



12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association
(A Branch of the NSW RAA Association)

12 Field Regiment

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Regular Feature

Where are they now?

See your old mates today and yesterday!

What were they doing?

What are they doing now?

Send pictures of yourself or someone you want to embarrass (nicely!) with text to:

jallen@datamasteranz.com

Advertise your Business in the Association's Newsletter.
Ring John Allen on 0407 672849 or email jallen@datamasteranz.com

President's Letter

Gentlemen and Ladies

Welcome to the new version of the 12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association Newsletter. This revamp was undertaken by our Webmaster, Graham Hampton and our Secretary, John Allen. The improved Newsletter, website and the very successful 2008 Reunion and AGM attest to our coming of age as an association!

In the new Newsletter format, I will only cover the major issues in brief, with more detail contained in subsequent pages (See the **In this Issue** box to the left to navigate your way).

REUNION

I thank you all for your attendance at our 40th Reunion in February. What a great turnout and what great times we had together. There were over 140 people attending the Saturday night dinner and it was great to see so many ladies there. They certainly added glitter to the night for reasons which will become clear later!

I was astonished by the accolades that our Committee received for what many said was the best reunion they had ever attended

AGM

Thanks to all who attended

the AGM. There were over fifty people attending and the participation in discussion on various issues was very welcome.

There was great input from the Members on the Rules of the Association, particularly in regard to the future membership and its financial viability. It was most unusual to hear so many Members talking about raising the fees!

If you are interested in the suggested changes in the Rules, see page 4.

GOLF DAY

A bunch of us went to the "Royal Grimish Golf Club" (thanks, Geoff) beside the Georges River for a great day of white ball bashing. It was pretty obvious early on that "the fix" was in. Rick Cranna's group won the Shelldrakes trophy and my team was runner-up, thanks to a below-par performance from Gunna Floyd.

And then Rick "employs" him to act as spotter for the auction the next night. Very Sus!

More stories and pics - Page 2

THE AUCTION

Almost worthy of a book, the Auction was one of the highlights of the Reunion. I have never seen so many people enjoy an auction at someone

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else's expense (namely mine!)

Lawrie Bird, Ray Carlin and I put up some personal memorabilia and keepsakes as a donation. The bidding on my Welcome Home Parade plaques started at \$200 by Kathryn and ended at \$325, also by Kathryn, despite my constant pleading to her and some so-called "mates" who kept egging her on or upping the bid!!

Bronwyn Sullivan paid a fortune for a piece of rolled cardboard (round canisters). I understand DoD is publishing tenders for 1,000,000 canisters at a similar price. Good luck!

REUNION DINNER SATURDAY

What a great night this turned out to be!

Over 140 attended and, from all accounts, everyone had a great time.

The food was great and the service was excellent. The Committee has sent a letter to the Club to praise their efforts and patience with a happy bunch of gunners (and partners)!

CORAL COUNTDOWN

Please check out the info on Page 4. We will be locking in the numbers very soon. No confirmation, no entry!



Ian Reid
VENDOR ADVOCACY

Selling your home anywhere in Australia? Get the best value from your agent at no additional cost—Ring Ian Ryan on 0411 650 077 or email ianryan@hotmail.com

2008 Reunion Photos



Stewart McKeown , Ron Maher , Peter Geelen at the Artillery Museum, North Fort



Skeeta Humphry, Charlie Bartkus and Paul Haw from Bravo Gun, 102 Bty. Charlie is looking more like a projectile every day!



Echo, 102 Bty. L to R: John Burns, Bruce Morris, Laurie Bird, Jeff Stein, Robin Parkinson at Reunion Dinner



L to R: Neil Ahearn, Jeff Stein, Barry Twomey, Rob Costello, Pauline Twomey, Ray Darragh, Pommie Fisher



Rick Cranna always surrounds himself with quality—in this case, Gwenda Hahn (left) and Judy Parkinson (right), three of the team which won the Shell Drake Trophy



Rear: Neil Mangels, John Phoenix, Alex Baker, Kelvin Ferris, Tony Marshall, George Dapiran. Front Row: Lachlan Donald, Sid Angelopoulos

Flash!

Australian Combat Badges

First distribution of ACBs will be sent to:

- Ferris, Mangles, Alexander, Casey, Scrimshaw, Burt, Stockley, Carlin, Ponting, Brook, Noonan, Collins, Johnston, Braid, Balf, Downes, Burke, Kennedy, Costello, Larment.

Delivery one week! More to follow!

Where are they now!



Send your NOW and THEN pics and a short story to: jallen@datamasteranz.com

Some relationships never end!

It is clear that Tom Carmody, Rob Costello and Alan Floyd were great mates (left to right). The photo was taken just prior to extraction from FSB Coral.

Some forty years later, things haven't changed a great deal. (Costello on the left, Floydie on the right, just in case you can't tell!)

Carmody seems to have got the better deal!

Both Rob and Alan are retired, but Rob still raves about Floydie's athleticism, except on the golf course!



2008 Committee

The 2008 AGM was held at the Bankstown District Sports Club on 14 February.

The meeting was well-attended with about 50 members and friends present of which about 28 financial members were entitled to vote.

There were also 8 proxies registered prior to the election. Approximately 13% of the total membership participated in the voting.

It should be noted that positions on the Committee were not individually allocated to the major units of the Regi-

ment. Any full financial member from any unit within 12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association was entitled to stand for election.

The Full Committee for 2008 is:

President - Rob Costello appointed unopposed -102 Battery

Vice President— John Sullivan was elected by a majority show of hands—104 Battery

Secretary—John Allen appointed unopposed—104 Battery

Treasurer, Lawrie Bird appointed unopposed - 102 Bty

For positions on the Committee (up to 10), the following were appointed unopposed:

K Scrimshaw - 104Battery
D Keall - HQ Battery
R Hiles - HQ Battery
G Collins - 104 Battery
R Carlin 102 Battery
L Donald - LAD
G Ryland HQ Battery
R Gray 102 Battery
R Cranna -102 Battery

Our thanks to Neil Mangels who chaired the election of officers.

New members

Mrs Lyn Floyd,
7 Britt Street
Ouyen Vic 3490.
No email address

John Herrmann
102 Fd Bty
6 Cherokee Crescent
Mudgeeraba Qld 4213.
johnfrhe@bigpond.net.au

Sotiris Angelopoulos
1/51 Laycock Street
Kilaben Bay NSW 2283
abbeycatering@bigpond.com

WELCOME

104 Battery



The 12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association AGM was held in January at the Bankstown Sports Club.

Unfortunately, due to work commitments, I was unable to attend the AGM, but Bronwyn and I did attend the reunion dinner.

The company of the other members and the food was excellent. Bronwyn featured heavily in the bidding at the auction, paying \$100 for an old cardboard cartridge case, (which were thrown away in their thousands), but it's a piece of memorabilia we will treas-

ure. Bronwyn also bid on and won a photograph of Blue Bigland's "Foxtrot" gun at FSB Flinders during operation Capital, during the first tour. The sandbag wall became known as "The Wall of China" as some of you may remember .

104 Battery Association

Following up on the formation of the 104 Bty Association, I have proposed to 12 Field Regt Association and the RAA Association (NSW), that each Battery wishing to, should form a Sub-Unit Steering Committee, which effectively allows us to form a Battery Association under the umbrella of the Regiment.

This eliminates the requirement for any additional fees.

Of course, only financial members of the Regimental Association would be covered by this. On that note, along with Kev Scrimshaw and

Grahame Collins, I was elected to the 12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association Committee and I can assure you all that it is no longer 102 Battery centric.

There are now members from each battery represented on the committee, so I would encourage you to join the Association if you haven't already and support the Regiment and therefore 104 Battery.

Sorry if this sounds rather officious, I didn't mean it to, but I wanted to get the message to all of you.

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the Bankstown Club, it really is something to be experienced, numerous restaurants, with excellent culinary offerings and a very welcoming and friendly atmosphere.

Keep your heads up, or down as the case may be!

John Sullivan

Units of 12 Field Regiment RAA

Your unit or sub-unit can establish your own sub-committee under the auspices of 12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association

Contact any member of the Executive Committee for further information.

Coral Countdown—You must complete the form Page 5

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The Coral / Balmoral 40th Anniversary celebrations are happening in Canberra from the 12th of May to the 14th of May. A lot of our Gunners are staying at the Eagle Hawk Holiday Village. Many more have chosen to stay at other locations. A few buses will move us from the specified PICK_UP POINTS to the venue sites.

We will be ordering buses only for those who confirm their attendance.

It would be doubtful if we will have room for any latecomers.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

If you require transport to events, it is imperative that you let us know where you are staying AND the pick-up point desired from the list hereunder, and the number in your party . This must be done within three weeks of receiving this notice. No late entries will be accepted after this time.

We will contact at least two responsible persons who are staying at the listed accommodation locations to advise you of pick up times .

You must contact me with ALL DETAILS within three weeks of receipt of this notice

Rob Costello 13 Pinnacle Close, Bolwarra Heights N.S.W. 2320 Phone: 0249303359 or Email :
cossie0102@bigpond.com

PICK-UP POINTS

These are the **ONLY** pick up points for the marked **ARTY ONLY** buses.

Capital Country Holiday Village.
47 Bridges Road
Sutton.

Eagle Hawk Holiday Village,
Federal Highway
Sutton.

Fomule 1 Motel
Federal Highway
Canberra

Comfort Motor Inn
Mouat Street
Canberra.

Carotel,
Federal Highway
Watson

Olims
Ainslie & Limestone
Avenues
Braddon

ACBs—What's the Story? Have you applied yet?

All Members will be aware of the delays we have endured regarding the approval of applications for the Army Combat Badge.

There is little point dwelling on this, but it must be said that the Army did not cover itself with glory as far as administration of this exercise is concerned. However, I have to commend Major Kym Schoene for his extraordinary efforts to bring the process under control. I do not expect any "Public Servant" to ring me late at night or weekends to discuss 12 Field issues.

The first group of recipients have received their badges. Thanks guys for acknowledging the work of the Committee in processing your applications.

The next group to receive their badges will be:

Dellaca, Partridge, Motterhead, Cranna, Phoenix, Hend, Duane, Marshall, Dunk, K. Smith, Robinson, Corcoran, Warren, Stone, Hiles, Murtagh, Prizeman, Ferraro, Keall, Natton, Leonard, Thornton

I will let you know when these are being sent.

There are three applications being referred to Head of Regiment:

Storey, Alston, Fisher

If you have applied through the Regiment and have NOT been listed here, please contact me immediately. New applications are also welcome.
jallen@datamasteranz.com

Flash!

Australian
Combat
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sent to:

Ferris, Mangles,
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Scrimshaw, Burt,
Stockley, Carlin,
Ponting, Brook,
Noonan, Collins,
Johnston, Braid,
Balfe, Downes,
Burke, Kennedy,
Costello, Larmont.

Delivery one week!
More to follow!

Date/Time	Event	Insert Number attending	Cost each	Require Insert Yes or No	Tpt	Comments
Monday, 12 May 2008 7.00pm Dress: Coat, Tie, Full Medals	Coral/Balmoral Celebration National Reception Parliament House		Nil			This event is for Coral participants and partners only. DVA funded event. Prime Minister or nominee to attend.
Tuesday, 13 May 2008 10.00am Dress: Jackets, full medals, or miniatures with black jacket only	Remembrance Service, Vietnam Memorial, Anzac Parade		Nil			This event is open to Friends of 12 Field. Short walk to next function.
Tuesday, 13 May 2008 11.30am Dress: Jackets, medals (Governor General to attend)	Dedication/installation of 12 Field Regiment plaque, Aust War Memorial		Nil			This event is open to Friends of 12 Field to be seated at AWM by 11.20am. Coral Artillery veterans and partners only for Light lunch at 12.15pm and tour of AWM. Others may choose to visit AWM independently.
Tuesday, 13 May 2008 6.30pm Dress: Coat, tie, medals optional	Regimental Dinner Rydges Eagle Hawk Resort, Bungendore		\$56.00			This event is open to Friends of 12 Field. Bookings and Payment to 12 Field Regt (Vietnam) Assoc ASAP please.
Wednesday, 14 May 2008 10.00am Dress: Coat, Tie, medals (Governor General to attend)	Coral Remembrance Ceremony, Coral Artillery only, Mount Pleasant		Nil			This event is for Coral Artillery participants and partners only. Buses to transport guests on routes indicated to/from Royal Military College Duntroon and then small coaches from RMC to Mt Pleasant and return to RMC and thence drop-off points to motels at selected points.
Wednesday, 14 May 2008 6.30pm Dress: Jacket, tie, medals	Coral Remembrance Dinner, Federal Golf Club		\$20.00 Coral Vets \$35 Others			This event is for Coral Artillery participants and partners . Limited Bookings available for other Artillery men and partners Buffet-style. This event is subsidised by DVA. Payment to 12 Fld Regiment (Vietnam) Assoc. ASAP
Accommodation address in Canberra						Mobile Nos.
Insert preferred Pick-Up Address. See List Page 4						Names of person(s) attending:

