



The New Zealand Gunner

Official Journal of

The Royal New Zealand Artillery Association (Inc)

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

The past 3 months may have seemed quiet from a member's point of view but there has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes. Firstly, the establishment of **the RNZA Historical Trust** is a significant step towards ensuring the heritage of New Zealand Gunners is maintained and preserved appropriately throughout the future. You'll hear much more on this matter in due course.

Secondly, Mike Dakin has been beavering away on the new **website**, which we are pleased to announce should go live on 1 October 2012. This website will allow Association matters to be updated regularly, and as our 'window to the world' we would hope for active contributions from a large number of members.

District Structure. In an effort to get closer to our members, we have moved to a District structure for the organisation of Association activities. These Districts may well vary in size and composition from time to time, depending on where we have people available to fill the key roles. Initially however, the Districts will be structured as follows; Auckland (Tony McLeod, Jeff Waters), Waikato Bay of Plenty (Graham Black, Danny and Bernie McCort), Central/Palmerston North (Tom Roche), Central/Wellington (David Weston), Canterbury (Skin Frances), Otago (Bill Olsen). The District Coordinators, shown in brackets, will establish their own network of members who will become their 'eyes and ears', and will organise get-togethers at the local level. The Executive C'ttee retains the responsibilities and duties it has always had. I would like to thank those named as District Coordinators for their willingness to actively help in moving the Association forwards. I would also urge anyone who has the time and interest to assist to step forward now, don't wait to be asked, or just sit back and leave it to others.

We have made significant advances with the future direction of the Assn, and I would urge everyone to read the forward to **the 'Notice of Motion for the AGM; Membership Automatic and Free'** later in this newsletter. At the risk

repetition, this motion says that a gunner has earned his/her right to membership of this Association by virtue of his/her service to the Royal Regiment of NZ Artillery. This motion has the overwhelming support of the surveyed membership, and upon ratification of the motion at the AGM, we will move to incorporate all serving personnel in 16 Field Regt into the Assn. 'Capturing' the data for thousands of ex-gunners will not be so straight forward, and we would still need them to complete a Registration Proforma, but as they say, Rome wasn't built in a day.

I would like to give special thanks to the CO 16 Field Regt for his invitation to members to attend 'Ex BEN Cat', a **live firing exercise by 161 Bty** in Waiouru on 15 Sept 12. As I write this, this event is still in the future, but this fantastic opportunity to see how the gunners are doing it today is very significant to us ex-gunners, and we appreciate the effort 16 Field Regt have made.

I am looking forward to seeing a big turnout at the **Reunion and the AGM** in November, a great opportunity to see old mates, share the smell of cordite (not literally of course) and reinforce the relevance of the Association to its members. Best wishes and see you all in November.

Tony McLeod, President RNZA Assn

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1. LAST POST

Y40387 **ELLIOTT**, CM (Jim), WO1(Rtd) passed away pm 13 July 2012 after a long illness. Ex RQMS 16 Fd Regt and toured SVN with 161 Bty 1965, member of No1 Gun.

815622 **FRASER**, Wally, Major (Rtd) MBE. At Wellington on 17 July 2012. NZEF int Army, J Force, K Force, RSM NSTU, NZFORSEA, RNZASC, RNZCT. Member Medallie Recognition Committee, RNZR and SA, Chief Security Officer Parliamentary Services 1983/89. WO1 Fort Dorset early 70's.

326862 **GABOLINSKY**, Ronald Herman Hartley. RNZA Regular Force. Passed away peacefully at the Hokianga Hospital, Rawene, on 22 August, 2012,

GOLIGHTLY, Ronald George, of Upper Hutt, died 1 July at Upper Hutt. Ron was a fixture around Trentham/ Upper Hutt for many years as the OC of the Army Supply Documentation Centre, having changed Corps to RNZAOC after service with RNZA. He was BC Arty Trg Wing before he was posted to 161 when the Bty was re-established. He was BC 161 in 1960 to the end of 1961, in the rank of Captain. His Adj was Capt Paul Kitney and the next BC was Maj Ian Diggie

38798 **GREIG**, Donald Robertson (Pop) ex 2NZ Regiment 1959-61 Malaya, passed away at New Plymouth on 30 July 2012, aged 87.

457805 **HOTU**, Sonny Teranui, Sgt (Rtd), 4 Medium Regiment, died at home in Lower Hutt on June 28.

203862 **KEMP**, Isaac (Ihaka Keepa Horo), , 161 Battery, 16 Field Regiment RNZA, Korea. Born Te Araroa 11 June 1928, Died Wellington 17 August 2012.

33039 **NORTH**, Ian Angus (Ian, ex 2NZEF (Japan) 816742, 1NZ Regiment 1957-59 Malaya, RNZIR, passed away at North Shore Hospital on Sunday 24 June 2012, aged 85.

635749 O'MEARA, James (Jim), Cpl Gunner NZ Army WWII. On June 28, 2012 peacefully at Onewa Lodge, Birkenhead. Loving husband and soul mate of Maisie (Tommy) for 67 years.

HICKSON, Jack passed away peacefully at the Ranfurly War Veterans Hospital on 24 August 2012 in his 96th year. 1739 RNZA (R/F)and Reg No 800191, 2nd NZEF K.E.V

832588 **TIKAO** TCP (Tony). Gnr RNZA passed away at Christchurch on 22 August 2012. Tony toured Vietnam with 1612 Bty in 1967 as a Dvr/Op.

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

Please note that with effect from December 2012 Issue, this newsletter will be forwarded to members by email, unless they specifically ask to receive a printed copy, and have prepaid their \$20 fee.

2. REPORT FROM THE COL COMDT

RNZA HISTORICAL TRUST

The RNZA Historical Trust is being registered as a charitable trust which will own, preserve, protect and enhance items of importance to the RNZA including research material, historical records, artefacts, trophies, collections and memorabilia. The initial items will be the collections held as unit private property of current and previous RNZA units and sub-units throughout New Zealand, and the archives of the RNZA Association.

The initial steps are to record, refurbish and manage such items, and to encourage the donation and collection of any items with historical interest to the RNZA. The Trust will own the items, but they will largely be left in the keeping of the various units and sub-units that currently hold them.

This is an important step in the preservation and promotion of our heritage.

The permanent trustees will be those holding the appointments of Colonel Commandant, Regimental Colonel of the RNZA, CO 16 Field Regiment, RSM 16 Field Regiment, and President of the RNZA Association. Initially there will be up to another five trustees appointed.

GUNNER PROFESSIONAL JOURNAL

The environment in which RNZA gunners operate is undergoing significant and rapid change, yet the focus of the present-day gunner is mostly on lessons learnt from our allies in Afghanistan. The Afghan style of conflict may well not be type of war or operation the RNZA is required to fight in the future.

There are clear signs that the new great power rivalry is shifting from the northern hemisphere to a south-east Asian and south and south-west Pacific theatre with significant economic, influencing and power rivalry likely to occur between the United States and China.

Against that background we want to develop a forum and mechanism where gunners can present and argue their case for equipment, doctrine, policy and preparedness for what may face the RNZA over the next 20 to 30 years.

The Gunner Professional Journal will be launched on 1 October this year on the new RNZA website. The first two papers will be a summary of the current Defence White Paper and Defence Capability Plan, contrasted to a Josh Wineera paper titled "A Cold War in the Warm Pacific". There will be plenty of room on the website for discussion - and the more robust the better.

The aim of the Journal then is to encourage professional thinking and discussion on our Corp, and to promulgate it to the widest possible body of gunners for further discussion and argument.

Watch this space on the website.

ACTIVITIES

Main activities since the last newsletter have been a visit to the live firing exercise for the final testing for the young officers course, which included

participation by the United States Marines detachment from the 11th Marine Regiment of gunners. It was cold, wet and snowy – I am pleased to report I escaped Waiouru about an hour before the Desert Road was closed, leaving the Marines to freeze in the snow around the top of the Argot Track.

A week or so later I attended a regimental parade with 16 Field Regiment, 1 Engineer Regiment, and the Marines for medal and service presentations, and promotions of some gunners and some Marines. Inter unit sports followed with a farewell function for the Marines that evening.

I also attended parts of regimental sports week, where we took the opportunity to meet over a couple of days with the Association and Regiment to discuss and then form the RNZA Historical Trust.

18th of August was Vietnam Veterans Day and we were able to have Regular Force and veteran participation at the remembrance ceremonies in Canberra. I gave an address at the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Service in Auckland and we also held a short service at the graveside for Lance Cpl Malone who had been buried nearby in the services cemetery three days earlier.

KEY ACTIVITIES

Probably the most important event in front of the Association is the launch of the website which moves us further into the digital age. This is a major project and it is aimed at spreading the news more readily and easily to all gunners and those interested in the RNZA. It will need your support and engagement.

We have taken the opportunity to create the Gunner Professional Journal and our new Historical Trust to allow these three things to come together as a focus on our future.

Ubique, Barry Dreyer, Col Comdt

GUNNERS HERE AND THERE

Have just returned from a holiday to Perth , very impressed with the War Memorial at Kings Park and the South Vietnam Memorial. Went to the Western Australian Reptile Park in Swan Valley which is run by Gayne Doyle who served in Vietnam 1967-68 as an FO from 108 Bty. A rustic display but well worth the visit.

Lindsay Skinner



The RZNA Assn is launching its new website, as from 1 Oct 2012, the address will be:

www.rnzaa.org.nz

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

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C. REPORT FROM CO 16 FD REGT, LT Col Matt WESTON

Firstly I wish to advise of the following promotions within the Regiment:

NO	RANK	INIT/SURNAME	WEF
W1016160	BDR	J.P PRITCHARD	16-Jan-12
U1017653	BDR	D.J O'LOUGHLIN	18-Jan-12
H1019413	BDR	A.W SMITH	18-Jan-12
W1022002	LBDR	V.C.B TARIPO	24-Jan-12
X996887	SSGT	C.K ANDREWS	2-Feb-12
L1013367	SGT	S.B PICKERING	8-Feb-12
B1017544	BDR	J.M KINGI	9-Feb-12
E1017317	BDR	A.M SMITH	13-Feb-12
K1014953	SGT	L.B GREER	22-Feb-12
H1014974	BDR	J.W.T MAPSON	25-Feb-12
U1010776	SGT	H.V RAILTON	29-Mar-12
M1026846	LBD	RJ.D GRIFFIN	26-Apr-12
T1014915	BDR	M.B BRAMLEY	29-May-12
T1027243	LBDR	G.R.D EMPHASIS	29-May-12
L1014517	BDR	J.THENDERSON POTROZ	29-May-12
A1020556	BDR	L.L TE WHAITI	1-Jun-12
F1021596	LBDR	S.T.M VAIVEVEA	22-Jun-12
S1019353	BDR	H.A PETERSEN	19-Jul-12
N56799	CAPT	D.K MITCHELL	21-Aug-12

Congratulations to all of the above "Gunnners".

Secondly Lt Dave Hawkes writes about **Exercise Galvanic Kiwi 12**

During June and July of this year EX GALVANIC KIWI 12 was conducted in New Zealand. This was a joint reciprocal exchange exercise between the New Zealand Army and the United States Marine Corps. Over the duration of this exercise 28 Marines from Alpha Bty, 1st Bn, 11th Marine Regiment were hosted in New Zealand by 16 Field Regiment and embedded within 163 Bty.



EX GALVANIC KIWI 12 was timed to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the arrival of Marines in New Zealand for OP GALVANIC, where the exercise derives its name. This time round the Marines were in New Zealand for just over a month and while here they conducted a number of activities. On arrival they were given a look at the culture of the NZ Army with a tour of the Army Museum and a welcome on to the Army

Marae. Following this both Marines and New Zealand soldiers participated in 70th Anniversary commemorations in Wellington.

Once back in Linton the USMC Gunners were given a familiarisation on New Zealand weapon systems and equipment in preparation for EX BRIMSTONE. Personnel of Alpha Bty were taken through 163 Bty SOP's for both the L119 105mm Light gun and the 81mm L16A2 Mortar. The Hybrid Bty concept was also discussed in detail between both units. This concept is not new to the Marines as Alpha Bty also operate in a Hybrid Bty set up using 155mm guns and 120mm mortars. These professional discussions proved useful with various operating procedures being compared and new training opportunities being developed by both 163 Bty and the Marines.



After completing battle preparation 163 Bty and Alpha Bty deployed on exercise Brimstone which is a School of Artillery testing exercise held in Waiouru each year. As the USMC gunners represented a wide skill set they were integrated within 163 Bty in similar positions to their own job in Alpha Bty. This meant USMC personnel were acting as gun numbers, in mortar detachments, as command post signallers, as part of recce, or as forward observers. Over the course of the exercise they were able to gain new experiences by using New Zealand Army weapon systems. USMC gunners were taught to load, lay, and fire the light gun, and many were given the opportunity to drop mortar bombs.

These shared experiences were good for members of both units as they provided an excellent medium to learn from each other. During the exercise the visiting USMC Officers and SNCO's were taken through the Command Post and shown the new Indirect Fire Prediction System. The Marines were particularly impressed with the ability to conduct missions digitally, something they have been unable to achieve with their own systems.

On completion of Ex Brimstone the Marines were able to take a few days to relax in the Taupo area and arrived back in Linton in time to celebrate the 4th of July. A round robin sports day took place with a sharing of the honours between 16 Fd Regt, 2 ER and the USMC. Celebrations continued into the evening with a combined function and a seemingly never ending exchange of unit gifts.



Overall Exercise Galvanic Kiwi 12 was a great success and provided both units the opportunity to learn something new. The Marines from Alpha Bty adapted to a New Zealand gun battery and the (dreadful) weather challenges easily and were confident 16 Fd Regt Gunners could achieve the same result in a Marine 155mm Bty. The Marines left New Zealand after creating excellent networks between our two units and both parties look forward to continuing the working relationship that was established in the future.

Lt Dave Hawkes

Thirdly Lt Cahteine Dymock writes about Life as a Subaltern in 16 Field Regiment

Greetings All, my name is Lieutenant Catherine Dymock and I am the Gun Position Officer for 161 Battery, 16 Field Regiment. Tony has asked me to do a quick write up about life in the Regiment from a Subalterns point of view.

Well this year can be summed up in one word: Busy! With four Gunnery exercises so far this year, and two more to go the lads have been clocking up some field pay in Waiouru. Both 161 Battery and 163 Battery have been partaking in Battery and Brigade level exercises as well as supporting the School of Artillery courses.

This year we have also hosted the US Marines from A Battery, 1st Battalion, 11 Marines based at Camp Pendalton. The Marines weren't quite used to the June snow in Waiouru during Exercise Brimstone, having come straight from sunny California. However they integrated well into the detachments across all disciplines and shared their knowledge and experiences with the members of the Regiment. A week of R&R afterwards rounded off their Kiwi experience, next year we have our fingers crossed for a reciprocal trip for us.

Regimental Sports week was held in July, and yet again 161 Battery were victorious. 161 competed against 163 and CSS/HQ Battery in volleyball, basketball, 10-aside rugby, con-course and a 10x1 mile relay. A lively debate rounded off the activities with a few functions thrown in and a



The photo is from Exercise Brimstone held in Waiouru from 18th - 27th June 2012, members of 161 and 163 Battery with Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines at "Fingers" in Waiouru.

good week was had by all.

On the 20th of August myself and seven others from the Regiment are off on Exercise Kiwi Spirit, a CPX in Singapore. It will be good to gain experience working with our allies in a planning environment, but to be perfectly honest I think most of us are looking forward to the shopping and nightlife.....

We now have Exercise Ben Cat to look forward to in September, which is an exercise in Waiouru in support of Delta Company, 2/1st Battalion from Burnham. We also have an Association visit to the gunline/OP's plotted for the 15th of September so I look forward to meeting you all then, bring your warm gears!

For the rest of the year we are building up towards the next 1(NZ) Brigade exercise, Kiwi Koru, to be held in November. This will see elements of the Brigade deployed to Northland and Waiheke Island, and of course who could forget our favourite Waiouru. The end of the year is rapidly approaching, as is our Corps Review Board and formal dinner, and also our annual St Barbara's Day Regimental Ball. So lots more Gunnery and functions to look forward to for the Regiment.

**See you at the Gunline! Ubique,
Lt Catherine Dymock, GPO, RNZA,
161 Bty, 16 Fd Regt**

4. LT COL NICK GILLARD REPORTS IN FROM LONDON

As a serving member of the New Zealand Army I have always wished to visit the battlefield at Gallipoli. Throughout my career it has been a benchmark for nationhood, courage, physical endurance and in some instances incompetence. The place names are etched in our memory - ANZAC Cove, Chunuk Bair, Quinn's Post, the Sphinx. During June 2012 I finally had the opportunity to fulfil my ambition.

It is a four hour drive to the peninsula from

Istanbul. The route winds its way along the Sea of Mamara through countryside that, even in June, is reminiscent of New Zealand with green rolling hills and farms. The drive also reminded me that Turkey is one of Europe's few growing economies. The motorways are well maintained and the urban sprawl of Istanbul reaches out a long way into the countryside, the houses large and modern. The peninsula itself looks very much like the Marlborough Sounds. The Dardanelle's ranging from four miles in width to only 400m at the Narrows are enclosed by steep sided hills covered in pine tree's. There is a constant buzz of cicada's and the smell of pine resin is very strong. A constant stream of large ships plough their way up and down making the straits one of the busiest waterways in the world. Their strategic value as the life line to Istanbul and the Black Sea evident even in 2012.

In order to gain the most from the visit we hired a local guide who was able to provide a balancing Turkish perspective. However I still carried my New Zealand books and maps on the campaign and spent some time talking to Dr Chris Pugsley, the New Zealand historian at RMA Sandhurst, prior to departing. Our first stop was at the brand new Turkish museum on the road above ANZAC Cove. It had literally been open for two weeks and we were among the first Kiwi's to visit. Traditional historians and museum curators would have startled at the 3D interactive displays, dry ice smoke and Hollywood voice over but it did seem to appeal to most of the visitors. The display was extremely nationalistic and really portrayed the importance the campaign had in the rise of Mustafa Kemal and the birth of the modern Turkish state. It certainly took some liberties with the strategic rationale behind the allied campaign and on the conduct of the allies, particularly the ANZAC's. My initial thoughts were not positive but upon reflection I concluded that there will always be different versions of history, often changed to suite more modern purposes. I left feeling less angry and more informed of how the Turks view the campaign and themselves.

ANZAC Cove was exactly how I imagined it. A narrow pebbled beach ringed by the bluest sea. An ideal location for a beach resort had it not had such

a history. What was surprising was how steeply the cliffs rise above the beach, the Sphinx feature standing out. It is exactly as it is portrayed in the model at the Army Museum in Waiouru and easily one of the most recognisable geographical features in New Zealand military history. It was not hard to see where the ANZAC's of the initial assault waves would have formed up and then commenced the climb under constant fire from above. The beach is surrounded by small cemeteries containing the dead of New Zealand, Australia, Britain, India and France. Trees provide some shade but it is unbearably hot at beach level. The cooling breeze and fresh water are on the high ground above. The numbers buried there are relatively small given the carnage of the campaign. Most of the killed were never recovered or are buried in numerous smaller cemeteries scattered across the battlefield.

As we moved to Lone Pine, the Nek, Baby 700, Quinn's Post, Battleship Hill and the other famous locations it was noticeable how clean and well maintained the battlefields are now. My discussions with Chris Pugsley revealed that when he first visited in the 1980's the battlefield was still littered with bones, trenches were untouched and there were still small mounds of brass where individual firers had lain. Monuments to both the ANZAC's and Turks are everywhere. Small side tracks can take you down to small cemeteries or trench systems. What is very noticeable is how small the allied beachhead is at ANZAC. Maj Gen Godley, Commander of the 1st ANZAC Corps described it as '400 acres of poor grazing'. It is an apt description. It is hard to envisage the steep scrub filled ravines filled with tens of thousands of troops, equipment and animals. The histories say that the flies were a constant menace. Even after a short visit I can relate to that.

Visitors were an even split of Turks and ANZAC's / Brits. It was obvious how much the campaign meant to everyone be they Turkish families or Kiwi backpackers. Today the area is a national park and is well sign posted and has developed roads. This is invasive but necessary given visitor numbers, particularly in April. All of the locals I spoke to were aware of the centenary in 2015. Some were concerned about the numbers likely to attend whilst others saw it as an opportunity to gain further from what is essentially the areas main revenue source.

Our final stop at ANZAC was Chunuk Bair. To view the Dardanelles Straits from the summit, as Lt Col William Malone did on 8 August 1915, summarises the whole campaign for me. A well conceived strategic plan, poorly resourced and bravely executed came down to that view. Had they held it then the Dardanelles, Istanbul and Turkey would have been most likely defeated, and with it an early end to the war. The statues and monuments to Mustafa Kemal and the Turkish struggle around the summit tell the opposite story. The high tide mark for the Allied campaign and the beginnings of modern Turkey. No one who visits cannot be affected by the significance.

We then expanded our visit to take in the debacle of the Suvla Bay landings to the north of

ANZAC and the British beach head to the south at Sedd el Bair. Most moving was V Beach where the SS River Clyde, a converted collier, was beached to provide protection to the landing troops. A review of the still remaining Turkish trenches dominating the beach shows why the resulting costly failure of allied troops occurred. The fact that six VC's were won that morning is testament of the ferocity of the fighting.

During my three year posting to London I have had the privilege to visit many battlefields - Flanders, the Somme, Normandy, Gettysburg (during a visit to the US), Waterloo, Troy and Hastings but as a New Zealander Gallipoli had the most resonance. The Somme and Flanders cost us more and they have their own special meaning to me but ANZAC Cove and its role in defining New Zealand as a nation will stand out.

**Nick Gillard, Lt Col, RNZA
Military Advisor, NZ Staff, London**

GUNERS HERE AND THERE

I just want to make contact and say Hi.

You will not remember me. I was on the Guns in 161, 3 Fd RHQ, 31 B Bty cadre, 161 as No 1 Delta Gun, then 16 Fd Tpt. I was in Oct '75 to Jan '86. I remember you were the GPO at part of my service in 161 when I was No 1 of Delta. My nickname was 'CJ'.

I periodically see your name 'in lights' and have often thought of dropping you a line. So now, I am dropping you a line.

I have been over in Western Australia since I got out. I have 3 children, 27, 25, 23, the middle one is a girl. The eldest served in the Aussie RF and was an OP in Afghanistan. The youngest is the Engineers (RF) and waiting for his trip to Afghanistan next year. Great to see the Gunners are still in good hands.

Kindest regards Clayton John HSE MANAGER

Willie Walker and Members of the Regiment attend Long Tan Celebrations

16th Field Regiment

24 AUG 2012

File: _____

19 Pania Place
Poraiti
NAPIER 4112
24 August 2012

Commanding Officer
16 Field Regiment RNZA
Linton Military Camp
PALMERSTON NORTH

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the generous assistance provided by the Regiment to enable me to attend the Long Tan celebrations in Canberra.

For me it was a very emotional occasion, especially seeing the original Long Tan Cross and having journeyed back to the Long Tan battle site brings some sense of closure after 46 years. Another task to cross off the "to do" list.

Also it was most enjoyable to renew old friendships with some of the original D Company members, even to this day they still regard Morrie Stanley as their saviour, without whom and the "guns" would have become another statistic on the Roll of Honour for Long Tan. Also the representation of 161 Battery by Major Fortune and WO11 Shields was very warmly received.

I believe that we should endeavour if possible to have some form of representation at events such as this to show the flag, and to remind the Australians that there were other participants in Vietnam.

We had a chat to Martyn Dunne, the High Commissioner and he was very happy to see some friendly faces. Its a pity that there was no representative from the Defence Attache circles.

Please pass on my thanks to my travelling companions for there hospitality. Andrew reminds me of a young Morrie Stanley, had the same stature and a similar outlook on life, and took things as they happened.

The BSM looked to me, that if need be, he could handle himself in a tight situation. They look like a good team, so the future of the RNZA is in good hands.

Once again my humble thanks for the opportunity.

Yours sincerely

Willie Walker

Please note that Willie has given his permission for the publishing of the above letter.

Please Note that Part Three (3) of the "The Life and Death of an Artilleryman
Lt Ralph D Doughty MC
will be published in the next edition of The New Zealand Gunner

5. Proposal to Amend RNZA Association Constitution and Rules

Background

Rule changes at the AGM in 2010 reduced the qualifying period for Full Membership of the RNZA Assn to 3 months service as a gunner. This essentially means that all personnel who have completed their gunnery basic training are eligible for full membership.

However membership is currently qualified by the requirement to apply and be accepted, and to pay an annual subscription. This procedural requirement and financial aspect are holding the Association back from fulfilling its real purpose of extending its fellowship to all gunners – not just those who have paid their subscription (or stumbled across a membership application form).

Unlike a sports club, where membership is dependent on payment of a subscription, it is considered that gunners should be deemed to have already paid for their right to membership of the RNZA Association by their service to the Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery.

Survey

In April-May 2012 a survey was conducted with 50 senior members of the Association. The survey proposed that membership of the Assn should be automatic once a gunner had served his/her 3 months with the Regiment, and that membership for those so qualified would be free.

The proposal for automatic membership was supported by 80% of the respondents, and the proposal for free membership was supported by 70 % of the respondents. This level of support has led the Executive Committee to draft the following amendments to the Constitution.

Main Effects of the Changes

The main points of this amendment are:

- ▲ Any gunner who has completed 3 months service with the guns becomes a Full Member of the Association (no change from existing). Membership is not compulsory.
 - This is a lifelong status, unless the member resigns or is disqualified for any reason.
 - The Registration For Full Membership form will still need to be completed by eligible Full Members so that their contact details may be recorded.
 - Contact details for serving gunners will be gathered from 16 Field Regt.
 - Gathering contact details for other eligible Full Members will be an on-going task for the committee.
- ▲ The Life Member category has been retained to allow for 'Honour and Recognition' to be bestowed upon any member who has given exceptional service to the Association. This is a subtle difference from a Full member, who whilst a member for life, is not necessarily a

'Life Member'.

- ▲ There is no change to Associate Member status.
- ▲ Only Associate Members will pay a subscription, to be set at each AGM.
- ▲ **As a result of these amendments, and** with effect from December 2012, the Newsletter will be published electronically (on the website). The provision of a printed Newsletter will be on a strictly user-pays basis. The charge for a printed Newsletter will be set at \$20 per annum, but may be amended by the committee if it becomes necessary to meet costs.
- ▲ Operating costs for the Association will need to be met by donations. An annual 'Request For Donation' will be forwarded to all members, and it will be suggested to members that \$20 per annum would be a nice starting point.

We trust that this **proposal to amend** the Constitution and Rules of the RNZA Association will receive your full support at the AGM on Saturday 10 November 2012, so that the Association may become truly representative of the 'Family of Gunners', and that the expression 'once a gunner always a gunner' is given some meaning.

Tony McLeod, President, RNZA Association

“Gunner Rock’s” in Vietnam

G'day gunners of 161 Fd Bty RNZA,
The following four photo's are of the “Gunner Rock's” from Nui Dat Vietnam, just thought they might be of interest to some people.

Regards John Redman



1st Fd Regt



4 Fd Regt



12 Fd Regt



161 Bty

6. Proposed amendments to the RNZA Association's Constitution and Rules, 2012

Note: Sections to be renumbered as necessary when amendments are approved by the AGM.

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATION

9. **Full Members.** *[Subject only to Rule 17, the Executive Committee shall admit as Full Members] former and current members of the RNZA who have had ~~Operational Service~~ or a minimum of three ~~year's~~ [month's] service in a New Zealand Artillery unit.*

10. **Life Members.** Any Full *[or Associate]* Member who has rendered[:]

[a.] Valuable service to the Association over an extended period, *or;*

[b. *Distinguished service to the RNZA.*]

11. **Associate Members.** The Executive Committee may admit as Associate Members:

a. Former and Serving Members of the New Zealand Defence Force or foreign Armed Services who have been attached to the RNZA;

b. Any other person who has served with any artillery unit for a minimum of three years, other than with the RNZA;

c. Persons, such as immediate family, who have a close relationship to a Full or Life Member, or to a deceased person who would have qualified for Full Membership had they applied;

d. Persons who have a close affinity with the RNZA through their service attachment to an artillery unit, or who are Full Members of an organisation deemed by the Executive Committee to share common historical roots or interests.

12. **Honorary Members.** Any person who has rendered: valuable service to the Association over an extended period and is not eligible under the previous rules governing membership. ~~Honorary Membership shall be reviewed annually at the AGM. [Honorary membership is permanent but may be revoked for dishonourable conduct by the passing of a motion at an AGM.]~~

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

13. All intending ~~Full and Associate~~ Members shall complete the Application ~~[for Registration] Form~~ and send it to the Secretary ~~together with~~. ~~[Associate Member applicants shall also forward]~~ the Annual Subscription.

14. Proposals for Honorary and Life Membership shall be in the form of a letter outlining fully the reasons why that the person should be considered. The recommendation shall be proposed and seconded by two ~~Full and Financial~~ Members or Life Members of the Association and forwarded to the Secretary for ~~approval [decision]~~ by the Committee. ~~[Following that decision, the committee shall make its recommendation to the next AGM.]~~

15. ~~Surviving spouses or partners of Full or Life~~

~~Members may be invited by the Committee to become Associate Members of the Association.~~

CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

18. Membership in the Association will cease in the following circumstances:

a. On the death of a Member;

b. By resignation in writing;

c. By being dismissed from the Association;

d. Where an ~~[Associate]~~ Member allows their subscription to become in arrears for two years they shall cease to be a Member of the Association. ~~That person shall not be eligible for re-election or reinstatement until the arrears at the time of cessation are paid in full.~~ The Secretary shall advise the member that the cessation of their membership is being considered.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

19. ~~[Full Members]~~, Life Members and Honorary Members are not required to pay any subscription.

20. Subscriptions for ~~Full and~~ Associate Members shall be set at the Annual General Meeting for the current financial year and shall be due from 1 January.

GENERAL

24. **Voting.** Only ~~financial~~ Full Members and Life Members shall be entitled to vote at any Annual, Special or Committee Meeting. The method of voting at all meetings shall be by Mover and Seconder and voted for by voice or show of hands. If the decision given is challenged, then another vote on the subject at issue shall immediately be taken either by show of hands or by secret ballot as may have been specially indicated by the challenging member.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

27. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held not later than 7 December in each year. Notice of such AGM accompanied by a copy of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet shall be ~~forwarded to each financial member and to Life members by post or Internet mail~~ *[published on the Association's web site and blog]* not later than seven days prior to the date fixed for such ~~Annual Meeting~~ *[AGM]*.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

29. A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Executive Committee. It shall be called on an application in writing signed by no fewer than twelve ~~financial~~ *[Full or Life]* members. Due notice of every Special General Meeting shall be ~~sent to each member of the Association by post or Internet mail~~ *[published on the Association's web site and blog]* not later than seven days prior to the date fixed for such a meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

40. The Executive Committee may co-opt members when required for a specific, fixed-term project[s].

~~COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT LARGE SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS~~

~~41. The Executive Committee shall appoint and organise Committee Members at Large to provide contact with and feedback from members wherever they may be. Members at Large may attend and participate in any meeting of the Executive Committee. They shall have the right to vote provided that their vote shall not outweigh that of the elected members.~~

41. The Executive Committee shall appoint:
- District Coordinators, Regional Representatives and Committee Members at Large to [assist in the functioning of the Association throughout the country. Specific duties and organisation may vary from time to time, depending upon the availability of personnel for such appointments at any given time]. District Coordinators, Regional Representatives and Committee Members at Large may attend and participate in any meeting of the Executive Committee. [They shall have the right to vote].
 - [An editor for the Association's journal, a media manager for each of the Association's Internet sites, and a Quartermaster to operate the Association's Q Store. These appointees report to the Executive Committee.]
 - [Other persons as necessary.]

DUTIES OF SECRETARY

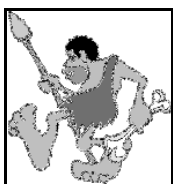
42. The Secretary on being appointed shall advise all members of her or his address. He or she is responsible for:

- Convening and attending all Meetings required by the Association;
- Proper keeping in physical or electronic form of the Association's records including
 - Register of Members and their addresses,
 - Minute Book,
 - Files of inward and outward correspondence, and
 - Property Register as supplied under Rule 48;
- ~~Arranging the preparation, editing and distribution to members of a quarterly newsletter;~~
- ~~Coordinating the Association's Internet activities.~~

COMMON SEAL

53. The Common Seal of The Royal New Zealand Artillery Association (Incorporated) shall be held by the Secretary and used as approved by the Executive Committee.

54. The affixing of the Common Seal shall be in the presence of the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Secretary.



Be at the AGM, have your say!

Be at the AGM, have your say!

7. RNZA Assn 2012 Reunion (78th) - North Shore, Friday 9 – Sunday 11 November 2012

This year's reunion will be at Browns Bay, a pleasant seaside suburb on Auckland's North Shore. The village has many relaxing cafes and a mix of shopping, all adjacent to the venue and the sandy beach. The Albany Mega-mall is a few minutes away for those who want 'big city' shopping.

Programme outline

- Friday 9 November, registration is open from 4.30 pm. Relax, mix and mingle.
- When you're hungry, dine at the highly-rated Medals restaurant at a reasonable price.
- Saturday, 10 am morning tea at the RSA, followed by the AGM at 10.30 am.
- At midday, lunch at Medals restaurant followed by depart at 1.00 pm for guided tour of North Head Coastal Artillery Defences. Return to RSA by 4.00 pm.
- Assemble at 6.30 pm for dinner at 7.00 pm, the highlight of every reunion.
- On Sunday, we join in the Armistice Day commemoration at the Auckland Cenotaph.
- After late morning tea at the Auckland War Memorial Museum, disperse at midday.

Accommodation

- The **Olive Tree Motel** is just a healthy walk away from the RSA in Bute Road, Browns Bay. *Contact:* 24 Glencoe Road Browns Bay, Auckland 0630, (09) 478 7679. Be quick for this one!
- North Shore Motels & Holiday Park** makes a good base. It has motels (of course) and parking for motor-homes. It is less than ten minutes drive from Browns Bay. *Contact:* 52 Northcote Road Northcote, Auckland 0627, (09) 418 2578, www.top1.co.nz.

Additional Last Post: Syd Taylor, probably our oldest former band member, sadly passed away on Sunday 2nd September (Fathers' Day) at the grand age of 97. I am reminded by his son Peter that Syd first played for the Artillery Band 79 years ago at the age of 18, in 1933 - he is fairly sure on tenor horn and also on tuba. Playing members may remember that Syd was in the audience in Te Awamutu in September 2006 at the 80th Birthday Concert for John Gibbons. Apparently Syd was stationed in Cornwall Park during WW2 when one of the Band's tasks was to march the American troops down to the wharf. He had been living at Wesley Rest Home, Mt Eden for the past three years, and previously lived in Titirangi.



78th Annual Reunion & AGM
9-11 November 2012
East Coast Bays RSA, Bute Road, Browns Bay, Auckland

Yes! Register me for Reunion 2012

Number Attending:			
Names and Initials		Name for Label	
Contact Address		Phone No:	
		Email:	
Number for North Head Guided Tour:			
* Your Service Number:			
* Operational Service In:			

* *Required for VANZ subsidy*

The price of a good time at our reunion is \$80. This includes the 3-course dinner (with wines) on Saturday night, with pleasant background music from *The Starlights*, a guided tour of the extensively restored coastal defences at North Head and morning teas Saturday and Sunday.

Not included:

- ⤴ Restaurant meals Friday evening and Saturday lunch, but these are very reasonably priced.
- ⤴ Personal ground transport.

Payment

- I have paid by direct credit to the Association's Kiwibank account **38 9007 0694501 00**.*
- ⤴ Ensure your **name** is recorded, with '**Reunion**' in the 'Reference' box.
- ⤴ Post your registration form or send the details by email to RNZA.Association@gmail.com.
- My cheque is enclosed.*
- ⤴ Mail with this registration form to Reunion 2012, RNZA Assn, PB 110107, Auckland 1148.

Accommodation

- ⤴ The **Olive Tree Motel** is just a healthy walk away from the RSA in Bute Road, Browns Bay.
Contact: 24 Glencoe Road Browns Bay, Auckland 0630, (09) 478 7679.
- ⤴ **North Shore Motels & Holiday Park** makes a good base. It has motels (of course) and parking for motor-homes.
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Contact: 52 Northcote Road Northcote, Auckland 0627, (09) 418 2578, www.top1.co.nz.

Behind the Lines: The Editors Page

Patron	Colonel (Rtd) Donal R Kenning MBE	06 358 2840
Colonel Commandant	Colonel Barry Dreyer	09 307 5692
The Patron and Colonel Commandant are ex officio members of the Committee		
President	Lt Col (Rtd) Tony McLeod	09 4860910, 027 2698472
Secretary/Treasurer	Trevor Higginson PB 110107 Auckland Hospital AUCKLAND 1148	029 4782476 rnza.association@gmail.com
Committee;	Mike Dakin (Vice President) Colin Jansen (Asst Sec Facebook Mgr) Dennis Schofield (Coopted, RNZA Band) Kemp Solomon (Coopted)	John Botica (Asst Treasurer) Greg Thwaite Jas Singh (Coopted, 11/4 Bty) Bill Stewart
Committee Members at Large;	Graeme Black (Waikato) Bob Kerslake (Auckland) Danny and Bernie McCort (BOP) Roger Newth (Horowhenua) Lindsay Skinner (Wellington)	Brian Jerry Meyer (Australia) Jeff Waters (Auckland) Tom Roche (Manawatu) Dave Weston (Wellington, RNZRSA Del) Rob Hitchings (Wellington)
	Brian (Skin) Frances (Upper Sth IsLand) Bill Olsen (Lower Sth Island)	Catherine Dymock (16 Fd Regt)
Welfare Officers;	Northern; Mike Dakin Central; Lindsay Skinner Southern; Pat Duggan	021 0785850 027 5303319 021 02615773
The NZ Gunner Editor;	Marie Roberts PO Box 5118 ROTORUA WEST 3044	dgroberts@xtra.co.nz 07 3484659
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Website;	Angus and Catherine Rivers	riv.co.nz/rnza/
RNZA Historian;	Brig (Rtd) Graham Birch MBE	
Facebook Site;	http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=209704013801	

Subscriptions: *Accounting policy* - The 2008 AGM endorsed the Committee's policy of accepting only 'full year' payment of subscriptions, that is, \$20 or multiples thereof. This action is necessary because the accounting process does not cater for fractional years. Odd sums will be credited to the Welfare Fund in the donor's name.

Donations: All charitable and welfare donations over \$5 are now tax deductible as the Association is a Registered Charity.

Receipts: Receipts are issued for all incoming monies and sent out quarterly with the next issue of *The New Zealand Gunner*.

Email Addresses: Are you on the Internet? The Secretary may not be aware of your address. If you are not getting messages from the RNZA Association and wish to do so, let him have your address. Have you changed ISPs? Have you updated your Internet address? Some mail is being returned.

Newsletter by Email: In order to save the Association money, please consider receiving your newsletter by email. Please notify the secretary at **rnza.association@gmail.com**

Input into *The New Zealand Gunner*: Short stories, especially with accompanying photographs are always welcome for inclusion. The Editor's email address is **dgroberts@xtra.co.nz**

New Members: New members are most welcome. **ALL** Gunners with a minimum of **3 months "Gunner" service** are eligible for Full Membership. Associate Membership is available to anyone who has been attached to an RNZA Unit or has had a close affiliation therewith, and to close family of RNZA Gunners and to Gunners of any nation around the world. Membership application forms are on-line at MuzzleFlashes.blogspot.com.

Death of a Member: If you know of the passing of someone who was a Gunner or a member please tell the Secretary. Where possible a representative of the Association will attend the funeral.

Muzzle Flashes items to Kerry at: MuzzleFlashes.blogspot.com

Secretarial/Treasurer Matters to: rnza.association@gmail.com

Items for The NZ Gunner to Marie at: dgroberts@xtra.co.nz

RNZA Assn Bank Ac # 38 9007 0694501 00