



**COMMENTARY NEWSLETTER**  
**ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS ASSOCIATION WA Inc**  
**5/2021 September 10LH Regiment Edition**

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**President Robert Gesmundo**

Welcome to this edition of Commentary. I would like to ask each and every one of you if you have an item of news please contact myself or John Dwyer, the Communication Officer so that we can take action whenever and wherever possible.

If you know of any member that is unwell or needs assistance, please contact me on 0414 755 722 or Tony Beekwilder, the Welfare Officer, on 0409 204 336.

Since our last Commentary Newsletter, we have a series of some great activities that give me pleasure in outlining with more details following later in this Newsletter.

RAACAWA Christmas in July – Sunday 18 July 2021 was a great success. It was a pleasant afternoon sharing good company by all.

2 October 2021 – 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse family Sundowner and introduction of the Regiment’s new vehicles.

10 October 2021 – The re-formation of the Tenth Light Horse Regiment – Details promulgated, and we have the honour and privilege of forming the Guard of Honour for the trooping of the Guidon.

30 October 2021 - 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Association Beersheba Dinner. Details in this Commentary.

21 November 2021 RAACAWA Cambrai Day Commemoration Lunch – details in the Commentary

Due to so many activities the proposed “Think Tank” has been postponed to a later date. As you can see, we have a busy calendar and I ask you for your maximum support for all these events as some will be a once only occasion.

In conclusion the Association is alive and active on your behalf but as always, we can only be as good as the members input and support we receive.

I look forward to sharing time and memories with you and wish you and yours good health and stay safe.

Yours in Armour

President Robert Gesmundo

**Events**  
 2 OCT  
 10LH BBQ  
 10 OCT  
 10LH REGIMENT  
 RE-RAISING  
 30 OCT  
 BEERSHEBA DINNER  
 21 NOVEMBER  
 CAMBRAI DINNER

**10th Light Horse Regiment**  
**3 BRIGADE AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE AIF**

Battle of Magdhaba  
Battle of Romani  
Charge at The Nek  
Egyptian Uprising 1919

**Battle Honours**

Anzac

Damascus

Defence of Anzac

Egypt, 1915-17

El Mughar

Gallipoli, 1915

Gaza-Beersheba

Jerusalem

Jordan (Es Salt)

Magdhaba-Rafah

Megiddo

Nebi Samwil

Palestine, 1917-18

Rumani

Sari Bair

Sharon

Suvla

**Decorations** 1 VC; 1 CMG; 3 DSO, 1 bar; 1 MBE; 9 MC, 1 bar; 15 DCM, 1 bar; 15 MM; 3 MSM;  
48 MID; 4 foreign awards

**CAMBRAI PARADE AND LUNCHEON**  
**SUNDAY 21ST OF NOVEMBER**  
**RAAFA ASSOCIATION BULL CREEK**

**DRESS:** ASSOCIATION DRESS WITH MEDALS

**PARADE:** 11.45AM FORM UP

**LUNCHEON:** 12.30PM DINNER - 3 COURSE MEAL

**GUEST SPEAKER:** RSM 10 LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT BRUCE WILLIAMS

**COST:** MEMBERS AND PARTNERS \$30.00  
NCO ASSOCIATION \$40.00  
NON MEMBERS \$60.00

**PAYMENT:** DIRECT: ACCOUNT RAACA WA  
BSB 066192  
ACCOUNT 10329559  
POST: TREASURER RAACA WA  
37 BARRINGTON AVENUE  
CHAMPION LAKES 6111

**THE NEW FACILITIES AT RAAFA BULLCREEK AND THE SERVICES PROVIDED WERE EXCELLENT AT OUR 2020 EVENT. CAMBRAI, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE OF THE BIRTH OF THE CORPS, HAS ALWAYS BEEN A DAY SET ASIDE TO BOTH COMMEMORATE THOSE THAT HAVE GONE BEFORE US AND FOR CORPS MEMBERS, PARTNERS AND FRIENDS TO JOIN TOGETHER IN COMRADESHIP.**





**LTCOL Daniel Wright**  
**Commanding Officer**  
**10 Light Horse Regiment**  
**Article for Association Members**

A few short years ago, social media forums whipped up a frenzy to the tune of A Sqn 10 Light Horse being struck from Army's Order of Battle. Thankfully that never became a reality, but it shows how far we have come in 2021, to be re-raising the famous Regiment to full unit status. Backing up this historic occasion is commitment from Army to provide the unit with a new platform, the Hawkei Protected Mobility Vehicle, now in the unit's possession. With these vehicles on display, the 10th Light Horse will stand re-raised on the 107th anniversary of the Regiment's inception, the 10th of October 2021. The significance of this occasion, and indeed the Regiment's enduring place in the Army's Order of Battle, is not lost on the unit's members and community. With new platforms comes an expanded role, with 10LH being given increasing tasks and responsibilities in the Intelligence, Reconnaissance and Surveillance space.

By January 2022 the Regiment will be manned with a Regimental Headquarters, and 2 Squadrons both containing 2 Troops. The Regiment aspires to recruit an additional troop per year for the next 2 years, and we are well supported by Defence Force Recruiting and the 13th Brigade in doing so. We have runs on the board with this, recruiting a full troop in the last 12 months since the announcement of B Squadron's establishment and the release of a fourth troop.

In 2022 the Regiment will enter the new era trialling new tactics, systems and of course, exploring the capabilities of the Hawkei. It will be a busy yet exciting year for the unit, with major exercises planned in the far reaches of WA in order to prove our capabilities in the extremities of our Area of Operations. In addition to this, we will be maintaining our directed tasks as a force element in support of domestic operations over the high risk weather season, and other contingencies. COVID 19 continues to challenge us, with many of our soldiers heading to the eastern states for technical, trade and promotion courses. Unfortunately this disruption is likely to continue into 2022. I have been amazed at the commitment and dedication shown by our soldiers in the past 2 years. Not only have they maintained commitment to getting qualified, often necessitating a several week course back up by 2 weeks' isolation, they have consistently volunteered for various domestic support tasks. It is true that good things happen to good people, and I remain convinced that the reason the Regiment was chosen for re-raising and new capability, is ultimately down to the consistent high performance of its soldiers and NCOs.

The Regimental parade on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October is a must attend for anyone affiliated with the Royal Australian Armoured Corps in WA. Our planning team, exceptionally led by the RSM, are putting together an event that will be a fantastic spectacle and deserving of the unit. I look forward to seeing the RAAC family there.





**10th Light Horse Regiment  
Family Sundowner**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021**

Throssell VC Club, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta  
1600 for a Briefing on the Regiments new vehicles  
followed by  
1630 – 1930 for a Family Sundowner

A BBQ dinner will be available for a gold coin donation.  
Cash bar which includes Beer, Pre-mixed Spirits and  
Soft Drinks.

Association members please RSVP to be added to the guest list:  
LT Timothy Hardwick  
[timothy.hardwick@inet.net.au](mailto:timothy.hardwick@inet.net.au)  
0404 817 795

**10 LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT RE-RAISING CEREMONIAL PARADE**

Members who indicated attendance at the above event have been advised of the detail. Association dress with Beret and medals is the dress of the day. Association members if they so wish are invited to participate in the guard of honour as the Guidon is marched on. Should you wish to attend and/or participate details are as follows

Location: Langley Park Mid Section, Terrace Road, Perth.

Timings: The Parade will commence at 1.30pm. Members are requested to be at the venue by 1pm are requested to be seated no later than 1.10pm. The parade will conclude at approximately 3.00 pm.

Parking: Public car parking close to Langley Park is available at the following: □ City of Perth Parking – Terrace Road □ City of Perth Parking Concert Hall – 158 Terrace Road □ City of Perth Parking Council House – 27/29 St Georges Terrace □ City of Perth Parking – 2 Plain Street □ Wilson Parking – 6/8 Bennett Street □ Secure Parking – 23 Plain Street Limited on street parking on the surrounding streets is available.

# Tank rolls out of retirement



**AFTER** sitting in a paddock near Mingenew for 15 years, this 1942 vintage General Grant tank is looking pretty good for its age.

And so do the blokes who restored it, Bob Beard, Ross Keesing, Bill Morgan, Wally Rippen, Jim Potter, Jim Harrower, Frank Dunlop and John Deykin.

They are members of the Light Aid

Detachment of the 10th Light Horse, one of the state's most famous regiments.

The tank served with the 2/10th Armoured Division of WA in the 1940s as it prepared to defend WA from the feared Japanese invasion during World War II.

Like many of its kind, the tank was retired to a farm for clearing and was eventually laid to rest and rust until it was

tracked down by Mr Deykin, a former commander of the 10th Light Horse.

The tank will now be kept on display at Irwin Barracks at Karrakatta after a small parade and presentation yesterday.

It was the tank's first public appearance since it rattled down St Georges Terrace in 1942.

Picture: DON PALMER