

103rd Regiment (The Lancashire Volunteers) at the Guildhall

THE 1995 PRIZE GIVING of the National Artillery Association Competition for Field and Air Defence Artillery for the Territorial Army was held on Saturday, 18 November 1995 at The Guildhall, London.

For 103 Regiment it was a Tour de Force scooping four out of the six trophies on offer in the Air Defence category.

A mild sunny day greeted the dignitaries, participants and spectators to this year's event, with the Guard of Honour provided by 216 (The Bolton Artillery) Bty, commanded by Capt Paul Garstan with Lt Joanne Laverty forming part of the Guard, the first time a female TA Gunner officer has done so at this event.

The Guard, together with almost 100 other members of the winning batteries, had travelled to London to view the event and after marching on, the Guard was inspected by General Sir Martin Farndale, Master Gunner of St James's Park. After completion he, together with the Director Royal Artillery



Dr P R Vaight presents the BP Trophy to Maj Brian Gibson BC 216 (The Bolton Artillery) Bty(V)

Maj Gen I G C Durie and other senior guests, was escorted by the Chairman of the NAA, Col Mike Taylor, into the Old Library of Guildhall for the presentation of the prizes.

The Principal Air Defence prize was won this year for the third year in succession - an unbeaten record - by 216 (The



The CO of 103 Regt (V), Lt Col Paul Kelly, (between prize holders) Maj Bob Farrell, WO2 (BSM) Jimmy Walker, together with members of 213 HQ Bty pose for the camera

Bolton Artillery) Bty. The competition is open to all batteries within the three TA Air Defence Regiments and was fought at different times of the year, in our case in July 1995 at Sennybridge. The competition being



Capt Doug Fletcher QM(A), 213 HQ (The South Lancashire Artillery) Bty receives the Dodds Trophy.

judged on a detailed set of criteria, testing all aspects of deployment skills and being marked by DS from the RSA.

216 also won the Shorts Missile Trophy awarded this year for the first time for the best missile results at firing camps held throughout the year at RARM.

Turning to the Headquarters Battery Trophy, this was won by 213 HQ (The South Lancashire Artillery) Bty for the fourth year in succession and who intend to beat the record set in the 1970s by the then HQ (Kings) Bty of 103 Regt of seven years in succession. The competition was again held at Sennybridge, and tested

deployment, orders, movement and occupation of positions.

« The Master Gunner, Maj Brian Gibson and members of 216 Bty show off the prizes

The Dodds Trophy with its theme this year - Tested Convoy Discipline - was also won for the second year in succession by 213 HQ Bty.

After the official part of the proceedings were over, the regiment had a chance to relax, enjoy a well earned drink, a showing off of the prizes, and photocalls for all, returning then to Woolwich to change and enjoy the rest of the day off duty in the Capital.

We look forward to the challenges of the NAA for 1996. Will 216 do it for the fourth time?

Watch this space!



Maj Bob Farrell BC 213 HQ (The South Lancashire Artillery) Bty receives the HQ Battery Trophy from The Master Gunner