



## President's Report.

**1. Anzac Day Sydney 2019.** As usual, Sydney turned on a day of glorious weather for us, clear blue skies for observing the fly-past of a Caribou and a DC-3 and zero wind at ground level so our banner didn't get to act like a sail and disappear up the harbour. The banner was manned by two cadets from 201 ACU, Cadets Sam Cale and Will Collinson (seen pictured below with banner) who performed their duties admirably. Thanks, lads. We had quite a decent turnout of members (around 40 marchers), with a large percentage from the younger generations. Good to see them on the day. I also had the opportunity of meeting up with Major Jacob Beale again, previous BC of A Bty. A lot of the lads from the 65 – 67 Malaysia tour were in attendance but chose to march with other units because of their service in SVN. Our regular meeting place, the Coronation hotel, had been overrun with spectators so we adjourned to the Sydney Bowlers Club for lunch and a quiet ale. Later in the day I stopped by the Coronation hotel again and found Wayne Brooking holding up one end of the bar so I decided to assist him in his endeavours to avoid a furniture malfunction and we had several more beers before setting out unsteadily for the western suburbs about 5 pm.

**2. Next AGM.** The previous BC of A Fd Bty, Major Jacob Beale, set in train arrangements for our next AGM to be held either at or near Enoggers Barracks. He has left a chart of his proposals with the new BC, Major Nicholas Barletta, who is taking up the cudgels in this regard to organise the necessary details and fit them in with the battery's activities in early September. At this stage nothing has been set in concrete but should be available by the time the next newsletter is published. So far it is tentatively scheduled for the 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> September, but it would be best to keep the first half of September as free as you can manage in case of a late change.

## 3. Wearing of Military Insignia.

As far as my own personal crusade to legalise the wearing of slouch hat or beret with corps badge attached is concerned, I have replied to the Minister of Defence's response reminding him that "unenforced laws are an invitation to anarchy" but I don't know if that will have any effect. I will probably not pursue the matter beyond that point.



## 4. Moving from State to National Registration.

This procedure is becoming a fairly straight-forward process to me the more I investigate it. At the next AGM I will outline the procedure and I hope there will be vigorous discussion both "for" and "against" this motion as I am sure others will have thought of points and issues that may have escaped my feeble mind so

## 5. Letter from the Late Frank Berrier.

Recently while cleaning out my garage, I came across a letter written by the late Frank Berrier many years ago. Frank was the president of the NSW branch of the A Bty Association for a number of years. I read it again and thought some of his points are timeless and should be repeated for the current membership to ponder. So I have reproduced some of Frank's letter with some omissions and editing because some of the items he mentions are no longer valid, but the main thrust of it remains intact. For those of us who knew Frank, it may be a walk down memory lane. For those who didn't know him, it will give you an insight into his dedication to the association. If anyone wishes a copy of the complete letter, please let me know and I will forward a copy to you.

*You know who the battery is. You may not know who the association is. The RSL does basically two things.*

*a) an umbrella for service people to obtain help in service related injuries/death after service is over.*

*b) overall conduct of ANZAC Day activities (March etc).*

*The Association is peculiar to A Bty personnel whether serving or not. It is open to members of ALL corps who served within the Bty and they are welcome to join irrespective of army rank. If you served in the battery you are eligible. A mini RSL if you like, and active overseas service is not a requirement. (It possibly was for the RSL when he wrote the original letter – Pres.).*

*The Battery marches on Anzac Day with past and serving members behind the Association banner. A Fd Bty leads all gunner contingents by virtue of its seniority.*

*We currently have two branches – NSW and QLD. We hope to incorporate the other states in due course (with your help). (This has since happened – Pres.)*

Frank goes on to outline his vision for the Association and how it might be run, finishing with

*Yours in the Left Shoulder Lanyard and SEMPER PARATUS.*

*Frank Berrier (patron to Henry Green)*

Regards,

R. F. "Dodger" Noonan



**‘A’ Battery training**

### Saints Doings.

Have just come back from a trip to Europe with my son Greg. Like your son he has been careful with his money and likes to share his good fortune with his Dear old Dad. So if we travel we go top shelf.

God, I could get used to this sort of Life. No rubbing shoulders with Labor supporters or other general riff raff. And free booze and hosties who call you Sir, not Mate. And you get to sleep in your own little bed. (Sorry only room for one).

We were on our way to Belgium and France to look at the War sites from WW1 and WW2. Flew with the Arabs, Emerites, (they dress a little funny, but run a great airline). We were upstairs (yes two floors with those riff raff downstairs). Beautiful Hosties who granted your every wish, great food and of course free booze. Landed at Dubai, I have been there before, so I knew to be careful what I said, as these Arab blokes still have stoning laws, plus others. More free food and booze in the top shelf lounge, with a free hot shower. NO don't even ask about that. Then back on a plane and off to Brussels and France.

What ever you do in life, especially being an old Digger, this is one place you have to see and visit. We toured all the grave sites and even found the little cemetery where the Gunners who served with my Grandfather are buried. He was a Driver, that is, he rode the lead horse that pulled the guns. When the horsemen and other blokes where not being involved with moving the guns with their horses, they did general duties, and this one day they were stacking ammo behind the guns. There were about twenty of them when a German shell exploded in the ammo stack. Only six survived including my Pop, but all were very badly wounded. The medics gave up on Pop as they believed he could not survive, but he bloody well did and finally was shipped home. Became a TPI for the rest of his life, but lived till he was 81, still bloody smoking. What a shame he isn't alive to see the photos I took of all his mates headstones.

Moving on, there are so many grave yards and old battle sites to visit you just don't have the time to see them all, but next time you see me, ask me and I will show you all the photos and bore you silly with my stories.



Tex

Jim

Saint

Lofty

HOW MANY MORE CAN YOU RECOGNISE ?



## From the Secretary

G'day fellow members.

This is the first from me as secretary and it is with a sad heart that I must inform you that we have lost three more of our old members. They are Terry Jobson, Jeffery Haack and I just found out this morning that the last of our Warrant Officers from the Malayan Emergency, Allan Sneddon has passed away.

Allan Sneddon was our Troop Sergeant Major (B Troop). He was a hard man on us young soldiers, looking back on those times, I think that he had our interest at heart, keeping us out of trouble and making us better soldiers. When 12 Field Regiment came back to Ingleburn, from Vietnam, I was the RQMS and Allan was the RSM, he left us and went to the USA on posting.

I served with Terry Jobson and Jeff Haack in Malaysia 1965 – 1967; I also served with Terry and Jeff in 12 Field Regiment, second tour, 1971. Terry was HQ Bty Sig Sgt and Jeff was a gun Sgt in 104 Fd Bty.

To all the families of those three men, who I called good friends, please accept mine and the association's deepest sympathy.

Gentlemen, it is nearly the beginning of a new financial year and there are a great number of members who have not paid their subs. There are eighteen from 16/17, they owe for three years, sixteen from 17/18, two years, and nine from 18/19, one year. That is forty three members who are unfinancial, if this keeps up we will not have many financial members. We need the finances to be able to do projects eg; Restoring the Henry Green Room, \$7,000.00, \$1,000.00 donation to Battery Funds, laying of plaque at the AWM 4,000.00, producing the Malayan Episode book, new banners for Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Please make it this year's resolution to pay your subs. I do not send out reminders any more, as it was costing too much.

This year's Annual General Meeting and Reunion is at the Battery at Enoggera, Qld, this will give a lot of ex 'A' Battery members a chance to come and see how the gunners of today live and work, also to have a look at the Henry Green Room. Let us know if you intend to come to the Reunion.

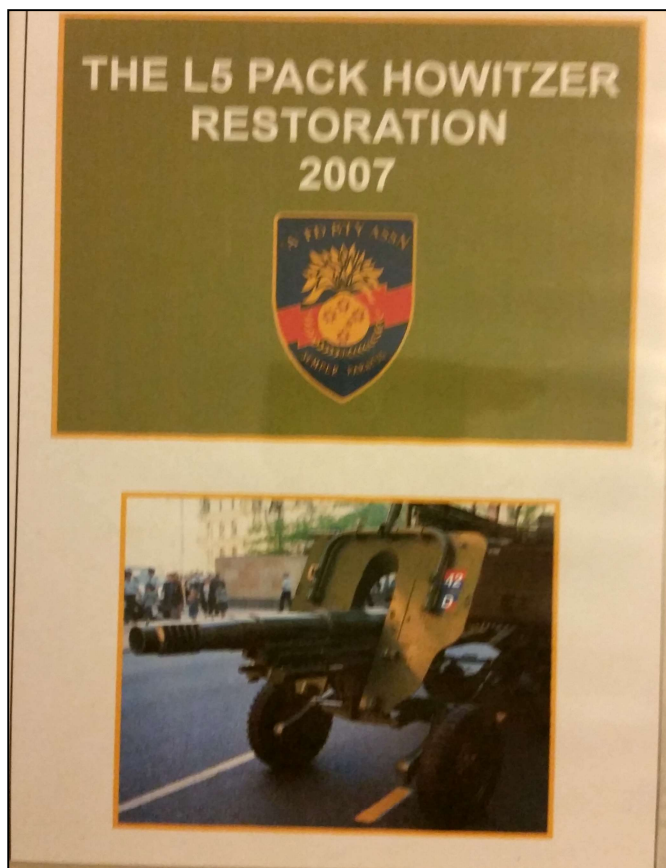
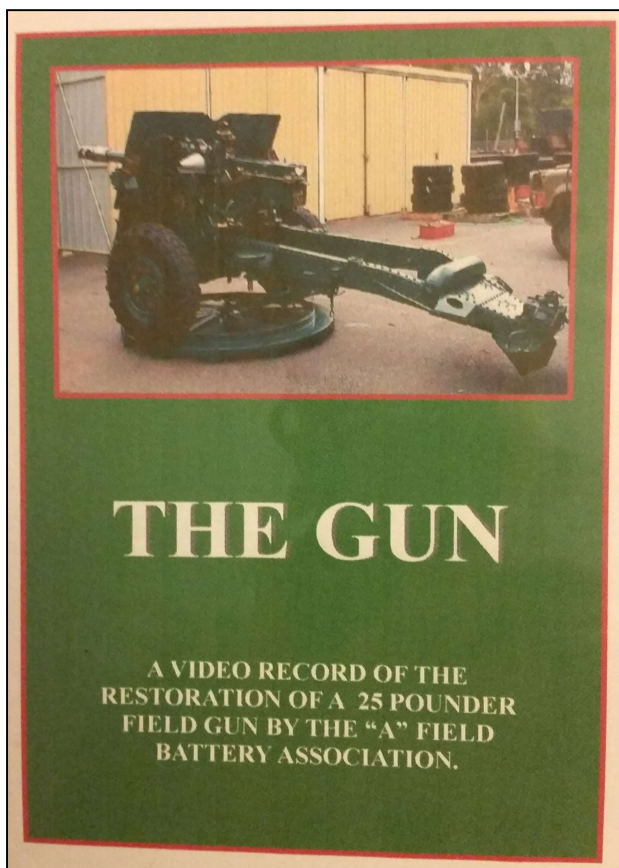
That's all from me for this newsletter,

Regards, Tex



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

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
DVD, “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





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.



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  
RONALD BURKE ...OAM  
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  
M.K. FUSSELL (KIA, Afghani-  
stan ) BILL  
GALLAGHER  
LANCE GILKINSON  
ROBERT J. (BOB) GRAY  
GEOFF HAACK  
BARRY HANDLEY  
NEIL HARDEN  
MICK. HARKEN  
DAVID ( BANGER )HARRIS  
RON HART  
B.D. HENDERSON (OAS. Ma-  
laya ) TERRY  
JOBSON  
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

R.J. PARKER  
(OAS. )Vietnam )  
DAVE. QUIRK  
PETER. RAINSBURY  
JOHN FRAKLAN RAINEY  
CLIVE. RALFE  
JOE ROUSE  
JOHN SALMON  
BRIAN. SCOTT  
PETER. SEDDON  
JOHN SHEEHAN  
ALBERT (ALBY) SHERI-  
DAN  
ALAN. SINGH  
NOEL. SMALL  
R. F. SMITH  
ALLAN JAMES SNEDDON  
( BRUNO )  
LESLEY (SQUIZZY) TAY-  
LOR ROWAN  
THOMPSON  
IAN UHLMANN  
DONALD DAVID WEIR  
BRIAN. WHISKER  
JACK WHITEHEAD  
JOHN. WHITELAW.  
AO,CBE  
BERNARD. (PLONKY)  
WINE  
GUS. WOOLFE

### **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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