



COMMENTARY NEWSLETTER
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS
ASSOCIATION WA Inc. Edition 5/2026

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PRESIDENT IAN GOODALL

Hello all,

I hope you all are in good health; your committee continues to work hard to bring activities of interest to you.

Since the last Commentary we have had the Christmas in July at the Mount Henry Tavern on Sunday 12th of July, which was well attended. As a trial the Black Hat Coffee South for July was held at Dome 141 Manning Road, Manning, this was well attended with 13 people attending and it was good to see a couple of the ladies we served with attending, we will continue to use this venue.

The next coffee get together will be at the 10th Light Horse memorial in Guildford on the 27th of August, meeting at the memorial then moving to the Rose and Crown for lunch, all are welcome.

On the 1st of August we had a busy bee at Cambrai house, the lawns were mowed and more of the fallen tree was removed. The visit to Sea power Centre and old gun sites on Garden Island is locked in for Wednesday 19th August,



We continue to plan our 80th anniversary get together for Sunday 22nd November to be held at the Army Museum in Fremantle. At the moment we are waiting on details from the RSM 10th Light Horse regarding the possibility that the unit may supply a vehicle or two for our 80th celebration, the RSM did tell me there will be two range shoots coming up on the 25th of September and another in November, again more information to follow when it comes to hand.

If you have any suggestions as to activities, please advise one of the committee members.

Yours in Armour
Ian Goodall
President



AUGUST EVENTS

- 1st Cambrai House Working Bee and Committee Meeting
- 8th Vietnam Veterans Day – Vietnam Veterans Pavilion Kings Park
- 19th Garden Island Sea power Centre and Gun Placement visit
- 27th 10th Light Horse Memorial Parade Stirling Square Guildford – Lunch Rose and Crown

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

To honour those that served in the Vietnam conflict and in particular those that are or have been members of our Association the annual memorial service will be held at Kings Park at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Pavilion, May Drive Parkland Kings Park, on the 16th of August, commencing 11am. Many served with the 10th Light Horse Regiment prior to or after that conflict in Cadre positions and as ARES personnel. Of the estimated 1500 who were involved in the conflict around 70 paid the supreme sacrifice with many more injured or requiring subsequent treatment due to the conflict. Your attendance, if possible, would be appreciated.



SEAPOWER AND GUN ENPLACEMENT VISIT GARDEN ISLAND
10AM – 19TH OF AUGUST

The Curator of the Sea Power Centre located on Garden Island has invited us visit the Sea Power Centre and old gun sites located on the island in response to a possible invasion during war time. Those attending would meet at the car park located on the mainland near the entrance to the bridge entry to the island. Transport will be provided, with guidance and commentary by members of the Sea Power Centre. Please phone SVP Bill Robertson 0400505460 by Tuesday 4th if you wish to be added to the list of those attending.



BLACK HAT EVENT – GUILDFORD

Thursday, August 27, commencing at 11am

Commemoration: At 10LH Memorial, Stirling Square, Guildford.

Social: Rose and Crown after event

All past and serving Black Hats welcome

JULY EVENTS



The July Black Hat Coffee morning was held at the Dome on Manning Rd, Manning. The venue has adequate parking arrangements.

Amongst those attending Maureen and Jenny who were amongst the first female members of the 10LH.

Also good to see Ken Williams and Viv Chapple joining the regulars attending the monthly coffee morning.

The August event is expanded each year to include a commemorative visit to the 10LH Memorial at Guildford, commencing 11am including lunch at the Rose and Crown

Christmas in July



This function was held at the Mt Henry Tavern in a private room with those attending enjoying a Christmas Roast or the fare of the tavern.

Door and raffle prizes were donated by Tony, Dick and John – thank you

The prize for determination to attend was PP Barry who travelled many kilometres on his gopher to get there



The Indian Ocean Defence & Security (IODS)

2026 Conference and Exhibition is Western Australia's flagship defence event, bringing together senior leaders from government, defence, industry, and academia to discuss regional security priorities, sovereign defence capabilities, and global cooperation. Held earlier on this year.

Perth will also host The Land Forces International Exhibition to be held October 6 to 8 at the Perth convention centre.



2nd Division - Australian Army

19 May 2023 · 🌐

Last month [#AusArmy](#) Soldiers from 10th Light Horse Regiment conducted Exercise WALER'S WALK, a live fire 🔥 exercise at Bindoon Training Area in WA.

The combined mounted and dismounted activity enabled the synchronisation of high explosive weapons and heavy machine gun fire.

The ambush by night incorporated illumination that assisted the Cavalry Troop, mounted in Hawkei, to prosecute targets. [#FightTonight](#)



The 13th Brigade is an Army Reserve formation of the Australian Army, headquartered in Perth, Western Australia, with a history dating back to 1912 and active roles in both World Wars and modern defence operations.

Historical Background

The 13th Brigade was originally formed in 1912 as a Militia brigade in Victoria under Australia's compulsory training scheme, with units based in locations such as South Yarra, Prahan, St Kilda, South Melbourne, Albert Park, and Port Melbourne. During World War I, it was re-raised as part of the First Australian Imperial Force and assigned to the 4th Australian Division, comprising the 49th, 50th, 51st, and 52nd Battalions.

The brigade trained in Egypt before deploying to France in June 1916, participating in key battles on the Western Front, including actions around Villers-Bretonneux where Lieutenant Clifford Sadler of the 51st Battalion earned the Victoria Cross. In the interwar period, the brigade was re-established as a part-time formation in Western Australia and later fought in the New Britain Campaign during World War II.

The current iteration of the brigade was formed in 1988 and is tasked with the protection of Western Australia, operating under the 2nd Division of the Australian Army.

Current Structure and Role

Headquartered at **Irwin Barracks in Perth**, the 13th Brigade has units spread across Western Australia, including Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Albany, Katanning, Joondalup, and Rockingham. As a reservist brigade, its personnel balance civilian careers with military service, contributing significantly to national defence and operational readiness. The brigade has undergone modernization, including raising a security response task unit and establishing bilateral training relationships with countries such as India.

Community Engagement and Capabilities

The brigade actively engages with the community through events like Army Open Days, showcasing its equipment and capabilities, including vehicles like the Hawkei light protected mobility vehicle and armoured recovery trucks. These events allow the public to interact with soldiers and learn about the brigade's role in national defence. Under the leadership of **Brigadier Damian Bushell**, the brigade emphasizes pride in its history, operational readiness, and the professional development of its personnel. Its units maintain numerous battle honours dating back to World War I, reflecting a long-standing tradition of service and sacrifice.



Month	Date	Day	Function
Jul	14	TUE	COMMITTEE MEETING
	14	SUN	CHRISTMAS IN JULY
	30	THU	BLACK HAT COFFEE SOUTH
Aug	1	SAT	CAMBRAI HOUSE WORKING BEE/ COMMITTEE MEETING
	8	SAT	Vietnam Veteran's Day
	19	WED	Sea power and Gun Emplacement Visit Garden Island
	27	THU	BLACK HAT COFFEE THROSSELL VC XLH memorial Guildford/Rose hotel
Sep	8	TUE	COMMITTEE MEETING
	24	THU	BLACK HAT COFFEE SOUTH
Oct	3	SAT	CAMBRAI HOUSE WORKING BEE/ COMMITTEE MEETING
	29	THU	BLACK HAT COFFEE MORNING NORTH
Nov	10	TUE	COMMITTEE MEETING
	22	SUN	80TH ANNIVERSARY RAACA WA
	26	THU	BLACK HAT COFFEE MORNING SOUTH
Dec	5	SAT	CAMBRAI HOUSE WORKING BEE/ COMMITTEE MEETING
	13	SUN	CHRISTMAS BBQ

**80TH ANNIVERSARY ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS ASSOCIATION WA
INC.**

To celebrate the contribution of many over the past 80 years an event will be held at the ARMY Museum on Sunday 22nd of November. Final arrangements will be advised in the next edition of Commentary. Please save the date for this important occasion in our history.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOUR CORPS

The **Royal Australian Armoured Corps (RAAC)** is an [administrative corps](#) of the [Australian Army](#). It provides the Australian Defence Force's [Armour](#) capability, which performs the function of mounted combat. Armour combines firepower, mobility, protection and networked situational awareness to generate [shock action](#) and [overmatch](#) in close combat. Armour is an essential element of the [combined arms](#) approach that is employed by the Australian Army.^[2]

The RAAC is the senior arms corps within the Army and the custodian of the customs and traditions of Australia's mounted soldiers.^[3] The members of the corps are Army's experts in the theory and practice of [armoured warfare](#) and operation of [armoured fighting vehicles](#) (AFV). While all RAAC members are trained in the technical and tactical employment of armour, they specialise in either the Armoured or Cavalry career streams. Both male and female soldiers and officers serve within the RAAC as armoured vehicle crew. The corps includes both full-time Regular and part-time Reserve units and members. The RAAC provides policy guidance, trade management representation and administrative support for its members.

Origins [[edit](#)]

The RAAC's origins can be traced back to the [Australian Tank Corps](#) (ATC), formed in 1928.^[4] Around this time the distinctive headdress of Commonwealth armoured corps members, the [black beret](#), was adopted by the ATC which was affiliated with the Royal Tank Corps.^[5]

For most of the 1930s the ATC remained an embryonic organisation containing only a small cadre of permanent staff and the militia [1st Tank Section](#). At the outbreak of the Second World War the ATC had grown to two militia [light tank](#) companies. These, in conjunction with the militia 1st and 2nd Cavalry Divisions, which included the [Australian Light Horse](#) (ALH) regiments of First World War fame, comprised Australia's mobile mounted combat forces. In the early stages of the war, the ATC and ALH provided many personnel who formed the basis of the mechanised divisional cavalry and armoured regiments. In order to administer the growing number of units, including the [1st Australian Armoured Division](#), the **Australian Armoured Corps (AAC)** was formed on 9 July 1941.^[6]

The AAC absorbed the ATC and certain other personnel whose primary function was to operate, instruct or manage AFVs. As a result of the increasing mechanisation of the army, and commensurate waning of horse mounted troops, the ALH was also absorbed into the AAC on 8 May 1942.^[6] By this time many ALH units had converted to motorised units, such as reconnaissance and motor regiments, others had mechanised as armoured and tank regiments. At its height the AAC included the [1st](#), [2nd](#) and [3rd](#) Australian Armoured Divisions, the [3rd Australian Army Tank Brigade](#) and various training centres and regiments, located at Puckapunyal and Singleton ranges.^[7] While many individual units served overseas with distinction, by the end of the war these large formations were broken up and much of the wartime AAC was demobilised with the rest of the force. The Australian Armoured Corps was granted the ***Royal*** prefix in recognition of its service during the Second World War on 14 December 1948.^[8]

Australian Armoured Corps Royal Australian Armoured Corps



Badge

Active	9 July 1941 – present
Country	Australia
Branch	Armour
Type	Corps
Role	Mounted Combat
Size	3 regular regiments 5 reserve regiments and a training unit
Part of	Australian Army
Garrison/HQ	Puckapunyal
Nickname	'The Black Hats'
March	Radetzky March , Opus Number 228 by Johann Strauss Senior ^[1]
Anniversaries	9th of July 1941
Equipment	Armoured Fighting Vehicles

Commanders

Colonel in Chief	King Charles III
Representative	Major General Michael Krause, AM
Honorary Colonel	
Head of Corps	Brigadier Andrew Moss
Corps Sergeant Major	Warrant Officer Class 1 Sean McElhinney

Insignia

RAAC Colour patch	
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Corps of the Australian Army

Combat

[Royal Australian Armoured Corps](#)
[Royal Australian Infantry Corps](#)
[Australian Army Aviation](#)

Combat Support

[Royal Australian Artillery](#)
[Royal Australian Engineers](#)
[Royal Australian Corps of Signals](#)
[Australian Army Aviation](#)

Combat Service Support

[Royal Australian Corps of Transport](#)
[Royal Australian Army Medical Corps](#)
[Royal Australian Army Dental Corps](#)



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS ASSOCIATION W.A. Inc.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Ian Goodall President 8 Saintly Turn Byford 6122

Phone/message: 0414376756 email: iangoodall1@optusnet.com.au

APPLICANT: Surname _____ Other Names _____

Home Address _____ Suburb _____ Post Code _____

Date Of Birth ____/____/____ Occupation _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Business: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Details of Military Service including serial number, rank on discharge or current rank, units with whom you served.

Annual Subscription \$ 40.00 per annum

WIFE/PARTNER/OTHER:

Name of your wife/partner/other _____

(Or next of kin if applicable with address and phone number)

Home Phone Number: _____ Business: _____

[Mobile Phone](#) Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Name desired on Name Plate _____

Additional Name Plate is available for Wife/Partner/other at a cost of \$10.00

Wife/Partner/others name desired on Name Plate _____

Nominated By: _____

Joining Fee includes Lapel badge, this badge always remains the property of the RAACA WA and if resigning must be returned.

Remitted \$40 ☐ or \$50 _____ if Nameplate required for Wife/Partner/Other (please tick one)

Association Bank Account details for Direct Deposit

RAACA WA Inc CBA Warwick BSB 066 192 a/c 1032 9559 (please include your name)

I hereby apply to join the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association WA Inc and in doing so pledge to promote the objectives of the Association, maintain the spirit, comradeship and tradition of the Corps and abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Association in accordance with the Constitution of the Association.

DATE ____/____/____

Signature _____