



Head of Regiment

St Barbara's Day Message 2024

I extend my greetings and best wishes on behalf of the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major General CD Furini AM CSC, and our Colonels Commandant for your Saint Barbara's Day Celebrations on 4th December 2024.

As we celebrate Saint Barbara's Day, let us reflect on what we have achieved in 2024 and prepare for new challenges in 2025. Gunners led the Army's modernisation efforts at pace, supported engagement with allies and partners domestically and internationally and maintained high levels of readiness through professional gunnery and soldier standards. I know 2025 will be no different.

I am excited to announce the commencement of a project to extend our National Memorial at Mount Pleasant, Canberra. This project will ensure campaigns and operations since Vietnam are recognised. The Memorial provides a singular point in Australia to recognise Gunner contributions to our nation and this project will ensure it is both contemporary and has capacity to recognise future contributions. Attached is a message and information on the project from our Regimental Committee.

I congratulate all who will be taking up new appointments in January next year as Commanding Officers, Battery Commanders and Regimental and Battery Sergeant Majors.

It is also a day when many are promoted to the next rank, being recognised for their continued potential. To you, I pass on my congratulations for your ongoing commitment to the Royal Regiment and the Army.

Finally, I congratulate and thank all ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, serving and retired, for their continued service and wish all Gunners serving overseas good shooting and a safe return to their families.

Ubique,

Damian Hill, AM
Brigadier
Head of Regiment

4 December 2024



Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery

Official Launch of the Royal Australian Artillery National Memorial Extension Project

It is our honour to officially launch the Royal Australian Artillery National Memorial (RAANM) Extension Project on St Barbara's Day.

The RAANM, sitting atop Mt Pleasant in Canberra, is a significant sight of Gunner remembrance. It is dedicated to recognising the service of all Gunners to Australia from 1871 to today whether here or abroad. It especially honours those Gunners who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Unveiled by Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1977, the Memorial specifically mentions wars and campaigns from Sudan to South Vietnam. It has not been updated since 1977.

In the 50 years since its opening Australian Gunners have served their nation with pride and distinction in Somalia, East Timor/Timor Leste, Iraq and Afghanistan and on numerous peacekeeping and domestic operations. To ensure the Memorial remains a place of recognition, commemoration, reflection and connection for all Gunners, it is important that these contemporary campaigns and operations are recognised by capturing them on the Memorial alongside those already named.

This is what the project seeks to do as well as create sufficient space to enable future, as yet unknown, campaigns and operations to be easily added.

The aim is to rededicate the extended Memorial in 2027 during the 50th anniversary year of its original unveiling. Achieving this in the required timeframe will take considerable effort from the volunteer Project Team and require the backing of the entire Gunner community – serving and retired.

We call upon you all, as proud Gunners — as individuals and as organisations/associations — to lend your support to this important project by raising awareness within your networks, advocating for support, and through the raising of much needed capital to fund the necessary Memorial extension. Donations are tax deductible.

To find out more or to donate to the Project please visit www.artilleryhistory.org or www.australianartilleryassociation.org or scan the QR code.



Once a Gunner, Always a Gunner.

Ubique,

Craig Furini, AM, CSC
Major General
Representative Colonel Commandant

Damian Hill, AM
Brigadier
Head of Regiment

Reece Hay
Warrant Officer Class One
Regimental Master Gunner

4th December 2024