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12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 18 18th November 2013

1. New Member:

The Association welcomes Peter Burke as an Ordinary Member. Burkey was a gunner with Headquarter Battery during their second tour in 1971 and was in country from 11th March to 8th November that year. He is the brother of our member Brian "Stoney" Burke who was in Headquarter Battery on their first tour. Burkey lives in St Clair, NSW.

2. St Barbara's (patron saint of Artillery) Day:

Member Dodger Noonan reminds us that the annual service will be held on 1st December as per the following:

An open invitation is extended to you on behalf of the RAA Association NSW to attend the St Barbara's Day Service

**GUNNERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE
ST BARBARA'S DAY SERVICE SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER 2013**

The Association's Patron Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales has accepted our invitation to attend. The service is to be conducted at the Holy Trinity 'Garrison' Church, Millers Point, commencing at 1100 hrs. (Please be seated by 1050) Light refreshments will be available after the service.

All gunners and their families and friends are encouraged to support this traditional service.

4/3 RNSWR 23 Lt Bty Band will provide a range of appropriate music for the occasion.

3. A Record of all RSMs:

Our esteemed webmaster Graham Hampton has sent the following information regarding a project to properly record details of all RSMs who served in the Regiment. So if any of our ex-RSM members would like to be involved, please contact Graham direct as per his last paragraph.

"The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company (for whom I have built a website and maintain it) has now commenced to record all known Artillery RSM's and those Artillerymen that achieved an RSM appointment in a non-corps unit without having served in an Artillery unit. In addition to this we are also making including, where available, biographies for each of the RSM's.

We are currently in the process now of building each of the units information and have got the basics in place to hopefully motivate ex RSM's to send in their bio's, many of which have already been contacted.

Use this link: 12th Field Regiment – http://artilleryhistory.org/moments_in_history/moments_in_history_home_page.html to view the RSM's webpages just click on the link titled Regimental Sergeant-Majors and follow the links from there for each of the units.

Trevor if any of your members are ex RSM's that would like to provide a bio for the project could you ask them to contact me direct and I will fill them in on the requirements (which is basically along the lines of what you currently see for the 3 that are present at the moment along with a photo). They should be aware that the National Library of Australian is capturing, on a regular basis, a digital copy of the entire website for permanent storage for future generations."

4. Use of Insecticide in Vietnam:

Member Bill Waterman believes that some of you may be interested in this info re pesticide use in Vietnam.

Hi Trevor, Not sure if you have seen this? but it may be of interest to our members, particularly as the author is an ex-member of 12 Field. I received it through my membership of Box Hill VVAA

Regards, Bill Waterman [Insecticide deceit \(question\).pdf](#)

5. AGM and SGM:

Our Annual General Meeting and a Special General Meeting were successfully held on Tuesday 12th November. In the end, we managed to get attendance in excess of a quorum, so many thanks to those members who were able to attend. For the interest of members, I attach copies of the Minutes from both meetings. Please file a copy of each for your possible reference at next year's AGM.

Note that as a result of the AGM, we can now welcome Rob "Cossie" Costello back as a member of the committee. Good onya, Cossie! As a result of the SGM, we now need only 10 members present at future AGMs and SGMs to form a quorum. This is a great relief to the committee who organizes these events.

6. Web updates:

Thanks to the brilliant work of our webmaster Graham Hampton, our website remains pretty-well up to date. A couple of recent additions:

- Members can now access the definitive roll of soldiers from all corps who were present at the Battle of Coral. If you're interested, just click on "Links" on our Home Page.
- Also, very shortly a copy of the current Rules of the Association as amended at the last SGM will be available through the "Membership Form" link on the Home Page.

7. Resignation of Graham Rylands from the Committee:

One of the stalwarts of the Association has resigned from the Committee after many years of great service. Graham Ryland's busy life has forced him to tone down a few things, so he is no longer able to serve on the Committee - to our loss. We wish him all the very best, and on behalf of all members we thank him sincerely for his contribution to the success of our group. Fortunately, Graham remains a member of the Association and has made himself available to the committee should he be needed.

8. Reunion in August 2014:

It's fair to say that the organisers are concerned about the slow response to this event. Only a small number of registrations have been received to date. Members are reminded that registrations with a deposit of \$50 per registration should be received by 31st January, 2014. This really promises to be a top event and will be well subsidized from Association funds, so attendees will get terrific value for money.

You will help Beery and Neil sleep better if you please take the time to email Treasurer Beery and give him the confirmation of your attendance.

12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association is a Branch of RAA (NSW) Association Inc
The Association ABN is 90 248 586 329. However, the Association is not registered for GST and is Tax-exempt