# Royal Australian Artillery Association Victoria



## Newsletter Number Five July 2017

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#### It is Now Official

9<sup>th</sup> Regiment Royal Australian Artillery (9 REGT RAA) will be formally raised on the 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018.

RHQ will be at the Kogarah Multi-user Depot in Sydney.

The Commanding Officer will be LTCOL Lachlan Searle. The Regiment will be  $2^{nd}/10^{th}$ ,  $3^{rd}$ ,  $5^{th}/11^{th}$ ,  $6^{th}/13^{th}$ ,  $7^{th}$  and  $23^{rd}$  Light Batteries.

#### 2/10 Light Battery Trivia Night

A Trivia Night will be held again this year.

If you wish to attend, please contact Sandra as soon as possible as the closing date is fast approaching.

Another enjoyable and entertaining evening will be held.

The evening will be run by a professional coordinator.

4<sup>th</sup> August, Sargood Barracks, 1900 for 1930 hrs, \$30 per head. First drink and supper included. Book a table or just as a small group. Single ok.

Bookings and payment to RAA Association Secretary. LT Sandra Hodgson details above.

#### Visit to Live Firing Exercise

#### Report from LT Sandra Hodgson

On Saturday 3 June, I along with 3 other members of the Association (CAPT Craig Batten, SGT Helen Janner and Bev Lancaster) visited 2/10 Lt Bty whilst they were putting the gunners through their mortar qualification course.

After a safety briefing by the SMIG, WO2 Daniel Brauman and the issuing of safety vests and ear protection, we were permitted on the mortar line to view the dissemination of information from the OP's and the targeting of the mortars

We were welcomed on the line by the battery members with an opportunity to "drop one down the tube".

I took up the opportunity and with some very elaborate positioning (it was almost stage choreography) I was ready to go, when **End of Mission** was called. A definite missed opportunity.

We were fed lunch on the mortar line before being transported up Mt Puckapunyal to watch the missions being called from the OP.

As an ex-sig and SigO I was fascinated at the compactness of the radio systems used and how the carrying of 2 radios no longer needed harnesses on the front and back.

The BC MAJ Reed Powney and IG CAPT Luke Haitas were on hand to answer any questions we had, explain the differences between "then" (our era) and "now". It was amazing to see so many jobs are being done purely with electronics now.

We thank the Battery for their hospitality shown on the weekend and look forward to future co-operations.

#### Anzac Day 2017

The traditional ANZAC Day Commemoration Service was not held at Sargood Barracks. 5/6 RVR was tasked by 4 Bde to march in the City parade. It was decided (not by the Association) that the BN should attend the Dawn Service at the Camberwell RSL.

#### St Barbara's Day 2017

As has been previously mentioned, it is intended to conduct the AGM and St Barbara's Day at Sargood Barracks.

Again, the format of the day will depend upon 5/6 RVR and 2/10 LT BTY.

#### Anzac Day 2018

Due to raising of 9 REGT in January, and the new command structure which will be required, we can but hope that the Association can again take control of the ANZAC Day Service and re-introduce the activity at Sargood Barracks.

#### Gunner Symposium

A Gunner Symposium was conducted recently at Sargood Barracks. The event was organised by 2/10 as an information and social evening. The idea is a good one, but the information content could be presented in a more formal way.

The Association contributed to the cost of the evening (supper) which was excellent.

Overall it was a very worthwhile and informative evening.

It is intended to continue holding the Gunner Symposiums regularly this year.

### Other Items Men at Work



Obviously a very important discussion as indicated by the determined attitudes of the participants.

Your Input to this newsletter would be appreciated.

If any member has an article, report on an activity, photos of interest, or general comments please forward them to:

Newsletter Editor nhamer@bigpond.net.au

#### Urgent Notice

As our Committee members are not getting any younger, and numbers are falling, we urgently require new Committee members to assist with the website, memorabilia, membership and communication. If you think you can help in any way, please contact Neil Hamer.