

# 1871 - 2020

## 'A' Fd Bty Association Inc.

### National Newsletter

### September 2020

#### **President's Report.**

Greetings to all of our members and their families and friends. I trust we are all staying as safe and healthy as is possible these days. There have been several developments since our last newsletter, not the least of which is the fact that I got myself a new laptop computer. It is one of the latest generation Dell with an Intel I7 processor, a 500 GB solid state drive and 16 GB of RAM. These figures may not mean much to you, but perhaps if I put it in terms you may understand, it goes from switching it on to usable in Windows 10, in less than 15 seconds. This process used to take around two minutes with an older style hard drive. All other programs are equally as fast to load and run so no time is wasted sitting around watching a little whirly-gig thingummy on the screen telling me to "Please Wait...". At my age I don't have enough time left to be sitting there doing nothing. Anyway, money well spent I reckon.

In this newsletter, we have an article on the Battery's activities by the new BC, Major Kevin Pamenter. There is also an article on the origins of the 'A' Bty plaque and another about Auschwitz, both from Tex Bassan, our secretary, as well as a tribute to Frank Berrier, a past president of the NSW 'A' Bty association before its amalgamation with the QLD association. There is also an article on the origins of the British SAS from Ray Alcorn, and a late mail just in is a flyer from the Australian Artillery Association about the upcoming events for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Canberra next year. Plenty to read while we are locked down and travel-restricted.

So now on with the report.

#### **1) Our Next AGM.**

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, our AGM this year was looking like it may have to be a "socially distanced" event using the internet and software. Our committee, after our last meeting using Skype, had a practice session with Zoom. It was reasonably easy to use and we had none of the connection and dropout problems we had experienced with Skype, so it looks like we will be able to use Zoom for our AGM. We will need to purchase a corporate licence to hold our meeting, but since the program for the end users (you guys) is free, the only cost will be the \$22 for the association to set up the meeting. This will cover us for up to 100 members logging in, which I think should be adequate. The next level of participation, up to 500 people, costs nearly \$100 and I don't think it would be good value for money to go to that extent. Since we don't usually get more than 20 to 30 members at our physical AGMs, an allowance of 100 should be plenty. Also we only have about 150 members in total who get the newsletter via email, which means that the rest (about 80-odd) don't have a computer anyway. I have heard that smart phones and iPad type devices may also be used for Zoom but I will have to confirm that with the Zoom people.

If you wish to attend the Zoom AGM, you will need to download the Zoom program for your particular computer (Windows, Apple, etc). I will organise the Zoom meeting for the association from this end. What I would ask potential attendees to do, is to email me to let me know if you will be attending the meeting by 2<sup>nd</sup> December at the latest as I will have to send you the meeting id and passcode prior to the meeting so you can log in. Once you have logged in, I will also need to “admit” you from the “waiting room”. This is a new security feature in Zoom which is only now being implemented to stop ring-ins from crashing the meeting uninvited.

It is anticipated that we will be able to hold a physical get-together for our next AGM provided this virus pulls its head in by September next year. But until then make this note in your diaries.

## **‘A’ Fd Bty Association AGM will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 beginning at 11 am Eastern Daylight Saving Time (NSW, VIC) or 10 am E.S.T. (QLD).**

I will let prospective attendees know how long before the actual meeting starts that they can log in to check their comms, audio, video etc. when I email them the meeting id and passcode.

### **2) Voting for the AGM.**

Attached to this newsletter is a nomination form for the association’s committee election. If anyone wishes to nominate for a position, please fill in the form and forward it (email or post) to me and the nominated person will be included in the election process. However, it was suggested by one of our committee members that if there are no objections from the membership, and the committee members are in agreement (which we are), that we could declare the positions vacant, and if there were no other nominations, we (current committee members) could be re-elected unopposed. I know this does not sit well with some people and I am a little uneasy with it myself (not really democratic) but it would only be until such time as we can have a physical meeting next year, and would streamline the process somewhat until then. If however there there is even one objection to this, we will have to hold the voting process over Zoom and I am not sure how easy or difficult this would be. Its up to you , the membership, to decide which way we go on this matter. The positions which would be voted on are president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and one committee member. All other positions are voluntary and are currently occupied. The only caveat to the elected positions is that the secretary must be a QLD resident or live within 65 km of the border.

### **3) Special Project.**

Our efforts to obtain government funding for our special 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary project (refurbishment of Henry Green’s grave) have met with resounding rejections from all quarters. There is still the NSW Historical Society and the NSW Military Historical group. So far I haven’t contacted them but will do so in the coming weeks. I don’t expect any major financial contributions but they may wish to have some input into the process or the final design. I have been in contact with Ms. Sheila Green, a direct descendant of Henry Green, who will have the final say on the layout, appearance and wording of text on the new gravestone. As far as financing the project, we still have several options to pursue and since our deadline is to have the work completed before 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021, I don’t see any problems with meeting it.

**4) 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

So far I have not had any more information from the Army’s coordinating committee for 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities apart from what I have already circulated. We are on their mailing list so we should be getting updates as soon as they occur. As mentioned earlier, I have lately heard from the Australian Artillery Association about some 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary functions in Canberra next year and have attached a copy of their flyer to this newsletter.

**5) Going National.**

Regarding the overhaul of the QLD legislation for incorporated associations in that state, I have not had any update from them as yet, but I have registered as an interested party to be advised of any new changes they may undertake. I have asked them to pay particular attention to the rule that our secretary must be a Queenslander or very close neighbour (65 km) since this is the rule prevents many of our membership from applying for the position of secretary.

R. F. “Dodger” Noonan  
President  
‘A’ Fd Bty Association Inc.

*‘A’ Field Battery Association Inc.*

*Nomination Form for Committee*

We, the undersigned financial members of ‘A’ Fd Bty Assn Inc. Hereby nominate:

**\*.....for the**

**position of \*.....**

**Proposer\*.....Signature.....**

**Seconder\*.....Signature.....**

**I,\*.....A financial member of ‘A’ Fd Bty Assn Inc.**

**Accept nomination.....(Signature of Candidate)**

\* Please Print

## **‘A’ Bty Plaque.**

**There has been some mis-information of where the ‘A’ Bty plaque came from and who designed it, so to correct this, here are the facts;**

Prior to going to Malaysia in 1965, the then Battery Captain, Phillip Calvert, thought it would be a good idea to have a Battery plaque. The grenade for the plaque was inspired from an old button that was found in our Q Store, the red flash, a somewhat stylised version of the garrison tie. Phillip can't recall where the motto came from. I rang the then Battery Commander, Alex Reynolds, and he said the motto *Semper Paratus* (Stands for, Always Ready) came from the N.S.W. Artillery, which 'A' Bty was a member of until 1899. Phillip made a colour drawing of what was required with the old button attached was duly sent off to Singapore, where the first plaques were manufactured, Phillip still has the original.

Phillip Calvert retired from the Australian Army after 20 years; this included a tour with 161 Recce Flt as Officer Commanding. He then moved to New Zealand and spent 10 years in their army.

Tex Bassan

## **Auschwitz**

While staying in my Daughter In-law's home town of Havirov Northern Czech Republic, I stated my desire to go to the concentration camp of Auschwitz in Southern Poland; this includes the camp of Birkenau, which is a part of Auschwitz, two miles from the main camp. This is the one you see on the movies when the train enters through the gate.

To get to Auschwitz was quite difficult. The Polish border was not far from Havirov but to get there involved two trains and a bus and would take several hours. My Daughter In-law, Natalie said that her aunty and uncle would drive us there. I think it took us about an hour to arrive at this terrible place. The trip there was very nice as it is summer in Europe this time of the year; several days were up to 35 degrees Celsius. The main highways are excellent but the secondary roads are narrow and have pot holes. Most of your trees are pines or poplars, with other varieties, including Hazelnuts, which grow wild everywhere.

The amount of tourists at Auschwitz was incredible, as the big car park was full of cars and about ten buses. This at least is one benefit the Nazis left Poland. We had to wait about ten minutes for the English tour to commence. A very nice Polish lady was our tour guide and we entered the gates of the camp and an iron sign above the gates, reads, *Arbeit macht frei* (Work brings freedom), which is a big joke as not too many people ever got their freedom. Auschwitz was originally a Polish army barracks with double storied buildings which we toured and were shown the appalling living and sanitary conditions and how the prisoners were treated, if you became sick and could not work then you headed for the gas chamber. We came to the notorious block eleven, this block has a courtyard which has an interior cement wall and this is where prisoners were taken and shot with small calibre pistols, so not to make much noise and disturb the camp. Inside block eleven is where prisoners were interrogated and tortured by the SS and Gestapo; some were left to starve to death in their

cells. A shrine is in one of the cells where a priest took the punishment of another prisoner and starved to death, also this is where they first tried gassing prisoners, as you can see, not a very nice place to be in.

The prisoners in each block had an overseer who was usually a criminal who were the original inmates of Auschwitz, they were called Kempos and these Kempos (Or most of them.) were more vicious than the SS guards, beating the prisoners if they failed to bow to their will, even killing some. If the Kempos fell out with their guard, then they would end up being hung or sent to the gas chamber.

Outside the mess hall is where some of the prisoners were hung and there could be up to ten people hanging from the gallows. The bodies could be left there for days which were a deterrent to the other prisoners to behave.

Outside the electrified fence (The fence around the entire prisoner compound with a watch tower every fifteen meters.) was the gas chamber and furnaces for disposal of bodies, this was small and not efficient enough for the likes of Heinrich Himmler, leader of the Nazi SS and Rudolph Hoess, SS Commandant of Auschwitz and could not exterminate the Jews quick enough and that is why the camp of Birkenau was built to achieve the Nazi ambition of the Final Solution, the murder and disposal of bodies of all the Jews in Europe.

In the next Newsletter I will touch on Birkenau.

Tex Bassan.

## Tribute to Frank Berrier.

Francis Frederick Berrier... too many he was simply Frank, Frankie, Uncle Frank, Silver Top, Bones, or Araldite Louie, but to me he was always Grandpa. He wasn't just my Grandpa; he was the proud father of Peter, Michael & Tony, grandfather of Jason, Shayne, Chase, Rhys and Liam and great Grandfather of Michael and Kayla.

He truly was the kind and loving grandparent who always seem to be there, be it a school sporting carnival, Rugby Union Game, Water polo match or inter- School debate, always there supporting and encouraging. Whenever he was at one of these events he always had his camera, video recorder or tape recorder always wanting to commit these simple childhood memories to prosperity. It was only later I understood why... I can remember in my early days him having what must have been one of the first instamatic Kodak cameras, replete with single use flash bulbs, and film that allegedly needed putting in your arm pit to develop! Always ready to capture every step in life. Always being a man of gadgets, in later years he bought a video camera and would film even the remotest thing, nothing made him more proud then to be your number one supporter.

My fondest childhood memories will be of time spent with him, it was always an adventure with Frank Berrier! Whether it was spent going to the latest museum or art gallery exhibition, theatre and pantomime openings, parliament house in Canberra or simply the football on the hill at Redfern oval on Saturday afternoon, enjoying homemade sandwiches supplied by Nan, washed down with a cuppa tea from the thermos. I really believe that sometime he took you to these places more for the enjoyment he got from you having a wonderful time, then any desire to go himself. He always seemed to want you to miss out on nothing...

In later years it was my privilege to be the one supporting him at many of his re-unions and functions, being able to sit back and see him with his old army mates, and having them tell me that whilst he was the hardest man they ever encountered in their careers, he was also being the fairest and supportive.

To the world he was an eccentric, with his life seeming fulfilled with the invention of the hot glue gun, Araldite, sprinkles and the dynamo label machine... nothing was sacred or above improvement, adjustment or what we today call blinging up, it's amazing how many things were re-invented using these props! And whilst too most his was odd, there was the other side of Grandpa

that few knew; you see many of these toys that received a “Franking” ended up at the local disabled children’s home, so that another generation could enjoy these simple and yet loving gifts.

He had a knack with children, be they his own grandchildren, nieces’ and nephews or simply family friends, he truly was king of the kids. It was through children particularly his grandchildren that helped him through his darkest days following the loss of my grandmother. It was the umbrella of family that he wrote often in his notes, and by family he meant many, not just those of us by blood, , Teena was the daughter he and my grandmother never had, and her children were like his own grandchildren. The Rose family across the road from my him in Revesby were another source of joy, enabling him to indulge another generation with his trips and stories.

Life was not always as nice to Frank Berrier; I can only hope that we, those that had him made these last year’s just a little nicer...

Born in Sydney to Fredrick and Julia Berrier on Armistice Day 1927, he would be the only child from their marriage. At the age of eight months his mother died, after being nursed through her illness by my great grandfather. He would spend the next eight years with his father, often sleeping nights in the back seat of a stranger’s car that his father would be guarding at the local parking lot. In 1937, tragedy struck, his father suffered a heart attack and died. He was now an orphan... it must have been an extremely traumatic experience for a little boy to endure, but he did. Always suffering from asthma and bronchial problems he moved to many foster homes, some of them better than others. At some he was forced to sleep on the front verandas in winter, and be deliberately under fed. For many years he did not have family or possessions to call his own, this bible is one of the very few possessions he had, presented to him by the Anglican Bishop of Goulburn on his confirmation. To think of the trauma and loneliness he endured is unfathomable, and yet it was through these Christian beliefs he set his course.

After moving around for a number of years including three different homes within the first 18 months of being orphaned, he ended up in Brewarrina as a station hand, and it was on the sheep property “Willow” that he took my brother Jason, Cousin Shane and I in the mid 1980’s to see where he grew up. It was on these trips that we learnt to camp, cook on an open fire, live on army ration packs, drive outboard boats, set up tents in the dark and shoot kangaroo and wild pig. Truly all the things a boy could ask for!

At the age of 18 he was released from the child welfare department, but owing to the war was required to stay on the land at his pastoral job for the duration of hostilities. In April 1946, he joined the army for the first time, serving with the occupation forces of Japan. On his return to Australia in 1949, he discharged from the army and commenced work with the RTA. It was here that he met the love of his life, my grandmother Wynne Steain. There’s was a love that would continue for 51 years, until her death in 2000. They married at St Michaels Darlinghurst in December 1950 and had two sons, Peter and Michael, and together with Anthony they became a family, he wrote to us over the years that the debt he owed her was incalculable, her support and love never wavering.

In 1950 he rejoined the Australian army, seeing further active service in the Malayan Emergency 1957 – 59. When asked of his time in the jungles of Malaya, he rarely spoke of the dangers, and only once saying he was afraid when placed behind enemy lines for observation work. Of all the units he served in, it was his time with Royal Australia Artillery “A Field” Battery that was he most proud and looked back with great fondness. During his time in the service of his nation he was awarded the meritorious service medal, for exemplary service. Following his retirement in 1984 he threw himself into the “A Field” Battery association, and the museum at north head.

It was here with him over many weekends through the years I spent time with him, restoring old pieces of equipment and exploring the tunnels on the base. He was extremely proud to be made a life governor of the National Artillery Museum, Patron of the Henry Green Room at Holsworthy Army Barracks, and Vice-President & Life member of the “A Field” Battery Association. .. He told me once he only had one regret in life, which was that he spent too much time away from my grandmother and his boys whilst in the army, a necessary evil as he thought the stability of the army was best thing for the family.

The 1970's brought tragedy to his life once again; following the loss of his son Michael aged only 25 to cancer. It was through the support and love of his family and strong Christian belief that enabled my grandparents to recover, though in some ways they never fully did. The 1980's brought an unexpected pleasure to his life, as sister! Unbeknown to him my great grandmother had been previously married and had a daughter, after 57 years of separation he and Margaret were reunited. They became firm friends and stayed in regular contact, visiting each other often and became prolific pen pals. I never saw him happier then when he had his wife and sister with him.

As his health declined following the loss of my grandmother he moved in with my father, becoming as we all agreed a modern version of the odd couple... Through his writings the comfort and support he received by living with my father were treasured by him, making up for many lost years. Special mention must go to my sister, the dedication in looking after him is worthy of the highest praise, without you none of his final years would have been possible. Earlier this year he had the pleasure to see my brother Rhys, coming home from London for a few days when we knew that his time with us was short. Just before I left for a seven week holiday in late April, I went and visited him at the nursing home and made him promise me that he would be here on my return, true to his word as ever he was, and I was able to spend a few precious moments with him.

His life was filled with pleasure and pain, but in the end the love he had for the family and it for him overcame all, he may have started life an orphan, but left surrounded by family and friends who loved him more than most of us could ever say.

His personal philosophy was simple: "we pass this way but once, do good things". As I stand here now I can say that you did pass us, but all too briefly, and you did great things. It was an honour to know you, and a privilege to have been your grandson. The world is poorer for not having you in it, and heaven is all the richer. I know you are above with Nanna and Michael, so I will sign off as you always did: UP THE RABBITOHS.



## PD-100 Black Hornet Supporting M777 Engagement

UNCLASSIFIED

**Who:** 'A' Bty 1 Regt RAA

**What:** During Ex Barce 2.0, 'A' Bty JFT's conducted the first M777 live fire engagement supported by target information derived from a Small Unmanned Aerial System (SUAS) Black Hornet. The Black Hornet was launched from an Observation Post (OP) approximately 1.6km from the target location. It loitered for approximately 2 minutes on target before returning to the OP with all target data prepared and ready for future engagement. The SUAS mission was complete in 10 minutes and gave the JFT the necessary information to engage the target as required. On engagement of the target, there was only a requirement to adjust the Mean Point of Impact (MPI), with the correction given as ADD 50\*.

**Where:** Wide Bay Training Area (WBTA) IVO 58ft.

**When:** 21 June 2020

This engagement proved the concept for using SUAS as an additional sensor to add to the suite of sensors available to the JFT. Further trials with larger SUAS (Wasp AE) will be conducted in future Live Fire Exercises.

**\*Note.** Prior to engagement an independent GPS and map check of the data derived from the SUAS was conducted. M777 was utilising charge 1 LOW, firing at approx. 6km with 3 equipment. Target was on medium slope. Coordinated Illume profile was used to during the mission however the target grid had been obtained during daylight the preceding afternoon.

UNCLASSIFIED





## The British Special Air Service

This article is about a founding member of Britain's Special Air Service; one Johnny Cooper. I became interested in Johnny Cooper after travelling with his son on tours in Europe. Graeme Cooper runs battlefield tours and belongs to the International Guild of Battlefield Guides. I have completed two tours with him; in 2015 we attended the 200 th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo and in 2016 the battlefields of Spain during the Napoleonic wars.



Johnny Cooper in the Morvan Region of France after World War 2. He served in this area with the British Special Air Service.<sup>1</sup>

For readers who served during the Malayan Emergency and participated in **Operation Ginger** from January 1958 until April 1959 it is interesting to note that we served with Johnny Cooper. He was a member of **D Squadron 22 SAS Regiment** during that operation. It was during this operation that **'A' Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery** served as infantry and the guns were manned by the cooks and Clerks, etc., from Battery Headquarters.



D Squadron 22 SAS Regiment on patrol in Malaya during Operation Ginger as part of the 28 th Commonwealth Infantry Brigade during the Malayan Emergency.

This operation was one the most successful operations held during the Malayan Emergency. <sup>2</sup>

David Stirling is .the man credited with the idea for the SAS and instrumental in setting it up, He was ably assisted by men like Johnny Cooper, Jock Lewes, Paddy Mayne, Bill Fraser, Reg Seekings and Chris Bonnington. This was 1941 and the Middle East was in the middle of a World War. A special type of man was needed to take the fight to the enemy behind the German and Italian lines. These were men of courage, daring and improvisation.

### North Africa

They developed new tactics and created modifications to vehicles capable of crossing the desert in North Africa. Vehicles like jeeps and Blitz Buggies and whatever they could get hold of by legal or illegal means.



Desert Jeep modified by the SAS. Twin Vickers machine guns at the rear and a single Vickers and 0.5 Browning at the front. Note the water condenser on the front bumper. 3.

These men took the fight to the Germans and Italians where the enemy least expected it. The raiding of airfields packed with fighters and bombers of the German and Italian Air Forces. Raids on supply depots and Ports using stealth and cunning. They created havoc behind German lines but not all escaped from these daring raids. Many SAS men were lost but the missions accomplished were a credit to these men.

These men were the forerunners of our modern SAS soldier, both British and Australian. They led the way during a World War by developing unconventional units and tactics.



Johnny Cooper and his best mate Reg Seekings. 4.

3. SAS modified Jeep from the book "One of the Originals" by Johnny Cooper and Anthony Kemp. Pan Books, London.

4. Mates. Johnny Cooper and Reg Seekings from the book "One of the Originals" by Johnny Cooper and Anthony Kemp. Pan Books, London.

During the Middle East campaign in World War 2 David Stirling asked his me to put forward ideas for an insignia design that would be unique to the SAS. Sergeant Bob Tait came up with the winning entry. The cap badge would depict the flaming sword of Excalibur, the legendary weapon of King Arthur and took on the look of a winged dagger. The words "who dares wins" were also added. 5.

### **Malaya**

Very little is known about 22 SAS in Malaya except for their long patrols and developing parachute drops in jungle. Their main role was to win over the locals with medical assistance. It was important during this campaign to win the *hearts and minds* of the local population. No information is available of their *contacts or incidents* with the enemy. 6.

Johnny Cooper with D Squadron 22 SAS served with 28 Commonwealth Infantry Brigade during *Operation Ginger*. 7. The Third Battalion of the Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR) and with members of 'A' Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery operating as infantry, also served during that Operation. (I have informed Johnny Cooper's son, Graeme, of this chance encounter during my term in the Operation).

During the Malayan Emergency (which was not declared as a war because of British Insurance interests for their property), the following defined incidents and contacts:

- a. **Incidents** – when the communist soldiers fired first,
- b. **Contact** – when the Security Forces fired first.

An example of the type of contacts and incidents is below and pertains to the Australians involved.

2 Platoon of 3 RAR in a night ambush on 7 January 1958 engaged 5 CT (Communist Terrorists) and suffered our first battle casualty at the start of Operation Ginger. The next day 2 Platoon chased the terrorists in jungle with no result. Two nights later, 2 kilometres south of Lasah an ambush engaged CT and 3 Platoon followed a blood trail the next day without a result. (Jungle is very easy to hide in). A Charlie Company ambush south of Sungei Siput ambushed CT and in the ensuing fire fight the Australians suffered another battle casualty. (Sungei Siput was the operational camps for 3 RAR and 'A' Field Battery). On 10 March an Australian patrol of 3 RAR contacted two groups of enemy, one group of 4 CT and one of 6 CT. The engagement was slight and the CT escaped into the jungle.

These contacts and incidents were ongoing during Operation Ginger and upon completion of the Operation in April 1959, Ginger was declared a major success for the Security Forces.

5. Wikipedia 6. Wikipedia

### **Casualties**

During the war in which the Communist Terrorists started, the following casualties were incurred:

Communists -

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 6710 | CT killed   |
| 1287 | CT captured                                       |
| 2702 | CT surrendered                                    |
| 500  | CT surrendered after the cessation of hostilities |

Security Forces –

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1345 | Malayan troops and field police killed |
| 519  | Commonwealth soldiers killed           |

(no estimate of wounded available but it was considerable)

Civilians –

|      |                       |
|------|-----------------------|
| 2478 | civilians killed      |
| 810  | civilians missing. 8. |



8. Wikipedia

9. Museum of the King's Own, Lancaster, UK.

Condensed by Major Ray Alcorn Rtd., 28 Commonwealth Infantry Brigade, 17 Gurkha Division.



They shall grow not 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                      | ROBERT J. (BOB) GRAY        | JOE ROUSE               |
| LES ASHBY                      | GEOFF HAACK                 | JOHN SALMON CBE         |
| DENIS ALFRED ATHERTON          | BARRY HANDLEY               | BRIAN SCOTT             |
| TOM BANFIELD                   | NEIL HARDEN                 | PETER SEDDON            |
| CLARE (BONNIE) BASSAN          | MICK HARKEN                 | PETER SHARP             |
| TREVOR BEER                    | DAVID (BANGER) HARRIS       | JOHN SHEEHAN            |
| FRANK BERRIER                  | RON HART                    | ALBERT (ALBY) SHERIDAN  |
| S.J. BLANCH (OAS Malaya)       | B.D. HENDERSON (OAS Malaya) | ALAN SINGH              |
| DOUG N. BRYAN                  | TERRY JOBSON                | NOEL SMALL              |
| MALCOLM J. BUGG                | REG KELLY                   | R. F. SMITH             |
| DONALD CALLAGHAN               | KEN KENNEDY                 | ALLAN (BRUNO) SNEDDON   |
| GORDON CARMICHAEL              | JOHN KNIGHT                 | LESLEY (SQUIZZY) TAYLOR |
| TOM CARRUTHERS                 | BOBBY LEWIS                 | ROHAN THOMPSON          |
| CLIVE CASTLES                  | BILL LIDDELL OAM            | IAN UHLMANN             |
| KEITH CHRISTENSEN              | KENNETH LYONS               | DONALD DAVID WEIR       |
| RAYMOND CLARKE                 | JOHN MACDONALD              | BRIAN WHISKER           |
| REG CLATWORTHY                 | BERNARD McMAHON             | JACK WHITEHEAD          |
| HARRY COOK                     | BARRY MARR                  | JOHN WHITELAW AO, CBE   |
| PAT DALY                       | I.G. MATHERS (KIA Vietnam)  | BERNARD (PLONKY) WINE   |
| RAY DAVIS                      | IAN MEIBUSCH A.M            | GUS WOOLFE              |
| TOM DAWSON                     | LLOYD MITCHELL              | JOHN WORBOYS            |
| DON DONKIN MBE                 | KEVIN MITCHELL              |                         |
| JOHN DOWNES                    | JACK MILLIGAN               |                         |
| R.M. DUCAT (OAS Malaya)        | E. J. (LOFTY) MOORE         |                         |
| RICHARD DUGGAN                 | BRIAN MURTAGH               |                         |
| NOEL EGAN                      | JIM PONTING                 |                         |
| JOHN CHARLES FERGUSON          | R.J. PARKER (OAS Vietnam)   |                         |
| BEVAN FILCE                    | DARYL PATCH                 |                         |
| MAURICE FONTAINE               | GODFRAY PRIEST AM           |                         |
| GEORGE FORSYTHE                | DAVE QUIRK                  |                         |
| MAX FRANKLIN                   | JOHN RAINEY                 |                         |
| M.K. FUSSELL (KIA Afghanistan) | PETER RAINSBURY             |                         |
| BILL GALLAGHER                 | CLIVE RALFE                 |                         |
| LANCE GILKINSON                | ALEX REYNOLDS               |                         |

### 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 RAA Association Merchandise Price list

**NOTE:** All prices are for goods only. Postage will be extra and will vary depending on weight of order. Contact Dodger Noonan on

Mobile: 0407-904-506

Email: noonanrf@bigpond.net.au

| Item                                     | Price (Ea)   | Comments   |
|--|--------------|--|
| Caps                                     | \$15.00      |  |
| Car Windscreen Stickers                  | 2 for \$6.00 |    |
| Badges, Plaque                           | \$25         |  |
| Plaques, Complete                        | \$40.00      |  |
| Books "Malayan Episode"                  | \$20.00      |  |
| Shirts, Polo (New Pattern)               | \$35.00      | Sizes S to XXXL  |
| Shirts, Polo (Old Pattern)               | \$35.00      |  |
| DVD, "Malayan Episode"                   | \$10         | Currently out of stock, last one lost by Officeworks. More copies available soon.    |
| 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 bumper sticker           | \$3          |  |
| UCG bumper sticker                       | \$3          |  |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p align="center"><b><u>President</u></b><br/>         Robert (Dodger) Noonan<br/>         284 Smithfield Rd.,<br/>         Fairfield West NSW 2165<br/>         Phone: 02 9604 5163<br/>         Mobile: 0407 904 506<br/>         noonanrf@bigpond.net.au</p>   | <p align="center"><b><u>Vice President</u></b><br/>         Rick Polley<br/>         24 Valepark Crescent<br/>         Cranbourne VIC 3977<br/>         Mobile: 0417 314 890<br/>         polmarik@bigpond.net.au</p>   | <p align="center"><b><u>Secretary</u></b><br/>         Ron (Tex) Bassan<br/>         6 Harveys Rd., Beaconsfield<br/>         QLD 4740<br/>         Phone: 07 4942 5433<br/>         Mobile: 0447 911 116<br/>         texbassan@yahoo.com.au</p>   |
| <p align="center"><b><u>Treasurer</u></b><br/>         Greg Kittelty<br/>         Unit 2004 "Ultra"<br/>         14 George Avenue<br/>         Broadbeach QLD 4218<br/>         Phone. 07 5539 8174<br/>         Mobile: 0477 184 168<br/>         gmkitelty@hotmail.com.au</p>   | <p align="center"><b>COMMITTEE</b></p> <p align="center"><b>2019 – 2020</b></p>   | <p align="center"><b><u>Committee Member</u></b><br/>         Ian Leven<br/>         76 Dolphin Drive<br/>         West Ballina<br/>         NSW 2478<br/>         Phone: 02 6686 3488<br/>         Mobile: 0412 813 488<br/>         leftylev1945@yahoo.com.au</p>   |
| <p><b>State Liaison Officers</b></p>  |   |   |
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The best way to share your message or photos is to contact Kimbo, our Webmaster.  
 Want to keep up with the latest?  
 Log on to our web site and you can read the latest and all the past newsletters. An Amazing collection of photographs and news items covering the 1940's to the present day with 'A' Fd Bty. This web site is addictive, with the news, links, notice board and a great selection of music while you browse away. One of the best web sites available and kept up to date by Kimbo.  
 You will want to put this address into your favourites.  
<http://afdbty.australianartilleryassociation.com>

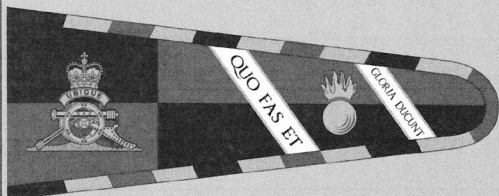
# Australian Gunners

[Serving or Retired]



**YOU ARE INVITED TO  
CELEBRATE THE**

## **150th Anniversary of Australian Artillery in 2021**



## **Mark Your Diary National Events**

**Where: Canberra, Venues - RAA National Memorial & AWM**

**WHEN: SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST 2021**

**Where: Sydney, Venue - Victoria Barracks**

**WHEN: SATURDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2021**

**Note: More detailed information including timings will be provided when available throughout 2020 and 2021**

**Unit & Association Events**

**Throughout 2021 as advertised by those individual coordinating organisations.**

### **CANBERRA**

**1st August 2021**

**Commemorative  
Service at RAA  
National Memorial  
Mount Pleasant**

**Synchronised  
National Ceremonial  
Fire Plan**

**Mount Pleasant & all  
RAA Unit Locations**

**Last Post Ceremony  
Australian War  
Memorial**

### **SYDNEY**

**6th November 2021**

**Formal Parade & Drum  
Head Service**

**Incorporating the  
presentation of a new  
Queen's Banner**

**Followed by**

**150th Cocktail Party  
Victoria Barracks**

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Contact**

**RAA HOR Staff**

**via email at**

**raa.hor@defence.gov.au**

**AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION**  
**150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
**CAR STICKER**



The Australian Artillery Association has created a Car Sticker to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Artillery in 2021 now available for purchase.

The Car Stickers have been produced at a size that enables the small background Artillery badges to be distinguishable on the sticker which measures 15.5 cm wide by 10 cm high.

The Car stickers are priced at 1 for \$5.00 buy 2 for \$10.00 and get a 3rd one free plus postage of \$1.10.

For more information and to place your online order and pay for your Car Sticker visit:

<http://www.australianartilleryassociation.com>