJ	See, Dhugald Malcolm	113	LCPL	Caban, Stephen Frank	113
CAPT	Applewhite, Gregory Paul	CSS	LBDR	Chase Berry, Joseph John	28
CAPT	Caines, Steven Henry	CSS	LBDR	Fender, Shane Matthew	28
CAPT	Pigneguy, Justin Georges	113	LCPL	Kerr, Michael Ivor	28
CAPT	Magyar, Michael Andrew	CSS	LBDR	Lunan, James Allen	28
CHAP	Prosper, Gregory	CSS	LCPL	Orr, James William Fredrick	113
CAPT	Worboys, Simon Richard	113	LCPL	Rennie, Michael Lawson	CSS
LT	Jones, Marcus James	28	CFN TRN	Andrews, Mark Gordon	CSS
LT	Sendt, David Alexander	28	GNR (P)	Allanson, Kim Brendon	113
LT	Egan, Thomas James	28	PTE	Amarasinghe, Mick	CSS
LT	Newton, Guy Arthur	28	PTE (P)	Anderson, Christopher	113
2LT	Voght, Gregory Michael	113	PTE	Ashcroft, Cristine Jane	28
2LT	Wallin, Andrew William	113	PTE (P)	Ashbourne, Delma Joy	113
WO1	Franklin, Brett Anthony	CSS	GNR	Barber, Travis Stephen	CSS
WO2	Clemence, Paul Robert	CSS	PTE REC	Barrow, Nathan James	113
WO2	Blankets, Leroy Cyril	CSS	PTE REC	Bingham, Mark	CSS
WO2	Kristan, David Francis	28	PTE	Boulter, Darren	CSS
WO2	Linsley, Peter Douglas	113	GNR	Bowen, Simon Ward	113
WO2	Hall, Hayley Kathleen	CSS	PTE	Brookes, Colin James	113
WO2	Hawckett, Dion Jay	113	GNR (P)	Brown, Damien Robert	CSS
WO2	Nicholls, Grant	113	PTE	Butow, Tanya Michelle	CSS
WO2	Ryan, Glenn Michael	113	CFN TRN	Caddy, Robert William	CSS
WO2	Sengos, Patrick	CSS	CFN TRN	Clark, Calum	CSS
WO2	Vella, Lindsay Joseph	CSS	CFN TRN	Cleland, William Theodore	CSS
SSGT	Kennedy, Donald Frank	CSS	PTE	Cortis, Richard	113
SGT	Atchison, Justin Gary	113	PTE REC	Cox, Matthew	113
SGT	Cartwright, Andrew Scott	113	PTE REC	Daley, Luke Benjamin	113
SGT	Francis, Clayton John	CSS	GNR	Dawson, Christopher	113
SGT	Garnham, Michael John	CSS	CFN TRN	De Souza, Christopher Joseph	CSS
SGT	Lowe, Jon Scott	113	PTE (P)	Donnelly, Suzanne Jane	28
SGT	Porter, Christopher Mark	113	PTE (P)	Dumas, Renee Jeanne	CSS
SGT	Russell, Alan Ian	CSS	PTE	Dwyer-Gray, Leslie Thomas	CSS
SGT	Salcole, Andrew Edward	CSS	GNR (P)	Eckert, David	113
CPL	Balfour, Steven James	CSS	GNR TRN	Evans, Matthew Charles	CSS
CPL	Barnsley, Patricia Jean	CSS	GNR (P)	Fletcher, Luke John	113
CPL	Brooks, Andrew Richard	113	GNR TRN	Francis, Karl Thomas	113
BDR	Brown, Jeffery David	28	PTE REC	Fraus, Erich Wolfgang	CSS
CPL	Collins, Peter Francis	CSS	GNR (P)	Fridolfsson, Peter Kristian	28
CPL	Fear, Gavin John	CSS	PTE REC	Gleeson, Jason Anthony	113
BDR	Greenwood, Kurt John	113	GNR	Grayson, Timothy Carlton	113
CPL	Morgan, Fiona Jane	CSS	PTE REC	Gregory, Dean Shaun	113
BDR	Nicholson, Matthew Robert	113	GNR (P)	Hammang, Michael Steven	CSS
			PTE TRN	Heasman, Michael Edward	113

GNR (P)	Hemsley,Mark Alan	28
PTE TRN	Hernandez,Jose	28
GNR	Hill,Robert	28
GNR	Holgersson,Joel Lucas	28
GNR TRN	Hubbard-Potter,Logan	113
GNR(P)	Ilsley,Richard George	28
GNR	Joiner,James Michael	CSS
PTE TRN	Kong,William	CSS
PTE REC	Krowitz,Steven	CSS
PTE TRN	Lawson,Helen Andrea	28
GNR (P)	Leigh,James Phillip	28
PTE TRN	Lindsay,Shane	28
PTE REC	Lowe,Stephen Marc	113
PTE REC	McDuie,Jason Dale	28
GNR TRN	McLeod,Luke Christopher	113
GNR	Mead,Darren	113
GNR (P)	Membrey,Tristan Francis	113
GNR (P)	Moran,James Timothy	CSS
GNR (P)	Morrison,Andrew Leslie	28
GNR (P)	Necovski,Alex	113
PTE REC	O'Connor,Aleksander	113
GNR	Paterson,Ryan Paul John	CSS
CFN TRN	Pellew,Christopher	CSS
GNR	Reid,Zachary Edward	28
PTE	Richardson,Alan John	113
PTE(P)	Scheding,Richard Alexander	CSS
GNR	Stewart,Reece	113
PTE(P)	Sheahan,Heather May	113
GNR	Smith,Chadd	113
PTE	Smith,Kathryn Ann	CSS
GNR (P)	Strategos,Tristan Alexander	113
GNR TRN	Taylor,Michael Damian	28
PTE (P)	Taylor,Shauna Lee	CSS
PTE REC	Thornton,Matthew Luke	113
PTE REC	Tiley,Kim Stewart	28
PTE(P)	Tomkins,Nathan Edward	113
GNR (P)	Vippond,Robert Ian	113
GNR TRN	Vowell,Angus	CSS
PTE (P)	Warminger,Darrin Frank	28
PTE REC	Watson,Leon Craig	113
GNR TRN	Watson,Peter David	113
PTE	Whalen,Joshua John	113
PTE (P)	White,Renee Lynne	113
PTE REC	Whitney,Andrew James	28
GNR	Wilson,Simon Paul	CSS
PTE	Yeung,Colin Yuen Sang	28
PTE (P)	Young,Jodette Ann	28
PTE REC	Xi,Hieu	CSS
Miss	Wicks,Amanda Jane	CSS

Interesting Facts WW I

Whilst going through the 7 Field files held at North Fort museum, I came across an old School of Arty handout which mentioned Artillery rounds fired during WW1. The following figures reflect how busy the gunners were during the Great War

Type of Round Fired	Total Rounds
13 Pdr Q.F.	1,162,174
13 Pdr A.A.	2,963,757
3" 20 cwt	152,252
15 Pdr	122,592
18 Pdr	100,537,983
4.5" How	25,913,119
5.0" How	53,604
4.7" & 60 Pdr	10,828,545
6" How	21,519,613
6" Gun	1,049,036
8" How	3,951,601
9.2" How	3,123,020
9.2" Gun	45,162
12" How	218,818
12" Gun	3,812
15" Gun	24,227
14" Gun	372

Total Rounds Fired all Natures 171,670,687

Tonnage shipped to France 4,807,927

Approx Value £ 806,545,743

Maximum expenditure for any one day was 12,600 tons or 33 train loads. This occurred in Sept 1918.