



SAMRA



Incorporating: 2nd/9th Australian Armoured
Regimental Group Association

E-VOLUME 1, NUMBER 3 – SEPTEMBER 06

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ABOUT SAMRA:

SAMRA was formed over eighteen years ago. It has been the main point of contact for ex members of the Regiment, Corps and other interested military associations e.g. The RSL and the Federal body of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association. SAMRA became an incorporated body on 13th July 1988.

Objects

- To perpetuate the close bonds of comradeship, and esprit de corps created by past and present members of the Regiment and the Royal Australian Armoured Corps.
- To guard the good name and preserve the interests of the Regiment and Corps.
- To foster the interests of the Regiment by;
 - Providing assistance for Regimental activities outside the scope of normal entitlement from Army sources, and
 - Encouraging those suitable to serve with the Regiment, to so serve.
 - To assist in researching, recording, and preserving the history, traditions and customs of the Regiment and also its predecessor Regiments.

Presidents

Ron Hoey (1987 - 1989)
Chris Hill (1989 - 1991)
Clarrie Mitchell (1991 - 1993)
Glenys Litchfield (1993 - 1998)
Dave Griffiths (1998 – 2005)
Ron Teusner (2005 – Present)

President Ron Teusner

I attended the final 2nd/9th AARGA lunch on 25 Aug 06, it was very successful but a sad occasion. Cedric Wells OAM ED, Jeff Tun Tin and Mark Boon were honoured for their support to 2nd/9th AARGA and were awarded honorary life membership status. The recent Past Presidents Dining In night at Keswick Barracks Sergeant's Mess was a great night we had 74 people seated. All of our past presidents attended and were presented with the Association's new plaque as recognition for their service to the Association.



Ron

BROWNING .50 CALIBRE MACHINE GUN

The Browning .50 MG was first introduced in 1921, making it an incredible 85 years old this year. This heavy MG came in different forms depending on its intended use. There were three different barrels the heavily perforated air-cooled model for use in aircraft, while a water-cooled type was used in the anti-aircraft role. The third type the M2HB model had a heavy barrel for prolonged firing and was ideal for armoured vehicles and static infantry defence. Despite the different barrels the rest of the working parts are interchangeable, its reliability and heavy bullet made it a formidable weapon.

SOURCE: KEN RUDDOCK

Beersheba All Ranks Dinner at Elizabeth Training Depot:

- Saturday 4th November 2006
- At the Elizabeth Training Depot
- 7.00pm for 7.30pm
- Formal Evening - Mess Dress, White Jacket (Military Personnel) or Black Tie (Gentlemen) or formal evening dress (Ladies)
- \$50.00/Person (Cheque made out to 'Senior Ranks Mess')
- **RSVP – NLT 20 October 2006**
- All those intending to participate must RSVP with payment to
Att: Chief Clerk,
3/9 LH (SAMR)
PO Box 144
Smithfield SA 5114

Due to catering requirements and also problems in the past with late attendees not providing payment we must receive **RSVPs with payment** from those wishing to attend.

Money &/or RSVP's will not be accepted on the night.

FROM THE DESK OF THE DVA:

Unveiling of the new Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Torrens Parade Ground will be on Sunday 15 Oct 06. Commences at 12.00 pm. Unveiling will be conducted by LTGEN Sir Donald Dunstan AC, KBE, CB Commander Australian Force Vietnam 1971-1972.

Unfortunately, car parking will not be available on the parade ground (only for invited VIP guests).



Click on badge for
History of Regt

Social Calendar

[\(Social page on website\)](#)

- **Sat 21 Oct – Reunion lunch at the Gawler Arms Hotel, Gawler at 1200 hrs. Bookings are essential NLT 14 Oct to the Secretary**
- **Sat 4 Nov - Beersheba All Ranks Dinner at ETD. More details in this newsletter**
- **Thu 30 Nov – 2nd/9th AARGA members Christmas lunch at the Buckingham Arms, 1200 for 1230 hrs. RSVP Jeff Tun Tin by 26 Nov. Cost at Pub prices.**
- **Sat 17 Feb 07 – Reunion lunch, details TBA**
- **Fri 23 Feb – Black Hat Function, details TBA**
- **Wed 25 Apr – ANZAC Day, details TBA**
- **Sat 26 May – Reunion lunch, details TBA**
- **Sun 1 Jul – Reserve Forces Day, reunion lunch, details TBA**
- **Wed 15 Aug – Annual General Meeting, Keswick Barracks Sgt's Mess, 1900 hrs**
- **Fri 31 Aug – Black Hat function at the Naval & Military club, 1830 for 1900 hrs. Members only, dress jacket & tie**

Abrams arrive at Pucka

THE first 18 Australian Abrams tanks and five Hercules Armoured Recovery Vehicles are now at the School of Armour, Puckapunyal.

The main simulation systems delivered under Land 907 are six Advanced Gunnery Training Simulators (AGTS) and a Tank Driver Trainer. They have arrived and the installation of two AGTS and the Tank Driver Trainer has commenced at the School of Armour.

The AGTS will deliver cost-effective and realistic training for tank gunners and crew commanders. They provide a high-fidelity crew station that accurately replicates the commander's and gunner's positions, allowing for precision and degraded mode gunnery training.

The School of Armour is also receiving the relocatable version of the gunnery simulators, which are fitted inside shipping containers. They are designed to be rapidly moved by road, sea or air to support the skills maintenance of deployed tank crews.

In Darwin, 1 Armd Regt will receive four networked gunnery simulators that will be permanently installed at Robertson Barracks.

The Tank Driver Trainer is electrically driven, has six degrees of freedom and a full motion system that simulates driver training. It is being installed in a purpose-built facility at the School of Armour and it is designed to train drivers in different terrain types and in a variety of weather, visibility and vehicle conditions.

Drivers will be able to respond to a range of training scenarios including vehicle malfunctions, bad weather, truck and aircraft loading, blackout driving in convoy, cross country and urban driving.

This simulator is an initial training tool that replaces the dual-control Leopard "cab" tank currently used to train new drivers

In the US, the first 18 Australian Abrams tanks and the first five Hercules Armoured Recovery Vehicles completed their journey by rail across the US to arrive at the Port of Baltimore in the east.

Closer to home, the first shipment of 120mm tank ammunition arrived at Point Wilson, Victoria on July 18.

This shipment represents the first part of Australia's war stock of service ammunition and the first two years' worth of tank training ammunition. The remaining ammunition will be delivered in December.

Source: Army Newspaper





Click on badge for history of Regt

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ARTICLES FOR THIS NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR / WEBMASTER

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Health benefits of quitting smoking

<i>Duration of smoking session</i>	<i>Associated health benefits</i>
After 12 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost all of the nicotine is out of your system • The level of carbon monoxide in your blood has dropped dramatically – you now have more oxygen in your bloodstream
After 24 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood pressure and pulse rate return to normal • Taste and smell improves
After 5 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise tolerance improves • Most nicotine withdrawal symptoms subside • Cough reduces and your lungs will no longer be producing extra phlegm caused by smoking • Cilia regrow in the lungs, increasing their ability to clean the airways and reducing the risk of infection
1 to 3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of coronary heart disease is half that of a smoker • Risk of lung cancer is half that of a smoker and continues to decline (provided the disease is not already present) • Risk of cancer of the bladder, kidney and pancreas decreases • Risk of coronary heart disease and stroke now the same as for a non-smoker
1 year	
5 years	
15 years	

Information courtesy of Quit Victoria website – www.quit.org.au

An Aussie Love Story....

An elderly man lay dying in his bed. While suffering the agonies of impending death, he suddenly smelt the aroma of his favourite Anzac bikkies wafting up the stairs.

He gathered his remaining strength, and lifted himself from the bed. Leaning on the wall, he slowly made his way out of the bedroom, and with even greater effort, gripping the railing with both hands, he crawled downstairs. With laboured breath, he leaned against the doorframe, gazing into the kitchen.

Were it not for death's agony, he would have thought himself already in heaven, for there, spread out upon waxed paper on the kitchen table were literally hundreds of his favourite Anzac bikkies.

Was it heaven? or was it one final act of love from his devoted Aussie wife of sixty years, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man?

Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself towards the table, landing on his knees in rumpled posture. His aged and withered hand trembled towards a biscuit at the edge of the table, when he was suddenly smacked by his wife with a spatula.....

"Piss off" she said, "They're for the funeral."



LINKS TO OTHER WEBSITES

[LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION](#)

[QUEENS OWN HUSSARS](#)

[ROYAL DRAGOON GUARDS MUSEUM](#)

[BLACK BERET](#)

[RAACA – VICTORIA](#)

[BRITISH ARMY INDEX](#)

[ARMY MUSEUM OF S.A.](#)

[TANK MUSEUM BOVINGTON](#)

[RAAC TANK MUSEUM](#)

[AUSTRALIAN DIGGERS](#)

[AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL](#)

[ARMY MUSEUM BANDIANA](#)

[IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM](#)

[ARMY NEWSPAPER](#)

BEATING RETREAT

Beating Retreat is a traditional ceremony incorporating a number of ancient military customs. The Modern Retreat ceremony had its origins in the 16th century when it was known as 'Watch Setting'.

The first of these ceremonies took place in the field, in garrisons and in castles at sunset. As a means of alerting skirmishers and outlying troops that the day's activities were over, a single round known as the 'evening gun' was fired, and a drummer would 'Beat Retreat'. This Beating of Retreat was later extended to include the whole Corps of Drums before evolving further to include the playing of fifes, or pipes or bugles.



Extract from the minutes of the 18th Annual General Meeting of SAMRA held at Keswick Barracks on the 16th August 2006.

2nd/9th AARGA – Cedric Wells (President) thanked SAMRA for hosting a reunion luncheon for 2/9 AARGA members at TTD last year. He advised that the DVA are funding a memorial to acknowledge the Regiment's landing at Brunei in WWII.

Motion: That Honorary Life Membership status to SAMRA be granted to all WWII veterans and widows of 2nd/9th AARGA.

Moved: Ron Teusner

Seconded: John Gyepes

Carried



VALE

SX 14235 Bert Hairfield
Lest We Forget



VALE

SX 12046 A.D. Radford
Lest We Forget

2/9 AARGA 65TH ANNIVERSARY AND WIND-UP LUNCH 25/8/06

There was an excellent attendance of about 100 2/9 AARGA members and friends for the very special luncheon at the Buckingham Arms Hotel on 25 August 2006 including strong representation from SAMRA and 3/9 LH (SAMR).

As 2/9 AARGA president Cedric Wells pointed out, the occasion celebrated three important events, one of which made the date particularly significant – it marked the 65th anniversary of the start of recruiting in Adelaide and Tasmania for the 9th Armoured Regiment, on 25 August 1941.

The other two important events were the winding up of 2/9 AARGA and the welcoming of its members into SAMRA.

So it was pleasing to welcome two members who had travelled from Tasmania to be present, along with the Honorary Colonel (Roger Burzacott) and OC of 3/9 LH (SAMR), along with the President of SAMRA, Ron Teusner.

Cedric also acknowledged a letter received from Jim Ferguson of Victoria, who could not be present but who offered "some thoughts for the lunch" which, if he had been present, he would likely have delivered in his own inimitable operatic style!

After the Loyal Toast Reg Skinner offered a toast to "The Regiment and all who served in it" mentioning a number of former members who helped set up and form the various squadrons and other sub-units which made up the Regiment. Much of what he said came from his personal memory rather than any recorded history, so his speech is documented separately for its interesting record and comments on those who got the Regiment up and running.

Jack Mack proposed a toast to "The comradeship of the 2/9 AARGA" and before doing so he presented life membership badges to Cedric Wells (who had steered the association through its final period leading to its winding up), Jeff Tun Tin (who had served long and faithfully as secretary and treasurer) and Mark Boon (newsletter editor).

Finally, Bill Sawers proposed a toast to "The Ninth Light Horse Family" which reminded all present of the Association's strong links to the famous Australian Light Horse Regiments, maintained today in the title of 3/9 LH (SAMR).

Cedric Wells OAM ED

(Left - former members of 2nd/9th AARGA)