



Australian Army

Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery

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**Representative Colonel Commandant
Colonels Commandant
Commanding Officers
Battery Commanders
All Ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery
Associations and affiliated friends of the Regiment**

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY – 1 AUGUST 2015

I would like to congratulate the Regiment on the occasion of its 144th Anniversary.

There are many celebratory events occurring which are associated with the ANZAC Centenary. I have no doubt that every RAA unit and associations have their special ways of commemorating not only their own anniversaries, but more so their collective contribution to our glorious past. We are also nurturing our linkages with our gunner brethren overseas. We are planning to host goodwill sporting events and support other activities next year as part of our contribution to the Royal Artillery's tercentenary celebrations.

RAA Associations are making their presence felt this year. The RAA Historical Company's restoration of an 18 pounder gun and ammunition limber, complete with horse team and gun detachment has been a resounding success and is available to support commemorative events out to 2018. Congratulations to this worthy and proud endeavour.

I look forward to the various events around the Regiment to honour not only our illustrious history, but our recent endeavours on operations as well.

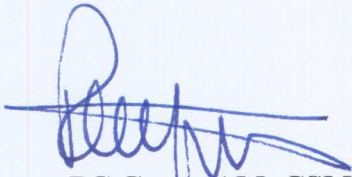
We are taking advantage of our current focus in training within a contemporary warfare environment. The RAA Command Post Exercise is in its third year. It strives to bring together all the artillery regiments and others within the realm of fire support to learn from each other and harness technological advancements of modern artillery. It is proving its worth as an annual training milestone for the Regiment. Our gunners are excelling in their roles as essential members of the combined arms team, be it as offensive support, modern surveillance and target acquisition, joint fires and battlefield coordination elements in large scale exercises such as EX HAMEL and EX TALISMAN SABRE.

Although most major elements have now returned from Afghanistan, the ADF's continuing fight against terrorism continues of which the RAA is a major player. Amidst our celebrations let us continue to think of our Gunners who are still deployed in various parts of the globe. Their families share in their sacrifices and it is incumbent on us to support them while they are away.

Let us also take the time to remember the many long serving members of the Regiment who have recently passed away and please join me in appreciating their service. They will be sadly missed.

On behalf of the Representative Colonel Commandant and Colonels Commandant, I congratulate all ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, serving and former, for their service.

Ubique

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Gates', with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line extending to the right.

PC Gates, AM, CSM
Brigadier
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