

President's Report Post-AGM 2018.

It is with some trepidation on my part, and I am sure much relief on his part, that I must report that Tex Bassan has finally been relieved of his duty as president of the association. Tex has been trying to pass along the baton for the past 3 years and there has not been anyone to receive it from him. But at last the deadlock has been broken and he can get back to his orchids again. I wish to extend to Tex, on behalf of the association, our gratitude for his service above and beyond, and our best wishes for the future. Tex will continue with his involvement in the association as secretary, and unofficial advisor to me til I get my sea-legs.

Now I suppose I should introduce myself, the new president of the association. The name is Robert Noonan although most of you will probably only know me by the nickname of Dodger. It was not my intention before attending the AGM to nominate for this office, but I was ably supported in this regard by my good friend and fellow member, Rick Polley. Thanks again, Rick. Since there were no other nominations it was a foregone conclusion that I was elected unopposed. I must also add that Rick felt sufficiently embarrassed at nominating me that he volunteered for the position of vice-president and was duly elected as well. The other committee positions are Tex Bassan as secretary, Greg Kittelty as Treasurer, and Ian Levin as a committee member.

The AGM weekend was as much of a success as one could wish for, there being enough attendees for an AGM. We also had a good roll-up of wives and girlfriends which made the gatherings a lot more civilised than they otherwise might have been. Also in attendance for the Friday meet-and-greet as well as the AGM on Saturday were the current BC of A Bty, Major Jacob Beale and the BSM Mark Wheeler. Their presence was certainly welcome, and Major Beale has already begun planning for our next AGM to be held in Brisbane, quite possibly at the Enoggera barracks. Full details will be sent out in later newsletters as plans are finalised. He has also provided a review of the battery's activities, appearing later in this newsletter.

A well-deserved mention must also be made of the sub-branch president, Mr. Bruce Jeffery OAM, of the Morwell RSL and Les Maher, who together organised the whole weekend's activities. This included the Friday night meet-and-greet, the Saturday AGM plus the venue for the formal dinner, and the Sunday bus trip to the Phillip Island Vietnam Veterans' Museum. Les's son John was our bus driver, and a darn fine job he did for us too. Thanks, John. Bruce also donated a range of gifts from the club to be auctioned off at the dinner with proceeds going to the association's funds. The total received from this was \$125.00.

That concludes my initial president's report, I hope its not too wordy or obtuse. But I will be listening out for any hints and tips that Tex might throw my way.



PHOTOGRAPHS FROM MORWELL AGM SENT IN BY DODGER NOONAN









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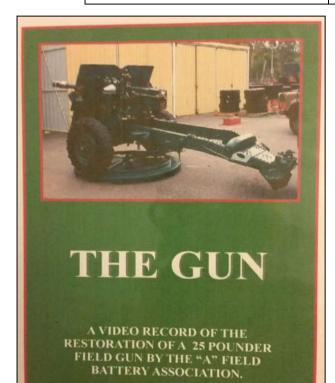


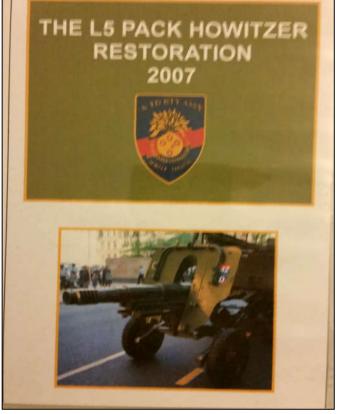




ALL THESE ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM DODGER NOONAN. (CONTACT DETAILS ON BACKPAGE

Ttom	Solling Price (Ec)	
Item	Selling Price (Ea)	
Caps	\$15.00	
Car Stickers	2 for \$6.00	
Badges, Plaque	\$25	
Plaques, Complete	\$40.00	
Books "Malayan Episode"	\$20.00	
Shirts, Polo (New Pattern)	\$35.00	
Shirts, Polo (Old Pattern)	\$35.00	
DVD, "Malayan Episode"	\$10	
VD, "The L5 Pack Howitzer Restoration"	\$10	
DVD, "The Year of the Road Runner"	\$10	
DVD, "Cinesound Newsreels, October 1958"	\$10	
DVD, "The Gun"	\$10	
Vietnam Veteran sticker	\$3	
UCG sticker	\$3	





From the Secretary

G'day fellow members,

Well at long last after 15 years I am no longer President. I must thank Dodger Noonan for standing for the position, as I said in the last newsletter; "If we did not get a new president, then the association would have to fold".

We had the current Battery Commander, Maj Jacob Beale and Battery Sergeant Major, WO11 Mark Wheeler at our AGM and I must thank them for coming and giving up their precious time. If we could not get a new President, the BC was going to stand in until we could get one, thankfully this did not happen.

The AGM went very well with some Victorians coming out of the woodwork. The new committee is, President, Robert (Dodger) Noonan, Vice President, Richard (Rick) Polley, Secretary, Ronald (Tex) Bassan, Treasurer, Gregory Kittelty, Committee Member, Ian Leven. All the committee were in 'A' Field Battery, Malaysia, 1967 – 1969.

The dinner went very well and I must thank Les Maher for organizing the weekend, as everyone should know, Les is not a well man at the moment. Hope you get well soon Les. We were lucky as we had our Patron, Barry Campbell come to the dinner. There were five old and bold from the Malayan Emergency, and they were; Barry Campbell, Hughey Spark, Rex Martin, Les Maher and I, most of the others were from Malaysian Confrontation. Notice there were no members from Vietnam, as they were off doing their own thing, good luck to you, when you all have passed away, the 'A' Field Battery Association will still be going.

We had a visit to the Vietnam Veteran's Museum, Phillip Island, on the Sunday, and to our surprise, on display was the old Brisbane banner. It would have been nice if someone had asked the association if they would let the banner go to the Museum. We also noticed that they did not have an Assn plaque, this has now been rectified. We also had a nice lunch at the Phillip Island RSL.

It is my sad duty to let you know that we have lost another Malayan Emergency member, and he is, Raymond Clarke, may he rest in peace.

At the AGM, I asked the BC; would 'A' Battery host the next AGM, and he has agreed to this request, the only downside to this is, Jacob and Mark will not be there, as they are being posted at the end of the year. Jacob said that the new Battery Commander, Nick Bartletta and Battery Sergeant Major, Matt Dawson are just as keen as they are. I wonder if any 'A' Bty Vietnam will come to this. Also I spoke to the BC. About the 150th Anniversary which is less than three years away. We had a couple of suggestions which will be discussed at a later date.

That's all for this newsletter.

Tex



KEN. AGNEW LES ASHBY DENIS ALFRED ATHERTON TOM. BANFIELD CLARE. (BONNIE) BASSAN TREVOR. BEER FRANK. BERRIER S.J. BLANCH (OAS. Malaya) DOUG N. BRYAN MALCOLM J. BUGG DONALD CALLAGHAN GORDON CARMICHAEL TOM. CARRUTHERS KEITH. CHRISTENSEN RAYMOND . CLARKE **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

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.

MAX. FRANKLIN M.K. FUSSELL (KIA, Afghanistan) BILL GALLAGHER 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 LLOYD MITCHELL **KEVIN MITCHELL** JACK MILLIGAN E.J. (LOFTY) MOORE BRIAN. MURTAGH JIM PONTING



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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

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