

Yandoo

**The Newsletter of the 7 Field Regiment
Royal Australian Artillery Association**

Vol 2 No 18 (2023)

Website Address: <http://www.7fd-regt-raa-association.com>



Inside This Issue:

President's Report

Association Committee

Key Postings in 7 Battery

From the CO's Desk

2022/23 Major Events

Soldier's Award 2022

Consecration of Queen's Banner Nov 2022

Welcome to New Members

Last Post Obituaries

Call for Memorabilia

Our wonderful English Language

List of all Association Members

Upcoming Events

Annual Reunion - Friday 10 November 2023

ANZAC Lunch - Sunday 15 April 2024

ANZAC Day - Monday 25 April 202

Current Committee (Elected 23 August 2023)

President: S.Flower

Vice

Presidents: D.Moysey & A. McCallum

Secretary: J.G. Balfour OAM

Treasurer: D. McVay

Committee: K.S. Aiston

J. Brown

K. Cochran

R.Havard

G. Herbert

J.Nash

J.Stanford

B.Starke

Regimental

Rep: LT Sam Tsaousis

Patron: BRIG J P Keefe RFD

Hon Solicitor: LTCOL G.Barter

Hon Auditor: W.J.Neill

President's Report

The Association's AGM was held on Wednesday, 26 August 2023, and after one false start due to not having the numbers to proceed we now have a new Committee and passed some constitutional changes to hopefully mean that future AGMs will always be able to proceed as planned.

You can see details of the new committee on the [About](#) page of the website.

BRIG John Keefe RFD remains our Patron, I thank John for his continued support and advice.

The new website continues to receive compliments and I encourage everyone to enjoy the huge amount of history it contains. Our next body of work on the site is in getting Committee members trained in making updates, conducting maintenance and sorting through the 6000 plus photos to make these more organised and accessible.

Our Facebook page remains active with Jim's quizzes and birthday notices a favourite!

Our ANZAC Day presence remains strong and we continue to be joined by increasing numbers of serving members. I hope to see many of you again for the 2024 march. Remember- if you don't march, who will?

The Annual Soldier's Award for 2023 received nomination for three outstanding young soldiers and congratulations go to the runners-up GNR Nicholas Dimataga of 25 TP and GNR Kai Cen of 28 TP.

The winner, GNR Ella Cleare of 113 TP received a certificate for a free weekend at the Army Resort "Bulwarra", at Terrigal.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee for its support and in particular, the input of JB as Association Secretary, without whom the Association would not run.

We now look forward our 2023 Annual Reunion and I hope to see you there.

UBIQUE.

Stephen Flower
President



ANZAC DAY 2023



ANZAC DAY 2023



ANZAC LUNCH – CHATSWOOD RSL APRIL 2023



CHATSWOOD RSL CLUB ANZAC LUNCHEON 2023



GUNNER DINNER AUGUST 2023

7 Battery Key Postings 2023

BC	MAJ Jonathan Passlow
IG	LT Mitchell Axon*
BK	CAPT Andrew Wallin
BSM	WO2 Stephen Potter
SMIG	WO2 Michael Dunn *
25 Tp Comd	LT Brian Davies
28 Tp Comd	LT Calvin Zeng
113 Tp Comd	CAPT Isabel King
Other Officers	CAPT Hugh Lightbody
	LT Hugo Laithwaite
	LT Daniel Abrams
	LT Sam Tsaousis

* ARA

FROM THE CO's DESK

Our shifting Strategic Paradigm.

The release of the Defence Strategic Review in April 2023 acknowledged the changed strategic circumstances that Australia faces in the Indo-Pacific region. The likelihood of non-military competition leading to large-scale conventional conflict is now greater than at any time since the Second World War. Regional tensions have risen and the strategic warning time that Australia previously relied upon to prepare for conflict has now been significantly reduced. There is now acknowledgement that to effectively defend Australia the ADF needs the ability to project power beyond our borders, denying any adversary's attempts to project power against Australia through our northern approaches or sea lanes of communication. This concept of National Defence forms part of a whole-of-government strategy to safeguard Australia from major power competition, including the prospect of conflict.

Against this prospect the Australian Army is transforming to meet the requirements of the future integrated force. Army will be optimised for littoral manoeuvre by land, air and sea. Army's future close combat capabilities will now be centred around a single armoured combined-arms brigade. Importantly, the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery (RAA) will take on the critical tasks of delivering enhanced long-range fires, which will include a land-based maritime strike capability, along with integrated air and missile defence. The focus on long-range fires

and integrated air and missile defence has not however come without the need for some offsets and government has decided to cancel the purchase of a second regiment of protected mobility fires (AS-9 Huntsman self-propelled artillery) to allow for the purchase of additional HIMARS launchers.

To generate Army's contribution to the integrated force the 1st, 3rd and 7th Brigades have all come under command of the 1st (Australian) Division. Forces Command now takes on the role of training across Army to achieve a unified approach to individual and collective training while the 2nd (Australian) Division comprising the 4th, 5th, 11th and 13th Brigades is now responsible for the security of Australia's northern base network and other critical infrastructure.

As I mentioned in my article in 2022, Army has raised a new Fires Formation officially to be designated as the 10th Brigade. The 9th Regiment is planned to leave the 2nd (Australian) Division to move under command of the Fires Formation, on order, sometime in or after January 2024. It will join the 16th Regiment (eNASAAMS) and the soon to be raised 14th Regiment (HIMARS) in this new formation. The 10th Brigade will come under command of the 1st (Australian) Division once it achieves initial operational capability in 2025.

The 9th Regiment continues to accelerate its transition away from the 81mm mortar capability as part of the Artillery Modernisation Plan. Each Battery across the Regiment can now generate a suite of capabilities with an emphasis on the Surveillance and Target Acquisition role. Contemporary capabilities like our Joint Fires Teams can be augmented by Small Uncrewed Aerial Systems (SUAS) and Radars. In time, each Battery is also planned to generate a Fires Troop-worth of gunners capable of integrating with a HIMARS or M777 Battery from one of the full-time Regiments. As the only Reserve unit of the RAA, the 9th Regiment plays a critical role for the RAA as part of the Total Workforce Model being applied across the entire Australian Defence Force, that aims to better leverage the contributions and capability offerings of part-time defence members.

7 Battery

Against the changing strategic circumstances 7 Battery has had a particularly busy year in 2023.

Much of the training year has been spent preparing for and deploying on Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 23. 7 Battery led the 9th Regiment's contribution to Battle Group WARATAH which centred on the 4/3 Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment. Commencing with CRAWL and WALK activities, preparation for TALISMAN SABRE culminated with WARATAH RUN which was conducted at Singleton in March 2023. In addition to providing direct support to the combat team in the field, 7 Battery also conducted an 81mm mortar live fire practice to qualify trainees on the Artillery Forward Observer (AFO) Basic Course during WARATAH RUN.

After successful completion of preparatory activities 7 Battery deployed to Townsville in late July to marry-up with Battle Group WARATAH. The Battle Group then deployed into the vicinity of Ingham township where it conducted security and protection operations during the initial phases of Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 23. During the final phase of the exercise, a combat team from the Battle Group deployed into the Townsville Field Training Area joining Battle Group HEELER (based on 6 RAR) to support the 1st (Australian) Division seizure of key crossing points to enable the Division to advance on its final objectives. 7 Battery deployed the full suite of its capabilities to support Battle Group WARATAH including a Joint Fires Team (JFT), Joint Fires and Effects Coordination Centre (JFECC), Joint ISR Support Team (JIST) and a Lightweight Multi-Mode Radar (LMMR).

As with every year there have been some changes to key appointments in 2023. Major Jonathan Passlow remained in command of 7 Battery while Warrant Officer Class 2 Stephen Potter continued to serve as the Battery Sergeant-Major, in conjunction with Captain Andrew Wallin as the Battery Captain. 7 Battery was joined by a number of new Officers in 2023. CAPT Isabel King posted in from SUR while LT Calvin Zeng, LT Daniel Abrams and LT Sam Tsaousis all joined the Battery upon commissioning into the RAA. I would also like to highlight LT Hugh Lightbody's promotion to CAPT and also BDRs Gavin Hughes, Adrian Orellana and Jack Snowden who were all promoted to the rank of SGT at the end of 2022.

7 Battery has been fortunate to have LT Mitchell Axon as its Instructor-Gunnery (IG) in 2023. LT Axon leaves the Battery at the end of year returning to

8/12 Regiment to take up a Joint Fires Officer role. Also only after one year, Warrant Officer Class 2 Michael Dunn, will leave the role of Sergeant-Major Instructor-Gunnery (SMIG) to take up a new posting at the School of Artillery. I would like to thank them both for their hard work and enthusiasm, and I wish them all the very best for their next postings.

Finally, on behalf of the soldiers and officers of 7 Battery, I would like to acknowledge the support of the 7 Field Regiment RAA Association to the Battery and thank the committee members for their ongoing work and support.

UBIQUE.

Philip Wong
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer



**Australia Day Salute at Kirribilli
26 January 2023**



**CONSECRATION OF QUEEN'S BANNER
VICTORIA BARRACKS 5 NOV 2022**

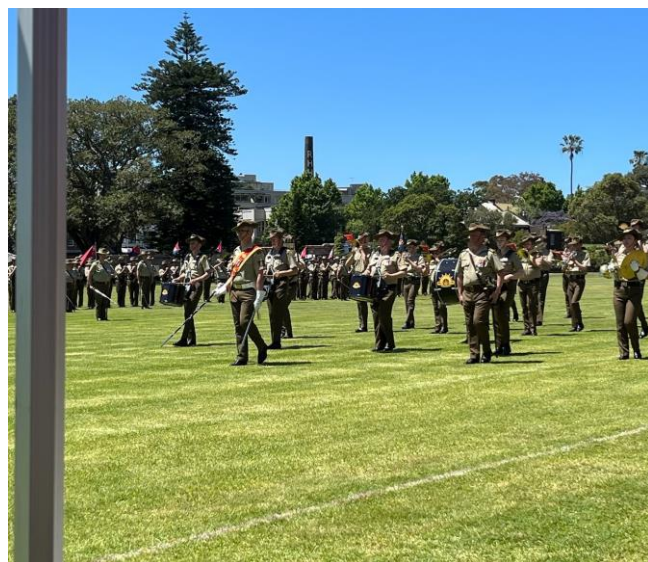
Representatives from all RAA Units assembled at Victoria Barracks for the Consecration of the new Queen's Banner on 5 November 2022, marking a belated 150th anniversary of the Regiment, postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

They were joined by the Governor-General GEN (ret'd) David Hurley and Chief of the Army LT GEN Simon Stuart.

It took 5 Embroiderers 7 months to hand stitch the new RAA Queen's Banner, made entirely of silk, including 2% gold thread.

The Banner features the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery emblem against a royal blue background – a colour reserved for Australian Army Regiments granted the Royal prefix.

The reverse side features St Edward's Crown above the letters E & R, with a roman numeral 11 between, denoting Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11's royal cypher.



**CONSECRATION OF QUEEN'S BANNER
VICTORIA BARRACKS 5 NOV 2022**



John Balfour, Bob Richardson, Geoffrey Herbert & Jess Hansford at Victoria Barracks

**CONSECRATION OF QUEEN'S BANNER
VICTORIA BARRACKS 5 NOV 2022**



*****Membership Fees are due now*****

Annual \$10 – Life (over 55) \$100



Payments for the Reunion and Membership fees can be made to:

BSB No 062 – 272

Account No 1001 3543

Association Website Update

Don't forget to periodically look at our website at:

<https://www.7fieldregimentassociation.com.au/>

SOLDIER'S AWARD 2022



MAJ Jonathan Passlow & John Balfour at Randwick Depot presenting GNR Ella Cleare (113 TP) with the Soldier's Award for 2022.

The Runners-up were GNR Nicholas Dimataga (25 TP) and GNR Kai Cen (28 TP).

The winner received a certificate plus a weekend at the Army's Bulwarra Resort, Terrigal.

A very warm welcome to our recent NEW MEMBERS

SETRIGHT Russell

GATES Patrick

DONNELLY Suzanne

7 FD REGT RAA MEMORABILIA

7 BTY is calling for any Memorabilia items to set up a Depot Display.

Items can be donated or loaned & all possible items need to be advised to the Secretary (JB) who will coordinate approval, delivery, collection etc.



GNR NICHOLAS DIMATAGA AFTER HIS PRESENTATION AS RUNNER-UP SOLDIER'S AWARD 2022 WITH LTCOL WONG, LT LAITHWAITE, SGT SCHWEBEL & SGT SNOWDON

.....
BULWARRA RESORT, TERRIGAL proudly supports the 7 FD Regt RAA Association annual **SOLDIER'S AWARD**

bookings@bulwarra.com.au

Annual Reunion 2022

36th Annual Reunion 11 Nov 2022

For your information, the following attended the Annual Reunion in November 2022 at Chatswood RSL:

Karen AISTON, Bill AMOR, John BALFOUR, Jeff BROWN, David BUZZACOTT, Kathy COCHRAN, John FAIRLESS, Barney FLANAGAN, Steve FLOWER, Sharon FULCHER, Richard HAVARD, Geoffrey HERBERT, Marcus JONES, Andrew McCALLUM, David MOYSEY, David SCHWEBEL, Jack SNOWDON, John STANFORD, Bill STARKE, Laurie TAYLOR, Nicole WILSON.

LTCOL Philip WONG, LT Hugo LAITHWAITE, GNR Nick DIMITAGA

ANNUAL REUNION 2022



Don McVay, Sharon Fulcher & David Buzzacott



John Stanford, Laurie Taylor & Geoffrey Herbert



John Keefe & Marcus Jones



Richard Havard, Karen Aiston & Bill Amor



Kathy Cochran, Andrew McCallum & Nicole Wilson

The next Annual Reunion is to be held on **Friday, 10th November** at the Roseville Club, Pacific Highway, opposite the Railway Station

Our Guest Speaker will be
LTCOL Philip Wong, CO 9 Regt RAA

XX



Last Post



Neville George JACKSON

1st June 2023

Aged 89

Neville entered National Service in January 1952 and then served with 7 Field Regiment from April 1952 to March 1960.

He served as a Gunner and discharged as a WO2.

Anthony Keith DICK

6th February 2023

Aged 66

Tony (also known as AK) served with 7 Field Regiment from February 1974 to June 1984.

He was a very popular member of the Unit. Tony's last posting was Gun No.1 as TSgt.

Robert Sydney MOYSEY

30th August 2023

Aged 76

Bob served with 7 Field Regiment from April 1964 to September 1969. He was a Battery Surveyor and was a very passionate member. His voice would often be heard from the Command Post all over the gun position. Bob discharged as a Sgt. Bob also served as a Committee Member 2015-17.



AUSTRALIA'S
MEMORIAL WALK
NORTH HEAD SANCTUARY, MANLY

Last chance to order a paver at NORTH FORT prior to the handover of the Memorial Walk to the Harbour Trust.

SPECIAL OFFER to Association Members only - Orders placed by 31 October \$50 (normally \$70).

Complete the order form at :

["Artilleryhistory.org/memorialwalk"](http://Artilleryhistory.org/memorialwalk).

OUR WONDERFUL ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- We'll begin with BOX: the plural is BOXES but the plural of OX is OXEN not OXES.
- One FOWL is a GOOSE but two are GEESE yet the plural of MOOSE is never MEESE.
- You may find a lone MOUSE or a nest full of MICE but the plural of HOUSE is HOUSES not HICE.
- If the plural of MAN is MEN, why can't the plural of PAN be PEN.
- The masculine pronouns are HE, HIS & HIM, but imagine the feminine, SHE, SHIS & SHIM.
- xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
- The bandage was WOUND around the WOUND.
- The Farm was used to PRODUCE PRODUCE.
- The Tip was so full it had to REFUSE more REFUSE.
- The Soldier decided to DESERT his DESSERT in the DESERT.
- There was a ROW among the oarsmen about how to ROW.
- I did not OBJECT to the OBJECT.
- A seamstress & a SEWER fell into the SEWER line.
- The WIND was too strong to WIND the sail.
- I shed a TEAR when I saw the TEAR in the painting.
- After a NUMBER of injections, my jaw got NUMBER.






Members List SEPT 2023

AISTON	Karen	📧
AMOR	William	📧
ARNOLD	Don	📧
ATTARD	Andrew	📧
BAGSTER	Mark	
BALDWIN	Murray	📧
BALFOUR	Steven	📧
BARNETT	Michael	📧
BARRY	Andrew	📧
BAYNIE	John	📧
BEETON	John	📧
BIGNOLD	Peter	📧
BLINKHORNE	Gordon	📧
BLOW	David	📧
BORROWMAN	Gregory	📧
BOWEN	Chris	
BRENNAN	Raymond	📧
BREWER	Charles	📧
BRINCAT	Alex	📧
BROAD	Paul	📧
BROADHEAD	Ken	📧
BROWN	Jeffrey	📧
BURKE	Leo	📧
BUZACOTT	David	📧
CANNON	Megan	📧
CARLSSON	Jim	📧
CARRODUS	Michael	📧
CARSTENS	John	
CARTWRIGHT	Andrew	📧
CASHMORE	John	📧
CHANDLER	Stewart	📧
CHASEBERRY	Joseph	📧
CHETWYND	Rodney	📧
CHRISTIE	Carl	📧
CLARK	Neville	
CLIFF	Kevin	📧
CLIFTON	Alfred	📧
COCHRAN	Kathryn	📧
COCHRANE	John	📧
COLGAN-GORE	Robert	📧
COLLINS	Don	
COLLINS	Peter	📧
CONDON	Schon	📧
CROWE	Michael	📧
CROZIER	Kel	📧

CUNNEEN	Stephen	📧
DONOHUE	Tom	📧
DONNELLY	Suzanne	📧
DOWN	Patrick	📧
DROVER	Angus	📧
DUTTON	Martin	📧
DWYER	Peter	📧
EAGLETON	Harold	📧
EDWARDS	Hugh	
ELDERTON	Frederick	
FAIRFIELD	Peter	📧
FALK	Keith	📧
FAIRLESS	John	📧
FENDER	Shane	📧
FENTON	Stuart	
FINCH	Lachlan	📧
FLIPPENCE	Addie	📧
FLOWER	Stephen	📧
FOX	Harry	
FRY	Gary	📧
FULCHER	Sharon	📧
GATES	Patrick	📧
GILLESPIE	Rod	📧
GILLETT	Paul	📧
GILMORE	Ian	📧
GILMOUR	John	📧
GOLD	Dustin	📧
GLADEN	Noel	
GROUSE	Richard	📧
HALL	Graeme	📧
HAMER	Colin	
HANLEY	Alex	📧
HANSFORD	Jes	📧
HARROWER	David	
HARRISON	Allan	📧
HAVARD	Richard	📧
HAWLEY	Ted	
HAWTHORNE	Laurie	📧
HEMSLEY	Mark	
HERBERT	Geoffrey	📧
HEWETT	Robert	📧
HILEY	Steven	📧
HOBSON	Stuart	
HOEY	Ian	📧
HOGAN	Chris	📧
HORSELL	Drew	📧
HUNGERFORD	Bruce	
IRELAND	John	
IZARD	Michael	

JACKSON	Neville	🔴
JAMES	Ian	🔴
JARMAN	David	🔴
JOHNSON	Bruce	
JONES	Marcus	🔴
JONES	Michael	🔴
JONES	Ronald	
KARIKS	Andi	🔴
KEEFE	John	🔴
KELLY	Walter	🔴
KIRKWOOD	John	🔴
KNIGHT	Stanley	🔴
KNOWLES	Howard	
KOHLHAGEN	Ross	🔴
KOHLHAGEN	Paul	🔴
LACZKOWSKI	John	🔴
LAURENCE	Michael	🔴
LAWSON	Callum	🔴
LEDWICH	Sam	🔴
LEEK	David	🔴
LEWIS	Brian	🔴
LINCOLN	David	🔴
LINSLEY	Peter	🔴
LITTLE	Bruce	
LONG	Allan	🔴
LONGFELLOW	Virginia	🔴
LOWE	Margo	🔴
LUCAS	Beth	🔴
MARTIN	Graham	🔴
MASON-JONES	Nicoll	🔴
McCALLUM	Andrew	🔴
McCARTHY	Noel	
McCLELLAND	David	🔴
McDONOUGH	Paul	🔴
McFAYDEN	Barry	🔴
McGARRY	David	🔴
McGLINN	Les	🔴
McGOVERN	Gregory	🔴
McILWRAITH	Michael	🔴
McKECHNIE	David	🔴
McLEAN	Russ	🔴
McNEE	Greg	🔴
McVAY	Donald	🔴
MERCER	Thomas	🔴
MILIC	Karl	🔴
MILLAR	Anthony	🔴
MOORE	Jon	🔴
MORIXBAUER	Karl	🔴
MORRIS	Douglas	🔴

MOYSEY	David	🔴
MUIR	Gayle	🔴
MUIR	Peter	🔴
NEWBERRY	Malcolm	🔴
NEWTON	Neville	🔴
NICHOLS	Grant	🔴
NOAKES	Steven	🔴
O'NEILL	Mark	🔴
ORGOVANYI	Cornelius	🔴
PALMER	Grant	🔴
PEDERSEN	Peter	🔴
POSENER	John	🔴
POWER	Brian	
POWER	Phil	🔴
PRIMROSE	Brian	
QUINTON	Graham	🔴
RICHARDSON	Robert	🔴
ROBERTS	Paul	
ROGAN	Robert	
ROWE	Warren	🔴
ROWORTH	Douglas	🔴
RULE	Donald	🔴
SCOTT	Ian	🔴
SCHWEBEL	David	🔴
SEE	Dhugald	🔴
SENGOS	Patrick	🔴
SEABROOK	Stuart	🔴
SETRIGHT	Russell	🔴
SHADAY	Max	🔴
SHANNON	John	🔴
SHUNWAH	Richard	🔴
SLATER	Peter	🔴
SMITH	Grahame	🔴
SMITH	Peter	🔴
SOTTER	Vernon	🔴
STAMELL	James	🔴
STANFORD	John	🔴
STAPLETON	Gerald	🔴
STARKE	Bill	🔴
STONE	Peter	🔴
SULLIVAN	Kevin	🔴
SUNDERLAND	Ray	🔴
TAYLOR	Harry	
TAYLOR	Lawrence	🔴
THORNTON	Stephen	🔴
WAGLAND	Ross	🔴
WALLER	Robert	🔴
WALSH	Graham	🔴
WARMINGER	Darren	🔴

WEBB	Ken	
WHEATLEY	Murrelia	
WHITE	Dean	
WHITFIELD	Timothy	
WILLIAMS	Darcy	
WILLIAMS	Trevor	
WILSON	John	
WOODING	Don	
WORBOYS	Simon	
WORSLEY	Susan	
WRIGHT	Leonie	
YEATES	Chris	
YOUNG	Warwick	

Honorary Life Members

BALFOUR	John	
CORBETT	Robert	
CROWE	John	Deceased
FALCONER	Max	
FLANAGAN	Kevin	
HECKENBERG	Brian	Deceased
HINDMARSH	Laurie	Deceased
LEWIS-HUGHES	Ken	Deceased
NASH	James	
NEILL	William	
TOPLIS	Danny	Deceased

Honorary Members

LO	Ina
MARZOL	Shirley
MCDONALD	Trisha
STEVENS	Carol

Yandoo 2023

Compiled & edited by John Balfour, OAM