



Hi All, On the 7th May we achieved our 400th registration to the dinner which is excellent and we now move the bar higher to 500. This will truly be a Gunner Dinner to remember.

A reminder to all those that have not paid or have only paid in part (deposit) that full payment needs to be paid by no later than the 31 May 2014 thereby enabling us to have an almost absolute understanding of the numbers actually attending and also enabling us to commence paying some of the deposits required by the Event Centre. For all of you that have paid either a deposit or in full you should have within a period of 48 hours of payment received from me an email receipt acknowledging your payment. If you have not received a receipt then please let me know.

If you have changed your mind and no longer intend attending the 2014 National Gunner Dinner would you please pay me the courtesy of letting me know by email so that I may remove your name from the Registered Attendees list.

By no later than 14 June I will have finalising the seating plan with a view to posting out your VIP Passes to you with your Table No written on it (excluding those that have asked me to hold onto them due to them being absent from home between now and the dinner). There is a good number of Group Bookings already established. Should you wish to be seated at the same table as someone else or be part of a particular Group Booking please email me direct with your request ASAP, and by no later than 31 May, and I will do my very best to accommodate you. Those registering after the 31 May will not have the option of requesting to be seated with an already established Group Booking or at any other table that I have completed the seating arrangement for. The reason for this is, as explained above, I would have already penned your table number to your VIP Pass and posted it out to you and to alter the seating arrangements would be an impossible task. Therefore if you know of someone not yet registered who is considering attending and they would like to be seated with you then now is the time to inform and encourage them to register. Everyone registering after the 31 May will be allocated the next available table. The by-product of this is that we are able to extend the ability for people to register to attend well beyond the 31 May.

Unfortunately the current Head of Regiment, Brigadier Peter Gates, CSC, is unavailable to attend the dinner and in his place will be the Deputy Head of Regiment, Commanding Officer/Chief Instructor of the School of Artillery Lieutenant Colonel D.M. Edwards. We have also extended an invitation to His Excellency the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia General Sir Peter Cosgrove, AC, MC however at the time of writing this update no response has been received, we remain hopeful though.

Anyone attending in a wheelchair or with a mobility impairment are requested to contact me so that I may discuss with you your specific requirements. The one thing I am seeking to avoid is to unknowingly seat someone with a mobility impairment smack bang in the middle of the dinner with little to no ability to manoeuvre into let alone out of their allocated table.

You would all be aware that we intend to have a string quartet provide suitable background music for a couple of hours during the dinner. I am currently in discussions with the Artillery Band (30 musicians) located at Enoggera in Queensland for them to provide a wind quartet between 7pm and 9pm however in the middle of this they (the entire Artillery Band by 30) would put on a short 15 to 20 minute spectacular for our entertainment. If unsuccessful we will continue with the string quartet however if successful then we would be blessed to have an Artillery band at an Artillery dinner. I will keep you informed of our progress, fingers crossed.

I will point out now and again later that we all know we now live in the digital age. To this extent please feel free, throughout the Military Concert, 18 Pounder Gun launch and the Dinner to take photos and videos with or without the use of a flash be it on your camera, video or phone. Also feel free to Facebook until your heart is content letting everyone out there know what it is they are missing. All we ask is that you be considerate of those around you.

The Australian Artillery Association have engaged a photographer to be present throughout the entire event. The photographer will be taking no less than a thousand photos, I expect, and a good number of short videos and will be wandering amongst you to achieve this. All these photos and videos will be available for downloading free of charge from the Australian Artillery Associations Photo Gallery within a week after the dinner (they will be progressively put up throughout the week and you will all be notified via email once I have completed the task). Each photo will be somewhere in the vicinity of 5mb to 18mb in size and therefore of an excellent quality and pixilation.

More to follow later. Kind Regards, Ubique Graham Hampton