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12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 34 5/05/15

1. Anzac Day Reports:

104 Battery: Western Australia member Ian Macauley has sent us this photo of the Germs (former 104 Battery members) who marched behind the 104 Battery banner in Perth. It shows from left to right Keith Smith, Phil Burns, Hugh Ritchie, Bob Perkin, Max Clothier (kneeling) Ian Caporn, Tony Ferraro, Ian Macauley. What a fine looking bunch of men!



102 Battery: The reunion in Sydney went extremely well and all attendees had a terrific time. The march behind the 102 Coral Battery banner on Anzac Day was special, and the chance to get together over a few refreshments was priceless. For those interested in seeing some excellent photos, this is a Link to Bruce Morris' collection.

bcmorris@iprimus.com.au

Also note that the Association now has a few copies of the CD containing the 102 Battery theme song The Toucan Battery Blues, and another song called Lone Pine Lament which is a Centenary of Anzac tribute to the families of diggers killed in the battles at Lone Pine. These can be ordered at a cost of \$10 (including postage) from Laurie Bird.



Dawn Service in the Kimberley: President Flood sends us this report and attachment.

The attached is a copy of the talk given by Jason on ANZAC Day. Jase is currently on long service leave from the SAS and is working with Kimberley Expeditions.

It was written from a serving soldiers perspective which I found very moving (biased, I know!) Flood.

2. Report on the 18-Pounder:

Attached is a report from Mark Jamieson giving details of the ceremony held to present the restored carriage to the Governor General. What a great success this whole project has been!

Also regarding the event, Cossie has sent us a photo of the Governor General with Mark Jamieson, and notes that the GG is wearing the 102 Battery wristband which Mark had presented to him earlier. Photo attached.

3. Ingleburn RSL - Coral Ceremony:

This annual service to remember the fallen at FSB Coral will be held at 1100hrs on 16th May at the RSL Club, 77 Chester Rd, Ingleburn. Members who have attended on previous occasion have been very impressed by the quality of the ceremony. As usual, all members of this Association are invited and will be warmly welcomed. A copy of their Invitation is attached to this Bulletin.

4. New Member:

On your behalf, we welcome Max Murray as a new Ordinary Member. Max served as a WO2 in Vietnam with 12 Field Regiment from 22nd July to 17th December, 1971. He lives in Nar Nar Goon, Victoria, with his wife Kulsom. Hopefully we'll get to meet Max at a reunion sometime.

5. Scrubber:

Whether they were in 102 Battery or not, most former members of 12 Field Regiment know who Colonel Ian Ahearn (Rtd) is, and his on-going work assisting all things Arty. However, not very many know how he came to be called "Scrubber". We received this explanation from an un-named source.....

Apparently, way back when he first started as a cadet and received his first army haircut, several of his classmates commented:

" Geez Ahearn, you look like a scrubbing brush". The rest is history.

6. Merchandise:

QM Laurie Bird advises that we have ordered another 12 All-weather Jackets and they are still at the very competitive price of \$55 including postage. Those lucky few from 102 Battery who were wearing them on the sailing ship in the foul weather on Sydney Harbour on the day after Anzac Day, will attest to how warm and comfy they are. And so will the envious blokes who were there and didn't have them! Laurie also reminds everyone about the CDs mentioned earlier in the Bulletin.

Also don't forget the usual shirts (\$27), caps (\$15) and ties (\$27) etc. that are still available.

To order please contact Laurie Bird on his email address birdlawrence@outlook.com or phone 02 49548248

The Association acknowledges the ongoing support of the Ingleburn sub-Branch of the RSL in the publication of these Bulletins, and thanks them for their assistance.

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