



From the President's Chair.

G'day fellow members,

The first thing that I must comment on, is, that none of our members have passed away since newsletter. I know I should not dwell on this, but there has been so many of our mates leave us for gun park in the sky in the last few years.

The AGM and Reunion at the Waterfront, Camp and Conference Centre went ahead even people attending and we all had a great time. Reg Anderson and two of his sons came over from the most wonderful family you could ever ask for and if anyone is visiting WA, go and pay Reg a and he and family will make you very welcome. Reg has a nephew living on the Sunshine Coast professional photographer and he took the marvellous photograph of the gang.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday the 10th September with a quorum of members, there were several important items to be discussed and passed and they were:

That Rule 4. Classes of Membership of the constitution are amended and they are:

Rule 4. (a) Ordinary Members and Rule 4. (e) Associate Members. These two amendments were passed and have been approved by the Office of Fair Trading.

Rule 4. (a) Now reads. 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.

Rule 4. (e) Now reads. Associate Member – 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.

That a grant of \$5,000.00 be made to the Henry Green Room and this grant is to be administered by the Curator of the Henry Green Room, Mr Donald Sinclair. This was passed and Don has received the cheque.

That the 'A' Field Battery Association Inc; make a donation to 'A' Battery RAA, Battery Funds, this was passed and a cheque will be presented to the Bty on St Barbara's Day.

As I said before, that I am fed up organising reunions each year and no one turns up, especially when I live in Mackay, Qld. Everyone wanted to come back to Sawtell but did not return, going off on their own thing, I thought there was only one 'A' Bty Assn.

Enough of my rants, Les Maher has put up his hand to hold the next reunion at Morwell, Vic. Please come along and make it a great reunion. The dates will be the second weekend in Sep, 2018. If you are interested in going, please let me know ASP.

On St Barbara's Day, 4th December, the Henry Green Room is to be re-dedicated. The great great granddaughter of Henry Green has been invited, also members of the 'A' Fd Bty Assn Inc. If you can make it, Please let me know and I will give you the time to be at the main gate of Enoggera Barracks. I have to give the Bty a list of names.

Over the last few years I have been asked why all members of 'A' Bty are not on our memorial list in the newsletter, the reason is that our newsletter is not an 'A' Battery newsletter, but a newsletter of the 'A' Field Battery Association Inc; otherwise we would have to include any member of the Bty who passed on. How far back would we have to go, let alone keeping a check on serving members? The list would be enormous, it would be silly. Also the Assn is available to any past member of the Bty, but they have to give details of their service period and units attended, and like all members, pay their yearly subs.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and festive season, see you all in the New Year.

Ron (Tex) Bassan

‘A’ Field Battery Association Inc. **Committee Meeting.**

The meeting was held at the Maroochy Waterfront, Camp and Conference Centre, Maroochydore, on the 9th September 2017.

Meeting Opened. By the President at 1129hrs.

Present. Ron Bassan, Robert Cunningham and Gregory Kittelty.

Apologies. Ian Leven.

Visitors. Robert Noonan.

Minutes of Previous Meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting, which was held at Mr Greg Kittelty’s residence, Unit 2004, “Ultra” 14 George Avenue, Broadbeach, Qld 4218, were read by the Secretary, Mr Ron Bassan and confirmed by Mr Greg Kittelty, that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by Mr Bob Cunningham and carried.

Business Arising. Discussed as read.

Inward & Outward Correspondence. The inward and outward correspondence was read by the secretary, Ron Bassan, and moved by Bob Cunningham, that the inwards be received and the outwards endorsed, seconded by Greg Kittelty and carried.

Business Arising. Discussed as read.

Treasurer’s Report. The Treasurer, Bob Cunningham, read his report, same as the AGM, and Bob moved his report and cheque numbers, 767069, 767070, 767071 and 767072 be passed for payment, seconded by Ron Bassan and carried.

General Business. Cheques to be made out to the Henry Green Room for \$5,000.00, ‘A’ Bty, Bty funds \$1,000.00, Maroochy Waterfront, Camp and Conference Centre (For the Weekend) \$2263.25 and the Office of Fair Trading, annual return, \$53.50.

Next Meeting. The next meeting is to be held at Mr Don Sinclair’s residence, 61 Gordon Parade, Manly, Qld, 4179, on the 3rd December, 2017, starting at 1000hrs, Eastern Standard Time.

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 1158hrs.

Assistant Secretary

President

Where do we want to have our AGM next Sept.

Do any of you lads have a idea where it could be? And we need so one to get it organised as Tex said he won’t and I don’t blame him as he has been doing it for years.

Let us know if you can help out.

Thanks. Kimbo

gunner117@bigpond.com

An exciting reply from Les Maher, Hi Kimbo.

I can offer you a site and organization for AGM 2018 in Victoria.

If that is acceptable to our members (after polling) I offer the following.

MORWELL< LATROBE VALLEY) 150 kms east Melb on Princes HWY.

Accomodation

Dinner arrangement fully catered separate dining room. Morwell RSL,
Saturday Night. Entertainment following dinner.

Friday night meet and greet RSL..

Separate meeting room available Saturday for AGM.

Sunday bus trip will be to VIETNAM VETERANS MUSEUM
FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT PHILLIP ISLAND RSL.

I would need approx numbers so I can do some wheeling and
dealing. RSL function rooms free

Let me know what you think as I am only minutes away from
all facilities if I am required to obtain best value for all. Les



'A' Field Battery Association Inc.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Maroochy Waterfront, Camp and Conference Centre, Maroochydore, Queensland, on the 9th September 2017.

Meeting Opened. 0956hrs.

Present. As per the Attendance Book.

Apologies. Jim Holmes, Rex Martin, Terry Barrett, Barry Campbell, Reg Etienne, Peter Walton, Rex Porter, Ian Leven, Norman Bostock, David Jackson and Doug Heazlewood.

Visitors. Nil.

Public Liability Insurance. The meeting was informed that we do not hold public liability insurance.

Departed Comrades. A minutes silence was held for, Noel Egan, David Harris, Joe Rouse and Lance Gilkinson, also two gunners not in the Assn; Bennett Burleigh and George Godfrey.

Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting. The minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting which was held at the Sawtell RSL Club, Ltd, Sawtell, New South Wales, on the 10th September 2016, were read by the Assistant Secretary and were confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting, by Mr John Pollitt, seconded by Mr Robert Noonan and carried.

Business Arising From Minutes. Discussed as read.

Inward and Outward Correspondence. Inwards; Form 12 – 2 from the Department of Fair Trading. Outwards; Notice of meeting published in the National Newsletter. It was moved by Mr John Barnes, that the Inwards be received and the outwards be endorsed, seconded by Mr Bernie McMahon and carried.

Business Arising from Correspondence. Discussed as read.

Treasurer's Audited Report. The Treasurer presented his audited report, which is attached. It was moved by Mr Robert Cunningham, the Treasurer, that his report be received, seconded by Mr Greg Kittelty and carried.

Discussion on Treasurer's Report. Nil

President's Report. The President, Mr Ron Bassan, read his report, which is attached. The President moved that his report be received, seconded by Mr Peter Kimball and carried.

Before the President declared all Committee positions, vacant, he asked for a vote on the number of members to be on the Committee. It was moved by Mr Peter Kimball that we reduce the Committee by two, seconded by Mr Bernie McMahon. The Committee will now consist of President/Secretary, Vice President, Treasurer and one Committee Member.

The President declared all positions vacant and called on Mr Bernie McMahon, who was the original President of the Queensland Branch, before incorporation to conduct the election of President.

President/Secretary: Mr Ron Bassan was nominated by Mr Bernie McMahon, seconded by Mr Paul Forsyth, Mr Bassan accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, Mr Bassan was declared President/Secretary.

Mr Bassan resumed the chair and continued the nominations.

Vice President. Mr Ian Leven, nominated by Mr Bassan, seconded by John Pollitt, Mr Leven had accepted the nomination previously. There being no further nominations, Mr Leven was declared Vice President.

Treasurer. Mr Robert Cunningham was nominated by Mr Fred Rudduck, seconded by Mr John Barnes. Mr Cunningham accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, Mr Cunningham was declared Treasurer.

Committee Member. Mr Greg Kittelty was nominated by Mr Ron Bassan, seconded by Mr Robert Noonan. Mr Kittelty accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, Mr Kittelty was declared a Committee member.

Non-Voting Positions.

State Representatives

Qld. Mr Peter Kimball.

NSW. Mr Robert Noonan.

Vic. Mr Les Maher.

Tas. Mr Alvin Conacher.

S.A. Mr Robert McEvoy.

W.A. Mr Max Ptolomey.

N.T. Mr Peter Thomas.

Patron. Mr Barry Campbell.

Property Officer. Mr Robert Noonan.

Editor. Mr Ron Slaughter.

Welfare Officer. Mr Len Fanning.

Auditor. Mr Richard Wainwright (Inspire Accounting).

General Business.

Change to Constitution. That we change the existing rule 4 (1) (a) to read;

Rule 4 (1) (a); Ordinary Members – Ordinary Membership shall be to a person who has served in ‘A’ Field Battery, Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery (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.

Change to Constitution. That we change the existing rule 4 (1) (e) to read;

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 Army.

Rule 4 (1) (a) was moved by Mr John Pollitt, seconded by Mr Bernie McMahon and carried.

Rule 4 (1) (e) was moved by Mr Robert Noonan, seconded by Mr John Barnes and carried

Motion: That the ‘A’ Field Battery Association Inc; make a grant to the ‘A’ Battery ‘Henry Green Room’ to the amount of \$5000.00. The grant to be administered by Mr Don Sinclair and he is to be responsible to the Treasurer of the ‘A’ Field Battery Association Inc; for this grant.

This motion was put and it was moved by Mr Peter Kimball, seconded by Mr John Barnes and carried.

Next Annual General Meeting. To be advised.

There being no further business pertaining to an Annual General Meeting, the President closed the meeting at 1124hrs, and thanked the members for their attendance.

**A map of the Morwell district with a red balloon indicating the Morwell RSL at
52 Elgin St. Morwell Vic. 3840**



Vale Andrew John Balsillie.

Sadly Jack Balsillie passed away the morning of October 30th. 2017.

The funeral was in Bendigo on the 15th November .

Cards and condolences can be sent to Jack's wife Greta at -

**147 Bendigo Village
Spring Gully Victoria 3550**



In 1961 Jack was a serving Australian Army Warrant Officer with the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME) on deployment to Malaya as part of the Australian Army's commitment to the Malayan Emergency.

His role was to assist with the repairing of Artillery guns and other technical equipment across various parts of Malaysia. To alleviate the long hours of travel he took a copy of the New South Wales Returned and Services League Journal called 'Reveille' for he and his men to read.

On one journey to Singapore in February 1961 he was reading an article on the 2/30th Battalion's ambush on Imperial Japanese troops at Gemencheh Bridge in Johor. He realised that he was actually on that very same Gemas-Tampin road through which hundreds of Japanese Army troops had cycled through 19 years before.

With his trusty copy of Reveille in hand, and with a picture of the bridge from the article he and his driver pulled over. Whilst inspecting the side of the road at the ambush location he found several Australian relics from the ambush including Australian manufactured .303 rounds, an old Army issued enamel plate and a grenade fuse cap.

These discoveries sparked an interest that was to see him become a modern day Dr. Charles Bean, and collect from the battlefields of Malaya, Singapore and later South Vietnam some of the most significant collection of objects from these campaigns in the National Collection.

After his military service Jack was elected Mayor of Bendigo for a 2 year term



The above and right hand photographs were taken by Reg Anderson's sons at the formal dinner held in the dining room area at the AGM and reunion held at Bli Bli on the Sunshine Coast.

At the moment next years AGM has been suggested to be held at the Morwell RSL, in Victoria





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

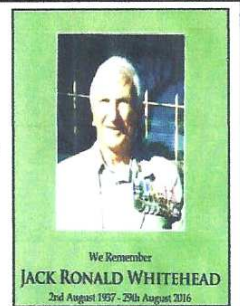
M.K. FUSSELL (KIA,
Afghanistan)
LANCE GILKINSON
ROBERT J. (BOB) GRAY
BARRY HANDLEY
NEIL HARDEN
MICK. HARKEN
DAVID (BANGER)HARRIS
RON HART
B.D. HENDERSON (OAS.
Malaya)
REG KELLY
KEN. KENNEDY
JOHN KNIGHT
BOBBY. LEWIS
BILL LIDDELL OAM
JOHN. MACDONALD
BARRY MARR
I.G. MATHERS (KIA.
Vietnam)
IAN. MEIBUSCH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

DAVE. QUIRK
PETER. RAINSBURY
JOHN FRAKLAN RAINEY
CLIVE. RALFE
JOE ROUSE
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. WHITELAW.
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, Jack Whitehead and David Harris

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 2017– 2018

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>President / Secretary</u> Ron (Tex) Bassan 6 Harveys Rd. Beaconsfield. Qld. 4740 Ph. (07) 4942 5433 Mobile 0447 911 116 texbassan@yahoo.com.au</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Secretary</u> Ron (Tex) Bassan 6 Harveys Rd. Beaconsfield. Qld. 4740 Ph. (07) 4942 5433 texbassan@yahoo.com.au</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Vice President.</u> Ian Leven 76 Dolphin Drive West Ballina, NSW. 478 Ph. (02) 6686 3488 leftylev1945@yahoo.com.au</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Treasurer.</u> Bob Cunningham 26 Kilburn St. Chermside, Qld. 4032 Ph. (07) 3350 1394 bobcarol@gmail.com</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">COMMITTEE</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">2017—2018</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Greg Kittelty 14 George Avenue Broadbeach, Qld, 4218. Ph. 07 5539 8174</p>

Patron:

Barry (Combat) Campbell.

Editor. Ron (Butch) Slaughter.
 6/8 St. Ives Dr. Robina, Qld. 4226
 (07) 5562 5115
 ronbutchslaughter@hotmail.com

Asst. Editor.
Don (Saint) Sinclair.
 thesaint@tpg.com.au

Property Officer.
Craig Peterson, 4 Holborne
Street, Croydon, N.S.W. 2132.

Liaison Officer, Qld.
Peter Kimball
 gunner117@bigpond.com.

Liaison Officer. NSW.
Robert (Dodger) Noonan.
 noonanrf@bigpond.net.au

Liaison Officer Vic:
Les Maher (03) 51342687

Liaison Officer. ACT.
Clive Castles
 merilyn@hotmail.com.au

Liaison Officer. SA.
Bob. McEvoy.
 bottleart19@gmail.com

Liaison Officer. WA.
Max. Ptolomey.
 (08) 9447 4783

Liaison Officer. Tas.
Alvin Conacher
 (03) 6428 6267

Liaison Officer, Northern
Territory. Peter Thomas

Web Master.
Peter. (Kimbo) Kimball.
 gunner117@bigpond.com.

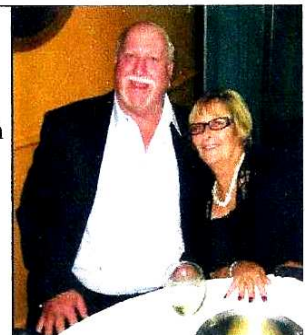
Auditor:
Richard Wainwright

Advocate:
Len Fanning

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>



Disclaimer This newsletter is produced for the membership of “A” Field Battery Association (Inc). Readers should not act, nor refrain from acting solely on the basis of information in this newsletter. Neither the “A” Field Battery Association (Inc) nor the Editor accepts any responsibility for actions taken by readers. Views expressed by the authors contained in the newsletter, are not necessarily the views of the Association.