



Artillery WA



Official Newsletter of Royal Australian Artillery Association of WA (Inc), RAA Historical Society of WA (Inc)
Web Site: <http://www.artillerywa.org.au>

Email: info@artillerywa.org.au

Edition 1 / 14

March 2014



LEST WE FORGET



LONE PINE CEMETERY – GALLIPOLI

ANZAC DAY 2014



Notice Board

Mark this date in your calendars

ANZAC DAY – 25 April 2014

March through Perth

Form up time will be at 0900hrs.

Please refer to The West Australian for location details for this year's march.

Please remember to wear your beret.

All are invited to attend the Anzac Day function at Hobbs Artillery Park after the parade.

Details to follow via the website, email or mail out

RAAHS BUSY BEES for 2014

25th Jan 22nd Feb 22nd Mar 26th Apr

31st May 28th Jun 26th Jul 30th Aug

27th Sep 25th Oct 29th Nov 27th Dec

LEIGHTON BATTERY OPEN DAYS

The Leighton Battery Heritage Site is open on a regular basis every Sunday of every month from 10 AM to 3:00 PM with tours of the tunnels every half hour.

FRONT COVER

Photos taken at Lone Pine Cemetery, Gallipoli, May 2010 by Pauline & John O'Brien

Inside this Issue – Main points

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Next Issue – June 2014

Subs to your Association or Society are now due – RAAA of WA (Inc) - \$ 15 RAAHS - \$ 25
We now have a Direct Debit facility – Please find the details in the relevant sections -

The Editor gratefully acknowledges the contributions to the newsletter by the members, whose names appear with the corresponding articles.

Articles, editorial comment or book reviews for publication should be submitted to the editor, at: Royal Australian Artillery Association of WA (Inc) PO Box 881, Claremont WA 6910. Phone: 92694544 Fax: 9269 4370 or E-mail the Editor at info@artillerywa.org.au

ADVERTISING

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION WA (INC)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Gunners,

Gunners' Day 2013 was a highly successful service with about 200 in attendance and well supported by the Shire of Swan as we celebrated Gunner's Day and the 100th Anniversary of Artillery in Guildford. Following the formalities many attended the Guildford Hotel for further refreshment and comradeship.

This year Gunner's Day will fall on Sunday 2 November which will clash with the Centenary celebrations to be held in Albany to mark the departure of the ANZAC contingent on their journey to the war and Gallipoli. We are aware that some 80 gunners and family will be attending the Albany celebrations. Accordingly, the Committee has decided that we will celebrate Gunner's Day 2014 on Sunday, 9 November 2014. We have received a \$1000 grant from the ANZAC Committee to provide catering for GUNNERS DAY 2014.

The AGM was held on 8 March 2014. This year we along with the RAAHS moved the AGM to Leighton Battery. The change of venue was well accepted and I think all agreed that this was a more suitable venue. A number of people took the opportunity for a tour of the tunnels. At the AGM the existing committee were re-elected;

President:	Bob Farrelly
Vice President:	Peter Mahoney
Secretary and Treasurer:	John Blylevens
Committee:	Ken Hepworth
Committee:	Wendy Mahoney
Committee:	John O'Brien
Committee:	Scott Sullivan
Hon Auditor:	Hugh Zimmerman.

I would like to recognise the efforts of LTCOL Andrew Dunjey for his services on the Association Committee over the past few years. Andrew has stood down earlier this year due to time availability having just taken command of the Western Australian University Regiment (WAUR) and a new position as Corporate Relationship Executive for the Commonwealth Bank. We wish Andrew the best in these new roles. I would also like to thank the Committee for all their efforts during the past year and look forward to continuing to work with you.

ANZAC Day 2014 is the next big event on our calendar. There will be no Dawn Service at Hobbs Artillery Park and we understand the Brigade is holding only one Dawn Service in the barracks and a single Gunfire Breakfast. Whilst last year was a bit of a debacle, we are assured that will not be the case this year and I would encourage you to attend the Irwin Barracks Dawn Service. The exact location and details are yet to be determined.

Our Colonel Commandant, BRIG Gerry Warner has agreed to lead the march in the city. Details for ANZAC Day appear in more detail in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you there. Additionally 3 Light Battery are welcoming all members of the Gunner fraternity to share a drink and catch up with friends after the service at Hobbs Artillery Park as has been the past practice. Details of the form up place in St George's Terrace will appear in *'The West Australian'*. I look forward to seeing you there.

The Association and 3 Lt Bty will be holding a Corps Dinner for serving and past Gunners and their partners/guests. The Dinner will be held on Saturday 5 July 2014 at Hobbs Artillery Park, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

Ubique,
Bob Farrelly
LTCOL
President, RAA Association

B.C.'s NOTE

2014 promises to be a busy one for 3 Light Battery.

We are heading over to Brisbane in early April to live fire with our colleagues from 5/11 Light Battery.

In May we have our own live fire at Lancelin as a part of a combined arms activity with the infantry and 10 Light Horse also live firing. I am planning a way to get some members of the association who would like to observe the Battery live firing to come up on Friday 16 May. More information to follow.

In July we again head over east where we will form a combined light battery with 5/11 Bty and contribute with 11 Brigade to support the regular Army's 3 Brigade as part of Exercise Hamel.

Last month I also had the honour of presenting Gnr Carina Mangini and Gnr Brooke Argentieri with their RAA hat badges and white lanyards. This is truly a significant event and I am looking forward to both female gunners marching on ANZAC Day proudly wearing the white lanyard.

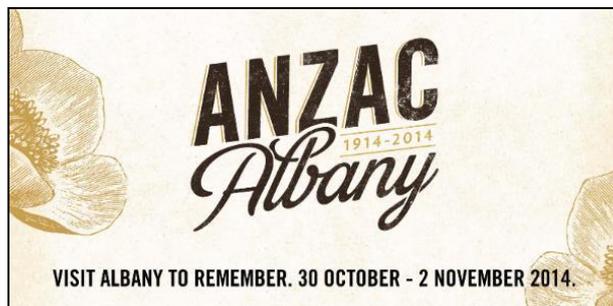
May I also remind all Gunners that we will be celebrating ANZAC day again at Hobbs Artillery Park and all are welcome to attend. The timings will be the same as last year with activities commencing immediately after the parade.

The Battery also welcomes to 3 Light Battery, the IG Captain William Smith and SMIG, Warrant Officer Nigel Murphy. Both ARA members bring with them a wealth of experience; I look forward to both of them passing this on to all members of the Battery.

I look forward to catching up with as many of you on ANZAC Day.

Ubique

Rob Coales
Battery Commander



Hello All

I am organising a tour group that will be based at my property just out of Mt Barker. People attending will need to be at the property NLT 30 October and get settled in. We will have a gunfire breakfast on Friday morning, 31st Oct where we will be picked up by 2 buses, driven into Albany picking up some people along the way with our first stop at the Princess Royal Fort. We have 2 tour guides booked and the BBQ area at the fort for lunch – BYO food and drinks. We will then attend the evening activities in Albany and return to Mt Barker. Saturday will be an early start with a gunfire breakfast, into Albany on the buses to attend the Troop March, ANZAC service and then the opening of the ANZAC Centre. There is a concert that night then afterward return to camp. Sunday will be your own effort as there is ships open in Albany and some will head off home.

You must be self-sufficient. There will be toilets there as we have our old house which is empty and plenty of room to camp. The 12.5 acre property is mainly paddock but it has a slight slope on most of it. I do need to know how you will be camping so we can fit those tenting / swags under the trees etc. This will be the event of the century that will be talked about at every dinner and ANZAC day for years to come. As at 26 Feb I have 77 attending. We are putting a cap of 100 so the last few seats will go quick. Best contact is by phone 0448 796 144 and I must have email confirmation on steve@farmerscentre1978.com.au

Costs to attend are for the hire of the buses, entry into the Fort and for the guides/camping area, some cost involved at home to run the camping and we will probably get some bulk ice for Eskies. All your drinks, food and anything else is at your own expense. I may have even secured a band, The Rock n Roll Cowboys who might jump on the buses to play at no cost.

Ubique

Regards
Steve Morrow

0448 796 144
83 Nindrup Rd Mt Barker

+++++

This is the schedule of events happening in Albany that weekend, as posted on the
ANZAC Albany Website
<http://www.anzacalbany.com.au/>

ANZAC PROJECTIONS & STORYTELLING 30.10.14 – 2.11.14

Using modern projection technology, the memorabilia preserved in Albany from the First World War will be brought to life for Anzac Albany. Images, video and personal accounts will convey the details of that time.

STIRLING TERRACE MESS HALL 30.10.14 – 2.11.14

The Stirling Terrace Mess Hall will be the home of food and drink for the community and visitors to Anzac Albany. Restaurants will pop up along the terrace with outdoor tables and stalls selling the best of Great Southern produce. Join the community and watch the ceremonial activities in Princess Royal Harbour from the Stirling Terrace Mess Hall.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY CEREMONIAL SUNSET 31.10.14

The Royal Australian Navy Sunset Ceremony is one of the oldest Naval Ceremonies, dating back centuries to the age of sail. The ceremony reflects the worldwide naval tradition of saluting the lowering of the Ensign at sunset each day in harbour.

PRINCESS ROYAL HARBOUR LIGHTS 31.10.14

Princess Royal Harbour Lights will be an interpretive sound, lighting and pyrotechnic display on the harbour following sunset. Come down to the harbours edge on the eve of the centenary of the departure of the convoys, to commemorate the souls on board the ships, and the families they left behind.

TROOP MARCH 1.11.14

On the morning of 1 November, the centenary of the First Convoy Departure, a troop march along York St in Albany will include Australian Defence Force personnel, New Zealand Defence Force personnel, Australian Defence Force Band and representation from the veteran community.

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE 1.11.14

Taking place at Anzac Peace Park shortly after the Troop March, the commemorative service will contemplate and remember the individuals of the First Convoy Departure.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NATIONAL ANZAC CENTRE 1.11.14

Located in the Princess Royal Fortress Military Museum, the National Anzac Centre will open on the day of the centenary of the First Convoy Departure. Curated in partnership with the Western Australian Museum, there will be an opportunity for people to experience a connection with the First World War. Cost of entry will apply.

COMMUNITY CONCERT 1.11.14

A community concert featuring The West Australian Symphony Orchestra with high profile Australian and New Zealand guests. The musical direction of the event will be respectful to the theme of commemorate, contemplate and educate, providing a contemporary event to commemorate the Anzac tradition that began in Albany 100 years ago to the day.

NAVAL SHIP OPEN DAY 2.11.14

Docking at the Albany Port, Naval ships participating in the Anzac Albany centenary commemorations will open for members of the public to tour. A very exciting opportunity, with many more details to be announced.

REFLECTIONS OVER THE WATER 2.11.14

The children's commemorative event will be a region wide program, encompassing an offering being placed into the Princess Royal Harbour to remember the lives of the 35,000 troops and sailors who sailed from Albany on November 1, 1914.

HELP US TO KEEP YOU UP TO DATE

The RAA Association and RAAHS is keen to build up a data base of member's email addresses in order to send out occasional important information relating to GUNNER activities, for, Battery Birthday Dinner and the latest ArtilleryWA Newsletter which is now on-line.

Please send an email to john.blylevens@defence.gov.au if you would like to be included and when you change your email address, so we can keep up to date.

You can Now pay your Membership Fees (\$15 per annum) by Direct Debit!

Members can go to any bank (or do it by electronic transfer) and make a deposit quoting The RAA Association's BSB and Account Number and your Name. The Funds will automatically be transferred to the Association's Account along with your name.

It's that Simple!!

*Please do not forget to include your name, so we know who the payment is from.
Thank You.*

If you choose this method please quote:

RAA Association of WA (Inc) – (Note: Some banks may require the full wording)

Commonwealth Bank

BSB Number: 066 163

Account Number: 0090 2583



RAAA JACKET POCKET BADGE – Actual size of Badge is 100mm wide x 90mm high - \$15

RAA EMBROIDERED BERET BADGES – Actual size is 55mm wide by 40mm high - \$10

To purchase Embroidered Jacket and or Beret Badges -
Cut below and return to RAA Association of WA (Inc) - PO Box 881 Claremont WA 6910

I would like to order an Embroidered Badge / Jacket Pocket Badge (circle choice/s) as advertised in the ArtyWA newsletter.

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____ (Qty) Beret Badges

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____ (Qty) J P Badges

(Badges are \$10 each. Jacket Pockets are \$15 each.)

Name_____

Member of _____

(Name of Association or Society)

Street Name_____

Suburb:_____ Postcode_____ Phone_____ Email:_____

Please make cheques payable to RAA of WA (Inc)



THE AIMING POST

The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society Of Western Australia (Inc)

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

(Presented at the AGM)

Good morning and welcome.

Our AGM is being conducted in the Leighton Command Post due to the 11/28 Battalion taking more floor space at the Drill Hall- the Committee thought it appropriate to meet here. We will offer a BBQ and tunnel tour later.

The past twelve months have seen our members putting in many hours of mental and physical labour which has benefited our Society. On your behalf I thank all concerned, especially those who go above and beyond.

The members of the 2013 Committee have continued to meet on a monthly basis and have steered your Society-financially and practically-I wish to acknowledge those office bearers for their input. Member Graham Mckenzie-Smith has been a welcome addition to the Committee.

The Treasurer's Report will show that the Society continues to operate within its means. Our bank balance is due to successful grant applications, the Tunnels fees, Members annual fees and selective sales of excess items from our inventory.

Our occupancy of the Annex at Karrakatta was of concern early in 2013, however by August we were advised by the Base Manager that no territorial claims were being entertained by 11/28 Battalion. So our occupancy is secure as far as we can see.

Turning now to our Leighton asset: 2013 saw a record number of visitors, 4030. Considering the physical restrictions that is an impressive number. All the more so because no accidents were reported. I thank all members who staff the site in all weathers and at a variety of times The public are treated to polite guides who can handle all levels of interest- and the guides can even deal with visiting reptiles !

The Society has received a number of letters and e-mails from appreciative individuals and groups who enjoyed our tours.

With the Command Post interior displays now complete our attention shifts to the large scale above ground displays.

The Heritage Council of WA, the WA Planning Commission and the Mosman Council have approved the re-siting of our 3.7" gun and the introduction of a 40mm gun to a purpose built site near the crest of the hill outside the Command Post. On receipt of a Building Permit we will apply to Lottery West for a grant to offset the costs.

The visitor toilet is now finished right down to its "can't see me" paint scheme. This facility is only for our paying visitors.

Looking to the future regarding Special Projects, it has been brought to the Committees attention that Lottery West looks more favourably on organisations who can support their claims with a Site Interpretation Plan. Your Committee has engaged a professional business- "Creative Spaces"- to produce such a plan. Hard copy data has been given to it and an on-site walking of the ground above and below has also occurred.

Grant applications for 2014 begin in August.

A likely customer for funding will be one - perhaps both- of the authentic 6" gun shields currently in the Shire of Mornington Peninsula. As of this date ownership is still been sorted by the Shire. The C.E.O. let slip that he is a former West Australian, and knows of our tunnels. He thinks at least one shield should come our way. That being the case, we would wear the haulage costs. The Mosman Shire has kindly offered to store the 5 tonne shield at its local depot until we can arrange it on-site and marry it to our 6" barrel.

The reputation of what we offer the public has meant that our mid-week and evening tours are really taking off. An example should suffice- an advance booking has been accepted for 160 students who will tour the complex in the course of one day. Neil Lodge and his select band of guides are again commended for making it happen.

I have mentioned the Shire earlier. Your Society's excellent rapport with it , stems from member Don Rae who goes out of his way to keep all concerned in the loop.

To conclude my report, I again thank all members - active and passive, for another productive year I am pleased to note the likely addition of up to three new guides to add to our band. Our finances are strong, our skill base remains and the big ticket upgrades at Leighton Battery promise an interesting year to come. I would encourage all members present and those reading this Report to give serious consideration to nominating for one of the Committee seats - if only for a season- your input would be appreciated by all.

David Carter.
President.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!



On Sunday, 22 December 2013, there were birthday celebrations at the Leighton Battery Heritage Site. Whose birthday you may well ask? It was the gun barrel's 100th birthday! It had probably never had a birthday party in all its 100 years since birth in 1913 at the Elswick Ordnance Company. Leighton Battery guides and cashiers with partners were out in force to celebrate the centenary. David Carter, President of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society of WA, was MC of the day to welcome the troops and get the party rolling.

Graham McKenzie Smith, guide and military historian, gave a short presentation of the long life of the Leighton barrel No 2328 from a Breech Loading Mk XI gun and let us know that the little Leighton beauty is one of the ten coastal artillery fighters still around today. It seems that these coast guns could have chalked up a heap of frequent flyer points on their travels around the world.

It has always been thought that the Leighton barrel was mounted on *HMAS Brisbane* in 1914 and returned to Woolwich Arsenal in May 1917 for 'anti-ageing' treatment that is relining. However, Graham has now ascertained that the *HMS Brisbane* was not launched until 1916 and had a quiet war, mainly on China Station; thus it would seem that the 2328 was probably mounted on another RN cruiser of the period. We know that in its infancy the Leighton barrel was held in Sydney in reserve but it was by no means 'an infant prodigy.' It was shipped around 'as a spare' and fostered out to the Admiralty in 1919. It visited Simonstown Naval Dockyard in South Africa 'as a spare' and as a teenager the Chatham Dockyard in 1925. It was probably one of three barrels sent to Australia in the 1930's in exchange for some worn out barrels.

What we do know for certain is that the Leighton beauty 2328 was installed at the F1 position at Bickley Battery on Rottneest in 1938. After the war there was an attempt to get rid of it when it was buried in the sand

on the Island. It recovered remarkably from this ordeal when at age 67 it was restored with full anti-ageing treatment by the Army at Midland and spent its transition into retirement at the old Army Museum at 'Dilhorn'. Finally, in 1997 at age 87, it found its retirement home at Leighton Battery Heritage Site. The next 100 years are looking very exciting as negotiations are underway to buy it a 6"gun shield that was discovered in a former tip in rural Victoria.

Mary Coley

HOW THE LADS OF THE BATTERY DIED

When the blinding smoke of the Turkish shell
Had cleared from the shattered Gun,
To my comrades' help I leapt and ran.
Three men who had served their Gun right well,
Three grim Australians dealing Hell –
Mick Taylor, Doug and a chap named Stan –
And stricken every one!

Mick Taylor was crawling on the ground,
Blood-blinded, dazed, but a man!
"Are you badly hurt?" I asked. "Not me!"
He tried to bluff. "I'm safe and sound!"
(And fourteen wounds in him we found!)
"It's only a scratch as you can see!
Look after Doug and Stan!"

Thank God such men Australia bred!
I prayed that death might be quick.
I picked up Doug. He had lost one arm;
His leg was shattered; but all he said
Was, "Don't mind me!" and he raised his head.
"I'm done. I'm safe from further harm;
Look after Stan and Mick!"



Poor Stan! His life was ebbing low,
I saw that he was done.
"I'm sorry", he moaned, "to make this row;
I simply can't help groaning, though
It will upset my mates, I know".
And his last brave words – they are famous now –
Were: "Did they get the Gun?"



And Doug's was a hero's soul, I claim,
He taught us how to die.
Though writhing in his agony,
These proud words from his smashed lips came:
"I'm dying, but, by God! I'll die game!"
And the pride of the boy was fine to see:
"I died at the Gun, didn't I?"

At midnight, to the roar of the Guns,
We buried these heroes three.
"Dear lads," the General called us men –
"Dear lads!" like a father to his sons!
For we were mates of those dauntless ones,
"Dear lads!" the General called us then,
"I'm proud of your Battery!"

Corporal McLarty survived the War and was employed by the AMP Society, "Mick" Taylor was employed by the Public Works Department Douglas Barrett Lennard was a Guildford identity, Stan Carter came from Fremantle

The poem was published in the Daily News Perth on Friday 3rd March 1916 having been reprinted from the Sydney Bulletin. It is the true story of 8 Battery 3rd Field Brigade at Gallipoli and composed by Corporal McLarty. The Society is indebted to the McLarty family allowing it to be published in ARTILLERYWA

WELFARE FUND and OFFICER

John Blylevens is the contact person as the Association's Welfare Officer. Anybody that needs to discuss any Welfare Funding can contact John via email at info@artillerywa.org.au or john.bly@auspost.com.au or telephone 043 869 5711.

Access to Funds can be made by applying in writing using the Welfare Fund Form, which is available on request.
(From the Treasurer)

The Association reminds Members that access to the Fund to help Gunners financially at a time of need is strictly confidential and all applications are treated as such.

NEW TOUR GUIDES – WELCOME

Are you keen to promote one of WA's premier military history sites to others?

Then you are welcome to join our team of guides who volunteer their time for a few hours on a roster basis once a month on a Sunday to conduct public tours.

This historic site is the World War II Gun complex built as a part of Fortress Fremantle Defence located at Buckland Hill in Mosman Park.

- You will be trained and coached
- You will be part of a friendly team
- You need to be able to climb steps
- Vacancies for Guides and Cashiers

For further information call David Carter 93673539 (after hours)



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Images from the AMG's on 8th March 2014 at Leighton Battery Heritage Site



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BSB Number: 066-103
Account Number: 00903744

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Thank You.

3 Lt Bty Merchandise FOR SALE



TIE



DETAILS ON TIE



PT SHIRT

To purchase **7 Fd Bty RAA Tie** or **3 Lt Bty PT Shirt** Cut below and return to 3 Lt Bty ORs Canteen, Hobbs Artillery Park, Irwin Barracks, Stubbs Terrace, KARRAKATTA WA 6010 or for further details contact *Andrew Quarles*:

I would like to order 7 Fd Bty RAA Tie / 3 Lt Bty PT Shirt (circle choice/s)

as advertised in the ArtilleryWA newsletter.

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____(Qty)

7 Fd Bty RAA Tie

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ being for payment of _____(Qty)

3 Lt Bty PT Shirt

(Ties are \$25 each. PT Shirts are \$25 each.)

Name _____

Street Name _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

Please make cheques payable to '7 Fd Bty ORs Canteen'



THE GENTLEMEN OF ARTILLERY

Artillery adds dignity to what would otherwise be a vulgar brawl.

Frederick the Great

Gunner time is always right; it might not be correct, but it's always right.

Gunner saying

The guns, thank God, the guns

Rudyard Kipling

God fights on the side with the best artillery.

Napoleon

The gun is the rallying point of the detachment; its flag, its banner. It is that to which the men look, by which they stand, with which they fall. As long as the gun is theirs they are unconquered, victorious; when the gun is lost, all is lost. It is their religion to fight until the enemy is out of range or until the gun itself is withdrawn, or until both it and the detachment are in the hands of the foe.

Unknown

The first shot is for the Devil, the second for God, and only the third is for the King.

Napoleon

Cannon to the right of them, cannon to the left of them, cannon in front of them; Volley'ed and thundered.

Lord Tennyson

If you don't have enough artillery, quit.

General Richard Cavasos

With artillery, war is made.

Napoleon

The single factor that had the greatest effect on the outcome of the Battle was the artillery.

Major Harry Smith

Gunners believe the world consists of two types of people; other gunners and targets.

Unknown

Leave the artillerymen alone, they are an obstinate lot.

Napoleon

Nothing is more destructive than the charge of artillery into a crowd.

Napoleon

Ultima ratio regum (The final argument of kings).

The inscription on French cannons