

6221356



12 ALKIRA RD  
CARLIN

YANDOO

87

Vol 1 No 1

7 Field Regiment  
Royal Australian Artillery  
Association

Warrane Road, Willoughby NSW 2068

7th FIELD REGIMENT ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

NEWS LETTER.

The 7th Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery Association was founded at a meeting, convened by Lt Col G S Staziker who was then the officer commanding 7th Fd Regt RAA, held at Willoughby Training Depot on the 20th of May 1986. Twenty members and ex members of the Regt attended and many apologies and pledges of support were received. It was there resolved to form this Association and a full committee was elected and a draft constitution was discussed.

A very successful re-union was held in October 1986 at the Willoughby Legion Club and the committee has met regularly to formulate a programme of future functions and other matters relevant to the Association. Membership has grown from 42 in August 1986 to 102 at the end of April 1987.

It has been resolved to produce a "Newsletter" periodically for distribution to members, this, we hope, will be the first of many such letters. Your Committee would appreciate contributions of news, items of interest, scandal, stories, articles relevant to the Regt and personal column items of interest etc, for future publication. The Committee would like to know of any of our past members who we may be able to assist with problems or troubles they may have and which we may consider worthy of our attention.

\*\*\*\*\*

COMPILATION OF THE REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

One of the objects of our Association is :- "To foster and maintain the history of 7th Fd Regt and encourage the establishment and/or restoration of unit barracks, sites, museums or memorials".

An excellent foundation for this work was laid in 1980 with the completion of a fine paper on the history of 7th Field Brigade/7th Field Regiment by W.O.2. R.C.M. (Danny) Toplis, who has served in the Regiment for 35 years. Your Association is continuing the work by seeking to complement the factual history with personal experiences, by reference to former members, and/or their next of kin.

We have already made contact with the next of kin of several members of the original 7th Field Brigade, 1916 - 1919. These contacts have resulted in the donation of important items of memorabilia including the medals of Driver E.W.Wynn (10th Fd Bty), the diary of Driver H.R. Herbert (26th and 107th Btys), and a copy of part of the diary of Gunner V.W.Kernahan (28th and 107th Btys). The people to whom we have spoken hold the 7th in the highest regard and in consequence the Association and the Regiment have a great deal to live up to.

To assist us in our project we would be grateful for donations of any memorabilia and militaria. All donations will be carefully recorded and stored. In the long term we hope to have items on display.

If you have some items that you would care to donate or if you know of someone who has such items, please contact Luarie HINDMARSH, 5 McRae Place, Turrumurra, 2074. Telephone 449 1169.



THE BIRTH OF THE YANDOO.

---  
The 7th F. A. B. YANDOO springs into life in compliance with what is believed to be a real and acknowledged demand.

From the desk of Lt. Col. R.J. Hill, RFD. Commanding Officer.

7 Fd Regt RAA.

As part of 2 Div, 7 Fd Regt RAA is training for war. All our training activities and objectives are directed towards this overall need.

During the past nine months the highlights of the Unit have been:-

- the re-introduction of Tuesday night parades for all ranks.
- an increase in the number of field firing activities.
- the restructuring of HQ Bty so that Regimental training can take place - HQ Bty now has a very definite purpose and takes an active role in field firing and other training requirements.
- two recruiting drives in Newcastle and Sydney which achieved a satisfactory level of success.
- an overall increase in the total strength of the unit.
- an increase of four officers.
  - . an ex-Regular Major who comes to the Unit with a wealth of artillery experience including active duty in Vietnam as an FOO.
  - . three lieutenants, one being a graduate from OCTU (Vic), another from UNSWR and a third previously serving with 23 Fd Regt RAA but having been on leave for an extended period.
- two officers have been made available to serve on HQ 2 Div Arty staff.
- 28 Fd Bty were successful in winning the Pagan Cup during AFX 86 at Tin Can Bay, Qld, in Sept '86.

During AFX at Tin Can Bay, Qld, the Unit was privileged to host a visit from senior officers of the Thailand Army, including a Maj General and several of his senior Brigadiers. Their visit was to allow them to observe an Australian Army Reserve unit training in the field and to gain further ideas to introduce into the Thai Reserve system. In March this year the CO had the opportunity to return this visit in Thailand where he learnt more of the Thai systems.

POSTINGS IN 7 Fd Regt RAA.

C.O.	: Lieut-Col. R.J. Hill RFD.
ADJT.	: Capt. T.A.G. Kemp.
R.S.M.	: W.O.1. B.E. Johnson.
Q.M.	: W.O.1. K.E. Williams.
B.C's.	: H.Q. Bty. Capt. M.J. Coaster-Garton.
	: 28 Fd Bty. Maj. J.A. Fairless.
	: 113 Fd Bty. Maj. D.J. Barrow.

INVITATION.

Association members are invited to visit a Field Firing Exercise at Holsworthy Range, on Saturday afternoon the 22 Aug 1987. Three Bty's of 7 Fd Regt RAA will take part. Those wishing to attend please contact W.O.2.J.G. Balfour by the 11 Aug '87 on H 452 2853 or W. 234 9333. He will brief you, and advise times, R.V's etc.

PERSONNEL PROFILES.INTRODUCING OUR PRESIDENT.Max FALCONER. MBE. J.P.

Max was born and educated in Manly N.S.W.. He joined the Bank of New South Wales (now Westpac) at Dee Why in 1951, has carried out duties in various Branches and Departments and is now Manager of the branch at Anandale N.S.W.

He was called up for National Service and trained at 12 NS Tng Btn at Holsworthy, commencing on 29 Apr 1953. After initial training he was posted to 21 Fd Regt RAA at Hornsby, this Regt was transferred to a new Training Depot at Pymble in Sept 1956. Max was promoted Bdr. in Oct '53 and Sgt in Mar '56.

21 Fd Regt was disbanded on 7 Aug '57, Max elected to stay on and was transferred to 7 Fd Regt RAA at Willoughby. By Feb '60 he was qualified and promoted to WO 2 serving as TSM Q Bty, BSM HQ Bty and BSM P Bty. He was an Executive of the Sergeants Mess carrying out his duties with efficiency and care.

Completing 12 years service in Apr '65 he was awarded the Efficiency Medal and received the Clasp to this award in Apr '71.

In the '71 New Year Honours Max was awarded the MBE for "Exceptional personal service to the Citizen Military Forces", and was invested at Government House Sydney on 23 Apr '71. The late Chips Rafferty was awarded his MBE the same day. Also in 1971 Max was appointed a Justice of the Peace.

Max held the posting of Regtl Recruiting Officer for 5 years and was often seen in the streets and shopping centres in the Units' area of influence. In 1975 he was promoted to WO 1, holding various postings in the Regt till discharged on 23 August 1982.

In Mar '85 Max also received the Defence Force Service Medal and 1st Clasp.

It is interesting to note that when 21 Fd Regt was disbanded in '57, the then members of the Sergeants Mess formed 'The 21 Club', which is still active and will this year hold its 30th re-union.

Max has certainly had a long and distinguished service with the Reserve Forces and his interest has not waned. It is good to note that he received some recognition for such service.

::

Now here is a short QUIZ.

Test your knowledge of the Regimental Badge and Motto :-

1. What does the motto "Consensu Stabiles" mean?  
.....  
.....
2. In what year did the Military Board approve the now familiar "Gun Badge"  
.....
3. What does the motto "Ubique" mean?  
.....
4. What does the present Regt Motto "Quo Fas et Gloria Ducunt" mean?  
.....  
.....
5. In what year and by whom was this motto granted to the Royal Artillery?  
.....

A SHORT HISTORY OF ARTILLERY - PERIOD 13th CENTURY TO 18th CENTURY.

" The contribution of the Artillery to final victory has been immense - the Artillery has been terrific". Montgomery.

What is the meaning of Artillery ?

Weapons of war that fire projectiles or missiles and the military organisations and equipment necessary to employ them in battle.

How far back does modern Artillery go ?

About the 13th century after the introduction of gun powder. During the 13th to 16th century experiments with these new weapons were carried out, however they were crude , imperfect and never uniform. Also in most cases they were very heavy and immobile.

One particular piece of evidence of this statement was during the siege of Constantinople in 1453 by the Turkish Sultan Mohammad 2nd, in which he used a cannon called "Basilica" with a 30 inch bore. It required 60 Oxen and 200 men to move it. It took 2 hours to load with a 1600 lb stone ball . It had no carriage or support of any type and was armed by resting it on a mound of dirt. It's range was about one mile.

During the 15th century breechblocks were used , being secured by a heavy pin passing from side to side to side through the breech of the barrel and the breechblock. This was invented by a man named 'Cotter' and is where the name "Cotterpin" came from.

During the 16th century with lighter cannon and better organisation the Artillery became a major arm on the battlefield.

This light Artillery became a true " Field Artillery ".

In 1671 Louis XIV King of France was the first person to organise a permanent Artillery and establish schools of instruction . Also it was the French who invented the limber or carriage. By the end of the 16th century most countries maintaining a standing army had Artillery.

During the 17th century the science of Gunnery continued to improve with the introduction of low and high trajectory equipment.

What is a "Howitzer" ?

A short barrelled cannon of light weight in relation to it's bore , it's length being between that of a mortar and a standard field gun and could be used for either low or high angle firing.

The 18th century did not bring many changes , however the first casting of a solid cylinder with a drilled bore was invented in 1740. Other changes which occurred were horse drawn carriages with mounted gunners , carriages built with interchangeable parts and quicker methods of coming into action.

Up to this period , even though a breechblock had been invented most guns were loaded down the muzzle and all had smooth bores.

This is Part 1 of a series. To be continued in the next issue.

7 FIELD REGIMENT ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY.ACTIVITIES:

1. Regimental Annual Field Exercise and Evaluation Exercise was held in the Wide Bay Training Area, Queensland between the 14th and 27th September, 1986.
2. For the third year running, guns and members of the Regiment participated in firing for Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture during the Beating The Retreat Ceremony at 1st Recruit Training Battalion Kapooka on 15th November, 1986.
3. A gun detachment took part in gun races at International Military Tattoo, Sydney Entertainment Centre from 24th February to 28th February 1987.
4. Sgt. P. Sengos, 28 Fd Bty and Lieut C.S. Walder, 113 Fd Bty, have been selected to serve with 102 Med. Bty., 8/12 Med. Regt., attached to 7 Royal Horse Artillery for Exercise North Star 87 in the United Kingdom during May/June 1987.
5. From 17th to 30th October 1987, the Regiment will conduct a Courses Camp at Singleton, for artillery units from Queensland, N.S.W. and Western Australia.

## COMMANDING OFFICERS

LTCOL R.St J.Pearce VD	Mar16	LTCOL C.E.Chapman ED	Apr48
LTCOL T.A.Spencer VD	Aug15	MAJ O.N.Rosevear ED (Admin Comd)	May52
LTCOL H.D.K.Macartney DSO	Oct16	MAJ E.D.Thomas DSO ED (Admin Comd)	Jun52
LTCOL H.G.Churchus DSO	Jan18	LTCOL A.G.Hanson DSO ED	Jul52
LTCOL T.E.W.James DSO	Apr18	LTCOL H.F.Perry ED	Jan56
LTCOL G.H.McA.King CMG DSO	May18	LTCOL J.L.Croue ED	Jul56
LTCOL W.H.StClair DSO	Nov18	LTCOL D.S.Johnston OBE ED	Jul61
LTCOL H.D.K.Macartney DSO	Jan19	LTCOL S.G.Lane ED	Jul64
MAJ R.E.Fanning DSO	Jan19	LTCOL J.W.E.Johnston RFD ED	Jul67
DEMOBILISED	Aug19	LTCOL P.T.Smith AM	Aug69
LTCOL C.A.Callaghan CMG DSO	Mar21	LTCOL H.A.F.Penson DFC	Aug72
LTCOL J.C.Selmes DSO VD	Mar26	LTCOL C.F.J.Hogan RFD	Aug75
LTCOL J.W.Faxter VD	Nov29	LTCOL J.P.Keefe RFD	Oct78
LTCOL R.Synnot MC	Nov33	LTCOL N.Hawkins RFD	Jul80
LTCOL E.J.W.Pope	Jan35	LTCOL G.S.Staziker RFD ED	Jul83
LTCOL K.A.Flavelle	May38	LTCOL R.J.Hill RFD	Jul86
LTCOL R.Daly	Jan39		
LTCOL R.C.Osborne MC Croix de Guerre	May40		
LTCOL J.Kelso	Oct41		
DISEASED	Nov43		

7 FD REGT RAA ASSOCIATIONFINANCIAL MEMBERS AS AT 30 APRIL 1987.

ANDREW John	FAIRLESS John	McALISTER Fred
ARLINGTON Michael	FALCONER Maxwell	McLEAN Alistar
BALDWIN Murray	FITZPATRICK Ian (Roy)	McVAY Donald
BALFOUR John	FLANAGAN Kevin (Barney)	NASH James
BASTOCK Frederick	FULCHER Sharon	NEALE Geoffrey
BATEMAN Raymond	GATES Graham	NEILL William
BAYLES Robert	GIFFNEY Desmond	NELSON John.
BAYNIE John	HAMER Colin	NOAKES Steven
BIRCH Karen	HAMMOND Arthur	OWENS Bob
BOWEN Christopher	HAMMOND Gerald	PRIMROSE Brian
BRADLEY John	HANSFORD John (Jes)	PRYOR Alan
BREWER Charles	HANSON Arthur	RICHARDSON Robert
BRINCAT Alexander	HARGREAVES Thomas	ROGAN Robert
BROADHEAD Kenneth	HARLE Charles	RUSSELL Robert
BRYANT Kevin	HECKENBERG Brian	SAVILLE Owen
BURNETT Donald	HILL Robert	SCOTT Ian
BURKE Alexander	HINDMARSH Laurence	SHORTUS Dennis
BUTZ John (Rex)	HOEY Ian	SMITH Roger
BUZACOTT David	HOGAN Christopher	STARK Glyn
CARMENT David	HOPKINSON Frederick	STARKE Bill (Jnr)
CARRICK Vincent	HUNGERFORD Henry (John)	STAZIVER George (Stuart)
CHAD Allan	JACKSON Neville	STEDMAN James
COLE Gordon	JOHNSON James	STONE Peter
COLLINS Donald	KEEFE John	SULLIVAN Kevin
CORBETT Robert	KIELY Douglas	TAYLOR Harry
COTTLE Victor	KOINA Jeffrey	THOMPSON Reg
CROWE John	LANE Bill	TOBIN Phillip
CUNNEEN Stephen	LEEK Keith	TOPLIS Danny
DAVIDSON William	MEGGATT Thomas	TURNER Robert
DICK Anthony	MENDL Peter	WATKINS Kenneth
EAGLETON Harold	MOONEY Ronald	WHITE Peter
EDWARDS Hugh	MOORE Denis	WHITFIELD Timothy
ELBERTON Frederick	MORGAN Robert	WILKINS Reginald
EWAN David	MOYSEY David	WILLIS Kenneth

QUIZ ANSWERS.

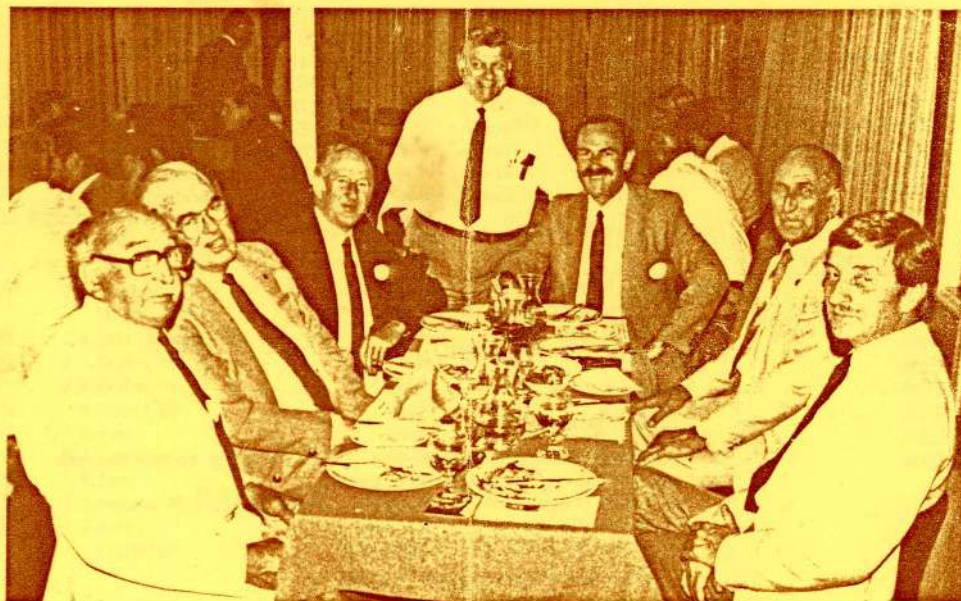
1. There are three possible answers.
- Strong in agreement.
  - Firm and ready.
  - Firm and steadfast.
2. June 1930.
3. Everywhere.
4. There are 3 answers although the first appears to be the one most generally agreed upon and used.
- Where right and glory lead.
  - Where honour and glory lead.
  - Where destiny and glory lead
5. 1833 by King William the Fourth

# first annual reunion

24th October, 1986



Hugh Edwards, Dennis Shortus, Neville Jackson,  
Barney Flanagan, Roy Fitzpatrick, Peter Mendl,  
Danny Topliss, Owen Saville.



John Crowe, Bob Turner, Stuart Staziker,  
Max Falconer, John Balfour, Tom Hyslop,  
Ray Bateman.