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THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) NEWSLETTER

*“Artillery adds dignity, to
what would otherwise
be an ugly brawl”*

Welcome to the new online newsletter from the RAA Association Vic. We’re trying out a new digital format that leans heavily on the content we are posting to the [website](#). This replaces the old printed Cascabel.

If you have any feedback on the newsletter or website, please reach out to the secretary.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

2023 has definitely started with a rush as everyone tries to work out what to do with their new freedom. And I say rush as it seems to be excited energy without much thought with everything slightly disconnected or not synchronised as it should be. Well, that's what it feels like – hope it is better where you are.



Despite all this the committee has really settled down and got ourselves into a good routine with the new roles they have taken on ably assisted by Kevin Casey joining our ranks helping out in a number of areas. Great committee who willingly take on tasks that will enable you our members get more out of the Association.

We have had another really successful Gunners Luncheon at the Highett RSL, thanks to BRIG Perry and the ever-reliable SSGT Reg Morrell backed up by the very resourceful SGT John Decker. Thanks team, great event – put it in your diary for next year people.

We have also had a wonderful day at Bill Bate's private property at Malmsbury as he showcased his military collection including a 25LB in excellent condition, WW2 Gun Tractor, 40mm Bofor Gun, various jeeps and heaps of other stuff. This was a limited event but next year we will open it up to more people – well worth the trip. (Ed – articles linked below)

We have also been extremely busy in the IT space with a revamped website with additional functionality to encourage interaction with our members. We will be posting various random photos over the next couple of months with the hope that we can start a conversation about where and why the photo was taken. I'd really encourage all of us to get involved and share some stories. We hope to build up a rich library of stories and photos to add to our National History that is being written by the Royal Australian Historical Company (our National Artillery Association).

Many thanks for all the support you provide throughout the year and get ready for another action-packed year full of stories and events to get involved with.

I look forward in shaking your hand and talking to you when next we meet.

Ubique

COL Jason Cooke, President

WEBSITE UPDATES

The new year brings a renewed focus on our website and digital media presence. There have been some updates to the website (<https://artilleryvic.org.au/>).

The Royal Australian Artillery Association (Victoria) Inc.

If you're a Gunner, or an ex-Gunner, know that you're welcome here. Whether you were with Coastal, Field, Medium or Heavy; Ack-Ack or Air Defence; Divisional Locating or STA; we hope you'll find something here of interest to you.



News Feed About Us Information and Newsletters Gallery Forms Social and Other Events

Welcome to the RAA Association (Victoria) Inc. Website

This website is for members and those interested in Artillery in Victoria. The website contains a lot of useful information, such as our newsletters ([Cascabel](#)), a [History of Artillery in Victoria](#), an honour roll of passed members ([Vale](#)), a [gallery](#) of photos from Association events and [links](#) to related organisations.

If you're interested in joining the Association, please see the form on the [membership](#) page.



These include:

- A different set of photos on the front page,
- A new event calendar,
- A new section – Stories from the Victorian RAA Units
- New additions to the Gallery
- Removal of the shop page

COLLECTING STORIES FROM YOUR TIME IN THE REGIMENT

One of the priorities for the committee this year is to get on top of the Victorian Artillery History project. We're trying to collect short stories and memories from your time in the various units. We will upload these to the website and pick from them for the history project.

The current stories can be found [here](#).

We've got an [online form](#) where you can submit your stories (they come to the secretary). But we're happy to take stories in any form, such as an email to the secretary (secretary@artilleryvic.org.au).

PHOTOS

We have a growing collection of photos in the [Gallery](#). There are many more that members are sharing that we plan to upload. We're looking at the best way to store and tag these so they can be more useful (particularly to the history project).



Photo from Dave Mills

If you have photos that you've scanned, please reach out to the secretary (secretary@artilleryvic.org.au) and we will figure out how to get them. If you've got printed photos, we may be able to scan them.

We're working on reformatting the gallery to make photos more accessible.





EVENTS CALENDAR

We've updated the [events calendar](#) and will be adding events as they come up.

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Social and Other Events

This page highlights the social and other events, hosted by the Association or allied organisations in Victoria.

14 March 2023	 COMMITTEE MEETING	Mar Committee Mtg Monthly committee meeting. Agenda to be sent prior to the meeting. Find out more »	 2/10 Bty Depot, 8 Chapel St St Kilda, VIC Australia + Google Map
25 April 2023	 ANZAC DAY FORGET 25 APRIL	ANZAC Day 2023 We expect 2/10 Bty will hold a Dawn Service. Details TBA Find out more »	 2/10 Bty Depot, 8 Chapel St St Kilda, VIC Australia + Google Map

MUSEUM UPDATE

MAJ Garry Rolfe took the reins on managing the museum last year. Since then, there have been a number of days of sorting through what's there, categorizing, binning some junk that tends to accumulate over the years and planning to sell some not-relevant-but-not-junk items.

There are further cleanup Saturday mornings planned, so if you can help out, please reach out to Garry via the secretary.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

GNR Paul Heron continues to manage the membership. As at the March committee meeting the numbers were:

Paid Members	
- Honorary Members for Life	5
- Ordinary Life Members	143
- Ordinary Annual Members	25
- Ordinary Annual Senior Members	11
- Associate Life Members	2
- Associate Annual Members	2
Total Paid Members	188
Affiliate Members	
- Associations	28
- Libraries	4
- RSLs	3
- Others (CO/CI, Messes, etc.)	9
Total Affiliate	44
TOTAL	232

We welcome three new members to the Association: LTCOL Bill Fletcher, BDR Paul Dandy, and GNR Arthur Young.

RECENT ARTICLES

PLAQUES OF THE DIFFERENT VICTORIAN UNITS

The topic of plaques for 2/10 Bty came up recently. This discussion led to an exploration of the different plaques that have been in use by the units that led to 2/10 Bty 9 Regt. See [this article](#).

PHOTOS FROM 23 BTY, 22 BTY AND 2/10 MDM REGT

I came across a set of formal photos from the early 90s covering 23 Bty, 22 Bty and 2/10 Mdm Regt and posted them on the website. See [this article](#).

2/10 MDM REGT AND THE 2 DIV “AIF TROPHY”

We discovered some photos in the museum showing an unidentified trophy. It turned out to be a 2 Div CDA-awarded trophy. See [this article](#).

A VISIT TO BILL BATES’ MILITARY COLLECTION

A summary of the trip some members took to Malmsbury to get hands on with a 25 Pdr, an old Director and a Jeep. See [this article](#). Photos from the day are also up in the [gallery](#).

MAJ Garry Rolfe also penned [this article](#).

More articles are being added to the website weekly. Keep an eye out for them.

Association Committee & Contacts

Role	Person	Contact
President	COL Jason Cooke	president@artilleryvic.org.au
Vice President	LTCOL Peter Rowley	
Secretary	MAJ Stuart Pigdon	secretary@artilleryvic.org.au
Treasurer	BDR Stjepan Bosnjak	treasurer@artilleryvic.org.au
Museum	MAJ Garry Rolfe	
Digital Media	CAPT David Edwards	
Membership	GNR Paul Heron	
Committee	SGT Kevin Casey	

For membership enquiries, reach out to the Secretary at the email address above, or go to our website where there is a membership enquiry form (<https://artilleryvic.org.au/index.php/membership/>).

We also use the **Artillery Assoc Victoria** closed facebook group.

————— **ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION** —————
(VICTORIA) INCORPORATED

ABN: 22 850 898 908 Reg No: A 0013889Z

