



NZ GUNNER

Royal New Zealand Artillery Association Newsletter

Issue #179 - December 2018



Seasons Greetings to All

Presidents Report December 2018

I can't proceed without once again thanking Robbie Gardiner and his team for the wonderful reunion which they organised in Dunedin over Labour weekend. Every part of the reunion was warm, meaningful, significant and well organised. You've set a very high standard Dunedin Gunners, thank you. I have included my report to the AGM and the minutes of the AGM later in the newsletter.

Since the reunion we have had a couple of significant events; the Annual RNZRSA Convention and the first meeting of the 'Combined Veteran's Advocacy Groups' (CVAG). Firstly the RSA Conference. It was pleasing to see the relative harmony within the membership, compared with previous years. The motion to adopt the 'principle based' new constitution was passed, albeit not unanimously with Auckland voting against. Hopefully this new constitution will lead to less haggling over minor points of administration and the operational conduct of clubs, to actually addressing veterans welfare matters and advocating at the appropriate levels. The Minister (and CEO of Veterans Affairs) in their speeches both acknowledged the matters raised in the Paterson Review of the Veteran Support Act 2014, and they will be striving to achieve their implementation

The Minister has a new Veterans Advisory Board (chaired by Lt Col (rtd) Leith Comer), and one of the matters he has asked them to report on is the definition of a 'Veteran'. As we all know this has been a very complex and contentious issue for a long time, with some agen-

LAST POST



BERESFORD, Philip Mason: 339017 Capt RNZA: Died 13 Sep 2018 at Auckland aged 83.

HARWOOD, Jack David: 568394 Ssgt 2 Fd regt RNZA CMT: Died at Napier 16 Sep 2018 aged 85

HALL, John: 444553 87th Lt AA Bty: Died 5th October at Auckland 2018 aged 94.

BILLING, Marguerite Vera (Rita): 817468 Ssgt NZVAAC, 10Th HeavyAA WW2: Died 6 October 2018 at Northland , aged 97.

LYNSKEY, Keith Raymond (Blue): 207716 16 Fd Regt, Korea: Died 10 October 2018 at Auckland aged 90.

CALLAWAY, Brian Paul: 455899 Bdr RNZA, Flt Sgt RNZAF: Died 7 October 2018.

ANDERSON, Peter Raymond: 374162 WO1 RNZA: Died 10 October at Auckland, aged 73.

MORROW, Douglas Thomas Arthur (Doug): 209482 Capt RNZA 161 Bty VN: Died 11 October 2018 at Whakatane.

BARRETT, John (Jack): Gnr 6th Fd Regt RNZA WW2 Died October 2018 at Auckland.



cies (and countries) accepting anyone who has served, regardless of any operational deployment, as a veteran, while others have insisted on the operational deployment as the criteria. The VAB is due to report back to the Minister by June 2019.

On 30 November 18 we were invited to participate in the first meeting of the Combined Veterans Advocacy Group CVAG, a group designed to pull together the efforts of all the Associations which are concerned with veteran's welfare. It was convened by VA, RSA and No Duff and was attended by about a dozen other Associations in addition. The attendees were split into four groups where a 'brainstorming' session was facilitated by No-Duff to try to establish what services were being offered to veterans (and their families) over the span of their lives. Large areas where the support is 'light' were identified and VA and NoDuff will be collating the results for ongoing consideration. We have indicated our willingness to participate in further meetings/discussions on these issues. The meeting also served as the launching of the new website 'http;weserved.nz' a website facilitated by the Ranfurly Home (David McGregor and Michelle Boag). The website captures all those agencies which offer support to veterans in one place, and could be a very useful tool for helping to reach out to veterans and their families/helpers. The RNZAA is included on the site. I would urge all our members to become familiar with the site and to promulgate its availability widely.

I had the opportunity to speak to No-Duff personnel at the meeting and was very impressed with the no nonsense positive approach which they are taking to addressing contact and support to more recent veterans. They may have stepped on the toes of a few established organisations in the past, but they reflect the changing of the guard which has occurred in veteran's welfare throughout our history. They are now in receipt of official government funding and hopefully we can see a more peaceful merging of all those groups who purport to advocate for veteran's welfare. Certainly I am very keen (on your behalf) to be a part of any initiatives.

At the AGM I announced the award of two new Life Memberships; Skin Frances and Bernie McCort. Skin was caught by surprise and in his acceptance speech actually said that he thought Life Memberships were only for old dudes. But the point is that both these recipients have not only made a significant contribution in their days of regular (and TF) service, but have also remained involved and have contributed hugely to Association, regional, and veterans matters since their retirements. They have been stalwarts of the RNZAA for many years, despite their 'relative' youth. Congratulations and thanks to them both. I also announced the award of Honorary Memberships to Kim McGrath and Graham Hampton, the founders of the Australian Artillery Association. Kim and Graham have been over to every reunion for the past ten years. They always bring a group of other mates and have probably seen more of NZ than most kiwis. But Kim and

GRAINGER, Eric Roy: 251417 Capt NZA WW2: Died 25 October 2018 at Albany.

WHAREPAPA, James Hemi (Gym): Cpl RNZAOC, Malaya, 161 Bty RNZA VN: Died 13 November 2018 at Gisborne.

KEENAN, Douglas Joseph (Doug): 814169 Ssgt RNZA CMT: Died 24 November 2018 at Christchurch.

BALDWIN, ST (Stanley): 621820 RNZIR, 161 Bty VN: Died 20th December 2018 aged 85

Graham have not only provided that great level of physical support, they have also contributed financially with all sorts of merchandising/commemorative items which they have freely donated to us. We are very grateful to Kim and Graham, and warmly congratulate them on becoming Honorary Members.

Your old/new committee is about to get underway, so thanks to Chris Pearce for taking over from Bernie McCort as Secretary/Treasurer, and to all the other members who have remained on the c'ttee.

Wishing you all a very Merry Xmas

Ubique

Tony Mcleod

President, RNZA Assn

Tony's full Presidents report for 2018 can be found at the end of this newsletter

EARLY WARNING

RNZAA 85th Annual Gathering and AGM is planned for 8-10 October 2019 In Taupo

Further details will be promulgated as they come to hand

84th Annual Gathering & AGM

19-21 October 2018—Dunedin

The Reunion /AGM in Dunedin on 18-21 October 2018, was a resounding success thanks to the efforts of Robbie Gardiner and his team.

The weekend kicked off with the usual mix and mingle at Kensington Army Hall on Friday evening, which provide the opportunity to renew old friendships. The Association AGM was held at the same venue on Saturday morning, with 38 attending. Saturday afternoon was given over to a bus/boat trip to Taiaroa Heads, with most opting for the very pleasant boat trip. At Taiaroa Heads there was the option of visiting the Armstrong Disappearing Gun or the Albatross colony. Both parties enjoyed their respective visits, but the highlight for me was the look of terror on the face of the young female Japanese guide, when faced with the task of explaining the workings of the Disappearing gun to a bunch of old gunners. However she did very well.

On Saturday night 85 sat down to dinner at the Victoria Hotel. The meal was well up to standard with other reunion dinners and there was plenty of food. The evenings entertainment was capped off with the piping in of the Haggis, which was done with due ceremony with an explanation provided for those of us that do not speak Gaelic.



The Haggis is pied in



During the dinner Tony McLeod announced the award of two life memberships, to Bernie McCort and Skin Francis. Bernie was not able to attend the weekend but Tony took the opportunity to present Skin with his.



Tony McLeod presenting Skin Francis with his life membership

At the dinner Tony also presented Kim McGrath (President of the Australian Artillery Association and Graham Hampton (Secretary/Webmaster of the Australian Artillery Association), with Honorary membership of the RNZAA. Kim and Graham have attended every association reunion for the past 10 years and have been very generous with items they have donated over the years.

On Sunday morning attendees gathered at the Octagon for a series of events, starting with a 10 round salute fired from two 25 Pounders supplied by the Dunedin and Alexandra RSA's. The salute was to commemorate 100 years from the end of WW1 and to celebrate Dunedin's B Battery's 155th Anniversary. Poor old Robbie Burns was having a quite think when the guns fired, waking up every bird for miles around and started them circling and screeching their indignation.



Following the firing of the salute there was a Civic Service of Commemoration in St Pauls Cathedral, at which the names of 50 gunners who had passed away in the last year, were read out.

Following the church service everyone moved down to Queens Gardens, where there was a display of white crosses, commemorating the Otago dead from WW1. There was an impromptu firing of the guns, following which Tony McLeod laid a wreath on behalf of the association. Following the salute attendees moved to the Ironic Café for lunch before dispersing to home locations.

All in all it was a great reunion which was well planned and a credit to Robbie Gardiner and his team



The impromptu salute at Queens Gardens.



@ramirezboes

michaelgramirez.com

Gunners from 16th Field Regiment, Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery, fired a 100-Gun Salute supporting the Armistice Centenary National Ceremony in Wellington on 11th November 2018. The salute was also part of a joint salute alongside British, Australian and Canadian artillery regiments around the world.



A sunset ceremony was held at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park to signal the end of Armistice Ceremony in Wellington.



The Watch Gun in place



The sunset ceremony at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park

St Barbara's Day 4 December 2018

St Barbara's Day was celebrated at various venues around the country on 4th December 2018.

Casual St Barbara's Day lunch for Bay of Plenty/ Coromandel gunners and wives/partners at Waihi Beach RSA's "Gunners' View" restaurant. Attending were Ian and Kathy Bergh, Vernon "Jim" Gilchrist, Martin and Dianne Layzell, Kevin and Margaret Stone, Doug "Buck" Rogers (his first gunner event/function since 1973), Mike and Marilyn Subritzky, Stephen Bent, Allan Cameron, Bryan Christy, Erik Kristensen, Garry Rae, and Chris Morriss. There was a good mix of ex RF and TF gunners, including our usual core of Vietnam 161 Bty gunners.



Mike Subritzky and Stephen Bent



An informal St Barbara's Day gathering in Auckland.

Service Award

On 12th December 2018, Paul O'Connor and Pat Duggan were presented with an award by the Mayor of Christchurch in honour of their services to Christchurch ANZAC Day Dawn Services from 1988 to 2018.

Well done both of you,



"No, no, no! Two is load...
THREE is fire!"



From Lieutenant General Sir Andrew Gregory KBE CB



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Master Gunner St James's Park

To All Ranks:

The Royal Australian Artillery
The Royal Canadian Artillery
The Royal New Zealand Artillery

26th Nov 2018

My fellow Gunners

GREETINGS ON ST BARBARA'S DAY 4 DEC 2018

Writing to you as Master Gunner St James's Park, I think that all would agree that 2018, with the 100th anniversary of the Armistice of 11 Nov 1918, has been a significant year. The service and sacrifice of our forebears has been jointly and more acutely remembered. The common hardships and travails endured by our Gunners and their herculean efforts in supporting their comrades-in-arms throughout the conflict, established our professional reputation and helped forge our regiments, geographically dispersed though we are, into one close knit 'family'. Their sacrifices should never be forgotten, despite the passing of this historical milestone.

However, on a less sombre note, linking us closer together and for longer, whether at war or in peace, has been St Barbara, Patron Saint to all Christian artilleries; friends or erstwhile foes alike. I would therefore like to convey my personal greetings and best wishes, along with those of All Ranks, serving and retired, of the Royal Regiment of Artillery; to our fellow Gunners of the Royal Artilleries of the Commonwealth, serving and retired, on St Barbara's Day, 4 December 2018.

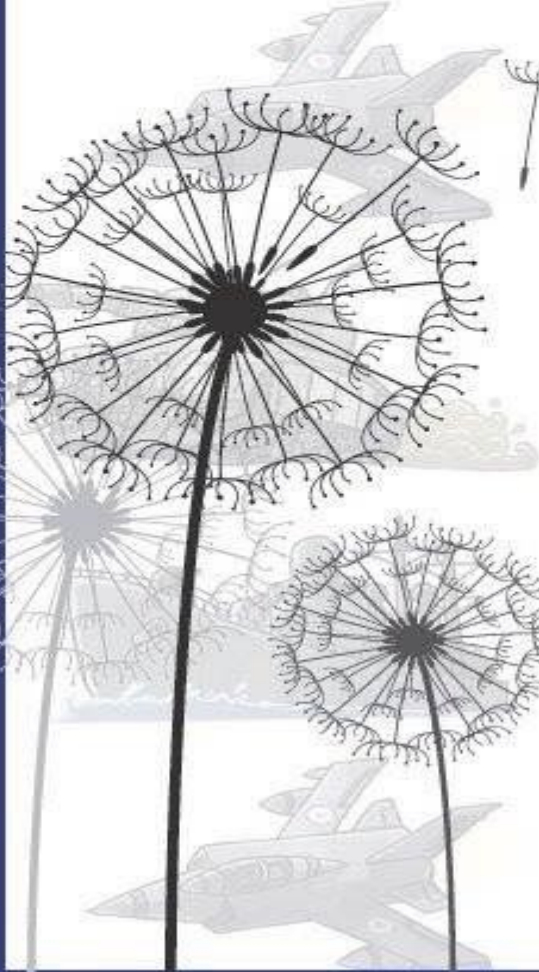
I wish you all good luck and good shooting.

*With my best wishes,
Ubique!*

Andrew Gregory



THE OFFICIAL FLOWER OF THE MILITARY CHILD IS THE DANDELION. WHY?



Dandelions put down roots almost anywhere and it's almost impossible to destroy. It's an unpretentious plant, yet good looking. It's a survivor in a broad range of climates.

Military children bloom everywhere the winds carry them. They are hardy and upright. Their roots are strong, cultivated deeply in the culture of the Armed forces... planted swiftly and surely. They're ready to fly in the breezes that take them to new adventures, new lands, and new friends.

Military children are well-rounded, culturally aware, tolerant, and extremely resilient, they have learned from an early age that home is where their hearts are, that a good friend can be found in every corner of the world.

They learn that to survive means to adapt, that the door that closes one chapter of their life opens up to a new and exciting adventure full of new friends and new experiences.

Behind the Lines: The Editor's Page

Patron HE The Governor General, The Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy, GMNZN, QSO.
Vice Patron Lt Col (Rtd) Barry Dreyer RNZA
Colonel Commandant Colonel Matt Beattie. The Col Comdt is an ex officio member of the Association
President Lt Col (Rtd) Tony McLeod, 09 486 0910, 027 269 8472
Vice President Gregory Thwaite
Secretary/Treasurer Bernie McCort, 07 345 3643, 18 Walford Drive, ROTORUA 3010

Email: rnza.association@gmail.com

Committee: Colin Jansen (Q Store/Facebook/Op Ubique)), Chris Morriss (Webmaster),
Andrew Donellan

Committee at Large/ Regional Representatives:

Jack Mills (Waikato), Danny & Bernie McCort (BOP), Chris Morriss (BOP),
Kent Horsfield (Manawatu), Roger Newth (Horowhenua), Lyndsay
Skinner (Wellington), Martin Coomber (Wellington), Brian (Skin) Francis (Christchurch),
Robbie Gardner (Dunedin) Al Martin (Dunedin),
David Weston (RNZRSA Delegate)

Welfare Support: Northern: TBA Central: Lyndsay Skinner 027 5303319
Southern: Pat Duggan: 021 02615773

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Facebook Site: [Facebook, RNZA Assn](#)

Member Registration: New members are most welcome. **All** Gunners are eligible for Full Membership, it is **FREE** and automatic once a gunner has served in the Regiment for more than three months. 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 the web-site: rnzaa.org.nz.

Associate membership: No annual subscription is payable, but any donations are gratefully received.

Donations: All charitable and welfare donations over \$5 are now tax deductible as the Association is a Registered Charity. Donations can be made by Internet Banking to the Associations Bank Account, or by cheque to the secretary (address above). If you wish to receive a receipt, please let the secretary know by email.

Email Addresses: Are you connected to 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, please forward your address.

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

Input into Gunner News: Short stories, especially with accompanying photographs, are always welcome for inclusion. The Editor's email address is: editor.rnzaa@gmail.com. Please send contributions as an attachment in MS Word format.

Muzzle Flashes & website items to Chris at: webmaster.rnzaa@gmail.com

Secretarial/Treasurer matters to Bernie: rnza.association@gmail.com

Items for Gunner News to Woody at: editor.rnzaa@gmail.com

RNZA Assn Bank: Ac # 38 9007 0694501 00

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Royal NZ Artillery Assn, The Royal Regiment Of NZ Artillery, or NZDEF.

[THE Q STORE](#)

Quartermaster: Colin Jansen

Orders and enquiries to: rnzaaQstore@gmail.com

Polo : Gunners logo on right breast, with Gun crest on left. Black with red piping and embroidered logo's.

\$65.00 each



Fleece Beanie: \$30 inc post

Gunners Tee Shirt:

Quick-dry breathable sports fabric.

\$25 each free-post in NZ





Gunners Hoodie Sweatshirt:

\$75 each free-post in NZ



Baseball Cap: Black with red piping and embroidered Gun crest **\$35 each.**



RNZAA Blazer Pocket Patch:

Edged and ready for adding to a jacket.

\$20 each free-post in NZ



13 Tac Sign Bumper sticker:

90mm x 90mm UV resistant for up to two years.

\$5 each free-post in NZ



RNZAA Coffee Mugs:

Cobalt blue with gold print

\$25 each



RNZAA Lapel Pins: \$10 each



RNZAA Name Tag:

Laser etched with gold lapel pin permanently affixed. Note: Remember to advise preferred name to be etched on it.

\$35 each



RNZAA Bumper Sticker:

70mm x 70mm UV resistant up to two years

\$5 each free-post in NZ

Ordering details and other useful information:

- Post is included on all items within New Zealand. Please enquire for costs to post overseas.
- Please include all relevant details when placing an order, including correct name, size where relevant and delivery address. Purchasers will have 14 days from placement of order to complete payment. If payment is not received within that time, the order will be deemed void. When making payment, remember to include your name and the item being purchased: in the reference fields of the RNZAA account, so that the treasurer can identify who and what the payment refers to.
- Some items are made to order, and requests for items such as name tags or special sized articles will not be placed with our suppliers, nor items dispatched to prospective purchasers until payment has been identified as received from the purchaser.
- We are working on additional items as well as future promotion of items available from the 16th Field Regt UPF, to create a central point of purchase. Keep an eye on this and the website Q-Store pages for future developments.

RNZA Association; Presidents Report 2018

Presented by Tony McLeod, President RNZAA, 20 October 2018.

General/Membership

This year has seen active building of the Association based on **the changes** that we made to our Constitution in November 2012, when full membership was opened to all those who have served as gunners and membership became FREE, the member being deemed to have paid his or her dues to the RNZA Association by virtue of their service to the RNZA. This was a fundamental change to our Constitution and I don't mind repeating it again and again, as it changed our structure and how we should do business. In previous years reports I have referred to consolidation of those changes, but for the past two years I believe we have seen actual growth in many respects based on those changes. We have definitely strengthened our `nation-wide framework`, with a very strong group now of Regional Reps and C'ttee at Large based largely on the now disestablished Territorial Force Batteries, and we have begun to `flesh out` the bones with larger numbers of active members and relevant and meaningful activities. We now have 1605 names in the membership database (compared to 1400 last year), 856 of whom we have email addresses for (down from the 880 we had last year but up from the 640 that we had the year before).

Activities.

The Association was involved in or was represented at the following activities through the year;

ANZAC Day: The `Wreaths on ANZAC Day` initiative was continued for its 7th year this year; the aim of this initiative is to rejuvenate gunner networks at the `local` level, with the Association paying for wreaths where a group of gunners are assembled, and photographed, in one location. There was once again only one uptaker for payment this year. I would ask those here today to remember this offer for next ANZAC Day.

Gunners Day: The day was once again actively celebrated throughout the country, ranging from a semi-formal dinner in Auckland in conjunction with 11/4 Battery and Christchurch, to a very successful informal gatherings in Te Aroha, Wellington and Christchurch; I'm not sure about Dunedin. I would like to thank the organisers of the various celebrations held on Gunners Day, as this event (other than funerals) is the major activity which really does unite us in our common bond of service to the Royal Regt of NZ Artillery. I would stress that these celebrations do not need to be formal dinners; a sociable gathering at a local bar or RSA still shows that `we have remembered`.

Funerals. Once again, funerals formed the basis of a lot of reunions through the year. We will commemorate those who passed away at our service tomorrow morning.

Repatriation/Reinternment of Al Don and Jock White. July saw the fruition of many years of hard work by people like Denis Dwane and Barry Dreyer with the repatriation and reinternment ceremonies for Al Don and Jock White, both killed-in-action in Sth Vietnam on 14 Sept 1965 at the commencement of `Operation Ben Cat`. Bernie McCort provided the following report on the occasion; *"Veterans were not allowed on the tarmac when the plane arrived, however, they formed a guard of honour on the road outside for when the hearses departed the tarmac. It was a long wait, but Air NZ provided a room to wait in with refreshments available. There was a very good RNZAA contingent there.*

On Tuesday 21 August the funeral was held for Al Don at the Manukau Memorial Gardens. The RNZAA wreath was laid by Danny McCort and Denis Dwane. Representatives of the Regt were there as well as a very strong contingent of RNZAA Members. There were also those who had served with him in Malaya. The family, especially Al's son Trevor, were very much appreciative of the support given by the RNZAA. He has now been buried with his deceased wife.

As the family of Jock White had requested a private family reinternment, we did not attend. However, the eldest daughter in conjunction with Barry Dreyer and Denis Dwane had organised a small memorial service on Friday 24 August at Papakura Cemetery.

It was attended by a small number of veterans (approx 6 plus supporters) who had served with Jock. The service was led by Barry Dreyer. A wreath on behalf of the RNZAA was laid by Danny McCort and Denis Dwane. Poppies were also laid. This gathering was also attended by Trevor Don. Glenys was very appreciative of this gathering as she believed her father would now be at peace now his comrades had said goodbye. We retired to the RSA for a great chat.

Both Trevor and Glenys were so glad to get to know those who were there on the fateful day and hear a little more of the details of what happened and how they felt."

Chris Turver who was on the same vehicle as Al and Jock, but seated in the rear, travelled from Wellington to attend the service.

This event has brought `closure` to many of those who were serving with Al and Jock at the time but never had the chance to say goodbye, ``the war must go on`. On their behalf may I thank all those who were involved in making it happen

Ex Lightning Kiwi. On Sun 29 July about a dozen Assn members from the Canterbury region greatly enjoyed sharing the experience of 163 Battery live firing in Tekapo. It was a blast back to the future for so many as they were familiarised with not only the different gun, but different aiming systems, different computing systems, and different communications systems; things have changed. The South Island contingent coordinated by Craig Ruane were warmly hosted by Maj Brett Morris (BC 163 Bty) and WO2 Jason Simpson (BSM) and we are very grateful to them and to the CO 16th Field Regt for their continued support.

16th Field Regt. In July I had a very useful initial meeting with the new CO 16th Field Regt, Lt Col Kristian Dunne. My main thrust to him was `how can the Assn help 16th Field Regt?`. 16th Field Regt have always been very supportive of the Assn, with activities like Ex Ben Cat, Ex Tropic Kiwi etc but we have not yet established a `presence` in the Linton/Palmerston North area which allows us to provide ongoing contact/familiarity and thereby informal support. With the c`tee still being based in Auckland we need personnel who have retired into the Manawatu/Horowhenua area to come forward to carry the Assn flag on a regular basis in Linton (a beer in the gunpark with the boys after an exercise should not be asking too much!). I am seeking any recently retired gunners in the Palmerston North area to consider this `connectivity` issue, and step up if you are able to help.

Support (Welfare)

Veterans Support Act 2014. In December 2014 the Veterans Support Act became law, mainly we believe for the better. In March 2018 the Review Panel of the VSA, chaired by Prof Ron Paterson, presented its findings to Government. We were pleased to see that several of our own recommendations were included, in particular to establish a mechanism for face to face meeting for vets with their case officers, and the acceptance of the need to provide treatment holistically rather than injury-by-injury as per an ACC applicant. We still need to keep active in ensuring that these 60odd recommendations are implemented. Thanks to David Weston for his ongoing support as our delegate to RNZRSA

Xmas appreciation. In December 2017 a card and a small gift were sent to gunners serving overseas at Xmas time. This is the 7th year we have made this small gesture to thank our serving gunners for their commitment, and we will continue it again this year.

Mentor Program, RNZAA/16th Fd Regt. Due to the difficulty of pulling parties together, this program has been downgraded to an offer of `informal` mentoring as requested by the Commanding Officer.

Regional Reps. I would like to thank our Regional Reps/Committee at Large for the part they have played in keeping the Association alive throughout the country; in Auckland your Elected C`tee Greg Thwaite, Colin Jansen, Andrew Donnellan and regular ring-in Craig Hewett; Waikato Jack Mills, Barry Cooke, Hugh Vercoe; Bay of Plenty Chris Morris, Woody Barrett; Rotorua-Danny and Bernie McCort; Palmerston North- Kent Horsfield; Paraparaumu/Levin- Roger Newth; Wellington- Martin Coomber, Lindsay Skinner; Christchurch- Skin Frances, Paul O`Connor; Dunedin-Robbie Gardiner, Chris Diedtrichs; Regimental-Catherine Dymock; Australia-Brian Jerry Meyer and David Weston our RNZRSA Delegate. The number and level of participation of these Regional Representatives shows just how much we have become a truly `nation-wide` organisation.

Operation Ubique. This initiative, which started two years ago as a monthly assistance program for the maintenance of equipment held at the National Army Museum in Waiouru has really grown this year. This year Colin Jansen and his team have extended the program to include maintaining guns held in other locations, including Linton, Trentham, Swanson, and Devonport. An offer has also been made to all RSAs to help with the maintenance of their display guns. This program not only improves the

presentation of the commemorative equipment held around the country, but also has huge benefits to all those who participate, generating fellowship and camaraderie. Well done Colin, Chris Andrew and all those who have participated in Op Ubique.

Media

Website. I would like to thank Chris Morris for his work not only as our webmaster but also as our Membership Secretary. Chris puts in a lot of `invisible` but critical effort. Chris is also a critical member of the Op Ubique team

Facebook. Many thanks to Colin Jansen who keeps a lively discussion going on our Facebook page. This is another critical `tool` for the Association, and Colin`s contribution is greatly appreciated.

Newsletter. The relevance of a quarterly newsletter as means of conveying news is an anachronism in this modern technological age; our news is conveyed much quicker via Facebook and the website. However it still has relevance as a journal of Association activities, and as a means of retaining contact with members. Our thanks to Woody Barrett for taking on the job as editor.

Executive Committee.

Lastly I would like to thank your elected committee, who meet every two months and whose work goes largely unnoticed, but without whom the wheels of the Association would stop turning. I would like to pay special thanks to Bernie McCort our Secretary/ Treasurer/Chief Clerk who will be standing down after 5 years. Bernie has often been the `glue` which has stopped things falling apart. I would also like to thank Greg Thwaite (Vice-President), Colin Jansen (our very enthusiastic Facebook Manager, Quartermaster and `tiffy), Chris Morris (webmaster and membership secretary) Andrew Donnellan and Craig Hewett (get things done guy) for all their help over the past year. ``He kitenga kanohi, he hokinga whakaaro- To see a face is to stir the memory``.