



From the Presidents Chair.

G'day fellow members, Well here we are nearly half way through the year already, where has the months gone.

ANZAC Day has come and gone and the members in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne marched behind their new lightweight banners. The turnout in Brisbane was very poor and Sydney had a good turnout and they went back to the Coronation hotel, I do not know how Melbourne went. It would be great if someone from Melbourne would submit an article for the next newsletter. The march in Brisbane and the display of our guns in the march was interfered with by, of all people, our own Artillery Unit, 'A' Bty. Our Pack Howitzer was replaced by a Hamel Gun, which we did not authorise. It is not the Artillery Units right to replace our weapons; this is up to the ANZAC Day Committee.

The amendment to our constitution is published in this newsletter. This Extraordinary General Meeting is to be held at the Events Centre at Caloundra on the 27th of this month, starting at 1000hrs. Please come along to this meeting, as we need a quorum of at least fifteen people, if you can't attend, send us a proxy vote.

Do not forget the Artillery Dinner, hosted by the Australian Artillery Association. This is on the 27th May at the Events Centre, Caloundra. If it is anything like the last one held in 2014, it will be a great night.

Our Annual General Meeting and Reunion is to be held at the Maroochy Waterfront Camp & Conference Centre, Maroochydore, Qld, on the 8th to 10th September 2017. The cost is \$236.50 per person, twin share. The itinerary for the weekend is as follows:

Friday 8th. 1730hrs for 1800hrs, Barbecue (Barbecue Area).

Saturday 9th. 0800hrs, Breakfast, 1000hrs, Annual General Meeting (TV Room), 1100hrs, Morning Tea, 1245hrs, Lunch, 1530hrs, Afternoon Tea, 1830hrs, Semi Formal Dinner.

Sunday 9th. 0800hrs, Breakfast, after breakfast vacates rooms, say farewells and head home.

If you are attending this Reunion, please have your money to me by the 10th August, as we have to make a 10% deposit 21 days before the function.

Next month, 30th June is the end of our financial year and there is still people who have not paid their annual subscription to the Assn, could you please rectify this and pay next years as well, or become paid Life Members, it will only cost you \$200.00 and you can forget subs for the rest of your life.

Well, that's enough from me for this newsletter, remember, get articles into the editor, as he is always looking for items to put into your newspaper, and I hope to see you at the Gunner Dinner or our AGM & Reunion.

Lets make our reunion the biggest we have had for years.

Regards, Ron (Tex) Bassan



‘A’ Field Battery Association Inc.

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10th April 2017 To all Members,

There will be an Extraordinary General Meeting of the ‘A’ Field Battery Association Inc, and it is to be held at the Event Centre, Caloundra on the 27th May 2017, starting at 1000hrs. Items to be discussed are the change to the Constitution on membership.

Rule 4.

Classes of Membership;

(1) The membership of the association shall consist of any of the following classes of members:

Rule 4 (1) (a) Ordinary Member and Rule 4 (1) (e) are to be amended if approved by this meeting.

The reason for these amendments is to try and increase our membership and to improve the involvement in the running of the Association, as the Committee at present are all over seventy years old.

There must be double the Committee plus one to have these amendments approved, so please try to attend this important meeting.

Existing Rule 4 (1) (a) reads; ORDINARY MEMBER – Ordinary Membership shall only be available to a person who has served in ‘A’ Field Battery RRAA, who makes written application, pays the annual membership subscription fee and is accepted by the committee of management. A membership badge shall be issued in the first year.

New Rule 4 (1) (a); Ordinary Member – Ordinary Membership shall be to a person who has served in ‘A’ Field Battery RRAA and to immediate relatives of ex and serving members of ‘A’ Field Battery RRAA, who makes written application, pays the annual membership subscription fee and is accepted by the committee of management. A membership badge shall be issued in the first year.

Existing Rule 4 (1) (e); Associate Membership – Is offered to any member of the Corps of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery.

New Rule 4 (1) (e); Associate Membership – Associate Membership shall be available to anyone who is interested in preserving the history of ‘A’ Field Battery RRAA, which was raised on the 1st August 1871 as part of the N.S.W. regular defences, and is still serving as part of the Australian Regular Army.

Ron (Tex) Bassan
President/Secretary

MW

MAROOCHY WATERFRONT

CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTRE



Proposal – A Field Battery Assoc

Date – Fri 8/9/17 – Sun 10/9/17

Maroochy Waterfront Camp & Conference Centre

w : www.MaroochyWaterfront.com.au

e: info@maroochywaterfront.com.au

Located just a hop, skip and jump from the Maroochydoore CBD, and situated on the pristine banks of the stunning Maroochy River, Maroochy Waterfront Conference Centre provides the ideal Sunshine Coast location for your next group camp or retreat.



MW

MAROOCHY WATERFRONT

CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTRE



Accommodation – Individual Rooms

- 64 twin share or double share rooms
- Air conditioned and a ceiling fan
- Individual ensuites
- Linen provided
- Pristine waterfront location



Catering – Delicious Homestyle

- Full onsite catering
- Flexible meal plans
- Dietary requirements catered
- Serving times to suit individual itinerary

Optional Activities – If Required

- All activities conducted to strict risk assessments
- Over 50 activity options by professional camp facilitators
- Professional sailing activities by AOS Academy of Sailing



Facilities

- Function and activity room, seating for up to 180 people
- Breakout room / retreat with the option of tea & coffee making facilities
- Resort style swimming pool and landscaped BBQ area
- Tennis court x 2
- Private lagoon with direct river access



Specialities

- Ample car, bus and/or trailer parking
- Centrally located to all sporting venues on the Sunshine Coast, including Maroochydore Multi-Sports Complex, Sunshine Coast Stadium & Kawana Sports Precinct (Lake Kawana & Aquatic Centre)
- Minutes from the beach
- Family owned and operated
- Option for exclusive use of venue



2017 Adult Group Menu

Breakfast

A daily selection of cereals, fresh and/or preserved fruit, toast, spreads, preserves, yoghurt, juice, tea & coffee

Also select one of the following:

- Choice of scrambled, fried or poached eggs with two beef breakfast sausages, hash browns & oven roasted tomatoes
- Choice of scrambled, fried or poached eggs, baked beans, hash browns & oven roasted tomatoes
 - Scrambled or poached eggs, grilled bacon, tomatoes and english muffins
 - Two pancakes with maple syrup and breakfast cheese toastie
- Breakfast frittata – vegetable & sausage or bacon & baked beans on toast

Morning Tea

Chef selection of homemade cakes, scones with jam & cream, slices or muffins and fruit platters. Tea and coffee.

Lunch – Select one of the following:

- Seasonal quiches / frittata with garden salad
 - Warm chicken salad or Thai beef salad
- Deluxe beef burger with cheese & served with fresh salads
- Burrito (beef, chicken or bean) and fresh gourmet salad
 - Assorted sandwich/rolls/wraps platters
- Sausage sizzle with caramelised onions & served with fresh salads

Afternoon Tea

Dips, cheese, crackers, carrot & celery sticks. Sweet biscuits & fruit. Tea and coffee.

Dinner - Select one of the following:

- Traditional roast (beef, lamb or pork) gravy, roast potato, roast pumpkin, mixed steamed vegetables and fresh bread basket
 - Chicken schnitzel and chips or creamy mash and steamed vegetables and gravy
- Beef lasagne or vegetarian lasagne, Or penne bolognese, fresh garden salad and pizza bread
 - Chicken tandoori with steamed rice, seasonal vegetables & flat bread
- Crumbed or battered fish, golden chips with fresh garden salad and gourmet rice salad
 - Beef goulash served with steamed rice and steamed seasonal vegetables

Dessert - Select one of the following:

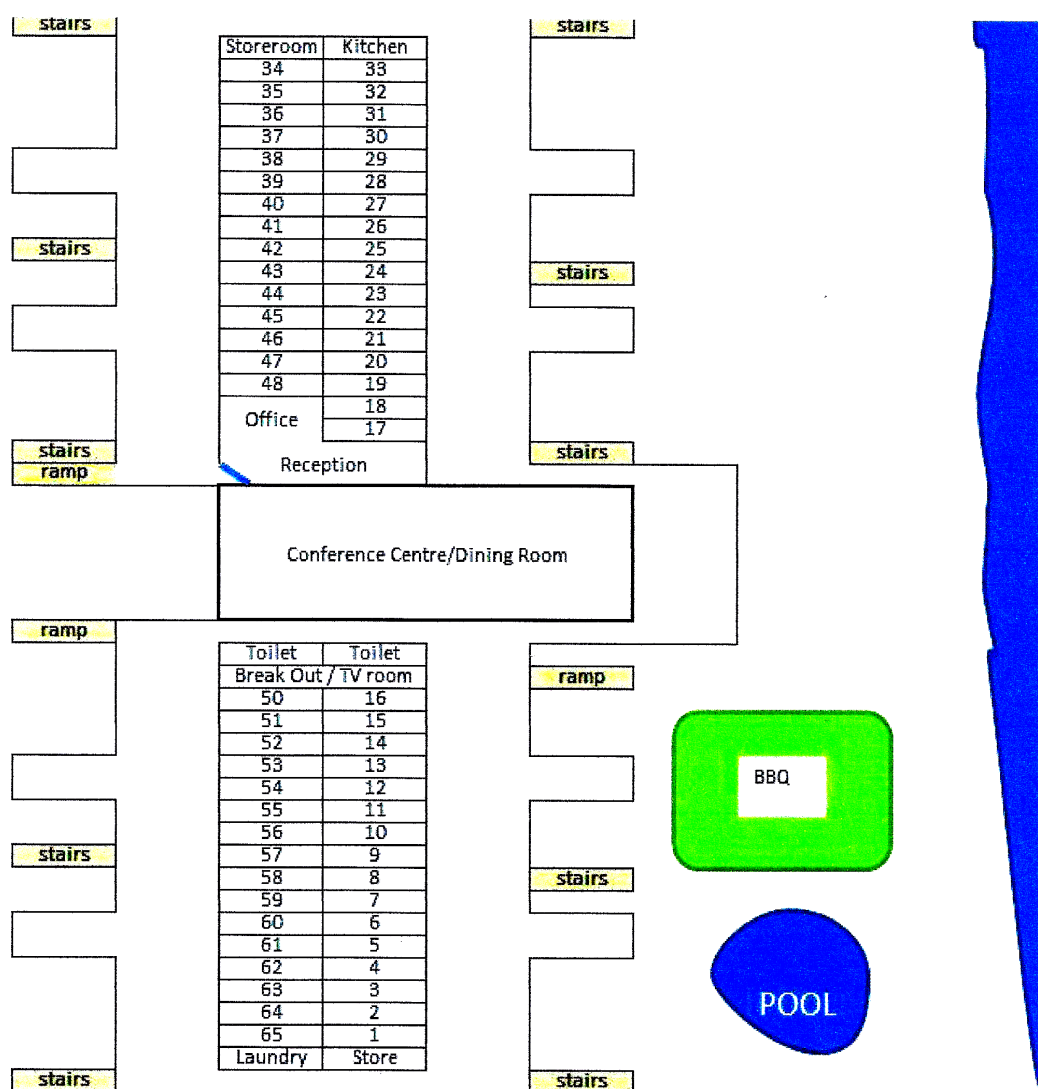
- Pavlova & fruit
- Home made fruit crumble and vanilla custard
 - Cheesecake
- Bread & butter pudding with ice cream
- Fresh fruit salad and jelly or ice cream
 - Sticky date pudding

Special dietary options are available upon request and must be provided to us within 21 days prior to arrival. We endeavour to satisfy all food intolerances, however we cannot guarantee non cross- contamination and for medical reasons it is recommended to provide own meal in the case of severe allergy. Special dietary requirements must be provided to us within 21 days prior to arrival. Please note meals such as gluten-free are an additional \$3 per meal per person. This excludes vegetarian.

We reserve the right to change the menu at any time if required (ie: deliveries/availability of food items).

Accommodation Building

The MWCCC is a single story building with wheelchair access. All rooms have individual air-conditioned and own ceiling fans. We can accommodate up to 128 people with 64 rooms in total. 49 rooms of 2 single beds and private ensuite, 15 double rooms spread throughout site with 1 double bed and private ensuite. The Conference Centre/Dining Room can seat 180 people and also contains a commercial kitchen area.



**** Not indicated in this image are the MWCCC tennis courts and grassed training/activities areas.**

**** Image indicative only**

MW

MAROOCHY WATERFRONT

CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTRE

Location Map



*Indicative map only

Location

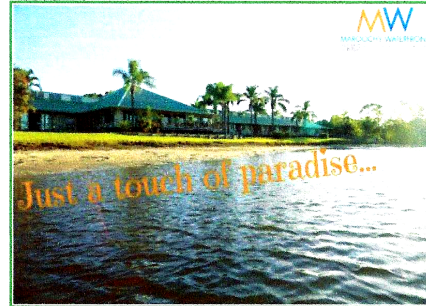
- Situated on the pristine banks of the stunning Maroochy River in Maroochy, Sunshine Coast, Queensland
- 6 minutes from Maroochy CBD
- 1 minute to Maroochy Multi Sports Complex
- 16 minutes to Sunshine Coast Stadium & Kawana Sports Precinct (Lake Kawana & Aquatic Centre)
- Minutes from the beach
- 8 minutes from the Sunshine Coast Regional Airport

Client Details

A Field Battery Assoc
4942 5433
Ron Bassan
texbassan@yahoo.com.au

Arrival: Fri 8/9/17
Departure: Sun 10/9/17

Anticipated guests: 50 guests



2017 Proposal

Accommodation in twin or double rooms each with private bathroom. All rooms have air-conditioning and a ceiling fan and your choice of meals served to compliment your group itinerary. Linen provided at no extra cost.

Premium Package **from \$115 per person / per night (+gst)**

Accommodation (twin share)
Full meals - all meals, including morning & afternoon tea

Classic Package **from \$105 per person / per night (+gst)**

Accommodation (twin share)
Main meals - breakfast, lunch & dinner

Standard Package **from \$100 per person / per night (+gst)**

Accommodation (twin share)
Meals - breakfast & dinner

- Flexible meal times to suit your group requirements.
- Prices are valid for 14 days from the date of this proposal
- GST is not included in quoted price
- For groups of 40+ utilising the Premium Package, shared use of the conference / function room will be at no additional charge. Although if exclusive use is required, please advise. For groups of less than 40 people there will be an additional daily charge for use of the conference room.

Activities Package Options (if required) **

1 day fully facilitated activities - **From \$25 (+gst) per person, 1 full day (9am-4pm)**
2 days / 1 night fully facilitated activities program - **From \$60 (+gst) per person, 2 days / 1 night**
3 days / 2 nights fully facilitated activities program - **From \$80 (+gst) per person, 3 days / 2 nights**

** minimum numbers apply. All activities are completely organised by fully qualified facilitators and an exclusive itinerary will be tailored to meet your group requirements.

TIME LINE

Action	Due Date	Note
Confirm booking	As soon as possible	Ring or email MWCCC asap
Accept Terms & Conditions	Upon confirmation of booking	Confirmation of booking and paid deposit indicates acceptance.
10% Deposit required	14 days from issue of invoice	Refer to your invoice for payment options
Final Guest Numbers Due	28 days prior to arrival	Advise MWCCC final guest numbers
Final Invoice Due	21 days prior to arrival	Refer to your invoice for payment options
Itinerary Required	21 days prior to arrival	Copy of proposed itinerary to MWCCC for approval
Dietary Requirements Due	21 days prior to arrival	Advise MWCCC full list of guests dietary requirements
Preferred Menu Choices Required	21 days prior to arrival	Advise MWCCC final menu choices to be approved
Room Allocation List Required	21 days prior to arrival	Copy to MWCCC of completed list of guests rooms

A letter from Jan Williams of the Maroochy Waterfront Camp and conference Centre to Tex

Hi Ron

Thank you for your phone call on Wednesday, it was lovely to talk to you.

We would love to host your reunion and AGM for 50 guests from A Field Battery Assoc., arriving on Friday 8th September and departing on Sunday 10th September, 2017.

For your reference Maroochy Waterfront Camp & Conference Centre offer friendly family hospitality and affordable, clean and comfortable accommodation, along with superb meals for group bookings in our twin share (2 single beds) and double (1 double bed) rooms (no dorms). All our accommodation is on one level with wheelchair access. Our accommodation rooms all have private individual ensuites, all linen is supplied, reverse cycle air conditioning, mini fridge & tea/coffee making facilities.

Please note that television is not a standard item in the rooms. Please find attached a copy of our proposal which outlines different packages and options available. For your quick reference the rate for our Premium Accommodation & Meals Package would be as follows :

Arrival – Friday 8th Sept 2017, for dinner

Departure – Sunday 10th September 2017, after breakfast

2 nights Friday 8th September 2017 – 2 course dinner, accommodation (based on twin share)

Saturday 9th September 2017 - breakfast, m/tea, lunch, a/tea, 2 course dinner & accommodation (based on twin share) Sunday 10th September 2017 – breakfast

Total Price \$215.00 +gst per person. \$236.50 incl gst per person.

** The above quote (valid for fourteen days)

*Activities not included. Please contact us if you would like to discuss including activities in your package.

Please also note we are happy to cater for any additional meals i.e. morning and afternoon tea, you may require for your stay. If required please do not hesitate to contact us for individual meal rates. Also if you would prefer not to include all meals in your package please contact us for a tailored quote.

For your reference our large function/meeting room seats 180 guests and is located right on the banks of the stunning Maroochy River. We also have a smaller function/meeting room that seats approximately 30 guests and many under cover outdoor areas that you can use to break off into smaller groups if required. MWCCC is also a fully licenced venue for your convenience and enjoyment, if required.

As per our conversation on the phone, we would be happy to offer you the TV room at no charge for your AGM on Saturday morning from 10am to lunch time.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact us. In the meantime we look forward to welcoming you all to MWCCC in September, 2017.

Kind regards and have a lovely day, Jan Williams
Maroochy Waterfront Camp & Conference Centre
www.maroochywaterfront.com.au Ph: 5448 4344



After March Report, Anzac Day 2017.

Sent in by Robert "Dodger" Noonan

The march in Sydney was well attended with marchers from several different generations of ex-A Fd Bty members. As the weather turned out to be fine, there was also a good spectator turnout. We had a new banner with a lightweight metal frame which was easy to transport and assemble, and made it easier for the young ladies from the St. George District Cadet Unit to carry. There was a minor mishap when one section of the banner pole collapsed during the march but due to its light weight, the carrier was able to hold it upright for the duration. I will make sure in future to instruct the girls how to fix it on the fly in case it happens again. The collapse was not the fault of the poles, it was just the way they were gripped and twisted. A little knowledge of this would have prevented the collapse. Our two banner carriers, Cadet Lance Corporal Nazarova and cadet Papagelis deserve special mention for the sterling job they did especially in the face of unfamiliar problems with the banner poles. They are a credit to themselves, their school and their instructors.

We stepped off at 10.45 to the tune of a Tongan brass band with a very vigorous bass drum player. The organisers chose to override the arrangement we had with the Hornsby District Pipe band to march in front of us and assigned the Tongan band instead. A disappointment but a more than adequate replacement. I for one was too scared to get out of step as they were all very large ladies and gentlemen in the band and might have taken exception to it. I am sure that Elizabeth Street is getting longer every year.

We arrived at the Coronation Hotel at 11.45, and had to wait downstairs having a nice ale until the upstairs bar opened at 12.15. There was a small section roped off for the A Bty members and we were met by a hostess with a plate of little hot dogs for us. The only beer on tap that anyone had heard of was Hahn Light, the others were boutique beers at nearly double the price. There was also an extensive (around 300 bottles) of spirits on the shelves behind the bar if that is what tickled your fancy.

Apart from the usual suspects there were a few new faces. Brian Armour made an appearance and was the joint senior officer for the battery contingent and gave the Eyes Left/Eyes Front at the memorial. Geoff Johnston had attended a function near his home town of Bargo in the morning and made a special effort to get into the city to meet up with us. He rolled in about 3 pm. By 5 pm most of us had drifted off so I picked up the banner and headed home myself. Luckily the weather held up for the whole day in spite of predicted possible rain. We can only hope that all future Anzac Days turn out as nice.





They shall not grow old,
As we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning,
We will remember them.
Lest we forget.



KEN. AGNEW
LES ASHBY
TOM. BANFIELD
CLARE. (BONNIE) BASSAN
TREVOR. BEER
FRANK. BERRIER
S.J. BLANCH (OAS.
Malaya)
DOUG N. BRYAN
MALCOLM J. BUGG
GORDON CARMICHAEL
TOM. CARRUTHERS
KEITH. CHRISTENSEN
REG CLATWORTHY
HARRY COOK
DON DONKIN MBE
RICHARD. DUGGAN
R.M. DUCAT (OAS.
Malaya)
PAT. DALY
RAY DAVIS
TOM. DAWSON
JOHN. DOWNES
NOEL EGAN
BEVAN FILCE
MAURICE FONTAINE
GEORGE. FORSYTHE

MAX. FRANKLIN
M.K. FUSSELL (KIA,
Afghanistan)
LANCE GILKINSON
ROBERT J. (BOB) GRAY
BARRY HANDLEY
NEIL HARDEN
MICK. HARKEN
RON HART
B.D. HENDERSON (OAS.
Malaya)
REG KELLY
KEN. KENNEDY
JOHN KNIGHT
BOBBY. LEWIS
BILL LIDDELL OAM
JOHN. MACDONALD
BARRY MARR
I.G. MATHERS (KIA.
Vietnam)
IAN. MEIBUSCH A.M
KEVIN MITCHELL
JACK MILLIGAN
E.J. (LOFTY) MOORE
BRIAN. MURTAGH
R.J. PARKER (OAS.
Vietnam)

(JIM) PONTING
DAVE. QUIRK
PETER. RAINSBURY
JOHN FRANKLIN RAINEY
CLIVE. RALFE
JOHN SALMON
BRIAN. SCOTT
PETER. SEDDON
JOHN SHEEHAN
ALBERT (ALBY)
SHERIDAN
ALAN. SINGH
NOEL. SMALL
R. F. SMITH
LESLEY (SQUIZZY)
TAYLOR
IAN UHLMANN
DONALD DAVID WEIR
BRIAN. WHISKER
JACK WHITEHEAD
JOHN. WHITEHEAD.
AO,CBE
BERNARD. (PLONKY)
WINE
GUS. WOOLFE
JOHN. WORBOYS

Sadly there has been three more names added to our growing list of departed members. Ray Davis, Noel Egan and Jack Whitehead

In Memory of Our Departed Comrades

This page is to pay tribute, as we honour those members of A Field Battery who have passed away but are by no means forgotten. We remember them as friends and comrades in happy and sad times. Most of them we knew as young soldiers and others, in later years developed a close friendship as we grew older

“A” Field Battery Association Inc, Committee 2016– 2017

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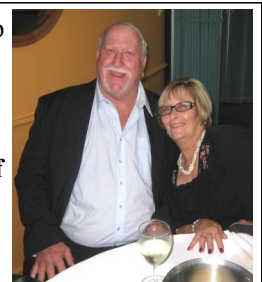
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The best way to share your message or photos is to contact **Kimbo, our Webmaster**. Want to keep up with latest ?

Log on to our website and you can read the latest and all the past newsletters
 An amazing collection of photographs and news items covering the 1940s to the present day with A Field Battery. **This website is addictive, with the news, links, notice board and a great selection of music while you browse away.** One of the best websites available and kept up to date by Kimbo.

You will want to put this address into your favourites
<http://afdbty.australianartilleryassociation.com>



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