



The Artillery Club – 03 Mar 17

TAKE POST - THE ARTILLERY CLUB's NEWSLETTER 1/2017



INTRODUCTION

Newsletter 4/2016 promulgated on 15 November, consisted of sections covering Governance, Activities, the Artillery Corps and Looking into the Past. The same format will be reflected in this Newsletter.

Since the publication of Newsletter 4/2016, through the medium of emails, members were provided specific details regarding upcoming activities such as the 2016 Annual General Meeting which convened on 20 November in Collins Barracks Cork, and Seasons Greetings for Christmas and 2017.

Particular issues within this Newsletter include 2016 AGM, Activity Reports, Planned Activities, and finally News from the Regiments. Photographs are credited to the Defence Forces Press Office, Cpl C Delaney, Mr Patrick Hugh Lynch and Club Membership.

Looking into the Past, contains an extract from an article written by “Our Special Commissioner” titled *The Artillery*, published in An-tOglách on 16 June 1923.

The School Commandant and Regimental Commanders are requested to post this Newsletter on IKON, circulate it to all PDF and AR Artillery officers under their command, and are encouraged to provide information for subsequent Newsletters.

Likewise, serving and retired personnel are encouraged to provide information, news and photographs, for publication in the Club's Newsletters.

Once a Gunner – Always a Gunner

Upcoming activities include the Visit to Collins Barracks on Thursday 27 April, and the Field Trip to Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa (5 Fd Arty Regt FCA) on Thursday and Friday 25/26 May. The current version of the Club's Diary of Events for 2017 is attached as Annex A.

GOVERNANCE

2016 Outputs

During 2016, in addition to governance matters, the Committee approved all Newsletters before promulgation, directed the Membership Drive, advanced the Website project, executed or participated in 14 activities, including the successful trip to Granada and Malaga, initiated projects such as a Perpetual Trophy, Main Gates Magee Barracks, and included the Club's Plaque within the Club's Merchandise Catalogue.

Focus for 2017

Mindful of the Club's objectives as prescribed in the Rules, the focus remains on: executing appropriate activities, enhancing its Website, extending its Membership base and participating in appropriate ceremonial and commemorative events.

2017 Committee

During the course of the 2016 AGM, the following were elected as Officers, Committee Members and Auditor:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Name</u>
President	Brig Gen Paul Pakenham (Retd)
Immediate Past President	Comdt Chris O'Flanagan (Retd)
Secretary	Comdt Lar Joye
Treasurer	Col Gerry Buckley
Membership Secretary	Col Seamus McDermott (Retd)
Committee Member	Lt Col Cormac Lalor (Retd)
Committee Member	Comdt Michael Flood (Retd)
Committee Member	Comdt Richard Armstrong (Retd)
Committee Member	Capt Peter Murray (Retd)
Committee Member	Col Michael Smyth (Retd)
Auditor	Col Tom Carter (Retd)

The Committee co-opted Col Conor Fitzsimons (Retd) and Comdt Derek Coulter (Retd) to its forum for 2017. The President will be inviting Regimental Commanders and the School Commandant to nominate a Liaison Officer to the Committee.

Since the AGM, the Committee convened on two occasions: 26 January in McKee Barracks and on 23 February in Casement Aerodrome in Baldonnell. The Committee will reconvene on 27 April in Collins Barracks Dublin, on 29 June in McKee Barracks and on 28 September in McKee Barracks.

To-date, the Committee has developed the diary of events for 2017, conducted initial planning for the various activities, and successfully executed the visit to Baldonnell on 23 February.

Communications

The circulation of Newsletters, Activity Information, Calling Notices and Death Notices is primarily by means of email.

Newsletter 1/2015 was distributed by email to 122 individuals. The Club's Email Contact List for this Newsletter is 203 individuals far exceeding the Membership strength of 152. Currently, 17 members are receiving Club information by means of normal post.

Membership

Membership of the Artillery Club is open to all serving and retired commissioned Artillery officers of the Permanent Defence Force, An Fórsa Cosanta Áitiúil and the Army Reserve.

Since the Committee's meeting on 23 February, the current membership is 152, compared with 129 in October 2015, and 96 in October 2014 – an increase of 56 members since the 2014 AGM.

The preferred option of paying Membership Subscription (€10) is by Standing Order. The Committee is grateful to the 84 members who are currently paying their subscriptions by Standing Order.

Subscriptions for the current year were due on 01 November. To date, 96 of the 156 members have paid their subscription. Has your Standing Order lapsed in recent years? As a small number of Standing Orders do not indicate the name of the payee, please check your details in case you are in this cohort.

Potential members are requested to contact the Membership Secretary Colonel McDermott (Retd), Woodenbridge, Ballybrittas, Co Laois, or email: seamus.mcdermott@gmail.com.

Web Site

The status of the Club's Website remains at the "under construction" phase. The website is accessible through ww.artilleryclub.ie

Proposal to Increase Subscriptions

Para 20a of the Club's Rules prescribes that the annual membership subscription shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting and shall become payable on the first day of November. Having discussed the issue arising from the 2016 AGM, at its meeting on 26 January, the Committee decided to retain the current subscription at €10.

Proposals for Membership Card – Lapel Pin – Tie Clasp

Arising from the 2016 AGM, at its meeting on 26 January, the Committee requested Comdt Richard Armstrong (Retd) to explore the associated costings for a suitable Membership Card.

Having discussed the administrative, financial and logistical issues, at its February meeting, the Committee formally agreed that membership cards will be made available, on request, to fully up paid members of the Club. Comdt Richard Armstrong (Retd) kindly undertook to finalise the design and format of the card. Application procedures will be issued in due course

Assisted by Col Conor Fitzsimons (Retd), Comdt Richard Armstrong (Retd) will present a draft design of a Club Lapel Pin for the Committee's approval during its April meeting.



At its February meeting, the Committee approved the design of the Club's Tie Clasp and authorised the purchase of 50 Tie Clasps.

Lapel Pin and Tie Clasps will be included in the Club's Merchandise Catalogue and made available for purchase, in due course

Committee's Short Term Priorities

The Club's short term priorities are: visit to Collins Barracks, Field Trip to Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa (5 Fd Arty Regt FCA), developing CONOPS for Lisbon, Website, Membership (PDF and AR) and interface with other Corps Clubs.

ACTIVITIES

Diary of Events - 2017

The Club's activities are of an Artillery nature, hopefully appealing to a large number of members. Members are encouraged to offer recommendations for Club activities. The current version of the 2017 Diary of Events is attached as Annex A. The Diary remains iterative in nature and outlines activities which are associated with the Club's objectives.

The Club acknowledges the support provided by GOC Air Corps for the first event implemented in 2017.

Reports on Club Activities executed since the last Newsletter (4/2016), and initial information on future activities are outlined below.

Units' Annual Mass and Wreath Laying – 12 November

The Annual Commemorative Mass for deceased personnel of the 2 Field Artillery Regiment, 62 Field Artillery Regiment (FCA), 7 Field Artillery Regiment (FCA) and 2 Air Defence Battery (FCA), took place in the Garrison Church, McKee Barracks on Saturday, 12 November.

Following the Mass, a Wreath Laying Ceremony took place, after which attendees adjourned to the Catering Complex for refreshments. Wreaths were laid by Col Conor Fitzsimons on behalf of the units, the President on behalf of the Artillery Club, and by the 2 Field Artillery Regiment Association.



As in previous years, the event was very well attended by both serving and retired personnel of the Artillery Corps and, in particular, by families with an Artillery connection.

Annual General Meeting & Saint Barbara's Day Lunch – 30 November

With the kind permission of GOC 1 Brigade, the Club's Annual General Meeting took on 30 November in Collins Barracks, Cork, followed by the Annual Saint Barbara's Lunch in the Officers' Mess. In the afternoon, attendees visited the Barracks Museum.



The meeting, which was very well attended, approved reports from the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. Draft minutes of the AGM were circulated to members on 10 January.



The Committee will be seeking permission to hold the 2017 AGM and Saint Barbara's Day Lunch in McKee Barracks, Dublin on 01 December.

Visit to Air Corps – 23 February: Coordinator - Colonel Seamus McDermott (Retd)

With the kind permission of Brigadier-General Paul Fry GOC Air Corps, the Artillery Club's first event in 2016 was the successful visit to the Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnell.

27 members and 4 guests attended the visit.



Having arrived in the Aerodrome, attendees received a comprehensive brief from Capt Peter Smyth covering organisation and personnel, operations, service level agreements, airspace and infrastructure. As part of the brief, Col Barry Hanon provided an interesting insight into the implementation of the White Paper on Defence and the numerous challenges facing the Air Corps.

Brigadier-General Paul Fry took coffee with the attendees. Thereafter, the extensive tour of the Aerodrome included on site briefings of both fixed wing assets (PC-9M, Cessna Fr 124H and CASA CN 235) and rotary assets (AW 139 and EC-135), a demonstration of the PC-9 flight simulator, and a visit to the Air Corps Museum.



The attendees availed of an excellent lunch in the Officers' Mess, during which the President presented a Club Plaque to Colonel Barry Hanon, who accepted the plaque on behalf of GOC Air Corps.

Visit to Collins Barracks – Thursday 27 April - Coordinator: Comdt Lar Joye

The Club's annual visit to the National Museum of Ireland, Collins Barracks, will take place on Thursday 27 April, courtesy of Commandant Lar Joye – Curator.

Attendees will assemble on the Museum's Reception at 1415hrs and move to the Theatre – Lecture Room for a lecture by Commandant Joye. Thereafter, Commandant Joye will oversee a guided tour of the weapons, uniforms and flags on display. Calling Notice will be promulgated in due course.

Field Trip – Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa (5 Fd Arty Regt FCA) 25/26 May – Coordinator: Colonel Conor Fitzsimons (Retd)

Tentative plans include lunch in Custume Barracks, Afternoon Activity, Overnight in Galway, Military Brief, Coffee, Reminiscences of 5 Fd Arty Regt, Lunch, Barrack & Museum Tour. Calling Notice later.

Artillery Shoot – Glen Imaal - Co-ordinator Col Seamus McDermott (Retd)

As in recent years, the Club will attend an appropriate Artillery Shoot in the Glen during 2017. Calling Notice later.

Golf Competition – Glasson Hotel Golf Club - Thursday 24 August -- Coordinators: Comdt Chris O'Flanagan (Retd) and Lt Col Ray Twomey (Retd)

The Artillery Club's Annual Golf Outing will place on Thursday, 24 August 2017, at Glasson Hotel Golf Club, Athlone. Club members, spouses, partners and guests are invited to participate in the golf competition, and later to attend the dinner in the Hotel. Calling Notice later.

Artillery Decades' Reunion - Anniversary of PDF, FCA and AR Commissioning 1947-2017, Visit to Cadet School and Lunch in Mil Col – Wednesday 13 September – Coordinator: Colonel Mick Smyth (Retd)

The Committee remains grateful for the support of Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Byrne DSM, Commandant The Cadet School, for supporting this annual event now in its second year. The

reunion envisages assembly in the Cadet's Mess, Brief on the Cadet School and reunion lunch in the Officers' Mess Pearse Barracks.

For planning purposes, Permanent Defence Force, An Fórsa Cosanta Áitiúil and the Army Reserve officers commissioned in 1947, 57, 67, 77, 87, 97, 07, 17, are requested to contact President and Coordinator (ppakenham@eircom.net). Calling Notice later.

Field Trip – Portuguese Artillery School – September or October – Coordinator: Commandant Michael Flood (Retd)

The President has written to the H.E. Bernardo Futscher Pereira, Portuguese Ambassador (15 Dec 16) and to Maj Gen Ulisses Oliveira, Directorate of Training, (17 Jan 17). The Portuguese Army Chief of Staff, General José Rovisco Duarte has endorsed the Artillery Club's visit. Maj Gen Oliveira has appointed a Liaison Officer.

The Portuguese Artillery School is a component of the School of Arms, located in Mafra, 40kms north west of Lisbon.

As in Segovia (2015) and Granada (2016), the tour envisages 2 travel days, 1 day with the Portuguese Artillery School and 2 days touring Lisbon and the surrounding region. A suitable hotel will be sourced in Lisbon.

Currently, the optimum dates are either Week 38, (17 Sep to 21 Sep), Week 40, (01 Oct to 05 Oct). To facilitate travel arrangements, the selected dates will be promulgated, when they become available. Coordinated Instructions will be circulated in due course.

District Governor of Lions Clubs International: Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Allen (Retd)



The President, Committee and Members of the Artillery Club sincerely congratulate Lt Col Paul Allen (Retd) who was recently elected to serve as District Governor of Lions Clubs International, District 105I (Ireland) for 2016/17. Lt Col Allen (Retd) is a member of Newbridge-Kildare Lions Club since 1992.

Lions Clubs International is an international, secular, non-political, voluntary service organisation founded in 1917. In Ireland, with 108 clubs and 2,300 members, Lions operate and support a wide range of projects at national and local levels. These range from the provision of sheltered and social housing, a nation-wide diabetes screening programme and a senior citizens holiday for more than 600 guests to carers respite weekends, a national food appeal, suicide awareness, anti-bullying programmes and medical alert projects. Irish Clubs undertake hundreds of community support projects at local level while making a substantial contribution to international projects such as the battle against measles, eyesight care in Africa, refugee services and disaster relief.

Lt Col Allen (Retd) was a member of the 43rd Cadet Class and was commissioned into the 2 Field Artillery Regiment in 1970. He served most of his 40-year career in the Artillery Corps; in the 2 Field Artillery Regiment, the Artillery School, 1 Air Defence Regiment, 6 Field Artillery Regiment and also served in the Military College and DFHQ. He was President of RACO from 2000 to 2004 and was seconded to RACO for a number of years in the 1990s. He served overseas with UNTSO, 53 Infantry Battalion and 75 Infantry Battalion in UNIFIL, HQ UNIFIL, UNIIMOG (Iraq) and EUFOR Bosnia.

All members of the Artillery Club wishes Lt Col Allen (Retd) continued success in his role as District Governor Lions Clubs International.

ARTILLERY CORPS

Promotions

The Club's Officers and Members extend their sincere congratulations to the following Gunner Officers who were recently selected for promotion or promoted to the rank of Colonel:

- Col Tom O'Callaghan, The Military College;
- Lt Col Ray Yorke, Acting Director Training Directorate, DFHQ; and
- Lt Col Tim Daly, OIC Military Police Group, DFTC.

Overseas Appointments

The Committee wishes successful tours and safe return journey home to the following Artillery Corps officer who is due to deploy on overseas duty in the coming months:

- Comdt Niall Buckley: EU Training Mission in Mali; and
- Comdt Andrew Shinnick: G2 110 Infantry Battalion UNIFIL, South Lebanon.

Retirement Lunch

A lunch honouring over 42 years distinguished service of Col Conor Fitzsimons (Retd) will take place in DFHQ Officers' Mess on Thursday, 30 March at 1330hrs for 1400hrs. Those wishing to attend should contact the Mess Secretary, Captain Angela Lyons NLT 25 March.

Saint Barbara's Day – Artillery School



In the long standing tradition, the Artillery School hosted a Saint Barbara's Day ceremony on 4 December, attended by serving and retired gunners of all ranks. Following a service conducted by Msgr John McDonald CF, Brigadier-General Joe Mulligan laid a wreath at the memorial. Thereafter, all adjourned for the annual Gunpowder Breakfast. Attendees included members of the current Artillery Officers Young Officers Course.



Gun Salute Training Exercise: January 2017

Gunners of all ranks from 2 Artillery Regiment conducted a 21 Gun Salute training exercise on the East Pier of Dun Laoghaire Harbour, using the four 12 Pdr guns mounted at the harbour entrance. The Gun Position Officer was Captain Ross Wainer assisted by RSM Noel O'Callaghan. Below is a sample of the excellent photographs taken by Cpl C. Delaney HQ 2 Brigade and posted on the Flickr Account of The Military Heritage of Ireland Trust CLG (www.militaryheritage.ie)



Commissioning Ceremony 92 Cadet Class: 28 January 2017

The Minister of State with special responsibility for Defence, Mr. Paul Kehoe T.D. accompanied by the Chief of Staff Vice-Admiral Mark Mellett DSM, attended the Commissioning Ceremony of thirty Irish Army Officers and five Maltese Officers at the Defence Forces Training Centre, the Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare on Thursday, 26 January 2017.



The thirty five newly appointed officers completed a demanding 15 months intensive training to take up appointments as junior leaders in the Defence Forces and the Armed Forces of Malta. Five of the newly commissioned officers had previous military service. Five are university graduates including two officers with Masters Degrees.

The Artillery Club extends sincere congratulations to the following officers who were commissioned in January 2017 and appointed by Vice-Admiral Mark Mellett DSM to the Artillery Corps:

Lieutenant Brian Clarke – CPO, No 1 Bty 2 Arty Regt

Lieutenant Brian Clarke is from Tullamore, County Offaly and is 25 years of age. He is the son of Martin and Sandra Clarke. He graduated from NUI Galway with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History, Sociology and Political Science, and a Masters of Law in Peace Support Operations, International Humanitarian Law, and Conflict prior to being awarded his cadetship. His interests include shooting, current affairs, and politics. He represented the Cadet School in The Irish Times Debating Competition, the All-Army Rifle Competition, and in the 3rd EU Common Security and Defence Policy Olympiad in Slovakia.

2/Lt Patrick Fitzgerald – CPO 1 Bty, 1 Arty Regt

2/Lt Patrick Fitzgerald is from Castlegrace, County Tipperary and is 20 years old. He is the son of Michael and Marie Fitzgerald. He completed his leaving certificate in Coláiste Dún Iascaigh prior to being awarded his cadetship. His interests include hurling, football, cycling, mechanics and vintage cars.

2/Lt Ross Cleary – 7 Inf Bn

Also commissioned was 2/Lt Ross Cleary son of Colonel Brian Cleary and grandson of Col Flan Cleary (Retd), pictured below with recently promoted Brig Gen P. Flynn GOC 1 Brigade. 2/Lt Cleary was posted to 7 Infantry Battalion, 2 Brigade, Cathal Brugha Barracks.



Defence Forces 1916 Centenary Commemorative Medal

The 1916 Centenary Commemorative Medal was presented to serving personnel of the Permanent Defence Force and the Reserve Defence Forces at Dublin Castle, on Sunday 4th December 2016. As part of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme, personnel on parade were presented with a specially commissioned medal to mark their role in the Centenary year of the Easter Rising.

The awarding of the 1916 Centenary Commemorative Medal is a special acknowledgement from the Government to the members of Óglaigh na hÉireann who have served during the centenary year of 2016. The award highlighted the Government's appreciation of the excellent work undertaken by the members of Óglaigh na hÉireann, both at home and overseas, and the commitment to excellence which is a hallmark of the Defence Forces.



The President presented the first medal to the Chief of Staff Vice-Admiral Mark Mellet DSM, and thereafter to seven personnel representing the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the three components of the Defence Forces including Commandant Lar Joye.



At the ceremony, the President spoke of the 1916 Centenary Commemorative Medal as a very well deserved honour for all members of Óglaigh na hÉireann who have served during this centenary year of 2016 with their customary dignity, pride and respect. The President highlighted the international reputation of the Defence Forces as UN peace keepers and praised the work of the Naval Service in the Mediterranean. He also commended the role the Defence Forces in the centenary year celebrations and their professionalism.

Following the ceremony in Dublin Castle, medal parades were conducted throughout the Defence Forces. The photographs below show Lieutenant-Colonel Daragh McKevitt and personnel of the 1 Artillery Regiment who received the medal in Collins Barracks Cork, from the Minister for State with responsibility for Defence, Mr Paul Kehoe T.D.



Reunion 2 Air Defence Battery (FCA) - 10 February

Serving and retired officers of the disbanded 2 Air Defence Battery (FCA) assembled in the Stephen's Green Hibernian Club on Thursday, 10 February, to mark the 90th birthday of Commandant John O'Brien (Retd). Attendance included four of the founding officers of the 2 Ack Ack Battery, the President of the Artillery Club and other officers who served with John during his distinguished career in the Defence Forces.



In 1927, an Army purchasing mission to Britain bought four 3" 20 cwt Medium Anti-Aircraft guns. Coincidentally, John was born on 30 January 2017. Some years later, these two events became intertwined.

Residing in Bray, in 1944, John enlisted in the Local Security Force and transferred to the An Fórsa Cosanta Áitiúil on its establishment in 1947. Serving in the North Wicklow Battalion, John was commissioned in 1955. In 1959, as part of the Defence Forces reorganisation which included the integration of FCA subunits within Artillery Regiments, Lieutenant O'Brien was one of ten FCA officers posted to Griffith Barracks to establish the 2 Ack-Ack Bty (FCA), a sub unit of the 1 AA Regiment. Promoted Commandant in 1989, John was appointed as Battery Commander of the 2 Air Defence Battery. John retired in 1984, after 40 commendable years service in the Defence Forces.



The occasion on 10 February was notable in that An Taoiseach Mr Enda Kenny T.D. sent a letter congratulating John on his service to the Defence Forces and to the ESB from which he retired as Company Secretary.

LOOKING INTO THE PAST

The Artillery, by our Special Commissioner, An tOglách, 16 June 1923

“I have been keenly interested in the Artillery ever since I had an 18 pounder as a travelling companion over the South of Ireland. Not that the gun in question was as pleasant a fellow wayfarer as it might have been. We had no limber in the accepted sense and had to tow it along behind a Lancia car and now and then it proved too much for the power of the latter – especially when climbing mountain sides.”

“It has always fascinated me to see one of these guns in action – the clean, swift, precise movement of the gun crew area about the most workmanlike thing in soldiering. A few days ago I saw them practising in the Fifteen Acres, that section of the Phoenix Park which had been more famous than any other portion of it for the past hundred years or more.”

“Of course they were not actually firing – these gunners of ours – but they were being put through the preliminary drill essential to good work in action. It was rather fine to see a battery sweeping over the grass, wheeling and circling, men and horses alike well worth looking at, all in the pink of physical fitness – and, then, at the command: “Halt! Action Rear!” to see in a twinkling the horses, unlimbered and moving off, leaving the gun ready for action and the crew in readiness behind the shields.”

“The Artillery unit of our army is very young yet, perhaps the youngest corps in service for it only came into existence in March last, but it is a lusty offspring and promises to develop into something of which we will be very proud in the near future.”

“It is small s yet both in the number of men and equipment but the best in both. In the case of the men the corps stipulates that Drivers shall be at least 5ft 4in in height and Gunners 5ft 8in. The men I saw in the Fifteen Acres were all long-service members of the Volunteers and they seemed to be taking to their new job as ducks to water,”

“Colonel P.A. Mulcahy, O/C Artillery, told me that they are anxious that men who join the Corps shall join for a longer period than is the customary at the moment in the other branches of the Army. In view of the special training that artillerymen have to go through it can be realised that at least five years’ service would not be too much to insist on. At the same time it must be clear that the artillery provides an ideal training for any young Irishman with a bent for soldiering. Recruits need not have a previous knowledge of artillery work provided they are anxious to learn and are willing to “soldier” in the most thorough going sense of the word.”

“At present the pay for the Artillery is the same as the corps pay in other units and will remain so until the Army Council passes additional corps pay.”

“In the case of officers young men of good education and good standing are welcome provided they are capable of being made into good artillerymen. They will have to submit to an entry examination which is by no means stiff, yet ensures a certain standard of education and mental alertness. It embraces General Knowledge, Mathematics, Geography, English Composition and a Report Page. The examinations held up to the present reveal a weakness in Mathematics amongst candidates. But it is purely non-technical examination.”

“Examinations will be held from time to time and the date of same will be duly notified in G.R.O. Officers from other units will be accepted only through examinations.”

“The training of the Corps is directly under Captain Caulfield, who is assisted by a capable staff of N.C.O. ’s including a gunnery instructor and a rough-riding instructor.”

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Serving and retired personnel are encouraged to provide information, news and photographs, for publication in the Club’s Newsletters.

Once a Gunner – Always a Gunner.

THE ARTILLERY CLUB

March 2017

Annex A: Diary of Events (V 23 Feb 17)

**ARTILLERY CLUB's DIARY of Events – 2017****(Changes since previous iteration highlighted in yellow)**

Date	Event	Coordinator	Remarks
26 January	Committee Meeting – McKee Barracks	Secretary	Minutes circulated on 13 February
23 Feb	Field Trip – Air Corps, Casement Aerodrome	Col S. McDermott (Retd)	27 Attendees including 4 Guests
23 February	Committee Meeting – Casement Aerodrome – 1500hrs	Secretary	Minutes circulated on 23 February
27 April	National Museum Ireland, Collins Bks, Dublin	Comdt Lar Joye	
27 April	Committee Meeting – Collins Barracks	Secretary	
25/26 May	Field Trip – Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa (5 Fd Arty Regt FCA). Travel Day, Visit Day, Hotel Package Galway.	Col C. Fitzsimons (Retd)	
TBA	Arty Shoot – Glen Imaal	Col S. McDermott (Retd)	
29 June	Committee Meeting – McKee Barracks	Secretary	
08 July	Commemoration - Islandbridge	President	
09 July	National Day of Commemoration - RHK	President	
July	Wreath Laying, National Memorial, Merrion Square	President	
24 August	Annual Golf Competition & Dinner – Glasson Hotel Golf Club	Comdt C. O'Flanagan (Retd) Lt Col R. Twomey (Retd)	
September	Defence Forces Veterans' Day	Secretary	
13 September	Arty Decades' Reunion - Anniversary of PDF, FCA and AR Commissioning 1947-2017, Visit to Cadet School and Lunch in Military College	Col M. Smyth (Retd)	
28 September	Committee Meeting – McKee Barracks	Secretary	
Sept / Oct	Field Trip – Portuguese Artillery School, Lisbon	Comdt M. Flood (Retd)	
11 November	Wreath Laying & Annual Mass – McKee Barracks	Secretary	
01 December	AGM and St Barbara's Day Lunch – McKee Bks	Secretary	