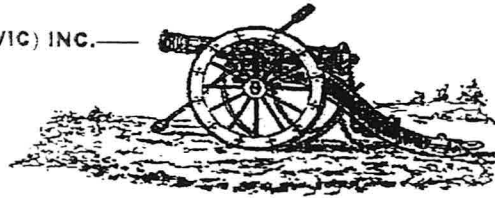


CASCABEL

Journal of the

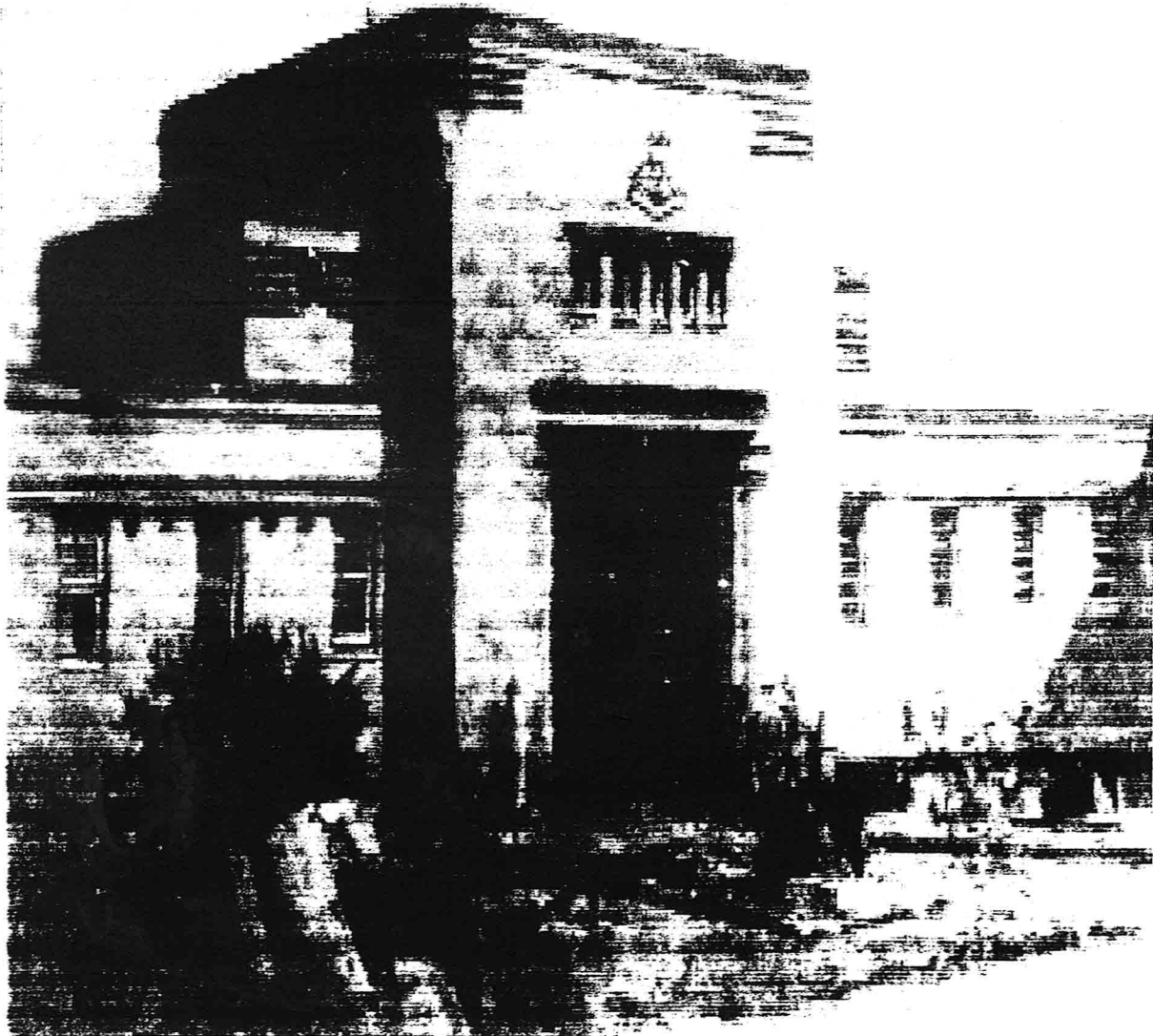
—ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC.—



Number 55

Published Quarterly in
Victoria Australia

March 1998



A last look at the School entrance at North Fort Manly
Photo courtesy of Australian Gunner Magazine

CASCABEL

Journal of the
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC.



FOUNDED:

First AGM April 1978
First Cascabel July 1983

COL COMMANDANT:

BRIG G. B. Standish AM; RFD, ED

PAST PRESIDENTS:

1978 - 1981 MAJGEN N. A. Vickery CBE,
MC, ED
1981 - 1984 COL A. (Sandy) Mair ED
1984 - 1988 MAJ P. S. (Norman) Whitelaw
ED
1988 - 1991 BRIG K. V. Rossi OBE, RFD,
ED
1991 - MAJ M. Taggart RFD, ED

JOURNAL NAME:

CASCABEL - Spanish - Origin as small bell or Campanilla (pro: Kaskebell), spherical bell, knob like projection.



CASCABLE - English spelling.
REASON FOR:

Once a fixed extension left over when a muzzle loaded gun was molten cast. It was the left over molten ore plug from the cast liquid entry point. Left on as it was found to be a good handle to move or elevate the barrel. Then shaped to look like a bell.

ARTILLERY USE:

After 1800 AD, it became adjustable. The breech is closed in large calibres by a CASCABEL(E) screw, which is a solid block of forged wrought iron, screwed into the breech coil until it pressed against the end of the steel tube. In the smaller calibres, the A bore tube is carried through to form the CASCABEL(E).

[Ref: "Text Book on Fortification Etc", Royal Military College, Sandhurst, by COL G. Philips, RE, 4th Ed, Ch-1, p9, para 28, 1884].

[Source: COL Alan Mason, Vic, May 1993].

CASCABEL HISTORY:

The name was put forward by the first editor, LTCOL Rob Gaw, and accepted because of its unique and obvious Artillery connection.

ASSN LOGO:

Our Assn Logo is the 1800 AD 9 Pdr Waterloo Field Gun. Copy is taken from Device, Badge and Motto of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, as approved in 1883, by HM King William IV.

LAPEL BADGE:

Copy of the left arm brass gilded gun once worn by Gun Sgts above the chevrons on each arm. Brassards worn by IGs at North Head were embroidered with this insignia. Selected by MAJ Warren Barnard, 1984 Assn Committee.

POSTAL ADDRESS:

RAA Assn (Vic) Inc
PO Box 309
Frankston VIC 3199

RAA ASSN (VIC) Inc

COMMITTEE 97-98

President: MAJ M. Taggart
RFD, ED
Phone: 9598 8452
Vice President: MAJ D. J. Osborne
Phone: 9787 7852
Secretary: MAJ R. A. W. Smith
RFD
Phone: 9435 6352
Treasurer: SSGT R. W. Morrell
Phone: 9562 9552
Members: MAJ R. Harris
SSGT B. Cleeman
SSGT E. Paddon
SGT R. G. Curtis
Representatives: WO2 L. Foster
(10 Mdm Regt Assn)
SGT R. Miller
Research Asst: SGT R. Miller
Honorary Auditor: WO2 T. D. Hopkins

MUSEUM TRUST

President: MAJ R. Harris
Phone: 9526 4202
Secretary: SSGT B. Cleeman
Phone: 9560 7116
Members: SSGT E. Paddon
Phone: 9763 5995
BDR T. Haywood
Phone: 9813 1087

VIC REGT CONTACTS

2,10 Mdm Regt 9526 4222
8 Chapel St
St Kilda (Melway 58 D9)
Bandmaster: WO1 D. Farrell
9526 4230
22 Fd Bty 9792 2642
Lonsdale St
Dandenong (Melway 90 E9)
22 Fd Bty (059) 71 3208
Robinsons Rd
Baxter (Melway 102 J10)
38 Mdm Bty (052) 21 7666
Myers St
Geelong (Melway 228 D4)

38 Mdm Bty
Queen St
Colac

(052) 31 2056

CONTENTS AND SUBMISSIONS

The contents of CASCABEL Journal are determined by the editor. Articles or opinions of authors & contributors are their own, and do not necessarily represent or reflect the official position of the RAA Assoc (Vic) Inc, Australian Army, the committee, the editor, staff or agents.

Article style, clarity and conciseness remain the responsibility of the article owner or author.

COPYRIGHT (C)

RAA Association (Vic) Inc - 1997

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

ISSN 1322-6282

MEMBERS & KINDRED ORGANISATIONS A.D.F. & ACCREDITED RESEARCH:

Only Members, Kindred Organisations, ADF and accredited research, may copy without prior approval, ORIGINAL articles or items of interest, within this Journal, if the source and author are acknowledged. Based on goodwill.

Where the word "Copyright" or "(C)" appear with an article or where the material has been reproduced from a designated source, permission to copy should be sought from the Author or Source given.

COMMERCIAL USE/PRODUCTS & BOOKS

Apart from members kindred organisations ADF and accredited research, no part of CASCABEL is to be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording by any storage or retrieval system without written permission from the RAA Assoc (Vic) Inc, the authors or the referenced source. Reproduction in any manner in whole or part in English or any other language is prohibited.

Contents

ARTICLE	Pages
Details and History of Cascabel Journal	2
Assn Contacts, Conditions and Copyright	3
Editor's Exoterics	5
Cancellation of Visit to Shrine and Vic Bks	5
The President Writes	6
Membership Report	7
ANZAC Day	7
Gunner Dinner	8
Vic Scots Regt Centenary Picnic	8
Opening of New School of Arty	9
Book Revue: The Broken Eighth	10-11
Visit to Melbourne Tank Museum	11
Voice of the Gunners CDs & Tapes	12
10 Mdm Regt RAA Assn AGM Report	13
Opening of LH Fd Arty Assoc Museum	13
Global Positioning System	14
Jungle Jitters	15
Letters to the Editor	16-17
Field Firing Day	18
Parade Card	19
Changing your address ? See cut-out proforma	19



EDITOR'S EXOTERICS

Welcome back ! Happy New Year ! Hope you all had a good one.

I had my 16 year old "nephew" staying with me from 15-29 Jan 98. Luke is the son of ex-SSGT Andrew Kent formerly of 7th Canberra Company in the 1970s.

We went to Melbourne Zoo, Rialto Tower, Werribee Zoo, Pt Cook Air Museum, Harold Holt Swimming Centre, Moorabbin Air Museum and Scienceworks and I am still here to tell the tale.

One evening on Prince's Bridge opposite the entrance to Flinders Street Station where while alighting from a tram the driver closed the door on my arm and started the tram. Having failed to break my arm by this simple process, I having pulled my arm out just in the nick of time, he then accelerated, hitting me with uneering aim fair in the middle of the back with the corner of the tram thus catapulting me through a somewhat dense crowd onto the safety zone rail, yet again I am still here to tell the tale.

COULD YOU TRY TO AVOID SENDING IN HAND WRITTEN COPY PLEASE !

Sorry ! but I do not have the time with the sort of schedule I have from when the first of you gets your copy to me to when you want this publication delivered to you, to type the copy in for everyone, so if those of you who do have access to type writers, computers or the Email system could please use these methods I will be very grateful.

Where are those letters to the editor ? Only one this issue ! Nobody know anymore about the 3/4 scale Arty Board ?

Still working on trying to improve the quality of the photos you're submitting. Bye for now.

Ron Curtis
Editor

HISTORICAL and HERITAGE COMMITTEE COASTAL DEFENCES (RAE AND RAA)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15th, 1998

Tour: Visit to the Shrine of Remembrance and Victoria Barracks.

**THE ABOVE VISIT WAS UNFORTUNATELY CANCELLED
DUE TO INSUFFICIENT NUMBERS.**



The President Writes

A happy New Year to you all as we get into 1998.

The year has already started with church parade on Sunday 1st February. My thanks to all who attended, including LTCOL Frank COLLEY the CO/CI of the School of Artillery. It was a great roll up. The church was very nearly full, and the band played magnificently. An added feature this year was the blessing of the new bell ropes, which had been presented by the Association. They have already had a chequered career. Some time after they were ordered Jonathan Harrison the Bell Captain, made enquiries and found that they had been lost in transit.

Insurance covered the loss and so we now have the second set properly installed in the belfry and ready for regular use.

On the 5th February the COL COMDT BRIG Graeme Standish and I went to Puckapunyal to visit the new School of Artillery. The CO/CI LTCOL Frank COLLEY and his staff made us very welcome. We had some discussions regarding Gunner functions and were given a guided tour of the very impressive new facilities.

Elsewhere in the magazine is the program for opening ceremonies to be held on Saturday 14th of March. The program follows the same general pattern of the ceremonies for leaving Manly last August and promises to be an impressive and historical occasion and would be worth the trip to PUCKA.

I hope that those who ordered CDs and tapes have got them by now. I think that the band can be very proud of their efforts. It is a great hour of entertainment. It is a shame that they could not be sent out before Christmas but time just got away.

There is sad news from the NSW Association who report the deaths of MAJGEN Rodney Fay AO, RFD, ED and LTCOL Des Ireland. General Fay was Representative COL COMDT until recently and Des Ireland the President of the NSW Association.

Although the year has just begun it is not too early to remind members that Anzac Day is not so far away. Even if you are not marching go along and cheer on those that are and then come and have a drink at Chapel Street.

Best wishes

Merv Taggart Major
President

PS. A couple of activities have arisen since I first wrote that I would like to remind the members about.

The date of the Artillery Ball has been set for the 31st July. The ball is usually in August as close to the 1st as possible and this date avoids a training weekend being held on the 8th and 9th of August. And prior to the ball on Sunday the 5th July the 2/10 Mdm Regt Band will present their afternoon of fine music at 3.00 pm at St Bartholomew's Church at Burnley.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT MARCH 1998

I am pleased to advise members that we have had our first new member join us from the newly relocated School of Artillery. The member is none other than the Commanding Officer/Chief Instructor, LTCOL Colley. A very warm welcome to you. There must be some more Gunners, who may be former gunners or currently serving in the Regular or Reserve Forces who could join us in the Association, so why not request a nomination form to pass on to them.

At the February meeting the matter of unfinancial annual members was discussed. There were 11 members who had failed to pay the current years subscription, even after 3 reminders. They were deleted from the membership listing. To all other annual members who did respond to the call for subscriptions thank you.

Life members will recall the call for donations last year to balance the financial contributions between life and annual members. The response was excellent and I thank the large majority for responding. Some members sent us more than the suggested amount, and we thank you very much for your generosity.

If you are about to move then please ensure you advise us. Please cut out and post the change of address notice on the cover of this issue, or telephone me at work on (03) 9781-2633 or at home on (03) 9787-7852.

Our membership register currently stands at 392. This is the first time for some years that we have fallen under 400 members. How about finding a few mates to join?

DAVID OSBORNE
MAJOR
VICE PRESIDENT AND
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day this year falls on a Saturday and 38 Bty departs on that day for their annual camp.

We are assured however that all the usual functions will occur although there might be simpler centralised bar arrangements.

Come along in the morning and have breakfast after the Dawn Service or later in the day after the march and tell a few lies with your mates.

GUNNER DINNER

The Officers in Victoria hold a Formal Dinner each year which is arranged at Victoria Barracks Officers Mess. Previous notices advertised the date as Friday July 3rd. The date has been changed to suit other arrangements at the Mess. Please mark your diaries with the confirmed date for this year:

Friday 26th June 1998.

Invitations will be sent out to all Officers in due course.

David Osborne
Major
Convening Officer

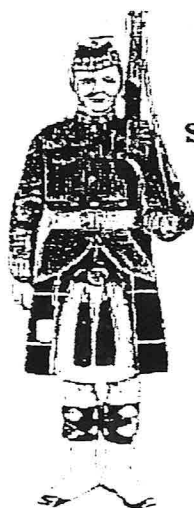


VICTORIAN SCOTTISH REGIMENT
CENTENARY COMMITTEE 1898-1998
PO BOX 1001, WHEELERS HILL VIC 3113

CENTENARY PICNIC

AT WATTLE PARK, SURREY HILLS

(Melway Reference 60 J3)



SUNDAY 22 MARCH 1998 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

- S/6Bn R & R Pipes and Drums
 - Scottish dancing
 - Ample parking
 - BBQ's on site
- BYO food and drinks (liquor is permitted)

Centenary souvenirs will be available

Come along with your family and friends
to celebrate and renew old friendships

OPENING OF BRIDGES BARRACKS, PUCKAPUNYAL

SATURDAY 14 MARCH 1998

LTCOL F.G.Colley, CO/CI, has extended an open invitation to all gunners, past and present, and their families to attend the opening of Bridges Barracks. This is a state of the art facility for the Royal Regiment, and all gunners are encouraged to be part of the opening, and see the new home of the School of Artillery.

Planned activities include the following:

Activity	Time	Location	Cost
Bridges Barracks Opening Ceremony including unveiling of a plaque, planting of a tree, and Official Party tour Bridges Barracks	1130-1300	Bridges Barracks HQ	Nil
Bridges Barracks Open Day	1500-1900	Bridges Barracks	Nil
Ceremonial Parades including Beating of Retreat, Feu-de-Joie, and 1812 Overture	1930-2045	Bridges Barracks (The Corso)	Nil
OFFR/SNCO Cocktail Party for members and ex-members of RAA Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and partners	2045-2230	RAA Officers' and Sergeants' Messes	\$20 per person

COMBINED RSVP

Rank..... Name..... I /Will be attending with/without my partner
the following activity:

Address.....

..... OFFR/SNCO cocktail party \$.....

Phone number.....

I request accommodation with/without my partner for period Mar to Mar 98

Dress: Military - Dress order No 2A Ceremonial Dress.

Civilian - Lounge suit or equivalent

Remit all money to the Secretary. RAA Officers' Mess, Bridges Barracks.

Milpo Puckapunyal, VIC 3662

Book Revue

by MAJGEN J. Whitelaw AO, CBE, RL

THE BROKEN EIGHTH

A History of the 2/14 th Australian Field Regiment

*Author- Ron Jackson, printed and published by Clipper Press. Ashwood, Vic.
Hard cover, 158 b & w photos, 6 maps, 10 dwgs, xi/305 pp, Roll of Honour, list of awards, nom roll, no index or bibliography.
Copies available from author 3/105 Surrey Road, Blackburn North, Vic 3190.
Price \$45 plus \$5 p & p.*

This is not a "military" history in the accepted sense. It does not deal with the wide sweep of events in the Pacific War, evaluate the decisions of commanders or examine strategy and tactics; but it does tell in a plain and straight forward fashion the story of a gunner regiment from its formation in 1940 until its disbandment at war's end. The author has drawn skilfully on the official war diaries lodged in the Australian War Memorial, the memories of his comrades, their photographs and sketches, together with items in news-sheets produced in the regiment such as "Zero Line News", "The Premature Burst" and "The Whistle". "The Drum" started in 1955 by the post-war regimental Association was also a valuable source.

Some 700 ordinary Australian men came together in 1940 at Puckapunyal to form one of the major units of the 8th Australian Division. They pooled their talents, skills and intelligence to build a regiment fit in all respects for operational service. This they achieved despite a lack of many basic resources. They also achieved, although many would not have recognised it at the time, an exceedingly strong regimental spirit which was to stand them in good stead in adventures which lay ahead.

Firstly was their long and arduous service in Darwin under a perceived threat of Japanese invasion and during some 50 air raids. The loss of their companion units in the 8th Division in 1942 as the Japanese successively captured Malaya, Singapore, Ambon, Timor and New Britain was sorely felt by the regiment. It was now the sole remaining major combat unit of the Division. To mark this sad circumstance a perpendicular 'break' was inserted in the regimental colour patch to signify 'The Broken Eighth'

After a period of re-equipment and training in NSW and Queensland, the regiment embarked for New Guinea and operations with 5th Australian Division along the north coast of the Huon Peninsula to Alexishafen. The turn of the year saw the regiment move to Jacquinot Bay, New Britain for further operations in support of units of 5th Division. The task was to isolate the very large force of Japanese in the Gazelle Peninsula. The regiment again showed its reliability and ability in some sharp actions in the Open Bay and Wide Bay areas. The cessation of hostilities led to a period of garrison duty in Rabaul where for the last time, the regiment demonstrated its

amazing 'can do' attitude so carefully nurtured from those far off days in 1940. It returned home for disbandment in December 1945.

"The Broken Eighth" is an attractive, quality production with a 'good feel' to it. It is a credit to Clipper Press and Ron Jackson. While it is sad that so many years have passed before the 2/1 4th Australian Field Regiment had its story told, I am sure that it will prove of much interest to the families of those who served and will bring back memories to those members of the regiment still with us. It should also find a deserved place with the histories of other distinguished units of the Australian Army on the shelves of any military library.

John Whitelaw

MELBOURNE TANK MUSEUM VISIT ON 31ST MAY 1998

MEMBERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A SOCIAL DAY OUT TO BE HELD AT THE MELBOURNE TANK MUSEUM ON SATURDAY THE 31ST MAY, 1998.

LOCATION: 456 BELGRAVE HALLAM ROAD, NARRE WARREN NORTH
3804 (Melway REFERENCE 108 G2)

TIMINGS: 1200 HOURS FOR A BARBECUE

B.Y.O. FOOD & DRINKS.
COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF PORT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR
THOSE ATTENDING THE BARBECUE.

1400 HOURS - TOUR COMMENCES.

REFRESHMENTS: ARE AVAILABLE AT A VERY MODERATE PRICE.

COST: SPECIAL CONCESSION:- \$7.00 PER ADULT
\$5.00 PER CHILD

WHAT IS THERE TO SEE? JOHN BELFIELD (THE OWNER) WILL PERSONALLY SHOW US THE
MUSEUM WHICH INCLUDES OVER SEVENTY MAJOR ITEMS
INCLUDING TANKS, ARMoured CARS, SCOUT CARS,
ARMoured PERSONNEL CARRIERS, JEEPS, TRUCKS AND
TWENTY DIFFERENT GUNS, WHICH ARE ALL UNDER COVER.

TRANSPORT: OWN ARRANGEMENT.

R.S.V.P. 25TH. MAY, 1998

BOOKINGS: REG MORRELL HOME 9562-9552
WORK 9543-3888

RESERVE
YOUR COPY
NOW!



PRESENTS

VOICE OF THE GUNNERS



An exciting new recording being released
to commemorate the band's Golden Jubilee year.
A programme to suit every taste, the recording features traditional
artillery music, vocals, big band and bagpipe numbers.

\$20.00 CD

\$15.00 Cassette

YES! Please reserve my copy of *Voice of the Gunners*.

Tick your preference.

- ☐ Please send to me as soon as available (I have included postage and handling).
- ☐ Please call me to arrange pick up as soon as available
- ☐ My cheque made payable to R.A.A. Association is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Postal: _____

Phone: (A/R) _____ (B/H) _____

Quantity	Sub Total
CD \$20	
Cassette \$15	
Postage & Handling \$3	

10 MEDIUM REGIMENT R.A.A ASSOCIATION

AGM

New office bearers are as follows:

President	Lionel Foster
Vice President	Karen Camp
Treasurer	Phil Abbott
Committee	Peter Schilder
	Ray Martino
	Graham Brown
	Vic Douglas
	Stuart Boreham
	Don Shields

The position of secretary was left vacant (no nominations).
The President will fill the position until a secretary has been elected.

The association meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the U.S.I. Club Rooms, Drill Hall, Myers St. Geelong at 7-30 pm.

Calendar events

Anzac March and Reuion	April 25
Geelong Military Cabaret	September 19
Opening Artillery School	March 14

CDs and Tapes of the RAA.BAND titled "VOICE OF THE GUNNERS" are available from LIONEL FOSTER 03 94782876. or at the committee meetings



Opening of LH Fd Arty Assoc Museum

10 am 9 Mar 98

at 200 Bessie Creek Rd Nar Nar Goon
RSVP Miss Tracy Randall 9695 5555

REGIMENTAL SURVEYORS TAKE NOTE

GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

By W02 CRAIG COOK
132 Div Loc Bty
2/15 Fd Regt

In this day of computers and orbiting satellites there is no need to maintain the skills of the surveyors.

Due to the easy availability of the hand held Global Positioning System receivers for under \$1000 it is now far easier to remove survey parties from the manning of the regiments of batteries and issue a hand held GPS instead.

Gone are the days where we had to pull survey chains or tapes across paddocks, cut down trees on distant hills tops to produce suitable site lines or relocate directors on the position to give all users of "line and bearing" a free and uninterrupted window.



**The Panasonic
KX-G5520 GPS**

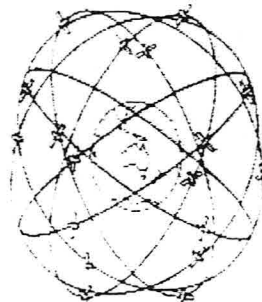
All we need today is the GPS device and it will supply the exact Latitude, Longitude and Altitude for any position the operator cares to take it. It will use Universe Transverse Mercator (UTM) on land surfaces. Time taken for computation fixing is up to 2 minutes and update is performed in approx 2 seconds. It can be used to provide bearings based upon its own orientation to magnetic north, or can be programmed for say a number of way points or battery centres with bearing carried from a datum point outside of the gun (equipment) area.

Method of operation utilises a number of orbiting satellites (21) at a range of 20,000 kms and they travel in nearly a circular orbit with a 12 hour period.

available.

The satellites are equally spaced in six orbital plains so that at least four will be visible at any one point on the earth's surface, there would normally be more

The satellites transmit on a frequency of 1575.42 MHz and send positional information along with a security code to the GPS receiver which can store it. Compared to the others used the receiver is capable of receiving 5 separate signals at once and compares the relative differences between them all to produce a reading with a PE (probable error) of less than 25 metres. Although the US government can code signals during "emergency" times that will cause the signal to be dithered or altered and this will cause the PE to increase out to 100 metres.



**GPS Satellite
Constellation**

JUNGLE JITTERS

By Keith Grandin
2/12 Aust Fd Regt Assn

During the New Guinea FINSCHHAFEN campaign we really got up Tojo's nose - so much so - that he decided to send some of his brave warriors to spike out "automatic" (so he thought) 25-pounders.

When the word went around to expect Japs in our area, we hurriedly set up defensive positions. This was a bit tricky in the dark and was further complicated by not knowing where neighboring LMGs were sited or pointing.

We could only get 8-second fuses for our grenades and weren't very thrilled to have to hold them for 4-5 seconds before throwing.

As the night settled in, jungle noises became accentuated, the sounds of movement of ground animals and birds caused our imaginations to run riot.

It was decided that it would be useful to have some infantry support and a patrol from 2/17th or 2/43rd Battalion was despatched to our area.

Near us was a 40-mm Light Ack Ack detachment and they had a listening post out from their Gun.

When the piquet saw a body of men moving towards his area, he jumped from his hole, ran back and warned the Gun crew. The leading man of the infantry patrol saw the man rise from the ground thought he was a Jap, and shot him.

The wounded man made a lot of noise, and in view of the situation, there was a distinct lack of volunteers eager to go out and get him. Finally, a medic from up the KATIKA TRACK performed the rescue. However, while moving out between the trigger-happy defenders, he survived by continually shouting:

"Don't shoot - Australian wounded!" Without drawing a breath, until he got back to a safe spot.

There was no further incident that night and we were glad to see the daylight next morning. The Japs apparently aborted their raid and returned to their waiting submarine which was later sighted in LANGEMAK BAY but that's another story.

SOURCE:

GRANDIN, Keith - "Jungle Jitters", No 104 TAKE POST, 2/12 Aust Fd Regt Assn, October 1996, p16.

The Editor wishes to thank KEITH GRANDIN for the use of his fine article and the TAKE POST Editor MAX PARSONS, Committee and Members of the 2/12 Fd Regt RAA, AIF.

Letters to the Editor



Portrait of
Major-General Sir William Throsby Bridges, K.C.B., C.M.G.,
The first Commandant of the Royal Military College

Major General Sir William Throsby Bridges, KCB, CMG, founder of Duntroon, Royal Military College, ACT and its first Commandant

The building to be occupied by the Artillery at Puckapunyal Military Base, will be known as the "Bridges Barracks."

However, it is not about the renowned General that I want to write but rather his horse, named, 'Sandy the Waler'. They were called 'Walers' because they were bred in New South Wales as remounts for the Australian Armed Forces during the 1914-18 Great War.

'The Avenue of Honour that I am currently restoring at Lysterfield Vic, was planted by a person named Gus Powell, he was a breeder of horses for the British, and Australian Armies, sending some 6,000 to the Boer War. I think we are well aware of the part played by horses in both wars, especially with the Artillery.

Of the 160,000 horses shipped overseas during the 1914-18 war, Sandy was the one picked out by Major General Bridges, who was in charge of the entire Australian Army. This horse was for his own personal use, and he was often seen riding him around the camps in Egypt.

Horses were not taken to Gallipoli, but it was here that General Bridges was fatally shot.

When the war was over Sandy was the only horse privileged to return to Australia, and spent his remaining years grazing in paddocks around Duntroon, RMC.

General Bridges body was also returned to Australia and is buried just behind the College, on the side of the hill.

Phenomenon

When I was at the RMC in 1941, we were out on night manoeuvres, when we came across this field, it had an eerie glow across it, we looked at it in amazement, being a very dark night added to the atmosphere of the locality. Our instructors then set our minds at ease by telling us the paddock was infested with glow worms and I think they came this way to see the effect it had on us, we by-passed that particular field and went on with our exercise.

I thought no more about it until last Anzac Day, I went over to Victoria Barracks, there was a display of various military objects, but one young female corporal was giving a talk on the books and pamphlets she had in her possession, so I stopped and listened. When she came to the booklet about the "Walers" I asked if I could have one, which she gave to me. It is rather a sensitive book about General Bridges and his horse.

My parents had horses when I was young and over the years I had done a fair amount of riding, so it appealed to me. I was only sorry that when I was at Duntroon, that horse riding was already abandoned, although the training areas were still there.

In the closing of the booklet it states, "If you go into Duntroon preferably at midnight, and wait near the grave of Major General Sir William Throsby Bridges, you might see the General and his beloved horse Sandy galloping across the misty playing fields of Duntroon."

I saw the General's grave many times, but not at midnight. Was this field that had the eerie misty glow that we saw while on our manoeuvres, one of the paddocks his old horse used to graze in ...who knows ?

No I am not seeing "fairies at the bottom of the garden" ...yet, but I do hope there is someone who reads the 'Cascabel' who can verify what I have stated about the 'Glow Worms'.

Edmund Williams
Wantirna South

Thanks for such an informative and entertaining letter Edmund, I used to go to the Arty Memorial at Duntroon with the Gunner's Assoc each Anzac Day for a special service held there by the Chaplain, and so used to see the General's grave, but never at midnight, so I can't confirm your 'Glow Worms'. Was anybody else out there that adventurous ? If so let's hear from you.

The cover and "Forward" page of the booklet Edmund is talking about was in our Dec 97 issue as an ad in case someone wanted to buy it for Christmas.

Please keep those letters rolling in, because as I said last issue, that is what this journal is all about, communication between members and with your committee.

Please address all editorial correspondence, and articles, etc to:

The Editor
"CASCABEL"
34 Richmond Ave
Carrum Downs Vic 3201

Following several unfortunate attempts to visit the Regiment in the Field during 1997 due mainly to ammunition restrictions we have now arranged a visit for Saturday 23 May 1998 at Puckapunyal.

These visits allow the association to show support to the serving Gunners as well as giving us the opportunity to remember our service. Come along and see the guns in action.

FIELD FIRING DAY

**SATURDAY
23 MAY 98**



**Meet at the old Transport Museum car park at 10.00 am (own transport).
Bring a cut lunch, warm clothing and stout footwear.**

Transport within the range area will be provided by 2/10 Mdm Regt.

Members intending to attend are asked to notify Merv Taggart on 9598 8452.

PARADE CARD 1998

March

- 9 LH Fd Arty Museum
Nar Nar Goon
14 Arty Centre Opening
Singleton
19 Committee Meeting

April

- 16 Committee Meeting
25 Anzac Day

May

- 21 Committee Meeting
23 Regt in the Field Visit
? Belfield Museum (RAE)

June

- 18 Committee Meeting
26 Gunner Dinner

July

- 5 Music Recital RAA Band
St Bartholomew's
16 Committee Meeting
31 Arty Ball

August

- 20 Committee Meeting
27 AGM

September

- 17 Committee Meeting
25 10 Mdm Regt Assn Cabaret

October

- 15 Committee Meeting

November

- 19 Committee Meeting

December

- 10 Committee Meeting

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

Please forward to:
RAA Association (Vic) Inc.
PO Box 309
FRANKSTON VIC 3199

Name.....

(Please use block letters)

Old Address:

New Address:

.....
.....
.....

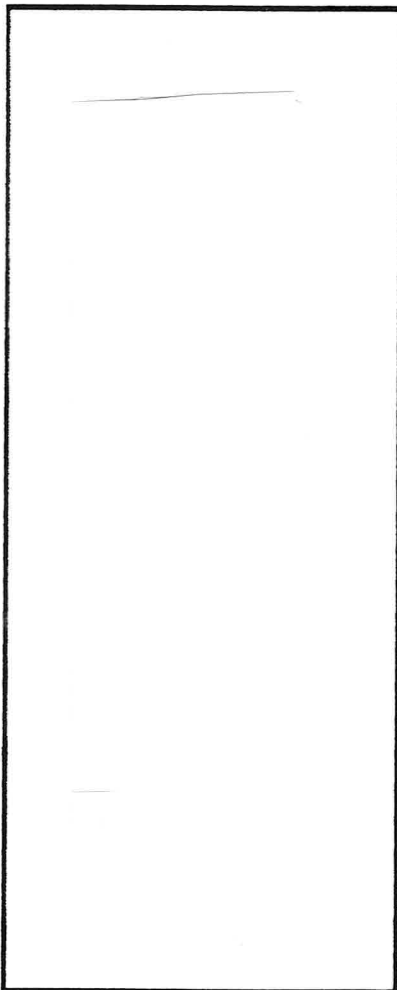
ENSURE ADDRESS DETAILS ARE UPDATED BEFORE NEXT ISSUE

**ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
ASSOCIATION
(VIC) INC.**

PO Box 309
FRANKSTON VIC 3199

**SURFACE
MAIL**

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA



MAY BE OPENED THIS END FOR INSPECTION

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST
Print Post Approved
PP 320418 / 00029